



Palo Alto Lodge #346 Trestle-Board

VOLUME 2015 • EDITION 2 • FEBRUARY • PAGE 1

Established in 1902

The Pillar of Wisdom by WM Larry Fama, PM

Greetings Brethren, Ladies, and Friends;

Once again Worshipful John Lew (1968) will provide us with a sumptuous Chinese cuisine meal in honor of Chinese New Year. Chinese New Year 2015 will be the year of the goat. For people born in the year of the goat (1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003), 2015 is considered an auspicious year.

“Goats” are said to like to be in groups. They are honest, intimate, and can be easily moved by the misfortune of others, make your reservations early to make sure you get a seat at stated dinner on Feb. 3. Chinese New Year’s Day’s date is calculated according to the Chinese lunar calendar, hence the date is different each year on the Gregorian (internationally used) calendar, but always in the period between January 21 to February 20. In 2015 it’s Thursday, February 19.

I was installed as Master on January 20 in a closed ceremony. The event was very low-key because it is my second year as Master in our Lodge. We have an upcoming second degree on Tuesday, February 10 so let’s try to fill the room with side-liners.

We will having our annual Crab Feed on February 24 with details in a separate article in this edition, please make your reservations early to reserve a seat.

The month of February – and it’s Presidents Day holiday – is a good time to share some facts about George Washington. Our first President, an active Master Mason, and had a number of unusual quirks.

Here are a few, as published in the “Trestle-Board,” the newsletter of Washington Daylight Lodge #14 in the District of Columbia.

- George Washington joined the British Navy at age 14.
- His education was provided by his father and his brother Lawrence.
- His father owned 10,000 acres of land in Virginia and was also part owner of an iron mine.
- George Washington was the only President to be elected unanimously.
- He never wore a powdered wig, which was the fashion of gentlemen at that time.
- George Washington never shook hands with anyone.
- George Washington was the first to travel to a foreign country as President (Barbados).
- George Washington had all of his teeth removed at age 57.
- He was employed by Lord Fairfax as a surveyor in Culpepper County, VA.
- His favorite foods were pineapple and Brazil nuts.

Fraternally.



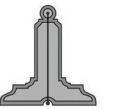


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Around the Pillar by SW Rob Lott



Masonic Charity

Although Masonic ritual varies between jurisdictions, a consistent message conveyed to every candidate is that charity is an essential part of Freemasonry. Indeed, much of what is drawn on the trestle board comes from this philosophy of giving freely and willingly to those in need. Within Masonry charity comes in many forms, both large and small. There are a number of well established international Masonic charities, which include such organizations as:

Shriners Hospitals - The first Shriners Hospital opened in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1922 and the first Burns Institute opened in Galveston, Texas in 1966. To date, the Shriners have spent over \$3 billion dollars on hospital operating costs and over \$7 million on construction and renovation. Funds for this essential work come from gifts, bequests, hospital fund-raising events, and the annual hospital assessment paid by every Shriner (of which there are approximately 600,000). If the children are covered by insurance, the Shrine Hospitals now collect those funds but they do NOT bill parents/guardians for care.

Dentistry for Special Needs Children - The Grotto sponsors an extensive program of Dentistry for Children with Special Needs. The image of a such a child evokes immediate sympathy and some of their needs are clearly obvious and easily met: wheel chairs, prostheses, and crutches. Other needs are not as obvious but are just as important. Dental care is one of these significant but often overlooked necessities for good health that is being provided by the Masons in the Grottoes of North America.

Scottish Rite Learning Centers - In 1994, the 'brainchild' of a Massachusetts Mason, J. Phillip Berquist, came to fruition and the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite began its creation of centers to help children with dyslexia. Since its founding, many children have received free specialized instruction at these Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers. Scottish Rite Masons of the US Northern Masonic Jurisdiction have pledged to continue to offer this service for as many children as they can - free of charge. They also provide guidance and funding for other means to defeat dyslexia, such as teacher tutor programs, research, and scholarships for teachers.

