

c/o Don Schauer, Sr.—Secretary
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Trestleboard

June-July 2016
Volume 12, Issue 6

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



Calendar of Events

JUNE

June 2nd—Thurs—Stated Meeting —5:30 PM Social—6:15 PM Dinner—7:30 PM Meeting
June 9th—Thurs—Practice—2nd Degree—7:00 PM Open
June 14th—Tues—DOSI @ Masonic Home—6:00 PM Dinner—7:00 PM School
June 16th—Thurs—Practice—2nd Degree—7:00 PM Open
June 23rd—Thurs—Officer's Informational—EAs, FCs, MMs Welcome—7:00 PM Meeting
June 25th—Sat—Obs. Saints John's Feast Day—6:00 PM Open—Members only
June 28th—Tues—DMPS @ Hayward Ranch Restaurant—Masonic Expansion in the 18th Century—7:00 PM Meeting
June 30—Thurs—DARK

JULY

July 7th—Thurs—Stated Meeting —5:30 PM Social—6:15 PM Dinner—7:30 PM Meeting
July 8th-30th - DARK - Enjoy your summer break!
July 31st - Strawberry Feed at Masonic Home - 10:00 AM Setup / 1:00 PM Serving



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Masonic Home + Strawberries = Extreme Joy!

When: July 31, 2016

Where: Union City Masonic Home Auditorium

When: 10 AM Prep / 1 PM Serving

Crow Canyon Lodge Masons and their families are invited to come prep and serve strawberry shortcake at the Union City Masonic Home. You are guaranteed to have a great time and the residents look forward to us returning each year. Extreme Joy to be had by all!

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 Michael Ramos—Worshipful Master

I hope June finds you in the midst of planning fun Summertime Trips and relishing an upcoming month of much needed rest.

On the day of my Installation as Master of Crow Canyon, a Past Master pulled me aside to remind me to enjoy every second of the experience because “you will only be Master for your first time, once” and also because “the year will fly-by.” Finding us at the halfway point of 2016, I now see that those were truly sage words.

I am so proud of all the officers and brethren that make up our ‘little Lodge’ nestled on Crow Canyon Road and Castro Valley Blvd. We truly possess a ‘can do!’ spirit. Whether it is our Child ID Program, Sweet Hearts’ Event, Public Schools Night, White Table Night, Masonic Education, or any one of the many items that help make this Lodge what it is; I always know that every one of my brothers is giving of their time and talents to the best of their abilities.

Some brethren are retired, and look forward to participating in every event held by the Lodge as a great source of fellowship and sociability. Some have an affinity for particular aspects of our Institution, which draw them to certain events more than others. Some are terribly busy with their personal and work life, and are only capable of attending seldom. To me, it makes no difference what your interests are or how much time you have to give, as long as we always strive to work together in harmony as brothers, with an aim towards accepting each others differences. I believe the key to a successful Lodge is when all brothers feel welcome, wanted and appreciated.

The compass, when used symbolically by speculative Masons, is the instrument by which we are taught to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds towards all those inhabiting the planet alongside us. This instrument helps remind us that although each one of our desires and passions may vary, we are to keep them restrained

as to not unintentionally offend our fellow humans with overzealousness or unnecessary criticism. When taken literally, it is a simple moral and social lesson in peaceful living. However, we instruct our brethren in this concept ritually all over the globe, in almost every jurisdiction, every day of every year. That tells me that albeit an easy concept to grasp, it is definitely one

worth hearing at every opportunity because as humans it is hard, if at all possible, to truly master. Just some food for thought, my dear friends and brothers.

There has been a change of venue and structure for our Feast of Saint John the Baptist on Saturday, June 25th. It will now be held in a private room at The Ranch Restaurant in Hayward (2287 Mission Blvd) at 5:30 pm. With this being the case, there will be no \$35.00 fee, as the Ranch is willing to accommodate guests with their own personal bill. The structure will not mimic the Feasts we have held in times past. We are adopting the tradition of an English Festive Board. Will there be toasts? – Yes! Will there be guest speakers? – Yes! Will we open as a Lodge? – No! This format is more casual in some aspects, while maintaining honors, papers and toasts. Please do wear Lodge attire (dark suit,



white shirt and dark tie) and do please join us for an evening of good cheer, tradition and fellowship. This event is open to Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons only. Contact either our Secretary, Bro. Don Schauer Sr., or our Senior Steward, Bro. Jonathan Prestage, to place a reservation in order to reserve your seat.

