



FROM THE EAST



Greetings Petaluma Masons,

Gentlemen,

Happy March! We have started this year off right with some spring cleaning and getting everything in order for the upcoming Open House. We are opening our doors for men and their spouses to let them join us for an evening to answer questions about the fraternity, and pave the way for potential applicants. The last time we did this, we were very busy with degrees in the following months, and it was largely regarded as a very positive experience. If you know of anyone who has ever expressed an interest in our Fraternity, this is the night for them. We will have handouts, refreshments and knowledgeable Petaluma Masons on hand to provide quality information about our craft.

At our upcoming stated meeting, we will be deciding on a variety of topics, first of all being the Lodge Website. It was discussed and the sentiment was warmly received that it's time to update our website, it's our portal to the outside world. Seeing that as of the last trestleboard a time frame was laid out to submit any and all bids for the website, the Technology committee will be making a suggestion on which proposal they wish to see go into effect and a motion is expected to move forward with a new website. I am looking forward to see the work that our Technology committee has completed on this project.

The time is also here to review and award the Scholarships, I have expressed my desire for some of the winning essays to be published in upcoming trestle boards so the membership can see what impact we are making in our community. The Scholarship Committee will be hard at work in this.

As you can tell we are hard at work, and have a lot of work ahead, but I am confident that we can accomplish the day.

Sincerely and fraternally,
William "Woody" Purdy
Worshipful Master 2016
707-536-1417 woodypurdy@gmail.com

Stated Meeting Dinner

Thursday March 3, 2016

6:30 PM

Chef's Surprise

Served by

The Girls of Petaluma Assembly #6

Reservations 707 762-4171

Please make reservations before February 28th

RESOLUTION

Masonic Notable Dates

Scottish Rite, Santa Rosa Valley

ALL MASONS INVITED

Tuesday, March 22, 7:00, Scottish Rite Center, Santa Rosa

COMMON DENOMINATOR:

FREEMASONRY AND RELIGION

ALLAN L. CASALOU, Presenter

General Secretary, Masons of California

Worshipful Casalou brings his years of experience in the craft to focus on Freemasonry and religion. He has served in executive positions at the Grand Lodge of California, presently serving as Grand Secretary and the following Grand Lodge Boards: Acacia Creek, California Masonic Foundation, California Masonic Memorial Temple, Masonic Homes of California, Nob Hill Masonic Center. He is Master of Prometheus No. 851.

Santa Rosa Valley, Santa Rosa - 2016 Education Program

"...a Masonic lodge is thought of as a "university." Properly understood, a university does not provide a completed education. Its true function is to open the doors to knowledge, so that a life-long commitment to learning results." California Freemason, August/September 2014, pg. 8.2

Education programs are on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 at the Santa Rosa Scottish Rite Center, except in January and December. Mark your calendars for these upcoming programs.

Scottish Rite Education Committee:
Lloyd Abrams 32° PhD, Bob Gale 32° PhD, Patrick Muldoon 32°, Jerome Nathan 32° KCCH, and Robert Schultz 32° KCCH

Whereas,

for the past several years interest rates have been quite low, and

Whereas,

Grand Lodge has a pooled investment fund for its endowment fund and other investments that receives higher interest than Certificates of Deposit, and

Whereas,

Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge #180 Life Membership Fund has been invested in low interest Certificates of Deposit, and

Whereas,

Grand Lodge is offering to accept funds to invest in their pooled fund with better returns, and

Whereas,

Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge #180 Life Membership Fund can receive better interest rates than currently being paid,

Therefore,

be it resolved, that Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge #180 transfer its Life Membership Fund to the Grand Lodge pooled investment fund and receive interest payments at regular intervals.

Resolution proposed by George F. Whitten PM, Treasurer

Brethren, this resolution will be voted on at the April 7, 2016 stated meeting at our lodge (9 Western Avenue, Petaluma) at 8pm.



Prince Hall
1735 – 1807
March 6, 1775– Prince Hall, was made a Master Mason in Irish Constitution Military Lodge No. 441

March Birthday's

Happy Birthday Brethren!

Donald E. Nicodemus Jr.	March 2
Lawrence A. Runstrom	March 3
Vernon L. Dorethy	March 4
William P. Padgett PM	March 4
Michael L. Barham	March 6
Guy M. Chalmers PM	March 8
Wilson W. Atkinson	March 10
Alexander M. Saslow	March 14
Michael S. Sullivan	March 16
Jeffrey G. Lister	March 19
James A. Warnken	March 29

Famous Masons

Coward, Charles "The Count of Auschwitz" - Camberwell Old Comrades Lodge No. 4077, UGLE. "The Count of Auschwitz" as he would come to be known, joined the British Army in 1937 and was captured by the Germans in 1940. In retrospect the Germans would have deeply regretted capturing Coward as he probably did more damage to the German cause than he ever could have done had he not been captured, for as a POW he basically launched a one man war. He escaped a total of nine times, including two times before he had even arrived at a POW camp! During one escape Coward was awarded the Iron Cross while posing as a wounded soldier in a German army field hospital. During another, Coward spotted a V-1 Rocket base and managed to convey its location to British Intelligence. Between escapes, Coward managed to continuously thwart the German war effort, organizing numerous acts of sabotage while serving on work details. For the remainder of the war, Coward continuously sent coded messages regarding military intelligence via letters to his family. In 1943, Coward was sent to the notorious Auschwitz . Here he was appointed the International Red Cross liaison for British prisoners of war in the area. In this position, he devised an elaborate scheme to "buy" corpses of non-Jews by bribing guards with Red Cross supplies. At night, when Jews deemed unfit to work were being marched to the gas chambers, they would quickly jump out of line and conceal themselves in a ditch. Coward would then arrange for the corpses he had purchased to be spread along the road to substitute for the hidden Jews, who would then be smuggled away to freedom, using the identities of the corpses. In this way, Coward is estimated to have saved 400-800 Auschwitz inmates from death. Coward also used his Red Cross position to smuggle food and other supplies to Jewish prisoners, including dynamite, which was used to partially destroy the gas chambers. In 1944, Coward was transferred to a small work camp and was conscripted to work in an IG Farben-run coal mine. Along with his fellow POW's, Coward did his best to deliberately slow down and sabotage production. After the war, Coward testified at the Nuremburg trials, and in 1953 testified in a lawsuit brought against IG Farben for using slave labor. During this trial the German judge commended Coward for his courage and remarked: "He did this for the mere reason he and the prisoners were fellow human beings". In 1963 Coward was awarded the title of one of the Righteous Among the Nations and had a tree planted in his honour in the Avenue of Righteous Gentiles in Israel. A book about Coward's exploits, *The Password is Courage* , was published in 1954, and a movie of the same name was produced in 1962. He was also awarded the Israeli Peace medal; one of only two British citizens to be so honored, the other recipient being Bro. Winston Churchill.

sources: Wikipedia, HQ Magazine, ISSUE 17, April 2006, The Holocaust Educational Trust site

From The Hall Association

Brethren:

We held a work party last month and did quite a bit of spring cleaning even though it is not quite spring yet. We have received all of the bids for replacement carpet on the stairs and landings and the lobby/family room on the 3rd floor. We will be reviewing carpet samples and hopefully make a decision as to which carpet when spring arrives. We are planning on making additional improvements this coming year and are looking at several items to narrow down the list to those deemed most appropriate. Some are cosmetic and some are practical. It is sometimes a balancing act and your directors make every effort to determine what is best for our building. We recently had our refrigerator and freezer serviced. Coils cleaned and new door gaskets installed. Better efficiency and reduced energy consumption. Practical but needed none the less. Also, we still have an opening on the board. If you are interested see one of the board members and let us know.

Our next work party is Saturday, April 9th at 9am.

George F. Whitten PM

PMHA President



Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge No.180 F&AM
 P.O. Box 727
 Petaluma, CA 94953-0727

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 U.S.POSTAGE

PAID

Petaluma, CA
 Permit No. 20

March 2016

Dated material-do not hold

Address service requested

MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Petaluma Rainbow Assy #6 7:00PM	2 Hall Association Meeting 7:00PM	3 Lodge #180 Dinner 6:30 PM Stated Meeting 8:00 PM	4	5
6	7 Royal Arch Masons Dinner 6:15 Meeting 7:30 pm	8	9	10 Practice 3rd Degree 7:00PM	11	12 Council Assembly 9 AM, Command- ery Conclave 10:30 AM
13 Daylight Savings Time starts	14	15 Petaluma Rainbow Assy #6 7:00PM	16	17 Practice 3rd Degree 7:00PM	18	19
20	21	22	23 OSI at Luther Burbank #57 7pm	24 Masonic Open House 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	25	26
27 Easter	28	29	30	31		