

The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 ☉ February 2016

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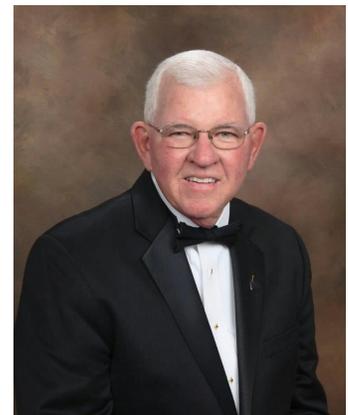
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From the East - *Worshipful Marion P. Rogers, Master*

Dear Brethren, Sweethearts, and Friends,

Today I had the honor, along with Worshipful Robert A. L. Whitfield, the funeral master, to deliver the masonic funeral service for a departed brother neither of us had met. He belonged to a lodge in another country. That made no difference; he was a brother whose family asked for our support which we were privileged to provide. Masons support each other.



Work on the lodge is complete and we are pleased with how the building looks with its new dining room windows. The new design also has a trench to keep excess water from entering the building. It will take time to recoup the \$60,000 we spent repairing the termite and wood-rot damage. During our first meeting of the year in early January, Senior Warden Harry Burt shared our plan to decorate some of the dining hall columns to recognize past and future monetary contributions to the lodge as a way to begin to recover these funds. (By the way, be sure to read the Sr. Warden's message this month and reflect on his words. Brother Burt has a good insight and is able to express them in a nice way.)

Planning for the annual Crab Feed fundraiser is coming along nicely. We are importing crab from the Washington Area this year. It will be fresh, cleaned, cooked and cracked. We are also preparing homemade clam chowder that we introduced last year. Finally, we are offering perfectly cooked steaks as in the past. Be sure to check out the silent auction items we will offer.

I am pleased to announce that Brother Cary Carlson has affiliated with our lodge. Bro. Carlson is Past Master of Berkeley Lodge No. 363 and Orinda Lodge No. 122. Worshipful Cary is a gentleman and a scholar and we are all happy that he has come over to “The Friendly Lodge”.

The Hall Association has purchased an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the lodge, which will be mounted on the wall in the dining hall just as soon as we have mastered all the California requirements. The AED is a needed addition to our lodge and could potentially save the life of a loved one. If you would like to contribute to the cost of the AED, please send a check to the Acalanes Masonic Hall Association, PO Box 1, Lafayette, CA 94549. We are planning to offer a training session on the AED and a CPR certification class in the near future.

Lastly, we are striving to strengthen our ties to other masonic organizations this year, especially our youth organizations. Be sure to check for opportunities on how you can be involved.

This is an exciting year thus far. We have a great leadership team that is bringing new ideas and lots of enthusiasm to the lodge. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to get involved.

From the West *-Harry G P Burt, Senior Warden*

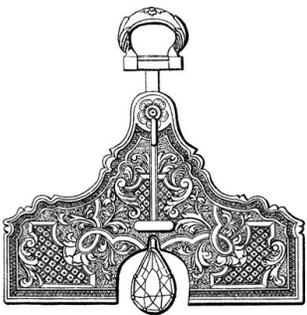
Much fun in Masonry comes from the questions you ask. What does Masonry mean? What is the relevance of Masonry in this day and age? Where did Masonry come from? How does becoming a better man manifest itself? What are the fundamental lessons of Masonry.

For myself, every time I investigate a Masonic question I find answers that make me ask “Why is Masonry shrinking when it has so much to offer?” Is it the pressure of modern society absorbing the time needed to think and contemplate? No time to take action on what is important because we are buried in trivia and deadlines?

If we are to grow as a lodge we have to attract good men. Masonry is not about making average men good, but making good men better. Use your own growth as a springboard for reaching those who could benefit from being Masons.

