

<u>no</u>. 07



TRESTLE**BOARD**







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JULY 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

5MASTER'S MESSAGE8JUNIOR WARDEN'S MESSAGE10INSPECTORS MESSAGE12MASONIC EDUCATION14CALENDAR OF EVENTS





FROM THE EAST

EMBRACING REFLECTION AND GRATITUDE

Worshipful Jeff Gatchell

A Masonic Summer Message

Brethren,

Summer seems to be moving right along, which is perfectly fine with me! In terms of days, there are only around 100 days left until we're out of the woods, unless of course you prefer the heat! Emoji

This July 4th holiday, save a little time to reflect on why it is celebrated instead of just being concerned about



running out of adult beverages or over-cooking the meat. Reflect on when and how we became a nation, the sacrifices that were made, and that continue to be made by many great men and women. Going back to the founding fathers and the signers of the Declaration of Independence, I was somewhat taken back by the age range of those men. Many were younger than 40, with some qualifying as Founding "twenty-somethings". More than a dozen were 35

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FREEDOM

and younger, and the average was 44. When I think back to what I was doing when I was in that age range, I know for sure that I certainly didn't play any role in the founding of a newly formed country and it's principles, nor does my picture appear on any U.S. currency! Emoji

Fast forward to this year being the 80th anniversary of the D-Day invasion in Normandy. I won't go into any detail as I would assume that all of you know the story. Several thousand lives were lost, with around 15% having

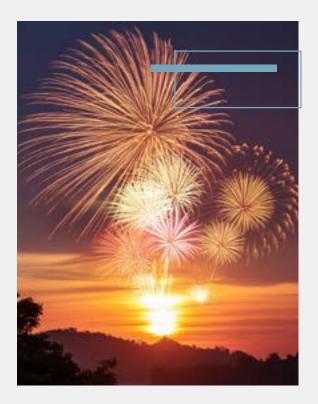
experiencing never combat previously. watched much of the ceremonies which took place in France this year, and it was hard not to get emotional. My own father graduated from the Naval Academy in 1947 and ended up serving in Korea. He is no longer with us, but he will always be my hero. As crazy as the world seems now, I wish everyone that lives in America could and would appreciate the sacrifices that so many made for our freedom. As we have learned. freedom always comes at a price. If you see

anyone that has served, be sure and thank them for their service to this great nation.

Even though the Lodge has gone dark for June and July, we are still meeting at least 4 times a month to practice ritual as well as visit and have coffee. Check the calendar on this website for dates and times. Our next stated meeting will be the first Wednesday in August, and we will have food available at a nominal cost per usual. As a reminder, we now have our own kick-ass lodge tie pins. They turned out really nice, and all we ask is \$5 each to cover the cost. Finally and above all, I pray for the safety of my brothers and their families, whether you are traveling, on the water, shooting off fireworks, or whatever you may be doing. If you drink, please do so responsibly. July 5th will be less painful!

On the Square,

Jeff Gatchell



"O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming"

REFLECTING ON LIBERTY & BROTHERHOOD

Junior Warden Sutton Miller

Words about brotherhood and July. Brethren,

As we endure the summer heat during the time our lodge is dark, we find a moment to pause and reflect on our Masonic journey. It's a perfect time to reflect on our Masonic journey and the values that unite us.

July often represents independence and freedom, themes that resonate deeply within



our fraternity. As Masons, we cherish the principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity, and strive to embody these ideals in our daily lives. This month, let us take a moment to appreciate the freedoms we enjoy and remember the responsibilities that come with them.

The summer season also offers us an opportunity to strengthen our bonds of brotherhood outside the lodge. Whether through SUPPORT



gatherings, barbecues, or simply spending time with one another, let us use this time to deepen our connections and support one another in our personal and Masonic endeavors.

As we continue to grow and learn, may we carry the light of Masonry with us, illuminating our path and inspiring others. Let us be ever mindful of our obligations and strive to live by the tenets of our Craft brotherly love, relief, and truth.

Wishing you all a joyful and reflective July.

Fraternally,

Sutton Miller Junior Warden

INSPECTORS MESSAGE

REKINDLING BROTHERHOOD: A Call to action for our Masonic Lodge

Inspector Stuart Ryan

A Call to Action & Brotherly Reminder Brethren,

Another summer is upon us, the lodge tho dark still has work to be done. Officers Coach night for degrees. Every Tuesday and Thursday Worshipful Jeff and Worshipful Mike meet with brothers to practice ritual work and proficiency. Come down join them improve your knowledge and skills. OSI is still a part of the monthly trainings. Congratulations to



Zachary Bush on receiving his 2° and completing his proficiency. This is due to a dedication on his part and his coach. Congratulations to Sal Beltran receiving his 3° this past year, Congratulations Jared Rusk receiving 3°. Here we have brothers returning to bring our lodge back to life.

Older brethren are need in coaching, we understand that you have forgotten your ritual work and obligations. Masonry doesn't ask you to do



anything you didn't obligate too, men give their word and keep it.

The Master sends out a trestle board monthly, which by Masonic standards is a form of summons to attend. Why then does a brother who is taught the 24" gauge not make time to attend or help a lodge of masons. Are we too old to stay up an extra hour (since the lodge change their hour to 7pm) and assist a lodge to keep the doors open?

Currently 5 active Master masons are giving a dam to see the lodge stays open. What is it going to take or what can we do to assist you in helping the Master and your Lodge.

In Masonic symbolism, a "rough ashlar" represents an individual who is imperfect or unrefined, while a "perfect ashlar" represents someone who has undergone moral and spiritual development. The rough ashlar, despite its imperfections, has the potential to become perfect through the process of personal growth and self-improvement, hence why it's considered "perfect" in its potential.

Sincerely,

Stuart Ryan, Inspector

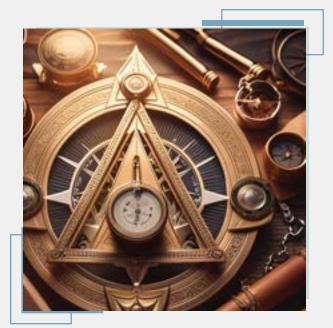
REVITALIZATION

THE CARDINAL VIRTUES OF FREEMASONARY

Treasurer Jared Rusk

Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude & Justice

Freemasonry, often described as a unique system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, places a high value on cultivating personal virtues. Among these virtues, the Cardinal Virtues hold a special place. They are Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude, and Justice. Each of these virtues is integral to the Masonic moral framework and serves as a guiding principle for the conduct of Freemasons. **Prudence**



Prudence is often regarded as the "charioteer of the virtues," directing and governing the actions of individuals in a manner that leads to moral and ethical outcomes. In Freemasonry, prudence is about wisdom and foresight. It encourages Masons to think before they act, considering the consequences of their actions on themselves and others. Prudence involves a thoughtful approach to decision-making, ensuring that choices are made with clarity and reason. For Freemasons, this virtue is about balancing one's actions with wisdom, avoiding impulsiveness, and striving for a thoughtful life. **Temperance**

Temperance, in the Masonic context, refers to self-control and moderation. It is the ability to restrain one's desires and impulses, fostering balance and harmony within oneself and with others. In a world where excess can lead to ruin, temperance serves as a safeguard against overindulgence. For Freemasons, this virtue is a reminder to maintain control over passions and appetites, ensuring that personal desires do not overshadow moral obligations and responsibilities. By practicing temperance, Masons aim to achieve a balanced and disciplined life, promoting inner peace and societal harmony.

Fortitude

Fortitude is the virtue of courage in the face of adversity. It is about having the strength to endure challenges, both physical and moral, without succumbing to fear or despair. In Freemasonry, fortitude represents the courage to stand up for what is



right, even in the face of opposition or danger. This virtue is about resilience and steadfastness, encouraging Masons to uphold their principles and values regardless of the difficulties they may encounter. Fortitude empowers Masons to act with bravery and determination, fostering a spirit of perseverance and integrity. **Justice**

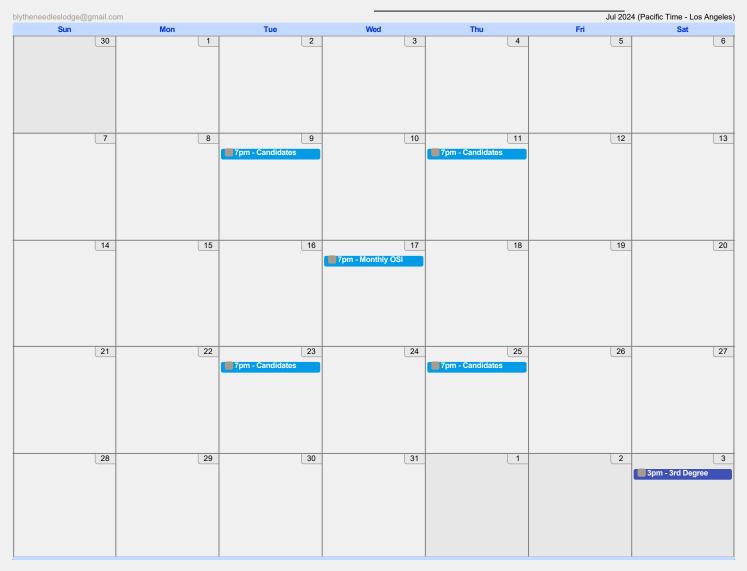
Justice, the fourth cardinal virtue, is about fairness and righteousness. It involves giving each individual their due, respecting the rights of others, and acting with impartiality. In Freemasonry, justice is the cornerstone of moral conduct, ensuring that actions are guided by equity and fairness. This virtue is about treating others with respect and dignity, upholding the principles of honesty and integrity. For Masons, justice is not just a legal concept but a moral imperative that governs their interactions with others, fostering a just and harmonious society. **Integration of the Cardinal Virtues**

The Cardinal Virtues of Freemasonry are not isolated principles but interconnected aspects of a moral and ethical life. Prudence guides the application of temperance, fortitude, and justice, ensuring that each virtue is exercised with wisdom and discernment. Together, these virtues form a comprehensive framework for personal development and ethical conduct.

In the Masonic tradition, the cultivation of these virtues is seen as a lifelong journey. Freemasons are encouraged to reflect on their actions, learn from their experiences, and strive for continuous improvement. The Cardinal Virtues serve as a moral compass, guiding Masons in their quest for personal and social excellence.

Freemasonry's emphasis on the Cardinal Virtues reflects its commitment to the betterment of individuals and society. By promoting prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice, Freemasonry seeks to build a foundation of moral integrity and ethical behavior. These virtues are not only essential for the personal growth of Masons but also for the creation of a just and harmonious world. Through the practice of these virtues, Freemasons aspire to exemplify the highest standards of moral conduct and contribute positively to the broader community.

Sincerely, Jared Rusk



JULY EVENTS

- JULY 5CANDIDATE COACHING NIGHTJULY 11CANDIDATE COACHING NIGHTJULY 17OSIJULY 23CANDIDATE COACHING NIGHTJULY 25CANDIDATE COACHING NIGHT
- AUG 3 3RD DEGREE ZACHARY BUSH