

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

March 2007

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March—*Youth Orders Month*

1st—Stated Meeting—Social 5:30 / Dinner 6:30 / Meeting 7:30 PM
 5th—DeMolay Meeting—7:30 PM
 6th—Rainbow Meeting—7:00 PM
 8th—Officer's Practice—7:30 PM
 9th—**Pizza Night at Redwood Road Round Table** in Castro Valley—6 PM
 10th—**DeMolay Degrees Day at CVMC**—12 Noon—An opportunity to see both Degrees of the DeMolay. Open to all Master Masons.
 10th—**DeMolay Pasta Dinner and Dance**—6:00 PM—\$6.00/person
 19th—DeMolay—Senior DeMolay Recognition and Majority Member Night—*All are welcome to attend*—7:30 PM
 20th—Rainbow Meeting—7:00 PM
 22nd—3rd Degree
 26th—Masonic Hall Association—7:30 PM
 30th—**Public Information and Open House Night**—8:00 PM
 31st—District Officer's **School of Instruction** at Castro Valley—8:00 AM—**All officers and Acacia Team for 3rd Degree, 2nd Section.**

April (preview)

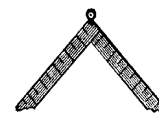
5th—Stated Meeting—Social 5:30 / Dinner 6:30 / Meeting 7:30 PM
 12th—Officer's Practice
 19th—**Public School's Night and Teacher Recognition Program**—6:00 PM (free dinner)
 26th—Officer's Practice
 28th—District Officer's School of Instruction at Pleasanton—8:00 AM

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From the East



“Amos what seest thou?” Thus he showed me; and behold the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said unto me, “Amos, what seest thou?” And I said “a plumb line”. Then said the Lord, “Behold, I will set a plumb line in the midst of my people; I will not again pass by them anymore.”



The important part of this passage from the great light is this: “The Lord set a plumb line in the midst of his people.” He did not propose to judge them by a plumb line afar off in another land, in high heaven, but here in the midst of them.

This is interesting to Masons, since it teaches us how we should judge our own work, and more important, how we should judge the work of others.

Presumably plumb lines are alike. Presumably all plumbs, like all squares and all levels, are equally accurate, yet a man may use a tool, thinking it is accurate, which to another is not true. If the tool of building and the tool of judging be not alike either the judgment must be inaccurate or the judge must take into consideration the tool by which the work was done.

By the touch, a blind man may learn to write upon a typewriter. If a loosened type drops from the type bar when the blind man strikes the letter “E” he will make but a little black smudge upon the paper. Would you criticize the blind man for imperfect work? He has no means of knowing that his tool is faulty. If you found the smudges which stand for the letter “E” in the right place, showing that he had used his imperfect machine perfectly, would you not consider that he had done perfect work? I think so, because you would judge by a plumb line “in the midst of the man and his work.” If however, the paper with the smudge letter “E” were judged by one who knew nothing of the workman’s blindness, doubtless he would judge it as imperfect.

The builders of Washington Monument and The Eiffel Tower in Paris both used plumb lines accurate to the level of the latitude and longitude of these structures. Both are at right angles with sea level yet so some observers on the moon equipped with a strong telescope these towers would not appear parallel. As they are in different latitudes they rise from the surface of the earth at an angle to each other.

Doubtless he who engineered the monument would protest that the monument to Washington was right and the French engineer’s tower wrong. The French man, knowing his plumb was accurate, would believe the monument crooked. But the great architect, we may hope, would think both right knowing each was perfect by the plumb by which it was erected.

We learn to judge the work by our own plumb line, not by another’s, if we erect that which is good, true and square, work by our own working tools, by our own standards, we do well. Only when we are false to our own conscience are we building other than what is right and true.

Alvaro Reynoso—Worshipful Master (510) 490-2192 / 510-364-7073 cell

From the West



Thank you to the brothers who helped with the Crab Feed. Thank you to the brothers who attended and helped at Bro. Marmor’s raising. See you soon!
 Roy Tamez—Senior Warden (510) 537-1077 /
rtamez@fostercity.org

Castro Valley DeMolay

March is DeMolay Month and according to the Grand Master of Masons in California, Masonic Youth Orders Month.

During this month members of DeMolay, Jobs Daughters, and Rainbow have entered into a contest to see who can add the most members. We could use your help.

