

White River Lodge #62
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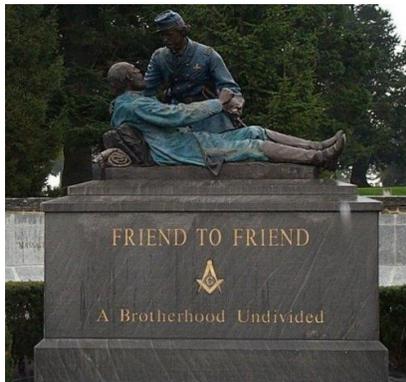
White River Lodge #62 Trestle Board

July,
August, & September
2018



BROTHERLY LOVE, RELEAF, TRUTH

Brothers. As the month of July is upon us my thoughts fall on the significance of the events which occurred on June 30th to July 3, 1863, The Battle of Gettysburg, this battle is well know to most of us but do we know of the actions of many who fought and died there ?



In 1993 the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania erected the "Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial ". As stated by Brother Sheldon A. Munn one of the Freemasons who helped bring about the

construction of the monument " The Friend to Friend Memorial", at Gettysburg will help demonstrate to the world that Freemasonry is, indeed, a unique fraternity ;that its bonds of friendship, compassion and brotherly love withstood the ultimate test during the most tragic and decisive period of our nation's history; it stood then as it stands now, as A Brotherhood Undivided !"

When you meet a brother think about your obligation to our tenants. Think about the actions of our predecessors ,

LOVE YOUR BROTHER

WM Steve

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Our Junior Warden presents a very interesting article about St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist
- Our Worthy Matron lists the new Mizpah Chapter Officers



FROM THE WEST

Well let me be another to say that summer is here! It has been getting warmer and our summer visitors are here. It has been good to see the brethren from other places visiting our lodge and passing through on their travels. Our visit from Most Worshipful Brother Craig Gross was very informative and educational, lets keep in mind how important our ritual work is and I would like to thank everyone for all your help and encouragement with mine. Also sad that we were unable to get together for the pig roast, and on that note remember the fire danger.

Gratefully

Senior Warden Larry Pedersen

“We are optimist that the monsoon season will begin in early July and fire restrictions will be lifted. We will have our BBQ on September 2 from Noon until 2:00 PM”

FALL BBQ SEPT. 2

We are optimistic that the monsoon season will begin in early July and fire restrictions will be lifted. We will have our Fall BBQ on September 2 from Noon until 2:00 pm. Lodge members and those who would like to assist will meet at about 8:00 am on Saturday, Sept. 1.

Donations requested for Tickets are \$12 each or six tickets for \$65.

FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren, summer is upon us and it feels like it! June 21st heralded the first day of summer. Of interesting note is that St. John the Baptist's annual feast day, the patron saint of tailors, shepherds and masons, is held on June 24th. There are still numerous celebrations performed all over Europe at this time of year that re-call the ancient pagan celebrations associated with the Summer Solstice. Many of which are now celebrated as part of St. John's feast day...a throw back to the "Christianization" of the old pagan traditions.

Also, of note...and apparently in a shameless attempt to capitalize on the hottest part of the year, the first day of summer is also National Smoothie Day!

I also, wanted to take this time to remind everyone that I will not be here during the month of August as I will be taking a much-needed vacation to visit Scotland and my son who is stationed in Germany. So, you have THAT slideshow to look forward to!

Paul Diaz

Junior Warden

ST. JOHN

by Paul Diaz
Junior Warden
White River Lodge #62

Masonry is like an ogre, errr, I mean an onion...you know, because we have layers. We are told that Masonry is a progressive science that uses symbols and allegories to teach our beautiful layers...lessons. Symbols are used because they are intended to immediately evoke in the student the meaning of the lesson when they see it. Unfortunately, for many Masons we were not actually taught the meaning of many of the symbols and so while we recognize that a symbol exists and is intended to teach a valuable lesson, the lesson(s) remains untaught and we remain unilluminated. So, I thought it would be appropriate at this time of the year (June) to offer a little light on St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist.

