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Officers for 2009

Worshipful Master Tim Bartels

Senior Warden Matt Elliott

Junior Warden Carl Peterson

Senior Deacon Ed Dierkes

Junior Deacon Ron Nelson

Senior Steward Aubrey Heape

Junior Steward Edwin Steffes

Secretary-Treasurer Job Hou-Seye

Chaplain Derrick Rupp, PM

Councilor Harold "Pete" Peterson, PM

Organist Wes Wassell, PM

Lodge on the Net

Sheboygan #11 Website

Calendar of Events

Facebook Page

Trestleboard Archive

A Word from the South

At the lodge meeting on September 15th we were visited by Bro. Bob Messer who is the Director for Development for Wisconsin DeMolay. He gave us a run-down on how a sponsoring body goes about getting a chapter set up.

The good news is we've made the first step, with the Blue Lodge voting to be the sponsor. He also told of several grant opportunities available to help get us started. The next step is getting several interested parties to fill out forms to be prospective Adult Advisors. Once we have these submitted Bob will return and give us a class on getting recruitment started.

Bro. Messer also mentioned that he did a little research and for around \$50 dollars we can get the names and addresses of quite a number of qualified boys in the area. We will discuss Advisors, the DeMolay chapter name, and the rest at future Lodge meetings.

◆ *Brother Carl Peterson, Junior Warden*

Councilor's Light

[Posting work, continued from the last three months.]

Posting: Question Seven. – The biggest “secret” about Freemasonry is that there are virtually no secrets. It is important that our neophytes be assured that they need not alienate friends and family with secrets that don't really exist. We may answer virtually any question a non-Mason may ask us about our fraternity and what we believe and do as Freemasons. We truly need the support of our families and the community at large to continue to exist as a fraternity.

Posting: Question Eight. – The identifying characteristics of Freemasonry at ALL levels of involvement are encapsulated in the modes of recognition. We discern the qualification to abide among our assembly by the familiarity with those modes of recognition. These signs and words have no particular external purpose or meaning. They only identify our status among the particular assembly of Freemasons.

Posting: Question Nine. – This is a deeply personal question designed to help the neophyte examine his individual or personal motive for becoming a Freemason and for advancing in that sojourn we know as Freemasonry. While the answers are individual and personal, it is, nonetheless, important that the neophyte articulate his response as a means of assuring himself of his purpose and motive for joining among us.



This is being sent on the morning following a Special Communication of Sheboygan Lodge No. 11 to which the Worshipful Master issued a summons for all to attend. The report of the trustees was long and consumed much of my physical and emotional energy. I felt that I really needed some time in the game room afterward to rest up and recharge my systems before attempting to drive the just over three miles home.

We heard from three Past Masters last evening, what I firmly believe to be very sound advice. The summation of their concerns may be the most important thing any of us ever consider. This is true if our course of action may potentially close the door of our lodge to a very wise and capable counselor and advisor to Sheboygan Lodge No. 11.

Much of the report we endured last night overlooked the status and standing of two Brothers who will remain such until or unless proven charges may change that status. We should consider whether our conduct and attitude measures up to Pure Masonic conduct as outlined in our obligations. I have a record of be champion of character for all Brethren. We MUST champion the character of our Brothers while their status is indicated as in good standing. Some of you will learn of that duty further as you pursue further light in the appendant bodies of Freemasonry.

Emotions were high last night. Several ignore the admonition to learn to subdue our passions. The report read aroused several very good questions. It was refreshing to see one of our newest Master Masons ask about the impact of what WE are doing on his character as a Mason. How are we going to answer him? What can we do to restore his confidence in his choice to join among us?

There are several obvious options open to our lodge and the process from this point forward may not be as transparent as it was last evening. I have come to learn and appreciate the vast difference between knowing the limits of Masonic Code and understanding the duties we accept when we pledge ourselves to the tenets of the Craft. It is my sincere hope that our Officers will temper their decision with the duties of those tenets.

◆ *Brother Harold Peterson, P.M., K.Y.C.H.*

Brat Fry Fundraiser



Coinciding with the NASA Powerlifting Championships taking place in the banquet hall on Saturday, October 31st, we will be holding a Lodge brat fry, selling out of tents outdoors, and the counter downstairs.

Help is always welcome, as are ample customers, so please support your Lodge and stop by this day!

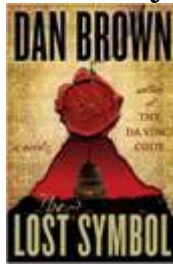
Halloween Party!!!!



The Lodge is hosting a costume party the evening of Halloween, October 31st. It starts at 8:00 P.M. Costumes are required! Cost is \$10 per person, with food and drink being provided. Guests are welcome!

For further information or to R.S.V.P. please contact Bro. Matt Elliott ([920-377-0106](tel:920-377-0106)).

“Lost Symbol” Review



The Lost Symbol – it’s the symbol of the symbolism.

Posted September 21, 2009 by Br. Greg Stewart aka -[masonictraveler](#)

The reason to approach the review in 2 parts is that in the aftermath of National Treasure, Freemasons were well versed to talk about the founding fathers and the Knights Templar. With the lost symbol, lodges and individual Masons need to be just as prepared to talk about

Hermetica, Gnosticism, and symbolism, especially as the book speaks to the wide tolerance of the fraternity to all faiths.

