

In the



Daylight

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405
Editor: davidikarp@karpmediation.com

February 2021

Words Matter. Truth Matters. Freemasonry Matters.

Foreword ...

The persuasive and impressive wording of our rituals is rich with meaning, importance and Masonic truths. These words deserve acknowledgment, our concentrated focus while listening, and our adherence to them at all times. The words of our Craft matter.

As one of the three principal tenets of Masonry, Truth matters too. We are taught that truth is a divine attribute. Thus hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us. Moreover, sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us.

I am reminded of the phrase “your word is your bond.” According to an article online, there are biblical roots to this phrase. See, <https://slate.com/human-interest/2016/07/your-word-is-your-bond-history-and-origins-from-matthew-to-hip-hop.html> .

Thus, in Numbers 30:3, “If a man makes a vow to the Lord or takes an oath imposing an obligation on himself, he shall not break his pledge; he must carry out all that has crossed his lips.” Plaut (ed.), *The Torah: A Modern Commentary*. 1981. New York: Union of American Hebrew Congregations, at p. 1215.

Similarly, in Matthew 5:33 KJV: “Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths.” Kelchner, *The Bible and King*

Solomon’s Temple in Masonry. 1968, A.J. Holman Company, at p. 726.

And consider this: “[T]o confirm all things[,] a man drew off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour; and this was the attestation in Israel.” Ruth 4:7, from *The Holy Scriptures*. 1966. Philadelphia: The Jewish Publication Society of America, at p. 976.

“By Truth is meant that if we are to have a permanent Brotherhood, its members must be truthful in character and habit, dependable, men of honour as well as of honesty, men on whom ye can rely to be faithful fellows and loyal friends.” Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland at <https://www.facebook.com/GrandLodgeScotland/posts/the-tenets-of-freemasonry-brotherly-love-relief-and-truth-the-principal-or-chief-/1139474496138130/>

Importantly, we take our fellow Masons at their word. Our trust in our Brothers is as sacred as the volume of the Sacred Law that sits upon the Altar of our Lodge. Our words matter. Truth matters. Freemasonry matters.

As a matter of fact, I hope you enjoy this month’s edition of “In the Daylight.”

Fraternally,
David I. Karp, Editor

Trestle Board is on page 2.

Some Quoted Truths in Freemasonry

“Freemasonry is a science of symbols, in which, by their proper study, a search is instituted after truth, that truth consisting in the knowledge of the divine and human nature of God and the human Soul.” A. G. MacKey.

“Freemasonry is an institution founded on eternal reason and truth; whose deep basis is the civilization of mankind, and whose everlasting glory it is to have the immovable support of those two mighty pillars, science and morality.”

Dr. John Dove.

“Freemasonry is founded on the immutable laws of Truth and Justice and its grand object is to promote the happiness of the human race.” George Washington.

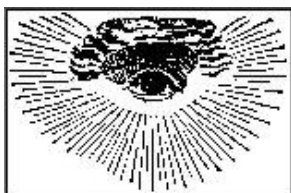
“Masonry was not made to divide men, but to unite them, leaving each man free to think his own thoughts and fashion his own system of ultimate truth. All its emphasis rests upon two extremely simple and profound principles, love of God and love of man.” J. F. Newton.

“Freemasonry teaches not merely temperance, fortitude, prudence, justice, brotherly love, relief, and truth, but liberty, equality, and fraternity, and it denounces ignorance, superstition, bigotry, lust tyranny and despotism.” Theodore Roosevelt.

“Freemasonry is 'veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols' because these are the surest way by which moral and ethical truths may be taught. It is not only with the brain and with the mind that the initiate must take Freemasonry but also with the heart.” C. H. Claudy.

