

JANUARY
2008



Volume XCV
Number 1

TRESTLEBOARD

Amity Lodge No. 442, F. & A. M

A monthly bulletin of information for the members, families and friends of
Amity Lodge #442, Free and Accepted Masons, California, USA

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contact us

Lodge Office
619-291-0465
FAX
619-291-1364

REGULARITY AND RECOGNITION from the Masonic Education Course

One of the most complicated areas of Masonic jurisprudence, or law, relates to the standards a Grand Lodge must follow in order to be considered regular. Each Grand Lodge has its own set of standards, and since there is no central governing authority within Freemasonry, determining regularity is difficult and subjective. Space does not permit a comprehensive list of all the issues associated with standards of regularity, but some examples include: acceptance of candidates irrespective of their personal religious beliefs; the Holy Bible, square, and compass displayed upon the altar at all times; the acceptance of men only; the Hiram legend as an integral part of the third degree; and so on.

In the late nineteenth century, Masonic historian Albert G. Mackey published a list of 25 ancient landmarks of Freemasonry. A landmark is supposed to be an integral part of the Craft and can never be changed. Mackey's list has served as the basis of regularity since its publication, but confusion arises because each Grand Lodge determines its own set of landmarks. Some jurisdictions use all 25 landmarks as presented by Mackey. Others have a shorter list. Still others, like California, refer to the ancient landmarks but do not define them.

Regularity is, therefore, a sub-

jective term. It depends on the perspective of the one making the determination, and a Grand Lodge may be considered regular by one jurisdiction and irregular by another.

In contrast to regularity, the concept of recognition is purely objective. Recognition refers to the state of amity between two Masonic Grand Lodges. The relationship is similar to that between nation-states, and since each Grand Lodge is sovereign, it decides for itself which Grand Lodges it will recognize and which it will not.

When two Grand Lodges share recognition, their members are permitted to visit one another and, in most cases, hold membership in lodges of both jurisdictions if they so desire. The only Brethren permitted to visit our lodges are those from Masonic jurisdictions recognized by the Grand Lodge of California. It is the responsibility of the Master, or his designee, to make this determination and to ensure that all visiting Masons are from a lodge under a recognized Grand Lodge.

The book *List of Lodges Masonic* is published annually and includes a comprehensive list of every Grand Lodge and their constituent lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge of California. Every lodge Secretary should have a copy of this book in his office.

TRESTLEBOARD BY EMAIL

We want YOU to begin receiving your bulletin by email, send a note saying "I'm in!" to Coren Andrews at ctandrews@ca.rr.com
TELL YOUR
BRETHREN



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for email
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-
additional
articles and
information

TRESTLEBOARD
Amity Lodge #442

Our objective is to disseminate information of interest to the members, families and friends of Amity Lodge #442, F&AM of San Diego, California, USA

Editor: Coren Andrews, PM⁴ 951-698-9924

Printing by: PIP Printing 619-528-8000

Distribution: Harry Besnoy

Contributors: Every now and then!

Address: AmityLodge

Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108

Lodge phone: 619-291-0465

Email: ctandrews@ca.rr.com

Web Site: www.calodges.org/no442

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The Amity Lodge Trestleboard is published monthly with a circulation of about 350 copies. For your e-mail subscription, send "I'm in" to ctandrews@ca.rr.com

FREEMASONRY - STANDING STRONG



I have chosen the Giant Sequoia Redwood tree as the Emblem for this grand year and the Theme "Freemasonry Standing Strong". I selected them not only because my hometown of Visalia is the gateway to Sequoia National Park where these majestic giants live and grow, but because they have many parallels to Masonry. As our brotherhood is the oldest

and largest fraternity in the world, this stately evergreen is one of the oldest living trees on earth and the General Sherman Tree in Sequoia National Park is recognized as the largest of its species. One would expect that trees of this size and volume would have massive root systems that reach deeply into California's rich soil. Instead, their root systems are relatively shallow. Alone, they could not withstand the ravages of time, weather, or erosion. They are capable of standing only when they grow in groves and allow

their roots to intertwine with others. Together they gain strength and can support each other. I'm sure you can see the lesson for Masonry here today. We must stand together against the ravages of misinformation, misunderstanding and lack of commitment. We must stand together as a band of men willing to better ourselves. And, we must never forget our roots.

When our roots reach out and embrace each other, then, and only then, will Freemasonry truly be Standing Strong.

AN OLD TRADITION CONTINUES - DINING OUT

Brethren, Ladies and Friends are all cordially invited to the monthly Dine Out event. This gathering has been very successful in the past to encourage fraternalism and to ensure everyone has a fun meal out on the town. This year we will make a little change. In the past, we have met on the first Monday of each month. We will depart from that tradition and

members, ladies and friends will gather on the third Tuesday each month for splendid food and a great meal. Each month will be in a different location and will prove to be a wonderful experience.

For the January Dining Out event, we will gather near the buffet/dining room at Syucan Casino at 6:30 p.m. on January 15. We will partake of

their wonderful buffet and good conversation and fellow ship and then... Perhaps someone will hit a jackpot or two.

We hope to see you there. Please call Harry Besnoy, our Dining Out chairman with any questions or suggestions. Especially call him if you have a great idea for a future Dine Out location. His phone number is 619-562-7465.

KNOW YOUR GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Grand Pursuivant - Patrick Plunkett, appointed for 2007-2008.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Pursuivant to:

A. Guard the inner door of Grand Lodge and communicate with the Grand Tiler;

B. Announce all applicants for admission by their names and proper Masonic titles, and see that all who enter wear the jewel and clothing proper to their rank;

C. Allow none to withdraw who have not obtained permission to do so from the Grand Master; and

D. Act as assistant to the Grand Marshal in all processions of the Grand Lodge and all public ceremonies.

Grand Organist - Christopher Morris, appointed for 2007-2008.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Organist to preside at the organ during the opening and closing of Grand Lodge, and to conduct its music upon all occasions of ceremony when required by the Grand Master. The Grand Master may appoint an Assistant Grand Organist from the opposite part of the state from the Grand Or-

ganist. The Assistant Grand Organist shall discharge the duties of the Grand Organist in the absence of that officer. The Assistant Grand Organist shall be entitled to any expense reimbursement otherwise available to a Grand Lodge Officer only when thus discharging the duties of the Grand Organist. (10/96)



BIRTHDAYS FROM THE EAST

Leonardo Abulencia	1/17
William Anderson	1/02
Harry Arnoff	1/02
James Barker	1/08
Randal Barlow	1/19
Arthur Boyd, Jr., PM	1/17
Donald Callard	1/06
Cameron Campbell	1/19
Dario Canlas	1/5
Conrado Castillo, PM	1/8
Joseph Clokon, Jr., PM	1/18
Johnny Cortez	1/24
Duane Ely, PM	1/07
Ronino Eva	1/15
Jonas Feurzeig	1/11
Ricardo Garcia	1/13
Fernando Gonzalez	1/1
Thomas Jewell	1/19
Kevin Jones	1/06
Jerome Klein	1/25
Robert Lewis	1/03
Laurence Macurda	1/21
Edgar Manalo	1/19
Roger Parker, PM	1/31
Gary Parks, PM	1/21
Isaias Perez, Jr.	1/3
Robert Reuillard	1/07
John Ridgway, Jr.	1/15
Manolito Sarabia	1/30
John Simzisko	1/07
Robert Swafford	1/11
Harold Thurber, Jr.	1/08

Average age = 61.8 years old
Oldest = 99 years old
Youngest = 29 years old

Happy Birthday to these Brethren!
We would like to wish you a happy birthday in person at the Stated Meeting dinner of your birth month. Please do join us and remember that your dinner is on the Lodge.



I would again, like to thank everybody that attended the installation. The installation was well attended. We had a really great time, great food and most of all great fellowship.

The New Year brings us to starting off on a good footing. As I said at my installation, our officers are our cornerstones. They are the future of our lodge, so I would appreciate all our brethren helping them as much as possible.

As the year progresses and we integrate the two lodges together, we will be exploring new ideas and traditions. I look

forward to your input to help me determine our future direction. I cannot promise to solve all of the problems that confront us, but I do pledge to devote 100 percent of my mind, heart, and will to meeting all of the challenges ahead.

I hope to eventually meet and great all the members of our new lodge. If you haven't attended a lodge meeting for a while, now is the time. We will be meeting a lot of the members for the first time. We will be having five degrees in January with participation from our new line. Come and enjoy the ritual of our new officers. The

Candidates will appreciate the sideliners. We are all bound together by our Masonic vows. Therefore reach forth, meet and shake the hand of a brother for the first time.

