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**Winter 2013**

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## Editor's Notes

This quarterly publication is an integral part of our Worshipful Master's plan to make the Light in Masonry more regularly shared with our Membership, NM Masons and interested guests, even when they are not able to attend our meetings.

We will be publishing this e-magazine quarterly for download at the <http://nmlodgeofresearch.org> website, sending it in email to members and Lodges throughout New Mexico and including it in our annual publication of papers that are distributed to members and member Lodges. We are relying on participation from all of our members and are hoping that it also might encourage participation from other New Mexico Masons.

## Submission Deadlines 2014

<i>Submission Date</i>	<i>Issue Date</i>
February 15, 2014	March 1, 2014
May 15, 2014	June 1, 2014
August 15, 2014	September 1, 2014
November 15, 2014	December 1, 2014

The deadlines give us (up to) one month to put the items together for publication, and are scheduled in anticipation of one of our meetings.

## Articles and Content

As may be seen within this issue, we have continued some regular article topics. If you would like to write a book review we have several books on a list for review, or please pick any book that you would like relating to Masonry, New Mexico, or History. Other articles or papers may be submitted on just about any topic, please include high quality graphics when possible (300 dpi is our standard for publication). Articles and papers are subject to editing by our staff and/or the Publications Committee. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this publication.

## Vision 2013 (continued)

*Continued p.3*

### **Lodge Histories**

The webmaster has also created a tab "Lodge Histories". Please submit your lodge history here for all to see. If you have written a lodge history, you can also most likely give that presentation to an audience, so please consider signing up on the Speaker Bureau's tab.

### **Virtual Library**

Finally, the webmaster has created a tab where members can upload electronic books and articles so that our membership can access a plethora of materials for their research at no cost.

### **Breakfasts**

Thank you to Brother Patrick Josey for providing the outstanding breakfasts for the Lodge of Research communications this year, the proceeds of which have been donated to RiteCare.

As you can see, collaboration and enthusiasm were major components of this year's success. Thanks to everyone for all of your hard work as well as teamwork.

As we look ahead, congratulations to RWB Ron Holloway, Worshipful Master-Elect of the Lodge of Research of New Mexico for 2014. I look forward to an excellent and enlightening year under RWB Ron's leadership.

Thank you all for sharing your light with me.

Be well.

Adam Hathaway  
Worshipful Master 2013



## We Want You! (Your Writing)

*This is actually a short space & great for putting your latest idea, your latest read, your newest revelation in Masonry, New Mexico, or both!*

*Don't think that you have to write a tome to get published, we have several spaces in-between the tomes that await your text and pictures to share with our Craft.*

*Think about it, please & then write.*

## From the West



Ron Holloway  
Senior Warden

First, I want to thank RWB Adam for his leadership and hard work in 2013. Next I want to thank those of you that with your vote demonstrated your confidence in me to be your WM in the coming year.

In carrying on what we intend to become a tradition in the Lodge of Research, I have chosen a theme or a direction for the research papers for 2014. That theme is "**Masonry in American History**". I feel like we are on the threshold of a rebuilding or revitalization of Freemasonry and it will be useful to all of us to look at our

path thus far in order to set our course for where we want to be. We will divide the country's history into chunks of time beginning when Masons arrived here from Europe to the present. I have had some volunteers, but we need several more to fill out the calendar.

Initiatives for this year will include 12 short talk papers on Masonry in NM and to establish links to publishers of all of the Masonic literature that we now sell. We will add a section to our web site so that these books will be available to the Craft 24/7 all year long. Also to promote a "Book of the Month Club" so that lodges and individuals will be encouraged to build a Masonic library if they so choose.

RWB Kevin Sweibel has agreed to allow us to present at the regional meetings again this year so our presentations will have a much wider audience. Sandia Mountain Lodge agreed to host our Regular Communications and I will continue the format that has proven so successful in the past few years.

I want to thank the officers of the Lodge of Research for 2014 in advance and I look forward to serving New Mexico with you. Please attend the installation on December 13, the details of which should be in this publication.

Fraternally Yours,  
RWB Ronald R. Holloway

## Our Web Presence



Chris Leitch  
Webmaster

Greetings Brethren and Members,

I am currently working on updating the Lodge of Research website. Progress has been made on the Virtual Library page, which will allow members to upload documents to the site. This will allow members to share and enjoy articles with one another. Progress has also been made on the Speakers Bureau page, this page will be used for members to post their presentations and allow for easy browsing of the presentations. I am still working on the format and styling of

these pages for ease of use, but they are currently up and available.

