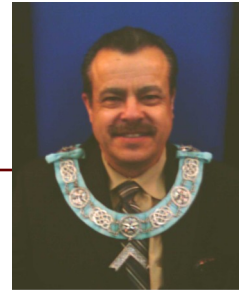




# From The Chair



## Good Raising

Brethren,

Another excellent evening of friendship and brotherly love has come and gone. I wish to extend my personal congratulations to brothers Keith Thomson and Raul Cobas for their excellent performance on being raised to the S.B. degree of a Master Mason, at our last regular meeting. Also, I'd like to express my gratitude and personal thanks to R.W.Bro. Earl Walsh and Bro. Tony Morassutti form King Hiram Lodge for their assistance with the Work on the night. My thanks, and those of the Lodge, also go to our guests, especially for the special visit from Runnymede Lodge to Kilwinning and for bringing Brother Antonio Ciancio from the Grand Orient of Italy. I hope we made a lasting impression on Brother Antonio, as was made on me when I visited the Grand Orient last year.

And finally to our very own Brothers

Rob Lund and R.W. Burns Anderson for taking on multiple parts. Thank You once again Brethren.

We look forward to our next emergent meeting, when we hope to pass Brother's Darrin Currell and James Alexander Low to the Fellowcraft Degree.

Sincerely And Fraternally,

W. Bro. Joe Lisi

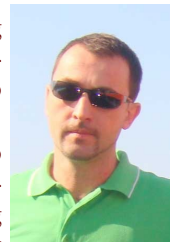
Worshipful Master



## Who is Nebojsa Stanojevic?

At our Emergent Meeting in March, Nebojsa Stanojevic was initiated into Masonry.

Born in Serbia, he came to Canada 11 years ago, finished college studying mechanical engineering back home, is a project manager in a company in Markham, travels a lot for work, mostly far east and USA . He enjoys scuba diving, biking, sky diving, gliding, and doesn't like injustice .



Welcome Brother—we hope you enjoy your Masonic journey.

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### Special points of interest:

- *What's been happening*
- *Esoteric Article*
- *Educational snippets*
- *Philosophic Article*
- *What's coming up?*
- *Recipe*

# The Relationship Between Freemasonry and Theosophy

by W. Bro. Rob Lund

The more I study our Craft ritual and try to understand the veiled meanings behind them, and the more I learn about the ancient mysteries, the more I see the connection between them. There is not enough space here to provide the details of this connection. For more information, see my lectures on the deeper meaning of the various degrees.

The ancient mysteries are preserved today in the teachings of Theosophy, and are propagated by the Theosophical Society. Freemasonry does not, however, teach Theosophy, but does incorporate signposts to these teachings in the rituals of the Craft Degrees.

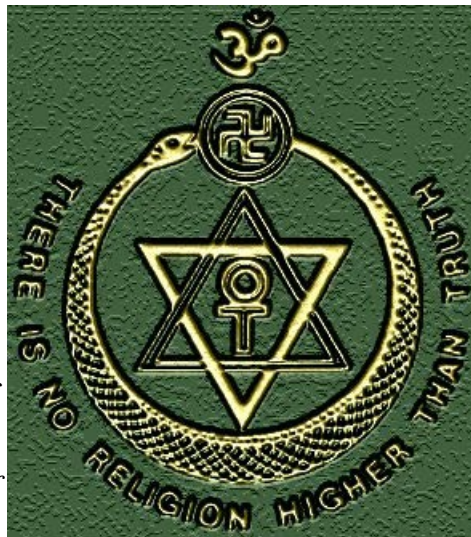
I will not go into details about Theosophy, as its subject matter requires much study and contemplation. I will, however, attempt to show how some of the Masonic principles relate to Theosophy.

One of the fundamental principles of Freemasonry is that of Brotherly Love, and “to view in every son of Adam, a brother of the dust”. The first Object of the Theosophical Society is: “To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste, or col-

our”.

As in Masonry, no member of the Theosophical Society is bound by creed or dogma – the only “authority” being their own reason and conscience. The Society imposes no fixed beliefs but points toward the source of unity beyond all differences.

As we Masons practice Relief and Universal Beneficence, and have the Masonic Foundation that focuses on charity, so the Theosophical Society has the Theosophical Order of Service, to carry out formal charitable works.



Another fundamental Masonic principle is Truth. The motto of the Theosophical Society is “*There is no religion higher than Truth*”.

