



Friendship Lodge No. 210

Trestleboard

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

JUNE – 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 <i>Stated Meetings Golden Rule 479 San Jose 10 Los Altos 712 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	3 <i>Stated Meetings Mt View DeAnza 194 Palo Alto 346 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	4 <i>Stated Meeting Willow Glen Fraternity 399 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>	5 <i>FRIENDSHIP Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM Casual</i>	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 <i>SCVMOA 6:30 PM Mount Moriah 292 Officers Mandatory</i>	13	14 <i>Flag Day</i>
15	16	17	18	19 <i>FRIENDSHIP 3rd Degree Practice 7:00 PM</i>	20	21 <i>FRIENDSHIP Family Picnic Vasona Park 11:00 AM</i>
22	23	24	25	26 <i>FRIENDSHIP 3rd Degree Practice 7:00 PM</i>	27	28 <i>FRIENDSHIP Double 3rd Degree Clemente & Peña 8:00 AM</i>
29	30					

From the East



Greetings Brethren!

It's June, half of the year is almost done. The Summer season is here. For the next few months our attire will be casual dress and Hawaiian shirts.

It will also be a busy month for the Lodge. We have two Fellowcrafts ready to do their proficiency. The plan, due to the candidates' schedules, as of now is hold a double 3rd Degree event on Saturday, June 28. We will arrange a courtesy degree for one candidate who has an inflexible schedule.

One Entered Apprentice brother mentioned to me that he'll be ready to do his proficiency either by this June or July Stated Meeting. Our lodge has 11 Entered Apprentices in the queue, plus a few who have moved out-of-state. I hope they are working with their local Candidate Coach for them to be passed to the second degree of Masonry.

Please don't forget to RSVP our Junior Warden for our incoming picnic on June 21st at Vasona County Park in Los Gatos.

Another heads-up is to make sure that the brethren are aware of this year's Scholarship Program. The deadline for submission is July 12th. Scholarships will be awarded at the August 7th Stated Meeting. A copy of the scholarship form is included on the last two pages of this *Trestleboard*.

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 Masons (EA, FC, and Master Masons)

- Care Management
- Financial Assistance
- Referral Services
- Masonic Homes Application

Please also add into your calendar August 30 when Friendship Lodge will be hosting the Division III Masonic Outreach Services meeting. I would appreciate it if more of our members would join us at the meeting to learn more of the benefits offered to all California Masons.

The Santa Clara Valley Officers Association Meeting will be held at Mount Moriah Lodge No. 292 which meets at 131 E. Main St., Los Gatos. The date is Thursday, June 12. Dinner starts at 6:30 PM, followed by the School of Instruction. The topic is 3rd Degree, 2nd section.

All officers should be there. Please inform me and our District Inspector Dinesh Chhabra at 908-247-9288 or dchhabra9@gmail.com if you're not able to attend.

Gilbert Cruz, PM, Master

From the West



Fraternal Greetings from the West!

Andrew Litfin, Senior Warden

From the South



Fraternal Greetings from the South!

Sean Michael O'Hara, Junior Warden

Training Camp



Several Friendship Lodge officers have attended the Leadership Retreats sponsored by the Grand Lodge of California. These are great opportunities to learn about developments at Grand Lodge, new policies and procedures, updates to the iMember software, as well as the problems encountered, and solutions found, by other lodges around the state.

We came back with some great ideas for improving our lodge activities, community service, and member experience. In some areas we have must “up our game” to achieve the expected standards.

There were several Inspectors in attendance, so I had a chance to banter with them over certain points of the ritual and workarounds for officers who struggle with their performance.

Besides the retreats, I enjoyed the opportunity to attend Mission Peak Lodge No. 884, of which I am a charter member. MPL 884 received its charter at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication last October. It's a brand-new Lodge with a small membership and limited budget. Our Inspector, Wor. Dinesh Chhabra is the Charter Master and current Secretary of MPL 884. Some of their officers have taken parts on our 3rd degree conferrals and vice versa.

MPL 884 was intended to hold its meetings in Milpitas, there being no Masonic Lodge in that city. But rents and leases are costly and buildings suitable to hold Masonic meetings and degrees are few, so for the time being, they meet in the Siminoff Temple at the Masonic Home in Union City.

Helmuth Litfin, PM and Daniel Doornbos, PM;
Officers Coaches

The Reverend's Corner



Greeting Brethren, (Service/Determination)

As we go into the month of June several things might come to mind. There will be graduations and maybe some June Brides. Some will also observe Father's Day.

I also thought about us as the Mason Brothers we are. We serve our families, community, and each other with determination to do the best we can.

As we look at the state of the world, we might feel resigned to accept it as it is and feel discouraged. We know that there are those who are suffering and going without. So, we may not be able to help everyone in the world, but as Masons we still can be of service wherever we are. Being of service is empowering. It's a way to feel we are helping to make the world a better place.

When we are in our prayer time, we use our prayers to include those with illnesses and those with prosperity needs. We hold these needs close to our hearts so we can envision those having all they need to lead their fulfilling lives.

We all have heard the old saying, “If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.” Even if old, still it's wise words to help us remember that success is not always immediate. As with our service to others, we may not see our goals met as soon as we wish.

Failure is a part of life and happens to all of us at some time or another. But it is how we handle these situations that counts. Yes, we can feel disappointed and frustrated. But we also can remain determined to try again, find a new way and trust we will succeed.

In serving others we can show the grace of God. God has and will remain our source to help all in need. We turn to God in prayer to replenish us with divine love and protective presence. Our

determination will propel us forward. We will serve with joy and purpose and grateful to help.

As God is our guide, He will guide us to help others in need. As our guide we can serve with determination. Let's do this with love and an open mind and heart. We can push past any fear and embrace life. Although serving with an open heart may involve some risks or disappointment, the benefits far outweigh this.

Remember God is with us always, so embrace life and trust in that protecting, prospering presence of the Divine.

AFFIRMATIONS:

I wholly embrace life as I serve others with joy and peace.

I rely upon God and act with determination.

FROM SACRED WRITINGS:

1 Peter 4:10 – Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

Job 34:4 – Let us choose what is right; let us determine among ourselves what is good.

God bless,

Reverend Gene

The Secretary's Table



Here's the latest report on my three projects.

1. Master Mason Trowels

There are four individualized still waiting for their owners. I'm hoping they attend out June Stated Meeting so I can present them.

2. Child ID

We managed the snacks & water table at the Carnival at Chandler-Tripp School on Friday, May 29. We did not do any Child IDs because we have not yet selected our new equipment. Also, two of the Child ID team members are super busy at work right now.

But guess what? The Chandler-Tripp faculty and parents were equally as warm and welcoming as always. Evidently, they just like our company.

Chandler-Tripp school will be relocating soon. Santa Clara County owns the land and apparently other plans for it. The school itself operates under the Santa Clara County Office of Education, which is looking for a new location.

What does that have to do with Friendship Lodge? The upcoming move could be an excellent community service project for us: Perhaps packing, moving, sorting, unpacking books, and equipment. Or performing needed maintenance work at the new facility. Stay tuned for developments.

3. Delinquent Dues

We are finished with this project. We have a few members who have not paid their 2025 dues, but we chose to reach out to the members who owed for 2024 *and* 2025. Two of them appreciated the reminder and submitted their payments. But five members did not respond and were suspended. We hope to see those Brothers active and participating again soon.

Ready to pay your dues?

You can pay dues online through your iMember account. Note that iMember uses your credit card and charges a processing fee. Or,

Make your check out to Friendship Lodge No. 210

Dues for 2025 is \$116.50. If you missed paying in 2024, you owe \$230.00 for last year and this year.

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



June Birthdays

1 – David Kahmann	15 – Peter Mandon
2 – Marc Crowe	20 – Michael Larsen
4 – David Sepulveda	21 – David Peters
5 – Juan Arreguín, PM	22 – Charles Gutierrez
11 – Robert Dawson	25 – Gilbert Cruz, PM
14 – Gene Meyer	26 – Hristo Kolev

June Events

June 5 — Stated Meeting

Dinner, \$10.00 person. Dress: Hawaiian theme. Aloha shirts preferred. No shorts, jeans, or sandals, please.

June 12 — Officers Association

SCVMOA meeting at Mount Moriah Lodge No. 292 in Los Gatos. Dinner at 6:30 PM. School of instruction at 7:30 PM covering 2nd section of the 3rd Degree. All lodge officers are required to attend. Dress: Casual.

June 19 — 3rd Degree Practice

We will begin work on conferring the 3rd Degree. WM Cruz is building the cast list. Dress: Casual

June 21 — Family Picnic

Gateway Pavilion at Vasona Park in Los Gatos for our annual picnic. Festivities start at 11:00 AM and typically last until mid-afternoon. There is no

charge to attend the picnic. But the park charges \$6.00 per vehicle at the gate.

This event is open to friends and family. Please RSVP to Junior Warden Sean O'Hara with the number of people you plan to bring.

Dress for a warm day, bring a hat for the sun and a jacket in case of winds. If you have any outdoor games to share, feel free to bring them with you!

June 26 — 3rd Degree Practice

This will be a final rehearsal for the 3rd Degree on Saturday. Depending on who is ready and available, we may need to reach out to Master Masons in other lodges to fill the stations. Dress: Casual

June 28 — 3rd Degree Conferral

Third Degree conferral for Brothers Jonathan Clemente and Henry Peña. Stations filled per WM Gilbert's cast list. Please check with him to verify your part.

We will open lodge at 8:00 AM, confer the two degrees individually, then present the Master's lecture to both candidates together. Dress: Tuxedos

Mark your calendar:

On Saturday, August 30, 2025, Friendship Lodge will host the Division III Masonic Outreach Services meeting, at the San Jose Masonic Center. Breakfast is served at 9:30 AM. Come and learn more about the assistance available to all California Masons. Dress: Casual

Flag Day

Flag Day is Saturday, June 14, 2025. It is a celebration of the adoption of the American flag by Continental Congress in the First Flag Resolution of June 14, 1777. The new nation had 13 states.



Francis Hopkinson design: 6-point stars arranged in a grid, white stripes at top and bottom.

Continued on the next page.

Flag Day, continued



Betsy Ross design: 5-point stars arranged in a circle, red stripes at top and bottom.

During the War of 1812 (US vs. UK), it was the 15-star, 15-stripe flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write a poem, *Defence of Fort M'Henry*. He set the words to the music of a popular English drinking tune, *To Anacreon in Heaven*. With Key's lyrics it became known as *The Star-Spangled Banner*, which is now the American national anthem.



The flag that flew over Fort McHenry in 1814.

Coincidentally, June 14 is also the date for the annual anniversary of the "Bear Flag Revolt" in California. In 1846, 33 American settlers arrested Mariano Vallejo, the Mexican general in command at Sonoma. They declared the province of Alta California to be an independent nation, called the "Bear Flag Republic". It lasted 25 days.

California was formally annexed to the United States in 1848 and became the 31st state in 1850. A modified version of the Bear Flag became the official state flag in 1911.



The Original Bear Flag of California

2025 Officers

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Wives/Ladies</u>	
Master		
Gilbert Cruz	(Monette)	408-483-1964
Senior Warden		
Andrew Litfin	(Lauren)	408-832-5846
Junior Warden		
Sean O'Hara	(Savannah)	559-862-9372
Treasurer		
Kendall Mills, PM	(Janet)	408-281-4084
Secretary		
Daniel Doornbos, PM	(Gillian)	408-802-7480
Chaplain		
Daniel Reyes	(Rosa)	408-401-3596
Senior Deacon		
Helmuth Litfin, PM	(Evonne)	408-421-9381
Junior Deacon		
Dan Chaid	(Theresa)	408-393-8905
Marshal		
Ed Advincula		510-921-7136
Senior Steward		
Al Dorji	(Hakimeh)	408-313-4781
Junior Steward		
Jack Caceres	(Sorena)	669-388-1816
Tiler		
Omar Martinez		669-296-7720
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/>

Friendship Lodge No. 210 Scholarship Information

Friendship Lodge No. 210 F&AM intends to award scholarships to the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of the Master Masons of our Lodge. The scholarship recipients shall be selected by a committee appointed by the Master.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a scholarship, the recipient must:

1. Be the child or grandchild of a member in good standing of Friendship Lodge No. 210. The relationship includes a biological child, a legally adopted child, and a stepchild by marriage.
2. Be a high school graduate and have achieved a grade-point average of at least 2.6 (on the 4.0 GPA Scale).
3. Applicants already enrolled in a post-high school program, must have achieved a grade point average of at least 2.6 (on the 4.0 GPA Scale) in all post-high school academic work.
4. Have applied for admission to, or be enrolled in, an accredited degree program at a community college, public or private college or university, technical training school, or institute.
 - a. Full-time students (taking at least 12 credits) may receive a full scholarship award.
 - b. Part-time students (taking less than 12 credits) may receive a partial scholarship award.

Required Information

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. Applications for scholarships are due by **July 12th 2025**. 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 Kendall Mills, 4441 Palisade Drive, San Jose CA 95111-2551 with postmark on / before **July 12th 2025**.
 - Emailed to Kendall Mills at (kendallmills@sbcglobal.net) on / before **July 12th 2025**. All emailed documents must be in PDF format.
 - Hand delivered to the Kendall Mills on / before **July 12th 2025**.
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

In addition to the above requirements, the applicant is encouraged to submit copies of any other letters of recommendation he/she has received.

Awarding of Scholarships

Students will be notified by July 24th whether or not they have been awarded a scholarship. Scholarships are given in-person to the recipients at the August Stated Meeting each year. Students and their parents are invited as our guests to attend our August Stated Dinner.

For those recipients unable to attend, the Lodge mails the scholarships to the recipients' address at home or at school.