

c/o Don Schauer, Sr.—Secretary
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Trestleboard

November 2020

Volume 16, Issue 10

Crow Canyon Lodge
No. 551

F&AM of California

Chartered October 11, 1923

WWW.CCL551.ORG



Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER 2020

11/05-Thursday—"Virtual Stated Meeting"—Social: 6:30 PM/
Meeting: 7:30 PM—Election of Officers—Zoom Meeting ID:
618-797-9982

11/12-Thursday-DARK

11/19-Thursday-DARK

11/24-Tuesday-Hall Association 7:00 PM

11/26-Thursday-DARK-Happy Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 2020

12/03-Thursday—"Virtual Stated Meeting"—Social: 6:30 PM/
Meeting: 7:30 PM—Zoom Meeting ID: 618-797-9982

12/10-Thursday-DARK

12/17-Thursday-DARK

12/24-Tuesday-DARK—Merry Xmas

12/31-Thursday-DARK-Happy New Year

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

Lodge Virtual Stated Meetings will be held on the normal day and time
via Zoom (Meeting ID: 618-797-9982)
until the Grand Master of California issues an edict that live meetings may resume.
If you need assistance joining us in our meetings, please contact any of your principle officers.

From the East

By Paul Rodriguez-Obrien—Master

Brethren and Families,

On October 10th-11th, the Grand Lodge had their “171st Annual Communication”. This was conducted via the internet conferencing site “Zoom”.



All legislation scheduled for this year, and also those held over from last year, were pushed off until next year. The sole item that all California Lodges had up for vote was to amend our bylaws to allow for virtual Stated and Special Meetings (with mandated stipulations). This item Passed.

With this mandate being fully adhered to, I am pleased to announce that during the California shelter-in-place orders appertaining to large gatherings; our lodge will host virtual Stated and Special Meetings beginning with our next Stated meeting (November 5th, 2020), on the same date and at the same time as provided in our Bylaws for in-person Stated Meetings. All our lodge meetings will be conducted using “Zoom”.

Until further notice, our Virtual Zoom Stated meeting ID will be: 618-797-9982. The regular meeting password will be in the email invitation sent out days prior to the event. If you don't receive emails from the lodge, then please call or email any lodge officer for the meeting password, and also to register your email address with us.

I do want to quickly inform you of some basic stipulations that you will need to know to get you up and running prior to joining these virtual Stated and Special Meetings.

- No virtual meeting should be recorded.
- Our Tiler may ask for each attending to verify that he has taken all reasonable steps to prevent anyone not eligible to be present from observing or hearing what is happening on his screen.
- We will not perform any ritual Lodge opening or closing, or any esoteric or portion of Ritual in these non-tiled events.
- No signs or modes of recognition may be given.

(The Grand Master's full mandate with stipulations will be emailed out, read out loud in our next virtual Stated meeting, available in this Trestleboard, and [again on our Website.](#))

A note of importance: This year's Election of Officers will be held on our Virtual Zoom Stated Meeting on November 5th, 2020. Instruction on how this will be accomplished is forthcoming.

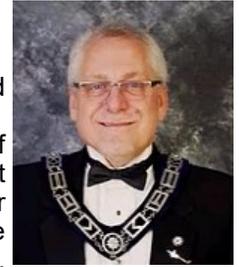
Disclaimer: Everything above is subject to change per the Grand Lodge.

Until then, stay safe, stay healthy, and know you are a valuable part of our Masonic family. We are here to help and support you any way we can. Just reach out and call us. Our phone numbers and email address are easily found within this Trestleboard, and on [our website.](#)

From the West

By Brian Ross—Senior Warden

The holidays are almost upon us and boy what a strange season it will be. Unfortunately, there will be none of Uncle Roy's turkey and gravy for what would have been a great November Stated Meeting and further, the Christmas Party has been called off. More importantly for Lodge purposes, it appears that our Installation Ceremony is also in jeopardy.



Although we all cannot get together personally, we can participate in spreading cheer and connecting with other Lodge members by Zoom. By the time you read this, our Lodge will have conducted a Zoom gathering for the Past

Masters' Roll Call and the Hiram Award (given to the most deserving Worshipful Ron Katz). I am proud to have been a part of both events and urge all that can to attend future virtual events until we can be “live” again. Worshipful Paul's social gatherings have also been a hit and should continue until we are allowed back in the Lodge.

We have got to make the best out of a bad situation and I am confident that good efforts are being made. If you have an idea for a gathering please let us know so we can set it up! Happy Thanksgiving!

