



# Trestleboard

May 2024

Volume 20, Issue 5

**Crow Canyon Lodge  
No. 551**

**F&AM of California**

Chartered October 11, 1923

[WWW.CCL551.ORG](http://WWW.CCL551.ORG)



## Calendar of Events

### MAY 2024

- 05/01—Wednesday—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
- 05/02—Thursday—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner 6:15 PM / Business Meeting 7:30 PM
- 05/04—Saturday—Volunteering at St. Vincent—8:00 AM
- 05/09—Thursday—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
- 05/14—Tuesday—DOSI at CVMC—6:30 PM
- 05/16—Thursday—2nd Degree—Bro. Adam Brissey—7:00 PM
- 05/18—Saturday—Breakfast with Brothers @ Norman's, CV—8:00 AM
- 05/21—Tuesday—Zoom Social—7:00 PM
- 05/23—Thursday—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
- 05/28—Tuesday—Hall Association—7:00 PM
- 05/30—Thursday—Masonic Family Potluck and Chili Cookoff—6:00 PM

### JUNE 2024

- 06/01—Saturday—Volunteering at St. Vincent—8:00 AM
- 06/05—Wednesday—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM
- 06/06—Thursday—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner 6:15 PM / Business Meeting 7:30 PM
- 06/11—Tuesday—DOSI at Livermore—6:30 PM
- 06/13—Thursday—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
- 06/15—Saturday—Breakfast with Brothers @ Norman's, CV—8:00 AM
- 06/18—Tuesday—Zoom Social—7:00 PM
- 06/20—Thursday—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM
- 06/25—Tuesday—Hall Association—7:00 PM
- 06/29—Saturday—Annual Strawberry Feed at the Masonic Home. Meet in Auditorium for prep at 10:30 AM. Begin serving at 1:00 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 Andrew Hawes —Master

May the Fourth be with you! For anyone who isn't familiar with this saying, it's a pun – a riff on 'May the Force be with you' which originated in the



Star Wars movie series as a way of wishing someone well, "the Force" being a mystical energy source that permeated everything in the universe, and which powerful mystics, or "Jedi" could access to manipulate the physical world directly with their minds. While Masons have never claimed to be able to manipulate invisible energy fields

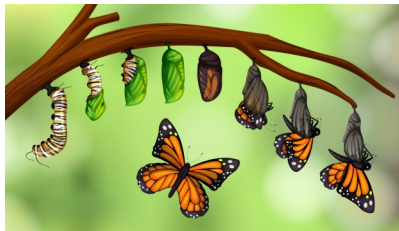


with the power of their thoughts to move things around, I think that it's safe to say that "The force is strong with us." Masons are intentionally good people.

We study the workings of the universe, and attempt to imitate the orderly beauty found in nature.

While we are no longer operative masons, we still should be striving daily to improve ourselves in this way – our actions should bring peace and harmony, order and law – we should constantly struggle against lawlessness and chaos around us – from actions as small as picking up trash on the sidewalk and putting it into the nearby bin, to those as large as forging a new country out of the ultimate chaos of war and revolution.

It is important that we not confuse change for chaos – butterflies go through an incredible metamorphosis, from a worm crawling along in the dirt to a brightly-winged creature of the skies, fluttering from flower to flower and helping nature thrive. While the change process itself may seem chaotic while it is happening, the end result is beautiful.



Our lodge is constantly undergoing change. Not a one-time metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly, but to use a different metaphor, we are more like a soup, to which new ingredients are being added.

In the folk story "Stone Soup" we learn of travelers who come to a village carrying nothing but a cooking pot. At first, the suspicious villagers do not wish to share with them, fearing outsiders and not wishing to waste their precious resources on strangers – but the travelers tell them about a wonderful soup that can be made from nothing but a stone, and the villagers are intrigued. Filling their pot with water and a smooth stone from the river, the

travelers put it on the fire and wait for it to boil. Curious villagers start to inquire about the soup, and are told it's



not ready yet, but would be much better with a few more things added... gradually, they bring and add items to the pot - vegetables, meat, and other ingredients, and eventually when it is ready a hearty delicious soup is enjoyed by

everyone.

