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Trestleboard

July 2023

Volume 19, Issue 7

Crow Canyon Lodge
No. 551

F&AM of California

Chartered October 11, 1923



WWW.CCL551.ORG



Calendar of Events

JULY 2023

AUGUST 2023

07/05—Wednesday—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
07/06—Thursday—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner 6:00 PM / Business Meeting 7:00 PM—BBQ Steak and Corn on the Cob. Please wear your red-white & blue to show your Patriotism
07/08—Saturday—Division Level Ritual Competition at San Jose Masonic Center (2500 Masonic Dr., San Jose) @ 1PM
07/13—Thursday—3rd Degree Practice—7:00 PM
07/15—Saturday—Breakfast w/Brothers @ Normans CV 8:00 AM
07/18—Tuesday—Zoom Social at 7 PM
07/20—Thursday—DARK
07/25—Tuesday—Hall Association—7:00 PM
07/27—Thursday—DARK
07/29—Saturday—Strawberry Feed at Masonic Home—11:00 AM

08/02—Wednesday—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
08/03—Thursday—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner 6:00 PM / Business Meeting 7:00 PM—Filipino-Themed Meal.
08/10—Thursday—Third Degree Practice—7:00 PM
08/15—Tuesday—Zoom Social at 7 PM
08/17—Thursday—Third Degree Practice w/Wor. Cuenca—7:00 PM
08/19—Saturday—Visitation 34d Degree Bro. Steven Dorough at Volcano Lodge
08/24—Thursday—First Degree (tentative) Practice—7:00 PM
08/26—Saturday—Lodge Picnic at Golden Gate Live Steamers in Tilden Park—11:30 AM

Appendant and Concordant Bodies

- ◆ San Lorenzo Chapter Eastern Star No. 103 meets @ CVMC 2nd & 4th Monday (8:00 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 J. E. C. Rafisura — Master

As we enter July, please allow me to wish everyone a Happy U.S. Independence Day! Hopefully, this article



has reached you not too long after the 4th of July so that my greeting is still in order. When we talk about independence (and freedom), we can always feel our the fullness of heart's gratitude and deep respect for those who are in the military, our first responders, and those who continue to sacrifice (or have sacrificed their lives) so that, "we the people", are able to continue to live according to the dreams and aspirations of our Founding Fathers. America is indeed the land of the free because of the brave!

Going back to last month, please join me in congratulating our newly-raised brother, Jake Andreotti. Bro. Jake was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on June 15. It has been a while since our last third degree conferral (October 2021)! After almost two years, we were finally able to raise another worthy brother.

For brother Andreotti, it was a momentous event being able to continue his family's generational masonic succession. The ceremony was attended by his father, Jared, and his grandfathers, Hank Andreotti and John Smith (all Master Masons, of course). Both his grandfathers helped in the symbolic "raising" portion of the ceremony. One can imagine that they relived the curiosity and joy of their own experience through Jake's eyes that night, just as their own fathers had with them.

My appreciation to the sideliners and visitors who attended the event. I have to mention, the third degree team's performance, was as expected . . . spectacular. Also, we were fortunate to be graced by the presence of our Wor. Inspector, Allen Cuenca, who sat in one of the chairs and took part in the ceremony. I can only



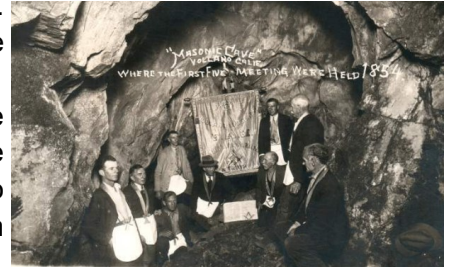
hope that Jake will be able to attend our activities whenever he is in town as we know he is busy with his very promising career as a race car driver.

Nonetheless, we are proud that Jake is now a Master Mason and part of our lodge as he and his

team consistently "bring home the bacon" by winning races. God speed Jake!

Coming up will be more third degree conferrals. In my previous article, I have mentioned that we were planning to have a traveling/visiting degree in Mendocino Lodge.

Due to some logistical challenges, we have changed the venue to Volcano Lodge #56 in Volcano,



California. I am stoked with this new location knowing that the lodge owns an actual Masonic Cave! The plan is to have this event on August 29 with Bro. Steven Dorough as our candidate. For sure, this will be a different and awesome experience for all of us. If any Master Mason who would like to join us in this exciting adventure, please let me or any of the officers know for more details.

