

# The Trestleboard

- ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM -

JANUARY 2019

## 2019: LEGACY & SERVICE

*A message from Worshipful Robert S. Strohmeyer*

Fraternal greetings from the East, my brethren.

I am grateful and humbled by the call to serve as Master of Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 as we enter into our 99th year of Brotherhood under our charter. Looking ahead to the coming year and what I hope will be many centuries beyond, I see a vast expanse of opportunity before us, and I'm emboldened by the possibilities our future may bring.

Freemasonry in general, and Acalanes Fellowship in particular, is built upon a legacy of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and we are taught in our Masonic travels that the greatest of these is Charity. These are more than mere words, and in 2019, we will focus together on ensuring that these profound principles are solidified in our lodge to secure our legacy for future generations.

With that in mind, I am pleased to declare our theme for 2019:

### **Legacy & Service.**

The legacy of Acalanes Fellowship is multifaceted and runs deep through the course of our long history. We are known as The Friendly Lodge, and while we might all feel that friendliness is not an anachronistic characteristic among Masons, I have come to feel through my own travels that the culture of our lodge earns its moniker, and not a single one of us should ever have to put a dollar in the box for saying so (though we all ought to pitch our money in for more noble reasons).

*(continued on page 2)*



*Worshipful Bob Strohmeyer  
Master*

## IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES

### ***Jan 8: Stated Meeting***

Due to the New Year's holiday, our January Stated Meeting has been moved back a week. Refreshments will be served at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm. Meeting begins at 7:30 pm. RSVP for dinner now!

### ***Jan 26: Crab Feed***

Bring your friends and family and enjoy one of the highlight events of the year at our annual Crab Feed Fundraiser. Dinners from \$50 for adults, \$25 for kids. RSVP online today at [2019crab.eventbrite.com!](http://2019crab.eventbrite.com!)

### ***Jan 29: First Degree***

All Regular Masons are warmly invited to join the brethren of Acalanes Fellowship as we initiate a new candidate into the Fraternity. Doors close at 6:30pm. Please RSVP if you're planning to attend.

## 2019: Legacy & Service

(continued from page 1)

Friendly as we are, there is more to our legacy. Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480, and the constituent lodges that have consolidated into our fold over the decades, has a substantial and honorable heritage of initiating, passing, and raising Masons for nearly a century, and those brothers have gone out into the world to perform great works in our society. We have strived for—and generally achieved—the goal of making these good men better. From among our ranks, men have risen to positions of prominence in our communities, to positions of political power, and even a couple of Grand Masters of Masons have called Acalanes Fellowship their home lodge.

Preserving this legacy of Acalanes Fellowship requires honor for our past, an eye to the future, and a diligent care for the concerns of the present. It also requires money. Our aging Masonic Hall has many issues, and will require substantial repairs and improvements over the coming years. Before long, we will need a new roof, as the current one already leaks, new pavement for the parking lot, new kitchen appliances, and electrical improvements. We have a committee assigned to the ongoing task of evaluating options for the renovation or relocation of our Hall. There are no options that do not require substantially more financial resources than we currently have at our disposal.

And then there is the greatest of our virtues: Charity. For all the charitable giving and service work our brethren do, both together and separately, Acalanes Fellowship can do a great deal more to make a meaningful, lasting, and visible impact on our community. All it takes is a bit more focus on high-impact programs and the will of the brethren to give of their time and treasure according to their ability. This year, I resolve to direct that focus appropriately, that Acalanes Fellowship might elevate its mission in our community and better fulfill its Masonic charitable aims.

In the service of these goals, we will hold four seasonal fundraising events in 2019: In addition to our annual Crab Feed, we will host social events in the Spring, Summer, and Fall. At these events, we will have programs to promote and secure our legacy and raise funds and volunteerism in service to our community.

I look forward to working with all our brethren in the coming months to realize this vision. The results will be rewarding to our community, our pride in our lodge, and future generations of Masons.

