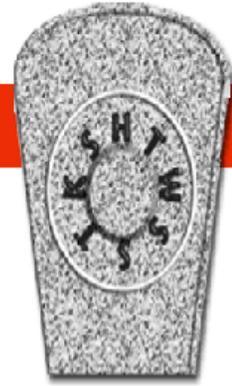
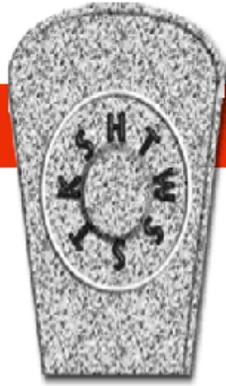


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International Royal Arch Masons



American York Rite

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May, 2012

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Thoughts and Other Items of Interest

Memorial Day - Monday, May 28th - Less We Forget



"It's the Veteran, not the preacher,
who has given us freedom of religion.

"It's the Veteran, not the reporter,
who has given us the freedom of the press.

"It's the Veteran, not the poet,
who has given us the freedom of speech.

"It's the Veteran, not the campus organizer,
who has given us freedom to assemble.

"It's the Veteran, not the lawyer,
who has given us the right to a fair trial.

"It's the Veteran, not the politicians,
that has given us the right to vote,
that ensures our right to Life, Liberty
and the Pursuit of Happiness.

"It's the Veteran who salutes the flag,
who serves beneath the flag,
and whose coffin is draped by the flag.

Eternal rest grant them O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them.



The Silent Summons

By Author Unknown



A member of a certain Lodge,
who previously attended
meeting regularly, had stopped
going. After a few months, the
Worshipful Master decided to
visit him. It was a chilly
evening, and the Worshipful
Master found his brother at

home alone, sitting before a blazing fire

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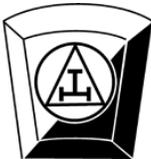
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Guessing the reason for the Worshipful Master's visit, the brother welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Worshipful Master made himself comfortable, but said nothing.

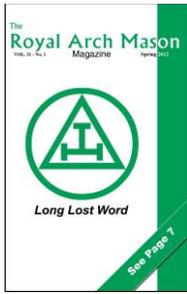
In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, the Worshipful Master took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth, all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

His host watched all of this in quiet contemplation. As the one, lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow, and its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead. Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Worshipful Master glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember, and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately, it began to glow one more, with all the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. As the Worshipful Master reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery summons, my brother. I'll be back in our Lodge next meeting."

Pilgrimage Day in St. Petersburg, FL



M.E. Robert Kirkpatrick, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Florida joins with M.W. Jim Harris, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida in celebration of the annual Pilgrimage Day at the Masonic Home in St. Petersburg, FL



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Autism Speaks



The photo of the little girl reaching her hand out and upwards is found on a European shopping bag and is a method of bringing attention to Autism Speaks. A novel method of reminding the public of a charitable organization working to discover the cause and treatment of Autism.



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