



Trestleboard

Acalanes Fellowship

Lodge No. 480

December 2011

Issue 11

From the East

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Schedule of Events

(www.acalanes.org)

- Dec 3:** **Installation of Officers**
Acalanes Lodge 4:00 PM
- Dec 6:** **Stated Meeting & Dinner**
Acalanes Fellowship Lodge
Social Hour: 5:30 PM
Dinner: 6:30 PM
Stated Meeting: 7:30 PM
- Dec 10:** **Sweetheart's Luncheon**
Stanford's Restaurant, Noon
- Dec 13:** **Planning Sessions, Crab Feed & Lodge Year 2012:** 6:30 PM
- Dec 20:** No Work
- Dec 26:** No Hall Association Mtg.
- Dec 27:** No Work
- Jan 28:** **Lodge Crab Feed**
Lafayette Community Center
Social 5:30PM, Dinner 6:00 PM

December 6 Stated Meeting Dinner Menu

- Baked ham w/ orange and raisin sauce
- Potato Savoy
- Peas and pearl onions
- Garden salad w/ honey mustard
- Warm rolls and butter
- Pecan pie

As the year comes to a close we reflect on the accomplishments of 2011. **Worshipful Master Roger L. Poynts** certainly deserves a great deal of credit for his leadership and wise direction. The lodge experienced many new and exciting changes including the creation of our now annual **Casino Night** in March. We all remember the great presentation by **Anastasia Kaiser** during Constitutional observance. We can't forget our Hiram award evening featuring the **Very Worshipful Allen L. Casalou**, our first table lodge with Island City Lodge, our 3rd degree visitation to Reno and our first ever summer **Crabfest/ Karaoke**.



Over the year, we have seen an increase in membership, raised five new Master Masons and our stated meeting dinners, events and other functions have been well attended this year. **Worshipful Master Roger L. Poynts'** administrative contributions have provided the lodge with a higher level of organizational order and continuity. The result is brethren are taking on a greater level of responsibility which is improving overall lodge operations and the pool of future Officers.

Our success is providing AFL with an opportunity for continued growth. As we enter 2012, we will continue to see incremental changes and improvements. I think many would agree our ritual work has improved considerably. It is clear this improvement is the result of hard work by the officers, commitment to ritual by a succession of Past Masters including **Dennis P. Rogers, James H. Chamberlain (Jim), and Roger L. Poynts**, and most importantly, from the immediate direction and inspection of our Officers Coach **Thomas J. Killgallen**.

Changes we are already witnessing will be the retirement of our beloved Treasurer and Brother **Stephen P. Galop III** who has served the lodge with unfaltering dedication and commitment. It will be hard to imagine embarking on any great or import undertaking without first seeking **Stephen's** counsel. **Brother Galop** will be replaced by **Brother Orren C. Rupert PM**, past Treasurer of Lodge 448, past Treasurer of Shrine Lodge 756, Hiram Award recipient, and recently affiliated new member. **Worshipful Rupert** comes with impeccable credentials.

We will add two newly raised brothers to the Officers line - **Robert L. Smith (Bob)** will be installed as Tiler and **James O. Dryden II (Oscar)** as Junior Steward. An audit committee has been created and officers appointed. We are preparing to introduce an endowment or trust in order to develop a financial vehicle, much like the Life Membership fund, to address the continuing challenge of funding lodge improvements.

Lastly, as incoming Master, it is my hope and expectation to continue in the tradition of all Past Masters before me to ensure that Acalanes Fellowship Lodge always remains, "the friendly lodge".

Respectfully,
Worshipful Master

Randy

C. Randall Tolerton

In Memoriam

Br. Harold Lewis Gates, 32°

March 3, 1926—November 14, 2011

Initiated Oct. 13, 1949

Passed Oct. 27, 1949

Raised Nov. 10, 1949

Age 85

Soft and safe to thee,
My brother,
Be thy resting place.
Bright and glorious be thy
rising from it.

Volunteering

If you have special talents that could benefit our lodge, you are encouraged to let the officers know. They are working hard to make this lodge the best it can be. Besides, it's more fun when you get involved.

We are presently looking for an individual (or maybe two) who would keep in contacts with our lodge widows throughout the year. Gini Weis has been doing this for many years and would like to pass the torch. If you are interested let Worshipful Master Randy Tolerton know.

