

# St. James Lodge No. 47 F. & A.M.

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Stated Communications: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

## JANUARY 2004 – FEBRUARY 2004



Installation is over and now it the time for us to fulfill our obligations as Masons.

Our Committees are hard at work. If you have not been to a meeting in a while, please come to the next meeting. You will find it enlightening.

St. James lodge lost two dear Bro's. Both Archie Fitzgerald and Don Cannon, Jr. both died recently. They will be sorely missed.

It was, sadly, my honor to preside at Bro. Fritzgerald's Masonic funeral, and my condolences go out to his family and all who knew and loved him.

As for Bro. Don Cannon, Jr., I could not have said it better than what Bro. Dodge said, "If it were not for masonry I would not have met Bro. Don Cannon except by chance and I am so thankful that I did. Working with him on the Degree Teams has been a delightful experience".

We will all miss him. The turnout for his Funeral was excellent. Let's so honor all our Brethren. We owe them!

Please check on and call the sick. There will be a form on the sign in desk for you to list a sick Bro.'s name. Please keep us informed. The sick list that I have at this moment contains WM Preston Eggers 757-0642, WM Al Levingston 272-3533, Bro. Al Blanchard 753-0070 and WM Milton Cook 293-9633. Forgive me if I missed anyone, and let me know. Keep them in your prayers.

We have some work to do in the Lodge now that the construction is almost finished. Bro. David dodge will be organizing a WORK CREW. Please help if you can.

I am sure that Bro. George Jones would like for me to remind you of the open meetings, February 19<sup>th</sup> and especially the Guest night on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

How many guests have you invited? If, you don't have any yet, it is time to get to work. There are plenty of worthy men out there that know very little about Masonry. Invite them.

Fraternally, Frank

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewey Wollstein -1953  
WE ARE DREAMERS

Nothing great has been achieved unless the pattern has first been conceived in the mind and heart. Call it what you will- Vision, Dream, or Designs upon the Trestle Board, it is the same. In that sense, we Masons are Dreamers.

Long ago Masons set forth the outline of a noble dream, and every Mason has had his part in bringing about the reality. There is the dream of Universal Brotherhood, not the superficial condition in which men glibly use the words with insincere piety and say: "If you do as I do, we will be brothers; If you believe as I do we will be brothers." Masonry's dream of Universal Brotherhood will become a reality through study, through patience, through Unflinching Trust, and through the knowledge that Brotherhood is a Fact in Nature. Such a condition will result when we gain the ultimate wisdom that religion, science, and philosophy, form the trinity which will unite men. Do we not refer to Masonry as the Science of Morality? We do not say that Masonry is a religion, but who will say that Masonry is not an expression of the best in all religious teachings?

We are Dreamers. The dream in the minds and hearts of Jefferson, Franklin, and Washington, became the United States of America. They envisioned a condition wherein man would no longer be a puppet, but would walk forth in the Light of Freedom.

Yes, we are Dreamers. We dream of a time when our hospitals for the mentally ill will be emptied. We dream of a time when no child will be born into a world of hate, prejudice, of war. We dream of a time when no child will be denied love, shelter, spiritual training, and the opportunity for intellectual development. We dream of a time when man will live in the positive knowledge of the unerring accuracy of Moral and Spiritual Laws.

As we dream we work, and as surely as we work, hope and pray, the Great Dream will come true.

### PAST EVENTS

- Jan. 1 SHORT MEETING  
Adjourned with peace and harmony prevailing.
- Jan. 15 Special E/A exam 6:30  
Grand Lodge Orientation/Resolutions 7:30  
MWM Brown presented a most interesting reading of the 17 Grand Lodge resolutions.
- Jan. 22 Special, 2 FC degrees, 6:30

### FUTURE EVENTS

- Feb. 5 Grand Lodge Report – Treasurer's Report  
Feb 12 Special E/A degree 6:30  
Feb. 19 Surprise Program (Open/meal 6:30)  
Mar. 4 Guest Night (Open/meal 6:30)  
Mar. 18 Rededication & Re-obligation; 25 & 50 yr. Awards  
Apr. 1 Grand Master's Official Visit (Open/meal 6:30)

Feb 19<sup>th</sup> The Professor of Trumpet at LSU will present an evening of trumpet entertainment. He is also the principal trumpet of the Baton Rouge Symphony. He will play some classical music and some pop stuff. This will be about the best entertainment of the year and should not be missed. Please bring your wife and friends, even those you plan to bring to the Guest night on March 4<sup>th</sup>. –George Jones

### Illness, News and Relief

As the WM said in 'From The East', contact those Brothers that are sick and let them know that you care. Let the Lodge know about any who are sick that are NOT on the sick list.

### Demits to the Celestial Lodge

Saturday, January 10, 2004 W: Bro. Archie Dale Fitzgerald entered "The House Not Made With Hands." He was 96-1/2 years old, the oldest member of St. James Lodge # 47, and a Past Master of Milford Lodge # 117. His wife Evelyn, also 96 years old, followed him, dying the night of January 13, the same day as his funeral. Please pray for the family that my blood brother married into. Joe Richard

I am writing to you with a heavy heart. My father, Don Cannon, Jr. passed away at 6:45 today, January, 7th. Many of you I know and some I do not, but I know that each of you had an impact on his life and he would want you to know. My sisters and I would like you to know how much you meant to him and how much we appreciated the friendship that each of you offered him.

Sincerely,  
Don Cannon, III

Other comments on the loss of Bro. Cannon:

If it were not for Masonry I would not have met Brother Don Cannon except by chance and I am so thankful that I did. Working with him on the degree teams has been a delightful experience. Go with God and rest in peace. You earned it. -David Dodge

I miss Don Cannon. -Larry Wade

Bro. Cannon was a member of St. James Lodge # 47 for almost 50-years and was 78 years old. Interment was at Resthaven Gardens of Memory on Jefferson Highway. The Masonic Funeral Service was at Rabenhorst Friday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m. Fraternally, -Joe Richard

Five days before Bro. Cannon joined the celestial lodge, he and I worked on the newsletter together. I mentioned to him that I had never been to a Masonic Funeral. He told me that I should go when I had a chance. Neither one of us knew that my first would be his last. I miss him very much, as I am sure that we all will. -Bob Zinn

The Advocate Monday, January 26, 2004, page 13A has the obituary of Bro. Laurence Peebles Woods, a long-time member of St. James Lodge. He was 94 years old. He joined the "House not made with hands" on January 24. Funeral services were at Grace Episcopal Church, St. Francisville, LA. Please remember his family and "cherish his memory here." -Joe Richard

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**ST. JAMES LODGE - YEAR 2004 REVISED****COMMITTEES****MASONIC EDUCATION**

Lawrence Durell Wade, PM. Chairman  
Mark Jeffrey Paxton  
David Thomas Dodge  
Naresh Sharma, PM

**SICK AND VISITATION**

William Haskell Brown, PGM, Chairman  
Alfred James Blanchard  
Carlisle Sheard Richard  
Lynnwood Dale Ducote  
WM, SW, JW

**COACHES & DEGREE PRACTICE**

David Thomas Dodge, Chairman  
C. Lenton Sartin, PM  
Statie Preston Eggers, PM  
Calvin Lee Elliott PM  
Stephen Mavor Selby, PM

Naresh Sharma, PM

**ATTENDANCE, TELEPHONE & E-MAIL**

Carlisle Sheard Richard, Chairman  
Billy Harold Lyon  
Kenneth B. F. Streater, Jr.  
Joseph George Richard, Jr.  
Alfred James Blanchard  
Steven Allen Newman

**NEWSLETTER & COMPUTER**

Robert Ronald Zinn  
Lynnwood Dale Ducote  
Joseph George Richard, Jr., Chairman

**FUNERAL**

Steven Allen Newman, Chairman  
David Bruce MacNealy  
David Thomas Dodge  
William Ellis (Mac) Little

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Masonic Education: No, They Were Not Freemasons, But . . .

Professor Elizabeth Vandiver is a very well-educated woman. She entered Shimer College, Mt. Carroll, Illinois, in 1972 as a sixteen-year-old. She graduated in 1975. After several years as a librarian, she did graduate work in Classics at the University of Texas in Austin, receiving her M.A. in 1984 and her Ph.D. in 1990. She has held visiting professorships at Northwestern University, The University of Georgia, The Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies (Rome, Italy), Loyola University of New Orleans, and Utah State University. She is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, University of Maryland, where her husband, Franklin J. Hildy, Ph.D., is Professor and Chair, Department of Theatre. Professor Vandiver has been awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award of the American Philological Association and many other distinguished honors. She is the author of the book, Heroes in Herodotus: The Interaction of Myth and History.

In a 12-hour series of lectures on "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey" of Homer -- the oldest surviving complete works in Western literature -- Professor Vandiver provides an insightful analysis that, among other things, traces through the two epic works a thread of the Greek concept of "xenia" (zuh-NEE-uh). She points out various instances of compliance with and violations of that hallowed element of the moral code of the ancient Greeks.

This virtuous principle, xenia, prescribes the ways in which the two strangers are to conduct themselves in relation to each other. Xenia, as described by Professor Vandiver, incorporates the concepts of "guest", "host", "stranger", "foreigner", and "friend". That is, xenia is a principle of virtue which prescribes that a host, as "xeni" (zuh-NOY), and a guest (also as "xeni" and as a "foreigner"), being strangers to each other, have the obligation to extend to each other the privileges of friends.

The foreign traveler who approaches a house and would seek lodging is obliged to produce a suitable gift to be offered to the person whom he would ask to receive him as guest. On being so approached, the master of the house is obliged to receive the stranger as his guest. Further, he is forbidden to even ask the identity of the traveler until after he has provided his guest with a bath and a meal.

The two strangers, then, host and guest, are to conduct themselves as friends. This, it seems to me, very closely resembles the Masonic concept of Brotherly Love -- the Universality of the Brotherhood of Man. The "Fatherhood of God" has its parallel, too, in "xenia". You see, in addition to the guest and the host, there is another participant in xenia -- the god Zeus. Zeus, the principal god of the pantheon and the ultimate ruler of the heaven and earth and of all gods and humankind, sees all that humankind does and punishes wrongdoing. The xeni who violates the accepted principles of xenia is certain to offend Zeus, and one offends Zeus only at great peril to one's own wellbeing.

"How like Masonic principles," one might exclaim, "is the concept of xenia!"

--Masonic Education Committee--

Send newsletter submissions Joe Richard, [jgr2@cox.net](mailto:jgr2@cox.net) or Bob Zinn, [bz@chem.lsu.edu](mailto:bz@chem.lsu.edu)



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