

March 2022

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

sharmaelly@gmail.com

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Menifee Valley Lodge #289

trestleboard

A newsletter serving the Masonic and affiliated bodies of Menifee Valley, CA



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,

WOW ! What a month February was with practices and practices and 2 beautiful MM Degrees.

I congratulate **Bros. Primo** and **Sam** on becoming Master Masons and know that they will continue their Masonic Journeys and make our Lodge proud.

Brethren this Lodge is growing as we still have a few FCs to Raise to Master Mason as well as several new applicants waiting to join our Ranks.

Brethren your Ritual work just keeps getting better and better and it's hard to believe that most of you had never done any ritual work until a few months ago, keep it up !

Brethren, I have never seen a group of Brothers so dedicated to their Lodge and I am **PROUD** of every one of you.

Let's keep this going and make March even better !

Fraternally,

Jerry Donathan

Worshipful Master

MVL #289



DISTRESSED & WORTHY BROTHER RELIEF FUND

DO YOU NEED MASONIC RELIEF DUE TO COVID-19?

Masonic Outreach Services is here to help those who find themselves in need due to COVID-19. Relief includes emergency financial assistance, case management, and information and referral services.

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

Masonic Homes of California



A beautiful system of Morality, veiled in Allegory, illustrated by Symbols



From the West

Harold Whitford, PM, SW

Hello Brethren,

Brethren, Grand Master Wilkins has as is customary proclaimed the month of March to be 'Masonic Youth' month.

Men-Val #289 has for many years supported Job's Daughters Bethel #165 to the best of our financial ability. They do most of their own fund raising for projects like 'Attending Grand Bethel', having 'Sleep overs' Pizza &

Bowling parties etc.. BUT 'Grand Bethel' has been way more strict on them than our 'Grand Lodge' has been on us Masons.

Covid has squashed their 'fund raising' projects . I've been informed that the girls may be allowed to attend our March stated meeting dinner to clean tables and take away Trash, (the Lodge pays them \$50 to do that) . If they can't come I'll put out a jar for donations, HECK, let's all donate anyway, they are way behind.

Remember Brethren, (the Masonic Youth) are Big part of whether Freemasonry will survive in the future. So please donate Cheerfully & Generously Thank you!

Harold Whitford, P.M.
Senior Warden



OUR MATERIAL WORLDS

THE OBJECTS THAT UNITE US

By Mark Frauenfelder

A 10-year-old boy is attending a family picnic in a park in some suburban neighborhood – outside Denver, perhaps, or San Francisco or Chicago. He is eating classic American food; hot dogs or fried chicken soaking through his paper plate. While taking a bite, he looks up at the man sitting across from him, who is talking to his grandfather. As the man lifts his hand to take a sip of his drink, the boy notices his unusual wristwatch.

The watch is unlike anything he has ever seen. It is gold and triangular with colorful symbols around the face where numerals would typically be. One of the symbols looks like a skull and crossbones. It's practically comic book superhero stuff! The boy is too shy to ask about the watch, but he tries to visualize it as he rides home that evening, in the back seat of the family car. The next morning he wonders if he imagined the man and his mysterious watch.

Without realizing it, he has just had his first introduction to the material culture of Freemasonry.

Of Identity and Culture

"Material culture" is the sociological/anthropological term for the things

and places associated with a group's identity and culture. This includes dwellings, places of ceremonial gathering, workplaces, artwork, manufactured goods, food, books, walking paths, neighborhoods – basically everything you can see and touch in a physical location, including the location itself. By studying the physical elements a society uses, you can learn a great deal about the people in that society, because their material culture is closely related to their "nonmaterial culture": the habits, beliefs, codes of ethics, and ideas they hold. And that's because physical things are also symbols that represent different aspects of non-material culture.

As individuals, we often ascribe meaning to the things we own that go far beyond their utility and function. For instance, in my desk drawer is a Leatherman PST multitool that my late father-in-law gave me in 1984. The PST is the first multitool made by Leatherman. Compared to the highly evolved multitools of today, my Leatherman is clunky, heavy, and awkward to use. The blade doesn't lock, making it dangerous, and I need both hands to open it. Production on the PST ended in 2004, when it was replaced by more evolved models. But instead of upgrading to the latest Leatherman tool, which is made of lightweight titanium and has a blade you can open with one hand, I treasure my PST. Every time I use it, I remember the times I spent with my father-in-law. There's no way I'd part with this tool.