Source:

<https://www.wisesayings.com/freemason-quotes/>



February Trestle Board

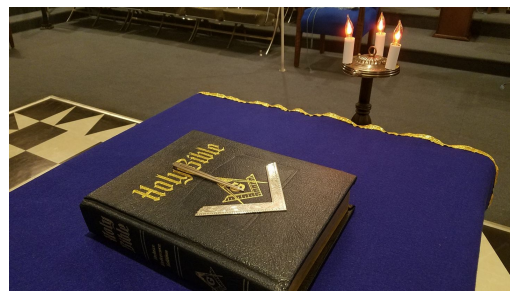
When we meet in person, but not now, we meet on 1st/3rd Saturdays at 10:00 AM except as otherwise noted. With authority from Grand Lodge, we conduct our Stated Meetings online. Thus:

February 6, 2021, 10AM, Zoom. Tiled.

We continue our Masonic Fellowship meetings via Zoom, Thursdays, 7PM. Please take note of the following:

Thu., Feb. 11	Fellowship
Thu., Feb. 18	Fellowship
Thu., Feb. 25	Fellowship

Login for Thursday Zoom fellowship meetings, for each occurrence now through 3/25/2021 (except Thursdays preceding a Stated Meeting)



Different Truths

There are always two (or more) sides to the story. In life and in mediation.

Often, in mediation, I hear one person accuse another of not telling the truth. “He’s lying!” I respond by saying that I am not judging anyone’s veracity. I am an impartial Neutral.

Sometimes I say: “If one side says the light was green at the intersection and the other says, no, it was red, I am OK with it being both colors. As a mediator, I have the privilege of believing both sides, but I also have the privilege of disbelieving both sides. It’s not for me to decide who is the truth teller. However, a judge or a jury would have to decide whom to believe, and that is a risk to be avoided by settling the case, i.e., so no one has to take the risk of not being believed.”

Often I note that people will recall events differently and that does not mean that they are lying. There can be different truths. “There’s even a jury instruction on it,” I say.

Here it is: “Sometimes a witness may say something that is not consistent with something else the witness said. Sometimes different witnesses will give different versions of what happened. People often forget things or make mistakes in what they remember. Also, two people may see the same event but remember it differently. You may consider these differences, but do not decide that testimony is untrue just because it differs from other testimony.” CACI No. 5003 [Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions (2020 edition)].

In Lodge, if we have a disagreement as to what someone said or did, we might realize that there are different truths based upon each person’s view of what happened, as the jury instruction above suggests.

If we keep this in mind, we can remind ourselves that we are united “into one sacred band, or society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree.” David I. Karp.



Masonic Recognition

Past Masters of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.

Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)
Rogelio L. Soriano (2019)

Past Masters by Affiliation

Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr. (2012)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2012)
Alberto L. Casanova, Jr. (2014)
Emmanuel D. Espiritu (2014)
Bruce L. Ewald (2004-2006)
Bruce L. Hawley (1984)**
Luc Paul, Jr. (2018)

Hiram Award*

Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr., PM (2013)
Alberto L. Casanova, Jr., PM (2016)
Keith S. Cotton (2017)
Bruce L. Ewald, PM (2011)
Bruce L. Hawley, PM (2000)**
David I. Karp (2020)
John T. Seletos (2017)
Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)
Rogelio L. Soriano, PM (2018)
Steven A. Wolvek, PM (2019)

*A high honor presented to a Master Mason who has served the Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary.

** Deceased.

If *Words* Matter, So Did the Lodge on *Wordsworth* Street

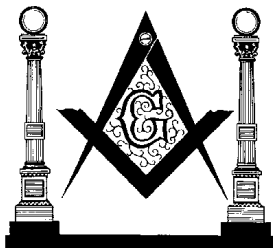
“Between 1922 and 2010, home for The Crown Lodge was number 74

Wordsworth Street, a building with a long and proud history that was purpose built. With the age of the building, the continued repairs and costs of maintenance, a decision to sell the property was reached. The final meeting in The Crown Masonic Centre was held in August 2010 before the keys were handed over to new owners. Unfortunately, the building suffered irreparable damage in the Christchurch earthquake and was later demolished....

Since 2010, The Crown Lodge meetings are now held in the newly built Freemasons Centre at 9 Shirley Road, Christchurch, [New Zealand].”

Source:

<http://freemasonschristchurch.co.nz/earthquake-report/>



CFS Daylight Lodge Officers for 2021

Worshipful Master Celso V. Cardano, Jr., P.M.

Senior Warden Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan

Junior Warden
Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr.

Treasurer Barry Mann

Secretary Akram Alawar

Asst. Secretary Thomas (“Tom”) K. Sheehan

Chaplain Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig

Senior Deacon Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan

Junior Deacon Ihrahim Hannoun

Marshal Keith S. Cotton

Senior Steward Michael (“Mike”) J. Chavez

Junior Steward Rami Alawar

Organist Majd Fahma

Tiler William (“Bill”) C. Raddatz

Officers’ Coach Steven (“Steve”) A. Wolvek, PM

Candidates’ Coach Roger L. Soriano, PM

Inspector Leland H. Celestre, PM



His Words Mattered Too.

“Kipling, Joseph Rudyard (1865-1936)

Born in Bombay, Rudyard Kipling was the masterful British writer who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1907 and is famous for works such as ‘The Jungle Book’, ‘Just So Stories’, ‘Kim’ and ‘If -’. Many of Kipling’s works have strong Masonic themes and some are specifically about Freemasonry. According to the English magazine ‘Masonic Illustrated’, Kipling became a Freemason in about 1885, some six months prior to the usual minimum age of 21. He was initiated into Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 in Lahore, India. He later wrote to The Times of London, ‘I was Secretary for some years of the Lodge which included Brethren of at least four creeds. I was entered [as an Apprentice] by a member from Brahma Somaj, a Hindu, passed [to the degree of Fellow Craft] by a Mohammedan, and raised [to the degree of Master Mason] by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew.’ Kipling so loved his Masonic experience that he memorialised its ideals in his famous poem, “The Mother Lodge”^[1]. Kipling was also a member of The Builders of the Silent Cities Lodge No.12, St. Omer, France. He was an enthusiastic patriot, but very a humble man, he eschewed most Government offered honours (including a knighthood); Brother Kipling accepted recognition from Freemasonry by being named one of 40 living Fellows of The Philalethes Society.”

Source:

<http://www.lodgestpatrick.co.nz/famous.php#A>

What Matters in Freemasonry

“In Masonry, it doesn’t matter whether a man is a bricklayer or a physician, a waiter or the mayor of the city. All are ‘on the same level’ in the Lodge room.

“[What matters is this:] The ceremonies and practices of the Masons have remained unchanged for hundreds of years. No matter where a Masonic Lodge is located, its members share the common bond of having passed through the same degree work, rites, and rituals. [¶] Because of this, members can find brother Masons wherever they go. Across the country and around the world, there are Lodges in nearly every city and in many smaller communities. [¶] ‘It’s a good feeling to know that, wherever a man’s travels may take him, he has friends he can depend upon and trust.’” Source:

<https://www.masonic-oregon.com/faq/>

What’s the matter?

Overwhelmed by the pandemic? Isolated? Bored? Just feeling out of sorts? Reach out to a Brother of our Lodge, call him or text him, to brighten your day and his. Phone numbers are in iMember2.0. For more Masonic Relief During COVID-19, see

<https://masonichome.org/masonic-homes/covid19/masonic-relief-during-covid-19/> .



¹See next page.

Freemasonry Matters: “The Mother Lodge” by Rudyard Kipling

THERE was Rundle, Station Master,
 An' Beazeley of the Rail,
 An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,
 An' Donkin' o' the Jail;
 An' Blake, Conductor-Sergeant,
 Our Master twice was 'e,
 With im that kept the Europe-shop,
 Old Framjee Edulje.

Outside - " Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
 Inside - 'Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
 We met upon the Level an' we parted on the
 Square,
 An' I was junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge
 out there!

We'd Bola Nath, Accountant,
 An' Saul the Aden Jew,
 An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman
 Of the Survey Office too;
 There was Babu Chuckerbutty,
 An' Amir Singh the Sikh,
 An' Castro from the fittin'-sheds,
 The Roman Catholick!

We 'adn't good regalia,
 An' our Lodge was old an' bare,
 But we knew the Ancient Landmarks,
 An' we kep' 'em to a hair;
 An' lookin' on it backwards
 It often strikes me thus,
 There ain't such things as infidels,
 Excep', per'aps, it's us.

