

# TRUMAN LODGE 1727

*Monthly Newsletter*

WISDOM



Lodge Harry S Truman 1727



# Secretary's Desk

Thank you and welcome to the premiere issue of Truman Lodge 1727's monthly newsletter. Our goal is to spread light, share in masonic information and to provide entertainment for men that will fall in line with Masonic values.

Every lodge I have visited in the world has shared in the virtue of brotherly love, but none moreso than my mother lodge, Lodge Harry S. Truman #1727 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. We wish to share this spirit of camaraderie and fellowship.

Truman Lodge was dedicated on Dec 8th in 1979. It is located in Pyeong Taek, Korea.

Our lodge shares in many cultural advantages, due to our location in Korea. We have members from the local community, the US Military and many English speaking countries, as Korea hires many native English speaking teachers to work in its schools.

This blend of culture allows Truman Lodge the freedom to explore esoteric knowledge from many angles and points of view.

Although many of our members are here for only a short time, our lodge has the unique distinction of always having fresh ideas and motivated brothers to see these ideas come to fruition.

Thank you again for sharing this moment with us and please enjoy the material within.

Christopher J. A. Saint Germain  
IPM/SEC Truman Lodge #1727

To submit an article for consideration, please send it to:  
[trumanmagazine1727@gmail.com](mailto:trumanmagazine1727@gmail.com).

[www.trumanlodge1727.com](http://www.trumanlodge1727.com)



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From the Master's Chair

Harry S. Truman Lodge #1727, S.C.  
holding of

The Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland

2014 Master's Statement  
State of the Lodge Address

I was first introduced to the Truman Brethren in 2007 and attended the installation dinner as a guest that December. In 2008 I began my degree work. The Brethren would tell stories of how over the last seven years (or so, I like that number so I'm using it here) the lodge was made up of a particular body of members and had a particular character to it. Good, bad, or indifferent, it was as it was.

It was apparent after I attained the degree of a Master Mason that the lodge was undergoing changes and there was a bit of turmoil and dissatisfaction among the members. The lodge had not been able to establish a new identity. Men did what they felt they had to do in these situations; some moved to other lodges, some quit or took a break from the fraternity, others just naturally moved on to wherever their careers took them.

It wasn't very long however before a core of seven Brethren emerged, some new, some old, but Brethren who would work together to carry the lodge into the future. To use the term "core" is a misnomer in Freemasonry, all Master Masons

are “core”, but through course of fate these Brethren were able to maintain positions as office bearers, or during their absences continued to be contributing members of the lodge for the next seven years. Certainly these Brethren had a great degree of help from all the other Truman Brethren, but through longevity and consistent attendance, where other Brothers had to leave after a year or two, they established themselves as core members and made up the character of Truman Lodge.

So it can be stated once again that from 2008 to 2014 the Lodge was made up of a particular body of members and had a particular character to it. Good, bad, or indifferent, it was as it was. I would like to believe however, that during this period Truman Lodge had a very positive character. Some of Truman Lodge’s strong points have been:

- Commitment to maintaining peace and harmony within the lodge. Something each of us at times had to really exercise with effort. For the most part each Truman Brother has treated each other Brother well, and has demonstrated tolerance and forgiveness.
- The lodge has done well to remain apolitical, to avoid separating into factions, and refraining from taking sides on issues affecting District and the Grand Lodge.
- Generally accepting of anyone that met the basic requirements to join Freemasonry and displayed a genuine interest in the craft.
- Commitment to labor. It’s a big job to maintain our own private lodge building, take on special projects and events, as

well as managing the regular duties associated with Freemasonry, but many hands make light work. Lots of degree work!

- Attention to Scottish Freemasonry, and the qualities that make this a Scottish Constituted Lodge. Respectfully dismissing the influences of the UGLE and American lodges where it is necessary.

This isn't stated to imply that these qualities are exclusive to Truman Lodge. Certainly other lodges share these qualities and might possibly embody them in greater measure. It is interesting to note that four out of five of these relate to the principal tenets of Freemasonry and the last point is significant to our heritage and our rightful place in history.