Other than degree conferrals, please note also that we will be having our Strawberry Feed in July and Hiram Award Ceremony and Lodge Picnic in August. Stay tuned for more announcements during Stated Meetings and also, check your emails for updates regarding upcoming activities. I wish everyone good health and pleasant summer. I hope to see you in our lodge activities!

From the West

By Andrew Hawes — Sr. Warden

The first thing that comes to my mind when I think of July is always the celebration of our nation's Independence.



The "picnic and fireworks" holiday, for many of us – the celebration of our declaration of freedom from foreign taxation, and our insistence on being free to make our own choices, regardless of consequence.

Freedom is something that most Americans claim that they want- and have - but it's a relative thing. The freedom to speak our mind? Of course! ...but not the freedom to yell 'Fire!' in a crowded theater, or to plan a terrorist attack. There are, and should

be, limits imposed on this freedom, like most of our freedoms, for what most of us will agree is good reason.

I think it's important to keep in mind that our "freedoms" are things which we are promised by our Constitution and laws, and are only ours if our



government leaders continue to protect them for us.

This is the same government that took over 100 years to decide that it was acceptable for women to vote in elections. Were they free and independent during that time, while lacking the voice to change the laws that directly affect our lives?

We need laws, to provide order and security in our lives, but its important that we don't think of the government as an all-powerful and untouchable entity – it is a government that should be OF the people, BY the people and FOR the people and not one that RULES the people.

Anyone who meets three simple criteria can run for president in this country– if they are a natural-born citizen, at least 35 years old, and have lived in the US for at least 14 years, they are eligible. Ironically, women were allowed to run for President from the founding of this country, even before they could vote for themselves.

Did you know there were over 1200 people who filed to run for president in the most recent elections of 2020? How many of them can you name? Have you heard of Howie Hawkins, or Jo Jorgensen? They both appeared on enough state ballots to theoretically win a majority in the Electoral College, making them "notable candidates" in the 2020 election –Jorgensen earned over 1.8 million votes!

So, remember this July, that as a nation, we struggled to throw off the yoke of what we then viewed as intolerable tyranny- and eventually succeeded in doing so. Celebrate that victory, by all means - but remember to keep yourself educated on how our government runs, and pay attention to the things being planned by our leadership, as the decisions that they make will impact us all. If you dont like something that you hear about being propsoed as law, don't forget to exercise your first amendment rights to "petition the government for a

redress of grievances" and write to or call your senator or representatives!



The yoke of tyranny is one that is rarely forced upon a population. It is usually willingly donned by those who wear it, gradually slipped on over shoulders that slump ever lower under its weight – and the great thing about this country, is that these days, we have the freedom to change this, WITHOUT revolution.

From the South

By Lyman Penning — Jr. Warden



Along with my activities in Crow Canyon Lodge, I am involved in this year's Ritual Competition in California. For 2023, the ritual will be the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree proficiencies. I am doing both questions and answers and I have now advanced from the District Level to the Division Level. If I can receive the top score in both the Division Level and the Final round, I will be receiving the top award at the Grand Lodge Annual Communications.

We have our Stated Meeting Dinner on Thursday, July 6, 2023. Roy will be serving BBQ steak (chicken upon request) with corn on the cob, garlic bread, beans and dinner salad. Dessert will be peach cobbler with vanilla ice cream. If you have not yet made a reservation, the lines are open to inform Perry and I that you are coming.

I believe that this will be our only dinner in July. The upcoming dinners to be aware of are the Hiram Award for Brian Ross on either Thursday, September 14 or Saturday, September 16, 2023, our Lodge Picnic on Saturday, August 26, 2023 (tentative), and our 100 year Centennial celebration on Saturday, October 21, 2023. Please mark these events on your calendars.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable Fourth Of July. See you in Lodge.



