

OCTOBER 2020

ISSUE 9 - VOLUME 95

ALMAS ALIBI

MASONS SUPPORTING
CHILDREN

PHONE: 202.898.1688 – FAX: 202.789.1148

ALMASSHRINERS.ORG

FROM THE POTENTATES'S DESK



Nobles,

I hope you and your families find yourselves well and in good spirits.

Halloween originated from the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain, which marked the start of winter and the start of the new year. It was believed that the spirits of the dead could return to the Earth around this time.

In Celtic Ireland about 2,000 years ago, Samhain was the division of the year between the lighter half (summer) and the darker half (winter). At Samhain the division between this world and the other world was at its thinnest, allowing spirits to pass through.

In this tradition, the family's ancestors were honored and invited home while harmful spirits were warded off. People wore costumes and masks to disguise themselves as harmful spirits to avoid harm. Bonfires and food played a large part in the festivities. The bones of slaughtered livestock were cast into a communal fire, household fires were extinguished and started again from these bonfires. Food was prepared for the living as well as the dead. The food for the ancestors who could not actually eat it, was ritually shared with the living who were destitute.

The practice of divination (fortune telling), was an important part of everyday life for the Celts and this art form was a central part of the festivities during Samhain. Vestiges of this can be seen today during Halloween such as the practice of going to the church at midnight or standing in the porch. The courageous porch stander may see the spirits of those who will die in the coming year, if he watches closely; but, runs the risk of meeting himself. Similarly, single women gazing in a mirror on this night will see the image of the man she will marry but runs the risk of seeing the devil. Those brave individuals which go to a graveyard at midnight and walk three times around the graves will be offered a glimpse of the future; but, yet again run the risk of meeting the devil.

Christianity incorporated the honoring of the dead into the Christian calendar with All Saints (All Hallows) on November 1st, followed by All Souls on November 2nd. The holiday is saturated with symbols of animals, such as black cats, bats, and spiders. Figures, such as ghosts, skeletons, witches, and wizards are a large part of the festivities. Pumpkins, graveyards, cobwebs are associated with Halloween and are symbols used to decorate homes. This year, be on the lookout for a brother who has crossed over; and when you meet, after strict examination, seek further light and share it with us.

S&F,
George Perez
Potentate

Bylaws of Imperial Council

325.11 Election Regulations

Bylaws of Imperial Council 325.11 Election Regulations

(a) Electioneering. A candidate for an elected office in a Shrine temple may print, publish and circulate during the year he is seeking the elected office, a resume consisting of his educational background, his vocational history and his Masonic and Shrine record. Except as provided in the prior sentence, the Printing, publication, circulating or distribution of resolutions, letters, telegrams, tickets, email or other devices by a unit, club, Noble or group of Nobles, suggesting, recommending, opposing or containing the names of proposed candidates for office in the temple is prohibited.

(b) Expenditures Prohibited. The expenditure of money for gifts, favors or entertainment on behalf of a candidate for elected office is prohibited.

(b.) Violation. For any violation of (a) or (b) the Imperial Potentate may suspend the offending Noble and he may declare the election of officer's void and order a new election.

(c.) Notice. At least one week prior to the annual meeting or any election, the temple Recorder shall mail to each member a notice thereof containing this section.

