



Trestleboard

March 2014

Volume 10, Issue 3

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



*Dated Material Enclosed
Change Service Requested*

Calendar of Events

March

March 01, 2014 Child ID program at Del Rey Elementary School in San Leandro. 11:00 AM—3:00 PM. Masons, their family and friends are welcome to come help out.

March 06, 2014 Stated Meeting—5:30 Social / 6:15 Dinner \$10/person. Widows are guests of the lodge. Family and Guests are welcome to attend the dinner and the social. 7:30 PM Meeting. Masonic Meetings are for Masons only (EA/FC/MM).

March 08, 2014 White Table Night—Dinner/Dance 5:30 PM—Tickets Available (\$70/couple / \$35/person) from the Secretary

March 11, 2014 Officers' School of Instruction—Open to all Fellowcraft and Master Masons. Officers are required to attend. Surveyors are expected to attend. Topics: 2nd Degree and Middle Chamber Lecture. Other work to be determined. Arrive between 6 and 7 for a light meal compliments of Pleasanton Lodge (3370 Hopyard Road)

March 13, 2014 First Degree—Mr. Johnnie Albnese—Dress code is shirt & tie or business suit. Officers in Tux. Light meal preceding degree beginning at 6:15 PM. Dining ends and lodge set up begins at 6:45 PM. Lodge opens at 7:00 PM sharp.

March 15, 2014 Past Masters' Role Call—5:00 PM—A Table Lodge for all members—Honoring all of our Living Past Masters. All Masons welcome. Dinner included at no charge. Reservations through the Secretary.

March 20, 2014 First Degree—Mr. Roger Accuros / Mr. Aaron Bianchi (if elected at Stated) — Dress code is shirt & tie or business suit. Officers in Tux. Light meal preceding degree beginning at 6:15 PM. Dining ends and lodge set up begins at 6:45 PM. Lodge opens at 7:00 PM sharp.

March 25, 2014 DMPS—7:00 PM. Masonic education open to all Masons. Light refreshments will be served with compliments of the lodge.

March 27, 2014 Third Degree—Bro. Richard Ramos. Dress code is shirt & tie or business suit. Officers in Tux. Light meal preceding degree beginning at 6:15 PM. Dining ends and lodge set up begins at 6:45 PM. Lodge opens at 7:00 PM sharp.

April (preview)

April 11 – 13, 2014 Reno Bus Trip—\$200/person \$300/couple includes bus for three days and two nights lodging at the Sands. Details inside.

April 24, 2014 Public Schools Night—Social begins at 5:30 with dinner served at 6:15. At 7:15 we will be entertained by the Canyon Middle School Jazz Choir. At approximately 7:30 we will recognize a teacher from the Castro Valley elementary schools and a teacher from the Castro Valley middle schools who have been elected by the School Board. Speeches will be given and honorarium and certificates will be issued. School teachers and their families are guests of the lodge. Lodge members and their families are encouraged to attend and show their support for local public schools. Dinner is complementary for all in attendance.

Appendant Bodies Meeting Schedules

◆ Lake Chabot Chapter Eastern Star meets @ Castro Valley Masonic Center

◆ Jobs Daughters Bethel No. 261 Hayward meets 1st & 3rd Monday (7:00

quarter of the way through 2014. What a pleasure it has been so far to serve this incredible lodge!



The Crab Feed was packed wall-to-wall and was a success! Unfortunately, we used a new vendor and the quality of the crab was not up to par. We apologize to those who attended who were disappointed. We hope you won't hold it against us next year when we select a better vendor. Thank you Henry Miller and crew for your hard work.

Roof Update—Construction has started in the Lodge room. We have our permits and we expect work to be completed by the beginning of April. The scope of the work includes leveling and strengthening the trusses, doing some ADA work on the parking lot, installing new lighting and a fire alarm system. Thank you to the members of the Hall Association—particularly John Smith, Ernie Nidick, and Ron Reynolds. Also much thanks to our Trustees for approving the work and providing funding.

Reno Trip—Lyman Penning has secured a bus and driver from a company whose contact is a Freemason and who successfully completed a Reno Trip for his other lodge. We will be staying at the Sands. Tickets are \$200/person or \$300/couple and include bus transportation for three days, two nights stay, hospitality and more. We are also planning to take the bus to several casinos and expect cash back and coupons at each one. Seating is limited on the bus to the first 50 people. Tickets are available from the Secretary.

Technical Section—Always one to be excited about technical innovations, I want to share with you a new section on the Grand Lodge Website— the Document Posting/Download center. Go to <http://www.freemason.org> and log in as a member. If you don't know how to do that, please see last month's article.

Now go to [Member Center > Crow Canyon No. 551](#). Under *Lodge Features* click on [Document Posting/Download](#). This is a secured, member only area for posting lodge related documents. Currently we have posted 3rd Degree Anniversary, Birthdays, and Sunshine Contact Lists for the month of March. Over time we may post meeting minutes, agendas, lodge bylaws, Candidates' and Members research papers and more.

I think this is a great feature because it gives all members, no matter where they live, access to useful information without the risk of unintended public exposure.

From the West

By Bob Pinkerton, P.M.—Senior Warden

Oh, how the mind works! I have been sitting here struggling for words to come to put down on paper. What can I write that has meaning? What is Masonic-ly



their first steps into Masonry? What is it that I find attractive about them? Is there something in common? The same questions apply to them as well.

For some reason my mind turns to Spring. When does it begin? What meaning does it have? The song "Turn Turn Turn" from the Byrds pops into my mind." I can't remember the lyrics properly, and I look them up on the internet. It starts off with the words "For everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven" To my surprise, the words are from the Bible, (KJV) starting Ecclesiastes 3. I read it and find meaning in verses 3 thru 22. (I leave it to you to look in your bible for yourself due to limited space.)

Thinking of Spring, why does it begin on March 20th? Because it is the day of the Vernal Equinox. What in the world is the Vernal equinox? Back to the internet. The word equinox is derived from the Latin words meaning "equal night." Days and nights are approximately equal everywhere and the Sun rises and sets due east and west. Vernal means relating to spring. I also run across "Ah, Spring! This season brings increasing daylight, warming temperatures, and the rebirth of flora and fauna". (Farmer's Almanac) Spring relates also to a new beginning. Vernal equinox. I get it now!

The Masons I know and respect, both young and old, have Spring in their hearts. Every day is a new beginning, where we strive to keep balance in our lives in all we do.

May your days be filled with eternal Spring in your hearts.

From the South

By Michael Ramos—Junior Warden

Brethren & Friends,

March is upon us, and so are the much-anticipated White Table Night dinner-dance and the Past Master's Night dinner-social. Please make sure to RSVP to our Brother Secretary, Don Schauer, Sr., if you plan on attending these events.

With such entertainment comes the hard work and dedication of those who serve our Lodge behind the scenes. Roy, Howard and their team of Crow Canyon Purveyors always provide us with sumptuous meals for our stated meetings, social events, practices, hosted DOSIs and Saint John feasts, while also grocery shopping for the essentials that keep our refreshments stocked. Not to mention the Youth Groups who serve us, on a regular basis, with smiles on their faces and a can-do attitude. To all of those I have mentioned, I thank you on behalf of all Lodge Brethren and guests alike.

I'd like to share some upcoming educational opportunities. Later this year DMPS will be participating in two live webinars, followed by Q&A, concerning Alchemical & Esoteric Masonic Symbolism. Dr. Peter Forshaw of Amsterdam University will be discussing with us the "Tria Prima" (mercury, salt & sulfur) within laboratory alchemy and its relevance to the Masonic initiation and journey. Peter Hardacre of New Zealand's Salamander & Sons Publishing will be joining us to discuss various esoteric symbolisms found under the skin of our Craft as well. We also have a continuous visitor who will be doing presentations on the differences found between the three-degree workings of the English Constitution (Evolution Ritual) versus Cali-



personally feel that Freemasonry has made me a better man, every day, since my initiation. It has introduced me to vast areas of interesting history and philosophy, and it has aided me in developing upon my own personal beliefs. It helps guide me to be the best partner I can for my loving wife, and a better family member to my kin. And it has introduced me to a great set of men that I am proud to call Brothers and friends. I look forward to my continued growth within our Fraternity, and at the rate this Lodge is growing, there will be many more new Brothers traveling along this road with us!

Inspiring Words

By Irwin Fershleiser—Chaplain

“In like a lion, out like a lamb.” How often I heard this phrase as a child referring to the month of March. The first time I heard it, I asked, “What does it mean?” “It refers to the weather of March”, I was told. In the early weeks of March there may be storms, much rain, etc. But as we get closer to the end of March, the weather leans more toward spring than winter.

“How does this apply to our life?” you may wonder! In many situations we approach each other with the roar of the lion. The anger of the beast within us. We may say and do things that hurt feelings, ego’s and pride. But if we remember the teachings of what we stand for, what we are as Masons, and “God fearing”, understanding men and women, we would turn from the beast within us and bring out the lamb of love and kindness.

Please remember the lion can lay down with the lamb when the understanding light of the Great Architect shines within us.



From the Secretary’s Table

By Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.

The other day I got a very interesting telephone call from a brother who lives out of state. He is 77 years old and was suspended in 1973 for nonpayment of dues. I ask him how he was doing? “I am not doing too well, and I want to know how long I have been in good standing?” He applied for and was reinstated in 2013 after paying two years in back dues. He went on to say that he does not know how much longer he is going to be able to take care of himself. He made contact with the Masonic Outreach Program and was informed that he was not eligible for any of the outreach benefits as he had not been in good standing for a minimum of five years in a California Lodge.

He said that he had social security and a small pension. He checked into the cost for a live in care facility and the cost is about \$5,000 a month and \$6,000 a month.



what is the more economical thing to do.

My message to the brethren of Crow Canyon Lodge is “DON’T MESS UP!” Make sure that your dues are current. Also make sure that someone in your family knows about keeping your dues current in case you become unable to do this for yourself. The Masonic Outreach Program and the Masonic Home are there for us, and if the time comes that we need help, hopefully we will be eligible to receive any of the benefits that could be made available for us.

You can even look into obtaining a life membership. You never know what the future hold in store for each of us.

The fees for a life member are

Age 49 and under, 21 times annual dues;
50 to 54 inclusive, 19 times annual dues;
55 to 59 inclusive, 17 times annual dues;
60 to 64 inclusive, 14 times annual dues; and
65 and over, 11 times annual dues.

Our dues this year are \$92.00 per year; the fees for a life membership today for a brother over 65 years old are \$1,012.00. As our per-capita tax goes up so will the cost of a life membership. Please think about it. There is however a bright side to this. If you decided to buy a life membership I will never have to bug you for your annual dues again!

The Virtue of Temperance

By Austin Rhee

For a Freemason, temperance is considered one of our fundamental virtues. Temperance is often defined as restraint and self-control over oneself and over their emotions. Other definitions include restraint from overconsumption of substances, such as alcohol.

When we were infants and young children, we lacked restraint or control over our emotions, where anything that disturbed us would cause us to cry or throw a tantrum. As we grew and matured, we learned the ability for self-control, knowing that our actions done in haste out of emotion, often resulted in consequences for ourselves and others.

The Freemason is taught to master his emotions lest we are mastered BY our emotions. This is not a call to bury or suppress one's emotion, but to learn the ability to remain collected and in control of them enough to make the right decisions.

The practical application of learning to calm oneself in a stressful situation and showing restraint, even for a short instance helps reduce the stress hormones released and allow the brain to respond in a more rational manner.

As the operative Master Masons taught with tools to shape physical stones, so should the speculative Master Mason teach their Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts (journeyman) how virtues like temperance can help shape their lives.

The Freemason is called to live this, not by perfection, but of a genuine humility that our temperance comes from serving a Heavenly Master who in His great mercies chose to restrain from delivering us

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Masonic Family Corner

Molly Anderson - Senior Princess, Bethel No. 1 Dublin

This past month, our Bethel went to the Winchester Mystery House for our mystery trip. Only our Honored Queen knew where we were going until we got to the Mystery House. It was a lot of fun seeing all of the quirky things inside of the house, such as a stairwell that leads to nowhere and rooms that were started but never completed. Coming up in our Bethel, we have a snow trip.

Funeral—Bob Pinkerton, Ron Katz, Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell, Roy Tamez, Kay Dunn, Eugene Moore, Charles Hintz, David Allen, Kem Apak, Alex Van Stade

Masonic Charity - The Master and the Wardens

Masonic Hall Association—John Smith-President

Masonic Homes Endowment—Robert Logan

Membership Retention – Don Schauer, Sr.

Sunshine—Ernie Nidick / Les Blake

Event Committees

White Table Night Dinner/Dance (3/8/14)– Michael Ramos

Public Schools Night (4/24/14) - Eric Unti

Reno Trip (4/11-4/13/14) – Lyman Penning

Kids ID (5/17-5/18/14, 9/13-9/14/14) - Sammy Tamez / Roy Tamez / Jerry Garcia

Sweetheart Event (6/1/14) - Phil Busch/Alex Von Stade

Feast of St. John (12/21/13, 3/15/14, 6/21/14, 9/20/14) - Michael Ramos / Charles Hintz / Stephen Kinsman

Strawberry Feed (7/20/14) –Brian Ross/ Jerry Garcia/ David Allen

Visitation (8/22-8/24/14)— Lyman Penning / Eugene Moore

Masonic Youth Orders

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

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Donna Allen 925.735.1233

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Laurel M. 559.696.0746

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Rebekah 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—925.828.6993 bev2ern@comcast.net

Les Blake (Visiting Chairman)—510.581.8497 cherllois@sbcglobal.net

Get More Information Online—Members of Crow Canyon Lodge can: get *Sunshine* contact information; view the *Birthdays* of our members; and view *Third Degree Anniversaries* on the secured section of the Grand Lodge Website. Please see the Master's article for details.

Monthly Trestleboard of
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Or go to <http://tiny.cc/rentCVMC>

More Useful Links

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

Crow Canyon Lodge March 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31				
2	3		4		
9	10	11	12	13	14
		Officer's School of Instruction (OSI) @ Pleasanton Masonic Center—7:00 PM		1st Degree—7:00 PM Mr. Johnnie Albnese	Past Master 5:30 Social Dinner Ticket from S
16	17	18	19	20	21
				1st Degree—7:00 PM Mr. Roger Accuros / Mr. Aaron Bianchi (if elected at Stated)	
23	24	25	26	27	28
		DMPS—7:00 PM Masonic Education for All Masons		3rd Degree-7:00 PM Bro. Richard Ramos	

Crow Canyon Lodge April 2014

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6	7	8 Officer's School of Instruction (OSI) @ Mosaic Masonic Center (Livermore)—7:00 PM	9	10 2nd Degree Practice—7:00 PM	11 Reno Bus Trip Meet CVMC at 10:30 AM. Bus Leaves at 11 Sharp!	Reno t
13 Bus Trip	14	15	16	17 2nd Degree—7:00 PM Bro. Hassan Tolid	18	
20	21	22 DMPs—7:00 PM Masonic Education for All Masons	23	24 Public Schools Night— Social 5:30 / Dinner 6:15 /Live Entertainment and Program	25	
27	28	29	30			

CROW CANYON LODGE TRIP TO



RENO



APRIL 11-13, 2014

\$300 per couple / \$200 per single (own room)

Reservations due to the Secretary by April 3 Stated Meeting

OPEN TO ALL FRIENDS OF CROW CANYON LODGE

The details: Meet Castro Valley Masonic Center on Friday the 11th at 10:30 AM. Bus leaves promptly at 11 AM. Arrive in Reno early evening and check into Sands Regency. 6 PM hosted hospitality. Free night. Saturday morning we will load the bus and head to 2-4 casinos, receiving cash back and coupons at each one. 5 PM hosted hospitality. Dinner on your own