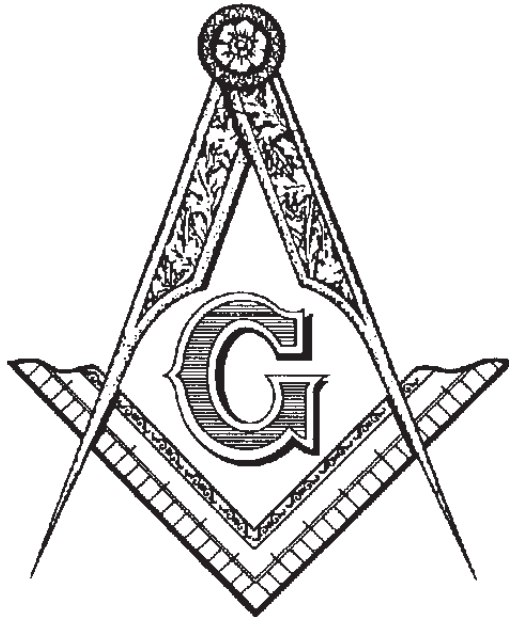


Fall 2008

Issue #24

Fulton- Montgomery



Official Publication of the
Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District
Free & Accepted Masons
State of New York

The Fulton-Montgomery News

• Newsletter Policy •

The Fulton-Montgomery News, published quarterly for the benefit of the Brethren of the Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District and their families, is the official publication of:

Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District
Free & Accepted Masons

The Staff welcomes all letters and submissions, reserving the right to edit for space and clarity. Material **MUST** be provided in **WORD** format or mailed in the email body to “rbsteele@nycap.rr.com”

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• A View From The East •

by R.: W.: William J. Dorn
DDGM Fulton-Montgomery District



Greetings Brothers from the East,

The nights are getting colder and the days are getting shorter and fall is just around the corner. By the time that you receive this publication most of the lodges will have had at least one meeting and maybe two. It is very important that we as a district put the past behind us and move ahead to the future.

The lodges in the district have new masters and officers and I urge every brother to come out and support there lodges in the district. Below is a list of my official visitations to the lodges in the district.

Thursday, September, 18 2008	St. Johnsville Lodge# 61I
Wednesday, October, 8 2008	Kennyetto Lodge #599
Wednesday October, 22 2008	Hamilton Lodge #79
Wednesday, November, 5 2008	Fish House Lodge #298I
Wednesday, December,3 2008	Fultonville Lodge# 531
Tuesday, January, 13 2009	Amsterdam Lodge #84
Tuesday, February, 10 2009	Fort Plain Lodge #433
Thursday, March 19 2009	St. Patricks Lodse# 4

At the St. Johnsville Lodge visitation I will read the Address of The Most Worshipful Edward G. Gilbert Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York. That he read on Saturday June 21 2008 (Saint John's Day) in the Daniel D. Tompkins Memorial Chapel located at the Masonic Home in Utica, N.Y. His theme is getting back to the basics This address can be found on the Masonic website. As you have read in the summer issue of the newsletter (issue #23) my goal for the district in the next two years is to let the general public know who and what masonry is all about. This can be done a number of ways but the most effective way is by YOU (word of mouth) telling a friend who and what we are. By doing this and bringing a perspective candidate to a lodge open house or bring a friend night we will increase membership in the lodges. By doing this we will get back to the basics in degree work, opening and closing, and many more operations of the lodge.

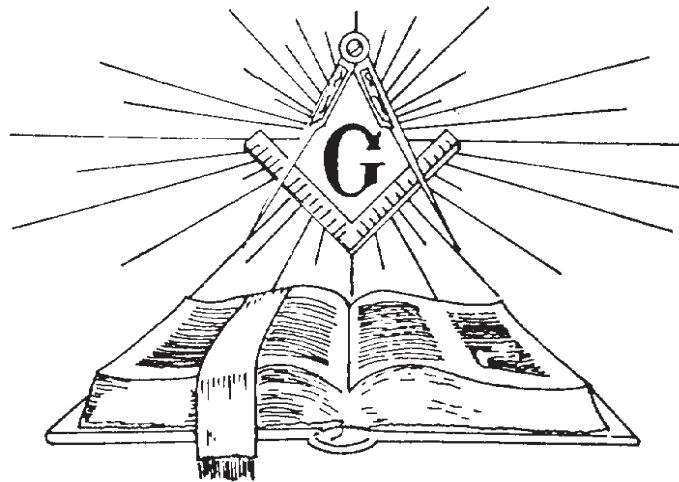
There are many facts on the masons but here is few I thought were interesting. At its peak in 1959, there were 4,103,161 Masons in the United States today, there are about 1,700,000 Worldwide, there are an

