

Oasis of Mara Lodge #735
Twentynine Palms, CA

Yucca Valley Lodge #802
Yucca Valley CA

April 2022



The CA High Desert Mason's Trestleboard

A newsletter serving the Masonic and affiliated bodies of the CA High Desert



Trestleboard - a draftsman's designing board; that on which a Mason draws his designs for his character and spiritual growth; that on which the Worshipful Master lays out his designs for the workmen; a Lodge's newsletter and calendar of events.

Lodge Master's Pages

Oasis of Mara	1
Yucca Valley	2

Individual Highlights:

Famous Mason	3
Education	4
Calendar	6
Officers	7
Photos	8

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in Adobe .pdf format
only to save money,
time, and labor
previously
experienced by the
editor and staff!

Oasis of Mara Lodge #735

From the Oriental Chair

Bro. Cory Adrian PM
Worshipful Master, Oasis of Mara #735



Brothers and recipients of the Trestleboard. It has been a long time since this has been published. Our lodge is thankful for Worshipful T.C. Dowden for taking the time to put this together.

Our lodge stated meeting for April is being held On Monday April 4th at 7:30 p.m. There will be a meal available at 6 p.m. but it will be simple. We have been used to our usual numbers that attend so large meals were not needed. If we have a larger attendance now that we have a Trestleboard, this will change. We have not had breakfast for the same reason.

Our lodge is hosting a dual 2nd degree on Tuesday April 19th at 6 p.m. There will be another dual 2nd degree on Tuesday April 26 at 6 p.m. It was been great that our lodges in our district have continued to help each other during the pandemic and now. Thank you for that.

Let's hope for a great month of April.

Fraternally,

Cory Adrian P



Yucca Valley Lodge #802

From the East

Bro. TC Dowden PM,
Worshipful Master, Yucca Valley #802



Brethren,

Many of you may remember this Trestleboard format from years back. With our previous editor off doing important things for our military, I've opted for editing and publishing the Trestleboard myself for the time being. Being a creature of habit and history, I've resurrected my old format for our use now. One important note and difference from previous times, we are only publishing the Trestleboard electronically to reduce to cost to both lodges for paper, ink, postage and time!

This being the Trestleboard for the month of April, a few reminders are warranted. First, be prepared for Tax Day! Secondly, Easter falls this month and I encourage all brethren to remember the celebration of Jesus' ascension as well a colored eggs and chocolate. Thirdly, we are a third of the way through the Masonic year already and brothers should be looking at their next steps in Masonry: their next degree, their next office, their next time in the kitchen (yes, really), and whatever else you can do to support your lodge. We are a volunteer organization and as such, we

depend on men stepping up and taking a leadership position... leading by example.

I am very sad to report that we have had to suspend some members who have chosen not to pay their dues for a number of years. While distasteful, it is a necessary duty as the lodge (and its membership) has to cover the annual per capita fee to the Grand Lodge for them out of the dues collected by paying brothers.

On a lighter note, please welcome our newest brother, CJ Allen, who received the 1st degree on March 31. His degree was performed by a joint effort between our lodge and Oasis of Mara lodge. My thanks and appreciation to Worshipful Corey and his officers for assisting! Both our lodges benefit from a mutual support system and it behooves us to do the same for them. Note the degrees coming up for Oasis of Mara in the calendar, and if you are able, please help them as they have helped us! Anyone of the commensurate degree can assist, you don't need to be an officer to do so.

Congratulations go out to brother Vince Gantz, who was

raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on February 26th, again with the assistance of other lodges in the district.

Welcome to our new District Inspector, worshipful Thomas Johnson, PM! Worshipful Johnson replaced worshipful Jim Ridley PM, who served for the previous nine years in that esteemed position. Let's be supportive of worshipful Thomas as he takes on those duties!