**ALMAS SHRINERS
BUSINESS COMMUNICATION**

**OCTOBER 1, 2020
7:30 PM GAVEL**

**VIRTUAL MEETING
VIA ZOOM**

**GEORGE E. PEREZ
POTENTATE**

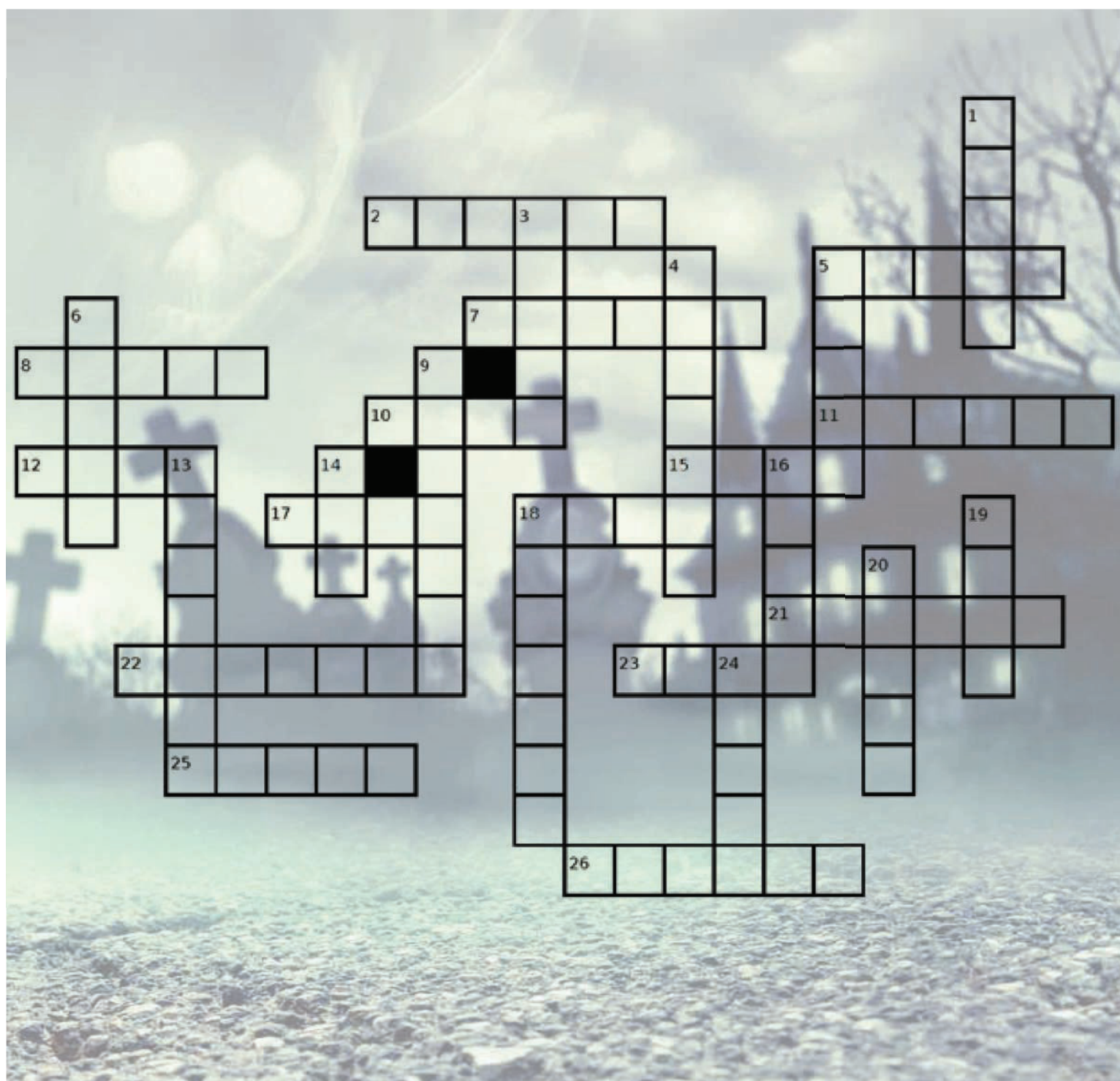
**DONALD R. FERGUSON
SR. P.P.
RECORDER**

ATTEST



Lady Lesly's Loft

CROSSWORD



Lady Lesly's Loft

CROSSWORD CLUES

Down:

1. any place of interment; a tomb or sepulcher
3. to be reluctant to do, meet, or experience
4. to be affected with vibratory motion
5. a formula or charm intended to cause such misfortune to another
6. to consider or regard in a specified way, and deal with accordingly
9. to make rigid or inert; harden; deaden
13. to occupy, dominate, or control a person from within
14. to torment; trouble; distress; plague; worry
16. a crafty or underhanded device, maneuver, stratagem
18. to distress greatly, shock or dismay
19. the place, or state of punishment of the wicked after death
20. to fill, especially suddenly, with fear or terror; frighten; alarm
24. to name, write, or otherwise give the letters



Across:

2. a group or flock of crows
5. to form from a solid material by cutting
7. to be wary, cautious, or careful
8. to follow persistently or stealthily
10. deprived of life
11. to emit a shrill, piercing sound
12. a sudden, short intake of breath, as in shock or surprise
15. to cut, wound, or tear with the teeth
17. a specific instance of or propensity for such a feeling
18. the cry of a dog, wolf
21. to utter a shrill, broken sound or cry
22. to fill with terror or alarm; make greatly afraid
23. a grotesque or humorous false face worn at a carnival
25. to haunt; inhabit or appear in or to as a ghost or specter
26. the usually round, red or yellow, edible fruit of a small tree





WORD SEARCH

L	N	P	C	K	C	R	A	W	L	Y	V	A	G	N	F	M	Z	Y	M	V	T	J	Y	B	G	Z	B	A	H
C	X	G	M	E	P	V	O	K	X	F	K	A	J	H	A	R	T	U	U	A	F	R	I	G	H	T	F	U	L
J	E	P	C	E	S	V	Z	Q	L	O	C	V	V	N	N	E	C	P	G	U	C	P	M	E	K	I	B	M	T
C	U	R	D	L	I	N	G	T	W	Y	C	U	Z	C	G	S	H	O	T	G	Q	A	K	X	W	D	E	O	R
U	T	T	M	W	G	Z	Z	C	E	B	S	M	B	S	K	G	B	B	R	P	D	T	B	X	H	M	H	O	M
O	A	K	X	Q	B	R	D	W	H	O	L	E	H	I	F	D	W	G	N	K	G	L	E	R	Q	F	A	N	I
C	U	O	D	I	L	R	U	U	X	I	V	T	A	C	O	X	A	L	Z	W	A	U	O	L	E	G	U	L	S
C	V	W	X	R	P	S	J	E	H	Q	L	A	A	F	W	H	K	J	W	I	X	A	G	H	R	R	N	I	C
U	J	L	I	R	E	I	R	V	S	A	X	L	N	W	V	N	A	G	N	I	H	T	I	A	M	E	D	T	H
L	E	W	H	T	M	A	C	V	D	O	L	U	I	Q	P	A	X	X	Z	Y	Q	A	W	L	Z	B	E	G	I
T	C	G	Y	F	C	N	D	G	S	J	M	S	U	N	Q	G	F	F	U	M	O	C	I	L	F	I	A	H	E
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Q	B	Z	Z	E	N	Y	R	S	J	L	E	A	X	O	E	S	S	G	H	M	N	J	Z	E	B	E	I	L	U
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O	G	S	O	L	J	Y	L	Y	E	K	Y	S	E	Y	M	K	N	P	U	F	E	A	R	N	F	W	W	S	O
P	R	Y	T	O	J	J	W	G	D	A	W	Y	S	R	B	Z	W	A	N	A	Q	Y	I	P	R	H	W	H	R
M	X	X	D	A	D	G	Q	B	Q	S	D	P	U	L	N	N	E	G	T	P	D	R	X	C	Z	M	U	U	Y
B	P	S	P	I	N	Y	G	D	P	R	J	E	P	V	O	A	X	Q	E	U	Z	Z	S	M	Z	K	S	V	R
X	S	H	J	N	X	W	B	A	A	R	Z	G	E	F	F	L	T	J	D	F	R	N	X	C	Y	O	Q	X	N
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C	E	B	W	S	O	M	D	N	N	M	O	B	T	V	H	O	I	V	X	A	K	M	Y	S	T	I	C	A	L
Y	E	T	S	P	N	I	X	L	T	C	R	L	I	I	V	A	R	C	G	O	L	C	X	Y	D	Q	Y	M	Y
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V	Q	U	A	W	O	K	H	G	U	P	N	A	A	B	O	M	I	N	A	B	L	E	J	H	L	F	C	B	O

Lady Lesly's Loft

HALLOWEEN	DIRE	HAUNTED	PAGAN
ABOMINABLE	DREADFUL	HORRIBLE	PRETERNATURAL
CURDLING	EERIE	MACABRE	REPULSIVE
BLOODY	EVIL	MASKED	SCARY
BONE	FANG	MISCHIEVOUS	SPOOKY
CHILLING	FEAR	MOONLIT	SUPERNATURAL
CORPSE	FRIGHTFUL	MYSTICAL	SUPERSTITIOUS
CRAWLY	GHOSTLY	NIGHTTIME	UNDEAD
CREEPY	GHOULISH	OCCULT	WICKED
DEAD	GRUESOME	OMINOUS	WITCH

Almas Yacht Club

The Almas Yacht Club is selling the 2020 White House Holiday Ornaments again this year. The cost is \$21 each. This year's ornament honors President John F. Kennedy. These ornaments are available now and can be obtained by submitting an e-mail order along with a check made payable to Almas Yacht Club. Please send your order and payment to Fred Evans (fwevans@verizon.net) or Jesse Villarreal (jv1301@aol.com). Do not wait till the last minute to order. Last year we ran out.

The ornaments are for the benefit of the Yacht Club and are not tax deductible.



Lady Lesly's Loft

The Witching Hour



There is a lot of debate when it comes to the lore of the Witching Hour. Some people are not sure what it is or if it is true. Others believe the Witching Hour is the time of night when the veil between life and death is thinnest creating a gateway between worlds. This gateway is said to allow spirits and ghosts to travel between the two worlds. It is believed by some, that witches and psychics are more powerful at this time of night.

The phrase "Witching Hour" was first recorded around 1835. Though the origins seem to be from around 1535 when the Catholic Church forbade activities during the 3am-4am window due to rising concerns about witchcraft in Europe. In some regions of the world, people try to avoid going out late at night, while others who are interested in supernatural events may make a deliberate effort to be out and about at midnight.

One certainly, you don't need to be superstitious to believe in the Witching Hour. The late hours of the night often have a different quality than the early evening and the daytime; perhaps because of the lack of people and the darkness. This time of night often reveals lots of creatures most people never see during the day (such as owls, bats, and other nocturnal animals) and perhaps this explains these animals' traditional association with witchcraft in many cultures.

Superstition of today and old, have intertwined with the Witching Hour. This is a time for witch hunts, demonic activity, exorcisms, and rituals. But is it real? While the name implies it's a specific hour, it's really the period of time between the end of the night and the beginning of the new day. It's the liminal space between night and day when the veil is especially thin. The spiritual realm seems to be more accessible during "The Witching Hour" because this is a time when most people are sleeping. There is less interference from the conscious mental activity of other people; and everything is much quieter. So, when you're less affected by electronic frequencies and your surroundings are silent and peaceful, it is easier to sense the subtle energies of the spirit realm.

Despite there being no actual evidence the Witching Hour does exist, a lot of odd things happen during this time. It could be people take advantage of the hype created in the past to attempt to scare people, or maybe it actually is the best time for people with special abilities to tap their powers. But, at the end of the Witching Hour, it is your beliefs that matter.

Happy Haunting..