As always, we are looking for more feedback on the site and would love to see your input. If you have any questions or comments, please send me an email at [cleitch@nmmasons.org](mailto:cleitch@nmmasons.org).

Thanks, Chris Leitch

## Just One Minute



**Stephen A. Balke**  
Secretary

Another year has passed for the Lodge of Research. Many positive results can be seen from this year of productive Masonry and following our mission to spread Light through New Mexico. We owe many thanks for thoughtful planning, energetic coordination, and well implemented leadership to RWB Adam Hathaway. Thank you, and GREAT JOB!

Several items are either coming quickly, or past due and on the 'make up' table right now. This issue being one of them, please accept my apology for the tardiness of the issue. The coming year we will try and make it a more timely effort. This has been a great year for the Lodge with the new publication. We have had many comments, and we are thankful to everyone who has contributed - **WE NEED MORE!** In this issue, I have put in an article and am grasping at straws for some more things that will fill in the spaces. N/A - Significant? was a discussion post from a recent class, and I think I'll look for some artwork for other spaces that need filling. Contributions made from the Members (or anyone who is related to Masonry) would be much better fillers. Please consider writing something for our future issues.

Dues notices and cards (for those who have paid) will be coming out shortly. Please respond and invite Masons or interested members of the Masonic Family to participate! Even with the late notice, I hope to see you at our Installation and look forward to the coming productive year!

## Book Review



*Contributed by Nolan 'Noah' Shapiro who holds the office of Senior Steward for the Lodge of Research, is the Senior Warden for Bent Lodge No. 42, has been appointed Grand Marshal, and also works with the Grand Lodge in publishing the NM Freemason and published articles provided on the website - <http://nmmasons.org>.*



**Richard Carlile**

*Manual Of Freemasonry* By Richard Carlile (No definite date, but circa 1831)

Richard Carlile was born in Ashburton, Devon, England, on 8 December 1790 to a shoemaker who abandoned his family four years later. His mother, while raising her three children on almost no income, was able to get her six year-old son enrolled for a free education at the local Church of England school. At the age of twelve Carlile left school and began a seven-year apprenticeship to a tinsmith in Plymouth. All in all, not a very auspicious beginning for the very influential man he became later in life.

The great change in his life began in 1816, when he began his monumental struggle for the freedom of the press, an endeavor that consumed nearly all of his waking hours for the next eighteen years. He supported himself by selling the writings of parliamentary reformers, such as Tom Paine, on the streets of London. He

formed a publishing business with the printer William Sherwin in April 1817 and to make political texts such as Paine's books *The Rights of Man* and *The Principles of Government* affordable to the poor, Carlile printed them in sections as small pamphlets, doing the same with *The Age of Reason* and *Principles of Nature*.

In 1819 Carlile was prosecuted for blasphemy, blasphemous libel and sedition for publishing material that might encourage people to hate the government, and for publishing Tom Paine's works. In October, he was found guilty and sentenced to three years in Dorchester Gaol. At the end of that sentence he was re-arrested and incarcerated an additional three years when he refused to pay the £1,500 fine. This, then, is the author of the *Manual Of Freemasonry*. Originally published in serial form in a radical magazine in 1825, the book was first published sometime in 1831. During the course of the following few years, Carlile revised this work several times.

Initially attacking Freemasonry from a materialist and anti-religious point of view, and denouncing its social influence as pernicious, Carlile later shifted his views until, finally, his writing emphasized the moral teachings of the Craft. There is anecdotal evidence that he may have been among the first group of men in England to become a Freemason.



**Richard Carlile on the speaker's platform, St. Peters Filelds, Manchester, England. The Peterloo Massacre (16 August 1819)**

Were this book to be published today, we Masons would denounce and disdain it since, among things, it contains our 'secret' words and rituals. The value of the *Manual Of Freemasonry* to us now lies in the peep-through-the-curtains at eighteenth century ritual and as a testament to the power of Freemasonry to effect change in a man.

