



Friendship Lodge No. 210 Trestleboard

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

AUGUST – 2024

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

					1	2	3
					<i>FRIENDSHIP Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM Scholarships 7:30 PM Dressy casual</i>		<i>San Jose 5 Rainbow 10:00 AM</i>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	<i>Stated Meetings Golden Rule 479 San Jose 10 Los Altos 712 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	<i>Stated Meetings Mt View DeAnza 194 Palo Alto 346 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	<i>Stated Meeting Willow Glen Fraternity 399 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	<i>FRIENDSHIP 2nd Degree Practice 7:00 PM</i>	<i>Bethel 129 7:00 PM</i>	<i>Master's Trip California Academy of Sciences San Francisco</i>	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
		<i>Santa Clara DeMolay 7 PM</i>		<i>SCVMOA 6:30 PM Friendship 210 Officers Mandatory</i>		<i>San Jose 5 Rainbow 10:00 AM</i>	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
				<i>FRIENDSHIP 2nd Degree for Jack Caceres 6:45 PM Officers in tux</i>		<i>Bethel 129 Stated Meeting 10:00 AM</i>	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
		<i>Santa Clara DeMolay 7:00 PM</i>	<i>FRIENDSHIP 3rd Degree Practice 7:00 PM</i>	<i>FRIENDSHIP 3rd Degree for Henry Peña 6:45 PM Officers in tux</i>			

From the East



Greetings Brethren!

Our Stated Meeting is on August 1, 2024. Dinner starts at 6:30 PM. Please don't forget to RSVP Worshipful Helmuth Litfin at 408-421-9381 or email at helmuth.litfin@gmail.com.

Attire for this month's Stated Meeting is casual.

Before our Stated Meeting on August 1, Friendship Lodge will award scholarships to the children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of Friendship Lodge members. At this writing, we are still waiting for the applications, so we do not have all their names.

This is a reminder that our Thursday Meet and Greet is ongoing and prospects, Entered Apprentices, and Fellowcrafts are encouraged to attend. We will be starting around 6:30 PM. Prospects attending will be learning more about our organization. The Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts should attend the fellowship to continue learning their proficiencies with their Candidate Coaches. Other brethren Master Masons, aside from Officers, are invited to join if their schedules permit. It's a potluck style, so please bring some snacks, goodies, or special dishes you want to share.

The Officers will start their practice by 7:00 PM, if you're not able to attend the practice please inform me and our Officers Coaches.

Applications for Friendship 210 Lodge Scholarships are due by August 15, 2024. Please contact me or our Bro. Secretary for the application requirements.

On other planned event, for the Master's Trip is scheduled for August 10, 2024, at the California Academy of Sciences, opening time is 9:30 AM.

It's a one-day activity and includes dinner and fellowship afterwards. Please inform our Bro. Secretary if you plan to join me on this one-day trip.

The Santa Clara Valley Masonic Association scheduled the Grand Master's Reception for soon-to-be Most Worshipful Arthur Salazar, Jr. on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at the San Jose Scottish Rite Center, 2455 Masonic Dr, San Jose CA 95125. Social starts by 4:00 PM followed by dinner at 5:00 PM. Cost is \$25.00. Mount Moriah Lodge No. 292 is hosting this year's event.

For tickets, contact our Secretary Daniel Doornbos at daniel.doornbos@icloud.com or 408-802-7480.

A reminder for the Officers, the Santa Clara Valley Officers Association Meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2024. Friendship Lodge No. 210 is the host. The topic will be Objections and Balloting. All Officers are required to attend. Please inform me and our District Inspector, Dinesh Chhabra, at 908-247-9288 or dchhabra9@gmail.com if you're unable to attend.

If ever there will be a time when you will need any type of healthcare for your family, the Masonic Outreach Services is there to help. Please contact them at 888-466-3642. This is a benefit for every Mason: Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason.

I would like to share about the good work of Bro Jim North on reaching out our Brethren. I attended a funeral of a Bro. DeMolay at Elk Grove, CA. As we introduced ourselves to other Bro. DeMolay and DeMolay/Masons, I found out about Bro. Catalino Alfelor, Jr. is a member of our Lodge, and he mentioned about a Brother who called to check on him. He couldn't remember the name, he said "It's like James or Jim". I knew right away it was Bro. North! So please keep up the good work on reaching out and checking for our Brothers of Friendship Lodge.

I would also like to commend our Prospect Manager, Don Gunaratne, for his work. We recently accepted three applications for degrees and waiting for their Grand Lodge background checks.

We will be busy conferring Degrees for the next few months and likely for next year, too.

Gilbert Cruz, Master

From the West



Senior Warden Andrew Litfin has been working through a few challenges this month and has wisely prioritized family and employment over Masonic activity. We look forward to hearing from him soon.