Now here we find ourselves on the cusp of a new era for Truman Lodge. This is something that I merely sense, but I believe that 2015 will be the year where there is a "changing of the guard" so to speak. A new body of Brethren will emerge, some new, some old, but Brethren who would work together to carry the lodge into the future. These Brethren will embody a particular character, which I anticipate will be somewhat different than the character the lodge has embodied before.

This letter is written for them. When the dust settled seven years ago one thing became clear; the lodge was ours, exclusively. There was no one competing for control of it, everyone who was dissatisfied with the lodge had departed. It was ours to take in the direction we desired, however of course in accordance with the bye-laws established by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. We went straight to work and we never looked back. Very soon,

Truman Lodge will be all yours. There may be those who will try and pull strings from afar, but in true Scottish fashion, the lodge belongs to the Brethren present in attendance and the Office Bearers in the chairs. Allow me to revert back to bullet format to express my points:

- Take ownership of the Lodge. This may be difficult for today's EAs and FCs to embrace, but the Lodge belongs to the Brethren present. Take care of it and take pride in it.
- There is no "old regime"; there is no "glass ceiling". The Brethren presently attending the lodge will be expected to take the chairs in the very near future. There will be competition, and you will have to demonstrate your proficiency with the ritual and willingness and dedication to serve, you may even have to market yourself a bit and make the Past Masters aware of your interest in a particular office, but there is nothing holding you back other than your own commitment. Remember that two of the six Past Masters have been Master Masons for four years or less when they were appointed to sit in the East, neither of which were by any means experts in the Craft.
- We do not recruit new members, but we need to be responsive to everyone interested in Freemasonry. Respond to every email, visit, and other inquiry timely and earnestly. Ensure to maintain resources (banners, web pages, etc.) through which the Lodge can be contacted by interested persons.
- Do not be exclusionary, remain generally accepting of anyone that meets the basic requirements to join Freemasonry and displays a genuine interest in the craft. My personal desire is to

be part of a Lodge that is widely diverse in culture. That said, growth for growths sake alone is not beneficial to the future of Freemasonry and can be detrimental to the Lodge. We need to exercise wisdom and ensure only well qualified men are accepted into the body of the craft.

- Maintain a program of Masonic Education within the lodge. It should go without saying however that the vast majority of education is up to the individual. Read something, learn something, and then share it in open lodge with your Brothers.
- Balance the modern with the Antient. Apply technology toward preserving our customs and history. Although antient, we should remember that Freemasonry is a progressive science, adaptable to emerging technologies and timelessly applicable.
- Much of the affairs within the lodge are conducted solemnly, reverently, and in a dignified and courtly manner. Outside of this, make sure too keep it fun. Everything having to do with the lodge should be a joy, a labor of love. Do not be overly rigorous; do not be unpleasantly critical of your fellow brethren. Outside the lodge room aim to be of good cheer and light heart. Time well spent with your Masonic Brothers rewards the soul!

These points are simply highlights I wish to express to the Brethren of Truman Lodge and not intended to be an all-encompassing education on everything they need to know and do. Much about the conduct of the lodge and lodge business is written elsewhere.

To describe what it's like to control the lodge from the East... you don't really control it all, only guide it as best you

can. You can't control it any more than you can control human nature, or control the minds of intelligent men. It's like being at the helm of a large sailing ship. You can change the course a bit with the rudder, with the help of the crew you can change direction over time, but the tide and the wind are the will of the Brethren of the lodge and ultimately you are at their mercy. It is the body of Brethren that set the course for the lodge, more so than it is the Master, and this is well and good.

I suppose you look to me in the East for leadership, the funny thing is that I'm looking back at each of you for the same. I hope that you are confident in my ability to guide the lodge; I'm confident in myself of course, perhaps over confident! The issue remains however that I and the other Past Masters won't be around forever. It is what it is.

