



Friendship Lodge No. 210

Trestleboard

2500 Masonic Drive – San Jose, CA 95125
 Stated Meeting – First Thursday of Every Month

MAY - 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Stated meetings Golden Rule 479 San Jose 10 Los Altos 712 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	2 <i>Stated meetings Mt View De Anza #194 Palo Alto 346 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	3 <i>Willow Glen Fraternity 399 stated meeting Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	4 <i>FRIENDSHIP Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	5	6
7	8	9 <i>Santa Clara DeMolay 7 PM</i>	10	11 <i>FRIENDSHIP Practice 1st degree 7 PM</i>	12 <i>Bethel 129 Meeting 7 PM</i>	13
14	15	16	17	18 <i>FRIENDSHIP Practice 1st degree 7 PM</i>	19	20
21	22	23 <i>Santa Clara DeMolay 7 PM</i>	24 <i>SCVMOA 6:00 PM Willow Glen- Fraternity No. 399 3rd degree/ 1st Section Officers Mandatory</i>	25 <i>FRIENDSHIP 1st degree conferral Advanced stations 7 PM Officers in Tuxedo</i>	26	27 <i>Bethel 129 Stated Meeting 10 AM</i>
28	29	30	31			

From the East



At the April Stated Meeting, we heard a full and favorable report on one of our applicants, Henry Peña. We balloted on his application, and he received an unanimous vote. So, we initiated him on April 20. Junior Warden Andrew Litfin did his usual top-notch work serving as Master for the conferral.

I first met Henry at our Annual Installation of Officers, back on December 8. Installation is a busy time, especially when you're the incoming Master. Everybody wants to say something, wish you well, or ask a question. So I did not have much time at that moment to visit with Henry. But I did get to know him. Even though he was not yet a member of the lodge, or even an applicant, he stayed late and helped with the clean-up. And he worked as hard as the rest of us. Now that is the kind of man I want to welcome as a new member of our lodge.

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 14 this year. Mother's Day is the invention of Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis (1832—1905). She was a social activist and community organizer during and after the Civil War era. She did not live to see her special day become a holiday. But her daughter, Ann Maria Jarvis (1864—1948) took the baton and ran with it. On May 10, 1908, three years after her mother's death, Jarvis held a memorial ceremony to honor her mother and all mothers at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church, today the International Mother's Day Shrine, in Grafton, West Virginia

In 1908, the U.S. Congress rejected a proposal to make Mother's Day an official holiday. Jarvis's home state of West Virginia adopted Mother's Day

as a local holiday in 1910. By 1911 all U.S. states (of which there were 46 at the time) observed the holiday, some of them officially recognizing Mother's Day. Finally, in 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Jarvis also selected the "official" flower of Mother's Day, the carnation. She said, "Its whiteness symbolizes the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying. When I selected this flower, I was remembering my mother's bed of white pinks."

Like most holidays, Mother's Day soon became commercialized by the confection, floral, and greeting card industries. To this trend, Jarvis commented, "A printed card means nothing except that you are too lazy to write to the woman who has done more for you than anyone in the world. And candy! You take a box to Mother—and then eat most of it yourself. A pretty sentiment."

Everybody has a mother. You don't get a life on earth without her participation. Thanks to modern health care and nutritious food, most mothers are around well into your adulthood. They support and love you even when life's challenges and growing pains make you hard to deal with. For a few mothers, their final act was giving birth to you.

The best gift of gratitude you can give your Mom is to spend time with her. If a physical visit is impractical, an unrushed telephone call is the next best thing. A personal note: I haven't been able to visit or talk to my mother for 60 years. But I have ample evidence of her commitment to hard work, education, family, and investing for the future. I hope she would be proud of my efforts to continue her legacy.

What's the plan?

A few members have asked me whether we will have a Master's trip and other social events this year. The answer is yes. But to be honest, I am focused on rebuilding our officer corps and degree

team so we are able to confer degrees whenever our candidates are ready and without outside assistance. We have good men, just not enough of them. We get a new one, then we lose an existing one. It's not their fault. They have lives to live and families to raise. Friendship lodge will survive. Still, I want it to thrive.

Speaking of Masonic degrees, we look forward to two more First Degrees in May. How about coming out to welcome the newest members of your lodge? Can you spare an evening?

Thanks for reading and I'll see you in Lodge.

Daniel Doornbos, PM
Master

From the West



Greetings brethren,

First Quarter went by fast, and I anticipate that we will be getting busier in the next few months. We raised a brother to the sublime degree of Master Mason, We had help from our Spanish speaking degree team from Southern California and will be helping again to pass our proficient brother to be conferred to Fellowcraft. A brother passed his Master Mason proficiency during our April Stated Meeting. By this time, we have likely initiated another candidate for Entered Apprentice and hopefully we can have a couple of candidates to be ready being initiated to Entered Apprentice.

Checking for prospects sent to us by the Grand Lodge: Four inquiries were sent to our Lodge for this year. I still hope that some would be able to attend our Stated Dinner to get acquainted with us. Based on iMember 2.0 there are nine Entered Apprentices and three Fellowcrafts in our roster. I look forward to their conferral soon.

Please continue to invite your friends, relatives, co-workers to inform them about Masonry and invite them to join us on our Stated Dinner.

Fraternally,
Gilbert Cruz, Senior Warden

From the South



Fraternal greetings from the South! With the support of the Job's Daughters and the Hoodwinked Horde, food continues to be a popular topic here around Friendship Lodge. We thank the Job's for the enchilada dinner they did in May, it was excellent as always.

Looking forward to the future, I will again remind everyone that the dinner price has increased to \$10 owing to the increased price of food, and that if you do not wish to deal with cash at every meeting, you may acquire a Pre-Paid Diner Card from the reservation desk. Simply see myself or Worshipful Litfin if you wish to acquire one.

Andrew Litfin, JW

Training Camp



This month, we will continue to focus on conferring the First Degree. The investigation process was

completed for one of them, Henry Peña, and we elected him to receive the degrees of Masonry in Friendship Lodge. His initiation was on April 20. We have two more applicants in the investigation process. Assuming the investigations are favorable, and they are elected, we plan to have their first degree on May 18.

Junior Warden Andrew Litfin took the Master's seat on the April 20 degree. He did a solid job overall, and excellent work for his first time in the East. The first time presiding is always difficult. When you're in the East, nothing happens until you give the order. And the ritual comes to a stop if you momentarily go blank. Then everybody is waiting for you, looking at you, adding to the pressure and making it harder to remember what you're supposed to say. That's why we have officers coaches and experienced officers who serve as prompters.

Sometimes, brothers on the sidelines give prompts. And sometimes, that works out OK. Other times, the brother says the wrong thing, either because he was not following closely, or his memory is also imperfect. That results in confusion for the brothers doing the ritual. Then if two brothers try to help, but each one says something different. More confusion. It's natural for a Mason to spontaneously assist a brother. You just must be mindful whether your action is boosting or busting.

Brother Daniel Chaid, our newest Master Mason, has begun helping with the degree conferrals. Personally, I am very happy to see that. I hope he finds as much enjoyment conferring the degrees—sharing our timeless lessons with new brothers coming in—as the rest of us do.

All degree practices happen on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. If you cannot attend the practice, kindly let me know so we don't wait for you. Even if you miss a practice, you are still expected to learn your work. I am available for one-on-one coaching if you need it.

We have an Officers Association Meeting (OAM) on Wednesday, May 24. Willow Glen Fraternity Lodge No. 399, which meets at the San Jose Masonic Center, is hosting. Dinner is served at 6:30 PM. Friendship Lodge covers the cost of our Officers' meals.

The SOI begins at 7:30 PM. This month's topic is the 1st section of the 3rd Degree. All Officers are expected to attend all SOIs. If you cannot make it for any reason, please contact our Inspector Worshipful Dinesh Chhabra.

Daniel Doornbos, PM
Officers Coach

The Reverend's Corner



Greetings Brethren, (Mothers' Blessing)

Throughout the year there seems to be a theme for each month. January - New Year's Day, February - Valentine's Day, April - Easter, and here we are going into May. May is the month that is usually dedicated to Mother's Day.

On Mother's Day is where we see God's perfect love, through our mothers. The word mother recalls love, gentleness, nurturing and compassion. Even if we did not experience these from the woman who gave us life, we give thanks to those who inspired us with their care and love.

To our mothers and everyone who has blessed us with a mother's care, we send them love. We say prayers of thanks for their presence in our lives, for the sacrifices found in giving. These mothers/women taught us above all how to be true to ourselves. They were the leaders. They were the example for us to follow with the motherly love of God in our words and actions. Words of praise and gratitude let us show them how much we appreciate them.

Remember the times when they were patient enough to listen. Remember the times they use compassionate understanding.

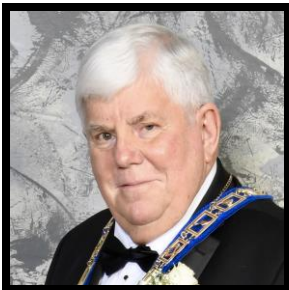
So, let us recall the joy of their love. Let us send them thoughts of love and peace as we go through this month. Share our knowledge and skills to help others. This is God's love at work.

AFFIRMATION:
I give thanks for motherly love.

FROM SACRED WRITINGS:
Proverbs 31:26 - She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

God bless,
Reverend Gene

Secretary's Table



REMINDER!

Check your Dues Card, if it doesn't say 2023, you still need to pay your dues.

NEW DUES payment is \$108.50
Due NOW - Please

*****Things to Ponder*****

At the end of the day, remind yourself that you did the best you could today and that is good enough.

Your degree is just a piece of paper, your education is seen in your behavior.

May Events:

**May 4th - Stated Meeting/dinner –
Cost \$10.00**

Dress: Coat and tie



May Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 – Mark Erni | 22 – Marlito Romero |
| 12 - Ken Ruyle, PM | 25 – Larry Muller, PM |
| 17 – Rajit Dang | 26 – Keenan Mills, PM |
| 19 – Ian Kennedy | 28 – Kyle Burch |
| | 28 – Kyle Burch |

“2023” Officers

Officers

(Wives/Ladies)

Master

Daniel Doornbos, PM (Gillian) 408-802-7480

Senior Warden

Gilbert Cruz (Monette) 408-483-1964

Junior Warden

Andrew Litfin 408-832-5846

Treasurer

Kendall Mills, PM (Janet) 408-281-4084

Secretary

Jim Greer (Sherri) 408-510-4566

Chaplain

Chase Traficanti (Melissa) 775-750-9921

Senior Deacon

Robert Asuncion (Cindy) 408-717-2448

Junior Deacon

Sean O’Hara (Savannah) 559-862-9372

Senior Steward

Mike Smith (Bonnie) 408-483-8985

Junior Steward

Marshal

Hristo Kolev (Maria) 925-897-9779

Tiler

Jim North (Tami) 408-202-4813

Inspector 345th Masonic District

Dinesh Chhabra, PM (Meenu) 908- 247-9288

Officers Coach

Daniel Doornbos, PM (Gillian) 408-802-7480

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