



Trestleboard

July 2026

Volume 22, Issue 7

Crow Canyon Lodge

No. 551

F&AM of California

Chartered October 11, 1923

WWW.CCL551.ORG



Calendar of Events

JULY 2026

07/01—**Wednesday**—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
07/02—**Thursday**—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner—6:15 PM /
Business Meeting—7:30 PM
07/09—**Thursday**—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
07/14—**Tuesday**—DOSI 6:30 PM
07/16—**Thursday**—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
07/18—**Saturday**—Breakfast with Brothers @ Manor Grill, San
Leandro—8:00 AM
07/21—**Tuesday**—Zoom Social—7:00 PM
07/23—**Thursday**—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
07/27—**Monday**—Hall Association—7:00 PM
07/30—**Thursday**—Masonic Family Potluck—6:00 PM

AUGUST 2026

08/05—**Wednesday**—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
08/06—**Thursday**—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner—6:15 PM /
Business Meeting—7:30 PM
08/08—**Saturday**—Annual Lodge Picnic at Golden Gate Live
Steamers in Tilden Park. Details inside.
08/15—**Saturday**—Breakfast with Brothers @ Manor Grill, San
Leandro—8:00 AM
08/18—**Tuesday**—Zoom Social—7:00 PM
08/20—**Thursday**—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
08/22—**Saturday**—Strawberry Feed@Masonic Home—10:30 AM
08/24—**Monday**—Hall Association—7:00 PM
08/27—**Thursday**—3rd Degree for Ildjer Baron @ 6:15pm

Appendant and Concordant Bodies

- ♦ San Lorenzo Chapter Eastern Star No. 103 meets @ CVMC 2nd & 4th Monday (8:00 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 Paul Rodriguez-Obrien, PM—Master

Brethren and Families,

I would like to share highlights of our celebration of the Feast of Saint John (FOSJ), held on Saturday, June 20th, at our Lodge.



This year's celebration became a joint event and was well attended by 13 Masons from CC-551 and 10 Masons from Mosaic Lodge No. 218 of Livermore. It was a wonderful evening filled with Masonic education, fellowship, toasts, camaraderie, and a fine seven-course meal honoring our brethren, our Craft, and one of our patron saints, Saint John the Baptist.

As a brief refresher, Blue Lodges of Freemasonry traditionally celebrate two patron saints:

- Saint John the Baptist. Celebrated on June 24th. The baptizer of, and likely a relative of, Jesus Christ. He is regarded as the patron saint of medieval stonemasons and is closely associated with Masonic cornerstone-laying ceremonies.

- Saint John the Evangelist. Celebrated on December 27th. Traditionally recognized as the author of the Gospel of John and identified with the Apostle John. His feast day has long been associated with the installation of Grand Masters in England and Scotland.

Following the social hour, we convened in the Lodge room at 6:00 PM for Masonic education. We were privileged to hear an excellent presentation by Mosaic Lodge's own Worshipful David Thorn on the Circumpunct. In Masonic symbolism, the two parallel lines representing the Holy Saints John flank and touch the "Point Within a Circle." His informative lecture was well received, and a lively question-and-answer session followed.

We then retired to the dining room, where we were treated to a truly exemplary seven-course Mediterranean feast. To describe this labor of love, prepared by Wor. Andrew Hawes and his lovely wife, Jamie, as merely "excellent" would be an understatement. Their efforts resulted in a remarkable dining experience worthy of the occasion. The meal was expertly served by our DeMolay members and coordinated by Dad Steve Kolden.

During dinner, we were again fortunate to have Worshipful David Thorn serve as Master of Ceremonies as he led the traditional Feast of Saint John toasts, honoring those whom we remember and celebrate on such occasions.

Following dinner, the evening was still young, and many brethren gathered in the courtyard to continue fellowship and enjoy a selection of fine cigars.

I would like to once again thank the brethren of Mosaic Lodge No. 218 for joining us and helping make this celebration such a success. Special thanks to Wor. David Thorn for his informative lecture and excellent service as Master of Ceremonies; to the Hawes family for providing a truly memorable dinner; and to DeMolay for their assistance with dining room setup, hospitality, service, and cleanup. A great deal of planning and preparation went into this event, and none of it would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the FOSJ Committee.

