

Vol 65 Tarzana, California November 2008 No. 11



Thursday
November 20th, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Hollywood Lodge will have its

50-year Mason Celebration

We will be presenting numerous 50-year pins at this Thursday evening dinner event.

This is a public event. All are welcome

Free Italian Dinner: 6:30 p.m.
50-year Pinning Ceremony: 7:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to David Sylvester
(805) 340-5769 or slyman007@aol.com

If you have not received your 50-year pin, but are eligible for one, you should be receiving an invitation soon. If you do not receive one, please call the master at (805) 340-5769 to make sure you receive your pin, even if you cannot make the ceremony.

TRESTLE BOARD FOR NOVEMBER 2008

Wed. 5th	Masonic Formation Meeting	7:30 pm
Thurs.6th	Stated Meeting Dinner & Stated Meeting	6:30 pm
Tues 11th	Building Association	7:30 pm
Wed. 12th	Symbolism Class	7:30 pm
Thurs. 13th	1st. Degree or 1st Practice	7:30 pm
Mon. 17th	Officer's School of Instruction	7:30 pm
Thurs. 20th	50 Year Pin Dinner and Ceremony	6:30 pm
Thurs. 27th	LODGE DARK—Happy Thanksgiving!	DARK

DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY

Reservation deadline is noon Monday preceding the meeting

Stated Meeting Dinners are **\$10.00** per person.
Free dinner for widows of Lodge #355, Lodge
guests, and
Brethren in your Birthday Month.



DINNER RESERVATIONS: (818) 635-0808

Ladies Entertainment after the Dinner:

EBB

November 6, 2008

**Traditional Thanksgiving
Turkey Dinner**

Pumpkin pie and cheesecake

December 4, 2008

**Appetizers
Greek Salad or Beef Stew
Dave's Lamb Kapama**

Holiday desserts



From The East

Today, I was with one of my closest friends at his father's funeral. Sadly, it seems I've been to many of funerals lately. Anyway, as typically happens at said events, the speakers tried to encapsulate 72 years of life into a few succinct anecdotes, and tried to distill a lifetime of his wisdom into a few short, memorable pieces of advice for future generations.

First, I reflect first upon my own life, and wonder how I would be encapsulated and quoted after my death. I'd like to think, by my life, I will have inspired people with the memorable things I've said and done and that the remembered quotes will bring knowing smiles and happy motivation. In a way, this desire is motivational for me: to live my life in such a way where no days pass uneventfully. Well, it's something to aspire to, anyway.

Second, I reflect upon Masonry. It and much of recorded history is a distillation of the works, ideas, thoughts, and lifetimes of experience of so many people. Only the best, most thought-through, and most wise snippets of entire lifetimes of study, research, inspiration, and productivity remain in our ritual and history. How little we know of the rest of a man's life, but his one or two great accomplishments. Likewise, how little we know of all the rest of Masonry, but the ritual that has successfully been passed down to us through the ages. Perhaps a million Masons as great as Pythagorus or Hiram have gone before us, yet their collective greatness must be distilled into a short few stories to share with those who come after us.

I realize how important symbolism is, therefore. With only a finite amount of storage space in our small brains, and with only a short, finite amount of time in which to learn the mysteries of the world, it is crucial that we understand how one idea can represent so much more than its one literal interpretation; how one man can stand for what a thousand believe in; how one Lodge has the burden of communicating at least 300 years' worth (maybe thousands of years' worth) of knowledge of the human condition to its members and its communities.

Yet again, I am humbled by my responsibility as a man and as a Mason.

Fraternally,
David Sylvester, Master



You are cordially invited to attend the

One Hundred and Sixth Annual Open

Installation of Officers

Of

Hollywood Lodge #355

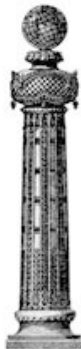
Free and Accepted Masons of California

On

Sunday, December 14, 2008

6:00 p.m.

at



**The Boulevard Masonic
Center
19626 Ventura Boulevard
Tarzana, CA 91356**





From the South

November is here and the Holiday Season is in full swing. My wife has started the Holiday shopping and the kids are already looking forward to their Holiday vacation away from school. Time flies and I find it hard to believe that the year end is so rapidly approaching.

Qualifications are over and plans for the New Year have been set into motion to bring you a very exciting year in 2009. I have been reflecting on my plans from the beginning of the year and see how much progress I made but note that I have fallen far short of what I had planned to do. I look forward to making more progress as possible.

A little note on Grand Lodge since it happened so late in September that I was not able to address it in time to mention it in last month's article. I am only covering the positive here...

To put it bluntly, it was a learning experience. I was able to speak with each grand officer individually and one point or another, even the Grandmaster. I have no idea how that was possible but it seemed that they were there at the drop of the hat and able to answer my questions and give advice and that they had all of the time I needed. To any of you who have been to Grand Lodge, you will know that is very far from the truth. Those men were busy. It was also a wonderful treat to see our wayward Brother Ken Kolchier and sit with him again. Brother Eric Bertolli also made it there. Our Lodge made a great showing and was well represented.

I would also like to start announcing at this time to mark your calendars for the Stated Meeting Dinner for February 5th 2009. This dinner will be our usual 'Sweethearts' dinner but I would like to send a special invitation to the Ladies of our dearly departed Brethren. If you are a widow of our Lodge and have not heard from me personally this year, I apologize but finding you is turning into a larger task than expected. Please call me at (818) 635-0808 or e-mail me at tecolote1@gmail.com and I will call you and update our records. I will reserve a place for you at the February dinner and arrange transportation if necessary. Please note that this invitation is for all of our stated meetings but I would like to try something special on that month.

I continue to thank all of you who have called in advance for your reservations for dinner. October's dinner was a little unusual since I had no time to e-mail dinner notifications from San Francisco so I do apologize for not getting that extra reminder that I usually send apart from the chips out. To ensure you are provided for when you come to the stated dinner, please call before noon, the Monday preceding the stated meeting and reserve your place. Please remember that children under 12 are half price and have a special table now with game and such appropriate to all age groups.

Fraternally,

Arthur Melendez

Arthur Melendez, Junior Warden

THE BOULEVARD MASONIC CENTER ACTIVITIES

First and Third Tuesday Horizon Star Chapter #403 O.E.S.
Second Tuesday Woodland Hills Shrine Club
Second Tuesday Building Association Meeting
Every Thursday Hollywood Lodge #355 F&AM
First Wednesday after Stated Meeting Symbolism Class

NEW MASONS PROFICIENCY TRAINING

Every Tuesday and Thursday Evening starting at 7:00 pm in the Lodge Library, several Candidates Coaches are teaching the First, Second, and Third Degree Proficiencies.

*If you are in need of any Lodge Regalia - Contact: Burt Haaz, P.M.
At: 818-363-7117*

Social Hall Rental

Are you planning a special event? Do you have a large birth-day party, Bar Mitzvah, Retirement Party, Quinceañera, or Office Party coming up?

If so, consider the Boulevard Masonic Center's Social Hall. The Hall you've come to know and love for Stated Meeting Dinners is available to rent for special occasions. If you, your company, or your friends are looking for a venue to host an event for up to 250 people, come talk to us, first!

For more information about renting the Social Hall for your event, please call **Aaron Shubb** at **(818) 590-9597**.

2009 Hiram Award Event

Please note, the date for the 2009 Hiram Award honoring Brother Spyros Pappas has changed.

It will now take place on Saturday, May 2, 2009.

From the NPR article, "New Masons Drawn by Brotherhood, not Myths.":

In its glory days in the 1940s and '50s, the Masons had 4 million members in the United States, and 50,000 lodges. Now, they have about 1.8 million members. But many lodges say their average age is going down. Why?

Mark Tabbert, 43, is the director of collections at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Va. Tabbert is the former grand master of his lodge in Massachusetts; he's also a Masonic history buff. In his office, a plastic action figure is propped on a bookshelf with a little piece of paper stuck to him; it reads "Masonic superhero."

Tabbert says that when membership plummeted during the counter-culture movement of the 1960s and '70s, the Masons accepted virtually anyone who knocked on the door.

"In the quest to be larger and to do more good and to have more fun," he says, "they let in a lot more people, and it dropped the standards of the fraternity."

He says the current renewed interest in Freemasonry has brought in men who take a more serious approach to the ritual than older generations did, and who want to tighten initiation standards and raise dues. But he says the fraternity must watch out for men who sign up because of misguided theories linking Freemasonry to "divine secrets."

"Once you get through the romanticism of a quest that doesn't exist, or foolishness about the Knights Templar or the Arc of the Covenant or the Holy Grail, you find out that there actually is a quest," Tabbert says. "And the quest is the inner journey, the self improvement, to be useful in society and improve yourself."

Read the full article at: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=9981492>

SUNSHINE REPORT

From Spyros Pappas

TO INFORM THE LODGE OF ANY SICK MEMBER OR WIFE OF A MEMBER, CONTACT SPYROS PAPPAS AT: 818-894-5690 OR E-MAIL: SPYROSPAPPAS@YAHOO.COM

If you know of someone who is not receiving e-mails regarding the Lodge, please have them call **Rudy Bauer at (818) 363 - 5727** with the information OR e-mail him at ARNJAYBEE@aol.com. You may also obtain Theatre Tickets from Rudy @ \$6.50 each.

KIDS I D

**Contact Johnny Johnson at:
(818) 897 - 1345**

Masonic Trivia

- Between 1890 (when it became a state) and 1951, every governor of Wyoming, except one, was a Mason. The one, Mrs. William A. Ross, was the wife of a mason and a member of Eastern Star.
- Every President from Tenn. was a Mason (Jackson, Johnson, Polk)
- President FDR raised two of his sons on the same night, Nov 7, 1935 - Architect Lodge #519 in NY.
- In 1951, while President, Harry Truman served as Master of his lodge.
- Gordon Cooper, in his Mercury capsule, carried a Masonic coin and a blue Masonic flag on his 22 orbit flight, which he later presented to his mother lodge.