In Carlile's own words, "To follow the ritual and routine of all the degrees, to have the language in memory, and to be able from memory to practise all its required steps, positions, grips, or motions, just amounts to nothing at all, in the making of a true Mason. As with the Bible, the spirit or revelation of the allegory of Masonry is required, both as knowledge and practice, to make out the character of a real Mason."

You can download *Manual Of Freemasonry*, as free (pdf) from this web site: [www.rgle.org.uk/Manual%20Freemasonry.pdf](http://www.rgle.org.uk/Manual%20Freemasonry.pdf)

For more information about Richard Carlile, see the following:



*The Battle Of The Press: As Told in the Story of the Life of Richard Carlile By His Daughter, Theophila Carlile Campbell, 1899* ([www.gutenberg.org/files/38370/38370-h/38370-h.htm](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/38370/38370-h/38370-h.htm))

Oxford Dictionary of National Biographies  
[www.oxforddnb.com/index//Richard-Carlile](http://www.oxforddnb.com/index//Richard-Carlile)

## Montezuma Lodge No. 1



Contributed by Mark Z. Oldknow, KYCH, KCCH, Past Master of the Lodge of Research and Montezuma Lodge No.1, DDGM for District 2 2012-2014, and is well known for his activities in research and Ritual throughout the several bodies of Masonry.

The Spiegelberg Family  
Masonic Cornerstones of Santa Fe



**Solomon Jacob Speigelberg**  
Born 1826(?)  
Died After 1854

The eldest of 10 children and first to leave Germany, Solomon Spiegelberg came to the United States in 1842 when he was between 16 and 18 years of age, arriving in Santa Fe in 1846. Making his living as a peddler, he crossed the Santa Fe Trail by ox train, becoming friends with Colonel Alexander Doniphan who appointed the young man as Sutler (civilian supplier) to his troops. In 1846 Solomon established a small mercantile business with a modest \$356 investment. Levi, the first brother to follow Solomon to Santa Fe, arrived in 1848. They formed the partnership of Spiegelberg Brothers with a store located on the south side of the plaza selling groceries and dry goods, everything from “a pin to a piano.” By 1850, the brothers were trading beyond the New Mexico Territory and had a wholesale department. Solomon relocated to New York City in 1854 because of a health problem, though he lived several more years. The “Simon Nusbaum House” originally built by Solomon Spiegelberg in the 1850s one block from the Plaza (at what is now the corner of Nusbaum Street and Washington Avenue) was destroyed in 1961, despite efforts to preserve it. This galvanized the local historic preservation movement.



From Left: Emanuel, Will, Solomon, Levi, and Lehman Speigelberg. The five brothers were Masons and founding Members of Montezuma Lodge.

Civil War, he served patrol and scouting duties for the Union. The Confederate army under General Sibley occupied Santa Fe for thirty days. The general planned to use New Mexican merchants to supply his army but found resistance among the Jewish businessmen. The Confederates seized \$50,000 in merchandise at gunpoint

from the Spiegelberg Store which was never repaid. During the occupation, the brothers purchased the freedom of a wounded Black slave girl who had been kidnapped and abused by the confederate soldiers, and that of a Black man similarly abducted. They also adopted an Indian girl and boy brought to Santa Fe by the Confederates. The family also paid for each of the new extended family members to attend school.



**Willi Speigelberg**  
Born 1844 Died 1929  
Master Mason - Royal Arch Mason  
(Flora and Will Seated)



Due to a lack of currency in the territory, the Spiegelberg Brothers offered liberal credit, especially to the Hispanic laborers who were paid less than half the wages of Anglo workers. They instituted a purchasing system which

allowed Hispanic customers from the surrounding pastoral and agricultural villages to barter fresh produce in exchange for scrip. The produce was then sold to Anglos for cash. During the Civil War, when silver coins were scarce, Spiegelberg Brothers was among the first business in the West to be granted the privilege of issuing their own money in amounts of 10, 20 and 50 cents. Following the war, Willi was appointed first official Post Trader to Navajo at new Fort Wingate, 1868 – 1869. Spiegelberg Bros. Mercantile maintained buyers in New York City and Europe, and in 1868 delivered a shipment from New York City to Santa Fe in a record 40 days. By 1872, the brothers had expanded their commercial business to include a charter for the Second National Bank of Santa Fe with Lehman as president and Willi as cashier. Through the bank, the Spiegelbergs could control their own currency and better insure their credit. The brothers were also involved in other business ventures which included mining projects (founding members of the Galisteo-Cerrillos Mining District, 1879), insurance, mail route contracts, land speculation and construction. In 1886, Spiegelberg Brothers liquidated its retail business, becoming exclusive jobbers and wholesalers. The brothers liquidated the Second National Bank of Santa Fe in 1893.

