



# Friendship Lodge No. 210 Trestleboard

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

## JUNE – 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		<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 Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM Suit or coat and tie</i>		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	<i>Stated Meetings Golden Rule 479 San Jose 10 Los Altos 712 Dinner 6:30 PM</i>			<i>SCVMOA 6:30 PM Mount Moriah Lodge No. 292 Officers Mandatory</i>		<i>FRIENDSHIP Family Picnic Gateway Pavilion Vasona Park 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM</i>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		<i>Henry Peña Third Degree Oasis Lodge No. 854 Los Angeles</i>		<i>FRIENDSHIP Ritual Practice 7:00 PM</i>		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				<i>FRIENDSHIP Ritual Practice 7:00 PM</i>		
28	29	30				

## From the East



Fraternal Greetings from the East!

Andrew Litfin, Master

## From the West



Fraternal Greetings from the West!

Sean Michael O'Hara, Senior Warden

## From the South



Brethren,

June is a vibrant month, often associated with the beginning of summer, celebrations, graduations, and time spent together in fellowship. As we gather this June 2026, we look forward to sharing a joyful evening of food, friendship, and community.

Our stated meeting dinner is a Hawaiian barbecue and will include:

- Huli Huli Chicken
- Kalua Pig
- Coleslaw
- Hawaiian Macaroni Salad

“Summer is singing with joy, and the beaches are inviting you with dancing waves.”

Also, our yearly Lodge Family Picnic happens on Saturday, June 13th, at the Gateway Pavilion at Vasona Park in Los Gatos.

Please call Wor. Helmuth Litfin at 408-421-9381 to confirm your attendance to the stated meeting dinner.

Please contact Secretary Daniel Doornbos at 408-802-7480 or [daniel.doornbos@icloud.com](mailto:daniel.doornbos@icloud.com) to inform us that you will attend the lodge family picnic and the number of people in your party.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Jake Todino, Junior Warden

## Training Camp



We are making progress toward training our Lodge Officers in their ritual duties for next year.

Bro. Sean O'Hara has made substantial progress in the Master's part of the Third Degree.

Bro. Dan Chaid, who just last month performed his first Middle Chamber lecture, has now undertaken the Master's part of the First Degree.

Bro. Al Dorji is studying the Senior Deacon's work for opening and closing all three degrees and receiving a visiting Grand Lodge Officer.

This month, we have an Officers Association Meeting (OAM) and School of Instruction (SOI) on Thursday, June 11 at Mount Moriah Lodge No. 292, which meets at the Los Gatos Masonic Center.

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 we will study the Second Section of the Third Degree.

All Lodge Officers are expected to attend all SOIs. If you cannot make it for any reason, please our Inspector Worshipful Dinesh Chhabra. And let WM Andrew Litfin know, so we don't send somebody out to find you.

Our ritual practices are on Thursdays, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Dress is casual.

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

## The Chaplain's Corner



### Freemasonry and the Holy Bible

The Holy Bible is understood to express divine instruction for the believing community.

The Holy Bible is published in two parts. The *Tanakh* or Old Testament, originally written in Hebrew, and the *Brit Chadashah* or New Testament, originally written in Greek. Jewish people use the Tanakh alone. Christians use the Tanakh and the New Testament.

Freemasons, however, view their organization not a religion but a *fraternity*, a *brotherhood of men...* despite of what many uninformed people may think.

President George Washington, a Freemason himself, said during his farewell address, "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports." Washington testified of his belief in God as a Christian and a Freemason.

Washington was originally a member of the Church of England. After the revolution, the church members living in America broke away and formed the Episcopal Church.

Freemasons often refer to the Holy Bible as the *Volume of the Sacred Law* (VSL). Laying on the altar, is opened when the Lodge opens, and is closed when the Lodge closes. The candidate takes his obligation with his hand resting upon it.

The VSL provides the ethical and moral instruction for every brother Mason to live by. It mentors the sincere Freemason in good behavior and moral conduct. Thus, the VSL becomes a personal

Trestleboard for the individual Freemason's spiritual advancement.

In most American Masonic lodges, if the candidate follows a religion or faith tradition other than Judaism or Christianity, the holy book of his faith may be used on the altar, such as the Vedas for a Hindu, the Quran for a Muslim, or Tao Te Ching for a Taoist.

Whichever holy book lays the altar, it is the VSL for the purpose of that degree and represents the presence of the Supreme Being and existence of a single universal faith. A faith that promotes harmonious relationships amongst all Masonic brothers, regardless of their individual religious affiliations.

Ed Advincula, Chaplain

## The Secretary's Table



There are currently 14 Friendship Lodge members who have not yet paid their 2026 dues. And there are two members who have not paid for 2025 nor 2026.

If paying dues is a challenge for you right now, we have a better alternative than taking a suspension. We invite you to have a confidential chat with the Master or one of the Wardens.

### How to pay your dues

Dues for 2026 are \$120.50. You can pay dues online at any time through your iMember account. Note that iMember uses your credit card and charges a processing fee.

