# Trestleboard

November 2026
Volume 22, Issue 11

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

WWW.CCL551.ORG

## Calendar of Events

### NOVEMBER 2026

**11/04—Wednesday**—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM

**11/05—Thursday**—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner—6:15 PM—Business Meeting—7:30 PM

**11/12—Thursday**—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM

**11/17—Tuesday**—Zoom Social—7:00 PM

**11/19—Thursday**—Degree or Practice—7:00 PM

**11/21—Saturday**—Breakfast with Brothers at Manor Grill, San Leandro—8:00 AM

**11/23—Monday**—Hall Association—7:00 PM

**11/26—Thursday**—Happy Thanksgiving

### DECEMBER 2026

**12/02—Wednesday**—Officer's Meeting—7:00 PM

**12/03—Thursday**—Stated Meeting—Social/Dinner—6:15 PM—Business Meeting—7:30 PM

**12/05—Saturday**—Annual Installation of Officers—5:00 AM

**12/12—Saturday**—Family Holiday Party—11:30 AM

**12/15—Tuesday**—DOSI Holiday Dinner—6:30 PM

**12/19—Saturday**—Breakfast with Brothers at Manor Grill, San Leandro—8:00 AM

**12/31—Thursday**—DARK—Christmas Eve

**12/28—Monday**—Hall Association—7:00 PM

**12/31—Thursday**—DARK—New Years Eve

## 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 Paul Rodriguez-Obrien, PM—Master*



Brethren and Families,

Your Officers, their families, and I have returned from our Traveling Degree to Pacific Grove Lodge No. 331, near Monterey, where we had the pleasure and honor of raising our Brothers Ned and Jacob Herrick to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

We were blessed with beautiful weather and warmly welcomed by their Worshipful Master, Michael Grimmer; Junior Warden, Jason Barnett; and Inspector Jaymcee Castro of Masonic District 557.

Through a perfect storm of imperfect timing, we found ourselves in need of a Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Senior Deacon to complete the degree team. Through some creative planning, a little friendly persuasion, and perhaps a Hail Mary or two, we managed to assemble the necessary officers to confer a double Third Degree.

What followed was a memorable demonstration of Masonic brotherhood, as two Lodges that had never worked together before came together in remarkable harmony, taking our three steps in unison. Without the generous assistance of our Brothers from Pacific Grove, this degree simply would not have been possible.

The raising of Brothers Ned and Jacob Herrick was a truly enjoyable occasion, and we are exceedingly proud to welcome these fine men as Master Masons of our Lodge.

Following a long and rewarding day, our Officers, their significant others, and our newly raised Master Masons gathered at a local chowder restaurant, where we had reserved a private dining room. I counted 21 in attendance! What a fantastic turnout for a Traveling Degree held 108 miles from our own Lodge. It was a wonderful conclusion to a memorable day of Masonry and fellowship.

**Looking Ahead to November**

As we enter November, our attention turns toward preparing our Officer Line for the chairs of 2027. Our November Stated Meeting will include the annual Election of Officers, and I encourage all Masons to attend and participate. Your voice and your vote (as a Master Mason) matter in shaping the future of our Lodge.

**December Events**

December promises to be another busy and enjoyable month!

December 5th, 5:00 PM – Installation of Officers

We will hold our annual Installation of Officers, followed by a Lodge-sponsored dinner. This is an open installation, and all family members and friends are warmly invited to attend. Please RSVP with our Secretary so we can ensure there is plenty of food for everyone.

December 12th, 11:30 AM – Lodge Holiday Party

Our annual Holiday Party is just around the corner! Rumor has it that, provided enough good girls and boys RSVP, Santa himself may make a special appearance to gather those last-minute Christmas wishes. We hope to make this a memorable and enjoyable gathering for the entire family, young and young at heart alike!

December 17th – Third Degree (Tentative)

We are hopeful that we will have the opportunity to raise Brother Dennis Sumague to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Additional information will follow as plans are finalized.

**Moving Forward Together**

As always, our goal is to continue moving Crow Canyon Lodge forward as a welcoming and enjoyable place where Masonry, friendship, and fellowship can flourish.