3rd Degree Anniversaries

*The following brethren were raised to the sublime degree of
Master Mason in the month of July*

James Stanford (24)
Ernest Nidick (63)

Gordon Warder [PM] (25)



July Birthdays

John Teixeira (7/1)	Leslie Blake (7/14)
Ronald Vandenberghe (7/1)	Glen Sears (7/15)
Richard Wilkinson (7/1)	William Ferrell (7/17)
Barry Bookman (7/2)	Tramaine Ellison (7/20)
Charles Herrick (7/2)	Phil Acton (7/22)
Donald Clendenen (7/5)	Ronald Garcia (7/23)
Joseph Elleard (7/6)	Robert Ficken (7/25)
Harold Burk (7/7)	Eric Korbas (7/26)
Fred Avery (7/8)	Earl Kresge (7/26)
Randy Lehman (7/8)	Charles Atwood (7/29)
Denis Beaman (7/9)	Rodney Wilson (7/29)
Donald Jensen (7/9)	Earl Woodson (7/29)
Jody Juracich (7/11)	Perry Klahr (7/31)



Sunshine and Visiting

We would like to remind you of a valuable link in the support of our Lodge; the 'Sunshine Committee'.

Ernie Nidick—925.828.6993

Roy Tamez—510.684.3047

Tramaine Ellison—209.481.7430

Aaron Johnson—510.509.4312

The Pot of Gold

Unknown Author

You came with me on a long arduous journey,
Through many forests and jungles
The paths confusing and twisted,
Sometimes, I made you miss a turning
And finally we reached the end,
There was no promised pot of gold.
But then my brethren, it is not the gold
It was the search itself
The journey and your comradeship,
The jungles we saw
The forests we conquered
The rivers we forded,
And the links we made.
It would not have happened
If it was not for the pot of gold

What Makes A Man A Mason?

by George M. Free

What makes a man a Mason, O brother of mine?
It isn't the due guard, nor is it the sign,
It isn't the jewel which hangs on your breast
It isn't the apron in which you are dressed

It isn't the step, nor the token, nor the grip,
Nor lectures that fluently flow from the lip,
Nor yet the possession of that mystic word
On five points of fellowship duly conferred.

Though these are essential, desirable, fine,
They don't make a Mason, O brother of mine.
That you to your sworn obligation are true
'Tis that, brother mine, makes a Mason of you.

Secure in your heart you must safeguard and trust,
With lodge and with brother be honest and just,
Assist the deserving who cry in their need,
Be chaste in your thought, in your word and your deed.

Support he who falters, with hope banish fear,
And whisper advice in an erring one's ear.
Then will the Great Lights on your path brightly shine,
And you'll be a Mason, O brother of mine.

Your use of life's hours by the gauge you must try,
The gavel of vices with courage apply;
Your walk must be upright, as shown by the plumb,
On the level, to bourn whence no travelers come,

The Book of your faith be the rule and the guide,
The compass your passions shut safely inside;
The stone which the Architect placed in your care
Must pass the strict test of His unerring square.

And then you will meet
with approval divine,
And you'll be a Mason,
O brother of mine.

George Washington

Great patron of our noble art divine,
Extend thy all enliv'ning orient ray,
On Masonry with ardent lustre shine,
Refulgent shine--and usher in new day;
Great architect, bright morning star of fame,
Each Mason glories in his patrons name.
What's great and good, and beautiful to see,
Are all compriz'd, and to be found in thee;
Statesman, hero, patriot, brother dear,
Humane, benevolent, just and sincere;
Intrepid soldier, guardian of our land,
Ne'er let us fall beneath oppressor's hand,
Gently lead and guide us on to fame,
That we may stand recorded with thy name;
On Mason's hearts thy name shall stand secure,
Nor be forgot while Masonry endures.

2023 Officers

Master — J. Emmanuel Rafisura (Maria)
516.519.1151 jecrafisura@yahoo.com

Senior Warden — Andrew Hawes (Jamie)
646.645.0175 awphawes@yahoo.com

Junior Warden—Lyman Penning, PM H.A.
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925.425.3360 / 925.699.1786 pklahr1234@comcast.net

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510.258.0654 donschauersr@gmail.com

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510.331.6935 br575653@gmail.com

Marshal—Pat Quinn, H.A. (Donna Jo)
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Jr. Steward—Osman Ghani
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510.851.6794 cell r-pinkerton@sbcglobal.net

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Ron Katz (Jennifer) 510.375.3137 cell
Eric Korbas (Maribel) - Castro Valley 510.823.6334
Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.684.3047 cell

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District
Wor. Allen Cuenca 916.390.1003
allencuenca@sbcglobal.net

