

The Trestleboard

- ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM -

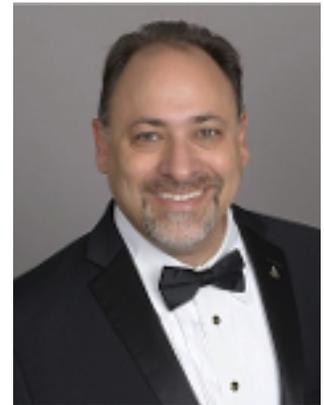
OCTOBER 2020

FROM THE EAST

A message from Worshipful Adam J. Hanin

Greetings Brethren and Friends!

As you should have already heard, this past month a car accident caused some damage to our lodge building. I am so grateful to Worshipful Marion Rogers for his leadership in aligning insurance companies, Grand Lodge, engineers, demolition crews, etc. While we do not yet know all the things that will need to be repaired, and whose insurance will cover what, Worshipful Marion is ensuring we have all the details so we can make appropriate decisions for the future of our building. I would also like to thank the members of the Hall Association for their focus and dedication to resolving this issue, and for coming together this past weekend to clear out the storage room, which was damaged in the crash.



*Worshipful Adam J. Hanin
Master*

On a lighter topic, we held our first annual trivia contest in September.

Thanks to the detailed work of our trivia master, our Senior Steward Fraser Marshall, a small group of contestants battled it out for bragging rights and a cheap plastic trophy. Although going into the final question with a 1 point lead (quite amazing given that scoring was based on accuracy and speed of answers), Worshipful Brad Rupert pulled out a win in the end. Congratulations, Worshipful Brad!

Last month I shared that October 14, 1920 was the day Fellowship Lodge received its charter from Grand Master Charles Albert Adams. On October 14 of this month, I hope you ALL will take a moment out of your day and remember the value the lodge has brought into your lives, and imagine where we might be a hundred years from now. And while you do that, please do think about what you would be willing to contribute for our lodge time capsule, which we will dedicate sometime next year.

In the meantime, we have lots of events and activities in the works for our virtual lodge experience. We recently announced upcoming "Intro to Freemasonry" educational sessions that our Assistant Secretary and Hiram Award Winner, Fred Lezak will lead for interested men. I'm working to identify more guest speakers. And our social committee is investigating several really fun activities we can do as a lodge online.

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From the East (continued)

If you've ever wondered how our Grand Lodge functions, I encourage you to sign up for this year's Annual Communication, which will be held on the mornings of Saturday, October 10 and Sunday October 11. Registration is required, but is a simple process from your iMember 2.0 app (You HAVE installed it on your phone, right?) or on Freemason.org. With COVID, the ceremonies have been all but eliminated (excepting Grand Lodge Installation on Sunday), but you will still be able to hear the reports on the year, plans for the future, and the Grand Master's legislation.

That legislation, assuming it passes, will give us the ability to begin holding more structured and official Stated Meetings over Zoom. We will still not be able to perform any of our ritual, but will be able to begin to address the things we typically address in our Stated Meetings, and even have official votes.

As for our lodge calls, thank you to all who've been regular attendees. If you haven't joined us, why not? You don't have to travel anywhere, there's no ritual to be concerned with (in case your trowel might be a bit rusty) and you can catch up with your brethren. If the technology is daunting to you, PLEASE contact me directly and I will work with you to help you get connected. We really do want to hear from you and use this as a time to strengthen our bonds. Plus, it's just great to see old friends.

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

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.

Adam J. Hanin, Master

IMEMBER 2.0

A month in, nearly 85 percent of California lodges have already begun to access their portals in iMember 2.0, the new membership platform—one of the highest adoption rates of any grand lodge jurisdiction on the system. Yet with so many new features just a finger-swipe away—and many more being prepped for launch this fall—there are still lots of questions left to be answered, starting with some of the most basic.

How Do I Get to iMember 2.0?

iMember 2.0 is designed to work on any mobile phone, tablet, or desktop or laptop computer with an internet connection. Simply visit freemason.org and click the “For Members” button in the upper-right-hand corner of the screen. If you haven’t logged on yet, you’ll need to create an account, so have your email address, membership number, and a unique password ready to go.

Can I Download iMember 2.0 on My Phone?

Yes. Whether you have an iPhone or an Android phone, you can add a home screen shortcut to access iMember 2.0 quickly and easily. To install, use your web browser to visit the site, and select “Add to home screen.” The exact placement of the button will depend on your web browser (Safari, Chrome, or Firefox). See detailed instructions [here](#).

Are There More Features in the Works?

You bet! Here are a few we’re most excited about developing and introducing over the next several months:

1. Digital Dues, Reminders, and Payment Plans

In the past two years, lodges across the state suspended more than 1,000 Masons for failing to pay dues. Yet, when reached by Grand Lodge staff, 82% of those suspended didn’t even realize they had failed to pay their dues—and two-thirds didn’t even know they had been suspended. With iMember 2.0’s digital dues, these types of failures will be a thing of the past. With just a few clicks, lodge secretaries will be able to send out reminders of upcoming dues to all registered members, using those members’ preferred communication medium. That includes email reminders, text messages, or even automatic phone calls. From there, members will be able to log onto iMember 2.0 and pay their dues online—either all at once or on an installment plan. For more information about digital dues, check out one of the virtual seminars designed for lodge officers, especially secretaries.

2. Expanded Social Networks

Masons are all about fellowship, and iMember 2.0 will offer them unprecedented opportunities to connect. Just as you have access to your lodge profile on the new platform, iMember 2.0 will soon offer members the ability to join special-interest groups through a social media-style portal. So motorcycle enthusiasts can join “Hiram’s Hogs,” for instance, or snowbirds can join the “Solomon’s Skiers.” A beta version of this feature is already live, and members are clearly excited about it. In just four weeks, Masons have viewed posts in some of these affinity groups more than 25,000 times.

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iMember 2.0 (continued)

3. New Ways to Share Resources

Just about every lodge has a back room full of extra aprons and officers' jewels. A new feature in development will give members a chance to donate or swap certain Masonic regalia on a virtual marketplace akin to Craigslist or Nextdoor. The new platform is called Solomon's List. Details are still being worked out, but imagine if newly formed lodges were able to take advantage of surplus regalia cluttering up older lodges.

4. One-Stop Shop for Hall Associations

You probably already know about the challenges of operating a joint hall association with another lodge. This fall, iMember 2.0 will help relieve some of that burden by releasing a new Hall Association dashboard where members can store documents, communicate with their association across different lodges, and work with Grand Lodge to submit requests and reports.

5. Keeping Track of Attendance

A virtual tiler's register is another feature in the works for iMember 2.0. Using this feature, members can scan a QR code at lodge through their phone to digitally check in to the meeting. For members, it's a fun way to track how often they visit lodge (either their own or while traveling); for lodge leaders, it's a useful tool to keep track of how active their membership is—and to act quickly when attendance flags.

For questions on iMember, contact Member Services at (415) 292-9180 or memberservices@freemason.org.



Masons of California

THE STORY OF THOMAS STARR KING

Learn the story of California Freemason Thomas Starr King, who is credited with influencing California to remain with the Union during the Civil War.

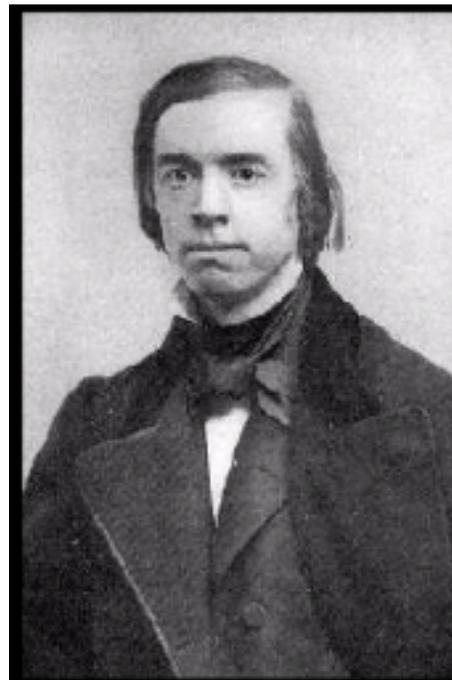
He was a member of Oriental Lodge No. 144 in San Francisco, and is buried in the city. Thomas Starr King also served as the Grand Orator of the Masonic Grand Lodge of California in 1863, dying in office.

His statue was once one of the two representing California in Sanctuary Hall, until it was returned in 2009. It now is on display in the Civil War Memorial Grove near the California State Capitol in Sacramento.

We have been invited by the Orinda Lodge to a featured presentation on **Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 pm** via Zoom.

Details with links to join the meeting will be sent out separately to all members of the lodge.

As this will not be a tiled meeting, friends and family are welcome to join.



Thomas Starr King

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Derek S. Walter - October 2
J. O. Dryden, II - October 3
Michael E. Roberts, PM - October 4
Richard D. Maxwell - October 9
Milton F. Bruzzone - October 15

Max W. King, PM - October 15
Donald H. Freitas, PM - October 19
Michael S. Weis - October 19
Gerald W. Walker - October 31
G. Michael Wilson, PM - October 31



THIRD DEGREE ANNIVERSARIES

James V. Davey - October 25 (65 years)
Theodore D. Zeller - October 30 (58 years)
Richard G. Keihner - October 13 (42 years)
Thomas E. Riley, III, PM - October 30 (36 years)
George R. Peck - October 22 (35 years)
Frank P. Essert - October 26 (35 years)

Kevin S. Moore - October 26 (29 years)
Marion P. Rogers, PM - October 24 (11 years)
Robert L. Smith - October 1 (9 years)
Adam J. Hanin - October 31 (5 years)
Allan J. Houlberg - October 22 (1 year)
Fraser A. Marshall - October 25 (1 year)

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
Masonic Education	Harry Burt	masoniced@acalanesfellowship.com	
Charity & Service Committee	Fred Lezak	charity@acalanesfellowship.com	
Webmaster	Adam Hanin	webmaster@acalanesfellowship.com	
Trestleboard	Derek Walter	trestleboard@acalanesfellowship.com	
Organist	John Minagro	organist@acalanesfellowship.com	

Street Address

**Acalanes Fellowship Lodge
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Lafayette, CA 94549**

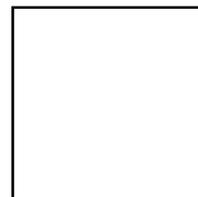
Mailing Address

**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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OCTOBER 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

Oct. 15: Thomas Starr King Presentation

Join as special guests of Orinda Lodge to learn about the life of California Freemason Thomas Starr King from M. W. John Cooper, Past Grand Master.

Information about joining the event will be shared electronically. The presentation will not be tiled and is open to all.

October 6th: 'Non-Stated' Meeting

Join us virtually to get caught up on all the news with the lodge and to stay connected to the brethren.

Start time is 7:00pm

Join at this URL:

<https://bit.ly/AFLWeeklyCall>

Password (if asked): AFL480

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