

MAY  
2008



Volume XCV  
Number 5

# 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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## WHAT MASONRY MEANS TO ME by Edgar A. Guest

I TAKE GREAT PRIDE in my Masonry. I was received into the Craft almost a quarter of a century ago and am sure today I have not ex-hausted even the smallest vein of its richly laden ore.

It is a source of help and comfort and pleasure I can absolutely rely upon. When I have wearied of other labors I can turn confidently to my lodge room and find companionship and courage. There is something indefinable in Masonry I can find nowhere else in the world. Familiar as I am with the Masonic ritual it continues ever fresh and ever new. Always it seems to me, as I hear it again repeated, I catch a new thought or a new inspiration and a new grip on the eternal truths of life.

Masonry has greatly enriched my life. It has given me friendships that I cherish dearly. It has, I think, whispered subconsciously to me in silent hours, words of caution and encouragement.

I like the going back to my lodge. I have found it refreshing and good to step aside out of the

path of my busy life and sit again with the Ma-sons who have carried on in my absence. To this experience I come gladly and joyfully, as a boy returns again to his old home which he left to seek his fortune. Still some of the old brothers await to welcome me. Grown a little older I find them, but still strong and eager for the duties of a Mason! With them I can be what I long so often to be—just one of the craft. Their aprons and mine are made of the same cloth; their dreams and mine are similar; their pulses beat to the same inspiration and we are all at peace.

Rich and poor, high and low make no difference there. The pomp of life is thrown aside. Only that which is important counts.

Masonry has taught me the follies of petty distinctions and the shame of pride and place.

Published in the *Masonic*  
*Historiology* in its 7<sup>th</sup> year in Los Angeles, California on December 30, 1947

## TRESTLEBOARD BY EMAIL

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TELL YOUR  
BRETHREN

## PAGES

### 5 & 6

additional  
articles and  
information for  
email  
subscribers



## 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

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## DINE OUT - THE SOUPLANTATION - 4/15

Souplantation was a success with 17 people leaving "feeling pretty full." A success worth attempting again. So, we will enjoy returning to Souplantation on Tuesday, May 20th. The Souplantation is located at 9158 Fletcher Parkway, La Mesa, just north of Dallas on Fletcher Parkway. The telephone number is (619) 462-

4232. Discount coupons can be found in the Sunday newspaper coupon books. Bring extras to share. We will be reserving a private room to enjoy the evening together.

Remember we dine out on the third Tuesday each month at 6:30 except in June, we will be having a very special Dine Out at the Scottish Rite

Center. We will be enjoying a wonderful Filipino meal. Be sure to put it on your calendar.

We hope to see you at both of these Dine Outs. Please call Harry Besnoy, our 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.

## ARNOLD LEE KOREY - HIRAM AWARD, 2008



Arnold Lee Korey was presented with the highest honor in Masonry, the Hiram Award on April 21st. The ceremony was preceded by a wonderful

dinner and fellowship. Many friends and Brethren were there to honor Amity Lodge's Secretary including Past Grand Master, Melvyn Stein who presented the placque and medalion while his Lady Marlene presented the pin.

Harry Besnoy presented a talk on a bit of the history and meaning of the Hiram Award.

Following the ceremony, everyone congratulates Arnie on receiving the Award.

## NORTH CITY YOUTH BASEBALL - PADRES

The North City Bronco Padres would like to thank Amity Lodge for sponsoring the Team. We are having a blast on the field. We are hitting the ball, making catches and making the outs. Please come and check out a game or two. You will be able to see us proudly display the Amity Lodge Banner in left field. We would love for you to come and join us.

The Padres are 1-2-0 for the regular season which started on Wednesday, April 23rd. We went 4-5-1 in the pre-season. So far we have hit seven home runs this season: Three home runs and a Grand Slam by Anthony Pozo and three home runs by Cory Abbott. So far this season Anthony is the only player in the Bronco Division to hit a

Grand slam. We hope the great season continues for our players. We are learning great lessons in teamwork and sportsmanship which we are using on and off the field. Please come and join the fun. Hope to see you at the Field! May games are: 5/3 at 9 am, 5/6 at 5 pm, 5/10 at 3 pm, 5/13 at 5 pm, 5/17 at 12 pm. at Mt. Etna Park at Mt. Etna and Genesee.



