

The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 ☉ December, 2017

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From the East - *Worshipful Harry G.P. Burt, Master* master@acalanesfellowship.com

*Isabella's penitence,
Thomas Wheatley's treasure trove,
Threads with which Kind Providence,
Robe of bounty for us wove*

These phrases, from my School song, resonate in my mind to illustrate how the history of our ancient institutions is the warp and weft of the cloth by which our modern institutions are clad. The warp is the timeline of history as it gathers the weft of the shuttle passing through the loom. Masonry is no stranger to this process.

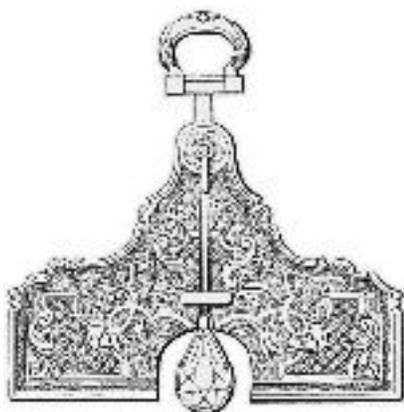
Our heritage is the accumulation of wisdom through the ages. Our sacred rituals are gathered from more ancient rituals as man has explored his relationship with his maker. Our principle tenets, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are the distillation of all that is essential to a Just Society, and so we are the custodians of a treasure we must pass on to future generations.

The Masonic founders of this Nation enshrined these principles in its Declaration of Independence and in its Constitution. Masons led the way to universal education, one of the mainstays of the Nation's greatness. So now we have an obligation to pay attention to the lessons that Masonry provides and, through Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice restore civility to our society and renewed strength to the Nation's and the World's Institutions.



As we move toward the end of the three hundredth anniversary of the first Grand Lodge, think of all the moving lines of Lodge Officers who have maintained and grown our Institution, reaching across Time and Space to us, our line of officers, all the Brethren of our Lodge and their Families. Ponder on the great responsibilities we have inherited in guiding the future. Kind Providence has indeed blessed us and we in turn we are privileged to use our blessings to the betterment of this world.

From the West *Michael Roberts, Senior Warden srwarden@acalanesfellowship.com*



Fraternal greetings from the West;

As we close out the 2017 Masonic Year and celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday, I can't help but to reflect and give thanks and count my blessings for what I have in my life. 2017 has truly been a year of blessings but also many challenges for me. I am so thankful to have such a strong family of Masons to lean on during my walk through this life. When health challenges came up in my family, my Fraternal family was there for me. When a career change became necessary, my Fraternal family was there for me. The life lessons we teach in our craft of Trusting in God, Brotherly Love,

Relief and Truth really stood out for me this year. The time I spend with my brothers is really important to me and I thank my family for their ongoing support in enabling me to continue being an active member and officer of this lodge.

As 2018 approaches, I am honored that the Brethren have elected me to serve once again as Master of Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480. My theme for the ensuing 2018 Masonic Year is "Why we Gather". The purpose of this theme is to explain how is it possible that men from all different walks of life, political differences and religions can come together in unison to take a good man and make him better! The focus of Freemasonry is not to improve the external qualities of the man such as his appearance and financial well-being. Our focus rather is on improving and rebuilding his internal qualities such as his mind, heart and soul. This is why we gather!

To accomplish this in 2018 Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 will continue its good work with conducting community service projects, social events, chamber events, masonic education during monthly stated meetings, meaningful degrees, fundraisers and connecting and supporting our local youth programs and concordant bodies. Together we can and will make a difference in the lives of our members and people we come in contact with both locally and abroad. I encourage any brother to feel free to pick up the phone or email me with thoughts and suggestions on how they would like to personally engage with our lodge. I still have the Junior Steward and Senior Steward stations

available and our committee chairmen are always looking for additional committee members. Remember, many hands make light work.

In closing, I would like to remind you all that at our [December 5th Stated Meeting](#) the Contra Costa County Toys for Tots program will have a Marine present at our social/dinner hour collecting toys and financial donations for children in Contra Costa County. Please bring an unwrapped toy for an infant, toddler, minor or teenager for this very important cause. I look forward to seeing you all soon. Happy holidays and a happy new year to you all!

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

secretary@acalanesfellowship.com

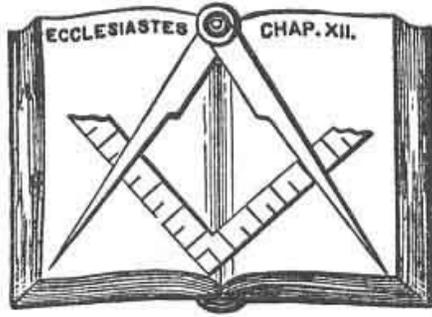
November is the start of our annual dues collection cycle. Letters as invoices have already been mailed to those brothers who are not Life Members. When your dues payment is received, dues cards will be mailed. Life Member cards will be mailed in the second week of December. If you do not receive a letter by December 15th, please give me a call at the lodge. It probably means we have an issue with proper contact information.

Installation of Officers is always a good time to bring brothers back to the lodge that have not been here for a while. Another great time to bring back brothers is the annual crab feed. In fact, any time is a good time to bring back brothers whom we have not seen recently.

We are continuing in our effort to bring our older members back to the lodge. Many of them cannot drive at night and need help in getting to lodge. If you have an interest in helping in this effort, please give me a call at (925) 360-4328. We are also trying to bring back our not-so-old brothers who have not attended lodge for a while. If you know of such a brother, please make an effort to bring him to a stated meeting dinner. You know he will be pleasantly surprised. Please remember that many of these brothers have not been with us for a while. They may feel uncomfortable with all of the new brothers that they have not met before. It is up to us, as the friendly lodge, to make them feel well received.

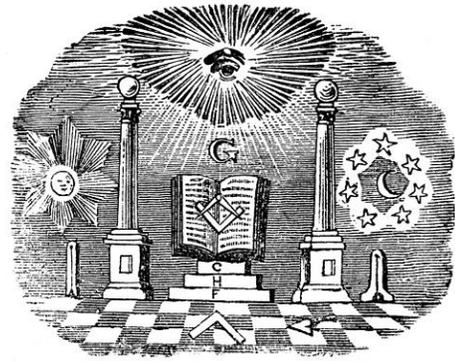
As always, you are invited to attend our [stated meeting dinner and meeting](#) on the first Tuesday of any month. The feeling of brotherly love and good fun continues to abound. Our ritual work is solid and getting better. This is the time for you to return to lodge if you haven't been for a while. Don't feel embarrassed or shy. We want you back and I can guarantee you will be welcomed. You will thank yourself for attending. If you need a ride, please call me at (925) 360-4328.





3rd Degree Anniversaries

Name	Raised	Years a MM
Robert D. Haile	12/2/1952	65
Roland J. Turk	12/9/1971	46
Jeffrey D. Boschert	12/9/2008	9



Birthdays

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

Roy Couch	December 1
Roland J. Turk	December 1
William C. Armstrong, PM	December 5
Spencer M. Sealander	December 6
Jonathan P. Groetsch	December 7
William J. Smith Jr.	December 11
Steven F. Klamm	December 15
Timothy J. Riley	December 21
William L. Whitten	December 22
James V. Davey	December 25
C. T. Watson	December 25
Charlie M. Wooten	December 27
Lew Jenkins	December 27
Kishore V. Nath	December 27
Jay B. Williams, PM	December 29
James A. Borup	December 29

December Stated Meeting *December 5, 5:30pm*

At this month's stated meeting, members of the US Marine Corps will be present to collect NEW, UNWRAPPED toys for distribution to needy children.

Menu: Spiral Sliced Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Garden Salad, Roll & Butter, Pumpkin Cupcake

[Click and Register](#)

*You Are Cordially Invited to
Our Annual Installation of Officers*

Saturday, December 9, 2017

5:30pm

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge, #480

Cocktails and Dinner Immediately Following

[Click and Register](#)

Celebrate the Holidays with Our Sweethearts!

Saturday, December 16, 2017

11:30am

Join us for holiday songs, cheer and fun!

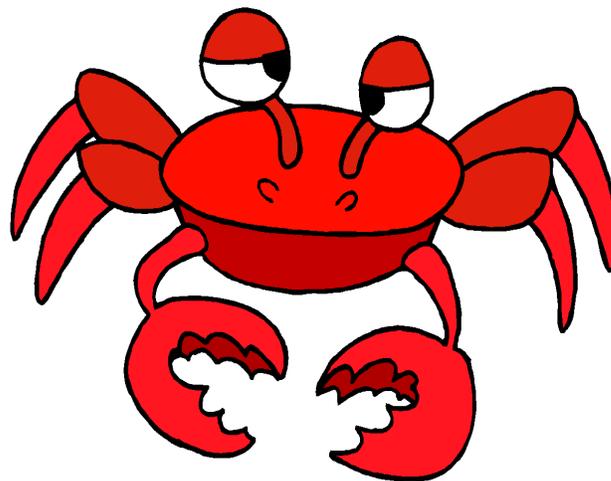
[Click and Register](#)

Acalanes Fellowship 2018 Crab Feed

Saturday, January 27, 2018

Social / Silent Auction: 5:30 PM

Dinner: 6:30 PM



Lafayette Community Center
500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette

Don't miss our FANTASTIC silent auction prizes, including notable local art, masonic and other events, wine flights, officers' cakes, and more!

NOTE: THERE IS NO FEE FOR PURCHASING WITH CREDIT CARD

Meal includes all-you-can-eat Dungeness Crab, Salad, Garlic Bread and Dessert.
[Add a New York Strip steak for just \\$10!](#)

ADULTS: \$50

CHILDREN (16 & under): \$25

TABLE FOR 8: \$400

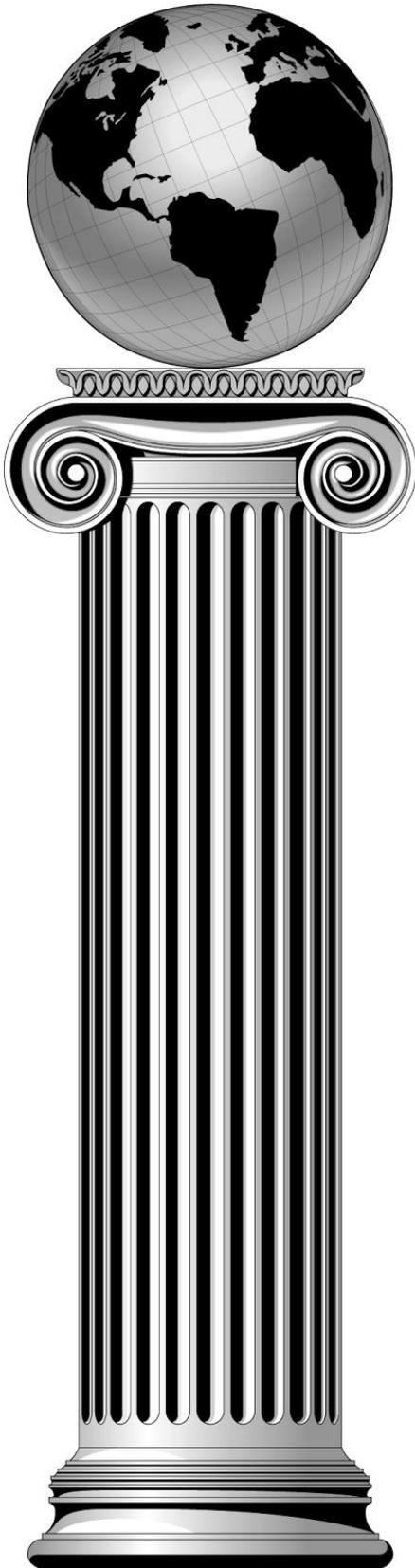
(Includes 1 free steak and a bottle of wine)

ADVANCE PURCHASE REQUIRED, SO ORDER YOUR SEATS TODAY!

When you order you'll be given the option of Steak only - or adding a steak to your order.

ORDER BY JANUARY 15! TICKETS ARE LIMITED!

[Click and Register](#)



Contact Us...

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The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 ☉ December, 2017

AcalanesFellowshipLodge.com

Editor: Adam Hanin trestleboard@acalanesfellowship.com



Upcoming Events at Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

December 5
Stated Meeting
Reception at 5:30 pm
Dinner at 6:30 pm
Meeting at 7:30 pm

December 9
Officer's Installation
Installation at 5:30 pm
Cocktails and Dinner
immediately following

December 16
Sweetheart's Luncheon
Reception at 11:30am
Lunch at noon

January 2
Stated Meeting
Reception at 5:30 pm
Dinner at 6:30 pm
Meeting at 7:30 pm

[Click and Register](#)

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