

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

January 2007

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**January 2007**

- 1st—*No DeMolay Meeting tonight*
- 2nd—Unity Rainbow Meets—7 PM
- 4th—Stated Meeting—Social 5:30 / Dinner 6:30 / Meeting 7:30 PM
- 5th—Eastern Star Meets—7 PM
- 5th—Hayward Jobs Installation of Officers—7 PM
- 5th—Memorial Service for Dani Williams @ Oakland Scottish Rite (during the day)
- 11th—Officer's Practice
- 15th—DeMolay Meeting—7:30 PM
- 16th—Unity Rainbow Meeting—7 PM
- 18th—Officer's Practice
- 19th—Eastern Star Meets—7 PM
- 25th—Officer's Practice
- 27th—Unity Assembly Rainbow Installation of Officers—2 PM

**February (preview)**

- 1st—Stated Meeting—Social 5:30 / Dinner 6:30 / Meeting 7:30 PM
- 3rd—Masters and Past Masters Reception at Crow Canyon 1:30 PM—Have some appetizers and arrange rides to Oakland Scottish Rite
- 3rd—Masters and Past Masters @ Oakland Scottish Rite—3:00 PM
- 5th—DeMolay Meeting—7:30 PM
- 6th—Unity Rainbow Meets—7 PM
- 10th—Crab Feed @ CVMC—6 PM. Tickets available NOW from the Secretary

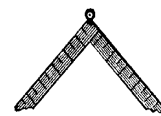
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## From the East



Brethren and Ladies

On December the 16<sup>th</sup> I was installed to undertake the duties of Worshipful Master at the Castro Valley Lodge. With that in mind I would like to express my gratitude by thanking everyone for entrusting me as your new Worshipful Master. I am aware, that the task is above my talent and I humble myself before the magnitude of the undertaking, but with your help I will find resources of wisdom on which to rely under all difficulties. I look forward with your encouragements for that guidance and support which may enable me to steer with safety the vessel in which we are all embarked. In all I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and may the Great Architect of the Universe protect each and every one of us and guide me in the days to come.



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

## From the West

### THE WAY TO TRUTH (Guest Article from Grand Lodge Masonic Education Series)

The first lesson we are taught in Freemasonry is to be good and true. For the stonemasons of old, it was necessary that the stones used in the building be made good and true. The stones had to be perfectly cut and polished so that they would fit together with precision and strength. If the stones were not good and true, the building would crumble and fall.

The rough ashlar is the stone as taken from the quarry in its rude and natural state. The fellowcraft or journeyman Mason used his working tools to square off the edges of the rough ashlar so that it would be a true perfect ashlar that would fit well with the other stones and support the building's superstructure. The workmen had to complete "good work and true work" in order to receive their wages in the Middle Chamber.

Freemasons today are not engaged in building castles and cathedrals. They are engaged in building their own minds and characters, guided by the morals and ethics taught by the Craft. Men who are truthful, sincere, and honest in their dealings with other men are like the "good and true" stones—they provide the strength and integrity that brings harmony to everyday life.

The hypocrisy, cheating, and deceit we see today in political campaigns, government officials, corporation executives, among teachers and students, and even in our family lives have developed in our society in the last 40 years or so. There is a lack of trust in modern society. You can all think of examples from the mass media. The virtue of telling the truth and dealing honestly and openly with others should not be limited to our Brothers in the Craft. It is one of those great moral duties inculcated in the Lodge that we should practice out of the Lodge. We should always think twice before acting, so that our actions in life can measure up to our Masonic standards and we can be "good and true" men.

The meaning of Truth for Freemasons is not limited to being truthful. It also means that we should be searching for the Truth. Searching for the Truth is a journey; the destination of absolute Truth is always receding in the distance.

Man has searched for truth throughout the ages. Freedom and liberty for the individual, as embodied in the democratic and Masonic concepts of life, accelerate the great search today in this unsettled period of terrorism and political and social change.

Among the valiant champions of free and open discussion as an instrument for gaining truth has been John Stuart Mill, the 19<sup>th</sup> century English thinker and economist. He strongly defended the individual's right to think and act for himself.

Now is a good time to examine Mill's words. We live in a time when the safest course for many appears to be "security through conformity" and many people believe that our liberties are being threatened by large corporations or the government.

Mill avidly supported free and open debate. He believed that we should take nothing for granted or at face value. He noted that all societies had traditions and stories full of general observations on what life is and how we should conduct ourselves in life.

Everyone knows and repeats these observations. When we hear them spoken, we simply accept them uncritically. These ideas are never discussed because they are the "accepted" opinion of mankind. Today, we would call this "conventional wisdom." On the whole, we do not challenge the conventional wisdom even when we do not understand it.

Mill wrote that the "fatal tendency of mankind to leave off thinking about a thing when it is no longer doubtful, is the cause of half their errors." Mill believes that we would understand more about what we believe to be true, and therefore make better decisions on how to act, if we were able to hear the "conventional wisdom" argued pro and con by people who do understand the issues involved.

As Freemasons and seekers of truth, we should always be prepared to seek further and more complete information on such issues as the Public Schools than what we read in the mass media or on the Internet. Just because something appears in print or on the World Wide Web does not make it true. We should always be ready to seek further Light when making decisions that affect our families, our communities, and ourselves.

Well-informed Freemasons are well-informed citizens. We are charged to be exemplary in the discharge of our civil duties. Because we Freemasons are taught to challenge the "conventional wisdom," and most people are not, a Freemason seeking truth  
**(continued page 3)**

## From the South

For Dinner Reservations Call

Bud Warder—Junior Warden (925) 820-7752  
bud@kioskamerica.com



*(from page 2)*

can have great influence for good in the world by applying what he has learned in the Craft to his job, his family, and to how he evaluates issues and candidates when he goes the polls.

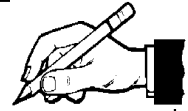
Mill was also concerned about the quality of debate and public discussion. In our era of negative political advertising, talk radio, and attack journalism, we could take many lessons from what Mill described as the real morality of public discussion.

Mill believed that the outcome of a discussion should be determined by the circumstances of the individual case. We should not deliberately misrepresent the views of the other side. We should condemn all participants in a discussion, no matter what side they are on, who use half-truths, falsehoods, and accusations of bigotry and intolerance to attack the other side. These tactics only cloud the issues and confuse both the debaters and their listeners.

In fact, we should have the calmness to see and the honesty to state what our opponents' opinions really are. We should not exaggerate their opinions to their discredit. And in fairness and courtesy, we should not withhold information that might support our opponents' position. These are the ground rules for a proper and civilized discussion. When these rules are followed in the "marketplace of ideas," the only result can be further Light, as we come closer to Truth. These rules can be applied in the Halls of Congress, at City Council meetings, or even at a Lodge's Stated Meeting! How many arguments and divisions in our Lodges could be avoided simply by a courteous and fair-minded search for the truth? Just think about the many State and local propositions we had to consider at the last election, and the political campaigns seeking to convince us how to vote. Try to imagine how different the campaigns and speeches would have been if the advocates on all sides had gone by Mill's standard.

Our ritual teaches us that when guided by Truth, "hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us, sincerity and plain-dealing distinguish us, and with heart and tongue we join in promoting each other's welfare and rejoice in each other's prosperity." In other words, in a society governed by truthfulness, integrity, and civility in the search for Truth, individuals will come together to work to improve the quality of life for each other and their children. And they will be glad to see the success and achievements of each other as well, because the community is improved by each person's individual success. Truth creates harmony; Deceit creates discord and confusion. As Freemasons we have the responsibility to practice truth among ourselves, and with those in the society at large. Men join Masonry because of a favorable opinion conceived of the institution. It is up to us to set the example by how we act in our own dealings with family, friends, and strangers.

## From the Secretary's Desk



Some of you who have not paid the annual dues of \$69.00. After January 1<sup>st</sup> you are considered delinquent. Second notices will be sent after that date and if not paid by June stated meeting you might be suspended. Thank you goes to those of you who have filled in and returned the information form. Some of you are really active in concordant bodies.

When you find that you have accomplished joining everything in Masonry, we sure could use you in the "blue" lodge. Many of you were willing to give your e-mail addresses. Having the e-mail addresses allows your lodge officers to communicate information quickly. If you are not receiving e-mail notices from [CrowCanyon551@sbcglobal.net](mailto:CrowCanyon551@sbcglobal.net) and would like to, please e-mail me at that address and I will add you to the list.

Looks like a busy year ahead for our lodge, you might not want to miss the fun. If you are beyond the cable tow, remember there may be a lodge close to you and I believe that our Brethren in those lodges would like you to participate. If you are a first or second degree and haven't been working on the proficiency it's 2007 already. Suitable assistance will be furnished.

Fraternally, Bill Ferrell, Secretary

## Castro Valley DeMolay

Dear Masonic Family,

As the Master Councilor of Castro Valley DeMolay, I appreciate the opportunity to put this article in your Trestleboard. You have, most likely, seen us out and about over the last several weeks. We've been busy with our holiday fundraisers and getting ready for our upcoming snow trips.

I would like to extend an invitation to each and every one of you to attend our chapter meetings and especially our Senior DeMolay Night which will be held on March 17th. We would also like to ask you to assist us, by introducing DeMolay to a young man who you feel could benefit from the opportunities that DeMolay offers. DeMolay is a fraternal organization for young men between 12—21 years old, who believe in a Supreme being, and promise to become better sons, better citizens and better men. Our chapter has lots of fun getting together for movie nights, sports tournaments, and dances. We would love to share our brotherhood with your sons, grandsons, nephews, neighbors, and friends. You can visit our chapter website (<http://cvd.8m.com>) or the Northern California DeMolay website (<http://www.norcaldemolay.com>) for more information.

With Masonic Family Love,

Shaun Reynolds, Master Councilor



*Castro Valley Chapter Meets the First and Third Monday of every month at the Castro Valley Masonic Center. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. Parents of DeMolays, Master Masons, and Senior DeMolay are always welcome.*

### Third Degree Anniversaries for January

**Amato**, Joseph (50); **Amato**, Peter (49); **Bitter**, Henry Jr. (44); **Clough**, Eugene Edward (40); **Cole**, Clement Brown [PM] (52); **Darling**, John Arthur (27); **Erman**, John Scott (18); **Farrell**, Charles Lee (48); **Ferrell**, William Melvin [PM] (26); **Field**, Marshall Lee (42); **George**, Craig Allen (26); **Gottardi**, Joseph Frank (43); **Hamilton**, Roger Harold (31); **Hansen**, Howard Budington (59); **Herman**, John Harold (40); **Hibbs**, Forrest Melvin [PM] (55); **Hinds**, Arthur Conway (11); **Jaeckel**, Kurt Norman [PM] (48); **Lambrecht**, Ernest Edward (54); **Newman**, Raymond Charles (17); **Orzell**, Alfred Reynold (53); **Pickering**, Richard Parker (34); **Rodger**, David Robert [PM] (58); **Romero**, Henry Banda (23); **Russell**, Frank Langton Jr. (26); **Short**, George Roger (32); **Smith**, Charles Sinclair Jr. (54); **Smith**, John Douglass (5); **Tamez**, Paul Abram (2); **Tamez**, Sammy [PM] (27); **Teixeira**, John Edward (8); **Zamora**, Jose Luis [PM] (31)

### 2007 Officers:

**Master - Alvaro R. Reynoso**

(Cruz) - (510) 490-2192 / (510) 364-7073 cell

**Senior Warden - Roy A. Tamez**

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**Treasurer- Robert C. Hansen, P.M.**

(Sherry) - (510) 537-0109 rchan236@sbcglobal.net

**Secretary.- William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A.**

(Kathy) - (510) 886-2023

CrowCanyon551@sbcglobal.net

**Assistant Secretary—Ron Katz, P.M.**

(Jennifer) - (510) 783-3112 / (510) 375-3137

ron2000katz@comcast.net

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(Katherine) - (510) 351-2892

**Sr. Deacon (sitting) - Paul A Tamez**

(510) 276-6015 tamez20@aol.com

**Jr. Deacon - Charles Hintz**

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**Marshal - Chris Boggess**

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**Sr. Steward - Arnold Weinstein**

(Shelley) (925) 275-9217

**Jr. Steward - Gordon MacDonald**

(Kammi) (510) 481-2535

**Tiler - Jack Palmeri, P.M., H.A.**

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### Inspector of the 156th Masonic District:

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### Special Committees:

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**DeMolay: Ronald S. Katz**

(Jennifer) - (510) 375-3137

**Public Schools: William Ferrell, P.M.**

(Kathy) - (510) 886-2288

**Rainbow for Girls: Desyl Allen**

(510) 537-1054

**Widows Program: Kurt R Allen, P.M.**

(Donna) - (925) 735-1233 krallen1@comcast.net

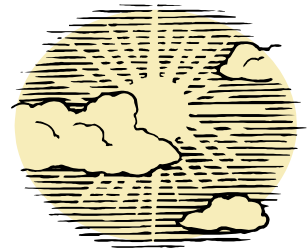
**Temple Board: Sammy Tamez P.M.**

(Maxine) - (510) 276-6015 samtamez551@aol.com

### Sunshine and Visiting

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

Andy Gravier M  
one ( 0 )



### In Memoriam January 2007

John Dring McPhee, PM 85 years, 7 months and 23 days  
November 26, 2006

Robert Alton Gill, Jr. PM 79 Years, 3 months and 23 days  
December 7, 2006



*Almighty Father, into Thy hands we  
commend the souls of our Beloved  
Brothers*

E-Mail Address: [Crowcanyon551@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Crowcanyon551@sbcglobal.net)

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

Monthly Trestleboard of Crow Canyon Lodge

No. 551 Free and Accepted Masons

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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!).