For monthly, after Labour,
 We'd all sit down and smoke
 (We dursn't give no banquets,
 Lest a Brother's caste were broke),
 An' man on man got talkin'
 Religion an' the rest,

An' every man comparin'
 Of the God 'e knew the best.
 So man on man got talkin',
 An' not a Brother stirred
 Till mornin' waked the parrots
 An' that dam' brain-fever-bird.
 We'd say 'twas 'ighly curious,
 An' we'd all ride 'ome to bed,
 With Mo'ammed, God, an' Shiva
 Changin' pickets in our 'ead.

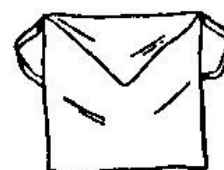
Full oft on Guv'ment service
 This rovin' foot 'ath pressed,
 An' bore fraternal greetin's
 To the Lodges east an' west,
 Accordin' as commanded.
 From Kohat to Singapore,
 But I wish that I might see them
 In my Mother-Lodge once more!

I wish that I might see them,
 My Brethren black an' brown,
 With the trichies smellin' pleasant
 An' the hog-darn passin' down;
 An' the old khansamah snorin'
 On the bottle-khana floor,
 Like a Master in good standing
 With my Mother-Lodge once more.

Outside - Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
 Inside- Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
 We met upon the Level an' we parted on the
 Square,
 An' I was Junior Deacon in my
 Mother-Lodge out there!

Source:

http://www.kiplingsociety.co.uk/poems_motherlodge.htm .



Most Excellent King Solomon's Words

A gentle reply turns away wrath, but a distressing word stirs up anger. Proverbs 15:1.

The tongue of the wise enhances knowledge, but the mouth of the fools pours out folly. *Id.*, 15:2.

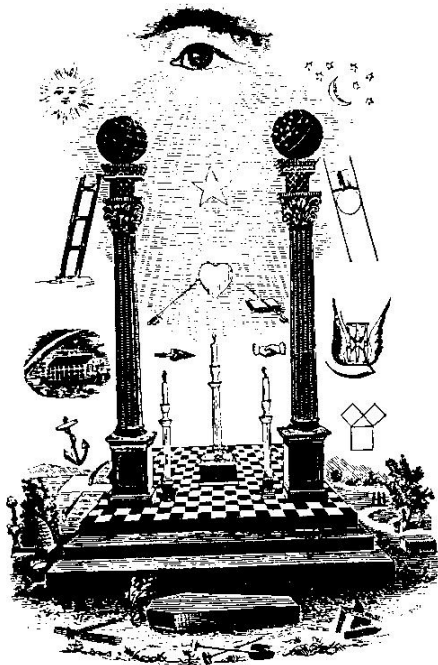
A healing tongue is a tree of life, but if there is perverseness in it, it causes destruction by wind. *Id.*, 15:4.

A man has joy with the response of his mouth; and how good is a word in time! *Id.*, 15:23.

The heart of a righteous man thinks to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evils. *Id.*, 15:28.

Source:

https://www.chabad.org/library/bible_cdo/aid/16386/jewish/Chapter-15.htm#v1 [*Mishlei Shlomo*, or *The Proverbs of Solomon*]



More Words of Wisdom

Who is wise? He that learns from everyone. Who is powerful? He that governs his passions. Who is rich? He that is content. Who is that? Nobody. Benjamin Franklin.

When a wise man is angry, he is no longer wise. Talmud.

The wise man hears one word and understands two. Jewish Saying.

Without experience there is little wisdom. Apocrypha.

A wise man lowers a ladder before he jumps into a pit. Folk Saying.

More than any other time in history, mankind faces a crossroads. One path leads to despair and utter hopelessness. The other, to total extinction. Let us pray we have the wisdom to choose correctly. Woody Allen.

Source: Rosten, Leo. *Leo Rosten's Carnival of Wit*. New York: A Dutton Book, 1994. Print. pp. 505-506 .