—Robert S. "Bob" Strohmeyer  
master@acalanesfellowship.com



**REMINDER:**  
**JANUARY STATED MEETING**  
**WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 7:30PM**  
**DINNER BEGINS AT 6:30PM - PLEASE RSVP BY JANUARY 6**

# FROM GRAND LODGE

*A Proclamation from Most Worshipful Stuart A. Wright*



GRAND LODGE  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA MASONIC MEMORIAL TEMPLE  
1111 CALIFORNIA STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108  
(415) 776-7000 | FAX (415) 776-0483

GRAND MASTER  
STUART A. WRIGHT

**Grand Master's Proclamation:**

WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS YEAR

***Freemasonry: The Difference Is You***

**Whereas**, the Masonic tenets of brotherly love and relief inspire us to continuously make a difference in our lodges, in our communities, and across the world; and

**Whereas**, for more than 300 years, our brothers have committed themselves to bettering the world around them; and

**Whereas**, we continue to give back to our families, our communities, and our society, therefore our ongoing mission to become better, wiser, more honorable men; and

**Whereas**, when Masons work side by side with our brothers, there is no end to the good work that can be achieved together; now,

**Therefore, as grand master, I call upon all California Masons to pledge to make a difference in our communities and fraternity this year.** Reach out to elder brothers and widows who are in need of support. Give to our fraternal charities. Seek opportunities to improve the lives of those around you. Act in a manner that allows others to be inspired by the values and actions of our beloved brotherhood.

Let us be a force of positive change in the world. Let us remember that each of us can, and should, make a difference.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Stuart A. Wright  
Grand Master

Attest:

Allan L. Casalou  
Grand Secretary

# FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

*Greetings from Worshipful C. Randall Tolerton, PM, Secretary*

Another Masonic year comes to a close, and a new door opens. It was a year filled with many incredible accomplishments and advances for our lodge under the tutelage of our twice-serving veteran WM Michael Roberts. The New Year looks very promising with a phenomenal group of young and energetic officers. It is my honor and pleasure to have been elected "to observe the will and pleasure" of our new Worshipful Master, Robert Strohmeyer. It is particularly special for me since both "Bob" and I were initiated, passed, and raised together in 2004. Worshipful Bob brings a high degree of professional experience, personal style, and a unique approach to leadership that will have a huge impact on the growth and advancement of our lodge.



*Worshipful Randy Tolerton, PM Secretary*

As I transition into the new role as Secretary, it would be dismissive of me not to recognize the commitment, dedication, and success Brother Fred Lezak has displayed as our Secretary for the past five years. Brother Fred Lezak's impact as Secretary will be felt for years to come. His easy-going, friendly, and very professional style are lessons that will not be lost on this "new" Secretary.

Lastly, dues are the principle source of income to fund our daily operations, so keep those payments flowing. Thank you again, and have Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



## January Birthdays

- Serge A. Chemla - January 4
- Gary D. Sparks, PM - January 5
- Henry L. Hoffman - January 6
- David E. Prichard - January 10
- Howard L. Strause - January 12
- Kevin S. Moore - January 19
- Thomas P. Hogan - January 26
- David L. Kreutzinger - January 30

## Third Degree Anniversaries

- Val Rodrigues - January 17, 1984 (34 years)
- Timothy L. Wilbur - January 17, 2004 (14 years)
- Edward A. Stack, Jr. - January 26, 2011 (7 years)
- Otis Simonsen, PM - January 29, 1963 (55 years)
- Scott E. Carter - January 30, 1971 (47 years)



# THE WONDER OF MASONRY

*Contemplations from Worshipful Harry G.P. Burt, PM*

It has always been a mystery to me how Freemasonry has lasted so long and survived attacks from the powerful who feel Masonry represents a threat to their power. It carries within it all the attributes that make better men and encourages them create a just world by their example and endeavors. But in creating that just world Freemasonry necessarily becomes the target of despots.

Certainly it was an astute move that led to the formation of the first Grand Lodge, first to show loyalty to the then ruling family in Britain at a time of revolution, and then to bring royalty into its folds who then momentarily set aside the scepter for the trowel to meet “on the level” with the Brethren.



*This whimsical sign marked the location of the historic Goose & Gridiron Tavern in London, where the United Grand Lodge of England first convened.*

The very hierarchy of the lodge is in itself counter-intuitive, where the Lord of the Manor may well be subordinate to the Worshipful Master. And yet that is what we all sign up to, teaching both the highest in the land and the Worshipful Master the essence of, and need for, humility and service. And this humility and service is the fundamental basis for *noblesse oblige*—a characteristic becoming all too rare among leaders in our modern world but strongly embedded in Masonry through the great tenets of Truth, Relief, and Brotherly Love.

The chains of line officers in every regular lodge and jurisdiction link back through time via charters and elections to that first Grand Lodge from which all Grand Lodges and their subordinate lodges directly or indirectly were created. I speculate it is perhaps a combination of self-governance, hierarchy, humility, and sound teaching that has proven to be powerful enough to maintain Freemasonry through both good and bad times, keeping the flame and prospect of a just world alive against all odds.



*Worshipful Harry G.P. Burt, PM  
Chair, Masonic Education Committee*

## CALL FOR PAPERS

**In the interest of furthering Masonic education in our lodge, all brethren are invited to submit original scholarly papers for possible presentation in tiled lodge. Please email submissions of original work only to [masoniced@acalanesfellowship.com](mailto:masoniced@acalanesfellowship.com).**

# MUSICAL MEDITATION

## *Harmonious reflections from our Organist, John P. Minagro*

*Throughout my life I have felt inspiration from the words of various scriptures, but I've also been profoundly moved by the words and music of all kinds of songs, even Broadway or popular songs.*

*Included below is a link where you can go online to listen to the piece and enjoy the marriage of word and music, which always deepens its spiritual message. I would also encourage you to read, or better yet read AND listen to each song at least 3 times—in one sitting, or over the course of the month—allowing the words, music, and their message of inspiration and joy to find place into your mind and being.*

The musical “Pickwick,” based on the book “The Pickwick Papers” by Charles Dickens, opened in London in 1963, and on Broadway in New York in 1965, and while not a successful show, it gave us some beautiful music, the best of which is the well known If I Ruled The World. The song is sung by Samuel Pickwick when he is mistaken for an election candidate and called on by the crowd to give his manifesto. Composer and Lyricist Ornadel and Bricusse received the 1963 Ivor Novello award for Best Song Musically and Lyrically.

### IF I RULED THE WORLD

Music: Cyril Ornadel ~ Lyrics: Leslie Bricusse/

If I ruled the world, ev'ry day would be the first day of spring  
Every heart would have a new song to sing  
And we'd sing of the joy every morning would bring

If I ruled the world, ev'ry man would be as free as a bird,  
Ev'ry voice would be a voice to be heard  
Take my word we would treasure each day that occurred

My world would be a beautiful place  
Where we would weave such wonderful dreams  
My world would wear a smile on its face  
Like the man in the moon has when the moon beams  
If I ruled the world every man would say the world was his friend  
There'd be happiness that no man could end  
No my friend, not if I ruled the world  
Every head would be held up high  
There'd be sunshine in everyone's sky  
If the day ever dawned when I ruled the world



*John P. Minagro  
Organist*

You can listen to Tony Bennett singing it at <https://youtu.be/iNTWA0GafkM>



# 2019 OFFICERS OF AFL # 480



*Left to right: Franklin Shoffner, John Minagro, Andre Sternang, David Kreuzinger, Adam Hanin, Pete Peterson, Bob Strohmeyer, Randy Tolerton, Terry Killgore, Fred Lezak, Larry Strohmeyer, Chan Eason*

**Master**

Robert S. Strohmeyer

**Junior Warden**

Terry R. Killgore

**Senior Warden**

Adam J. Hanin

**Secretary**

C. Randall Tolerton, PM

**Treasurer**

David L. Kreuzinger

**Chaplain**

F.H. "Frank" Shoffner

**Assistant Secretary**

Frederick T. Lezak, Jr.

**Junior Deacon**

S. Andre Sternang

**Marshall**

Chandler S. Eason, Jr.

**Organist**

John P. Minagro

**Junior Steward**

Larry W. Strohmeyer

**Tiler**

Peter A. Peterson

# Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

## 2019 Crab Feed

Saturday, January 26 at 5:30 PM

*Secure the legacy of  
Acalanes Fellowship &  
Support Masonic Charities*

**\$50 adults / \$25 kids**

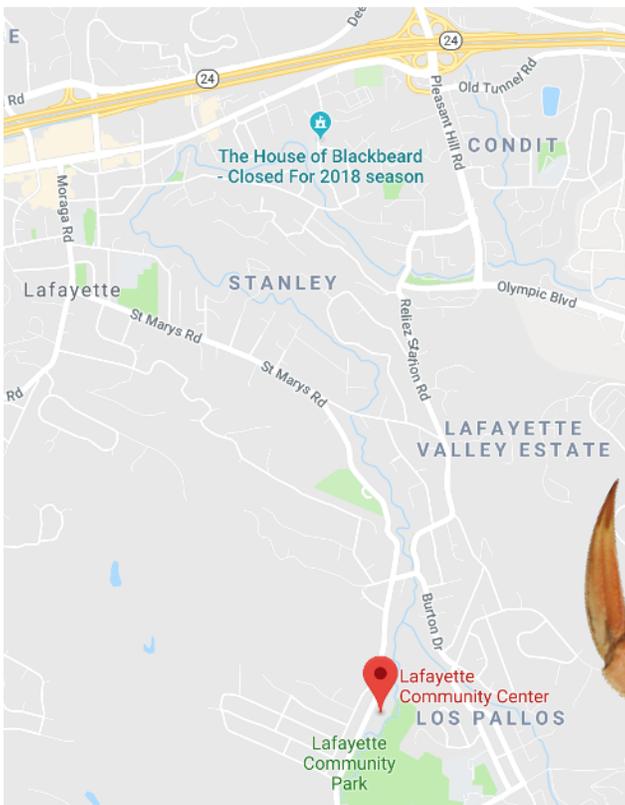
Substitute steak for crab,  
or add a steak for \$10

Reserve a table and save!

Reserve your seat or table online

[2019crab.eventbrite.com](http://2019crab.eventbrite.com)

**Lafayette Community Center**  
500 Saint Marys Road



# LODGE CONTACTS

**Main Phone Number: 925-284-7815**

Role	Contact	Email	Phone
Master	Robert Strohmeyer	master@acalanesfellowship.com	925-284-7815, ext 5
Senior Warden	Adam Hanin	srwarden@acalanesfellowship.com	
Junior Warden	Terry Killgore	jrwarden@acalanesfellowship.com	
Treasurer	David Kreuzinger	treasurer@acalanesfellowship.com	
Secretary	Randy Tolerton	secretary@acalanesfellowship.com	925-284-7815, ext 4
Chaplain	Frank Shoffner	chaplain@acalanesfellowship.com	925-284-7815, ext 8
Hall Association (Building Rentals, Maintenance, etc.)	Pete Peterson	hallassociation@acalanesfellowship.com	925-284-7815, ext 7
Masonic Education	Harry Burt	masoniced@acalanesfellowship.com	
Charity & Service Committee	Fred Lezak	charity@acalanesfellowship.com	
Webmaster	Andre Sternang	webmaster@acalanesfellowship.com	
Trestleboard	Robert Strohmeyer	trestleboard@acalanesfellowship.com	

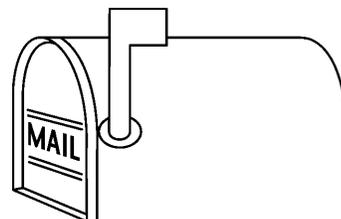
## Street Address

**Acalanes Fellowship Lodge  
925 Moraga Rd.  
Lafayette, CA 94549**



## Mailing Address

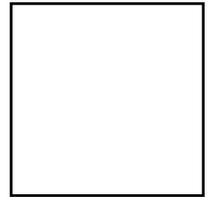
**Acalanes Fellowship Lodge  
P.O. Box 1  
Lafayette, CA 94549**



# The Crestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

P.O. Box 1 Lafayette, CA 94549



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JANUARY 2019

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