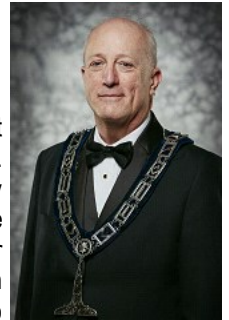
Due to my article being longer than normal, please refer to our June and July Calendars for upcoming events.

Enjoy your Summer!

From the West

By Alex Von Stade—Senior Warden

Brethren: Well, it is now June and we are just about half way through the 2016 calendar year. During this month, we observe a special holiday on June 14th, known as Flag Day. Unlike many of our holidays where we honor people or events, we pay honor to an object, a flag, which is our national symbol. This day allows us to pay extra respect to the flag as well as allowing us to reflect upon our country and its origins. Most historians agree that the first Flag Day celebration began in Chicago Illinois in 1894. Many years later in 1949, President Harry S. Truman signed into law that national Flag Day observances were to occur on June 14th of each calendar year. Although the flag has changed over the years as states were added, the message behind the flag remains the same; we are a single indivisible nation connected with the universal theme of liberty and justice for all of our inhabitants. This year, like previous years, I will proudly fly the flag on June 14th on the front my house. It is the same one that my father purchased decades ago when I was a child. Although it is a bit tattered, wrinkled, and faded, it's message of freedom remains intact. Have a Happy Flag Day.



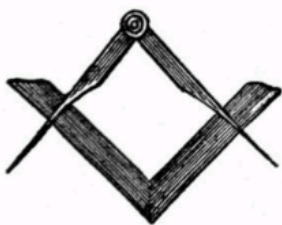
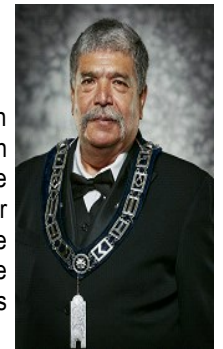
From the South

By Alvaro Reynoso, PM—Junior Warden

Have you ever found yourself in a situation in which someone asked for your help to serve in any capacity; maybe as a chair of a committee or to donate your time to serve for one day for your community? If you are like me, you are waiting for the right time to lure yourself to the nearest exit of the room and say “oh that was pretty close.”

But if you are on the other side of the things, as a leader, and you found yourself doing everything in your power to serve those who volunteer, you need not only to help meet the goals you noted when you undertook this mission but you also must meet the needs of your Lodge. Only then will you know how hard that can be.

At one time, the Master of the Lodge was in need of a Jr Deacon. When he asked if there were any volunteers I hesitated and was ready to head out the nearest exit. Fortunately, the exit was too far away and I ended up accepting the Junior. Deacon position. It's been 10 years since then and I can tell you that it was the best decision that I have made as a Mason. I worked up to the Master's Chair and I learned not only to appreciate Masonry a lot more but also to strive to learn more and get involved more.



After a year of debate, finally the Grand Lodge allowed the lodges to carry out their regular business in the first degree. Therefore, it is permissible for all the member from the first degree to the third degree to participate in the Stated Meeting. This change allows me to ask you to participate in the Stated Meetings. I can't promise you that you will not be asked to be a member of a committee or donate time to the community, but I do know that if you choose to participate, you will find new meaning and in the process you will learn that you have something to contribute to our Lodge. You can become a better man.

From the Secretary's Table

By Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.

This being our June and July trestleboard it is time to reflect on the first six months of the year. Our Entered Apprentice Formation Night was a great success. Fellowcrafts and Master Masons with less than five years will receive a summons. Two new applications were read at our stated meeting Mr. Orrin Benedict for the digrees recommended by Bros. Robert Pinkerton PM and William Ferrell PM and for affiliation, Anthony Trancredi recommended by Brother Phil Bush and Don Schauer. Brother Trancredi is a resident of the Masonic Home in Union City. Unless action is taken I will submit nine names to the Master for suspension for non-payment of dues on June 2nd. If you are one of the nine and you want to keep your membership in Crow Canyon you must act fast.



There are also 22 members who have not paid the 2016 dues and have been sent certified letters. Check your dues receipt and make sure that it is good though December 2016. If not, send your check in the amount of \$103.00.

Have a wonderful summer .

The 24-Inch Gauge & the Common Gavel

By J. Emmanuel C. Rafisura, E.A.

The 24 inch gauge is a symbolic instrument in which, as speculative Masons, we are taught to make use of it to divide our time. One part for the service to God and distressed worthy brothers, a part for our usual vocations, and a part for refreshment and repose. As modern Masons, we may not work on stones and build structures like that of the ancient times. Our life is the structure, of which we build upon, keeping in mind, Wisdom, Strength and Beauty as the pillars.