Member Spotlight: Bro. Spartak Khachatryan, Senior Deacon

Brother Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan, 27, was born in Los Angeles on January 5, 1994, less than two weeks before the 1994 Northridge Earthquake. Before he was born, his parents had immigrated to the United States from Soviet Armenia. They spoke only Armenian which, consequently was his first language. Bro. Spo did not learn English until he started school.

In 2010, during his sophomore year in high school, Bro. Spo met and started dating Luiza. They have now been together for more than ten years. Together they went through high school and college, both graduating from California State University, Northridge, with Bachelor's [Continues on next page, see "Spotlight"]

["Spotlight," continued from page 7]

Degrees in Communication Studies. On his 27th birthday, this year, he asked Luiza to marry him and she said, "YES!" They are now engaged. Congratulations and best wishes for the happy couple!

While in college, Bro. Spo worked at and managed a cell phone store. Looking for more responsibility and better opportunities, Bro. Spo started an auto brokerage firm in 2015 which he still operates. Additionally, Bro. Spo helps his father, a plumber, with his work. Spending valuable time with his Dad and learning useful skills are pluses. Plumbing has also introduced him to a new hobby. He is now a "professional DIYer" (do-it-yourself-er) which he enjoys and which benefits friends and family too. For instance, recently, he helped a friend at the friend's house, replacing a leaking hose bib, setting up and connecting a new gate motor, and helping to assemble a gazebo in his backyard.

As a teenager, Bro. Spo was curious about our Craft. He was inspired by people he knew who are Masons. He also observed many Masonic lodges around the city. In early 2016, he started researching and reading about Masonry. The more he learned the more he wanted to be a part of it. His desire was to learn the lessons taught that would make him a better man. In the spring of 2016, a discussion about Freemasonry took place at a family gathering. One of the guests was a Mason. When Bro. Spo expressed interest, the Mason invited him to visit his Lodge.

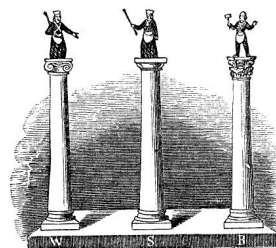
Bro. Spo became a Mason shortly thereafter at the age of 22. He was initiated, passed and raised at Granada Hills Lodge #378 before the end of 2016.. In April 2017, Bro. Spo affiliated with Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge wherein he served as Marshal (2018/2019) and now as Senior Deacon (2020/2021).

Bro. Spo says this about Freemasonry: "Becoming a Mason is one of the best decisions I have made in my life. Some of the things that I enjoy most are the lessons of Masonry which help me to become a better version of myself. I

also enjoy the opportunities to meet Brothers from all walks of life, who become lifelong friends and feel like family. I might not have been able to meet and bond with them on the same level anywhere else."

Bro. Spo adds: "Freemasonry allows us to find the mentors we seek in life, and gives us the opportunity to mentor others. Too, it gives us a place to go when we need help, but also, makes us more than happy and willing to help a Brother in need, without question or expectation of anything in return. And it teaches us lessons that are so useful, but sometimes so hard to find anywhere else. I have been a member of the greatest fraternity for a little under five years now, but my journey has just begun and I look forward to learning as much as I can from Freemasonry."

The members of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 are lucky to call Bro. Spo one of our own.



From the East

Brethren, February is the month of love as we show our appreciation to our loved ones and reach out to our widows. With the nationwide pandemic of covid-19, this time of year makes it especially hard for those who are isolating, in quarantine, and away from their loved ones. Let us take this time to reach out to those in need and to those who may have been forgotten to see if there is any way that we can help raise their spirits and enlighten their day

[Continues on next page, see "East"]

["East," continued from page 9]

Uncertainty continues this year as we are still following the statewide stay-at-home orders. There have been many advances with the vaccine being given to the first phase of the public and we hope that we will come back to normal sometime this year so that we may go about our daily routines without fear of catching this deadly virus. When the time comes our mission for the Lodge will be to help members transition back into the lodge room so that we may perform degrees and help our candidates on their path in Masonry.