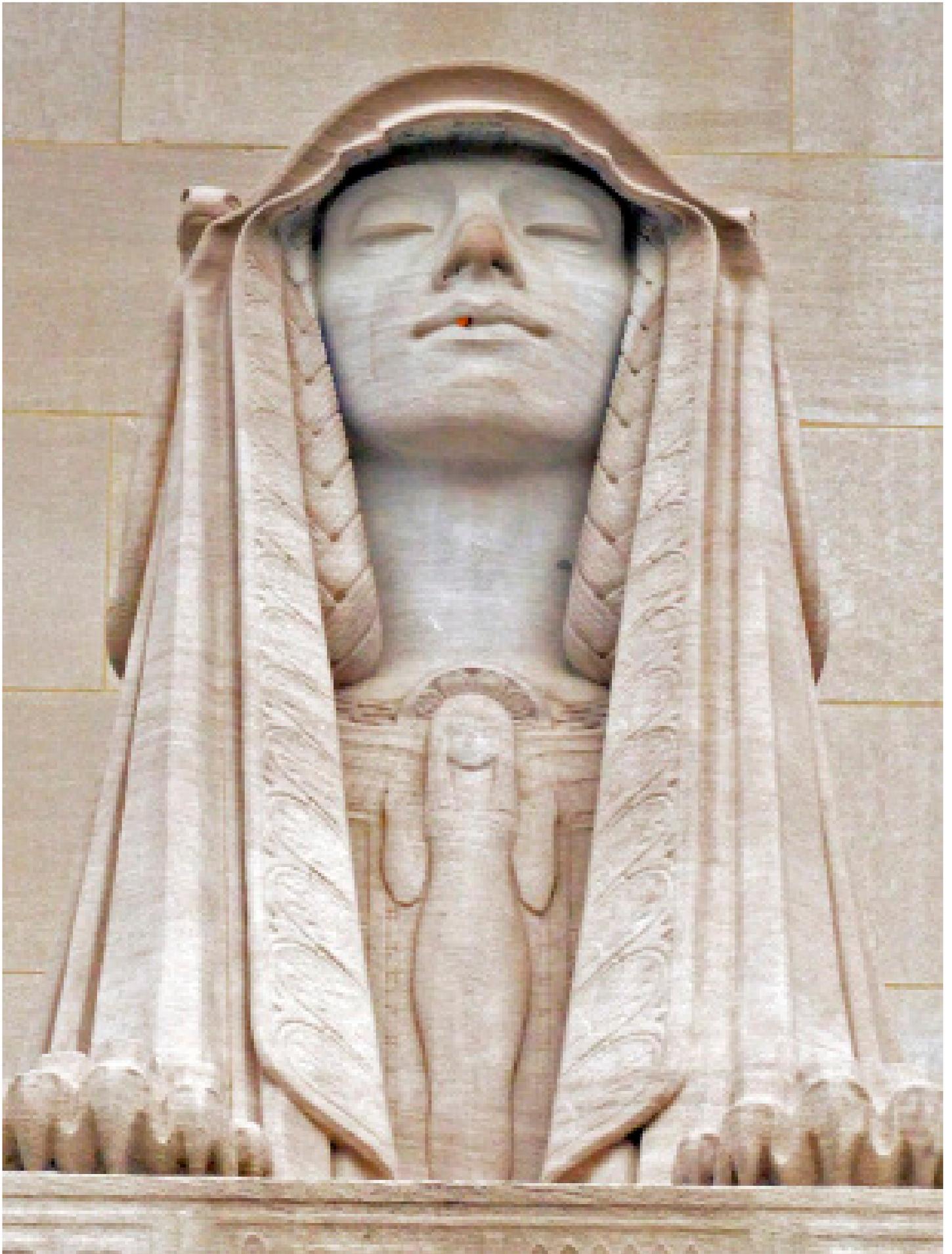
If you reached the end of this letter and your still wondering why it's titled the "State of the Lodge Address", it's because that's the term the IPM used when he was hounding me to get it finished. I found it funny, so I used it. No other reason. Enjoy the Craft Brethren! Even though I prompt you to consider the future, don't forget to enjoy the present, enjoy the journey, and enjoy the company of our fine Brethren, each of them, while they still labor amongst you!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

James Richard Salyers

RWM

Harry S. Truman #1727 SC





# In the Name of Charity

(Brethren, the following story was submitted to me last year by our current WJW, bro Bryan Stoakley. Seeing as how we are visiting the orphanage again this Saturday, I felt it was pertinent to this premiere issue of the newsletter. bro. Saint Germain.)