I encourage each of you to share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions with me or any of our Officers. Your participation and enthusiasm are essential to the continued success of our Lodge, and every contribution helps strengthen the bonds that unite us.

Together, may we continue our labors for the benefit of Masonry in general, and this Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in particular.

I look forward to seeing you in Lodge and enjoying your fellowship in the months ahead.

## From the West

*By Alex Von Stade, PM — Sr. Warden*



Brethren:

November is now upon us and as such, the 2026 calendar year is slowly coming to a close. November is derived from the Latin word “novem” meaning the number nine. In the early Roman calendar, November was the ninth month; however, as the Roman calendar was revised over time, November became the eleventh month.

Notable holidays this November include November 1st when Daylight Savings time ends, November 11th when we celebrate Veterans Day and November 26th when we celebrate Thanksgiving.

On the first Sunday morning of this November, please remember to set your clocks back one hour as we will now return to Standard Time. Daylight savings time will return once again on March 14th, 2027. Veterans Day, originally known as Armistice Day, is a Federal Holiday

which honors military veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. This tradition goes back to World War I when the war ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. While most of us will celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday on the 26th, with a feast of turkey and stuffing, cranberries, and pumpkin pie, it should be pointed out that the first Thanksgiving in 1621, did not include any of those items. Most likely the menu at that time included venison, wild fowl, and shellfish.

Until next month, have a pleasant and enjoyable November.

## From the South

*By Andrew Hawes, PM — Jr. Warden*



As I 'pen' this, what I expect to be my penultimate article for our Trestleboard, I feel something of a sense of relief. I've been writing these for four years now, and whilst I've tried to keep each article different from the others, and offer some potentially useful or meaningful insight with each, it's doubtful to me that I've avoided repeating myself quite frequently. I think that this can be forgiven, though, when considering that my purpose in these articles has been to try and emphasize the meaning and importance of various virtues and how they can and should give purpose to our lives.

Brotherly love doesn't just mean "love your brother." It means – love all mankind as you would your brother. Extend to everyone the kindness and love that you might share with someone from your own family, your own clan, your own country/creed/race – love thy neighbor, and thy enemy. It's really an important one.

Relief- the providing of help to others – isn't just about helping someone who has lost everything in a house fire. It's about sharing words of encouragement to someone you know works very hard or who suffers from an ailment that is making their life more difficult. It's about offering $20 to a homeless person begging on the street corner, sure – but even more so, it's about thinking about how and why they ended up there, and if there's anything you can do to help prevent more people from following that path to the bottom. It's about giving moral support, offering words of wisdom and comfort, hugging someone who is having a bad day. Giving $50 to a charity each year is nice, but far below the level that we strive to achieve as Masons.

Truth. I just cannot emphasize strongly enough how important this virtue is to me. If you disagree with me, tell me, and explain why. Being honest doesn't mean "brutally" honest- if someone is unkempt, or smells of body odor, you can share that insight with them if you think they would want to know- but it's not honoring the virtue to walk up to someone and say to them "you look a mess, and you stink." While true, those words are blunt and unvarnished – there is nothing that is a lie about them, but there is no reason that one cannot honor truth and still choose not to share information with someone that you think will hurt them. "Lying by omission" is an insidious phrase, to me. If I tell you 10 things about myself, but choose not to share another 10, am I lying? Have I been untruthful? I don't think so. To be considered a lie by omission, one has to deliberately be selective in what one says, in an effort to deceive. It's the intent that makes it untruthful, not the fact that you left something out. To be a good and true man, you should never selectively share truth in an effort to deceive. That's not truth, that's deception – honesty and integrity need to work hand in hand to make sure that we are all both truthful with each other, and that we can sincerely honor each other and our fellow people.

We are all children of the same Great Parent, and while sibling rivalries will inevitably arise, it's important that we try to keep that in mind in all of our dealings, not just with each other as Masons, but with everyone with whom we interact in our lives. Empathy isn't just important in leadership (although many studies have found that to be true) it's an essential component to what makes human society a society at all. Without it, we have no reason to love our brother, no reason to offer relief to others, and no reason to be truthful.

Stay tuned next month for my final good bye article!



## Masonic Family Corner

*By Denise Jow—Past Grand Guardian*

Hello from Job's Daughters Bethel No. 1, Dublin

Please enjoy our Librarian's Report read at our Grand Guardian's Official Visit on September 20th.

**Deep and Everlasting as the Ocean**

There is something a little magical about the ocean.

Maybe it is the way the sunlight sparkles on the waves, the treasures that wash up on the shore, or the fact that somewhere underneath all that water there are probably dolphins having a much better day than the rest of us.

But my favorite thing about the ocean is that it connects us.

Today 11 Bethels from across the Bay Area have come together. We may come from different places, have different traditions, different stories, and definitely different inside jokes, but today all those separate shores meet in one place.

Our theme says, "Our Friendships are as deep and everlasting as the Ocean".

I think that is a pretty wonderful description of Job's Daughter. Some friendships begin with something as simple as sitting next to someone you have never met, sharing a laugh during a long day, or saying hello to a Daughter from another Bethel. You never really know which tiny moment might be the beginning of a friendship that lasts for years.

And like the ocean, friendship has tides. Sometimes we are the ones riding the waves, and sometimes we need a sister to help us find our way back to shore. We celebrate each other when things are wonderful, and we stay beside each other when the waters get a little rough.

Our Grand Guardian's theme this year is "Called to Love and Service", and I think friendship is one of the simplest ways we answer that call. We love by welcoming others. We serve by helping each other. We make sure there is room beside us for one more sister.

So while we are all together today, I hope we make a few new ripples. Say hello to someone new. Laugh together. Cheer loudly. Make a memory. Maybe even find a new friend on a different shore.

Because, there are 11 Bethels here today, but only one ocean of sisterhood connecting us all.

May the friendships we begin and celebrate today be as joyful as the waves, as strong as the tides, and as deep and everlasting as the ocean.

Scarlett, Librarian Bethel No. 1, Dublin

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

## 3rd Degree Anniversaries

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

Stevean Allen (43)
Donald Clendenen (34)
Kay Dunn (23)
Robert Johnson (14)
Steven Kolden (42)
Gregory Maier (22)
Douglas Mc Kay (53)
Frank Mitchell (50)
Ahmad Nasri (11)
Alvaro Reynoso (30)
Augustine Rhee (17)
Harold Rubin (71)
Mark Simens (42)
Anthony Tancredi (52)
Bruce Tellardin (45)
Robert Wagle (51)




## November Birthdays

Brian Katz (11/3)
Michael Gallico (11/5)
Gabriel Amaral (11/6)
Steven Dorough (11/6)
Joseph Stewart (11/6)
Ahmad Nasri (11/7)
Stevean Allen (11/12)
Patrick McCord (11/12)
Elmer Seutter (11/18)
Felipe Castellanos (11/24)
Glen Lane (11/24)
Gary Orr (11/24)
Ruben Vossekuil (11/24)
Kurt Von Brauch (11/28)
Stanley Clifton (11/30)

## Sunshine and Visiting



The Sunshine Committee shares encouragement and support with members and their families during difficult times—whether through cards, visits, or a helping hand. Likewise, our Visiting Committee ensures that brothers who are ill or unable to attend meetings remain connected to the lodge. Together, these committees reflect our Masonic commitment to brotherhood and compassion.

If you know a brother who could use some Sunshine or a Visit, please contact our chairman, Wor. Alan Kenyon, at 510-520-7672 or Alan.Kenyon@comcast.net




Mark Steven Casperson — 72 year,5 months and 2 days
Entered into Rest — March 12, 2026

Robert A Marshall — 90 years, 6 months and 4 days
Entered into Rest — March 21,2025

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



# 2026 Officers

**Master** — Paul Rodriguez-Obrien, PM (Diana)
510.461.1071 hal2pro@sbcglobal.net

**Senior Warden** — Alex VonStade, P.M. (Yuki)
510.512.6569 cell avstade@gmail.com

**Junior Warden**—Andrew Hawes, P.M. (Jamie)
646.645.0175 awphawes@yahoo.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

**Assistant Secretary**—Jerry Garcia (Mary)
510.909.8645 jerrygarcia1263@gmail.com

**Chaplain**—Alan Kenyon, PM (Karen)
510.520.7672 Alan.Kenyon@comcast.net

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

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

**Junior Deacon**— Aaron Johnson
510.509.4312 vwroadracer@gmail.com

**Senior Steward**—Adam Brissey
925.719.0103 adam.brissey@gmail.com

**Junior Steward**—

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

**Officer's Coach**—Robert Pinkerton, PM (Toni)
510.851.6794 cell bobpink@live.com

**Officer's Coach**—Brian Ross, PM (Teressa)
510.331.6935 br575653@gmail.com

**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

# Committees

## 2026 Appointments

**Audit**: Pat Quinn, Justin Ortiz, Andrew Hawes

**Breakfast with Brothers:** Brian Ross, Bill Biddell, Phil Busch

**Masonic Charity Committee:** Master and Wardens

**Community Outreach:** Aaron Johnson, Paul Rodriguez

**Crab Feed:** Roy Tamez, Perry Klahr, Brian Ross

**Executive Committee:** Paul Rodriguez, Alexander Von Stade, Andrew Hawes, Perry Klahr

**FOSJ:** Bill Biddell

**Hiram Award Selection:** HA Committee (All HA recipients)

**Masonic Funeral:** Lyman Penning, Roy Tamez, Pat Quinn, Bill Biddell.

**Masonic Hall Association:** Pat Quinn—President

**Membership Retention:** Paul Rodriguez, Perry Klahr

**Picnic:** Roy Tamez, Perry Klahr, Bill Biddell, Brian Ross,
**Printing and Mailing:** Bill Biddell

**Public Schools Night**: Adam Korbas, Brendan Korbas, Roy Tamez

**Sportsman Club:** Brian Ross, Phil Busch.

**Strawberry Feed:** Perry Klahr, Robert Johnson, Brian Canton

**Sunshine and Visiting:** Alan Kenyon

**Sweethearts Committee:** Aaron Johnson, Jacob Herrick, Tramaine Ellison

**Trustees:** Robert Logan, Brian Ross, Perry Klahr, Bill Ferrell, Hank Andreotti, Adam Korbas

**Website and Trestleboard:** Ron Katz
**Welcome:** Adam Brissey
**White Table Night:** Perry Klahr, Brian Ross, Pat Quinn, Bill Biddell
**Youth Orders Liaisons:** Andrew Hawes, Pat Quinn

## 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

## Where in the World

Each month we log visitors to our website. This month we were pleased to have guests from: Denver, CO; Stockton, CA; Bhopal, India; Bothel, WA; Morganton, NC; Lagos, Nigeria; Shijiazhuang, China; Pleasanton, CA; Seoul, South Korea; Fremont, CA; Changzhou, China; Sialkot, Pakistan




**Monthly Trestleboard of**
**Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551**
**Free and Accepted Masons**
**4521 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552**
**510.556.4253 (lobby, kitchen)**

Find us on the Web: http://www.CCL551.org
Zoom Social and Study - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7: PM, at :
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89901030939?pwd=uejbsEg5bVvb1Nub6VhIJUi2kltU54.1

**Editor:** Ron Katz, PM 510.375.3137
info@CCL551.org

**Secretary:** Perry Klahr 925.425.3360
pklahr1234@comcast.net

**To Reserve the Building**
Colleen Weaver—mamaweaver06@gmail.com

# November 2026

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Officer's Meeting 7:00 PM | 5 Stated Meeting Social / Dinner— 6:15 PM Business—7:30 PM | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Degree or Practice— 7:00 PM | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 Zoom Social— 7:00 PM | 18 | 19 Degree or Practice— 7:00 PM | 20 | 21 Breakfast w/ Brothers at Manor Grill, San Leandro— 8:00 AM |
| 22 | 23 Hall Association — 7:00 PM | 24 | 25 | 26 DARK—Happy Thanksgiving | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |