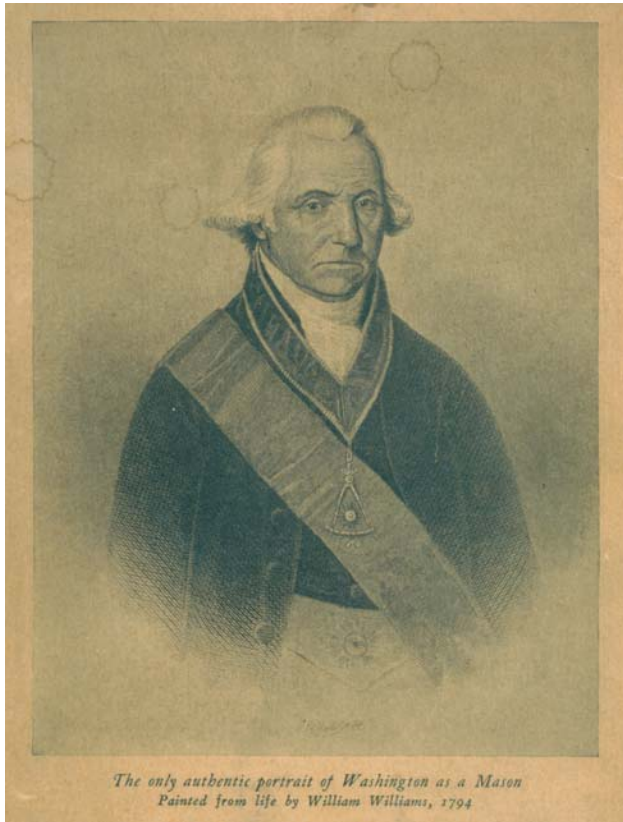


Trestleboard

National 230th Birthday
Special Edition
*Stated Meeting: 7:30 pm
on 4th Thursday of
Even Months,
(Holidays Excepted)*



1958-2006



*The only authentic portrait of Washington as a Mason
Painted from life by William Williams, 1794*



Official Publication of:
El Camino Research Lodge

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<http://www.calodges.org/ecrl>

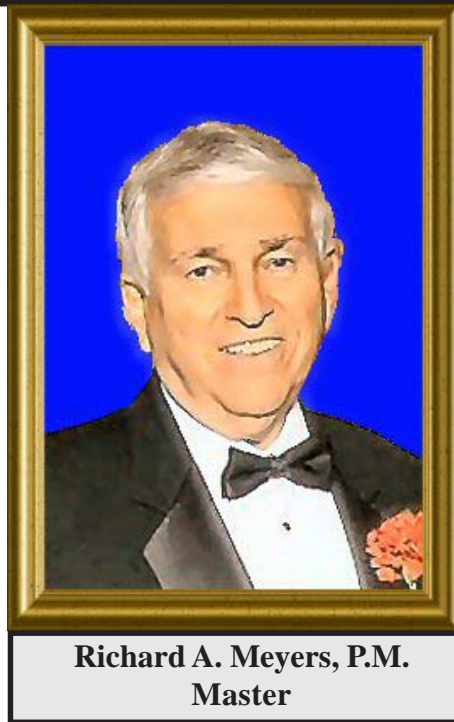
From The East

I would like to pass on some observations made at the last stated meeting:

First, that we had an unusually good turn out for dinner at the Sherwood Inn prior to the meeting. Considering that the food is not likely the draw, it would not be presumptuous to conclude that the brethren truly enjoy the fellowship at this gathering.

This phenomenon is often overlooked in lodge planning. Secondly, that the opening and closing of the lodge went especially well. This is remarkable considering that we have our stated meetings only six times a year. It signifies to me that our officers are devoting time and effort to refreshing their memories with regard to the ritual prior to the meeting. This competence in the work is a reflection of an officer's respect for the lodge and its Master. I do appreciate it.