On the 24th of June, Freemasonry celebrates the festival of St. John the Baptist and we are told in our Entered Apprentice lecture that he along with St. John the Evangelist are eminent patrons of Masonry. Other than that, we are left with very little information as to the actual connections between these two ancient figures and modern Free Masonry. They pop up in the Entered Apprentice degree and then sort of vanish into obscurity. We “know” that as Masons we hail from a “Lodge of the Holy Sts. John”, but very little beyond that. If we want more light in regards to these two gents, we are left to find it on our own.

The first layer concerning these two individuals is the layer that most modern-day Masons know and understand and is the one used to explain why we even include the Sts. John in our ritual at all. The first layer or exoteric expression of a Masonic lesson is usually prefaced along the lines of “According to Masonic Tradition” which is usually your first indication that you need to dig deeper to find other more esoteric meanings.

We have this from Luke Chapter 3 verse 5: (talking about John in the wilderness) “Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and *the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth;*” (italics mine) which, in addition to being the patron saint of tailors and shepherds apparently is used to trace his being considered the patron saint of masons.

But, is this small passage from the Book of Luke all the evidence there is to establish why Masonic Lodges have a symbol dedicated to him and the Evangelist? In keeping with my layers theory, I think not!

(Continued on page 4)

SCHEDULE

June 30: Mizpah Chapter OES Steak Fry. Movie to follow—*Angels and Demons*

July 10: Lodge Stated Meeting. Dinner 6:00

July 14 2:00 Mizpah Chapter Stated Meeting

July 17 7:00: First Degree

July 19 6:00 Discussion

July 21 5:00 Movie—*Gettysburg*

August 11 2:00 Mizpah Chapter Stated Meeting

August 14: Lodge Stated Meeting. Dinner 6:00

August 16 6:00 Discussion

August 21: Practice or Degree

September 1 8:00 am: prepare for BBQ

September 2: 6:00 am Breakfast for workers

September 2 Noon until 2:00 : Fall BBQ

September 8 2:00: Mizpah Chapter Stated Meeting

September 10: Lodge Stated Meeting. Dinner 6:00

September 17: Lodge Practice or Degree

September 19 Discussion

September 15, 22, or 29: Movie Night 5>00 (TBD)

ST JOHN (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

The ancient question was “What Lodge are you of?”. Today, in America it is “Whence came you?”. The answer to both is stylized along the lines of “from The Lodge of the Holy St. John at Jerusalem”. As previously explained, “According to Masonic Tradition” is one of those phrases that we all understand means that the subject is to be taken symbolically rather than literally and it is in this sense that we claim that all modern Masonic Lodges descend from a Mother Lodge in Jerusalem which was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. On the surface this fits well within our ritual. We are still left with a conundrum though, because we “know” that no such Lodge existed in Jerusalem. In one of the early attempts to connect Freemasonry with the Knights Templar we find that in some of the early advanced degrees, statements along the lines of “in the times of the Crusades, the Perfect Masons communicated a knowledge of their Mysteries to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem” and because both operated under the same law, they were considered St. John’s Lodges (Mackey, 1946). We also know that there are volumes of literature by multiple authors that seek to draw a connection between John the Baptist and the Knights Templar.



Then, we are told that every well-furnished Lodge contains a certain symbol and it is through describing this symbol that we are introduced to these two men. They are identified as “eminent patrons” of Masonry without any real explanation as to why. This is the exoteric lesson regarding this symbol, which are the types of lessons that are usually offered to the, as yet, uninitiated in “mystery schools” and are taken at face value with no explanation required...they are eminent patrons of Masonry because our ritual says they are.

Let’s peel this onion a little; go below the surface and see if we can find some less obvious reasons as to why St. John the Baptist and then much later St. John the Evangelist might be considered eminent patrons of Masonry.