In 1874, at age 30, when Willi met his wife to be, red-haired 17-year old Flora, in Germany. He was already making \$50,000 a year. Born in New York City, after her father's death in 1869, her mother moved to Nuremberg, Germany. At seventeen, while still in Germany Flora met Willi Spiegelberg who was home from America visiting his parents. They were soon married in the local Reform Synagogue. After a year-long honeymoon travelling Europe, business called and the young couple began the long journey

## Montezuma Lodge No. 1 (Continued)

to Santa Fe. Flora wrote, "It was a perilous and a thrilling ride all the way through, but after five days and nights, we finally arrived. We arrived in Santa Fe in a bright moonlight night. To our great surprise, my husband's brother Lehman joined by friends in buggies or horseback and even on burros, had come to welcome come us with a band of Mexican musicians. As the coach drove up the main street accompanied by these friends we were cheered until we reached the home of my husband's brother. There General Devens, Commander of the Territory waited to welcome us with his military band playing 'Lohengrin's Wedding March.' At that time I was the eighth woman in Santa Fe. There were about fifty American men, officials and merchants, and a Mexican population of two thousand. Amid clean and happy surroundings, I soon forgot all the privations I had endured and I became a satisfied member of the community."

In 1879, Flora helped establish the first non-sectarian school in Santa Fe. She advised Miss Carpenter, newly hired from the Presbyterian Mission Society to educate a mixed group of twelve Jewish and Protestant children, "that her pupils be taught to recite the Ten Commandments, and at the same time explain to them that the Ten Commandments are not a religious, but and ethical and moral code upon which the civilization rest today. She fully agreed with my earnest request, and all the parents approved it also." She also conducted two religious schools herself, one a Sabbath school on Saturdays for Jewish children and the other a Sunday school for Catholic children. Among Flora's Jewish students was Hyman Lowitzky who became a member of Teddy Roosevelt's "Rough Riders" and Arthur Seligman who became Governor of New Mexico in 1930.

In 1880, Flora raised \$1,000 from the Santa Fe business community to purchase



**The Spiegelberg House at 237 East Palace Avenue, home of Willi and Flora, and now of the Peyton Wright Gallery.**

an acre of land for a new three room school house. She also created the first children's playground and garden in Santa Fe, personally teaching local children to cultivate flowers and vegetables, and gave nature study lessons aided by a magnifying glass. She joyfully recounted, "I showed a large collection of all kinds of insects and how the golden, yellow pollen carried on the tiny hairs of their wings while flitting from flower to flower dropped on the pistils of the various flowers changed their color." Also in 1880, Flora and Willi built the first house in Santa Fe with running water and gas appliances at 237 E. Palace Avenue. Designed by a French architect who utilized European artisans and craftsmen, the 14-room house was later the home of another prominent Jewish merchant and Mason, Solomon Spitz, and currently is home to the Peyton-Wright Gallery. Willi became the most politically active of the brothers. After serving as president of the Santa Fe Board of Trade, he became a probate judge, 1884 - 1886. At the time, this was largely a ceremonial post and the occupant discharged the ceremonial

duties of the Mayor (Flora referred to him proudly as "mayor."). The position of Mayor, however, was not formally established until many years later.

Flora and Archbishop Lamy were close friends who shared a love of European culture, the French language and gardening. To demonstrate his affection for the Spiegelbergs, the Bishop always brought the family flowers and wine from his own garden to contribute to holiday meals like the Passover Seder. In return for his kindness and friendship, the Spiegelbergs donated generously to the building of St. Francis Cathedral – as evidenced still



**Flora Langerman Spiegelberg  
Born 1857 Died 1943**

by the Hebrew Name of God inscribed upon the keystone masonry above the front entrance to the Cathedral - and hosted a celebration for Lamy when he became archbishop of Arizona and Colorado, as well as New Mexico, in 1885. He requested that Flora serve as Hostess and Willi as toastmaster for the occasion. In 1880 Flora and Willi entertained President and Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes. Other famous guests included Generals William Tecumseh Sherman, Ulysses Grant and Philip S. Sheridan. Flora speculated that during his visit with the Spiegelbergs, General Sherman first coined the phrase, "War is hell." The famed agnostic Robert Ingersoll was also counted among the Spiegelberg guests, and Willi considered Kit Carson and Chief Manuelito among his friends.

In 1888, Willi and Flora left Santa Fe for New York City where there were better prospects for their two daughters to enjoy Jewish culture and lifestyle. Upon their relocation from Santa Fe, Flora was the leading force behind the creation of a modern system of garbage collection in New York City. She studied the sanitation systems of European cities and had Thomas Edison make a film about her plan. She soon developed the political contacts to implement such a system in New York. She had a successful career as a children's writer. Her novel "Princess Goldenhair and the Wonderful Flower" and her radio script "The Enchanted Toy Store of Fairyland" were broadcast by CBS in the 1930s. Her collection of short stories "Grandma Flora's Animal Stories" was successful. In 1937, Flora published some of the stories from her own life in "Reminiscences of a Jewish Bride of the Santa Fe Trail."

**Publish your Lodge History!** If you have written or would like to write an history of your Lodge, we would love to see it. As with other papers and research, please submit to [laluz@nmlodgeofresearch.org](mailto:laluz@nmlodgeofresearch.org)

## Masonic Education



*Contributed by Nolan 'Noah' Shapiro who holds the office of Senior Steward for the Lodge of Research, is the Senior Warden for Bent Lodge No. 42, has been appointed Grand Marshal, and also works with the Grand Lodge in publishing the NM Freemason and published articles provided on the website - <http://nmmasons.org>.*

Masonic Education: The Unspeakable Word, Too Often Overlooked

The title of this piece is actually repetitious since Freemasonry is education! It is a combination of moral instruction, spiritual enlightenment, intellectual growth, and self-study so that a man may not only know himself but also improve—as a Mason and as a man. This does not happen in a vacuum, for Freemasonry is a brotherhood with each of us extending a helping and helpful hand one to another.

The teachings of our fraternity, Freemasonry, speak to the most basic and lifelong curiosity that lives within each of us. This is truly an education without limit in appeal or scope. It is interesting to note that, somewhere, all legitimate fields of study cross Freemasonry's path.

This article is partly titled 'The Unspeakable Word' because the word 'education' is so rarely heard spoken. To get started on advancing your education, think about what it is within Freemasonry that you most desire to know, and then begin your search for the answers. Sounds easy, doesn't it? It isn't, however, and it shouldn't be! A Mason can spend months looking for a long out-of-print book, an obscure pamphlet, or an elusive reference. The Internet, of course, can deliver almost limitless information but, as with print media, one must sift through the documents to find relevant material.

Today, it is too true, that few of us seem to make the time for furthering our Masonic education. The reasons are many—My job takes most of my time; I'm too busy; I'm too tired—but I think that the real reason is that it is hard work! It is not by chance that the hard labor of constructing a building in stone is the metaphor used for Masonic instruction. Again, it is not by chance that a candidate is repeatedly asked if he is willing to proceed.

We, today, are not really negligent in the fundamental duty of educating ourselves and our fellow Masons—we are, if anything, unsure what to do. The thing about it is, the ritual tells us what to do. Think back to when you became an Entered Apprentice and you gave your first knocks on the Inner Door. Do you remember these words: "Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." A Mason's educational travels are along a personal path but, in this as in all things, there are Brothers to help you along the way.

The second part of this talk's title is 'A Subject Too Often Overlooked' and is meant to make us think about the importance of Masonic education and why this aspect of Freemasonry is so often overlooked. It is a fact, unpleasant as that may be, that for many years Masonic education has not been given the prominence that it should.

So, we might ask, "Why has this situation come about?" Our trying to answer this question reveals that there is no easy answer. As a worldwide Fraternity, we have reached a point where many of our

members don't have the faintest idea of why they are Freemasons, or any real knowledge of our history and heritage.

