

THE TRESTLEBOARD



ACALANES FELLOWSHIP LODGE #480, F&AM

DECEMBER 2010

From the East

As we start this new Masonic Year, all of us should develop a few goals. Mine are fairly simple this year.

- First, I want to make all our brethren and their families feel they are relevant and important, and are in fact, an integral part of our lodge and fraternity.
- Next, I want to increase our knowledge and pass on our Masonic values.
- Lastly, I want our lodge to be a better place when I leave this chair.

Indeed these goals are simple, but the tactics necessary to implement them are not. Success will depend entirely upon leadership, knowledge and focus. Not only on my part, but also, from all our officers, members and families. There is a wealth of knowledge locked up inside our brethren, but how do we access it.....? How do we get them to share.....?

We make them relevant...but relevance is dynamic. Everyone can add something based on their raw talent and experience, but where to start....? So I decided to focus on our "Rusty Trowels". My first thought was to have a special event to present 25 year pins to our members. Show them we still care and haven't forgotten them. Show them that they are relevant.

However, when I did the research, I discovered we have about 130 active members who have earned their 25 year pins. In recent memory, it seems, no one can recall our lodge having ever given out a 25 year pin. Since one event is not practical, we'll parse the list into groups of 5 to 10 members and have several presentations during the year. The first groups will be made up of those who live locally and can travel to the lodge. Then we will contact our distant brethren and work out the best way to get their pin to them. At the end of the year, I want to make sure every man deserving this recognition has been given the opportunity to receive it.

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Upcoming Events

December 4:	Installation of Officers Acalanes Fellowship Lodge Installation: 3:30 PM Social Hour: 5:00 PM, Dinner: 6:00 PM
December 7:	Stated Meeting & Dinner Acalanes Fellowship Lodge Social Hour: 6:00 PM, Dinner: 6:30 PM Stated Meeting: 8:00 PM
December 14:	Planning Meeting Acalanes Fellowship Lodge, 7:00 PM
December 18:	Sweetheart's Luncheon Acalanes Fellowship Lodge Reception: 11:30, Luncheon: Noon
January 4:	Stated Meeting & Dinner Acalanes Fellowship Lodge Social Hour: 6:00 PM, Dinner: 6:30 PM Stated Meeting: 8:00 PM
January 11:	Crab Feed Committee Meeting Acalanes Fellowship Lodge, 7:00 PM
January 18:	Degree (TBA) Acalanes Fellowship Lodge, 7:00 PM
January 20:	District Officers School of Instruction Orinda Lodge, 6:30 PM Third Degree, First Section
January 22:	Annual Lodge Crab Feed Lafayette Community Center
January 25:	Candidate's Practice Acalanes Fellowship Lodge, 7:00 PM

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2010 Annual Sweethearts Luncheon



December 18, 2010
Reception 11:30
Luncheon 12:00

A traditional holiday meal of turkey, ^{PROOF} dressing, garlic mashed potatoes, yams, vegetables and gravy will be served. Following lunch, St. Nicolas will join us and have toys for our tots so please bring your family!

To make reservations, please go to ^{PROOF} www.acalanes.org and click on "Functions."

You may also e-mail your reservation to RSVP@Acalanes.org or call the reservation line at (800) 419-0819, extension 2.

PROOF

From the East

(Continued)

Knowledge is the second part of my plan for the year. The more knowledgeable we are as Masons, the more effective we will be both individually and collectively at promoting our three principal Masonic Tenets: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

This goal will be far easier for me to accomplish since (according to my wife anyway) over the years I've amassed volumes of useless information that is of no particular interest to anyone. However, now I have a captive audience and you ^{PROOF} will be the first recipients of this knowledge base transfer (or not, if it bores you too).

I plan to publish a series of Trestleboard articles starting this month entitled, Masonic Education Series 2011. The first one is called The Leopard, Monkey and the ^{PROOF} Smart Dachshund. Bet you can't wait to sink your teeth into that one (pun intended).

Over the years, Masons have been recognized, honored, and welcomed around the world. They have been leaders in their communities and they came from every walk of life: farmers, businessmen, doctors, laborers, lawyers, policemen, and statesmen. Every town had a Masonic Lodge in its center, ^{PROOF} and at one time, every Lodge was packed end-to-end.

Masons were the cream of their communities. They knew who they were, and everyone else knew who they were, but somewhere along the line there we disconnected. We stopped passing on the secrets of our craft. However, a renewed interest in Freemasonry affords us the opportunity to teach our ideals once more, and with a little effort, we'll rise to the top again. ^{PROOF}

I'm looking forward to a great year, and with your help, it will be a truly remarkable year.

PROOF

Fraternally,
Roger L. Poynts
Master

PROOF



Call for 2011 Crab Feed Silent Action Donations!

**Contributions are now being accepted for the silent auction for the 2010 Crab Feed.
Silent auction donations range in price from \$15 to \$250, although any amount is always welcome!**

To make your donation of one of the amounts above or a general contribution, please visit website at <http://www.acalanes.org/crabfeed.htm> to make a donation with a credit card or you may also mail a check made out to: Acalanes Fellowship #480 to Bradley Rupert, 606 Sitka Drive, Walnut Creek, California 94598.

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Auction Item Donation Suggestions: Framed pictures, tools, electronics, gift baskets, etc.

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Host a Dinner at Your Home: Host Dinner for 4 to 6 people have some fellowship and best of all it helps the lodge. Cook your favorite meal (Pasta, Steak, Fish or Family special)

Complimentary Airline tickets/cabin rental/usage: If you have a can donate any of these items, we would appreciate your contribution.

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Complimentary Entertainment Tickets: If you are a season ticket holder for the arts or sports team, we would appreciate a donation of two or more tickets to a performance or other event.

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Professional Services: Are there services that you provide in your business that can be donated? Services would include: complimentary tax consultation or tax preparation; complimentary hair or beauty services, auto services, home improvement services, etc.

Wine for a wine tree: We will auction a wine tree at the Crab Feed, please bring a bottle of wine to add to the tree!

New!! Officer's Cakes for desert: Acalanes Officers will be baking cakes to be bid on after meal.

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There are many ways to help. If you have an item or service that you would like to donate, please contact Brad Rupert at Bradley.Rupert@sbcglobal.net or call him at (925) 274-1405 (home) or (925) 890-8029 (cell). Larger items do not need to be brought to event. We can arrange for pick-up and delivery afterwards.

PROOF

Please call ahead and provide a minimum bid price, market value and if possible e-mail a picture of the item before you bring it.

2011 Annual Acalanes Fellowship Crab Feed

Saturday, January 22, 2007
Lafayette Community Center
St. Mary's Road, Lafayette
5:30 PM

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Order your tickets today!
www.acalanes.org/crabfeed.htm

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December Anniversaries



Jeffery Boschert
December 9, 2008
2 Years

Jerry Gregory
December 7, 1954
56 Years

Tom Gribble
December 2, 2006
4 Years

Robert Haile
December 2, 1952
58 Years

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Andrew Lipiansky
December 18, 2007
3 Years

Roland Turk
December 9, 1971
39 Years

In Memoriam



Roy Hammer

Initiated: October 14, 1963
Passed: November 11, 1963
Raised: March 7, 1964
Affiliated to Acalanes Fellowship
on March 7, 1995
Died: October 14, 2010

PROOF

Notes from the Editors

By Jim and Kim Chamberlain



We sincerely hope that you all enjoy your monthly Trestleboard. It is our pleasure to continue editing and publishing the Trestleboard this year.

We are sure you have noticed that your Trestleboard often arrives after the first of the month. Many months we have the Trestleboard ready for publishing by the 20th. We publish and mail the Trestleboard through Click2Mail which is run by the US Postal System. Not more than six months ago, we would submit it them on the 20th and folks would receive it in the mail by the 25th or so. Lately, their turnaround time has increased greatly and we apologize for the tardiness of your monthly newsletter.

Once way to help this situation is to move up the deadline for Trestleboard contributions. In the past we have told both officers and members of the Acalanes Fellowship Family that their articles, calendar changes, etc., were due to us no later than the 15th of the month. **We are changing that date to the 10th in order to get our document to Click2Mail earlier in the month.** We hope you understand the change in dates.

If you are a sitting officer and have not yet submitted your "Meet the Officers" article, please do so by the 10th of January for February's Trestleboard. Brother Tolerton has promised us his biography for the January Trestleboard. We would like a stockpile of the remaining 2 or 3 officers so please do not wait to submit them. (Brothers Bert and Wilbur, that means you!) All articles need to be submitted in word or pdf format and please, do not forget to attach a picture of yourself and/or your family.

Once we are done meeting all of the officers in the line (this includes the articles already published) we are going to start a new column entitled "Meet the Brothers At-Large" and we will be taking biography submissions from ALL members, not just sitting officers or past masters beginning this month. So please, please, if you are a brother at-large, we ask you to also submit your biography as soon as possible and look for it in an upcoming Trestleboard.

Finally, a few months back we asked for submissions by the Past Masters of the Lodge for our "An Autobiography of a Past Master" column. We would like to thank the Worshipful Bill Armstrong for his contribution to the September Trestleboard. We would really LOVE to hear from the rest of you and we know that there are many of you out there with a plethora of stories to share.