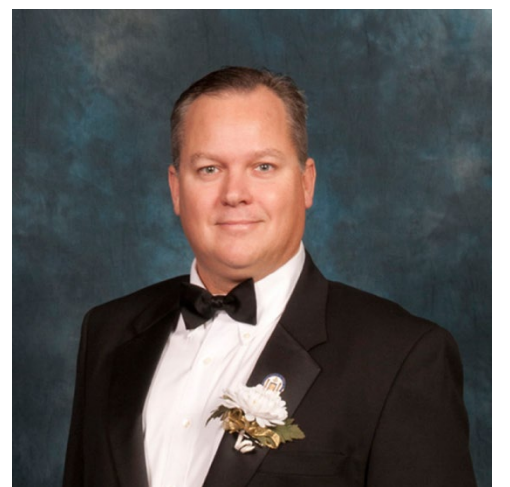
Scottish Rite Children's Medical Center - In 1913, a friend of Forrest Adair, an Atlanta, Georgia (USA) financier and Scottish Rite Mason, suffered a dislocated hip in a train accident. Adair engaged orthopaedic surgeon Michael Hoke, M.D., to care for his friend. Through this connection, Dr. Hoke and Adair began a long friendship resulting in the involvement of Masons in the founding of the

Scottish Rite Convalescent Hospital for Crippled Children. In 1989, the name was changed to Scottish Rite Children's Medical Center, comprising the Scottish Rite Children's Medical Center Foundation, the Meridian Mark Corporation (the holding company for the Children's Medical Center Professional Building), and the Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Hospital for Children.

Hospital Visitation - The Masonic Service Association of North America conducts an active Hospital Volunteer Program in more than 157 Veterans Administration Medical Centers, several state operated Veterans Homes, and in a number of Military Hospitals in the United States and other countries, using hundreds of volunteers who contribute more than one quarter million volunteer hours of service each year. This program is wholly financed by the voluntary contributions of Masons and Masonic Bodies. More than nine million dollars have been expended in the operation of this Program since 1946.

There are, of course, many other Masonic charitable organizations. The least recognized outside the Fraternity are part of the large number of Masonic charitable programs and individual acts of charity that are local and, in some cases, private. In fact, much Masonic charity occurs in this quiet way, as it is often the result of a local lodge vote, which may represent a relatively small monetary donation or provision of services. However, when considering all of these "small" charitable contributions from Masonic lodges throughout the country and all over the world, it adds up to some very sizable and meaningful charity. I say, "meaningful" because when charitable decisions are made at a local or grass roots level, the gifts are often targeted very accurately at the need being served. Additionally, we have a greater opportunity to be personally involved at this level, which enriches us with a more meaningful Masonic experience in particular and a more meaningful life in general.

It is important for us, as Masons, to give at both the large institutional level, as well as on a local and personal basis. By this approach, we are enabled to contribute effectively to causes that require large infrastructures and resources; while at the same time, we can have a more personal Masonic experience enriching our specific communities.



Santa Clara Valley Officers Association - SCVOA/OAM

SCVOA Dinner 6:30PM & Instruction 7:30PM | All Officers Expected & All Master Masons Welcome!

• **Tuesday, February 17: SCVOA at San Jose Lodge #10**, 2500 Masonic Dr., San Jose, CA 95125

Instruction: 1st Degree Ritual Workshop

• **Thursday, March 12: SCVOA at South Valley Lodge #187**, 8387 Wren Avenue, Gilroy, CA 95020

Instruction: Annual Chicken Feed and Grand Master's Visit

WEBSITE: PaloAlto346.org | **Design & Layout by Bro. David Leikam, Lodge Editor/Herald**



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The Corinthian Column by JW Raj Naidoo, PM



THE INITIATIC SYMBOLISM OF FREEMASONRY — Part 2

The symbolism presented to us through images, allegories, rituals, and myths. Masonic symbolism largely consists of the principles and practices of temple building. The working tools of gavel, gauge, plumb, level, and trowel all have symbolic meanings; so do the designing tools of square and compass.

Symbolism is the language of the soul; as such it could be called the “angelic language,” because by means of it the soul communicates with its own deepest nature. Communicating with this deepest nature is the most important duty one owes to oneself. There are many mysteries to human existence, and we use symbols in order to gain admission to those hidden treasures. Masonic tradition is rich in this area; its symbolism comes not only from Western civilization but from the East as well. In discussing it, we must draw upon sources from many lands and from many times.

