

# November & December 2013 AD, 6013 AL

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## **Stated Meeting (November 7th & December 5th):**

*Social 5:30 PM/ Dinner 6:15 PM/ Meeting 7:30 PM—Business meeting will be held on the 1st Degree (All Masons welcome to attend) \$10.00/person. Widows of the lodge and prospective members are our guests.*

## **District School of Instruction (November 12th):**

*Refreshments at 6:30PM, Class at 7:00PM. Officers Mandatory. Annual Installation practice. The Installing Officer & Master of Ceremonies need to attend.*

*At Pleasanton Lodge #321, 3370 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588.*

## **Practice 1st Degree (November 14th):**

*7:00PM 1st degree. Officers Mandatory, all Masons welcome.*

## **1st Degree Mr. DeMasa / Mr. Thompson (November 21th - if elected at November Stated):**

*7:00PM First degree conferral. All Masons welcome.*

## **Temple Board (November 25th):**

*7:00PM All Masons welcome.*

## **Dead Masonic Poet Society (November 26th):**

*Meeting 7:00 PM. At the Lodge. All Masons welcome.*

## **Thanksgiving (November 28th):**

*Dark.*

## **Kids Xmas Party (December 15th):**

*11:00am*

## **1st Degree Mr. Dilliplane / Mr. Tohiol (December 12th - if elected at December Stated):**

*7:00PM First degree conferral. All Masons welcome.*

## **1st Degree Mr. Fain / Mr. Sears (December 19th - if elected at December Stated):**

*7:00PM First degree conferral. All Masons welcome.*

## **Feast of St John the Evangelist (December 21th):**

*6:00PM. Open to all Masons. \$20 per person, please contact Bro. Charles Hintz.*

## **Installation Officers (December 7th):**

*11:30 Brunch / 1:00 PM Ceremonies. Open to all. Annual Installation of Officers*

## From the East

*By Kem Apak Editor in honor of our  
Worshipful Master, Kjell Bomark-Noel.*



Our Worshipful Master unfortunately had multiple strokes, and was not able to write an article for this month. He is doing better, but please keep him in your prayers, so he can recover quickly and return to his post. I am including this beautiful article in his honor.

When is a man a Mason?

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage-which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that deep down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellowman.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins-knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of

that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

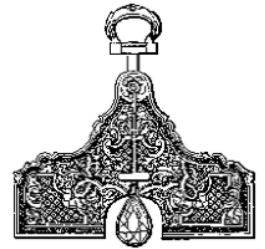
When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellowman, and with his God; in his hands a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song-glad to live, but not afraid to die!

Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world.

Rev. Joseph Fort Newton

## From the West

*By Ron Katz, Senior Warden, P.M.*



It is November and the time for overeating and sharing time with family is fast approaching. And our Masonic year is drawing to a close. As of this writing our Master was dealing with some health challenges and it has been a few weeks since I have seen him. I miss our conversations and hope that by the time you read this, he will be back to his full corporeal strength.

Grand Lodge was a great event and resulted in some less dramatic changes than last year's communication. Several resolutions around the management of life membership funds passed, but nothing that was very controversial. There were some resolutions that cleaned up wording in the CMC as well as masonic trail procedures. Good news is that Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons can now participate in processions at masonic funerals.

The Grand Lodge leadership launched a new Candidate Education program which is all online. I subscribed to the program, which is \$15 per module (EA, FC, and MM) which provides lifetime access. I have been quite impressed with these tools. Each module

contains an e-book modeled after the prior Candidate Education program but also videos, links to other related resource materials, a glossary of words that we are reintroduced to in the ritual, games, a private online journal, a PDF with the appropriate pages of the Monitor, and a quiz that must be passed to advance. This is optional but replaces the prior "pen and paper" system. While it is designed to educate our candidates as they advance through the degrees, I have learned a lot and would recommend it highly to any active mason looking for more light. Please call or email me if you would like to know what steps you need to take to access this great program.