The Traveling Man



OUR CHARGES AS MASONS BY: BRO. KALEB LOPEZ JUSTICE-COLUMBIA LODGE NO. 3

The charge we receive in every degree has true merit and a broader meaning to all Masons, but it is also a very personal one to, the newly initiated, newly passed, or newly raised Masons. But regardless of how new these charges are, we are held to them for life. The charges we receive as Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Masons, in military terms, is the very “Commanders Intent” of how, we, as Masons are to conduct ourselves and each one gives us specific instructions on the exact items we are to hold within our hearts and minds as the unalienable virtues Masons are to exhibit within all aspects of their lives, both, personal and professional. Within the Charge of the Master Mason, we are “charged” with the due responsibility of carrying out the duty to ensure, “...the ancient landmarks of the order, entrusted to your care, you are carefully to preserve; and never suffer them to be infringed, or countenance a deviation from the established usages and customs of the fraternity” [paraphrased].

In so much, I searched for this and other examples of the charges exemplified through my travels around the region of Europe. I have had the distinct pleasure in meeting with and learning from other brothers. I have had the honor of visiting such prestigious locations as Mozart’s Hall in Salzburg, Austria where Bro. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart performed some of his most interesting pieces. I have had the pleasure of touring the Grand Lodge of Scotland; meeting with brothers and learning more about the Scottish Rite. In England, I was able to meet with brothers to learn more about the York Rite.

In all of my travels I have been blessed with such great and fascinating opportunities to see how our brotherhood has left its indelible mark on the annals of history that, to this day, are accounted to the Brotherhood but are in keeping with the charges we all receive. Notable persons which came to the forefront were Brothers Winston Churchill and U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, both masons.

The Traveling Man

In fact, a neat bit of history here is the following excerpt: “Franklin Delano Roosevelt- 32nd President, 1933 – 1945, made a Mason November 28, 1911, in Holland Lodge No. 8, F. & A.M., New York, New York, the same Lodge in which George Washington, the Nation’s first President, held Honorary membership”. Winston Churchill was, as is reported, only a 1st Degree Mason, but, a Mason nonetheless. The records and information I was able to find state “Winston Churchill was initiated into the Studholme Lodge No. 1591 on 24 May 1901”. Each of these men were devoted to the principles of the brotherhood and enacting the charges they received, as we all should be. These principles help make us the men we are today and strive to be tomorrow. Most importantly, they upheld their charges in ways we should all seek to emulate.

As with every bright side there is also a dark one. Thus, I was also able to see the “other side of the coin” where our Fraternity is not viewed in the greatest of light. On one occasion in my travels, I was having a conversation with someone regarding the Fraternity and it came about that this person mentioned an article where English police officers, who were also Masons, appeared to be using their standings as Masons outside the very charges we are given. The excerpt from this article is as follows:

“As recently as 1999, a former detective and a Freemason, Duncan Hanrahan, was jailed for more than eight years for conspiracy to rob, supply drugs and pervert the course of justice. It emerged in his Old Bailey trial that he had used a fellow Freemason, who was a serving officer, to help him make contact with another officer, whom he tried unsuccessfully to bribe. And this came just three years after the home affairs select committee had announced: “We believe that nothing so much undermines public confidence in public institutions as the knowledge that some public servants are members of a secret society, one of whose aims is mutual self-advancement.”

Things may have changed a great deal in the intervening two decades since those remarks; there are thankfully many more women in the service now. Many younger recruits, particularly those from ethnic minority backgrounds, regard Freemasonry and all its aprons and handshakes and rituals, as little more than a weird old boys’ club. But Steve White has made the point that its influence within the service still exists. All those commissioners were right. If the public thinks that a secret handshake can still swing a prosecution and officers themselves feel that the same handshake can affect a promotion, then it is as clear as ever that membership of both bodies is incompatible. And it is time that all those officers who are Freemasons decided to “forgo the prospect of pleasure and social advantage” until they have left the service.”

