



Trestleboard

August 2023
Volume 19, Issue 8

**Crow Canyon Lodge
No. 551**

F&AM of California
Chartered October 11, 1923

WWW.CCL551.ORG



Calendar of Events

AUGUST 2023

- 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 Heritage.
- 08/10—Thursday—Third Degree Practice—7:00 PM
- 08/15—Tuesday—Zoom Social—7:00 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
- 08/29—Tuesday—Hall Association 7:00 PM
- 08/31—Thursday—Potluck—6:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 2023

- 09/06—Wednesday—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
- 09/07—Thursday—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner 6:00 PM / Business Meeting 7:00 PM—Filipino-Themed Meal.
- 09/10—Thursday—Third Degree Practice—7:00 PM
- 09/12—Tuesday—DOSI @ Pleasanton—6:30 PM
- 09/16—Saturday—Breakfast w/Brothers @ Norman's CV—8:00 AM
- 09/16—Saturday—Hiram Award Dinner—Brian Ross—5:00 PM
- 09/19—Tuesday—Zoom Social—7:00 PM
- 09/21—Thursday—First Degree—Mr. Bearda—7:00 PM
- 09/26—Tuesday—Hall Association—7:00 PM
- 09/28—Thursday—Past Masters' Roll Call—6:30 PM

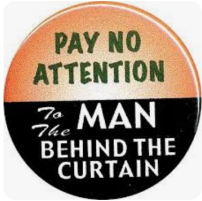
Appendant and Concordant Bodies

- ◆ 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 are entering the second half of the year, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of our lodge. You show your support by either actively participating in the planning and preparation of our activities or just by showing up (and signing up first!). More than you know, showing up at events and appreciating the hard work of those behind the scenes helps keep the lodge going.



On June 29th, it being the fifth Thursday of the month, we had an awesome feast during a well-attended potluck! For a change, we decided not to have the usual Chili-Cook-off contest but instead, just to have the participants bring in their favorite dishes. The result - a variety of classic and good old-fashioned cuisines and some exotic gastronomic food fusions. I had the pleasure of preparing a Filipino Braised Pork (Humba) to introduce one of Philippine's staple dishes (though not as popular as Lumpia). I was glad to receive positive feedback and share the recipe with those who asked. The lodge provided grilled Tri-tip which was, as usual, a hit among the meat-lovers! Worthy to mention are the Sr. Warden's Vegetarian Thai Rice, Wor. Al and Kathy Kenyon's Chicken Baked Macaroni, Bro. Phil Busch's baked beans, the rich and creamy classic mac and cheese by Wor. Bill and Kathy Ferrell (thanks for opening the bar too!). Desserts were abundant courtesy of the late Bro. Don Schauer's family. And oh, let's not forget Bro. Bill and Ann Biddell's good old-fashion Jell-O reminiscent of everyone's childhood. We also had Bro. Pat and Donna Quinn's Pineapple delight, some different versions of potato salads and a lot more shared by our brothers and their ladies. Thank you to all those who participated! Please stay tuned for the next one!



Following our Potluck was the July Stated Dinner/Meeting. It was a themed dinner, honoring America's Independence Day as well as youth

appreciation month. Me and my lady had fun decorating the lodge with red, blue and white ornaments to set the mood. At the start of the dinner, the flag of our country was ceremoniously brought in by the youth groups (DeMolay, Rainbow, Jobs Daughters, and the Boy Scouts) as organized by Bro. Ernie Nidick. At dinner, each one enjoyed a generous portion of barbeque steak, grilled to perfection by our dedicated and hard-working kitchen crew. The meat was complimented with freshly baked garlic bread, corn-on-the-cob, and potato salad on the side. Again, it was a feast!

For the month of August, I plan to have it Filipino-themed to honor my Filipino heritage. Me and my lady are excited to showcase the Philippine's national costume called "Barong" for men and "Filipiniana" for women. If you happen to have one, please wear it during dinner/meeting. For



the rest, you can wear anything tropical/Islander or linen shirt that is appropriate for a summer dinner. Afterall, the Philippine archipelago is composed of a string of 7,100 tropical islands. So you get the idea. Its national color is red, white, blue, and yellow. For the early bird ladies, we have prepared hand-made Filipino product giveaways to compliment your attire. Filipino dishes/desserts will also be on the menu. I invite you all to attend and experience a taste of the diverse and unique Filipino culture - a pleasantly confusing amalgamation of Malayan, Indonesian, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish and the USA! Mabuhay!