Freemasonry encourages the study of the Liberal Arts and Sciences. The second Object of the Theosophical Society is “*To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science*”.

In the second degree, the Fellowcraft is told “*you are now permitted to extend your researches into the hidden mysteries of Nature and Science*”. There is more to this statement than most

Continued on page 3

## Did you know.....?

- Angelo Soliman, was born in Africa in 1721 and brought to Europe as a slave at the age of ten. He was educated, married, and became a favourite in the royal court in Vienna. Somewhere before 1771 he became a Freemason. When he died 1776, the Emperor had his body stuffed and mounted in the natural history museum, becoming not only the first black of African birth to become a mason, but the also the first mason to be stuffed, mounted, and displayed.

people think. The third Object of the Theosophical society is “*To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in the human being*”.

The important allegory of Hiram Abif and the Raising of a Master Mason promotes the idea of “*a vital and immortal principle*”. Theosophy “*puts death in its rightful place, as a recurring incident in an endless life*”. This philosophy has been suppressed in the “modern” Abramic religions.

There are symbols in Freemasonry which also occur in Theosophy. For example, the Ankh, which is broken down into a Tau cross (seen on a Master’s Apron) and a circle (which is discussed in the Master Mason De-

gree). The interlaced triangles, implicit in Masonic symbolism, is part of the emblem of the Theosophical society.

These connections, that I have discovered, have become clearer to me over time, and have prompted me to share this information with all Masons in the hope that it will encourage you to look deeper, and to go and find these ancient teachings. They have inspired in me the desire to study further the teachings of the Theosophical Society, to go where our Brethren of old are pointing me, to seek that Truth and Light that Freemasonry so powerfully tells of.



## Toward the Star Trek Society

By Rob Lund



Every day of our lives, we are made aware of the current sad state of humanity. We read the newspapers, listen to the radio, and watch television, and we hear about wars, riots, poverty, and starvation. We hear about theft, violence, and murder. I always wonder: why it is that we humans cannot live in peace and harmony; what it would take to be able to live like that; is there a better model for society?

I’m sure that most of you have seen an episode or two of one of the star Trek series on TV, or one of the movies. Those of you who have, will know that the general theme is the exploration of the universe – “*to boldly go where no one has gone before*”. The stories are about discovering new places, new beings and cultures, new phenomena, and are woven with the trials and tribulations of individual characters, leading to their triumphs and the triumphs of mankind.

What most people don’t notice is that there are occasionally references in the dialogue that hint at the state of human society, in general, in these stories. Star Trek, especially the later series, portrays a very positive vision of humankind in the 24th century. It provides a blueprint for society that seems to be based on a combination of the Liberal Humanist and the Utopian Socialist philosophies. These are not new philosophies: they have been written about since the early 19th century. I will briefly describe these philosophies.

Liberal Humanists are optimistic, and believe in freedom. To quote Captain Kirk: “*It’s the nature of humans to be free*” and “*Without freedom of choice, there is no creativity. Without creativity, there is no life*”.

*Continued on page 5*

### Links

- **Lodge Website:** [kilwinning565.com](http://kilwinning565.com)

This site has back issues of the newsletter

- **District Website:** [www.torontowestmasons.com](http://www.torontowestmasons.com)

Educational articles can also be found on the District web site

# Pan-seared East Coast Crab Cakes with Smoked Jalapeño Mayo

## Recipe by Bro. Phil Horrigan

### Crab Cakes

#### Ingredients:

- 1 pound lump crabmeat, picked free of shell
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 3 scallions including green tops, chopped
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- Pinch cayenne
- 1/2 cup diced celery
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh-ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons cooking oil

#### Method:

In a large bowl, combine the crabmeat, 1/4 cup mayonnaise, 1/4 cup of the bread crumbs, the scallions, parsley, cayenne, celery, salt, and pepper. Shape the crab mixture into eight patties. Coat the patties with the remaining 3/4 cup bread crumbs and pat off the excess.

In a large nonstick frying pan, heat the oil over moderate heat. Working in batches if necessary, fry the cakes until golden brown and crisp, about 2 minutes. Turn and fry until golden brown on the other side, about 2 minutes longer. Drain on paper towels. Serve with the smoked jalapeño mayo.

### Smoked Jalapeño Mayo

This may seem like a bit of work, but I promise with all my heart it will be well worth it!

This stuff is good on ANYTHING!