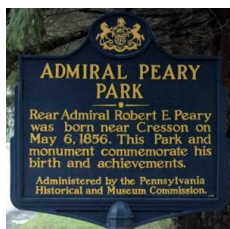
We bid a fond farewell to our brother Larry McCoy in March. He was a truly unique individual and has been missed these past couple years as his health declined, but he will be remembered by many of us as a wonderful treasurer and loyal brother.

We also bid a sad farewell to our Eastern Star chapter, as they have merged with the Coachella chapter.

I'll conclude this month with a call and plea to those brothers who are local to our lodge to come back and see us once again. I'll do my best to help you feel welcome, assist you in your journey, and endeavor to make your Masonic experience value-added.



Famous Mason: Admiral Robert Peary, Patriot, Freemason



Admiral Robert Peary was born May 6, 1856 at Cresson Springs, PA. He graduated from Bowdoin College, Maine in 1877.

He was commissioned in the Navy as a civil engineer in 1881 and led several explorations to Greenland and points north from 1886 to 1909. He outlined the northern limits of the Greenland Archipelago in 1898. In 1908 he embarked on his famous trip on which he arrived at the North Pole on April 6, 1909 with several other companions.

The Liberty ship SS Robert E. Peary, the destroyer USS *Peary* (DD-226) Edsall class Destroyer Escort USS *Peary* (DE 132) the cargo ship USNS *Robert E. Peary*

(T-AKE-5), Knox-class frigate USS Robert E. Peary (FF 1073) and ice rated, US-flagged tanker Maersk Peary were named for him. The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum at Bowdoin College is named for Peary and fellow Arctic explorer Donald B. MacMillan. On May 28, 1986, the United States Postal Service issued a 22-cent postage stamp in honor of Peary and Henson; they were previously honored in 1959.

Peary was given a Rear Admiral's pension and the Thanks of Congress by a special act of March 30, 1911. In the same year, he retired to Eagle Island on

the coast of Maine, in the town of Harpswell. (His home there is now a Maine State Historic Site.) Civil Engineer Peary received honors from numerous scientific societies of Europe and America for his Arctic explorations and discoveries. He died in Washington, D.C., February 20, 1920, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

He received his degrees in Kane Lodge No. 454, New York City in 1896. He presented the Lodge the Masonic Flag that was raised on May 20-25, 1895, at Independence Bay, Greenland.

FURTHER LIGHT

Hail Brothers of the Rule and Line,
who work by Truth, and Honor's laws;
Still striving toward the Light divine,
the dayspring of our righteous cause.
The cause our ancient seers upbore,
in lonely lands though darkest night;
Still keeping in their mystic Lore,
the prophecy of "further Light."

And further Light spread Truth and Love,
'til now the world begins to know
The *Fatherhood of God*, above,
the *Brotherhood of Man*, below.
And we, who caught their thought in part
how oft we met, in former time,
To search for truths their "Royal Art,"
had woven in the "work" sublime.

And oft within the dimmest lore,
of ancient writ, we sought and found
Some Jewel from their secret store
concealed of old in Holy ground;
Concealed for those who seek aright,
as that Foundation Stone of yore,
"First seen in Heaven" by Holy Light,
then centre of the Master's floor.

And oft we met in concourse glad,
to hail our chosen rulers all,
And oft with spirits O how sad,
to bear for some the funeral pall.
And this must be, 'till all shall go,
and none shall know that we were here,
Yet what is lost to earth below,
is treasured in that higher sphere.

So, one by one they passed the bourne,
whence none returns to earthly sight
While we await the hastening morn,
which ushers each to "Further Light!"

Henry P. H. Bromwell wrote this poem as a greeting to Denver Lodge No. 5; Lawrence N. Greenleaf printed it in his magazine, "The Square and Compass," in June, 1899



Masonic Education – The Perfect Points of Entrance

You may have noticed that there are parts of our ritual which are not readily understood and are never explained, yet we commit them to memory and at appropriate times recite them without question. One particularly confusing phrase is "The Perfect Points of Entrance." Does this have any special meaning and when and how did it become a part of our ritual?

In the Entered Apprentice lecture, we learn that there are four Perfect Points of Entrance: The Guttural, Pectoral, Manual and Pedal, which are illustrated by signs and exemplified by the four Cardinal Virtues: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. After a short lecture on each of these Cardinal Virtues, we are treated to a demonstration of the sign for each of the points of entrance, with a reference to its origin, but at no time are the points or cardinal virtues associated with entrance. Thus, we are left with three separate and seemingly unrelated subjects. The only other reference to the Perfect Points of Entrance occurs in the dialogue between the Worshipful Master and the Senior Warden during the opening and closing of the lodge on the Entered Apprentice degree, but again the Points of Entrance are not defined.

Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia offers this definition: "The four Perfect Points of Entrance" constitute the esoteric closing of each of the lectures on Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, to which they respectively do not apply, illustrate, or in any way belong, so that the esoteric portions of the four lectures have to be somewhat manipulated to make a connection with them. Moreover, Point of Entrance is somewhat Cabalistic, since it does not disclose what the entrance is into. Does it mean entrance of the candidate into something, or of something into the candidate?

Whether the architects of our ritual had something specific in mind when they designed this particular part of the work is unclear. Perhaps it is one of those things that is intended to excite our curiosity and leave each of us to draw our own conclusions.

When and how did this become a part of our ritual? There is no ready answer to this question because so much of our ritual is esoteric and is handed down from

mouth to ear, making it almost impossible to determine the exact origin of any part of it. There is a distinct possibility that the roots of this particular part of the lecture date back beyond the establishment of Symbolic Masonry. Since the conferral of the Entered Apprentice degree, in which these points occur, deals with the subject of entrance; the entrance of the Entered Apprentice into the lodge, and the entering of his name on the rolls of the lodge, it seems logical to conclude that they were points of instruction relating to the candidate's entrance.

There is some evidence in the Old Manuscripts that there may have been only one point originally, with the three others added and attached to the lectures on the Cardinal Virtues during the 18th century. None of the early exposed rituals had anything to say about Guttural, Pectoral, Manual or Pedal until 1724, at which time they were mentioned as Freemason's signs, and were not connected in any way with the subject of entry. Later exposures, while making reference to the points of entrance, did not associate them with the signs of Guttural, Pectoral, Manual or Pedal, and as late as 1740 there had been no mention of the Cardinal Virtues.

Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia gives this theory on the evolution of the Perfect Points of Entrance in our ritual: "Modern rituals on this subject, in a portion of the Entered Apprentice lecture, combine in a single treatment of three different things, as follows: 1. Entry on entrance, the points at which there were secrets and penalties; 2. Certain signs classed as Guttural, Pectoral, Manual and Pedal; and 3. Cardinal Virtues, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. In the earliest rituals, they were entirely dissociated. At least up to 1750, points of entry were no more than secrets, signs, tokens, etc., but undefined. These were certain signs classified as guttural, pectoral, manual and pedal, not further defined, but seeming to have no connection with entrance.

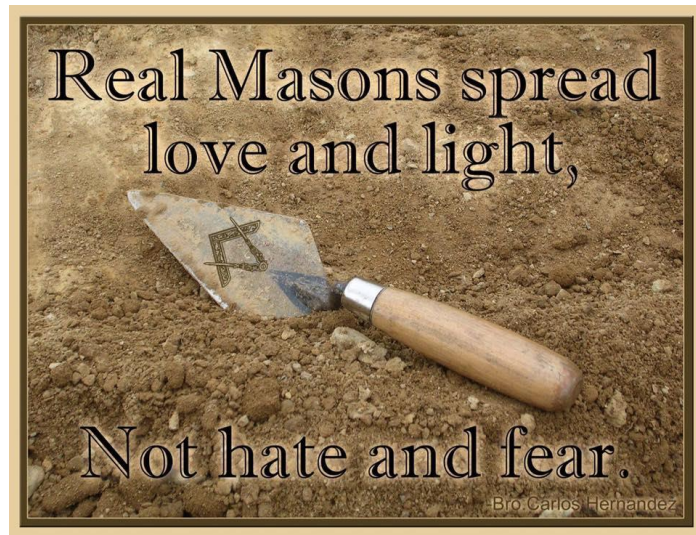
Evidently, cardinal virtues did not enter the ritual until after the middle of the 18th century when they were taken from the Christian church, which derived them from Plato... So the four cardinal virtues were imposed



on the four signs; guttural, pectoral, manual and pedal, and the whole merged with the points of entry, with the result that three matters of doubt and uncertainty, which the ritualists were unable to rationalize were consolidated into one incongruous mass of verbiage. The only part which has any virtue or value is that of the Cardinal Virtues which, however, could stand on their own merits, needing no assistance from the other enigmatic parts.

The Cardinal Virtues aside then, we might consider the Perfect Points of Entrance, not necessarily in the order in which they are listed, as: the reception upon the point of a sharp instrument, the due guard, the penal sign, and the position in the northeast corner of the lodge upon the first step of Freemasonry, which allude to obligations, penalties, and moral responsibilities. These would seem to be the principal points of a candidate's entry into the lodge, and would explain, and perhaps justify, the retention of "The Perfect Points of Entrance" in our ritual.

By R. W. Bro. Ray Hilton, Past Secretary, Gate of the Temple Lodge No. 422, Springfield, Missouri, from the Winter 1989 Missouri Freemason



						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aries 	Taurus 	Apr Birthstone: 			1	2 YV Breakfast
3	4 Oasis of Mara (OM) 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Stated Mtg 	5	6	7 Yucca Valley Stated Mtg 6 PM 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Open Mtg 	8	9
10	11	12 Oasis of Mara 2nd Degree 6:00 pm	13	14 YV Degree/Officer Practice 6:30 pm	15 Passover begins 	16
17 Easter 	18 Tax Day 	19 Oasis of Mara 2nd Degree 6:00 pm	20	21 YV Masonic Education & Officer Practice 6:30 PM	22 Passover ends 	23
24	25	26 Oasis of Mara Officer Practice 6:00 pm	27	28 YV Degree/Officer Practice 6:30 pm	29	30



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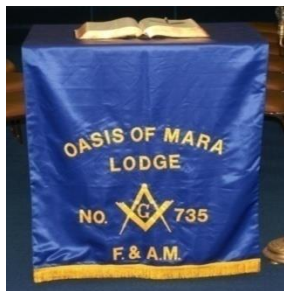
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Treasurer	Darin Sanden PM	(760) 620-3421
Secretary	DJ Ross	(760) 676-6084
Chaplain	Vern Monroe	(760) 799-1297
Senior Deacon	Vacant	
Junior Deacon	Josh Stevens	(760) 501-1753
Marshal	Spiro Zafirov	(442) 307-3943
Senior Steward	Joey Buice	(775) 303-8051
Junior Steward	Mike Neiiendam	(951) 452-8023
Tiler	Roger Sherwin	(760) 366-2424
Officer's Coach	Daren Sanden PM	(760) 620-3421
Inspector 830th Masonic Dist	Thomas Johnson PM	(760) 362-2492

Oasis of Mara #735 Lodge Officers 2022

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Junior Warden	Sammy Jones, Jr.	(760) 367-2575
Treasurer	Vacant	
Secretary	Steve Leazer PM	(760) 367-7631
Asst Secretary	Mike Gibson	
Chaplain	Vacant	
Senior Deacon	Bob Coghill	(760) 255-0269
Junior Deacon	Vacant	
Marshal	Vacant	
Senior Steward	Jose Landeros	
Junior Steward	Vacant	
Tiler	Vacant	





Yucca Valley Lodge Installation of Officers



New EA CJ Allen



New MM Vince Gantz



Bro. Larry McCoy

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