HOLLYWOOD LODGE #355

You are invited to join us for a day at:



Saturday, January 17, 2009
11:00 AM – 5:15 PM

\$26⁰⁰ per person

The package includes: Club House admission, box seats, Daily Racing Program, lunch (Santa Anita Park signature sandwiches, chips & soda) and a professional handicapper will visit to go over the day's races.

We will depart on time from our lodge by bus.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW, SPACE IS LIMITED. YOUR CHECK WILL BE YOUR RESERVATION.

And away they go 

Contact: Spyros Pappas @ 818.894.5690

November Birthdays

Happy Birthday To Members of Hollywood Lodge #355

If your name is not here, please contact the Editor

1 Donald Deubner	12 John Mouch	20 Louis Reisig
1 David Handleman, P.M.	mouchian	21 Jack Press
1 Richard Landon	14 Daniel Beren	22 John Laumann, P.M.
2 Varujan Artinyan	14 John Jones	22 Miles Ellis
2 Irvin Holston	14 Joseph Maiale	24 Chester Christenson
2 Rich Mudge	15 Burt Haaz, P.M.	24 Harry Steffan
2 Razmig Varsam	15 George Julian	24 Robert Davis
3 Richard Mainwarring	15 Michael Karobonick	25 Marshall Brauer
5 Olin Dudley	15 Steven Weinberg, P.M.	26 Aragorn Hansard
6 Reimundo Gutierrez	16 Alton Benedetto	27 Gary Gole
7 John Hart	16 Evangelos Iliadis	27 Byron Hornung
8 Joseph Gentilcore	18 Alois Slovacheck	28 Lester Gingery
9 Bruce Hudson, P.M.	19 Richard Reeves	30 Harold Bringman, P.M.
11 Charles Farish	19 Sheldon Mowrey	30 William Gohlke
12 Steven Klieger	20 Irwin Fisk	

CALLED FROM LABOR

From the Secretary

Richard Walter Findon—10/2/08

**Soft and Safe Be Thy Resting Place
Bright and Glorious Be Thy Rising From it.**

The Acacia tree is found in the area known as Palestine during ancient times, today it is found all over Africa. Acacia looks like the mulberry tree, can grow to well over one hundred feet high and is a hard wood. The gum obtained from it is known as Arabic.

Acacia is a sacred Hebrew wood known in the scripture as "Shittah." The ark of the covenant was made from it.

Acacia is part of our initiation as Master Masons and represents the immortality of the soul, as the soul lives on after our bodies have been put to rest.

Acacia can be a bush, tree, or a grove of trees. If you cut it down it grows back, if you burn it, it grows back. If you try to dig it up and leave one root it will grow back. Acacia can live through floods, droughts, and bad soil conditions. There is little doubt to the reason Acacia is our symbol of immortality.

2008 Officers

Master:

David Sylvester
(805) 340 - 5769

E-Mail: slyman007@aol.com

Senior Warden:

Russell Jaeger
(818) 636-1605
E-Mail: russelljaeger@yahoo.com

Junior Warden:

Art Melendez (Flor)
(818) 635-0808
E-Mail: Tecolote1@Gmail.com

Treasurer

John Champion, P.M. (Virginia)
(818) 701-1492
E-Mail: jvchamp@pacbell.net

Secretary:

Jerry Shubb, P.M. (Joan)
19626 Ventura Blvd. Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 345-9757
E-Mail: jerryshubb@aol.com

Senior Deacon:

Steve Mahr
(818) 521-0501 cell
E-Mail: mahr.steve@gmail.com

Junior Deacon:

Sheldon Mowrey
(562) 288-5253
E-Mail: SMowrey@adelphia.net

Chaplain:

Michael Pearce (Kelley)
(818) 641-9773
mrpearce@socal.rr.com

Marshall:

Ron Sindelar (Jean Marie)
(818) 346-8732
E-Mail: captj1701@aol.com

Senior Steward:

Steven Klein (Fidelia)
(626) 678-5226
E-mail: sdklein2005@yahoo.com

Junior Steward:

TJ Oliva (Karia)
(213) 268-2408
E-mail: tjoliva@socal.rr.com

Tiler

Norm Hoffman, P.M. (Farzameh)
(818) 715-9055

Candidates Coach:

Stan Higgins, P.M. (Ethel)
(818) 892-5100
(818) 438-5758...Cell

Officer's Coach:

Ted Schuman, P.M. (Penny)
(818) 886-9754
E-Mail: tschuman@psfin.com

Asst Officer's Coach:

James Bayhülle
(310) 710 - 5994
E-Mail: jbayhülle@gmail.com

Officers at Large:

Jack Levy, P.M. (Brenda) Spyros Pappas (Tasi) Aaron Cohen Fred West

Inspector, 322nd Masonic District:

Chris Holme, PM (Heather)
H-(818) 981-9188 Cell (818) 448-2424

The Boulevard Masonic Center Building Manager:

Aaron Shubb
(818) 590-9597
For Rentals

Hollywood Lodge #355
The Boulevard Masonic Center
19626 Ventura Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91356
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