

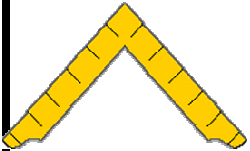


**Three Great Lights
Masonic Lodge #651
Free and Accepted Masons**

**March
2013**

The Trestleboard

From The East



Greetings from the East:

Interesting on being a Point of Contact. I get exposed to many different ideas, views, complaints, and opinions. For 10 people there really are 20 viewpoints on a good day.

First, yes we need officers. Well, nothing really that new here. The Lodge just lost two more due to moving and jobs. Even the newer brothers appear to have to work for a living and so can not spend much time here. For those who only work 40 hrs a week or have routines, the world has changed. Dramatically, and it is becoming progressively more difficult to get time to do anything. The best practice we have at this Lodge has been for the participants to call or preferably TEXT me so I know what is going on real-time. Especially if something has happened at the last hour or minute. Many things have happened to our brothers a few days to an hour before an event. We rely on each person to show up, if only one brother doesn't show it could mean having to cancel the meeting or degree. This is and has been the norm for at least 5 years that I am aware. If there are questions or concerns, text or email me. As for the suggestions, well the only one that works is to show up and continue to participate.

February the Lodge was focused on the First Degree to assist our new Junior Warden Richard Jenkins to get up and running for his Station. Our goal is to have the 2013 Installation in March. As of this Trestleboard, we have not yet finalized a date. When one is set, the Secretary will send out an email and a notice to all of our members.

I met Chuck Castleberry in San Jose a couple weeks ago while I was working on my job. He is doing well and says hello to all. George Crombie is doing better and says hi. Darren Kygar had a brief set back but is recovering. Phil Josue is still at Milpitas with Donna and Cats and I enjoy his emails. For any other news please contact our secretary so we can say hello and pass on any news as directed.

Other news. Due to extensive effort of Brother Morian Walker and Richard Steiger the Lodge finally has Internet, Phone, and TV. There is a Comcast hotspot that is available as well as our private internet for Lodge and renters' use. Thank You! As the infrastructure continues in stages we will post the progress.

The occupancy for rentals has increased by much effort of the Hall Board, especially W. Lambert Yim, PM and Steve Hamilton. There are some slots of time still available but if the members wish to rent the Hall, please make this known EARLY.

Signs, symbols, and sounds: all are nice to hear. Every now and then I actually see, hear, and feel the Masonic Hello from someone I don't know. Correctly done, some I recognize immediately. Others, I notice in passing and upon review I have that "Hmmm" to "Aha" moment of realization.

It is nice to know there are others out there and not just the few that I work with in this Lodge and the SCVMOA. Thank You. It is like a burst of sunshine through the grey rain and cold fog while performing the duties of life. I hope others get to notice and experience this aspect of friendship and brotherly love. The vehicles with the emblems are neat too! Another reason to smile and wave while driving.

Till Next Time,

Stay well and enjoy life. Come by and visit. We are at 651 Roble Ave in Menlo Park, CA.

Rick Field, Worshipful Master

Worshipful Master



Rick Field

What Does Your Lodge Mean To You?

When you were interviewed for membership into the fraternity, you were asked if you plan to attend lodge regularly. If I am not mistaken, you probably answered in the affirmative.

There is nothing more disheartening to have a candidate receive a degree and the sideline be empty, or have to cancel a degree because there are not enough officers present to put on the degree. This would make the candidate feel like the lodge members do not care about the well-being of some traveling in strange territory. It would make the candidate, and the officers, feel like their work and efforts are appreciated.

Looking around the lodge and seeing less than five sideliners makes for a very lonely feeling. I would like all of you to search your consciences and come and support the lodge that you said you would attend.

The ritual is beautiful and the lessons taught are beautiful. Come and partake and help keep this lodge in motion.

Thanks

Jerry Murphy PM

FROM THE WEST

My favorite lecture in the Blue Lodge is the second degree Middle Chamber Lecture. In Eastern Star it is the Associate Patron's lecture. In it he describes the virtues exemplified by the Ladies that make up the five points of the star. Adah the daughter of Jephthah, teaches the importance of fidelity to a spoken vow. My favorite is Ruth whose lesson is constancy. Ruth recognized a great filial duty and in spite of entreaties, hardships and trials refused to be turned back from that which she believed to be right. We all have duties and responsibilities and whether our station be high or our station be low we have need to be steadfast, constant and true. Queen Esther teaches loyalty, Martha teaches that faith is greater than knowledge, and Electa teaches that we should love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

These virtues not only apply to Eastern Star but to the Blue Lodge also. In November the Master summoned all members to a special meeting to decide what was going to happen to Three Great Lights Lodge 651, After a lot of discussion it was decided to rally behind the Lodge and keep it going forward. Brothers stepped forward, committing themselves (Fidelity) to work for the lodge and take an office. This commitment (Constancy) means that you will attend all Stated meetings, practices and OAM. That you would learn not only your part of the ritual, but that of the office in front of you and support each other (Loyal). In the second section of the third degree King Solomon asked Hiram King of Tyre "What Shall we do"? His reply was "Let us pray" (Faith). If we all keep faith and work together we can turn this lodge around.

Wednesday night is LODGE NIGHT!! There are a few who leave their TV and meet at the lodge for the stated meeting and practice. Stated meetings are done in the First Degree so everyone can attend. The same goes for First Degree practices. Second degrees all Master Masons and Fellowcraft can attend. But alas Third degrees are for Master Masons only, which should make those that can't attend work on getting all of your degrees. It is hard to have a practice when the Deacons, Stewards, Marshal (for First Degree) do not attend. Ritual can be learned out of the cipher, for the most part, but the floor and rod work must be learned in the Lodge. Our Officers Coach does a great job in teaching so come and learn from one of the best.

It's been three months since that November meeting and already we are slipping back into that rut we were in three and four years ago. Let's get out of that rut and back on the crown of the road where it is much smoother.

Bill Malmstrom, PM, Senior Warden

From the South

As Masons, we are the world's largest and oldest men's fraternity. Our traditions are founded upon the virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Good men of every race, religion, and ethnic origin still value today these traditions, which our founding fathers held so dear. The tradition of Freemasonry is, above all else, an initiates order, whose main purpose is to teach good men to subdue their passions, become masters over themselves, and grow in life to be better men.

With this said, it is clearly the expectations of its members to set the proper examples for our new brethren in the trade. Today, many come into Masonry knowing more than those who have been members for some time, because of all of the information in books and online. However, they lack the grounding in history, which brings the experience to life for them. Young men seem to perceive Freemasonry as a venue for truth seeking, self-improvement, and spiritual development. You might say it has become a quest for the discovery of one's inner potential. Our new brothers know what they want from a fraternity and have high expectations that their lodge will meet their needs as men. However, it is important that we live up to our responsibilities and attend its functions to set this example properly, at least as many as can be attended without causing hardship to yourself or family.

By venturing back in time, to a time, when you first began your journey and remembering those who helped you along your way, you will see the importance of having YOU back as a participating party. If it has been a while since you last visited, I challenge you to come out and be a part once again. The dedication of those who participate and offer their helping hand to the newly obligated brethren, my hat is off to you, in gratitude, for your participation and support. For those who have been a way for a while, come out and share your experiences, so we might all grow and mature together.

Fraternally,
Rich Jenkins Junior Warden

Three Great Lights Lodge #651
Meetings are held at
The Royal Hodge Masonic Center
651 Roble Avenue
Menlo Park, California

Follow us on Facebook at
Three Great Lights 651 Masonic Lodge

Birthdays in March

Brother	Birthday
Felipe R. Josue PM	1
Thomas Prussing	2
Mathew A. Snider, Jr.	2
Larry L. Jones, Sr.	3
Leslie F. Grundy PM	9
David P. Howard	11
William A. Peyton PM	11
Samuel Kraus	15
Lee J. Trusty	17
Oscar L. James	19
Marcelo F. Oliveira	21
Harry G. Straw, II	23
Robert L. Townsend	24
Robert E. Word	26
Richard L. Haggerty PM	30

Calendar of Events

March 2013

6	Light meal	6:15 pm
6	Stated meeting	7:30 pm
13	First degree practice	7:00 pm
14	OAM South Valley #187	6:30 pm
15	Temple Board	6:30 pm
20	First degree practice	7:00 pm
27	First degree practice or degree	7:00 pm

Almighty Father! Into thy hands we command the soul of our beloved brothers

Charles Flick

Born August 28, 1937

Raised September 22, 1976

Entered into rest December 24, 2012

Henry Van Camp

Born November 16, 1931

Raised May 26, 1977

Entered into rest November 11, 2012

2013 Officers of Three Great Lights Lodge #651

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Trestleboard

Three Great Lights
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2283 Armada Way
San Mateo, CA 94404

Dated Material
Time Value

Address Service Requested



March 2013

<http://www.calodges.org/no651>
651 Roble Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025



Fellowcraft degree 1-30-2013. Bill Malmstrom PM, Ryan Micheletti, Rick Field Worshipful master