

May
2022



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Follow us on Facebook, where you can upload stories, photos and news events! You can also find Masonic education.

Please send stories, photos, comments or corrections to the editor at:

sharmaelly@gmail.com

Do you want to get the Trestleboard sooner? Sign up for email delivery and you'll get it before the 1st!

Trestleboard - a draftsman's designing board; that on which a Mason draws his designs for his character and spiritual growth; that on which the Worshipful Master lays out his designs for the workmen; a Lodge's newsletter and calendar of events.

From the East

Jerry Donathan, PM
Worshipful Master



Brethren,

Well Brethren it's May already and we've accomplished so much ! Brethren, I'd like to echo Worshipful Harold and put together a floor cleaning crew and I'll buy the beer. We need to get together with the Jr Wardens of the other Lodges and finalize plans for the June 12th Philippines Independence Day Celebration. We're growing leaps and bounds so let's keep it up and finish with a bang !

Fraternally,

Jerry Donathan

Worshipful Master

MVL #289



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DO YOU NEED MASONIC RELIEF DUE TO COVID-19?

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Or call (888) 466-3642 to speak with Masonic Outreach staff

Masonic Homes of California





From the West

Harold Whitford, PM, SW

Hello Brethren,

Wow! How time flies, only one month until the Big Filipino Independence Day celebration.

What should we do? Hey !Let's have another G.I.Party like we did for our Installation. The floors and bathrooms need a real good scrubbing .The Officers & Hall Assn. members that we could talk to and get a commitment from AGREED on Sat. May 14th 8-9 AM starting time to roll up our sleeves and 'get er'done' !

Bldg. Mgr. Jose is going to rent a 'tile floor' scrubber and we will need hand equipment like a couple of long handled scrub brushes etc. etc.. We have most everything we'll need and Al Burke said he'll be there to show us where stuff is. Our Master Jerry has offered to come up with some 'libation' and a couple of us will get some Pizza on the scene.

This will be a good example of how Masons work together in Unity & Harmony. Also and maybe even more importantly we can talk seriously and finalize who will be available and what arrangements have been made for June 12th.

Harold Whitford, P.M.

Senior Warden



In Memoriam

January 23, 1947

75 Years 67 Days

March 30, 2022

"An honest man here lies at rest,

**The friend of man,
The friend of truth,
The friend of age,
And guide of youth.**

Few hearts like his with virtue warmed.

Few heads with knowledge so informed.

**In another world he lives in bliss,
knowing here he made the best of this."**

- Robert Burns

**"Place, Bright and Glorious
Be Thy Rising From It."**

**Please, say a prayer for our
dearly departed Worship-
ful Brother Marty Gushwa,**



**A Masonic memorial will be held on
June 4, 2022, at 1:00 PM at the
Menifee Valley Lodge Crystal Ballroom**

Located at 27221 McCall Blvd

Sun City, CA 92585

"The secret of masonry is to keep a secret."





From the South

Marty Gushwa, PM, JW

If you noticed in the dance card, I put a sign about "EGO NEED NOT ENTER HERE". So, I searched more on the Web about EGO in masonry definition which I found an interesting article wrote by Bro. John W. "Jack" Dean III, 33° titled Masonic EGO – Positive or Negative?

In his first conclusion, he reached that the changed came slowly from the top leaders who cannot envision it, but the past officers were resistant and suspicious about the change.

The second conclusion, the lodge allowed the quality of the membership to decline. There were so many reasons for the development that he cannot address on his article. However, the decline in quality resulted at all levels in less tolerance for instruction of the membership and often friction between the members. It is when this happens that we as members and officers to step back and examine our positions.

The best conclusion on his article which I agreed was that *"In all our Masonic Bodies, we have an altar where each of us has learned the lessons of brotherhood, love, tolerance, and relief. At this same altar, we all took an oath to place an arm around a Brother and gave him due and timely notice of all approaching problems or dangers."*¹

So, if you ask yourselves before you act, I wonder how much disharmony there would be. What would be your opinion about our current LODGE?

Always remember "MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER MEN".....