Since Masonry carries on a tradition rather than the teachings of any one person or set doctrine, it transcends any single organization. It has points of similarity with many traditions. Both legend and fact have placed the Masonic fraternity in the same spheres as the alchemists, Rosicrucians, Kabbalists, and Hermeticists; the fraternities of Hermes and Pythagoras; the ancient mystery schools; the Essenes; the Comacines; the Knights Templars; and of course the cathedral and temple builders. Regardless of the truth of these associations, Masonry is an initiatory society whose main aim is to safeguard the mysteries and hand them down to worthy aspirants in future ages.

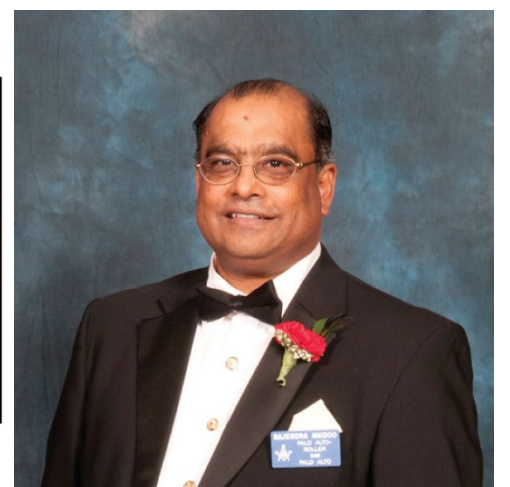
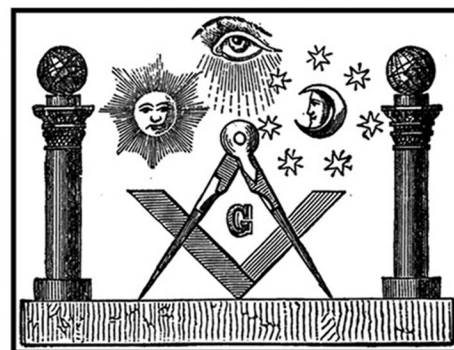
Freemasonry is set up in such a way that even application for membership conforms to its symbolic purpose. The candidate must meet certain requirements before applying. He must be an adult, and he must not be a slave or a dependent. This is crucial psychologically, and means that one must possess a certain degree of maturity and independence before becoming a Mason.

The candidate must also petition for membership; he cannot be solicited, but must ask of his own free will and accord. In addition to these preliminary qualifications, the lodge must find him to be worthy of admittance; that is, the candidate must through his own efforts and nature be an upright and moral person.

Psychologically, the procedure preparing one for Masonic affiliation corresponds with the ego's first glimmerings of a higher destiny. This event in one's life, that of turning towards the Light, can be likened to the Annunciation, when the angel says to the virgin, “You have been chosen.” A

seed has been planted in the aspirant's soul. This state is very important, for it entails an initial longing for a more spiritual life. The impulse really originates from our deepest self. In Freemasonry, we are taught that the first preparation for initiation is in our heart.

If the petitioner is accepted for membership, he must present himself at the lodge. All degree work (ritual) and advancement are done within the lodge or temple. The temple is considered a replica of the divine world, a sacred space. Therefore it must reflect the divine world by being built to the proportions of the divine; this is why sacred geometry is such an important area of study. Built to correct proportions, the lodge represents the ideal and eternal temple. The temple is a place qualitatively different from other places on earth. It is the symbolic center of the world, the place where all the worlds meet.



Happy Birthday Brethren

The Worshipful Master extends you greetings and invites you to join us at our monthly stated meeting on the first Tuesday of the month for your complimentary birthday dinner and cheers.

- Frank Armstrong 09 MM
- Fred Knauss 10 MM
- Ronald Homestead 11 MM
- Liviu Tudor 14 FC
- Jay Hansen 15 MM
- Clifford Yip 15 MM
- Glenn Wildman 22 MM
- Russell Yuill 23 EA



Palo Alto Lodge #346 Monthly Stated Dinner & Meeting Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 6pm Social, 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Meeting

Dinner Menu: Salad Bar, Chinese Cuisine, and Dessert with the usual Beverages.

Please **RSVP** with the JW at 650-758-8695 to reserve your seat(s) today!

WEBSITE: PaloAlto346.org | Design & Layout by Bro. David Leikam, Lodge Editor/Herald



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Lodge Activities

A Trestle-Board is a design board for the Master Workman (Architect) to draw his plans and designs upon to give the workmen an outline of the work to be performed. Today, we might call it a blueprint.



3° Anniversary

- **Laurent Bordier** 02/07/2008 Rectitude #1000
- **Charles Botsford** 02/16/1961 Coachella #476
- **Carl Cheney** 02/23/1965 Palo Alto #346
- **Ralph Emerson** 02/26/1952 Palo Alto #346
- **Jay Hansen** 02/16/1946 Santa Rosa #57
- **John Lew** 02/28/1956 Palo Alto #346
- **Charles Weiler** 02/19/1957 Lakeside #258



Feb. 10 | 2° Conferral at 7:30pm

Freemasonry describes itself as a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. The symbolism is mainly, but not exclusively, drawn from the manual tools of stone-masons - the square and compasses, the level and plumb rule, the trowel, among others. A moral lesson is attached to each of these tools, although the assignment is by no means consistent. The meaning of the symbolism is taught and explored through ritual.



Feb. 21 | York Rite Informational Gathering

Palo Alto York Rite will present an informational night for all those Brothers who are interested in the York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry; Mark Master, Royal Arch/Chapter, Cryptic Masonry/Council, and Knights Templar/Commandery featuring the eminent commander, George Faulknor.

For more information, contact: SK George Faulknor - 650-303-9892



Feb. 24 | Annual Lodge Crab Feed - RSVP

6:30pm Dinner | \$15.00 Adults \$10.00 children under 12

Dinner Menu: Cracked Crab (optional Chicken), Cold Slaw, Garlic Bread, Assorted Drinks, Dessert.

Please RSVP with the JW at 650-758-8695 to reserve your seat(s) today!



2nd Friday | Masonic Temple Movie/Potluck

Movie Night/Potluck is held every second Friday with a potluck beforehand, around 6:30pm so bring your favorite dish or beverage to share. Admission is free ... your family and friends are welcome to attend as well.

For more information, contact: John Myers, PM - 650-326-3703



Palo Alto Masonic Bicycle Club Pedals Again

Over 100 years ago, Brothers from yesteryear gathered in Masonic fellowship at our Lodge and took part in regular bicycle rides around the San Francisco Bay Area. Some of the routes they pedaled included Palo Alto to San Jose, La Honda, San Francisco, and even into the Oakland east bay.

“Ed [Thoits, raised 1908 / WM 1914] remembered in 1894 cycling was the sport of Palo Alto. They liked nothing better than a dusty bicycle ride to San Jose and back. It was the only athletic activity which was really organized. The citizens of the city enjoyed their sports but the sparse population at the time did not allow for organized activities. Despite the dusty roads, filled with chuck holes, groups of forty or more cyclists would set off with shouts on Sunday morning, destination San Jose. Upon arriving there, the group would pack away a good dinner, and then turn around and come right back in order to make the trip before dark.” [The History of Palo Alto Lodge #346]

For more information, contact: Bro. David Leikam - 650-678-7347

WEBSITE: PaloAlto346.org | Design & Layout by Bro. David Leikam, Lodge Editor/Herald

FEBRUARY 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 • National Freedom Day	2 • Groundhog Day	• Stated Dinner 3 6:30PM - RSVP • Stated Meeting 7:30PM	4 • Rosa Parks Day	5	6	7 • 3° Bro. Laurent Bordier • 1981 Grand Lodge of Alaska
8	9 • Bro. Frank Armstrong born	• 2° Degree Conferral 10 7:30PM • Bro. Fred Knauss born	11 • Bro. Ronald Homestead born	12	• Masonic Temple Movie/ Potluck Evening 13 6:30PM Meeting	14 • Bro. Liviu Tudor born • Valentine's Day
15 • Bro. Jay Hansen born • Bro. Clifford Yip born • Susan B. Anthony's Birthday	16 • 3° Bro. Charles Botsford • 3° Bro. Jay Hansen • Presidents Day	• SCVOA/OAM at San Jose #10 17 6:30PM Dinner 7:30PM Workshop	18	19 • 3° Charles Weiler, Jr. • 1811 Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia	20	• York Rite Informational Gathering 21 7PM Meeting
22 • 1732 Bro. George Washington born • Bro. Glenn Wildman born	23 • 3° Bro. Carl Cheney • Bro. Russell Yuill born	• Crab Feed 24 6:30PM - RSVP • 1853 Grand Lodge of Minnesota	25	26 • 3° Bro. Ralph Emerson	27	28 • 3° Bro. John Lew

MARCH 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 • Bro. James Caldwell born • St. David’s Day	2 • Read Across America Day	3 • Stated Dinner 6:30PM - RSVP • Stated Meeting 7:30PM	4	5 • Purim	6 • Bro. Andreas Etelkozi born • Bro. Howard McKinney born • 1775 3° Bro. Prince Hall • Employee Appreciation Day	7
8 • 3° Bro. Patrick Bailey • Daylight Saving Time	9	10 • Officer Meeting & Degree Practice 7PM Officer Meeting 7:30PM Practice	11 • Bro. Jack Seal born	12 • SCVOA/OAM at South Valley #187 Chicken Feed 6:30PM Dinner 7:30PM Workshop	13 • Masonic Temple Movie/Potluck Evening 6:30PM Meeting	14 • Bro. Hamilton Ryder born
15	16	17 • Officer Meeting & Degree Practice 7PM Meeting 7:30PM Practice • 1856 Grand Lodge of Kansas • St. Patrick’s Day	18 • 1919 Order of DeMolay founded, later DeMolay International	19 • 3° Bro. Neal Randles	20 • March Equinox	21 • Bro. Gerald Armstrong born • Bro. William Moss born
22 • 3° Bro. Patrick Stephens	23 • Bro. Robert Monasmith born	24 • Officer Meeting & Degree Practice 7PM Meeting 7:30PM Practice • Bro. Gregory McKenna born • 3° Bro. John Myers	25 • 1882 Grand Lodge of Arizona	26 • Bro. Orville Tostenson born	27 • Lodge Social 6:30PM - RSVP • 3° Bro. Martin Katz • Bro. Robert Lott born	28 • 3° Bro. Donald Groshart • 3° Bro. John Mapes
29 • Palm Sunday	30 • 3° Bro. Arthur Farrar	31 • Officer Meeting & Degree Practice 7PM Meeting 7:30PM Practice • César Chávez Day				



Palo Alto Lodge #346 Trestle-Board

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2015 Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master — Larry Fama, PM — 650-224-2306

Senior Warden — Rob Lott — 650-906-8190

Junior Warden — Raj Naidoo, PM — 650-758-8695

Treasurer — Chuck Grech, PM — 650-703-5611

Secretary — Ralph Nikolaus, PM — 408-674-6156

Senior Deacon — Michael Stillger — 650-888-7310

Junior Deacon — Greg McKenna — 408-712-9902

Chaplain — John Myers, PM — 650-326-3703

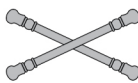
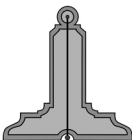
Marshal — Don Groshart, PM — 650-857-9020

Senior Steward — Sinsuat Andang Jr., PM — 510-861-9758

Tiler — Kevin Hall, PM — 408-314-0818

Organist — David Leikam — 650-678-7347

General Info. — Palo Alto Lodge #346 — 650-322-0338



Josiah Wickard Roller — Master 1902
(Raised 1884, Called to Rest 3 Dec. 1926)

Bro. Roller was Palo Alto Lodge #346’s founding Worshipful Master. Under his direction, the old Masonic Temple was conceived, built and furnished. He gave much of his time and efforts to Palo Alto’s first Board of Health. His three sons were Milton, Fred, Arthur and daughter Jennie.

Milton Benjamin Roller — Master 1907
(Raised 1902, Called to Rest 26 Nov. 1976)

The installation of Brother Milton as Worshipful Master was open to the public, and half of those in attendance were women. In celebration of the occasion, Roller presented the lodge with an illuminated golden “G” outlined in frosted lights which was suspended in the East.