(“Why the secret handshake between police and Freemasons should worry us”, Duncan Campbell, The Guardian, 02 January 2018:

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jan/02/secret-handshake-police-freemasons>)

The Traveling Man

The above article points out and highlights those Masons were NOT in keeping with the charges of the fraternity and serves as a warning to us all in being not only carefully observant of our charges but also the fact non-Masons will not understand or know what we are expected to do and thus allow for their conduct, being associated as Masons to soil the reputation of our institution. This is especially important because our charges as Masons specifically address our responsibility to the Fraternity. Within the Master Mason's charge, it states, "To preserve the reputation of the fraternity unsullied must be your constant care..."

Each of the charges carry with them some form of reminder that this is a priority for us as Masons. Our Fraternity, in many circles, is seen in many ways which the actions or choices of other brothers, not in keeping with the tenets of the order cause for a negative connotation to be reached. Thus, it is important we remind ourselves of the standard which reaches back as far as time immemorial can muster in personifying the attitudes, conduct, and actions of Masons. Our motto of "Making Good Men Better" cannot be fulfilled when contradictory conduct such as the example given is allowed to become prevalent in our lives or the lives of our brothers. We are our brother's keeper and are called to do this in order to ensure all brothers are able to embody the tenets of the order. Another point within in the charges is to ensure we are giving the due time and attention to all of our brothers and educating them on what is expected of their actions and conduct.

Overall, these thoughts and points are at the forefront of my mind in what it means to be "The Traveling Man" and to give my best efforts in ensuring the, "Commander's Intent" of our charges is carried out in all I do, both, personally and professionally. All of us are to be constantly aware of our vocations and to not violate the trusts we have been given. It is all the more our duty to conduct ourselves accordingly within the tenets of our order and ensure, at all times, we do this by looking after one another and, "...correct the errors and irregularities of your [our] uninformed brethren, and to guard them against a breach of fidelity".

In conclusion, we all must remain faithful to the charges we have been given, to the utmost of our abilities. No doubt, each and every one of us can share moments in our lives where we've witnessed both the greatest examples of what it means to be a Mason as well as examples of those brethren who may have become wary during their travels and not shown the light of Freemasonry as it should be. If we are to expect or hope the greater community of the world accepts what we do and who we are, then the basic tenets of the order as well as the charges of the degrees, we have all been given, are personified in who we are as men. We have to "walk the walk not, merely talk the talk".

The Traveling Man

The above article points out and highlights those Masons were NOT in keeping with the charges of the fraternity and serves as a warning to us all in being not only carefully observant of our charges but also the fact non-Masons will not understand or know what we are expected to do and thus allow for their conduct, being associated as Masons to soil the reputation of our institution. This is especially important because our charges as Masons specifically address our responsibility to the Fraternity. Within the Master Mason's charge, it states, "To preserve the reputation of the fraternity unsullied must be your constant care..." after community of the world accepts what we do and who we are, then the basic tenets of the order as well as the charges of the degrees, we have all been given, are personified in who we are as men. We have to "walk the walk not, merely talk the talk".

Omens

Cecilia Llompant



The dead bird, color of a bruise, and smaller than an eye swollen shut, is king among omens. Who can blame the ants for feasting? Let him cast the first crumb.

We once tended the oracles. Now we rely on a photograph a fingerprint a hand we never saw coming.

A man draws a chalk outline first in his mind around nothing then around the body of another man. He does this without thinking.

What can I do about the white room I left behind? What can I do about the great stones I walk among now? What can I do but sing. Even a small cut can sing all day.

There are entire nights I would take back. Nostalgia is a thin moon, disappearing into a sky like cold, unfeeling iron.

I dreamed you were a drowned man, crown of phosphorescent, seaweed in your hair, water in your shoes. I woke up desperate for air.

In another dream, I was a field and you combed through me searching for something you only thought you had lost.

What have we left at the altar of sorrow? What blessed thing will we leave tomorrow?

