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Trestleboard

February 2015
Volume 11, Issue 2

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



Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

Tue Feb 03, 2015—6:30 PM—Officer's Meeting
Thu Feb 05, 2015—7:30 PM—Stated Meeting—5:30 Social / 6:15 Dinner / 7:30 Meeting
Tue Feb 10, 2015—7:00 PM—District School of Instruction—At Masonic Home
Thu Feb 12, 2015—7:00 PM—1st Degree Practice
Thu Feb 19, 2015—7:00 PM—1st Degree
Sat Feb 21, 2015—6:00 PM—Crab Feed—Tickets available from the Secretary
Mon Feb 23, 2015—7:00 PM—Hall Association
Tue Feb 24, 2015—7:00 PM—DMPS (Masonic Education)
Thu Feb 26, 2015—7:00 PM—Lodge of Instruction—*How to Conduct a Masonic Funeral/Memorial Service*
Sat Feb 28, 2015—5:30 PM—2nd Annual White Table Night—Tickets available from the Secretary

MARCH

Tue Mar 03, 2015—6:30 PM—Officer's Meeting
Thu Mar 05, 2015—7:30 PM—Stated Meeting—5:30 Social / 6:15 Dinner / 7:30 Meeting
Tue Mar 10, 2015—7:00 PM—District School of Instruction—At Masonic Home
Thu Mar 12, 2015—6:00 PM—Pizza Night (Youth Groups and Concordant Bodies invited also)
Thu Mar 19, 2015—6:30 PM—2nd Degree Proficiency—Bro. Sears, 3rd Degree practice following.
Mon Mar 23, 2015—7:00 PM—Hall Association
Tue Mar 24, 2015—7:00 PM—DMPS (Masonic Education)
Thu Mar 26, 2015—7:00 PM—3rd Degree practice
Tue Mar 31, 2015—6:30 PM—Officer's Meeting

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 Bob Pinkerton, P.M.—Worshipful Master

This being the Trestleboard for February, I will start off by wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. Next, I wish to congratulate Bro. Jonke and Bro. Albnese on being passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. We had another brother scheduled, but he is out of the country for a month, and we will have to reschedule his degree to a future date.

I hope to see many of you at the Crab Feed this Month. This crab feed is being dedicated to Henry Miller, Sr. (PM) in honor of the many years of service he has given to this lodge in taking charge and running the crab feed with his family's support. This is the first time in many years that we will be having our Crab Feed done by someone other than Henry and it feels like the passing of an era. I want it known to Wor. Henry that the service he rendered is truly appreciated. We will be working to maintain the high standards he has set for this event. Tickets may be obtained from our Lodge Secretary.



Remember, February is the month when we are required by Grand Lodge to present our Annual reports. If you are interested in knowing the financial status of the lodge, what the status of the Temple Hall association and so forth, this would be a good meeting to attend. This will possibly be a long meeting. Accordingly, we will only address those items on the agenda as mentioned in the January Trestleboard. If you have something of importance to be addressed, contact one of the Wardens or the Master prior to or at the Officers Meeting to have it considered.

At our last District School of Instruction, one of the topics we covered was candidates' investigations. A number of questions popped up that were interesting and the answers were informative. One of those topics that arose was the importance of the recommenders that are the first line signers on a candidate's application. When we recommend someone, we are stating that we KNOW (or have good and sufficient reason to believe) he is a person of good moral character and we have observed him for a sufficient amount of time to verify that he would take Masonry seriously and be active in supporting Masonry. It was posed that a person should visit the lodge 3 to 5 times at the Stated Meeting dinners and have the opportunity to know the members of the lodge as well as for the lodge members to get to know him. If he has a spouse or significant other, that person should be invited as well. Remember, prospective member's meals are complimentary; there is no cost to them. It is also an opportunity for the applicant to ask questions regarding Masonry and learn if he is a good fit and if it is really what he wants to do. Also, if you are signing for a candidate, are you willing to come with them or bring them to the Stated Meeting dinners and sit with them? Once they are accepted, are you willing to bring them to the Stated Meetings as well as to attend their degrees?

We were told by the District Inspector that Grand Lodge did a study which showed that if every person involved in making a Master Mason was paid ten dollars an hour, that we would be spending \$50,000.00 by the time he received his three degrees. That seems an awful lot to me, but it does kind give you an idea how much effort and work our officers, candidates coaches and brothers put forth in supporting our newly made brothers.



Brothers, remember starting in March that we are encouraging people to adhere to a dress code. No jeans, t-shirts or tennis shoes should be worn, with the exception of those working in the kitchen preparing and serving the stated meeting dinner.