From the South



Needed: Junior Warden. Involves a three-year service commitment to the lodge. If you are available, capable, and willing, then we are happy to provide training. Please contact Wor. Gilbert Cruz for more information.

Training Camp



Friendship Lodge is hosting the Officer Association Meeting and School of Instruction (OAM/SOI) this month. The Ladies Oriental Shrine always prepares a nice dinner, which they do as a fundraiser.

The Inspector leading the school usually asks the host lodge to exemplify the ritual work. Last year, The Friendship officers did an excellent and comprehensive job showing how balloting is done and objections are handled. In fact, I think we did a better job of exemplifying than the Inspectors did at teaching. But that's just my opinion.

Daniel Doornbos, PM, Officers Coach

The Reverend's Corner



Dear Brethren, (Yes)

Have you ever wondered why we don't say "yes" that much? We seem to dwell on the noes in our life. When we say "no" a lot, are we being negative? Does "yes" mean we are being positive?

Let's start saying no to fear and inhibition and say yes to life. When we walk into a dark room, if we flip the switch, does it not brighten the room? Maybe if we say "yes" more often it would expand our lives to fuller and better things. With yes, we can feel the energy flow in our life. We feel the power of God and trust a deep level of support on our life path. We are opening up ourselves to the divine flow of life, love, and possibilities. We say "yes" to prosperity, healing, harmony, and peace.

When we let doubt and fear seep into our thoughts, we can let go and return to the truth of our divinity and the knowledge the future is with God as our guide on our path of life. Faith moves us with confidence. We say yes to the good today and every day.

Let's not be "Negative Ned" but be "Positive Pete". Positive thinking and action are the divine in us moving forward.

AFFIRMATION:

I say "yes" to life and welcome my good.

FROM SACRED WRITINGS:

Matthew 9:28 - Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord".

God bless,

Reverend Gene

The Secretary's Table



Applications for Friendship Lodge scholarships were due by July 22 this year. But we will accept them as late as July 29.

To apply for a scholarship, the recipient must submit:

1. A statement explaining why he/she is applying for the scholarship includes his or her home address, email address, and telephone number.
2. A letter of recommendation from their father, grandfather, or great-grandfather who must be a Master Mason in good standing of Friendship Lodge No. 210.
3. A letter of recommendation from one other Master Mason in good standing of any regular Masonic Lodge.
4. Proof of enrollment in the upcoming semester or quarter shows the list of classes and the number of units being taken. If such evidence is unavailable at the time of application, the applicant shall provide a written statement of explanation.
5. A complete copy of all their:
 - a. High School academic records for the last two (2) years showing GPA, or
 - b. Post-high school academic records for the last three (3) quarters or two (2) semesters. For post-high school education, printouts from the school's website are sufficient.

6. All of the requested information must be provided. Incomplete applications or applications received after the due date are not eligible for the scholarship award in the current calendar year.

Applications may be:

- Mailed to Friendship Lodge No. 210, 2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose CA 95125-2019.
 - Emailed to the Master, Wor. Gilbert Cruz at gilbertzc@aol.com. All emailed documents *must* be in PDF file format.
 - Hand delivered to the Wor. Gilbert Cruz before July 30, 2024.
7. A list of scholarships and other student financial aid awards he/she is currently receiving and for which he/she has been approved.

Recommended: The applicant is encouraged to submit copies of any other letters of recommendation he or she has received.

Daniel Doornbos, PM, Secretary



August Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 – David Lemus | 20 – Jonathan Cruz |
| 5 – Chito Atienza | 20 – Albert Steele |
| 6 – Brian Grove | 21 – Steven Hua |
| 7 – Alvin Dela Cruz | 23 – Noel Baybayan |
| 8 – John Rouchanian | 28 – Chase Traficanti |
| 14 – Erik Reyes | 29 – Melbourne Fauvor |
| 15 – Dennis Anastole, PM | 31 – Kevin Hall, PM |
| 19 – Don Gunaratne | |

August Events

August 1 — Stated Meeting Dinner, cost is \$10.00.

Scholarships will be presented after inner.

Dress: Dressy casual with collared shirts, slacks, dress shoes. No shorts or sandals, please.

August 8 — Ritual Practice

Second degree practice with Bro. Andrew Litfin in the East and Bro. Sean O'Hara delivers the Middle Chamber lecture. We will also practice balloting and objections for next week's OAM/SOI. Dress: Casual

August 10 — Master's Trip

California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. The Academy is open from 9:30 AM. Dinner at the California Fish Market Restaurant, 550 Green Street, San Francisco. The Lodge covers the cost of dinner and non-alcoholic beverages. Dress: Casual. Bring a jacket.

August 15 — SCVMOA

San Jose Masonic Center. Friendship Lodge No. 210 is hosting. Dinner at 6:30 PM, school of instruction at 7:30 PM, balloting and objections. All officers are required to attend. Dress: Casual

August 22 — Second Degree

Second degree for Bro. Jack Caceres. Bro. Andrew Litfin in the East and Bro. Sean O'Hara delivers the Middle Chamber lecture. Set up the room and open lodge at 6:45 PM. The conferral begins at 7:00 PM. We will enjoy refreshments afterwards.

Dress: Officers in tuxedos. Sidelines in business suit or sports coat, slacks, and tie.

August 28 — Ritual Practice

Third degree practice with full crew for opening, closing, and second section. Dress: Casual.

August 29 — Third Degree

Third degree for Bro. Henry Peña. Wor. Cruz and Doornbos in the East. Set up the room and open lodge at 6:45 PM. The conferral begins at 7:00 PM. We will enjoy refreshments afterwards.

Dress: Officers in tuxedos. Sidelines in business suit or sports coat, slacks, and tie.

2024 Officers

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Wives/Ladies</u>	
Master		
Gilbert Cruz	(Monette)	408-483-1964
Senior Warden		
Andrew Litfin		408-832-5846
Junior Warden		
Treasurer		
Kendall Mills, PM	(Janet)	408-281-4084
Secretary		
Daniel Doornbos, PM	(Gillian)	408-802-7480
Chaplain		
Helmuth Litfin, PM	(Evonne)	408-421-9381
Senior Deacon		
Sean O'Hara	(Savannah)	559-862-9372
Junior Deacon		
Mike Smith	(Bonnie)	408-483-8985
Marshal		
Hristo Kolev	(Maria)	925-997-9779
Senior Steward		
Dan Chaid	(Theresa)	408-393-8905
Junior Steward		
Al Dorji	(Hakimeh)	408-313-4781
Tiler		
Tad Espiritu, PM	(Genevieve)	408-930-8303
Organist		
Chito Atienza	(Shirlita)	408-561-5850
Prospect Manager		
Don Gunaratne		518-335-1146
Inspector 345th Masonic District		
Dinesh Chhabra, PM	(Meenu)	908- 247-9288
Officers Coaches		
Daniel Doornbos, PM	(Gillian)	408-802-7480
Helmuth Litfin, PM	(Evonne)	408-421-9381

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FriendshipLodge210

Website: <https://friendship210.org/>

Child ID

Friendship Lodge has been providing Child ID services since the program began decades ago.



Wor. Helmuth Litfin at Friendship's Child ID booth.

Our most recent service was at the Chandler-Tripp School spring carnival on May 31. We provided 12 child ID sheets at that event.

Child ID itself was a custom software package created for the Grand Lodge of California's program to help prepare families in the event that one of the children went missing. It was a big leap forward and no doubt brought many kids home.

But things have changed. Child ID fell out of favor and was not upgraded with newer technologies. In time, support for it was dropped completely and the Grand Lodge no longer promoted it.

With the rise of the Internet, protocols for finding lost children have improved substantially. As a result, the low-resolution portrait and thumb-print images produced by the Child ID system have become obsolete.

What will we do? What will it cost? Those are questions we are considering now. Your input and suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

To learn more about how missing children and located and returned home, take a look at these organizations:

- The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at missingkids.org.
- Child Find of America at childfindofamerica.org.

Sciots Cornerstone Award

This year, Friendship Lodge was pleased to nominate Bro. Mike Smith to receive the Sciots Cornerstone Award.



Bro. Mike Smith displays his award and certificate.

The Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots is an optional organization that any Master Mason may join. They began as a social group in San Francisco in 1905. The next year, after the great earthquake, the Sciots raised funds to repair and rebuild the local Masonic lodges damaged by the quake.

The Cornerstone award is a way for the Sciots to help local lodges show recognition and appreciation for their hardest working members.

Once a year, each of the lodges in the South Bay Area may nominate one member for the Cornerstone award. But you don't just submit a name. The nomination must be justified. That was not a difficult task in Bro. Mike's case.

The Cornerstone award itself is golden plaque placed on a gold-painted concrete paver that weighs about 7 pounds. Without a doubt, it is the *heaviest* award a Mason can receive.

2024 MASTER'S TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO

Join Worshipful Master Gilbert Cruz and his family for an enjoyable and educational visit to the **California Academy of Sciences** in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park on Saturday, August 10, 2024.

Attractions include:

- Steinhart Aquarium
- Morrison Planetarium (make reservations onsite)
- Osher Rainforest
- Kimball Natural History Museum

The Academy is open from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM. You may arrive at your convenience. Onsite food service is available until 4:00 PM.

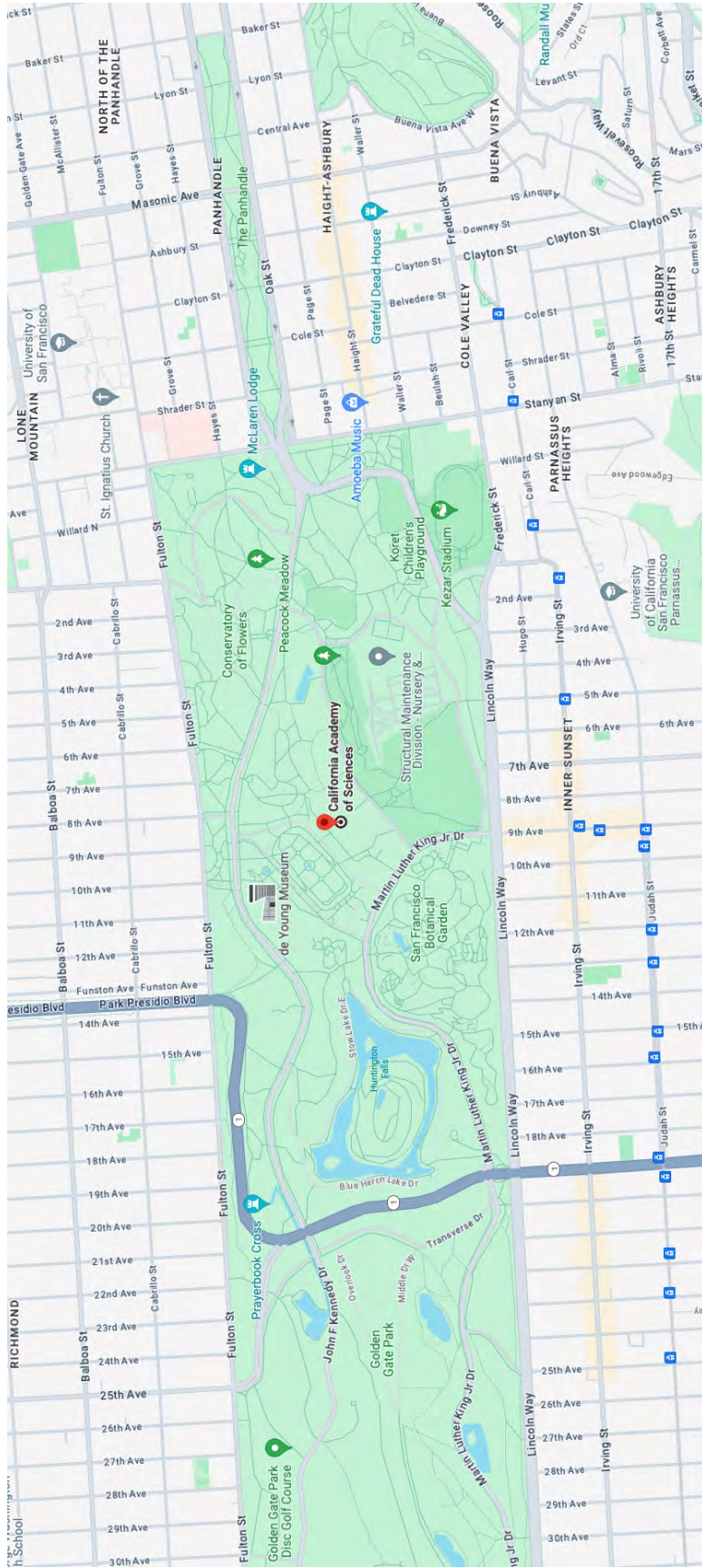
For more information on the Cal Academy, go to: www.calacademy.org, email to info@calacademy.org, or call 415-379-8000 M-F 8 to 5, weekends 9 to 5

Daytime admission is \$43.95 for adults, \$33.95 for teens, and \$37.95 for students and seniors. Members are free.

After a day at the Academy, we will gather for dinner at The California Fish Market Restaurant, 550 Green Street (North Beach / Little Italy) in San Francisco. To see the menu, go to www.cafishmarketrestaurant.com/. The Lodge will cover the cost of dinner and non-alcoholic beverages.

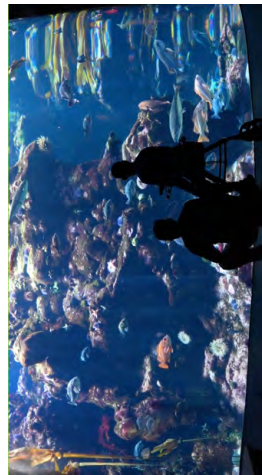
Please reserve with our Secretary Daniel Doornbos at daniel.doornbos@icloud.com or 408-802-7480.





The Music Concourse Garage is a secure, accessible, underground parking facility located just steps away from the Academy's main entrance. \$6.25 per hour on weekends. Enter via the north at Fulton St./10th Ave. or the south at Music Concourse Dr./ MLK Dr.

Free street parking is available near the Academy and throughout Golden Gate Park. • San Francisco is cool and windy... please bring a jacket.



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