As I furthered my studies, with the aid of my mentors, my coach and fellow brothers, I was also fascinated by the three main tenets of Masonry: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. These, I was able to relate on how to spend our time as a better men.

Service to God and Distressed Worthy Brothers as equated to Brotherly love - I believe that as we sincerely care for our country and our neighbors, we are also serving God, as we are one nation under God. As we deal with our brothers, we also treat them in equal footing - on the level, regardless of race, religion, color or social status. Thus, Brotherly Love, is an expression of our highest respect and love to the Great Architect of the Universe. With this, I can say that service to our fellow brothers, is service to God.

Usual Vocations as Equated to Relief - The second part of the day in which we are taught to spend it to, is for our usual vocations. I learned that as long as we perform our respective vocations in a manner that is squared towards all mankind, we are reassured or relieved of our own distresses and anxieties. Joining Freemasonry has allowed me to open my mind and absorb the Wisdom of the ages, fill my heart with Strength of His blessings, and admire the Beauty of the Great Architects' creation. With these teachings, in aid of my

Brethren and with the graces of God, I am confident that each one of us will be become responsible brothers and able to provide meaningful Relief to our fellow brothers.

Refreshment and Repose as equated to Truth - The third part of our day is to spend it for refreshment and repose. This, I learned to equate with one of the Masonic principles, which is Truth. As mortals, we need time for rest and reflection. We need time to recharge and reinvigorate ourselves and contemplate on the deeper meaning of Truth. In Masonry, Truth is to be good and to be true to one's self. To despise hypocrisy and deceit. To be sincere, and make plain dealings, distinguish us, so that at the end of the day, we may join in promoting each other's welfare and rejoice in each other's prosperity.

The Common Gavel is a sturdy and hard instrument. It is used to break off rough and superfluous parts of stones in such a way it will be better fitted to that spiritual house. That house not made with hands but the one that is eternal in the heavens.

As I am beginning to be transformed as a Mason, I came across with the three movable objects of Masonry: The Rough Ashlar, the Perfect Ashlar, and the Trestleboard. As an Entered Apprentice Mason, I am as rough and as crude as an ashlar that is fresh from the quarry. With the Common Gavel as an instrument, aided by my brothers in this worshipful lodge, my intention is to work and come out as a perfectly polished Ashlar. But as they say, no one is perfect. And so, I realized that we are all works in progress. But as long as we follow the teachings and principles of Freemasonry, and subscribe to the ideals of the Volume of Sacred Laws, which is the Trestleboard of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, I trust that we will pass in this world as fine gentlemen.

I am hopeful that when the time comes that when I will finally meet my Creator, I can lovingly and proudly say to Him: "Lord, I have done my best for your greater glory and nobility. Thank you for your gifts. Thank you for your graces. Thank you for the working tools of Freemasonry."

So Mote It be.

Encounters with Adversity

by Harry E. Grant 33 degree

(excerpt from THE NEW AGE - MAY 1948)

Encounters with adversity should not crush out life nor destroy its purposeful intent - happiness. In these encounters men should learn the lessons of adversity recognize their import and, through them, eventually win. It is not necessary under adversity to go down to defeat.

Adversity is not an absence of but should reveal opportunity.

Adversities are not a greased skid to oblivion but, with knowledge of their instructional value and of the available powers for their mastery, constitute highways to happiness and to success. Opposition can be made to aid accomplishment.

If you have planted in the wrong soil, have failed to water or otherwise ignored the essentials to a successful crop, you do not rail at fate, repine, nor remain idle. You benefit by past mistakes, comply with the requirements of all that is really controlling and, ignoring whatever is erroneous, live and work for the future expectant of success. Save as it contributes to the future, the past is dead.

Adversity, although ugly, is useful. For men to desire only the good is normal; but strive as they may for achievement of their concept of good, adversity does appear - and betimes so persistently that they wonder wherein it has its uses. Adversity is unwanted; but, in a world of experiences in which all is in

reality only good, that which is even temporarily general cannot be an un-mixed evil. When in the midst of adversities, thought may, therefore, be profitably directed to their uses to the end of good.

