

THE TRESTLEBOARD



ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM

SEPTEMBER 2010

From the East

Greetings Brothers of Acalanes Fellowship! I hope this month's Trestleboard finds you and your families happy and in fine health. The kids are back in school and yet another month has passed us by. We are that much closer to the end of my term as Master and I find it hard to believe just how quickly the year has passed.

August was a full of activity. In addition to our Stated Meeting, we held several practices for upcoming degrees, a District Officers School of Instruction and a Past Master's degree. Past Master Dennis Rogers and his team did an outstanding job and I am positive that our newest Master Mason, Harry Burt, will remember it for a long time to come. August has also seen our line officers working long hours on memorizing the work for their next chair. It is entirely possible that we will be the first Lodge in our District to have each of our officers pass their proficiencies.

The September stated meeting will find our officers in advanced stations. As a result you will see different faces in our chairs. We will also have our official visitation this month to Island City Lodge #215 in Alameda for Brother Jason Allen's Third Degree. This event will be unique because it will be a double Third Degree with one of Island City's brothers. See the article on page 5 of the Trestleboard for more information. We will also have a first degree at the end of the month for our newly voted on candidates. As you can see, we are once again an incredibly busy and growing lodge. Let's keep it going!

Finally, last month, Kim put out a call to all Past Masters asking for an article and photograph for a new column in the Trestleboard called, "An Autobiography of a Past Master." This month's article features Brother Bill Armstrong; will you be next month's feature? Please see page 5 for more information on where to send your article.

Jim Chamberlain
Master

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Upcoming Events



- September 7: Stated Meeting & Dinner (Advanced Stations)**
Acalanes Fellowship Lodge
Social Hour: 6:00 PM
Dinner: 6:30 PM
Stated Meeting: 8:00 PM
- September 9: District Officers School of Instruction**
Orinda Lodge
6:30 PM
- September 14: Third Degree Practice**
Acalanes Fellowship Lodge
7:00 PM
- September 18: Third Degree Visitation**
Island City Lodge
2312 Alameda Avenue, Alameda
3:00 PM with a steak dinner to follow
- September 21: Off**
- September 28: First Degree**
Acalanes Fellowship Lodge
7:00 PM

Meet Acalanes-Fellowship Junior Deacon ~ Ray Sevilla



By Ray Sevilla

I have been a member of Acalanes Fellowship Lodge since 2003, and was made a Master Mason at a wonderful Third Degree Visitation at the Masonic Home in Newark. I come from a family of Masons as my father, one of my uncles and my grandfather were also Masons.

I was born in Berkeley, California where I grew up and went to school, kindergarten through twelfth grade, and then went onto the University of California in Berkeley. I am married to Ursula Sevilla, whom most of the Brethren know as she is the chef for our District Officer's Schools of Instruction. Ursula has also served as chef for a few special occasions and has added some very nice touches to the Lodge including redesigning and sprucing up the women's bathroom as well as working with both Tim Wilbur and I on fixing up the kitchen, video and coaching corners and the second floor seating area. Ursula also has a history in Masonry as her mother was a head seamstress for 27 years for a company that made all of the aprons and other garments for Blue Lodges, the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, and Eastern Star in Northern California. In fact all of the officer's aprons at our Lodge were made by Ursula's mother and the two seamstresses that worked under her. Ursula is also responsible for making the Lodge look festive for our holiday dinners.

I have been an active member of the Temple Board and have been Brother Tim Wilbur's right hand man, as he says, in the rebuild of the Lodge and other Lodge facility projects. Like most Brethren, I have given many hours of volunteer time keeping our Lodge going. In addition, I am a member of the Scottish Rite, Shrine, and York Rite where I am currently serving as the President of the East Bay York Rite Association.

Ursula and I have a son, Erik, who works in retail in San Francisco and is an information technology guru like me. I have been working in the information technology field for over 30 years and am currently the CIO of a wireless internet company that has developed new protocols for wireless internet data processing in large geographic areas. I have garnered many information technology awards for my work and continue to be on the cutting edge of my profession. Ursula and I have lived in Lafayette for 20 years and are very active in the community.

An Autobiography of a Past Master



By William C. Armstrong, PM

I was born in the valley town of Modesto, California on December 2, 1922 to parents Cecil and Nanette Armstrong. When old enough to attend Kindergarten I was taken to school in a pony card by the neighbor's young daughter.

We moved to Berkeley in 1927 where I inflicted myself upon Emerson Grammar, Willard Jr. High and Berkeley High Schools. While in high school I enlisted in the California National Guard to earn the money paid for attending Drill Night once a month. My father had deserted us when I was eight and money was very scarce in the family. When the Guard was activated for a year full-time service in early 1941, my mother wanted me to remain in school so she informed the Guard I was under age and I was discharged. My Company went to the Philippines where they were captured by the Japanese and suffered the Bataan Death March and prison camp. Only two of the 75 man Company survived.

I enlisted in the army in 1942 and following D-Day, my Division, the 26th "Yankee" Division, became part of General Patton's Army and fought in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Returning home in late 1947 with my Ukrainian wife and baby boy I eventually was employed at the Naval Ammunition Depot in Concord and retired from there in 1975 as a Personnel Development Specialist.

My closet buddy, Bud Celestre, is a Mason and was my first line signer when I asked him how to become a Mason. Back then, we were Acalanes #723 AF&AM. I became Master of Acalanes Fellowship #480 for the year 1980 and later was appointed Inspector of the 404th Masonic District while living in Angels Camp. In 1987 I surrendered my Inspectorship to take the Master's chair of Bear Mountain Lodge #76 in an attempt to save the dying Lodge. The Lodge eventually surrendered their charter and affiliated with Ophir Lodge #33 in Murphys, California.