Lodge Masters were recently invited to select a member from their respective lodges for the "Cornerstone Award" to be presented by the San Jose Pyramid No. 9, Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots. The presentation is to



be held in the Los Gatos Lodge Hall on August 4, 2006. I have named Lou Orozco as the selectee from the ECRL. I have set forth the brief description of Bro Orozco, and the reason for his selection, as requested in the application: "Luis (Lou) Orozco is a Hiram Award Recipient, Former Master of the Research Lodge, and Past Master of the Los Altos Lodge No. 712. He has served several lodges as Musician. He has also served as a Grand Lodge Committeeman. In spite of

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[From The East]

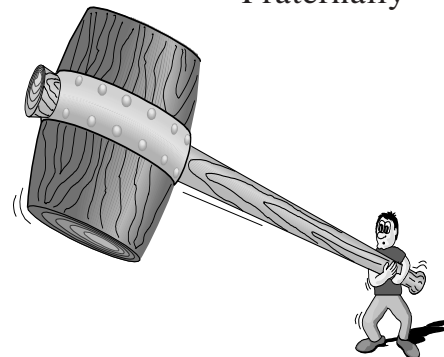
serious health problems, Lou agreed to take over the critically needed, and very demanding, job of Lodge Secretary under extremely adverse conditions.

The Grand Master had tasked ECRL to produce one article per month for the GL website.

In addition to authoring several of the articles, he accepted the responsibility of transmitting all of them to GL. His actions have reflected great credit to himself, to the Grand Lodge, to The El Camino Research Lodge in particular, and to Freemasonry in general." (Please note that this was squeezed into a limited space allotted on the application form).

Congratulations Lou!

Fraternally



Richard Meyers, P.M.
Master

The Masonic Service Association Help Needed Now!

Looking for ways to help your fellow man? Why not join The Masonic Service Association?

Did you know that The Masonic Service Association is the voice of Freemasonry at the Palo Alto VA Hoospital?

Volunteer positions are now available, and much help is needed. Why not serve those who have given so much in service to our country.

Contact
Brother Irv Cohen, F.M.
pamsa@netscape.com

The Southren Breeze

Brethren, as your Junior Warden I am pleased to bring this article to your attention for this special Holiday Trestleboard. I found it in a wonderful publication entitled "The Facts about George Washington as a Freemason, by Major J. Hugo Tatsch, Fin-Res. The publication can be viewed at the San Jose Scottish Rite Library.

GEORGE WASHINGTON ON PREPAREDNESS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE

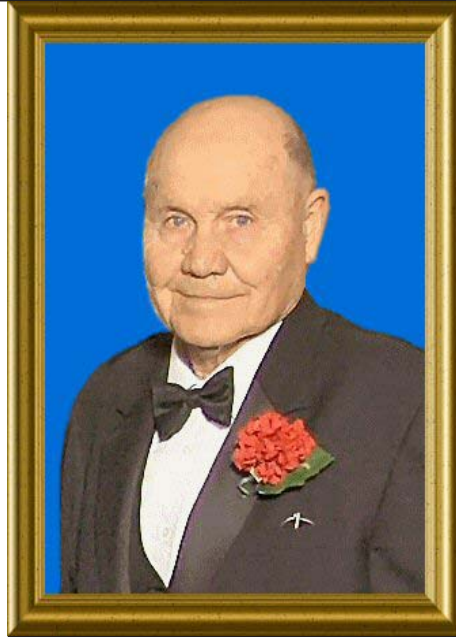
Patriotic Americans, and Sojourners especially, will find the following sentences from Washington's writings of particular interest at this time. They are potent arguments on subjects of greatest importance to the welfare and preservation of the nation which Washington and his contemporaries brought into being.

Nothing but experience can demonstrate golden dreams to be the vision of only an uninformed or undigested imagination.

I trust that we are not too old, or too proud, to profit by the experience of others.

Against the insidious wiles of a foreign influence the jealousy of a people ought to be constantly awake.

The most sincere neutral-



**Alvie Hartsog, P.M.
Junior Warden**

ity is not a sufficient guard against the depredations of nations at war.

I hope the spirit of this nation will never suffer itself to be injured with impunity by any nation under the sun. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it.

There is a rank due to the United States among Nations which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness.

However pacific the general policy of a nation may be, it

[Continued on Page 6]

**[Continued from Page 5]
[The Southren Breeze]**

ought never be without an adequate stock of military knowledge for emergencies.

My primary objects have been to preserve the country in peace if I can, and to be prepared for war if I can not.

Be always prepared for war but never unsheath the sword except in self defence as long as justice and our essential rights to national respectability can be preserved without it.

Coercion would be extremely painful to me, but if advice, remonstrance, and gentle methods will not answer the purpose, others must be taken.

In all important matters, deliberate maturely, but execute promptly and vigorously. Every motive of self-preservation, of liberty, of happiness, has a claim upon our efforts.

A free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined. It is easier at all times to prevent an evil than to remedy mistakes.

Future years cannot compensate for lost days.

Remember that timely disbursements to prepare for danger frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it.

Whatever is done should be well done.

No taxes can be devised that are not more or less inconvenient and unpleasant.

It is not always the lowest priced goods which are the cheapest.

He may spin the thread of economy until it breaks.

We ought not to look back, unless it is to derive useful lessons from our past errors.

If the citizens of the United States should not be entirely free and happy, the fault will be their own.

Every man who is in the vigor of life ought to serve his country in whatever line it requires and he is fit for.

If real danger threatened the country, no young man ought to be an idle spectator of its defence.

To the interests of your country all inferior considerations must yield. The independence and liberty which you possess are the work of common dangers, sufferings and successes.

A government of as much vigor as is consistent with the perfect security of liberty is indispensable.

Americans will fight for their liberties and property.

Notes On The National Anthem

Submitted By Worshipful Brother Ross Fuller, P.M.
E.C.R.L. & Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 292, F. & A. M.

Editor's Note: Near the end of his life the great science fiction author Isaac Asimov wrote a short story about the four stanzas of our national anthem. However brief, this well-circulated piece is an eye opener from the dearly departed doctor:

I have a weakness - I am crazy, absolutely nuts, about our national anthem.

The words are difficult and the tune is almost impossible, but frequently when I'm taking a shower I sing it with as much power and emotion as I can. It shakes me up every time.

I was once asked to speak at a luncheon. Taking my life in my hands, I announced I was going to sing our national anthem - all four stanzas. This was greeted with loud groans.

One man closed the door to the kitchen, where the noise of dishes and cutlery was loud and distracting.

"Thanks, Herb," I said. "That's all right," he said. "It was at the request of the kitchen staff." I explained the background of the anthem and then sang all four stanzas. Let me tell you, those people had never heard it before or had never really listened. I got a standing ovation. But it was not me; it was the anthem. More recently, while conducting a seminar, I told my students the story of the anthem and sang all four stanzas.



Ross Fuller, P.M.
Senior Former Master

Again there was a wild ovation and prolonged applause. And again, it was the anthem and not me.

So now let me tell you how it came to be written. In 1812, the United States went to war with Great Britain, primarily over freedom of the seas. We were in the right. For two years, we held off the British, even though we were still a rather weak country. Great Britain was in a life and death struggle with Napoleon. In fact, just as the

United States declared war, Napoleon marched off to invade Russia. If he won, as everyone expected, he would control Europe, and Great Britain

[Continued on Page 8]

[Continued from Page 7]

[The National Anthem]

would be isolated. It was no time for her to be involved in an American war.

At first, our seamen proved better than the British. After we won a battle on Lake Erie in 1813, the American commander, Oliver Hazard Perry, sent the message, "We have met the enemy and they are ours."

However, the weight of the British navy beat down our ships eventually. New England, hard-hit by a tightening blockade, threatened secession.

Meanwhile, Napoleon was beaten in Russia and in 1814 was forced to abdicate. Great Britain now turned its attention to the United States, launching a three-pronged attack.

The northern prong was to come down Lake Champlain toward New York and seize parts of New England. The southern prong was to go up the Mississippi, take New Orleans and paralyze the west.

The central prong was to head for the mid-Atlantic states and then attack Baltimore, the greatest port south of New York. If Baltimore was taken, the nation, which still hugged the Atlantic coast, could be split in two. The fate of the United States, then, rested to a large extent on the success or failure of the central prong.