estimated 3,500,000 Masons in about 12,500 Lodges in virtually every free nation in the world. As of today, there are approximately 60,000 New York Masons and 600 lodges in New York State. At its peak in 1929, there were 346,413 Masons in New York State.

Nationwide, Masons contribute close to 2 million dollars daily to charitable causes across the United States. I think that the numbers above peak for themselves but at the same time we must be careful in who we recommend for a prospective candidate. I would like every brother in the district to think of a person who they think would make a good brother. Bring that prospective brother to a lodge open house or bring a friend tonight and show them the lodge and tell them who and what the masons are and what we do.

Fraternally,

R.: W.: William J. Dorn DDGM



• From the District Reporter •

By Your name here

We are still looking for a District Reporter. all it will take is a small amount of time and have fun with it.

• Lodge News •

St. Patrick's Lodge #4 F & A M
P. O. Box 896
22 North Perry Street
Johnstown, New York, 12095-0896
518-762-7015
www.newyorkmasons.org
W.: Robert L. Shell, Master

Brethren:

St. Patrick's Lodge # 4 hopes all Brethren had a great summer and are ready to begin the Fall sessions of Lodge and District functions.

We will be supporting our new District Deputy Grand Master for the Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District, R.: W.: William J. Dorn. A contingent will be accompanying R.: W.: Bro. Dorn, DDGM, at his visitations in the District, but to contiguous Districts. ALL Lodges are invited and encouraged to join St. Pat's Lodge # 4 on all visits.

Speaking of DDGM visitations, St. Patrick's Lodge # 4 will open early and adjourn to attend St. Johnsville # 611 DDGM visitation on September 18th. Members are encouraged to go Right to St. Johnsville Lodge- 5:30 – 6:30 dinner and 7:30 Lodge resumes there.

St. Patrick's Lodge # 4 will be holding a monthly RITUAL PRACTICE AND MENTORING PROGRAM at the Lodge,

7 – 8:30 pm. This will be held on the 2nd Thurs. of each month through May and will center on Opening to Closing Lodge, Degree(s) and Mentoring new EAs, FCs & MMs. These sessions are to assist the Brethren who want to improve themselves in Masonry.

The GRAND LECTURERS CONVENTION is SEPTEMBER 30th,

At St. Patrick's Lodge # 4. There is a dinner at \$15.00 per person:

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED AND LODGES ARE FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR RESERVATIONS. Make reservations with V.: W.: John B. Morris at jbmorris6@yahoo.com by SEPT. 22nd. Or at 762-2657.

St. Patrick's Lodge # 4 has the City of Johnstown commemorative Medallions available at \$10.00 and a few of the St. Pat's Lodge 200th anniversary (1966) medallions at \$10.00. Contact the Secretary.

Also: REMEMBER THE (36 CLUB) WED. AM COFFEE HOUR 7:30 – 9 am, held in the Black Horse Lounge at the Lodge building. We are breaking the 30 mark, in attendance, regularly.

W.: Wayne D. Schermerhorn, Sec.

Lodge District Newsletter



Hamilton #79
W.: Carlton Scutt, Master
2nd & 4th Wednesdays
(518) 922-7668
wmchr1@aol.com



Amsterdam #84
R.: W.: Jeffrey Lanfear, Master
2nd & 4th Tuesdays
labvsb@capital.net



Fish House #298
By W.: Todd Payne Master
1st & 3rd Wednesdays

As the summer winds down, FishHouse lodge is gearing up their Masonic season, and we are looking forward to all that it brings. Our first meeting night is September 3. We will have members at the parade in Johnstown on September 13th. This should prove to be a memorable event. We are looking forward to Sacandaga Chapter #116 to perform the Fervency & Zeal program for our brothers on September 17th. All are welcome. On October 1, FishHouse will be hosting a bring a friend night. All are welcome to attend this also. It is usually a nice night. Of course our DD visit is scheduled for November 5, and more details will follow pertaining to that. We have scheduled a 1st degree for November 19th. That is a rather full schedule for the fall, and along with the rest of the events going on in the district it should keep us busy. Hope you all had a good summer, and hope to see you all at one of the many events around the district.

