

Trestleboard

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 4

December 2011

NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education's purpose is to foster the education of the Craft at large through prepared research and open discussion of the topics concerning Masonic history, symbolism, philosophy, and current events.

Next Communication

New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education meets on the second Saturday in March, June, September and December. Our next communication will be held on **Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at:**

**Trenton Masonic Temple
100 Barrack Street
Trenton, NJ 08608**

All Master Masons are Welcome!



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From the East

Bro. Raymond Thorne, Worshipful Master

Dear Brother,

Of what value is knowledge?

Do petitioners wish to join the Fraternity to gain knowledge?

Are most active members active because they are on a quest for more knowledge?

Would members who are not active be active if lodges offered some kind of program of Masonic knowledge?

Is all knowledge equally important? Which is more important, knowing the batting average of every player or a team or the geometry necessary to lay our a baseball diamond?

If a lodge dedicated to the dispersion of Masonic knowledge came to a lodge near you would anyone care--including members of the visiting lodge or the lodge being visited?

Would more new members stay active if they didn't have to learn a catechism? Isn't something valued more if you earn it, rather than have it handed to you?

Which is better, to be told everything or be part of an exchange

LODGE HAPPENINGS...

NJ LORE 1786's next meeting will be held December 10, 2011, at 100 Barrack St., Trenton, NJ 08608, 9:00 a.m. coffee & donuts, 9:30 a.m. meeting.

- King Solomon's Quarries, by Richard Powell
- A Man Freeborn, by RW James J. Ross, PDDGM
- Petition of Jed Clampett by RW Ross.

Also, a discussion of where--or if--the lodge should travel in 2012. Coffee and danish will be served prior to our meeting and lunch will be served after. Members should make every effort to attend.

of ideas to figure things out for yourself?

Is it better to go with the flow or go against the flow? Or should the flow/anti-flow be decided on an individual basis?

Ever have an aha! moment when the solution to a problem suddenly manifests itself with crystal clarity? Did it ever happen with anything connected to Masonry, such as a meaning of a symbol?

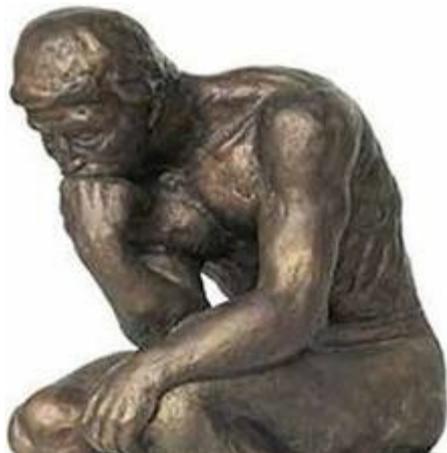
If the lecturer doesn't understand the lecture, but rather presents it as a long string of memorized words, why should the candidate get anything out of it? If the lecturer doesn't understand what he is memorizing, isn't he wasting the candidate's time in the recitation, let alone the lecturer's time in memorizing the lecture? Shouldn't teaching the ritual involve the why and not just the what?

Should Masonry be presented as a type of self-help organization? Or as a charitable organization? Or as a social-fraternal organization? Or any two of the three combination? Or as all three? Or as something else? If something else, then what?

If an important part of Masonry is fellowship with other members and personal participation in lodge activities, why do so many members never bother to experience that fellowship nor participate in lodge activities, yet still pay dues? Were they actuated by motives they denied when asked in the preparation room?

Is a lodge that is permitted to change its meeting date and location in danger of losing some of its members or not gaining new ones because they have to actively keep abreast of the lodge's where and whenabouts?

Has anyone (except those who get the big bucks for reading trestleboards) read this far? If so, has it excited their impulse to ponder? If so, could you come to the next meeting (of a subsequent meeting) so we can discuss your musings? Or possibly raise other questions for contemplation?



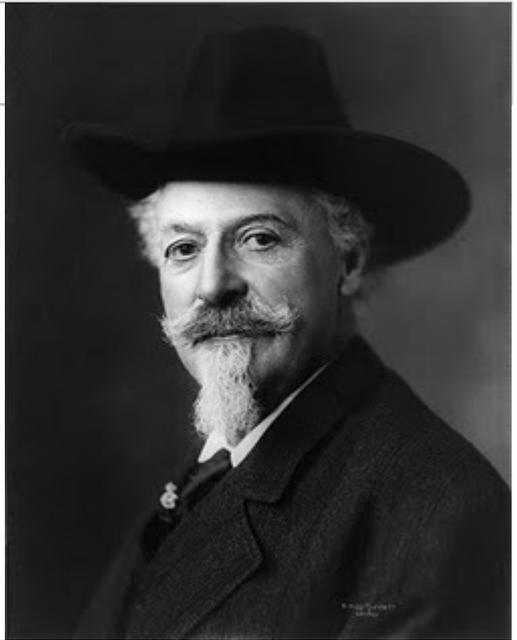
From the West

Bro. JR Avanti, Senior Warden

William Frederick (Buffalo Bill) Cody

"All my interests are still with the west---the modern west," William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, once said. This statement depicts his life very well.