If you have a child, grandchild, or neighborhood child who is

Crab Feed and March Dinner

I would like to thank all who helped make the Crab Feed a success. Without your help, it would be impossible to do it. A lot of time and effort must be put into it. Again, thanks to all of you. Don’t forget—Corn Beef and Cabbage at our Stated Meeting in March. As they say on the “Price is Right” . . . COME ON DOWN! Make it a success. Hope to see you there. Call Bud and let him know if you are coming. - Henry Miller, PM

between 10-21, they may be a great candidate for DeMolay, Rainbow or Jobs Daughters. Contact one of the adult leaders and give them the referral information. There numbers are on the back of this Trestleboard.

We look forward to the Pizza party you are throwing for us. We hope to see you also at our Pasta Feed on March 10th and our Senior DeMolay Recognition Night and Open Meeting on March 19th. Thank You. *Shaun Reynolds, Master Councilor*

From the South



Brethren,

March's Dinner will be cooked for us by our Bro. Henry Miller, and is, you guessed it, Corned Beef and Cabbage to celebrate St Partick's Day. Erin Go Bragh.

Many of you know that I'm very active in the York Rite. Here's my second installment of York Rite information, from the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. As you remember from my first installment: the Blue Lodge Degrees, together with the degrees of the Royal Arch Chapters, the Councils of Royal and Select Masters, and Commanderies of Knights Templar, constitute the York Rite.

The noble heritage of York Masonry is yours to take, not that decorations may be proudly worn, not that you may be known as a Mason of "high" rank, but that you may more abundantly realize in your own life the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. You are invited to claim this heritage.

York Masonry is the oldest, and best known of all Masonic Rites worldwide. It takes its name from York, England, where the earliest record of Masonry exists, dating from about 923 AD. Masonry's first written record is centered around York. This was the seat of the Ancient Grand Lodge which finally merged with another group called the Modern Grand Lodge about 1717. This is the basis upon which our present system of Blue Lodge Masonry is constituted.

The Mother Grand Lodge of England, many years ago set forth as Paragraph 1 of its general Laws and Regulations: "By the solemn act of the union between the two Grand Lodges of Freemasons of England in December 1813, it was declared and pronounced that Pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellowcraft, and the Master Mason, INCLUDING THE SUPREME ORDER of the HOLY ROYAL ARCH."

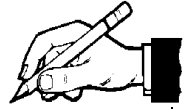
Today in England, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, by virtue of his Grand Lodge office, is also head of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

No rite of Freemasonry covers the world as does Royal Arch Masonry. In every country of the Earth, on every continent and on many isles of the sea, will be found Royal Arch Chapters, eager and willing to receive their companions from other parts of the world into the full fellowship that characterizes Royal Arch Masonry. In Asia, Africa, Europe, in the Americas, and Australia will be found Royal Arch Chapters into whose halls you will ever be a welcome visitor. In the United States there are 3000 Chapters.

Founded in 1797 in Boston, MA, as a national organization, the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International, now has jurisdiction over half of the 7000 Chapters in the world, including provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan in Canada; the Grand Chapters of Mexico, Philippines, Germany, Italy, Greece; and many chapters in South America. Upon your exaltation as a Royal Arch Mason, you will be a member of the oldest and largest rite of Masonry in the world.

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

From the Secretary's Desk



This year's theme "Public Schools are the cornerstone of an enlightened citizenry."

You may wonder why in "the world" should I care about Public Schools. One of the main projects of Masonry in California is to do something to encourage and benefit public education and to make the public aware of our commitment that was established 86 years ago. Crow Canyon Lodge for the past 22 years has honored teachers with a "Masonic Teacher of the Year" program here in Castro Valley. This event is for you, your lady, your children and our public school educators. The evening begins with a FREE dinner at 6:00 o'clock P.M., PLEASE call for RESERVATIONS as we will be having non-Masonic guest, you may call either our Junior Warden or me at 510-886-2023. After dinner we will retire to the lodge room where the Canyon Middle School Jazz choir will again entertain us at the beginning of the program, followed by a one-act play performed by students from Castro Valley High school drama department, and then we honor two teachers with our "Masonic Teacher of the Year Awards", one teacher from primary and one from secondary education. We have had as many as 60 teachers; School Board members and students attend this event. PLEASE help the lodge by attending, to show the Unified School District we really care. Hope to see you April 19, 2007.

We are looking for those of you who have completed 25 years in Masonry and haven't received a 25-year pin. If you are not sure if you qualify or you may have lost yours please let me know and I will see about getting one for you. A quick and easy way to get a pin is to see me at lodge and ask for one. You may also contact me at 510-886-2023 or E-mail to crowcanyon551@sbcglobal.net

Fraternally, **Bill Ferrell (510) 886-2023**

Das Vergissmeinnicht

"The Forget-Me-Not" - Contributed by Chris Boggess

The True Story Behind This Beloved Emblem of the craft in Germany

As early as the year 1934, soon after Hitler's rise to power, it became apparent that Freemasonry was in danger. In the same year, the German Grand Lodge of the Sun in Bayreuth (one of the pre-war German Grand Lodges) realized the imminent problems facing them and elected to wear a little blue flower, the Forget-Me-Not (Das Vergissmeinnicht) in lieu of the traditional Square and Compasses, as a mark of identification for masons. It was felt the new symbol would not attract attention from the Nazis, who were in the process of confiscating and appropriating Masonic Lodges and property. Masonry had gone underground and it was necessary that the Brethren have some readily recognizable means of identification.

Throughout the entire Nazi era, a little blue flower in a lapel marked a Brother. In the Concentration Camps and in the cities a little blue Forget-Me-Not distinguished the lapels of those who refused to allow the Light of Masonry to be extinguished.

In 1947, when the Grand Lodge of the Sun was reopened in Bayreuth by Past Grand Master Beyer, a little blue Forget-Me-Not pin was proposed and adopted as the official emblem of the first annual convention of those who survived the bitter years of darkness bringing the Light of Masonry once again into the Masonic Temples.

(continued page 4)

Third Degree Anniversaries for March

Adams, George Walter Jr. [PM] (45); **Albritton**, Robert Alfred [PM] (30); **Allen**, Jack Vernon (18); **Alston**, Gilbert Lee (37); **Amaral**, Gabriel Avaral [PM] (20); **Christopher**, Robert Julius (53); **Fabel**, Robert Howard (24); **Forest**, Anthony Jay (49); **Frisvold**, Gary Robert (37); **Hallmeyer**, Wesley Victor (57); **Hempel**, Edmund Carl (48); **Hudson**, Robert Adrian [PM] (39); **Korr**, Irving (50); **La Lanne**, Jack (58); **Lassle**, Harold Elwyne (18); **Leaderich**, John Fitzgerald (50); **Leavitt**, Leonard Lewis (32); **Martens**, Billy Wayne [PM] (24); **Martin**, Tony (65); **Mason**, Jeffrey Bernard (22); **Matraia**, Edward Joseph Jr. [PM] (34); **Murphy**, Chester Francis (33); **Olson**, James Edward (38); **Parry**, David Alan [PM] (46); **Reisfelt**, Leonard (59); **Robinson**, Thomas Ed (40); **Salmon**, Wilfred Glen Jr. (27); **Schlein**, Judd Julius (34); **Somers**, Clarence Orval Jr. [PM] (51); **Tangen**, Craig Edward (34); **Toltschin**, Rex Ernest Jr. (39); **Wharton**, Walter Roy (44); **Whitling**, David Ray (23); **Winkler**, Russel Walton (66)

2007 Officers:

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Inspector of the 156th Masonic District:

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 (925) 449-4058 slvrblt@pacbell.net

Special Committees:

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 (Claire) - (510) 638-6641 andregrav@aol.com
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 (Yvonne) (925) 837-6734
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 (Kathy) - (510) 886-2288
Unity Rainbow for Girls: Lorrie Kern
 (510) 537-2797
Widows Program: Kurt R Allen, P.M.
 (Donna) - (925) 735-1233 krallen1@comcast.net
Temple Board: Sammy Tamez P.M.
 (Maxine) - (510) 276-6015 samtamez551@aol.com

Sunshine and Visiting

Ed Ruth could use your prayers,
 phone calls and notes.



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

Andy Gravier, PM Phone: (510) 638-6641

HELP WANTED:

**NEW PRESIDENT FOR MASONIC HALL
 ASSOCIATION. CALL SAMMY TAMEZ
 FOR DETAILS (510) 276-6015**

Das Vergissmeinnicht (continued from page 3)

At the first Annual Convent of the United Grand Lodges of Germany, AF & AM in 1948, the pin was adopted as an official Masonic emblem honoring those valiant Brethren who carried out their work under adverse conditions. At the Grand Masters Conference in the United States, Dr. Theodor Vogel, the Grand Master of the newly formed VGLvD, presented one of the pins to each of the representatives of the Grand Jurisdictions of which the VGLvD enjoyed fraternal relations. Thus did a simple flower blossom forth into meaningful emblem of Fraternity and became perhaps the most widely worn pin among freemasons in Germany. In most lodges, the Forget-Me-Not is presented to a new Master Mason, at which time its history is briefly explained.

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Read the Trestleboard online first at
<http://www.calodges.org/no551/Tboard/tboard.html>

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Errors may, with frequent infrequency, occur.

Please call ahead and confirm times and dates. Guest Articles accepted with excessive cheer (saves us writing!).