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March 2017 Volume 13, Issue 3

Crow Canyon Lodge No. 551 F&AM of California

Chartered October 11, 1923

Calendar of Events

MARCH APRIL

03/02 - Thursday - Stated Meeting - Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:15 04/04 - Tuesday - Officers' Assembly - Meeting 7:00 PM PM / Open 7:30 PM

03/09 - Thursday - Practice TBD

03/14 - Tuesday - District Officer's School of Instruction (DOSI)

at the Pleasanton - Dinner 6:00 PM / School 7:00 PM

03/16 - Thursday - Practice TBD

03/23 - Thursday - Practice TBD

03/30 - Thursday - Potluck - 6:00 PM - (A-K Side Dish, L-Q

Salad Dish R-Z Dessert)

04/06 - Thursday - Stated Meeting - Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:15 PM / Open 7:30 PM

04/11 - Tuesday - District Officer's School of Instruction (DOSI)

at the Pleasanton - Dinner 6:00 PM / School 7:00 PM

04/13 - Thursday - Practice TBD

04/20 - Thursday - Practice TBD

04/26 - Wednesday - Public Schools Night - Social 6:00 PM /

Dinner 6:30 PM / Festivities 7:30 PM

Appendant and Concordant Bodies

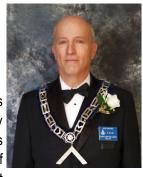
- Lake Chabot Chapter Eastern Star meets @ Castro Valley Masonic Center (CVMC) 1st & 3rd Friday (8:00 PM) http://www.lakechabot103oes.org
- San Lorenzo Chapter Eastern Star meets @ CVMC 2nd & 4th Monday (8:00 PM)
- Alchor White Shrine meets @ CVMC 2nd & 4th Friday (7:00 PM)
- Castro Valley DeMolay meets @ 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 Alex Von Stade-Worshipful Master

Brethren:

Welcome to the month of March. It is difficult to believe that we are already in the third month of the year! March is named after Mars, the Roman god of war and the guardian of agriculture. It



is also the first month of Spring in the Northern Hemisphere. During this month, we have three special events taking place. First, Daylight Saving Time begins on March 12th. Second, we celebrate Saint Patrick's Day on March 17th. Third and finally, the First Day of Spring takes place on March 20th.

I hope each of you survived last month's rains and downpours. They certainly made traveling within the Bay Area quite a chal-



lenge. I would like to thank the line officers who braved the rains and traffic to attend last month's practices at

the Lodge. At the same time, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to several members of the Temple Board that responded to a roof leak in the Lodge that was reported to me on February 9th by Worshipful Bill Ferrell. In addition to Worshipful Bill Ferrell, I was informed that the following individuals were also involved: Ron Reynolds, Pat Quinn, John Smith, and Jerry Garcia. Thanks to the quick actions of these individuals, this situation was promptly mitigated.

Until next month, have a Happy March!

From the West

By Robert Eckstein, PM—Senior Warden

Brethren:

We had a lot of fun at the Annual Crab Feed on February 25. I enjoy seeing a full house in the dining room. We will soon be conferring a 2nd Degree. Please watch for the announcement and try to attend.



One of the duties of the Sr. Warden is to supervise the candidates and the coaches. I am setting up a meeting with the coaches to determine the current state of our EA and FC advancement. If you have ever thought about becoming a coach, please contact me and I will include you in the meeting invite.

Hope to see you at the Lodge Pot Luck on March 30th.

From the South

By Alvaro Reynoso, PM—Junior Warden

When Wor. Von Stade asked me to fill the Jr. Warden's chair again this term, I knew that I could not refuse, because he put his faith in me. I accepted the opportunity and give my best effort. Unfortunately, at the end of this term, I will not be able to advance in the line, or to fill this chair a third time in a row



due to reasons beyond my control. This will be the last year I will be able to serve the lodge.

I am confident that more members will take an interest in becoming part of lodge leadership. I especially hope that "young members" take a more active part in the lodge's future. I do understand that many of our younger members are in the process of raising a family and putting in long hours on the job. But someone must always step forward.

While at present time this may seem to be a great problem that the next Master will face, I am confident that in the end there will be no lack of good brothers that will be willing to serve. We have faced this situation before and have become a better lodge because of the challenge. Who will it be? Will it be you?

From the Secretary's Table

By Don Schauer, Sr., H.A.

The Ides of March are upon us and the lodge is busy doing lodge things. As I fight the never ending battle of trying to collect late dues I find that 13 members have not paid their 2016 dues and 2017 dues are now payable. These 13 members are in danger of being suspending for non-payment at the June Stated Meeting.



As of February 28th our membership is 314 of which 18 members are Entered Apprentices, 5 are Fellowraft and 291 are Master Masons. The lodge has 70 life members, and we remit 40 members' dues. Do the math. We approved an Annual Budget that included \$24,500 in dues and life membership fund contribution. But if we take the dues paying members (314-70-40=204) and multiply it by \$60 then add in the \$2,500 from the life member fund contribution, we still have a budget shortfall of \$47.84 per paying member (\$9,760). This comes out of our investment capital.

So now you can understand why each members' contribution is so important and why we can't afford to have members who are delinquent in paying their dues. At some point the dues will have to be increased. So please, please check your dues receipt and make sure you are current.

Sunshine and Visiting

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

Mark Casperson, Howard Marmor and Sammy Tamez

Please contact Secretary Don Schauer 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 <u>bev2ern@comcast.net</u> Les Blake—Visiting Chairman 510.581.8497 <u>cherllois@sbcglobal.net</u>

March Birthdays

Ralph Larsen (03/03) Bob Lee (03/08) Raymond Newman (03/11) Max Morris (03/12) William Stephenson (03/12) George Christensen (03/13) Jerry Walter (03/13) Alan Kenyon (03/16) Russell Porter (03/16) Roger Accurso (03/17) Kishore Gidvani (03/17) Frank Russell (03/17) Jerome Samelson (03/17) Ronald Baker (03/18) Gene Tague (03/20) Roger Hamilton (03/21)

Jeffery Lantz (03/21)
Edward Matraia (03/21)
Alvaro Reynoso (03/21)
Roberto Holguin (03/22)
Henry Andreotti (03/23)
Frank Sepulveda (03/25)
Steve Aracne (03/27)
Robert Saks (03/28)
Roy Eddy (03/30)
Mark Leite (03/30)
Donald Mc Evers (03/30)
Ron Reynolds (03/30)
Steven Stark (03/30)
George George (03/31)
Kevin Hulme (03/31)

3rd Degree Anniversaries

The following brethren were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in the months of March

George Adams Jr. [PM] (55)
Robert Albritton [PM] (40)
Jack Allen (28)
Gilbert Alston (47)
Gabriel Amaral [PM] (30)
Howard Ellis (12)
Robert Fabel (34)
Gary Frisvold (47)
Wesley Hallmeyer (67)
Edmund Hempel (58)
Irving Korr (60)
Harold Lassle (28)

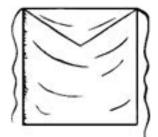
Leonard Leavitt (42)
Billy Martens [PM] (34)
Jeffrey Mason (32)
Edward Matraia Jr. [PM] (44)
Brandon Morrison (10)
Richard Ramos D.D.S. (3)
Thomas Robinson (50)
Wilfred Salmon Jr. (37)
Robert Soule III (21)
Craig Tangen (44)
Rex Toltschin Jr. (49)

Why do Freemasons Wear a Masonic Apron?

The lambskin Master Mason apron derives from the working apron of the ancient stone masons.

It is an Emblem of Innocence and the badge of a Freemason.

Thus, the apron is proudly compared with the noblest decorations of ancient Rome and of both ancient and modern Europe.



The Order of the Golden

Fleece was of high repute as an Order of Knighthood. It was established in Flanders, France in 1429 by the Duke of Burgundy, a member of the then royal family, who selected the fleece for its badge because wool was the staple production of the country. Since that time, it has been considered as one of the most illustrious Orders of Europe.

The Roman Eagle was to Romans the ensign of imperial power. Made of silver or bronze, the Roman Eagle was placed atop the pole of the military standards (flags). (circa 104 B.C.)

The Order of the Garter, was and is, still considered the highest decoration that can be bestowed upon a subject by a sovereign of Great Britain. It is an order of chivalry or knighthood originating in medieval England. It is the pinnacle of honor in the United Kingdom to have the Order of the Garter bestowed upon you.

(From Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, 1929, Volume I, The New Kentucky Monitor, arranged by Brother Henry Pirtle, 1918, for the Grand Lodge of that State)

Innocence of Conduct and Purity of Heart

The Master Mason apron teaches the aspiring Mason that none



are admitted to that honor but such as were cleansed of all impurities of both body and mind.

Purity of life and rectitude of conduct is essential and necessary to gain admittance into that Celestial Lodge on High where the Supreme Architect of the Universe forever presides.

In primitive times, it was an ecclesiastical (religious) decoration more than a civil decoration.

The earliest mention of the apron was when Melchizedek, with Abraham, started the priesthood. (circa 2100 B.C.) Melchizedek was the Most High Priest and the first to wear the apron as the badge of religious authority. The apron is a high honor and is the symbol of a holy man.

(From Signs and Symbols of Freemasonry, Dr. Oliver, Lexture X, Page 196)

Ancient Badge of Distinction

The apron appears to have been, in ancient times, an honorary badge of distinction. None but the superior orders of the priesthood were permitted to adorn themselves with orna-



mented girdles made of blue, purple and crimson, decorated with gold upon a background of fine white linen.

Historic Ceremonies of Investiture have been common to all nations of the Earth from the earliest periods.

The Indian, the Persian, the Jewish, the Ethiopian and the Egyptian aprons, though equally superb, all bore a character distinct from each other. Some were plain white.

Others were striped with blue, purple and crimson. Some were of wrought gold...others were adorned and decorated with superb tassels and fringes.

Israelites: Historically, among the Israelites, the girdle formed a part of the investiture of the priesthood.

Persia: The candidate was invested with a white apron.

Hindostan: A sash was used called the sacred zennar, which was substituted for the apron.



Essenes: The Jewish sect of the Essenes clothed their novices with a white robe.

Japanese: The Japanese practice certain rites of initiation, invest their candidates with a white apron, bound round the loins with a zone or girdle.

Scandanavia: The military genius of the people caused them to substitute a white shield, but its presentation was accompanied by an emblematic instruction not unlike that which is connected with the Freemason's apron.

Roman Priests: Roman priests wore white garments when they sacrificed.

Druids: The Druids changed the color of the garment presented to their initiates with each degree; white, however was the color

appropriated to the last, or degree of perfection. It was, according to their ritual, intended to teach the aspirant that none were admitted to that honor but such as were cleansed from all impurities both of body and mind.

Why, then, do Freemasons wear their lambskin Master Mason apron with such pride?

Honor: The reason the Master Mason apron is more honorable than the Star and Garter is that all it teaches is exemplified by its wearer.

Spiritual Knighthood: The Master Mason apron is a reminder to the Master Mason to do no moral evil to any person. It speaks to the charitable forgiveness of his brethren when they purposely or non-purposely do him evil.

It is the emblem of his dedication to a spiritual knighthood with which man virtuously rises above the crudeness and the ignorance of men.

Dignity and Virtue: The Master Mason apron should be worn with dignity and honor as it exemplifies man's virtues upon which during his manhood, he may wear it both with pleasure to himself while honoring the fraternity.

Masonic Family Corner

Castro Valley DeMolay - Castro Valley Chapter, Order of De-Molay is rebuilding and could use any help or assistance you might provide. DeMolay is open to any young man between the ages of 12 and 21. Relation to a Mason is not a requirement for membership. Please contact our new Chapter Dad - Steven Kolden at 510.409.6118 or email papakolden@gmail.com.

Learn more about Masonic Youth Orders

DeMolay

DeMolay International - www.demolay.org
Northern California DeMolay - www.norcaldemolay.com

Job's Daughters

Job's Daughters International- <u>www.jobsdaughtersinternational.org</u> International Order of Job's Daughters, California - <u>www.caiojd.org</u>

Rainbow for Girls

Rainbow for Girls Supreme Assembly - www.gorainbow.org
Rainbow for Girls California Grand Assembly - www.caiorg.org

Learn more at Masons4Youth.org







2017 Officers

Master — Alex Von Stade 510.483.9574 avstade@gmail.com

Senior Warden — Robert Eckstein, P.M. 510.744.1717 / rbeckstein@att.net

Junior Warden—Alvaro Reynoso, P.M. 510.490.2192 / 510.364.7073 <u>alreynoso@sbcglobal.net</u>

Treasurer—George R. Lumm, P.M. 510.791.0753/510.604.8513 cell grlumm@pacbell.net

Secretary—Don Schauer, Sr., H.A. 510.258.0654 DonRL7@pacbell.net

Assist. Secretary/—William M. Ferrell, P.M., H.A. 510.886.2288 / 510.520.7242 cell kb6xa@att.net

Chaplain—Kay C. Dunn 510.537.9407/480.254.0379 kaycdunn@gmail.com

Marshal—Earl Woodson 925.462.5283

Senior Deacon—Paul Rodriguez-O'Brian 510.461.1071 / cell 510.881.0570 hal2pro@sbcglobal.net

Junior Deacon—Glen Sears 650.333.0632 gsears 7@gmail.com

Sr. Steward—Brian Ross 510.331.6935 br575653@gmail.com

Jr. Steward—Phillip Busch 510.566.7019 tbusch 55@yahoo.com

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

Officer's Coach—Kurt R. Allen, P.M., H.A. 925.735.1233 <u>kurtrallen@sbcglobal.net</u>

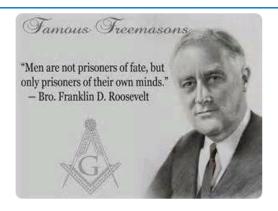
Candidate Coaches

Roy Tamez - Hayward 510.537.1077 / 510.684.3047 cell Ron Katz—Fremont-Hayward—510.375.3137 cell

Inspector of the 317th Masonic District

Fred L. Avery, PM,

510.331.6719 fredpastmasteravery@gmail.com



2017 Committees

Appointments

Executive Committee: Alex Von Stade, Robert Eckstein, Alvaro

Reynoso, Kurt Allen, Don Schauer, Sr.

Masonic Charity: Three Principle Officers

Sunshine: Ernie Nidick & Les Blake

Masonic Hall Association: Pat Quinn

Masonic Homes Endowment: Don Schauer Sr.

Membership Retention: Don Schauer Sr. & Alex Von Stade

Audit: Bob Pinkerton

Masonic Funeral: Kurt Allen, Bill Ferrell & All Officers

Web Master: Ron Katz

Events

White Table Night: Alex Von Stade & Robert Eckstein Hiram Award Festivities: Robert Eckstein & Alex Von Stade Festive Boards & Feasts: Paul Rodriguez-O'Brian & Glenn Sears

Crab & Pasta Feed: Don Schauer & Roy Tamez

Strawberry Feed: Ron Katz

Public Schools Night: Eric Unti & Bill Ferrell

Child ID: David Allen & Roy Tamez

Sweetheart Events: Phil Busch & Kurt Allen

Visitation: Don Schauer, Kurt Allen & Robert Eckstein

Masonic Formation and Education: Robert Eckstein & Alex Von

Stade

Masonic Youth Orders

Castro Valley DeMolay—Steve Kolden—510.409.6118 papakolden@gmail.com

Unity Assembly No. 65, Rainbow for Girls—Helen J. Zidek HelenJ.Zidek@comcast.net

Jobs Daughters Hayward No. 261—Laurel M. 559.696.0746 Jobs Daughters Dublin No. 1—Jessica Keene 510.755.6312 keenecrew@ymail.com

Monthly Trestleboard of
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510.274.0725 (lobby, kitchen)

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To Reserve the Building please call 510.258.0654

Email crowcanyon551@att.net
Or go to http://tiny.cc/rentCVMC

Crow Canyon No. 551



26	19	12	5		Sun
27	20	13	6		Mon
28	21	14 DOSI @ Pleasanton Dinner - 6:00 PM School - 7:00 PM	7		Tue
29	22	15	8	<u> </u>	Wed
30 Masonic Family Potluck Dinner- 6:00 PM	23 Practice - Work TBD Open - 7:30 PM	16 Practice - Work TBD Open - 7:00 PM	Second Degree Orrin Benedict Open 7:00 PM	Stated Meeting Dinner - 6:00 PM Open - 7:30 PM	Thu
	24	17	10	3	P
	25	18	11	4	Sat