We are expecting to be doing a first degree in February, providing the investigations are done and a favorable ballot takes place. We will be having a practice on the 12th and a degree on the 19th.

From the West

By Michael Ramos—Senior Warden

Brethren,

I find it hard to argue that attire has a powerful affect on demeanor. We would never consider showing up at our place of employment, where we hope to give and show our best daily, dressed for a lazy day lounging around the house. Nor would we show up for a solemn occasion at a sacred space dressed for any thing less than is due. If you learn what is expected from you, and also understand the importance or solemnity of a situation, you will always plan accordingly.

Our W.M., Robert Pinkerton, has set in action, with the absolute accord of his Officers, a regiment for attire that will help promote a solemn, heartfelt demeanor towards our workings. We, the "younger officers and brethren", see the future of not just our Lodge, but Freemasonry as a whole heading towards a more professional dress code. Dark suits, ties and the ancient usage of white gloves while at labor are simple elements that fall perfectly in line with this. Simplicity, by way of uniformity, giving way to harmony, will immediately show its value with the first impressions we make upon incoming candidates.

Our temple room is a sacred space where true magic happens. This magic being where men of various social, economic, religious, ethnic and national backgrounds come together as Brothers to labor under the instruction of truth. This, when pondered, is a powerful key to the secrets we hold, my Brothers. There are many institutions that have attempted to mimic our success, but what will forever separate us from them are our time-honored teachings, rituals and peculiar mystic tie. So, let us be good and true custodians of our Craft, and together set an example that can be proudly

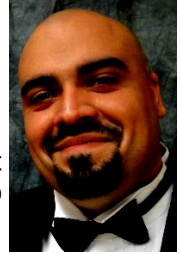


followed by generations to come. And I dare say, this endeavor will start by abiding to a simple yet significant dress code you can be proud of, whether an Officer or a supporting sideline Brother.

If coming to lodge directly from work, pack your suit or tuxedo in your vehicle the night prior or morning of. If coming from home, take the time to look your best before leaving the house. There will always be an excuse for why you couldn't or shouldn't do something, but I urge you all to renew your dedication to our Craft with this thoughtful gesture of dedication.

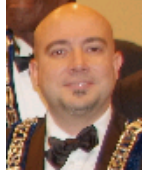
I am currently looking into a June outing for DMPS. The Rosicrucian Park in San Jose (AMORC) will be unveiling their Alchemical Museum on Sunday, June 21st. I am staying on top of this event and hope to coordinate a visit in lieu of our monthly meeting. Alchemy has forever been an essential interest, whether laboratory-based and/or spiritual, to our institution. Many Continental Lodges to this day still house alchemical laboratories on their premises. I hope this will be an interesting, educational and fun excursion for all who partake.

And as always, if there be a mentor or candidate in need of assistance, please feel free to reach out to me via phone or email.



From the South

By Kem Apak—Junior Warden



Brethren, it is an honor to be elected as your Junior Warden. This is a very important year for our Lodge, since most of us are new and have never experienced going “through the line” before. We, therefore, need a lot of support and help from you—our more experienced brethren. I invite you to come to our Lodge; lets go through this journey together. I ask the blessing of the G.A.O.T.U and I wish a great year for all of you, your families, our Lodge and all the regular Freemasons around the world.

Most of the men nowadays are looking for something to fill the void in their lives. This is neither family oriented, nor social. They are looking for a door where they can knock and find the key of knowledge and wisdom. They are looking for something spiritual in this material world; something our ancestors have shared but we are missing. They want to learn the history of enlightenment. They want to understand the philosophy of wisdom. We can answer these calls in the most ancient form of our Craft. Innovation has to be stopped and restoration has to begun.

Saying goodbye to a brother for the last time, is a hard but a solemn occasion. Masonic funerals are full with emotions, beautiful and show the dignity and strength of our beloved Fraternity. We will have a Lodge of Instruction, February 26th at 7:00PM about Masonic funeral services. All Masons are invited and encouraged to come.

I want to share with you a poem from Rev. Bro. Joseph Fort Newton:

What is a Mason?

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage-which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellowman.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins-knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

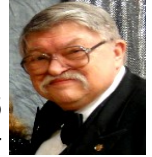
When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellowman, and with his God; in his hands a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song-glad to live, but not afraid to die!

Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world.

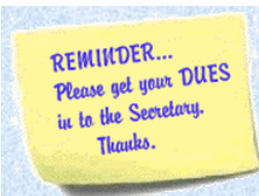
From the Secretary's Table

By Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.



