

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

August 2009 Trestleboard
 Volume 5, Issue 7

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS


August

8/06: Thursday, Stated Meeting, 5:30 pm Social, 6:15 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Opening. \$13/person, widows and guests are free. Fifty Year Pin Awards in Lodge Room before the Stated Meeting.
 8/13: Thursday, Hiram Award Ceremony for Brother Mickey Benko, 5:30 pm Social, 6:15 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Opening.
 8/20: Thursday, Third Degree Second Section Practice for the Acacia Team, 7:00 pm.
 8/26: Wednesday, Masons Night at AT&T Park, 5:30 p.m. Pregame party with the Grand Master at the Scoreboard Plaza; 7 p.m. Be in your seats for the home plate check presentation by the Grand Master to the Junior Giants. Our gift will be announced throughout the entire ballpark with the video on the scoreboard! We need you to be there and cheer us on!
 8/27: Thursday, Third Degree conferral, 7:00 pm.

September

9/03: Thursday, Stated Meeting, 5:30 pm Social, 6:15 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Opening. \$13/person, widows and guests are free.
 9/08: Tuesday, School of Instruction at Acacia Lodge at 7:00 pm. First Degree Ritual.
 9/10: Thursday, "Your American Freedoms: Protect Them, or Lose Them" Presentation by Fred La-Cosse. All families and youth are invited.—Constitutional Observance
 9/12-13: Saturday & Sunday, CHILD ID at Castro Valley Fall Festival. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
 9/17: Thursday, Ritual Practice as needed, 7:00 pm.
 9/24: Thursday, Ritual Practice as needed, 7:00 pm.
 9/26: Saturday, Joint Visitation with Mt View / DeAnza Lodge to Eureka Lodge #16 in Auburn, CA. A Third Degree will be conferred; Crow Canyon Lodge will perform the First Section.

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

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Dear Brethren,

My last article regarding Lodge finances and rental was pretty bleak, however, further discussions with the Temple Board and Trustees has yielded positive results. Our expenses should exceed our income by between \$10,000 and \$20,000 this year, so we cannot undertake major upgrades to our facility this year. We must, however, for safety's sake, replace the entryway carpet, which is frayed. The Lodge has approved funding to replace the carpet. The worsening economy, to be confirmed a Depression, does not bode well for our ability to attract rentals, and we must, to be prudent with our finances, hunker down and wait for better days. The Temple Board is discussing a schedule for future upgrades, which will again depend on the economy. By the way, many of you did respond to my survey, that you wanted to see improvements made in the Lodge facilities. Thank you, and please be patient.



I am endeavoring to line up a fundraiser with Golden Gate Fields. GGF helps non-profit organizations to raise money, by offering them \$1,200 for the help of ten adults for a five hour period, manning food concessions at the track. If an organization shows they are reliable, they will get called upon regularly. We are at the stage of being called for the second time; the first time I could not get ten brethren to help. Since then I've gotten the names of exactly ten people whom are on call, but need others just in case. Please let me know if you can help! This could obviously help our Lodge finances in a major way.

We need help with our Officer Line as well. I've made repeated requests for help, as have other officers. I've had two brethren who said they would step in line at the JD and lower levels to help. I've not received any indication of help at the SD and higher levels. Brother Roy has graciously offered to be in the East for a third time. Brothers Ron, Alvaro, and I are discussing manning the other higher level positions. Brethren, now is the time to come to the aid of your Lodge. We have a wealth of brotherly love and camaraderie not often seen in Masonic Lodges. Our brethren are diverse yet homogeneous in our love of Masonic ideals: brotherly love, relief, and truth. We are serious, yet relish informal play. Goofballs yet serious ritualists, that's us. How many of you know what you've got here? You don't want to lose it, for what we have will be very hard to replace.

Gordon "Bud" Warder—Master - (925) 998-6603 bud@kioskamerica.com

From the West

Dear Brethren and Ladies,

This article is for all who read the Trestleboard. I have written about many things but none that is more important than this one. In the past I have talked about Brotherly love, Truth, Forgiveness and our Future.



I went and asked a few good men to help me next term. Some came forward and others were not able to help. My next question is for those whom I do not see on a regular basis. What could we, as a lodge, do to get you to come back? What can I do to convince you to step forward and help the officer's line.

We will continue to survive as a lodge, but I want us to thrive. This only comes from new people in the line and the new ideas that they bring with them. Otherwise, it is like trying to get in the fast lane with my old 1953 flat bed. It works for a while, but won't make it for the long haul.

We all change with time. If we don't, we get left behind. Heck, even I change. Would you believe I own a computer now? If I can change, we all can change. Lets all step forward towards a brighter and better future. After all, is it really that much time that we are asking you to give?

I learned all of the required ritual in 15 minutes a day, from Junior Steward, all the way to Master. It is an investment in yourself and your lodge. And the returns are innumerable.

Fraternally, Roy Tamez, P.M.—(510) 537-1077

From The South

Hope everyone enjoyed their time off in July. We are having a good year. I have received some feedback about the Chinese food we served in July. Although the meal was excellent, some of the members were expecting more of a "Patriotic Meal". If you were disappointed, I sincerely apologize. The Castro Valley Fall Festival is coming next month. We again have the opportunity to extend our concern to the community with our Child ID program. Please contact me, or Brother Sammy Tamez to volunteer for a shift. The Rainbow, Eastern Star and DeMolay just finished a weekend of service in mid-July—the Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society. Our Masonic family definitely made an impression. Were you there? Help us celebrate Bro. Mickey Benko's service to our lodge with a Prime Rib Dinner on August 13th.

**Ron Katz, Junior Warden (510) 375-3137
rstephen94545@yahoo.com**

Ladies and Friends

Play "White ELEPHANT" BINGO

**First Thursday of EACH MONTH
During STATED MEETING**

**No cost to enter, just bring a
white elephant gift worth \$10 or less**

**Call Sherry Hansen for details
(510) 537-0109**

More Members or Better Members?

RW Tom Jackson is a Masonic scholar, author, orator, historian and philosopher. Here is a portion of a speech he presented before the Grand Lodge of Montana.

"...None of us can be unaware of the decreasing interest in our craft and decline in influence that North American Freemasonry has experienced over the last 50 years and especially over the last 25. One of the first Lodge addresses that I gave over 35 years ago dealt with my observations of the decrease in the quantity of our membership. North American membership has gone from over 4 million to approximately 1 1/2 million. It does not take much thought to recognize that Freemasonry's future in North America is bleak if we continue with this loss of membership, at least Freemasonry as it is historically known.

I have however, in more recent years been far more concerned with the decreasing quality of the membership than in the quantity of the membership. The decrease in the quality is a major contributing factor in the decrease in quantity today. Every person likes to be affiliated with a quality organization. If quantity is lost, quantity can be regained, but if quality is lost, it may be lost forever. Freemasonry in North America has been losing its attractive force for quality professional men over the last 25 to 30 years. This is not the case in almost every foreign Masonic jurisdiction."

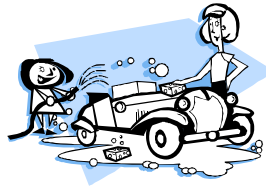
"...We must stop playing the "numbers game" and trying to buy back respect through charitable contributions and begin to realize that by improving the quality of the craft we will improve the quantity of the craft and regain the respect. We as individual members must set a positive example as to what this craft means to society. We are the living examples of what Freemasonry is.

As a result of the recent publicity that we have received through Dan Brown's books and a couple of movies and television programs, Freemasonry is being given an opportunity of resurrection of significance in today's society. Young men are knocking at the door of Freemasonry seeking to pass through the portals of an organization dedicated to priorities of improving the man and challenging the mind. They are seeking something that society is not offering and now we must be willing and able to satisfy their quest. We may never again be given this opportunity. The question is; are we willing and are we able? The world deserves a positive answer as do our predecessors in the greatest organization ever conceived by the mind of man."

Two Chances to Get Your Car Clean

Castro Valley DeMolay will have a special car wash fundraiser at our August Stated Meeting. Give your donation and your car keys to a DeMolay advisor who will give you a receipt. After the stated meeting, return to a freshly washed car. What could be easier?

Hayward Jobs will be holding a car wash at the CVMC on Sunday, August 30, 9AM—4 PM. Bring your vehicle to get it cleaned again. Donations accepted!



Joint Lodge Visitation to Auburn

Brethren, I will be making an announcement at both the Crow Canyon and Mountain View-DeAnza August stated meetings for hotel lodging and the Saturday night dinner. Kurt Allen and I had gone up to Auburn on Saturday, July 11, 2009 and I have an appointment to return on Saturday, July 25, 2009 for making the final details on a package for both lodges. I want to thank Kurt and Donna Allen in helping me out in setting up this year's visitation to Eureka Lodge#16 F & AM. Please come to the August stated meetings for details. Thank you.

Lyman C. Penning PM Master of

Mountain View-DeAnza Lodge#194 F & AM

Masons Night at AT&T Park—August 26

The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. - Grand Master presents check at 7 p.m. Come out and support Masons Night at AT&T Park! Show how Masons are making a difference in our communities and cheer on the Giants against the Diamondbacks. If you haven't bought your mitt, don't forget to do it soon! We will all sit in the bleachers. Bring your family - tickets are only \$12 each! Purchase tickets at mason4mitts.org and pick them up at the Will Call windows (main entrance at King and 3rd Streets) on the day of the game. Buyer photo ID required. The more of us the better!

There are two important times to remember:

5:30 p.m. Pregame party with the Grand Master at the Scoreboard Plaza

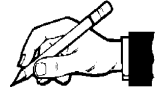
7 p.m. Be in your seats for the home plate check presentation by the Grand Master to the Junior Giants.

Our gift will be announced throughout the entire ballpark with the video on the scoreboard! We need you to be there and cheer us on!



From the Secretary's Desk

All Things Proper To Be Written



Brethren. At our July Stated meeting a discussion concerning our By-Laws was brought to the attention of the Brethren. After hearing the opinions of Brethren present I have been asked to notify all of the Brethren concerning what was brought forth. At present the lodge charges \$175.00 for the degrees of Masonry. It was thought that if we suspend that charge, during this economic down turn, it might encourage our prospects to apply for membership. Also, it was brought to our awareness that our annual dues have not been adjusted since September 2, 2004.

Resolution No. 1: Whereby some may face economic pressures and honestly seek membership in the Masonic Fraternity.

And: Whereby some men who seek the degrees of Masonry find it difficult to pay the established degree fees.

We hereby resolve to suspend the degree fees only as set forth in our By-Laws until it is appropriate to consider the reestablishment of those fees.

Resolution No. 2: Whereby the cost of living and expenses have increased dramatically in the past few years.

And: Whereby the maximum amount payable by our Charity Committee is set at \$200.00.

We hereby resolve to increase the maximum payable by the Charity committee be set at \$500.00.

Resolution No. 3: Whereby our dues are at present set to be \$40.00 plus the Per Capita sum approved by Grand Lodge.

We hereby resolve to increase the annual dues to be set at \$60.00 plus the Per Capita sum approved by Grand Lodge.

So there you have it. These resolutions will be read at the August 6, 2009 Stated meeting. If you have any comments or input concerning these items, and are not able to attend the September 3, 2009 meeting when the vote will be taken. You may e-mail or mail me your responses, positive or negative, and during the probable discussion at the September meeting I will read your comments. Remember, you **MUST** be present to vote on this legislation. It only requires two-thirds of the members present at the September 3rd meeting to pass these resolutions. Each resolution will be voted on separately.

Bill Ferrell, PM—Secretary—(510) 886-2023
crowcanyon551@sbcglobal.net

In Memoriam

Rudolph Stephen Gersick
Entered into rest

92 years, 9 months and 4 day
March 10, 2009

Keith Edward Boyer
Entered into rest

72 years, 2 months and 30 days
June 29, 2009

John Fitzgerald Leaderlich
Entered into rest

88 years, 6 months and 1 day
June 30, 2009

*Almighty Father,
Great Architect
of the Universe,*

*Into they hands
we commend the souls
of our dear
departed brothers*



3rd Degree Anniversaries

Anderson, Donald (55) ; Andreotti, Henry Adam (19) ; Baker, Ronald Clay (40) ; Benko, Mickey Lee [PM] (20) ; Benson, Robert Bruce (60) ; Bockius, Richard (56) ; Bolli, Albert Rudolph (51) ; Boysen, John Martin (28) ; Bridge, Lester Bennett (48) ; Brooks, Donald Gillies (53) ; Cameto, Leon Robert (63) ; Charles, William Albert (34) ; Daniels, Charles Randolph (28) ; Ferreira, Douglas Harold (26) ; Flatt, James Allen (29) ; George, George Simon (47) ; Gilbert, Ace Edward (32) ; Gravier, Andre [PM] (29) ; Gresick, Stanley Alexander Joseph Jr. (57) ; Groff, John Lawrence Stuart [PM] (36) ; Hallmeyer, Herbert Joseph Jr. (50) ; Harrington, Lester Charles (27) ; Hinkley, John Leighton (42) ; Kass, Harvey (35) ; Katz, Brian Alexander (3) ; Keller, Robert Donald (47) ; Mac Donald, Gordon R. (3) ; Mc Guire, Max Floyd (37) ; Miller, Mark Allen (20) ; Moehnke, Theodore Ervin (46) ; Moring, Donald Gene [PM] (24) ; Newmarker, Benjamin Paul (44) ; Plummer, Jack Hale (67) ; Quintel, William Francis (30) ; Ray, Corbit Alden (20) ; Reed, Lynn Blair (31) ; Rodriguez, Ruben Agbulos (14) ; Schaffer, Frederick (57) ; Smith, Roderick Russell (45) ; Stark, Steven Ralph (28) ; Vossekul, Ruben Lee (29) ; Warnecke, William Patrick (32) ; Watson, James Lester Jr. (44) ; White, Vinson Josiah (50) ; Woodson, Earl Franklin (13) ; Yeoman, Bill Allen (29)

2008 Officers

Master—Gordon “Bud” Warder
(Peggy)(925) 998-6603 bud@kioskamerica.com

Senior Warden—Roy A. Tamez, P.M., H.A.
(510) 537-1077

Junior Warden—Ron S. Katz, P.M.
(Jennifer)(510) 783-3112 / (510) 375-3137 rstephen94545@yahoo.com

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

Secretary—William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A.
(Kathy)(510) 886-2023 CrowCanyon551@sbcglobal.net

Chaplain—Roy Nelson, H.A.
(510) 351-2892

Marshal—Earl F. Woodson
(Carolyn)(925) 462-5283 / (925) 580-2194 wolcall3@aol.com

Senior Deacon—Alvaro R. Reynoso, P.M.
(Cruz)(510) 490-2192 / (510) 364-7073 alvaroreynoso@sbcglobal.net

Junior Deacon—Gerald Woergoeter, P.M.
(Rosalie)(510) 581-8234 / (510) 648-9208

Sr. Steward - Arnold Weinstein
(Shelley)(925) 275-9217 weinst01@sbcglobal.net

Jr. Steward — Robert E. Lee
(Valerie) (510) 889-6146

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

Officer’s Coach—Kurt R. Allen, P.M., H.A.
(Donna) (925) 735-1233 kurtrallen@sbcglobal.net

Candidate Coach—Gary Frisvold, H.A.
(Roxana) (510) 538-1093

Inspector of the 313th Masonic District

Rickey Bonbright, PM
(510) 796-0263, W: (510) 623-9400. C: (510) 507-6907
rbonbright@aehr.com

Sunshine and Visiting

If you know of an ailing brother who needs some cheering up, don't keep it a secret. **Gib Brownfield, Chairman — (510) 675-9970**

Special Committees

Sunshine

Gilbert ‘Gib’ Brownfield
(Judith)(510) 675-9970

Eastern Star—Lake Chabot

Esther ‘Mary’ Filiau
(510) 317-7574 / (510) 351-7775

Castro Valley DeMolay

Ron Katz
(Jennifer)(510) 375-3137

Public Schools

Eric Unti
(Renee)(510) 537-1530 erunti@earthlink.net

Unity Rainbow for Girls

Lorrie Kern
(510) 537-2797 lrkern@pacbell.net

Lodge Ambassador to Masonic Homes

Robert Logan, P.M., H.A.
(Linda)(925) 737-0430
rlogan8198@cs.com

Jobs Daughters

Hayward—Jennifer Katz
(510) 375-3138
jenniferkatz94545@yahoo.com

Sweethearts (Widows) Program

Phillip Busch
(Theresa)(925)292-8018

Dublin—Denise Jew

(510) 352-4292
deejew@earthlink.net

Masonic Hall Association

Kurt R. Allen, P.M., H.A.
(Donna)(925) 735-1233
kurtrallen@sbcglobal.net

Monthly Trestleboard of Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551

Free and Accepted Masons

P.O. Box 2014, Castro Valley, CA 94546-0014

(510) 247-0725 (lobby, kitchen)

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Please call ahead and confirm times and dates.

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Read the Trestleboard online first at
<http://www.calodges.org/no551/news.htm>