

The Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 ☉ October 2024

Upcoming Events at Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480

November 5th, 7:30 pm

**Stated Meeting
Election of Officers**

Social Hour 5:30 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm
Stated Meeting 7:30 pm

October 25th-26th

**Grand Lodge
Annual Communication**

Hosted Reception
By WM Brad Rupert
See Website for

December 13th, 5:00 pm

Night at the Theatre!

Dinner 5:00 pm
Christmas Play 7:00 PM

From the East

A message from Worshipful Bradley O. Rupert, PM

Hello from the East. Welcome to this month's edition of the Mason Lodge Trestleboard! As we gather in fellowship, let's reflect on our shared values and the exciting events coming up this month.

Join us on October 22nd at 6:00pm opening and 6:30pm for the 2nd Degree ceremony for Brothers Joshua Hernandez and Mark Rassis. This is a significant milestone in their Masonic journey, and your presence will make this occasion even more special.

Speaking of masonic journeys I would like to congratulate our **Worshipful Inspector Mike Tagulao** who became an Aahmes Shriner on Oct. 15th in Modesto. See Picture below.



Are you a 3rd Degree Mason interested in joining the **Aahmes Shriners**? Please reach out to me or any other Shriner in our lodge for more information. We would love to have you join us in our mission of fun and philanthropy!

We plan to hold yet another **Masonic Education night on the last Wednesday of the month Oct 30th**. Please do your best to make one of these great events. Please contact **Keveh Astaneh , Sunil Awasti, or Mike Wilson PM** if you have any questions or are interested in attending.

A special thanks goes out to the brothers who attended and **Mark Williams JW** who hosted the **1st annual Acalanes Fellowship Lodge Whiskey Seminar** benefiting our scholarship fund. It was a well attended event with lots of fellowship and spirits.

One last reminder about **Annual Communication at Grand Lodge in San Francisco on October 25th to 27th**. You should be getting emails about everything going on directly from Grand Lodge. If you are not getting information on ACOM, reach out to myself or Randy. Yours truly will be hosting a **small cocktail party on Saturday starting at 5:00pm** at the **JW Marriott Hotel - Room number TBD**. Please contact me directly if you plan to be in SF and would like to share in some fellowship.

As we move through the month, let's remember the importance of fellowship and support within our community. Together, we can achieve great things!

Fraternally yours,

Brad Rupert - Master 2013 & 2024



From the West

Peter A. Peterson, Senior Warden

Where the heck did the time go?? Not sure if it's true for all, but there's an expression: time takes forever when you're young, but flies by only too quickly as you get older. The latter is certainly true in my case.

It seems we just finished our annual crab feed and here we are getting prepared for November elections and December Installation. I'm pretty sure something must have happened in between, but it all seems a wonderful blur.

I'm pleased to say your prospective 2025 line of officers successfully completed their proficiency requirements with our District Inspector last night (Oct. 8). Now we just need to make it through the election "season." PACS are running out of funds, disinformation and mudslinging is about over. Soon all that will remain is counting the 5,325 ballots received from our approximately 175 dues-paying members. Seriously though, wouldn't it be nice if this country and the world could demonstrate many of our Masonic values and traditions? Whoops, my bad! Please consider the above non-political in nature.

I believe we previously mentioned this, but we are reviving a favorite pre-Pandemic social event. We frequently ate a meal at the lodge and then walked across the street to attend a play at the Town Hall Theatre. Our very own Treasurer - Rob Seitleman - is actively involved with the Town Hall Theatre and is coordinating a dinner followed by a Christmas play, "Every Christmas Story Ever Told." The event is for all, bring your spouses, significant others, or come solo as I plan on doing. Really fun stuff!

One final note. Many of you know Betty Wilson, wife of member Worshipful Mike Wilson. Betty has been attending our meeting dinners for several years and is a longtime supporter of Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480. Betty coordinates our annual Marine Corp Toys-For-Tots toy drive and has coordinated social events for us in the past. This time, Betty is asking for our help. Betty works with the Assistance League of Diablo Valley. They have an annual charity event each year and she is hoping we can help her out. They will be packing food boxes on Saturday, November 16, 10am to noon. They need eight volunteers - now seven, I'm signing up to help. We meet at



Larkey Park, 2711 Buena Vista Ave, WC and there will be a no host lunch afterwards. Please reach out and support Betty and the Assistance League of Diablo Valley.

Fraternally - *Pete Peterson Senior Warden*

From the South

Mark Williams, Junior Warden

Great Lodge events! Past and future... An update on our Whiskey Seminar that we recently held and a preview of our 2025 Crab Feed (no, it's not too early to be planning that).

As most of you know, we held our **1st Annual Whiskey Seminar at the Lodge on Friday, October 4.** About 20 Brothers and friends attended, and I think all agreed that it was a great event! Our presenter, Brother Hal Wilkes is a member of

Prometheus #851, California #1, and charter member of

Sonora Lodge UD. Hal is a professionally trained Whiskey connoisseur, and also a "Pipe Major"!

Not only were we enlightened in the fine art of whiskey appreciation, we were entertained by Hal on his bagpipes! It was a great evening which also included good food and fellowship. A huge thank you to the Brothers who contributed in many ways to make this a success. And very importantly, we raised over \$1100 in net proceeds to go to our Acalanes High School Scholarship Fund!

