

c/o Don Schauer, Sr.—Secretary
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Trestleboard

December 2018
Volume 14, Issue 11

Dated Material Enclosed
Change Service Requested

**Crow Canyon Lodge
No. 551**

F&AM of California
Chartered October 11, 1923

WWW.CCL551.ORG



Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

- 12/05 - **Wednesday** - Officers Meeting - 7:00 PM
- 12/06 - **Thursday** - Stated Meeting - Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:15 PM / Open 7:30 PM
- 12/08 - **Saturday** - Installation of Officers - 5:00 PM
- 12/12 - **Wednesday** - 2nd Degree Practice - 7:00 PM
- 12/13 - **Thursday** - 2nd Degree - Bro. Nicholas Nelson - 7:00PM
- 12/15 - **Saturday** - Children's Christmas Party - 11:30 AM
- 12/20 - **Thursday** - DARK
- 12/27 - **Thursday** - Feast of St. John the Evangelist - 6:00 PM

JANUARY 2019

- 01/02 - **Wednesday** - Officers Meeting - 7:00 PM
- 01/03 - **Thursday** - Stated Meeting - Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:15 PM / Open 7:30 PM
- 01/10 - **Thursday** - District Officers (DOSI) @ Crow Canyon - 7:00 PM
- 01/17 - **Thursday** - Degree or Practice - 7:00 PM
- 01/24 - **Thursday** - Degree or Practice - 7:00 PM
- 01/31 - **Thursday** - Masonic Family Potluck - 6:00 PM

Appendant and Concordant Bodies

- ◆ San Lorenzo Chapter Eastern Star No. 103 meets @ CVMC 2nd & 4th Monday (8:00 PM)
- ◆ Alchor White Shrine meets @ CVMC 2nd & 4th Friday (7:00 PM)
- ◆ Castro Valley DeMolay meets @ CVMC 1st & 3rd Monday (7:30 PM)
- ◆ Unity Assembly Rainbow No. 65 meets @ CVMC 1st & 3rd Tuesday (7:00 PM)
- ◆ Jobs Daughters Bethel No. 261 Hayward meets 1st & 3rd Monday (7:00 PM) @ Hayward Masonic Center
- ◆ Jobs Daughters Bethel No. 1 Dublin meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday (7:00 PM) @ John Knox Church

From the East

By Robert Eckstein, PM—Master

Brethren:

December is the twelfth and final month of the Gregorian calendar and the first month of winter. It derives its name from the Latin word 'decem', meaning ten, as December was the tenth month of the oldest Roman calendar. The Latin name is derived from Decima, the middle Goddess of the Three Fates who personifies the present. The term Yuletide comes from a Norse tradition of cutting and burning a tree to bring in the Winter Solstice. This was to last through 12 days – later known as the 12 days of Christmas.

Thank you Brethren for electing me Master for 2019. We have a fine group of Officers and we hope you will attend the Installation on December 8th at 5:00 PM.



By tradition, the Master reflects on the current year. 2018 was so enjoyable there is not one or two events that defined the year. For me, a Master's success is determined by the Brothers and Officers that surround him and I thank them, and you, for a productive and fun 2018.

We will finish 2018 with four great events. The Installation of Officers on 12/8, a 2nd Degree for Brother Nelson on 12/13, the Children's and Adult Christmas Party on Saturday 12/15 from 11:30 to 1:30, and the St. John's Feast on 12/27. Don't forget "When we meet, we eat."

We are looking forward to a fun and busy 2019 and hope you will put the Lodge on your calendar for a visit and some good fellowship! Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

From the South

By Paul Rodriguez-Obrien—Junior Warden

Brethren and Families:

First and foremost, please welcome our newest Master Mason, Brother Mick Bowers, who was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on November 29th, 2018. Brother Bowers has been a regular to all our events, and is not only very active and supportive within the school system in our area but is also known for always sporting the latest in "Beanie" fashions to all our Stated meetings. Congratulations, Brother!



December will have some very



special events to close out the year.

Our Executive Chef, Uncle Roy, and his 'Galloping Gourmets' have set the menu for the December 6th Stated dinner, which will consist of the flavors that most have come to enjoy and identify as part of this holiday season. Such flavors include, of course: ham and scalloped potatoes, soup or salad, and warm rolls. To finish off the meal, nothing hits that sweet spot better than apple pie.



Coming up on Saturday Dec 8 is our 97th Annual Installation of Officers. Please attend this event to welcome in your new line of Officers, and stay for the dinner that follows!

December 9th will be the DeMolay Breakfast and Prospect party from 8:00 am – 11:00 am. We are seeing a lot of action within DeMolay, so please plan on attending and joining in on the fun. This would be an excellent opportunity to bring your sons, grandsons, or nephews who are between the ages of 12 through 20. Breakfast consists of 'all-you-can-eat' pancakes, eggs, sausages, and coffee. Suggested donations for the breakfast will be \$10, but it never hurts to show more love.



