

# Golden Gate Speranza

Brotherly Love

Relief

Truth



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

## Bulletin



www.ggs30.org

Our 153rd Masonic Year

SEPTEMBER 2006

Volume 154, Number 8

### TRESTLEBOARD

Tuesday, September 5, 2006

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the Ladies

*Reservations required: 415-221-2907*

Constitutional Observance by Br. Leigh Skilling

Flag Presentation by the Sojourners

7:30 P.M. (approx.) Stated Meeting

Saturday, September 9, 2006

9:00 A.M. Breakfast Meeting

Discuss the 2007 line and social events

For Officers, Past Masters, interested Brothers

*Call the Master if you are coming: 415-566-8565*

Sunday-Monday September 10-11, 2006

Lodge Trip to Reno

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

6:30 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Officer's Practice

Third Degree - Second Section

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Officer's School of Instruction

Third Degree, Second Section

Golden Gate Speranza is the Host Lodge

All cast members please attend!

Brotherhood Masonic Center

6:15 P.M. Dinner, 7:00 P.M. School

*Officers are required to call off with the Inspector*

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

6:30 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Officer's Practice

First Degree

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

TBA: Visit another Lodge

on a degree night or Officer's Practice

*Looking Ahead*

Tuesday, October 3, 2006

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the Ladies

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

Second Degree Proficiency

Discuss the Annual Communication

### FROM THE EAST



Here we come September. The ninth month of the year is here. However, did you know that September comes from the Latin "septem" and means seven. That's right, September was the seventh month of year in the 10 month Roman calendar which was itself based on the Greek or Hellenic calendar. It was a lunar calendar with 304 days and started on vernal equinox (start of spring). It was later expanded to a 12 month 355 day calendar and September remained the seventh month. With the adoption of the Julian calendar, it became the ninth month in a 365 day calendar, and so it remains today.



Find that confusing? Well try this on for size. Did you know that the Roman week consisted of 8 days? It was called a market week. It was roughly similar to the modern 7-day week except that every 8<sup>th</sup> day was a market day or "nundinae." The period between market days was called a "nundinum." Life was centered around the nundinae cycle. On market day, the country people came to the city, and the market place became the fundamental focus of all Romans. In some ways, it became like our Sundays in that many forms of business and government were forbidden on that day.

**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

THIRD: Michael P. Burke - Initiated February 22, 2005

Since I mentioned Roman days, I should also mention Roman hours. Like us, the Romans had 24 hours in their day. Each day was divided into 12 hours of daytime and 12 hours of nighttime. OK with that? Now, it gets strange. They measured their hours from dawn to dusk and dusk to dawn. See the problem here? The amount sunlight and thus the length of day changes over the course of the year. To account for that, they changed the length of their hour. Strange but true. In the winter, the hours were less than 60 minutes and in the summer, they were longer than 60 minutes. In addition, they started their day at dawn, and the work day ended 7 hours after that. If you were a common person, you then retired to the bath house or the gymnasium for couple of hours. If you were rich or of high rank, the dinner parties began in the 9<sup>th</sup> hour and lasted well in the night.

Well, let's put ancient history aside and look at the recent past. Last Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, the Lodge held a Mystery Trip. It was a combination of Golden Gate Speranza Lodge and Phoenix Lodge. I am happy to say that the Lodges melted well and all had a good time. We enjoyed a great brunch at Brookdale Lodge in the Santa Cruz Mountains. As some of you may know, that is where a brook bubbles down the middle of the dining room. After that, we headed to Monterey and enjoyed a private tour of the celebrated Monterey Aquarium. For those who wished to shop or eat, Cannery Row was just a block away. I want to thank Adam Kendall, Master of Phoenix Lodge, for his co-operation and extend Kudos to WB Vrej and Maida Mekhalian for their hard work on this project. All in all it was a good trip, and I look forward to planning another next year.

Now, let us take a small peak into the future. I am pleased to announce that the Hiram Award Committee has finished its deliberations. Chairman, WB Loyal Sutton, informs me that their choice for the 2006 Hiram Award is Br. James Poulos. I concur, and congratulate Br. Jim on his selection. The presentation of this prestigious award will be made at our Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, October 14, 2006. Additional information is included in the flyer mailed with this bulletin.

Mark that date folks because in addition to presenting the Hiram Award, we will be saying, "Happy 154<sup>th</sup> Birthday Golden Gate Speranza Lodge!" For it was on October 12, 1852, that a dispensation was granted by Grand Master Benjamin D. Hyam, upon the recommendation of Occidental Lodge No. 22, to open and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in San Francisco under name of Golden Gate Lodge. The petition was signed by Brothers John Morrow, John F. Damon, Archibald C. Brower, George J. Hobe, John Hunter, Jacob S. Schultz, Richard P. Robinson, William S. Moses, and William B. Cook. The Lodge later received its Charter on May 6, 1853 at the Annual Communication and was registered as Golden Gate Lodge No. 30, F & A M.

Finally, on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, I will be holding a Breakfast Meeting to discuss the 2007 line, our representation at the Annual Communication, and social events for next year. I particularly want the Officers and Past Masters to attend. In addition, I invite all interested brothers to come and lend your voice to this discussion. It is after all by your participation that the Lodge continues to function. For too long this Lodge has depended on the hard work and dedication of a few to keep things going. Year after year, they shoulder the dual responsibility of ritual and Lodge management. Recently, I have seen some changes, and I am impressed! New members and increased energy have made a difference. However, more is needed for this Lodge to survive. Without the dedication of its members, this Lodge will head down the road of consolidation and closure. Am I being negative? Not really my friends. Those are hard words to swallow but are the reality. However, they need not happen. So, keep up the good work, look to the future, bring in new members, attend stated meetings and degrees, and volunteer your time as an officer. The by-word is participation. I have been Master twice now, and it looks like I will be serving a third term in the Oriental Chair. Please be my guide and my inspiration!

Be careful over the long Labor Day Holiday. Please join me at the September Stated Meeting for our annual Constitutional Observance.

So now you know!  
Fraternally,  
Patrick J. Burke, Master

## CONSTITUTIONAL OBSERVANCE

By Br. Adam Factley  
Presented on September 6, 2005  
At Golden Gate Speranza Lodge #30

As members of the American Free and Accepted Masonic Order we have chosen to dedicate ourselves to the principles of brotherly love, servitude to the most supreme architect and societal order and stability. Social distortion and rabble-rousing are against Masonry shared principals.

To comprehend the significance, importance and to pay dedicated respect to the United States Constitution we must observe what drove one of our own to revolt. George Washington is one such figure, so iconic that we may dismiss his humanity with generalization and if due observance is not paid to the course of his life and the lessons he imparted then we have let a fellow brother down.

## COLONIAL BEGINNINGS

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732 to Augustine and Mary Ball at his father's plantation on Popes Creek in Virginia. George had eight siblings in total from his Fathers two marriages.

His Father Augustine was a leading planter who served as a justice of the county. Very little fact is known of Washington's youth. Most of the stories are fables attributed to Washington's first biographer (Mason Locke Weems).

George would move twice, once to Little Huntington Creek, later renamed Mount Vernon and then to Ferry Farm, near Fredericksburg on the Rappahannock River. George spent most of his youth at Ferry Farm. George's father died when he was eleven and his estate went to George's half brothers. George was the oldest of the children who lived at home and became responsible for helping his mother manage the Rappahannock Plantation.

Helping with the Plantation not only gave George a crash course in hard work,

organization and self-discipline but also cost him an English finishing school education. Both of his brothers had gone abroad and studied languages and the social graces. He instead was done with school at the age of 15 and educated around home where he learned the basics and most importantly the rudiments of surveying. His oldest brother took on the responsibility of mentoring George and introducing him to society. Masonry instructs us to be dedicated to self-improvement and Washington was an example of this. Through his life he became a skilled writer, a constant reader of many newspapers and possessed a diverse library.

With the help of his brother in 1748, Washington began work as a surveyor. Lord Thomas Fairfax, his brother's neighbor, sent him to the Shenandoah Valley. In 1749 he was appointed to his first public office, as a county surveyor. He worked hard, saved and invested in land.

Washington visited Barbados in 1751 and fraternized with military men. George had asked his mother's permission years earlier to join the navy and she denied his request. His visit rekindled his interest in the service.

On November 4, 1752 Washington was initiated as an Entered Apprentice at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. July of the same year he inherited rights to the Mount Vernon plantation when his brother Lawrence died. George also took over Lawrence's militia duties. Washington was now a Major at the age of 20. His duty was the training of the militia in the quarter assigned to him.

In 1753 Washington was passed to Fellow Craft and then just five months and one day later raised to the sublime level of Master Mason. He then volunteered to carry a message for Governor Dinwiddie to the French government insisting they leave the Virginian territory on which they were encroaching. Dinwiddie published Washington's account of his 900-mile trip in the Williamsburg and London paper. At 22 years of age he was famous.

**To be continued...**

**Golden Gate Speranza Lodge No. 30**

Cordially invites you to attend

**A DINNER TO CELEBRATE  
THE 154<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF THIS LODGE  
and presentation of the  
2006 Hiram Award to**

**JAMES POULOS**

**Saturday, October 14, 2006  
Social 6:00 PM - Dinner 7:00 PM  
United Irish Cultural Center  
2700 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
No charge for members, their ladies,  
and widows  
All others \$35.00 per person**

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**Please see flyer for  
dinner choices and reservation  
instructions**

**Golden Gate Speranza Lodge  
Calendar of Events**

**September 5**

Constitutional Observance  
Flag presentation by the Sojourners

**September 9**

Breakfast Meeting  
Discussion of 2007 events

**September 10-11**

Lodge trip to Reno

**September 13**

Officer's School Instruction

**October 8-11**

Annual Communication of the  
Grand Lodge of California

**October 14**

Anniversary Dinner  
Hiram Award Presentation

**October 23**

Officer's School Instruction

**November 7**

Elections

**November 14**

Italian Night and Games  
"Glenn's Famous Spaghetti"

**December 12**

Lodge Installation

**Dates are subject to change.  
Always check your Trestleboard.**



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

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

- Gordon E. Steele ..... 2
- Thomas A. Frydenlund ..... 3
- Glenn G. Whiteside, P.M. .... 3
- George Washington ..... 4
- Charles L. Foster, P.M. .... 5
- Randolph V. Rosso ..... 5
- Claus Back ..... 7
- Raymond L. Ward Jr. .... 9
- Bernard L. Paullin ..... 14
- Howard E. Lewis, Jr. .... 18
- Lynn O. Lay ..... 20
- Tony Lucskay ..... 24

Brethren celebrating their birthday are invited for a complimentary dinner.



**IN MEMORIAM**

**Ralph M. Reardon**  
Raised June 12, 1945  
Entered into Rest  
August 8, 2006

*Almighty Father  
Into Thy Hands  
We Commend the Soul of our  
Dear Departed Brother*

**RENO TRIP**

**September 10-11, 2006**  
Sands Regency Hotel Casino

Leaving at 8:00 a.m. SHARP  
from 20th Ave & Wawona

*If you know of a brother who is ill or in distress please let our sunshine chairman, Edward G. Woodward, PM, know so we can send out some cheer. His phone number is on page 4.*