



The Trestle Board



The Voice of Franklin's Masonic Bodies

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From the West—A Book Review of Light on Masonry

During the years since I became a Master Mason, I have often wondered where the ritual we study and use in our degree work comes from. Who wrote it? Has it always been like it is now? When was it written? The recent publication *Light on Masonry, The History and Rituals of America's Most Important Masonic Exposé*, helps to answer these questions.

Edited and introduced by Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, K.Y.C.H., this 800-page encyclopedic work is a study of pre-1831 Freemasonry. According to de Hoyos, this work does not "take into account the tremendous ritual revisions which occurred following the post-1842 revival of the Fraternity in America."

A large portion of the book includes a facsimile reprint of the fifth edition of *Light on Masonry* by David Bernard who was a former Freemason who withdrew from the fraternity and subsequently published its rituals in 1829. Most Masons (as well as critics of Freemasonry) have heard of William Morgan who allegedly was abducted and murdered because of his intentions to publish Masonic rituals. According to Bernard, his work includes "all the degrees ...as written by Captain William Morgan." Included are Craft, Scottish Rite and York Rite rituals.

It is ironic that indiscretions of Morgan and Bernard over 180 years ago shed light on ritual for Masons of today. I find it especially interesting that ritual from England reportedly over 300 years old uses language that will be familiar to Masons in Tennessee in 2008.

Light on Masonry, The History and Rituals of America's Most Important Masonic Exposé is published by the Scottish Rite Research Society (2008) and sells for \$60. It is recommend to all who are interested in the history of Freemasonry.

David Moran, 33°
PM, SW Hiram #7

Announcement

Hiram's Annual Civil War degree will be held on Saturday November 1st (All saints day) at Skeet Winstead's Farm in Eagleville Tn. The Winstead Farm is located at 8464 Covington Road Eagleville Tn. 37060.

Bro. Winstead will be serving a Buffet style Dinner all you can eat with drink , deserts ,and lots of food for 10.00 per person . In the past Bro Winstead has offered excellent meals to the brethren and this on should be no exception .

As before , dinner will be served at the former paint ball shelter starting at 5:00 PM

For additional information contact Pat Craddock at 207-7413

Lodge Dates

Tue. 10/28

6:00pm—Dinner

6:30pm—E.A. Degree

Sat. 11/1

5:00pm—Dinner

6:00pm—M.M. Civil War Degree

Mon. 11/17

6:00pm—Dinner

7:00pm—Stated Meeting

Thu. 11/20

6:00pm—Dinner

6:30pm—M.M. Degree

OES Dates

Tue. 11/11

7:30pm—Stated Meeting with Initiation

York Rite Dates

Fri/Sat 10/31 & 11/1

8:00am—Fall Festival at
McWhirtersville Lodge

Mon. 11/10

6:00pm—Stated Meetings

Hiram Lodge No. 7 F. & A.M.
115 2nd Ave. S.
Franklin, TN 37064

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York Rite News

Companions and Sir Knights, the year is almost over, and this is probably the last opportunity that I will have to address you in this newsletter. I wanted to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for allowing me to serve the past two years as Commander of DePayens Commandery. It has truly been an honor to sit in the east of an organization with such outstanding members and officers.



This year, our officers' line was broken with the tragic loss of our Standard Bearer, Sir Knight Jimmy Darnell. However, it was not only a year of loss, but also of accomplishment. We had another successful KTEF fundraiser, and delivered a very respectable performance at our annual inspection. That, and much more is a direct result of the hard work and dedication of the officers and members of this body.

For those readers who are not members of the York Rite, there is still time to get your petition in for the upcoming Fall Festival, which will be held at McWhirtersville Lodge on 10/31 & 11/1. During this time, all of the York Rite degrees, including the Super Excellent Master degree will be conferred in full form. If you are interested in petitioning for the York Rite degrees, contact me at 615-300-1455 or joe@kindoll.org

Joe Kindoll, Commander
DePayens Commandery #11

Eastern Star News

In our last stated meeting I made a statement that the foot print of America will be changed forever by the time we meet again in November. I asked everyone to pray for our Nation at 7:30 every evening until the election is over. My prayer for our Nation is that God will give our Nation the guidance we need to elect our next president. So I invite everyone to join our chapter in prayer.



We will have an initiation at our next stated meeting. We will be initiating Phillip Phillips and his wife Sharmila. Officers don't forget to wear your formals and have your parts ready.

News from our Sunshine: Brother Jimmie Hickman has gotten out of the hospital from an infected Elbow. Sister Tracy Hockensmith is home from having brain surgery. Her Sister Terri said that she is up talking most of the day and is doing as well as to be expected. She is staying with her mom for right now. Keep our sick member in your prayers.

Star Love,
Donna Isbell and Allan Potts
Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron

Sickness

Brother AB Churches' wife "Mrs. Margret" has broken her shoulder and is recovering .

OES Past Worthy Matron - Tracy Hockensmith is recovering from Brain Surgery .

Brothers and Sisters please remember them in your Prayers