

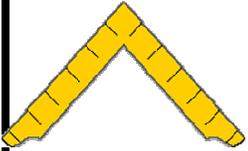


*Three Great Lights
Masonic Lodge #651
Free and Accepted Masons*

April
2013

The Trestleboard

From The East



Greetings from the East,
Much Ado without any evidence. The Lodge seems silent at present. Not much on the calendar, but don't worry. There is life and we are working through a lean but rebuilding phase.

Congratulations to Brother Ryan Micheletti for an excellent Full Form 2nd Degree Proficiency.

Welcome to new Brother Joseph Reinke, Initiated on Wednesday March 27, 2013.

I had the good luck to be able to take a walk this afternoon in my new neighborhood in Morgan Hill. Nice place, good weather today, friendly folks. I was able to reflect on what was and what is now. Last week was cold and overcast with rain, potential flooding? A couple weeks before was dry, warm and potential drought. Seems day to day is this violent shift of one problem or the other. Reality, it is just the changing of seasons.

And so it is in our Lodge. The ups and downs I hear of are entertaining. Sometimes true. Seems everything is 500% great or 500% collapsed and at the end. Neither at present are correct. The Lodge is continuing to go through a natural progression of existence. Many of our brothers are older and not able to be here. Ever!!! The new guys want to be here and do show as they can (they are not the officers) but does anyone remember having a new-born and wife to care for with a full 50-60 hr a week job? Not including the commute home. Some guys - these now include officers- have moved out of the area for work or a new residence. This Lodge's demographics are now very different even from a year ago for those that actually participate. This is a good thing. Still not the Masses of Masons that many told me about "before"- which data shows. I personally have never seen this. But slow growth is occurring. And for all those that think a new Mason should almost be ready to be Master, well, my personal history would fight that thought.

We are doing maintenance and growth in the Hall and the Lodge. To get the correct Ritual back, and a well-maintained Lodge and Hall again, we are taking the appropriate actions to accomplish both. To do good Ritual, Dennis Anastole PM is getting the Officers to learn the correct way Grand Lodge is ordering the work to be done. And just to be up front, NO I do NOT have a full line. Things happen. Those that can do the work are here. Those that could not left for various reasons. We still are evaluating applications to see if we choose to accept new men. We want to know them and see if there is a match. Changes are in the works to enhance our presence. These processes and mechanisms will be more apparent as they come on line.

The Hall Board has done well to keep your building rented most of the week. This means every day, seven days a week. Again, as aforementioned, we are about neutral to making a profit over our bills. This is due to hard work and long hours. All in all Masonry, from the Grand Lodge throughout California, and even YOUR Lodge continues. I know things are changing due to our really GREAT RETREAT in Monterey. Due to the intelligent actions of your Grand Lodge, and much feed-back from Masons throughout this State, time again is becoming the Fraternity's friend. The programs were not the usual explanation of one's Officer Duties. It focused on leadership and how to use the Masonic Tenets and Virtues in one's daily life. Programs that work are being shared between lodges and Grand Lodge to specifically address new candidates and elder brothers and widows. We, your Lodge, are implementing these as we can with resources we have as fast as we can in a planned, stable methodology. In the next months, through the end of the year we probably will still be shy on Officers and some programs, but should sustain an organic, stable growth of new technology, new brothers, and retain our established Ritual. Time will tell. We are in this for the long haul as working for something much larger than any one person with a faith that this is for the good of the individual and the improvement of the society in which we live.

I would now like to ask for all of you to say a few prayers for Brother Darren Kygar who was informed on Sunday, March 24, 2013 he has only two weeks to live. The Almighty decreed we are never too young to die but hopefully never too old to live. Please give thanks to the Great Architect for what we have had and hope to continue to be blessed by the continual due of His Goodness in all things, from the beginning through our return. Amen.

Fraternally, Rick Field Worshipful Master

Worshipful Master



Rick Field

From the West

The Master and Wardens' Retreat was one of the best that I've been to. It was well structured, well instructed and on time. We were divided into groups and Rich, Richard and I were in different groups. The first workshop centered on change. In it we found there were three types of lodge members, Leapers, Bridge Builders and Tradition Holders. The Leapers in my group seemed to be younger, newer members who were more in tune with technology. Bridge Builders were more middle aged, members who had been in the Fraternity 25 to 30 years and had been through the chairs at least once. The Tradition Holders were older, most had been in the Craft 40 to 50 years. The Leapers wanted change quickly, to keep up with the times. Use more technology where as the Tradition Holders were content to keep things as they were. If it isn't broke don't fix it attitude. Then there's the Bridge Builders. They are in the middle. Young enough to embrace technology and use it but having been in the lodge for a time can also see the point that the Tradition Holders are making. Change has to be made but not just for the sake of change. As a Bridge Builder we have to embrace the landmarks that have been established by the past and incorporate them into the future in order to grow and continue to get younger members that will keep the traditions of Freemasonry so our children's children can enjoy what we have for so many years. We also studied Solomon's wheel but that's another article.

Now on a more serious note. It was four months ago that we had a special called meeting about the future of our Lodge. The Brothers present decided that they wanted to keep it going. Brothers stepped up and we had all the chairs filled. As I write this on Monday the 25th of March looking forward to Wednesday the 27th when we have First Degree, Worshipful Dennis, our officers coach, is bringing three "guest officers" to help fill our line. To the Brothers of Three Great Lights 651, WE NEED YOUR HELP IF WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE. We haven't had the installation of officers. It won't be in April, maybe May, and at that point we are already six months behind where we should be.

