



The T. L. of R. Bulletin

Published quarterly by the Tennessee Lodge of Research

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FOURTH QUARTER BULLETIN – 2024

SEPTEMBER 14 STATED MEETING

Was held at ARLINGTON LODGE #641 Arlington, TN. Bro. George Ladd, III delivered a paper written by our Senior Deputy Master – Bro. John Wiseman Simmons II, entitled “The Doors of the Israelite Temples.” Arlington Lodge was thanked for their excellent hospitality and for the outstanding meal they provided.

The following deaths were reported:

Jesse King Whitesides Western Sun #88 7/27/24

Dennis Allen Tyler, P.M Park Ave #362 09/05/2024

Six petitions for membership were approved.

New Members approved:

Czarkowski, Scott Christopher

Jenner, Robert Marvin

Selph, Lester Clarenc

Batts, Tracy Shawn

Bilyeu, Hayden Douglas

Cotten, Wyatt Thomas

Keenan, Kory Richard

Morgan, Daniel Herman

Officer, Robert Jachin

Reese III, Charles

DECEMBER 21 MEETING

Our next meeting will be Saturday, December 21 at our “home Lodge,” Sparta Lodge No. 99 in Sparta, TN. Our speaker will be Wor. Bro. Mitch Denning, who will deliver a paper entitled, “IS HE DULY AND TRULY PREPARED? The Chamber of Reflection (Le Cabinet de Réflexion).”

A meal will be served at 12:00 Noon Central Time. The speaking presentation will begin at 1:00 PM. The regular meeting of the TLR will begin following the speaking program. The public is invited to the speaking presentation, after which all who are not Master Masons will be asked to retire (Master Masons who are non-members are welcome to visit our regular meeting).

We will elect 2025 Officers at this meeting and install them afterwards.

Driving Directions for the December 2 Meeting:

From Interstate 40 in Cookeville, take Exit 288 and proceed south on State Highway 111 for 14.1 miles. Take the exit to US Highway 70 in Sparta. Turn left (east) onto US Highway 70, which is also West Bockman Way. Proceed 0.3 mile to Masonic Drive. Turn right into Masonic Drive. Sparta Lodge No. 99 is located at 99 Masonic Dr, Sparta, TN 38583.

MEETINGS DURING 2025

03/22/25 Corinthian 8 Nashville

06/07/25 Arcana 489 Limestone (Johnson City)

09/06/25 Unity 95 Memphis

12/13/25 Sparta 99 Sparta

LODGE OF RESEARCH INFORMATION IN GRAND VIEW

Your Lodge of Research information has been added to Grand View. When you access your Grand View record, you will see the Tennessee Lodge of Research listed on the right side as one of the Lodges of which you are a plural member. This will allow us to have up to date, accurate information about our members, as your Lodge and contact information will now be maintained in one place by you, your Lodge Secretaries, and the Grand Lodge staff. We thank Brother Garry Carter for his assistance with adding our data to Grand View.

2023 TNLOR Proceedings will be mailed in January 2025

DUES CARDS WILL BE MAILED IN FEBRUARY

To save on our postage expense, your 2025 dues cards will be mailed to you in February along with your 2025 First Quarter Bulletin. I will acknowledge the receipt of your dues payment with an email. Thank you for your patience and helping us save and redirect some money to more useful purposes.

From ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FREEMASONRY by ALBERT C. MACKEY M. D.
http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/mackeys_encyclopedia/p.htm

FOURTEEN

It is only necessary to remind the well-informed Freemason of the fourteen days of burial mentioned in the legend of the Third Degree. Now, this period of fourteen was not in the opinion of Masonic symbolists, an arbitrary selection, but was intended to refer to or symbolize the fourteen days of lunar darkness, or decreasing light, which intervene between the full moon and its continued decrease until the end of the lunar month. In the Egyptian mysteries, the body of Osiris is said to have been cut into fourteen pieces by Typhon, and thrown into the Nile. Plutarch, speaking of this in his treatise on Isis and Osiris, thus explains the symbolism of the number fourteen, which comprises the Masonic idea:

The body of Osiris was cut into fourteen pieces; that is, into as many parts as there are days between the full moon. The moon, at the end of fourteen days, enters Taurus, and becomes united to the sun, from whom she collects fire upon her disk during the fourteen days which follow. She is then found every month in conjunction with him in the superior parts of the signs. The equinoctial year finishes at the moment when the sun and moon are found united with Orion, or the star of Orus, a constellation placed under Taurus, which unites itself to the Neomenia of spring. The moon renews herself in Taurus. and a few days afterward is seen, in the form of a crescent in the following sign, that is, Gemini, the home of Mercury. Then Orion, united to the sun in the attitude of a formidable warrior, precipitates Scorpio, his rival, into the shades of night, for he sets every time Orion appears above the horizon. The day becomes lengthened, and the germs of evil are by degrees destroyed. It is thus that the poet Nonnus pictures to us Typhon conquered at the end of winter, when the sun arrives in Taurus, and when Orion mounts into the heavens with him.

The first few lines of this article, Fourteen, prompted a discussion in the *Builder* of November 1927 (page 35), and in the *Sandusky Masonic Bulletin*, December 1927 (page 149), relative to fourteen or fifteen days of burial. The former quotes Prichard of 1730 in favor of fifteen; that several Masonic Jurisdictions in the United States prefer fifteen as the number; that Webb and Cross so taught; that England has no definite period but mentions a considerate time; that Doctor Mackey was probably right in assuming an astronomical significance—the lunar period between the full and the new moon—but the fifteenth day is nevertheless the first day of the new moon. Doctor Merz in the *Bulletin*, however, quotes Fellows in favor of fourteen days, mentions the Great Pyramid and its latitude as providing that fourteen days before the Vernal Equinox, the sun would cease to cast a shadow at noon and would not again cast it for fourteen days after the autumnal Equinox, and that the significant conformity of the legends of Osiris and of Hiram deserves favor. The *Builder* suggests further that altogether too many alterations in the ritual have been made in the interests of schemes of interpretation and of superficial consistency, that the thing to do is to discover the oldest available wording and then try to assign a meaning to it, the first duty being to preserve the tradition, a conclusion in which Doctor Merz and the rest of us will join cordially with Brother Meekren (see *Fifteen*).