Where in the World

Each month we log visitors to our website. This month we were pleased to have guests from: Livingston, NJ; Metairie, LA; Martins Ferry, OH; Lancaster, TX; Virginia Beach, VA; Angers, France; Chicago, IL; Ames, IA; Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia; Stevenage, UK; New York, NY; Zapopan, Mexico; Paris, France; Plymouth, Montserrat; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Cagayan de Oro, Philippines; Sydney, Australia; Racine, WI; Johannesburg, South Africa; Walnutport, PA; Doneztebe-Santesteban, Spain



Committees

2023 Appointments

Audit: Pat Quinn HA, Aaron Johnson, Andrew Hawes

Charity Committee: Master and Wardens

Crab Feed: Roy Tamez PM HA, Perry Klahr, Tramaine Ellison, Phil Busch HA

Executive Committee: J. Rafisura, Andrew Hawes, Lyman Penning PM HA, Perry Klahr

FOSJ and White Table Night: Lyman Penning PM HA, Aaron Johnson, Jerry Garcia

Hiram Award Selection: HA Committee (All HA recipients)

Inter-lodge Relations: Aaron Johnson, Tramaine Ellison, Robert Pinkerton PM

Masonic Funeral: Bill Ferrell PM HA, Roy Tamez PM HA, Pat Quinn HA

Masonic Education: Bob Pinkerton PM

Masonic Hall Association: Brian Ross PM

Masons for Mitts: Brian Ross PM, Ozzie Ghani

Membership Retention: Andrew Hawes, Perry Klahr, Brian Ross PM

Picnic: Roy Tamez PM HA, Perry Klahr, Lyman Penning PM HA

Printing and Mailing: Don Schauer Sr.

Public Schools Night: Adam Korbas

Strawberry Feed: Perry Klahr, Ozzie Ghani, Scott Hamilton, Lyman Penning PM HA

Sunshine and Visiting: Ernie Nidick, Aaron Johnson, Tramaine Ellison, Roy Tamez PM HA

Sweethearts Committee: Phil Busch HA, Aaron Johnson, Tramaine Ellison

Trustees: Perry Klahr, Bill Ferrell, PM HA

Website and Trestleboard: Ron Katz, PM HA

Welcome: Aaron Johnson, Tramaine Ellison, Jesse Bridgeman, Lyman Penning

Youth Orders Liaisons: Andrew Hawes, Pat Quinn HA

Masonic Youth Orders

Castro Valley DeMolay—Steve Kolden—510.409.6118 [click to email](mailto:stevekolden@castrovalleydemolay.org)

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Heidi Kolden - 510.693.1385 [click to email](mailto:heidikolden@unityassembly65.org)

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Joy Molina 510.754.4983 [click to email](mailto:joy.molina@jobsdaughtershayward.org)

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Kelly Hessler 925.980.3899, yo_hessler@yahoo.com

Monthly Trestleboard of
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To Reserve the Building
Brian Ross—510.331.6935

July 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

							1
2	3	4	5 Officer's Meeting 7:00 PM	6 Stated Meeting Social/Dinner 6:00 PM Meeting 7:00 PM	7	8 Division Level Rit- ual Competition—San Jose Masonic Center— 1:00 PM	
9	10	11	12	13 3rd Degree Practice 7:00 PM	14	15 Breakfast w/ Brothers @ Norman's CV—8:00 AM	
16	17	18 Zoom Social 7:00 PM	19	20 DARK	21	22	
23	24	25 Hall Association 7:00 PM	26	27 DARK	28	29 Strawberry Feed @ Masonic Home— 11:00 AM	
30	31						

JOIN AAIMES SHRINE

&

MOUNTED PATROL

AT THE

DANVILLE 2023

4TH OF JULY PARADE

8:00A.M. MEET UP @ STAGING AREA B

(LA GONDA & PARROT ST.)

PARADE STARTS @ 9:00 a.m.

AFTER PARADE BBQ &

SWIM PARTY

HOSTED BY TONY & CYNDI WILKINSON

608 BRADFORD PLACE

DANVILLE, CA

FEATURING BBQ PULLED PORK AND TRI TIP SANDWICHES

& FORZEN MARGARITAS

BRING THE KIDDO'S AND A SIDE DISH TO SHARE

ALL ARE WELCOME

RSVP TONY (925)286-5934