

Golden Gate Speranza

Brotherly Love

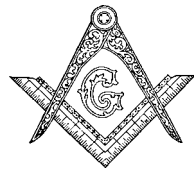
Relief

Truth



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

Bulletin



www.ggs30.org

Our 155th Masonic Year

April 2008

Volume 156, Number 4

TRESTLEBOARD

Tuesday April 1, 2008

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the ladies

Reservations required: 415-221-2907

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

First Degree Proficiencies

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Officer's Practice: 3rd Degree, 2nd Sec.

Prepare for School of Instruction

6:30 PM Dinner - Attire: Casual

7:00 PM Practice

****Candidates work on proficiencies****

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Officer's School of Instruction

3rd Degree, 2nd Sec.

Col-Brotherhood is the Host

Officers are required to call off with the Inspector

Brotherhood Masonic Center - Attire: Casual

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

Monday, April 22, 2008

Officer's Practice: 3rd Degree, 1st Sec.

6:30 PM Dinner - Attire: Casual

7:00 PM Practice

****Candidates work on proficiencies****

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Officer's Practice: 2nd Degree Complete

6:30 PM Dinner - Attire: Casual

7:00 PM Practice

****Candidates work on proficiencies****

Looking Ahead

Tuesday May 6, 2008

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the ladies

Reservations required: 415-221-2907

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

FROM THE EAST



Our next stated meeting is on April 1st which is also known as April Fools' Day or All Fools' Day. This day is by no means a holiday, but it is known worldwide as a day to celebrate. To celebrate what you ask? Well, it is day to celebrate practical jokes and those gullible to them. The day is marked by hoaxes and jokes meant to send friends or enemies on fools' errands. Its origins remain unclear. It is most likely a relic of the confusion caused with the adoption of the Gregorian calendar. Prior to that time, many cultures celebrated the New Year on April 1. The new calendar fixed New Year's Day as January 1. According to a popular explanation, many people either refused to accept the new date,



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: Bro. Jason A. Benton - initiated October 31, 2006

Second: Bro. George S. Lazar - initiated January 30, 2007

Second: Bro. Jonathon Paul McCluskey - initiated April 24, 2007

Second: Bro. James C. Steinway - initiated January 30, 2007

Second: Bro. Leonard J. Millick - initiated May 15, 2007

Second: Bro. William Jee Keung Fong - initiated August 28, 2007

Second: Bro. Carl P. Zwanzig - initiated October 23, 2007

Second: Bro. Robert J. Leung - initiated November 13, 2007

Second: Bro. Nestor Guia Reyes - initiated February 12, 2008

or did not learn about it, and continued to celebrate New Year's Day on April 1. These traditionalists were often made fun of by sending them on "fool's errands" or trying to trick them into believing something false. One of my favorite hoaxes occurred in 1998 when Burger King ran an ad in USA Today saying that people could get a Whopper for left-handed people whose condiments were designed to drip out of the right side. Not only did customers order the new burgers, but some specifically requested the old, right-handed burger.

"April showers bring May flowers." Remember that proverb? It is of American origin and dates back to 1557. It is part of the first published colonial writings and is from a short poem by Thomas Tusser. Supposedly, it means that something good may happen as a result of unpleasant events. Well, I think recent events turn that saying on its head. I am glad to report that we now have two Entered Apprentices qualified to take their Second Degree on our Pilgrimage to Henry Clay Lodge #95 on May 17th. In addition to Br. William Fong, Bro. George Lazar qualified at the March stated meeting. He did a great job in his proficiency. Bro. George might be wondering why the Master did not ask him to read his essay questions. Well, the Master got caught up in the proceedings and forgot to ask. However, after Bro. George left, the Master read his questions in their entirety, and they were received with enthusiasm by the members present.

Henry Clay Lodge is located in Sutter Creek, California which is in the Gold Country. Sutter Creek is known as the "Jewel of the Mother Lode" and was named after John Sutter, who sent a party to the area in 1846 to search for timber. Sutter logged this area for a while before heading back to his fort. His discovery of gold at nearby Coloma in January 1848 triggered the California Gold Rush. After this, Sutter Creek became a destination for fortune hunters. Although plenty of gold was found here, quartz was discovered in 1851 and that became the mainstay of the local economy for many years. In 1932 the Central Eureka mine, discovered in 1869, had reached the remarkable depth of 2,300 feet. By 1939, it was the best-paying mine at Sutter Creek. Officially, Sutter Creek became a town in 1854.

Our trip to the Mother Lode will be by bus. We are planning on doing multiple second degrees and will begin in the early afternoon. It is overnight so rooms are provided. However, they are limited by the fact that Lodge Officers have first choice. This is necessary since there can be no degree without them. All others who wish to join us must be members of the Lodge and Master Masons. Wives are invited to join us as there will be a banquet, breakfast, and stops at a winery and a chocolate factory. Please see the information box in this bulletin for further details. Those who wish to drive up themselves for the day are invited to do so. However, reservations are required for the evening banquet.

Please join us at our April stated meeting. I am informed there will be additional First Degree proficiencies at that time. I look forward to that!

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

April is Public Schools Month

Why do Masons support public schools? Why did Masons sponsor the first Public Schools observance in 1920? Why should Masons be active in today's Public Schools Week observances and events to demonstrate the concern of all right-thinking people for the continued high standards of our public schools?

Beginning with the stonemasons of medieval Europe who built the great Gothic cathedrals, Masons have been dedicated to self-improvement, learning to better oneself, just as the medieval stonemasons taught themselves and their successors the building arts which allowed them to erect the massive stone edifices which survive to this day. Since medieval Europe, Masons have been dedicated to freedom, so that they might travel to whatever jurisdiction might have work for them. Every person may by self-improvement achieve whatever success hard work and dedication might bring. It is those same basic beliefs that drive Masons to support free public schools

because only an educated citizenry can, through elections and public service, guarantee that our constitutional system of liberties will be preserved. Masons are committed to our public schools, because no society can remain free without an educated citizenry, and the largest part of our citizenry will not be educated without our public schools. By this way we and future generations will have our Constitution in a democratic society available to preserve our search for personal truth. [*Grand Lodge of California, F&AM*]

From the Master: Although Golden Gate Speranza Lodge does not have a formal Public Schools Event, it fully supports education in general by giving three scholarships each year. One \$5,000 award goes to a full-time graduate student in the field of education. Two \$2,500 awards go to senior high school students headed for a 4-year college. We hope to expand this program in the near future.

A Look at the CMC §804.310. INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

All applications for the degrees shall be referred to a committee of three, unless dispensation has been granted by the Grand Master to receive them without reference to a committee. Each member of the Investigating Committee shall be known only to the Master and shall not be made known to the Lodge or to the other members of the Committee. The Master shall not delegate the appointment of such committees to any other person.

It shall be the duty of each member of the Committee to make strict examination into the moral, mental, physical and other proper qualifications of the applicant, and to report to the Master at the next Stated Meeting, unless he grants further time. Each member of the Investigating Committee shall inform himself as to the character of the applicant. A Committee member is guilty of a serious neglect of duty if he reports favorably on an application without reliable information as to all matters on which the Lodge requires advice.

FROM THE SOUTH

By David G. Walda

Shortly after my initiation as an Entered Apprentice Mason, I contacted the candidate coach, Brother Ed Woodward, and made an appointment to meet him to start learning the proficiency. Brother Woodward told me that a short form could be used, but encouraged me to go with the long form. I never hesitated to learn the long form of the proficiency. By putting in the extra effort I would gain that much more from Masonry. So at the age of 48 years, I started to commit to memory the proficiency. (Mind you, I hadn't had to memorize anything for over 20 years.)

I was not disappointed. While the task of learning the proficiency was not easy, it gave me further educational insight into the lessons of the degrees. I was able to understand more fully the meaning of the degrees. It was a "mental gavel", requiring that I break off the "extraneous" non-essential activities and focus on my Masonic work. The effort of excelling in the proficiency helped me to concentrate on those essential activities necessary in my Masonic work as well as understand how to focus on other aspects of my life.

Though I was not eager to give the proficiency in front of a bunch of men, I was determined to do so and not let my nerves get the better of me. All this I saw as part of my Masonic education. Of course, there is much more I can learn, even as a Master Mason. But the beginnings of my learning was imbedded in the proficiencies.

I direct my experiences particularly to the newer Brothers who are in the process of learning their proficiency or will be doing so again in the future. Perhaps this will help the Entered Apprentices of this lodge with their own process of learning the proficiency - not only to decide if they want to learn the long or short form - but to know that they are not alone in the challenges that the proficiencies may raise.

Our new Brothers should not hesitate to contact their coach. I, too, am available to help in any way I can.

Overnight Pilgrimage Saturday May 17, 2008

Golden Gate Speranza Lodge #30
Will travel to Henry Clay Lodge #95
In Sutter Creek, CA
To Confer Multiple Second Degrees

Bus transportation & rooms provided
Banquet on Saturday Night
Breakfast on Sunday
Space is limited!

\$100/person refundable deposit required
For whole package
\$20/person refundable deposit required
for those driving & attending banquet only
Call Vrej & Maida Mekhalian
For details and menu choices
Phone # 650-992-3226
Deadline May 1, 2008

THE LEVEL

The level is a symbol of equality. Each person is endowed with a worth and dignity which is spiritual, and should not be subject to man-made distinctions. Masonry recognizes that one man may have greater potential in life, service, or reward than another; but it is also believed that any man can aspire to any height, no matter how great. Thus, the level dignifies labor and the man who performs it. The level also symbolizes the passage of time. [Page 4, *Fellowcraft Handbook, Grand Lodge of California*]

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.

Russell S. Morth 6
Chris P. Enevold, Jr. 8
Gabriel L. Andrade, P.M. 9
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

Brethren celebrating their birthday are invited for a complimentary dinner.

Golden Gate Speranza Lodge 2008 Calendar of Social Events "A Work in Progress"

May 17-18

Pilgrimage - Overnight
Second Degree Conferral
Henry Clay Lodge #95
Sutter Creek, CA

June 28

Widows Event - Day Trip
Journey to Columbia, CA
Lunch and the musical South Pacific

July

Dark

August-TBA

Mystery Trip with Phoenix Lodge
Day Trip

September 4

Constitutional Observance
At Stated Meeting

September 14-15

Reno Trip - Overnight

November 4

Elections

November-TBA

Anniversary Dinner

December 9

Installation of 2009 Officers

**All events subject to change
Please check the Trestleboard**

Youth Groups Schedules

San Francisco Assembly #1
Rainbow for Girls

Meets: 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7:00 pm
Golden Gate Masonic Temple

Jobs Daughters Bethel #37

2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7:00 pm
Scottish Rite Center

DeMolay, San Francisco Chapter

1st & 3rd Fridays, 7:30pm
Golden Gate Masonic Temple

If you know of a brother who is ill or in distress please let our sunshine chairman James Poulos know so we can send out some cheer. His phone number is on page 4.