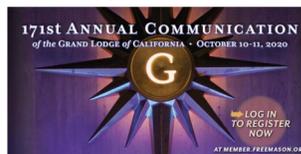
From the South

By J. Rafisura—Junior Warden

Last week I was able to witness (at least portions of it) an historic Annual Communication via the Zoom Meeting platform. For me it felt weird and at the same time, awe-inspiring how we as an organization have gone so far to pull off such a complex technological exercise in order to stick to our annual time-honored tradition – the Annual Communication.



At first, there were kinks and “glitches” in terms of connections, audio/video quality and remote real-time coordination. However, as the event progressed, boy, it seemed that we have gotten good at it! It went relatively smooth for the most part. I have seen familiar faces who worked their way into being given the privilege to have their video/audio allowed to be turned on and speak before all the participants in order to chime-in their 2 cents or ask questions. It was interesting to watch and listen, knowing that there are a lot more participants who were lurking in their respective private places (living rooms, basements, patio, etc.), still able to attend such an historic event – some in their coat and tie, others maybe in their pajamas (or boxers?) and bed heads! Times have changed indeed and the new



normal will continue to change as this pandemic unfolds. All of us are still learning and will eventually get to be good at it. After all, change is the only constant in this world.

During the event, we had the chance to vote (electronically) on several proposed legislations after listening to the discussions. What happened behind the scenes, how they verified and counted the votes, who witnessed the counting, we did not know, and I can only imagine the “bandwidth” it took to pull off such a complex event. It was a success and legislations were passed!



As we welcome the new Grand Master, Most Worshipful Arthur Weiss, we look forward for new directions concerning Masonic meetings and events, including virtual stated and special meetings. Personally, I am having a little bit of a challenge of this virtual world. I would love to have the “old normal” back where we could meet and greet physically, dine together as a group with all the ladies and

widows, participate in an actual annual fall festival (can't imagine a virtual one), etc. But I guess that now falls under the category of “good ole days”.

I'd like to encourage everyone to stay tuned and reconnect with the lodge, however challenging it may be. Tonight, I will be attending the Past Master's Roll Call....virtually. Please don't ask me what's on the menu.

From the Secretary's Table

By Donald Schauer, Sr. —Secretary

My good friends, Brothers and Sisters at Crow Canyon Lodge. For the last 50 years Freemasonry has been a very important part of my life. Now I am having a hard time doing simple things like balancing the checkbook. I am making mistake after mistake in everyday matters. I cannot keep up with simple matters. This last episode with my foot has brought my Masonic path to a very hard and abrupt ending, my service to the lodge and my decades-long career as Lodge Secretary.



I have noticed for some time now that I was slipping. I have reached my 81st year of life and am starting to forget things. Everyday things. Not only in my lodge but in my home life. I will continue to help my lodge as much as possible by printing the lodge bulletin, programs, placemats and anything else you need. My masonic career of service is coming to an end. I will not seek reelection this year. I have loved every moment serving Crow Canyon. The lodge has been very good to me.

Editor's note: Don, I believe I speak for the whole lodge when I say “thank you for all of your hard work and service. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed!”

In Memoriam

Lee C. White
Entered into Rest

87 Years and 6 days
October 14, 2012

Charles Franklin Hicks, Sr., PM
Entered into rest

89 years and 6 days
October 8, 2020

*Great Architect of the Universe, into thine hands
we commend the souls of our dear departed brothers*

3rd Degree Anniversaries

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

Stevean Allen (36)	Leland Peck (69)
Mick Bowers (1)	Alvaro Reynoso [PM] (23)
Mark Casperson (9)	Augustine Rhee (10)
Donald Clendenen Jr. [PM] (27)	Harold Rubin (64)
Kay Dunn (16)	Glen Sears Jr. (37)
Steven Kolden (35)	Mark Simens (35)
Gregory Maier (21)	Anthony Tancredi (46)
Douglas Mc Kay (46)	Bruce Tellardin (38)
Frank Mitchell (43)	Robert Wagle (44)
William Newton (61)	

November Birthdays

Brian Katz (11/03)	Ruben Vossekui (11/24)
Michael Gallico (11/05)	Kurt Von Brauch (11/28)
Joseph Stewart (11/06)	William Newton (11/29)
Jack Holt (11/08)	Stanley Clifton (11/30)
Robert Douglas (11/11)	Woody Hibbs (11/30)
Stevean Allen (11/12)	
Patrick Mc Cord (11/12)	
David Stephenson (11/13)	
Brandon Morrison (11/18)	
Elmer Seutter (11/18)	
James Hooks (11/22)	
Douglas Ferreira (11/24)	
Glen Lane (11/24)	
Gary Orr (11/24)	

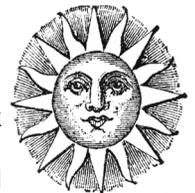


Sunshine and Visiting

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

Mark Casperson, Woody Hibbs, Mic Bowers

Please contact Secretary Don Schauer or check our members' only website for their respective phone numbers. If you know of a brother who is ill and could use some cheer please call Ernie or Les.



Ernie Nidick —Sunshine Chairman 925.828.6993 [click to email](#)
Les Blake—Visiting Chairman 510.581.8497 [click to email](#)

From the Grandmaster Weiss

Virtual Stated and Special Meetings-October 19, 2020:

At the recently completed 171st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, Sections 807.000 and 807.010 of the California Masonic Code were amended to allow for virtual Stated and Special Meetings when assembling the required number of persons for holding a Stated or Special Meeting is prohibited by competent local, state or national authority, as determined by the Grand Master. I made this determination when I issued my recent decision continuing most of Grand Master Trauner's restrictions on in-person Masonic gatherings. Until further notice is received from me, Lodges may hold virtual Stated and Special Meetings, if the following requirements are met:

1. The meeting must be held using conference telephone, electronic video screen communication or electronic transmission which allows each member of the Lodge participating in the meeting to communicate with all of the other members concurrently. Each member participating must be provided the means of participating in all matters before the meeting, including, without limitation, the capacity to propose, or to interpose an objection to, a specific action to be taken by the Lodge. A lodge may use any software the lodge determines can meet this requirement. I find that the following software can meet this requirement if properly used to satisfy the foregoing conditions: Zoom, Cisco Webex, GoToMeeting, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet, ClickMeeting.
2. Such meetings must be held without the Lodge opening or closing ceremonies in the Ritual and without any other esoteric or secret portion of the Ritual.
3. The following business **may not be conducted** at any such virtual meeting: reports of investigating committees, balloting, examining a candidate in the Candidate's Lecture of any degree or conferring of degrees.
4. During a virtual meeting, all questions should be decided either by a voice vote or by hand. Some virtual meeting software has polling and raise hand features which can be used for voting. If three members request a written ballot on any matter, the presiding officer may specify how the written ballot shall be taken. Among other possibilities, he could specify the polling feature in the virtual meeting software or the distribution of written ballots by mail to those who were in the virtual meeting when the question was called.
5. A Lodge's virtual Stated Meetings shall be held on the same date and at the same time as provided in its Bylaws for in-person Stated Meetings. Notice to the Lodge members of the means of electronic access to the virtual Stated Meetings must be given by four days' written notice if mailed or forty-eight hours' notice if delivered personally or by telephone or other electronic means. Once this notice of the means of electronic access to a virtual Stated Meeting has been given, no further notice shall be required unless and until that means of access has been changed. No notice is required for in-person Special Meetings. Therefore, no notice is required for virtual Special Meetings.
6. Reasonable steps should be taken to tile virtual meetings. How tiled shall be left to the sound discretion of the presiding officer. As a virtual meeting may not include any esoteric or secret portion of the Ritual, the standard of security at a virtual meeting is less than that required when such portions of the Ritual are communicated. For example, to tile a virtual meeting, the presiding officer might review the gallery of those participating in the virtual meeting to

verify each's eligibility to be present and ask for each attending to verify that he has taken all reasonable steps to prevent anyone not eligible to be present from observing or hearing what is happening on his screen. No virtual meeting should be recorded.

7. Except as provided in this letter, all other rules under the California Masonic Code applicable to Stated and Special Meetings shall be followed, including without limitation the Code's meeting quorum requirements.
8. If questions arise with respect to the implementation of this decision, the Grand Secretary may be contacted for further guidance.

'Links below this article' are to the Virtual Stated Meeting Agenda, the Virtual Special Meeting Agenda, and the script for Virtual Stated and Special Meetings 'which are' to be used.

If the Lodge cannot comply with these requirements for the November or any subsequent Stated Meeting, the power of the Lodge to appropriate money to pay essential Lodge bills whose payment cannot reasonably be deferred may be exercised by a majority of the elected officers of the Lodge, subject to ratification of their action at the next in-person or virtual Stated Meeting of the Lodge. I remind everyone that all Lodge bills paid in this fashion since March 18th must be presented at your Lodge's next virtual or in-person Stated Meeting for ratification, whichever comes first.