We will have our 'Lodge Christmas Party', and just might be lucky enough to be visited by Santa Clause himself! This event will be on December 15th from 11:30 am – 2:00 pm. Lunch will be at noon, and the cost will be absolutely FREE, but only to those on the "Nice" list.

A Special note for Parents/Grandparents from Santa:

I will be coming to your lodge on December 15 for the Annual Christmas party. Could I ask that you bring a wrapped present for each of your children with their name attached? Please keep gifts hidden and leave in the Coat Room for me to bring in. I will then present the gift to the child at the appropriate moment.

Rounding out the year will be the 'Feast of St. John the Evangelist' on Thursday Dec 27th from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm. This is a Mason-only event, and will be held at the Lodge. The meal will consist of top sirloin roast beef, beef barley soup, yeast rolls, salad, bacon wrapped asparagus, twice baked potatoes, and a very tasty desert. During this event we will take the time to recognize the important Officer and fellow supporting Brothers within Masonry. A modest fee of \$30 will cover our costs.

In closing, my Brethren, I want to give you my sincere apprecia-

tion in allowing me to serve as your Junior Warden for 2018. I wish you and your family an enjoyable and love-filled holiday season, and look forward to seeing you all again in January.

From the Secretary's Table

By Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.

As many of you know I have been really sick. I got sick on the 20th of September and spent some time in the hospital. Once out of the hospital I started processing the dues. We still have 14 members who have not paid for 2018 and 113 members who have not paid for 2019. You still have one month remaining to be in good standing The other 14 members are not in good standing as of January 1st. Please check your dues receipt.



Audrey and I want to wish each of you along with the members of your family a Very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Once again our lodge is sponsoring a Family Xmas Party for children of all ages. Bring your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. and enjoy a wonderful afternoon. December 15th from 11:30 AM - 2 PM.

Enjoy food, fun, and a visit from Jolly Old St. Nick*!

No charge. Reservations: 510.258.0654



The Lodge invites parents/grandparents to bring a small wrapped gift for Santa to present to your child. Extra gifts will be on hand for parents who are not able to provide one.

3rd Degree Anniversaries

The following brethren were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in the month of December

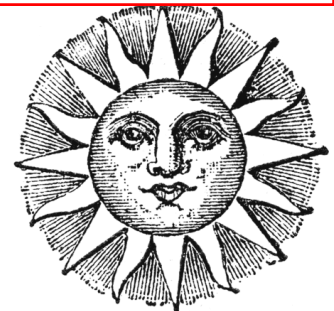
Fred Avery [PM] (34)
Peter Dinos (48)

James Hooks (53)
Scott West (5)

Sunshine and Visiting

These Brothers would love a phone call or e-mail from you to help cheer them up:

Mark Casperson, George Christensen, Gary Frisvold, Charles Hintz, Corbit Ray, Howard Marmor, Wood Hibbs



Please contact Secretary Don Schauer or check our members' only website for their respective phone numbers. If you know of a brother who is ill and could use some cheer please call Ernie or Les.

Ernie Nidick—Sunshine Chairman 925.828.6993 [click to email](#)
Les Blake—Visiting Chairman 510.581.8497 [click to email](#)



Bro. Bowers was raised to the Sublime degree of Master Mason on November 29, 2018 with many Brethren present to help

December Birthdays

Bill Biddell (12/03)	Ron Castia (12/19)
Eric Unti (12/04)	Fred Wilson (12/19)
Verl Rothlisberger (12/05)	Norvalle May (12/22)
Dave Baratto (12/06)	Clarence Teeters (12/22)
Dan Baca (12/10)	J Rafisura (12/24)
Thomas Robertson (12/11)	Alex Von Stade II (12/27)
Robert Deleon (12/12)	Kanti Patel (12/29)
Gilbert Brownfield (12/13)	Jose Zamora (12/29)
Blain Deaton (12/14)	David Middleton (12/30)
Angelo Limnios (12/18)	

In Memoriam



Jack V. Allen
Entered into Rest

87 Years 10 Months and 7 Days
April 15, 2018

Great Architect of the Universe, into thine hands we commend the soul of our dear departed brother!



A MASON'S CHRISTMAS

http://www.themasonictrowel.com/masonic_talks.htm

"I don't believe in a Christmas celebration by the lodge. I don't think we ought to have one, or be asked to contribute to one or in any way engage in Christmas festivities."



"The Junior Mason spoke emphatically and with marked disapproval of the little ante-room group nearby, making happy plans for Yule-tide.

"That's very interesting," commented the Old Past Master. I like to hear points of view unfamiliar to me. Would you mind telling me why?"

"Of course not. It's very simple. Masonry is not Christian. King Solomon, of course, wasn't a Christian, nor were either of the Hiram's. Masonry admits to her ranks any good man of faith; Christian, Jewish, Mohammedan, Buddhist... it makes no difference, so he has a Faith. Then, as a lodge, we celebrate a holiday belonging to one faith. Now I personally am a Christian, and of course I celebrate Christmas. But my brother across the way is a Jew, who does not recognize Christianity. To ask him to spend his proportion of lodge funds in celebrating the birth of a Leader in Whom he does not believe would be exactly like asking me to celebrate, with my proportion of lodge money, the birth of Confucius. Of course, I have only one vote and the majority rules, but when it comes to personal contributions to a Masonic Christmas celebration, my hands will never come out of my pockets."

He shoved them deeper in as he spoke to emphasize his intention not to spend.

"Hum!" answered the Old Past Master. "So you think your Jewish brother across the way doesn't recognize Christianity? Don't you mean he doesn't recognize Christ as the Son of God? Wait a minute... Oh, Brother Samuels." The Old Past Master called across the ante-room. "Here a minute, will you?"

The Jewish brother rose and came forward.

"I just wanted to ask you if you are in favor or against the lodge Christmas celebration?" asked the Old Past Master.

"Me? I am in favor of it, of course, both for the lodge appropriation and the individual contribution."

"Thank you," nodded the Old Past Master. Then as the Jewish brother went back to his seat, he turned to the Junior Mason.

"You see, my son, our Jewish friend is not narrow. He does not believe in Christ as the Redeemer, but he recognizes that he lives in a country largely Christian, and belongs to a lodge largely Christian. To him the Christmas celebration is not one of His birthday, but of the spirit of joyousness and love which we mean when we sing, at Christmas time 'Peace on earth, good will towards men!' If you argue that 'peace' is only a Christian word, he might even quote to you the words of One who said 'I bring you not Peace, but a Sword.'

"Now let me explain something to you. The Jew has just as much right to refuse to recognize Christ as the Son of God, as you have to refuse to consider Mohammed the Prophet the followers of Allah say he is. But as an educated man, you must know that Mohammed was a good man, a devout leader, a wise teacher. As an educated man, you admit that the religion founded by Buddha has much in it that is good, and you admit that Confucius was a wise and just leader. Were you in the

land where the birthdays of any of these were celebrated, would you refuse your part in the people's joy in their Leader, simply because you followed another? I trust not. Well, neither do our Jewish brethren or our Mohammedan brethren, desire to be left out of our celebration. They may not believe in the Divinity of Him we, as Christians, follow, but if they are good men and good Masons... they are perfectly willing to admit that the religion we follow is as good for us as theirs is for them, and to join with us in celebrating the day which is to us the glad day of all the year.

"Believe me, boy, Christmas doesn't mean Christ's birthday to many a man who calls himself Christian. It is not because of joy that He was born that many a good man celebrates Christmas. It is because his neighbor celebrates it, because it is a time of joy for little ones, because it is a day when he can express his thanks to his God that he is allowed to have a wife and family and children and friends and a lodge, because of that very 'peace on earth' spirit which is no more the property of the Gentile than the Jew, the Chinese or the Mohammedan.

"It is such a spirit that Masons join, all, in celebrating Christmas. It is on the Masonic side of the tree we dance, not the Christian side. When this lodge erects its Christmas tree in the basement and throws it open to the little ones of the poor of this town, you will find children of all kinds there; black, white, yellow, and brown, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Mohammedan. And you will find a Jew at the door, and among the biggest subscriptions will be those from some Jewish brethren, and there is a Jew who rents cars for a living who will supply us a dozen free to take baskets to those who cannot come. And when the Jewish Orphan Asylum has its fair, in the Spring, you will find many a Christian Mason attending to spend his money and help along the cause dear to his Jewish brethren, never remembering that they are of a different faith. That, my son, is Masonry."

"For Charity is neither Christian nor Jewish, nor Muslim nor Buddhist. And celebrations which create joy in little hearts and feed the hungry and make the poor think that Masons do not forget the lessons in lodge, are not Christian alone, though they be held at Christmas, and are not for Christians alone, though the celebration be in His honor. Recall the ritual: 'By the exercise of brotherly love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and low, the rich and poor, who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other'.

"It is with this thought that we, as Masons, celebrate Christmas, to bring joy to our brethren and their little ones, and truly observe the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God, whether we be Jew or Gentile, Mohammedan or Buddhist." The Old Past Master ceased and stood musing, his old eyes looking back along a long line of lodge Christmas trees about which eager little faces danced. Then he turned to the Junior Mason.

"Well," he said smiling, "Do you understand?"