The close of 2013 was a prosperous year for many of us, if not all; however, there are always those individuals who struggle to make ends meet, and there are those perpetually in need of assistance. As Freemasons, Masonic Benevolence is arguably the traditional example of the Masonic Way. While there are a plethora of ways to demonstrate Masonic benevolence, philanthropy through financial/material relief is a base meter. To reflect this, the brothers at Harry S. Truman Lodge #1727 and Widows Sons Korea Grand Chapter worked in tandem to bring this benevolence to fruition on December 21st, 2013 at Song Yuk Won Orphanage in Songtan, South Korea.

We, Freemasons, strive to assist others whenever & wherever we can, and did so this time by supplying gifts to approximately 94 orphaned children of Osan City. Gifts ranged from toys donated by the U.S. Marines in Seoul via the Toys for Tots program, and retrieved and brought to HST Lodge by Bros. Jim Thorne and Ralph Nelson, to less childish gifts to the older orphans.

After the gifts were brought to HST, brothers met early before a Lodge business meeting transpired in order to wrap each of the gifts. It was realized that scissors were needed immediately, and luckily, no injuries were made during the unorthodox wrapping and taping of gifts. Luckily, the children paid no mind to the packing!

All that was left after packing wrapped gifts into Bro. Nelson's car was to deliver it all to the orphanage the next day.

Harry S. Truman Lodge has a Benevolent Fund. This fund is based on 10% of any monies accrued (gross) through both the Lounge Fund, Lodge Donations, or extraneous fund-raising. Last year there was an excess of \$500 that was not donated and was able to be utilized for this fiscal year. During the last business meeting of the year it was discussed and voted on to match last year's amount; thus, a total of \$1,000 was set aside to bring smiles to the orphans of Song Yuk Won.

Further to this, Widows Sons have an obligation to those in need, and while the primary focus of WS is to the relief of widows and children of our brothers, they are devoting their energies to orphans in Korea until the original need arises. Additionally, because a high percentage of WS brothers are also brothers in HST they are more readily available to fulfill this endeavor. As such, WS brothers from Hanyang and HST arrived at the orphanage to assist in dispersing the gifts - along with copious candy canes - to the children.

We arrived approximately 11:40am and were quickly approached by children. Some happily greeted us in Korean and/or English, and some craved attention. As we made our way in to the remodeled auditorium, we quickly organized gifts

into age brackets and children gleefully peeked in from two different entrances in an attempt to see what was to happen. About the same time as we finished prepping, getting directions from the director and her translator, a loudspeaker announcement told the children to come down. Within a minute the place was packed with curious and excited children from around the ages of 3 to 17.

Once settled, the director began calling the youngest children up one by one with one of us having a present to give to the child as they arrived. After a short thank you, they happily took each gift and walked back to their seats. As they sat down others would swarm them to see the gift in hand, and while some quickly opened the gift they received, others kept their gift wrapped as if they intended to build anticipation, and open it alone or among close brothers and/or sisters of the orphanage.

As the event progressed the children became more at ease and freely moved about to share what they had received. Amazingly, the older children, who were still waiting, took it upon themselves to assist the younger children in opening some gifts, or by explaining what they were and how to use them. It really felt as though they were a family.

Once all the Toys for Tots gifts were handed out by vested WS brothers, HST's RWM Saint Germain took front and center and passed on gifts to the older children while wishing them all the best.



While passing out gifts from beginning to end, the brothers and the ladies who accompanied them played with the young children. Much fun was had during these times, and as the mood became more festive and relaxed, the teenagers came up to us and we had some nice discussions about our and their lives. Hundreds of candy canes were brought and distributed throughout the event, but as we were closing, luckily some rushed in and asked for many more to “help us” lighten our load. In just about 1 hour the event had to come to a close as it was lunch time for the youth, so they needed to leave even if they did not want to go.