You, too, undoubtedly own things that have little or no intrinsic value, but

which you nonetheless consider priceless. It's part of being human. The pioneering psychologist Jean Piaget discovered that babies felt a sense of ownership over objects and would go into a "violent rage" when one of them was taken away. The term for this kind of behavior is called the "endowment effect." In a 2008 experiment led by Princeton scientist Daniel Kahneman, volunteers were given a coffee mug. Once they had the mug in their possession, they were offered to trade it for a bar of chocolate. Most turned down the offer, preferring to keep the mug. A separate group of volunteers was given the chocolate bar first, then asked if they would be willing to part with it for the mug. Again, the majority of volunteers told the psychologists, "no deal." Our possessions, it seems, become part of us.

The longer an object is retained and revered, the more meaning it acquires. Culturally meaningful objects, like books, are containers for stories. In fact, before Gutenberg popularized movable type printing in Europe during the 1450s, objects took the place of books for people who couldn't afford them; they served as reminders or prompts for stories that were important to a family or group. Just as an object can be infused with meaning for an individual, the same is true for

groups of people with shared interests and beliefs. Young people wear T-shirts with the name of their favorite band as a way to send a signal to other fans: "I'm part of your tribe." People attach stickers to the tops of computers to advertise their favorite websites, programming languages, and cryptocurrencies. The Zen monk in a saffron robe and a shaved head, the woman with a Prada handbag, the Orthodox Jew with a yarmulke, and the biker with a club tattoo are doing the same thing: They're transmitting signals about who they are and what they believe and find valuable through the medium of material culture.

Material culture connects entire civilizations. According to many anthropologists, the circle of family, friends, and acquaintances that a person can reasonably have is limited to no more than 200 people or so. This limit is called Dunbar's Number, named after anthropologist Robin Dunbar, who proposed the idea after he counted the number of relationships primates have and adjusted the number upwards in proportion to the average size of the human brain compared to other primates.

It's not possible to maintain stable relationships with more people than Dunbar calculated because we couldn't bear the massive cognitive load required to deal with so many people on an intimate level. But material culture makes it possible for very large groups of people, including entire countries and religions, to share a common set

kind of kinship even among strangers. You've likely experienced this phenomenon yourself when you see a stranger with a Masonic ring or pin – "There's a brother. I don't know him yet, but I already know we share a lot in common."

Masonry in Captivity

Humor is an important component of their friendship, says Schwartz. "At dinnertime, our table is always laughing. If we run out of things to chat about, we make things up!" he says. "Kjell has a very good sense of humor."

Material culture makes it possible for very large groups of people, including entire countries and religions, to share a common set of values and feel a kind of kinship even among strangers.

At Oflag 79, a German World War II POW camp for Allied officers, Freemasons crafted working tools from scraps of wood taken from tea chests and bunk beds. The chisel was made from a metal reinforcement rod that had been salvaged from a bombed building and sharpened by being rubbed against a stone. "These tools were small enough to be instantly concealed in the pocket should a meeting be interrupted by the guards," writes A.R. Hewitt in an article for *The Masonic Trowel*, called "Craftsmen in Captivity: Masonic Activities of Prisoners-Of-War."

At Oflag VII-B in Eichstatt, Freemasons held their meetings in the camp's dental surgery building, using working tools made from cardboard that could be quickly torn up if a meeting was raided by guards.

The question is, why? Why would men risk their lives by using, let alone keeping, Masonic objects that could give them away to their captors? For Charlie Fisher, the answer is simple: A POW camp is a "very repressive environment, and by keeping Masonry, you help keep your sanity." Fisher, a Master Mason for 42 years, is chaplain of South Pasadena Lodge, a past master, and an officers' coach at Southern California Research Lodge. "Masonic objects enabled prisoners to have something of importance to hold onto; to keep themselves grounded," he says. "They always had their belief in God, but they were able to actually display their Masonic beliefs with their brothers. The solace Freemasonry offered helped keep them sane, despite their terrible conditions."

Intentional by Design

People in general don't give much thought to their material culture. It's

actually a bit difficult to appreciate the material culture we are born into – the way we eat, sleep, socialize, work, decorate our homes, and dress are just the way things are; they are part of us and easy to take for granted, like the air we breathe.

On the contrary, one of Freemasonry's most impressive attributes is its *intentional* material culture. Every aspect of its designed elements – architecture, artwork, furniture, clothing – has been encoded with meaning that corresponds to its spiritual and moral values. This material culture is an essential aspect of Freemasonry. The ritual can't operate without it (hence POWs risking their lives by possessing working tools).

As they travel through the degrees of Masonry, members gain deep insights by meditating on the meanings of working tools, symbols, jewels, aprons, architecture, books, and other aspects of material culture. As time goes on and new discoveries are gleaned, they expand the Mason's existing wisdom and that of the brothers with whom his knowledge and experiences are shared. The material culture of Masonry continues to absorb and reflect this increased potency, not only for individual members, but throughout lodges and Masonry in its entirety. In this way, Masonic artifacts become mediums of communication that transcend time and space.

Masonic artifacts become mediums of communication that transcend time and space.

At South Pasadena Lodge, material culture is held in high regard. The lodge is well-known for its speakers' program, called the Illumination Lectures Series, which is open to the public and often explores the material culture of Freemasonry. In April, for instance, Past Grand Master John R. Heisner, a 33° inspector general honorary of the San Diego Scottish Rite Bodies and author of several books on Masonic symbolism, gave a talk entitled, "The Ancient Landmarks – A Grand Master's Working Tools." Fisher, who works as a freelance historian and serves as a kind of unofficial archivist for the lodge, says this form of Masonic education has become increasingly important for the lodge over the years. Starting a dialogue and hearing from Masonic scholars helps members gain a better understanding of the history of Freemasonry and how it has, at times, been subject to persecution through propaganda.

"I never really studied Masonry that much until I happened to stumble upon a book called 'En Route to Global Occupation' by Gary Kah," Fisher

says. The book included a lot of anti-Masonic perspectives, and as he dug deeper into its misinformation about Freemasonry, Fisher realized how important it was to ensure that the lodge library offered members access to reputable Masonic information. He believes that it is essential for members to be able to inform themselves about Freemasonry in the context of the larger world.

Today, the lodge's extensive library includes many historic texts from local lodges in the area that consolidated with South Pasadena Lodge. "I've found, among other things, a 1905 first edition of H.P.H. Bromwell's 'Restorations of Masonic Geometry and Symbolry.'" Fisher says. He plans to establish a rare books library in the lodge to safely store these historic texts.

Next to the fireplace in the South Pasadena Lodge lobby hang photos and paintings that hold special meaning for brothers, particularly the five portraits of grand masters from South Pasadena Lodge and the four lodges that have consolidated with it over the years. Each portrait is a powerful reminder of the rich history of Freemasonry in Southern California. One photo is of Oscar Lawler, a prominent Los Angeles lawyer in the 20th century. He was just 33 years old when he was installed as grand master of Masons in California in 1908, making him the youngest grand master in California history.

"I actually met him when I was a kid," says Fisher. "He had sort of a colorful history." According to Fisher, Lawler served as assistant U.S. attorney general for President William Howard Taft – also a Mason. After returning to Los Angeles, Lawler investigated the 1910 dynamiting of The Los Angeles Times headquarters. His own house was bombed in 1919, as retaliation by the group responsible for the bombing, injuring him severely.

Among the lodge's other prized possessions is an apron that George Washington is thought to have given to William Morris, a major financier of the Revolutionary War, and which came into the possession of South Pasadena Lodge during their consolidation with Highland Park Lodge. The lodge's interest in material culture is reflected in its ceremonies, too. "We try to give the candidates a unique experience," Fisher says. When a member receives his Master Mason degree, he gets the usual goodies, but he also gets his birthstone, along with the history of that particular stone and what it means."

The Endurance of Material Culture



Freemasonry emphasizes the importance of understanding and sharing the meaning of its unique, deliberately designed material culture. This same kind of awareness can extend beyond the lodge to the world at large. It's a worthwhile exercise to go through your day being observant of the material culture of your family, your workplace, your place of worship, and your neighborhood. What parts of it hold special meaning to you? How do you use material culture as a way to find common ground with people outside your immediate circle? Are there any parts of material culture that you find perplexing – and if so, why? How can you use material culture to share meaningful stories with the people in your life, and ensure that those stories will outlive you so that others can benefit? Being aware of material culture and asking questions about it, even those that can't be answered, make life more enriching and rewarding.

A man passes a glass display in a used watch store on Melrose Avenue in Hollywood. He's about to keep walking when something catches his eye. It's a gold watch exactly like the one he saw at a family picnic – now nearly two decades ago. The sense of mystery and awe that affected him on that balmy summer afternoon come flooding back.

He asks the clerk to take it out of the case and marvels at its beauty. The skull and crossbones are there, at the six o'clock position. There are also other symbols – a sun and moon with human faces; a triangle with an eye inside it; what seem to be carpentry or bricklaying tools. Its gold border is inlaid with decorative chain links, and the face of the watch reads:

*Love your fellow man
Lend him a helping hand*

The watch is even more mysterious and wonderful than he had imagined. Its message of kindness, combined with the arcane symbols, has a powerful effect on him. "What kind of watch is this?" he asks the clerk.

"It's a Waltham Masonic watch from the 1960s," the sales clerk says.

The watch is beyond the man's means and he must leave it at the store. But it has sparked the latent curiosity of his youth. On his way home, he opens the browser on his phone and types the word "Masonry." He isn't sure yet what he will find, but he feels, bursting within him, the hunger for deeper knowledge; for understanding, connection – and perhaps even enlightenment.



From the South

Marty Gushwa, PM, JW

When a new candidate is placed in the northeast corner for the lecture, the reason is explained, but the reason for the placement is sometimes overlooked or forgotten. In some cases, this is probably due to the absolute volume of information the new brother is being provided to be absorbed on that evening ritual.

It was a custom of old-fashioned craftsmen, from whom we as Speculative Masons inclined to regularly placed the cornerstone of the building they were erected at the northeast corner. This custom had come from the Jews and who in turn were taken from the Egyptians. The latter held the belief that the northeast was the point of the compass from which the sun started its journey when it was first created.

The newly admitted apprentice is placed in the northeast corner because he is held to allegorically represented the cornerstone of the lodge. It is while he is in that corner, he will receive the initial lessons, such as the light, which he will build his future moral and Masonic edifice. That means apprentices in that location will impress upon him all the qualities essential to constitute a well strained, true, and trusted cornerstone.

Those qualities being in truthfulness and uprightness of character, purity, life and holiness will bring up the new character of an entered apprentice mason.



From the Secretary

Bro. Jerico Alvarez

Brethren,

Menifee Valley Lodge #289 continues to impress other Lodges in our district with increasing memberships. Therefore, I urge every members to set aside their differences but rather adopt and enforce the teaching of freemasonry. We must obey the three tenets of Masonry, "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth".

The fundamental requirements of a Brethren is the quality of Candidates and not the quantity. My thanks to our dedicated lodge officers for their hard work and commitment to degree works. Remember! You became a member because of your own freewill and accord so I do believe that we will find worthy brothers and three or more Candidates for this year will be attainable.

The final 2021 membership figures are being determined. It does appear that we enjoyed an increase in Initiates and that is good news. However, we also lost Brethren through death and resignation. We can do nothing about when the Great Architect of the Universe calls Brethren to higher service.

But we can do something about resignations, we must be proactive when a resignation is received. Thus, I'm asking members to aid and assist by contacting former members to bring them back into the fold.

We dispersed excellent seeds in 2021 and I predict that we shall reap the real rewards throughout 2022 and beyond.

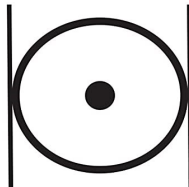
Fraternally,

Lodge Secretary

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

Member	Day
Phillips, John	08
Fontanilla Jr, Eduardo	13
Markel, Charles	18
Queen Jr, Delbert	22
Sibby, Edward	23
Meyer, Gary	24
Carfaro, Michael	25
Laird, John	26



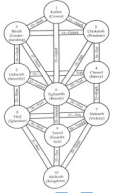
RAISING

MARCH

Member	Date Raised	Years
Staley, Richard	3/26/1959	62
Price, Ronald	3/25/1965	56
Prater, Lloyd	3/15/1968	53
MacQuiddy, Paul	3/17/1977	44
Punchard, George	3/31/1982	39
Leverett, Eddie	3/15/1984	37
Thacker, Kenneth	3/27/1989	32
Cox, Joseph	3/15/2007	14
Barber, Bo	3/29/2007	14
Iannolo, Michael	3/11/2010	11
Sutton, Steven	3/21/2013	8
Alvarez, Jerico	3/22/2018	3



Courage is the first of human qualities, because it is the quality which guarantees all the others.



Masonic Education

MASONIC RETENTION — HOW TO GREET GUESTS AND TURN THEM INTO MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNITY

Your Lodge has held Masonic Information Night. A few guests showed up, but they never return. They didn't even fill out an information card so you could contact them later. As soon as the meeting was over, they shot out the door, never to be seen again.

Why is that?

Did you bother to do your homework, or do you just assume that declines in membership are normal and expected. Was your Masonic Information Night just so you could check off a box on your Masonic Year?

Here are the reasons why your membership declines, and why guests do not return:

Lodge Website. Freemasonry is a mystery to everyone who isn't in the fraternity. There are tens of thousands of websites out there that post all kinds of nonsense about it. Your Lodge website is either bad or it doesn't exist. While Freemasonry is steeped in history and legend, this is the 21st century; if you don't have a website, your invited guests are going to rely on *OTHER* websites to get information about Freemasonry and *YOUR* Lodge. Do you really want David Icke or Alex Jones – neither of whom know anything at all about Freemasonry – to explain the fraternity? Get a website up and running and *keep it current*. All you

need is a domain name, a copy of WordPress, and releases from your Lodge Officers who write in your Trestleboard so you can post their content online. Put up a calendar, let the community know what you're doing and when, and your website will attract members. The very first Masonic website I built attracted 27 new members to my old Lodge over the course of two years, and attendance at our events doubled and even – in some cases – tripled.

Worn out facilities. Put your best face forward – clean up your Lodge! It doesn't hurt to have a spring (and winter) cleaning! Make sure your Lodge is warm in winter and cool in summer! Put out trash cans and **EMPTY** them at the end of the evening. If you've got a kitchen, make sure everything works, the dishes are clean and the silverware is spotless! Get in your bathrooms and clean the urinals, stock the hand soap and paper towels, clean the toilets and – for gosh's sake **MAKE SURE YOUR PLUMBING IS WORKING**. Nothing turns off a prospective candidate faster than using a restroom in a Lodge that is worse than the gas station bathroom down the street that hasn't been cleaned since the Truman Administration. And, while we're all guys, **DO NOT** forget to clean and freshen up the women's restroom! When the candidate may be enthusiastic about joining, the wives or girlfriends are the ones who will ultimately make the decision for them. Make sure the Lodge is a place where everyone feels comfortable!

Poor signage. Freemasonry isn't a secret society, nor is it a society with secrets. It's a fraternity that exists and survives because people can find Lodges. Make sure your signage is clean, correct, and directs people to your building. And, while you're at it, make sure the guests know where to park and where the entrance is. It doesn't hurt to have a bulletin board that can be seen from out-

side the building listing upcoming events, either; you want people to attend, right? Let 'em know where you are and what your Lodge is up to!

PMS (Past Master Syndrome). You've managed to get guests to show up. Now what? They're in an unknown environment, they don't know what to expect, and now the dreaded PMS takes hold. You know what PMS is: the know-it-alls – and it's not just Past Masters who contract this dreaded disease. The members who "know" more than the guests, who giggle and talk about goat riding and "mysteries" and other absolute nonsense. Duct tape their mouths shut. Or – better yet – *don't invite them*; they're not Masons, they're guys looking for lapel pins who think they're better than everyone else because they've joined a so-called "secret society" that guests don't know anything about. They're not going to convince guests that Freemasonry is the world's oldest social fraternity and largest philanthropy, they're just going to alienate them and drive everyone out the door. Here's how you combat PMS:

- **DO NOT** have any "secret insider language" or silly-assed references to things that don't exist. While our rituals may be in legacy English, we don't talk that way normally – and your guests most definitely don't. Talk to them like you're talking to a friend you'd like to invite over for a BBQ or a beer. These guests have the potential to be your brother. Treat them that way.

- **DO NOT** have ANY member ask any guest to move because they're sitting in the member's seat. **EVERY** guest should have



preferred seating at any public event – especially on a Masonic information night. If you'd like to have guests sit in a specific area, then let them know that before hand – don't make them get up and move once they've found a seat they feel comfortable sitting in.

- **DO NOT** let any guest sit alone; we're a fraternity, act like you're in one. Sit with the guests or invite them to a seat next to a member before they sit down. Freemasonry is all about who can best work and best agree. It's all about camaraderie.

- **DO NOT** force your guests to introduce themselves; they don't need to stand up, say their names, or participate. They've already made the effort; they're here, in your Lodge. Make your guests more comfortable by having a social hour before your event.

Boring Event. If you have nothing to offer, then your guests will have no reason to return. Assemble a Masonic Information Night team. Get the youngest, the brightest, most personable, and most knowledgeable Masons in your Lodge together. You want to answer every question with an actual answer, not a "I don't know" or a "I can't tell you that, it's a Masonic secret" non-answer. The secret to a great event is to make it interesting. Explaining your broken down furniture isn't interesting. Tell your guests about your Lodge. Tell them about what Freemasonry does; the charities, your Lodge events, etc. Be proud of your fraternity. Freemasonry sells itself.

The Lodge will either (a) not have any information about Freemasonry that the guest can take with them; or (b) have stale information. If at all possible, get information packages from your Grand Lodge or have your best writers in your Lodge develop an information package tailored to Freemasonry in your jurisdiction and your Lodge in particular that the guest can take with them. Give them information on Freemasonry, your Lodge, an application, and a personal contact they can talk to once the evening is over.

(Continued on the Next Page)



The true Mason takes full responsibility for the condition of his character and ever strives for its perfection.

Continuation from Page 5

Maybe it's the screenwriter in me, but here's the best way to have a great event: enter the 'meat' of the event as late as possible and leave as soon as you can. If your event has a social hour, only have a 20 minute "information" part afterward. Let your guests mingle with members. Let them ask questions (yes, before the event!). Let them get comfortable. Then, after the social hour, make your presentation. Make it interesting, quick, and entertaining. Once it's over, have an informal question and answer session and make sure you talk with every guest. Invite them back to your next public event.

Finally, have information. One of the primary complaints about the fraternity is that the Lodge will either (a) not have any information about Freemasonry that the guest can take with them; or (b) have stale information. If at all possible, get information packages from your Grand Lodge or have your best writers in your Lodge develop an information package tailored to Freemasonry in your jurisdiction and your Lodge in particular that the guest can take with them. Give them information on Freemasonry, your Lodge, an application, and a personal contact they can talk to once the evening is over.

1. <http://merefreemasonry.com/masonic-retention-greet-guests-turn-members-fraternity/#more-582>

Desert Daylight Masonic Lodge #873

Proudly Presents:

The 2nd Annual

Senior Citizen Outreach Outdoor Event



Our Honored Guests

Congressman Raul Ruiz, MD
Senator Melissa Melendez
Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia
Riverside County Supervisor Manuel Perez
Mayor of La Quinta Linda Evans
Mayor of Palm Desert Jan Harnik
Indio Councilmember Glenn Miller
La Quinta City Councilmember John Pena

"Making A Difference Fair"

MARCH 5th, 2022 - 11am to 1pm

At the Palm Desert Country Club
HOA Community Room
At
77800 California Drive
Palm Desert

Flag Presenters:

Senator Melissa Mendez - WWI Flag

Councilmember-Glenn Miller - California Flag



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FREE HOT DOGS, CHIPS AND DRINKS
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Medicare

Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce
iServe Mortgage - Mickey Jumapao - NMLS# 1264074
Stan & Bobbie Gold Rite Care Childhood Language Center
Masonic Outreach Services
..... AND MANY MORE!



There are no strangers in Freemasonry, only friends you've yet to meet.



MENIFEE VALLEY LODGE HIGHLIGHTS

February 3, Stated Meeting



The great wisdom of ageing is to be as forthcoming as a Freemason when people ask how old you are.



The Masonic Monthly Poem

WHEN ARE YOU A MASON?

Wilbur D. Nesbit

When are you a Mason?
When you go to Lodge
If there is a meeting
That you cannot dodge?
When you wear your button?
When still up you climb?
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one all the time.



When are you a Mason?
When there's fun and feast,
Or when you can bolster
With a word at least
Some poor devil's spirits!
The real help you give.
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one as you live.

When are you a Mason?
When some gossip spreads
Of another brother,
Are you the one who heads
Off the hurtful babble,
And helps make things right?
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one day and night.

When are you a Mason?
Brother, you and I
Can make great the Order
As the days go by,
Through each word and action,
Through each song and smile:
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one all the while!



The solution typically lies in the stillness at the base of mind within that shadowy place most refuse to look.

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

- * Lighting the Way
- * Leaders Wanted
- * Roadmap to the Future
- * A Shot in the Arm
- * With a Little Help from his Friends

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

Click on the image on the right to download the registration form.

International Conference on Freemasonry, April 9, 2022

April 9, 2022
9:00 AM-5:00 PM

University of California, Berkeley-
Clark Kerr Campus Conference Center
2601 Warring Street
Berkeley, CA 94720

The View from Here: The Masonic World Through North American Eyes

For the first time since 2019, the International Conference on Freemasonry is back in person. And this time, it's returning in a special new place.

The 2022 conference features a lineup of distinguished speakers on a wide range of academic topics related to Freemasonry; the event is one of the preeminent gatherings on the intersection of Masonic and academic research. This year's event features all speakers based in the United States, lending the symposium a distinctly new-world perspective.

Admission to the conference is \$30; an optional lunch is \$20. Register in advance as space is limited.

Register Now

Grand Master Wilkins: 2022 Proclamations

Grand Master Jeffery Wilkins announced Monday his administration's proclamations for the 2022 fraternal year. With a theme of "crafting leadership," Wilkins says he's excited for California lodges to use these proclamations as a springboard for engaging with the communities they call home.

February 2022 is **Masonic Widows Month**

March 2022 is **Youth Orders Month**

May 2022 is **Public Awareness Month**

June 2022 is **Masonic Homes Month**

July 2022 is **Veterans Appreciation Month**

August 2022 is **First Responders Appreciation Month**

September 2022 is **Public Schools Month**

California lodges are encouraged to recognize each of these proclamations with appropriate events, fundraising, and other forms of recognition. For more information, contact Member Services at memberservices@freemason.org or (415) 776-7000.



It's not who you are that holds you back, it's the unproductive thoughts you focus on and act upon by ignorance.



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 March 3, 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: **Barong**

Member / Visitor: **Casual**

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 March 3rd, 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.



Access to iMember 2.0

https://member.freemason.org/membership_registration

https://member.freemason.org/users/sign_in

Video instructions for New Registrant (Hold "Ctrl" key and Click on Link):

[Chttps://youtu.be/Hx-WliihfCM](https://youtu.be/Hx-WliihfCM)

Click on Link: https://member.freemason.org/membership_registration
(Hold "Ctrl" key + Click on the Link)

If you are a new registrant for iMember 2.0 Site.
Please click on "Member Registration."

Type in your "Lodge Number",
"Member Number" and your "Last
Name" in the boxes.
Then click "Check Membership
Status" box.

2

3

Type in your "Email
Address", create a
"Password", and retype
you're password again in
the "Password
Confirmation" box.
Then click "Sign Up".

4

Sign in: https://member.freemason.org/users/sign_in

If you are already registered or already created an
account, type in your "Email" and "Password".

Then click "Sign In".

5

Reset Password Instructions

Sign In

To reset your password, click on "Forgot Your Password" below the "Sign In" button.

The Sign In form includes fields for Email and Password, a 'Remember Me' checkbox, and a 'Sign in' button. Below the button are three links: 'Sign up', 'Forgot your password?', and 'Didn't receive unlock instructions?'. The 'Forgot your password?' link is circled in red.

6

Forgot Your Password?

The 'Forgot Your Password?' form features an Email input field and a 'Send me reset password instructions' button, which is highlighted in yellow. At the bottom are links for 'Sign in', 'Sign up', and 'Didn't receive unlock instructions?'.

Type in your "Email" address and the reset password instructions will be emailed to the address entered.

7

Unlock "Sign In" Instructions

Sign In

The Sign In form is shown with the 'Didn't receive unlock instructions?' link circled in red at the bottom.

If you didn't receive your unlock instructions in the email, click on "Didn't Receive Unlock Instructions".

8

Resend unlock instructions

The 'Resend unlock instructions' form has an Email input field and a 'Resend unlock instructions' button circled in red. Links for 'Sign in', 'Sign up', and 'Forgot your password?' are at the bottom.

Type in your "Email" address on the highlighted area, then click "Resend unlock instructions". The instructions will be emailed to the address entered.


9

iMember 2.0 App Instructions for iPhone:

https://membertest.freemason.org/public_members

The 'Installing the App' page provides instructions for installing the app on an iOS device using Safari. It includes a share icon at the bottom of the browser.

10

Click on  icon at the bottom of the browser.

The mobile app sign-in screen shows the 'Sign In' form. At the bottom, the share icon is circled in red.

11

Click on "Add to Home Screen"  icon.

The iPhone home screen shows the 'Add to Home Screen' dialog. The 'Add to Home Screen' button is circled in red.

12

The 'Add to Home Screen' dialog shows the app icon and name. The 'Add' button is circled in red.

Click "Add" to save on home screen.

13



Close the browser and look for iMember 2.0 on your phone. (Image may appear different as pictured above)

14

Upon opening the App, you will login with your registered "Email" address and "Password" that you have set up for your member portal.

The image shows a mobile app interface for the 'MASONS OF CALIFORNIA'. At the top, there is a dark red header with the organization's name and a 'Menu' button. Below the header, the title 'Sign In' is displayed. The main content area contains two input fields: 'Email' and 'Password', both with yellow backgrounds. Below these fields is a checkbox labeled 'Remember me'. At the bottom, there is a red 'Sign in' button and a link that says 'Forgot your password?'.