1. <https://warren13mason.tripod.com/id13.html>



From the Secretary

Bro. Jerico Alvarez

Brethren,

As a member of Menifee Valley Lodge No. 289, you take an obligation to each other's wives and families. As a Lodge, managing the widows of former masons can be a difficult process since a lot of information is not known about the widows. Therefore, it is very important to obtain all possible personal information such as anniversary, date of birth, full name, and etc. on their current wife/partner while the member is still alive so the Lodge may continue to reach out to her upon his passing. Creating an engaged widows committee is the key to successful roster management and outreach. Including EA and FC masons on this committee is a great way to have an understanding of the truly masonic ornaments they are brotherly love, relief and truth. So if you would like to volunteer and be part of any Lodge offices, please contact myself for more details.

Additionally, below are obituary search engines that GLC recommended for Lodges to use.

- o Tributes.com
- o Legacy.com
- o Findagrave.com

Furthermore, the Social Security Death Index can be examined on the website below.

o genealogybank.com/gbnk/ssdi

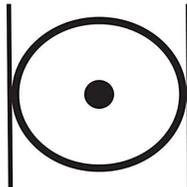
Fraternally,

Bro. Jerico Alvarez
Lodge Secretary

BIRTHDAYS

MAY

Member
Smith, Harold
Donathan, Jerry
Harrigan, Eli
Smith, Charles
Monsen, Peter
Punchard, George

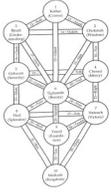


RAISING

MAY

Member	Date Raised	Years
Goward, Richard	5/23/1951	71
Kossow, Frederick	5/5/1953	69
Wells, Monte	5/10/1957	65
Sibby, Edward	5/24/1963	53
Bacon, Clark	5/2/1970	52
Geisler, Douglas	5/17/1980	42
Harold, Whitford	5/11/1981	41
Hafeli, Thomas	5/14/1990	32
Gilmore II, James	5/24/1995	27
Hall, Adam	5/17/2001	21





Masonic Education

Go Dark



The Masonic term "go dark" means that a lodge ceases to operate as a lodge.

When a lodge "goes dark" or is said to have "gone dark"; it either:

1. Ceases to exist as a lodge (permanently closes its doors),...or
2. "Went dark" and ceased to have Stated Meetings for an agreed upon period of time:

A. This occurs in farming communities wherein when a large number of the lodge's members are farmers and must tend to their crops during the Summer; it is agreed that the lodge should "go dark" (no meetings) until Fall when their crops have been harvested.

This also applies to other trades and livelihoods such as if a large number of the lodge's members are fishermen and are at sea for periods of time or military lodges whose members are deployed.

B. Some lodges "go dark" for a period of time each year. Some lodges choose not to "go dark" during any period of time during the year. And, some lodges "go dark" (do not have Stated Meetings, especially during the Summer) and members are delegated to tend to other Masonic duties such as:

1. Large job Lodge maintenance (cleaning, polishing or stripping of the lodge's floors, painting, etc.)
2. Clean up and or mowing or trimming at Masonic cemeteries and widow's homes; visiting the elderly or those in nursing homes and hospitals.
3. Highway cleanup, community partnerships, charitable acts, etc.
4. If the lodge offers a Masonic scholarship, the lodge's delegated scholarship team contacts local area high school (s) and begins the application process for the next school year.

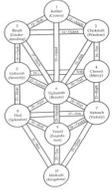
Masonic scholarships are typically education scholarships offered by the lodge to qualifying high school students in their local community who wish to attend university. Qualifications vary between lodges, but most are based on a student's academic grades and their financial need. There are no requirements placed upon the student to become a member of the lodge in the future.

Here is what Albert Mackey, Freemason author and historian, said in his *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* (1929) page 262 about "Darkness":

(Continued in page 5)

"Masonry is identical with the Ancient Mysteries."





Masonic Education

Darkness

"Darkness has, in all the systems of initiation, been deemed a symbol of ignorance, and so opposed to light, which is the symbol of knowledge. Hence the rule, that the eye should not see until the heart has conceived the true nature of those beauties which constitute the mysteries of the Order.

In the Ancient Mysteries, the aspirant (candidate) was always shrouded in darkness as a preparatory step to the reception of the full light of knowledge. Among the Druids of Britain, the period was 9 days and nights; in the Grecian Mysteries, it was 3 times 9 days; while among the Persians, according to Porphyry, it was extended to the almost incredible period of 50 days of darkness, solitude and fasting.

