



Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship
Lodge No. 480

April 2011
Issue 4

From the East

March was a busy month at Acalanes Fellowship.

We had 60 people at our Stated Meeting Dinner and were treated to an excellent presentation afterward by the Rainbow Assembly No. 14 and Job's Daughters Bethel No. 247. They exemplified a portion of their work for us in the lodge room and it was well received by the Brethren and their families in attendance. Both youth groups made a lasting impression on us and we look forward to a repeat performance in the near future.



Following our March 15th planning meeting, we heard two proficiencies. Bro. Bob Smith exemplified his 1st Degree proficiency and Bro. Mark Williams demonstrated his skill in the 2nd Degree. We have scheduled two degrees in April. A 2nd Degree for Bob on April 19th and a 3rd Degree for Mark on April 30th. Check our lodge calendar for these and other event dates.

I'm also planning a non-tiled Open Table Lodge (Festive Board) following the 3rd Degree on April 30th where all family and friends are welcome to attend. It will be an excellent event for new or prospective members to attend. The program will be general enough that non-masons can be present, but still provide us with sufficient detail about the craft which will give us a better understanding of the fraternity and a little of its heritage.

On March 22nd our Degree Team entered Bro. Mehdi Modir into the craft. The ritual work was excellent and the degree was well attended. Then on the 29th we held a Grand Lodge Officer Reception practice so that we would be ready to welcome our Inspector at the lodge on his Official Visit at the April Stated Meeting.

A special thanks to Wor. Tom Riley, Acalanes Lodge Casino Night Chairman, and committee members Bro. Brad Rupert and Bro. Victor Lawhorn for their efforts in making the event a huge success. Also, many thanks to all the other Brethren who worked hard behind the scenes helping to make this fund raiser a night to remember.

One of my goals this year is to enhance the Fellowship at our lodge by making it a place where Brethren and their families feel welcome. If anyone has any suggestions for programs or events that would facilitate this effort, please let me know. I welcome all suggestions.

This month's Masonic Education article is entitled, [Why is the Master Mason Degree Sublime.....?](#) Read on and find out.

Fraternally,

Roger L. Poynts
Master

April 3rd Degree Anniversaries

Peter J. Axtman 4/23/1959 52 years	John H. Kalivoda 4/12/1957 54 years
Russell J. Chapman 4/29/2003 8 years	David Pugatch 4/18/1972 39 years
Marvin Delwin H. Crosser 4/17/1951 60 years	Gary A. Yanes 4/18/1973 38 years
Gerald I. Hertz 4/19/1966 45 years	Donald B. Burnett 4/11/1978 33 years
Jay J. Newman 4/20/1968 43 years	Roy Couch 4/27/1976 35 years
James L. Weeden 4/11/1974 37 years	Donald R. Hansen 4/21/1959 52 years
B. Ryder Brose 4/28/2007 4 years	Amos J. Leffler 4/8/1958 53 years
Franz R. Chavez 4/23/2005 6 years	James M. Vincent 4/19/1980 31 years
Jeffrey A. Fesunoff 4/30/2002 9 years	

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Upcoming Events

April 5:	Stated Meeting & Dinner Acalanes Fellowship Lodge Social Hour: 5:30 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM Stated Meeting: 7:30 PM
April 12:	Planning Meeting 6:30 PM 2nd Degree Practice
April 14:	DOSI Orinda 6:30PM 3rd Degree, 2nd Section
April 19:	2nd Degree, Bob Smith Acalanes Lodge, 6:30 PM
April 25:	Hall Association Meeting Acalanes Lodge, 6:30 PM
April 30:	3rd Degree, Mark Williams Acalanes Lodge, 2:00 PM

<http://acalanes.org/calendars.htm>

April 5 Stated Dinner Menu

- **Dover Sole Almondine**
- **Basmati Rice**
- **Roasted Asparagus**
- **Shrimp Salad**
- **Assorted Rolls**
- **Ice Cream**

Meet Brother Dick Kellogg



I was born in Summit New Jersey in June of 1946. A California native – what? You were born in New Jersey. Yes, but that was 2 months after my parents moved from Berkeley back east after the war. Dad was with American Can Company and they were supplying the war effort in the Pacific. You vets out there who cursed the C-rations – well, my dad sent them to you. So, while the local societies of native Californians turn up there nose at my pedigree, I was the result of a weekend in Monterey and thus feel like a native.

There were five of us in my family; dad, mom, my older brother (7yrs) David and my younger sister (2 years) Connie. Both my mom and dad have passed away and David and Connie both live with their families in the east.

I grew up loving sports and playing anything I could that involved a ball. Football and baseball were my favorites and I had big dreams for high school and beyond. However, nature and genetics raised their hands. Apparently my lower back was stressed due to rapid growth and sports were forbidden for fear of back damage. However, I convinced the Athletic Director at Susquehanna University that the signature on the medical release really wasn't a forgery and I played varsity soccer as a goalie. I graduated in 1968 with a 2.08 GPA (and a lot of fond party memories)

I went to work on Wall Street after graduation. But, I had to serve some time in the military and while I was on active duty, the company I worked for went bankrupt. So, after serving as a Drill Sergeant (great way to work out anger issues) I took a position in San Francisco on kind of a lark. That was in 1971 and I've been here ever since. I can still give a mean class in left and right face!

I met a beautiful young lady named Pamela while flying to LA one day and, even though she could see through all my pretences; she accepted my proposal (on the third try). We have three children: Melissa, an emergency room RN in St. Louis; Matthew, who works for an Internet company in LA; and Heather, a theatre major at UCLA. Our home is in Alamo and we've lived in this house for 22 years now.

I have a small company that provides fundraising content for non-profits across the country and about six years ago, the Grand Lodge became a client. I began to learn about Masonry and when they offered me a part-time position in San Francisco, my education about the craft sped up. When I realized two of my mentors were Masons, I thought it deserved a deeper look. I joined Acalanes Fellowship Lodge in January of 2009 and was raised 9/22/09. I have also affiliated with Orinda #122 and currently serve as their Treasurer.



New Masons and Progressions



Phillip Christie—Raised to
Master Mason February 19, 2011
and Roger Poynts, WM



Todd Horwath—Initiated an
Entered Apprentice Mason
February 22, 2011
and Roger Poynts, WM



Mehdi Modir—Initiated an
Entered Apprentice Mason
March 22, 2011
and Roger Poynts, WM



Masons of California Communications



The tragic reports of devastation and suffering resulting from powerful earthquakes in Japan and New Zealand have shocked the world. As Masons, we are concerned about the well being of the citizens of those countries, particularly our brethren and their families.

The Grand Lodge of California has established a relief fund for the disasters in Japan and New Zealand. All contributions will be sent to the Masonic Service Association of North America (MSANA). The MSANA will then forward all donations directly to the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Japan and the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of New Zealand.

Please share this information with your lodge members as soon as possible. If your members, lodge, families, or friends would like to make a contribution, please make your check payable to the **MSA Disaster Relief Fund** and mail it to:

Grand Lodge of California
Office of Philanthropy Attn: Denise Avila
1111 California St San Francisco, CA 94108

Please indicate on your check how you wish for your gift to be distributed (Japan or New Zealand). **If no designation is made the funds will be divided equally between Japan and New Zealand.**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Adam Kendall of the Masonic Service Bureau at 415/292-9137 or akendall@freemason.org.

Please open your hearts to the victims of these disasters, and give what you can to help.

Sincerely and fraternally,

William J. Bray III Grand Master

Masons4Mitts

Masons & Baseball: A Perfect Partnership

The CHALLENGE is back for another year!

San Francisco Sluggers

South Bay Bombers

East Bay Aces

North Bay Bees

Just \$20 buys a mitt for a deserving boy or girl in the Junior Giants program. Let's make this year a three-peat victory for the kids!

**Make your donation online at www.Masons4Mitts.org
on Opening Day, April 8**

*Campaign concludes on **Masons Night** at AT&T Park on Monday, September 12.*

More details about Masons Night tickets coming soon!

Let's show 'em what Masons can do...



2011 Summer History Classes Freemasonry's Impact on Civil Society

Brethren,

Join two UCLA historians as they explore the prominent role that Freemasonry held in the early development of modern thought, culture, and politics. Postdoctoral Fellow Maria Eugenia "Maru" Vasquez Semadeni, PhD., will examine Freemasonry's impact on Latin America during the 19th century, while Research Assistant, Jesse Sadler, PhD., will explore American Masonic History from the Enlightenment era through the present day. Special emphasis will be giving to Freemasonry's contributions to the evolution of individual rights and democratic societies.

Course details

- Meet once a week for three consecutive weeks, 6:30 to 10 p.m.
- Participants expected to read selected material from primary and secondary sources, including works by James Anderson, Ray V. Denslow, Jose Antonio Ferrer Benimeli, Margaret Jacob, Francios Xavier Guerra, David Stevenson, Jessica Harladd-Jacobs, Dame Frances Yates, and Abbe Augustin Barruel.
- Classroom lectures and discussions
Thanks to a generous scholarship from the California Masonic Foundation, just \$60 registration fee

Classes will be offered at the following locations and dates:

- San Francisco Scottish Rite - July 12, 19, 26
- San Jose Scottish Rite - July 11, 18, 25
- Anaheim DeMolay Center - July 12, 19, 26
- Pasadena Scottish Rite - July 14, 21, 28
- San Diego Scottish rite - July 7, 14, 21

DEADLINE: Download and submit the [registration form](#) by July 1. Contact [Kim Hegg](#), program manager, at 415/292-9111

Acalanes Fellowship-Aahmes Presents.... A Kentucky Derby Day at the Races!!!

When: Saturday May 7, 2011
Where: Golden Gate Fields Directors Room
Time: Please arrive at @ 11:00 a.m.
Gates open at 11:00 a.m.
Buffet hours: 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
First race: 11:45 a.m.
Cost: \$65.00 per Adult & \$20 per Minor

Includes: Valet parking, admission and reserved “private” room, daily racing program, Prime Rib buffet, handicapping tips and a race named in honor of our group!

DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE FOR A BIG WIN!!!

Please make checks payable to Acalanes Fellowship or buy online using your PayPal account. For more information please contact Brother Roberts @ 510-559-7380 or mroberts@goldengatefields.com.

Directors Room Buffet Menu

SALADS

Caesar Salad

Cole Slaw

Tortellini Pasta Salad

Vine-Ripe Vegetable Salad

“Mojito” Fresh Fruit Salad

ENTREES AND SIDES

Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes

Tasso Ham Macaroni n' Cheese

Seasonal Steamed Vegetables

Penne Pasta Rustica

Baked Dover Sole with Sauce Piquant

Golden Gate Fields “Signature” Fried Chicken

CARVING

Slow-Roasted Prime Rib

DESSERTS

Turf Club Dress Code

All guests including children are requested to dress in a smart casual style. Stylish denim or festive hats are welcome as is stylish casual footwear including tennis shoes.

Why Is The Degree Of Master Mason Sublime.....?

Author Unknown

Learned students of Masonry have discovered that the word "sublime" as applied to the degree of Master Mason is not of an antiquity of "time immemorial." It seems to have made its appearance in print first about 1801.

That the degree is sublime is not a matter for discussion or proof; it is sublime if we feel it as sublime; it is just an ordinary ceremony if that is all it is to us. The Forty-Seventh Problem of Euclid in its absolute perfection is sublime to a mathematician; to a six year old child it is less than nothing. The most beautiful sunset which ever thrilled the sense of color could not be sublime to a blind man, nor can the harmonies of Beethoven be sublime to a man born deaf. If the Master Mason degree is sublime, it is because of what it is and what it does to a man's heart.

The Master's degree is immensely different from the two preceding ones. It has the same externals in entry and closing; it uses also a circumambulation, a passage from Scripture, has an obligation and a bringing to more light. But its second section departs from the architectural symbolism of the first two degrees. It is at once more human and more spiritual than the preceding degrees. It strikes upon the heart with the effect of a great bell, heard in a silent place. No thoughtful man ever sees this degree with any understanding of its symbolism without a sense of awe that the mind of man could place so much wisdom in so simple a vehicle, give so much light in so few words.

The Master's degree as a whole is a symbol of old age, of wisdom, of experience. It is a symbol of preparation for that other life which it so grandly promises. It brings to the initiate the Sprig of Acacia, and tells him in one breath that a man must stand alone, even while he must lean upon the Everlasting Arms. It lays before him the whole drama of man's longing for a Something Beyond; the tale of what ignorance and brute strength may do to destroy knowledge and virtue, even while it shows that never can darkness overcome light, evil win over what is good, error prevail over truth.

How could the degree be otherwise than sublime? It contains the greatest thought, the most intense hope, the most sincere prayer which all mankind possesses. From the dawn of humanity man has tried to see God. He has believed in God. He has struggled toward the light, often stumbling, often falling, often failing, but always stretching hands upward, winning his slow way to a little better spiritual comprehension of the Great Mystery.

In the Old Testament, JHVH, now written Jehovah, was the High Priest's sole knowledge, and he could pronounce it but once a year and only when in solitude. But it cannot be imagined that those who wrote the Books of the Old Testament believed that it was the mere three syllables which possessed the secret of God, but rather that they expressed in short form the knowledge of Deity which was man's greatest blessing and asset. It is in the same way that the Master's word must be considered; a knowledge, a consciousness, a sense of oneness with the eternal verities, rather than as one, or a few, syllables.

The Hiramic Legend is the sublimity of Freemasonry; the search for that which was lost is the sublimity of life. Never may we find it here. You shall gaze through microscope and telescope and catch no sight of its shadow. You shall travel in many lands, far [and near] and see it not. You shall listen to all the words of all the tongues which all men have ever spoken and will speak—the Lost Word is not heard.

Were it but a word, how easy to invent another! But it is not just a word, but THE WORD, the great secret, the unknowableness which the Great Architect sets before His children. The search for it is the reason for life. That is what the Master Mason Degree teaches us.....that is why it is Sublime.

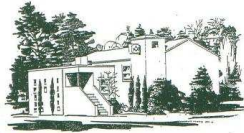
Rainbow Assembly No. 14



Job's Daughters Bethel No. 247



**Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480
“The Friendly Lodge”**



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Marion Rogers—Treasurer

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Randy Tolerton