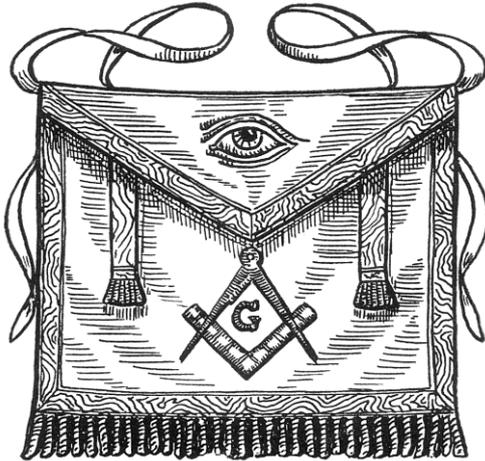




# WELCOME LODGE NO. 255



## F. & A. M. Trestleboard June 2014

647 W. Bush St.  
Lemoore, Ca 93245  
(559) 924-5032  
[www.welcomelodge255.weebly.com](http://www.welcomelodge255.weebly.com)



## *From the East* Worshipful Joselito Sanchez



Brethren,

First of all, BIG Congratulations go out to Worshipful Brother Pat Cerdenola for receiving this year's Hiram award. It was very well deserved indeed.

The year continues to fly by and I cannot believe we are already in the month of June. The lodge continues to flourish and new men keep knocking on our door. The May Stated Meeting went well even though we missed those officers who had other commitments.

Throughout this year, and particularly this past month, I have noticed numerous newer brethren becoming more involved and working with the established leaders of our lodge to become more active in our ritual, assist in cleaning up and organizing various aspects of the lodge that need repair and improvement, help out in managerial aspects of our buildings affairs, and contributing ideas and energy to establish more programs like Masonic information nights. These are brethren with vision and a commitment to making our lodge the best lodge possible, and I thank them all from the bottom of my heart and encourage everyone to keep up the great work and join in if have yet to do so.

My vision for our future entails continuing to uphold our dedication to superb ritual, good fellowship, and charitable service while further cultivating enjoyable social and educational events that reflects the diverse and philosophical interests of our brethren. I am pleased to see to a strong team forming that supports this vision, and I could ask for no greater gift or blessing.

Our next school of instruction will be on June 18th at the Hanford Lodge #279. The Welcome Lodge #255 will be exemplifying 2nd section of the 2nd degree and full form closing (2nd degree). Attendance is mandatory for all officers. Master Masons and Fellow crafts are encourage to attend.

Fraternally your,  
Joselito Sanchez, PM  
Master of the Lodge



## *From the South*

*Brother Jack Cloud*



Brethren,

May was very busy, with the Mother's Day, Hiram Award and Youth Orders Presentation dinners all in the same month. I am proud to say that they seem to have went off without a hitch. There are several people that I would like to recognize for this. Thank you to our prospective candidates, Mr. Neil Guevara, Mr. Jonathan Morales, Mr. Chase Simpson, Mr. Wright Beltran, Mr. Adan Trinidad and Mr. Albert Mendoza. As Candidates, you have really stepped up to the plate for this lodge and have made a difference. To Mr. Greg Bush, thank you for all of your assistance in the preparation of the Mother's Day and Hiram Award meals. They were delicious and we owe you a great deal of gratitude for the work you do. To Brother Jon Gonzaga, thank you for the assistance in the cleanup of the events and to Brothers Jim Withycombe and Norm Stewart, both of you are extremely busy, so thank you for giving up your time and filling in during my absence on dinner events and rental managements. Finally, to the Job's Daughters, as usual, you are there when we need you and you did a great job at the Hiram Award dinner. Thank you so much.

In June, we jump right back into the first degree business. Please come out and support these gentlemen as they take their initial steps into Masonry. They have worked very hard up to this point and they deserve a great show of support. Let's make June, our final working month before we go dark, a great month for the Lodge. If you haven't been to Lodge in a while, we would love to see you again. If you know a Brother who hasn't been in a while, invite them back. We have great lodge chemistry and we would like to include all the Brethren.

Finally, for those of you who would like to or who have been approached about taking a chair in the officer's line up for 2015, this is a great time to start practicing for your chair. It's a great way to server your lodge and extremely rewarding personally. We hope you're considering it.

By the Plumb,  
Brother Jack Cloud

## *About the fraternity*

Masonry is the world's first and largest fraternal organization, and is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to help make the world a better place. Through our culture of philanthropy, we make a profound difference for our brothers, our families, our communities, and our future.

The mission of the Masons of California, to foster personal growth and improve the lives of others, is carried out through Masonic principles and tradition.

## *About our members*

With more than 60,000 members, Masonry in our state represents the entire spectrum of diversity. Masons believe in the importance of religion; men of all faiths are members of the organization. Membership in California Masonry is growing and getting younger. The fastest growing segment of our membership is 18-30 year olds. About 2,000 men are initiated each year; their average age is 39. Masonry is a brotherhood of like-minded men who genuinely care about each other. We develop lifelong friendships with fellow Masons and their families, and are welcomed at Masonic lodges throughout the United States and the world.

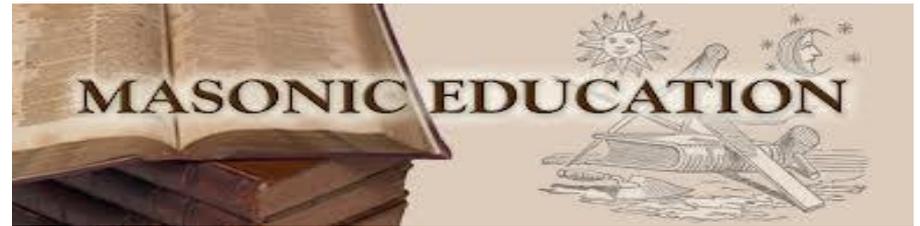
The satisfaction of being part of a centuries-old fraternity whose traditions and core values are relevant today, and will endure for centuries to come, is important to California Masons.

# ***JUNE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!!!***



The Lodge celebrates these Brethren and we wish you a very special day, Happy Birthday!

June 02 – Rodolfo Giron  
June 02 – Jay Sangalang  
June 03 – D.W. Venturella, PM  
June 04 – Sean Crosby  
June 05 – Rommel Logan  
June 06 – Howard Lambert  
June 07 – David Jarvis II  
June 09 – Kenneth Cruickshank  
June 14 – Charles Eirich  
June 15 – Joshua Donahue  
June 16 – Alec Lane  
June 23 – David Faber  
June 25 – Brian Monical  
June 26 – Richard Cadiente  
June 26 – Sean Redmond  
June 27 – Bernardo Santiago Jr.  
June 29 – Liviem Espiritu  
June 29 – Melvin Perez, PM  
June 30 – Allen Lasam



## ***The Masonic Ballot***

To vote in ancient Greece, a little clay ball was given to each voter, and the voter would drop the ball into one of several pots to elect his favorite candidate. The word *ballot* actually comes from the Italian word for a little ball – *ballota*.

In a Masonic lodge, there's no tampering at the polls. The vote in a lodge is taken with a very old, traditional system. The Senior Deacon carries a box around the room for the top 3 primary officers then every member is given the chance to vote. In the box are white and black balls the size of marbles. The white ball denotes a *yes* vote, and the black ball is a *no* vote. The member reaches into a large opening in one end of the box, so his hand is hidden from view from the other members. Inside, at the other end of the box, is a smaller hole. He chooses the color ball he wants and drops it into the small hole, where it falls into a drawer in the bottom of the box, recording the vote. When everyone has voted, the drawer is opened, the balls can be seen, and the vote is counted.

This voting system is where the term *black-balling* (meaning to be excluded from a group) originated. In some lodges, the black balls have been replaced with cubes to avoid confusion while groping around in the dark ballot box.



## *Getting a bad reputation: The Morgan Affair*

In September 1826, the disappearance of a man in a remote corner of upstate New York set off 25 years of anti-Masonic hysteria. In the little town of Batavia, a disgruntled and down-on-his-luck Mason named William Morgan announced his intentions to write a book exposing all the “secrets” of the Freemasons. Several local Masons decided that Morgan was something of a scoundrel and, by exposing the rituals of the lodge, he was breaking his Masonic vows. They abducted Morgan and carried him off to Fort Niagara on Lake Ontario, along the Canadian border. The conspirators claimed they paid Morgan \$500, gave him a horse, pointed him north and told him never to come back. Whatever the truth may have been, Morgan was never seen again, and some evidence suggested that the men might very well have drowned him in the Lake.

Twenty-six men were indicted in connection with his disappearance, but only six were ever tried, and none on murder charges. It was discovered that they prosecutor and many of the jurors were Freemasons, and the trial resulted in very lenient sentences.

The result was a firestorm of protest that quickly spread across New York and then to the country. The public believed that the Masons had killed Morgan “according to Masonic ritual” and then cheated justice by receiving short sentences from their Masonic friends who controlled the courts and the government, including Governor and Freemason Dewitt Clinton. What began as a small-town crime became a nationwide outrage, and it certainly sold lots of newspapers. It remains the only authentic case in history of Freemasonry seriously accused of murdering a member who had broken his Masonic vows.

# *Welcome Lodge Calendar of Events*

## *June 2014*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 State wide Elections (set-up) 4 PM Jobs Daughters Bethel 288 Meeting 7-9 PM	3 State wide Elections Civic use of Lodge 8 AM LMTA Meeting 6:30 PM	4 All hands Masonic Education Night 7- 9 PM	5 WL255 Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM Meeting 7:30 PM	6	7
8	9 DeMolay International Meeting 7 - 9 PM	10 Lucerne Lake, Ch. 13 7 - 9 PM	11 All hands Masonic Education Night 7- 9 PM	12 WL 255 Possible 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree 6:15 PM	13	14 Jobs Daughters Bethel Installation 1:00 PM
15	16 Jobs Daughters Bethel 288 Meeting 7 - 9 PM	17	18 Welcome Lodge 255 School of Instruction @ Hanford 6:30 PM	19 WL 255 Possible 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree 6:15 PM	20	21 Eastern Star – Jack Rahl/ Debbie Eller -State Capital Cornerstone Re-Enactment Ceremony
22	23 DeMolay International Meeting 7 - 9 PM	24 Lucerne Lake Ch. 13 Meeting 7 - 9 PM	25 All hands Masonic Education Night 7- 9 PM	26 WL 255 Possible 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree 6:15 PM	27	28 DeMolay International “Carwash” 7 AM
29	30 Jobs Daughters Bethel 288 Meeting 7 - 9 PM					

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RETURN TO SENDER REQUESTED

## *Officers for the year 2014*

Worshipful Master	Joey Sanchez, PM
Senior Warden	Daniel Bautista
Junior Warden	Jack Cloud
Treasurer	Steven Roberts, PM
Secretary	Mark Jeffries
Asst. Secretary	Nick Lawson
Chaplain	Liviem Espiritu
Senior Deacon	Joel Castillo
Junior Deacon	Danny Britton
Marshall	James Withycomb
Senior Steward	Daniel Guevara
Junior Steward	Roskin Metra
Tiler	Stephen Healy
Officer's Coach	Gemino Barrera, PM
Candidate's Coach	Patrocinio Cerdenola, PM
	Jack Cloud
	Norm Stewart
	James Withycomb
616 <sup>th</sup> Masonic Dist. Insp.	Peter Cunningham, PM



### **A REQUEST TO THE FAMILY OF THE ADDRESSEE**

Please notify the Lodge if our Brother is hospitalized, in a nursing home, incapacitated in any way or if he passed away. Thank you in advance.

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