

The Trestleboard

- ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM -

MAY 2021

FROM THE EAST

A message from Worshipful Adam J. Hanin

Brethren, friends and colleagues... the time we've looked forward to is finally here. WE ARE RETURNING TO LODGE IN JUNE!!!

I'm sure we are all excited by this change in the regulations, and look forward to returning to our work as Masons, but it is important to note that things will be a bit different than we all are used to. In this article I will lay out the requirements that we all must abide by — it is my sincere hope that you will all understand and support the requirements for as long as we must. Given the uncertainty of COVID, it is likely that these rules will change over time...most likely relaxing little by little.

The New Rules

If you've ventured out of your house at all, you are likely to be familiar with many of the new rules, but there are some that are unique to our situation.

EVERY Lodge event will require pre-registration. If you do not pre-register, you may not be admitted.

Attendees to ANY in-lodge event MUST bring to lodge either proof of full vaccination (including the 2-week period after the final shot is received) OR a negative COVID test performed within 72 hours of the scheduled start of the event. A copy or photograph of your vaccination card is acceptable, and there are NO exceptions. If you do not bring proof with you - even if you have brought it to other meetings in the past - you will be asked to leave.

Attendees will be required to complete a pre-event health screening on the day of the event by either completing an online form we will provide, or completing the form on paper and turning it in. If you have a fever higher than 100° or are having any of the common COVID symptoms, you will not be permitted to attend.

Attendees must consent to a temperature screening on entry to the building.

Whether vaccinated or not, proper masks must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times while in the building, unless eating or drinking.

Social distancing must be adhered to at all times when possible (exceptions have been allowed for degree work). Seating has been blocked out in the lodge room to ensure appropriate spacing - which also means we have a limit to the number of attendees to any indoor lodge event.

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*Worshipful Adam J. Hanin
Master*

FROM THE EAST

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Lodge members must attend a training on these rules, which will be held during the May Stated Meeting. These constitute the major rules you will need to be aware of. The Hall Association has compiled a Safety Plan which will be part of the training mentioned above, and which is included in this issue of the Trestleboard for your review. There will be adequate hand sanitizer throughout the building, and ritual and commonly touched items will be regularly cleaned.

The Expected Return Schedule

In May, we will have 1-2 officers' meetings in lodge to practice lodge opening and closing, as well as to begin degree rehearsals. Our first meeting back in lodge will be the June Stated Meeting on Tuesday, June 1. Details are to come.

We currently plan on holding a dual Second Degree in mid-late June, and begin holding First Degrees in July (we will NOT be dark in July this year). More details on these degrees, as well as a Lodge of Examination will follow.

The Remainder of the Year

We have a lot coming up this year. We will hold a ceremony and reception to honor last year's Hiram Award Recipient, Garth Korwin. We will hold ANOTHER ceremony and reception for this year's Hiram Award Recipient. There are at least 5 Masonic memorial services we will sadly be called to deliver. We will also have a celebration of our 100th Anniversary. And we will continue to hold online meetings at least once a month so that our brethren dispersed across the world can still visit with us. Add to that meetings, degrees, and more, and you have the makings of a VERY busy second half of the year.

This has been a remarkable year we've been through. My hope is it will be remembered not only for how unusual it has been, but for all the great work we do as Masons online and FINALLY in-person.

I can't wait to see you all in lodge!

Worshipful Adam J. Hanin,

Master

COVID-19 SITE SPECIFIC PREVENTION PLAN

Site Name: Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

Site Address: 925 Moraga Road, Lafayette, CA 94549

Date SSP Developed: April 16, 2021

The persons responsible for plan implementation:

- Hall Association President: Worshipful Marion Rogers
- Hall Association Vice President: Pete Peterson

Lodge members and the inspector have been provided a copy of this SPP and have received training as required in this SPP. Other organizations that intend to meet at this site have also been provided a copy of this SPP and it has been reviewed with those organization's leaders. Note: There is no intermingling of multiple private events at the lodge.

CONTROL MEASURES AND SCREENINGS WITH RESPECT TO ALL ATTENDEES

TRAINING PRIOR TO OPENING OF LODGE FOR MEETING/EVENTS

Prior to making the lodge open to meetings and events, members will be trained and or will receive information and guidance on the following topics:

- Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on COVID-19, how to prevent it from spreading, and what underlying conditions make an individual susceptible to contracting the virus.
- Self-screening at home, using CDC guidelines.
- The importance of not coming to meetings/events if a member displays COVID-19 symptoms.
- The importance of seeking medical attention if any symptoms become severe.
- The importance of frequent handwashing with soap and water per CDC guidelines.
- Proper use of face coverings/masks, including:
 - o Face coverings do not protect the wearer and are not personal protective equipment.
 - o Face coverings can help protect people near the wearer, but do not replace the need for physical distancing and frequent handwashing,
 - o The importance of washing and/or sanitizing hands before and after using or adjusting face coverings.
 - o Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
 - o Face coverings should be washed frequently.

PRIOR TO MEETING

Lodge:

- The lodge will determine who will be attending the meeting and prepare a guest list (attendance roster) of likely attendees. This list be presented to designated officers responsible for ensuring SSP guidelines are followed at each event.
- Ensure health department COVID-19 flyers and guidelines are prominently posted at the entrance door.
- Physical distancing guidelines will be adhered to. Six-foot spacing will be used to ensure compliance with social distancing requirements. Blue tape will be used to designate seating areas/spacing. Additional chairs may be set up in rows 6 feet apart. These chairs all need to be wiped with disinfectant before and after the meeting event.
- A lodge officer will meet with a hall representative prior to a meeting or event to ensure the protocols of the SPP will be carried out or will be carried out prior to the event.

