The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 O August 2023

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From the East

A message from Worshipful Robert S. Strohmeyer, PM

Greetings from the East, my Brethren. As I write these words, Indian summer is drawing near its close for our kids, and I look ahead to the next season. Hopefully, though, we still get to enjoy the temperate summer weather we've been blessed with in June and July, and take in the beauty that August has to offer before fall comes along.

This month, we're still in summer mode, and that means summer dress. For those of you able to join us for our August stated meeting, please again feel free to wear short sleeves and tropical prints, put yourselves in an island state of mind, and try to hold onto that feeling until Saturday, September 9, when we will host our LUAU! That's right, it'll be Hawaiian food, Polynesian dancing, and tiki drinks all



around. Look for more details in the next couple of weeks as we open up reservations for this much-loved event.

Fraternally yours, Bob Strohmeyer, PM Master

From the South

Peter A. Peterson, Senior Warden

I'm not saying time flies by when you're having fun, but are you aware we are more than halfway through 2023? You may not yet have seen holiday decorations in stores or Black Friday sales, but rest assured the officers of your Lodge are behind the scenes getting ready for significant upcoming year-end events in preparation for our next Masonic year.

We have nominations and elections for Lodge officers coming up in November. Many of you have been a part of this in the past and know how ritualistic the nomination and election process is. What you may not know is this is not just Lodge business, but part of



Masonic ritual. Your current line officers will receive training during an upcoming District Officer School of Instruction (DOSI) on how to properly conduct the nomination process and election.

Prospective 2024 Lodge officers have been working on ritual and memory work in preparation of moving "up the line" in January 2024. Many of us will be meeting with our District Inspector at the end of August, demonstrating proficiency for our new officer positions.

While all the above is going on, thoughts and actions are also underway in preparation for our Saturday, December 9, 2023, Installation and Dinner—an event not to be missed (you can't say you weren't given advanced notice).

Further examples of what happens behind the scenes: Candidate coaches are working with EAs, FCs, and newly raised Master Masons on their proficiencies for advancement. We had one FC complete his proficiency during the July 11 Stated Meeting and we have another who should be ready in short order. Our goal is to get these FCs on their way to Master Mason before the year is out.

On to Hall events. I was a bit premature in my enthusiastic report on the success in resolving our hot water issue. Our newly installed water heater gave out after only a couple of days and had to be replaced with a new, "new" water heater. The plumbing company we worked with was great and came through for us in a timely and professional manner.

However, the "water, water, everywhere," mantra seems to be our new Masonic dirge. Our past kitchen sink leaks (think duct-tape fixes) got worse, and we had the plumbing company come

back to make repairs and replacement of failing fixtures. We're keeping our fingers crossed those repairs last.

As you know, we rent our facility to raise funds to keep up with building repairs and maintenance. We were recently approached by Goodwill Industries requesting use of our facility for a civic purpose - recycling. We did not charge for their use of our facility, and in their letter of thanks, they detailed how the two events received donations form 137 individuals, diverting 6,165 pounds form the landfill. a short message.



Pete Peterson Junior Warden

Lodge Pin Design



This year, rather than design a one-off pin to be used only in 2023, I asked our lodge's resident Masonic pin connoisseur, Bro. Kaveh Astaneh, to work on an idea, and he enlisted the design skills of Bro. Mick McNulty. Between the two of them, we have an excellent new pin design, and it is my hope that we will have these made before the year is out.

Designed to capture the spirit of The Friendly Lodge, this design features two right hands joined, an enduring symbol of fidelity and

fellowship. Simple and iconic, I believe this design represents our lodge well, and I ask for your consideration in having it produced for distribution to the brethren.

-Bob Strohmeyer, Master

Upcoming Events at Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

August 1, 5:30 pm	Sept 5, 5:30 pm	Sept 9, 5:30 pm
Stated Meeting & Dinner	Stated Meeting & Dinner	Luau
5:30 pm social hour 6:30 pm dinner 7:30 pm meeting	5:30 pm social hour 6:30 pm dinner 7:30 pm meeting	Come enjoy a little Aloha spirit with your ohana and all the brethren. We'll have polynesian food, dancers, and plenty of tiki-style refreshments.