Those of us who visited took a group photo outside as we left with a sense of doing something worthy. Right after the orphanage visit, Widows Sons held their monthly meeting at a restaurant in Songtan. There they voted on to sponsor a spaghetti lunch for the orphans at the orphanage in January in order to further good will to a group such as these children. I would hope that HST brothers help out these children in any way, if they can. You just may be rewarded as well.



# Basic Color Theory pt1.

## By Bro. John Saunders

Operative masons of days gone by clearly understood and utilized elements of color theory in their designs and construction. From their designs we can see elements of harmony and discord utilized to set tone and convey meaning that may not be realized at first glance. From their structures they clearly considered elements of color theory to establish the mood and character intended to be imparted on the residents and guests.

Great deal of consideration was evidently given to the choice of construction materials not only for soundness of structure but also for their color and the effect they would have in reflecting or absorbing light. But as speculative masons, it may be asked why we should, in this day, consider color theory or its application?

Knowledge of colors is important in just about any person's life for several reasons. If for no other reason than to gain a greater appreciation for visual arts; an even basic grasp of the concepts and methods behind color theory will, for example, assist you with being able to compose business presentations that are more pleasing to view or impart additional meaning.

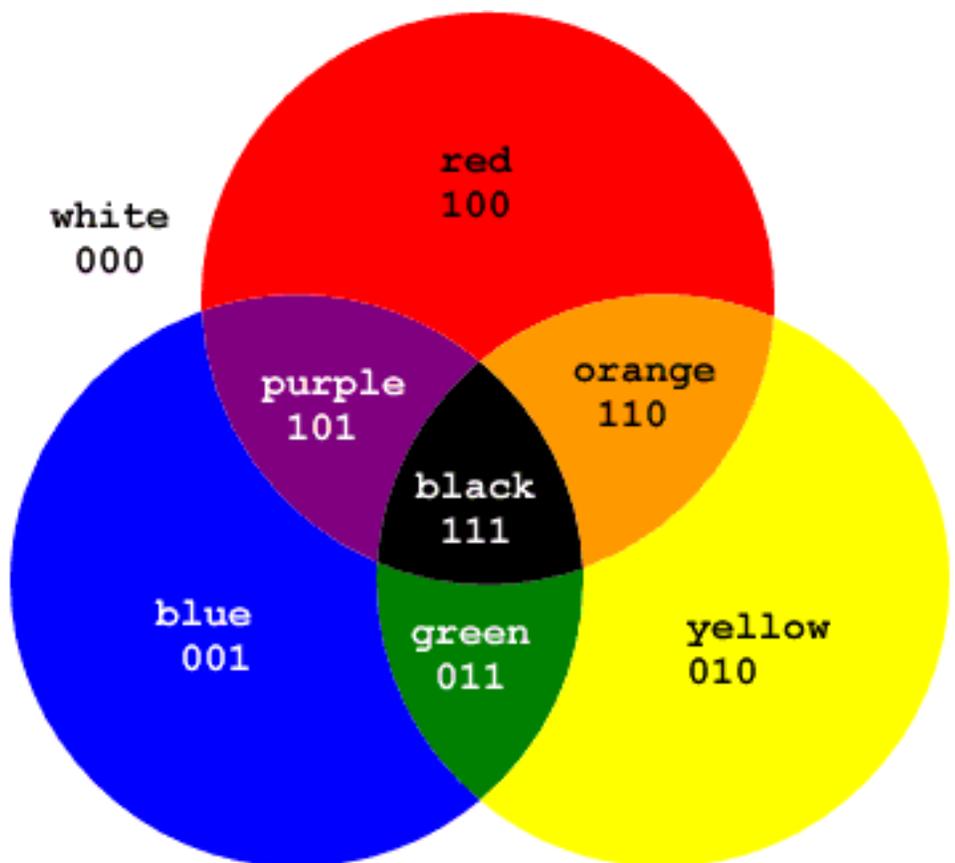
Or for educational purposes the effective use of colors can be used to reinforce the goal of a topic.