Thank you all, and may God bless you.

Events like these strengthen the bonds of brotherly love and remind us of the value of fellowship within our Craft. I encourage everyone to attend our stated meetings, degree work, and upcoming social events whenever possible. I look forward to seeing you and your families again soon.

From the West

By Alex Von Stadt, PM — Sr. Warden



Welcome to the month of July, traditionally the warmest month of the year. The month of July was originally known as Quintilus after Aurelius Claudius Quintilius, a Roman emperor. It was later renamed to July in 44 BC by the Roman Senate in honor of Gaius Julius Caesar, a Roman general. The month of July is known for warm temperatures, clear skies, sunshine, and outdoor activities such as outdoor barbecues, picnics, and gardening. As such, I wish all of you a pleasant July.

From the South

By Andrew Hawes, PM — Jr. Warden



I still remember a line that someone at my college had on their logout terminal screen in the computer lab. It was quoting lyrics from a song, and said: "Well, son, a funny thing about regret is that it's better to regret something you have done than to regret something you haven't done."

While this sentiment is being expressed in somewhat negative terms (clearly it's better not to regret at all...) the message contained within it is at its core a powerful one, that we should all try to make part of our lives.

I suspect we've all heard the expression "opportunity knocks but once" – it's a similar message, the meaning being that one should take opportunities when they are

presented, and not miss out on them because of fear or an overabundance of caution.

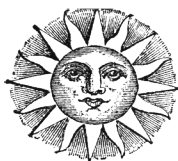
This isn't to say that every opportunity is a good one that we should take – I don't for a moment regret NOT taking a hit from the crack pipe I was once offered while chatting with a homeless man in the BART station – but that we should pay close attention to the opportunities that do come along, and not miss out on good ones due to fear or inaction.

Live your life and make your choices. Try to make good ones, but accept that they won't all be good, and that's just how life goes.

Make sure you have things to look back on with regret because that's the only way to also have things to look back on fondly and with pride.

Sunshine and Visiting

The "Sunshine Committee" focuses on spreading positivity and providing support to members and their families during challenging times. This could include sending cards, making visits, or offering assistance to those in need. Similarly, our "Visiting Committee" ensures that members who are unwell or unable to attend meetings feel connected and supported. These committees embody the Masonic values of brotherhood and compassion.



If you know of a brother who could use some Sunshine or a Visit please contact our chairman, Wor. Alan Kenyon at 510-520-7672 or Alan.Kenyon@comcast.net

July Birthdays

John Teixeira (07/01)	Leslie Blake (07/14)
Ronald Vandenberghe (07/01)	William Ferrell (07/17)
Richard Wilkinson (07/01)	Tramaine Ellison (07/20)
Charles Herrick (07/02)	Phil Acton (07/22)
Barry Bookman (07/02)	Ronald Garcia (07/23)
Jacob Mapp (07/03)	Stanley Oliver (07/23)
Donald Clendenen (07/05)	Eric Korbas (07/26)
Harold Burk (07/07)	Charles Atwood (07/29)
Fred Avery (07/08)	Rodney Wilson (07/29)
Denis Beaman (07/09)	Earl Woodson (07/29)
Donald Jensen (07/09)	Perry Klahr (07/31)
Jody Juracich (07/11)	



3rd Degree Anniversaries

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

Ernest Nidick (66)

Gordon Warder (28)

Masonic Family Corner

By Denise Jow—Past Grand Guardian

Happy Summer!

The Bethel Daughters & Chaperones all had a great time attending Grand Bethel in Visalia. Their mascots were strawberry plushies & they wore Strawberry Shortcake T-shirts with denim skirts. WOW we are so proud of all our Bethel Daughters who competed in Librarian's Report, Arts & Crafts, Sew & Show, Performing Arts, Ritual, Friendship Bethel & Membership.

Our winners were **Librarian's Report:** Mimi 3rd place and Scarlett 1st place plus the perpetual trophy for receiving the highest score!

