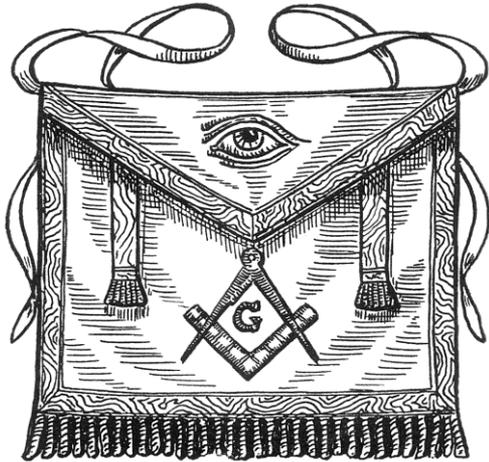




WELCOME LODGE

NO. 255



F. & A. M.

Trestleboard

March 2014

647 W. Bush St.
Lemoore, Ca 93245
(559) 924-5032



From the East
Worshipful Joselito Sanchez



Brethren,

First of all, I would like to thank all the brethren who attended the February Stated meeting.

As we enter March, we prepare for Spring and all that it promises. The sense of renewing, reviving, starting fresh come to mind. With two months behind us, we are coming out the "new" and finding our rhythm.

I look forward to hearing committee reports at the stated meeting and look for the membership committee in bringing back our phone calling of members. That membership contact and invitation to meetings and events is an important part of our communication plan to make sure everyone knows what's going on at Operative Lodge.

Congratulations to Brother Dale Delos Reyes on being initiated in the Entered Apprentice Degree and Brother Renz Uy on being raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason.

March 6th will be our Stated Meeting. Dinner is at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:30 pm. March 13th Officer Practice at 7:00 pm. To all officers, this month we will be doing exemplification at the school of instruction at Hanford Lodge on March 19th, Wednesday. We will be exemplifying the examination of a visitor, Candidates Lecture in the 1st Degree, 1st section 1st Degree. March 27th is scheduled for a 3rd Degree for Brother Allen Overby.

Fraternally your,
Joselito Sanchez, PM
Master of the Lodge

SQUARE AND COMPASS

The earth produces all that ministers to the needs, comfort and luxury of man, while the Heavens produce the light and heat which gives the procreative and generative agents to allow the earth to produce.

The Square is adapted for the plane surfaces, which the ancients believed to be the shape of the earth and is appropriate to that branch of Geometry used to measure the earth. The Compass has relation to spheres and spherical Trigonometry, that branch of mathematics which deals with the orbits of the planetary bodies.

The Square is a symbol of the earth and the Compass of the Heavens. As a candidate advances and receives more light in Masonry, he sees the change in the configuration of the Compass to the Square, not merely as bare points, but as an elevation. Since the Square represents the earth it is symbolic of the material, sensual and base portion of humanity. The Compass, representing the Heavens is symbolic of the spiritual, intellectual and moral portion of humanity.

Masonry teaches that we are capable of improvement and advancement and that life is a battle - to effect reason and moral sense to overcome the passions.

Hence, the points of the compass elevate above the square teaching that Freemasonry is the subjugation of the human that is in man by the Divine.



From the West

Brother Daniel Bautista

Greetings to all Brethren of Welcome Lodge #255.

Brother Norm Stewart has brought to my attention the urgent task of selecting the 2014 recipient of the Hiram Award. As the Senior Warden, it is my strong recommendation that we meet as a committee and discuss the Welcome Lodge #255 candidates for this prestigious award. Any questions, comments and concerns would be greatly appreciated.

On the Level,
Brother Daniel Bautista

Masonic Assistance

Your Member Benefits:

An important reminder

You're entitled to the following support services no matter where you reside – whether in California or out of state.

Member 60 years or older and in good standing for five consecutive years, or his wife or widow

- referrals to senior care providers, financial assistance, and/or care management in your home community, provided by Masonic Senior Outreach
- admission to a Masonic Homes of California continuing care retirement community, located in Covina and Union City.

Member of any age and degree level

- help dealing with family issues, such as the impact of divorce, the stresses of a special needs child, and other challenges, provided by Masonic Family Outreach
- Contact Masonic Assistance at 888/466-3642 or masonicassistance@mhcuc.org for information and support.

Some other member and widow benefits:

- monthly lodge Trestleboard
 - inclusion on lodge phone tree and mailings
 - bimonthly California Freemason magazine
 - access to the Member Center on freemason.org (members only)
 - Masonic funeral or memorial service (members only, at the request of family)
- Contact Nick Lawson at nickwlawson87@yahoo.com with specific questions. For general information, contact Grand Lodge at 415/292-9180 or memberservices@freemason.org. Visit masonichome.org for information about all of these support services.



From the South

Brother Jack Cloud

Brethren,

At the January 30th, 2014 gathering, the brothers came together to share ideas, and a lot of good suggestions came from that meeting. Thanks to all that came out that night to support the lodge and make your voices heard. We will implement a good portion of those suggestions throughout the year and hold another meeting in June to discuss events for the last half of the year. I believe we will see good things from Welcome Lodge this year and it starts with motivated Brethren who are willing to donate time and effort to make us a viable organization within our community.

Some of you may have noticed that our refreshments over the past month have been getting better. As part of positive change we are trying to make our dinners more inviting to the brothers; so, except under extreme circumstances, we will no longer be serving Subway and Little Caesars for dinner, but instead we'll concentrate on home cooked meals to kick off our nights. At the stated meeting dinners, we will be celebrating the month's birthdays, so please come out and help us celebrate. We would love to see your ladies join us for dinner. If your wives or girlfriends are available, please bring them to dinner.

To prevent burnout of those doing the meal preparation and to keep the menu exciting, we would like to form 3 teams of 2-3 people to prepare dinner for our special meetings. If anyone would like to volunteer for one of these teams, I can promise you, it's a rewarding experience and a great way to be of service to your lodge.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to all the Brothers who have not been in Lodge for a while and the Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons who have suspended their journeys and I invite you to back to lodge. You are greatly missed, there are lots of positive changes going on, and we would love to have you back among good friends. We value your company and hope that you'll make time to stop in for a visit.

By the Plumb,
Brother Jack Cloud

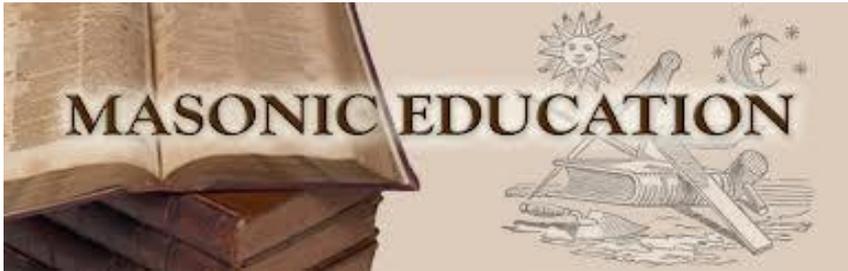


Masonic History

The beginning

In the Middle Ages, the term "freemason" was awarded to highly skilled stonemasons who were hired as free agents to build castles and cathedrals in England and Scotland. Because of the inherent danger of their work, stonemasons formed local organizations, called lodges, to take care of sick and injured members as well as the widows and orphans of those who were killed on the job. Eventually, men who were not skilled stonemasons wanted to join the group for the many advantages it offered. These men were known as accepted masons rather than working masons. This is how the group began to shift from a craft guild to a fraternity.

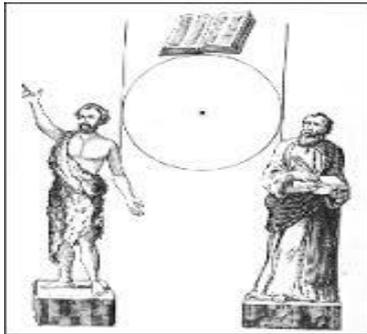
The first Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was established in 1717 in London. In 1718, English Freemasonry spread to France and Spain, and after 1729, to India, Italy, Poland, and Sweden. Freemasonry spread to other parts of Europe and eventually made its way to the American colonies. In 1733, the first American lodge was established in Boston, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England. The United States now has grand lodges in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Boundary Line of Our Conduct

***Excerpts from the paper by Kenneth L. Hemphill
Southern California Research Lodge***

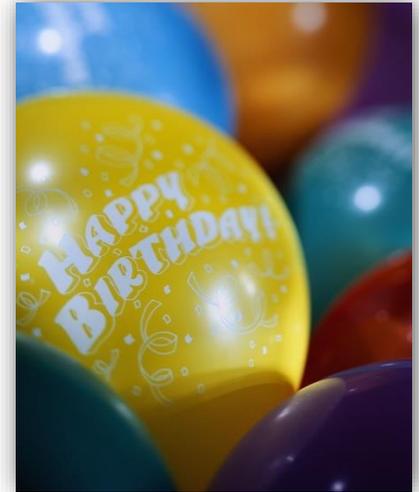
The "101" or Point within a circle. This is explained in the Monitor, with which it is hoped that you will soon make yourself familiar from the First Degree. The point represents an individual brother, and the circle, the boundary line of his conduct beyond which he should never suffer his passions, his prejudices, or his interests, to betray him. The two vertical lines represent the patron saints of Masonry, Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist, and the Circle touching the Holy Bible, represents the need to always keep it as the rule and guide of our faith.



March Birthdays!!!

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

March 02 – Arturo Gentilezo
March 04 – Frank Groth
March 05 – Robert Krug
March 06 – Rodolfo Carbonell
March 06 – Lewis Diulus
March 07 – Mark Tapacio
March 10 – Steven Hartsburg
March 11 – Nicholas Jackson
March 12 – Alfred Canoy
March 12 – Felomino Romuar
March 13 – Gener Abella
March 13 – Lewis Bunch
March 13 – Allen Cielo
March 15 – Jack Cloud
March 16 – Ricardo Amith
March 16 – Darryl Barallon
March 16 – Brant Hahn
March 21 – Adam Avitable
March 23 – Phillip Angel
March 23 – Kenneth Barnette
March 23 – Abner Mangapit
March 24 – Walter Adams
March 26 – Daeryl Amponin
March 27 – Gemino Barrera
March 30 – Reynaldo Sibug
March 31 – Rainier Aronce
March 31 – James Pratt



Welcome Lodge Calendar of Events

March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Jobs Daughters 7 PM	4 LMTA Meeting 6:30PM-8PM (Office)	5 Presentation of Training Program 6:30PM-8PM (Dining room)	6 Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30PM Meeting 7:30PM	7	8 DeMolay International Meeting and Sleepover 7PM
9 Daylight Saving Time	10 DeMolay International 7PM	11 Lucerne Lake Ch. 13 7PM	12	13 ^{2nd} Degree Bro. Dale DelosReyes Dinner 6:30PM Meeting 7PM	14	15
16	17 Jobs Daughters 7 PM	18	19 School of Instruction (Hanford Lodge) All Masons welcome. Dinner: 6:30PM Meeting: 7:30PM	20 TBD	21	22
23 Jobs Daughters Grand Bethel Reception 1-6pm	24 DeMolay International 7pm	25 Lucerne Lake Ch. 13 7PM	26 3 rd Degree Practice	27 ^{3rd} Degree Bro. Allen Overby Dinner 6:30PM Meeting 7PM	28	29
30	31					

Committees

Lodge committees are important. Composed of capable people willing to spend the time to accomplish their assigned tasks, they can be a great help to the Lodge in planning and executing an excellent calendar of events

Charity Committee

(All reports required to be in writing.)

To relieve the distress of a Worthy brother or his family.

Worshipful Joey Sanchez, PM
Danny Bautista
Jack Cloud

Masters Advisory Committee

Angel Luna, PM
Danny Espiritu, PM
Steve Roberts, PM
Herminio Valdeabella, PM
Jose Pascual, PM
Bermie Pascual, PM

Fraternal Support Service Ambassador

Norman Stewart

Audit

(All reports required to be in writing.)

The Audit Committee periodically examines and verifies the financial accounts, claims, and records of the Lodge; they also examine and verify the monthly bills at each Stated Meeting.

Herminio Valdeabella, PM
Pat Cerdenola, PM
Daniel Bautista
Jose Pascual, PM
Jack Cloud

Budget and Finance

Provided projections of the income and expenses of the Lodge for the year, to present the annual budget for Lodge approval and to report quarterly on the status of the budget.

Steve Roberts, PM
Geminio Barrerra, PM
Herminio Valdeabella, PM
Marc Jeffries
Norman Stewart
Jack Cloud

Picnic and Social Functions

To obtain interesting and worthwhile Lodge programs.

Rupert Beckford
Jack Cloud
James Withycombe
Norman Stewart
Joel Castillo
Leviem Espiritu

Constitutional Observance

Gemino Barrerra, PM
Norman Stewart
Roskin Metra

Hiram Award

Selects the Hiram Award recipient for the Lodge.

Three members should be on the committee. The committee can also plan and stage the Hiram Award program.

Norman Stewart
Danny Bautista
Steve Roberts, PM
Herminio Valdeabella, PM
Angel Luna, PM
Jose Pascual, PM

Masonic Education

Provides Masonic Education Programs to the Lodge candidates and other members, their family and friends. Promotes the Mentor Program.

Norman Stewart
Danny Bautista
Pat Cerdenola, PM
Steve Roberts, PM
Bermie Pascaul, PM
Jack Cloud

Masonic Homes Endowment

Informs the Lodge members of the Masonic Homes Endowment program, its purpose and the present standing of the Lodge. Disseminates information about the Masonic Homes and encourages participation in the program.

Steve Roberts, PM
Marc Jeffries
James Withycombe
Daniel Guevarra
Leviem Espiritu

Scholarship Award

Pat Cerdenola, PM
Jack Cloud
Leviem Espiritu
James Withycombe
Angel Luna, PM
Bermie Pascual, PM
Steve Roberts, PM

Public Schools

Jack Cloud
Leviem Espiritu
Joel Castillo
James Withycombe
Rupert Beckford
Roskin Metra

Funeral

Conducts the Masonic Funeral service. The committee members must be proficient in the Masonic Funeral Service and must be approved by the District Inspector.

D.W. Venturella, PM
Steve Roberts, PM
Danny Britton
Jose Pascual, PM
Pat Cerdenola, PM
Danny Bautista
Jack Cloud

Fund Raising

Bermie Pascual, PM
Jose Fontanos, PM
Danny Bautista
Daniel Guevarra
Nick Lawson
Rupert Beckford
James Withycombe
Joel Castillo
Norman Stewart
Leviem Espiritu
Jack Cloud

Kids ID Program

Steve Roberts, PM
Jack Cloud

Past Masters Night

Pat Cerdenola, PM
Jose Pascual, PM
Steve Roberts, PM

Refreshments

Jack Cloud
Norm Stewart
Nick Lawson
James Withycombe
Daniel Guevarra

Visitation

All Officers

Christmas Party

Jack Cloud
Danny Bautista
James Withycombe
Daniel Guevarra
Roskin Metra
Nick Lawson
Charles Dimanno
Danny Bautista

Officers Coach

Gemino Barrerra, PM

Candidates Coach

To provide each newly initiated, passed, or raised brother with a proficient instructor. The committee should consist of at least four members, one for each of the degrees and the Head Candidates Coach who oversees the work of the others.

Norman Stewart
Pat Cerdenola, PM
Jack Cloud
James Withycombe

Delinquent Dues/Membership Retention

(All reports required to be in writing.) To personally interview each delinquent member, ascertain the cause of his delinquency and to work closely with the Master and officers in a continuing effort to retain all members unable to pay.

Marc Jeffries
Nick Lawson
Roskin Metra
Danny Britton
Steve Roberts, PM

FUNCTIONS OF A MASONIC LODGE

By Unknown Author

El Camino Research Lodge

It is not the primary function of Masonry to initiate candidates, or to enlarge its membership. Were it so, there would be no basis for our laws against proselytizing.

The ordinary function of a Masonic Lodge indeed, the primary function of our Craft, is to train its members to an understanding of the truths which its rituals and its ceremonies are calculated to inculcate, to develop its members as benevolent men, to cultivate the social virtues among men, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

The chief concern of the Lodge is with its welfare, the happiness, the Masonic development of its members, not with the admission of those who seek entrance to its doors. Its success as a Masonic Lodge cannot be gauged by the length of its membership roll or by the size of its accumulated funds.

The beauty of our ritual, and the good fellowship among the members of our Lodges cannot be conserved when the chief aim is to make Masons and money; "for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesseth"; and a Lodge's life does not consist in its acquisitions, but in the contribution which it makes to civilization and society through the influence to those whom it has helped to train to what we call Masonic character. Therefore, it should be the duty of every Masonic Lodge to put in action a plan for the education of its members in Masonic history, symbolism and philosophy, devoting more of its meetings to this much neglected function.

NOTICE

Welcome Lodge will put the following training proposals to a vote at the March stated meeting. These programs are long overdue and it's hoped, they will greatly improve the character of our fraternity through knowledge of the craft and a brother's pride in his education. Please join us at the lodge on 5 March at 6:30 pm for a detailed presentation of the program.

MASONIC CANDIDATES COACHING PROGRAM: The Masonic Coach is key to the members Masonic Growth and Retention and should be well versed in all three degrees, Masonic history, etiquette, and the modern day purpose of the fraternity. This program will equip the coach with knowledge to better prepare candidates as tomorrow's leaders.

CANDIDATE TRAINING PROGRAM: The Candidates for our Fraternity should be prepared to face the challenges of the fraternity today. Our goals a Masons should be to initiate, pass and raise only the most qualified individuals so that they may someday fill seats of Masonic leadership and continue to mold our great fraternity into a modern and viable institution. This program institute a 2-3 month waiting period in which candidates will visit and work alongside brethren in the lodge. It affords both the candidate and brethren time to get to know each other. Additionally, more strenuous requirements are required of the candidate between degrees to insure that they fully understand the work before moving to the next degree.

MASONIC INFORMATION PROGRAM: It's important that we reach out to our community and explain who we are as Freemasons, what we stand for, and what we do for our neighbors. This makes us known to our neighbors and has the added benefit of attracting more men from within the community, providing stability within the lodge when our military brethren are called away on duty or must leave our community and affiliate elsewhere. This is not to detract from our military brothers who are one of our most valuable assets, but should be seen as a healthy balance of civilian to military to better diversify the lodge.

MASONIC TRAINING PROGRAM: Master Masons should keep themselves abreast of changes within the fraternity, and continue to educate themselves in the history and principles of Masonry. We owe it to the brethren to educate them in the different degrees, their symbolism significance, Masonic history, and of their roles within the fraternity.

In fine, it is our responsibility as the leadership of Welcome Lodge to ensure that our current as well as future Brethren are equipped with the knowledge and knowhow to take on tomorrow's responsibilities and to keep our lodge active within the community. This training program should lead us in the right direction as we start to better prepare our membership to tackle the needs of the fraternity in the Lemoore area.

WELCOME LODGE NO. 255, F.&A.M.
647 W. Bush St.
LEMOORE, CA 93245
RETURN TO SENDER REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
LEMOORE, CA 93245

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.

Officers for the year 2014

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