A number of growing lodges follow a policy called “first a friend and then a brother.” That means when someone takes an interest in Masonry, do more than invite them to a Stated Meeting Dinner. Get to know them. Tell them what Masonry means to you. When someone new attends our Stated Meeting Dinner, introduce yourself and pull them into your group. Invite them for coffee or a

drink. See if they are worthy to be taken by the hand as a brother. And when you and they are ready, ask the Worshipful Master for permission to give them an application.



From the Secretary's Desk *-Fred Lezak, Secretary*

In a previous message, I told you the lodge would be working toward member involvement and improved communication. Worshipful Master Marion Rogers has asked me to help in this effort by updating our contact information. I will be sending each of the members a short survey asking you to update your details. Even if everything is accurate, please return it to me.



We continue to collect 2016 dues. I thank all who have paid so promptly this year. There are still some brothers who have not paid dues and I urge you to send a payment today. If you have paid your dues and have not received a dues card, please email me at fred@ftlezakassoc.com or call me at (800)-419-0819 ext. 4.

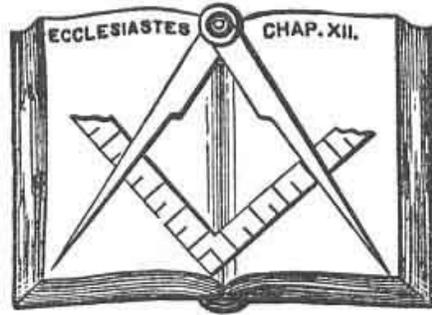
As always, I invite those brothers who have not attended stated meetings recently to join us on the first Tuesday of each month. Come for dinner and the meeting. We really have a great time allowing ourselves to be a brotherhood. If you need a ride, let me know. If you haven't been to meetings for a while and feel uncomfortable about coming, please don't feel that way. We really want you back and I guarantee you feel comfortable and enjoy your visit. See you at lodge

Treasurer's Note *-Mark Williams, Treasurer*

We are looking forward to the annual Secretary and Treasurer's Retreat to be held January 23-24 in San Ramon. Grand Lodge conducts this weekend event in both Northern and Southern California each year, providing the opportunity for lodge Secretaries and Treasurers from all over the state to meet, exchange ideas and participate in training and breakout sessions. Once again this year the Grand Lodge agenda will include a training session on Intacct, the accounting system that our lodge is now using to manage our finances.



Events like this foster connection with brothers from many other lodges and provide the opportunity to learn how other lodges address the issues that we all share in the furthering of Masonic values and principles. These retreats also provide a format for Grand Lodge to update and communicate programs, initiatives, and its vision for Masonry in California. By attending presentations and breakout sessions with other brothers and Grand Lodge staff, valuable connections are made that help form relationships that will be of great value in the improvement and growth of our lodge.



3rd Degree Anniversaries

Name	Raised	Years a MM
Thomas Frutiger	2/23/1960	56
Chandler Eason, Jr	2/16/1961	55
David Wheeler	2/24/1987	29
Gerald Walker	2/28/1989	27
Brian James	2/25/2003	13
Robert Newsted	2/3/2005	11
Michael Kenny	2/16/2010	6

February Birthdays

Please join us in wishing our brethren very happy birthdays this month.

George R. Peck	February 04
John R. Osborne	February 08
Edward E. Stack	February 09
Harvey A. Uhl	February 12
Daniel M. Argueta	February 14
Ralph W. Runckel	February 14
Eric T. Besag	February 17
Gary G. Charland	February 18
Thomas E. Ivey	February 18
James H. Chamberlain	February 20
Jack . Heinz	February 25
Robert J. Knebel	February 27
Kevin W. Moore	February 28

Hall Association Report *-Bob Smith, President, Hall Association*

The Hall Association would like to thank everyone who helped us this year. It was a rough year for our temple but we were successful with removal of termites, dry rot, and poor drainage. We would especially like to thank Worshipful Marion Rogers for all his work with the construction contractor.



The Hall Association meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30pm in our social hall and we would like to see visitors attend. We are always looking for members who would like to join the Hall Association.

In February we will devote time for our new AED. We will have an instructional meeting on its use and also CPR certification. We also need a good place to hang the AED where all can see it. We are also asking for donations to pay for the AED since we did have a large expense for the work done to the lodge. Remember the AED could save your life or the life of a friend.

MASTERS AND PAST MASTERS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED



Masters' and Past Masters' Association
Of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

103rd Annual Convocation
Saturday, February 6, 2016
3:00 PM

Grand Master Martin David Perry will attend

Scottish Rite Temple, Oakland, CA

Reservations are required

Contact mpmsecretary@att.net

Starlight News - Diablo Star Chapter OES

We have enjoyed our time with the members and wives of your lodge at recent stated meeting dinners. Look for us in the future - you are wonderful hosts!!

The Order of the Eastern Star is alive and well in Orinda! We meet @7:30 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month. You are welcome to join us for pre-meeting activities. Worshipful Vic Vickers of Orinda Lodge joined us in January for our Soup Potluck! Our next meeting is **February 8th**. Members of the lodge and their ladies are cordially invited to join us at 6:30 PM for refreshments/appetizers and ice breaker games prior to our meeting start.

March 14th is our All Member party and is open to guests. There is a dinner at 6:00 PM where we share news regarding all of the chapters in our district. The cost is \$5.00 per person.

Our 1st annual Battle of the Bay - A's vs. Giants - Baseball & Brats simulcast is scheduled for **April 2nd @ Acalanes Fellowship Lodge**. This is sure to be a fun event for the whole family! Bring friends....there will be food, drinks, the game and fun for non-baseball fans - all for a modest ticket price. Check this corner next month for more details.

Our Fashion Show and Luncheon is set for **April 10th @2:00 PM**. We hope that you and the women you love are able to join us! More details next month.

Want to know more about Eastern Star or thinking about joining our chapter? Contact Worthy Matron Pamela Lister: pamela.lister@yahoo.com, Worthy Patron Chris Hansford: hansfordclan@yahoo.com or our Chapter Secretary: oes214@gmail.com.



Introducing our NEW LODGE T-SHIRT



Designed to honor the 300th anniversary of the formation of the UGLE, these shirts feature our lodge name on the left sleeve. We will have a LIMITED SUPPLY at the Crab Feed, and then will happily take orders for additional shirts. Cost is only \$25.



CRAB FEED FUNDRAISER

Saturday, January 30

Lafayette Community Center

500 St. Mary's Road

Lafayette, CA 94549

Social/Silent Auction Begins at **5:30 pm**

Dinner Begins at **6:30 pm**

Don't miss our FANTASTIC silent auction prizes, including paintings, unique experiences, the wine tree, officers' cakes, and more.

Choose from Steak, Crab, or pick both! And enjoy freshly-made salad and Clam Chowder!

[Register Now](#)

or visit <http://j.mp/AFLCrabFeed2016>



SWEETHEART LUNCHEON

Saturday, February 13

Stanfords Walnut Creek

1300 South Main Street

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Luncheon begins at **12:00 pm**

Celebrate and honor our sweethearts at our annual Valentine's Day luncheon. We've reserved a semi-private space at this great Walnut Creek restaurant. You'll have soup or salad, your choice from 5 delicious entrees, plus dessert. There will be a cash bar available as well.

[Register Now](#)

or visit <http://j.mp/AFLSweetheartLunch>

The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 ☉ February 2016



Upcoming Events at Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

Jan 30, 5:30pm
Crab Feed
Reception at 5:30
Dinner at 6:30

Feb 1, 7:30pm
Stated Meeting
Refreshments at 5:30
Dinner at 6:30

Feb 13, 12:00pm
Sweetheart's Luncheon
Stanford's Restaurant
1300 South Main
Walnut Creek, CA 94596