

# WELCOME LODGE TRESTLEBOARD



# 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR



2023 Annual Holiday Party  
Photo Credit: Tess Cruz

## 2023 Officers

Master	Pete Bautista, PM (Estrellita)
Senior Warden	Lourey Bartolome (Jen)
Junior Warden	Roskin Metra (Azeneth)
Treasurer	Norman Stewart (Carolyn)
Secretary	Jonathan Cruz (Maissie)
Chaplain	Tommi Kitchens (Grace)
Assistant Secretary	Bryant Mergillano (Laoja)
Senior Deacon	Roger Galamgam (Maricel)
Junior Deacon	Daniel Baumer (Alexis)
Marshal	Melvir Gutierrez (Glen)
Senior Steward	Don Oliva
Junio Steward	Jeffrey Tortona (Cristina)
Tiler	Napoleon Aspiras (Let)
Inspector - 506th Masonic District	Charles Dimaano, PM (Elizabeth)
Officers Coach	Jack Cloud, Jr., PM (Tonya Lynn)
Officers Coach	Ed Kaczynski, PM (Patricia)

## January Birthdays

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - Jay Monroe           | 13 - Christian Mesina   |
| 2 - Dustin Cooper        | 15 - Allan Overby       |
| 3 - Victor Superales     | 17 - Jeremy Fernandez   |
| 6 - John Ashlock         | 20 - David Amponin      |
| 8 - Stuart Lyons         | 20 - Bermie Pascual, PM |
| 11 - Jerry Allen         | 24 - Roger Galamgam     |
| 11 - Christopher Headley | 26 - Daniel Baumer      |
| 13 - Rupert Beckford     | 30 - Danilo Cruz        |

## Masonic Anniversaries

- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Pat Cerdenola, PM - 42 Years   | Stuart Lyons - 13 Years      |
| George Wilkinson - 40 Years    | Lewis Diulus, III - 13 Years |
| Benigno Rufo - 39 Years        | Dave Domantay - 12 Years     |
| Richard Mc Clelland - 37 Years | Keith Eden - 12 Years        |
| Ferdinand Quinto - 28 Years    | John Gonzaga - 10 Years      |
| Gemino Barrera, PM - 22 Years  | Wright Beltran - 9 Years     |
| Jeremy Fernandez - 21 Years    | Marc Lastrella - 4 Years     |
| Arthuro Gentilezo - 19 Years   | Bryant Mergillano - 1 Year   |
| Roger Galamgam - 16 Years      |                              |

# Worshipful Master

## (Masonic Year 2022 & 2023)

Brethren,

I hope this message finds you and your families in good health and great spirits!

First and foremost, my family and I wish you and yours a Happy New Year! May this year bring us hope for a better and brighter year.

Secondly, I would like to thank the Special Events Committee led by Worshipful (Elect) Lourey Bartolome and Senior Warden (Elect) Roskin Metra for an outstanding Holiday Party they orchestrated with the help of the Welcome Lodge brethren last December 9. It was truly a wonderful evening to kick off the Holidays! Our Welcome Lodge families and friends had a great time, and it will be, no doubt, a party to remember. Congratulations, and thank you, Brothers, for a job well done.



New Year, new beginnings, as people say, and we look to the East with anticipation. In a few weeks, we will hold our annual installation of officers for the year. And we can proudly salute our incoming Master, Worshipful (Elect) Lourey Bartolome, when the time comes. I am confident that we have chosen a Brother who will lead us to the next level and continue to make us proud members of Welcome Lodge No. 255. I wish him and his elected and appointed officer line all the best and encourage every Brother to extend the same support, friendship, and affection as you have done for me.

As this is my final Trestleboard as your Master, I would again like to thank everyone for your trust, confidence, and support. You all have made the last two years challenging but rewarding, dreadful at times but memorable. It has been both an honor and privilege to serve you, our Lodge, and the Craft, and I am forever grateful for the opportunity.

I would like to convey a special token of appreciation to all our Past Masters who have been a well of knowledge and fount of wisdom. Without them, there would only be a tormented soul sitting on the Oriental chair. Your guidance, support, and even presence alone were invaluable and truly helped me accomplish my duty. So, thank you, Worshipful Brothers Charles, Hermie, Ed, Jack, Pat, Danny, and DW!

And speaking of your support, lodge dues, like New Year, is again upon us too! Our Brother Secretary will very much appreciate it if you send your dues as soon as you can. Lodge dues for 2024 is \$131.00.

I will be remiss if I fail to thank our Lodge Secretary, Brother Jonathan Cruz, Junior Warden (Elect) for one more time. I have not met a Brother who is so passionate and humble and never fails to go the distance to serve a worthy Brother. Thank you, Brother Jonathan, for making it easy for me.

Lastly, as we prepare to welcome the 2024 Officer line, I would like to remind everyone to mark your calendars and be sure not to miss our annual installation. The installation date is set for Sunday, January 21 — more details to follow.



For your planning purposes, our schedule looks like this:

January	February	March
4th – Stated Meeting, 730PM TBD – Installation Practice 21st – Welcome Lodge No. 255’s 146th Installation of Officers, 3PM	1st – Stated Meeting, 730PM	6th – LMTA Meeting 7th – Stated Meeting, 730PM

In closing, allow me to share you this:

## *Obligation*

*The Merriam Webster Online Dictionary (2023) defines it*

*: the action of obligating oneself to a course of action (as by a promise or vow);  
: an act to which a person is legally or morally bound;  
synonymous to a commitment, a duty or responsibility.*

*In Freemasonry, it is the focal point of each of the three degrees wherein  
it establishes an audible and visible evidence of a candidate’s free will and sincerity.*

*Its purpose is to bind the candidate to the Fraternity and guard  
against any revelation of modes of recognition or symbolic instructions to non-Masons.*

*Simply put, it is a contract where conditions, rights, responsibilities,  
dos and don’ts, and penalties are outlined.*

*As it may be, however, the whole of the obligation itself  
(with the exception of “symbolic penalties”) must be taken seriously and literally.*

Thank you, stay safe, take care of each other and see you all in the Lodge!

Upon the Square...

Pete O. Bautista, PM  
Worshipful Master

# Worshipful Master

## (Elect - Masonic Year 2024)

Brethren,

Fraternal greetings! Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Holiday Party. It was a great turnout and a lot of fun! The food was delicious. Thank you to all the brothers who helped out with the preparation. Also, a special thanks to Tess Cruz for being our photographer for the evening.

I would like to congratulate Brother Joe Marchese for being initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason, and I also wanted to congratulate Jay Monroe for returning a remarkable Fellowcraft proficiency.



As this Masonic Year winds down, I wanted to show my appreciation to Worshipful Pete Bautista. You have been a great leader, mentor, and friend during your tenure as the Worshipful Master of our Lodge. I am grateful for everything you have done and continue to do. I know I will always have someone there to ask questions and bounce ideas off of. Thank you for being a great leader, mentor, brother and friend.

With that being said, if your schedule permits, you are cordially invited to our 146th Annual Installation of Officers to be held on January 21, 2024, at Welcome Lodge No. 255 at 3:00 PM.

To all the past officers, thank you! To all the incoming officers, thank you for your dedication to the craft. 2024 will be an exciting year, and I hope you are all excited for the next chapter of our Masonic journeys.

**Thank you again, brethren, for your continued support and dedication to our Lodge!**

*“Masonic labor is purely a labor of love.  
He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed.  
The wages of a Mason are in the dealings with one another;  
sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness,  
and these are the wages of a Mason.”  
- Benjamin Franklin*

Fraternally,  
Lourey Bartolome  
Senior Warden

2024 Annual Dues - \$131.00

Affiliation Fees  
CA Affiliation - \$0 | Non-CA Affiliation \$85.00

Payment consists of:

Lodge Dues: \$65.00

*per by-laws, last amended August 2012*

Grand Lodge Annual Per Capita: \$66.00

*paid in October annually, excluding demitted and suspended members*

**Non-Jurisdictional Affiliations (Non-CA)**

Payment consists of:

Lodge Affiliation Fee: \$0.00 (no charge)

Application Fee: \$30.00

Background Check: \$30.00

Masonic Homes Contribution: \$25.00

Affiliation Fees  
CA Affiliation - \$0 | Non-CA Affiliation \$85.00

**Masonic Degrees**

**Non-Jurisdictional Affiliations (Non-CA)**

Payment consists of:

Lodge Affiliation Fee: \$0.00 (no charge)

Application Fee: \$30.00

Background Check: \$30.00

Masonic Homes Contribution: \$25.00

Payment consists of:

Lodge Degree Fees: \$500.00

*per by-laws, last amended August 2012*

Application Fee: \$30.00

Background Check: \$30.00

Masonic Home Contribution: \$25.00

G.W. Masonic Memorial Contribution: \$15.00

CA Masonic Memorial Contribution: \$9.00

**CMC 2022 §809.320.B LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

A sum of money equal to the Lodge's annual dues at the time of purchase of the life membership multiplied by the factor indicated opposite the member's age in the following schedule:

- Age 49 and under, a factor equal to or greater than 24 times annual dues;
- 50 to 54 inclusive, a factor equal to or greater than 20 times annual dues;
- 55 to 59 inclusive, a factor equal to or greater than 18 times annual dues;
- 60 to 64 inclusive, a factor equal to or greater than 16 times annual dues;
- 65 to 71 inclusive, a factor equal to or greater than 14 times annual dues; and
- Age 72 and over, a factor equal to or greater than 12 times annual dues.

## NEW! Masonic Value Network

A Select Network of Independent Providers



Looking for caregivers or senior care for a loved one? Searching for services and resources in your own community?

**The Masonic Value Network can help!**

The Masonic Value Network is a convenient listing of care-related service providers located in communities throughout California (and beyond) that welcome California Masons and Masonic families.

- » Find care-related providers and resources in your area
- » Access offerings and educational materials from independent service providers
- » Convenient online access is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week



**EXPLORE THE MASONIC VALUE NETWORK**  
[masonichome.org/ValueNetwork](http://masonichome.org/ValueNetwork)



# 2024 Officers



Master	Lourey Bartolome (Jen)
Senior Warden	Roskin Metra (Azeneth)
Junior Warden	Jonathan Cruz (Maissie)
Treasurer	Arman Santos (Anna)
Secretary	Tracy Jon Miranda (Gerlyn)
Chaplain	Roland Bautista (Janeth)
Assistant Secretary	Pete Bautista, PM (Estrellita)
Senior Deacon	Roger Galamgam (Maricel)
Junior Deacon	Don Oliva
Marshal	Joseph Randa (Arlene)
Senior Steward	Jeffrey Tortona (Cristina)
Junior Steward	Dustin Cooper (Kelly)
Tiler	Napoleon Aspiras (Let)
Inspector - 506th Masonic District	Charles Dimaano, PM (Elizabeth)
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