December 3rd Degree Anniversaries

Brother	Date Raised	Years
Jeffrey D. Boschert	12/9/2008	3
Jerry E. Gregory	12/7/1954	57
Robert D. Haile	12/2/1952	59
Andrew A. Lipiansky	12/18/2007	4
Roland J. Turk	12/9/1971	40



Master Roger Poynts presenting a 25-year pin to Br. Tom Watson at the November 1 Stated Meeting.



Garth Korwin 2nd Degree Ceremony. Front row (L-R): Gary Sparks, Garth Korwin, Brad Rupert, Randy Tolerton. Rear row (L-R): Michael Roberts, Frank Shoffner, Don Hoskins, Marion Rogers



Acalanes Fellowship Lodge # 480 2012 Crab Feed

January 28th, 2012
Lafayette Community Center
500 St. Mary's Road
5:30 PM—Social, Silent Auction
6:30 PM—Dinner

Order your tickets today!

Email: RSVP@acalanes.org
www.acalanes.org/functions.htm

- Adult Crab & Pasta: \$40 ea.
- Adult Steak & Pasta: \$40 ea.
- Adult Crab, Steak & Pasta: \$50 ea.
- Child Crab & Pasta: \$15 ea. (Children under 12)

Reservations made after January 10, 2012 will be charged an additional \$10, if we are able to accommodate you. We're encouraging early reservations so we can plan properly.

New Exciting Silent Auction Items!!

This annual fund raiser benefits Acalanes Fellowship Lodge # 480 and Acalanes Masonic Building Association, as well as their worthy causes. Contributions, ticket purchases and such are not tax deductible.

This is the largest social event of the season, and one you will not want to miss!

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Secretary's notes:

This is the time of year when we are collecting dues for the year 2012. 2012 dues become delinquent January 1, 2012. If you have not already paid your 2012 dues, please get them in to Don Hoskins right away.

We have a few brothers who have not paid their 2011 dues. Please get them in to Don. Brothers who have not paid their 2011 dues will be subject to Suspension on January 1, 2012. If you fall into this category, please give Don a call at 925-283-3266 or send him an email donhosk@aol.com.

We have lost contact with some of our elderly members (mail returned, etc.): Boris Minzyk of Martinez, James Weeden of New York, and George Peck of Fremont and one of our widows, Joyce Affolter of Bremerton, WA. If you know of these individuals, please call Don or send him and email.

Written by Blake Bowden

'Twas the Night before Christmas, and down at the lodge not a gavel was stirring, and in the hodge-podge Of aprons and jewels and chairs East and West You could savour the silence, most gladly divest All metal and mineral, it mattered not, Since Christmas was nigh and the coals were still hot.

In the hearth of your homeplace, all Masons abed, As visions of trestleboards danced in their head; When up on the roof there arose such a clatter Our Tiler jumped up to see what was the matter! He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door, Three knocks shook the panels - he wondered 'What for?'

He answered the knocking with raps of his own, And once the door opened he saw, with a moan Of delight it was Santa, all jolly and red Except for one notable feature instead! Upon his large finger he wore what we knew Was compass and square on a background of blue!

'Why Santa!' he shouted and lowered his blade, 'I see you're a Mason!' the Tiler relayed. He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair And said, voice near trembling, 'Most Worshipful there Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!'

The Master replied, 'Let's allow him - but wait! You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see His Apron beneath that red suit, can it be Our visitor hasn't been properly raised? Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?'

'I do beg your pardon,' ol' Santa said quick As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick But a cane with engraving, two balls did appear And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear! Adorned like the Master's, complete with a sign Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!

"Now let this man enter," the Master declared, And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all stared, For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen For many a century - there in between The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a dollar!

"It's Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess "Are actually images brought from the West By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!" And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East, "My friend I have plenty, tonight we will feast

On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!" A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir, As presents and promises flew from his sack! This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack For making this Christmas the best you could glean, And soon even Deacons were laughing, they'd seen

On this very night only happiness reigned! This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained That only a Mason could be so inclined To make all kids happy, make all people find A Christmas so special, yes, Santa was right! Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

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Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 Crab Feed

Contributions are now being accepted for the silent auction for the 2012 Crab Feed. Typically, silent auction items range in price from \$15, \$35, \$50 or \$75, although general donations in any amount are always welcome!