Using complimentary colors can reinforce an idea as being positive while non-complimentary, or clashing, colors may leave a negative impression of the subject. These simple ideas beg the question, how do you know what colors would fit as complimenting or otherwise? Like music, much of it is left to interpretation but a great deal of study has been put into the subject and we will explore some of the ideas that have come as a result.

In rough simple terms, color is simply how our eyes perceive light as it enters the eye. In the physical sense, as light strikes an object a portion of it is absorbed by the object while the portion of light that is reflected back to our eye comes back as the color we perceive. With the advent of computer and television displays the color is not reflected but comes to our eye directly. These two methods of creating color are termed "Subtractive" and "Additive" color systems.

Subtractive color may be familiar to you from elementary school. Many of us learned in our younger years that if we mixed colors such as yellow and blue we would end up with another color like green. This is termed subtractive color because, starting from white light, the paint is absorbing, or subtracting, portions of that light to get the desired color. The removal of all light yields black. This is in contrast to additive color.

In the case of additive color we are generally starting with a black background such as a monitor or LCD and the computer is adding colors in varying intensity to produce the intended color. As opposed to subtractive color, adding 100% of the available color will yield white. While both of these systems of color are opposite they share many common characteristics.



Both systems are based on the idea that the human eye perceives color in trichromacy, three basic or primary colors. For subtractive color these primary colors are accepted to be blue, red and yellow, or the “painters colors.” The additive system uses red, green and blue, or the often seen acronym RGB. Both systems while opposite in mechanic naturally overlap each other at many points.

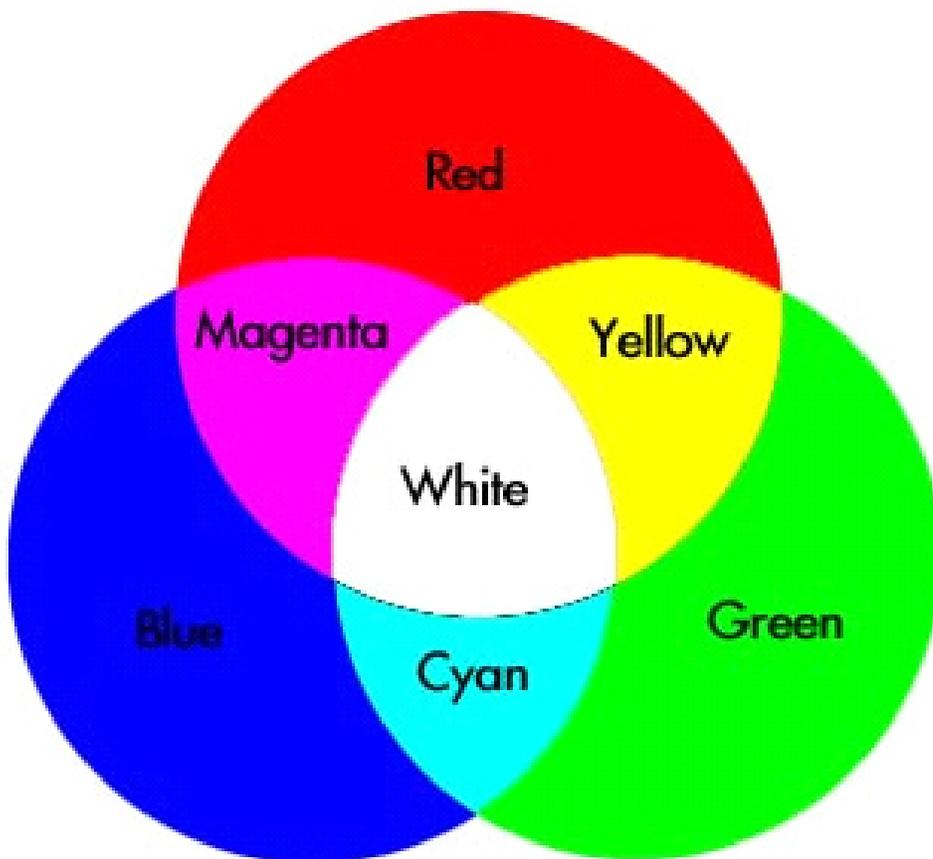
Shown here is a simple color wheel for subtractive color (on a white background) starting with pure red, blue and yellow. We can combine them in pairs to create the secondary colors purple, orange and green. All three mixed in equal parts yields black.