We all know who John the Baptist was. He was the rough and wild individual, wearing animal skins, whose food was locusts and honey, who came preaching repentance, the coming of one greater (more enlightened?) than he and initiating (baptizing) people into a kingdom that was still to come. John the Evangelist was a much more polished individual who sought to cultivate brotherly love and whose mystical visions speak to a much higher level of thought, intellect and understanding. One possible lesson that we are to learn from this symbol is that St. John the Baptist at once provides an example of our rude and base selves recently initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry; while St. John the Evangelist represents our perfect, awakened selves, after having spent years in the dark, with an awakened knowledge of the mysteries as a result of having achieved enlightenment through advancement in the degrees of our craft. The connection to our rough and perfect ashlar should be readily apparent to all.

(Continued on Page 5)

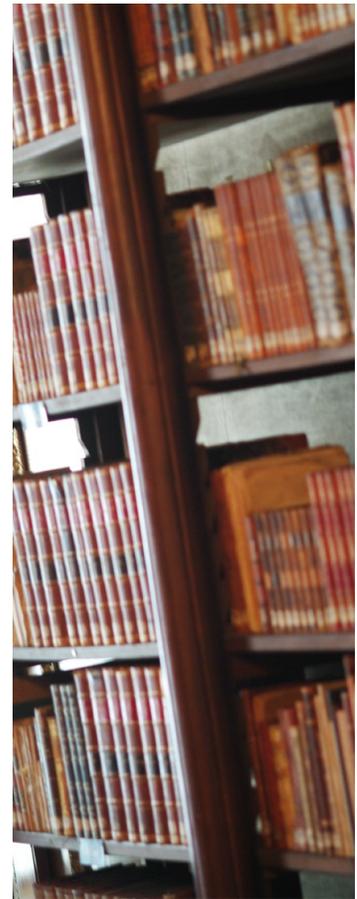
ST JOHN (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

For the longest time, St. John the Baptist was the only “Patron Saint” of Masonry. St. John the Evangelist wasn’t added until sometime after the 16th century (Mackey, 1946). For centuries, Masonry had only the Baptist. Then something happened and St. John the Evangelist was added. Why? What was happening in Europe during this period, that caused Masons to feel St. John the Evangelist was a good symbol to use in the teaching of a Masonic lesson? Well, the Renaissance was in full swing which saw a revival in the arts, philosophy and humanism and witnessed the coming of Europe out of the dark ages (receiving light). But, there was something else as well. At the beginning of the 16th century, in 1517 a German monk published his 95 theses on the reformation of the Catholic Church. We all know what the result of this action was.

“...St. John the Baptist at once provides an example of our rude and base selves recently initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry; while St. John the Evangelist represents our perfect.”

The Renaissance and Reformation both laid the foundation stone for what would become Western Civilization and Culture and resulted in a new awakening (re-awakening?) for mankind. It is not too difficult to draw from this, why the awakened, enlightened prophet, who in his Epistles, just happened to speak about brotherly love was added as one of the “eminent patrons” of Masonry. The third layer...err... lesson we are now taught through him as a symbol is that at or around the time he was added as an “eminent patron” of Masonry, the shackles of tyranny were being shed across the world and mankind was awakening to a new understanding of his relationship with the Great Architect of the Universe.

So, what we now have in these two men is a single symbol which at once provides the student with at least three Masonic layers....err...lessons. The first or outward lesson which fits well within our ritual, is that we want to draw a perceived historical connection to a time and place (Jerusalem) where “Masonic Tradition” informs us of our beginnings; second that it reminds us of our own individual advancement from our wild and base selves to our awakened and enlightened selves; and third that mankind, itself, is now in the process of awakening from our collective wild and base selves.



Works Cited

Mackey, A. G. (1946). *Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry Vol 1*. Chicago: The Masonic History Company.