From the West

By Andrew Hawes — Sr. Warden

August is typically my least favorite month, but only because it tends to be the hottest of the year. I've never liked heat, and while the weather in the bay area tends to be more bearable than many other places in the country... it's still too hot for my tastes when the mercury rises above the 75 mark!



The Dog days of summer happen at the start of August – so named because it's the time in the northern hemisphere when Sirius (the "Dog Star") is rising in the heavens near the sun. Celestial events aside, in Masonry I've started to associate August with "Study month" as for the past few years I've been spending a lot of time during August studying my ritual, so that I can be ready to give my proficiency to the inspector in the early fall, to qualify for the next spot in the line that I'm aspiring to climb to.



Not that I wait until August to start learning the ritual... well... ok, yeah, mostly that's what I do, barring some early read-throughs. August is too hot to be outside doing anything, so why not spend more of that inside time hitting the books? This can be something that applies to all of us, not just those of us in the line – for all of you who haven't completed your third degree proficiency yet – or second, or first, for that matter – August is a good time to double-down on learning your proficiencies! Reach out to me if you need any help I may not be able to work with you myself directly, but can definitely find you an expert coach from the lodge to speak to and help you along. Our lodge has some expert ritualists, and many of them are willing to spend some time to help a brother learn our ritual, but just like when you joined, it has to be of your own free will and accord! No-one can force you to learn other than you!

Many of us know that "August" is named after "Augustus Ceasar" from Roman times, but it's less known that it was originally the SIXTH month of the calendar, and was named "Sextilus" by the Romans, meaning "Sixth month." ...so It wasn't just in architecture that the Romans lacked originality, apparently. The Romans had adopted the Greek Lunar calendar, which had only 10 months, and they used this for quite a while – until Julius Ceasar decided that it needed an overhaul, and after consulting with a Greek astronomer named Sosigenes, the calendar was updated to have twelve months... and (incidentally, I'm sure) had the seventh renamed in honor of none other than Julius Ceasar himself. To adjust to the new calendar, there were extra days added in the year 46 BC – instead of 365, that year had 445 days! After Julius came Augustus, who followed suit, and had the

eight month renamed "August" after himself. Emperors can get away with that sort of thing, apparently.

Well, for those of us without months named after us, let's all take care to keep cool this month – with record-setting heat being experienced all over the world, it's especially important that you practice good sense if you need to go out in the heat – wear sunscreen and a wide-brim hat, bring water, and make sure you don't go hiking or biking in the heat without a buddy along to help out in case the heat gets to be too much.



From the South

By Lyman Penning — Jr. Warden

Our menu for the Stated Meeting Dinner in August will be tortilla soup, pork-based main menu, and sides of rice and green beans. Mango ice cream will be our dessert. Worshipful J. will also be supplementing the menu with Filipino dishes and desserts.



So be sure to call or email Perry Klahr at 925-699-1786 or "pklahr1234@comcast.net" or myself by July 27, 2023.

When you come to Stated Meeting Dinners, you will find sign-up sheets for all the meal events for the current month and the Stated Meeting Dinner for the next month. I will have the sheets on the table next to Phil Busch and the restrooms. The sign-up sheets will be available starting at 5:45 PM and will remain on the table until after the Stated Meeting. The sheets will then be turned over to Perry Klahr to record the reservations.

The other events that the lodge will hold is the Lodge Picnic at Golden Gate Steamers in Tilden Park on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at 11:30 AM. We will feature Roy Tamez' Tri-Tip and the Youth Groups are invited. Please RSVP by August 19, 2023. Also, we have a Lodge Pot Luck on Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 6:00 PM. Please RSVP by Thursday, August 24, 2023.



Reservations are needed in order to have enough food for everyone.

Enjoy your Summer activities and we look forward to seeing you in lodge.

3rd Degree Anniversaries

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

Henry Andreotti (33)	Roberto Holguin (9)
Michael Barnhart (21)	Brian Katz (17)
Mickey Benko [PM] (34)	Daniel Lee (10)
William Biddell (60)	Ben Newmarker (58)
Lester Bridge (62)	Kanti Patel (38)
Jesse Bridgeman (1)	Patrick Quinn (13)
Charles Daniels (42)	William Quintel (44)
Mark Finger (38)	J Rafisura (7)
John Fischer (19)	Lynn Reed (45)
Ace Gilbert (46)	Michael Sanders [PM] (43)
Roger Glancy (11)	Steven Stark (42)
John Gordon (10)	Alex Von Stade [PM] (11)
Stanley Gresick (71)	Ruben Vossekul (43)
John Groff [PM] (50)	William Warnecke (46)



