

Papillion Masonic Family Trestleboard

July 2015

WORSHIPFUL MASTER



BILL YOUNG

SENIOR WARDEN



GEOFFREY TALMON

JUNIOR WARDEN



GLENN LEWIS

SECRETARY



A. CARL HIGHMAN

TREASURER



JONATHAN PAZ

SENIOR DEACON



BOB LEWIS

JUNIOR DEACON



BRAD HARBIN

SENIOR STEWARD



ADAM CEJKA



JUNIOR STEWARD



DANIEL MARR

TYLER



JOE CHRISTIANSEN

CHAPLAIN



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MUSICIAN



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Meetings on Tuesdays at 7pm
Stated meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month

Find us on the web!
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/papio39/
Lodge website: www.papillion39.com

Words from the West

This month I'm going to get a little deep.

I have recently become incredibly interested in astronomy, one of the sciences which was earnestly submitted for our consideration as Masons. In particular, the cosmology of the universe itself and its beginnings specifically have attracted my attention. Based on the centrality of the creation narrative in our work, this has seemed to be a worthy object of investigation.

When one reads more about what theoretical physicists and astronomers have put forth in their current theories, the parallels with the story in the first chapter of Genesis are remarkable. As one dives more deeply into hard science of the early universe, the biblical story almost seems to be a Cliffs notes version of the events as science has pictured. We understand now that all of the matter in the universe is made of atoms, which are composed of protons, neutrons, etc.. These particles (fermions and leptons) are similarly made up of quarks and other substrates that in turn (as current theory holds) are composed of finite loops or strings of energy. In other words, matter is condensed energy in the same way that ice is condensed steam. Einstein showed this ($E=mc^2$). All that we see around us and through telescopes is condensed from the unfathomable energy that was present at the time of the Big Bang.

A recent theory that has been gaining traction is that energy itself is a manifestation of something else called the "quantum wave function," which is a form of quantum information. As author Gerald Schroeder said "information may be the fundamental substrate of our universe, a substrate made visible when expressed as the energy and material and space of the universe. In a strong sense, our universe may be the manifestation of information."

As a Mason, this theory struck a deep chord with me. If true, all that is, has been, and will be is the physical manifestation of information. Put another way: knowledge is the basis of the universe. Knowledge is truly, and in all reality, light. We implicitly have had an inkling of this, even before quantum theory. We shed light on that we don't know, a light bulb goes off over our head when we understand something, we "enlighten" others when we share information. In Masonry, gaining knowledge is being brought "to light." It seems that science may say that these idioms are not just metaphorical, but an expression of physical fact.

This line of discourse also brings another thought into mind. The very act of the genesis of the universe is the changing of an organized entity into a more disorganized one. Energy (photons, etc.) is more "uniform" than matter. If energy is, indeed, a "condensation" of a form of universal information/wisdom, how perfect must that wisdom be. Would it be a "perfect" knowledge that was responsible for the embryonic universe (and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters) and the events thereafter (and God said let there be light). Perfect knowledge of an Architect quite literally turned to light.

It seems, as the tenants of Masonry have said for centuries, that science may not be anathema to spirituality.



Geoffrey Talmon
Senior Warden

Odd Jobs Team

The Odd Jobs Team is a group of Brothers who have volunteered to assist Masons and their spouses with simple Odd Jobs or tasks around the house that they cannot do on their own.

Some examples of Odd Job requests that could most likely be handled by the Odd Jobs Team include:

- Basic tasks around the yard such as mending a fence, repair a deck railing, or cleaning out the gutters.
- Simple household tasks such as fixing a loose stairway rail, changing a hard-to reach light bulb, or fixing a cabinet door.
- Other manual labor tasks that don't take extremely specialized knowledge or tools.

Unfortunately at this time we cannot offer assistance with reoccurring tasks, such as mowing or snow removal.

If you have a request, please contact the team at OddJobsTeam@outlook.com or call the Lodge. Once we receive your request we will reach out to the different volunteers on the Odd Jobs Team to try to match your task with one or more people on the team.

A member of the team will contact you to discuss the task and once we are sure that it's something that we can safely and properly do for you, we'll schedule a time to get things started!



From the Desk of the Secretary

This will be getting to the snail mail recipients late, I will be printing on the 29th, Ken and I will fold and mail on the 30th...that's because I won't have gotten home until sometime on the 28th. This trip has been a hassle from the get go this year, but it saves me enough hassle in the September - December time frame that is worth it.

July...4th of July, Cots? Followed by the Ralston Parade, haven't heard the decision from the WM of if we're having COTS, but my vote is for the breakfast and education followed by busting our tail getting the float ready...personal opinion.

Congratulations to the new Guardian for Bethel #1 Kori Radloff, welcome to the Papillion Masonic Family, I need your contact information AND you are now a member of temple craft, we expect to see you on the 1st Monday at 7 PM protecting your calendar of events.

Papillion Chapter #114

The annual Smorgasbord held in April was moderately successful, due in large part to donations made by non-resident members and other members not able to attend. If we are to continue to have this type of fundraiser, it is necessary that more tickets be sold to the general public and/or members of other bodies who meet in this center. Think about ways to promote sales before our next event.

As most of you know, the St. Columbkille Shepherds have had a fireworks tent in the Lodge parking lot for many years during fireworks season, June 25 through July 4th. And for a great many years Papillion Chapter has had a concession stand nearby during afternoon and evening hours. Known as "The Hot Dog Stand", they have made hot dog and sloppy joe sandwiches, dessert bars and cold drinks available for sale to everyone. The Hot Dog stand will operate again this year with Sister Darlene Hix in charge. She can always use help (call her at 712-366-8810 to volunteer) and the stand can always use customers.

Another long standing event is our Christmas in July party. This is a community outreach project with regular attendees of both the Papillion and La Vista Senior Centers as our guests for a noon meal and some entertainment. Our own members who are 70 years old or older are also invited guests. In recent years, many of those working in the kitchen preparing and serving the

I think we have something on the calendar every weekend in July and some that are normally dark during the summer are either doing work or practice or having a picnic...

Don't have any humorous writings this month because I'm running out of time. I apologize for not having "the next two weeks" out to the members with emails from Mid-June to the end, but I assure you it will resume in July.

This trip is it until a long weekend in August, a week in October, and a long weekend in November. If you are traveling this summer, have a safe trip.



A Carl Highman, Secretary/Recorder
Lodge, RAM, CM & KT

food are past 70 and should be honored guests. If you are a member 70 or older, plan to come to the party and if you are younger/or able to help, contact Bev Higgins (402-339-8519) and offer to help.



Phyllis Cain, Reporter
Questions or Comments:
phylliscain27@gmail.com

The American Red Cross

March storms forced the cancellation of more than 200 blood drives, resulting in nearly 7,000 uncollected blood and platelet donations. This shortfall follows more than 26,400 uncollected blood and platelet donations in February due to severe weather across 27 states.

Please donate and/or help us spread the word-

Papillion Community Blood Drive
Papillion Masonic Center
July 8th 11:30 am-5:30 pm
Call 800-RedCross or go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule your appointment

Walk ins are welcome!

St. Columbkille Shepherds

The St. Columbkille Shepherds attended our June 6th "Coffee on the Square" breakfast and were welcomed by W.B. Cullen Pilker and the brethren of Papillion Lodge #39. The Shepherds will once again be selling fireworks in the Papillion Masonic Lodge parking lot this summer, as they have done for over 16 years. The funds from the sales largely support youth sport programs and other charities in our community, and the Shepherds typically make a donation to the lodge. The members of the Papillion Masonic family can be proud of this community cooperation, and the area youth programs it supports. If your family will be enjoying fireworks this Fourth of July, stop by and visit the Shepherds.



Job's Daughters

As I am writing our entry for this month's Trestleboard the members and adults of Job's Daughters Bethel #1 are busy getting ready for Grand Bethel.

The girls are practicing their ritual and floor work, finishing up Arts & Crafts entries, making sure their robes and regalia are ready and looking forward to a great time in Peru, NE. We have held many practices and recited our parts over and over. By the time you read this we will already have held our competitions, met new people from across the state, watched our Grand Bethel Officers perform their many ceremonies and elected officers for next year.

If you see any of our members or adults please ask them about their experiences from this year's Grand Bethel.



Elizabeth Grazier
Bethel Guardian
Bethel #1 Jobs Daughters
International

Tips for New Masons By Brother Matt Johnson

Taking part in Freemasonry allows you to be part of a tradition that matters. It is a product of the Enlightenment and can be very interesting and fun. It can also be boring at times like anything else. I really enjoy it. I love the degrees, the books and the friends I have.

Don't go in hells bells trying to fix all of Freemasonry's "problems". You will be disappointed. If you see something that needs help, get in and help with a good attitude. Offer to read a Masonic paper in lodge. Serve as an officer. Take it slow. And have a sense of humor. The good Mason takes Freemasonry seriously, but not so seriously that he is a sour faced know-it-all. Find the middle ground between being too fun and too serious. You will find being a balanced man is a theme in Freemasonry.

If you are mellow and even tempered, that is ideal. If you like to stir the pot and cause trouble, please do not approach us. Having an opinion is fine, but being able to express your opinion with love and patience is ideal... not just in a Masonic lodge, but in every aspect of life. Never

discuss politics or religion in the lodge. Ever. That is a massive no no. That is how we are able to keep our lives peaceful and get along so well.

There is a tremendous online community of Masons now as well that are really fun to talk to and trade ideas. I hope this helps you to approach your life as a Mason realistically so that you get the maximum enjoyment out of it!

Once you have been in the lodge for a bit...if it needs a little boost, try the following. We did and it really works for us: have at least a 5 minute education piece at every meeting on something pertaining to the degrees (this is good for blue lodge, York or Scottish Rite), send a daily email out to your guys with an interesting link to something Masonic related (a "Daily Dose of Freemasonry") and call each member on his birthday. Be sure to have a meal before or after the meeting. Be sure to have a Facebook page and become Facebook friends with all your members. Get to know each other that way as well. That is it. You would be surprised how these simple, free things really help to boost interest and community.

(Continued on the bottom of Page 5)

July 2015 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7p - DeMolay	2 7p – Papillion #114 OES Practice	3 12p – SOOB Lunch 1p – SOOB Meeting 6:30p – KT Dinner 7:30p – KT Meeting	4 8a – COTS 1p – Ralston Parade
5 2p - Job’s Daughters	6 7p – Templecraft	7 7p - Papillion #39	8 6:30p – Royal Arch dinner 7:30p – RAM – Mark Master Degree	9 7:30p – Papillion #114 OES Business Meeting	10 7:30p – Adah OES Business Meeting	11 9a – SOOB / KT Picnic
12 2p - Job’s Daughters	13	14 6:30 – Papio #39 Dinner 7p - Papillion #39 Business Meeting	15	16	17	18
19 2p - Job’s Daughters	20	21 7p - Papillion #39	22	23	24	25
26 2p - Job’s Daughters	27	28 7p - Papillion #39	29	30	31	

Tips for New Masons (Continued)

Oh...one more thing. Conspiracy theorists. Don't worry about them. Most people, Mason or not, realize they are idiots. When someone asks you lots of crazy questions or makes crazy accusations about Freemasonry, just smile knowingly and say nothing. Maybe laugh a little. Just don't answer them. It will drive them crazy which, I for one, thoroughly enjoy. :)

(This was an excerpt of an article in *The Working Tools* magazine, reprinted with permission. Check out the entire article in the June 2015 edition of *The Working Tools* magazine, or find it online at www.twtmag.com)

Blue Lodge BBQ

On Saturday June 20th we held our Annual BBQ Fundraiser. This is our primary fund raising event for the year, to help with the scholarships and contributions that we make to various causes.

This year we had a very good turnout, and it was one of the most profitable BBQ Fundraisers that we've had in quite a while!

Thank you to everyone who come out to the BBQ to help, and everyone who stopped by for dinner! Thanks to YOU, this year's event was a big success!

To submit an article to the Trestleboard, send to papio39.trestleboard@gmail.com. Articles need to be submitted prior to the 19th of the month. Questions or comments contact Dan Marr (djm.papio39@outlook.com)