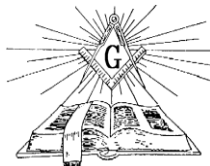


WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M.
DECEMBER 15TH, 2008 TRESTLEBOARD



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BRETHREN: THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION OF WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M. WILL BE HELD ON **DECEMBER 15, 2008**. DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 7:00 P.M. AND A LODGE OF MASTER MASONS WILL BE OPENED AT 8:00 P.M. PLEASE REMEMBER TO CALL A BROTHER OR WIDOW AND INVITE THEM TO COME AND SHARE AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP WITH US ON THAT DATE. IF YOU, ANOTHER BROTHER OR WIDOW NEED TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE LODGE PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE OFFICERS (TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE LOCATED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS NEWSLETTER).



1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Election of officers for Webb Lodge #166 for the year 2009 will occur at this month's annual communication. Please try to attend this very important meeting and participate in the selection of officers to guide "**YOUR**" lodge for the upcoming year. Webb Lodge will also need several brethren to fill the appointed chairs, several committees (Charity, Scholarship, Visitation, Widows, Investigating etc.) coaches for the degrees for our candidates, and several other positions. Brethren this is your lodge and we need your help. Take the time and make the effort to try to attend if you can. If anyone needs a ride to the lodge please call one of your officers (telephone numbers on the reverse side of this newsletter) and we will make it a point to get you here and return you to your home following the communication. If you attend regularly I will look forward to seeing you on December 15th, if you haven't attended make your New Years Resolution now and start attending and helping your lodge in 2009 and become "**ONE OF THE FAITHFUL FEW.**"

2. LAUGHTER IS ALWAYS BEST DURING THE HOLIDAYS: 1. Bill Cosby stated that women don't want to hear what you think. They want to hear what they think, in a deeper voice. 2. Jeff Foxworthy asks, "Did you know babies are nauseated by the smell of a clean shirt?" 3. Roseanne says that she will clean her house when Sears makes a vacuum cleaner you can ride on. 4. George Carlin states, "Have you ever noticed that anybody going slower than you is an idiot and anyone going faster than you is a maniac?" 5. Larry Miller states as long as there is algebra, there will be prayer in school. 6. Here are some questions and the answers of children to a Science Examination; Question: Name the four seasons; Answer: salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar. Question: How do you delay milk from turning sour? Answer: Keep it in the cow. Question: How is dew formed? Answer: The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire. Question: Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink. Answer: Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, dead sheep and canoeists. Question: Name a major disease associated with cigarettes. Answer: Premature death. Question: What is the fibula? Answer: A small lie. Question: What does the word benign mean? Answer: Benign is what you will be after you be eight. Question: How are the main parts of the body categorized? (e.g. abdomen) Answer: The body is consisted into three parts; the brainium, the borax and the abdominal cavity. The brainium contains the brain; the borax contains the heart and lungs and the abdominal cavity contains the five bowels, A, E, I, O and U.



*THE OFFICERS OF WEBB LODGE #166
WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY
HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.*



3. THE SECRETARY'S SERMON OF THE DAY: I know many of us are very busy this time of the year with the holiday season approaching. However; I feel as though I need to reflect my concern on the attendance of Webb Lodge membership this past year. I am going on my 22nd year as secretary of Webb Lodge and I cannot remember a time when our average attendance has been lower. I know the membership has gone from 337 in 1988 to the current number of 108 this year and of course this has a dramatic effect on attendance. However, I still receive many checks for dues from our membership who live in the surrounding area a reasonable distance from the lodge. Why do you brethren not attend the regular communications at all?? Have you forgotten your obligations? All of us have reasons for missing some meetings each year but do all of us have reasons for missing **ALL** of the communications?" Age is one of the primary reasons, but again there are several (14+) members who are in the 40-65 year range who I haven't seen in a long time. Brethren: we are all busy with our vocations, family, church and friends but we need to get back into the habit and include our lodge in that circle. I personally miss seeing many of you who attended on a regular basis and many of you attended at least a few times a year. If you read this, please make an effort this year to attend. We need your help or at least your fellowship and wisdom. Please make Webb Lodge part of your regular circle, even if it is just for a few months a year. If you are in need of transportation, we can provide that for you. Just call me or any of the officers (telephone numbers on the reverse side of this newsletter) if you need anything. I hope to see you in the very near future. SO MOTE IT BE!!!!

It is a Wise Brother who knows how to conclude a speech when he has said all that is pertinent to the subject. (Oliver)

Oliver Goldsmith tells us "The Chinese have a saying, that an unlucky word dropped from the tongue cannot be brought back by a coach and six horses.

A Master of a Lodge should be courteous, but firm; earnest, but decided. The chair is a test which few pass with entire satisfaction. It is an important criterion of prudence, discretion and judgment. (Oliver)

4. THE REAL STRENGTH: I read a passage by Rev. Vernon D. Morrison who was the Grand Orator for the Grand Lodge of South Dakota recently and thought that some of the trustees of the Masonic Temple (a group of Masons in which I am a member) should reflect on. This newsletter is sent to all the lodges who meet in the District and several who are involved in the above group of trustees, but I would doubt many of them will read this, although I hope that a few will. *"Real strength lies not in numbers, but in the daring, the teachings, the cooperation, the urgency of the faithful ones. It is my fear that some place down the past half century of time we have lost the great vision of what our order can do and should do. We have allowed its buildings to decay, its membership to become lax, its teachings to smolder in the sanctuary of our inner sanctum. We have made the means of strength the end in itself rather than making the moral and social teachings of our order a part of our social life. We have made membership in the order and payment of dues prerequisites for membership and prerequisites for acceptableness."* So Mote It Be.



MANNERS: Better were it to be unborn than to be ill bred. (Raleigh)

5. WHO CAN BEST SERVE: I also read the following, which is reprinted from a summons from Liberty Lodge No. 7 in Taipei, Taiwan. *"Throughout our lives we are involved in a competitive system. There may be a great deal of merit in the struggle through competition up to a certain point. The child comes home with his report card and a grade of B. The first question the fond parent asks is: "What did George get on his report card?" So firmly entrenched are we in this system that our grades are only relatively important. Masonry, wise in the wisdom of the centuries, establishes an ideal system; one that makes it possible for all men to advance and not at the expense of his brother. The Mason is forever engaged in the struggle to improve self, to find a higher spiritual center for self. All Masons are participants in this "competitive system." The goal is not fame or fortune, gold or jewels, power and authority, but only who can best serve."*

A GENTLEMAN: No man is a true gentleman who does not inspire the affection and devotion of his servants. (Carnegie)

6. DEFINITIONS: I saw a poster the other day that had just a few words on it and their definitions. I thought that these words were also appropriate to what are fraternity is all about and would like to share them with you:
1. **ATTITUDE:** Attitude is a LITTLE thing that makes a BIG difference. 2. **PRIDE:** Pride is a personal commitment; it is an Attitude which separates Excellence from Mediocrity. 3. **SUCCESS:** Some people dream of Success...while others wake up and work hard at it. 4. **TEAMWORK:** Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision; the ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon goals. 5. **CHANGE:** A bend in the road is not the end of the road...unless you fail to make the turn. Brethren, think about these words and see how they apply to YOU and MASONRY. If you do not attend lodge, change your **ATTITUDE** and start attending; take **PRIDE** in your Lodge; help make it a **SUCCESS**, join the Faithful Few and be part of the **TEAM** to make it **WORK**. Remember this: if Masonry does not **CHANGE** with the times, it will surely DIE.

EDITOR & SECRETARY
T. GREGORY OBLAK, P.M.



WORSHIPFUL MASTER
LEONARD R. ALVAREZ