Because, according to all the cosmogonies, (the study of the origin of the universe) accounts of the universe, darkness existed before light was created, darkness was originally worshipped as the firstborn, as the progenitor of day and the state of existence before creation.

The apostrophe of Young to *Night* embodies the feelings which gave origin to this debasing worship of darkness:

O majestic night!
 Nature's great ancestor! Day's elder born!
 And fated to survive the transient sun!
 By mortals and immortals seen with awe!

Freemasonry has restored darkness to its proper place as a state of preparation; the symbol of that antemundane (being or occurring before the creation of the world) chaos from whence light issued at the Divine command; of the state of nonentity before birth, and of ignorance before the reception of knowledge. Hence, in the Ancient Mysteries, the release of the aspirant (candidate) from solitude and darkness was called the act of regeneration, and he was said to be born again, or to be raised from the dead. And in Freemasonry, the darkness which envelops the mind of the uninitiated being removed by the bright effulgence of Masonic light, Freemasons are appropriately called the "sons of light." In Doctor Oliver's *Signs and Symbols*, there is a lecture "On the Mysterious Darkness of the Third Degree." This refers to the ceremony of enveloping the room in darkness when that Degree is conferred - a ceremony once always observed, but now, in this country at least, (e.g. United States), frequently but improperly omitted.

The darkness here is a symbol of death, the lesson taught in the Degree, while the subsequent renewal of light refers to that other and subsequent lesson of eternal life.

Simon Sez: Both Dr. Oliver (1782-1867) and Dr. Albert Mackey (1807-1881) were renowned Masonic historians and authors. Dr. George Oliver lived in Lincolnshire, England. Dr. Albert Mackey lived in Charleston, South Carolina.

To "go dark" has no racial connotations, whatsoever, as it is well known that Freemasonry accepts as its members men of all different religions and races. The term "go dark" does not have any satanic meaning of any kind as Freemasonry is based upon a belief in a Supreme Being. In different languages around the world the Supreme Being is called such names as: God, Yahweh, Jehovah, YHWH (as seen in the Torah and the Old Testament), Jehovah, Lord, King of Kings and many, many more, as found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our lifelong quest of attaining more "light" refers to attaining mental illumination and journeying toward becoming a living representation of what the Supreme Being designed us to be upon his "Trestleboard", (the Holy Scriptures.)

<https://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/go-dark.html>



"The ultimate success of Masonry depends on the intelligence of her disciples."

Sponsored by:

All the Lodges from 826th Masonic District



124TH *Philippines* *Independence Day*

Date: June 12, 2022 Time: Sunday, 5:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
Location: 27221 McCall Blvd Sun City, CA 92585

Menifee Valley Lodge Crystal Ballroom

The primary mission of the Menifee Valley Masonic Lodge is to help men improve their relationships with God, their family, their community, and most importantly, with themselves through utilizing the teachings, proven traditions and values set forth by Masons from the beginning of our Ancient Fraternity.

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"Our Brotherhood has withstood the test of time and trial and continues to positively impact men's lives"



"Masonry is a search after Light. That search leads us directly back, as you see, to the Kabalah."

MENIFEE VALLEY LODGE HIGHLIGHTS

April 7, Stated Meeting



"Masonry is not a religion. He who makes of it a religious belief, falsifies & denaturalizes it."

MENIFEE VALLEY LODGE HIGHLIGHTS

Double Second Degree Conferral (Bro. Isaac & Bro. Tagle)



"Partition is after all only an old fortress of crumble masonry—held together with the plaster of fiction."