Harold Thurber, WM

OFFICE KEYS

Brethren, if you currently have a key or keys to the Lodge office, please turn it in to the Secretary. With the consolidation, we will need to redistribute keys to appropriate personnel. This will be more economical than re-keying the office and distributing keys. Thank you.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Brethren,

I would to thank all the Brethren who called for dinner reservations for the stated meeting. I have started to put together a permanent dinner list there is still time to get on it.

We have started to mail out dues cards and you should have yours soon. For those who have not sent in your dues please send \$96 to

cover dues and per capita as soon as possible.

The Master has many good things planned for Amity Lodge this year. As we go forward and build a strong foundation for the future, please plan on coming out and joining you fellow brethren in Lodge.

Please check the Trestleboard for the nights we

have degrees and come sit with us in Lodge as your officers start men on the path of Masonry.

RESERVATIONS: PLEASE CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR OUR STATED MEETING ON JANUARY 3 SO I CAN GET A PROPER COUNT FOR DINNER.

Fraternally,
ARNOLD L. KOREY

FROM THE SECRETARY II

Brethren,

Please help our Lodge save money. Two ways you can help immediately come to mind.

One - send an email to Coren Andrews at ctandrews@ca.rr.com with the note "I'm in!" to sign up for the electronically delivered five, yes, five page, copy of our Trestleboard.

Two - let the Secretary

know when you are going to move, are moving, or have moved. This will save the Lodge nearly the equivalent of one Brothers dues each year in misdirected mailings and it will help to keep our Lodge records and Grand Lodge records up to date. Contact the Secretary by phone at 619-291-0465 or by email at pote1995@pacbell.net. Thanks, Arnold L. Korey, Sec.

**SUPPORT YOUR
LODGE AND ITS
PROGRAMS.
YOUR
ATTENDANCE IS
NEEDED AND
ENCOURAGED!**

PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD. IT SHOULD SAY "PAID THROUGH DECEMBER, 2008."

Please be considerate and make your dinner reservations early. If you are going to come to one of our dinners, make reservations. Two days in advance is sufficient, but please reserve.

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AMITY LODGE NO. 442, F. & A. M.
Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108

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Andrews at
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AMITY LODGE OFFICERS

Master	dell1@nethere.com
HAROLD THURBER (Patricia)	619-669-4731
Senior Warden	chrispq@hotmail.com
CHRIS QUIMPO (Emily)	858-231-3226
Junior Warden	ernbobiastu@yahoo.com
ERNIE ASTUDILLO (Filipina)	858-271-4555
Treasurer	none
HAROLD WEISS (Audrey)	858-278-7036
Asst. Treasurer	
RODOLFO A. BAYLE, PM ()	858-271-9023
Secretary	pote1995@pacbell.net
ARNOLD L. KOREY (Marlene)	619-582-1468
Asst. Secretary	
LEO L. REYES, PM(Erlie)	858-459-4760
Chaplain	gem091340@aol.com
JERRY DEL MAR	858-672-0573
Senior Deacon	donkauf@aol.com
MARK KAUFMAN (Karen)	858-248-1502
Junior Deacon	del.rivera@sbcglobal.com
DELANO RIVERA (Remi)	619-392-9976
Marshal	rgandersonjr@yahoo.com
RICHARD ANDERSON (Helen)	858-229-5268
Senior Steward	abeparja@yahoo.com
ABELARDO PAREJA (Jovie)	619-245-9210
Junior Steward	
JOSELITO SORIANO ()	619-419-8352
Tiler	hbesnoy@hotmail.com
HARRY BESNOY (Gaye)	619-562-7465
Officers' Coach	jheisner@san.rr.com
JOHN HEISNER, PM (Margo)	619-437-8119
Head Candidates' Coach	chrispq@hotmail.com
CHRIS QUIMPO (Emily)	858-231-3226
Inspector	fkleyn@cox.net
FRED KLEYN, PM	619-461-5724
Immediate Past Master	zdralemi@sbcglobal.net
MIKE ZDRAVKOVIC, PM	619-691-9516

JANUARY 2008 CALENDAR

January

- Thurs 3rd** **STATED MEETING OF AMITY LODGE** at 7:30 p.m.
 Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Make your reservations please call
 619-291-0465.
- Mon 7th** **FIRST DEGREES** - Mr. Mason and Mr. Grubbs
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m. Degree at 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs 10th** **FIRST DEGREES** - Mr. H. Manalo and Mr. L. Manalo
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m. Degree at 7:00 p.m.
- Mon 14th** **SECOND DEGREE** - Br. Floentino Reyes
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m. Degree at 7:00 p.m.
- Tues 15th** Dining Out at 6:30 p.m. Sycuan Casino, call Harry Besnoy
- Thurs 17th** Third Degree PRACTICE, all Officers attend at 6:45 p.m.

