



# Union Masonic Lodge #618, A.F.&A.M.

Volume I, Issue 12

December 11, 2012

## Comments

**SECRETARY:** (1) In this edition the information on the Landmarks of Freemasonry is continued with landmarks 5 through 8. As I explained in the previous edition, I came across a list with explanations on the MasonicWorld.com web site. I emailed for permission to include them in our newsletter, and got no response, so I am taking that as an okay to proceed. I ask that you do not further disseminate these, but rather just make

referral to that web site.

(2) If you have not yet paid your dues for 2013, please try to do so soon.

(3) On behalf of the officers of the Lodge I'd like to wish you all and your families a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

## Happenings at the December stated

We enjoyed the fellowship of a gathering of 33 brothers.

We lost another brother in November—Brother Anderson Bruce Jones died on the 28th.

We elected one candidate for the Degrees in Masonry. (Due to scheduling problems on the part of the new candidate, he will not be able to be Initiated in December.

We have had no significant rain to enable us to

determine if we still have a roof leak.

Bro. Mitch Elliott provided an update on the condition of Bro. Perry Sams who was very badly injured recently when another vehicle collided with him on his motorcycle. He was pretty much “beat up”, but he is slowly recovering, and obviously is anxious to get back to his normal routine.

## Upcoming events of interest

**December 29th**—Installation of Officers for 2013. 4:00pm. Lodge will be opened at 3:00pm. Please try to attend and show your support for our new officers.

**January 14th**—Stated communication for January.

## December Birthdays (by age)

### AGE / BIRTH DATE REPORT

(sorted by age)

Age Birth Date Name

85 12/05/1927 ELLIS P. AUSTIN

78 12/15/1933 CLADWELL P. HATLEY

78 12/31/1933 ATLAS J. RUSHING

76 12/03/1936 BILLY M. SLOOP

75 12/04/1937 BROOKS R. MULLIS

70 12/06/1942 WILLIAM B. RITCHIE

66 12/17/1945 HERIOT L. MULLIS

66 12/01/1946 CHARLES C. LUDWIG

64 12/03/1948 RICHARD D. SIMPSON

62 12/03/1950 DARRELL E. CLINE

59 12/01/1953 WILLIAM A. BROOKS JR

54 12/27/1957 MARK B. DOUGLAS

53 12/06/1959 BILLY M. MORGAN

39 12/26/1972 BRIAN A. BECK

37 12/14/1974 DAVID A. BULLOCK

## January Birthdays (by age)

### AGE / BIRTH DATE REPORT

(sorted by age)

Age Birth Date Name

92 01/02/1920 JAMES B. ROBERTS JR

76 01/03/1936 CHARLES E. MORRIS JR

74 01/09/1938 JAMES F. MORGAN

70 01/01/1942 GERALD L. GRESHAM

68 01/15/1944 ROGER D. RICE

66 01/19/1946 JACKIE H. HARTSELL

65 01/01/1947 COY D. BLACKMAN

62 01/03/1950 KENNETH W. FLOYD

61 01/26/1951 MITCHELL L. REEDER

59 01/19/1953 SAMUEL B. KEENEY

54 01/16/1958 JIMMY W. BROOKS

51 01/18/1961 JOSEPH A. ABBA-TIELLO

45 01/22/1967 MICHAEL W. HATLEY

38 01/18/1974 BILLY D. MCKENZIE JR

## Of Masonic Interest (Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry. Source: MasonicWorld.com)

### 25 LANDMARKS OF FREEMASONRY(5 - 8)

#### LANDMARK FIFTH

THE PREROGATIVE OF THE GRAND MASTER TO PRESIDE over every assembly of the Craft, wheresoever and whensoever held, is a fifth Landmark. It is in consequence of this law, derived from ancient usage, and not from any special enactment, that the Grand Master assumes the chair, or as it is called in England, "the throne," at every communication of the Grand Lodge; and that he is also entitled to preside at the Communication of every Subordinate Lodge, where he may happen to be present.