13



Masons of California

[Sign in](#) [Member Registration](#) [App](#)

Sign In

Email

Password

☐ Remember Me

[Sign in](#)

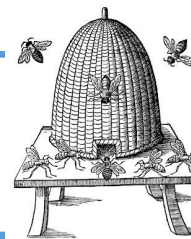
[Sign up](#) | [Forgot your password?](#) | [Didn't receive unlock instructions?](#)

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[Lodge Locator](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Terms of Use](#)

HOMEPAGE WHEN YOU SIGN-IN TO YOUR IMEMBER PORTAL

March 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 STATED MEETING TIME: 7:00 PM	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Master & Wardens Retreats @ SAN RAMON	12 Master & Wardens Retreats @ SAN RAMON
13 Master & Wardens Retreats @ SAN RAMON	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					March Birthstone: Aquamarine 

2022 LEADERSHIP RETREATS



We're Back!
REGISTER NOW! →

LAKE TAHOE * PALM SPRINGS * SAN RAMON * IRVINE

Masonic Homes of California **WE'RE HERE TO HELP**

RELIEF FOR CALIFORNIA MASONS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- Information and referrals
- 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
mcyaf.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.

- ♦ **3/15/22- Hemet San Jacinto Lodge #338.** 3rd Degree 1st Section. O & O, and closing in long form.
- ♦ **4/21/22- Menifee Valley Lodge # 289.** 2nd Degree 1st Section. O & O, and closing in long form.
- ♦ **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.


Beyond the unacknowledged mental gate imprisoned deeply within the gloomy unknown of the ignorant mind lies your answer.



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> CH –	<u>Charity & Relief</u> Jerry Donathan, PM, WM Harold Whitford, PM, SW Marty Gushwa, PM, JW	<u>Sickness & Distress</u> CH –Harold Whitford, PM	<u>Hiram Award</u> Jerry Donathan, PM, WM Wor Harold Whitford, PM, SW Wor Marty Gushwa, PM, JW	<u>Funeral</u> Wor Harold Whitford, PM, SW Wor Allan Bowman, PM, Chaplain Bro Jerico Alvarez Bro Samuel Sanchez
<u>Budget</u> CH—Wor Chuck Markel, PM Bro Sammy Gillo Bro Jerico Alvarez	<u>Widows</u> CH – Harold Whitford, PM Wor Allan Bowman, PM Bro Samuel Sanchez <u>Finance</u> CH –Wor Jerry Donathan, SW	<u>Hall Association</u> 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	<u>Trestleboard</u> Editor—Wor Jerry Donathan, PM Editor – Bro Sammy Gillo Asst Secretary Editor—Bro Jerico Alvarez Secretary <u>Public Schools</u> CH –	<u>Refreshments</u> CH– Marty Gushwa, PM Sr. & Jr. Stewards All EA's & FC's Newly Raised MM's
Assignments				
<u>Officer's Coach</u> Wor Chuck Markel, PM Wor Harold Whitford, PM Assistant	<u>Masonic History</u> Any Willing Brother	<u>Photographer</u> Bro Bud Smith	<u>Fraternal Support Ambassador</u> Wor Allan Bowman, PM	<u>Head Candidate Coach</u> Bro Onofre Rasalan, SD
<u>Member Retention</u> CH –		<u>Masonic Education</u> Bro Onofre Rasalan Bro Dean Malibiran Any Willing Brother		<u>Facebook/Website</u> 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

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

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

or for the Crystal Ballroom:

<http://>

lodge289.freemason.org



Menifee Valley Lodge #289 Officers

Worshipful Master	Wor Jerry Donathan, PM	951-264-9806
Senior Warden	Wor Harold Whitford, PM	951-440-4150
Junior Warden	Wor Marty Gushwa, PM	805-603-2064
Treasurer	Wor Chuck Markel, PM	951-733-2925
Secretary	Jerico Alvarez	626-617-8732
Assistant Secretary	Sammy Gillo	951-892-9055
Chaplain	Wor Allan Bowman, PM	951-440-4150
Senior Deacon	Onofre Rasalan	858-610-8864
Junior Deacon	Adelbert Cagungao	951-466-8722
Marshal	Jose Shepard	951-231-4145
Senior Steward	Dean Malibiran	757-386-3550
Junior Steward	Angel Panganiban	661-755-8246
Tiler	Eduardo Fontanilla, Sr.	909-261-0121
Officer's Coach	Wor Chuck Markel, PM	951-733-2925
Inspector 826th Masonic District	Wor Carl Black, PM	619-857-9802



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.



The strength of Freemasonry is in its loyalty to each other.

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



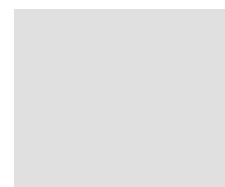
is choosing your thoughts and
actions based on values rather
than personal gain.

MENIFEE VALLEY

MASONIC LODGE

PO Box 312

Sun City, CA 92586



THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER