



# Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship  
Lodge No. 480

August 2011  
Issue 7

## From the East

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### Schedule of Events

([www.acalanes.org](http://www.acalanes.org))

- Aug 2:** Stated Meeting & Dinner  
Acalanes Fellowship Lodge  
Social Hour: 5:30 PM  
Dinner: 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting: 7:30 PM
- Aug 9:** Planning Meeting 6:30 PM  
1st Degree Practice
- Aug 16:** 3rd Degree Practice 6:30 PM
- Aug 18:** DOSI Orinda 6:30 PM  
1st Degree & Closing
- Aug 20:** PM Degree & BBQ  
3rd Degree-Oscar Dryden  
Acalanes Lodge, 2:30 PM
- Aug 23:** 1st Degree at Acalanes for  
Dock Clavon 6:30 PM
- Aug 29:** Hall Association Meeting  
Acalanes Lodge, 6:30 PM
- Sept 17:** Maryland Crab Fest  
2:00 PM—6:00 PM  
Acalanes Lodge

### August 2 Stated Meeting Dinner Menu

Hawaiian Luau theme.....Samoa Style  
Pig, Steamed Sticky Rice, Salad, Hawai-  
ian Bread

After our June Stated Meeting Dinner we were treated to an inspirational speech on the Constitution and Bill of Rights by local high school senior **Anastasia Kaiser**. She is an excellent speaker and her presentation was enjoyed by all in attendance. Her speech can be viewed at the following You Tube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yXPJQ4f00gU>



On June 18<sup>th</sup>, we presented this year's Hiram Award to the **Very Worshipful Allan L. Casalou** and, afterwards, were treated to an Open Table Lodge dinner. The event was well attended and the presentation team did an excellent job. **Most Worshipful Alvin J. Weis** presented the biographical sketch of Allan which is reprinted in this month's Trestleboard.

We conferred two more Entered Apprentice Degrees in June on **Timothy J. Riley** and **Garth Korwin** as a double ceremony. The work was well done and the degrees well attended. **Brother Oscar Dryden** exemplified his proficiency with an excellent long form presentation at our July Stated Meeting. We have several Brothers who are working on their proficiencies and I hope to hear them exemplify their work in the near future.

The theme of the July Stated Meeting was a 25-Year Award and Rusty Trowel Night. It was well attended for being our vacation month. **Brothers George S. Blodgett, Milton F. Bruzzone, and John E. Hager** were each presented with their 25-Year Certificate and Lapel Pin.

Progress this year on presenting the 25-Year Awards has been slower than expected. If those Brethren who are eligible for their 25-Year Awards will let me know when they plan to attend a Stated Meeting dinner, I will have their certificates made and present them in lodge that night. Alternatively, if a Brother can't make it to lodge and would like us to send his certificate and pin to him, please let either Don or me know.

Also, at the July meeting we elected **Mr. Dock Marshall Clavon** to receive the degrees of Masonry at our lodge. I'll schedule his 1<sup>st</sup> Degree later in August. Our Past Master's Degree & BBQ this year will be on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow. Check our lodge calendar for these and other event dates. It can be found on our website at <http://www.acalanes.org/calendars.htm>.

This month's Masonic Education article is entitled, What Does it Mean to be a Mason..?. It's an excellent explanation of our craft that you can share with anyone.....please do and let me know the results.

Fraternally,

**Roger L. Poynts**  
Master

## MARYLAND CRAB FEST



Our Dungeness crab feed each winter has always been a very popular event for our Lodge. If you have spent some time on the east coast however, you will be aware of the popular and famous Maryland blue crab and, as noted in the last Trestleboard, our Lodge is going to import this delicacy from Maryland for an exciting new event. **A genuine Maryland Crab Fest will be held at our Lodge from 2:00 PM until 6:00 PM on Saturday, September 17th.**

This new social event is being organized by our Lodge Hall Association, the same team that produced the recent and popular Casino Royale Night for our Lodge.

Part of the appeal of Maryland blue crabs is that they are delicious to eat, but it takes work. Maryland blue crab does not arrive at the table pre-cracked. Eating this delicacy takes skills learned on the job. Teamwork and assistance from fellow diners, who have figured out the tricks, lend an element of fun to this task.

Maryland blue crab is optionally served with seasoning (highly recommended!) which can really enhance the flavor of beer on a warm summer day. There will be cold beer and wine available for guests who are so inclined and alternative beverages for others. We also recognize that not everyone in a family necessarily like crab. Freshly barbecued tri-tip steak and hot dogs with all the fixings will also be available.

To enhance your dining experience we will have background music featuring American folk songs and ballads. There is also a movement afoot to have sing along and karaoke at this event. Rumor has it that the line officers are working get the Worshipful Master to lead us in this venture.

I don't know about you, but I miss the singing we used to do when I was growing up. I fondly remember long trips from Coventry to Scotland, singing everything from "Green Grow the Rushes" to "He Jumped from Twenty Thousand Feet without a Parachute". So think about the songs you sang growing up and maybe we can all enjoy singing along with you!

Remember, if you like the Lodge Crab Feed, you are going to like our Maryland Crab Fest too. **Reserve the date: Saturday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm to 6 pm**, and start working on your friends and family to come and have fun while supporting the Lodge. The cost will be \$40 for adults and \$20 for those under 21 years of age. PayPal has been set up for this event on our Lodge website or you may call Tom Riley at (925) 323-7915 to obtain tickets. Make checks payable to Acalanes Masonic Building Association.

In the meantime, if you have ideas for how we can make the Maryland Crab Fest event more memorable, please call or email me at (925) 682-9624, [hgburt@comcast.net](mailto:hgburt@comcast.net).

**Thank you. Fraternally, Harry Burt**

## August 3rd Degree Anniversaries

Brother	Date Raised	Years
Angel G. Alvarez-Mapp	8/12/2003	8
Daniel M. Argueta	8/18/2007	4
James R. Barley	8/25/1979	31
Harry G. Burt	8/14/2010	1
Phillip L. Canville	8/24/1953	57
James H. Chamberlain	8/21/2004	7
John B. Cook	8/20/1994	17
William S. Glueck	8/17/1961	50
Danny Ho	8/19/2006	5
Thomas E. Ivey	8/21/1945	65
Clinton J. Jossey	8/28/1984	26
Trandafir Mihutoni	8/19/2000	11
Stephen E. Milano	8/18/2001	10
Francis E. Oliver	8/13/1940	70
Kenneth C. Owen	8/9/2003	8
Ronald J. Reese	8/29/1978	32
Michael E. Roberts	8/23/2008	3
Charles R. Tolerton	8/31/2004	6
Dean D. Van Norman	8/24/1976	34
Kris J. Wainscott	8/16/2003	8
C. T. Watson	8/30/1979	31
William L. Whitten	8/13/1958	53

## 2012 Officer Positions

The following Officer Positions are open for 2012. All other officers will move up to advanced stations.

- Treasurer
- Tiler
- Junior Steward

Please contact **Roger Poynts (925-376-4842)** [poynts@acalanes.org](mailto:poynts@acalanes.org) or **Randy Tolerton (925-256-9690)** [randvt\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:randvt_2000@yahoo.com) if you are interesting in filling one of these positions.



*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!*

**Check the count and make your donation online at [www.Masons4Mitts.org](http://www.Masons4Mitts.org)**

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

**See You At The Ball Park!**

## *Biographical Sketch of Allan L. Casalou*

*Presented on June 18, 2011 by  
Alvin J. Weis, PGM*

Allan was born in National City on Easter Sunday in 1970 to Robert and Robbie Casalou. He is the youngest of Robbie's nine children. Not long after he was born, the family moved to El Nido, a small town (population 200) about 10 miles south of Merced in the Central Valley of California, and began their involvement in agriculture. His father and brothers worked at a local dairy and his mother became the office manager of a large farm and ranch in Merced. In 1977, the family moved to Merced where Allan attended public schools.

When Allan was 10, his father died. To keep him closer to his mother that summer, Allan joined his siblings working on the ranch in the summers that followed, Allan picked figs, tomatoes and bell peppers. When he was 16, he earned his way out of the field and into the packing shed driving a fork lift and keeping the shed clean. By the time he graduated high school, Allan was a certified weigh master for the tomato packing plant and was responsible for inventory and payroll.

In school, Allan was active in communications and journalism, an experience that would serve him well later in his life. He was the editor of his high school newspaper and year book and later read the news on his college radio station.

Allan has earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) — both from the University of San Francisco.

As a teenager, Allan's greatest interest was in DeMolay. When he was 12, his mother remarried and Allan began his relationship with his step-father, Stan Beatty, who was a Mason. Stan introduced Allan to Merced Chapter Order of DeMolay. Allan served as Master Councilor of the chapter in 1984 and would spend the following seven years in state and international leadership positions. He is a past jurisdiction Master Councilor of Northern California DeMolay and a Past Regional Master Councilor of the eight western United States for DeMolay International. He has received the Degree of Chevalier and the DeMolay Legion of Honor. At the age of 21, he was asked to join the board of the DeMolay Foundation of California. He served as a trustee for 12 years, including two years as president.

The same year Allan joined the foundation, Stan asked him if he was considering applying to receive the degrees of Masonry. When Allan said he was, Stan put the wheels in motion. He helped Allan with the application, paid his application fees, and after he was elected by the lodge, Stan served as Master for Allan's three degrees. Allan was raised a Master Mason in Merced Lodge No 749 (now Yosemite Lodge No. 99) in Merced on November 26, 1991.

Not long after moving to the Bay Area in 1995, Allan was asked to speak at the Rossmoor High Twelve Club. At that lunch, Allan met Fran Ebert, a Past Master of Acalanes Fellowship Lodge No. 480, who was serving as Lodge Secretary at the time. Allan and Fran hit it off and Fran invited Allan to a lodge BBQ. There Allan was introduced to the "friendliest lodge in California." Impressed by the sense of fraternity and commitment by the members of Acalanes Fellowship, Allan applied for affiliation. He was elected in 1996. He served for seven years as a lodge officer occupying the stations of Senior Steward, Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden, and three separate terms as Master. Drawing on his experience in journalism, Allan served as editor of the lodge Trestleboard for four years. He was officer's coach and served several years on the building association. In 1998, Allan served as chairman of the lodge crab feed and for several years later would work to promote the silent auction for the event. Allan has served on several Grand Lodge Committees including Friend to Friend, Leadership Development, Membership Development, and Memorial Service. He served as Grand Chaplain in 2001. Allan is a 32° Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in Scottish Rite. He is a York Rite and a Shrine Mason; and he is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

It was through his involvement in DeMolay, that Allan developed what has become a life-long interest in leadership. In 1985, he developed and presented his first leadership training seminar for his peers. For the last 26 years, he has been an avid reader of leadership writing and has developed and presented hundreds of leadership training programs throughout the country. He is a well-known speaker on leadership and other subjects. In the Grand Lodge of California, he developed the Lodge Management Certification Program and has been a speaker at 47 Junior and Senior Wardens Retreats since 2000.

Allan has spent his professional career in non-profit management. He began as a grant projects officer for the Merced County Office of Economic Development in 1989 where he managed several small business development projects including a disaster relief program for Central Valley farmers, a Southeast Asian business training program, and a mentor program for new entrepreneurs in the Russian territories after the fall of the Soviet Union.

## *What Does it Mean to be a Mason?*

*by Rt. Wor. Bruce T. Marshall*

*District Deputy Grand Master for the 6th District of Masons in Massachusetts*

### **Membership in the brotherhood of Masons means many things**

It means being part of an unbroken tradition that stretches back over 500 years to a time when guilds of freemasons traveled throughout Europe laying the stones of the great Gothic cathedrals.