The British reached the American coast, and on August 24, 1814, took Washington, D.C. Then they moved up the Chesapeake Bay toward Baltimore. On September 12, they

arrived and found 1,000 men in Fort McHenry, whose guns controlled the harbor. If the British wished to take Baltimore, they would have to take the fort.

On one of the British ships was an aged physician, William Beanes, who had been arrested in Maryland and brought along as a prisoner. Francis Scott Key, a lawyer and friend of the physician, had come to the ship to negotiate his release. The British captain was willing, but the two Americans would have to wait

It was now the night of September 13, and the bombardment of Fort McHenry was about to start. As twilight deepened, Key and Beanes saw the American flag flying over Fort McHenry. Through the night, they heard bombs bursting and saw the red glare of rockets. They knew the fort was resisting and the American flag was still flying. But toward morning the bombardment ceased, and a dread silence fell. Either Fort McHenry had surrendered and the British flag flew above it, or the bombardment had failed and the American flag still flew.

As dawn began to brighten the eastern sky, Key and Beanes stared out at the fort, trying to see which flag flew over it. He and the physician must have asked each other over and over, "Can you see the flag?" After it was all fin-

[Continued on Page 9]

[Continued from Page 8]

[The National Anthem]

ished, Key wrote a four stanza poem telling the events of the night. Called "The Defense of Fort McHenry," it was published in newspapers and swept the nation. Someone noted that the words fit an old English tune called, "To Anacreon in Heaven" – a difficult melody with an uncomfortably large vocal range. For obvious reasons, Key's work became known as "The Star Spangled Banner," and in 1931 Congress declared it the official anthem of the United States.

Now that you know the story, here are the words. Presumably, the old doctor is speaking. This is what he asks Key...

Oh! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.

Oh! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave,

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

"Ramparts," in case you don't know, are the protective walls or other elevations that surround a fort. The first stanza asks a question. The second gives an answer:

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep,

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,

In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream

'Tis the star-spangled banner. Oh! long may it wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

"The towering steep" is again, the ramparts. The bombardment has failed, and the British can do nothing more but sail away, their mission a failure. In the third stanza, I feel Key allows himself to gloat over the American triumph. In the aftermath of the bombardment, Key probably was in no mood to act otherwise. During World War II, when the British were our staunchest allies, this third stanza was not sung. However, I know it, so here it is:

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore

That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion

A home and a country should leave us no more?

Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution

No refuge could save the hireling and slave

From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave,

And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

[Continued from Page 9]

[The National Anthem]

The fourth stanza, a pious hope for the future, should be sung more slowly than the other three and with even deeper feeling:

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand,

Between their loved homes and the war's desolation,

Blest with victory and peace, may the Heaven - rescued land.

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.

Then conquer we must, for our cause is just,

And this be our motto — "In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I hope you will look at the national anthem with new eyes. Listen to it, the next time you have a chance, with new ears. And don't let them ever take it away.

**AND IT'S SUNG
IN ENGLISH !!!**

Fraternally,



Ross Fuller, P.M.

The Masonic Service Association

Help Needed Now!

Looking for ways to help your fellow man? Why not join The Masonic Service Association?

Did you know that The Masonic Service Association is the voice of Freemasonry at the Palo Alto VA Hospital?

Volunteer positions are now available, and much help is needed. Why not serve those who have given so much in service to our country.

**Contact
Brother Irv Cohen, F.M.**

pamsa@netscape.com

Announcement

On Sept. 20th, 2006, with permission from Worshipful Master, Cal Vinson, Confidence Lodge #110 will present a Traditional Lodge of Instruction with an Agape (Festive Board) following.

Lodge will be opened on the First Degree and conducted in a very solemn manner.

The evening will be for **MASONS ONLY** – including Entered Apprentices' and Fellowcrafts, as well as Master Masons - and we encourage lodges to bring their candidates.

The requested dress for the evening will be Formal (tails), Semi-Formal (tux), or minimum Black (dark) suit and tie.

The dinner will be a formal catered dinner (price \$35 – includes your wine/drinks), and very similar to a table lodge - there will be much Fellowship and fun!!!

We will have the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Fredrick Sorsabal, as our guest, that evening along with two speakers who will present short talks on Masonry.