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### **LANDMARK SIXTH**

THE PREROGATIVE OF THE GRAND MASTER TO GRANT DISPENSATIONS for conferring degrees at irregular times, is another and a very important Landmark. The statutory law of Freemasonry requires a month, or other determinate period, to elapse between the presentation of a petition and the election of a candidate. But the Grand Master has the power to set aside or dispense with this probation, and to allow a candidate to be initiated at once. This prerogative he possessed in common with all Masters, before the enactment of the law requiring a probation, and as no statute can impair his prerogative, he still retains the power, although the Masters of Lodges no longer possess it.

### **LANDMARK SEVENTH**

THE PREROGATIVE OF THE GRAND MASTER TO GIVE DISPENSATIONS for opening and holding Lodges is another Landmark. He may grant, in virtue of this, to a sufficient number of Freemasons, the privilege of meeting together and conferring degrees. The Lodges thus established are called "Lodges under Dispensation." They are strictly creatures of the Grand Master, created by his authority, existing only during his will and pleasure, and liable at any moment to be dissolved at his command. They may be continued for a day, a month, or six months; but whatever be the period of their existence, they are indebted for that existence solely to the grace of the Grand Master.

### **LANDMARK EIGHTH**

THE PREROGATIVE OF THE GRAND MASTER TO MAKE FREEMASONS AT SIGHT, is a Landmark which is closely connected with the preceding, one. There has been much misapprehension in relation to this Landmark, which misapprehension has sometimes led to a denial of its existence in jurisdictions where the Grand Master was perhaps at the very time substantially exercising the prerogative, without the slightest remark or opposition. It is not to be supposed that the Grand Master can retire with a profane into a private room, and there, without assistance, confer the degrees of Freemasonry upon him. No such prerogative exists, and yet many believe that this is the so much talked of right of "making Masons at sight."

The real mode and the only mode of exercising the prerogative is this: The Grand Master summons to his assistance not less than six other Freemasons, convenes a Lodge, and without any previous probation, but on sight of the candidate, confers the degrees upon him, after which he dissolves the Lodge, and dismisses the brethren. Lodges thus convened for special purposes are called "Occasional Lodges." This is the only way in which any Grand Master within the records of the Institution has ever been known to "make a Mason at sight." The prerogative is dependent upon that of granting Dispensations to open and hold Lodges. If the Grand Master has the power of granting to any other Mason the privilege of presiding over Lodges working by his Dispensation, he may assume this privilege of presiding to himself; and as no one can deny his right to revoke his Dispensation granted to a number of brethren at a distance, and to dissolve the Lodge at his pleasure, it will scarcely be contended that he may not revoke his Dispensation for a Lodge over which he himself has been presiding, within a day, and dissolve the Lodge as soon as the business for which he had assembled it is accomplished. The making of Freemasons at sight is only the conferring of the degrees by the Grand Master, at once, in an Occasional Lodge, constituted by his dispensing power for the purpose, and over which he presides in person.



**OFFICERS—2012(last look)**

First row left to right: Installing Officer, Boyd Neal McGee; Junior Deacon, Vincent Joseph D’Andrea; Senior Deacon, Mitchell Allen Elliott; Master, Ronnie Lee Sneed; Junior Warden, Thomas Michael Little; Senior Steward, David Franklin Barbee.

Second row: Installing Marshall, James Ralph Pinion; Treasurer, Thomas Michael Blythe; Secretary, Roger Darrell Long; Chaplain, Thomas Orlando Evans; Tyler, David Lee Warwick.

(Not pictured: Senior Warden, Robert Allen Love, Jr.; and Junior Steward, Neil Clinton Dunn; both installed at a later date.)

**UNION MASONIC LODGE #618,  
A.F.&A.M.**

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*MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER.*

**Newsletter Editor: R. Darrell Long,  
PM**

**Secretary of Union Lodge #618**

**Send any constructive criticisms or  
comments to  
[rdarrell@earthlink.net](mailto:rdarrell@earthlink.net)**

***Don't forget to pass the word around that our Fellowship Hall is available to rent. Provide any interested party the mobile phone number for WB Darrell Cline, who manages all of the reservations. (704) 791-9470***