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COVID-19 SITE SPECIFIC PREVENTION PLAN

Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

- Cleaning and disinfecting of high traffic areas and touchable shared surfaces will be performed prior to each meeting or special event and between each use.

These areas may change depending on the nature of the event (for instance, there is no need to clean/disinfect the kitchen area if it is not used and access is blocked).

- This duty will normally be the responsibility of the Tiler and/or other volunteers as need.
- Cleaning and other disinfectant supplies, including hand sanitizers and disinfectant wipes will be kept at each entrance and exit used.
- Restrooms and hand-washing facilities will be available and operational at all times. Additional soap, paper towels, tissues and hand sanitizer/wipes will be kept in the custodian closet.

After Meeting/Event Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

- Chairs, if used, need to be wiped with disinfectant.
- Ritual and officer tools need to be wiped with disinfectant.
- Bathrooms need to be wiped as well, to include: the sink faucets, toilet seats, flusher handle, door handles, light switches, etc.
- Cleaning supplies should be put away.

MEETING PROTOCOLS

- Prior to attending, members/guests are encouraged to screen themselves for symptoms using the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Coronavirus Self-Checker.
- Members and guests should not attend if they exhibit the following symptoms: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. Anyone exhibiting these symptoms will not be allowed into the lodge.
- It is expected that all members and guests sign up/make a reservation to attend prior to a meeting or event.
- Make sure you bring a mask to wear and proof of either completion of the COVID-19 vaccination process – required doses and the required waiting period – or a recent (no later than 72 hours) negative COVID-19 test. Proof may be in the form of original documentation, photocopies or cell phone photos. Anyone refusing to provide this information will not be allowed into the lodge.
- Members and guests will be expected to adhere to social distancing guidelines and sit only in designated seating areas and/or maintain a six-foot distance before and after the scheduled event.
- There should be no unnecessary physical contact – handshakes, etc.
- There will be no intermingling of multiple private events at the site.

ADDITIONAL SITE MEETING MEASURES

Entry Inspection Station: (This site will be staffed by two designated Master Masons, one of which should be the Tiler, if available).

- Set up a table just inside the main entrance door. Wipes, gloves, extra masks, thermometers and other miscellaneous supplies will be available as needed. Put on gloves ASAP, so you won't transmit virus to anything that will be touched by others.

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COVID-19 SITE SPECIFIC PREVENTION PLAN

Screening as Members Arrive.:Members are encouraged to self-screen before coming to the lodge. No attendees or guests will be allowed further into the facility without having been screened by the designated Master Masons. Masks shall be worn and if a member or guest does not have a mask available, one will be provided at the door.

- One inspector takes temperatures as people arrive and asks if they are feeling healthy. This person can check to ensure each attendee has received either a COVID-19 vaccination or has a negative COVID test within the previous 72 hours.
- The second inspector will control the attendance roster. We use this for contact tracing and to track attendance numbers, so we don't exceed the safety limit for the facility (currently 150 people). This roster could be printed from the Eventbrite directly. Be aware that some people sign up late, and some people come without signing up at all. There is space on the master attendance roster to accommodate these people, as well as drop-in guests, so long as the lodge stays in compliance with County attendance guidelines.
- The Attendance Roster goes to the Secretary to keep on file.

AFTER THE MEETING/EVENT

Attestation of Meeting Protocols

- At the completion of the meeting/event the two assigned Master Masons attest in writing that meeting protocols were adhered to. This attestation, as well as the attendance roster, is submitted to the Lodge Secretary and will be made

available to the hall and District inspector at their request.

- The county will be notified as soon as possible if a positive COVID-19 case is discovered during the screening process.

Please contact the Tiler (Pete Peterson) or our Hall Association President (Worshipful Marion Rogers) if you have any questions.

BIRTHDAYS

Brainard Shane Simpson - April 3

George Konstantopoulos, PM - Apr. 6

Alan Sherman - April 7

Edward Stack - April 7

Richard Keihner - April 11

Thomas Riley, PM - April 15

James Barley - April 16

Frederick Lezak - April 17

E. G. Keefer - April 20

Garth Korwin - April 20

Mark Williams - April 23

Timothy Wilbur - April 24

Dean Van Norman, PM - May 1

Gerald Sauman - May 4

George Atashkarian - May 5

Nicholas Bloisa - May 7

Stephen Milano - May 9

Peter Axtman - May 10

Val Rodrigues - May 16

James Chowdhury - May 22

Gary Estes - May 25

John Cook - May 26

Terry Killgore - May 30

THIRD DEGREE ANNIVERSARIES

Jack Axtman - 62 years

Mark Williams - 10 years

Franklin Shoffner - 57 years

John Mulhall - 24 years

Stephen Galop - 23 years

James Reno, III - 8 years

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	Terry Kilgore	srwarden@acalanesfellowship.com	
Junior Warden	Bob Strohmeyer, PM	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	Randall Tolerton, PM	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
925 Moraga Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549**

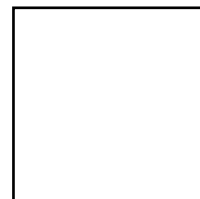
Mailing Address

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

The Trestleboard

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IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Every Tuesday Virtual Meetup

Connect with the brethren during our weekly video chats, open to all!

Join every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

Join at this URL: <https://bit.ly/AFLMeeting>

Meeting ID: 821 5632 1137

Passcode: AFL480

or

Dial 669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 821 5632 1137

Passcode: 581490

May 18: Masonic Charity Talk

Join us virtually for a discussion on Masonic charity with Brother Candler Gibson on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:00 pm.

All details are the same as those used for our regular call-ins. See you there on Zoom!

June 1: Stated Meeting

We are back in lodge!

Time of the meeting is TBD - please watch your inbox for final details and be sure to follow the pre-registration details outlined in this edition of The Trestleboard.