

December & January 2013/14 AD, 6013/14 AL

Sun 1	Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thr 5 Stated Meeting	Fri 6	Sat 7 Installation of Officers
8	9	10	11	12 1st Degree	13	14
15 Kids Xmas Party	16	17	18	19 1st Degree	20	21 Feast of St John
22	23	24	25	26 Dark	27	28
29	30	31	1	2 Stated Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 2nd Degree Practice	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 2nd Degree	17	18

Stated Meeting (December 5th & January 2nd):

Social 5:30 PM/ Dinner 6:15 PM/ Meeting 7:30 PM—Business meeting will be held on the 1st Degree (All Masons welcome to attend) \$10.00/person. Widows of the lodge and prospective members are our guests.

Annual Installation of Officers (December 7th):

11:30 Brunch / 1:00 PM Ceremonies. Open to all. Annual Installation of Officers

1st Degree Mr. Keith Dilliplane (December 12th):

7:00PM First degree conferral. All Masons welcome.

Kids Xmas Party (December 15th):

11:00am

1st Degree Kyle Thompson and Mr. Nicholas Sears (December 19th):

7:00PM First degree conferral. All Masons welcome.

Feast of St John the Evangelist (December 21th):

6:00PM. Open to all Masons. \$20 per person, please contact Bro. Charles Hintz.

Day after Xmas (December 26th):

Dark.

Practice 2nd Degree (January 9th):

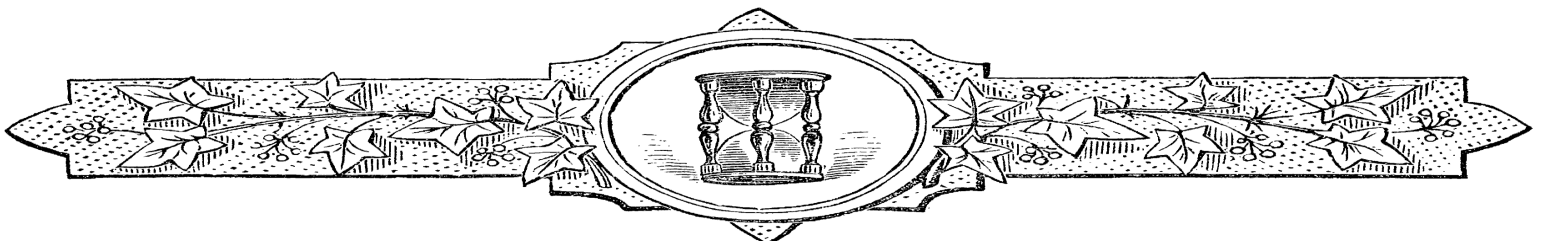
7:00PM 2nd degree. Officers Mandatory, all Fellow Craft and Master Masons welcome.

2nd Degree Bro. Hoffman and Bro. Cook (January 16th):

7:00PM Second degree conferral. All Fellow Craft and Master Masons welcome.

Dead Masonic Poet Society (January 28th):

Meeting 7:00 PM. At the Lodge. All Masons welcome.



From the East

By Kjell Bomark-Noel, Worshipful Master



This December finds me sitting here early in the morning writing this farewell to the brethren of 551. As we all know the best laid plans of mice and men does not always get executed with the intended results. We still do not have a Lodge room.

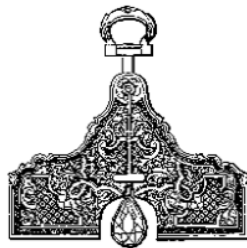
This year has forced me to reflect on the fragility of life. I was strong, but pancreatitis and a couple of minor strokes certainly have gotten my attention.

I can only thank the officers (both appointed and elected) and the brethren for helping and assisting me in my hour and year of need. I have frequently reflected on the fact that youth seems wasted on the young. It takes for most of us a lifetime to learn to live and truly appreciate life; and just when you think you are starting to get the experience to handle it, it is over. We all have lived moments in our youth that if one could get to live that moment over we would have made different choices and acted differently. The true question is; but for the resilience of youth, would you have survived to your present age? The answer for most of us is probably not.

As we are entering the holiday season, let us reflect on the marvels of life and the opportunities each day of living gives us to do good for ourselves and others. We as Masons have selected that spiritual journey in which we hope the creator of the universe will be with us. I wish you all a productive and peaceful year.

From the West

By Ron Katz, Senior Warden, P.M.



I am excited to be elected Master of this lodge for the 2014 year. We have a great team of officers, surveyors, and volunteers and our lodge has never had a brighter future.

Great things are happening! I hope you will involve yourself in all the events of our upcoming year.

From the South

By Mike Ramos, Junior Deacon in honor of our Junior Warden, Robert Pinkerton, P.M.



Am I A Builder?

I watched them tearing a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town.

With a ho-heave-ho and a lusty yell,
They swung a beam and the sides fell.

I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled
And the kind you would hire, if you had to build?"

And he gave me a laugh and said, "No indeed,
Just common labor is all I need.

I can easily wreck in a day or two
What other builders have taken a year to do."

And I thought to myself as I went my way,
"Which of these roles have I tried to play?"

Am I a builder that works with care,
Measuring life by the rule and square.

Am I shaping my deeds to a well made plan,
Patiently doing the best I can?

Or am I a wrecker who walks the town,
Content with the labor of tearing down."

Author Unknown

Chaplain's Message

By Irwin M Fershleiser, Chaplain, P.M., H.A.



Holiday Season

We are fast approaching the season of frenzied shopping, filled with anxious anxieties, turbulent tempers and harried hurried humans.

We are so wrapped up in our card sending, gift buying, gift wrapping, home decorating and food preparing; we have a tendency to forget the reason behind this holiday season.

This season of joy and peace to our fellow man, and the remembering of the miracles told to us

in our Holy Writings. Maybe the following words will put us back on track. What money can buy - - money will buy:
A bed - - but not sleep
Books - - but not brains
Food - - but not appetite
A house - - but not a home
Luxuries - - but not happiness
A temple of worship - but not heaven.
What money cannot buy, our God can give freely without charge. Spread the joys of this season with love in your hearts and faith in our God.

From the Assistant Secretary's Desk

By William M. Ferrell, Assistant Secretary, P.M., H.A.

Brethren and ladies: If you have a wheel chair, in good condition, can you please donate it to the Temple Board for use at the Lodge building? It would be appreciated greatly.

Seven Questions

By Charles Hintz, F.M.

New brethren have curiosity regarding Lodge behavior, ritualistic inquiries, and Masonic lore in general. They ask common questions. Can you answer them?

1. Why do brethren not pass between Altar and the East when Lodge is at labor?
2. Why do brethren entering and leaving a Lodge salute the Master?
3. Why does ordinary parliamentary law not apply in a Lodge?
4. Why is it un-Masonic to disclose how one has balloted?
5. How may I know a stranger to be a Mason?
6. Should I make myself known to a stranger as a Mason?
7. What is the "Lodge of the Holy Sts. John at Jerusalem?"

From the Editor's Desk

By Kem Apak, Senior Steward, Editor.

Brethren, this is my last Trestleboard, it was a pleasure serving you as your editor. I did learn a lot; experienced pain and pleasure and, most importantly, gained an understanding of the effort which goes into this publication. I am grateful to our Worshipful Master Kjell Bomark-Noel for his trust, Wor. Bro. Ron Katz for his constant support, and the brethren who submitted fantastic articles and helped me with everything from printing to mailing: Bro. Ramos, Reed, Hintz, Wor. Ferrell. The trestleboard you are holding in your hands take a lot time, love, and money to produce. I hope you enjoy reading it as much we do producing it. We Masons come from very different faiths and backgrounds, but we believe in the same Supreme Being. This unites us as brothers and fellows. This is the main reason I love our craft and cannot get enough of it. I have the honor to be appointed as the Senior Deacon for the year 6014 AL. I am humbled by the trust Wor. Katz has placed in me. Also a big thank you to my great coaches Wor. Pinkerton and Wor. Allen who prepared me to my new post. I will do my best to serve our Lodge with which the talents God has blessed me and try to compensate my shortcomings with the help of my brethren as usual. I wish you all a happy and joyful new year.

Lastly I want to ask your help with your prayers for our dear brother Phil Busch, who has one of the biggest hearts in our Lodge. He has had some medical setbacks recently and hopefully he will overcome them all, quickly and completely.

In Memoriam

Raymond Andrew Schulz

54 years 1 months 5 days

Entered Into Rest November 21, 2013.



Almighty Father, Great Architect of the

Universe, into thy hands we commend the souls of our dear departed brother.

The "Secrets" of a Freemason?

By Austin Rhee.

A colleague of mine and I were at lunch and he noticed my Masonic ring. He asked, "Is that a Masonic ring? I heard Freemasons keep secrets and I don't understand why. If your organization was honorable, they would do everything in the open, without any secrets."

My response, "You and I work for the same company. There's confidential information we have that we cannot share with others due to potential stock insider issues. The "secrets" really apply to shareholders who own or plan to own our company stock. In the same manner, masonic knowledge really applies to those who are in or have a wish to join our honorable fraternity."

I explained the origins of "operative freemasonry", those who worked in stone masonry as their vocation. A master mason took an apprentice and spent many years teaching him the knowledge of stone masonry. This knowledge enabled them to build the magnificent structures of the Old World. This knowledge was not to be shared with outsiders. The integrity and reputation of stonemasons depended on the quality of the stonework they delivered.

If the "secrets" of the stonemason were revealed unlawfully to someone outside their trade, that knowledge would essentially be meaningless to someone outside of the masonic vocation. For example, a master baker produces various types of culinary delights. The knowledge on how to build a weight bearing stone arch holds little interest or value to that baker, but is a treasured and key part of the stonemason's vocation.

In the same manner, the modern speculative Freemasons of our fraternity also keep our knowledge in high regard. For those without the right motives or mindset or character, such knowledge is of little value and meaning.

For the current Freemason, or those who are asking to be one with the right mindset and character, the pursuit of masonic knowledge is a rewarding ongoing journey.

Help our Lodge

We are printing 570 copies of our Trestleboard every month!

**This costs our Lodge a lot!
What can you do?**

**If you have a computer or a tablet
email the editor with your name and
address to get your copy
electronically!**

***Our goal is to print only 100 copies per
month!***

***Thank you in advance for all your support.
Senior Steward, Editor
Kem Apak
kemapak@gmail.com***

Masonic Quotes

"A duty dodged is like a debt unpaid; it is only deferred, and we must come back and settle the account at last."

Joseph Fort Newton

"People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges." Let us not erect walls without doors of friendliness or windows of love."

Joseph Fort Newton

"Belief is a truth held in the mind. Faith is a fire in the heart."

Joseph Fort Newton

2013 Officers

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Mike Ramos—San Leandro—Hayward— (510) 208-1441 / (510) 287-6366 ©

Charles Hintz—San Leandro—Oakland—(510) 499-9134 ©

Mark Warzyniak—Dublin—San Ramon—Livermore—(925) 361-0392

Ron Katz—Fremont—Hayward—(510) 375-3137

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District

Fred L. Avery, P.M.

(510) 331-6719

fredpastmasteravery@gmail.com

2013 Committees

Appointments

Audit – Kay Dunn, Bob Logan, Arnie Weinstein

Funeral – Kjell Bomark–Noel, Bob Pinkerton, Ron Katz, Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell, Roy Tamez, Kay Dunn, Eugene Moore, Charles Hintz, David Allen, Kem Apak, Alex Von Stade

Masonic Charity – The Master and the Wardens

Masonic Hall Association—John Smith—President

Masonic Homes Endowment—Robert Logan—(925) 737-0430 / rlogan8198@cs.com

Membership Retention – Don Schauer, Sr., Kem Apak, Kay Dunn

Sunshine—Ernie Nidick—(925) 828-6993

Masonic Youth

Castro Valley DeMolay—Pat Quinn—510-755-7891

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Jenny Cordero—(510) 706-4371—ms.jenny65@yahoo.com

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Jennie Chilton—(916) 802-7714—jenniechilton@gmail.com

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Rebecca Ortiz—(559) 916-4701—justrvortiz@gmail.com.

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, Committee Chairman (925) 828-6993

3rd Degree Anniversaries

Fred L. Avery PM (29), Peter Dinos (43), James A. Hooks (48), Scott L. West (1)

Birthdays

William G. Biddell (03), John Q. Howard (03), Frank A. Johnson (03), Michael J. Ramos (04), Eric J. Unti (04), Verl K. Rothlisberger PM (05), Dave L. Baratto (06), Steven E. Cook (09), Daniel P. Baca (10), Charles H. Goodwin (10), Robert A. Hudson PM (11), Thomas E. Robertson (11), Kurt N. Jaeckel PM (12), Gilbert A. Brownfield (13), Erik J. Hoffmann (13), Walter W. Goss (15), Angelo C. Limnios (18), Ronnie J. Castia (19), Charles R. Suer (19), Freddie M. Wilson PM (19), Michael D. Forsyth (20), Carl I. Strader (21), Norvalle D. May (22), Clarence Teeters (22), John D. Gordon (24), Kristoffer R. DeMesa (25), Jack M. York (25), Charles R. Martin (27), Alexander Von Stade II (27), Kanti Patel (29), Jose L. Zamora PM (29), David A. Middleton (30), Alfred R. Orzell (31)

% Don Schauer, Sr. (Secretary)
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Trestleboard

December 2013 AD, 6013 AL

Volume 9, Issue 12

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



*Dated Material Enclosed
Change Service Requested*



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



Monthly Trestleboard of Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551
Free and Accepted Masons
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Editor: Kem Apak
(415) 290-8093
kemapak@gmail.com

Please call ahead and confirm times and dates.

To Reserve the Lodge
please call 510-258-0654,
email crowcanyon551@att.net
or go to <http://tiny.cc/rentCVMC>

Read the Trestleboard online
<http://tiny.cc/551news>

Appendant Bodies Meeting Schedules

- Lake Chabot Chapter Eastern Star meets at CVMC 1st & 3rd Friday (8:00 PM) <http://lakechabot103oes.org/>
- Castro Valley DeMolay meets at Castro Valley Masonic Center (CVMC) 1st & 3rd Monday (7:30 PM)
- Unity Assembly Rainbow No. 65 meets at 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