



# Friendship Lodge No. 210 Trestleboard

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

## NOVEMBER – 2024

SUN                  MON                  TUE                  WED                  THU                  FRI                  SAT

1

2

*San Jose 5 Rainbow  
10:00 AM*

*Grand Master's  
Reception  
SJSR 4:00 PM*

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*Stated Meetings  
Golden Rule 479  
San Jose 10  
Los Altos 712  
Dinner 6:30 PM*

*Election Day  
Stated Meetings  
Mt View DeAnza 194  
Palo Alto 346  
Dinner 6:30 PM*

*Stated Meeting  
Willow Glen  
Fraternity 399  
Dinner 6:30 PM*

*FRIENDSHIP  
Stated Meeting  
Dinner 6:30 PM  
Suit or coat and tie*

*Bethel 129  
7:00 PM*

*Lodge Outreach  
Meeting, Alameda  
8:30 AM*

*Supreme Sciots  
Installation  
SJSR 4:30 PM*

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*Santa Clara  
DeMolay 7 PM*

*FRIENDSHIP  
3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Practice  
7:00 PM*

*San Jose 5 Rainbow  
10:00 AM*

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*SCVMOA 6:30 PM  
Mt View DeAnza 194  
Officers Mandatory*

*FRIENDSHIP  
3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Conferral  
7:00 PM*

*Bethel 129  
Stated Meeting  
10:00 AM*

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

*Santa Clara  
DeMolay 7:00 PM*

*Thanksgiving*

## From the East



Greetings Brethren!

Wow it's the month of Thanksgiving, a good time to reflect on our years success, failures (an opportunity to think about lessons learned), and future opportunities. For this month we will have our election for the next set of Officers for the ensuing year. We will also have our Flag Presentation.

Our Stated Meeting is on November 7, 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](mailto:helmuth.litfin@gmail.com).

Attire for this month Stated Meeting will be business suit or sports coat and tie.

A reminder that Thursday Meet and Greet will resume back on November 14, 2024; prospects, Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are invited to attend. We will be starting around 7:00 PM.

Prospects attending will be learning more about our organization.

Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts should attend the fellowship to continue learning their proficiencies with their Candidate Coach.

Master Masons—aside from Officers—are invited to join if their schedules permit. It's a pot-luck style event. Please bring some snacks, goodies, or special dishes you want to share.

The Santa Clara Valley Masonic Association scheduled the Grand Master's Reception for Most Worshipful Arthur Salazar, Jr. on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at the San Jose Scottish Rite Center 2455 Masonic Dr, San Jose CA 95125.

Mount Moriah Lodge No. 292 will host. Social starts by 4:00 PM followed by dinner at 5:00 PM. We still have tickets available at no charge.

A reminder for the Officers, the Santa Clara Valley Officers Association Meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2024, hosted by Mountain View De Anza Lodge No. 194. The topic will be Grand Lodge Results, Installations, OAM Election of Officers, and Swam Song. All Officers are required to attend. Please inform me and our District Inspector Dinesh Chabra 1(908) 247-9288, [dchhabra9@gmail.com](mailto:dchhabra9@gmail.com) if you're not able 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 (EAs, FCs, and Master Masons).

Gilbert Cruz, Master

## Training Camp



As we reach the end of the year, the officers must qualify for their new stations next year. Several of our officers have elected to stay in their current positions. Their previous individual proficiencies do not need to be repeated.

If you are stepping up to the next station, you are expected to adequately perform all of its ritual requirements.

The officers and degree team members must collectively qualify in conferring each of the three degrees. We usually demonstrate this at a separate practice night. When time is of the essence, we may demonstrate it at an actual degree conferral.

I will be working with our Inspector, Wor. Dinesh Chhabra to be sure we can demonstrate the specific knowledge and skills that he is look for.

Daniel Doornbos, PM, Officers Coach

## The Reverend's Corner



Dear Brethren, (Giving Thanks/Thanksgiving)

Each month I try to bring to you a word that has meaning. So, this month of November brings several words to think about like; giving, thankful, gathering together, and of course Thanksgiving. I work with words like these to bring a spiritual message to you in the hope that it can bring about peace of mind, joy, love, and also food for the soul.

The word thanksgiving resonates in our hearts and souls because we feel a glow of gladness throughout our being. We know we can pass this feeling on to others. With gratitude we let family and friends know they are a blessing in our lives. This gratitude in our hearts fills us with love and contentment. We know and feel the connection we have with not only others but, most importantly the Universe, the God within.

Whether we come together over meals, talking on the phone, or a card or letter, we treasure this connection. When we share a smile, hug, or unhurried time together, it is a gift.

We are always thankful and grateful that God is with us. We can and do carry that love from God on for the rest of this year and all the years ahead. We are thankful for the ever-present, all-powerful spirit of God within and within all others.

This is not the time for obstacles, problems, or chaos. It is a time for gathering, sharing, and loving. Have faith to change these negatives into a positive. Count our blessings from the smallest ones that make our hearts sing or even large ones. Be grateful for family and friends and support one another.

I would like to close with a poem I found in one of my many booklets.

GRATITUDE'S BLESSING

When gratitude flows through your heart,  
it reflects the love of which you're a part.

Your soul then glows,  
with the grace that it knows,  
witnessing the present becomes an art.

Holding praise in mind,  
you behold God's gifts sublime.

Being alive to the moment,  
and not letting worries foment.

Your thankfulness helps all others,  
lighting little lamps of joy for one another.

AFFIRMATION:

I am thankful for my many blessings and thankful  
for the ever-present, all-powerful spirit of God.

FROM SACRED WRITINGS:

Psalm 103:2 – Bless the Lord, O my soul do not  
forget all his benefits.

God bless and Happy Thanksgiving

Reverend Gene

## The Secretary's Table



Friendship Lodge No. 210 has signed on to the  
Grand Lodge of California Member Services dues-  
invoicing service.

The first dues notice will go out in the second week  
of November and continue with physical and  
electronic dues notices until March.

When you receive your dues notice, please pay it  
right away. So often, people think "I'll deal with  
this later" and then forget about it.

If your financial situation is such that you cannot  
afford your dues, place a confidential call to the  
Master of the lodge and request a dues remission.

Friendship Lodge's 2025 dues will be **\$116.50**. You can pay by check or online through your iMember account.

Those of you who prefer to pay dues by sending me a check, make it payable to Friendship Lodge No. 210

You can hand your check to me in person. Or you can mail it to me at:

Daniel Doornbos  
2165 Carobwood Lane  
San Jose CA 95132-1213

Daniel Doornbos, PM, Secretary



## November Birthdays

4 – Edward Osgood	17 – Billy Mills, PM
5 – David Soutas, PM	18 – Max del Hierro, PM
9 – Tad Espiritu, PM	18 – John McClelland
10 – Noe Lopez	19 – Rodolfo Tan, PM
13 – Jonathan Clemente	20 – Jeffrey Porges
16 – Dan Chaid	26 – Tony Gonzales

## November Events

### November 2 — Grand Master's Reception

San Jose Scottish Rite Center. Social at 4:00 PM, dinner at 5:00 PM, reception to follow.

The lodge bought tickets for the members. To get yours, contact Secretary, Daniel Doornbos at 408-802-7480 or [daniel.doornbos@icloud.com](mailto:daniel.doornbos@icloud.com).

Dress: Hawaiian collared shirt, slacks and closed-toe shoes or a coat and tie.

### November 7 — Stated Meeting

Stated Meeting: Presentation of the flag, election of Officers for 2025. Candidate proficiency.

Dinner is \$10.00. Dress: Business suit or sports coat and tie.

### November 9 — Lodge Outreach Meeting

Division III Masonic Lodge Outreach Committee meeting at Island City Lodge No. 215, 2312 Alameda Ave., Alameda, CA.

Breakfast at 8:30, Meeting from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Lodge Outreach committee members should attend. Any interested member may attend. To reserve, email Amanda Levy at [alevy@mhcuc.org](mailto:alevy@mhcuc.org).

Dress: Casual

### November 9 — Supreme Sciots

San Jose Scottish Rite Center. Social at 4:30 PM, installation at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6:30 PM. Music and dancing to follow.

The Sciots give the Cornerstone Award to deserving nominees from local Masonic lodges every year.

Bro. Brandon Dueñas (Golden Rule Lodge No. 479) is going in as “Pharoah of All Sciotry” (the national level presiding officer).

Dinner is \$30 per person, paid in advance. Check payable to “Brandon Dueñas”. Mail check to Kaleo Gagne, 1355 McCandless Dr. Apt. 529, Milpitas, CA 95035-8177.

### November 14 — Ritual Practice

We will hold a third-degree, *second* section practice from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. All degree team members to attend. Wor. Doornbos in the East. Other officers in regular stations. Dress: Casual

### November 18 — SCVMOA

Mountain View DeAnza Lodge, 890 Church Street, Mountain View, CA. MVDA Lodge No. 194 is hosting. Dinner at 6:30 PM, school of instruction at 7:30 PM, Grand Lodge results, Installations, OAM elections, Swan Song. All officers are expected to attend. Dress: Casual

### November 21 — Third Degree Conferral

We will raise Bro. Hugo Gonzalez to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree of Masonry.

We will set up the lodge room at 6:45 PM so we can start promptly at 7:00.

In the East: 1<sup>st</sup> section, WM Cruz; 2<sup>nd</sup> section and lecture, Wor. Doornbos. Other officers in regular stations. Dress: Officers in tuxedo. Sideliners in business suit or sports coat and tie.

## November 28 — Thanksgiving

No Lodge meeting.

*Please mark your calendar!*

## December 21 — Installation of Officers

San Jose Masonic Center. Social hour at 4:00, Installation at 5:00, and Dinner 6:30 PM.

More information to follow.

## A Thanksgiving Essay

It is believed that America's first Thanksgiving, actually a harvest feast that brought together 53 Pilgrims and some 90 Wampanoag (Native Americans), occurred in the fall of 1621.

But there is more to the story.

Much of the food was provided by the Wampanoag guests, who included their leader Massasoit, the Pawtuxet interpreter and guide Squanto (who had lived in England after having been taken in slavery), and Massasoit's son Metacom. Massasoit had established peaceful relations with the colonists that lasted for decades.

That state-of-affairs, though, deteriorated after his death as a result of tensions from the Europeans' poor treatment of Native Americans, cultural encroachment, and increasing desire for land. Metacom—called King Philip by the English—waged war against the colonists (King Philip's War, 1675–76) and was killed in battle. He was beheaded and quartered. His head was displayed on a spear at Plymouth for many years.

The eventual spread of Europeans and other nonindigenous peoples across North America that began at the colonies of Plymouth and Jamestown (Virginia) had disastrous effects on the native peoples of the continent. No wonder the United American Indians of New England mark the annual Thanksgiving Day in an alternative way, as a "National Day of Mourning."

*Continued on the next page*

## 2024 Officers

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

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/Friendshiplodge210](http://www.facebook.com/Friendshiplodge210)

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

## What day is Thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving is one of the most popular holidays in the United States, but formally establishing the day on which it is to be observed was difficult and fraught with controversy.

Beginning in 1668, the holiday was celebrated on November 25, but that lasted only a few years.

In 1789 Pres. George Washington decreed Thursday, November 26, as a day of public thanksgiving, but in the years that followed, the holiday bounced informally from month to month and date to date.

It took the Civil War—and with it the perceived need for a gesture to build national unity—for Lincoln to declare a day of thanksgiving for the U.S. in October 1863, to be celebrated the following month.

In 1939 some Americans had the option of celebrating Thanksgiving on two different dates. Because that year had five Thursdays in November, retailers asked Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt to push the holiday back a week in order to give people more time for holiday shopping. Roosevelt agreed, but many saw the move as nothing but a money grab by retailers, and several governors declared that the holiday would be celebrated in their states on the traditional last Thursday.

The battle was finally settled when Congress passed a law in December 1941 that made Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday of November.

However, days of thanksgiving on a variety of occasions have been celebrated throughout American history. Among them have been days for giving thanks to the Creator for the ending of droughts and wars or in celebration of other events, such as the promulgation of the Constitution.

As celebrated in the United States, the holiday of Thanksgiving usually revolves around a bountiful meal. Typical dishes include bread stuffing, potatoes, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, and, above all, turkey. How did turkey become the centerpiece of this feast?

### Pass the Turkey, Please

It is often assumed that today's Thanksgiving menu originated in an event commonly referred to as the "first Thanksgiving." There is indeed evidence of a

meal shared between Pilgrim settlers and the Wampanoag people in late 1621.



*"The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth" a painting by Jennie A. Brownscombe*

But there is no indication that turkey was served. For meat, the Wampanoag brought deer, and the Pilgrims provided wild "fowl." Strictly speaking, that "fowl" could have been turkeys, which were native to the area, but historians think it was probably ducks or geese.

What's more, the Pilgrims do not appear to have considered this meal a milestone worthy of special commemoration. No 17th-century reference to it exists beyond a letter written by Plymouth colonist Edward Winslow.

For the Pilgrims, giving thanks for the autumn harvest wasn't a new concept. As a tradition with roots in European harvest festivals and Christian religious observances, "days of thanksgiving" were fairly common among the colonists of New England.

### Rise of the Turkeys

By the turn of the 19th century, however, turkey had become a popular dish to serve on such occasions. There were a few reasons for this.

First, the bird was rather plentiful. One expert estimated that there were at least 10 million turkeys in America at the time of European contact.

Second, turkeys on a family farm were almost always available for slaughter. While live cows and hens were useful as long as they were producing milk and eggs, respectively, turkeys were generally raised only for their meat and thus could be readily killed.

Third, a single turkey was usually big enough to feed a family.

Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to serve as our national emblem—it's a beautiful, genuinely American bird that tastes wonderful and had enormous economic value for the colonists.

As Thanksgiving became an official American holiday, a national mythology formed around it. An 1841 collection of Pilgrim writing had referred to the meal described by Winslow as “the first Thanksgiving.” Although Winslow didn't specifically mention turkey, his fellow colonist William Bradford did refer to a “great store of wild Turkeys” at Plymouth that fall, in a journal that was reprinted in 1856.

Before long, the cultural links between Pilgrims, turkeys, and Thanksgiving became an inextricable and integral part of American schoolchildren's education.

From a more practical perspective, turkey has also remained relatively affordable. Although the wild turkey was considered endangered in the early 20th century, its population once again stands in the millions.



*Wild turkeys in their natural habitat.*

The Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), is a species native only to the Americas. There are just two species of turkey in the world. The other is the Ocellated Turkey (*Meleagris ocellata*) of Mexico and Central America.

### **Why do we call them turkeys?**

So, if the bird is indigenous to the Americas, and not Turkey, why do we call it a turkey? No one knows for certain, but everyone has a theory.

One such theory is that the turkey is named after “turk, turk, turk, turk” sounds made by wild turkeys.

Another theory is that a Native American word for the bird is “firkee”, which early settlers heard as

“turkey.” How that one got started is anyone's guess.

A review of languages of eastern tribes reveals lots of words for turkey, but no firkee:

- Powhatan (Virginia): monanow
- Delaware: tshikenum
- Algonkian (Long Island): nahiam
- Narragansett (southern New England): nahenan
- Natick and Wampanoag (Massachusetts): neyhom
- Abnaki (Maine): nahame
- Iroquois (upper New York): netachrochwa gatschinala

Yet another explanation is that when he landed in America Christopher Columbus, he saw wild turkeys. Because Columbus thought the New World was connected to India, and because peacocks are indigenous to India, and because the male turkey, like a male peacock, displays his colorful tail to attract a mate, he called turkeys by the Indian word *tuka*, meaning peacock.

Yet another speculation is that when the birds were exported to Europe, the shipping routes that passed through the nation of Turkey.

Interestingly, the Turks call a turkey *hindi*, in reference to India. However, in India a turkey is called by its Portuguese name *Peru*, in reference to the South American country.

### **What is a Turkey?**

Wild turkeys are large, plump birds with long legs, wide, rounded tails, and a small, featherless head on a long, slim neck. A mature male turkey weighs about 24 pounds.

Turkeys are dark overall with a bronze-green iridescence to most of their plumage. Their wings are dark, boldly barred with white. Their rump and tail feathers are broadly tipped with rusty or white. The bare skin of the head and neck varies from red to blue to gray.

Turkeys travel in flocks and search on the ground for nuts, berries, insects, and snails. They use their strong feet to scratch leaf litter out of the way. At night, turkeys fly up into trees to roost in groups.

They are fast runners and able fliers. If you chase a wild turkey, it will try to escape by running. If it's about to be caught, it will fly.



*Wild male turkey.*

In early spring, males gather in clearings to perform courtship displays. They puff up their body feathers, flare their tails into a vertical fan, and strut slowly while giving a characteristic gobbling call.

That's why adult male turkeys are called gobblers. The adult females are hens, juvenile turkeys are called jakes. The newly hatched are called poults. Domesticated adult male turkeys are called toms.

Wild turkeys live in mature forests, particularly nut trees such as oak, hickory, or beech, interspersed with edges and fields. You may also see them along roads and in woody backyards. After being hunted out of large parts of their range, turkeys were reintroduced and are numerous once again.

Today turkeys are year-round inhabitants of one-fourth of California, including the grounds of the Masonic Home in Union City and several communities in and around the South Bay.

You can hunt wild turkeys in California, mostly on private ranches away from towns and communities. There are fall and spring seasons, also an archery season and a junior-hunt period. Hunting is an essential part of wildlife management in California, and it is carefully regulated.

## **Turkeys go Global**

Indigenous American tribes have caught and domesticated turkeys for centuries. In the 1500s, Spanish traders brought some of those turkeys to Europe and Asia.

On a continent where fine dining still included eating storks, herons, and bustards, the meaty, succulent turkey was a sensation.

Later when English settlers came to America, they were amazed to find the same birds running wild and free. And they liked the taste of the meat, thanks to their natural diet of nuts and berries.

The transplanted turkeys were selectively bred in Europe for a couple of centuries before being brought back to America by early settlers. From those birds sprang the domestic turkeys we know today.

## **Domestication**

Domestic turkeys are the same species as the wild turkeys, *Meleagris gallopavo*, subspecies *domesticus*. Their plumage varies from colorful like wild birds to completely white or completely black, depending on the breed.



*Domestic turkeys.*

Domestic turkeys are bred to satisfy the consumer market. Physical fitness is not a priority. Young domestic turkeys readily fly short distances, perch, and roost. These behaviors become less frequent as the birds mature. Adults can climb on objects such as bales of straw.

The vast majority of turkeys are reared indoors in purpose-built or modified buildings, with climate control, computerized light schedules, and a diet of corn and soybean meal, with added vitamins and minerals, which are adjusted for protein, carbohydrate, and fat content based on the birds' age and nutrient requirements.

Hens are slaughtered at about 14 to 16 weeks and toms at about 18 to 20 weeks of age, when they can weigh over 44 pounds, nearly twice the weight of a wild turkey.