

Crow Canyon Lodge no. 551
F&AM of California
Chartered October 11, 1923
P.O. Box 2014
Castro Valley, CA 94546-0014

May 2008 Trestleboard
Volume 4, Issue 5

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

4/24—Thursday — 1st Degree for **Mr. Rowell "Red" P. Prosser** of Hayward—7:00 PM
4/25—Friday—Hayward Jobs Daughters Taco Dinner—6:30 PM @ Acacia Lodge

May

5/1—Thursday — Stated Meeting — 5:30 Social / 6:15 Dinner / 7:30 Meeting and **Official Visit of District Inspector** — Cinco-De-Mayo Style-Dinner— \$13/person. Our Masonic Widows always eat for free.
5/2—Friday—Dublin Jobs Daughters Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction @ Pleasanton—6:30 PM
5/4—Sunday—Sweethearts Event (details to the right)
5/6—Tuesday—Visitation to California Lodge #1, San Francisco—6:30 PM. Meet at CVMC @ 5:30 to carpool.
5/8—Thursday—2nd Degree Practice—7:00 PM
5/10—Saturday—Castro Valley DeMolay Installation of Officers @CVMC—7:30 PM
5/13—Tuesday—DOSI @ San Leandro Lodge (for all elected and appointed officers)— 7:00 PM
5/15—Thursday—2nd Degree Practice—7:00 PM
5/22—Thursday—Hiram Award Dinner and Presentation Honoring **Wor. Bob Hansen**—5:30 Social / 6:15 Dinner / 7:30 Presentation in Lodge Room. Dinner free with reservations.
5/29—Thursday—Lodge Potluck and gathering for our members—6:30 PM
5/30—Friday—Unity Rainbow Installation of Officers @ CVMC—7:00 PM

Castro Valley DeMolay meets 1st & 3rd Monday (7:30 PM)
Unity Rainbow meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday (7:00 PM)
Eastern Star meets 1st & 3rd Friday (8:00 PM)
Jobs Daughters Hayward meets 1st & 3rd Monday (7:00 PM) @ Acacia Lodge
Jobs Daughters Dublin meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday (7:00 PM) @ John Knox Church

FOR OUR SWEETHEARTS

On Sunday, May 4th at 11:00 A.M. we will meet for brunch at Dino's Restaurant in Castro Valley. Later we will meet at the Chanticleers Theatre also in Castro Valley. The play starts at 2:00 P.M.

This day is for ALL the Sweethearts of Crow Canyon Lodge and for any Masonic Widow regardless of which Masonic lodge her husband was a member of, so if you know of someone who would like to join us, please invite her as our guest. This event is open to every brother and their ladies. Of course we need to know as soon as possible how many ladies, brothers and friends will be joining us. Please let us know if you are coming to the brunch and/or to the play. If we are given enough time, it is possible to arrange transportation for you. Please call :

Kurt Allen (925) 735-1233

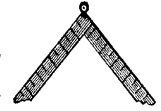
The selections for brunch are roast beef, broiled chicken or Shrimp Louie.

The cost for those brethren and their ladies who will be going to the brunch and play will be \$33.00 each: \$20 for the brunch and \$13 for the play. We all hope to see you there and hear the stories that only the Sweethearts can tell about the great times they have had associated with our fraternity.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Kurt Allen, Chairman

Brethren,

Last month at stated a young **Bro. Paul Tamez** stepped up and sat in the East. What a great job he did! It really showed how hard he has been working. GREAT JOB Paul! We all are proud of you. **Bro. Bud Warder** will be sitting in the East to open for the month of May. I know he will do equally well. It is exciting to see two non-PM officers in chairs below me and know that they are doing such a great job and trying hard to stay focused on their next or next two chairs. There are so many wonderful Masons in this lodge with so much to give . . . and a select few who continue to give and give and give.



To continue on the issue of giving we desperately need some Mason to step up and be the Marshall, or Junior Steward and we really would like for some Mason to step up to the Senior Deacon's chair and if not now, then as the Junior Warden for next year. **Wor. Alvaro Reynoso** deserves some time off. I know also that **Bro. Bud Warder** will be looking forward to having you fill the vacant chairs so obviously un-filled. These empty chairs are the future of your lodge!

Dinner for the April stated, as promised and delivered by our Senior Steward **Bro. Arnold Weinstein** and staff was fantastic and we all can give them a big hand. Great Job Bro. Arnold! May stated is "Uncle" Roy as chef and it will be a Mexican fiesta feast as served up by **Wor. Roy Tamez** and team. It is also the official visit for **Wor. David Thorne**, Inspector of the 156th Masonic District. Let's all be there to support **Wor. Roy** and team and your lodge.

It is a great deal of fun to visit other lodges and on Tuesday, May 6, I would like to have my officers and anyone else who desires to attend, go with us for a lodge visit to California #1. Dinner is on them and it is really a good bunch of Masons. Please attend with me. For that meeting I will drive my Excursion and it holds seven (7) passengers besides me. We will leave Crow Canyon at 5:30 as their dinner starts at 6:30. Drinks are at 6:00 if you wish to drive on your own. The address is 855 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco. Please call me by May 1st, so I can tell them who will attend.

We have a Hiram Award presentation this month for **Wor. Robert Hanson**, dinner will be on the lodge. Please plan to join us on Thursday, May 22, 2008 at 6:00 PM. Make your reservations now.

Have another great month. What can we do to make it better? I look forward to seeing and hearing from each of you.

With deepest respect.

Fred L. Avery P.M., Worshipful Master (510) 733-6001 C: (415) 517-7048 / FAvery@bcciconst.com

From the West

I found this very interesting article on the origins of the term "Freemason", and thought you would like to read it.

What Does "Freemason" Really Mean? by SK Bruce Hunter

"When and where did the word "Freemason" originate? And what does it really mean? These are among the Craft's most enduring questions, and several answers have been proposed. The word has been in use since the 14th century, but until the modern fraternity arose in the 18th century, we find it only in a scattering of documents. And it seems no one felt the need to leave us a proper definition. Of course, the second part is easy. It comes from the French "*masoun*" which refers to a craftsman who works in stone, in other words a stonemason. Since the modern fraternity supposedly descended from medieval stonemasons, there's no problem here. It's the first part of the word that causes confusion. It apparently served as an adjective to tell something about the stonemason. But what does it tell us? Possible Origins. There are several possibilities. One is that it originally denoted a person who was at liberty. This usually meant anyone who was not a serf (i.e. bound to a master or feudal lord) and was, therefore, free to do what he wanted to do. A good example of this is the "freelance", originally a knight at liberty to carry his lance anywhere and fight for any feudal lord willing to hire him. But the term had a special meaning for stonemasons. Since erecting massive structures like Gothic cathedrals required more craftsmen than were available locally, these projects attracted workers from far and wide. It was primarily stonemasons who traveled from place to place to find this kind of work, and as a concession to the practical needs of their profession, they were exempted from many of the regulations and taxes local workers had to deal with. So they really did have more freedom than most craftsmen, and this may be why they were called "free masons". But nowadays most historians favor another possibility: that "free mason" was short for "freestone mason". Freestone was the high quality stone used for decorative work, and carving it required considerable skill. Masons who worked with freestone were elite members of the profession, and today's Freemasons like to think they were the ones from whom the fraternity descended. On the other hand, it is just possible that we can find the source of the term in more recent history." *(to be continued)*

Bud Warder, Senior Warden 925-998-6603 / bud@kioskamerica.com

From the South



Hello Again,

Well, let me start off by thanking **Bro. Weinstein** for the wondrous Passover inspired dinner. It was something unique, even for me. What do you think? I'm always looking for input on what you would like to have, see or request for dinner.

It's May, and it's time for our annual "Cinco De Mayo Mexican Dinner!" I am sure that **Wor. "Uncle Roy" Tamez** has something wonderful planned for us. I can't guess how long he has been cooking for the lodge but I do know this is one dinner you do not want to miss. I believe our Inspector, **Wor. David Thorne** loves his cooking and that is why he plans to have his Official Visit in May.

At the beginning of April, I had the pleasure of going to the Junior Warden's Retreat in San Ramon. I did receive a lot of useful information but also some shocking facts. I was surprised to hear that Masonry, in general, has been growing and that the average age of our newest members is only 37 years-old. But did you know the average age of members who are suspended for non-payment of dues? Over 80 years-old. I think it is time to change a few things. How many of us pay our dues? Come to lodge? Visit our fellow brothers and ladies? If you know of anyone that could benefit from the support of our lodge . . . SPEAK UP! As a lodge brother I feel ashamed that "over 60% of members being suspended are over the age of 80." This fact is just for the last year. What can we do? I would like to see our active members stepping forward to begin making check up calls for the members in their area. We need to constantly touch bases with the brethren, ladies and sweatheart of this lodge to insure that they don't fall through the cracks. Remember your obligations. Please help me change this staggering fact. Thank you.

P.S.: Brothers please step forward and help **Wor. Avery**, Bud and myself by becoming an officer. We are still in need of a Marshal, Junior Steward and someone that is willing to take on the role of Senior Deacon and beyond.

Paul Tamez, Junior Warden - (510) 461-1820
tamez20@aol.com

**THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY**
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

From the Secretary's Desk



All Things Proper To Be Written

A few of you know that besides being lodge secretary that I also am the Associate Bethel Guardian for Jobs Bethel No. 1. I usually harp about paying dues and so on. Brethren, paying dues may not seem that important to you but here is a true story. Jobs Daughters requires Masonic relations for a young lady to join. Finding Masonic relatives is getting harder all the time as men are just not joining. So many times we have to find Grandfathers or even Great, Great Grandfathers to meet the eligible criteria for the young woman. We have found in times past that, yes, even Great, Great Grandfathers let their dues go unpaid and were suspended. It breaks my heart to tell a 10 year old girl she can't join because her Great, Great Grandfather was not a Mason in good standing, or a widow that she is not entitled to any Masonic assistance because her husband didn't pay dues. Fourteen brothers have not paid their dues for 2008. Other than that, being a lodge secretary is a GREAT job. Maybe next month I will do the statistics again. For now our youngest member is 20.44 years old and the oldest is 101.11 years old. The average age is 72.04 years. And there are 432 members of our lodge. Brethren we are not getting any younger. Talk to your sons, grandsons and yes, Great Grandsons. You can't ask them, but you can talk about it and maybe they will ask.

Bill Ferrell, PM—Secretary—(510) 886-2023

Castro Valley Eastern Star #294

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Eastern Star Chapter is having fun and we want you in on it! One of the major activities we have coming up is **Relay for Life!** The event will be held at Canyon Middle School on July 19-20. **Help us end cancer!** Our own sister, Linda Croll is co-chairing the event. Many of our own members are helping to get everything set up. This will be Castro Valley's third year to host the event.

Not only will we need volunteers but we are seeking sponsors and donations. So please, sisters, brothers, family and friends, join us in our efforts and make this event a success.

Beverly Gale, WM

Paul Tamez, WP



Abe, Arno August (37); **Aracne**, Steven Peter (2); **Baca**, Daniel Patrick (52); **Basham**, James Kermit [PM] (16); **Beck**, Walter Wilbur [PM] (63); **Bourke**, Hedley Joseph (45); **Ciurana**, Frank (55); **Clifton**, Stanley Arthur [PM] (39); **Cole**, Christophe Brent (27); **Cook**, Maurice Chester Jr. (36); **Davenport**, Guy Thomas (48); **Densmore**, Frank William (22); **Dyer**, Dale Edward (43); **Fifield**, Alfred Lawrence (54); **Gersick**, Rudolph Stephen (57); **Hansford**, John William (56); **Harris**, Loren Jennings (25); **Holt**, Jack Leon (40); **Hovey**, Richard Brooks (45); **Johnson**, Donald Arthur (43); **Johnson**, Frank Albert (58); **Katz**, Ronald Stephen [PM] (24); **Kimmich**, Carl Phillip (53); **Krause**, Paul (46); **Laursen**, Donald Anker [PM] (52); **Lewright**, Herbert Sylvester (61); **Mc Hugh**, William Dennie (61); **Meissner**, Ronald Lee (43); **Parrish**, Dale (43); **Patceg**, Louis Jacob (46); **Peebles**, Albert Pedro (56); **Rapp**, Gregory Kevin [PM] (21); **Robertson**, Thomas Edward (61); **Rodes**, Alvin Nestor (42); **Rupnow**, Loren Leroy (55); **Schwarting**, John Charles (60); **Sharpe**, George Grinley Jr. (47); **Shrader**, Norman Wilber (43); **Silverstein**, Alfred (58); **Steen**, Robert William [PM] (38); **Stephenson**, David Bruce (10); **Swanson**, Le Roy Kenneth (42); **Thomas**, Alvah Hummer (61); **Tornio**, Jack Robert (27); **Valenzuela**, Glenn Wilbur (44); **Wagle**, John William (55); **White**, Lee Charles (45); **Williams**, Jerry Alvin (26)

2008 Officers

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 (Nicki) - (510) 733-6001 C: (415) 314-7982
 W: (415) 817-5196 FAvery@bccconst.com

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 (Peggy) - (925) 820-7752 bud@kioskamerica.com

Junior Warden - Paul A Tamez
 (510) 461-1820 tamez20@aol.com

Treasurer - Robert C. Hansen, P.M.
 (Sherry) - (510) 537-0109 rchan236@sbcglobal.net

Secretary - William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A.
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 CrowCanyon551@sbcglobal.net

Assistant Secretary—Ron Katz, P.M.
 (Jennifer) - (510) 783-3112 / C: (510) 375-3137
 ron2000katz@comcast.net

Chaplain - Werner Silber, P.M.
 (Pearl) - (510) 582-9693 werns@pacbell.net

Sr. Deacon - Alvaro R. Reynoso, P.M.
 (Cruz) - (510) 490-2192 / C: (510) 364-7073

Jr. Deacon - Chris Boggess
 (Jeannie) - (415) 775-0566 chris.sfw@gmail.com.

Sr. Steward - Arnold Weinstein
 (Shelley) - (925) 275-9217

Tiler - Jack Palmeri, P.M., H.A.
 (510) 783-7546

Officer's Coach—Roy Tamez, P.M., H.A.
 (510) 537-1077

Assistant Officer's Coach - Ron Katz, P.M.
Candidate Coach: Gary Frisvold, H.A.
 (Roxana) - (510) 538-1093

Inspector of the 156th Masonic District

David J. Thorne, P.M., H.A.
 (925) 449-4058 slvrbltt@pacbell.net

Sunshine and Visiting



If you know of an ailing brother who needs some cheering up, don't keep it a secret.

Phillip Bush, Committee Chairman—(510) 733-5840

Special Committees

<p>Sunshine Phillip Bush (Theresa) (510) 733-5840</p> <p>Castro Valley DeMolay Ron Katz (Jennifer) - (510) 783-3112</p> <p>Unity Rainbow for Girls Lorrie Kern (510) 537-2797 lrkern@pacbell.net</p> <p>Jobs Daughters Hayward—Jennifer Katz (510) 375-3138 jenniferkatz94545@yahoo.com</p> <p>Dublin—Denise Jow (510) 352-4292 deejow@earthlink.net</p>	<p>Public Schools Eric Unti (Renee) (510) 537-1530 erunti@earthlink.net</p> <p>Lodge Ambassador to Masonic Homes Robert Logan, P.M., H.A. (Linda) (925) 737-0430 rlogan8198@cs.com</p> <p>Sweethearts (Widows) Program Kurt R Allen, P.M., H.A. (Donna) - (925) 735-1233 kurtrallen@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>Masonic Hall Association Sammy Tamez, P.M. (Maxine) - (510) 276-6015 samtamez551@aol.com</p>
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 Free and Accepted Masons
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<http://www.calodges.org/no551/news.htm>