Encounters with adversity are intended to be helpful, not hurtful. They are

Crow Canyon Lodge N° 551
Cordially Invites You To Our

Feast of Saint John the Baptist



English Style Festive Board with Toast List

Saturday, June 25th at 6:00 pm

∴ Guest Speakers in Attendance ∴

The Ranch Restaurant
22877 Mission Blvd., Hayward, CA 94541

33 Guests Maximum ∴ Dark Suit and Dark Tie

Masons of All Degrees Only

Please contact Bro. Jonathan Prestage for Reservation by 6/22

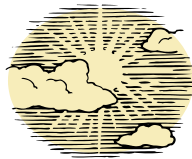
jonathan.prestage@gmail.com

Sunshine and Visiting

These Brothers would love a phone call or e-mail from you to help cheer them up:

Howard Marmor; Chas. Hintz; Arnie Weinstein; George Lumm; George Christensen; Mark Casperson. Please contact Secretary Don Schauer for their respective phone numbers.

Ernie Nidick —Sunshine Chairman 925.828.6993 bev2ern@comcast.net
Les Blake—Visiting Chairman 510.581.8497 cherllois@sbcglobal.net



June-July Birthdays

Robert Eckstein (06/01)	John Teixeira (07/01)
Ace Gilbert (06/02)	Ronald Vandenberghe (07/01)
Dain Warton (06/04)	Tony Wilkinson (07/01)
Mark Parinas (06/08)	Barry Bookman (07/02)
Marshall Field (06/09)	Donald Clendenen (07/05)
Jack Allen (06/12)	Hedley Bourke (07/06)
Paul Rodriguez-Obrian (06/14)	Joseph Elleard (07/06)
Howard Hansen (06/15)	Glen Barth (07/07)
Benjamin Newmarker (06/15)	Harold Burk (07/07)
Peter Amato (06/17)	Fred Avery (07/08)
Lee White (06/17)	William Strain (07/08)
Leo Rizzo (06/18)	Denis Beaman (07/09)
Douglas Prull (06/20)	Donald Jensen (07/09)
Floyd Fawcett (06/21)	Jody Juracich (07/11)
Andrew Kinicki (06/22)	Paul Amato (07/13)
John Erman (06/23)	Les Blake (07/14)
Leland Peck (06/23)	Glen Sears (07/15)
Lester Bridge (06/24)	William Ferrell (07/17)
Harold Dias (06/24)	Nick Sears (07/22)
Jeffrey Kahn (06/24)	Ronald Garcia (07/23)
Ray Michardi (06/24)	Alex Gauthier (07/23)
Jason Deitschman (06/27)	Bob Ficken (07/25)
Howard Marmor (06/27)	Eric Korbas (07/26)
John Mc Carthy (06/27)	Earl Kresge (07/26)
Donald Schauer (06/27)	Carl Worley (07/26)
Ronald Stuart (06/28)	Earl Woodson (07/29)
Walter Nieman (06/29)	Perry Klahr (07/31)
John Freestone (06/30)	



3rd Degree Anniversaries

The following brethren were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in the months of June & July

Leonard Ambrose [PM] (48)	Douglas Prull (52)
Jared Andreotti (16)	Larry Richardson [PM] (51)
Edward Auguadro [PM] (39)	Jose Rodriguez Jr. (59)
Gilbert Brownfield (29)	Ronald Selvey (37)
Jimmy Burns (34)	Edgar Smith (36)
Vernon Cumins (66)	Joseph Stewart (22)
John Davenport Jr. [PM] (57)	Scotty Stroup (46)
Joseph Elleard [PM] (60)	Gene Tague Sr. (30)
Herbert Freeman (43)	Roy Tamez [PM] (31)
Kevin Gray (28)	Clarence Teeters (44)
Erik Hoffmann (2)	Frank Thrall Jr. (19)
Mark Kahn (50)	John Tomaso (5)
Frederick Kao [PM] (34)	Gary Tucker (26)
Albert Keshishian (62)	Ronald Vandenberghe (52)
Eric Korbas (2)	Victor Vandenberghe (40)
Earl Kresge (37)	Kurt von Brauch (37)
Jeffery Lantz (48)	David Weaver (34)
Roger Lemon (64)	David Wipf (39)
Robert Logan [PM] (23)	
John Mc Carthy (47)	JULY
Raymond Michardi (34)	Kevin Hulme (17)
Henry Miller Jr. [PM] (43)	Clyde Lyerla (59)
Edgar O'Hara (29)	Ernest Nidick Jr. (56)
Robert Peters [PM] (53)	James Stanford (17)
Jonathan Prestage (4)	Gordon Warder [PM] (18)

167th Annual Communication
GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF CALIFORNIA
OCTOBER 28-30 • SAN FRANCISCO, CA
YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

