
THE TRESTLEBOARD

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge # 480, F&AM

"The Friendly Lodge"

March 2008

From The East

Gary Charland

Worshipful Master

Brethren, what a great start we've had to our 'Masonic' year. The Crab Feed was a great success. At last count, we raised more than \$6,000.00! Close to 200 people filled the Lafayette Community Center for what has traditionally been our biggest event of the year. This year was no exception. We had more than 50 Silent Auction Items and the grand prize was a trip to Las Vegas, with tickets to see Bette Midler. Of course all this wouldn't have been possible without the outstanding work done by the Crab Feed Committee. My thanks go to Committee Chairs, Jim and Dianne Yribarren, along with the rest of their committee, including Roger Poynts, Stephen Galop, and Allan Casalou, along with all of the brethren that worked on the event. The success of our Lodge is so dependent on our brothers volunteering to help with these events. We have been very fortunate that we've always had such great support from so many of our brethren who give freely of their time and talents. Without them, our lodge would not be the great and successful lodge that it is today.

Our stated meeting dinner on the 4th of February, featuring a Valentines Day theme with a Chocolate Fountain for dessert. This was also the first of our "Ladies Programs". While the men retired to the Lodge Room for our stated meeting, the ladies were treated to a talk by the AAA Travel Agency on some 'Romantic Local Getaways'. Hopefully some of you got to take advantage of one of those trips when Valentines Day came around.

We were also honored to have our Official Visit from our District Inspector, Jack Forseth, at our February Meeting. Our Officers did a great job in welcoming the Inspector to our Lodge.

On that Friday, the 8th of February, Acalanes-Fellowship Lodge sponsored a group for the 'Reno Fun Train'. Although we didn't come home with lots of winnings, we did have lots of good fun, lots of good food and some good drinks, along with a lot of great fellowship. We're hoping to do it again next year, so if you didn't make it this year, there's always next.

On February 12, we did two 1st Degrees. Dennis Rogers, our Senior Warden was in the East, and along with all of our Officers, did an excellent job. If you haven't had the opportunity to see our current corps of Officers put on a degree, you must try to attend. Not only would they appreciate the support, but you'll be treated to some excellent degree work. We are planning two more 1st Degrees in the next few weeks, so watch for an announcement soon.

On the 19th we hosted the District Officers School of Instruction at our Lodge. Brother Ray Sevilla and Brother Tim Wilbur, our Stewards did an excellent job of preparing chili and corn bread for all of the brethren. Although it wasn't quite as good as Brother Tim's 'official' chili entry from last year's Chili Cook-off, it certainly was good. My thanks to them both for all of their hard work in the kitchen that night.

It's great to have our Lodge nearly finished. It's really starting to look great. If you haven't been to a stated meeting, please try to make it to our March Stated Meeting, which will feature a St. Patrick's Day theme, with the traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner and mark your calendars for our April stated meeting dinner, in honor of April Fools Day. We're planning 1st Annual Bad Joke Contest. Several of our brethren are vying for the title of Worst Joke. This will also be the second of our Ladies Programs with a sponsored Bingo Game. I hear there will be some exciting prizes, so mark you calendars for the April Meeting too.

Brethren, it's certainly been a great start to what I hope is going to be a great year. Acalanes-Fellowship Lodge continues to live up to its reputation as the 'friendly lodge'. We've got lots of degrees to do, exciting programs ahead and lots of opportunities for continued fellowship. I'd like to thank all of you for your support and encouragement. We can always use your help and your support too. Please feel free to contact me, or any of our officers if you'd like to get more involved.

Hope to see you all soon.

Fraternally,

Gary Charland

Roster of Officers 2008

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Michael Weis, Tyler

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March ~ Anniversaries ~

George Atashkarian
March 12, 1962

James H. Burnett
March 20, 1958

Roger G. Burt
March 24, 1987

Francis J. Ebert
March 22, 1949

Donald H. Freitas
March 24, 1979

Robert L. Golden
March 31, 1953

Scott D. Haile
March 16, 2004

William J. Haynes
March 30, 1978

Alan J. Mac
March 28, 1987

Walter J. Moser
March 11, 1958

Charles A. Page
March 25, 1947

Brainard Platt
March 22, 1977

Frank F. Ransome
March 17, 1947

Dennis P. Rodgers
March 23, 2004

Ralph W. Runckel
March 22, 1966

Bradley O. Rupert
March 18, 2003

William I. Russell
March 24, 1981

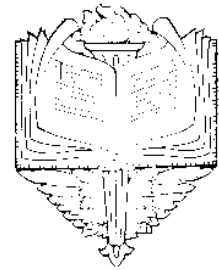
Arne Simonsen, PM
March 27, 1984

Lawrence W. Strohmeyer
March 19, 2005

Joseph P. Van Overveen
March 22, 1944

Phillip H. Wyne
March 8, 1997

James L. Yribarren, PM
March 30, 1996



In Memoriam

William H Johnston
June 19, 1918 - January 24, 2008
Raised June 26, 1956
50 year Veteran Award 2006

Marjorie Westphal
December 27, 2007
Widow of Br. Everett Westphal
who died in 1984

Hilda Golden
December 18, 2007
Wife of our loyal brother Bob
Golden.

To the Golden, Westphal and
Johnston families we extend our
sincerest condolences.



January 8th Reopening Dinner

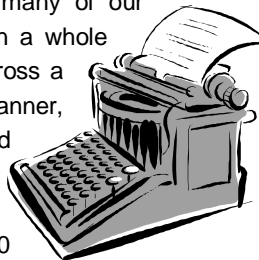
The January 8th Stated Meeting Dinner marked the reopening of our Hall and featured an informative address by our beloved past master Al Weis on the history of our Lodge. In attendance was charter member Donald Strain, our longest serving Master Mason having been raised in 1938.



Alvin Weis, PGM, Donald Strain, Gary Charland, WM

A Note from our Secretary

I have the opportunity to talk with many of our candidates, members and widows on a whole range of topics. Recently I came across a situation that, as a retired financial planner, really bothered me. A widow, who had been married for 15 years, saw her husband's life insurance go to his ex-wife that he had divorced some 20 years prior because he had not updated his beneficiaries. Remember, insurance is paid to the beneficiaries **first**, only the balance (if any) is directed by a Will. Please remember to keep your records up to date.



On another note, we have received returned mail from the following: Lois Pallo, Nita Byrne, and Roma McEltherney. Please let us know if you have any information on their new addresses.

Donald L. Hoskins, Secretary

A Note from our Treasurer

Our annual financial report will be available at the March 4th Stated Meeting. Members in good standing may request a copy by writing or calling our Treasurer.

Stephen P. Galop, Treasurer

50th Anniversary



Congratulations to our Inspector, Br. Jack Forseth and his wife Mary on the 50th Wedding Anniversary. Their February 16th celebration included a renewal of their vows and a reception for over 200 guests. God bless you both!

March 4th Dinner

Our March 4th Stated Meeting Dinner will feature corned beef and cabbage, Irish potatoes, carrots, salad and dessert.

Our dinners are always a great time to socialize with friends, and meet perspective members.



Our good brother Roger Poynts spends a lot of energy preparing for our dinners. Please do your part by making your reservations in advance of the dinner. An accurate count is necessary for food preparation and table set-up. Reservations could not be easier ... they can be made by telephone, e-mail or Internet!

We would also like to thank Roger for his donation of the table wine for our last two dinners. The CMCs and state law prevent us from selling adult beverages, including the table wine. Accordingly, wine is not included with the price of dinner tickets.

Thank you, Roger, for all you do!



Political Freedom
Religious Tolerance
Personal Integrity



Freemasonry ... It's not for everyone

Moving? Remember to give us your new address!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 From the East – A Message from The Worshipful Master
- 2 Officers' Roster / Anniversaries / In Memoriam
- 3 Goings on at Acalanes Fellowship