

LaBelle No. 379 Free & Accepted Masons



180 Jaycee Lions Dr.

TRESTLE BOARD NOVEMBER 2023

LaBelleLodge379.org



Greetings from the East



Brethren,

As we reach the end of the year it is time to focus on the election of officers for next year. If any Brother seeks to be elected or wishes to nominate a Brother for an officer's

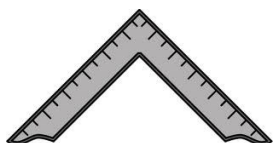
position, make certain to fill out the nomination form and submit it before the opening of the next Stated Communication on November 14th. I am asking all of our members to please consider serving this Lodge in any manner possible. Together we make LaBelle No. 379 a strong and enjoyable Lodge.

Also, I am asking that everyone make time to meet our newest Brothers who are diligently working on their catechisms, as they are the future of this Lodge. As always, I wish to see as many Brothers present at our meetings.

Please keep in mind there are upcoming events that gives our members a chance to participate and help the lodge with fundraising events.

Remember that YOU are someone's only impression of Freemasonry.

Fraternally yours,
Isidro "Izzy" Lopez, PM
Worshipful Master
Phone: (239) 462-2101
Email: offcrplaca@icloud.com



STATED COMMUNICATIONS SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAYS



November 14

6:30pm Dinner

7:30pm Meeting

November 28

6:30pm Dinner

7:30pm Meeting



A memorial service for our Worshipful Brother Nicholas Fidanza is going to be held on NOVEMBER 19, 2023. It will be at the Carlson Methodist Church located on 310 Campbell St. in LaBelle, beginning at 2pm.

Worshipful Bill Maddox will deliver a Eulogy and Worshipful Tom Boardman will be officiating a Masonic memorial service.



BANQUET NIGHT

By Bro. Rudyard Kipling

"Once in so Often," King Solomon said,
Watching his quarrymen drill the stone,
"We will club our garlic and wine and bread
And banquet together beneath my Throne,
And the Brethren shall come to that mess
As Fellow-Craftsmen – no more and no less

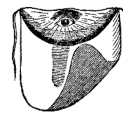
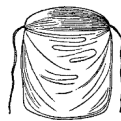
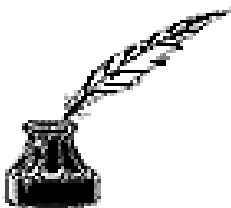
"Send a swift shallop to Hiram of Tyre,
Felling and floating our beautiful trees,
Say that the Brethren and I desire
Talk with our Brethren who use the seas.
And we shall be happy to meet them at mess
As Fellow-Craftsmen – no more and no less.

"Carry this message to Hiram Abif
Excellent Master of forge and mine
I and the Brethren would like it if
He and the Brethren will come to dine
(Garments from Bozrah or morning-dress)
As Fellow-Craftsmen - no more and no less.

"God gave the Hysop and Cedar their place
Also the Bramble, the Fig and the Thorn
But that is no reason to black a man's face
Because he is not what he hasn't been born
And, as touching the Temple, I hold and profess
We are Fellow-Craftsmen – no more and no less.

So it was ordered and so it was done,
And the hewers of wood and the Masons of Mark,
With foc'sle hands of the Sidon run
And Navy Lords from the Royal Ark
Came and sat down and were merry at mess,
As fellow-Craftsmen – no more and no less

The Quarries are hotter than Hiram's forge
No one is safe from the dog's whip's reach
It's mostly snowing up Lebanon gorge,
And it's always blowing off Joppa beach
But once in so often, the messenger brings
Solomon's mandate: "Forget these things!
Brother to Beggars and Fellow to the Kings,
Companion of Princes- forget these things!
Fellow-Craftsman, forget the things!"



Quote of the Month

If you can keep your wits about you while all others are losing theirs and blaming you, the world will be yours and everything in it. What's more, you'll be a man, my son.

