

c/o Don Schauer, Sr.—Secretary
19767 Royal Ave
Hayward, CA 94541-3651

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Trestleboard

January 2017
Volume 13, Issue 1

Crow Canyon Lodge
No. 551
F&AM of California
Chartered October 11, 1923



Calendar of Events

JANUARY

- 01/03 - Tuesday - Officers Assembly - Meeting 7:00 PM
- 01/05 - Thursday - Stated Meeting - Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:15 PM / Open 7:30 PM - Election of Officers
- 01/10- Tuesday - District Officer's School of Instruction (DOSI) at the Castro Valley Masonic Center - Dinner 6:00 PM / School 7:00 PM
- 01/12 - Thursday - Installed Officers' Work Session - 7:00 PM
- 01/19 - Thursday - Practice - Work TBD - 7:00 PM
- 01/26 - Thursday - Practice - Work TBD - 7:00 PM
- 01/31 - Tuesday - Officers Assembly - Meeting 7:00 PM

FEBRUARY

- 02/02 - Thursday - Stated Meeting - Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:15 PM / Open 7:30 PM
- 02/09 - Thursday - TBD
- 02/14 - Tuesday - District Officer's School of Instruction (DOSI) at the Castro Valley Masonic Center - Dinner 6:00 PM / School 7:00 PM
- 02/16 - Thursday - TBD
- 02/23 - Thursday - TBD
- 02/25 - Saturday - Crab Feed - 5:00 PM - \$40/person for all-you-can-eat. \$15/person for no-crab (pasta) option.

Appendant and Concordant Bodies

- ◆ Lake Chabot Chapter Eastern Star meets @ Castro Valley Masonic Center (CVMC) 1st & 3rd Friday (8:00 PM)
<http://www.lakechabot103oes.org>
- ◆ 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 Alex Von Stade—Worshipful Master

Brethren:

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Holiday Season. The New Year has arrived and with it comes a new set of adventures and challenges. It is now time to pack up the Christmas decorations and take down the lights for next year. The crowds at the shopping malls will cease until next year. At the same time, we will begin seeing discarded Christmas Trees littering the streets and highways. I am just waiting for the first traffic report that will track accidents related to "loose" Christmas trees traveling about the roadways.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the 2017 Annual Installation of Officers in December 2016. It was an unforgettable event for me. I would also like to thank the numerous individuals that contributed their

time and effort to make the event a success. While most of the Officers were able to be installed in their respective places, a few could not be available on the day of the installation.

As a result, they are slated

to be installed at the January 2017 Stated Meeting. Worshipful Woergoetter will work with me to install the individuals that were not installed during December's event. Once all the officers are installed, we can move forward with lodge activities including performing degrees.

This month's District School of Instruction (DOSI) will be held at our Lodge on January 10, 2017. As we are now in the 317th Masonic District, the DOSI's will be rotated among three Lodges; Crow Canyon No. 551, Mosaic No. 218 and Pleasanton No. 321. Upcoming events at our Lodge include the annual Crab Ceed in February and a Cornerstone Ceremony in March.

I look forward to serving the Lodge as Master for 2017. I welcome all of the brethren to take an active role in the Lodge. It belongs to all of us. Have a pleasant January!!

From the West

By —Senior Warden

Happy New Year Brethren!

As the year begins I am excited to be your Senior Warden under the leadership of our Worshipful Master Alex Von Stade. This will be a year of fun and productivity.

A little background on me: I am married to Mary Elizabeth, we have three children, two dogs, and a Green-winged macaw. I was Master of Foothill Lodge, in Hayward, in 1991. Foothill consolidated with Island



City and I looked for a Lodge closer to home. I affiliated and later became Master of Alameda Lodge, in Fremont, in 1997. I'm also involved in several other Masonic organizations. I affiliated with Crow Canyon in June of 2014 so I'm a relative newbie.

I am trying to determine the culture of the Lodge so I would appreciate all communications you might wish to offer. I have noticed in my year of being your Marshall that we have great attendance at our Stated Meetings, but we do not do as well at the degrees. We need to put our best foot forward for our candidates in welcoming them to the Lodge and Masonry. Please review your personal calendar and plan to attend at least a couple of degrees this year.



Editor's note: We were not able to get a current picture of Wor. Bro. Epstein prior to publishing of this month's bulletin. Here is a picture from his Classmates.com posting. So young!

From the South

By Alvaro Reynoso, PM—Junior Warden

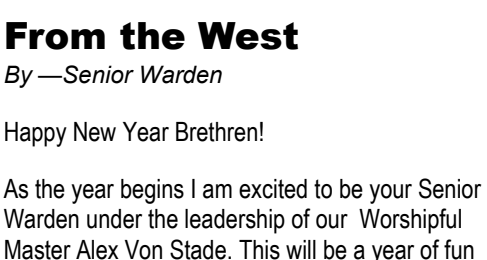
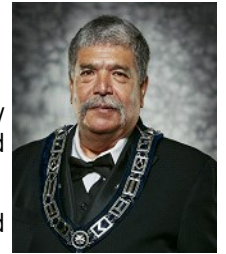
This is the right time for us, as new officers, to lay the foundation for the officers following behind us.

How was the last year? Did we accomplish and reach every goal we had in mind when we started? I personally thought that we had a productive year. However, what is done is now done and 2016 is over. 2017 marks the beginning of a new era and gives us the opportunity for the planning of an even better future



For reasons beyond my control I was not able to participate in the installation ceremony on December 3rd. Have no fear! This does not mean that I am walking out of the commitment I have made to the lodge. I will still be your Jr Warden and it is my intention to finish my masonic year.

To conclude, it is with great satisfaction to know that I retain your esteem and good will and I sincerely apologize for my inability to attend the installation ceremony in December.



From the Secretary's Table

By Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.

The start of a new year and we are, as the track announcer says, "They're all in the gate." Our new team of officers are ready to go.

We had a very successful year under the capable leadership of Worship Ramos. We will have just as good if not a better year with Wor. Von Stade.



I have been very busy with the annual dues coming in. To-date there have been 151 members that have paid their 2017 dues. That leaves 103 members outstanding. There are still 13 members who have not paid 2016 dues and are

in danger of being suspended for non payment of dues (NPD) in May. Please check your current dues receipt and make sure it is good through 2017.

A special 'thank you' to our Life Members, who stepped forward and paid their per-capita tax as a way to assist the lodge. The lodge is very grateful for your generous donation.

On December 12th I am having some surgery done and will not be able to drive for a few weeks.

I will however be home 95% of the time and available for the membership.

Congratulations

3rd Degree Anniversaries

The following brethren were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in the months of January

Peter Amato (58)	Justin King (8)
Aaron Bianchi (1)	Geoffrey Linder (4)
John Erman (27)	Raymond Newman (26)
William Ferrell [PM] (35)	Gary Orr (31)
Marshall Field (51)	Mark Parinas (7)
Craig George (35)	Frank Russell Jr. (35)
Joseph Gottardi (52)	Jerome Samelson (30)
Roger Hamilton (40)	John Smith (14)
Clarence Herron (48)	Sammy Tamez [PM] (36)
Forrest Hibbs [PM] (64)	John Teixeira (17)
Arthur Hinds (20)	Dain Warton (12)
Kurt Jaeckel [PM] (57)	Jose Zamora [PM] (40)

MASTERS' and PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION
 OF ALAMEDA and CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES
 104th ANNUAL CONVOCATION SATURDAY,
 FEBRUARY 4, 2017 at 3:00 PM

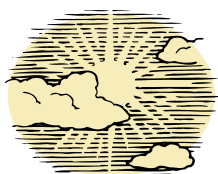
Grand Master John Richard Heisner will attend
 SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE, OAKLAND, CA
 Reservations are REQUIRED
 Contact mpmsecretary@att.net

Sunshine and Visiting

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

Howard Marmor, Don Schauer

Please contact Secretary Don Schauer for their respective phone numbers.



Ernie Nidick —Sunshine Chairman 925.828.6993 bev2ern@comcast.net
 Les Blake—Visiting Chairman 510.581.8497 cherllois@sbcglobal.net



January Birthdays

Charles Hintz (01/01)	Arthur Hinds (01/20)
William Warnecke (01/01)	Paul Makela (01/20)
Frank Thrall (01/03)	W. Glen Salmon (01/20)
Keith Dilliplane (01/05)	Jack Tornio (01/20)
Justin King (01/08)	Theodore Moehnke (01/22)
Martin Nilson (01/08)	Fred Kao (01/23)
Greg Rapp (01/08)	Billy Martens (01/25)
Randy Daniels (01/12)	Kem Apak (01/26)
Jerry Garcia (01/12)	James Johnston (01/27)
Jorge Hernandez (01/13)	Louie Garcia (01/28)
Mark Kahn (01/13)	John Laney (01/28)
Albert Thomas (01/13)	John Davenport (01/29)
Orrin Benediet (01/15)	Delbert Kraft (01/29)
Geoff Linder (01/15)	Gene Tague (01/29)
David Stevenson (01/17)	Ronald Nobriga (01/30)
Kurt Allen (01/18)	Gary Frisvold (01/31)

In Memoriam



Alfred R. Orzell Entered into rest	91 years, 5 months and 13 days June 13, 2016
Gordon Kolsch Entered into rest	83 years, 7 months and 14 days April 20, 2016
Charles Smith Jr. Entered into Rest	90 years, 8 months and 21 days November 2, 2016
Howard Hansen Entered into rest	90 years, 4 months and 26 days November 11, 20116

Great Architect of the Universe, into thine hands we commend the souls of our dear departed brothers!

2017 Grand Lodge Individual Ritual Competition

The manner in which we perform our ritual can either motivate or discourage future enlightenment for both the candidate and the lodge; therefore, we must all strive to demonstrate the best ritual possible. It is our hope that all of our members will elect to participate in this exciting competition and demonstrate their commitment to raising the standard of ritual excellence in our craft.

This year the Grand Lodge competition will be open to any Master Mason and it will involve the delivery of the charges for all three degrees. During our 2017 Annual Communication, the grand master, Executive Committee, and Ritual Committee hope to recognize one individual from each division that best exemplifies the involved work.

Each competitor must complete and submit this [Registration Form](#) to his district inspector (or, in his absence, the division's assistant grand lecturer (AGL)) by the deadline of March 1, 2017. The winners of these competitions will each receive the title of "Best Ritualist" in their respective divisions. Each winning ritualist is encouraged to attend the 2017 Annual Communication, at his own expense, to be recognized by the grand master. Awards not presented at Annual Communication will be presented later by the respective AGL.

We know that numerous Masons throughout California work diligently to study and perform the ritual, and it is our hope every lodge will participate in this competition to demonstrate their prowess. For further details, please reference the [2017 Individual Ritual Competition announcement and rules](#).

Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551

Annual Crab Feed

February 25, 2017 5:00 PM

4521 Crow Canyon Rd. Castro Valley

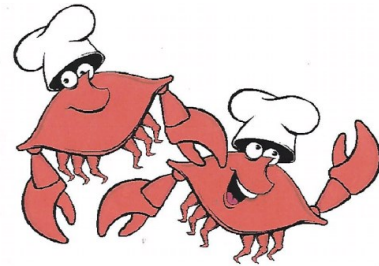
\$40.00 per person

For you non-crab eaters Pasta

\$15.00 per person

Tickets are available from the lodge secretary and limited to 150 guests.

Due to the high cost of crab, tickets must be purchased on or before Monday, February 20th. Tickets will not be available the door.



Masonic Roots and Tradition

(reprinted from California Freemason magazine)

William Biddell, a Mason for more than 53 years, secretary of Menlo Park Lodge No. 651, and tiler of Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551, has worked with wood his entire life. As he says, "If it's wooden and round, I'm your man!" After retiring in 2000, Biddell took a class in wood turning and soon bought a lathe. He quickly became passionate about his hobby, even building a woodshop in his backyard. Since then, he has contributed a variety of handmade wooden Masonic tools and decorations to a number of lodges.

Biddell creates stands for the three lesser lights – which are placed near the altar to represent the sun, moon, and worshipful master – from maple or pine, stained with red oak. Depending on the lodge, they can be used with real or battery-operated candles. He has also created more than 20 gavels for incoming masters in hammer, vertical, and setting maul styles. The gavels are usually two inches in diameter and seven inches long, but each is one of a kind. Although the gavels tend to be composed of walnut, part of Biddell's artistic process involves surveying his scrap wood to decide whether he will use a more traditional wood, like oak, maple, or walnut, or a more exotic variety, like South American lignum vitae. Like the gavels, each piece of wood is unique. "I like imperfections in wood," Biddell says. "You can take something that is ugly and transform it into something beautiful."

Biddell appreciates that his work helps to enhance candidates' ritual experience. When he noticed that non-memorized sections of the ritual

were being read from a binder during ceremonies, he designed his first wooden secretary scroll to make the experience more authentic. Since then, several other lodges have requested scrolls and Biddell has gone on to build more than a hundred scroll ends – assembling the rods using wooden dowels. He has also crafted bowls, platters, clocks, vases, brush handles, pens, and a spinning wheel. He says, "Some Masons these days do not work with their hands, but in the old days they did. I like having a connection to Masonic roots and traditions."



Bro. William Biddell enjoys the creative process of woodcarving - from searching for the perfect medium to polishing the finished product.