Key points brought up in the book start at the very prologue in the Quote from Manly P. Hall’s [The Secret Teachings of All Ages](#) when he quoted “To live in the world without becoming aware of the meaning of the world is like wandering about in a great library without touching the books.” Brown circumvented the patriotic picture of Washington (the man) and went directly to the post war enlightenment that tapped into the ideas of Francis Bacon’s New Atlantis and [Hermetica](#)’s deism (all faiths beginning at one source).

In *The Lost Symbol*, Pike gets a quick mention, but the Scottish Rite’s deep resonance with the ancient mystery schools was very clear and it is my supposition that those who are attracted to the fraternity following this book will come with those things in mind, and in coming, they will want to talk about and find resonance with the fraternity.

So, to the question, is the symbolism right, did Brown get the symbolic connections remotely correct, or did he tap into the wide field of myths and supposition that exists at the foot of the “Masonic pyramid?” Often, that answer is an individual one, that many tend to think totally out of line with what the modern fraternity represents. It is more social than esoteric, the symbols are just that symbolic, and no further reading need be made into them. Or even harsher, that the symbols were important in the past, but today they are meaningless. I think the answer lies in the school of Masonic thought that you find yourself in.



Some of the Key texts that Brown refers to are the [Kybalion](#), written by br. Paul Foster Case under the pseudonym the Three Mystics, [The New Atlantis](#), mentioned above, by [Francis Bacon](#) , a mere 6 years following the founding of the “new world” and the landing at [Plymouth Rock](#) in 1620. He also references [Albrecht Durer](#), the prolific artist of the Renaissance who created many images, including [Melencolia I](#), often seen as the height of the Christian Mysticism in art, as it depicts the confounded and pondering mystic and the materials of his practice. Each of these are bits and pieces outside the sphere of the three degrees, but still factor large (or should) in the study of Freemasonry.

One element that Brown focuses on is the [alchemical](#) symbol of gold, something in Masonic circles is referenced to as the point within the circle, what Brown calls the circumpunct, that all Masons recognize as being flanked by the Holy Saint John’s and crowned with the Volume of the Sacred Law.



Holy Saints John

The individual symbols are not so much the concern from the book, but the level of readiness over the ease of disregarding them and the discussion of their meaning. Is the lodge room ready to talk symbolism and its speculative nature? Are you, reading this now, ready to dialog with an interested party on the symbolism even on a surface level?

I think all will agree that the book is a work of fiction, but even a work of fiction unless wholly constructed with imaginary creatures and alien landscapes will still speak to and communicate a message, and Freemasonry needs to be ready to speak to that message even if it includes flights of fancy and imagination. Central in Brown's fiction is Freemasonry's connection to the ancient mystery schools, and like it or not, that will be the message that those who have read the book will come to the lodge seeking. Few will likely come away with the greater subtext of the fraternity and the its more visceral purpose, the unification of like minded men, the sincerity of the belief that Masonry teaches something deeper than an inexpensive spaghetti dinner and some handshakes between strangers.



The Lost Symbol will ultimately be a good opportunity for Freemasonry to shine and inspire those new to its doors to seek out more. But it will definitely require us to be on point and be able to answer the questions put forth by those newcomers. Brown mentioned it at the end of his book, the words on the back of the tylers chair at the House of the Temple, "Know Thy Self", but I would add, in knowing our self, we will know the divine.

Source: "The Lost Symbol - its the symbol of the symbolism. | freemasoninformation.com." Freemason Information Masonic Magazine. 4 Oct. 2009 <<http://www.freemasoninformation.com/2009/09/the-lost-symbol-its-the-symbol-of-the-symbolism/>>.

Lighter Side of Masonry

"Lodges at Play"



A man is walking through a local park when he notices a bunch of grown men playing a very determined game of football.

"What's going on?" he asks a spectator on the sidelines.

The other replies, "It's a football game between the Masonic Lodge and the Elk's Lodge."

"What's the score?" asks the first man.

"I don't know. It's a secret."

Trestleboard of Upcoming Events

Wisconsin Freemasons Public Seminar, Saturday, October 3rd, 10am – 12pm, Quality Inn, 809 W Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701-6174

The second of four public seminars put on by MWGM Craig Campbell is being held in Eau Claire. Details are on the [Grand Lodge of Wisconsin website](#).

Stated Meeting-Master's Word, Tuesday, October 6th, 5:30 P.M.

Sheboygan Council No. 38, Royal and Select Masters and Sheboygan Commandery No. 32, Wednesday, October 7th, 7:00 P.M.

Port Washington Chapter No. 98, Royal Arch Masons, Thursday, October 8th, 7:30 P.M.

Victory #320 - Master Mason Degree, Monday, October 12th, 5:30 P.M.

Masonic Lodge 504 W Grand Ave, Port Washington, WI
Contact Brother Pat Storrs if you wish to participate, pat@jpstorrs.com

Stated Meeting-Table Lodge of Instruction, Tuesday, October 20th, 5:30 P.M.

We will have a presentation by Bro. Edwin Steffes. Open to all degrees.

Brat Fry Fundraiser, Saturday, October 31st, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Halloween Party, Saturday, October 31st, 8:00 P.M. – 12:00 A.M.

\$10 a person. Costume required. Contact [Bro. Matt Elliott](#) for further detail or to r.s.v.p. (920-377-0106)

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