Fraternally
W.: Todd Payne Master



Fort Plain #433
W.: Christopher Hanley, Master
2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Brothers of Fort Plain Lodge,

I am writing this newsletter article for our Worshipful Master, Christopher Hanley. Currently, he is very busy overseeing our relocation from the Masonic Temple on Mohawk St. in Fort Plain, as the owner has placed this property for sale. The previous impending sale, which would have permitted us to stay there did not occur. We feel it is no longer feasible for us to remain at this location. So, our Master appointed a committee to investigate various options such as another building which would allow us to remain in Fort Plain. Another possible option could be to relocate to the Canajoharie Masonic Temple on Erie Blvd. in Canajoharie as indicated in the survey form mailed to you by our Master. However, as we continue to evaluate all viable options to remain in Fort Plain.

In these uncertain and difficult economic times many lodges and organizations are struggling to maintain their memberships as well as their physical buildings. Therefore, in trying to stay within our budgetary guidelines, we feel the option of moving to a new location in Fort Plain would best allow to keep our Masonic Charter #433 Fort Plain, New York while remaining in this community.

Our Master appreciates your cooperation and assistance to make this transition successful.

Fraternally R.:W.: David Montanye



Fultonville #531
1st & 3rd Wednesdays Canajoharie Temple
W.:Jeremy Krajewski
Home - 518-922-7668
Cell – 518-322-6734
Email – jaykrajewski@frontiernet.net

Brothers,

We are still meeting at Canajoharie Temple every first and third Wednesdays of the Month at 7:30 pm.

On June 4, 2008 Fultonville had its Installation of Officers with Hamilton Lodge. At that time R.:W.:Tom Krutz District Staff Officer and R.:W.:Clayton Swain Past District Deputy Grand Master helped present Brother Alan Taylor with the Distinguished Service Award, and Apron Presentation. This was a great accomplishment for all of Brother Taylors labor over the years.

This past year R.:W.:Leon Smith was awarded the Mason of the Year Award for all of his service to this District and our Lodge. He has proven time and time again to be ever vigilant to help any Brother in need, as all Brothers should.

On July 18, 2008 we had our Annual Brooks Barbeque. With the help from Young Men from St. Andrews Chapter DeMolay, we sold out by 6pm.

St. Andrews Chapter also helped us move our belongings over the summer and it is, and was, much appreciated.

It is my plan to have several special meetings over my term, and help to bring in new members and bring back members who have been away. Fultonville Lodge's Pancake Breakfasts are still being held every third Saturday of every Month from 8 to 11 am, and are doing very well. I would like to thank the Brothers in our District who have supported us. Any Brother who needs assistance to come to a communication or in need of help, please get in touch with one of the Officers of our Lodge, we will be more than happy to assist you.

Fraternally,

W.:Jeremy Krajewski
Master Fultonville Lodge #531

Kennyetto Lodge No. 599
R.: W.: William Clizbe Master
2nd & 4th Wednesdays
Phone (518) 883-8448
www.newyorkmasons.org

Fraternal greetings to all!

We begin our new Masonic year with service to the community. Thanks to the Brothers and friends of the Lodge that provided their time at the Fonda Fair in the Child ID booth. We provided permanent records for close to one hundred families to help protect their children in case they should be lost.

Our first regular communication will be held on September 10th at the usual time of 7:30 p.m. Please remember that we meet the second and fourth Wednesday's of each month from September to May with the exceptions of November and December where we only hold the first meeting of the month due to the proximity of holidays to the fourth Wednesdays in both of those months. Please try to attend as there will be discussions significant to the future of the Lodge.

