
THE TRESTLEBOARD

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge # 480, F&AM

"The Friendly Lodge"

September 2007

From The East

Thomas E. Riley III

Worshipful Master

Greetings Brethren, I am writing this article just after our Lodge's successful and enjoyable visitation to Nevada Lodge No. 13 in Nevada City, California. I say successful, because Acalanes Fellowship Lodge has been fortified by the addition of another worthy Master Mason, Brother Daniel Argueta. Be sure to shake Dan's hand and congratulate him the next time you see him. I say enjoyable, because our Lodge experienced good fellowship and Masonic communication with our Nevada City brethren and with one another. I honestly believe that a good time was had by all.

I am proud to observe that our newly raised Brother Dan received a very commendable Third Degree from our Lodge's traveling degree team. I want to thank Past Grand Master Al Weis; Past Masters Jack Chudley, Allan Casalou, Vengie Hughes and Ollie Thomas; and Brothers Roger Poynts, Ray Sevilla, Frank Shoffner & Michael Weis for answering my call and assuming officer stations on the degree team. The entire degree team did a most proficient job, substitute and regular officers alike.

It would be remiss of me if I did not take this opportunity to sincerely thank Nevada Lodge No. 13 for the hospitality and courtesies they extended to us during the visitation. Worshipful Master Felix Bors and the other brethren of Nevada Lodge made us feel extremely welcome and served us a succulent lunch in their dining room prior to the start of the degree ceremony. Our Nevada City brethren afterwards escorted us around their beautiful and ornate facility. It was a privilege and an inspiration to confer our Third Degree in their Lodge room with its fabulous acoustics.

If you too wish to be inspired, try to come to our next Stated Meeting on Tuesday, September 4th. It is Senior Warden Night and I can personally assure you that you will find the presiding Worshipful Master to be considerably more erudite and handsome than what you are used to of late. I think Brother Gary Charland is going to provide excellent leadership for our Lodge in the days ahead and this is your chance to check him out while he presides over his first Stated Meeting.

Upcoming Events:

September 4th, **Stated Meeting 8:00 PM**

September 22nd – **Past Masters Day**
See Flier for Details!

Reservations: (800) 419-0819, ext 2, or,
by e-mail to RSVP@acalanes.org, or,
on-line at www.Acalanes.org.

On-line reservations can be paid for using your major credit card or check debit card.

Another Lodge event to look forward to is the ever popular Past Masters Degree and Barbecue Dinner on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, September 22nd. Brother Joe Peters will be the candidate that day and the Past Masters will confer the Third Degree of Masonry upon him. Worshipful Allan Casalou is the program chair for this event, so it will undoubtedly be conducted with skill and aplomb. Please check elsewhere in this Trestleboard for further details.

The Hiram Award is the most coveted and distinguished award in Masonry. The program and dinner associated with the annual presentation of this award has always been a very special event for our Lodge. I am very pleased to announce in this forum that the recipient of the Hiram Award for Acalanes Fellowship Lodge this year will be Worshipful Bill Armstrong. Mark Saturday evening November 3rd on your calendar, so that you can come to our Lodge to see Brother Bill receive the Hiram Award.

In closing, I advise the brethren that we are in the "any day now" mode regarding our pending settlement with the water utility that damaged the lower floor of our Lodge building. This entire episode has been very difficult and time consuming for our Lodge. I know we all want to put it behind us.

Thank you, brethren. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Fraternally,

Tom Riley

Roster of Officers 2007

Thomas Riley, Master
triley@acalanes.org

Gary Charland, Senior Warden
gcharland@acalanes.org.

Dennis Rogers, Junior Warden
drogers@acalanes.org

Stephen Galop, Treasurer
sgalop@acalanes.org
(925) 262-8296

Don Hoskins, Secretary
dhoskins@acalanes.org
(925) 283-3266

Brian James, Chaplain
brianjames@volkner.com
(510) 881-8862

Jim Chamberlain, Senior Deacon
jchamberlain@acalanes.org

Randy Tolerton, Junior Deacon
rtolerton@acalanes.org

Charlie Toll, Marshal

Franz Chavez, Senior Steward
fchavez@acalanes.org

Tim Wilbur, Junior Steward
twilbur@acalanes.org

Jack Kalivoda, Tyler

Roger Poynts, Social Committee
poynts@acalanes.org

Bill Adams, Inspector
wadams@acalanes.org

Lodge Phone: (925) 284-7815

Web-site:

www.Acalanes.org



~ Anniversaries ~ September

Richard W. Blount
September 18, 1982

James A. Borup
September 23, 1986

Henry C. Burgraff
September 21, 1950

Donald G. Carter
September 26, 1998

Robert J. Darius
September 7, 1974

Thomas P. Hogan
September 10, 2002

Robert M. Hooker
September 12, 1987

Vengie O. Hughes
September 8, 1984

Marvin J. Kay
September 27, 1948

Michel S. Khoury
September 22, 1990

Tarek C. Khoury
September 29, 2001

George H. Konstantopoulos
September 22, 1961

Victor R. Lawhorn
September 23, 1997

Gerald E. Patchen
September 30, 1967

Robert L. Polvi
September 9, 1976

Gerald H. Saurman
September 24, 1957

Spencer M. Sealander
September 25, 1971

Raymond Sevilla
September 23, 2006

Herbert M. Stein
September 24, 1977

Harvey K. Syversrud
September 8, 1981

Oliver A. Thomas
September 1, 1939

Charles E. Toll
September 23, 1995

Harvey A. Uhl
September 19, 1968

Alvin J. Weis
September 20, 1966

Thomas J. Whitten
September 17, 1952

Jay B. Williams
September 26, 1970

George N. Wofford
September 13, 1986

Larry W. Woods
September 15, 1984

Herman L. Zeller
September 20, 1955



In Memoriam

Irene Van Overveen

Irene Van Overveen, wife of Br. Joseph Van Overveen, passed away on August 11th. The Van Overveens were married for 64 years, and long time residents of Lafayette. To Br. Joseph and the entire Van Overveen family we express our sincerest heartfelt condolences.

~ Members Corner ~

Brother William Armstrong, PM

The 2007 recipient of the Hiram Award was announced at the August Stated Meeting. **Brother William Armstrong, PM**, will receive the highest honor that can be bestowed by a Blue Lodge at a banquet on November 3rd.

Br. Armstrong received his degrees in 1975 at Acalanes #723, served as Master of Acalanes Fellowship in 1980, and as Master of Ophir Bear Mountain Lodge #33 in 1987.

In addition to his service as Master of two California lodges, Br. Armstrong has been, and continues to be, an indefatigable supporter of Acalanes Fellowship.



Brother David Pritchard

The last week of June, while “home” on vacation from his present residence in Shanghai, China, Br. David was raised to the sublimed degree of Master Mason. He then demonstrated his exemplary ritualistic ability by exemplifying his Third Degree proficiency at our July Stated Meeting. Br. David has since returned to China, where he continues to help their citizenry prepare for the upcoming Olympic Games.



Br. David Pritchard (right) and his father, Gaylord Pritchard.

Mike & Sue Wooten

Congratulations to **Mike and Sue Wooten** on their 50th Wedding Anniversary which was on August 11th. Br. Mike was raised in 1976 and affiliated with our Lodge in March of this year.

Brother Daniel Argueta

On our August 18th visitation to Nevada Lodge # 13 in Nevada City, our good brother Daniel Argueta was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Br. Daniel is the son-in-law of our charter member Ted Zeller.



Plaque at Nevada Lodge #13 commemorating 150 years of continuous Masonic activity (above) placed by Grand Master Alvin Weis in April 2000 (pictured below in August 2007).



Business Matters

Our semi-annual financial report was provided to the Lodge Officers for distribution at the August Stated Meeting in compliance with Grand Lodge guidelines. This report is available to members in good standing by request to the Treasurer.

Just as this issue is off to print we received a revised settlement proposal from the insurance adjuster for East Bay Municipal Utility District. The good news is that the gap is narrowing; the bad news is we are not quite there yet. We remain hopeful that there will be good news to report soon.

Constitutional Observance

Origin of Constitutional Observance

Courtesy of Carmel Lodge #680

The Masons of Medieval Europe, from whom we trace our historical origins, were dedicated to the establishment and promotion of public order. They were the builders of all the major edifices erected in Europe in the Twelfth through the Seventeenth Centuries. Such construction only occurred in those places where established civil order guaranteed peace and harmonious cooperation among the local citizenry. Only then could time and wealth be devoted to the erection of the massive stone edifices built by our operative forbearers.

While Masonry teaches loyal and active support of the civil magistrate such loyalty should never be confused with blind obedience to an unjust ruler. Loyalty to the civil authority presupposes a civil authority loyal to its people, governing in response to the people's will and securing everyone's basic rights and liberties. Many leaders of the American Revolutionary War were Masons. They recognized that the inferior status of the Colonies was inconsistent with the natural order of democratic government for freedom-loving people. They temporarily set aside their regard for the established order, the British Colonial Government, to establish a new order to guarantee those inalienable rights: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. These early American, patriotic Masons demonstrated the noblest support of established civil authority: they temporarily set aside their loyalty when that authority was clearly and oppressively wrong to replace it with one dedicated to freedom and liberty.

Dedication to active service as a citizen is the special charge of all Masons. Today, when a man is initiated into a California Masonic Lodge, he is enjoined to be exemplary in the discharge of his civil responsibilities, by never suggesting or supporting any act which might subvert the peace and good order of society. He is further enjoined to pay due obedience to the laws under whose protection he lives and never to lose sight of the allegiance due by every citizen to his or her country.

We expect the individual Mason to work at the duties of citizenship, making himself available for service to his community, state and nation. Only through this service can the privileges which we enjoy as Masons and as Americans be saved for posterity.

We commemorate the signing of the United States Constitution to make our Constitution more immediate in our lives, to prevent it from becoming "ancient history." We bring it into our contemporary understanding. We emphasize the need for civic education, wisdom and virtue; for the willingness to sacrifice immediate personal gain for the greater long-

term benefit of all; for commitment to our constitutional system of ordered liberty; for the ingenuity to solve complicated new problems, as we have done so many times in the past. What better way for any of us to direct our active support for the system of government we cherish than to emphasize these qualities which will sustain the cornucopia of benefits engendered by the personal creativity and vitality of the American people and encouraged by our constitutional system of government.

www.calodges.org/no680/



Masons Who Signed the U.S. Constitution ¹

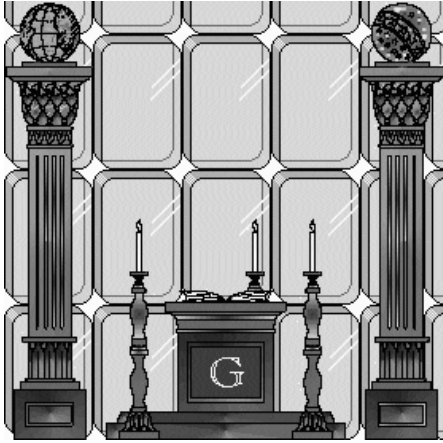
The influence of Freemasons on the founding of the United States is well documented. A third of the signors to the Constitution were Masons. We pause to remember their contribution to our country:

Abraham Baldwin, Georgia
Gunning Bedford, Jr., Delaware
John Blair, Virginia
David Brearley, New Jersey
Jacob Broom, Delaware
Daniel Carroll, Maryland
Jonathan Dayton, New Jersey
John Dickinson, Delaware
Benjamin Franklin, Pennsylvania
Nicholas Gilman, New Hampshire
Rufus King, Massachusetts
James McHenry, Maryland
William Paterson, New Jersey
George Washington, Virginia

¹ Masonic Membership of the Signers of the Constitution of the United States, published by the Masonic Service Association, and written by Bro. Ronald E. Heaton. It was originally published in 1962, reprinted in 1986



ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480
Past Masters' Degree & Barbecue



Past Masters' Degree:
Saturday, September 22nd
1:00 PM
(Degree should conclude by 3:45PM)

*Come out and show your support of our Past Masters and our new brother!
Then, come back to enjoy our Past Masters' Barbecue:*

Past Masters' Barbecue
Saturday, September 22nd
Social Gathering: 5:00 PM
Dinner: 6:00 PM
Cost: \$15 Adults
Past Masters of Our Lodge: free



*The brothers will be firing up the grill and serving steaks
and other side dishes. Please reserve by September 14th so we can have an accurate
steak count!*

Reservations can be made and paid for on-line at www.Acalanes.org,
or call our reservation line to save your place: (800) 419-0819, Option 2

Credit and debit cards accepted for on-line orders only.

Do you have some news or an article that you would like to share?
If so, please e-mail it to: editor@acalanes.org or fax to (800) 671-0717.

Would your company like to sponsor an issue of our *Trestleboard*?
If so, contact us regarding rates: editor@acalanes.org or (925) 262-8296

Moving? Remember to give us your new address!

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