

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

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

28th—Saturday—District Officer's School of Instruction at Pleasanton—8:00 AM
 30th—Monday—Masonic Hall Association—7:00 PM

May

1st—Tuesday—Unity Rainbow—7:00 PM
 3rd—Thursday—Stated Meeting—Social 5:30 / Dinner 6:30 / Meeting 7:30 PM
 4th—Friday—Eastern Star—8:00 PM
 7th—Monday—DeMolay—7:30 PM
 10th—Thursday—Officer's Practice—7:30 PM
 12th—Saturday—**Officer's School of Instruction**—8:00 AM—Noon—1st & 2nd Degrees—
 San Leandro #113
 12th—Saturday—**Castro Valley DeMolay Installation**—7:30 PM
 15th—Tuesday—Unity Rainbow—7:00 PM
 17th—Thursday—Officer's Practice—7:30 PM
 18th—Friday—Eastern Star—8:00 PM
 20th—Sunday—**Crow Canyon Lodge Sweetheart Luncheon and Theatre**—11:30 Lunch at
 Dino's in Castro Valley—\$20 call Kurt Allen to RSVP/ 1:45—Chanticleers' presentation of
 "Angel Street" - *Some of the most brilliant suspense in the modern theatre. The dimming gaslight and
 mystery of hidden jewels will captivate all.* \$10.
 21st—Monday—DeMolay—7:30 PM
 24th—Thursday—Officer's Practice—7:30 PM
 25th—Friday—**Public Masonic Information Night and Open House**—Dinner 6:00 PM
 (Reservations required call Ron Katz, PM (510) 431-1211) / Open House—8:00 PM.
 28th—Monday—Masonic Hall Association
 31st—Thursday—Officer's Practice—7:30 PM

Note: Please check with the leaders of the various Masonic Family organizations to verify dates and times.

What? You say you missed the "Open House—Masonic Information Night".
What? You say you already know about Freemasonry, why should you go? Shame on you, brother! But, you have a second chance on May 25th! You should go **because** of what you know. *Open the door of opportunity to the next generation of Crow Canyon Lodge Masons and members of future Masonic Family.*

6:00 PM—Free Dinner, reservations required (510) 431-1211
 8:00 PM—Open House

BE THERE!

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From the East



A True Measure of Value—I observed a curious thing in a supermarket a few weeks ago. A man, receiving his change from the cashier, dropped a penny and, without even a glance, left it on the floor as he turned to leave. Apparently, in his opinion, the penny was not worth retrieving. Without quite knowing why, I picked it up and returned it to him. He thanked me politely, but appeared slightly embarrassed and a little annoyed. Clearly, to him the penny was of no value.

This little incident turned my thoughts to money. I remembered clearly those happy days when, as a little boy, I occasionally had a penny to spend. I recalled the long, delicious minutes of indecision when I weighed the relative merits of a licorice whip, some red jawbreakers, or a small bar of chocolate.

That abandoned penny, while obviously of no value to my fellow shopper, still had a meaning for me. It might still buy a jawbreaker, but it also served a valuable function and it made me think.

Taking a penny from my pocket and examining it in minute detail, I asked myself, "What does this single American coin really mean?" As I pondered, I realized that if our Nation should crumble away and if, in the years to come, the archeologists of a new civilization might, while probing through the ruins of our once great Nation, find a single penny, it would be of great value to them, and they would know much about us. They would know from the coin itself that we had knowledge of metallurgy and smelting. As an archeologist rubbed it between his fingers, from this metal disk he could correctly infer our ceaseless search for the minerals of the earth and our efforts to transform them into useful objects. He might even visualize the dangers and hardships of the wilderness which our forebears faced with courage, equanimity, determination, and hard work which wrested from the earth those materials which people needed to make a better life for themselves and their children. From the design itself, they would know that we were a Nation of machinists and industrialists. They would see the heads of wheat upon the coin and know at once that we had been a Nation of farmers and ranchers whose broad plains and rolling hills had teemed with corn, wheat, cotton, timber, and cattle.

These archeologists would look at the date on the coin and know that we had mathematics, geometry, trigonometry, and astronomy. They would look at the profile of Lincoln, and from Lincoln's stern and determined visage they would conclude that this man was a strong and honored leader. They could not know how this man achieved his early goals through selfless subordination of every small luxury of his sparse environment to the demands of his future and ours. They could not know that he was unshakable in his determination to preserve that which his forebears had left to his care; that he knew the loneliness of unpopularity, but had the courage of his convictions, and that he was generous in victory, but died without understanding or acknowledgment of his contribution to that inspiring political and social structure of freedom we had taken for granted.

They would see the words, "The United States of America," and know that we had been a country composed of many sovereign states with a central government and many local governments.

They would read the Latin "E Pluribus Unum" and realize that we had known the ancient languages and were a Nation of scholars but their scholarly analysis could not disclose that we reached our form of government by struggle and sacrifice, that we shed blood and fought wars to attain and preserve it, that for so long we firmly held that there is no dimension to the dignity of one man unless those dimensions embrace an unqualified respect for the God given rights of all men.

From the word "Liberty" they would know that liberty was our watchword, the guiding star to our navigation of the seas of internal and international relationships, and that we were a democracy with freedom of speech and religion and press, dedicated to liberty in theory and practice and constantly concerned with the issues of human freedom and responsibility.

And from the words, "In God We Trust," appropriately inscribed above the head of Abraham Lincoln, they would know that our government and our way of life had been founded upon a belief in God and obedience to the moral law; they might correctly surmise that a simple statement of our confidence in the future was our most eloquent tribute to the past and our most worthwhile and promising gift to the future; they might speculate that our Nation had grown strong and mighty under God's hand, and that perhaps we had a somehow, somewhere, along the golden path of prosperity, strayed from His Word.

All this and more the archeologist could know from this humble penny; much they could never know, and the key question, "Why did they fall?" would go unanswered. - Alvaro Reynoso—Worshipful Master (510) 490-2192 / 510-364-7073 cell



From the West

Dear Brothers and Ladies,

There are many a time when you do not see an article from the Senior Warden, for that I am sorry. I stay busy as the officer's coach and if you want to talk, you can find me most every Thursday night at the Lodge. The officers are doing a fine job this year. When the Inspector tells me "That was good", it makes me feel all warm inside. As we travel down the different roads that life gives, it is good to know that some have already cleared the path and smoothed the road for us. I have watched our officers come down that road and feel nothing but pride when I see a degree done well. To be an officer gives you such a feeling inside that it is hard to put down in words. To know that what you did that night for a new candidate, just might change his life. I know it changed mine, it made me a better man. Anyone who sits in a Lodge of Masons knows what it feels like to be among friends. The warmth of the Fraternity surrounds us. That is truly one of the treasures we share. Those things that are not bought with gold or silver, but given freely from brother to brother. The thing we all have in common ... a love for this Fraternity. I know invite you to come and share our wealth and become an officer among us. Be part of those who share riches that cannot be counted. Listen to the lectures and imprint upon your mind and heart those things great and important to all of us. After all, it's all yours just for the asking.— Roy Tamez—Senior Warden (510) 537-1077 / rtamez@fostercity.org

From the South



Brethren,



The May "Cinco de Mayo" Dinner on May 3, cooked by Bro. Roy Tamez, will be: chicken fajitas; beans, rice, and tortillas; vegetables; Mexican pastries, and ice cream.

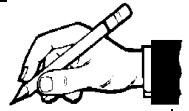
The 2007 "Run for the Roses", or Kentucky Derby, will be held on Saturday, May 5, also. It's a popular date. About 160,000 people are expected to be at Churchill Downs in Louisville that day, including me, my daughter and son-in-law. It should be broadcast on ESPN and ABC, and you may want to see it. I'll be the one in the crowd cheering on "Nobiz like Showbiz", while eating a chicken fajita.

Here's a few things you should know about the "Derby" or "Darby": it has been run every year since 1875, includes three year old horses, is one mile and a quarter in length on a dirt track, is concluded by draping a blanket of roses on the winning horse in the winner's circle, and is the first jewel of the "Triple Crown", which consists of three successive races to determine the best thoroughbred racehorse in the world: the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico, and the Belmont Stakes at Belmont. Few horses have won all three Triple Crown races. Since 1948, only "Citation", "Secretariat", "Seattle Slew", and "Affirmed" have mastered the task. All are legends, of course. Is it too much to dream that our yearling colt "Who's your Papa", sired by a grandson of "Seattle Slew" could someday run for the roses? Dream on.

About \$156 million will be wagered on the "Darby" this year. A long shot often wins, defying all the pundits projections, and making for enormous payoffs. Remember "Giacomo" in 2005, who paid \$102.60 to win on a \$2 bet, and paid \$864,253 on a \$2 Superfecta bet? Tiago, who is also sired by "Holy Bull", the same sire of "Giacomo", may have enough graded earnings to be entered in the Darby, and will be ridden by the same jockey, Mike Smith. Will lightning strike the same place twice? Other entrants to watch closely are: "Nobiz like Showbiz", "Street Sense", "Great Hunter", "Any Given Saturday", "Scat Daddy", "Hard Spun", "Circular Quay", and "Sightseeing", a closer who came on very strongly at the Wood Memorial Stakes race at Aqueduct last weekend. Historically, post positions 1, 4, 5, and 10 have had the majority of winners. Expect the unexpected.

Two more very important topics are: Singing of "My Old Kentucky Home", and Making of a good Mint Julip. In all the world of sports there is probably not a more moving experience for both spectator and participant than the playing and singing of "My Old Kentucky Home" as the horses step onto the track for the Kentucky Derby. Here are the words: "The sun shines bright in my old Kentucky home, Tis summer, the people are gay; The corn-top's ripe and the meadow's in the bloom, While the birds make music all the day. The young folks roll on the little cabin floor, All merry, all happy and bright; By'n by hard times comes a knocking at the door, Then my old Kentucky home, Good-night! Weep no more my lady. Oh Weep no more today! We will sing one song for my old Kentucky home, For the old Kentucky home, far away."