If you prefer to pay by check, make your check out 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

### How NOT to pay your dues

Please do *not* mail or take your dues check to the San Jose Masonic Center. And please do *not* hand your dues check to somebody else, expecting him or her to give the check to me. Checks get lost that way. I need your check in hand so I can process your payment and generate a new dues card.

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 4 — Stated Meeting

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

### June 11 — 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 2<sup>nd</sup> section of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. All lodge officers are required to attend. Dress: Casual.

### June 13 — Family Picnic

Gateway Pavilion, Vasona Park, in Los Gatos. 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 reserve with Secretary Daniel Doornbos at 408-802-7480 or [daniel.doornbos@icloud.com](mailto:daniel.doornbos@icloud.com) and give 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 16 — Henry Peña 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree

Bro. Henry is a Fellowcraft member of Friendship Lodge. For reasons of employment, he has had to move several times, and currently lives in LA.

Henry's Third Degree will be conferred by Oasis Lodge No. 854 on Tuesday, June 16, at the Shrine Auditorium, 665 W Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles.

You can reach Bro. Henry at 323-909-0558 or [penajhenry@gmail.com](mailto:penajhenry@gmail.com)

The Shrine Auditorium is a good six-hour drive from San Jose. If you are interested in carpooling, please contact Wor. Gilbert Cruz at 408-483-1964 or [gilbertzc@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertzc@gmail.com)

### June 18 — Degree Practice

7:00 to 9:00 PM. What we practice depends on who shows up. Dress: Casual

### June 25 — Degree Practice

7:00 to 9:00 PM. What we practice depends on who shows up. Dress: Casual

## 2026 Officers

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Wives/Ladies</u>	
<b>Master</b>		
Andrew Litfin	(Lauren)	408-832-5846
<b>Senior Warden</b>		
Sean O'Hara	(Savannah)	559-862-9372
<b>Junior Warden</b>		
Jake Todino	(Lyn)	831-207-1264
<b>Treasurer</b>		
Kendall Mills, PM	(Janet)	408-281-4084
<b>Secretary</b>		
Daniel Doornbos, PM	(Gillian)	408-802-7480
<b>Chaplain</b>		
Ed Advincula		510-921-7136
<b>Senior Deacon</b>		
Dan Chaid	(Theresa)	408-393-8905
<b>Junior Deacon</b>		
Al Dorji	(Hakimeh)	408-313-4781
<b>Marshal</b>		
Gilbert Cruz, PM	(Monette)	408-483-1964
<b>Senior Steward</b>		
Jack Caceres	(Sorena)	669-388-1816
<b>Junior Steward</b>		
Omar Martinez		669-296-7720
<b>Tiler</b>		
Louie Mar	(Ireen)	408-838-3873
<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](https://www.facebook.com/Friendshiplodge210)

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



Dear Worshipful Master and Brethren,

Throughout Northern California, members of our Masonic Youth Orders become better leaders and people by practicing timeless principles rooted in Freemasonry. For many, the week-long Pacific Coast DeMolay Leadership Conference (DLC) is a crucial moment in their development, where those skills and values become an integral part of who they are.

DLC is an amazing experience, but many members of our Masonic Youth face financial barriers, making this leadership conference inaccessible and keeping them from reaching their full potential.

By donating to Northern California DeMolay in support of the DLC program, your lodge would provide vital financial support that helps our Masonic Youth access a life-changing opportunity.

With your support, Northern California DeMolay can continue to shape our members into leaders of character who work to improve themselves, form lifelong friendships, and give back to their communities.

So, please donate today, and look out for our annual report later this year showing how your support makes a positive impact on our youth. To contribute, please send your donation to: Northern California DeMolay I 2355 Palomino Rd., Livermore, CA 94551 (or scan the QR code to make individual contributions online).

If you have any questions or would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities, please reach out to our Philanthropic Director, Jill Shanmugasundaram via email at [giving@norcaldemolay.com](mailto:giving@norcaldemolay.com) or phone/text at 650-714-1366.

Thank you for your continued commitment to investing in the next generation of leaders. Together, we are shaping young men of character who will make a difference for years to come.

David E. Killmer  
Executive Officer  
DeMolay of Northern California & Hawaii

Takoda Gochenour  
Jurisdictional Master Councilor  
Northern California DeMolay Association

Individual or Group Support can be submitted using the QR code:



**Job's Daughters International**  
**Bethel No. 129 San Jose**  
**2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose, CA 95125**  
**EIN 23-7234256**

To Our Masonic Family Supporters,

Job's Daughters, Bethel No. 129, San Jose has a rich Masonic history that goes back to 1940. Our Bethel has spent many years developing leaders, supporting the community, and building friendships.

One of our favorite activities is Grand Bethel, our statewide convention! In June we spent four fun-filled days in Modesto where Kiersten Norveson, PHQ was installed Grand Bethel Marshal! Kiersten will spend her year traveling all over California and abroad representing Job's Daughters and Bethel No. 129. At Grand Bethel the girls competed in Arts & Crafts, Friendship Contest and celebrated with girls from all over the state. Our Bethel was also selected to represent the Philippines for the next year!

In July the Bethel traveled to Glendale, Arizona for our Supreme Session. We got to meet girls from all over the world. This is first time Bethel No. 129 has traveled to Supreme as a Bethel in many years and we were so excited for the journey. And it did not disappoint!

While our girls work very hard to raise funds for all of these amazing activities, they are also continuing to support as many philanthropic organizations as we can. Recently we have supported the Family Giving Tree, Operation Gratitude, Wreaths Across America, There with Care, and Second Harvest Food Bank.

This coming year we will have our traditional enchilada fundraiser, in April, our Junior Princess

will host her fundraiser, and we hope to host our 3rd Annual Game on the Table event (we are still looking for a venue). Even with our fundraisers, it costs a lot of money for us to attend things like Grand Bethel, over \$600 per person. This year we have also been supporting our Grand Bethel officer as she travels around the state.

To help us continue, we are reaching out to our Masonic Family and hope you will consider making a donation to support us financially. If you are interested in making a donation, you can mail a check to our Bethel Secretary,

Jill Shanmugasundoram  
1225 Vienna Drive Sp. 436,  
Sunnyvale, CA 94089-1851

or drop it off in our mailbox at the San Jose Masonic Center.

We will continue to keep you updated on our future activities and hope your membership will join us whenever possible.

Please consider inviting us to any activities that would allow us to support you as well.

The Officers and Members of Bethel No. 129, San Jose:

Willow Doughty, Junior Princess

Lillianna Doughty, Musician

Kiersten Norveson, Grand Bethel Marshal, PHQ

Payton Martinez, Member

Madden Trinidad, Librarian



## Whose Idea was Flag Day?

There are many claims to the first official observance of Flag Day, all but one took place more than an entire century after the flag's adoption in 1777.

The first claim was from a celebration in Hartford, Connecticut, during the first summer of 1861. In the

late 1800s, schools all over the United States held Flag Day programs to contribute to the Americanization of immigrant children, and the observance caught on with individual communities.

“Father of Flag Day” honors have been given to William T. Kerr, who was credited with founding the American Flag Day Association in 1888 while still a schoolboy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The most recognized claim, however, comes from New York. On June 14, 1889, Professor George Bolch, principal of a free kindergarten for the poor of New York City, had his school hold patriotic ceremonies to observe the anniversary of the Flag Day resolution (by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777). This initiative attracted attention from the State Department of Education, which arranged to have the day observed in all public schools thereafter.

Another claim comes from Philadelphia. In 1893, the Society of Colonial Dames succeeded in getting a resolution passed to have the flag displayed on all of the city's public buildings. Elizabeth Duane Gillespie, a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin and the president of the Colonial Dames of Pennsylvania, that same year tried to get the city to call June 14 “Flag Day”. Unfortunately, resolutions by women were not granted much notice at that time.

In 1897, New York governor Frank Black ordered the displaying of the flag over all public buildings in the state, an observance considered by some to be the first official recognition of the anniversary of the adoption of the flag outside of schools.

On May 7, 1937, Pennsylvania established the June 14 Flag Day as a *legal holiday*. In all other states and the U.S. territories, Flag Day is a *nationwide observance*.

Bernard J. Cigrand, a schoolteacher in Waubeka, Wisconsin, reportedly spent years trying to get Congress to declare June 14 as a national holiday. Although his attempts failed, the day was widely observed.

Both President Wilson, in 1916, and President Coolidge, in 1927, issued proclamations asking for June 14 to be observed as the National Flag Day. Congress finally approved Flag Day as a national observance on August 3, 1949, and President Harry Truman signed it into law.

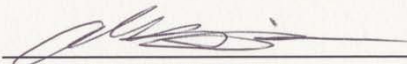
# CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented by  
Masonic Homes of California  
to

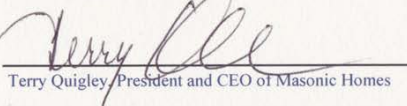
JAMES NORTH

in recognition of  
your dedication to lifelong learning and sharing of knowledge,  
as evidenced by your participation in the Lodge Outreach Program, and  
your commitment to the practice of Relief and Brotherly Love



  
Adam Hanin, Assistant Grand Lecturer

2/28/26  
Date

  
Terry Quigley, President and CEO of Masonic Homes

1/2/26  
Date



*Check out the certificate Bro. Jim North received for his support of the Lodge Outreach Program!*

In 2011, Masonic Outreach Services (MOS) worked with lodges in the San Diego region to create the Lodge Outreach Program. Through this partnership – which continues to expand statewide – MOS provides support and training to dedicated volunteer Masons in each district, enabling them to collaborate on outreach efforts and build a stronger, more effective outreach network across their area of California.

What services are available?

## Senior Outreach Services

Masonic family members ages 60+ can access a variety of resources to address their unique needs:

- Information and referral services
- Care management
- Financial assistance
- Shared Housing Program

## Distressed Worthy Brother Relief

If you are facing a financial crisis, we can help you navigate your options through:

- Information and referral services
- Care management
- Emergency financial support

## Masonic Value Network

A network of independent care-related providers. The Masonic Assistance staff can help you research several areas of care:

- In-Home Care Providers
- Senior Communities
- Senior Care Placement Services
- Hospice Care
- Discount Pharmacy