

MENIFEE VALLEY LODGE #289

Trestle Board



TRESTLEBOARD

MENIFEE VALLEY LODGE #289



APRIL 6024 A.L.

VOL.1 ISSUE 4



"Freemasonry is an institution that promotes moral and upright living. It promotes harmony, brotherhood, certainly relief, and truth. All of these things are needed in our society for us to live free and peacefully. And I think if more people understood that Freemasonry focuses on these virtues and can be applied to the betterment of people who are not members, they will come to us."

— Grand Master Sean Metroka

If you want to share articles, photos, and suggestions, please contact:

Trestleboard Editor

Bro Sherman Hernaez

mvl289trestleboard@gmail.com

Menifee Valley Masonic Lodge

27221 McCall Blvd.

PO Box 312

Sun City, CA 92586



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HIGHLIGHTS

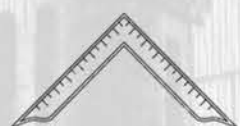
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WISDOM



FROM THE AST



JERRY DONATHAN, PM

Worshipful Master

Hello Brethren,

Our Annual Audit has been completed and I'd like to thank Wor. T.C. Dowden again for his expertise in performing the audit. We are extremely busy with degree work but will put most degree work off until May when most of our Brethren from the P.I. will be back in full vigor to perform their duties.

Those of you who know, my # 2 Brother has had a battle with a Strep virus that attacked his heart, kidneys, liver, and lungs which destroyed his heart valves but with prayer and fantastic doctors he will finally be returning home in a couple of weeks. This Getting Old Crap Sucks! If it wasn't for the Cherokee blood in him, I don't think he would have made it!!

Fraternally,
WM Jerry Donathan

STRENGTH



FROM THE
EST



ADELBERT "AL" CAGUNGAO

Senior Warden

Brethren,

Menifee Valley Lodge #289 continues to resurrect from the ashes, just like the mythological phoenix able to burst into flames and be reborn from the ashes. Thanks to the untiring support of the "pillars of the lodge". No words can ever express our gratitude to all the things you have done for the lodge and for us young members of the lodge in learning the rituals and works in masonry.

It has been a very busy month of March for Menifee Valley Lodge #289 as it continue to improve in the works and rituals.

March 7 Regular Stated Meeting

March 9 Work and Brunch by WB Harold

March 12 3rd degree ritual practice

March 14 Raising to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason for Bro Eduardo Capule

March 16 attended the Master Mason School of Instruction hosted by the Widow's Son Lodge #869 at Hemet

March 19 MVL 289 ritual practice

March 20 OSI hosted by WSL

March 21 Initiation to Entered Apprentice Mason of Bro Lucio Collado

March 23 Raising to the Sublime Degree of Bro Victor Atilano

March 28 Initiation to Entered Apprentice Mason of Bro Abel

I encourage all the brethren of MVL#289 to continue to support and be part of the activities of our lodge.

Fraternally,

Bro Adelbert Cagungao, Sr Warden



BEAUTY



FROM THE SOUTH



SAMMY GILLO

Junior Warden

First, I would like to congratulate our newly brothers that we welcomed into the Fraternity this previous month and looking forward to seeing them grow in Freemasonry and becoming crucial members of Menifee Valley Lodge # 289.

Saying goodbye to our broken March Madness brackets, we welcome the month of April, the start of a new baseball season. Each baseball season, the Masons of Mitts bring the fun of baseball to more kids. Lodges in each region face off in friendly competition to help the most kids they can. This program seeks to provide baseball equipment for underprivileged youth and each year we try and each district raises money to help the Grand Lodge in this endeavor. If you would like more information, you can visit the Grand Lodge website or www.masons4mitts.org. There will be a weekend of festivities and something we don't always get to see or participate in.

Furthermore, there are some discussions surrounding another camaraderie event in June, but with families too, that could involve in an outdoor degree planning. I hope you will make plans to join us for what should be a fun and dynamic month of April and the forthcoming events for this lodge in the months to come.

Brotherly,
Bro Sammy Gillo, Jr Warden

INSIGHTS FROM A PAST MASTER



HAROLD WHITFORD

*Past Master - Perris #411 1987, 1994,
2004, 2005, MVL #289 2011*

This will be the last message from this location for the Past Masters' column, I will have to see if my 'cable tow' reaches all the way to Covina. I'll bet it does!

It was hard to imagine that things were actually starting to happen until the 'For Sale' sign went up in my front yard. Mary Ann and I had actually started talking about and requesting information about the Masonic Home at Covina...Maybe when we were 80 or so. But I kept stalling (with her approval). I wanted to make sure if the new 'Band of Brothers' were ready to steer the ship and maintain it for years to come.

A few years ago, we had taken Perris 411 & Elsinore 289 and merged them to form Menifee Valley #289 in hopes that it would create a resurgence in Officers & members, Wrong, The Fire was out! That's the reason why Masters were serving 2 and even 4-5 year terms. Before that time (thru' the 70's & 80's), men were retiring from their jobs back East and moving to Southern Cal. For the sun, fun & golf..(many of them were Masons). Sadly, they passed away and now retirees just buy a second home in the West for a vacation and go back East.

How do we replace these retirees? Well the United States Navy is helping! Many of these men retire from the San Diego area and move to Menifee/Murrieta area where they can afford housing. Many are Masons and others are 'wanabee' Masons. All are looking for that comradeship they enjoyed being together. The Lodges in our area are getting the benefit, imagine a bunch of men who are used to working, socializing and at times even living together. I'm convinced that the ship is on a true course (watch out for that bridge) and Men-Val will continue to lead the 826th Masonic district and all of So-Cal. In ritual & family values.

To the 'good old boys' Jerry, Chuck, T.C., doesn't it feel good to know that an 'able bodied & well qualified Brother' is ready to fill your spot?

Fraternally,
WB Harold Whitford, PM

To any Past Masters who would like to share stories or narratives, please send an email to the Trestleboard Editor.

CALENDAR

OF

EVENTS & BIRTHDAYS



Apr. 1

César Chávez Day

Apr. 11

2nd Degree Conferral

Apr. 4

Stated Meeting

Apr. 17

OSI by HSJ

Apr. 5-7

Master & Wardens Retreat
(Disneyland Anaheim)

BIRTHDAYS

Ed Capule
Michael Iannolo
John W. Jackson
Richard E. Jenkins
Eddie W. Leverett
Dennis E. Santiago
W.B. John Paul St. Clair, PM
Will Thomas

RAISED

Member	Date
Melvin Lee Capps	4/30/1958 (66 yrs)
W.B. Monte Gale Euler, PM	4/10/2014 (10 yrs)
Richard Elroy Jenkins	4/15/2010 (14 yrs)
George C. Lyon, Jr.	4/18/1961 (63 yrs)
Richard Allen Mahrlling	4/16/1990 (34 yrs)
Dennis Estoban Santiago	4/12/2007 (17 yrs)
W.B. Michael Charles Smith	4/22/1971 (53 yrs)
Mark Anthony Williams	4/2/1984 (40 yrs)
Chauncey Josiah Young	4/11/2013 (11 yrs)

BROTHER'S CORNER

THE POT OF INCENSE

by *Bro Christian Bustilleon*

Greetings my Brethren,

This year has been good for us so far and is only getting better. In this Brother's Corner, I feature a symbol that reminds us to live in purity and gratitude for what we are blessed—**The Pot of Incense**.

The Pot of Incense represents a pure heart, and just like incense burns as an offering, a pure heart is seen as the most valuable thing a person can offer to a higher power.

The Fervent Heat refers to the constant passion and devotion one should have for expressing gratitude. The burning incense signifies the constant warmth of gratitude we should feel for the blessings in our lives.

The Pot of Incense isn't just any container; it represents the very essence of our moral core. The incense itself, with its pleasant aroma and rising smoke, carries our prayers and aspirations towards a higher plane. Just as a pure heart offers the most genuine devotion, the incense burning cleanly signifies the sincerity of our thoughts and intentions.