From the Secretary's Desk



"Further Light in Masonry" How many times have you heard a Brother tell you that you need to know more about Masonry and the way you do that is to join their concordant body? I am not opposed to any Masonic concordant organization; many do wonderful charitable things to help society. What bothers me is that I am told that in order to understand Masonry I must join a particular group or organization beyond the "Blue Lodge." Understanding Masonry", my Brother, "begins at home" and to me that is the Blue Lodge. It is well known that the Blue Lodge is the foundation of modern Freemasonry. Once in awhile after a Brother receives his third degree, and becomes a Master Mason, someone may say, "You only get out of Masonry what you put in it." I wonder if it has occurred to our Brethren that being a Mason is more than talking about it, or bragging about who is a Mason. I believe that by attending lodge on a regular basis one will receive that further light that many speak of. You see, the way we interact is the further light one seeks. Knowing the ritual and lesson of the different degrees can be educational. Learning history that we can brag about and pretend to be a part of is nice. That's not the human factor of Masonic education. Living it is. You may have not attended lodge for a while and may have lost contact with the men that you were close to at one time. Remember that coach that pounded the proficiencies in your head? How it was fun to get together with a bunch of guys and sometimes act like kids? We enjoyed the comradery and look back and wonder where it went. It's in you and me! It's not lost, it is waiting to come to life again and we want someone else to do it for us. I heard someone say "What the trouble with this lodge is....." or "What you need to do is....." or "What will save the Blue lodge is to get more men in so they can....." If you have a valid point and want change, show us how to do it. Brethren each time we meet we hear the words; "The Worshipful Master invites you to a seat in the Lodge room." That is where we can make a difference. What is special about Freemasonry is that we are friends and brothers. That's what makes Freemasonry different. See you soon.



Fraternally, **Bill Ferrell (510) 886-2023**

For nearly a century, the Mint Julip has been the traditional beverage of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby. Over 80,000 Mint Julips are served on Kentucky Oaks (best filly thoroughbred racehorse on Friday) and darby days. "Maker's Mark" Kentucky bourbon whisky, available at Costco, is the preferred ingredient. Make a simple syrup by boiling 2 cups sugar and 2 cups water for 5 minutes, without stirring. Fill a jar loosely with sprigs of fresh mint (uncrushed) and cover with the cooled syrup. Cap and refrigerate for 12-24 hours. Discard the mint, and make one julip at a time. Fill a chilled julip cup with finely crushed ice, pour in half a tablespoon of the mint-flavored syrup and 2 ounces of Maker's Mark Whisky. Frost the cup, stick in a sprig of mint, and serve at once.

Bud Warder, Junior Warden 925-998-6603
bud@kioskamerica.com

Editor's note: We look forward to Bud taking his enthusiasm for horses and the concordant bodies and transferring it to continued leadership in our Lodge. The race is on.

Sweetheart's Event

Brethren come help us celebrate with these lovely ladies who have supported our departed brothers and the lodge. They have helped us in so many ways, either directly or quietly, and it's time to say thank you to all of them. In their honor we will have a brunch and attend the mystery play "Angle Street" at the Chanticleers Theatre on **Sunday, May 20th**. It will be a fun day with lots of opportunity to say hello and chat with some of the dearest people of our lodge.



We will meet at Dino's Restaurant, 3600 Castro Valley Blvd. in Castro Valley at 11:30. You have a choice of Shrimp Louie, Veal or Chicken. Then we will go the Chanticleers, 3683 Quail Ave. also in Castro Valley. The cost of the brunch is \$20 and the play is \$10. You and your lady may come to both or one, as you desire. Please make your reservations as soon as possible to our Junior Warden Bud Warder at (925) 998-6603 or to me (Kurt) at (925) 735-1233. We will not be able to accept reservations after Sunday, May 13th.

This will be a delightful day with our Sweethearts. Get ready to hear some great stories what our brothers were really like at home, back when ...
Fraternally, Kurt Allen

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Read the Trestleboard online first at

<http://www.calodges.org/no551/Tboard/tboard.html>

Sunshine and Visiting

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

Andy Gravier, PM Phone: (510) 638-6641



In Memoriam

Glenn Paul Hofmann

Entered into rest March 22, 2007

83 years, 0 months and 22 days

Arthur Herbert Hinds, Jr.

Entered into rest March 24, 2007

85 years, 2 months and 6 days



*Almighty Father, into thy hands we commend the souls
of our dear departed Brothers*

Special Committees

Sunshine

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andregrav@aol.com

Castro Valley DeMolay

Ron Reynolds (Yvonne)

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Lorrie Kern (510) 537-2797

Hayward Jobs Daughters

Jennifer Katz (510) 375-3138

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(Kathy) - (510) 886-2288

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(Donna) - (925) 735-1233

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Sammy Tamez P.M.

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Monthly Trestleboard of Crow Canyon Lodge

No. 551 Free and Accepted Masons

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Please call ahead and confirm times and dates. Guest Articles accepted with excessive cheer (saves us writing!).