

The Trestleboard

- ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM -

JULY 2020

FROM THE EAST

A message from Worshipful Adam J. Hanin

Brethren, Sweethearts, Friends and Family All:

Another month gone and another month without being in lodge. As Masons, we all wish we could be meeting again, but sadly, as COVID continues to plague our state, it is still unsafe to gather. So we will continue to rely on our weekly calls.

If you've been joining us regularly, thank you! If you haven't, WHY NOT? These calls are a great way to connect with your brethren and get the latest updates on lodge activities. Haven't been to lodge in awhile? No problem! Since these calls are not tiled, there's no ritual - just news and socializing.

Our meetings are held every Tuesday evening at 7pm, and are easy to access.

If using a Computer or Smartphone, visit this URL:

<https://bit.ly/AFLWeeklyCall>

Password (if asked): AFL480

If Dialing in by phone:

(623) 404-9000

Meeting ID: 149 408 7025

Password: 738710

Please feel free to drop in and chat with your brethren. We've all found it to be a great way to stay connected and ease some of the isolation loneliness. And while ALL of our calls are special, some are "more special" than others. For example, on July 7, we will hold our July "Non-Stated" meeting where we will incorporate masonic education into the discussion. This month, our Senior Deacon and Officers' Coach Worshipful Tom Riley will address the topic of "clay."

Many of you may have joined one of our recent Summer Speaker Series lectures. First we heard from R:W: Mark Koltko-Rivera, Ph.D. on the Two Futures of Freemasonry, which gave us many things to ponder about how to maintain and grow our ranks, and the importance of Masonry in modern society. Later in the month we spent some time hearing from M:W: Russ E. Charvonja, PGM, who addressed the topic of Civility in a Time of Uncertainty. M:W: Charvonja charged us to bring Masonic civility to the forefront in our actions, as it is something sorely needed these days.

This month we will have at least one speaker - I've arranged for Brother John Williams to speak on July 21st about the African American Freemason's experience. I expect his talk to be enlightening and informative.

As always, I'd like to remind you all that even though our Lodge activities are on hold, that doesn't mean our Masonic activities must stop. In fact, this is an ideal time to practice memory work. Call a brother and work together. Learn one of the charges. Work on your degree proficiency (or if you are a Master Mason and have never done it, learn the Third Degree proficiency). Officers - work on your proficiency for NEXT year's role. We should use this time productively, so we come out of the quarantine ahead of where we were when it started.

Finally, I once again remind you that the lodge is here for you in time of trouble. Please let me know if any of our brothers are ill during this time, if anyone needs assistance getting groceries, or if someone just needs to talk. Together, we will come through this experience stronger.

My continued healthiest wishes and regards to you and your families.



*Worshipful Adam Hanin
Master*

FROM THE WEST

Brethren, it is with great pleasure that I announce the decision of the 2020 Hiram Award Committee. As you all know, the Hiram Award is the highest honor that a lodge of Masons can bestow upon a brother, other than electing him Master of the Lodge. It is an award intended to recognize that brother who, without concern for personal gain or honors, gives of himself in a manner exemplary to all in our fraternity, for the betterment of his Lodge. Such an award is not necessarily to be given every single year, but rather only as merited. Each year our Hiram Award Committee, which is composed primarily of past recipients of that prestigious award, meets to determine who, if anyone, may be worthy of this great honor.

Acalanes Fellowship is blessed with a strong complement of brethren who have made great contributions to our lodge over the years, and several names were considered and discussed. Quickly, however, our committee came to a unanimous decision: Brother Garth Korwin will be our honoree for 2020.

Brother Korwin is a truly worthy Mason, and the embodiment of a Hiram Award honoree. For years, Garth has labored in near anonymity on behalf of our lodge, and particularly on behalf of our Hall Association. He has worked untold hours to improve the condition of our lodge, both structurally and electrically. He regularly attends our dinners and events, and makes no effort to seek acknowledgment for his great contributions. In fact, when he learned of his selection for this honor, he protested the decision. It is nevertheless true that Brother Garth is our deserving honoree this year, and we look forward to honoring him with this award.

We have tentatively set a date of Saturday, September 19, at 5pm, for Garth's Hiram Award ceremony and dinner. It is our hope that by this time we may safely meet in lodge for the event. If, however, it is not possible to meet in lodge by September, we will select a new date and time for the event.

Please join me in congratulating Brother Korwin on his selection.

—Bob Strohmeyer, PM

Senior Warden

rstrohmeyer@acalanesfellowship.com



Senior Warden Bob Strohmeyer, PM

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Russell Chapman - July 2

Christopher Urani - July 2

John Minagro - July 3

Scott Carter - July 7

Charles Tolerton, PM - July 8

Michael Kenny - July 13

Thomas Thompson - July 13

Walter Moser - July 14

Richard Young - July 21

Paul Crawford - July 26

William Haynes - July 31



MASONS 4 MITTS

In baseball, the slide is a key—and exciting—part of the game. But when it comes to childhood education, stopping the slide is a home run.

This year, our Masons4Mitts captains, teams, and lodges are focused on minimizing the effects of a “COVID slide,” an accelerated version of what’s normally referred to as the “summer slide.” Research shows that for many students, academic achievement slows or even declines over the summer months. With the pandemic disrupting schools and all aspects of students’ lives, kids need our help now more than ever before.

That’s why this season, Masons4Mitts is proud to introduce the Super Summer Book Bag: A one-stop goodie bag filled with expertly vetted and age-appropriate reading and math material, compiled by the literacy experts at the national nonprofit Raising A Reader. Our Major League Baseball partners will distribute the bags to kids throughout the state—all in addition to the classic leather baseball mitts that have defined Masons4Mitts for more than a decade.

If you have given in the past, please consider repeating and increasing that donation. And if you have never contributed to this important cause before, this is a great time to start!

To help create an amazing summer experience for underprivileged kids across the state, visit our site here: <https://bit.ly/Masons4Mitts>, and click the box under the words “Give a Mitt.” This will take you to a donation page, pre-filled to ensure our East Bay Aces team gets the “credit” for your donation.

Using this online site is HIGHLY preferred for ease of processing and accounting of donations. But if you need to contribute via check, please make your check out to Masons4Mitts and put “East Bay Aces” in the memo line. This is important because it is the only clear way that Grand Lodge will know that the check should be coming to our team!

Please mail your donations directly to:

Masons4Mitts

1111 California Street

San Francisco CA 94108

Whether you donate online or by mail, if your company has a donation matching program, this should qualify (depending on your company’s program, limits, etc). If your company needs it, the CA Masonic Foundation’s Tax ID Number is 23-7013074.

No matter how you choose to, PLEASE DONATE! This year the East Bay Aces want to crush our competition, and show that the East Bay has the biggest hearts of any Masons in California. I know we do - this is how we prove it!



SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES

Many of you are aware that for the past several weeks, the lodge has hosted Tuesday Night community calls to connect and check in with each other. These calls have been a wonderful opportunity to keep our fraternal bonds strong, and will continue until we can return safely to our beloved lodge.

We continue our Summer Speaker Series in July, with another noted speaker on Masonic issues.

Tuesday, July 21

7:00 pm

What One Prince Hall Mason Wants in the Era of George Floyd

Brother John Bennett Williams

Synopsis: Brother Williams will speak about the racial events in his life that have informed his life philosophy. Ultimately, attendees will get to know one Prince Hall Master Mason well (Br. Williams) and understand how his attitudes about racism in America came about. Attendees will learn that Prince Hall masons and black men in America want what mainstream masons and White Americans want, and why it is so difficult to achieve.

Register here



LODGE CONTACTS

Main Phone Number: 925-284-7815

Role	Contact	Email	Phone
Master	Adam Hanin	master@acalanesfellowship.com	925-284-7815, ext 5
Senior Warden	Bob Strohmeyer	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.)	Marion Rogers, PM	hallassociation@acalanesfellowship.com	925-284-7815, ext 7
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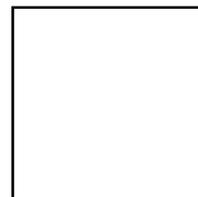
Mailing Address

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P.O. Box 1
Lafayette, CA 94549**

The Crestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

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- ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM -

JULY 2020

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Every Tuesday

Virtual Meetup

Connect with the brethren during our weekly video chats! Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

Join at this URL:

<https://bit.ly/AFLWeeklyCall>

Password (if asked): AFL480

If Dialing in by phone:

(623) 404-9000

Meeting ID: 149 408 7025

July 21 - What one Prince Hall Mason wants in the era of George Floyd

Brother Williams will speak about the racial events in his life that have informed his life philosophy. Ultimately, attendees will get to know one Prince Hall Master Mason well (Br. Williams) and understand how his attitudes about racism in America came about. Attendees will learn that Prince Hall masons and black men in America want what mainstream masons and White Americans want, and why it is so difficult to achieve.

Start time is 7:00pm

RSVP via EventBrite