At this time, 90 members have not yet paid their 2015 dues. The Lodge is very fortunately to have 20 life members, who donated their per capita taxes to the lodge. Thanks go to our generous members!

A by-law change is being proposed that would increase our dues: Amendment to Article III, Section 2 of The Uniform Code of By-Laws – The dues of each member of this Lodge shall be the sum of \$60.00 plus the Per Capita sum approved by Grand Lodge at the preceding Annual Communication, with the total thus determined rounded up to the next higher whole multiple of \$1.00, per annum, payable in advance on the first day of January.



Our dues for 2015 are \$99.50. If this proposed change occurs, it would increase the dues by 50¢ making the dues \$100.00. If approved, this change would not go into effect until the dues for 2016 are due and payable.

Don't let your membership lapse! Remember some of the benefits include membership in an outstanding, worldwide fraternal organization, a fine Lodge, a great bulletin, an out-reach program when needed, and the opportunity to become a resident of the Masonic Home, if necessary.

Inspiring Words

By Irwin Fershleiser—Chaplain

February 14th Valentines Day, is the day set aside to celebrate, honor, or remember love . . . or a loved one.

Is it not ironic that the symbol used to depict love is the heart? The heart is one of the most important organs in all living things. For when it stops working, life as we know it ends. How many times have we used or heard these words?

“I love you with all my heart.”
“Take my heart . . . it is yours.”
“I give my heart to you.”



Are we then saying,

“I love you with all life,” or
“I give my life to you?”

If the beating of our heart sustains life, maybe love in its many forms and ways is a strong helping hand. With this thought I implore you to --- Love one another with all your heart.

Think of each other, with the goodness of your brain.

And last but not least,

Have faith with all your being!

In Memoriam

Brother Norman Shrader
Entered into rest August 12, 2014
At the age of 79 years, 11 months and 13 days



February Birthdays

(02/03) Christopher Boggess
 (02/03) John Smith
 (02/04) Ronald Polse
 (02/05) Richard Bockius
 (02/05) Anthony Lloyd
 (02/05) Joseph Pedroni
 (02/05) Alvin Rodes
 (02/05) Harold Rubin
 (02/05) Kyle Thompson
 (02/06) Edward Auguadro
 (02/07) Stephen Kinsman
 (02/10) Charles Smith
 (02/10) Robert Steen
 (02/11) William Mc Hugh
 (02/12) Irving Korr
 (02/13) Billy Mc Clary
 (02/14) Frank Densmore
 (02/14) Fred Jonke
 (02/17) Douglas Clark
 (02/17) Mark Warzyniak
 (02/19) John Groff
 (02/19) Henry Miller
 (02/19) Ronald Selvey
 (02/21) Ronald Rourk
 (02/23) Joseph Clare
 (02/23) John Fischer
 (02/26) Alan West
 (02/29) Robert Lorenzini



3rd Degree Anniversaries

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

Amato, Paul - 57 years
 Barth, Glen - 72 years
 Bessette, Ronald - 23 years
 Bode, David - 30 years
 Burk, Harold - 23 years
 Castia, Ronnie - 24 years
 Gidvani, Kishore - 16 years
 Goodwin, Charles - 57 years
 Graham, Russell - 10 years
 Hansen, Jeffrey - 18 years
 Lloyd, Anthony - 47 years
 Makela, Paul - 41 years
 Marmor, Howard - 8 years
 May, Norvalle - 50 years
 Mc Clary, Billy - 32 years
 Moore, Roger - 35 years
 Nobriga, Ronald - 18 years
 Sotelo, Prudencio "Pete" - 35 years
 Stegall, Roy - 46 years
 Stewart, Daniel - 16 years
 Weisser, Allen - 51 years

2015 Golden Veterans

The following brethren will become 50 year members this year.

- **Marshall Field**—Raised January 21, 1965—Lives in Castro Valley and worked in the photo engraving business.
- **Norvalle May**—Raised February 8, 1965—Lives in Modesto and worked for the telephone company. He is a plural member of Patterson No. 488.
- **Ronald Meissner**—Raised May 1, 1965—Lives in Castro Valley and worked in mortgage banking.
- **Donald Johnson**—Raised May 25, 1965—Lives in Alameda and worked as a salesman.
- **Larry Richardson**—Raised June 17, 1965—Lives in Auburn and worked as a teacher and a football coach. He was Master of our lodge in 1994 and 1996.
- **Benjamin Newmarker**—Raised August 17, 1965—Lives in Escalon.
- **James Hooks**—Raised December 22, 1965—Lives in Livermore and worked in genetics and plants.