Like the burning pot, our heart should radiate with constant warmth. This warmth isn't just a feeling; it represents the gratitude we should cultivate for the blessings in life. By reflecting on the good fortune we possess, we become better men, more appreciative of the world around us.

The Great and Beneficent Author of our existence is the supreme being we believe in, the creator, our God who provides for humanity. This belief fosters a sense of humility and inspires us to live our lives according to moral principles.

To any Brothers who would like to share stories or narratives, please send an email to the Trestleboard Editor.

MASONIC EDUCATION

by Bro Bruce Flowers



EQUAL REGULARITY

by RW Alfonso Serrano

Aurora Grata-Day Star Lodge No. 647, New York

I have looked up these words in a dictionary and I have found the following meanings:

Equal: Having the same capacity, quantity, effect, measure, or value as another

Regularity: Conforming to a fixed procedure, principle or discipline.

We also find these words impressed upon our minds in the explanation of the Great Light in Masonry shortly after being obligated in the Entered Apprentice Degree. The Worshipful Master explains to us the meaning of the three lesser lights as follows; *"The three lesser lights are the Sun, Moon and Master of the Lodge and as the Sun rules the day and the Moon governs the night so should the Worshipful Master with equal regularity rule and Govern the Lodge"*.

Since Freemasonry is best explained as a beautiful system of morality expressed by symbols and veiled in allegory we must search for ourselves the lesson that can be best gained from the term equal regularity. I have always tried to adapt lessons taught within the Degrees of Masonry into my own personal life. Many of them are extremely difficult. The question *"What came you here to do?"* is a good example to which we respond, *"To learn to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry"*. This in itself has to be the hardest trial in Masonry and I struggle with this every day. Yet, because of the Light that I have received in Masonry I try to restrain myself from overreacting and letting my passions get the best of me. But as hard as I try I fail because I am human yet to my consolation every day I fail a little less.

In the Old Testament of the King James Bible we find in Genesis chapter 1 verses 16 through 18 the following, *"And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of heaven to give light upon the earth. And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from darkness: and God saw that it was good"*. Symbolically we can look at the Sun and the Moon as the active and passive forces in nature, which must be in balance in order for nature to exist. We can also observe them as emblems of the Spiritual and the Physical worlds. The Square and Compasses can also interpreted in this manner, as well as the Seal of Solomon with its intertwined white and black triangles showing the connection between God and Man or the Spiritual World and that of Matter. Even the lambskin apron can be interpreted as an emblem of the relationship between the spiritual and the physical world. The triangular flap representing the Spiritual world is separated from the square apron representing the material world because the flap is turned up *"to prevent daubing with un-tempered mortar"* which we can interpret as to prevent your spiritual being from being soiled by the sins of the material world. As you progress through the three degrees which, represent the three components of man, the physical, mental and the spiritual, as well as youth, manhood and old age. We find that as man matures and finds his balance with the components that make up his being the triangular flap becomes one with the square apron exemplifying the

lesson of co-existence on two planes on being.

Then how do we then adapt the instruction "*As the Sun rules the day and the Moon governs the night so should the Worshipful Master with equal regularity rule and govern the Lodge*". I interpret it as follows, If we take the lesson and reduce it from the term lodge [plural] to ourselves [singular] be not each of us the

Worshipful Masters of our bodies, which can be considered our Temple. That Temple that houses that eternal spirit of which will survive the grave and which never dies.

With this in mind we must consider that as Masters of our own bodies we must rule with equal regularity over our involvement within the Material as well as the Spiritual worlds in which we move. How do we as Men rule and govern over our physical presence as well as our spiritual being? This question is rather difficult to answer and I believe, as no two humans are alike so the answer to this question will not be for any two persons the same. Therefore the term equal regularity can be viewed as a personal quest to find the balance in your life that will promote equal regularity and therefore harmony within yourselves. What more beautiful goal can any human have than to be at peace with himself, his family and his fellow man?

In the New Testament a Prophet was asked a question in order to trick him and prove him an enemy of the government. "*And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither accepest thou the person of any, but teachest the way of God truly. Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no? But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, Why temp ye me? Shew me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it? They answered and said Caesar's. And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's. And they could not take hold of his words before the people: and they marveled at his answer, and held their peace*".

Therefore, give unto the material world that which belongs to the material world and give unto the spiritual world that which belongs to God. In the hopes of achieving equal regularity, and therefore be better enabled to help your fellow man and contribute to the relief of distressed worthy Master Mason their widows and orphans. The Volume of Sacred Law which you always find on the Altars of Freemasonry speaks of Faith, (representing the mental) Hope, (representing the physical) and Charity, (representing the spiritual). The greatest of these is Charity (the spiritual being of man), for Faith (the mental outlook of man) may be lost in sight, Hope (the physical or material plane we live in) often ends in fruition or completion but Charity or our spiritual self will transcend death. For it is nothing less than the love of God operating in the hearts of men which will endure beyond the grave and into the boundless realms of eternity.

**PAST
MASTERS**
(living)

**HIRAM
AWARDS**
(living)

**GOLDEN
VET**
(living)

NAME	YEAR
<i>WB Michael Christian Smith</i>	1975, 1998
<i>WB Delbert Dewey Queen, Jr.</i>	1980
<i>WB Harold Whitford</i>	1987, 1994, 2004, 2005, 2011
<i>WB John Paul St. Clair</i>	1991
<i>WB Vernon Claire Campbell</i>	1996
<i>WB James Wesley Gilmore II</i>	2002
<i>WB Paul Arthur Mac Quiddy</i>	2015
<i>WB Monte Gale Euler</i>	2017, 2020
<i>WB Charles Markel</i>	2018
<i>WM Jerry Donathan</i>	2012, 2013, 2022, 2023

NAME	YEAR
<i>WB Harold Whitford, PM</i>	1992
<i>WB Vernon Claire Campbell, PM</i>	2002
<i>Thomas King Hafeli</i>	2004
<i>WB Allan F. Bowman, PM</i>	2012
<i>WM Jerry Donathan, PM</i>	2014
<i>WB Paul Arthur Mac Quiddy, PM</i>	2016
<i>Harold Lewis “Bud” Smith</i>	2019
<i>WB Charles Markel, PM</i>	2022
<i>WB Thomas Dowden, PM</i>	2023

NAME	YEAR
<i>Monte R. Wells</i>	2007
<i>WB John Paul St. Clair, PM</i>	2023
<i>WB Michael Christian Smith, PM</i>	2021
<i>Clark Lovan Bacon</i>	2020
<i>Harold “Bud” Smith</i>	2002
<i>Frank William Roberts</i>	2010
<i>George C. Lyon, Jr.</i>	2011
<i>David Ralph Barnett</i>	2011
<i>Lloyd Ronald Prater</i>	2018
<i>Edward Johnson Sibhy</i>	2018
<i>Norman Lawrence Chaffin</i>	2018
<i>Jene Truman Carlisle</i>	2018
<i>WB John Royal Laird, PM</i>	2006
<i>John Wilbur Jackson</i>	2018
<i>Jimmie Frank Jackson</i>	2005
<i>Eli Harrigan</i>	1999
<i>Richard French Goward</i>	2001
<i>Yale Benson Eisenstein</i>	2010
<i>Joseph Daniel Donaldson</i>	2016
<i>William Leonard Dexter</i>	2016
<i>WB Vernon Claire Campbell, PM</i>	2017
<i>WB Allan F. Bowman, PM</i>	2018

NAME	INITIATED	COACH
<i>Jeffrey M. Brayton</i>	09/19/2019	
<i>Peter Paul Feliciano</i>	02/22/2024	<i>Bro Sherman Hernaez</i>
<i>Rodney L. Gray</i>	03/18/2002	
<i>Thiago V. Sousa Moreira</i>	10/19/2023	<i>Bro Sherman Hernaez</i>
<i>Jonathan C. Ojeda</i>	01/30/2020	
<i>Roland Ortiz</i>	02/16/2023	
<i>Juan Vera</i>	01/19/2012	
<i>Howard Harvey Walmsley III</i>	03/23/2023	<i>WB Harold Whitford, PM</i>
<i>Lucio Collado</i>	03/21/2024	<i>Bro Samuel Sanchez</i>
<i>Abel Arteaga</i>	03/28/2024	<i>Bro Merck Cornel</i>

NAME	PASSED	COACH
<i>Perry David King IV</i>	07/27/2023	<i>WB Harold Whitford, PM</i>
<i>Aluel F. Jalandoni</i>	01/11/2024	<i>Bro Al Cagungao</i>

COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Master: WM Jerry Donathan, PM
Senior Warden: Bro Al Cagungao
Junior Warden: Bro Sammy Gillo
Treasurer: Bro Bruce Flowers
Secretary: Bro Benigno Del Barrio
Asst. Secretary: Bro Jerico Alvarez

HALL ASSOCIATION

President: Bro Sammy Gillo
Vice President: Bro Devynn Hicks
Secretary: Bro Jerico Alvarez
Treasurer: WB Chuck Markel, PM
Building Manager: Bro Jose Shepard
Member: Bro Sherman Hernaez
Member: WB Harold Whitford, PM
Ex Officio: WM Jerry Donathan, PM
Ex Officio: Bro Al Cagungao, SW

CHARITY & RELIEF

Chairman: WM Jerry Donathan, PM
Co-Chairman: Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Members:
WB Harold Whitford, PM
Bro Sammy Gillo
Bro Sherman Hernaez
Bro Sam Sanchez
Bro Merck Cornel
Bro Primo Reguyal
Bro Wilson Bohol
Bro Sal Salarda
Bro Dale Bartolo
Bro Dean Malibiran

BUDGET

Chairman: WM Jerry Donathan, PM
Co-Chairman: Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Members:
Bro Bruce Flowers
Bro Sammy Gillo
Bro Benigno Del Barrio
WB Chuck Markel, PM

SICKNESS, DISTRESS, WIDOWS & ELDER SUPPORT

Chairman: WB Harold Whitford, PM
Co-Chairman: WB Chuck Markel, PM
Members:
Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Bro Bruce Flowers
WB Allan Bowman, PM

HIRAM AWARD

WM Jerry Donathan, PM
Bro Al Cagungao, SW
WB Harold Whitford, PM
WB Chuck Markel, PM

FUNERAL

Chairman: WB Harold Whitford, PM
Co-Chairman: Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Members:
Bro Sal Salarda, Chaplain
Bro Benigno Del Barrio
Bro Jerico Alvarez
Bro Samuel Sanchez

TRESTLEBOARD

Editor: Bro Sherman Hernaez
Editor: WM Jerry Donathan, PM

REFRESHMENTS

Chairman: Bro Sammy Gillo
Members:
Bro Primo Reguyal
Bro Wilson Bohol
ALL EA's, FC's, and New MM's
ALL Prospects and Candidates

OFFICERS & CANDIDATE COACHING

Officers' Coach: WB Chuck Markel, PM
Head Candidate Coach: WB Harold Whitford, PM
Asst. Head Candidate Coach: Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Member Cand. Coaches:
Bro Sam Sanchez (EA)
Bro Sherman Hernaez (EA)
Bro Merck Cornel (FC)
Bro Sal Salarda (FC)
Bro Sammy Gillo (MM)
Bro Benigno Del Barrio (MM)

DEGREE & SUPPORT

Chairman: Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Co-Chairman: WB Harold Whitford, PM
Co-Chairman: WB Chuck Markel, PM
Members:
Bro Sammy Gillo
Bro Samuel Sanchez
Bro Merck Cornel
Bro Sherman Hernaez
Bro Jose Shepard
Bro Sal Salarda
ALL OFFICERS

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Bro Benigno Del Barrio
Bro Jerico Alvarez
Bro Bruce Flowers

COMMUNICATION/ FACEBOOK/WEBSITE

Bro Benigno Del Barrio
Bro Jerico Alvarez
Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Bro Sammy Gillo
Bro Merck Cornel

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT/PROSPECTING COMMITTEE

Chairman: Bro Al Cagungao, SW
Prospect Managers:
Bro Jerico Alvarez
Bro Sal Salarda
Bro Sherman Hernaez
Bro Samuel Sanchez
Bro Merck Cornel

FINANCE

Chairman: WM Jerry Donathan, PM
Co-Chairman: Bro Al Cagungao, SW

AUDIT

Chairman: Bro Sal Salarda
Co-Chairman: WB Harold Whitford, PM
Members:
Bro Samuel Sanchez
Bro Merck Cornel

ASSIGNMENTS

Fraternal Support Ambassadors: WB Allan Bowman and Bro Jerico Alvarez
Masonic Education/History: Bro Bruce Flowers
Lodge Photographer: Bro Bud Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SECRETARY



BENIGNO DEL BARRIO
Secretary

*THE OFFICERS OF THE LODGE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THEIR MONTHLY
*** STATED MEETING ****

DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 04, 2024

SOCIALS STARTS @ 5:00 PM / DINNER IS SERVED @ 6:00 PM / GAVEL DROPS @ 7:00 PM
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CRYSTAL BANQUET HALL

OFFICER'S ATTIRE: BLACK TUXEDO, WHITE SHIRT with BLACK BOW TIE

MEMBERS: DARK SUIT WITH TIE

VISITORS: BUSINESS CASUAL OR MASONIC PRIDE SHIRTS

Bring \$10 cash donation to the Junior Warden's Fund

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

4:30 pm - Gate will be opened. FCs, EAs, and Petitioners are to help prepare dinner and refreshments in the kitchen.

5:00 pm - Welcoming Committee is available for any questions. The Application Form is available upon request from the Lodge Secretary.

5:30 pm - Announcements from Worshipful Master, Senior, and Junior Wardens.

6:00 pm - Prayers and Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. Dinner follows.

7:00 pm - Stated Meeting Commences in the Lodge Room. ***(Masons Only)***

7:30 pm - Petitioners are to assist in cleaning up the kitchen and dining hall.

JW, SS, and JS must ensure all trash are taken out of the Lodge after the event.

Address: 27221 McCall Blvd, MENIFEE CA 92585

"Peace and Harmony Prevail to all Masons"

MONTHLY UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 04, 2024 MONTHLY STATED MEETING

APRIL 11, 2024 2ND DEGREE CONFERRAL

APRIL 17, 2024 OFFICERS' SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION - HOSTED BY HSJ

MENIFEE VALLEY LODGE 289

ACTIVITIES





2024 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Treasurer

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Chaplain

Senior Deacon

Junior Deacon

Marshal

Senior Steward

Junior Steward

Tyler

Organist

Officer's Coach

Candidate's Coach

826th District Inspector

826th District Inspector at Large

Wor. Jerry Donathan, PM

Bro Adelbert Cagungao

Bro Sammy Gillo

Bro Bruce Flowers

Bro Benigno Del Barrio

Bro Jerico Alvarez

Bro Salvador Salarda

Bro Sherman Hernaez

Bro Samuel Sanchez

Bro Emeric Cornel

Bro Primo Reguyal

Bro Wilson Bohol

Bro Adelbert Bartolo

Bro Dean Malibiran

Wor. Chuck Markel, PM

Wor. Harold Whitford, PM

Wor. Rick Opina, PM

Wor. Carl Black, PM

CONCORDANT BODIES



Job's Daughters Bethal No. 165

Meets 2nd and 4th Sundays, 7:00pm

Carrie Ghent, Bethel Guardian,

951-271-2054

Bro. Tom Hafeli

951-526-9300

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.