


Masonic Happenings in The Magnolia State

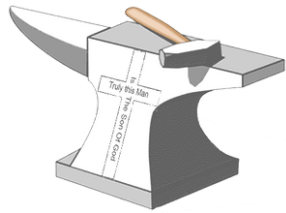
1986 Hwy 19 S, Meridian, MS 39301

Fred F. Bean, P. G. C., Co-Editor
Kiely D. Walker, P.G.C., Co-Editor



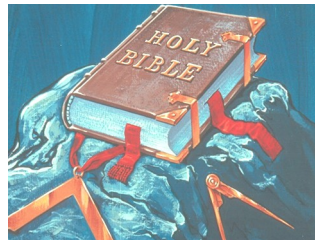
PATRIOTISM

Let us consider Patriotism, which of course, is defined as love and devotion to one's country. I have always been patriotic. My Dad served in World War II. When we think of Masonry, particularly the York Rite, we can sense patriotism in the Commandery among the Knights Templar. We are proud of our country.



I once read that the Holy Bible was the anvil that has worn out many hammers. The same may be said of Freemasonry because it so closely parallels the Bible. Freemasonry has been on the cutting edge of everything good and wholesome in America and is closely associated with the history of our nation, these great United States of America. The United States of America was founded as a Christian nation, and it remains so today.

The Constitution of the United States is the oldest and longest-lasting constitution in the history of the world. When one walks into a Masonic Lodge, there are two things that immediately come to their attention-First, the Holy Bible on the altar, in the center of the Lodge room, because it is the centerpiece of our Masonic Fraternity whereof all of our work revolves, and second, The Flag of the United States of America stands in the Honored East, because we afford it the most prestigious position in our



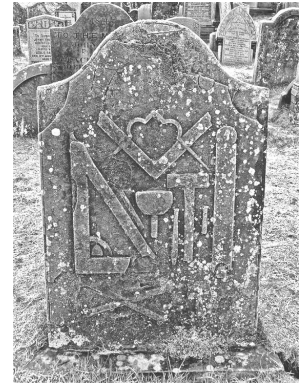
Lodges. We, open the Holy Bible, have opening and closing prayers to Deity, and proudly pledge allegiance to that flag at every meeting.



We are proud of the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. It is the greatest work of architect and Mason, Benjamin Henry Latrobe. Brother James Hoban was the architect of the White House. George Washington, wearing a Masonic apron, laid the cornerstone for both structures.

Francis Bellamy an ordained minister and Mason was the author of "The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the Unites States of America." Brother Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner" designated as our National Anthem.

For two hundred forty-four years, we have observed Fourth of July as Independence Day. Another American Holiday is Memorial Day, observed on the last Monday in May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Military. Veterans' Day is observed annually on November 11 to honor military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.



We are thankful for America's freedoms and all Patriots who fought and died for them.



Charles L. Cox
Grand Generalissimo
Grand Commandery of MS

IMPORTANT DATES WILL BE UPDATED ONCE RESTRICTIONS ON MEETINGS ARE REMOVED