Arts & Crafts: Lacy 1st place for her water color drawing, Scarlett 2nd place for her painted wing and Mimi 3rd place for her crochet dragon.

Sew & Show: Mimi 1st place advance beginner for her long dress.

Performing Arts: Scarlett 2nd place for her monologue from Legally Blond.

Ritual Individual 4th Messenger: Emma 1st place.

Friendship Bethel: 3rd place.

Sashes for Sisters: Maliha, Fiara & Savannah.

This summer we are volunteering at the Alameda County Fair and will be working at the Pleasanton DeMolay parking lot on July 1st.

Our Honored Queen has planned a fun Fall term and has her Panda Express Fundraiser on Friday, August 21st. Please use code 9016277 when ordering your food at any Panda Express location.

We resume Bethel Meetings in September but if you know anyone who is interested in joining Job's Daughters please let us know and we will invite them to a fun activity. Thank you!



**Job's Daughters
International®
of California**

Annual Lodge Picnic

**at Golden Gate Live Steamers
in Tilden Park**

Saturday, August 8th @ 11:30 am

Bring your family and enjoy riding miniature trains, games, music along with Uncle Roy's famous Tri-tip Barbeque! Youth Orders invited!

RSVP to Sec. Klahr or to by July 23rd

2026 MASONS4MITTS

18TH SEASON IS ON!

Now in its 18th year, Masons4Mitts has raised more than \$2.675 million for our four MLB partner foundations, equipping underserved young people all around the state with custom-made leather baseball mitts and ensuring they have access to enriching, high-quality youth baseball and softball leagues.

As always, the [California Masonic Foundation](#) is proud to partner with the charitable foundations of the [Los Angeles Angels](#), [Los Angeles Dodgers](#), [San Diego Padres](#), and [San Francisco Giants](#). By donating to Masons4Mitts, you ensure that underserved young people are provided with a custom-made leather baseball mitt and able to play the game and learn important life lessons. The charitable baseball programs offered through the Major League Baseball teams provide sports instruction, a safe place to play, help developing teamwork skills, and guidance on health, nutrition, study skills, and more.

With a focus on expanding the range of skills and services it brings to young people to include health, nutrition, wellness, and social justice, Masons4Mitts is growing to incorporate so much more than the game.

HELPING KIDS – ONE MITT AT A TIME!

Each year, regional teams of Masonic lodges compete to purchase high-quality leather baseball mitts for children who participate in charitable baseball programs.

Support young people in your community today by donating a mitt today—and help your team win statewide bragging rights!

Give a Mitt!

<https://givebutter.com/CBPL7F>

About Masons Nights

Masons4Mitts officially begins on March 26th, Opening Day of the MLB season.

It closes before **Masons Night** for each region in the fall.

Masons Nights are a fun opportunity to attend a ballgame with a large group of Masonic friends and family. Watch your local team, share in the camaraderie with your brothers, and represent the Masons!

• NorCal: Tuesday, September 22

PURCHASE GIANTS TICKETS

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/MasonsOfCA2026>

“The most rewarding part of this program is knowing that, for just \$20, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of these kids.”



Why Support Us?

Any one of us can give \$20.

Support a child in need.

Be part of a great community experience.

Give online at

www.masons4mitts.org

2026 Officers

Master — Paul Rodriguez-Obrien, PM (Diana)
510.461.1071 hal2pro@sbcglobal.net

Senior Warden — Alex VonStade, P.M. (Yuki)
510.512.6569 cell avstade@gmail.com

Junior Warden—Andrew Hawes, P.M. (Jamie)
646.645.0175 awphawes@yahoo.com

Treasurer—Phil Busch H.A. (Teresa)
510.566.7019 tbusch_55@yahoo.com

Secretary—Perry Klahr (Joan)
925.425.3360 / 925.699.1786 pklahr1234@comcast.net

Assistant Secretary—Jerry Garcia (Mary)
510.909.8645 jerrygarcia1263@gmail.com

Chaplain—Alan Kenyon, PM (Karen)
510.520.7672 Alan.Kenyon@comcast.net

Marshal—Pat Quinn, H.A. (Donna Jo)
925.201.3065 / 510.755.7891 cell pdq551@att.net

