

Golden Gate Speranza

Brotherly Love

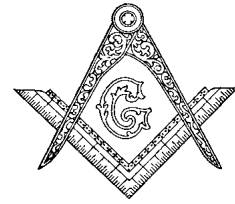
Relief

Truth



Lodge No. 30, F. & A.M.

Bulletin



Our 152nd Masonic Year

FEBRUARY 2005

Volume 153, Number 2

TRESTLEBOARD

Tuesday, February 1

6:00 P.M. Lodge Opening

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the Ladies

Reservations required

We will have a special presentation at the end of dinner from a representative of the Masonic Homes. 7:30 P.M. (approx.)

Stated Meeting

Tuesday, February 8

6:30 P.M. Light Dinner

7:00 P.M. Officer's Practice

Second Degree

Tuesday, February 15

6:30 P.M. Greek Night

Reservations required

Tuesday, February 22

6:30 P.M. Light Dinner

7:00 P.M. Officer's Practice

First Section, 3rd Degree

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday, March 1

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the Ladies

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

Reservations required

Tuesday, March 15

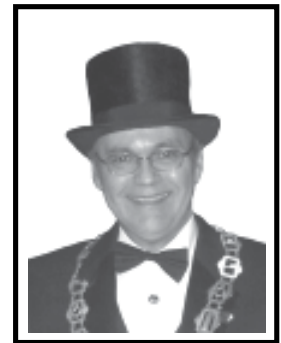
St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Games

Reservations required

FROM THE EAST



Did you notice? There is something new on this page. It is called a "vision statement?" If you attended installation or tuned into my January article, you would know that this is a summary of what I think this Lodge is and what it can be in the future. It is there for your use, and is not written in stone. What does this Lodge stand for? Good question. Only by striving to answer that question can we step into the future. I invite you to think on it as they say.



Why should we think on the future? Because, my friends, we have good men coming up in this Lodge right now. They need our direction and help to define their Masonic edifice. As I write this, we are preparing to confer a first degree. In addition, we have a brother awaiting his third degree, two brothers awaiting their second degree, and a brand new petition for the degrees was read at the January Stated Meeting. Things are happening. The juices are flowing. Come be a part of our deliberations. Come and help prepare for the future.

Vision Statement: Golden Gate Speranza Lodge #30 is an organization which values harmony and is friendly to all men. It supports public education and the Masonic youth groups because Masonic values are vital to our youth and their future. It imparts worthwhile Masonic education to its members as well as educating the community about Masonry. Membership in this Lodge will result in lifelong friends, a feeling of belonging, support when needed, an understanding of Masonry, and an understanding of service to others.

MEMBERSHIP

Awaiting Degrees

SECOND: Richard Darrell Link - Initiated November 16, 2004
David George Walda - Initiated November 16, 2004
John F. Langley - Initiated January 18, 2005
THIRD: Leigh Williams Skilling - Initiated May 11, 2004

Now I wish to switch gears and say to you, "Gung Hey Fat Choy!" That, of course, is Chinese for Happy New Year. The Year of the Rooster will start on February 9th. I always enjoy this holiday, first perhaps, because I work very close to Chinatown, and I can feel the energy build this time of year. Secondly, I also see this day as a sort of second chance to start the New Year. We celebrate New Year's on January 1st with all our resolutions well memorized and then, by this time, our attention begins to wane. So, this holiday can be a sort of reevaluation time. Keep in mind that the Chinese New Year celebration starts with the New Moon on the first day of the New Year and ends on the full moon 15 days later. That's right, fifteen days to refine your goals for 2005. So, remember those rules for resolutions: keep it to one or two goals, write it down, have a plan, and remember to paste reminders everywhere. Welcome to year 4702. May it be a good one for you.

Now, I have a word about communications. As you may have noticed, the third Tuesday of January turned into a degree night instead of an officer's practice. It was announced at the January stated meeting, but it was too late for the bulletin. It would be helpful if brothers with e-mail addresses could send them to me at the e-mail address listed under my name on the back of the bulletin. I would like to start an e-mail notification list. That way, you can receive last minute updates of the Trestleboard.

Lastly, let's talk about reservations, I want to reiterate the importance of making reservations for all our dinners. That keeps our "guest-i-mates" to a minimum, and we have to have enough food for all. The reverse is true also, and if you can't make it, please call and cancel your reservation. That way the Lodge does not pay for no-shows. Your help will be appreciated. So, please call Anastasia Jouganatos to make your reservation. Her number is on the last page of the bulletin. If for some reason you can't reach her or her recorder, please call the Master. Thank-you in advance!

Fraternally,
Patrick J. Burke, Master

Did you Know?

Theodore Roosevelt on Masonry as quoted from the Summer 2003 Nebraska Mason:

In one of his last interviews, Bro. Roosevelt is quoted in the July, 1919 McClure's Magazine as saying, "I violate no secret when I say that one of the greatest values in Masonry is that it affords an opportunity for men in all walks of life to meet on common ground, where all men are equal and have one common interest. For example, when I was President, the Master was Worshipful Brother Doughty, gardener on the estate of one of my neighbors, and a most excellent public-spirited citizen with whom I liked to maintain contact. Clearly I could not call upon him when I came home. It would have embarrassed him. Neither could he, without embarrassment, call on me. In the Lodge, it was different. He was over me, thought I was President, and it was good for him and good for me".

[Southern California Research Lodge,
15 November 2004]

FROM THE WEST

By James L. Adams

I picked this up from the Masonic Forum on America On Line and thought you might enjoy it.

"I was reading some comments from a famous author, not too long ago, that seemed to have a lot of relativity to what we are currently experiencing with the young folks.

Let me see if I can't paraphrase him a bit:

"Our people now live in luxury. They have bad manners and contempt for authority. They show disrespect for others and love idle chatter in place of healthy mental exercise. Our children are now animals, not the servants of our households. They no longer rise when their elders enter the room. They contradict their parents and tyrannize their teachers."

How true. Recently, my work brought me to a new environment. I took my eight year old daughter and three year old son from a location that offered schooling that was safe, healthy and inspiring to a new location where

the folks who were to be responsible for their education did little to inspire or promote free thought. Their hands were full satisfying the criteria from the school board that they lost sight of developing the necessary skills for my children to succeed. Instead my children, who have a stable and structured home-life, were thrust into a situation where they became the role models and trainers, not the students of learning.

Why? Because other parents gave little thought to raising their children. They assume that "the system" is responsible for welfare and upbringing and that the world owes their children a life, with or without the parent's commitment. But, those who they leave in charge of this direction are engaged in serving a wide spectrum of other interests which seldom includes basic respect for others or the age-old noble tenets and truths which are so essentially necessary if we hope to improve on our modern situations. If you haven't guessed, my wife and I approached this disparaging situation by removing our daughter and son from the school and began teaching them at home.

How do you do that? It isn't hard. There are many Home Schooling Programs available. Just verify that their curriculum is "certified". Examine them to see the curriculum suits your children's needs and lifestyle. Enroll them and present the curriculum to your local School Board for approval. Once "o.k.'d" you're all set. Just do the work.

What are the benefits? Tailoring your child's education to their interests allows them to move more quickly and with greater detail than subjecting them to an environment which is forced to move as slowly as the most emotionally distressed pupil. The draw back's? Your child may not have the opportunity to associate with the great variety of mankind which is just as important to functioning with success in the careers of the future as their basic education. It's a tough choice.

No matter what avenue you choose to educate your child, intense personal commitment will provide them with the tools that they will need to have a happy and fulfilling life. They need you to tell them, daily, what you believe is right and wrong. They may not accept your standards as their own

when they are older, but it won't be because you failed to instruct them when they had their greatest potential to learn.

So, what does all this have to do with the institution of Free-masonry? Freemasonry is an organization that promotes the basic moral truths of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth through the use of allegory and the builder's tools. In other words, the ceremonies give noble examples to remind an individual of those concepts that give strength and direction to an otherwise chaotic life. It inspires free thought and a reliance on spirit. No matter what educational background was available to a man, it will inspire him to continue the quest for knowledge and become a more rounded and respectable member of his community. It will also involve him positively with others who he would otherwise never come in contact. Through these liaisons, he will learn to respect others as develop pride in his own character.

These are high and exceptional aims for anyone. As a Mason, I am proud to say that the legacy of the fraternity is one that often includes the most accomplished men in our collective history. It is evident the world over, and their good work stays with us and benefits our society in the most positive manner imaginable. In America, the record includes Presidents, from George Washington and John Adams, to Harry Truman and Gerald Ford. Military victors from Commodore Perry to General Pershing, to public figures as varied as Mel Tillis and Burl Ives. A complete list would be voluminous in length. I would wager that if queried, each famous Mason would answer that they found something in the organization that inspired them to seek further light within themselves and that their Masonic experiences are useful and joyful to them all the time. [NOTE: John Adams was not a Mason.]

So, What do Mason's do? They work everyday at improving themselves and the world around them. Why do they do that? Because it is what living and learning is about, and what makes men a positive influence for humanity. Who was the author that I paraphrased in the beginning?

It was Socrates, who wrote that comment some 2500 years ago.

So, we gather that people haven't really changed much in all that time. What was a

significant issue with the children in Ancient Greece is still a challenge in the world today.

Shouldn't we applaud an organization, such as the Masonic Fraternity, for striving to make men more responsible where other more public institutions are destined to fail? Where would we be today if this noble organization was as available in Socrates time as it is today? The possibilities for advancement of the human condition are astounding.

YOSEMITE Trip, Sunday, June 5 through Tuesday, June 7, 2005.

The Lodge has approved covering some of the cost of the trip, so prices you need to be concerned with are:

MEMBERS, THEIR LADIES, and WIDOWS:
 Double Occupancy, \$180 per person
 Single Occupancy, \$220 per person

NONMEMBERS (GUESTS):
 Double Occupancy, \$359 per person
 Single Occupancy, \$439 per person

A flyer with trip details is enclosed with this bulletin. Additional copies are available at the Temple or by calling the Senior Warden. Deposits and reservation forms (the bottom of the backside of the flyer) are to be forwarded to the Senior Warden (address and phone number on back page of this bulletin) before April 1, 2005. Final payment is due by May 3, 2005. Please let him know your intentions as soon as you can so that the travel agency can confirm reservations.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We extend greetings to the following members of Golden Gate Speranza Lodge who will be celebrating their birthday during the month of February.

John C. Robinson	2
Raymond J. Miller	4
Armando Bolaños, P.M.	14
Frederick J. Gundran, Jr.	17
Evan C. Davis	17
Marc R. Seidenfeld, P.M.	18
Cecil C. Hall	19
Sefic Kaan Yucel	22
Ernest G. Batchelor, Jr.	24
Chadwick C. Ertola	26
Jorge E. Bernales	28
George H. Whitaker	28
Harry Wielen	29

Brethren celebrating their birthdays this month are invited for a complimentary dinner.



RENO TRIP

April 10-11, 2005

Sands Regency Hotel Casino

Park at the Scottish Rite Temple
 19th Ave. and Sloat Blvd.

Members, Wives and Widows
 Double Occupancy \$30.00 Per Person
 Single Occupancy \$41.00 Per Person

Non Members
 Double Occupancy \$47.00 Per Person
 Single Occupancy \$62.00 Per Person

Deadline March 18, 2005

For reservations mail checks to:
 William B. Bellamy, III
 624 Clarinada Avenue
 Daly City, CA 94015-4210

Make checks payable to:
 Golden Gate Speranza Lodge #30

Your Check Is Your Reservation



IN MEMORIAM

Stephen Fisk Steen, PM

Raised June 23, 1965

Entered into Rest

January 16, 2005

*Almighty Father
 Into Thy Hands*

*We Commend the Soul of our
 Dear Departed Brother*