It means sharing the values of our nation's founding fathers; men who believe in the brotherhood of man are firmly rooted in the Constitution of the United States and that of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It means becoming a better person while helping to improve the quality of life for others. It means forming deep and lasting friendships that transcend the boundaries of race, religion and culture, as well as those of geography.

But most of all, being a Mason means the kind of deep satisfaction that comes only from selfless giving; from doing for others without asking, or expecting, anything in return.

### **Sharing the Traditions of Our Founding Fathers**

Masons were active in Massachusetts even before 1733, the year the first Provincial Grand Lodge of Masons was formerly organized by Henry Price. Today, the Grand Lodge in Boston remains the oldest continuously operating Masonic organization in the Western Hemisphere.

In its early years, Masonry numbered among its members some of the nation's most influential citizens - among them George Washington, Henry Knox, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock and Paul Revere.

In Massachusetts, many of those who participated in the Battle of Lexington and Concord, and the Battle of Bunker Hill were Masons. Many of the patriots who participated in the Boston Tea Party were believed to be Masons and others, such as Dr. Joseph Warren, who was a Grand Master, sacrificed their lives in the struggle for independence from British rule.

The values that were important then - loyalty, patriotism, liberty, courage and faith - are just as important to Masons today. The principles upon which this country was founded are deeply embedded in Masonic tradition.

### **Improving Yourself and Those Around You**

Basic to most of the world's great religions is the belief in what some might call the "old fashioned" values of honesty, fair play and unselfishness in dealing with others.

Freemasonry shares many of the same beliefs; and, through its traditions and teachings, attempts to instill in its members both the desire and the means to improve themselves and the lives of others.

However, while it may adhere to many of the same values associated with a religious faith, Masonry is not a religion. It is a brotherhood of men from every country, sect and opinion, joined in a common effort to make themselves better people to ease the suffering of others, and to make the world a better place.

To achieve these goals, Masonry does not promote itself or its individual members. Instead, it teaches by example. New members are not recruited; they are attracted by the example of good men performing good works and living good lives.

No one is asked to join the Brotherhood. To become a Mason, one must ask.

### **Having Friends Wherever you Go**

Who becomes a Mason: anyone and everyone, accountants, businessmen, teachers, contractors, professional men and laborers. Masons come from all walks of life and all levels of income. They represent every race, creed and culture.

In Masonry, it doesn't matter whether a man is a bricklayer or physician, a waiter or the mayor of the city. All are on equal footing in the Lodge room.

The creaminess and practices of the Masons have remained unchanged for hundreds of years. No matter where a Lodge is located, its members share the common bond of having passed through the same degree work, rites and rituals.

Because of this, members can find brother Masons wherever they go. In Massachusetts alone, there are over 300 lodges with nearly 70,000 members. Across the country and around the world there are Lodges in virtually every city and most smaller communities.

## 3rd Degree for James Oscar Dryden II

Past Master's Degree  
Acalanes Fellowship Lodge No. 480  
Corner of Brook St. and Moraga Road  
Lafayette, CA

Saturday, August 20  
Degree 2:30 PM; Social 5:00 PM; Dinner 6:00 PM

## 3rd Degree for Robert Lind Smith

Visitation to Reno Lodge No. 13  
40 West 1st Street  
Reno, NV  
Blue Room — 3rd Floor

Saturday, October 1  
Degree 2:00 PM; Social 5:00 PM; Dinner 6:00 PM

### Allan Casalou Bio Continued from Page 3

Originally a theater major in college, Allan was the founding executive director of the Merced Center for the Performing Arts that provides community theater programs and a children's performing arts conservatory for Merced County residents. Allan is proud that this organization, created by him and a college professor of his, has produced more than a hundred productions and served thousands of children over the last 18 years. Later, Allan served as the Director of Program Development for Northern California DeMolay where he managed all of the leadership, membership, and educational programs for DeMolay.

In 1999, he was hired by the Grand Lodge of California. He served as Executive Director for nine years managing the day to day business of the Grand Lodge and providing business services to all of the Masonic entities of the Grand Lodge including the Masonic Homes of California and the California Masonic Foundation. In 2002, he was also asked to serve as Assistant Grand Secretary. That same year, he became the editor of the California Freemason. Only the third editor of the magazine in 57 years, Allan has led two redesigns of the magazine, increased the distribution to include widows and entered apprentice and fellow craft masons. He increased the size of the magazine from 20 pages to 32 pages and increased the frequency from four to six issues a year. Since 2002, the magazine has won several national awards from the Association of Media and Publishing. In 2011, the magazine won four awards including the General Excellence award, recognizing it as the second best membership magazine in its distribution class.

In April 2008, Allan was installed as the jurisdiction's 11<sup>th</sup> Grand Secretary. In this capacity, he is responsible for the all of the business and fraternal operations of the Grand Lodge. He is responsible for the management of the California Masonic Memorial Temple and acts as Secretary to the boards of the six corporations that make up the fraternity's business and philanthropic work. Well-respected by his fellow Grand Secretaries, Allan has been asked to serve as the program chairman for the 2012 Conference of Grand Secretaries of North America in Atlanta. He has worked closely with the Grand Master and the leaders at every level of the fraternity to create a new strategic plan for the fraternity that will guide our priorities and initiatives for the next five years.

### What Does It Mean To Be A Mason Continued from Page 4

It is a good feeling to know that wherever a man's travels may take him, he has friends that he can depend on and trust.

Masons are not a secret organization. However, because Masonry values confidentiality and trust, many of its rites and rituals are secret except to the membership.

#### Giving Freely of Yourself and Asking Nothing in Return

Of all of the cardinal virtues, none is more valued in Masonry than selfless giving. Examples of Masonic charity are legion. Nationally, Masons contribute nearly \$2 million every day to relieve suffering and for the enrichment of mankind. Masons are founding sponsors of the Shriners Burns Institutes and the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children, both of which offer their services free of charge.

Masons are also responsible for the Scottish Rite Museum of our National Heritage, the Masonic Retirement Home in Charlton, The Knights' Templar Eye Foundation, and Schizophrenia Research programs; in addition to supporting such programs as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), DeMolay for Boys, Rainbow for Girls, and hundreds of other programs nationally and locally.

Here in Massachusetts, Masons are the largest group of blood donors to the Red Cross, giving over 20,000 pints annually.

The satisfaction derived from these endeavors cannot be measured in ordinary terms. We will say, however, that it is in helping others that man most helps himself.

## Acalanes Fellowship 2011 Lodge Officers

Master	Roger Poynts	(Nancy Christman)	<a href="mailto:poynts@acalanes.org">poynts@acalanes.org</a>	925-376-4842
Senior Warden	Randy Tolerton	(Caroline)	<a href="mailto:randvt_2000@yahoo.com">randvt_2000@yahoo.com</a>	925-256-9690
Junior Warden	Brad Rupert	(Joanne)	<a href="mailto:bradley.rupert@sbcglobal.net">bradley.rupert@sbcglobal.net</a>	925-274-1405
Treasurer	Stephen P Galop III		<a href="mailto:sgalop@acalanes.org">sgalop@acalanes.org</a>	678-995-7223
Secretary	Donald L Hoskins		<a href="mailto:dhoskins@acalanes.org">dhoskins@acalanes.org</a>	925-283-3266
Asst. Secretary	Marion Rogers	(Betty)	<a href="mailto:mrogers@acalanes.org">mrogers@acalanes.org</a>	925-596-3312
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Senior Deacon	Michael Roberts	(Jenny)	<a href="mailto:mjzroberts@comcast.net">mjzroberts@comcast.net</a>	925-829-3171
Junior Deacon	Gary Sparks		<a href="mailto:gsparks@mac.com">gsparks@mac.com</a>	707-803-9385
Senior Steward	Marion Rogers	(Betty)	<a href="mailto:mrogers@acalanes.org">mrogers@acalanes.org</a>	925-596-3312
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## Allan Casalou — 2011 Acalanes Fellowship Hiram Award Winner

