

Welcome Lodge No. 255

Trestle Board

F. & A. M. of the State of California

Making Good Men Better, Since Time Immemorial!

June 2018

If you are a Mason, Anywhere in the World, This is your Home!

Brethren,

We have a busy month ahead. Starting with Past Masters Night on June 14. A few days after the Lodge Picnic on June 16th at the Lemoore City Park, and finishing up with our Hiram Award ceremony on June 28th. Nothing like a busy month to propel us into our dark season of July and August.

Many of you remember Brother Ralph Medeiros. He passed on May 15th, and his widow Susan has asked us to perform a Masonic Funeral Service for him on Monday, June 11, 10am, at Fresno Memorial Gardens. If you can attend the service, I'm sure Brother Ralph will be smiling down upon all of us at his last farewell. Please pass the word.

I will be starting our annual campaign for donations to the Masonic Foundation. This campaign is usually directed at Lodge Officers, but in the past few years, our Brothers have offered to contribute as well. These donations go to help needy Masonic Families, our Elder Masons, their wives, widows, and mothers. It's an extremely worthy cause. Please consider a donation of any amount. We don't have a monetary goal, but it's customary to get full participation from our Officers. The most important of our three principle tenants is Relief, please give what you can!

Finally, we have made a lot of good Masons in the past few months. I want to congratulate our Brothers on their initiations and advancements through the degrees. It is important, that we support all of our new Brothers and give them the tools they need to be productive members of our Lodge. Please take an active role in their development.

Finally, it's time that we relax our dress code during the warm summer months. *Degrees for the foreseeable future will be in slacks and collared shirts.* This of Course does not apply to Past Masters Night or the Hiram Award, Break out the Tuxedos for those grand occasions.

Fraternally,

*Jack W. Cloud, PM
Worshipful Master*

From the East

Worshipful Jack Cloud, PM



Welcome Lodge No. 255

647 W. Bush St.
Lemoore, CA 93245

Phone: (559) 381-2112

Website: <http://welcomelodge255.org>

Email: welcomelodgeno255@gmail.com

Stated Meeting

1st Thursday

Dinner 6:30pm

Meeting 7:30pm

Special Meetings

Thursdays

Dinner 6:15pm

Meeting 7:00pm

A Note to the Family

If you are receiving the Trestle Board and wish to continue to receive it, we are happy to continue mailing it. We also know that some of the families of our departed Brothers no longer wish to receive it. If that is the case, please notify Jack Cloud at jwcloud@comcast.net and we will be happy to update our mailer. We would also just enjoy hearing how the family is doing if you want to let us know. Thank you.

Concordant Bodies

Lucerne Lake, Ch. 13 OES

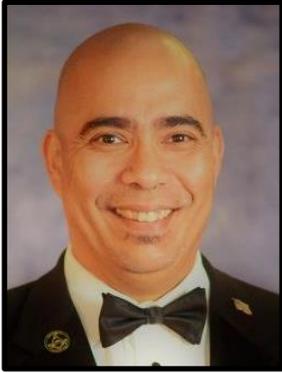
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:00pm

Jobs' Daughters, Bethel #288

1st and 3rd Mondays, 7:00pm

From the West

Brother Mel Perez, PM



Senior Wardens Schedule

14 June: (Thursday) 3rd Degree,
Bro. Victor Superales – Past
Masters Night

21 June: (Thursday) Degree
Pending

Greetings from the West!

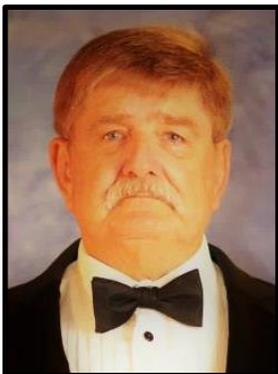
Well brothers the year is just rolling along. I hope all of you and your loved ones are in the best of health. Some of you probably have young ones graduating or otherwise preparing for the summer vacation and to you all I say congratulations for another school year in the books.

With summer comes travel plans and vacations. Please stay safe out there, traffic will be hectic, beaches will be crowded and the theme parks will be bustling. Be safe, be vigilant, and be aware of your surroundings. Look out for each other and we can all lay claim to a successful and fun summer.

Fraternally yours,
Mel Perez, PM
Senior Warden

From the South

Brother Edwin Kaczynski



Junior Wardens Schedule

7 June: (Thursday) Stated Meeting
Family Dinner

14 June: (Thursday) Past Masters
Night – Dinner

16 June: (Saturday) Lodge Picnic

28 June: (Thursday) Hiram Award

My Brothers,

Recently, Pat and I had a pool installed at our house. I started thinking after watching the progress of the installation. We decided to add the pool because we had a big open yard, well kept, but it needed something more. When we decided on the pool, we didn't know what lay below the grass; we took a chance on running into roots, rocks, and any number of things that might have been dumped there. Then the pool was funded and the tools are brought in to dig the hole to its rough shape. Over the course of time an epoxy liner is sprayed over the support structure framing the pool, smoothing its inner edges. Several times during this process, the pool is filled partially to check its integrity before moving on with the next step. Finally, decorative tiles are laid, a deck is poured and everyone celebrates, but for the life of the pool maintenance will be needed to make sure it remains in great condition.

Our candidates are like that pool. We take a chance on them initially, not knowing what lies below the surface. Prudence tells us to judge them according to merit. With lodge approval, we run them through their degrees providing the tools that mold them into Masons and hopefully setting examples ourselves as to what a Mason should represent. Through the process we test them, to verify that they understand the basic principles of their craft. Finally, they are raised into a new life, reborn of Masonic values, steeped in tradition, and everyone celebrates. Masons must always strive to improve themselves and the welfare of those around them. Our work is not done when the celebration ends, in fact, it has only begun.

Fraternally,
Edwin Kaczynski
Junior Warden

In Loving Memory

Brother Ralph Patrick Medeiros

Born: 10/17/1934

Entered into Rest: 05/15/2018

Initiated: 4/17/1972

Passed: 5/1/1972

Raised: 5/23/1972

Worshipful Medeiros served as our Grand Lodge Inspector for 10 years, was the Master of Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge No. 366, and Senior Deacon, Chaplain, and Junior Warden of Welcome 255.

Masonic Services will be held: Monday, June 11th, 10am, Fresno Memorial Gardens

Our Brothers have been raised in that blissful Lodge which no time can close, but which will remain open during the boundless ages of eternity. In that Heavenly Sanctuary, the Mystic Light, unmingled with darkness, will reign unbroken and perpetual. There, under the protection of the All-Seeing Eye, amid the smiles of Immutable Love, in that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, -- There, my Brethren, may Almighty God in His infinite mercy, grant that we may meet again, to part no more.

We shall ever cherish in our hearts the memory of our departed brother and, commending his spirit to Almighty God, we trustingly leave him in the hands of that Beneficent Being who has done all things well; who is glorious in His Holiness, wondrous in His Power, and boundless in His Goodness; and it should always be our endeavor so to live that we too may be found worthy to inherit the kingdom prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

-The Funeral Manual

Brother Rodolfo M. Olano

Born: 4/18/1955

Entered into Rest: 4/10/2018

Initiated: 2/6/1977

Passed: 3/15/1977

Raised: 4/23/1977

Brother Olano served as Secretary and Senior Steward of Welcome 255 before demitting to join Hanford 279 where he would go on to serve as the Junior and Senior Deacon, Assistant Secretary, and Fraternal Support Services Ambassador.

Lodge Leadership

Master

Jack W. Cloud, PM

Senior Warden

Melvin L. Perez, PM

Junior Warden

Edwin J. Kaczynski

Secretary

Clayton Holmes

Treasurer

Richard D. Cadiente

Chaplain

Joel Gonzalez



Senior Deacon

Eli A. Malicsi

Junior Deacon

Tracy J. Miranda

Marshal

Rupert R. Beckford

Senior Steward

Virgilio S. Algador

Junior Steward

Billie B. Solomon

Tiler

James L. Withycombe

President

Eli A. Malicsi

Lemoore Masonic Temple Association

Ex-Officio: Senior Warden

Melvin L. Perez, PM

Chief Financial Officer

Tracy J. Miranda

Secretary / Ex-Officio: Master

Jack W. Cloud, PM

Trustee / Board Member

Rupert R. Beckford

Trustee / Board Member

Fabian V. Gonzalez

Trustee / Board Member

Virgilio S. Algador

Officers Coach

Herminio E. Valdeabella, PM

Candidate Coaches

Melvin L. Perez, PM*

Jack W. Cloud, PM

Danilo T. Espiritu, PM

Edwin J. Kaczynski

James L. Withycombe

Charity

Jack W. Cloud, PM*

Melvin L. Perez, PM

Edwin J. Kaczynski

Audit

Billie B. Solomon
Allan N. Overby

Delinquent Dues

Herminio E. Valdeabella, PM*
Clayton Holmes
Richard D. Cadiente

Scholarship

Bermie E. Pascual, PM*
Melvin L. Perez, PM
Charles D. Dimaano, PM
James L. Withycombe
Norman W. Stewart

Hiram Award

Melvin L. Perez, PM*
Pat P. Cerdenola, PM
Joselito R. Sanchez, PM
James L. Withycombe
Rupert R. Beckford

Membership Development

Edwin J. Kaczynski*
Billie B. Solomon
Allan N. Overby
Audie T. Bedia

Masonic Widows

Edwin J. Kaczynski*
Eli A. Malicsi
Richard D. Cadiente
James L. Withycombe
Rupert R. Beckford

Investments

Richard D. Cadiente*

Charles D. Dimaano, PM

Edwin J. Kaczynski

*Chairman: Shall call at least one regular meeting of the Committee and present minutes to the Secretary.



Secretary's Corner

Brother Clayton Holmes

June Calendar

4 th	Mon	7pm	Job's Daughters, Bethel 288 Meeting
5 th	Tue	6pm	LMTA Meeting
7 th	Thu	7:30pm	WL255 Stated Meeting
9 th	Sun	2pm	Jobs Daughters, Bethel 288 Installation
12 th	Tue	7pm	Lucerne Lake, Ch. 13 Meeting
14 th	Thu	7pm	WL255, Past Masters Night (<i>New Night</i>)
16 th	Sat	12pm	WL255 Picnic, Lemoore City Park
18 th	Mon	7pm	Jobs Daughter, Bethel 288 Meeting
20 th	Wed	6:30pm	SOI, District 506, Sanger
21 st	Thu	7pm	WL255, Degree (Pending)
26 th	Tue	7pm	Lucerne Lake, Ch. 13
28 th	Thu	7pm	WL255, Hiram Award Dinner

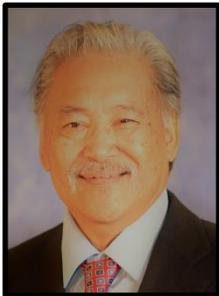
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Welcome Lodge Celebrates Your Special Day!

Happy Birthday Brothers!

- 2nd Jay Sangalang
- 3rd Delmer W. Venturella
- 4th Sean Crosby
- 5th Rommel Logan
- 6th Howard Lambert
- 7th David Jarvis
- 9th Kenneth Cruickshank
- 16th Alec Lane
- 21st Billie Solomon
- 25th Richard Cadiente
- 25th Brian Monical
- 26th Sean Redmond
- 29th Liviem Espiritu
- 29th Beaven Kreschmer
- 29th Jonathan Morales-Vera
- 29th Melvin Perez
- 30th Allen Lasam

Temple Board Association



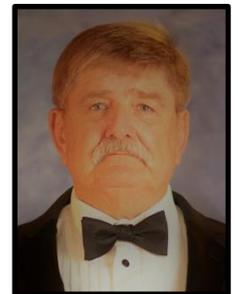
Bro. Eli Malicsi
Temple Board
President

June

Temple Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 5th, 6pm

Rentals

June 1st (Fri), 2nd (Sat), 3rd (Sun),
16th (Sat), 23rd (Sat)



Bro. Ed Kaczyński
Building
Manager

CURRENT PROJECTS

Wireless PA System

The Board has approved the purchase of a wireless PA system for the Lodge, depending on compatibility of current speaker system.

Solar Panel Installation

Bids are currently in work to petition Grand Lodge for approval to install solar panels on the Lodge.

Hand Rails in the East

Over the July/August break, Hand rails will be installed in the East for easier access up and down the stairs at that station.

Degree Conferrals!



**Brother
Jake Villanueva
Entered Apprentice
May 10, 2018**

Congratulations Brother Villanueva on being initiated as an Entered Apprentice and congratulations to Brother Randa and Brother Yumang on being passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. One of the greatest joys of Masonry is participating in the advancement of a Brother, and we look forward to helping you all further your journeys in our Craft.

**Brothers
Jojo Randa and Eduardo Yumang
Fellowcraft
May 17, 2018**



Coming Events!

Jobs' Daughters Installation of Officers



On Saturday, June 9th, 2PM

Bethel No. 288 will install new officers into their chairs. Please join us as we recognize these young leaders and celebrate this organization.



WELCOME LODGE 255 SUMMER PICNIC

Lemoore City Park on Bush Street

Saturday, June 16th, 1200 Start

Tri-Tip and Chicken provided by Lodge
Bring Side Dishes and Deserts

Activities provided for the Kids, Come and Enjoy some good Fellowship.



WELCOME LODGE NO. 255 PAST MASTERS NIGHT

THURSDAY, JUNE 14TH, 2018, 6:30 PM Dinner



*****Re-scheduled from May 31st*****

JOIN THE BROTHERS OF WELCOME LODGE NO. 255

As we recognize the Worshipful Brothers
Who have answered the call of their Lodge
And Served as the Master!



Enjoy the show as our Past Masters assume their positions in the
line-up for the Third Degree of

Brother Victor Superales

Degree: 7:30 PM



HIRAM AWARD



Thursday, June 28th

Ceremony Begins: 7pm

Dinner Immediately Following

Recipient to be announced at the June Stated Meeting!

The Hiram Award was designed to be presented to the "unsung hero" of every Lodge such as the volunteer who makes the coffee at each meeting, the one who sets the tables or arranges the furniture and ornaments in the Lodge room, the painter, the gardener, the handyman, the organist, the program chairman or any number of outstanding Brethren who consistently donate their time and talents to our beloved Fraternity or who have brought credit to the Craft by their community activities.



Lodge Outreach Program



MASONIC ASSISTANCE LINE:

(888) 466-3642

*The number is found on the back of your Lodge Dues Card.

*Leave a voicemail, you will be called back within 24 hours, and you will **NEVER** be put on hold when they call back.

Calls will address:

Your primary concerns and they will obtain basic background information.
Your current living situation, potential risks to your health, and your immediate needs.
Any Prequalification for financial assistance or public benefits.

After the Call: They will...

Recommend and refer you for any community based services that might be available.
Schedule follow up calls to ensure your needs have been met.
Assign care managers as needed when the situation cannot be resolved by phone.

Masonic Senior Outreach Services

Masonic Senior Outreach Services (MSOS) is applicable to Masons and Masonic Family Members (Wives, Widows, or Mothers) who have reached age 60.

- **Information and Referral Services:** **Free and available to everyone**, even non-Masons. Specially trained staff will help you with...
 - Home Care.
 - Transportation.
 - Senior Programs.
 - Veterans Benefits.
- **Care Management:** **Free and need-based** on case-by-case basis for elderly members facing declining health, isolation, loss of a spouse, and other challenges.
 - Regularly scheduled visits and telephone contacts by care managers, who...
 - Help navigate health and financial matters.
 - Advocate for needed services and benefits.
 - Help reestablish contact between fraternal family members and home lodges.
- **Ongoing Financial Assistance (MSOS):**
 - **No eligible applicant will be turned away due to an inability to repay the program.**
 - Ensures that elderly fraternal family age with dignity and confidence, knowing that their basic needs are met. Support is need-based, flexible, and ongoing.
 - Available to California Masons, their spouse or widow, who;
 - Age 60 or older.
 - Age 55 or older, *if permanently disabled*.
 - Are Master Masons in good standing for 5 years or more.
 - Meet financial criteria and demonstrate need.
 - Already receive all eligible public benefits.
 - Do not require skilled nursing services or 24-hour home care. *(Those requiring this level of care will be assisted with a referral.)*
 - Sign an Agreement to Repay all or a portion of the amount expended when he or she has the financial means to do so.

Masonic Wisdom

JUNE: DISTRICT 506 SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

Thursday, June 27th, 6:30 PM
Hosting: Selma, Lodge No. 277
2012 High St, Selma, CA
Conferring: 1st Degree



Forget-me-not

Excerpts from: Brent Williamson



Myosotic arvensis— from the Greek, meaning “Mouse’s Ear,” after the shape of its five petals. These little blue flowers spring up again year after year. In most languages, however, this flower is known by its much more common name; the forget-me-not.

They symbolize true love, enduring memory, and faithfulness. It’s where we get the phrase “True Blue.” At the start of its flowering season, flashes of blue display dazzling proof to the world that though it may have appeared dead through the long cold winter, it was only dormant, and come spring it bursts to life, its color begging the world not to overlook this tiny flower.

In Germany in particular, the forget-me-not has a strong history. According to German legends, when the Creator was naming all the plants, the flower cried out “Forget-me-not!” and he decreed that that should be its name.

Following the First WW I, Germany was plunged into a terrible economic crisis. In 1926, at their annual communication, the Grand Lodge of Germany gave its members a forget-me-not pin, to remind the brethren of their charitable obligations. The pin became widely used throughout Germany as a sign to remember the poor and distressed. Thousands of masons wore this pin in the years before WW II, performing acts of service and charity to their many destitute fellows. This charity was vital during Germany’s depression.

However, that same economic crisis which called those masons to charitable action also propelled Adolf Hitler into power. By 1934, it was clear that Freemasonry was in danger. Hitler decried it as a conspiracy with the Jews to suppress national self-preservation. The German Ministry ordered the disbandment of all lodges, and confiscated all lodge property. They even staged exhibitions to display all the masonic regalia they had seized. Masonic brothers were eventually confined to concentration camps, and forced to wear the inverted red triangle of a political prisoner. Freemasonry was officially outlawed in the Nazi empire. The number of Freemasons executed during WW II is unknown, but estimates place anywhere between 80,000 and 200,000 killed.

But masonic legend tells that in the midst of the war, the German Grand Lodge of the Sun adopted that little blue forget me not pin, not as an emblem of charity, but as a substitute for the square and compass. The flower was used a sign of recognition for the brethren, reducing their risk of exposure to the Nazis.

During the ensuing decade of Nazi power a little blue Forget Me Not flower worn in a Brother’s lapel served as one method whereby brethren could identify each other in public and in cities and concentration camps throughout Europe. The Forget Me Not distinguished the lapels of countless brethren who staunchly refused to allow the symbolic Light of Masonry to be completely extinguished, even under penalty of death.

It was a symbol that masonry, like the flower itself, was not dead, but had merely gone dormant to weather the decade long winter. It was a symbol to its members not to forget each other, or their masonic vows, until spring had come again and the blue of masonry could flourish once more.

In 1948, after the war ended, at the first Annual Convent of the new Grand Lodges of Germany, a few hundred forget-me-not pins were made. They began to hand them out as a Masonic symbol wherever they went. The pins exploded in popularity, and became widely used to remember the sacrifice of masons during the war, and the perseverance of a brace few.

The accuracy of the story of the forget-me-not has been called into question. There is little evidence that it was ever worn as a secret symbol of recognition among German masons during the war. In fact, it seems unlikely, given the strict Nazi laws barring *any* kind of pin or emblem not sanctioned by the party. Masons did wear the flower as a symbol of charity before the war, and a symbol of remembrance after, but its use in the midst of the war is questionable, and there is no evidence of it being worn in concentration camps. However, this lack of evidence could merely be proof of the effectiveness of the secret symbol, as believers hold that the secret remained unbroken for the duration of the war.

Regardless, today the forget-me-not it is an interchangeable symbol with Freemasonry. Some use the forget-me-not to remember those Masons who were victimized by the Nazi regime. Some use it to remember the legend of those who wore it in secret, refusing to allow the light of masonry to go out, even in the darkest days of the war. In modern Freemasonry it is now commonly worn to remember those that have died as a symbol that while they may be gone, they are not forgotten. Worldwide, tens of thousands of brethren display it with meaningful pride.

The history of the forget-me-not is laden with legend and symbolism. And quibbling over historic accuracy merely clouds the true intent of the story. Legends like these are not told to teach us historical fact; they are meant to teach us enduring truth, or even truths, plural. And the truths of the forget-me-not are these; we must never forget our duty to the poor and distressed. We must never forget to persevere through troubled times, as light and life will always spring anew. We must never forget those who have come before us; the sacrifices they made, and the love that they shared with us. We must never forget our duty to honor their memory, and continue their legacy of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Amor fraternus, levatio, veritas. Forget. Me. Not.



Masonic Quote

Be silent or let thy words be worth more than silence.

-Our Ancient Friend and Brother,
The Great Pythagoras

Bethel No. 288 Lemoore



Raisa Beckford
Bethel Guardian
rkbeckford@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

Below are the current happenings for the daughters in June!

4th: Regular Meeting

9th: Bethel Installation at 2pm At the Lemoore Masonic Lodge

18th: Regular meeting

21st-23: Grand Bethel in Visalia

Our Daughters have been very busy this month!

May 7th we welcomed a brand new member! Welcome to Kaydence who fits right in with us already!

May 11th was our Third Annual Burn Your Own Steak Dinner! It was amazing to see how many people in the community support out order. Thank you all for coming to have a delicious dinner with us!

May 20th Was our Grand Guardian Official Visit. It was a joint meeting with Fresno and we highlighted the State Project for this year, Act Today. We even made the Grand Guardian cry!

June 9th is the beginning of a brand-new term! We hope to see you there!

