

The Third Law

Many of you purchased the medallion created by our Grand Lodge commemorating the 275 Annual Communication and 281 years of masonry in South Carolina. As I have traveled across our state many have asked about the dates in the cameo on one side of the medallion. These dates highlight our rich history and document historic events that occurred in South Carolina and how those dates intertwine with our Grand Lodge.

While researching dates in our history I came across a book *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, Latin for "Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy" by Sir Isaac Newton. This text is commonly referred to as Principia. In 1687 Newton published his book in London England which contained his three laws of motion. As school children we each learned Newton's 3 laws. Newton's third law states: All forces in the universe occur in equal but oppositely directed pairs. Basically Newton was declaring that for every action there is an equal and opposite re-action. Our forefathers had no knowledge that 4,149 miles away Newton had just pinned his three laws. All they knew was they were breathing the pure air of liberty.

Our forefathers refused to be trampled by the heel of tyranny. Interesting...for every action "tyranny" there is a reaction "liberty". My travels across our state have encouraged me, and allowed me to witness Newton's third Law in action. I have seen aspirants knock in darkness on the doors of our lodges and each door be open to light. I have seen a community struggle and our Lodges support them. I have seen men, women, children, and brothers stumble under the weight of the world. Only to have Freemasons become a stepping stone to ease the burdens of life to a better place and more solid foundation.

Through our philanthropic charities and community service the banner of Freemasonry in South Carolina shines brighter than ever! To date we have raised over \$7,000 dollars for breast cancer research to find a cure for that dreaded disease. You have rallied together and held fund raising events and donated the proceeds in excess of \$17,000 dollars to purchase a van for our veteran's at "The Victory House" located in Walterboro S.C. Your dedication shines as a lighthouse piercing the darkness of indifference to the need of our fellowman.

I believe that Newton's third law is a key to our Great Light. Here is my point; we are told in our *Great Light* "Man born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not. And dost thou open thine eyes upon such an one, and bringest me into judgment with thee? Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one. Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass; Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish, as an hireling, his day. For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease."

We have many choices in life, for every action there is a reaction. You have seen our fellowman in need and you reacted by meeting their need as a stepping stone. I am honored and proud to serve with you in the service of humanity for all that is just, right and true. ***"Isn't it strange that princes and kings, And clowns that caper in sawdust rings, And common people, like you and me Are builders for eternity? Each is given a bag of tools, A shapeless mass, a book of rules; And each must make, ere life is flown, A stumbling block or a stepping stone"***. R.L. Sharpe

Your friend and brother from Inman

Jay Adam Pearson

Grand Master

Masonic Education Corner

New Worshipful Masters

Congratulations on your election to the highest and most important position your Lodge can confer. This is probably the greatest honor you will ever receive in Masonry. You must be aware of the tremendous responsibility you have for helping Masonry and helping your Lodge reach its highest potential.

Your committee on Masonic Education would like to offer some suggestions for your consideration as you begin your year as Worshipful Master. Your first responsibility is to get every member involved in the work of the Lodge. Arrange planning meetings with your Officers and initiate an agenda for the year. Examine the past activities and incorporate those that have been successful with those that would have a favorable impact with your new ideas. Engage each Officer and get a commitment to help carry out the agenda for the year.

There are many small things that will improve your Lodge and attract your Brothers' attention and instill in them a desire to attend and participate in your Lodge activities. Appoint a buildings and grounds committee and charge them with keeping the inside of the Lodge clean and the grounds properly kept and inviting. Take an active part in all committees of your Lodge and help them reach the goals they are charged with.

To ensure your Officers are proficient in their work have regular practice sessions especially before conferring a degree. Have an agenda for your meetings and follow it as closely as possible. Be punctual in starting your meetings and never let one Brother monopolize any discussion you may have. Always remember you are the Worshipful Master and have total control of your meetings and the agenda.

Always try to have Masonic Education at your regular communications. This will help inspire and keep the Brethren informed and interested. Always use the "Lodge System of Masonic Education." Make every attempt to have all Officers attend the Inspirational and Instructional meetings in the District and encourage all the other members to attend.

The responsibility for achieving goals rests upon the Worshipful Master and his Officers. Always remember every Brother asked to become a Mason and is seeking more light in Masonry. You as Worshipful Master and your Officers should make every effort to meet his needs. Make an all out effort to have every Officer present at every meeting and see that he is proficient in his work. Plan your programs so as to provide something for every Brother.

Your goals can be easily accomplished with a little planning and effort. You must be aware as Worshipful Master of the responsibility that comes with your office and also what is expected of you. The success of your year will depend upon how you apply additional effort in every aspect of the duty of your office. You should apply extra effort to insure your year as Worshipful Master the best ever in your Lodge.

Word of the Month: Debauchery—extreme indulgence and sensuality, corruption of fidelity.

Question of the Month: What are the three great tenets of Ancient Craft Masonry? Search Ahiman Rezon (2010) for answer.

Answer for October and November issue: Ahiman Rezon (2010), Pages 69, 70 & 71.

Fraternally,

William B. Rogers, Senior Grand Warden
Chairman Masonic Education Committee