—Bro. Rudyard Kipling



CHAPLAIN'S NOTES



Author and church historian Phyllis Tickle in her book, "The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why", shares that every 500 years the Church cleans out its attic and has a rummage sale to shed ineffective traditions and cultivate new ways of presenting and living the Gospels.

Going backwards, it was about 500 years ago – 1517 --that Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. What followed became the catalysts that began the Protestant Reformation. And, 500 years before that – in 1054 – a split occurred between the Roman Catholic Pope and the Patriarch of Eastern Orthodoxy. Again in 540 (yet another 500 years), Gregory the Great was born and when he became the Pope in 590 A.D. he established monasteries and convents.

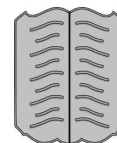
Is Christianity and the Church aligned for another attic cleaning? Only time will tell. In the meantime we Freemasons need to keep on doing what we've been doing since far, far back in antiquity and perhaps the days when Solomon was King and was building the house of the Lord. We make better men of good men, advocate peace on earth, teach high moral standards, charity, and brotherly love.

Bro. Phil Keyes

Chaplain

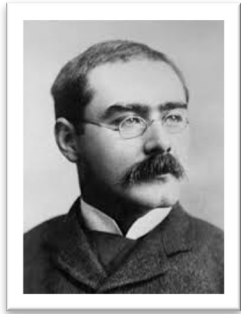
Phone: (863) 675-3813

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FAMOUS FREEMASON

Joseph Rudyard Kipling



Born December 30, 1865 - Died January 18, 1936

Joseph Rudyard Kipling was a British writer.

Kipling was born in Bombay, India. His parents had moved there the same year he was born. Kipling's parents considered themselves Anglo-Indian, a term commonly used at the time to describe English born individuals who had adopted India as their new home.

In 1871 Kipling was sent to England by his parents to be educated. This was common in British India. Kipling and his younger sister were sent to live with a couple who boarded young people who were attending school in the area. This was a miserable experience for Kipling and in later writings would reflect on the emotional abuse that he had received at the hands of the couple. Fortunately his sister was spared the abuse as the women, Sarah Holloway, had hopes that Kipling's sister would marry their son.

In 1877 when the abuse was revealed, Kipling's Aunt had asked him why he said nothing about the abuse, despite the constant contact between her and Kipling. On this Kipling wrote "Often and often afterwards, the beloved Aunt would ask me why I had never told any one how I was being treated. Children tell little more than animals, for what comes to them they accept as eternally established. Also, badly-treated children have a clear notion of what they are likely to get if they betray the secrets of a prison-house before they are clear of it."

When Kipling's education was coming to an end it was realized that Kipling would not be able to get into Oxford on a scholarship and since the family did not have the means to pay tuition, Kipling returned to India.

On Kipling's return to India his father arranged for him to work for the Civil and Military Gazette. He would refer to the paper as his "mistress and most true love". While he worked for the paper Kipling would write many of his short stories.

In 1889 Kipling left India and headed for London, taking the long way around. Kipling traveled via Singapore, Japan and San Francisco. Then he made his way across the United States meeting Mark Twain along the way in Elmira, New York.

In 1892 Kipling would marry Carrie Balestier, the sister of a former literary collaborator of Kipling's. The two were seen as free spirits and would spend their honeymoon in Brattleboro, Vermont on land owned by the Balestier family. Their next stop was Japan only to cut things short when they discovered their bank had failed. The two took it in stride and returned to Vermont.