This month the officers will also start to become proficient in order to advance in their next stations. Although it may be hard to focus on each officer's work, we all have made a pledge to ourselves into the lodge to continue to learn our duty, prepare, and be ready when the Lodge will be reopened again.

Fraternally from the East,
Wor. Celso V. Cardano, Jr., PM
Master

From the South

Brethren,
As much as we'd like to put 2020 behind us and simply "turn the page," there is still work to do for our Lodge and our communities. I write to you at the start of the new year with a sense of great energy and optimism about what we can accomplish, together. And I write with a profound sense of gratitude to be part of a Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge #866 that has the commitment and shared purpose to make 2021 a year to remember and one that we can be proud of.

As we enter 2021, we are hopeful as vaccinations begin to ramp up, but we recognize that COVID-19 hospitalizations are at record highs in parts of the world, and we need to stay focused on bringing healthcare, and our therapies, to people everywhere, no matter where they live. And while there is no vaccine for the social discord we experienced in 2020 and even

now as 2021 begins, our commitment will never waver or diminish for social justice, and for inclusion, diversity and mutual respect in our communities. Our gratitude continues as well for the front line brothers/sisters who risk their lives for others.

I am determined not to forget the lessons of 2020 and what we did in our organization and our communities. These memories will continue to serve as a source of inspiration to me as I hope they will for you. In 2020, we reminded each other of the power of our Mission.

And so I am optimistic about what this new year will bring and what we can do to make it a year of progress, accomplishment and fulfillment.

There's a lot for us to do in 2021, and I can hardly wait to get started. My great fortune is to be one of the Pillars of this Lodge and to have the chance to help our Lodge do the things it was founded to do. If we stick together, if we hold dear to our values and our Mission, and if we work as hard as we can, with energy, commitment and good humor, we will do things we can be proud of for generations to come.

Welcome 2021!

"Anyone who goes to space tried to look at his own country first, but soon it appears that there is no boundary between the countries, and the entire world is one family where our destinies are integrated." - Rakesh Sharma, Indian Astronaut (1949-Present).

Fraternally from the South,
Bro. Fernando ("Jhonny") O. Lebrilla, Jr.
Junior Warden





From our Secretary

Brethren,
The new year started with some good news about an effective vaccine that might help reduce the number of Corona cases. However, that hope was shattered by the deep polarization in our society.

When an insurgency and an attack on governmental offices happens elsewhere as in third world countries, I am not surprised because the regimes there are not Democratic Republics. But it is beyond belief to see it here in the United States where our Founding Fathers, so many of them Masons, anchored Democracy in the foundations of this young Country. This country is “the land of the free and the home of the brave” and not the land of lawlessness and the home of bigots. This incursion had a profound effect that has been felt by the whole world and its full ramifications yet to be known.

On another note, I am still collecting clothes for the Midnight Mission. If you want donate any clothes, please call me so we can make arrangement to pick it up from you.

Since we are allowed to have our Stated Meeting over Zoom, I would encourage all members and especially the officers to join us every first Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM. Also every Thursday at 7:00 PM to stay in touch.

Finally, practice social distancing (“6 feet apart is better than 6 feet under”). Avoid getting your loved ones infected.

Keep the Faith, We will get through this pandemic.

Fraternally,
Bro. Akram Alawar, Secretary

Bonus Article: What Happened 243 Years Ago Really Mattered Too!

“The Treaty of Alliance with France was signed on February 6, 1778, creating a military alliance between the United States and France against Great Britain. Negotiated by the American diplomats [Bro.] Benjamin Franklin, Silas Deane, and Arthur Lee, the Treaty of Alliance required that neither France nor the United States agree to a separate peace with Great Britain, and that American independence be a condition of any future peace agreement. In addition to the Treaty of Alliance, the Treaty of Amity and Commerce with France was signed on February 6, 1778, promoting trade and commercial ties between the two countries.”
<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/alliance.html> .



[Image attribution: From a page of the website of The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Maryland, which also contains a nice Bio of W.B. Ben Franklin. See, <http://mdmasons.org/about-md-masons/famous-masons/ben-franklin/> .]