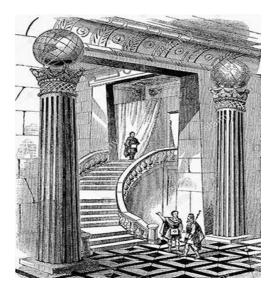
C is for Columns, that's good enough for me.

As we contemplate the next step on the staircase representing the sense of seeing and the Tuscan Order of Architecture, I wish to draw your attention to a deeper interpretation of what this step could represent. We have already been taught numerous times about this design being simpler than the Doric and of Roman design. But what does this column or pillar represent in the lodge?

We all know that Masonry has three pillars in the Lodge-Wisdom, Strength and Beauty which we will investigate as we continue to climb this staircase. But since there are five columns, what do the other two represent? Given that the Tuscan is the simplest of the 5 orders but massive in size, I propose that this represents the roll of the craft in any lodge.

The members who support the lodge and are always present or active but not necessarily an officer or a member of a committee. While they can be considered "unadorned" by extra roles and responsibilities, without them a lodge would not be successful. While they may not be one of the stationed pillars in the actual lodge, these simple columns are most assuredly pillars in their community and in keeping with this step on our journey need to be "seen" as the "sign" that Masonry is alive and well and doing good things.

I hope I have added another level to this column and look forward to sharing my views on what the others represent as we continue our climb. Next month's presentation will lead us on a grand adventure where hopefully we will achieve our goal of......Finding Doric.



'The Winding Staircase - A 15 step path to improving yourself in Masonry' By: Michael J. Caro, LEO, Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347