



The Lebanon Light

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon

On March 18, 1902, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon was incorporated in Trenton, New Jersey. What does that matter? Have you ever noticed the logo on the city vehicles in our City of Lebanon? The left side of the logo clearly has the outline of a tree. Coincidence? Although possible, it is rather unlikely especially considering the first settlers in the area later known as Lebanon are also whose names appear within the walls of our lodge. In fact, the first settler in the area, Ichabod Corwin, was born in New Jersey in 1767.

So, what is the Tall Cedars of Lebanon?

According to their information, it is to promote wider acquaintances and friendship among men already bound together by fraternal vows: To perpetuate itself as a fraternal and social organization, and to provide for its orderly government. To promote a stronger bond with ALL Freemasons and to further the goals and tenets of Freemasonry.

It all started in 1843 with some very energetic and imaginative Master Masons who dreamed up the idea of a Tall Cedar Degree, at the time the degree was called "The Ancient and Honorable Rite of Humility." The name "Tall Cedar Degree" does not reveal itself other than the possibility of a somewhat shorter title than the aforementioned, and this was to remain as such until we adopted the title of "Tall Cedars of Lebanon of the United States of America" upon incorporation in 1902.

It was around 1846, after the meetings of the Grand Lodge and some of the Blue Lodges in the Pennsylvania and New Jersey area; they would have the Tall Cedar Degree performed. Apparently, the candidates for the degree were contracted from those willing to receive it, and it was put on by those who had already received the degree.

Four Master Masons who received the Tall Cedar Degree, and later became Supreme Tall Cedars, along with several others assembled in the State Capitol of New Jersey, in the City of Trenton, on March 18, 1902 for the purpose of establishing a fraternal order to be known as the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of America for fun, frolic, and fellowship. These brethren felt that since this form of friendship and sociability occurred so infrequently and had little form, that by incorporating they could eliminate the haphazard, disorganized methods of conferring the Tall Cedar Degree and thus stabilize and preserve a worthwhile ceremony.

Some believe that in the Prologue and Royal Court have some of the most beautiful ritualistic work coming directly from the first book of Kings Chapter 5 verses 1 -10, and the second book of Chronicles, Chapter 2 verses 8 and 9; particularly in the first book of Kings. It revolves around the building of the Temple of Jerusalem and that King Solomon had to rely in the help of King Hiram of Tyre who send his Hewers of Wood into the forest of Lebanon to strike down and shape all the tall cedars for use in the Temple thus the Tall Cedars of Lebanon have a biblical background and performance of the Tall Cedar Degree in the Blue Lodges at the conclusion of their meetings brings us closer to our Masonic forbearance.



Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Those who were able to attend the district “Winter Celebration and Grand Appointment Dinner” on February 8th enjoyed great fun with a “Whodunnit” mystery dinner. We discovered to everyone’s surprise, that our own Associate Matron, Sheila Kitchens, committed the murder!

We had an “initiation” at our February meeting. We were missing several people, so there was a bit of quick shifting at the last minute. I really appreciate all those who agreed to go into stations that they had never done before. People grow when they have to move past their comfort level. I must say that there was a lot of personal growth at that meeting and I am proud of you and grateful for you.

We send love and sympathy to Betty Monds with the loss of her husband, Charlie. We also want to extend get well wishes to Virginia Reidmiller, Nancy and Hershel Ledford, Gail Heizer, Carol Alexander and Nancy Campbell.

Don’t forget! Saturday, March 3rd is our Winter EOP for SW Team #3 and the Annual Meeting for District 21 at Miami Chapter. The registration for the EOP starts at 3:30. The EOP meeting begins at 4pm. Inspection procedures will be reviewed at the meeting. Registration for the District 21 meeting starts at 5:30 followed by dinner at 6pm. The district meeting will start at 7pm. This is an important meeting where we will vote on changes to the District Constitution and By-Laws that Jennifer Maynard discussed prior to our January meeting. Because this is such an important meeting for the district, everyone is encouraged to attend.

We will be hosting Hillsboro Chapter for Friendship Night at our March 20th stated meeting. We will be having the Wittmen Crew from Wittenberg University sing for us before the meeting. Dinner will be following the meeting. Chapter will be providing the meat. Officers will be bringing a side dish.

March 24th is our next Line Officers meeting. It will be at Mason Chapter. Registration begins at 9am with the meeting starting at 9:30. (Associate Conductresses are in charge of the main course).

The Dare to Run AREME project is starting to take off. Letters are going out and donations are starting to come in. Remember the Dare to Run will be May 12th. Starting time is 8:30 am. Save that morning on your calendars. We will be needing volunteers to help with the event.

Busy times are just around the corner!

March 3rd – EOP and District Meeting in Waynesville. EOP registration is 3:30 District Meeting registration starts at 5:30 with dinner at 6:00

March 20th – Stated Meeting – Friendship Night with Hillsboro – Bring a covered Dish

March 24th – Line Officer Meeting. Registration is at 9:00am starting at 9:30

April 2nd – Celestine Chapter inspection

April 13th – Mason Chapter inspection

April 16th – New Vienna inspection

April 20th – Lebanon Stated Meeting – “initiation”

Yours in Star,

Cindy Fugate. WM

Schedule - Upcoming Dates



Blue Lodge meets on the first Thursday of every month. Dinner starts at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:30

Upcoming Blue Lodge Meeting - **March 1st**

Next Blue Lodge Meeting - **April 5th**

Eastern Star has Harmony Circle on the second Tuesday of every month. Dinner is at 6. Meeting starts at 7.

Upcoming Harmony Circle Meeting - **March 13th**

Next Harmony Circle Meeting - **April 10th**

Eastern Star has their stated meeting on the third Tuesday of every month. Dinner at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30

Upcoming Eastern Star Meeting – **March 20th**

Next Eastern Star Meeting - **April 17th**

Royal Arch meets on second Monday of every month. Dinner starts at 6:30. Meeting begins at 7:30

Upcoming Chapter Meeting – **March 12th**

Next Chapter Meeting - **April 9th**

Council meeting on the third Monday of every month. Dinner is at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:30

Upcoming Council Meeting – **March 19th**

Next Council Meeting - **April 16th**

Commandery has their meeting on the fourth Friday of each month. Dinner at 6:30. Meeting begins at 7:30

Upcoming Commandery Meeting – **March 23th**

Next Commandery Meeting - **April 27th**

Tips for Driving in Wet Weather

- Slow down! – The average stopping distance is 2X longer than on dry pavement
- Leave space ahead
- Turn on headlights and wipers. Make sure headlights are clear and wipers are in good condition
- Leave early. Give yourself extra time,
- Watch for road conditions. They may change quickly.
- Do not use cruise control. Can cause you to lose control.
- Do not use your hazard lights. Can confuse other drivers
- Do not drive into high water. Risky for you and your car.

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Did you know?

Famous Mason Birthdays in March

Vannevar Bush (March 11, 1890 - June 28, 1974) was an electrical engineer but is best remembered for his 1945 landmark essay, "As We May Think," in which he envisioned hypertext as used by the internet.

Bush was appointed chairman of the National Defense Research Committee in the year 1940. He was Director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development in 1941. The first electronic analogue computer, the differential analyzer, was developed by him. Bush taught at the University and later at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Cambridge.

He also served as president from 1939 to 1955 of the Carnegie institution and chairman from 1946 to 1947 of the Joint Research and Development Board.

Sir Richard Francis Burton (March 19, 1821 - October 20, 1890) was an English scholar-explorer and author of 43 volumes on his explorations and almost 30 volumes of translations, including an unexpurgated 16-volume translation of *The Arabian Nights* (1885-88).

After explorations in Africa, India, Arabia and the mid-western United States, Burton was appointed consul to Fernando Po (1862-64), Santos Brazil (1865-69), Damascus (1870-71) and finally Trieste (1872-90).

William Jennings Bryan (March 19, 1860-July 26, 1925) was a three-time unsuccessful candidate for the United States presidency—the first two time defeated by Bro. William McKinley in 1896 and 1900, and the third time by Bro. William H. Taft in 1908—William Jennings Bryan was opposed to McKinley's conduct regarding the war in the Philippines and active in the peace movement during World War I. Appointed in 1913, he resigned as Woodrow Wilson's Secretary of State in 1915.

Late in life, Bryan assisted the prosecution in the famous 1925 John T. Scopes trial in Dayton, Tennessee. Initiated by the American Civil Liberties Union to contest a Tennessee statute prohibiting the teaching of Darwin's theories of evolution, the case was a media circus and Bryan's oratory lead to Scope's conviction for violation of the statute. Although the Supreme Court of Tennessee reversed the verdict in 1927, the statute was not overturned until 1968.

Franz Joseph Haydn (March 31, 1732 - May 31, 1809) was one of the most prominent composers of the classical period. Haydn is often called the "Father of the Symphony" and "Father of the String Quartet". His Emperor's Hymn (1797) later became the Austrian national anthem.