Bill Malmstrom, PM
Senior Warden

"The volunteer army is not a bunch of grunts carrying out orders from the brass. Its members are charge leaders who bring energy, commitment, and enthusiasm." John Kotter, Harvard Business Review

From the secretary

Brothers be sure your contact information is correct. The post office charges us 51 cents for all corrected addresses. Check your dues card, you should have a 2013 dues receipt if you are current with your dues. We would not like to suspend anyone for not paying their dues.

We also need your help. We need a Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Marshal and both Stewards to fill holes in the line. If you can **COMMIT** to these stations contact Worshipful Rick.

On Wednesday the 27th of March, we are about to embark on a confirmation of the First Degree with another candidate. As we all can remember, he will face a series of challenges. The first obstacle alludes to the fact that the candidate is about to embark on a journey of seriousness and solemn importance. The Second and Third invoke the blessings of God and determines where his trusts reside.

Out of this journey he will learn three key virtues: Faith, Hope, and Charity; Faith being a starting point for any journey. The ultimate goal is for the candidate to observe and understand the Light by which Masons are expected to live and act. After receiving this Light, the candidate will begin his first step as a Mason.

Knowing this, because, as Brothers, we have all been there, it is important that we live up to the Light that was shared, with each of us, when we took the Entered-Apprentice Degree and assumed responsibility as obligated Fellows in the trade. Keeping that Light fueled is the life-breath of our organization. Passing that Light on to our newly accepted Brethren is part of our obligation. It is my hope that I will see all of our brethren there, including those we have not seen in some time, back to assist in sharing this Masonic Light that, at a time in the past, was shared with each of us in an "Agape" (Unconditional) form.

Fraternally, Richard Jenkins Junior Warden

Three Great Lights Lodge #651
Meetings are held at
The Royal Hodge Masonic Center
651 Roble Avenue
Menlo Park, California

Follow us on Facebook at
Three Great Lights 651 Masonic Lodge

Birthdays in April

Brother	Birthday
Daniel L. Todd	7
Arthur F. Loveland	11
Edwin J. Richardson	12
Leland J. Dance	14
Roberto A. Randall, Jr.	16
Danny S. Ellison	17
Larry L. Kettmann	17
Leon D. Oltman	20
Mario H. Rodriguez PM	21
Daniel J. Cleary, Jr.	22
Donald L. Bentley	25
William O. Robertson	30

Calendar of Events

April 2013

3	Light Meal	6:15 pm
4	Stated meeting	7:30 pm
10	2nd Degree Practice	7:00 pm
17	2nd Degree practice	7:00 pm
23	OAM Palo Alto #346	
24	2nd Degree Practice	7:00 pm

Brethren, on Saturday March 9th we conducted the 2012 calendar year audit. I want to thank all of the brothers who participated in the review. The audit consisted of a review of the 3GL lodge 2012 financial records in compliance with the Audit check list provided by Grand Lodge. A total of 45 records (Bills, Checks, dues, account balances) were reviewed. Only 1 minor finding was recorded and 2 recommendations for calendar year 2013 to improve our processes. I am pleased to say there were no systemic issues found. A final report from the audit will be available for the April stated meeting.

The audit committee consisted of Brothers, Pete VanDerWerff PM, Marcelo Oliveira, Tom Prussing, Bruce Last, Tom Stoehr PM and Dan Ellison.

Again, thank you all for a successful audit.

Fraternally, Dan Ellison

Presidents who were Masons:

George Washington , James Monroe , Andrew Jackson, James Polk, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, James Garfield ,William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Howard Taft, Warren Harding, Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman , Gerald Ford

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Trestleboard

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San Mateo, CA 94404

Dated Material
Time Value

Address Service Requested



April 2013

<http://www.calodges.org/no651>
651 Roble Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025

How can you erect a magnificent temple without the noise of hammer or axe, or any tool of iron? There are many who believe that this passage of scripture alludes to the symbolism of a spiritual temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. This is basic to the whole teaching of Masonic philosophy. Mackey says: "The difference between Operative and Speculative Masonry is simply this: that while the former was engaged in the construction on Mount Moriah of a material temple of stones and cedar and gold and precious stones, the latter is occupied, from his first to his last initiation, in the construction, the adornment and the completion of the spiritual temple of his body, In short many see in Solomon's Temple, a symbolical representation of Man as the Temple of God with its Holy Of Holies deep seated in the human heart.

What is the Lodge of the Holy Sts John at Jerusalem?

There is not now and never was such a Lodge. Originally lodges were dedicated to King Solomon. Dedication to the Saints John were made by other organizations as early as the third century, when the church adopted the two pagan celebrations of summer and winter solstices and made them our Saint John's Day in summer and Saint John's day in winter. It was wholly natural for operative Masons, having dedicated their Craft to the Holy Saints John to begin to believe that both Saints Johns were themselves craftsmen. Craftsmen must have a Lodge; where should that Lodge be but in Jerusalem? Hence the Lodge of the Holy Saints John at Jerusalem came into imaginary existence. Today we use the phrase as a starting point for a Masonic career. Masons mean only that their Craft is dedicated to these holy men, whose precepts and practices, ideas and virtues, teachings and examples all Freemasons should try to follow.

Taken from

One Hundred Questions about Freemasonry authorized by Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Kansas