Enough of the high tech, how about some high touch? I have been making calls to our brethren, specifically our brethren who are not linked to the Fraternity by an email connection and sharing upcoming events and listening to their desires, needs, and voices. I have shared the names of those who are suffering with our Sunshine committee, and I have made note to contact again in the near future those who were fine, but just unable to join us at lodge meetings in fellowship. I don't have a lot of free time, but I do commit to making more of these calls as time permits to continue to strengthen that indissoluble time which joins us across generational, ethnic, religious and cultural boundaries. Ours is truly a great and honorable fraternity.

## From the South

*By Robert Pinkerton, Junior Warden, P.M.*

The Masonic year is coming rapidly to a close and we are going to be busy with elections for Officers for the upcoming year. Since we have so many new Masons this year, a recapitulation of the offices being voted on may be appropriate. For you old timer's (any one over a full year as a Mason) this is old hat. Please bear with me. The election of Lodge officers is held at the November stated meeting. The persons filling the offices of Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, as well as the Senior Deacon (an appointed office) must be certified in the work of their respective offices by the District Inspector by the time they are installed. The top three offices as well



as the Treasurer and Secretary are elective offices. I am pleased to say that at the last school of Instruction, the District Inspector announced that the persons that are expecting to advance in the line have been certified as being qualified. Since we are now opening on the 1st Degree of Masonry- it is important to note- that only Master Mason's in good standing may cast a ballot in the elections. However, I believe that all Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons should attend as learning experience, as well as a way of getting to know the Officers for the ensuing year. You will more than likely be voting in the following year's elections as you advance to Master Mason status, and therefore will know what to expect. In addition to the Lodge officers, we will also be electing the members of the Hall association and the Board of Trustees. I hope to see all of our new Masons and our more experienced Masons at the November Election and am looking forward to an evening of Masonic fellowship. Installation of Officers, elected and appointed, will be on December 7th.

We have had quite a few applications for the degrees of Masonry and we will be balloting on those applications in November as well. There are also a number of investigations that are ongoing as well. Accordingly, we are planning a number of first degrees in November and December on the assumption that all the applicants read will be elected. This next year promises to be fairly busy.

I would like to stress to our younger Masons that may be doing investigations for the first time that the investigations are serious and not to be taken lightly. These investigations are a two way communication where we evaluate the applicant and just as importantly, he evaluates us. It is also an opportunity to communicate what Masonry is truly about and not what is portrayed in the movies or on the internet. Additionally, it is the proper time to explain the process of going through the degrees so a newly elected candidate has a realistic expectations of what to expect and what is expected of him. Remember in your degree work you were taught that you are not to recommend a man to become a Mason unless you have strong reasons to believe that he will reflect honor on the fraternity. An honest recommendation and

a thorough investigation of our applicants will produce a quality membership for our organization. Once a candidate has been properly investigated and has received the required positive recommendations, there should be no reason for him to be rejected at the ballot box. Thus far, we have had great applicants recently and I am pleased with our candidates and their progress in Masonry. However, as time moves on, and our younger brethren take on more of the responsibility of the lodge, it is important that they have a thorough understanding of what is involved in doing an investigation. Grand Lodge has created a series of guidelines regarding investigations and the investigative process which are available on the Freemason.org website. I would highly recommend all of our investigators to download these documents and review them. If you have never done an investigation, these will help a great deal. I hope all of you and your families have a good Thanksgiving, sharing in the bounty of our land, the love of one another, our freedoms and the blessings of our respective faiths.

## From the Secretary's Desk

*By Don Schauer, Sr., Secretary, H.A.*



As of October 20, 2013 Crow Canyon had 386 members, which included 26 Entered Apprentice and 5 Fellow Craft Masons. We now have 6 application waiting to be processed.