While we don't support or condone the deceptive part of the story (boiling a stone alone will not produce a tasty soup!) I do think that there is an interesting comparison between this story and our lodge. When begun, we are travelers, with an empty pot and a stone. We start the fire, and set our kettle on it, and gradually welcome more members into our community, each adding their own bit of something different to the broth, to create and perpetuate the tasty soup that is our lodge.

Speaking of stew... maybe we'll do a stew cookoff at the next potluck... but at the end of May, it's Chili!

I hope that many of you will come to the lodge to join in our stated meetings – because a pot with nothing but a stone and water in it doesn't make for a very tasty meal... it's rather a farce really. So... may the Farce be with you, and let's change it into a reality together!

## From the West

By Lyman Penning, PM — Sr. Warden

I have contacted some of our candidate coaches in regards to their candidates' progress.



Entered Apprentice Adam Brissey has just passed his proficiency exam and is scheduled to be passed to Fellowcraft on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM, with a light dinner served at 6:15 PM.

Again, if you would like to help with coaching our candidates, please give me a call. Also, please contact me if you have a candidate who is having a hard time in getting together for coaching. Hopefully we can work out any problems in regard to scheduling.

After we get the Fellowcraft degrees out of the way, we will want to start on the 3rd degrees and hopefully raise some new Master Masons for 2024.



## From the South

By Alex Von Stade, PM — Jr. Warden



Brethren:

Welcome to the month of May, the fifth month of the year.

May is believed to be named after the Greek Goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants. This could explain the old saying “April showers bring May flowers”.

May is also associated with the Roman Goddess, Bona Dea. The Romans celebrated Bona Dea during the month of May.

We have three major celebrations associated with the month of May. They include: Cinco de Mayo (May 5th), Mother’s Day (May 12th), and Memorial Day (May 27th).

Several historic events in America also took place in the month of May. The first permanent English settlement in America was established in Jamestown Virginia on May 24, 1607. The Lewis and Clark expedition began on May 14, 1804. The Homestead Act was enacted on May 20, 1862. In addition, blue jeans, which are a part of American culture, were first patented by Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis on May 20, 1873. Happy May!

## May Birthdays

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Robert Pinkerton (05/04) | Charles Cammerer (05/18) |
| Anthony Tancredi (05/04) | Douglas Mc Kay (05/18)   |
| Gregory Maier (05/06)    | Greg Glur (05/23)        |
| Ted Rucker (05/06)       | Harold Lassel (05/24)    |
| David Wipf (05/09)       | Robert Albritton (05/28) |
| Daniel Schauer (05/11)   | Lynn Reed (05/28)        |
| James Stanford (05/13)   | Frank Mitchell (05/29)   |
| David Weaver (05/13)     |                          |



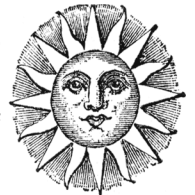
## 3rd Degree Anniversaries

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

- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Adam Korbas (10)        | Le Roy Swanson (58)        |
| Alvin Rodes (34)        | Nicholas Sears (8)         |
| Brian Ross (13)         | Paul Rodriguez-Obrien (10) |
| Chris Bokamper (27)     | Robert Steen [PM] (54)     |
| David Stephenson (26)   | Ronald Katz [PM] (40)      |
| Dewayne Clark (17)      | Ronald Meissner (59)       |
| Donald Johnson (59)     | Ronald Reynolds (39)       |
| George Christensen (51) | Stanley Clifton [PM] (55)  |
| Gregory Rapp [PM] (37)  | Steven Aracne (18)         |
| Jack Tornio (43)        |                            |

## Sunshine and Visiting

We would like to remind you of a valuable link in the support of our Lodge; the ‘Sunshine Committee’.



The Sunshine Committee will spread rays of warmth to those around them through hospital visitations, visits to the elderly, welcoming and get well gifts, and more.

