



An **entablature** refers to the superstructure of moldings and bands which lie horizontally above columns, resting on their capitals.



## Ask And It Shall Be Given You

On Saturday, November 9, 2013, the Maine Masonic College presented a class, *The Fellow Craft Lectures*, at Mount Olivet Lodge No. 203, in Washington. This class was not on our original schedule for the academic year 2013-2014 but the 7th Masonic District asked if they could host the class.

While the College has tried to hold classes in as many parts of the state as possible, there are still areas that we consider to be underserved. The only requirements that we placed on Mount Olivet Lodge were to provide a place to hold the class and provide for coffee and "fat pills" in the morning and a light noon meal. Attendees at the class paid \$5.00 each to offset the cost of the food. Fifteen Brethren enjoyed an interactive discussion of the lectures and we were pleased to hear several instances of "I didn't know that!"

The College would be pleased to consider other requests from lodges who would like to host one (or more) of our classes. The schedule is full until June of 2014, but we can add classes after that time or even shoehorn in a second class prior to that. (We normally schedule only one class each month.) If your lodge (or district) feels that they have not had an opportunity to participate in one of our sessions, please feel free to call Steve Nichols at 727-3368 or Walter Macdougall at 943-2331 and let us know about it.

## Maine Masonic College Course and Event Schedule 2014

January 11 **Masonic Psychology**, R.W. Eric Kuntz, Instructor. Bangor Masonic Center, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Lunch \$5.00. Open. Diploma credit. (New course)

February 15 **Understanding World Religions - What a well-informed Mason should know**, Freemasonry is not a religion, but we should know what impact the several religions of the world have on us. R.W. Charles Plummer, Instructor. United Lodge, Brunswick, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Lunch \$5.00. Open.

March 15 **Fourth Annual Celebration of the Arts and Sciences**. Well known singer, music historian and instrumentalist Suzanne Nance, will speak of the importance of music in our lives. Bangor Masonic Center, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Dinner \$5.00. Open.

April 5 **Ethics**, Sam McKeeman, Instructor, will repeat his interesting and stimulating class on ethics in our civil and Masonic lives. Lygonia Lodge, Ellsworth, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Lunch \$5.00. Open. Diploma credit.

April (TBA) **Seminar for Chaplains**, R.W. Mark Rustin and Wor. Douglas Drawn, Leaders and Instructors. Meridian Splendor Lodge, Newport. This offering was originally intended for lodge chaplains but is now open to all. It will focus on how we may better serve each other in love and faith. Open (New opportunity)

May 17 **Tenets and Cardinal Virtues**, R.W. Reginald Wing, Instructor, Deering Lodge, Portland, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Lunch \$5.00. Open. Diploma credit.

Notes: "Open" indicates: open to both masons and non-masons; "Diploma credit" indicates that this course is one of the basic courses required for those seeking a Maine Masonic College diploma.

Policy on registration for course and events: The College does not require that one register for its classes and events. However, to be assured of a place at lunch or to be notified of any changes in schedules, please do register. For information on registration, please contact Steve Nichols 207-727-3368, George Macdougall 207-634-3353, or the office of Grand Lodge 207-843-1086.

## #13 The Minutes of “Old Builders Lodge #1000”

**Brother George M.A. Macdougall**

*This is one article in a series on the people who created, discovered or redefined how modern architecture, engineering and science came about.*

Our next subject probably wasn't a mason, but may have been the model for the calling out 'Eureka, I have found it!' that is credited to Pythagoras in the ritual. It is said that Archimedes ran through the streets naked yelling this phrase when he discovered the principle named in his honor. It sounds farfetched doesn't it? Well, it may not be as farfetched as you might think because legend has it that he made this discovery while in the bath tub! He also got very distracted by his mathematical calculations and often would forget day to day things like eating and dressing while working out various math problems! It was even rumored that he asked for a few more minutes to finish his calculation before being slain by an invading soldier. He was born c. 287 BC in the seaport city of Syracuse, Sicily and lived for 75 years.

So what was it that got Archimedes so excited? He noticed that when he got into the bath tub, the water had to rise to make room for him. From this simple observation he realized that he could determine the volume of his body based on the amount of water that was displaced. This is known as Archimedes Principle. In other words, if you stick something into a tub of water that had a volume of one cubic foot, it would displace one cubic foot of water. Therefore if you had something you could not measure because it was odd shaped like a king's crown, you could dip it in water and measure the water it displaced instead. It is a pretty simple concept isn't it? In fact, you're probably paraphrasing a popular TV commercial and saying "That was so easy even a Caveman could have figured it out". But, just remember, as the famous fictional detective Sherlock Holms would tell his assistant Dr. Watson, "Everything is obvious once it has been pointed out to you!"

The story that is so much associated with Archimedes and this discovery is that he used it to determine that a King's crown was not made of solid gold as promised by the maker. The story goes that the King

ordered a crown be made for him. The crown maker was commissioned to make it out of solid gold. After it was made, the King got suspicious and tried to have his people determine if it really was gold. No one could do it so finally the King turned to Archimedes and asked him to do it. Archimedes used this principal to find the volume of the crown and then determined what the weight should be if indeed it was made of solid gold. However, it is said by historians that he didn't have the measuring instruments that were accurate enough to do this. But it has been determined that by using knowledge that would have existed then, his theories on buoyancy, common scales and equal weights of crown and gold, he could have made this determination. Needless to say, the King was not happy with the maker of the crown! And the

maker of the crown was probably not very happy with Archimedes!

This principle would lead to studies of buoyancy. Buoyancy is the capacity of an object to float based on the amount of water it displaces. The heavier the object, the more water it displaces. That is why a loaded ship sits in the water deeper than when it is empty.

You can try this out and see for yourself. The setup is simple but you may want to be in the sink or close to it! You will need a cup, a bowl, a spoon or ladle and a measuring cup. Put the cup in the bowl.

Fill the cup up to the very top so that it can't hold any more water. Make sure not to spill any water in the bowl though. Next find an object that doesn't float that will fit in the glass. Then drop the object completely into the water. Now the tricky part, lift the glass out of the bowl without spilling any more water. It might help to remove some water from the glass with a ladle or spoon. Now simply pour the water that is in the bowl into the measuring cup and measure it. Try something you know the volume of and then start experimenting!

(1 Cup of water = 8 Liquid Ounces and 1 Liquid Ounce = 1.8 cubic inches)

Next time, we will talk more about this brilliant mathematician and all the other discoveries he made in his lifetime including his (mythical?) feat of burning a whole fleet of invading warships using mirrors!



Archimedes