



# Friendship Lodge No. 210

## Trestleboard

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

## NOVEMBER – 2026

| SUN | MON                                                                                                  | TUE                                                                                                         | WED                                                                              | THU                                                                                                                 | FRI | SAT |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1   | 2<br><i>Stated Meetings<br/>Golden Rule 479<br/>San Jose 10<br/>Los Altos 712<br/>Dinner 6:30 PM</i> | 3<br><i>Stated Meetings<br/>Mt View DeAnza 194<br/>Palo Alto 346<br/>Dinner 6:30 PM</i>                     | 4<br><i>Stated Meeting<br/>Willow Glen<br/>Fraternity 399<br/>Dinner 6:30 PM</i> | 5<br><i>FRIENDSHIP<br/>Stated Meeting<br/>Dinner 6:30 PM</i>                                                        | 6   | 7   |
| 8   | 9                                                                                                    | 10                                                                                                          | 11                                                                               | 12<br><i>FRIENDSHIP<br/>Degree practice</i>                                                                         | 13  | 14  |
| 15  | 16                                                                                                   | 17<br><i>SCVMOA Meeting<br/>Mt View DeAnza<br/>Lodge No. 194<br/>Mt View 6:30 PM<br/>Officers Mandatory</i> | 18                                                                               | 19<br><i>FRIENDSHIP<br/>Degree conferral if a<br/>Candidate is ready.<br/>Otherwise,<br/>Installation practice.</i> | 20  | 21  |
| 22  | 23                                                                                                   | 24                                                                                                          | 25                                                                               | 26<br><i>Thanksgiving<br/>No Lodge Meeting</i>                                                                      | 27  | 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



Fraternal Greetings from the South!

Foods and cozy gatherings take center stage in November, blending the warmth of autumn aromas with high gratitude around the dinner table. It captures the essence of scents and community warmth, noting how food draws everyone in the mornings and how people travel far to share meals and give thanks.

Likewise, our menu for our stated meeting this November will include turkey, ham, stuffing, and sweet potatoes.

For reservations, please contact Wor. Litfin Helmuth at 408-421-9381 or [helmuth.litfin@gmail.com](mailto:helmuth.litfin@gmail.com).

Jake Todino, Junior Warden

## Training Camp



This month's OAM/SOI is hosted by Mountain View DeAnza Lodge No. 194 on Tuesday, November 17 at the Mountain View 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 and will cover Lodge Installations. Afterwards, the association will hold its officer elections for 2027, followed by the traditional Swan Song.

You can download Grand Lodge voting results from iMember. Wor. Helmuth Litfin cast the vote on behalf of the Past Masters of Friendship Lodge and circulated a report on the results.

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

We hold a ritual practice every Thursday, except for Stated Meetings, degree conferrals, OAM/SOIs, and holidays.

And if you cannot attend a practice, please inform your Officer Coaches, so we don't wait around for you to arrive.

Practices start at 7:00 PM and go to 9:00 PM. Please respect everybody's time by arriving on time. And come prepared to work by rehearsing your spoken parts before you arrive.

### Past Masters 3rd Degree

The Friendship Lodge Past Masters 3rd Degree for Bro. Brylle Llaguno on September 24 was a big success.

And a shout-out to Wor. Gilbert Cruz, who assembled the cast. It was a big job because only seven Friendship Past Masters were available to participate. This year, we have support from five Past Masters of other lodges to complete our team. We were grateful for their help.

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

## The Chaplain's Corner



### Why Our Founding Fathers Became Freemasons

It will be well noted that a number of our Founding Fathers during the American Revolution had decided to join Freemasonry for remarkably unique beliefs and selflessness equated with their philosophical standards deeply engraved in the 18th-century existence.