2017 Officers

Master — Alex Von Stade
510.483.9574 avstade@gmail.com

Senior Warden —Robert Eckstein, P.M.
510.744.1717 / rbeckstein@att.net

Junior Warden—Alvaro Reynoso, P.M.
510.490.2192 / 510.364.7073 alreynoso@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer—George R. Lumm, P.M.
510.791.0753/ 510.604.8513 cell grlumm@pacbell.net

Secretary—Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.
510.258.0654 DonRL7@pacbell.net

Assist. Secretary—William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A.
510.886.2288 / 510.520.7242 cell kb6xa@att.net

Chaplain—Kay C. Dunn
510.537.9407/480.254.0379 kaycdunn@gmail.com

Marshal—Earl Woodson
925.462.5283

Senior Deacon—Paul Rodriguez-O'Brian
510.461.1071 / cell 510.881.0570 hal2pro@sbcglobal.net

Junior Deacon—Glen Sears
650.333.0632 gsears7@gmail.com

Sr. Steward—Brian Ross
510.331.6935 br575653@gmail.com

Jr. Steward—Phillip Busch
510.566.7019 tbusch_55@yahoo.com

Tiler—Bill Biddell, H.A.
510.582.6207 / 510.589.0878 cell wbiddell@gmail.com

Officer's Coach—Kurt R. Allen, P.M., H.A.
925.735.1233 kurtrallen@sbcglobal.net

Candidate Coaches

Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.537.1077 / 510.684.3047 cell
Ron Katz—Fremont-Hayward—510.375.3137 cell

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District

Fred L. Avery, PM,
510.331.6719 fredpastmasteravery@gmail.com

Masonic Family Corner

Learn more about Masonic Youth Orders

DeMolay

DeMolay International - www.demolay.org

Northern California DeMolay - www.norcaldemolay.com

Job's Daughters

Job's Daughters International- www.jobsdaughtersinternational.org

International Order of Job's Daughters, California - www.caijod.org

Rainbow for Girls

Rainbow for Girls Supreme Assembly - www.gorainbow.org

Rainbow for Girls California Grand Assembly - www.caiorg.org



2017 Committees

Appointments

Executive Committee: Alex Von Stade, Robert Eckstein, Alvaro Reynoso, Kurt Allen, Don Schauer, Sr.

Masonic Charity: Three Principle Officers

Sunshine: Ernie Nidick & Les Blake

Masonic Hall Association: Pat Quinn

Masonic Homes Endowment: Don Schauer Sr.

Membership Retention: Don Schauer Sr. & Alex Von Stade

Audit: Bill Biddell & Bob Pinkerton

Masonic Funeral: Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell & All Officers

Web Master: Ron Katz

Events

White Table Night: Alex Von Stade & Robert Eckstein

Hiram Award Festivities: Robert Eckstein & Alex Von Stade

Festive Boards & Feasts: Paul Rodriguez-O'Brian & Glenn Sears

Crab & Pasta Feed: Don Schauer & Roy Tamez

Strawberry Feed: Ron Katz

Public Schools Night: Eric Unti & Bill Ferrell

Child ID: David Allen & Roy Tamez

Sweetheart Events: Phil Busch & Kurt Allen

Visitation: Don Schauer, Kurt Allen & Robert Eckstein

Masonic Formation and Education: Robert Eckstein & Alex Von Stade

Masonic Youth Orders

Castro Valley DeMolay—Pat Quinn—510.755.7891 pdq551@att.net

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Helen J. Zidek

HelenJ.Zidek@comcast.net

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Laurel M. 559.696.0746

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Jessica Keene, 510.755.6312

keenecrew@ymail.com

Monthly Trestleboard of

Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551 Free and Accepted Masons

4521 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552

510.274.0725 (lobby, kitchen)

Secretary: Don Schauer, Sr. H.A. 510.258.0654 DonRL7@pacbell.net

Editor: Ron Katz, PM 510.375.3137 rstephen94545@yahoo.com

To Reserve the Building

please call 510.258.0654

Email crowcanyon551@att.net

Or go to <http://tiny.cc/rentCVMC>

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Crow Canyon No. 551

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 <u>Officers Assembly</u> Meeting 7:00 pm *installed officers only	4	5 <u>Stated Meeting</u> Dinner - 6:00 PM Open - 7:30 PM	6	7
8	9	10 <u>DOSI @ CVMC</u> Dinner - 6:00 PM School - 7:00 PM	11	12 <u>Installed Officers' Work Session</u> Open 7:00 PM	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 <u>Practice - Work TBD</u> Open - 7:00 PM	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <u>Practice - Work TBD</u> Open - 7:00 PM	27	28
29	30	31 <u>Officers Assembly</u> Meeting 7:00 pm *installed officers only	30			