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Dennis J. Anness, P.M., Sec'y.  
 ST. JOHNS LODGE NO. 20, F&AM  
 P.O. Box 672  
 Columbus, IN 47202-0672

**OFFICERS FOR 2011**

Worshipful Master - Jeffrey D. Erdman ..... 350-4021  
 Senior Warden - Greg Erdman..... 343-1091  
 Junior Warden - Scott Barnes ..... 447-0920  
 Treasurer - F. David Nickerson, P.M. .... 342-2343  
 Secretary - Dennis J. Anness, P.M. .... 378-0673  
 Senior Deacon - Mike Marciano ..... 765-532-1586  
 Junior Deacon - Jay G. Heath, PM ..... 342-4478  
 Chaplain - Dirk Rader, PM ..... 350-7313  
 Senior Steward - Phil Miles ..... 350-3354  
 Junior Steward - Mark Nickerson ..... 418-8383  
 Tyler - John Scheffler, PM ..... 371-6874  
 Trustee (3) - Brian J. Simmons, PM ..... 526-2232  
 Trustee (2) - J. R. "Bobby" Tekulve, PM ..... 375-0249  
 Trustee (1) - Matthew B. Simmons, PM ..... 350-3620



**ST. JOHNS LODGE NO. 20, F&AM**

COLUMBUS, INDIANA

TRESTLE BOARD FOR SEPT 2011



**SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

01 High Point Lodge #755 Stated ..... 9:30 AM  
 01 Rainbow Stated ..... 7:00  
 02 Amaranth Stated ..... 7:30  
 02 OES Stated ..... 7:30  
 06 DeMolay Stated ..... 7:30  
 07 York Rite Activity Night ..... 7:30  
**08 St. Johns Lodge FC ..... 7:00**  
 14 York Rite Chapter Stated ..... 7:30  
 14 York Rite Council Stated ..... 8:15  
**15 St. Johns Lodge EA ..... 7:00**  
 20 DeMolay Stated ..... 7:30  
**27 St. Johns Lodge #20 Stated ..... 7:00**  
 28 Beauceant Stated ..... 7:30  
 28 Commandery Stated ..... 7:30

**A LOOK AHEAD TO THE  
 OCT SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

03 OES Stated ..... 7:30  
 04 DeMolay Stated ..... 7:30  
 05 York Rite Activity Night ..... 7:30  
 06 High Point Lodge #755 Stated ..... 9:30 AM  
 06 Rainbow Stated ..... 7:00  
 07 Amaranth Stated ..... 7:30  
 12 York Rite Chapter Stated ..... 7:30  
 12 York Rite Council Stated ..... 8:15  
 18 DeMolay Stated ..... 7:30  
**25 St. Johns Lodge #20 Stated ..... 7:00**  
 26 Beauceant Stated ..... 7:30  
 26 Commandery Stated ..... 9:00

*Note: All times are P.M. unless stated otherwise.*

*Please watch the newspaper and our Website for any meetings  
 not scheduled above.*

MASONIC TEMPLE ..... 376-3266  
 4131 Rockyford Rd., Columbus, IN 47203  
[www.stjohnslodge20.org](http://www.stjohnslodge20.org)

**ST. JOHNS WORK:** The upcoming months look to be busy at St. Johns Lodge! Currently there are plans in the works for a DOUBLE FC DEGREE on Sept. 8th and possibly a DOUBLE EA DEGREE on Sept. 15th. Both will start at 7pm with a meal served starting at 6pm. Watch the website for updates on both degrees.

We have been reading several petitions and investigation committees have been hard at work. Pay attention to the website and Facebook page for the latest news on upcoming degree work and degree practices.

**ST. JOHNS LODGE MEETINGS:** Unless otherwise noted, there will be refreshments available before and after meetings as well as access to the recreation room before meetings for fellowship. Doors will open one and one half hour prior to the beginning of the meetings.

### **MASONIC LIGHT**

*There are many reasons why a lodge has a particular name.*

Many inns or taverns have borne and still bear names which are wholly or partially those of plants and animals. Three of our founding lodges in 1717 were meeting at such houses in London: the 'Goose and Gridiron', the 'Apple-Tree' and the 'Rummer and Grapes'.

It would take too much time and space to list the present-day lodges which have either inherited from such sources or have chosen for themselves a name associated with a plant or an animal. Some are: Oak, Walnut Tree, Arboretum on the one hand; Beehive, Lion, Swan on the other, these are but instances.

*More Ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle*

It should not be forgotten that an eagle is mentioned in Craft ritual, albeit the 'Roman Eagle', when discussing the antiquity or a freemason's badge. This derivation comes from the emblem carried by the early kings of Rome--an ivory scepter surmounted by an eagle. This was later incorporated into the banner of the legions of the Roman Empire.

The Golden Fleece of classical mythology was the skin of a wondrous ram, guarded by a sleepless dragon. Jason and his

Argonauts went after this prize. The journey was long and perilous but the dauntless heroes persevered and, after a series of adventures, eventually reached their journey's end to win the ultimate prize of their age. This timeless legend, which can be read as an allegory of life, contrasts vividly with the relatively modern Order of the Golden Fleece which was created by Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy in 1429, at the time when he was ruling the Netherlands. In 1504 the Spanish Hapsburgs took over the country and the Order. In 1713, however it was newly instituted as an Austrian honour.

### *The Acacia*

There is a good deal of confusion over the shrub associated with the discovery of Hiram's grave but it is most probable that it would have been cassia and not acacia. The cassia plant (one species is *Cassia acutifolia*) was introduced into Europe in the early eighteenth century at the time when the ritual was developing. Samuel Prichard's *Masonry Dissected* (1730) and Anderson's 1738 *Constitutions* both mention cassia rather than acacia in relation to the grave. On the other hand the available French sources indicate that they had already settled for 'a thorny branch called acacia'. We cannot be precise as to when the change began but at the Union of 1813 it was settled that acacia should be the word for ritual use and, eventually, cassia was seen no more.

It is worth mentioning that *Acacia scyal* is the Shittah (plural Shittim) of Exodus 25:10, the wood from which the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle were constructed.

To some the Cassia is 'the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil' and 'the Tree of the Serpent'. The Egyptians revered the acacia and used it to make funeral wreaths. Legend connects it, with other plants, to the wood of the cross of Christ, his crown of thorns and the burning bush. There are many aspects to the symbolism of acacia and, with other plants, e.g., rosemary, box, myrtle and willow, it reflects a belief in resurrection. Phoenix Lodge of Honor and Prudence, in its unique ritual, refers to acacia as signifying innocence or freedom from sin. It appears to bloom and flourish in its place as if to say: 'O, Death, where is thy sting? O, Grave where is thy victory?' and it thereby symbolizes immortality.