Yes, not all Founding Fathers were Freemasons. Nonetheless, those who were such as in the persons of George Washington, John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin, and Paul Revere, to name a few, were convinced that this Fraternal organization was rich in Enlightenment ideals that genuinely focused on self-improvement, religious freedom or tolerance, the pursuit of justice, equality, liberty, and respect for human dignity.

Being a member of Freemasonry provided a well-organized and pillared stance in terms of leadership, personal interconnectivity with the rest of the population as well as a brand of dynamic and

heavily ingrained responsibility in a civil society during the colonial period.

Our Founding Fathers saw the need to be in that limelight of objectivity not for personal gains or stature, but rather to create a whole new society, The American Society "where all men are created equal in the eyes of the Almighty God, the Great Architect of the Universe and our Supreme Grand Master.

The rest is history as our Founding Fathers' contributions to mankind touched the whole world unquestionably. While some sectors in our world today and even in the past centuries have made up their mind immersed with a negative thought pattern about Freemasonry, there is one lingering subject matter that can put an end to their pessimism of us as Freemasons...

Respectfully,

Pastor Ed Advincula, Chaplain

## **The Secretary's Table**



The Grand Lodge of California will send the first 2027 dues notice on November 1 via email. They will send a printed dues notice via postal mail on November 16.

Even though the Grand Lodge provides the dues notification service, your dues payment still goes to Friendship Lodge.

Our 2027 dues are \$120.50, the same as this year.

You should make your 2027 dues payment on or before January 1, 2027. You can pay dues online with a credit card. Or you can send me a check. If you want to pay in cash, we can do that in person.

If any problem makes paying your dues difficult, we have a solution for that. But you must initiate a confidential request.

If you have dues related questions, contact me at 408-802-7480 or [daniel.doornbos@icloud.com](mailto:daniel.doornbos@icloud.com).

Daniel Doornbos, PM, Secretary



## **November Birthdays**

- 9 – Tad Espiritu, PM
- 10 – Noe Lopez
- 13 – Jonathan Clemente
- 16 – Dan Chaid
- 17 – Billy Mills, PM
- 18 – Max del Hirerro, PM
- 19 – Rodolfo Tan, PM
- 20 – Jeff Porges
- 26 – Tony Gonzales

## November Events

### November 5 — Stated Meeting

Dinner is \$10.00 per person. Thanksgiving theme.

Dress: Business suit or sports coat and tie.

### November 12 — Degree Practice

Officers in advanced stations. Topic depends on possible degree conferral on the 19<sup>th</sup>. If no candidate is ready, we will work on the lectures.

Dress: Casual.

### November 17 — Officer Association

Mountain View DeAnza Lodge No. 194 is hosting. 890 Church St, Mountain View.

Dinner at 6:30 PM, school of instruction at 7:30 PM covering Lodge Installations. Then the SCVMOA officer elections and Swan Song.

All officers are expected to attend. Dress: Casual

### November 19 — Possible Degree

If a candidate is ready, proficient, and available. 7:00 PM. Officers in advanced stations.

Dress: Tux for officers, coat and tie for sideliners.

If we don't have a candidate, we will practice for our Installation of Officers on December 10.

Dress: Casual.

### November 26 — Thanksgiving Day

No Lodge meeting or practice. Enjoy the holiday!

### Coming-up Next Month

For the December 3 Stated Meeting, we will enjoy our traditional prime rib dinner. The cost is \$15.00 per person.

Friendship Lodge will hold its annual Installation of Officers on Thursday, December 10 at the San Jose Masonic Center. We will provide more information as our plans are finalized.

## 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>Musician</b>                         |                     |              |
| Chito Atienza                           | (Shirlita)          | 408-561-5850 |
| <b>Prospect Manager</b>                 |                     |              |
| Don Gunaratne                           |                     | 518-335-1146 |
| <b>Inspector 345th Masonic District</b> |                     |              |
| Chris Mays, PM                          | (Courtney)          | 669-219-4234 |
| <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:** <http://friendship210.org/>



### **First Degree for Brother Aldwin Avila, October 15, 2026**

*Front row: Kendall Mills, PM; Daniel Doornbos, PM; Jake Todino, Aldwin Avila, Sean O'Hara, Al Dorji, Gilbert Cruz, PM.*

*Back row: Chris Mays, PM (479); Ed Advincula, Dan Chaid, Jack Caceres, Omar Martinez, Helmuth Litfin, PM; Andrew Litfin, WM.*



### **Chandler-Tripp School**

Brothers from Friendship Lodge attended the traditional Pumpkin Patch fall celebration at Chandler-Tripp school on October 23, 2026.

The school's new location is 2750 Riverrun Drive in northeast San Jose. The school serves the families of special needs children.

Friendship Lodge provided 90 miniature pumpkins for the event. Each child got to take one home. The school assigned us to serve refreshments.

*Left to right: Gilbert Cruz, PM, Jonathan Blank, and Daniel Doornbos, PM.*



### **Grand Master's Reception, October 25, 2026**

*Left to right: Jack Caceres, Omar Martinez, Jake Todino, MW Ara Maloyan, GM; Sean O'Hara Gilbert Cruz, PM, Al Dorji, and Daniel Doornbos, PM.*

Friendship Lodge members attended the reception for Most Worshipful Ara Maloyan at the San Jose Scottish Rite Center. This year's reception was hosted by Palo Alto Lodge No. 346. Senior Warden Sean O'Hara, in his capacity as President of the Santa Clara County Masonic Officers' Association, served as the Master of Ceremonies.

### **La Cantera's Presentation to MW Maloyan**

La Cantera gave the gift of a special Certificate to the Grand Master. It includes beautiful illustrations and symbols, and two poems written about Masonry and life set in MW Maloyan's ancestral land of Armenia.

Bro. Omar Martinez researched the culture and history, composed the text, and selected the illustrations.

La Cantera, Spanish for "the quarry" is a mostly Spanish-speaking study and teaching club, and is sponsored by Friendship Lodge. Its members hail from several lodges in our area.

*Left to right: Oscar Arguello, WM (479), Omar Martinez, MW Ara Maloyan, GM; and Jack Caceres.*



Want to learn more about Armenia and its people? Go to <https://www.britannica.com/place/Armenia>.





### **Third Degree for Brother Brylle Llaguno, September 24, 2026**

*Front row: Erik Salonga, PM (488), Eddie Hermano, PM (479); Jim Arnold, PM; Daniel Doornbos, PM; Brylle Llaguno, Monte Bishop, PM (399), Gilbert Cruz, PM; Chito Atienza, and Jake Todino.*

*Middle row: Tad Espiritu, PM; Mike Smith, Ernesto Moya, WM (884), Juan Arreguín, PM; Omar Martinez, Art Pasquinelli, PM (479); Al Dorji, Jim North, and Phil Gardner, WM, PM (167).*

*Back row: Randy Shelton, Sean O'Hara, Joseph Martinez, PM; Don Kunaratne, Mike Lammer, PM (712), Jack Caceres, Helmuth Litfin, PM; Angelo Encarnacion, PM (10); and Brandon Dueñas, PM (479).*

Congratulations to Brother Brylle Llaguno for receiving his Master Mason degree!

This conferral was Friendship Lodge's Past Masters' Degree for 2026. We were fortunate to receive support in the form of Past Masters and current Masters, from seven other lodges:

San Jose Lodge No. 10, Alameda Lodge No. 167, Willow Glen Fraternity Lodge No. 399, Golden Rule Lodge No. 479, Patterson Lodge No. 488, Los Altos Lodge No. 712, and Mission Peak Lodge No. 884.

Assembling the degree team was a months-long project that paid off handsomely, both in quality of the ritual and Masonic fellowship.

Bro. Hristo Kolev, who modestly avoided the camera, prepared a delicious dinner that everyone enjoyed before the degree conferral.