

Golden Gate Speranza

Brotherly Love

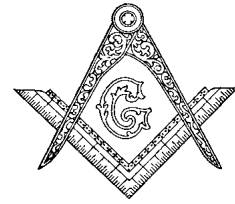
Relief

Truth



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

Bulletin



Our 152nd Masonic Year

APRIL 2005

Volume 153, Number 4

TRESTLEBOARD

Tuesday, April 5

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the Ladies
Reservations required: 415-221-2907
7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting
First and Second Degree Proficiencies

Sunday-Monday, April 10-11

Lodge Reno Trip

Tuesday, April 12

6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:00 PM Officer's Practice
Second Degree
All Fellowcrafts and Master Masons welcome
Call the Master if you are coming

Tuesday, April 19

6:30 P.M. Dinner
(Reservations to the Master)
7:30 P.M. Second Degree Conferral
Bro. John Franklin Langley

Tuesday, April 26

6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:00 PM Officer's Practice
Third Degree - First Section
All Master Masons are welcome
Call the Master if you are coming

LOOKING AHEAD

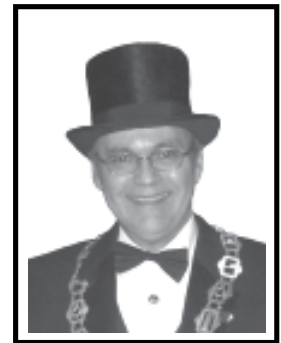
Tuesday, May 3

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the Ladies
Reservations required: 415-221-2907
7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting
Lecture by Alan Casalou Jr., Assistant Grand
Secretary
of the Grand Lodge of California, F.&A.M.

FROM THE EAST



Gosh, is April here already? Although February flew by, it left us with some nice memories. First, our Greek Night was well attended. Under the stewardship of Ana Jouganas, we had a wonderful selection of Greek favorites cooked to perfection by head cook, Worshipful Brother Jim Adams. This was followed by a scrumptious dessert baked by Despina Poulos. Kitchen duties were taken care of by Veronica Bellamy who was here, there, and everywhere. My plan had been to have one of the local Greek dancing groups perform after dinner, but as it turns out February is competition month, and they were not available. So, we pulled out the cards, the balls, and the cage and commenced to play our favorite game under the management of Worshipful Brother Bill Bellamy.



Secondly, we initiated a new member on February 22nd. It was none other than Michael Patrick Burke. And if you haven't guessed by now, Michael is my

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: John F. Langley - Initiated January 18, 2005
Michael P. Burke - Initiated February 22, 2005
THIRD: Leigh Williams Skilling - Initiated May 11, 2004
David George Walda - Initiated November 16, 2004
Richard Darrell Link - Initiated November 16, 2004

son. There was no convincing or pushing involved in his decision to become a Freemason. I am extremely proud to say that he simply walked up to me and said, "Dad, I want to join your Lodge." It will be a real privilege to be the Master in all three of his degrees. My thanks goes out to Worshipful Brother Henry Dodsorian, Jr. of Phoenix Lodge for filling in as Junior Steward, Worshipful Brother Ed Fernandez for sitting in as Treasurer, and Brother Gordon Whiteside of Brotherhood Lodge for directing the candidate as Senior Deacon.

On April 13th, we should stop and consider the following words: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Did you recognize them? They are the first words to the Declaration of Independence which was written by Thomas Jefferson. He was born on this day in 1743 at Shadwell Farm, Albemarle County, Virginia. His father, Peter Jefferson, was a successful landholder and noted explorer. His mother, Jane Randolph, belonged to one of the leading Virginia families. He was educated privately and studied Latin and Greek as well as becoming proficient in French, Italian and Spanish. He attended the Collage of William and Mary where he studied the liberal arts and sciences. After that, he studied the law and was admitted to the bar at age 24.

Although not a Mason, Jefferson espoused many Masonic ideals. Just as we are taught the importance of the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences in the Fellowcraft Degree, he not only studied them but lived them to the fullest. He was a diplomat, politician, writer, philosopher, architect, musician, scientist, and inventor. More importantly, he was a strong supporter of religious freedom and an early advocate of public education. From the beginning, he supported the rights of the colonies over the British Government. He saw the issue clearly as a struggle between freedom and tyranny. Basing his ideas on the natural rights theory, he claimed that allegiance to the king was voluntary. In his pamphlet, *A Summary View of the Rights of British America*, he wrote, "The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time: the hand of force may destroy, but can not disjoin them." Powerful words in the name of freedom. We can see why he was chosen to write the Declaration of Independence.

Thomas Jefferson became internationally famous. He returned to Virginia and served in the House of Delegates until 1779 at which time he was elected Governor. He later served as a Congressman, Minister to France, Secretary of State, Vice-President under John Adams, and as the third President of the United States. He died on July 4, 1826, which was befittingly the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. In the end, he wanted to be remembered for only three things: as author of the Declaration of Independence, as author of the Virginia Bill for Religious Freedom, and as Father of the University of Virginia. This is how his tombstone reads. So now you know!

Did you Know?

A Lodge may not be adjourned for any purpose. No member has the authority to present a motion for adjournment since that would usurp the Master's power. A Lodge must be in one of three conditions: closed, open and at work, or at refreshment.

—The Virginia Masonic Herald, summer 2004

A Mason's Responsibilities

The most valuable contribution of Freemasonry to the world is to be found in the lives of its individual members. If Masonic ideals are eventually to reach the legislative halls of our country, the houses of commerce and trade, and the shops of industry, they must be carried there by individual Masons; and whatever good Masonry may accomplish in the world will be the sum of the worth of its individual members. Look not at a brother's failure to live up to our high ideals - *look well to thyself*

—Committee on Masonic Information, Minnesota

Fraternally,
Patrick J. Burke, Master

FROM THE WEST

By James L. Adams

Masonic Lesson - "Bee"

[Taken from "Masonic Lessons Online" (which to me is an interesting presentation of someone's research papers)]

The bee-hive is an important symbol in the third degree, and it is extensively

mentioned in the lecture where it is depicted as a symbol of industry, hence the work of the Lodge, so that Masons should continue to learn in all stages of life. Bees are able to accomplish large tasks because they cooperate in force, a single bee can do very little. This is in parallel to Masonry, where strength is gained by the active participation of all its members.

The bee is also the emblem of several Greco-Roman and Indian gods, including Cupid and Kama, both gods of love. In Indian culture, a blue bee represents Krishna, a bee on a lotus leaf the God Vishnu, and a bee above a triangle represents Shova. The Egyptians believed that bees were born from the tears of the Sun-god, Ra. Bees are also depicted on many ancient tombs, as symbols of the afterlife and resurrection. This probably came from the fact that bees do not leave their hive during the three month hibernation period, only to reappear later. Some compared this to Christ's resurrection, whereby His body vanished for three days, only to reappear after the resurrection.

Bees have been linked in many ways to the divine. Originally thought to have lived in Paradise, the the Welsh tradition goes, they came down to earth to produce wax and honey - the wax to make candles for lights used in altars, and honey to sustain man. For this reason bees were considered lucky. If a bee entered a house, it was considered lucky, whereas in Wales a bee flying around a sleeping child was said foretells a happy life.

Furthermore, bees honey and sting are also associated with Christ and Judgment Day. In Ireland bees were legally protected, for they produce honey which in turn produces mead, the drink of immortality that flows in the Otherworld. In Christian allegory a queen bee sometimes represents the Virgin Mary, the hive symbolizing the Church. The coat of arms of Pope Urban VIII and Napoleon I, for example, depict several bees.

Entered Apprentice Degree Conferral

On 22 February, we did that rare thing in conducting degrees - our Worshipful Master proudly initiated his son into the Fraternity. It was more special because there were 2 others on the sidelines who had also had this high honor and 1 who had initiated his grandson-in-law. One of these proud fathers had his son with him to participate in what turned out to be a very well done degree, and one in which all members of the cast can be well pleased.

It was not done without some sweat and nervousness on the part of the Master, however, because he had to "draft" 5 sideliners, almost half the line, to fill key positions. Our sincere thanks to those fine brothers who stepped in and did a great job. This leads into the fact that we need to address a problem in Golden Gate Speranza Lodge - the seeming indifference of those on an active status on the membership roll. Being at home watching TV while we are doing important work at the Lodge is somewhat less than supportive. Contrary to some thinking, *your* presence is important. There is *nothing* in Masonry that takes precedence over the work of your Blue Lodge, especially degrees. We were led into a false feeling of security at our last rehearsal before the degree because of an excellent turn out of members (about 6 or 7 sitting on the sidelines) in addition to a couple filling incidental (but important) parts for the rehearsal. It was a shock, therefore, to find a significant shortage of line officers and sideliners at the degree. We deeply appreciate and are honored with the presence of our brothers at both the rehearsal and the degree. While we recognize and try to accommodate dictates of family, employment, health, and travel, we still have a need for you to make an effort to support the Lodge, physically. We will be challenged with 4 Master Mason Degrees in the not too distant future. The casts for the Third Degree has a requirement for 17 cast members. Can we make it and continue Golden Gate Speranza's tradition of superior degree work, or will we have to look for 9 or 10 willing souls to get our fat out of the fire? Is our history of degree work to be end because of seeming indifference? The decision is yours. We need to revitalize ourselves or are we going to continue down the hill to a not too gracious nor honorable end? Our Master is receptive to recommendations! and ideas. As instructed in the Third Degree, whisper good counsel in his ear. Let either the Master or the Officers Coach know of you ability to participate.

Yosemite Trip

The count for Yosemite trip reservations is now 29 with 4 more nibbling at joining us. We need at least 35 participants to make the trip cost effective and we can handle up to 44 comfortably. Come join us on this visit to another of the glorious wonders of California. We have included a little bit of everything to make it enjoyable for you. I need your

reservations in to me with deposit by 1 April, or at least a commitment. This is to assist the travel company getting our reservations firmed up. We have a good time on all of our trips and you should enjoy it greatly. The purpose of our planned activities, such as this trip and the following cruise, is to promote fraternal fellowship and to give ourselves a little time away from our routines.

4th of July Dinner Cruise

In addition to the above trip, the Master is trying to engineer a Dinner Cruise on the 4th of July. The price for the 4-hour cruise and dinner is \$169, of which the Lodge has approved subsidizing \$85 per person for members and their ladies. I must know of your intention to make the cruise with us by 20 April. Otherwise it will not be prudent for us to make the trip. We will be picked up at a central location and taken to and returned from the boat by bus so that we dont have to fight with the traffic.

A lesson in the need for Attitude and Reaction Control at all times

A man is being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly the light turns yellow just in front of him. He does the right thing and stops at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman hits the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she misses her chance to get through the intersection with him. As she is still in mid-rant, she hears a tap on her window and looks up into the face of a very serious police officer.

The officer orders her to exit her car with her hands up. He takes her to the police station where she is searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approaches the cell and opens the door.

She is escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer is waiting with her personal effects.

He says, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping the guy off in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him." "I noticed the "Choose Life" license plate holder, the "What Would Jesus Do?" bumper sticker, the "Follow Me to Sunday School" bumper sticker, and the chrome plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk." "Naturally I assumed you had stolen the car."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

Robert D. Maxwell	3
Russell S. Morth	6
Chris P. Enevold, Jr.	8
Gabriel L. Andrade, P.M.	9
John W. Moore	10
Arthur D. Paymiller, P.M.	15
Charles A. Black	16
Milton C. Axt.....	18
Alfred J. Musetti, P.M.	19
Larry L. Golden	19
Stanley D. Burrows	19
Philip A. McHale, P.M.	21
Kenneth A. Schluter	22

Brethren celebrating their birthday 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.

The bus leaves at 8:00 a.m. sharp
and returns on Monday at 8:00 p.m.

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