Ernie Nidick—925.828.6993

Roy Tamez—510.684.3047

Tramaine Ellison—209.481.7430

Aaron Johnson—510.509.4312

# Car Show

July 13, 2024 -- 9 AM to 5 PM

Castro Valley Masonic Center  
4521 Crow Canyon Rd. Castro Valley



Sponsored by:  
*Crow Canyon Masonic Lodge*

Cars to Show by Invitation Only  
Send photo of car to: [bkrlaw@hotmail.com](mailto:bkrlaw@hotmail.com)  
Entry fee for cars accepted \$30.00 includes lunch.  
Food and drinks available.  
Cars to be shown must arrive before 9:00 a.m.  
Free admission to spectators after 9 am  
Net Proceeds Donated to the Shriners Hospital




## In Memoriam

George R Lumm, PM  
Entered into Rest

81 years and 11 months  
April 10, 2024



*Great Architect of the Universe, into thine hands we commend the soul of our dear departed brother*

# CASTRO VALLEY DEMOLAY

## Report

We've been busy this past month at Castro Valley DeMolay, with many events. Everything from chapter bonding, community service, and even big jurisdictional events. We are all very excited to share what we've been up to.

### JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

On March 17th, we participated in the NorCal DeMolay Devotional Day. We enjoyed a devotional service at Castro Valley Masonic Center, and moved onto a park picnic and exploring the Chabot Space and Science Museum. Soon, on April 27th we have NorCal P.R.I.D.E., the annual ritual competition, which we've been practicing very hard for.



### CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Last month we went to Boomers and raced Go Karts and dined at mini-golf. Earlier in April we also made a swift escape from prison at Zscape escape rooms. We already plan on doing both of these again in the future.

### GIVING BACK

Community service is a big part of DeMolay, and we've been keeping up with it. On April 7th, we helped out the Eastern Star to make Port Pals, for cancer patients. We also have an upcoming park clean up and picnic, on May 5th, where we look forward to helping our community and doing some fun, active activities.



### COME CHECK US OUT!

We meet every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at Castro Valley Masonic Center. We're also active on Instagram: @cvdemolay

## Have You Checked Out the Lodge Facebook Page?

With nearly 1000 followers it is a great place to find out more about the activities of Castro Valley's premier Masonic Lodge.



<https://www.facebook.com/CCL551.org>

## Themes of Freemasonry—Why It Works

By Kerry A. Shirts—[excerpts from Knights Templar.org article](#)

"Freemasonry is not a thing; it is not an organization, a system of men and officers, of lodges and Grand Lodges. The organization, the system, the men, the officers, and the Grand Lodges are but the vehicle through which Freemasonry expresses itself. A man might be the sole inhabitant of a lonely land where there was no brother, no Lodge, no Grand Lodge, no dues, and no Masonic work to do and yet carry Freemasonry in his heart. If there were two in that lonely land, Freemasonry could find a way to express itself, for Freemasonry is coin of the heart and therefore can only be paid to the heart. What you can do for Freemasonry then is largely what you can do for your own and for your brother's heart."

I was asked recently why on earth I had joined Freemasonry. I responded to the question by saying that we have two choices in life. You can choose to hang out with the bad gangs, or you can choose to hang out with the good ones. I chose the good ones, because I really do enjoy being happy; working to help others; making lives better, more meaningful, and more fulfilled; and sharing happiness, light, and knowledge. It's that simple. Freemasonry is not an office, a prestige to wear lightly, being given honors to flaunt to the world, but it is a work. It is an internal work and attitude to determine to make oneself better and to share that betterment with others in a loving, kind, peaceful, and good way. It does not exist so that one can receive compensation and glory, but so that one can be good for goodness sake and be helpful, kind, and loving, because that is one's nature.

"Freemasonry is not magic; it is moral science. In the Lodge we are taught that we must learn the way and will of God, not in order to use Him for our ends but the better to be used by Him for His ends. The difference may seem slight at first, but it is really the difference between a true and false faith, between religion and superstition. Much of the religion of today is sheer superstition in which magic takes the place of morals. In Masonry, morality has first place, and no religion is valid without it. As might be expected, a Rite so old, so universal, so profoundly simple, has had many meanings read into it. The more the better. A great teacher said of the Bible, 'the more meanings we find in it the richer we are.' Some find in this old and simple Rite a parable of the history of Masonry itself which had its origin in the East and journeyed to the West, bringing the oldest wisdom of the world to bless and guide the newest lands."