My wife, Vera, and I live in Walnut Creek. Our daughter and grandson live in the nearby city of Albany and our granddaughter and her family live in San Jose.

September Third Degree Anniversaries



Richard W. Blount
September 18, 1982
28 Years

Tarek C. Khoury
September 29, 2001
9 Years

Raymond Sevilla
September 23, 2006
4 Years

James A. Borup
September 23, 1986
24 Years

George H. Konstantopoulos
September 22, 1961
49 Years

Harvey K. Syversrud, PM
September 8, 1981
29 Years

Henry C. Burgraff, PM
September 21, 1950
60 Years

Victor R. Lawhorn
September 23, 1997
13 Years

Charles E. Toll
September 23, 1995
15 Years

Robert J. Darius
September 7, 1974
36 Years

Gerald E. Patchen
September 30, 1967
43 Years

Harvey A. Uhl
September 19, 1968
42 Years

Thomas P. Hogan
September 10, 2002
8 Years

Johannes G. Peters, MD
September 22, 2007
3 Years

Alvin J. Weis, PGM
September 20, 1966
44 Years

Robert M. Hooker
September 12, 1987
23 Years

Robert L. Polvi
September 9, 1976
34 Years

Thomas J. Whitten, PM
September 17, 1952
58 Years

Vengie O. Hughes, PM
September 8, 1984
26 Years

Gerald H. Saurman
September 24, 1957
53 Years

Jay B. Williams, PM
September 26, 1970
40 years

Marvin J. Kay
September 27, 1948
62 Years

Spencer M. Sealander
September 25, 1971
39 Years

George N. Wofford
September 13, 1986
24 Years

Richard Kellogg
September 22, 2009
1 Year



Larry W. Woods, PM
September 15, 1984
26 Years

Michel S. Khoury
September 22, 1990
20 Years

Herman L. Zeller
September 20, 1955
55 Years

Your Masonic Member Benefits:

An Important Reminder



As a Mason you're entitled to the following support services no matter where you reside - whether in California or out of state.

Member 60 years or older and in good standing for five consecutive years, or his wife or widow

- referrals to senior care providers, financial assistance, and/or care management in your home community, provided by Masonic Senior Outreach
- admission to a Masonic Homes of California continuing care retirement community, located in Covina and Union City

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Member of any age and degree level

- help dealing with family issues, such as the impact of divorce, the stresses of a special needs child, and other challenges, provided by Masonic Family Outreach

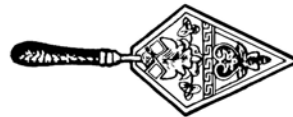
Contact Masonic Assistance at 888-466-3642 or masonicassistance@mhcuc.org for information and support.

Some other member and widow benefits:

- monthly lodge Trestleboard
- inclusion on lodge phone tree and mailings
- bimonthly California Freemason magazine
- access to the Member Center on www.freemason.org (members only)
- Masonic funeral or memorial service (members only, at the request of family)

For general information, contact Grand Lodge at 415-292-9180 or memberservices@freemason.org or visit www.masonichome.org for information about all of these support services.

2010 Official Lodge Visitation



Please Join Us at

Island City Lodge #215 in Alameda, California

For the

Third Degree of Brother Jason Allen

Saturday, September 18, 2010
3:00 PM

Steak dinner to follow

Please RSVP to Jim Chamberlain at jchamb268@yahoo.com or (925) 360-1531 September 12, 2010 as we need an accurate count for dinner.

Calling All Past Masters



If you are a Past Master, I am asking you to take the time to write an article about yourself and send it to me along with a picture. The article can be your life story or memories of your year as Master of your Lodge. You may type it or handwrite it, e-mail or send it via the U.S. Mail but please do not forget the picture so the members can put a face to name. I can scan the picture on my computer and return it to you. You may e-mail the article (in word or pdf format, please) and picture to me at kmbalee@yahoo.com or send it to:

Kim Chamberlain
1174 St. Matthew Place #201
Concord, California 94518

Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480
"The Friendly Lodge"



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Visit the Grand Lodge of California:

www.freemason.org

2010 Roster of Officers

Jim Chamberlain, Worshipful Master (Kim)

jchamb268@yahoo.com

(925) 827-1514

Roger Poynts, Senior Warden (Nancy Christman)

poynts@acalanes.org

(925) 376-4842

Randy Tolerton, Junior Warden (Caroline)

(925) 256-9690

Stephen P. Galop III, Treasurer

sgalop@acalanes.org

(678) 995-7223

Donald L. Hoskins, Secretary

dhoskins@acalanes.org

(925) 283-3266

Frank Shoffner, Chaplain

shoffner@acalanes.org

(925) 284-1461

Brad Rupert, Senior Deacon (Joanne)

Bradely.rupert@sbcglobal.net

(925) 274-1405

Ray Sevilla, Junior Deacon (Ursula)

(925) 962-9665

Michael Roberts, Senior Steward (Jenny)

(925) 829-3171

Gary Sparks, Junior Steward

(707) 803-9385

Michael Weis, Marshal

(925) 284-9196

Jeff Boschert, Tyler (Dr. Joyce Tang)

(925) 937-5105

Jack Forseth, Inspector (Mary)

Home (510) 234-0333

Cell (510) 815-7087

TopGunPR13@aol.com

Tom Kilgallen, Officers Coach

Home (510) 594-1169

Cell (510) 220-7695

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