DMPS
 Dead Masonic Poet Society

Share, learn and discuss:

Masonic history & mysteries
 Our Craft's ever-evolving practices
 Our true operative roots
 Our positive effect on society, personally and otherwise

Every 4th Tuesday!
 Open to all degrees!
 7:00PM



Masonic Family Corner

Jobs Daughters, Bethel No. 1 Dublin—We have had a fantastic start to the new year! On January 3rd, we had our semiannual Installation of Officers. The theme was a Little Mermaid/Under the Sea. We had a dance following the ceremony, and we all had fun that night! Our Grand Bethel Marshal's reception is on February 14th at the Crow Canyon Lodge at 7:00pm! In the coming months, we will have our annual spaghetti feed and silent auction on April 24th at the Livermore Shrine! We will be selling tickets in the next month or two! Happy New Year! - J. Gallagher, Honored Queen

2015 Officers

Master—Robert Pinkerton, P.M.
510.851.6794 r-pinkerton@sbcglobal.net

Senior Warden— Mike Ramos
510.208.1441/ 510.287.6366 cell 551dmps@gmail.com

Junior Warden—Kem Apak
415.290.8093 kemapak@gmail.com

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

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

Chaplain—Irwin Fershleiser, P.M., H.A.
510.476.6371 imfersh@gmail.com

Marshal—Eugene Moore, Jr.
510.783.8576

Senior Deacon—Alex Von Stade
510.483.9574 avstade@gmail.com

Junior Deacon—Paul Rodriguez-O'Brian

Sr. Steward—Bill Biddell

Jr. Steward—Charles Hintz

Tiler—Sammy Tamez, P.M., H.A.
510.706.5614 samtamez551@aol.com

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

Candidate Coaches

Kay Dunn—Castro Valley—510.537.9407
Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.537.1077 / 510.684.3047 cell
Mike Ramos—S. Leandro-Hayward—510.287.6366 cell
Charles Hintz—San Leandro-Oakland— 510.499.9134. cell
Ron Katz—Fremont-Hayward—510.375.3137 cell

Inspector of the 319th Masonic District

Tom Kavishi, P.M.
925.407.5954 kavishi@comcast.net

Sunshine and Visiting

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

Ernie Nidick —Sunshine Chairman
925.828.6993 bev2ern@comcast.net

Les Blake —Visiting Chairman
510.581.8497 cherllois@sbcglobal.net



2015 Committees

Appointments

Audit – Kay Dunn, Robert Logan, Arnie Weinstein, David Allen

Funeral –Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell, Bob Pinkerton, Mike Ramos, Kem Apak, Alex Van Stade

Masonic Charity - The Master and the Wardens

Masonic Hall Association—John Smith-President, Howard Marmor, Ernie Nidick, Gerald Woergoetter, Ron Reynolds, Bill Ferrell, Hank Andreotti, Brian Ross, Pat Quinn

Masonic Homes Endowment—Robert Logan

Membership Retention – Don Schauer, Sr., Bob Pinkerton

Sunshine—Ernie Nidick, Les Blake

Events

Pizza Night (3/12) - Ron Katz

Crab Feed (2/21) - Don Schauer, Roy Tamez

White Table Night (2/28) - Kem Apak, Mike Ramos

Public Schools Night (April) - Eric Unti, Bill Ferrell

Child ID—David Allen, Roy Tamez

Sweethearts' Event—Phil Busch, Alex Van Stade

Feasts of Saints John, Past Masters & Festive Boards—Charles Hintz & Kem Apak

Strawberry Feed—Ron Katz, Bill Biddell

Visitation to Columbia or Old Town Sacramento Lodge—Mike Ramos, Don Schauer

Senior Warden's Picnic at Kennedy Park—Mike Ramos, Kem Apak

Hiram Award Committee Leads—Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell

Moonlight Siminoff Degree (6/5) - Mike Ramos, Alex Von Stade

Masonic Education—Mike Ramos, Kem Apak

Masonic Youth Orders

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

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Donna Allen 925.735.1233

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Laurel M. 559.696.0746

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Mrs. Donna Anthony, 510.537.6726

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 Lodge #551 F&AM February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Officer's Meeting—6:30 PM	4	5 Stated Meeting—7:30 PM	6	7
8	9	10 District Officers' School of Instruction—7:00 PM	11	12 1st Degree Practice—7:00 PM	13	14 
15	16	17	18	19 1st Degree — 7:00 PM	20	21 Crab Feed—6:00 PM
22	23 Hall Association—7:00 PM	24 DMPS (Masonic Education)—7:00 PM	25	26 Lodge of Instruction—Funeral Service—7:00 PM	27	28 2nd Annual White Table Night—5:30 PM