

## From The East



### My Brethren,

I consider myself very blessed to be a member in an organization that prioritizes its commitment to our children in the form of public education support, and also to ourselves in the form of self-improvement as life-long learners. It being Public School's Month, it is the perfect time to reflect on all that we do, and those things that we can still do.

Petaluma-Hamilton does so much to support public education. Our Scholarship Program gives deserving students financial assistance to allow students to attend college. Our Teacher Mini-Grants provide teachers with the funds necessary to purchase the supplies they need to implement and maintain important programs within their classrooms. Every year we give to the Petaluma Music Foundation, which supports the music programs in the public schools across Petaluma. And Raising a Reader gets a continuous stream of books into the hands of students who might otherwise not be able to have any at home.

As a teacher at a public high school I get to see the effect that our schools can have on a person. Regardless of where a student is in their life they are offered a place to learn and improve themselves. All of these initiatives help make our public schools places where students can thrive.

Freemasonry also acknowledges that a person's educational journey does

not end after school. The journey from Rough Ashlar to Perfect is one that is never complete, and we must continuously further our knowledge and refine our skills. In my time as a Mason I have learned more than words can adequately describe about myself, my place in the world, and my fellows. One of my favorite lessons is this: by improving ourselves in Masonry, we are actually improving ourselves as a People.

In honor of Public Education Month I encourage every Brother to learn something new in the months to come or further master a skill you already have. If you need some help or inspiration, check out the Candidate Learning Center or Lodge Management Certification Program through the Grand Lodge website. It is filled with readings, videos, as well as links to other resources to help you further your understanding on the teaching of each of the three degrees, as well as what it takes to be a successful member of the Hall Association.

I further encourage you all to, if you feel moved to, write a short piece about what you have learned. I would love to include it in a future publication of the Trestleboard, or hear it read in open Lodge.

I thank you all for being part of my journey from Rough to Perfect Ashlar, and I look forward to seeing where the journey takes me next.

Fraternally,  
Alex Saslow

## From The West

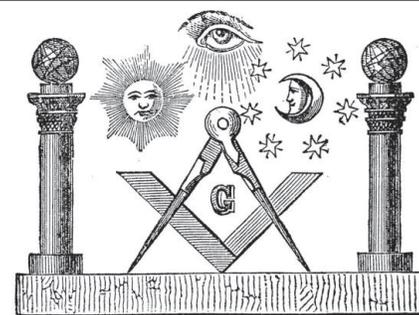


### Brethren,

Thursdays are certainly getting to be the night to be at the lodge lately. We had a great third degree on March 14th with many past masters imparting the wisdom of the ritual. Then on Thursday the 21st we had a great fraternal game night. We played some cards and attempted to watch National Treasure at the same time. There was camaraderie with both those new to the lodge and the great veterans of prior Masonic events. This was not only an opportunity to enjoy the friendship that makes for a strong community but also a chance to learn a new thing or two. I for one found that you cannot possibly learn to play Magic and watch videos at the same time. I hope that many of you can make it down to the lodge on one of the next few Thursdays.

We will be having a 1st degree late in April and we will begin practices starting Thursday, April 11th, one week after the Thursday, April 4th stated meeting. There's always a part to play for any brother who wants to stop by. Whether you want to learn a

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## Hall Association



**Brethren,**

The Past Masters Gallery has finally been completed, after two years of dedicated work by many brothers.

Special thanks to George Whitten PM and Randy Stewart PM for taking the lead in this endeavor; as well as Guy Chalmers PM and Don Nicodemus for hours of collating, scanning and mounting of pictures. The results are all that we had hoped for.

On a more serious note, we now have video cameras mounted on the front of the building, following an act of vandalism against one of our tenant's business. They are now operational and should help to identify, if not deter, any future miscreants.

On the subject of security, Rich Fonseca PM reported to the Hall Association that, during the recent DeMolay installation, he found two men injecting drugs in the second floor bathroom. They had apparently crept in while the front door was unsecured and unguarded.

The care of the lodge is paramount and it is incumbent upon all who use



our building to exercise that care. A heightened degree of vigilance is clearly indicated. With this in mind, the Hall Association is working on a formal policy that will apply to all users of our building. On a more positive note, new OSHA approved first aid kits have been ordered and will be installed on both the second and third floors, to complement the AED's.

Finally, Brother Angus Mac Lir was elected to fill a vacancy on the Hall Association Board of Directors.

Fraternally,

Tim Giddings President.



## Grand Master's Proclamation:

**April 2019 is Public Schools Month**

**Whereas,** Freemasonry is built upon a commitment to truth and equality, two principles at the heart of improving ourselves and the spirit of providing free, public education; and

**Whereas,** since California's founding, Freemasons have made a difference in our communities by supporting the cause of public schools, including leading the first Public Schools Week in 1920; and,

**Whereas,** Masons believe that civil societies depend upon a well-educated citizenry to thrive, thus making an investment in our public schools essential; and

**Whereas,** Freemasons in California continue to galvanize statewide support of public education, with Investment in Success scholarships, Masonic Youth Leadership Scholarships, and



* Ted Langford	April 4th
* Carl Lorenzen	April 4th
* Stanley Nelson	April 5th
* Richard Aston	April 10th
* John Edwards	April 11th
* Steven Christensen	April 15th
* Daniel Morrison	April 17th
* Edward Sadler	April 22nd
* Wilhelm Slubik	April 22nd
* Gene Altaffer	April 23rd
* John Hackman	April 23rd
* Chirsitian Eddleman	April 25th
* Ralph Milner	April 25th

**Stated Meeting Dinner**  
 Thursday April 4th, 2019  
 Dinner menu: Vegetable Soup,  
 Corned Beef, Cabbage,  
 Potatoes, and Carrots  
 Dessert: Bread Pudding  
 Reservations 707 762-4171  
 Please make reservations before  
 March 31st

### Lodge Contact Info:

<http://freemason.org> (CA Grand Lodge) ~ <http://masons180.org> (Pet.-Ham.#180 website)  
 Lodge Phone Number 707-762-6513, For Reservations call 707-762-4171  
 Master, Alex Saslow, 707-303-0244 E-Mail: [saslow.alexander@gmail.com](mailto:saslow.alexander@gmail.com)  
 Secretary, Guy Chalmers: 707-477-3046 E-Mail: [JMC329@aol.com](mailto:JMC329@aol.com)

family literacy engagement  
through Raising A Reader; now,

**Therefore, as grand master, I  
proclaim April 2019 to be**

**Public Schools Month in California.** I ask all California Masons to take steps to help *write the future* for California schools by renewing our commitment to students, teachers, staff, and administrators. By supporting California Masonic Foundation programs on behalf of public schools; volunteering as tutors, mentors, and readers; and helping maintain school grounds we will truly make a difference for public education and our local communities.

Let's show California's youth that we are committed to making a difference in their lives, as they strive to build a brighter future for us all.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Stuart A. Wright

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### *From the West Continued*

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part, rehearse, do some mentoring or just meet some of the new brothers, it a great experience. We can always use your help and you know you're always welcome. If you haven't been to the lodge recently, why not stop in around 7 p.m. ( 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday - stated meeting nights, which, as usual, includes a dinner). You are never too old or young to learn and to enjoy yourself while you're at it.

Speaking of learning, as many of you know April is Public Education Month for Masons in California. Several of our lodge programs support public education directly or indirectly including our Scholarship awards, donations to Grand Lodge in support of

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Raising a Reader, and the new Teacher Mini-Grant gifts. Self improvement and community support can be one in the same.

There are many things that you can do to help the Masonic effort in your community. Our local chapter of DeMolay, the Masonic youth order for young men, is looking for adults to support the young men in the order by being counselors or doing other things to support the order, such as helping provide rides. Call Rich Fonseca at 707-480-1242 if you can help. Mentoring can be quite a self improving experience.

Save this date Saturday, June 22nd, 2019! At the end of June, Royal Arch Masonry will be putting on the 47th annual Comptche Royal Arch degrees for anyone who is a Master Mason. All four degrees will be conferred on that Saturday for anyone seeking self improvement and "further light in Masonry." It's a great opportunity to observe the degrees, advance in Masonry, and enjoy the great outdoors. For more info call Guy at 707-477-3046 or visit [www.marinmasoniclodge.org/Flyers/2019Comptche1.pdf](http://www.marinmasoniclodge.org/Flyers/2019Comptche1.pdf).

Fraternally yours,  
Don Nicodemus, Senior Warden



**Masonic Homes  
of California**

Need Help or Assistance ?  
Contact Masonic Assistance  
visit: [www.masonichome.org](http://www.masonichome.org)  
email: [intake@mhcuc.org](mailto:intake@mhcuc.org)  
or call: 888/466-3642.

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## From The Editor

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In this month's issue of the trestle board, I wish touch upon the majestic symbolism of the trowel. In our journey in

Freemasonry we are taught that the trowel is the tool that symbolically spreads the cement of brotherly love and affection, binding us into one sacred band. Furthermore, we should live with no contention between us. In turn, allowing us to work together for the betterment of Freemasonry as a whole. I believe one of the most valuable lessons we can learn from the trowel is the idea and concept of conflict resolution.

In any relationship there is bound to be conflict. By that I specifically mean that there will be arguments or verbal disagreements. This is normal. We are an organization of men who have come together for the betterment of ourselves and our communities. When we can resolve the conflicts we are faced with, we are in turn developing a healthy relationship that ultimately strengthens the bonds of our Fraternal brotherhood.

From our very first steps into a lodge of free and accepted masons we are taught to subdue our passions. When resolving conflict, it is important to remain calm, be honest, listen to each other, while keeping our wits and emotions within due bounds. When done correctly this can result in solutions and growth for the betterment of all.

I encourage each of you to further research skills of conflict resolution for the betterment of yourself and the fraternity as a whole. Check out this website for more details on conflict resolution. <https://www.edcc.edu/counseling/documents/Conflict.pdf>

~ David Sonnenberg

Editor

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<https://www.facebook.com/PetalumaMasonry/>

<https://www.instagram.com/petalumamasonry/?hl=en>





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Dated material-do not hold

## April 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Hall Association	Family Dinner & Stated Meeting		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Royal Arch			1st Degree Practice		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Tax Day			1st Degree Practice		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Easter Sunday			OSI	1st Degree		
28	29	30	31			