

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By **M.R. ♦ J. Robert Ashton**
Grand Chaplain

Time is a measure for our lives and the passage of time is continuous. We set our alarm clocks for a certain time. We plan and schedule things for certain times on given days. We were born on a given day at a certain time and we will leave this earth on a given day at a certain time. In between those two days, time marches on, never stopping and standing still.

Our Masonic Fraternity makes a number of references to time and the passage of time in its teachings. We are reminded that time is short, moving swiftly and that some day life on this earth will end and we will move on to eternity where there will be no more time.

Basically there are three ways in which people use the passage of time. Many people use it by living active, useful lives – doing good, serving God and mankind. In doing so they help to make this world a better place in which to live. Others do little or nothing of any value. Still others live selfish lives, many of whom do more harm than good.

Let me give you an example of two men who used the passage of time in two entirely different ways. One man was hurrying through a railroad station to catch a train when he collided with a crippled boy selling candy bars. He knocked the boy down scattering the candy bars on the

floor. Instead of helping the boy, he cursed him and told him that he had no business getting in his way when he was hurrying to catch a train. Probably the man was the one who caused the accident because he was the one who was running. He left the boy on the floor, crying and unable to get up on his feet.

Another man observed what happened. With a smile on his face he went over to the boy and said, "You seem to have a problem. I guess it just isn't your day today". Then he helped the boy to his feet, picked up the candy bars, putting them neatly in their proper places, brushed off the boy, made sure that he was not injured, gave him a one dollar bill (the equivalent of which is much greater today) and said, "Now I think you are back in business".

The boy looked up into the man's face and paid him a beautiful, moving compliment which must have pleased the man very much and probably was a great surprise to him.

How do you use the passage of time? You can do so much good by serving God and mankind in the manner that God wants you to serve. If you will do that, this world will be a better place because you are a part of it.

It has been said that life is not a cup to be drained - it is a measure to be filled. Also, it has been said that rather than counting your years, it would be better to make your years count. Time is so precious. Use it wisely!

So mote it be

Grand Master's Schedule

Gethsemane No. 28	October 8, 2004
Franklin No. 12	October 26, 2004
Granite-Corinthian No. 34	November 2, 2004
Delaware No. 37	November 9, 2004
Hiram No. 21	November 11, 2004
High Noon No. 38	November 13, 2004
Christiana No. 35	November 23, 2004
Washington No. 1	December 2, 2004
Union No. 7	December 7, 2004
Hiram No. 25	December 13, 2004
Oriental No. 27	December 14, 2004
Unity No. 32	December 20, 2004
Hope No. 4	December 21, 2004
Jefferson No. 15	January 5, 2005
Solomon No. 36	January 12, 2005
Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29	January 13, 2005
Doric No. 30	January 17, 2005
Armstrong No. 26	January 20, 2005
Temple No. 9	January 27, 2005
26 th Annual Brotherhood Night	March 18, 2005
37 th Semi-Annual Communication	March 26, 2005

FOR SALE

**Four burial spaces in Masonic Circle
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