You who are 'ritual purists' may be shocked by my next statement, but the truth of the matter is that we have come to depend on the ritual alone for Masonic knowledge. I would take the liberty of reminding all of us that ritual does not make Masons, it only makes members! In our obligation, we promise and swear that we will not cheat, wrong or defraud a brother Mason. Yet that is exactly what we do when, at the conclusion of the 3rd Degree, we have a Master Mason who heard a lot of words and really does not know what they mean. Unless we take the time to explain the degrees to the candidate, he can have no idea of what he has gone through. It is suggested by some that the explanation in the lectures of each Degree but, I ask you, is that truly so?

Anyone who knows me knows that I love our ritual and that I believe it to have great importance for the person who is becoming a Mason. It is much easier, in my opinion, to memorize and recite the ritual than it is to study the history and meaning of Freemasonry. We tend, therefore, to be much more comfortable working a Degree rather than working with the candidate to teach him what Craft is all about—What are, in fact, the origins of Freemasonry? Where did it begin? How did it reach the state in which we find it today?

It would be great if we could answer these questions in ten words or less, but we cannot. We know, historically at least, that Freemasonry did not begin in 1717 with the forming of a Grand Lodge in London, England. We know, or at least believe that there were Lodges formed before that time. So, when did it all begin? We simply do not know.

John Robinson<sup>1</sup>, in his book *Born in Blood*, posits the theory that Freemasonry very likely began with the suppression of the Knights Templar in 1307. In a letter to King Philip IV, probably in May or June of 1307<sup>2</sup>, Pope Clement V wrote that he intended, later that year, to conduct a full investigation of the Templar order super statu templi (on the state of the Templars).

In the throes of over-zealous fervor, on 14 September the King sent every bailiff and seneschal in France secret orders from that they were to prepare for the arrest and imprisonment of all members of the Order of Templars. The arrests were actually executed a month later. On November 22, 1307, Clement V issued a papal decree that ordered all monarchs of the Christian faith to arrest every Templar and confiscate their lands<sup>3</sup>. That order was sent to England, Iberia, Germany, Italy, and Cyprus.

King Edward I of England delayed enforcing the edict in that country, as well as in Scotland, and many Templars escaped. Robinson's belief is that, for their very survival, the Templars devised methods of recognition, allowing them to safely travel, as it gave them a way to recognize other members of the order.

By the way, the suppression of the Knights Templar occurred on October 13, 1307, which happened to be Friday, and ever since then any Friday the 13th has been considered unlucky.

We therefore, may conclude that Freemasonry has existed for a very long time. Not as we know it today, perhaps, but as an order of men doing good work.

## **Masonic Education (Continued)**

Many Masonic writers<sup>4</sup> have made a case for, or implied, Masonry origination going back the building of King Solomon's temple, or even to the time of Noah<sup>5</sup> and the great flood. We must be very careful, though, when making claims like these because ancient symbols, which have been adopted in more recent times by Freemasonry, can be mistakenly taken as evidence of early Masonic existence.

One of the greatest mistakes, it seems to me, is that we have tried to keep Freemasonry operating it as it did in the 1700's. We have not developed, through Masonic education, training programs, and communication or, in some places, the leadership necessary to deal with changing times. In the so-called 'old days' it seemed like all of the leading men of any given place were Freemasons but, we should remember, that the community was very small and everybody knew everyone else. Now we live impersonal towns and in cities where people do not know even know their neighbor. Yet we still like to think of Masonry in terms of those earlier times. From this alone, we have to conclude that we simply have to do a much better job of communicating with and educating our membership.

There are thousands upon thousands of books on Masonry and the one thing that most of them have in common is that they are unread. We must develop material that is relevant for today so that it will be used in our Masonic community.

If Masonry is to survive into the 22nd century, we cannot afford to turn out members who know almost nothing about our fraternity. Programs must be developed, not just by Grand Lodge but, more importantly, by Blue Lodge Masons who, of their own free will and accord, accept the responsibility of ensuring that every Mason is taught about our ancient and honorable Craft.

I do not want to end on a tone of doom and gloom, as many of us in the Craft have a tremendous amount of educational work to our credit. Let me, then, share with you some words that were written by S. Brent Morris<sup>6</sup>, a well-known Masonic author, speaking of an earlier time in America: "When food and shelter were . . . almost

daily concerns, Masons responded with firewood and the fruits of their harvests. When care of the aged, widows, and orphans were worries, Masons erected retirement homes and orphanages. When education was needed, Masons built schools, and . . . Masons (also) turned their philanthropy to crippled children, burn victims, the speech and language impaired cancer patients, and many others."