2016 Officers

Master — Michael Ramos
510.208.1441 / 510.287.6366 cell 551dmps@gmail.com

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

Junior Warden — Alvaro Reynoso, P.M.
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Assist. Secretary — William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A.
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Chaplain — Robert Pinkerton, P.M.
510.851.6794 r-pinkerton@sbcglobal.net

Marshal — Robert Eckstein, P.M.
510.744.1717 / robert_eckstein@ca9.uscourts.gov

Senior Deacon — Mark Warzyniak
510.377.1594

Junior Deacon — Paul Rodriguez-O'Brian
510.461.1071 / cell 510.881.0570 hal2pro@sbcglobal.net

Sr. Steward — Jonathan Prestage
415.710.9347 jonathan.prestage@gmail.com

Jr. Steward — Arnold Weinstein
925.275.9217 weinst01@sbcglobal.net

Tiler — Bill Biddell, H.A.
510.582.6207 / 510.589.0878 cell wbiddell@gmail.com

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

Candidate Coaches

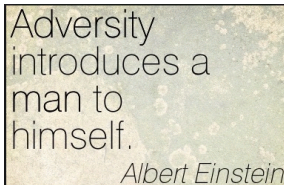
Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.537.1077 / 510.684.3047 cell
Mike Ramos — S. Leandro-Hayward — 510.287.6366 cell
Ron Katz — Fremont-Hayward — 510.375.3137 cell

Inspector of the 319th Masonic District

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

(Overcoming Adversity - continued)

valuable for the lessons they inculcate, and principal among these is that the only assured advance toward success, whatever that concept may be, is in accord with controlling law or right order.



Albert Einstein

Instead of complaining at adversity, resignedly and inert through hopelessness, the time may be more profitably spent in an endeavor to determine solutions in accordance with right. This is one way wisely to forget seeming grievances and troubles; for to remove the causes of adversity is to open channels to prosperity. Loss, viewed aright, is gain.

A right concept of adversity is essential to success, otherwise unsound thinking will result in misdoing, or, worse still, in an idleness wherein the apathy of defeatism will displace the energies that properly should be utilized in accomplishment.

2016 Committees

Appointments

Executive Committee: Mike Ramos, Alex Von Stade, Robert Eckstein, Kurt Allen, Don Schauer, Sr.

Masonic Charity: Three Principle Officers

Sunshine: Ernie Nidick & Les Blake

Masonic Hall Association: Pat Quinn

Masonic Homes Endowment: Don Schauer Sr.

Membership Retention: Don Schauer Sr. & Mike Ramos

Audit: Bill Biddell, Arnie Weinstein & Bob Pinkerton

Masonic Funeral: Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell & All Officers

Web Master: Ron Katz

Events

White Table Night: Alex Von Stade & Mike Ramos

Hiram Award Festivities: Alex Von Stade & Mike Ramos

Festive Boards & Feasts: Jonathan Prestage & Mike Ramos

Crab & Pasta Feed: Don Schauer & Roy Tamez

Strawberry Feed: Ron Katz

Public Schools Night: Eric Unti & Bill Ferrell

Child ID: David Allen & Roy Tamez

Sweetheart Events: Phil Busch & Kurt Allen

Visitation: Don Schauer, Kurt Allen & Mike Ramos

Masonic Formation and Education: Jonathan Prestage & Mike Ramos

Children's Holiday Party: Bill Ferrell & Mike Ramos

Masonic Youth Orders

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

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls — Helen J. Zidek
HelenJ.Zidek@comcast.net

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261 — Laurel M. 559.696.0746

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



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
4521 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552
510.274.0725 (lobby, kitchen)

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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 No. 551 June-July 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Stated Meeting Dinner - 6:00 PM Open - 7:30 PM	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Practice - 2nd Degree Open - 7:00 PM	10	11
12	13	14 DOSI # the Masonic Home Dinner - 6:00 PM School - 7:00 PM	15	16 Practice - 2nd Degree Open - 7:00 PM	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 2nd Degree - Bro. Ratsura Dinner - 6:30 PM Open - 7:30 PM	24	25 Obs. St. John's Feast Day At Hayward Ranch Event - 6:00 PM * Open to ALL Masons only
26	27	28 DMPs - DARK	29	30 DARK	July 1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Stated Meeting Dinner - 6:00 PM	July is DARK from 7/8-7/30.	
31 Strawberry Feed @ Masonic Home - 10 AM Setup. 1:00 PM Serving						

WAMA Michael J. Ramos: 510-287-6366 (Mobile) / 510-208-1441 (Office) / 551dmps@gmail.com (Email)
 *All degree conferrals, practices, and LOIs will not include dinner service unless otherwise noted in the calendar made by the Master.