This is the foundation of the "good gang" I have joined. The mission, theme, and work of it all lead to greater light, more knowledge, goodness, and peace among men. That kind of vision that we dream is something worth living for, participating in, and enjoying - good brotherhood, fellowship, and working together.

# May 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Officers' Mtg— 7:00 PM	2 Stated' Mtg— 6:15 Social/Dinner 7:30 Business Mtg	3	4 Volunteering at St. Vincent—8:00 AM
5	6	7	8	9 Degree or Practice—7:00 PM	10	11
12	13	14 DOSI at CVMC—6:30 PM	15	16 2nd De- gree—Bro. Adam Brissey—7:00 PM	17	18 Breakfast w/ Brothers @ Normans, CV – 8:00 AM
19	20	21 Zoom Social –7:00 PM PST	22	23 Degree or Practice—7:00 PM	24	25
26	27	28 Hall Associa- tion—7:00 PM	29	30 —Masonic Family Potluck and Chili Cook- off—6:00 PM	31	

## 2024 Officers

**Master** — Andrew Hawes (Jamie)  
646.645.0175 [awphawes@yahoo.com](mailto:awphawes@yahoo.com)

**Senior Warden** — Lyman Penning, PM H.A.  
510.441.3901 [lymanpenning@gmail.com](mailto:lymanpenning@gmail.com)

**Junior Warden**—Alex Von Stade, P.M. (Yuki)  
510.512.6569 cell [avstade@gmail.com](mailto:avstade@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**—Phil Busch H.A. (Teresa)  
510.566.7019 [tbusch\\_55@yahoo.com](mailto:tbusch_55@yahoo.com)

**Secretary**—Perry Klahr (Joan)  
925.425.3360 / 925.699.1786 [pklahr1234@comcast.net](mailto:pklahr1234@comcast.net)

**Chaplain**—J. Emmanuel Rafisura (Maria)  
516.519.1151 [jecrafisura@yahoo.com](mailto:jecrafisura@yahoo.com)

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

**Senior Deacon**—Osman Ghani  
860.655.7171 cell [jozzie6935@gmail.com](mailto:jozzie6935@gmail.com)

**Junior Deacon**—Tramaine Ellison (Monique)  
209.830.1513 / 209.481.7430 cell [Tramaine.ellison@hotmail.com](mailto:Tramaine.ellison@hotmail.com)

**Senior Steward**—Aaron Johnson (Sara)  
510.509.4312 cell [vwroadracer@gmail.com](mailto:vwroadracer@gmail.com)

**Tiler**—Bill Biddell, H.A. (Anne)  
510.582.6207 / 510.589.0878 cell [wbiddell@gmail.com](mailto:wbiddell@gmail.com)

**Officer's Coach**—Robert Pinkerton, PM  
510.851.6794 cell [r-pinkerton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r-pinkerton@sbcglobal.net)

### Candidate Coaches

Bill Ferrell (Kathy) 510.520.7242 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](mailto:allencuenca@sbcglobal.net)



## Where in the World

Each month we log visitors to our website. This month we were pleased to have guests from: Mankato, MN; Chelyabinsk, Russia; Clonee, Ireland; Gatchina, Russia; SanJacinto, CA; Chicago, IL; Miami, FL; Delhi, India; Teaneck, NJ; Kansas City, MO; Evansville, IN; Southport, UK



## Committees

### 2024 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:** Andrew Hawes, Lyman Penning PM HA, Alexander Van Stade PM, 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](#)

**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**—Kelly Hessler  
925.980.3899, [yo\\_hessler@yahoo.com](mailto:yo_hessler@yahoo.com)

Monthly Trestleboard of  
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Colleen Weaver—[mamaweaver06@gmail.com](mailto:mamaweaver06@gmail.com)