

## From The East



Hello Brothers,

We ended 2021 in a bit of a dark place both for the lodge and for me personally with the health of my family, my wife and myself being set back by the Omicron variant of Covid-19. Even though my wife and I avoided any of my family's large Christmas gatherings out of concern for the potential health effects, we still came into secondary contact with a symptomless family member who later tested positive. My wife, I and 34 other members of our family tested positive. My sister who was initially symptomless herself ended up having to be admitted to the hospital, but she has returned home and is much improved in this new year and most of the family is doing well. Even though this variant was more contagious, we were fortunate that it was not as harsh as the ones before. Thank God for all the blessings of health and well being for us and all our Masonic sisters and brothers as well.

There were also challenges and setbacks for the Lodge in 2021, but as we have started 2022, we begin to see the potential for a stronger and healthier Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge. We have the opportunity to do good for our community and to educate our youth, we have several men who we will be initiating in upcoming degrees, and we have a chance to enjoy the companionship of our friends and brothers.

Indeed, the mission of this band of brothers is a grand one and we need to reach out and grab this adventure, enjoy the ride, and cherish it for all it's worth. Only then can we dust off the doom and gloom of yesteryear. This year we will have some fun and spectacular degrees, we will enjoy going out as a group with our wives and families, and we will enjoy doing what is most important in life – a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

How can I say this, my brother, you may ask, with disease and isolation spiking? I say this, too, will pass. We will return to the Christmas events, the parties, the BBQ picnics, and the Masonic dinners of the past but these will be only better because we value what is most important. It is not the presents, glitter or even food that is most important but that we are able to share the company of so many friends who are such good men. The harmony that exists among us is truly valuable.

Here's to you my brother as we begin this 2022 year in which we will dedicate ourselves to building true friendships not only among ourselves, but also among the good men whom we have hardly yet gotten to know.

So, you come to the next stated meeting and consider the good work that we will be doing as we set our financial house in order, as we discuss our parts in the upcoming degrees, and as we dream up great family events that we can all attend when this winter of discontent has parted. We may still be masked and distant in February, but there will

come a time when these things are no longer necessary.

May these good tidings be as true in this world for all of us as it will be in that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Fraternally,

Don Nicodemus, WM, P-H #180

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### REVISED MOTION ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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WORSHIPFUL MASTER and Brethren of Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge #180, F&AM

In accordance with CMC 809.110 ("Power and Control Over Lodge Assets") and modeled after Grand Lodge program management Boards as found in CMC 500.040, 600.040, and 700.040, herein are the governing rules for the Board of Trustees [BOT] of the Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge No: 180 F&AM:

The number of trustees shall be an odd number: 3, 5, or 7. The number of trustees shall be determined and changed at the discretion of the lodge. Length of terms shall be determined by the Lodge.

A quorum shall be 50% of the number of trustees rounded up to the nearest whole number – 2, 3, or 4 depending on the total number of trustees. The BOT can have discussion but cannot entertain motions, record minutes, make decisions, or take votes without a quorum being present in person or electronically. All decisions of the Board are to be made by majority vote

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## Motion on the Board of Trustees Continued...

on a motion and duly recorded in the minutes.

The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be President, Vice President, and a Secretary.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Trustees. His duties are to serve as the primary contact for communications with investment or financial firms with which the Board may utilize, and to ensure regular meetings of the board are scheduled and kept on-topic.

The Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the President. The Worshipful Master can appoint an Interim President from among the Board Members in the absence of both the President and Vice President. The Secretary shall take minutes at all board meetings and present the same to the Lodge Secretary at the Stated Meeting immediately following their approval by the BOT. These minutes must include the current balances of all invested funds and presence or absence of members in attendance. In the absence or disability of the Secretary, the President may appoint a designee for such purpose, and who for such time shall perform all the duties of the Secretary. The Secretary is responsible for creating the Semi-Annual and Annual reports which are presented to the Lodge in August and February.

The Board will have no less than four meetings per calendar year, with at least one during each financial

quarter. The purposes of these meetings are to assess the Lodge's current investment status, identify trends in the marketplace, and to review investment strategies with designated financial firm(s). The meetings will be governed by and structured as laid out in the CMC, these rules, and by common parliamentary procedure.

Motions carried by the Lodge serving as financial or operative instructions for the BOT will be communicated to and made by the Board Secretary.

Emergency or ad-hoc meetings of the BOT may be held with the consent and presence of a majority of the Trustees, or at the will of the Worshipful Master. Minutes for these meetings must similarly be provided to the Lodge Secretary for inclusion in the record.

Meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be open to all members of the Lodge. Non-trustees may speak on matters when permitted by the President but will have no ability to make motions or vote. All Trustees must be Master Masons of Petaluma-Hamilton #180 and be in good standing, and sign annual conflict of interest disclosure forms at the beginning of each term year.

Any Trustee who has been absent for all meetings in the preceding 12 months is encouraged to submit his resignation to the Worshipful Master. The Worshipful Master may decide whether to accept the submitted resignation or not. The Lodge can recall any Trustee by majority vote at a stated meeting.

When a vacancy occurs, the Worshipful Master may appoint a member of the Lodge to serve in the Trustee's stead, until such time as the Lodge elects a new Trustee, who will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.



• Robert Taylor	February 4th
• Martin Mc Keay	February 12th
• Richard Warren	February 17th
• Ewald Westphal	February 22nd



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### Lodge Contact Info:

<http://freemason.org> (CA Grand Lodge) ~ <http://masons180.org> (Pet.-Ham.#180 website)

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**February 2022**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Rainbow Assembly #6	2 Hall Association (Virtual 7 pm)	3  Stated Meeting (8 pm)	4	5
6	7  Royal Arch #22 (7 pm)	8	9	10 1st Degree Ritual Practice (7 pm)	11	12
13	14	15 Rainbow Assembly #6	16	17 1st Degree Ritual Practice (7 pm)	18	19 Council #46 (9 am) Commandery #14 (10:30 am)
20	21	22	23	24 1st Degree Ritual Practice (7 pm)	25	26
27	28					