Since our last newsletter it has been my sad duty to preside at two Masonic Memorial services. We regret the passing of both Bro. W. Gordon Coloney and Bro. James Phillips. We wish both families the gift of peace as they move forward from sorrow.

For our second meeting in September I have plans to have some Brothers from the Scottish Rite perform the "Rusty Brother" degree. This is a humorous way to remind brothers that have not been in Lodge for some time of the modes of recognition that they may have forgotten in their absence. I encourage all to attend. We will precede the festivities with another degree familiar to all, a "Knife and Fork" degree. The menu will be decided later. Good fun, good brotherhood, come on down. On October 22nd we will welcome R.: W.: William Dorn, District Deputy Grand Master of the Fulton-Montgomery District to our Lodge for his official visit. The Lodge will open that evening at 5:00 followed by a social hour from 5:30-6:30, and dinner at 6:30. The Lodge will again resume labor at 7:30p.m.

Our Pancake Partner breakfasts will resume in September and October with our Partners being the Little Patriots Football program and the Broadalbin-Perth Football program, respectively. Breakfast is the second

Continued on page 17

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

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• In Memoriam •

Lawrence W. Castler	from his wife Jean
Perston Simons	from his wife Beatice
Richard J. Sponable	from his wife Shirley
Bro. Robert Rounds, Fultonville #53	from his wife Elaine
Bro. Walter C. Coolman, Welcome Lodge	from W.: Bob & Bonnie Dietrick
Bro. Harold Banta	from his wife Norma
W.: Bro. Durant M. Friday St. Patrick's #4	from his wife Margaret
Harold Wilber Banta	from Unknown in Maine
Bro. Alvin V. Hichens, St. Patrick's #4	from his wife Edith
Bro. William V. Hovey, Fultonville #531	from his wife Jeannette

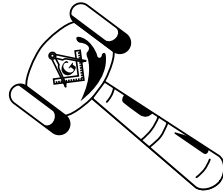
Remember a Brother. A \$10 contribution to the newsletter will keep their name in this column for 4 issues. Any Brother may be honored.



ompliments of:

John C. Swengle Fort Plain #433
Dr. William S. Muehleck
R.W. Janet M. Bronk Matron Chapter #208 O.E.S.

Help the Newsletter! A personal contribution of \$10 or more will help



Traveling Gavel 2008

_____ Thus far, as of our last District Deputy meeting, the total points for the year received for each lodge attending District Deputy and M&O meetings are as follows;

St Patrick's #4	50 points
Hamilton #79	26 points
Amsterdam #84	34 points
Fish House #298	36 points
Fort Plain #433	38 points
Fultonville #531	28 points
Kennyetto #599	29 points
St Johnsville #611	7 points

Respectively Submitted,

R.:W.: David Saltsman, Chairperson



The Masonic Funeral

A new Worshipful Master of the Lodge spent the first four days making personal visits to each of the members, inviting them to come to his first Lodge meeting. The following Thursday the Lodge was all but empty. Accordingly, the Worshipful Master placed a notice in the local newspapers, stating that, because the Lodge was dead, it was everyone's duty to give it a decent Masonic burial. The funeral would be held the following Monday afternoon, the notice said. Morbidly curious, a large crowd turned out for the "funeral." In front of the Altar, they saw a closed coffin, smothered in flowers. After the Chaplain delivered the eulogy, he opened the coffin and invited his Brethren to come forward and pay their final respects to their dead Lodge.

Filled with curiosity as to what would represent the corpse of a "dead Lodge," all the Brethren eagerly lined up to look in the coffin. Each "mourner" peeped into the coffin then quickly turned away with a guilty, sheepish look. In the coffin, tilted at the correct angle, was a large mirror. Remember the obligation we all took my brethren. Attend and support your Lodge!!!!

Thanks Don

Saturday of the month from 8:00 to 11:00. We need both eaters and do-
ers. If you can help, call W.: John Sira at 883-3846.
Looking forward to seeing many of you soon. God Bless and Keep You.

Fraternally
R.: W.: William Clizbe Master



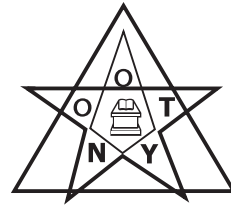
St. Johnsville #611
W.: Jacque Mosher Sr., Master
1st & 3rd Thursdays



The district Lake George boat trip was a huge success with 22
people in attendance. As usual food was great and so was the
dancing and boat ride. Hope more district members can go
next year.

Fraternally Yours,
W.: Jim Lowerre





Youth Committee

By: W. Michael Krajewski
518-922-8712

Brothers, Sisters, and Friends;

As we begin a new Masonic Year, do yourselves a real huge favor, and support the Youth Groups in our District.

Our young men and women are very important for our future. In our times I feel more than any others, it is so important to help mold these individuals, for they are our future leaders. Believe it or not, they look continually for guidance, which is something that a lot of them cannot obtain. We should try to help any of the Youth Groups, not just DeMolay and Triangles, but also the Boy and Girl Scout Organizations, and any others that can be brought to mind.

My friends, we have an opportunity that not many people have in their lifetimes.

A good possibility would be for every Lodge to select an Individual to be in contact with any of the Youth Groups in their area, and see what kind of support we can give.

The Masons do have awards to give out for the Scouting Organizations. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout may earn. The Masonic Eagle Scout Award, which is presented to an Eagle Scout for recognizing the highest award a Boy Scout can achieve. My friends, these are just a couple of examples.

In our area we have St. Andrews Chapter of DeMolay, and also the Onistagrawa Chapter of Triangles. The Masons do sponsor these great Organizations, but should also be there to support them. Please believe me when I say that when they see one of us show up at their meetings, their chests swell up with pride.

Please support our Youth, Believe me you won't be sorry.

Don't forget, our Youth is our Future, and we as Masons can help mold both.

Fraternally,

W. Michael Krajewski

Youth Chairman Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District

Chevalier Investiture

August 17, 2008

Albany Masonic Temple

In the early 1930's DeMolay founder Frank S. Land had been thinking of an honor he could bestow on DeMolays and Senior

DeMolays for outstanding service to the Order. He wanted to honor them now, instead of waiting for them to be nominated for the Legion of Honor in years to come. He also wanted to honor Senior DeMolays who had been working with chapters even though they were not Masons, but had performed outstanding service to the Order.

The Degree of Chevalier is the highest honor for distinguished DeMolay service that can be awarded to a DeMolay by the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay. Approximately one percent of all members of the Order receive the Degree of Chevalier. Today, the rolls of the Chevalier Degree number approximately 27,000.

Honored were:



Brian Bidnick – Orange Rockland Chapter

Michael Hernandez – St. Andrews Chapter

Joshua Reisinger – St. Andrews Chapter

Marc Wiley – St. Andrews

Also present was Junior Grand Warden R.: W.: Tim McMullin, and Past Grand Master M.: W.: Neal Bidnick.

Fraternally,

W.: Michael Krajewski

Youth Chairman Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District



• More Light •

Many famous masons who have gone before Installation at Celestial Lodge. As we are all well aware, and as is pointed out in the North East Angle Lecture in the Canadian Rite Ritual, it cannot be denied that we always had many members of rank and affluence. Over the centuries many well known men have been members of our Noble Craft. For a few moments, please allow your imaginations to run wild and consider what may take place at the Installation of The Celestial Lodge, otherwise known as the Grand Lodge Above. Even though it was late fall, there was a warm breeze blowing and the sun was setting behind the Lodge Hall. Gathered in the parking lot filled with their works were Bros Henry Ford, Ransom Olds, Walter Chrysler, John Willys and Andre Citroen. The only vehicle missing was Bro Hart Massey's tractor. Greeting members in the entrance hall was Bro Cliff Arquette of Charley Weaver fame and Bro Ed Wynn. In the boardroom, a group of senior DeMolays were gathered including Bros Walter Disney, Chet Huntley, Wendell Corey, Van Johnson, Robert Cummings, John Steinbeck, Fred McMurray and John Cameron Swayze. King Gillette, razor in hand, passed the lodge caretaker who was having a minor problem with his vacuum cleaner, which was quickly cleared up with the help of its inventor, Bro Frank Hoover, while at the other end of the hallway Bros Emmett Kelly, Clyde Beatty and all seven of the Ringling Bros were discussing the Shrine Circus. Taking a quick look into the Banquet Hall, Bros John Molson, Frederick Pabst and Joseph Schlitz were busy rolling in some kegs of beer for Bros Sam Bronfman, late President of Seagram's Distillers, who was setting up the bar for the Festive Board to follow the Ceremony. Bro Colonel Harland Sanders was cooking up a storm in the kitchen and it was an easy guess as to what the evening meal would consist of. The orchestra members for the dance to follow the Banquet were tuning. Members of this All-Star group included leader Bros Paul Whiteman, W. C. Hardy, Nat King Cole, Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan, Cyril Stapleton, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie and Al Jolson. Tonight's performance would be M.C.ed by Bros Arthur Godfrey and Danny Thomas. Magical Bros Harry Houdini and Harry Blackstone were setting up heir props while Bros W. C. Fields, Oliver Hardy, Bud Abbott, Harpo Marx, and Foster Brooks were fine tuning their comedy routines for tonight's show which was being produced by Bros Cecil B. DeMille, Flo Ziegfeld, Louis B. Mayer,

Hall Wallis and D. W. Griffiths.

A number of sports celebrities were gathering together, including Bros Abe Saperstein, creator of the Harlem Globetrotters, who was explaining his version of the game to Bro James Naismith, the inventor of the game. They were joined by baseballers, Bros Charles Ebbetts, Ty Cobb, Branch Rickey and Cy Young, the first pitcher to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

A little further along the hall was an array of masons dressed in knee breeches, lace cuffs and powdered wigs, others in tuxedos, including Bros Kit Carson, Davy Crockett and Buffalo Bill Cody, clad in their familiar buckskins, and Native American Chiefs, Bros Crazy Bull, Tecumseh and Joseph Brant in their native attire. Most colourful are the military uniforms of Lord Nelson, Lord Cornwallis, Captain James Cook, the Duke of Wellington and John Paul Jones.

I was gazing in awe at these members of Celestial Lodge, when the Grand Master, M.:W.: Bro Harry Truman, appeared from the preparation room accompanied by Bros John Jacob Astor, Luther Burbank, J. C. Penney, Adlai Stevenson and Jennings Bryan.

Bro John Diefenbaker had just signed the Tyler's Register with one of Bro John Schaeffer's pens. He was accompanied by Bros Robert Borden and R. B. Bennett, fellow Canadian Prime Ministers, and by Bro Joe Smallwood of Newfoundland.

At this time, the Tyler, Bro J. Edgar Hoover, informed the brethren that the meeting was about to come to order.

On entering the lodge room, the brethren were greeted by the Inner Guard, Bro Paul Revere. Seated already were polar explorers, Robert F. Scott of England and Bro Richard E. Byrd of the United States, together with Matthew G. Perky and Canada's Henry Larsen. Bro Charles Lindbergh could be seen in deep conversation with Bros Hap Arnold, Gus Grissom, Eddie Rickenbaker and Charles Kingsford-Smith.

From the Junior Warden's station came a burst of laughter. Bro Will Rogers had brought broad smiles to the faces of the Royal personages gathered around him, including Bros George I, Frederick the Great, Gustav V of Sweden and George VI. To the right of the Junior Warden's chair, architect Bro Sir Christopher Wren was joined by Statue of Liberty sculptor, Bro Frederic Bartholdi. Bros Norman Vincent Peale and Peter Marshall, who would assume the Chaplain's duties this evening, were in conversation with the Bros Du Pont, Peter and Victor, and the Bros Rothschild, James and Nathan. Gathered around the Secretary's desk, Bro Rudyard Kipling was discussing the evening's

proceedings with Bro Robert Burns, who was to give one of the Charges assisted by Bro Mark Twain. Also taking part were Bros Arthur Conan Doyle, Walter Scott, Samuel Johnson, Alexander Pope and Robert Service.

The Grand Organist, Bro Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, was discussing last minute changes with Bros Gilbert and Sullivan.

Bros Clark Gable, Peter Sellers, Wallace Beery, Douglas Fairbanks and Brian Donleavy were discussing boxing with champions, Bros Jack Dempsey, Jack Johnson and Sugar Ray Robinson. Another small group, in the persons of Bros John Wayne, Hoot Gibson and Tom Mix, were listening to Bro William Thaddeus Phillips (also known as Butch Cassidy.)

The founding members, Bros George Washington, Sir John A. MacDonald, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Benito Juarez, John Hancock and Ben Franklin were seated in the East. They have been joined by Bro Sir Stamford Raffles, founder of Singapore.

The Generals, Bros Omar Bradley, Jimmy Doolittle, George C. Marshall, John Pershing and Douglas McArthur, take their seats next to Bros Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. The Lodge Treasurer, Bro Henry Knox was busy collecting dues from Bros Thomas E Dewey and William McKinley. The Master,

M.: W.: Bro HRH The Duke of Connaught, has rapped the gavel to call the Lodge to order, and it is now time for us to depart. With one last look at this brilliant assembly, one wonders what the public's perception of Freemasonry might be if they were able to visit such a lodge.

Author: Anonymous

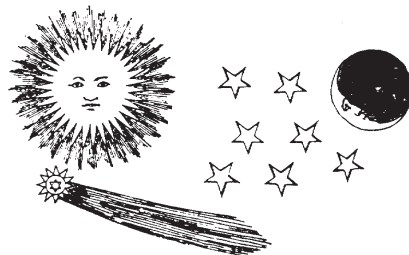
Answers to the Salty Dog Quiz on Masonic Balloting

True 1) A ballot is a "secret vote" The ballot on a petition should always be secret and inviolable (hdbk. 545)

True 2) Ordinarily "ballot "meant" a round pill used for a Secret vote Although it is of non-Masonic origin it is interesting to note that ballot is defined in Webster's Dictionary as white and black balls; one for affirmative, the other for negative.

True 3) The Demand for a ballot is undeniable. The Book of Constitutions recognizes the demand for a ballot to be an undeniable right of any Brother of the Lodge Nor does the Brother making the demand (that is the request) have to give a reason. Since trust is one of the fundamental governing principles among Masons it is assumed that the Brother making the demand is doing so for good Masonic reasons and in the constitutions

protect the right to demand a ballot as being undeniable. When the ballot being demanded is on a candidate for initiation or a Brother seeking advancement to the next degree it must be made at a stated communication. Or it can be made at a Special Communications if the purpose of the meeting is to confer that particular degree the demand may also apply to a Brother whom the Lodge has accepted for affiliation provided that Brother has not yet signed the by-laws to consummate his membership . (hdbk. 563&1079) True 4) when requested a ballot must be taken and cannot be Postponed beyond a reasonable time. Whether it is on a petition following the report of the Lodge's investigating committee or in response to a brother's demand for a re-ballot it is the responsibility of the lodge to ballot within a reasonable time. If the ballot is postponed the specific time when it will be taken must be determined at the time of the postponement. In other words, the expectation is that normally a ballot will be taken at the time of the Investigation Committee's report or on demand from a Brother of the Lodge. If a postponement is necessary, it is required that a new date be determined then and there. It is assumed that the ballot will be taken as soon as possible. It may never be postponed indefinitely or to a date in the future that may be considered " beyond a reasonable time " Nor may a postponement be announced where the decision on when it will be taken is likewise deferred to a subsequent Communication Finally, on ballot may be postponed when it is obviously being done to prevent a Brother or Brothers from being able to ballot or exercising their right to object. (hdbk. 539) True 5) Once a petition has been turned over to an Investigation committee it must be balloted upon. Once a lodge has received a petition for initiation (except one requiring a waiver of jurisdiction) and has referred it to an Investigating Committee it must be acted upon by ballot. It is the Brother of the lodge, expressing themselves through the ballot, who ultimately decide the acceptance or rejection of a petition. In addition our Constitutions define other rights and action of both the lodge and petitioner regarding a petition but all are based on results of the ballot (for example the constitutionally defined waiting period before a rejected petitioner may be proposed again or petition another lodge) (hdbk. 536) True 6) A demand for a re-ballot may be withdrawn at any time prior to the taking of the ballot.



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