Because of the expected turnout this event will be

hosted by Confidence Lodge #110 but presented at Santa Cruz-San Lorenzo Valley Lodge #38 which is located at 828 Branciforte Ave, in Santa Cruz.

Invitations will be sent out via e-mail and local trestle boards at least one month prior to the event.

Because of our limited seating for the evening – approximately. (60 Masons), reservations are required, and must be honored if not canceled one week prior to the event date.

The timetable for the evening is as follows:

6:30–7:30p.m. – Social Hour (drinks provided)

7:30–9:00p.m. – Lodge of Instruction

Approximately 9:00p.m. – Agape (catered dinner – much fun and fellowship)

Mark your calendars and come enjoy an evening of truly Traditional Masonry with your Brothers. Help us make it an evening to remember!!!

Berry Ellsworth, J.W.
Confidence Lodge #110

On The Secretary's Table

While July 4th is the day on which we commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, it was not the actual beginning of the resistance.

But what really started the unrest which eventually led to the final rebellion, and to the war for independence?

The French-Indian War began on April 17, 1754 and did not really end until the Treaty of Paris was signed on February 10, 1763.

Although Great Britain won the war, she incurred enormous debt, and that in fact, was the beginning of the end for England in the new land of America.

By 1755 the war had revealed the great insecurity of the frontiers against the Indians, and in an effort to placate the tribal leaders, the British appointed an Indian Commissioner.

In spite of everything Indian problems persisted, and in October of 1758, the Treaty of Easton was signed, stating that the British would allow no further settlements west of the Allegheny Mountains.

This action proved very



Luis J. Orozco, II, P.M.
Secretary

unpopular with the British settlers, and Col. Henry Bouquet had to be sent in to enforce the treaty against the settlers.

The colonists who were already settled in Ohio were ordered out by the British and although not yet strong enough to resist, they were then first set against the British government.

By 1763 News of a new Indian crisis reached England. Pontiac had rallied the Indians into open warfare, and within a few weeks, every British outpost west of Niagara was

[Continued on Page 13]

[Continued from Page 12]
[The Secretary's Table]

destroyed. At this point it seemed the British couldn't do anything right. Now they had both the Colonists and the indians mad at them.

Next on November 5, 1763, the first official rebellious statement against the crown was made in a court case known as "Parson's Cause", where the Virginia Anglican Clergy sued the Colony of Virginia for back pay in Hanover County Court.

The jury was swayed by a young lawyer named Patrick Henry who declared that by disallowing the back pay, the King had broken the compact between the governed and the ruler, thereby forfeiting "all rights to his subjects' obedience".

The jury returned a verdict in favor of the clergy, and the judgment was affirmed by the Virginia Privy Council.

On February 11, 1768, Samuel Adams drew up a circular letter which was then sent to, and approved by the Massachusetts House of Representatives denouncing the many British Acts, and once again expressing the principle of "No Taxation without representation". This

was then sent to the other 12 Colonies.

In 1770 the famed Boston Massacre occurred and in 1773 the Boston Tea Party took place on December 16.

On June 2, 1774, the "Quartering Act", which applied to all colonies went into effect, this allowed the quartering of British troops in all buildings including private homes.

Finally on September 5 of that year, being now totally fed up with the ongoing situation, the 13 colonies decided to send delegates to Philadelphia in an effort to form the First Continental Congress.

By April 1775, with the many tinderbox conditions continuing, British troops were ordered to advance on Concord, prompting Paul Revere's midnight ride to sound the alarm. The subsequent battle of Lexington and Concord, became famous as the "shot heard round the world," and thereafter became known as the unofficial beginning of the American Revolution.

On April 18th Lt. Col. Smith received secret orders to lead a force of some 700 men to Concord and destroy the supplies there.

[Continued on Page 14]

[Continued from Page 13]
[The Secretary's Table]

The Boston Committee of Safety, upon hearing of the intended destination of the troops, sent Paul Revere, and William Dawes to alert the countryside.

Paul Rivere had reached Lexington just before midnight and warned Samuel Adams and John Hancock. Then joined by Dawes and Dr. Sam Prescott he, left Lexington for Concord.