MIZPAH CHAPTER #57

ORDER OF EASTER

Stated Meetings are Second
Saturday at 2:00 pm

Mizpah Chapter is dark in
January and February

May 20, 2018 marked the installation of new officers for Mizpah Chapter #57, Order of the Eastern Star in Show Low. Those installed are:

Marjorie Stockton – Worthy Matron

Paul Diaz – Worthy Patron

Christina Diaz – Associate Matron

Clay Howard – Associate Patron

Sue Connors – Secretary

Cheri Witt – Treasurer

Becky Powell – Conductress

Judi Hukill – Associate Conductress

Dean Powell – Chaplain

Mitzi Loughridge, Organist

Mayme Preusser – Esther

Helen Coombs – Martha

Donna Carver-Brown – Electa

Amber Thompson – Warder

Our Marshall and Star Points Adah and Ruth will be installed at a later date. The installing officers on May 20th were:

Maggie McClure, PGM and Grand Trustee;

Diana Houlette, PGM and Grand Secretary,

Dotty Lou Cox, Associate Grand Matron; and

Kathy Pierson, Installing Organist.

“...Our Annual Steak Fry is June 30, 2018 from 4 to 6 pm. Donation of \$12 is requested.”

The installation went well with a "Gone With The Wind" luncheon before the installation. Our theme this year is "Gone With The Wind" because of the message that story gives of never giving up. It portrays courage and constancy under any condition.

Our Annual Steak Fry is June 30, 2018 from 4 to 6 pm. A donation of \$12 is requested. It has always been a success and this year should be no different. This is our biggest fund-raiser of the year.

The Friendship Day for Mizpah will be August 11 at 2 pm and the Official Visit will be October 13 at 2 pm -- both of these meetings will be on a Saturday.

We got off to a good start in June, by initiating two new members to the Eastern Star family. On June 9th Amanda Hatch was initiated and on June 20 we initiated Lyndsie Atran. We are happy to welcome these two new members and hope that their experiences in Eastern Star will be all that they are seeking.

Respectfully submitted with hugs,

Marjorie Stockton, W.M.



WINSLOW YORK RITE
TEMPLE CHAPTER #8
NAVAJO COUNCIL #7
CALVARY COMMANDERY #8

Website: winslowyorkrite.org

Meeting schedule is on the Website at <https://www.winslowyorkrite.org/2018-stated-meetings.html>

During the past year, since June of 2017 the Winslow York Rite enthusiastically exemplified all of the Chapter and Council Degrees. On June 6, 2017, we exemplified a Mark Master Mason Degree that was the first degree exemplified in the newly rebuilt Winslow Lodge Building. A Royal Arch Degree was exemplified on April 24, 2018 in Chalcedony Lodge in Holbrook, we were able to take advantage of the elevator to represent our ancient companions going down into the secret vault below the ruins of King Solomon's Temple. On May 29 we exemplified the Royal and Select Master Degrees also in Chalcedony Lodge.

We have two candidates waiting to advance to the three orders of the Knights Templar. If you are interested in the York Rite, please contact a member that you will find floating around Winslow, Chalcedony, and White River Lodges. We believe the York Rite provides a deeper insight into freemasonry that complements the degrees of the Blue Lodge. It also gives a greater degree of fraternity because it is a smaller organization.

The next two Stated meetings will open in the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Show Low on July 11 and August 15, we will have dinner at Licano's Restaurant at 5:30. In September, October, and November, the Winslow York Rite will open Stated Meetings in the Council of Cryptic Masons on the First Wednesday of each month. In September we will meet in Show Low, in October we will meet in Holbrook, and in November we will meet in Winslow. On December 16 we will have a Christmas observance in Winslow.

Some of the events that follow will be:

- July 27 and 28: Land of Enchantment York Rite Festival in Santa Fe, New Mexico
- August 9, 10, and 11 Arizona Grand Sessions in Mesa
- October 7: Four Corners in Farmington, New Mexico
- October 21, 22, 23: Colorado River Fall Festival in Laughlin, Nevada

Fraternally,

Frank Edens

Secretary/Recorder of Winslow York Rite

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We need your current email address. You may update it on our Website at: <https://www.whiteriverlodge62.org/address-changes.html> or by emailing: whiteriver62@cableone.net

Also, please, check your dues card, if it does not have 2018 printed on it, please send a check for \$134 to the above address. You may also pay your dues through PayPal from our Website www.whiteriverlodge62.org.

LET YOUR **LIGHT SHINE.**
BE A SOURCE OF
STRENGTH & COURAGE.
SHARE YOUR WISDOM.
RADIATE LOVE.



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