#### Ingredients:

- 6 jalapeño peppers
- 1 to 1.5 cup of heavy mayo if possible (if you use light mayo, the sauce will be too watery.)
- 1 lemon (Juiced and zested)
- Salt and pepper
- 1 cup soaked wood chips that has been completely drained (Hickory or Cherry)

#### Method:

\*\*\*\* WARNING\*\*\*\* wear rubber gloves for this, and wash your hands before you go pee.

Roasting the peppers before you smoke them helps more smoke flavor adhere to flesh of the jalapeño.

Pre heat an oven to 450 °. In a bowl, toss the peppers with a little vegetable oil and salt. Heat an oven proof pan on high. When the pan starts to smoke, drop in the peppers and roast them for 10 minutes per side. They should be very tender and slightly charred on both sides. Remove the peppers and let cool. Once cool, wearing a glove, remove the stem and seeds.

Return the pan to high heat on your stove top. Add drained wood chips to the pan and get the wood chip smoking. Once a lot of smoke is coming off the woods chips, place metal rack over the chips, and the peppers on the rack. Cover tightly with foil and remove from the heat.

After 1 hour remove the tin foil and put the peppers in a blender or food processor and purée. This is the kind of thing you mix as you go. Place the mayo in a bowl. Add jalapeño purée a little at a time. Once you have the right amount of purée, add the lemon juice, salt and pepper, and mix thoroughly. Reserve the remaining pepper purée in a sealed plastic container and keep it in your freezer.

## Upcoming Events

- May 3—Installation—King Hiram 566—Banquet after
- May 8—District charity golf tournament
- May 9—Installation—Flower City 689—6:30 Banquet
- May 10—Installation—Joseph A. Hearn 685—6:30 B
- May 13—Installation—University 496—6:30 Banquet
- May 14—Installation—Ionic 229—6:30 Banquet
- May 21—Installation—Peel468—Banquet after Lodge
- Jun 4—Installation—SouthGate 673—Banquet 6:30
- Jun 6—Installation—Unity 710—Banquet 6:30

Humanists believe in social progress that emphasizes the dignity and worth of the individual. In one episode of Star Trek: Next generation Captain Picard tells La-Forge that *“one of the most important things in a person’s life is to feel useful”*.

Humanists aspire to a single human nation, but don’t want a single state. They don’t want leaders or bosses, and don’t want to boss or represent anyone else. In ST:TNG, Picard states that *“no being is so important that he can usurp the rights of others”*. And yet Humanists don’t want a uniform world. They want different cultures, beliefs, and ideas. As Picard states *“It is the differences that have made us strong”*. The Vulcan philosophy in Star Trek is infinite diversity in infinite combinations.

The Utopian Socialist philosophy is not to be confused with other socialist philosophies. There is Revolutionary Socialism – also called Communism. There is Reform Socialism – also based on Marxism. Thirdly, there is Guild Socialism, which has evolved into the modern Labour Movement.

Utopian Socialism strives to ensure that everyone has a job, goods are owned in common, and wealth is shared, in a classless society. This would lead to the absence of money, since it would no longer be required. Captain Picard, in First contact, states that *“money doesn’t exist in the 24th century”*, and goes on to say that *“the accumulation of wealth is no longer a driving force. People work to better themselves and the rest of humanity”*. Actually, they did need currency for dealing with other cultures.

Another element of Utopianism is the improvement of the human condition. In one episode of ST:TNG, Counselor Troi tells of poverty being eliminated on Earth a long time previously, and a lot of other things disappearing with it, like hopelessness, despair, cruelty, and greed.



A key requirement for achieving this Utopian state is the free and liberal use of science and technology, cheap mass production, and labour-saving devices. A commonly shown device in ST is the food replicator. Commander Riker tells a new crew member that she didn’t need to clean her room,

because the ship cleans itself. There are many references to almost limitless energy for ordinary use, using Dilithium crystals, which is what powers the warp engines of the USS Enterprise.

Having painted this picture of a Utopian society, the question we now have to answer is “can we ever get there and, if so, then how?” I strongly believe that there is one obstacle that will impede humankind from getting there, just one: selfishness! That trait that drives us to do things for our own self-interest, and that drives us to accumulate possessions, wealth, and power.

If only the principles of Freemasonry, or the principles of Theosophy, could be adopted by all of humankind: the principle of a universal brotherhood of humanity without distinction of race, creed, gender, caste, or colour, we would be able to get there, but until we stop looking inward, and start doing things for the general good of others, we are doomed to our current chaotic struggle for existence.