To make your donation of one of the amount above or a general contribution, please visit the **"Donation Box"** at www.Acalanes.org. You may also mail a check made out to the lodge to: Acalanes Fellowship Crab Feed, P O Box 1, Lafayette, Calif. 94549

Auction Item Donation Suggestions We are also looking for members who have items that can be auctioned. Some ideas/suggestions are:

- **Complimentary cabin rental/usage:** If you have a cabin in Tahoe, on the coast, or some other vacation destination, we would appreciate your contribution of a complimentary week or weekend at the cabin.
- **Complimentary entertainment tickets:** If you are a season subscriber to an arts presenting organization or to a baseball series, etc., we would appreciate a donation of two or more tickets to a performance or other event.
- **Airline passes/miles:** Perhaps you have frequent flyer miles that can be redeemed for complimentary air travel, we would appreciate a donation of the equivalent on one round-trip air fare or more.
- **Professional services:** Are there services that your 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!

There are many ways to help. If you have an item or service that you would like to donate, please contact Mike Roberts mjzroberts@att.net or call him at (650) 483-4069

Brethren,

I would like to share an idea that I believe would assist us in promoting Acalanes Fellowship Lodge #480 to the Lafayette community and all over the San Francisco Bay area as well. We have at our disposal a representative and networking tool by the name of the **Lafayette Chamber of Commerce**. I have been in communication with Barbara Gilmore, Director of Membership Services for the Chamber. She described to me some immediate benefits to our lodge joining her chamber. They are as follows:

- Free Advertising coupons for the Contra Costa Times, Lamorinda Weekly and Lafayette today (valued at \$600.00)
- Our Lodge will have its name listed in the upcoming Lafayette Chamber Newsletter which is distributed to 600+ businesses
- The Chamber will send referrals our way for possible members and Facility Rental use of our lodge
- We can display lodge officer business cards at the Chamber Office
- We will have free admission to mixers and discounted rates for Business Expos, Art & Wine Festival & Reservoir Run (we could have the opportunity to have a informational booth in other words)
- We will have our Lodge name listed on the Lafayette Chamber Website in two categories (our Lodge name & type of organization we represent)
- We will receive a membership Plaque to display in our Lodge
- Reduced fees for newsletter advertising for any public event we may want to put on in the future
- We could pay a nominal fee for a set of chamber members mailing labels
- Access to Trylafayettefirst.org website to post coupons to upcoming events
- Receive free classes on professional development, social media marketing. This could be a benefit for our Lodge Officers as well as our general membership who may need assistance and training for possible career advancement

These are just a few of the many opportunities available to us by joining the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. The yearly dues for membership in the chamber would be \$150.00 which is an incredible bargain! At our next Stated Meeting in January, I would like to make a motion that we join the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and I wanted to give you all advanced notice of this motion so that I can get your feedback on this idea in advance. Our newly elected lodge officers have already expressed interest in this so I'm now looking to you for feedback.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce is perfectly acceptable per the CMC. I have also consulted with our new District Inspector Kenn Owen and he approved of the idea as well. I will be more than happy to be the primary point of contact for our Lodge at Lafayette Chamber of Commerce events but would encourage all of you to consider joining me in becoming active in Lafayette chamber functions. They have morning, afternoon and evening activities and events available.

Thank you for your time and consideration and please let me know what you think about this idea!

Best regards,

Michael Roberts,
Junior Warden

Acalanes Fellowship 2012 Lodge Officers

Master	Randy Tolerton	(Caroline)	randyt_2000@yahoo.com	925-256-9690
Senior Warden	Brad Rupert	(Joanne)	bradley.rupert@sbcglobal.net	925-274-1405
Junior Warden	Michael Roberts	(Jenny)	mjzroberts@att.net	925-829-3171
Treasurer	Stephen P Galop III		sgalop@acalanes.org	678-995-7223
Secretary	Donald L Hoskins		dhoskins@acalanes.org	925-283-3266
Asst. Secretary	Marion Rogers	(Betty)	mrogers@acalanes.org	925-596-3312
Chaplain	Frank Shoffner		shoffner@acalanes.org	925-284-1461
Senior Deacon	Gary Sparks		gsparks@mac.com	707-803-9385
Junior Deacon	Marion Rogers	(Betty)	mrogers@acalanes.org	925-596-3312
Senior Steward	Harry Burt		hgpbert@comcast.net	925-682-9624
Junior Steward	Oscar Dryden	Kelly	odryden@aol.com	925-954-8011
Marshall	Michael Weis		alvinw925@comcast.net	925-284-9196
Tiler	Bob Smith	Sharon	gabbybob@comcast.net	925-828-1989
Inspector, District 305	Kenn. Owen		camason@sonic.net	925-687-5366
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