Quote of the Month

William Shakespeare



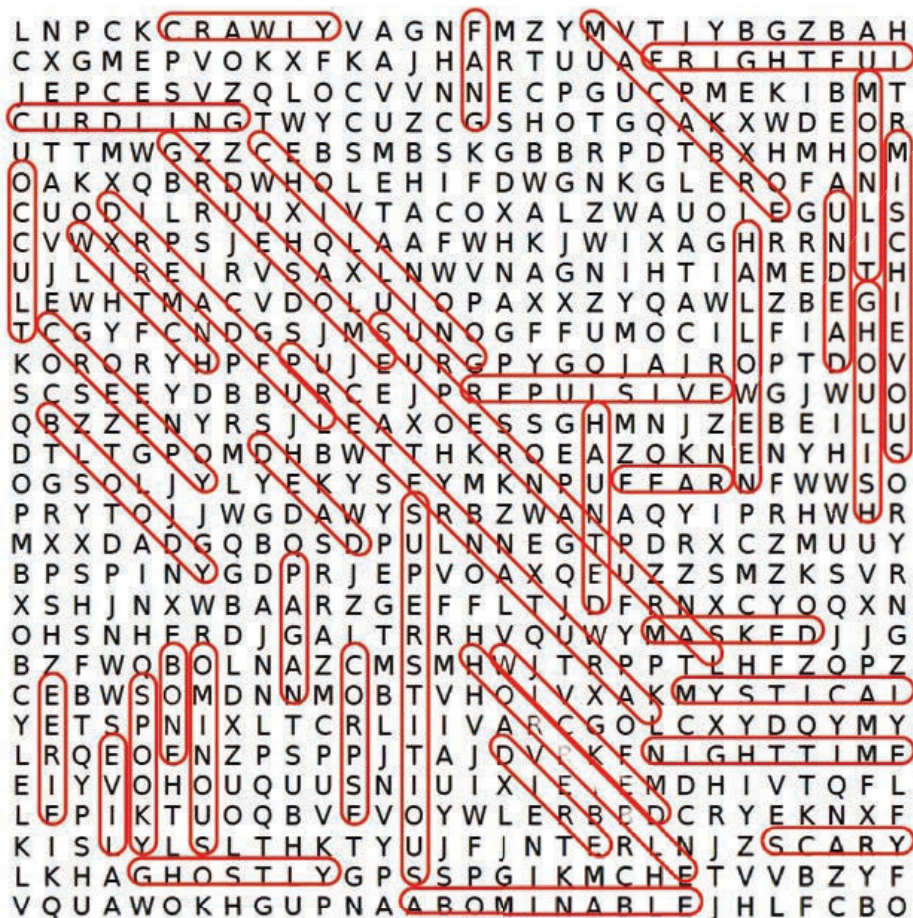
Eye of newt, and toe of frog,
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg, and owlet's wing,—
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.
Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn, and caldron bubble.

- William Shakespeare



Lady Lesly's Loft

ANSWERS



Nobles Ill or Homebound

Call our Brother, they are eager to hear from you.
If you know of a Noble in this condition, please let us know at: 202.898.1688



Paul Adams

2101 Deyerle Ave. No. 318
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
540.333.5822

Scott Miskovic

Summit Place Assisted Living
491 Highway 17, No. 29566
Little River, SC 29566
843.658.5554

LIVING PAST POTENTATES



1982 Donald P. McDade
1995 Charles W. Corey, III
1998 Grant R. Berning
1999 Ralph F. Connolly
2000 William M. Lanham
2001 Anthony S. Murray
2002 Donald M. Holliday, Sr.
2003 David W. Finn
2004 Kenneth J. Collins
2006 Lonnie L. Ramos
2007 Jeffrey G. Bodie
2009 Donald R. Ferguson, Sr.

2010 Paul Friedlander
2011 Alan L. Gordon
2012 Ricardo Rodriguez Kroger
2013 Rick Hall
2014 John R. Garrison
2015 Luis G. Cisneros
2016 Fred W. Evans
2017 Michael A. Gordon
2018 Jeffrey D. Holt
2019 Frank Ireton