The Masonic Monthly Poem

TRUE MASONS

A band of Brothers
in every age,

Cemented by Fellowship
true,

Masons are truly ~
Sons of Light

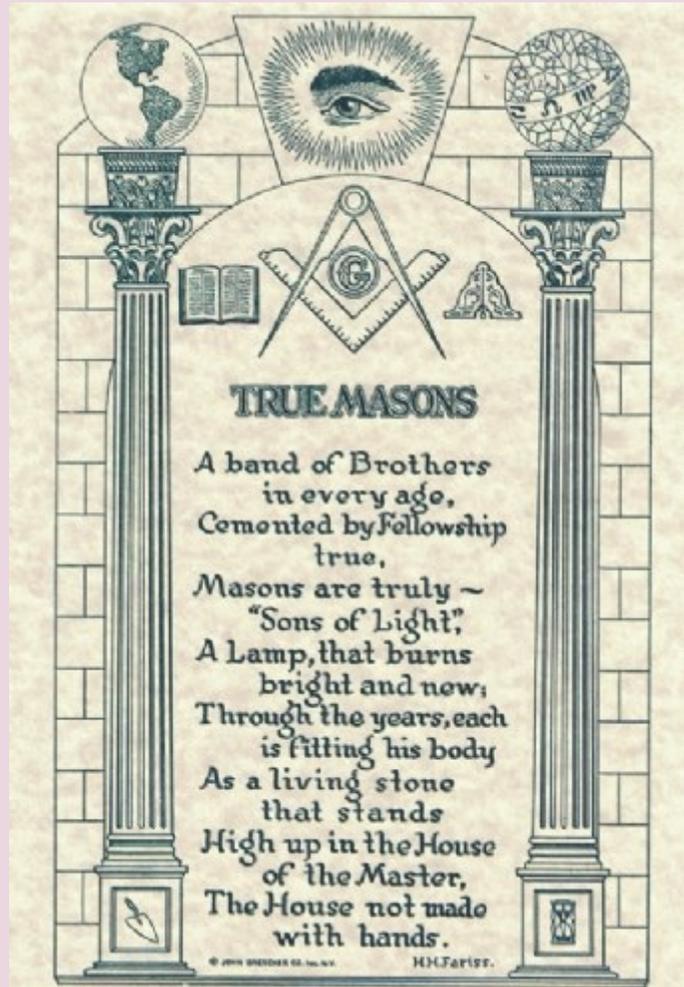
A Lamp, that burns
bright and new

Through the years, each
is fitting his body

As a living stone that stands ,

High up in the House
of the Master

The House not made
with hands.



Concordant Bodies



Job's Daughters Bethel No. 165,
 Meets 2nd and 4th Sundays, 7:00pm
 Carrie Ghent, Bethel Guardian,
 951-271-2054
 Bro. Alan Walbridge, AG
 909-241-5547

SAVE THE DATE!

Inside this Month's Issue

- * The Silent Memorial
- * The Last Masons You'll Ever Meet
- * The Infinite Lodge
- * Death's Doormen
- * The Great Beyond
- * Another Man's Treasure
- * The Diplomat's Lodge

Click on the image below to take you to the virtual CA Freemason magazine.

Click on the image on the right to download the reg-

2022 LEADERSHIP RETREATS



We're Back!

REGISTER NOW! →

LAKE TAHOE * PALM SPRINGS * SAN RAMON * IRVINE

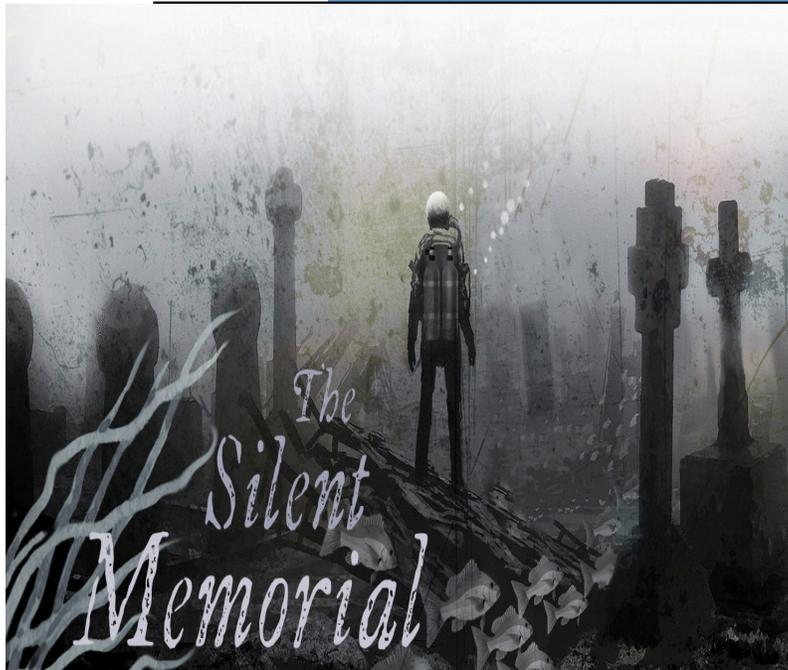
Register for the Final Master and Wardens Retreats in Palm Springs

If you haven't registered for any of this year's Master and Wardens Leadership retreats, the Palm Springs retreat on May 20 is your final opportunity! If you're a current or aspiring lodge officer, the leadership retreats are a can't-miss event, offering advice and specialized sessions to help you envision the change you want to see—and put into action.

Now more than ever, leadership is crucial for our lodges to succeed. That's why, as we emerge from more than two years of pandemic shutdowns, it's imperative that our lodge leaders are armed with the right tools and information to help their lodges not only get back together, but to thrive.

Master and Wardens Leadership Retreat
Palm Springs: May 20–22

REGISTER NOW



IN THE SPRING 2022 ISSUE OF
CALIFORNIA FREEMASON



AFTER LIFE

Masonic Traditions on Both Sides of Life's Thin Veil

READ NOW! →



"The church is no more religion than the masonry of the aqueduct is the water that flows through it."



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SECRETARY

Menifee Valley Lodge No. 289

PO BOX 312 Sun City, CA 92586-0312

Brethren of MVL289,

The monthly Stated Meeting is scheduled on May 5, 2022 at 7:00pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm so please come in early for some important announcement from Lodge Officers.

Officer Attire: **White Long Sleeve with Black Bow Tie**

Member / Visitor: **Casual as appropriate**

Menu: Variety of Food (welcome to bring your favorite dishes)

*****Schedule of Events*****

4:30pm - Lodge will be open. Preparation of refreshments in the kitchen.

5:00pm - Welcoming committees will talk to petitioners at the hall. Therefore, if you have prospect, please ask them to come in early.

5:30pm - Important announcement, T-shirts sale and other masonic items

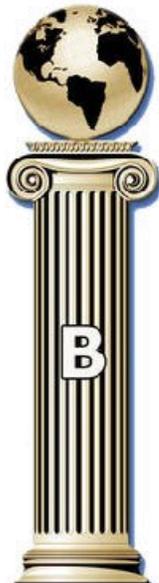
6:00pm - Dinner start, introduce returning members, visiting brethren and petitioners

7:00pm - Stated Meeting, and Transaction of new business for the benefits of Freemasonry.

Kindly make reservation before May 5th, 2022 by logging into your **imember portal**.

We are looking forward to your attendance at the event.

Peace and Harmony prevailing and God Bless to all Masons.





ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SECRETARY

Menifee Valley Lodge No. 289

PO BOX 312 Sun City, CA 92586-0312

Brethren of MVL289,

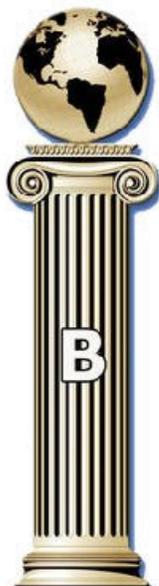
Please mark your calendar for the following MVL 289 events for the Month of May and June 2022. If you have questions or concerns, let the Lodge Secretary/Assistant Lodge Secretary know in advance so that the events will be modified with the WM's guidance:

*****Schedule of Events*****

- May 05, 2022 4:30pm** - Stated Meeting at MVL 289. Lodge will be open. Preparation of refreshments in the kitchen.
- May 12, 2022 5:30pm** - Lodge open on 2nd Degree Proficiency of Bro. Jose Marquez
6:00pm - Lodge closed for refreshment.
7:00pm—Lodge open on 2nd Degree Conferral of Bro. Sherman Hernaez.
- May 19, 2022 7:00pm** - Practice on 3rd Degree Conferral of Bro. Jose Marquez.
- May 26, 2022 7:00pm** - Lodge open 3rd Degree Conferral of Bro. Jose Marquez.
- June 04, 2022 1:00pm**—Masonic Memorial Service for WB Marty Gushwa. (Attire: Dark Suit w/ black necktie).
 Please RSVP at 951-349-4957.

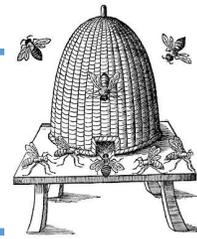
We are looking forward to your attendance at the event.

Peace and Harmony prevailing and God Bless to all Masons.



"The successive series of stratified formations are piled on one another, almost like courses of masonry."

May 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 STATED MEETING TIME: 7:00 PM	6 Grand Lodge of California established 1850	7
8 Happy Mother's Day! ATENG MASTER OF MASON	9	10	11	12 2 ^o CONFERRAL FOR BRO-SHERMAN HERNAEZ 2 ^o PROFICIENCY FOR BRO JOSE MARQUEZ	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 3 ^o PRACTICE @ MVL 289 TIME: 7:00 PM	21	21
22	23	24	25	26 3 ^o CONFERRAL FOR BRO. JOSE MARQUEZ	27	28
29	30 ALL GAVE SOME... SOME GAVE ALL... NONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN... MEMORIAL DAY	31				May Birthstone:  Emerald

2022 LEADERSHIP RETREATS



We're Back!

REGISTER NOW!

LAKE TAHOE * PALM SPRINGS * SAN RAMON * IRVINE



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- Senior communities in Covina and Union City
- Statewide Masonic Outreach Services for members of all ages and their families
- Transitions short-term care for neurological and post-surgical rehabilitation (Union City)
- The Masonic Center for Youth and Families in San Francisco and Covina—with telehealth services now available everywhere
- **NEW!** Shared housing for seniors in Covina

CONTACT US TODAY TO ACCESS YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

masonichome.org (888) 466-3642

mcjaf.org (877) 488-6293 (San Francisco) (626) 251-2300 (Covina)

Masonic Value Network:
Care Resources + Prescription Discounts
masonichome.org/ValueNetwork

OSI Schedule of Events 2022 Starts @ 7:00 P.M.

- ◆ 5/16/22— Temecula Catalina Island Lodge # 524. 2nd Degree 2nd Section. Staircase and Master's Lecture.
- ◆ 6/15/22- Temecula Catalina Island Lodge # 524. Hosted by Murrieta Lodge # 869. How to do a Candidate Investigation.
- ◆ 7/15/22—Menifee Valley Lodge # 289, Hosted by Gat Jose Rizal Lodge UD, 1st Section of 1st Degree O & O and closing in long form.
- ◆ August 2022—Dark
- ◆ 09/20/22—Hemet San Jacinto Lodge # 338, 1st Degree, Master's Lecture



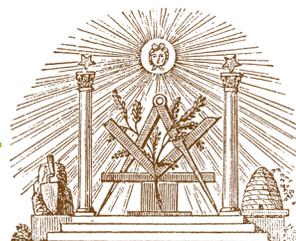
"To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, one must observe."

Committees



Here are our committees for 2022. By being a Committee member, you are “paying it forward” to the Lodge by giving a little of your time. Some Committees only meet once a year, others quarterly, and some monthly. The point is, we need your help. Contact the Chairman for meeting times.

<u>Audit</u>	<u>Charity & Relief</u>	<u>Sickness & Distress</u>	<u>Hiram Award</u>	<u>Funeral</u>
CH –	Jerry Donathan, PM, WM Harold Whitford, PM, SW	CH –Harold Whitford, PM	Jerry Donathan, PM, WM Wor Harold Whitford, PM, SW	Wor Harold Whitford, PM, SW Wor Allan Bowman, PM, Chaplain Bro Jerico Alvarez
<u>Budget</u>	<u>Widows</u>	<u>Hall Association</u>	<u>Trestleboard</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
CH—Wor Chuck Markel, PM Bro Sammy Gillo Bro Jerico Alvarez	CH – Harold Whitford, PM Wor Allan Bowman, PM <u>Finance</u> CH –Wor Jerry Dona- than, SW	CH- Bro Sammy Gillo Pres (24) Bro Ed Fontanilla Sr VP(24) Bro Jerico Alvarez Sec (24) Chuck Markel, PM —Treasurer Bro Jose Shepard BM (24) Wor Harold Whitford, PM Ex Officio Wor Jerry Donathan , WM Ex Officio	Editor—Wor Jerry Donathan, PM Editor – Bro Sammy Gillo Asst Secretary Editor—Bro Jerico Alvarez Secretary <u>Public Schools</u> CH –	CH– Marty Gushwa, PM Sr. & Jr. Stewards All EA’s & FC’s Newly Raised MM’s
Assignments				
<u>Officer’s Coach</u>	<u>Masonic History</u>	<u>Photographer</u>	<u>Fraternal Support Ambassador</u>	<u>Head Candidate Coach</u>
Wor Chuck Markel, PM Wor Harold Whitford, PM Assistant	Any Willing Brother	Bro Bud Smith	Wor Allan Bowman, PM	Bro Onofre Rasalan, SD
<u>Member Retention</u>		<u>Masonic Education</u>		<u>Facebook/Website</u>
CH –		Bro Onofre Rasalan Bro Dean Malibiran Any Willing Brother		CH – Bro Sammy Gillo Bro Jerico Alvarez Bro Adelbert Cagungao





Menifee Valley Masonic Lodge

27221 McCall Blvd.

PO Box 312

Sun City, CA 92586

PH: (951) 679-9493

Text: (951) 349-4957

Trestleboard Editor:

Jerico Alvarez, Secretary

kjalvarez2126@gmail.com

Sammy Gillo, Asst Secretary

sharmaelly@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[http://
lodge289.freemason.org](http://lodge289.freemason.org)

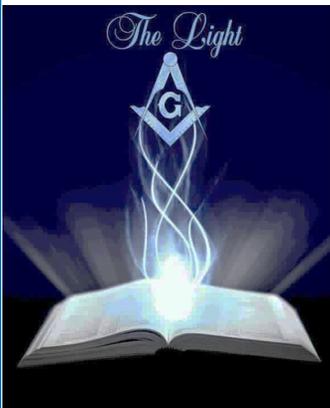
[https://m.facebook.com/
MenifeeValleyMasons](https://m.facebook.com/MenifeeValleyMasons)

or for the Crystal Ballroom:

[http://
lodge289.freemason.org](http://lodge289.freemason.org)

Menifee Valley Lodge #289 Officers

Worshipful Master	Wor Jerry Donathan, PM
Senior Warden	Wor Harold Whitford, PM
Junior Warden	
Treasurer	Wor Chuck Markel, PM
Secretary	Jerico Alvarez
Assistant Secretary	Sammy Gillo
Chaplain	Wor Allan Bowman, PM
Senior Deacon	Onofre Rasalan
Junior Deacon	Adelbert Cagungao
Marshal	Jose Shepard
Senior Steward	Dean Malibiran
Junior Steward	Angel Panganiban
Tiler	Eduardo Fontanilla, Sr.
Officer's Coach	Wor Chuck Markel, PM
Inspector 826th Masonic District	Wor Carl Black, PM



Did you know that being an officer is both a privilege and an honor? These leaders have made a commitment to being at the practices and meetings/degrees and doing an outstanding job. We are all indebted to them for this commitment and their efforts. If you are interested in becoming an officer, please contact the Worshipful Master or the Officers Coach listed above.



"Affliction's sons are brothers in distress, A brother to relieve, how exquisite the bliss!"



Annual Trestleboard Sponsorships and business card ads help defray the annual cost of printing and mailing the Trestleboard to those Brothers, widows and friends of the Lodge who are not adept at electronic publications.

If you can afford to sponsor, please see your Lodge Secretary.

Business card ads are limited by the CMC to brother Mason's only.

If you wish to move mountains tomorrow, you must start by lifting stones today.



Integrity



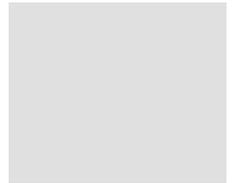
is choosing your thoughts and actions based on values rather than personal gain.

MENIFEE VALLEY

MASONIC LODGE

PO Box 312

Sun City, CA 92586



2B1  ASK1

THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER