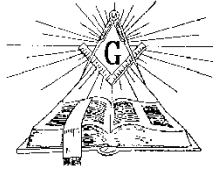


WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M.
OCTOBER 19TH, 2015 TRESTLEBOARD (#334)



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Brethren: The **Regular Communication** of Webb Lodge #166 F.& A.M. will be held at the Masonic Temple, 3201 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta, Georgia, on **October 19th, 2015**. 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. Ladies are invited. (Telephone numbers are located on the reverse side of this newsletter) Widows have an open invitation to come join us for dinner each month and please bring a guest.



1. ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA: The Grand Lodge of Georgia will hold its annual communication on October 26-28th, 2015 at the Macon City Center Marriott. Visit the Grand Lodge of Georgia website for details (www.glofga.org) if you are interested in attending: Worshipful Brothers Oblak, Williamson, Goldenberg and Fishman will be attending as Webb Lodge representatives.



2. The Cable-Tow: (Bro. Stoney): This article is based primarily on one written by Bro. Joseph Fort Newton (author of *The Builders*) in March of 1926. One would think it logical to start with the definition of a *cable-tow*. That is not quite as easy as it sounds. As Masons we cannot depend on the definitions in the dictionary for the truth about Masonic terms. We have our own vocabulary with distinct meanings apart from the profane world. Interestingly, within the Fraternity the meaning of the word *cable-tow* varies in both form and use. Pritchard, in a Masonic expose' written around 1730, called the *cable-tow* a "cable-rope", and in another edition a "tow-line." Anderson wrote a pamphlet entitled *A Defence of Masonry* and called it a "tow-line" as well. So even learned Masonic scholars get it wrong from time to time. Of note, in English lodges the cable-tow and hoodwink are only employed in the Entered Apprentice degree and have no symbolic meaning at all. Of course, in American lodges it is used in all three degrees and has almost too many meanings. Albert Pike could see no meaning for the *cable-tow* beyond its obvious use in leading the candidate into the lodge and possibly using it to expel him should he prove unworthy or unwilling to advance. Unfortunately, for most Masons that is where their understanding of the *cable-tow* begins and ends. As Newton so elegantly states "...Masonry is a chamber of imagery. The whole lodge is a symbol." Everything associated with the Craft is symbolic on several levels and fits together in a grand scheme that is revealed to those who seek its truth have eyes to see and a desire to learn. Let us now dig a little deeper and see what Light can be shone on this most common of implements used in all three of our degrees. We can begin by reviewing a scene from the Bible found in 1 Kings 20:31,32. The story describes an event where King Benhadad of Syria had been defeated by King Ahab of Israel and his servants were pleading for Benhadad's life. The servant approached King Ahab with ropes upon their heads, the meaning of which was to symbolize a pledge made between Benhadad and Ahab. When Ahab saw them and was reminded of the pledge he said "Is he yet alive? He is my brother." Ahab then spared Benhadad's life and a new pledge was made between the men. So from this we can conclude the *cable-tow* is a visible symbol of a vow in which a man has pledged his life, or has pledged himself to save another life at the risk of his own. Newton describes the *cable-tow* thusly, "Its length and strength are measured by the ability of the man to fulfill his obligation and his sense of the moral sanctity of his obligation – a test, that is, both of his capacity and his character." One of the most interesting analogies of the *cable-tow* is found in the relationship between a mother and child via the umbilical cord. When the cord is cut, the bond between mother and child escalates dramatically from the physical to the strength of the bond of love. In Masonry, when the *cable-tow* is removed from the brother after taking his obligation he is bound by a tie stronger than any physical cable. What was a physical constraint now becomes an inner moral constraint. Simply put, force is replaced by love and that is the secret of the basis of brotherhood. It is indeed the great symbol we refer to as the Mystic Tie. I hope this article was able to achieve two goals. First, provide you with a bit more insight into the Masonic *cable-tow* which will in turn peak your interest to explore the symbology further and, secondly, the next time you experience Masonic education you will not look upon it as a bitter pill.

3. QUOTABLE QUOTES: 1. Heroes are people who rise to the occasion and slip away quietly. (Brokaw) 2. It's never too late for a happy childhood. (Steinem) 3. A vision without the ability to execute is probably a hallucination. (Case) 4. Jazz is democracy in music. (Marsalis) 5. Don't limit investing to the financial world. Invest something of yourself, and you will be richly rewarded. (Schwab) 6. Politicians who complain about the media are like sailors who complain about the sea. (Powell) 7. Few things move as quietly as the future. (Williams) 8. Dreams come true; without that possibility, nature would not incite us to have them. (Updike) 9. Education is more than filling a child with facts. It starts with posing questions. (Max) 10. Passion, not pedigree, will win in the end. (Bon Jovi)

4. OCTOBER COMMUNICATION DINNER: The October Regular communication dinner on the 19th will feature a fish fry, hush puppies, cole slaw, French fries and dessert. Come out and join us for the dinner and regular communication. Hope to see you all there.



5. WHAT INDUCED YOU TO BECOME A MASTER MASON? Prior to his initiation, a candidate is asked pertinent questions relative to his motivation in seeking the privileges of Masonry and is asked to give assurances that his decision was not influenced by mercenary motives. However, he is not asked to be specific and to what actually influenced him to become a Mason. It is not until we listen to the ritualistic exchange between the Worshipful Master and the Senior Warden that we hear the question "What induced you to become a Master Mason?" The ritual answer to that question is familiar to all of us. The Master a few years ago received word just as he was about to open his lodge that his guest speaker for the evening had been rushed to the hospital moments before. Undaunted, he opened the lodge, conducted the necessary business, and then announced the alternative program for the evening. "What induced YOU to become a Mason?" he asked. After allowing the brethren to think about it for a few minutes, he called upon several brethren to give their answers. It seems that each of us have vivid memories of when, where and why we made the decision to apply for membership in the world's largest and oldest fraternal organization. Since then, all over the country, that question has been posed to many brethren. The responses have been fascinating inspiring and interesting. Basically, the responses fall into several general categories:

Examples set by family and friends, Urging of wives, mothers or sweethearts, Demolay activities, Impressive Masonic funerals, Masonic Charities and Curiosity. A surprising number of brethren were Masons as a result of the urging of their children, who were anxious to join one of the youth groups, and many of them expressed how surprised they were when they learned that other close family members or business associates were sitting on the sidelines when they were raised. Had they known that these family members or friends were members of the fraternity they would have petitioned sooner. This points up the fact that we tend to carry Masonic "Secrecy" too far when we fail to talk about our Masonic activities to our friends and family. Think about it! What induced YOU to petition for the degrees? Think about the Masons who have influenced your life, and your way of thinking. Webb Lodge needs to rethink this "MASONIC SECRECY" ideal and help motivate our Non-Mason Friends to think "Would I make a good Mason?" We need to do this NOW, Webb Lodge is dying a slow death because of a lack of candidates. **SO MOTE IT BE.**



6. LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE: Subject: BENEFITS OF AGING: 1. Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved. 2. When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth, think of Algebra. 3. You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks. 4. I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top. 5. Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN FROM THE OFFICERS OF WEBB LODGE



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T. Gregory Oblak, P.M.**



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