They are:

**Kristoffer DeMas** recommended by Brothers Kjell Bomark-Noel & Mark Parinas

**Keith Dilliplane** recommended by Brothers Sammy Tamez & Roy Tamez

**Ryan Fain** recommended by Brothers Roy Tamez & Ronald Katz

**Nicholas Sears** recommended by Brothers Glen Sears & William Ferrell

**Hassaan Tohiol** recommended by Brothers Mark Parinas & Kem Apak

**Kyle Thompson** recommended by Brothers Glen Sears & William Ferrell

The officers are in for a busy time.

By the time you read this message you should be in possession of your dues statement which

was mailed on October 10th. There were 369 statements mailed. There are 26 Entered Apprentices, some going back as far as 1984, who will probably be suspended for non-payment of dues. As 2013 draws to a close I am looking forward to preparing the Lodge taxes and year-end reports. Busy times are fast approaching with Election of officers in November and Installation on Dec 7th.

## Chaplain's Message

*By Irwin M Fershleiser, Chaplain, P.M., H.A.*



A Mason and a Man

In a few weeks, Thursday November 25th to be exact, we will again celebrate the day we set aside to give thanks; namely Thanksgiving.

It is a day many spend and dine with family and friends. To some the day is eating and football, to some it is a day of remembering past Thanksgivings with loved ones no longer seated at their table.

Then there are those who say, "What have I to be thankful for?", or "My life is a mess. This year I have had so much tragedy."

To you with those thoughts of bitterness, feelings of sorrow and loss, and attitude of despair, why not look upon the day as a new start, take a deep breath, renew your faith in the "Supreme Being". You may not feel thankful but why not pray for the strength, the guidance, the wisdom, to carry on, so that next year it will be a day of Thanksgiving.

To all of you I ask that you take a moment of silent prayer before eating and pray for those in need, for those to be remembered, and a prayer of thankfulness that we may sit down with the freedom to pray and live with our own choices.

As for me, I give a heartfelt thank you for the guidance of my God, the joy of my family, and the cherished friendships I have gotten through this our fraternity.

# *In Memoriam*

## **Charles Aldon Johnson**

*77 years 11 months 10 days*  
*Entered Into Rest September 21, 2013.*

## **Paul Gerst Meier**

*87 years 7 months 22 days*  
*Entered Into Rest September 28, 2013.*



## **William V. Worthing**

*90 years 4 months 21 days*  
*Entered Into Rest October 2, 2013.*

*Almighty Father, Great Architect of the Universe, into thy hands we commend the souls of our dear departed brothers.*

## **White Gloves In Speculative Freemasonry**

*By Mike Ramos, Junior Deacon*

Beyond adding to the overall look of the Officers at labor, the question regarding the usage of white gloves in Masonic ritual has various significances as well as various regulations from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

From the Schaw Statutes of 1599 in Scotland, we can find documented evidence that newly initiated 'Prentices and Fellows of Craft were obligated to furnish the Lodge Officers and Brethren with gloves as part of their admission fees. Mind you, these were Operative Lodges who practiced the earliest form of initiatory ritual, which developed into what we now know as Speculative Masonic ritual.

In other various documents leading well into to the 18th century, appertaining solely to Speculative Freemasonry, the practice of furnishing white gloves continued. In some instances, not only purchasing gloves for the Lodge Brothers became time immemorial practice, but also for their wives!

Some have attempted to argue that gloves never played a role in Speculative Freemasonry and

that confusion arose from the misinterpretation of the term "glove". In the 17th and 18th centuries, the term "glove money" could be misconstrued to mean a gratuity. We however can find ample evidence to prove the wearing of gloves in ritual as early as Pritchard's *Masonry Dissected* where in the Entered Apprentice's obligation section where the "naked hand" is clearly stated.

To end on a note from the great Masonic historian Wor. Bro. Harry Carr, "As to symbolism, I am inclined to believe that gloves came into Speculative usage, like the aprons, as a direct heritage from operative practice, both aprons and gloves being essential items in a mason's working apparel... Our custom of wearing white gloves, as with our aprons of white lambskin, is probably associated with the idea of purity".

