

The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 ☉ January 2024

Upcoming Events at Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

January 16, 6:00 pm

1st Degree & Refreshments

6:00 pm Open Lodge
6:30 pm Degrees Start
8:30 pm Refreshments

January 27, 5:30 pm

Annual Steak & Crab Feed Fundraiser!

Bring your family and friends
along to enjoy a feast of
dungeness crab, steak, clam
chowder, and salad at our
annual crab feed.

Feb 6, 6:30 pm

Stated Meeting & Dinner

5:30 pm social hour
6:30 pm dinner
7:30 pm meeting

[RSVP NOW](#)

From the East

A message from Worshipful Bradley O. Rupert, PM

Hello from the East. It is my special honor to serve again as Master of AFL #480 in 2024, last time it was back in 2013. Many things have changed since then, but many more have stayed the same. We have a complete new slate of officers except for long-time Chaplin Frank Shoffner. Also, happy to say that all the living officers from back in 2013 are still very involved with the lodge. We are lucky to have a great blend of new and old members that work well together.

We had a great installation on Dec 6th with over 50 in attendance. My theme for this upcoming year is Fun, Fellowship, and Delegation.



Fun and Fellowship has always been a priority for our lodge. Delegation will start with all the multiple events planned for 2024. Starting with **Crab Feed Jan 27th** make sure to get your tickets ASAP we will sell out. Next up will be **Sweethearts Luncheon** in Feb (Pete Peterson is Chair of both events) Then the **Pancake Breakfast** in March, **Joint District 305 BBQ** in June, **Dinner Theater** and **Movies Nights** TBD. Our last planned social event for the year will be the **Luau** in September. Mark Willams JW and others will chair those events.

In addition to social events we will be putting a focus on community outreach this year. We plan to get a group together to volunteer at **Contra Costa Food Bank** serving food, and participate in **Lafayette Art & Wine Festival** September 21 & 22nd. We also raised over \$500 dollars for Toys for tots last month. Finally we have a **triple 1st degree** coming up **January 16th Mr Chris Martin, Ehsan Shafae, and Jakub Stetz**. Lodge opens at 6 pm, degrees start 6:30pm, and refreshments to follow. Please do your best to make it! Looking forward to a great 2024!!

Fraternally yours,

Brad Rupert -

Master 2024

From the West

Peter A. Peterson, Senior Warden

Welcome to 2024! If last evening's Stated Meeting is an indicator, our Lodge is going to have a great year. We had a good turn-out for our dinner with a couple of new guests also attending. We installed our new Junior Warden - Mark Williams and our new Senior Deacon - Kaveh Astaneh. We voted on a new candidate and Worshipful Rupert announced we will soon have five upcoming Entered Apprentice degrees. We should also have a couple of Fellowcraft Degree ceremonies in the not-too-distant future.



We look forward to a busy and productive year as we grow our Lodge. I encourage all of you to attend these degree ceremonies to support the candidates and the degree teams.

Worshipful Rupert told us he plans on including Masonic education throughout the year. We're going to try to further those efforts by including some bit of "education" in the monthly Trestleboard under some type of heading, such as: "Did You Know..." Get ready! You never know when you'll be asked to provide an article for this publication.

Lastly, and as a reminder, the **Steak & Crab Feed on Jan 27th**. Tickets are on sale now and we plan to sell out this year, so make sure to get your tickets early. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help should reach out to me soon - this major fundraiser requires a lot of work and help.

Pete Peterson

Senior Warden

From the South

Mark Williams, Junior Warden

Happy New Year! It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I step into my role as Junior Warden of our esteemed Lodge. After over 13 years as a member of Acalanes Fellowship #480 I have finally found my way into this part of the line. Over these years of my membership I have served in a number of chairs (including Treasurer for 3 years) and have spent many years serving on the Hall Association. Now being in a Pedestal chair I am looking forward to the new duties and opportunities that the Junior Warden station brings!



One new duty involves being responsible for managing the Stated Meeting dinner attendance and payments. As such, I would like to share a request that everyone please register ahead of time! We try to make it convenient with emailed invitations... but it is ultimately up to all brothers and friends to register so we know how many dinners to provide. You still can pay in advance or pay at the door. But please let us know you will be coming!

Another duty I am currently handling is organizing and promoting the silent auction at our upcoming Crab Feed on January 27th. Coming up quickly! Please let me know if you have any items that you may be able to donate. The silent auction is an important component of our fund raising effort and we want it to be a huge success. If you have any questions about an item, service, experience (weekend cabin rentals, sports tickets, etc.) please call, text, or email me.

925-285-0630/mark51@outlook.com.

One more project that I am working on is our Scholarship program for Acalanes High School students. As this will be an ongoing, long term commitment to the school, we will need to continually fund this program. No donation too small... all are appreciated! Kudos to committee chair Pete Peterson and Brother Cody Wilbur for serving on this committee.

Here's to a great 2024!

Mark Williams

Fr. Warden