Senior Deacon—Tramaine Ellison (Monique)
209.830.1513 / 209.481.7430 cell Tramaine.ellison@hotmail.com

Junior Deacon—Aaron Johnson
510.509.4312 vwroadracer@gmail.com

Senior Steward—Adam Brissey
925.719.0103 adam.brissey@gmail.com

Junior Steward—

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

Officer's Coach—Robert Pinkerton, PM (Toni)
510.851.6794 cell bobpink@live.com

Officer's Coach—Brian Ross, PM (Teresa)
510.331.6935 br575653@gmail.com

Candidate Coaches

Bill Ferrell (Kathy) 510.520.7242 cell
Eric Korbas (Maribel) - Castro Valley 510.823.6334
Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.684.3047 cell

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District
Wor. Allen Cuenca 916.390.1003
allencuenca@sbcglobal.net

Committees

2026 Appointments

Audit: Pat Quinn, Justin Ortiz, Andrew Hawes

Breakfast with Brothers: Brian Ross, Bill Biddell, Phil Busch

Masonic Charity Committee: Master and Wardens

Community Outreach: Aaron Johnson, Paul Rodriguez

Crab Feed: Roy Tamez, Perry Klahr, Brian Ross

Executive Committee: Paul Rodriguez, Alexander Van Stade, Andrew Hawes, Perry Klahr

FOSJ: Bill Biddell

Hiram Award Selection: HA Committee (All HA recipients)

Masonic Funeral: Lyman Penning, Roy Tamez, Pat Quinn, Bill Biddell.

Masonic Hall Association: Pat Quinn—President

Membership Retention: Paul Rodriguez, Perry Klahr

Picnic: Roy Tamez, Perry Klahr, Bill Biddell, Brian Ross,

Printing and Mailing: Bill Biddell

Public Schools Night: Adam Korbas, Brendan Korbas, Roy Tamez

Sportsman Club: Brian Ross, Phil Busch.

Strawberry Feed: Perry Klahr, Robert Johnson, Brian Canton

Sunshine and Visiting: Alan Kenyon

Sweethearts Committee: Aaron Johnson, Jacob Herrick, Tramaine Ellison

Trustees: Robert Logan, Brian Ross, Perry Klahr, Bill Ferrell, Hank Andreotti, Adam Korbas

Website and Trestleboard: Ron Katz

Welcome: Adam Brissey

White Table Night: Perry Klahr, Brian Ross, Pat Quinn, Bill Biddell

Youth Orders Liaisons: Andrew Hawes, Pat Quinn

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—Joy Molina 510.754.4983
[click to email](#)

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Kelly Hessler
925.980.3899, yo_hessler@yahoo.com

Where in the World

Each month we log visitors to our website. This month we were pleased to have guests from: Santa Ana, CA; Beaverton, OR; Fremont, CA; New York, NY; San Francisco, CA; Istanbul, Turkiye; Los Angeles, CA; Singapore; Hayward, CA; Columbus, OH; Pleasanton, CA;



Monthly Trestleboard of
Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551
Free and Accepted Masons
4521 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552
510.556.4253 (lobby, kitchen)

Find us on the Web: <http://www.CCL551.org>
Zoom Social and Study - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7: PM, at :
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89901030939?pwd=uejbsEg5bVvb1Nub6VhJUj2kU54.1>

Editor: Ron Katz, PM 510.375.3137
info@CCL551.org

Secretary: Perry Klahr 925.425.3360
pklahr1234@comcast.net

To Reserve the Building
Colleen Weaver—mamaweaver06@gmail.com

July 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Officer's Meeting –7:00 PM	2 Stated Meeting – Social / Dinner- 6:15PM Business - 7:30 PM	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Degree or Practice –7:00 PM	10	11
12	13	14 DOSI—6:30 PM	15	16 Degree or Practice –7:00 PM	17	18 Breakfast with Brothers at Manor Grill, San Leandro—8:00 AM
19	20	21 Zoom Social – 7:00 PM	22	23 Degree or Practice –7:00 PM	24	25
26	27 Hall Association –7:00 PM	28	29	30 Masonic Family Potluck–6:00 PM	31	