August Birthdays

William Quintel (8/1)	Howard Ellis (8/18)
Craig Tangen (8/6)	Gregory Cooper (8/18)
Scott West (8/6)	Lyman Penning (8/18)
Stanley Gresick (8/7)	Paul Leiber (8/19)
Dale Reynolds (8/7)	Derek Pope (8/20)
John Kralovansky (8/10)	Donald Johnson (8/21)
Kay Dunn (8/13)	Chris Bokamper (8/24)
Le Roy Swanson (8/17)	Danny Mrdja (8/25)



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

Dog Star Rises

In August, when the Dog Star rises,
And summer heat reaches its height,
We Masons turn to our studies,
To learn our ritual and get it right.

We hit the books, we read and practice,
Preparing for proficiency,
To climb the line, to reach new heights,
In our quest for mastery.

For August is a time for learning,
For growth and self-improvement,
A time to seek out expert coaches,
And make our ritual movements.

Named for Augustus, once Sextilus,
The sixth month of the year,
It's now the eighth, thanks to Julius,
And his calendar so dear.

So let us use this time for study,
For growth and self-discovery,
As we strive to be better Masons,
In our quest for mastery.

Note: The above poem was based on Bro. Hawes' article and was created with a prompt to ChatGPT.

The Square and Compass

Both points beneath the square,
Darkness, doubts, dungeons of despair,
Yet trusting in God who answers prayer,
Follow your guide — nor fear nor care,
Light will come with effulgent glare.
One point above the square,
As yet but partially there
Is light; for more light prepare,
As you ascend the winding stair.
Both points above the square —
Friendship and Morality share
With Brotherly Love, tenets taught where
Masons kneel, and vow, and swear.



In Memoriam

Stanley A. Gresick Jr
Entered into Rest

99 years, 10 months and 12 days
July 7, 2022

Donald M. Schauer Sr.
Entered into Rest

84 years and 6 days
July 10, 2023

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



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.
510.441.3901 lymanpenning@gmail.com

Treasurer—Phil Busch H.A. (Teresa)
510.566.7019 tbusch_55@yahoo.com

Secretary—Perry Klahr (Joan)
925.425.3360 / 925.699.1786 pklahr1234@comcast.net

Assist. Secretary—

Chaplain—Brian K. Ross, PM (Theresa)
510.331.6935 br575653@gmail.com

Marshal—Pat Quinn, H.A. (Donna Jo)
925.201.3065 / 510.755.7891 cell pdq551@att.net

Senior Deacon—Alex Von Stade, P.M. (Yuki)
510.512.6569 cell avstade@gmail.com

Junior Deacon—Tramaine Ellison (Monique)
209.830.1513 / 209.481.7430 cell Tramaine.ellison@hotmail.com

Sr. Steward—Aaron Johnson (Sara)
510.509.4312 cell vwroadracer@gmail.com

Jr. Steward—Osman Ghani
860.655.7171 cell jozzie6935@gmail.com

Tiler—Bill Biddell, H.A. (Anne)
510.582.6207 / 510.589.0878 cell wbiddell@gmail.com

Officer's Coach—Robert Pinkerton, PM
510.851.6794 cell r-pinkerton@sbcglobal.net

Candidate Coaches

Bill Ferrell (Kathy) 510.520.7242 cell
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: Saint-Sauveur, Canada; Columbus, OH; Brentwood, CA; Johannesburg, South Africa; Colmbatore, India; Washington, DC; Atlanta, GA; Hialeah, FL; Fresno, CA; Sydney, Australia; Ventura, CA; Tampa, FL; Rock Hill, SC; Modesto, CA; Denham Springs, LA; Oklahoma City, OK; Durham, NC; Johns Island, SC; United Kingdom; Nashville, TN



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: Bill Biddell, H.A.

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

August 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Officer's Meeting / Executive Committee—7:00 PM	3 Stated Meeting Dinner—6:00 PM Business Mtg—7:00 PM	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 3rd Degree Practice—7:00 PM	11	12	
13	14	15 Zoom Social—7:00 PM	16	17 3rd Degree Practice with Wor. Cuencia—7:00 PM	18	19 Travelling 3rd Degree to Volcano Lodge—Bro. Dorough—8:30 AM	
20	21	22	23	24 Practice—7:00 PM	25	26 Lodge Picnic at Golden Gate Live Steamers—Tilden Park—11:00 AM	
27	28	29 Hall Association—7:00 PM	30	31 Potluck—6:00 PM			