In Vermont the couple would have two daughters living a modest life. It was in the cottage they were living, which they nicknamed Bliss Cottage, that some of the early ideas and drawings for the Jungle Book would come to be. Eventually with the arrival of their second daughter it was decided that Bliss Cottage was too congested, so the couple bought land and built a house for themselves just north of Brattleboro, Vermont in a town called Dummerston. The house would receive many guests, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

On life in Vermont Kipling would write:

"A little maple began it, flaming blood-red of a sudden where he stood against the dark green of a pine-belt. Next morning there was an answering signal from the swamp where the sumacs grow. Three days later, the hill-sides as fast as the eye could range were afire, and the roads paved, with crimson and gold. Then a wet wind blew, and ruined all the uniforms of that gorgeous army; and the oaks, who had held themselves in reserve, buckled on their dull and bronzed cuirasses and stood it out stiffly to the last blown leaf, till nothing remained but pencil-shadings of bare boughs, and one could see into the most private heart of the woods."

In 1896 a family dispute and an anti-British sentiment in the United States the Kipling would pack up his family and head back to England. Their Kipling's son John would be born. Unfortunately John would be killed during World War I after Kipling insisted that he join the military. John had poor vision and despite several attempts to join the military he was refused each time. Kipling contacted a friend who was able to get John into the Irish Guard. John was killed at the Battle of Loos and was last scene screaming in pain after an explosion had ripped away part of his face. John's remains would not be identified until 1992.

After his John's death Kipling would write "If any question why we died/ Tell them, because our fathers lied". Some read this as Kipling's guilt of pulling strings to get his son into the military. Others see it as Kipling's disgust of the British government for not having learned their lessons from the Boer War about the preparedness of the military.

Kipling was a member of Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 in Lahore, India. He also received the Marked Master Mason and Royal Ark Mariner degrees of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

*This article provided by Today in Masonic History at <http://www.masonrytoday.com>.



PAST MASTERS

JAMES PENDRY*	1977-1978
CHARLES MACDOWELL*	1979
EDWIN RENOLDS*	1980
THOMAS K. WOOSLEY*	1981
KENNETH PICKLES	1982
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1983
JOSEPH H. FUTCH*	1984
WILLARD BRYANT*	1985
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1986
GLENN R. MICKEY*	1987
EASTON BURCHARD*	1988-1989
LEWIS WHIDDEN*	1990
MICHAEL BOYLE	1991
L.E. RICHARDSON, SR.*	1992
DOUG SCRATCHLEY, SR.*	1993
J.S. HARRIS	1994
MIKE GUTHRIE	1995
J. THOMAS PAXON*	1996
JAMES JENNINGS*	1997
JIM MARSHALL*	1998
CARL W. SWANSON*	1999
JIM CIANFRANI	2000

JERRY HUBBART*	2001
STEVE POLHEMUS	2002
GLENN R. MICKEY*	2003
RUSS BUCCINI*	2004
JACK ROSE*	2005
KEVIN NELSON	2006-2007
HERBERT HOLLENBECK*	2008
CURTIS DODD	2009
BRUCE ARMSTRONG	2010
JOHN W. NELSON	2011
M. MATT HECKERT	2012
RAY NAVOR*	2013
NICHOLAS FIDANZA*	2014
GREG GUNTER	2015
L.E. RICHARDSON, JR.	2016
THOMAS BOARDMAN	2017
TONY WEEMS	2018
ADRIAN SANCHEZ	2019
ED LANHAM	2020
BILL MADDOX	2021-2022
ISIDRO LOPEZ	2023

* Indicates Deceased



Trestle Board Editor & Publisher: W.: Kevin Gourley, PM (2018-Present)

2023 Officers

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Isidro "Izzy" Lopez, PM

Senior Warden
John "Cowboy" Cote", PM

Junior Warden
Fred Wright

Treasurer
Bob Coleman

Secretary
Nicholas Fidanza, PM

Chaplain
Phillip Keyes

Marshall
Ed Lanham, PDDGM

Senior Deacon
Earnie Hollingsworth

Junior Deacon
Denver Smith

Senior Steward
John Smith

Junior Steward
Gregory Jones

Tyler
John Troia



District 24 Grand Lodge Officers

District Deputy Grand Master
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(239) 707-8302

District Instructor
R.:H.: Bruce Rivera, PM
(239) 297-9400