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# THE TRESTLEBOARD

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge # 480, F&AM

*"The Friendly Lodge"*

November 2009

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## From The East

**Dennis Rogers**

*Worshipful Master*

### ***Waxing and Waning***

I find it difficult to believe that I'm sitting at my keyboard typing out my last message as Master of The Friendly Lodge. 324 days ago I wasn't sure I'd have enough thoughts in my head to generate one such message and yet I have somehow managed to generate enough enthusiasm to do this for the entire year. Soon this challenge will belong to my successor and I only hope that he enjoys it is much as I have.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you this year. I have not attempted to stamp my own imprimatur on the lodge or the office of Master, but rather to encourage, cajole, prod and prompt all of you to step up and make this lodge your own, more in this year than in years past. It would be arrogant to suggest that I've had a successful year, although WE have succeeded in pulling together beyond my own hopes and expectations. It will be for others to judge whether my year was a benefit to the lodge.

There is a natural waxing and waning of effort and zeal by the members and officers of any lodge and the most devastating two things that can happen are for a Master or a corps of officers to decide to hijack the lodge's agenda to suit his or their own purposes or for the membership to doze off and just let the officers do whatever is to be done. At The Friendly Lodge, we have been fortunate that neither of these conditions have manifested. We have an enthusiastic corps of officers but also an involved membership that keeps things fresh, keeps things growing and keeps things progressing to what looks from my point of view to be a very positive future.

We have performed far more degrees this year than in any year that I can remember and we have raised several new master masons who will soon join the line of officers and make outstanding contributions. We now find ourselves in the unfamiliar but enviable position of having more brothers interested in serving than we have posts to fill. I take no credit for any of this but rather that credit falls to the members who have brought in friends

and associates as well as to Brother Stephen Galop who is responsible for our outstanding web-site, which has been a deciding factor for many of our new members.

All this enthusiastic new blood means that we will not likely see past masters forced to take leadership roles for several years at a minimum and we may find ourselves with viable candidates to take over for some of our officers who have served for successive years as Treasurer, Secretary and Marshall. This last is a daunting prospect when I consider the incredible contributions made by brothers, Galop, Toll and Hoskins, but a change is inevitable, and we may now have the opportunity to transition smoothly rather than under exigent circumstances. While this means a potential loss of continuity, I believe that the changing face of our lodge requires that new leaders, new ideas and new leadership styles come to the fore.

I am excited when I look at the corps of officers for next year and the years that follow because I can see the drive and the inspiration that will make these next years progressively better. Each individual brings a different skill set and a different personality to the leadership team and with the recent growth of our lodge the very personality of The Friendly Lodge is changing and growing. Our leadership needs to reflect that change while maintaining those things that have made this such a great lodge in the past. Our principle officers for next year demonstrate an excellent mix of young blood (Jim) and substantial experience (Roger). The combined skill set is everything I could have hoped to see. I am confident that next year's team will not only have a better year than we have enjoyed in 2009, but will build things that will ensure multiple years of increasing success.

For myself, I plan to be around and available if called upon, but I will not be making any attempts to continue steering the ship once the transition is effected. I will take my place as one of the workmen until it is time for the 2010 Past Master's Degree. Thank you all, for your support and encouragement, the success of this past year is to your credit, not to mine.



## ~ November Anniversaries ~

### Roster of Officers 2009

**Dennis Rodgers**  
Worshipful Master

**Jim Chamberlain**  
Senior Warden

**Thomas Riley, PM**  
Jr. Warden

**Stephen P. Galop III**  
Treasurer  
sgalop@acalanes.org

**Donald L. Hoskins**  
Secretary  
dhoskins@acalanes.org  
(925) 283-3266

**Frank Shoffner, Chaplain**  
shoffner@acalanes.org

**Randy Tolerton, Sr. Deacon**

**Bradley Rupert, Junior Deacon**

**Ray Sevilla, Senior Steward**

**Michael Roberts, Jr. Steward**

**Michael Weis, Tyler**

**Fraternal Activities Director**  
**Roger Poynts**  
poynts@acalanes.org

**Trestleboard Editor:**  
Jim Chamberlain  
editor@acalanes.org

**Lodge Phone:** (925) 284-7815

**Web-site:**  
[www.Acalanes.org](http://www.Acalanes.org)

**Allan L. Casalou, PM**  
November 26, 1991  
18 Years

**Kenneth W. Edson**  
November 23, 1982  
27 Years

**Gary B. Estes**  
November 22, 1966  
43 Years

**Ernest R. Everett**  
November 24, 1964  
45 Years

**Harold L. Gates**  
November 10, 1949  
60 Years

**James A. Granata**  
November 17, 1981  
28 Years

**Jon M. Haynes**  
November 25, 1980  
29 Years

**Jack Heinz**  
November 17, 1953  
56 Years

**Lew Jenkins**  
November 9, 1993  
16 Years

**Steven F. Klamm**  
November 19, 1987  
22 Years

**Robert J. Knebel**  
November 19, 2005  
4 Years

**Howard M. Laney**  
November 29, 1966  
43 Years

**Leonard A. Love**  
November 24, 1992  
17 Years

**Phillip L. Mc Allister, Sr., PM**  
November 8, 1984  
25 Years

**Gary H. Moore**  
November 8, 1977  
32 Years

**David R. Oyler**  
November 22, 1997  
12 Years

**Donald A. Pauli**  
November 30, 1971  
38 Years

**Kevin A. Roberts**  
November 18, 1997  
12 Years

**Orren C. Rupert, PM**  
November 22, 1973  
36 Years

**Michael S. Weis**  
November 16, 2004  
5 Years

**Charlie M. Wooten**  
November 23, 1976  
33 Years

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to our beloved past master **Phil McAllister** on his 25 years of service to the fraternity, and to our 2002 Hiram Award recipient **Br. Harold Gates** on his 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### Veteran's Day November 11<sup>th</sup>



**A grateful nation shall never forget**

# IMPORTANT DATES FOR DECEMBER

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Installation Practice, 7pm  
Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Installation, 7pm  
Dec 19<sup>th</sup> Sweethearts Luncheon  
12:00pm

## LODGE FUNDRAISER

Brother Tim Wilbur came up with a great idea to help raise funds for the lodge. A ratcheting/locking SEBER Knife, laser etched with the Masonic Logo and our lodge name and number. The knife sells for \$50 in local stores, but we can get them for \$40 and \$10 goes to the lodge.

It's a great Holiday Gift only \$40. See Brother Wilbur for ordering. [timwilbur1@yahoo.com](mailto:timwilbur1@yahoo.com)



## District School of Instruction Schedule, 2010

January 12  
Acalanes-Fellowship # 480  
1st. degree, 1st. sec. & opening

February 11  
Orinda # 122  
2nd. degree, 1st. sec. & opening

March 9  
Bay Cities # 337  
3rd. degree, 1st. sec. & opening

April 13  
Acalanes-Fellowship # 480  
2nd. degree, 1st. sec. & closing

May 13  
Orinda # 122  
2nd. degree, 2nd. sec.

June 8 Bay Cities # 337  
3rd. degree, 2nd. sec.

August 10  
Acalanes-Fellowship # 480  
1st. degree, & closing

September 9  
Orinda # 122  
3rd. degree opening & balloting

October 12  
Bay Cities # 337  
Reception of flag & election of officers

**District Schools of Instruction are  
open to all Master Masons**

Benevolent and Merciful Father,  
You have bestowed upon us grace, your loving  
kindness, mercy and relief.

Continue to sustain us, console us, grant us your  
mercy and your peace, and everything good that we  
might never lack.



**Moving? Remember to give us your new address!**

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