

Golden Gate Speranza

Brotherly Love

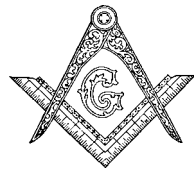
Relief

Truth



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

Bulletin



www.ggs30.org

Our 157th Masonic Year

June 2010

Volume 158, Number 6

TRESTLEBOARD

Tuesday, June 1, 2010

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the ladies

Reservations required: 415-221-2907

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Officers' Practice:

3rd Degree, 2nd Section

Inspector's Reception

Attire: casual

Dinner 6:30 PM, Practice 7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 15, 2010

School of Instruction

Golden Gate Speranza, Host

3rd Degree, 1st & 2nd Sections

Dinner 6:30 PM

School 7:30 PM

Attire: casual

All Officers must call off with the Inspector

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Third Degree Conferral

Brother Bryan James Clifton

Dinner 6:30 PM

Degree 7:30 PM

Attire: Officers will wear Tuxedos

Dinner Reservations to the Junior Warden

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Movie Night for the Men

Dinner 6:30 PM

Attire: Casual

Looking Ahead

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

Stated Meeting

Official Visit of the District Inspector

Attire: Officers will wear Tuxedos

6:30 P.M. Dinner with the ladies

Reservations required: 415-221-2907

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

FROM THE EAST



We start June with Say Something Nice Day (1), the 7th is Daniel Boone Day, Flag Day on the 14th, Father's Day is the 20th, and Stupid Guy Thing is on the 22nd. Some women would say that just about every day has a stupid guy thing.

At the beginning of May was the Reno trip on May 1st & 2nd. Thanks to Bill and Veronica Bellamy for taking care of the planning and arrangements with the charter service. Also thanks to Ana Jougاناتos for our morning treat on the bus ride up to Reno, and also to a few of the folks who helped with the hospitality hour and brought other treats. After we checked into our separate rooms, the Bellamys hosted a hospitality hour. Then everyone was on their own for dinner and gambling. This trip, we stayed at the Sands Regency, a couple of blocks from the main street. As with other hotel casinos we've stayed at, there were plenty of ways to leave some money for the local economy.



MEMBERSHIP

Awaiting Degrees

Second: Bro. Jason A. Benton - Initiated October 31, 2006

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

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

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

Second: Bro. Joe Lyde White Jr. - Initiated November 11, 2008

Second: Bro. Craig Charles Peden - Initiated April 28, 2009

Second: Bro. James Vladimir Adams - Initiated September 15, 2009

Third : Bro. Bryan James Clifton - Passed October 20, 2009

Vision Statement: Golden Gate Speranza Lodge may be a place where our Brothers can join in fraternal and social activity, and accomplishment in their Masonic work together.

There will be a School of Instruction on June 15th, hosted by Golden Gate Speranza. This is a change from the schedule I gave to the officers previously. June's School was to have been hosted by Phoenix Lodge on June 17. But Worshipful John Perry asked if it could be changed as Phoenix had scheduled a 3rd Degree for June 17 also, the same night scheduled for the school. This month, the school will be on the 3rd Degree with Worshipful Bro. Perry sitting in the East for the practice. This means that Phoenix will host the August School of Instruction.

We will be conferring a 3rd Degree on Brother Bryan Clifton on June 22nd. My wish is to see some of our Brothers that have not been to lodge for awhile to join us this evening. Please make dinner reservations with the Junior Warden if planning to attend.

On our 5th Tuesday, there will be a movie night with dinner. This night is another opportunity to join your Brothers for some social time and relaxation.

Make note that the **Inspector's Official Visit** will be on July 6. Officers are to wear tuxedos. We will be practicing the inspector's reception after the 3rd degree practice on June 8.

Turning to Public School support, a letter was received from Gabby, the granddaughter of Marsha Nichols, asking to use tables for a Spring Fest at her school, Sunnyside Elementary. This event is an annual fundraiser for the school. I was glad that our lodge and Temple Board were able to accommodate Gabby to make this important fundraiser a little easier on the parents and teachers.

San Francisco Chapter is having a special night on June 18 to honor Masons. There will be a dinner provided, free to Masons, followed by their chapter meeting. Masons attending the Chapter Meeting will be allowed to sit with one of the officers of the chapter. I hope that there will be so many Masons, that names will have to be drawn to decide who sits the DeMolay officers. Masons interested should make dinner reservations with the Master Counselor Justin Guerrero or Marsha Nichols at 415-859-9755.

Fraternally,
David G. Walda, Master

The True Secret Word of a Master Mason

At the beginning of his Masonic career each candidate for initiation is instructed that "Freemasonry" is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. The design of the Masonic Institution is to make its members wiser, better and consequently happier..." To that end we are reminded by symbols to circumscribe our desires and to keep our passions within due bonds.

Our degrees teach and constantly remind us of our duties to ourselves and fellow creatures. In the Entered Apprentice Degree we are taught to extend true charity to all. We are reminded to act with Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. The Fellowcraft Degree instructs us to engage ourselves in the pursuit of knowledge, not just during the degree, but always.

The Sublime Degree of Master Mason goes even further. It is called "sublime," that is "elevated in thought, "inspiring awe," because it teaches us of our further duties to each other and, indeed to all humankind. The Master's degree, however, comes with a warning. That warning is conveyed in the most dramatic fashion. It is that we must guard against the worst ruffians of our natures and oppose them, even to death, if we hope to be placed as living stones in that "House not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The Master's degree also informs us that the secret word of a Master Mason has been lost to us through the perfidy of our unseemly desires and passions – the ruffians that confront us daily and to which we so often succumb. It is our duty to seek out that secret word, that hidden meaning, even though it will always remain ineffable and inexplicable to others. It is our individual duty to become worthy of receiving it by subduing our passions and controlling our desires. Only then may we hope to obtain and understand it – the true meaning of Freemasonry – within our hearts and souls.

He who would receive the true secret word of a Master Mason must come to understand that it can only be learned by the constant practice of the virtues

inculcated by our degrees. If we would finally receive the true secret word, the word that has been lost, we must constantly resist the ruffians of our natures that keep us from it. We must not sow discord. We must resist the temptation to treat only those who look and think like ourselves as our neighbors and brothers.

One does not become a Master merely by being raised. Rather one becomes a Master by truly embracing and living that which our ceremonies teach. In the end it is up to each of us to become a Master Mason.

Excerpts from The Short Talk Bulletin, The Masonic Service Association of North America. Article by David J. Llewellyn, P.M. of East Point Lodge #288.

FROM THE WEST

By Vrej M. Mekhalian, P.M.



Many of my lodge members know my passion for magic and clowning and as a member of International Brotherhood of Magicians (IBM), I will be sharing articles on famous Masons in the entertaining arena.



Harry Kellar
(1849-1922)

The great globe-hopping illusionist was born Heinrich Keller in Erie, Pennsylvania on July 11th, 1849, the son of German immigrants. Kellar showed a strong will from the start, playing dangerous games of "chicken" with oncoming trains to the delight of his friends. But when a chemical experiment went wrong and he blasted a hole in the floor of the drugstore where he apprenticed, ten-year-old Harry hopped aboard a freight train rather than face his stern parents. From then on, he would live the life of a wanderer.

Although Houdini his name from the great Robert-Houdin, his true professional

father was Harry Kellar, one of the great American magicians of all time. Houdini's career paralleled Kellar's in a number of ways, and the two men shared a strong bond of friendship in Kellar's later years.

After a series of odd jobs, the boy was taken in by a kindly minister in upstate New York, who offered to adopt him if he would study for the ministry. But when they went to see a traveling show, Kellar was enchanted by the conjuring of "The Fakir of Ava," and as he later confided to Houdini, "immediately got the urge to go on the stage . . . became very restless, bought books on magic and finally left my friend and benefactor." Harry tracked down the "Fakir," became his assistant, and began his professional training.

As he soon discovered, the life of an itinerant magician was not easy. His first solo performance, in Dunkirk, Michigan, at the tender of age of sixteen, was a disaster. But two years later Kellar tried again with better results, and was on his way. Always broke, he often had to duck creditors and improvise equipment borrowed from locals. But in the spring of 1869, the worn-out twenty year old made a decision that would have a great impact on his career. He took a job with the renowned "Davenport Brothers and Fay," later revered by magicians as the first successful stage mediums, whose innovations laid the foundation for Houdini's own escape act.

The modern Spiritualist movement was born in upstate New York when the Fox sisters attracted attention by producing raps and other strange sounds through contact with spirits. Their neighbors from Buffalo, the Davenport brothers, upped the ante by permitting themselves to be bound to seats in a large wooden cabinet on stage, then marshaling unseen forces to strum guitars, ring bells, and hurl tambourines through the dark. Working with them for several years, first as an assistant and later as business manager, Kellar learned all he could from the Davenports before striking out on his own again in 1873, taking Mr. Fay with him.

Combining Kellar's old magic tricks with a Davenport-inspired séance, Kellar and Fay embarked on a long and successful tour through Canada, Mexico, and South America. In 1875, after a

shipwreck on their trip to England left them destitute on arrival, Fay left to rejoin the Davenports. Rather than give up, Kellar formed a new troupe called "The Royal Illusionists," a name copied from London's famous Maskelyne and Cooke. Over the next thirty years, through ceaseless travel and great skill, he would become one of the best known magicians in the world.

Lacking the virtuoso dexterity of rivals like Herrmann the Great (with whom he would carry on a bitter competition before they finally reconciled and became friends), Kellar's great strength was his presentation. Constantly on the lookout for new tricks, Kellar's innovative, lavish productions won him admiration all over the world. When the great Robert Heller died prematurely in 1878, Kellar inherited the mantle of "greatest American magician," and wore it proudly. Looking to slow down as he neared sixty, Kellar passed the torch to the talented Howard Thurston, who along with Houdini would dominate American magic in the early part of the twentieth century.

Houdini became a frequent guest at Kellar's estate in Los Angeles, and the two became great friends. Much of what is known about the old master comes through Houdini, who conducted several interviews as part of his effort to chronicle the history of their craft. Long after Kellar had retired and just a few years before his death, Houdini cajoled his friend on stage for a mammoth show to benefit the families of the men who died when the troop transport Antilles was sunk by a German U-boat. Never one for understatement, Houdini arranged for Kellar to be literally carried off in triumph after his final public performance, as six thousand spectators sang "Auld Lang Syne." It was a fitting end to a truly magical career.

**Golden Gate Speranza
Lodge Scholarship**

Applications for lodge scholarship are now available from Marc Seidenfeld, P.M. Call at 650-877-8253.

Happy Father's Day
Sunday, June 20, 2010

SUPPORT YOUR MASONIC YOUTH ORDERS

**San Francisco Assembly #1
International Order of the
Rainbow for Girls
June 11, 2010**

6:30 p.m to 10:00 p.m.
Golden Gate Masonic Temple
Second Annual Dinner
and Trivia Night!

What do you know????
Come and test your knowledge!
Just \$10.00 to eat and play!!
RSVP: Jim Kamariotis 650-580-9500
or Pat Burke 415-566-8565

**San Francisco Chapter
Order of DeMolay**

Mason Appreciation Dinner & Meeting
June 18, 2010
Dinner: 6:30 P.M.
Chapter Meeting: 7:30 PM
*One Mason will sit with each DeMolay
Officer during meeting*
Golden Gate Masonic Center

Become an Advisor

The youth of today will be our new
adults of tomorrow.
For more information, go to the *Links*
page of our lodge website.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

- Dr. Calvin Taam 1
- Loyal D. Sutton, PM 2
- Richard C. Schmitt, PM 3
- Andrew D. Filipek, PM 4
- David T. Yohannan 5
- Edward E. Fernandez Jr., PM 6
- Robert R. Craft 8
- Arthur A. Proctor 8
- Michael P. Burke 13
- Marvin C. O'Daniel 15
- Robert J. Leung 16
- J. Robert Ellis 16
- Craig C. Calvert 17
- Thomas M. Lee 18
- Ging Bong Lowe, PM 24
- Oliver D. (Russ) Ward 28
- Curtis N. Decker 30

Brethren celebrating their birthday are invited for a complimentary dinner.