Now, looking ahead, please mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 1, 2025** for our annual **Crab Feed**. The Crab Feed is our "landmark" event each year and also a significant money raising endeavor. The upcoming event will again be held at the Orinda Masonic Center. This event is always an opportunity to get together socially with our Brothers and their families, and see some Brothers who we don't have an opportunity to see that often! It is also a major collaborative event, both on the day/evening of the Crab Feed and leading up to it. Lots of planning and coordination is required, and as with anything, it becomes much easier when many Brothers step up to assist. Please reach out to me (sooner is better!) with your availability and willingness to participate. Working together on events like this goes a long way in building our fraternal bonds and friendships.

Fraternally - *Mark Williams Junior Warden*



MASONIC EDUCATION

Those close to me know that I seldom have an original thought and am only too happy to plagiarize or take credit for someone else's idea. I'm kind-sorta doing that this month, except I did reach out and received permission from my counterpart at Martinez Lodge No. 41 - SW Forrest Farwell - to reprint the following Trestleboard submission he did for his lodge.

Probably more than a little coincidence, but I have been memorizing and practicing my 3rd Degree lecture proficiency for a couple of months. Those of you who have heard it know it culminates on a beautiful high-note, speaking of the white apron. Last month, I spotted a copy of the Martinez Trestleboard on our Secretary's desks and "borrowed" it to read. Low and behold, there was a Masonic Education article regarding the Masonic apron. Here, again with permission, is a reprint of the article.

"The Masonic apron is a central and symbolic garment in Freemasonry, representing a variety of important concepts and values. Here's an overview of its significance and the associated teachings.

1. Historical and Symbolic Significance.

- **Origins:** The Masonic apron traces its roots back to the stonemasons of medieval times. Stonemasons wore aprons to protect their clothing while working with stone, and this practical garment evolved into a symbol of their craft and skills.
- **Symbolism:** In Freemasonry, the apron symbolizes purity and innocence. It serves as a reminder of the wearer's commitment to moral and ethical conduct. The apron is a badge of honor and a mark of the wearer's progress and standing within the fraternity.

2. The Apron's Design and Decorations

- **Color:** The color of the apron can vary between jurisdictions, but white is commonly used. It may be bordered with blue, black, or other colors depending on the degree and the lodge's traditions.

- **Emblems and Symbols:** The decorations on the apron can include various Masonic symbols such as:

Square and Compasses: Representing morality and the importance of living within the bounds of Masonic teachings.

The All-Seeing Eye: Symbolizing the watchful eye of the Supreme Being and divine oversight.

Other Symbols: These can include the level, plumb, and trowel, which each have specific meanings related to the principles of Freemasonry.

3. Wearing and Handling the Apron

- **Proper Wear:** The apron is usually worn over the outer garments, symbolizing that Masonic teachings are to be practiced in all aspects of life. It is typically worn during formal lodge meetings and ceremonies.
- **Respect and Care:** The apron should be treated with respect and care, reflecting its significance. It's often considered a personal and sacred item, sometimes passed down through generations or presented on special occasions.

In summary, the Masonic apron is more than just a piece of clothing; it's a profound symbol of values, responsibilities, and principles of Freemasonry. It embodies the wearer's journey through the degrees and their commitment to the moral and ethical standards of the fraternity.”

MASONIC Phun Photos

Worshipful Inspector Mike Tagulao became a Aahmes Shriner



1st Degree Brandon DeeRouen



Officers AFL#480 2024

Master Bradley O. Rupert, PM 925-890-8029	Senior Warden Peter A. Peterson 925-487-2725
Junior Warden Mark A. Williams 925-285-0630	Treasurer David L. Kreutzinger
Secretary C. Randall Tolerton, PM 925-818-8033	Chaplain Franklin H. Shoffner
Assistant Secretary Gary D. Sparks PM Senior Deacon Kaveh Astaneh Senior Steward Robert M. Seitelman	Marshal Sunil K. Awasti Junior Deacon Christopher D. Benz Junior Steward Michael A. McNulty
Organist John Minagro	Tiler Mark Collins

2024 AFL#480 Committees

Executive Committee

Brad Rupert, Master PM - Chair
Pete Peterson, Senior Warden
Mark Williams, Junior Warden
David L. Kreutzinger, Treasurer
Randy Tolerton, Secretary

Auditing Committee

Pete Peterson, - Senior Warden - Chair
Gary Sparks, Assistant Sec PM
Keveh Astaneh, Senior Deacon

Sunshine Committee

Frank Shoffner, Chaplain - Chair
Tom Riley, PM
John Minagro, Organist

Life Membership Committee

Randy Tolerton, Secretary - Chair
Ryder Brose - President
Paul Crawford - VC Chair
Tom Reilly - Member
Fred Lezak - Member
Mark Williams, ex-officio
Brad Rupert, ex-officio
Pete Peterson, ex-officio

Charity Committee

Brad Rupert, Master PM - Chair
Pete Peterson, Senior Warden
Mark Williams, Junior Warden
Randy Tolerton - Sec PM

Member Retention Committee

Randy Tolerton, Secretary - Chair
Tom Riley, PM
Fred Lezak, Marshal

Dining Committee

Mark Williams, Junior Warden - Chair
Chris Benz - Junior Deacon
Rob Seitelman, Senior Steward
Keveh Astaneh, Senior Deacon

Endowment Committee

Randall Tolerton - Secretary/Chair
Adam Hanin - Chair
Ryder Brose - President