Under the Code, Lodge elections are held annually at the November Stated Meeting. Because of my directive on no in-person Masonic gatherings, Lodges may only hold a virtual November Stated Meeting. If your Lodge does not have a virtual November Stated Meeting, an application should promptly be made by the Lodge requesting the Inspector to issue a dispensation to hold the election at another time. A Lodge must hold an election even if the elected officers will continue in their current positions for another year. It has come to my attention that there may be otherwise qualified Master Masons who seek to be Master or Warden of a Lodge who have not yet received a Certificate of Proficiency in the Candidate's Lecture of the Master Mason Degree. Of course, no one can obtain that certificate until the Lodge can meet again in-person at a Stated or Special Meeting to conduct the examination required for the issuance of that certificate. No such Master Mason can be installed Master or a Warden until an in-person meeting is again allowed where he has passed his examination. In appropriate circumstances, I would consider a dispensation to allow such a meeting to be held under such conditions as I then might set for that proficiency to be given. Requests should be directed to the Grand Secretary. This decision shall have no further force or effect after my term as Grand Master ends.

- [Virtual Stated Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Virtual Special Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Virtual Stated and Special Meeting Script for Opening and Closing](#)

Editor's Note: These links can be found on the home page of our website at <https://www.ccl551.org/>. Brethren without internet access can request a hard copy of these documents from the Secretary.



2020 Officers

Master — Paul Rodriguez-O'Brien
510.461.1071 [click to email](#)

Senior Warden — Brian Ross
510.331.6935 [click to email](#)

Junior Warden— J. Rafisura
516.519.1151 [click to email](#)

Treasurer—George R. Lumm, P.M.
510.791.0753/ 510.604.8513 cell [click to email](#)

Secretary—Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.
510.258.0654 donschauersr@gmail.com

Assist. Secretary—Perry Klahr
925.925.3360 [click to email](#)

Chaplain—Robert Eckstein, P.M.
510.449.7944 [click to email](#)

Marshal—Steve Kolden
510.409.6118 / [click to email](#)

Senior Deacon—Andrew Hawes
510.886.7131 [click to email](#)

Junior Deacon—Phil Busch
510.566.7019 [click to email](#)

Sr. Steward—Orrin Benedict, Jr.
510.512.6999 [click to email](#)

Jr. Steward— Anthony Tancredi
510.476.4819 [click to email](#)

Tiler—Bill Biddell, H.A.
510.582.6207 / 510.589.0878 cell [click to email](#)

Officer's Coach—Kurt R. Allen, P.M., H.A.
925.735.1233 [click to email](#)

Candidate Coaches

Robert Eckstein - 510.744.1717
Bill Ferrell - 510.520.7242 cell
Ron Katz - Fremont-Hayward—510.375.3137 cell
Eric Korbas - Castro Valley 510.823.6334
Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.537.1077 / 510.684.3047 cell

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District

Wor. Allen Cuenca 916.390.1003
allencuenca@sbcglobal.net

2020 Committees

2020 Appointments

Audit: Mick Bowers

Charity Committee: Master and Wardens

Child ID: David Allen, and Perry Klahr

Crab Feed: Don Schauer and Roy Tamez, PM

Executive Committee: Robert Eckstein, PM, Paul Rodriguez, Brian Ross, Kurt Allen, PM, and Don Schauer

Hiram Award Selection: HA Committee (All HA recipients)

Lodge App: Robert Eckstein, PM

Masonic Education: TBD

Masonic Funeral: Kurt Allen, PM, Bill Ferrell, PM

Masonic Hall Association: Pat Quinn

Masonic Homes Endowment: Don Schauer

Masons for Mitts: Kurt Allen, PM

Membership Retention: Don Schauer & Robert B. Eckstein, PM

Picnic: Don Schauer and Roy Tamez, PM

Printing and Mailings: Don Schauer

Strawberry Feed: Ron Katz, PM and Perry Klahr

Sunshine & Visiting: Ernie Nidick & Les Blake

Sweethearts Committee: Perry Klahr, Mick Bowers, and Guy Phillips

Visitation / Traveling Degree : Kurt & Wynn Allen, and Don Schauer

Website and Trestleboard: Ron Katz, PM

White Table Night: J Rafisura

Masonic Youth Orders

Castro Valley DeMolay—Steve Kolden—510.409.6118 [click to email](#)

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Heidi Kolden - 510.693.1385 [click to email](#)

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Joy Molina 510.754.4983 [click to email](#)

Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Katie Bardwell 925.918.1675 [click to email](#)

NOTE: if you are not able to “click to email” send an email to info@CCL551.org to the attention of the person you are trying to reach

Where in the World

Each month we log visitors to our website. This month we were pleased to have guests from Ibiza Town, Spain; District Heights, MD; Oak Island, NC; Atlanta, GA; Ottawa, ON; Pico Rivera, CA; Medicine Hat, AB; Dana Beach, FL; Chesapeake, VA; Washington, DC; Calgary, AB; Montreal, QC; Alvarado, TX; Virginia Beach, VI



**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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