NOTE: Attire for the Degrees is COAT and TIE.

February

- Thurs 7th** **STATED MEETING OF AMITY LODGE** at 7:30 p.m.
 Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Make your reservations please call
 619-291-0465.

JANUARY STATED MEETING DINNER MENU



Honey Baked Ham and Lemon Herbed Chicken
 Potatoes Au Gratin and Grilled Mixed Vegetables
 Caesar Salad and Assorted Rolls
 Cobblers ala Mode and Beverages



You must call your reservations to Arnie at 619-291-0465

FIDDLE VS VIOLIN -

Ever since the violin was invented, it has captured the hearts of listeners with its versatility in music. With a violin, the music can be loud or soft, fast or slow, swinging or soulful, and any mixture. The violin can be played in almost any style of music. But most beginning violin players are pushed into the classical realm, usually without a thought given to other genres of music. Many young players pick up a violin, without knowing it is also a fiddle. A fiddle that can be combined with a banjo, guitar, double bass, and mandolin to create bluegrass music. And while both classical and fiddling may be fun, learning how to fiddle may benefit a young person more than classical violin.

It is true that classical music does have its benefits. It is played all over the world, and a classical violin player has many opportunities to play in an orchestra. Playing in an orchestra pushes to improve playing skills and technique. The conductor often gives personal instruction to individual players. The experienced violin player can take pride in the accomplishments and performances of his orchestra.

For a young person, however, trying to play in an

orchestra can be intimidating and oppressive. Every note must be played exactly in tune. Every measure of music must be perfectly in time and rhythm. Competition is fierce among players to gain a higher “chair” or position in the orchestra. Practicing at home isn’t enough preparation for the environment that exists in an orchestra. The orchestra setting leaves little room for mistakes. This is frustrating for everyone, but especially to younger players. The beginning violin player may be greatly discouraged by the strict atmosphere the orchestra creates.

But when a beginning fiddle player steps into the bluegrass/country realm, he is almost immediately surrounded by a group of older musicians who cheer him on. These musicians form a support group around the beginning fiddler because they want to see him succeed. Not only does a young person have the opportunity to gain knowledge about music from these more experienced musicians, but also often picks up other life skills that he might otherwise have missed out on.

Fiddle music is more loose and open than classical music, which makes it easy for a begin-

ning fiddle player to fit in with a group. The fiddle player quickly learns rhythm and how notes and melodies are structured. Many bluegrass songs are similar in form and structure, which makes it easy for a young person to learn and play. The fiddler is also at ease to make up his own version of a song, and everyone accepts it. This allows the young player to add his own unique touch to a song. And that makes playing fun for a young fiddle player.

Because old time fiddling is becoming a kind of lost art, older musicians are more than eager to pass on songs, tips and tricks that have been passed down through the generations to younger players. These older fiddlers don’t want to see the music that their fathers taught them to fade away. They are willing to put in time and effort to teach young players these old songs. An incredible learning opportunity awaits the budding fiddle player from these older musicians.

Opportunities abound for a budding fiddle player. Thousands upon thousands of bands across the nation seek a good fiddler. A fiddle player is often asked to play at social gatherings, weddings, and all sorts of other places. The

fiddle player can choose to play for income or just for fun. Many fiddlers find a happy medium between the two.

In short, learning how to fiddle benefits a young person more than playing classical violin. Fiddling opens up a young person’s world to a group of friendly musicians who are eager to help him succeed. Fiddle music is easier to learn and play for the beginning musician. A much warmer environment exists for the fiddler than for the classical violinist. Older fiddle players are simply waiting for young people to come along who want to learn how to fiddle.

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ENDOW YOUR LODGE - GIVE IT THE GIFT OF YOUR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Start your new year as a member of AMITY LODGE by purchasing a life membership. This one time payment will enable you to be free of that annual duty of paying your dues which now increase each year because of the automatic adjustment for Grand Lodge per capita. Amity Lodge has adopted the Alternate Life Membership program. Call the Secretary to find out how you can become a LIFE member.

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