"I thank you for my Christmas present," came the answer. "Please tell me to which brother I should make my Christmas contribution?"

"Brotherly love is not a tangible commodity. We cannot touch it or weigh it, smell it of taste it. Yet it is a reality; it can be creative, it can be fostered, it can be made a dynamic power. The Master who has it in his Lodge and his brethren will find that Lodge and brethren give it back to him. The Master too worried over the cares of his office to express friendliness need never wonder why his Lodge seems too cold to his effort." - Carl H. Claudy

2019 Officers

Master — Robert Eckstein, P.M.
510.449.7944 / [click to email](#)

Senior Warden- — Paul Rodriguez-O'Brien
510.461.1071 [click to email](#)

Junior Warden— Brian Ross
510.331.6935 [click to email](#)

Treasurer—George R. Lumm, P.M.
510.791.0753/ 510.604.8513 cell [click to email](#)

Secretary—Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.
510.258.0654 donschauersr@gmail.com

Assist. Secretary/—William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A.
510.886.2288 / 510.520.7242 cell [click to email](#)

Chaplain—Kay C. Dunn
510.537.9407/480.254.0379 [click to email](#)

Marshal— Perry Klahr
925.925.3360 [click to email](#)

Senior Deacon—J. Rafisura
516.519.1151 [click to email](#)

Junior Deacon—Andrew Hawes
510.886.7131 [click to email](#)

Sr. Steward—Phil Busch
510.566.7019 [click to email](#)

Jr. Steward—Orrin Benedict, Jr.
510.512.6999 [click to email](#)

Tiler—Bill Biddell, H.A.
510.582.6207 / 510.589.0878 cell [click to email](#)

Officer's Coach—Kurt R. Allen, P.M., H.A.
925.735.1233 [click to email](#)

Candidate Coaches

Robert Eckstein - 510.744.1717
Bill Ferrell - 510.520.7242 cell

Ron Katz - Fremont-Hayward—510.375.3137 cell

Eric Korbas - Castro Valley 510.823.6334

Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.537.1077 / 510.684.3047 cell

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District

Gary D. Sparks, P.M.
707.803.9385 gds_mason@sparksmailbox.com
[click to email](#)

2019 Committees

2019 Appointments

Audit: Mick Bowers

Charity Committee: Master and Wardens

Child ID: David Allen, and Perry Klahr

Crab Feed: Don Schauer and Roy Tamez, PM

Executive Committee: Robert Eckstein, PM, Paul Rodriguez, Brian Ross, Kurt Allen, PM, and Don Schauer

Hiram Award Selection: HA Committee (All HA recipients)

Lodge App: Robert Eckstein, PM

Masonic Education: TBD

Masonic Funeral: Kurt Allen, PM, Bill Ferrell, PM

Masonic Hall Association: Pat Quinn

Masonic Homes Endowment: Don Schauer

Masons for Mitts: Kurt Allen, PM

Membership Retention: Don Schauer & Robert B. Eckstein, PM

Picnic: Don Schauer and Roy Tamez, PM

Printing and Mailings: Don Schauer

Strawberry Feed: Ron Katz, PM and Perry Klahr

Sunshine & Visiting: Ernie Nidick & Les Blake

Sweethearts Committee: Perry Klahr, Mick Bowers, and Guy Phillips

Visitation / Traveling Degree : Kurt & Wynn Allen, and Don Schauer

Website and Trestleboard: Ron Katz, PM

White Table Night: J Rafisura

Masonic Youth Orders

Castro Valley DeMolay—Steve Kolden—510.409.6118 [click to email](#)

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Heidi Kolden - 510.693.1385
[click to email](#)

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Laurel M. 559.696.0746 [click to email](#)

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Jessica Keene 510.755.6312 [click to email](#)

LEARN MORE ABOUT MASONIC YOUTH ORDERS

DeMolay - demolay.org

Jobs Daughters - jobsdaughtersinternational.org

Rainbow for Girls - gorainbow.org



Monthly Trestleboard of
Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551
Free and Accepted Masons

4521 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552
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info@CCL551.org

Secretary: Don Schauer, Sr. H.A. 510.258.0654
donschauersr@gmail.com

To Reserve the Building
Bill Ferrell - 510.520.7242 cell



Crow Canyon Lodge #551 December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Officer's Meeting - 7:00 PM	6 Stated Meeting Social 5:30 PM Dinner 6:15 PM Opening 7:30 PM	7	8 Installation of Officers - 5:00 PM
9 DeMolay Breakfast and Prospect Party 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	10	11	12 2nd Degree Practice - 7:00 PM	13 2nd Degree - Bro. Nelson - 7:00 PM	14	15 Lodge Christmas Party - 11:30 AM
16	17	18	19	20 DARK	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Feast of St. John the Evangelist - 6:00 P	28	29
30	31					