William Cody was born in Iowa in 1846. By age 22 he had been a trapper, bull whacker, a Pony Express rider, wagon master, stagecoach driver, Civil War soldier and very proud Freemason. He received his nickname from his ability to supply railroad workers with buffalo meat



From 1868 until 1872, Cody was employed as a scout for the U.S. Army. His tenure was the longest for any man in that dangerous profession. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1872 and was forever after considered a favorite scout of the Fifth Cavalry. Also, in 1872, he appeared on stage for the first time playing himself in "Scouts of the Prairie." This started his concept for the famous Wild West Show.

The show was inaugurated in Omaha in 1883 with real cowboys and Indians. The show was designed to portrayed the "real west." It started in Europe and was a feature at Queen Victoria's Jubilee. In 1893 it was the talk of Chicago; by the turn of the century Buffalo Bill was probably the most famous and recognizable man in the world.

Brother Bill was also an activist for western causes such as the rights of Indians and women and an early conservation of wilderness. He told the government to, "never make a promise to the Indians that is not fulfilled." He believed women had all the same rights as men and said, when asked if he thought they were qualified to vote, he replied, "As well qualified as the majority of men." As a developer, Cody realized he must also be a preserver. He spoke out against hide hunters who slaughtered buffalo and worked to establish game preserves in Wyoming and Colorado. Willaim F. Cody was interested in the west's progressive future

and wanted the best for it.

Bill Cody settled near the Big Horn Basin in Wyoming. The town Cody was named after him and is on part of his former ranch. There is a museum in Cody about his life and times. There, people of all ages can learn about this hero.

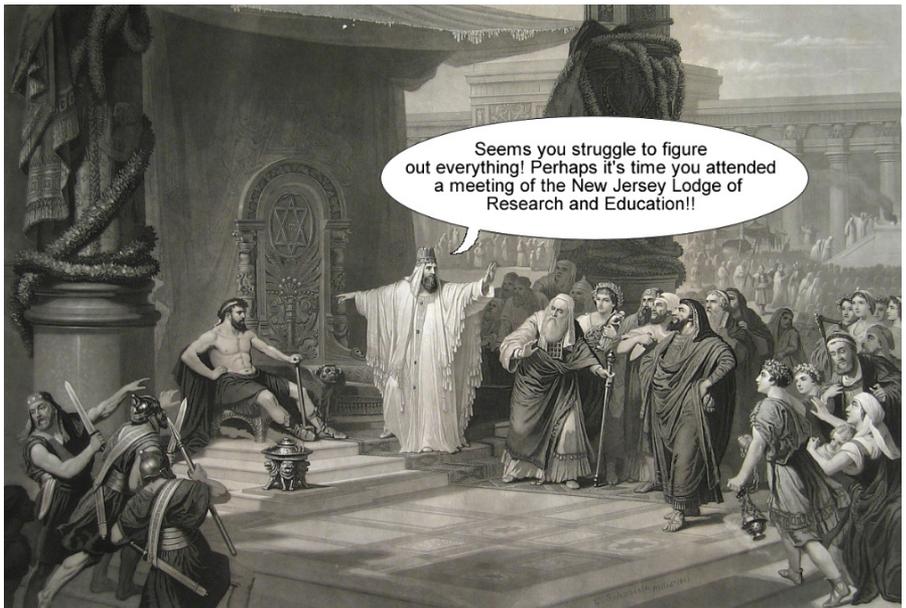
A long-time Freemason, William F. Cody was buried with Masonic pomp and ceremony by Golden City Lodge No. 1 of Golden, Colorado, at the request of his home Lodge, Platte Valley Lodge No. 32, of North Platte, Nebraska. His body lies on Lookout Mountain near Denver, Colorado. The marker reads:

"In Memoriam. Colonel William Frederick Cody. 'Buffalo Bill.' Noted scout and Indian fighter. Born February 26, 1845, Scott County, Iowa. Died January 10, 1917, Denver, Colorado. At rest here by his request."

References And Other Readings:

Adventures of Buffalo Bill ** The Life of the Honorable William F. Cody ** Story of the Wild West and Campfire Chats ** The Great Salt Lake Trail: Henry Inman and Col. Wm. Cody





Finding it tough to figure out the meaning of all those symbols and allegories?

Hit a wall in your search for Masonic Knowledge??

Just frustrated with the same-ole, same-ole boring meetings???

Then it's time you gave NJ LORE No. 1786 a try!!!

Come out to our next meeting on Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

We guarantee you will not leave a meeting without learning something new.

Stop being frustrated and start enjoying Freemasonry again!!!

NJ LORE Takes to the Road!

NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education is looking to visit other Masonic districts in New Jersey. This is a great opportunity for a Lodge to host a meeting of NJ LORE as an event in its District. You set up the visit and provide refreshments and we do all the work!

We are looking for future visitation dates. If you have interest in NJ LORE visiting your district, let your DDGM know of this program and contact our Worshipful Master or Secretary.



Officers for 2011-2012

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From the Editor's Desk.....

Next Trestleboard will be published on or about March 1, 2012. We are always looking for articles. All articles must be submitted by February 15, 2012.

Matthew Korang, Secretary
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New Jersey Lodge of Masonic
Research and Education No. 1786

Trenton Masonic Temple
100 Barrack St.
Trenton, NJ 08608



*Bringing Light to New
Jersey Freemasonry!*

**We're On the
Web!!
njlore1786.org**