When we Masons are challenged, we respond! Now we must respond to the challenge of providing new Masons with the education to better understand the history and purposes of the Craft that they, in turn, may serve as the foundation of a certain future for all societies, especially this of ours.

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- A Visit to King Solomon's Temple, by Tejinder Singh Rawal, Lodge Corinthian (UGLE), Napur, India (Source: Pietre-Stones Review of Masonry)
5. Noah and Freemasonry, by R. Jeffery, Grand Lecturer February, 1990. From [www.grantroyalarch.com](http://www.grantroyalarch.com)
  6. AND THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY, S. Brent Morris, P.M. (Source: [www.masonicworld.com](http://www.masonicworld.com))

## **N/A - Significant?**



*Contributed by Stephen Balke who holds the offices of Secretary for the Lodge of Research, DDGM for District 5, and works in publications and web committees for some Masonic organizations.*

I recently took a class, 'What Was God Thinking?' and one of the discussions was an interesting topic I thought I would share:

With the countless number of galaxies that make up our universe and the billions of stars in each, what do we, who sit in the suburbs of the Milky Way Galaxy, count for? Are we insignificant? Are we privileged?

### **Cogito Ergo Sum**

Proposing the insignificance of humanity is tantamount to adopting ignorance as a privilege. At once this action discards the basis of our 'knowledge' (that which cannot be disproven... until it is), the blatant admission of ignorance, and the gradually increased frequency of paradox bombarding the self-inflicted confines of our understanding.

Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity, when applied to black holes, conflicts with the accepted law of energy conservation. (Carr & Giddings, 2005, p. 52) The most intelligent minds actively in pursuit of understanding have identified that dark matter is much of the matter in the universe, (Henry, Briel & Bohringer, 1998, p.52) and dark energy is the force expanding the universe at an accelerated rate; (Campbell & Coffee, 2008, 37:00) though we know little of either. According to Schwarzschild's radius, time vanishes and space becomes infinite when matter is compressed to a certain point by gravity. (Bernstein, 1996, p. 83) In just this paragraph, we find we do not know what we didn't know about what we think we thought we knew. Time and space fluctuate in existence, (regular) matter doesn't matter as much, and we question whether or not we're related.

Our privilege is sentience, our tools are thought and communication, and our significance can only be determined by contributions to our (common?) understanding. Grok the wave, and then observe; it will matter.

***Wanted Dead AND Alive: The Cat and Anyone who feels boxed in.***

Ensure significance - make observations - share them.



### Petition, Update, and Order Form

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Membership of the Lodge of Research, A. F. & A. M. of New Mexico:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/SO \_\_\_\_\_ NM Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to:

Petition for Membership

Update My Information

Order Lodge Products

### ***Petitioning Information***

I am petitioning to be an:

(Please check one)

\*Associate Member

\*\*Active Member

Annual Dues: \$20.00 \$15.00

Affiliation Fee: \$10.00 \$10.00

Total Petition Fees: \$30.00 \$25.00

*\*Associate Membership is open to anyone.*

*\*\*Active Membership petitions MUST be submitted with a current Certificate of Good Standing from the Grand Lodge of New Mexico AF&AM.*

I have read the entire petition and the above statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge of Research Member recommendation:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your petition will be read at the next meeting and those in order will be accepted, in which case you will immediately become a member. Please make sure that you submit with payment of the fees according to the schedule above, and if appropriate, a Certificate of Good Standing.

### ***Products Information***

I would like to order the following product(s):

**Polo Shirt with Lodge Logo \$20.00 each**

Tan polo in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL (XXL add \$2.00, XXXL add \$4.00) with Lodge of Research logo embroidered on the upper left over the breast pocket.

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ Item-Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Ball Cap with Lodge Logo \$15.00 each**

Tan 'low profile' ball cap with Lodge of Research logo on the front face. One size fits most.

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Item-Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Lodge of Research Lapel Pin \$5.00 each**

Bronze 'antique metal' brush lapel pin with both the logo and naming the "NM Lodge of Research".

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Item-Total \_\_\_\_\_

**SHIPPING:**

*Please include \$5.00 shipping for shirts, \$2.00 for ball caps, and \$1.00 for lapel pins. Items not in stock may take up to one (1) month, in this case, we will contact you.*

Sub-Total \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_