This, being the basic additive color wheel we can see how adding equal parts of these colors yields their secondaries as well. Again, adding the equal parts of each color in this system gives us pure white. A quick look at these two color wheels will show some of the first overlaps in color theory. In subtractive color yellow is a primary, while being a secondary in additive. Green is a primary in additive while being a secondary in subtractive. The reason for this is a matter of physics and beyond the scope of this series.

Anyone who has used software such as Adobe Photoshop may have seen both of these color systems as well as a third system with the acronym “CMYK.” This is a system based on subtractive color and is exclusively meant for printed media. It stands for Cyan, Magenta, yellow, and Key (black). The reason for this third system is for printing efficiency. Based on printing plates, the key (black tone) would be laid down first and then cyan, magenta, and yellow printed on top to yield the normal colors in all their variations. Note that while they are based on subtractive color these colors are secondary’s of the additive system. This is be-

cause of the key tone (black) that will be added.

So there you have the basics of color, much of this should be old news but a solid foundation is important before we delve into the actual theory of how to employ color to achieve our desired moods and intents. In my next article we’ll get into some of the common terminology used in color theory so we are all talking the same language. From there we will begin the fun part of actually seeing what makes different color choices affect mood and common perceptions.



# Minutes 4 Dec 2014

Opened 1900 in Due and Antient form in order to conduct a business meeting.

RWM Rich Salyers  
IPM Christopher Saint Germain  
WSW Michael Stone  
WJW Bryan Stoakley

Apologies: Roger Haynes, Joe Bisesi, John Surface, Ken Barrios, Jordan Wallace, Adam Karimisaleh, Scott Wiggenton, John Saunders, Robert Gibson, Willie Potter, Dave Hudson and all brethren serving overseas.

RWM reminds the lodge that there is a lodge tradition of a brother sending a donation for the lodge with the apology.

Almoners report: None

Correspondence: Bro. Mel White

Secretary's Report: Applications and inquiries outstanding

Minutes read and passed

Enquiry close for Craig Rouse, Atchori Memel Jean, and Lee Dongick

Mr. Atchori Memel Jean enquiry is favorable. Vote is: Favorable.

Mr. Lee Dongick enquiry is favorable. Vote is: Favorable.

Mr. Craig Rouse enquiry is favorable. Vote is: Favorable.

Next meeting will be 18 December 2014.

Treasurer's Report: Safe can not be opened. Treasurer's name needs to be added to the bank account. Enquire to the credit union what the Orphans fund is. Treasurer is concerned that brothers may be in arrears.

Lounge Report: Turkey Feast had 42 participants. \$1,500 for Lounge funds and \$246 and 647,000 won for Turkey Feast. 3rd Anniversary Robbie Burns dinner at Truman Lodge is slated for 24 Jan 2015.

Old Business: Sat 24 Jan 2015 3 pm is an affirmed date for Robbie Burns night. Check commissary for possibility of ordering Haggis. 13 Dec 2014 at Song Yuk Orphanage is Christmas donations. Brothers need to bring in one roll of wrapping paper at the next Harmony Night, Thursday 11 Dec 2014. WJW bro. Stoakley will BBQ for brethren who come out to Harmony to wrap gifts.

New Business: Bro. Smith needs help gathering firewood for Truman Bonfires on Sunday 7 Dec 2014 at noon. Bro. Stoakley will be improving security for the lounge. ADT is an option that we need to look into.

Fraternal Greetings: American Canadian Grand Lodge of Germany, Lodge Han Yang #1048, Pusan Lodge #1675.

Collection taken  
\$168.00 and 43,000 won

There being no further business, the Lodge was closed in Due and Antient form at 2120.

Christopher Saint Germain  
SEC/IPM

Rich Salyers  
RWM