On the way a British mounted patrol surprised them. Prescott escaped and got through to Concord and Daws also eluted the British but had to run back to Lexington. On the other hand Paul Revere was captured and brought back to Lexington before being released.

Col. Smith's forces reached Lexington at dawn and found that 70 armed Minute Men under the command of Capt. John Parker were drawn up on the common.

Upon repeated commands from Major John Pitcairn commander of the British troops, the Americans began to retire, although this was being done without dropping their weapons as they had been ordered to do. When a shot was fired from an unidentified

firearm, a command was given, and a series of volleys were fired from the British platoons. Only a few shots were returned from the American ranks and eight men lay dead while 10 men lay wounded. Only one British soldier was wounded.

At that point Smith reformed his men and marched on to Concord, where he destroyed some guns, carriages, entrenching tools, flour, and a liberty pole.

Later during the following morning the steadily swelling American forces attacked the British platoon at Concord's North bridge, inflicting 14 casualties. Smith then left Concord for the return march to Boston, but he soon found the countryside swarming with militiamen who attacked his column from all sides.

Only the last minute arrival of reinforcements when he reached Lexington saved him from a complete defeat. The relentless attacks however continued against the retreating British troops until they reached Charleston and the protection of the guns of the men of war in the harbor. The total British casualties for the day were 73

[Continued on Page 15]

[Continued from Page 14]
[The Secretary's Table]

killed, 174 wounded, and 26 missing.

Almost 4000 American militia saw action during that day; of these 93 were dead, wounded or missing.

Provincial forces then closed in on Boston and began a siege which was to last until March of 1776 and end in an American victory.

On the 23rd of April 1776 the provincial congress authorized the raising of 13,600 men, and appealed to the other colonies to send aid.

By May, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, had also voted to send 9500 men to Cambridge.

Then on June 15th George Washington was named Commander in Chief of the Continental Armed Forces.

The next day Washington formally accepted the office of command and offered to serve without salary.

On June 17th the "Battle of Bunker Hill" began and both the British in Boston and the American forces surrounding the city, began to build up their strength. By the middle of June the American strength was about 10,000

men. In May of 1776, after nearly a year of trying to work out their differences with the crown, the colonies again sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress.

Finally in June of 1776 admitting then that their efforts were truly hopeless, a committee was formed to compose the Declaration of Independence.

It was headed by Thomas Jefferson, and included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman.

Finally on July 4, 1776, and after numerous changes to Jefferson's original draft, a vote was taken late in the afternoon.

John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, was the first to sign, and it is said that he signed his name "**with a great flourish**" so "**King George can read that without his spectacles!**"



Fraternally,

Brother Lou Orozco
Secretary

Remaining Officer's Association Meeting Schedule For 2006

Dinner for all events begins at 6:30 PM

Date	Host	Program
Thurs. Aug. 24	Friendship	Investigations
Mon. Sept. 25	Golden Rule	Gr. Lodge Preview
Oct. 7-11	Grand Lodge	Communication
Sat. Oct. 14	On The Hill	GM Reception
Mon. Oct. 23	Los Altos	Gr. Lodge Results
Tues. Nov. 21	Mtn. View DeAnza	Swansong
Dec. is Dark	-----	-----

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DAYLIGHT LODGE, No. 844

The SCVDL was Instituted in 1996 for the purpose of offering a place for Masonic fellowship for those who do not want to, or otherwise prefer not to travel at night.

We welcome brothers from all Lodges, their family and widows with a warm and caring place to socialize. We are requesting and need your help in identifying those brothers and sweethearts who may be members of your Lodge who would like to attend during the daylight hours.

SCVDL meets at the San Jose Masonic Center on the fourth Thursday of each Month (except Nov. & Dec.) Our lun-

cheon is at 11AM followed by a noon stated meeting. All lunches are low cost and guests are most welcome. We also welcome all Masonic widows and wives for the lunch with reservations. First time visitors eat free but you must let us know in advance so we can have enough food.

As a lodge we sponsor several fund-raisers during the year. Every other year we have a visitations to Sacramento to visit Bicentennial Lodge.

To find out more about Daylight Lodge or to make reservations for lunch contact

Bobbie Byers,
Junior Warden