Lastly, please submit all articles to Kim Chamberlain at kmbalee@yahoo.com or Jim Chamberlain at jchamb268@yahoo.com. You mail also mail any submissions to:

Kim and Jim Chamberlain
1174 St. Matthew Place, Apartment 201
Concord, California 94518

Meet the Acalanes Fellowship Secretary Don Hoskins

Written by Don Hoskins



I was born in Reno, Nevada where my father was teaching chemistry at the University. When I was one year old my parents moved to Berkeley when I spent the next eleven years living just below Grizzly Peak Boulevard. My two brothers, the neighborhood boys and I made many a coaster ride down the hills and around blind corners – and only once did we run in front of a car. We often rode our bikes down Marin Avenue with our coaster brakes flinging out hot grease. Occasionally we would walk down to the Oaks Theater for the Saturday matinee with newsreels, the singing of patriotic songs to the organ and a couple of flicks, all for a dime! We could have ridden the streetcar back home, except that cost another dime and Dad only gave us one.

When I was 12, we moved to Lafayette to a house my father was building up an unnamed road which was a series of holes connected by ruts. There were still a great deal of orchards in town and all around. I remember when between Lafayette and what was then Concord, there were only two houses. Acalanes High School was built in a tomato field in 1940 and opened with about 380 students from Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Orinda, Moraga and Canyon. My older brother Bill was a junior then. The Sacramento Northern Railway discontinued passenger service because they no longer had to take students to Concord High School.

I graduated from Lafayette Elementary and entered Acalanes High School in 1942 when World War II was just really getting started. I was the only kid who rode a bike to school. It was a wonder how Buicks, Oldsmobiles and Model A's would run on cleaning fluid and the like. You can believe that I celebrated when the Japanese quit on my birthday and I was still in high school. I graduated in midyear and entered the University of California at Berkeley to compete as an 18 year-old with 23,000 World War II veterans who were serious about their education.

I graduated from Cal with a degree in Industrial Engineering. I went to work for Rab Lab in Livermore; about the only place that would hire a man with a 1-A draft classification. My dad introduced me to Masonry at the Henry Morse Stephens Lodge in Berkeley where I completed my First and Second Degrees before being drafted. My basic training was at Ford Ord, my radar training was at Fort Bliss in El Paso and then I was off to Travis Air Force Base on Sky Sweeper anti-aircraft guns. Fortunately no one was shooting at anyone but we spent about six months at Camp Irwin in Barstow where Patton had trained his tanks for desert warfare, shooting our guns at targets towed by planes. Great sport!

After my discharge I went to work at Marchant Calculators as an Industrial Engineer for a number of years. I moved to Alameda Naval Air Station in the IE Department keeping track of equipment for a number of the Aircraft Carriers. I soon responded to the invitation of a neighbor to help out with his Boy Scout troop and as a result, I was a Scout Master for 35 years. In addition, I taught junior high math for 26 years and got a Series 7 financial license and had a financial consulting business for 21 years. I retired about 5 years ago.

When my Lodge consolidated with what is now Bay Cities in 1983, I answered the call of Charlie Butler, then Chaplain, and demitted to Acalanes Fellowship. At my first attendance of the Lodge I met Al Weis who examined me in Masonry and let me attend. When Fran Ebert retired as Lodge Secretary 10 years ago I volunteered for the job without having any idea what the job entailed. My job really means helping the Master look well by keeping a lot of business covered. Keeping minutes of meetings is just a small part as is keeping the dues records and membership records up to date even if it takes up a lot of time. I enjoy talking with the members, particularly those out of area. I enjoy this job as it is extremely rewarding. My 50 year recognition two years ago was frosting on the cake!

MASONIC EDUCATION SERIES

2011

The Leopard, Monkey and the Smart Dachshund

By Mike Hill, P.M and Grand Lodge of Minnesota District Representative

Submitted by Roger Poynts, Master

A wealthy old lady decided to go on a photo safari in Africa. She took her faithful pet dachshund along for company.

One day, the dachshund starts chasing butterflies and before long the dachshund discovers he is lost. So, wandering about, he notices a leopard heading rapidly in his direction with the obvious intention of having lunch.

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The dachshund thinks, "OK, I'm in deep trouble now! Then he noticed some bones on the ground close by, and immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat. Just as the leopard is about to leap, the dachshund exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious leopard. I wonder if there are any more around here."

Hearing this, the leopard halts his attack in mid-stride, a look of terror comes over him, and he slinks away into the trees. "Whew," says the leopard. "That was close. That dachshund nearly had me."

PROOF

Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So, off he goes. But the dachshund saw him heading after the leopard with great speed, and figured that something must be up.

The monkey soon catches up with the leopard, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the leopard. The leopard is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine."

Now the dachshund sees the leopard coming with the monkey on his back, and thinks, "What am I going to do now?" But instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet...and just when they get close enough to hear the dachshund says...."Where's that (expletive!!) monkey? I sent him off half an hour ago to bring me another leopard!"

PROOF

As Masons we wander about our communities sharing the work of the Craft and enjoying the world around us. There will always be others who will attack us due to ignorance, self-doubt, and the desire to feel superior to all others not like themselves. It is important to respond to the attacks with intelligence, love, and the knowledge that Masonry is there to make a positive change in the world today.

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**Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480
"The Friendly Lodge"**



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