## **Four ancient elements and the Journey of a Freemason**

*By Austin Rhee*

The ancients believed that there were four basic "elements:" earth, water, air, and fire. The journey of a freemason might be illustrated by a progression through these elements within his degrees.

### **Earth:**

Earth indicates the elemental state from which humans are derived. The biblical account from Genesis states "Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." (Genesis 2:7 NIV) Indeed almost 99% of our bodies are composed of six common elements found on the surface of the earth, oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium, and phosphorus.

The candidate petitioning Freemasonry is in this initial earth elemental state. To illustrate the analogy, the candidate can be compared to gold ore drawn from the earth, initially bearing little resemblance to pure gold.

### **Water:**

The precursor to many chemical reactions involves the substance being mixed in water to

produce a soluble state. It is often used to help initially cleanse impurities of the substance. It is often not as effective as the "elements" of air and fire in refining the substance, as water tends to cleanse just the exterior part of a substance. To further the analogy, the gold ore fragments are mixed in water and sent through filters to remove dirt and other visible impurities. The gold pan handler used to sift out the dirt this way.

In Freemasonry, we can associate water as a symbolic part of the 1st degree, to help cleanse or sift out the exterior impurities in our actions.

Air:

The essential part of air, oxygen, is the essential part of oxidation or producing other chemical reactions. It's also essential to allow for the combustion of fire. The oxidative or chemical reaction, if done properly, can further draw out impurities. In the preparing gold ore, a chemical reaction is used to draw out some of the impurities of gold.

In Freemasonry, we can see the progression of the journey to the 2nd degree, symbolized by air, further "oxidize" out the negative aspects within our character.

Fire:

The most effective of the ancient "elements" in purifying a substance is fire. It is in fire set at a particular temperature that remaining impurities can be removed. For refining gold this is 1064.18 degrees C or 1947.52 degrees F, in which impurities are removed and pure gold can be extracted. For the Freemason, the 3rd degree can be symbolized by fire. The output from this fire is a refined man, of good report and of honorable character.

These elements do appear in the order indicated within each degree. The progressive passage of events can symbolize the journey. This is not meant to conflict with the spiritual change or growth that each of us seek from within our respective faiths but illustrate the simple moral precepts during the journey within our ancient and honorable fraternity.

# Help our Lodge

**We are printing ~~600~~ 570 copies of our Trestleboard every month!**

**This costs our Lodge a lot!**

**What can you do?**

**If you have a computer or a tablet email the editor with your name and address to get your copy electronically!**

***Our goal is to print only 100 copies per month!***

***Thank you in advance for all your support.***

***Senior Steward,***

***Editor in Training***

***Kem Apak***

***[kemapak@gmail.com](mailto:kemapak@gmail.com)***

## *Masonic Quotes*

"Character is what you are in the dark."

*Dwight L. Moody*

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music he hears, however measured or far away."

*Henry David Thoreau*

"War is waste. It is unreason. It settles nothing. It is devolution, not evolution. It is not the survival of the fittest, but the sacrifice of the best."

*Joseph Fort Newton*

# 2013 Officers

## Master—Kjell Bomark–Noel

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Mike Ramos—San Leandro—Hayward— (510) 208–1441 / (510) 287–6366 ©

Charles Hintz—San Leandro—Oakland—(510) 326–6698 ©

Mark Warzyniak—Dublin—San Ramon—Livermore—(925) 361–0392

Ron Katz—Fremont—Hayward—(510) 375–3137

## Inspector of the 317th Masonic District

Fred L. Avery, P.M.

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# 2013 Committees

## Appointments

**Audit** – Kay Dunn, Bob Logan, Arnie Weinstein

**Funeral** – Kjell Bomark–Noel, Bob Pinkerton, Ron Katz, Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell, Roy Tamez, Kay Dunn, Eugene Moore, Charles Hintz, David Allen, Kem Apak, Alex Von Stade

**Masonic Charity** – The Master and the Wardens

**Masonic Hall Association**—John Smith–President

**Masonic Homes Endowment**—Robert Logan—(925) 737–0430 / [rlogan8198@cs.com](mailto:rlogan8198@cs.com)

**Membership Retention** – Don Schauer, Sr., Kem Apak, Kay Dunn

**Sunshine**—Ernie Nidick—(925) 828–6993

## Masonic Youth

**Castro Valley DeMolay**—Pat Quinn—510–755–7891

**Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls**—Jenny Cordero—(510) 706–4371—[ms.jenny65@yahoo.com](mailto:ms.jenny65@yahoo.com)

**Jobs Daughters Haywood No. 261**—Jennie Chilton—(916) 802–7714—[jenniechilton@gmail.com](mailto:jenniechilton@gmail.com)

**Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1**—Rebecca Ortiz—(559) 916–4701—[justrvortiz@gmail.com](mailto:justrvortiz@gmail.com)

## *Sunshine and Visiting*

Bros. Mark Casperson, Bro. Howard Marmor and Mark Castille are still in need of friendship calls. They would love to hear from you.

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

Ernie Nidick, Committee Chairman (925) 828–6993

## 3rd Degree Anniversaries

Stevean W. Allen (30), Gerald J. Benatar (49), Richard A. Burgard (54), Jack B. Carrigan (53), Mark S. Casperson (3), Claude L. Chambers (52), Joseph M. Clare (54), Douglas W. Clark Jr. (65), Donald Clendenen Jr. PM (21), Elwood A. Davis (44), Kay C. Dunn (10), Floyd L. Fawcett (24), Walter W. Goss (56), Travis P. Harris PM (55), George A. Hess (64), Steven Kolden (29), Gregory R. Maier (15), Douglas C. Mc Kay (40), Frank Mitchell (37), Milton Murray (56), Ahmad H. Nasri (5), William C. Newton (55), Walter H. Nieman Jr. (59), Earl L. Oliver (51), Leland E. Peck (63), Joseph L. Pedroni Jr. (50), Ronald A. Polse (56), Alvaro R. Reynoso PM (17), Augustine J. Rhee (4), Harold P. Rubin (58), Glen L. Sears Jr. (31), Mark F. Simens (29), Bruce W. Tellardin (32), Robert A. Wagle (38), Leslie A. Yeffa (51)

## Birthdays

George W. Adams Jr. PM (01), Brian A. Katz (03), Gabriel A. Amaral PM (06), David E. Sonnichsen (06), Joseph G. Stewart (06), Ahmad H. Nasri (07), Jack L. Holt (08), Henry Bitter Jr. (09), Robert T. Douglas (11), Stevean W. Allen (12), Patrick M. Mc Cord (12), David B. Stephenson (13), Herman O. Armstrong PM (14), David B. Wysock (16), Major S. Sahota (17), Brandon M. Morrison (18), Elmer P. Seutter (18), James A. Hooks (22), Herman I. Schulack (22), Douglas H. Ferreira (24), Glen W. Lane (24), Gary L. Orr (24), Ruben L. Vossekul (24), Kurt J. Von Brauch (28), William C. Newton (29), Stanley A. Clifton PM (30), Forrest M. Hibbs PM (30)

% Don Schauer, Sr. (Secretary)  
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# Trestleboard

November 2013 AD, 6013 AL

Volume 9, Issue 11

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



*Dated Material Enclosed  
Change Service Requested*



## **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



### **Appendant Bodies Meeting Schedules**

- Lake Chabot Chapter Eastern Star meets at CVMC 1st & 3rd Friday (8:00 PM) <http://lakechabot103oes.org/>
- Castro Valley DeMolay meets at Castro Valley Masonic Center (CVMC) 1st & 3rd Monday (7:30 PM)
- Unity Assembly Rainbow No. 65 meets at 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

Monthly Trestleboard of Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551  
Free and Accepted Masons  
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Please call ahead and confirm times and dates.

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or go to <http://tiny.cc/rentCVMC>

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