## BIRTHDAYS FROM THE EAST

Coren Andrews, PM	5/12
Robert Balingier	5/26
Martin Berg	5/18
Joe Brennan	5/05
William Brown	5/25
Shaun Case	5/20
Pedro Clariza, Jr.	5/19
Daniel Duenez	5/07
Juan Flores	5/06
Yousel Ghandour	5/28
Edwin Guimbaolibot	5/09
Benjamin Grossman	5/26
John Heisner, PM	5/11
Ellsworth Henderson	5/21
Warren Kanagy	5/14
Ronald Krasner	5/09
Jimmy Maniang	5/31
Beato Moneda	5/09
Raul Navasca	5/08
Ronald Newell, PM	5/18
Daniel Ober, Sr.	5/14
Philjose Perral	5/23
Scott Raab	5/11
Avelino Reyes, Jr.	5/13
Madison Rogers, PM	5/06
Felizardo Tria	5/04
Donald Wenzel	5/08
W. Shannon Williams	5/19
Mihailo Zdravkovic, PM	5/13

Average age = 55.3 years old

Oldest = 87 years old

Youngest = 25 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.

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

Any time is a good time as a member of AMITY LODGE to purchase 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.

Brethren,  
We had some great 2<sup>nd</sup> Degrees this past month. If you missed your opportunity to see one of them, we will have another 2<sup>nd</sup> on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Come and be a sideliner, the candidates appreciate all the members showing up to give them support. We invite all Master Masons and Fellowcrafts to come and remember their 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and congratulate the candidate.

This past April 21<sup>st</sup>, we awarded our Secretary, Brother Arnold Korey, the 2008 Amity Lodge Hiram Award. A fantastic diner was had before hand. We retired to the lodge room and after some comments by the

Brethren,  
Once again, I would like to thank the Members of Amity Lodge for the most distinguish honor of being the recipient of the first HIRAM AWARD for Amity Lodge. I am deeply touched by this honor.

Thank you to all those who have sent in their dues and responded ot second notices. I

## THE BLIND MAN

One day, there was a blind man sitting on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet and a sign that read: "I am blind, please help."

A creative publicist was walking by and stopped to observe. He saw the blind man had only a few coins in his hat. He dropped in more coins, and without asking for permission, took the sign and rewrote it.

He returned the sign to the blind man and left. That afternoon the publicist returned to the blind man and noticed that his hat was full of bills and coins.

The blind man recognized the publicist's footsteps and asked if it was he who had rewritten his sign and wanted to know what he had written on it.

The publicist responded: "Nothing that was not true. I just wrote the message a little differently." He smiled and went on his way.

The new sign read: "\*\*\*Today is the first day of Spring and I cannot see it\*\*."

Sometimes we need to change our strategy. If we always do what we've always done, we'll always get what we've always gotten.

And remember too, sometimes it's not \*\*WHAT\*\* we say; it's \*\*HOW\*\* we say it!!!

Worshipful Master; Brother Harry Besnoy gave a wonderful summary of the history of the Hiram Award. Previous Hiram Award winners were then introduced. This was followed by the presentation of the Hiram Award by Most Worshipful Melvin Stein P.G.M. Brother Korey then gave some pertinent comments and introduced his family. All had an excellent time.

I was going to comment on the education essay winners this month, but the presentation does not take place until April 28<sup>th</sup>, so it will have to wait till the June trestleboard.

Dine out was at the Soup Plantation in April. The

food was so good; we are doing it again in May. We are planning a dine in/out in June with a Filipino theme. It will be in the Scottish Rite building. Please make your reservation and plan on attending. All families are cordially invited.

Our lodge is moving forward. We have lots of ideas and opportunities for the brethren and their families to be involved. The lodge is only as good as the participation of its members. I look forward to seeing at a future meeting or event.



Fraternally,  
Harold Thurber WM

## FROM THE SECRETARY

again apologize to those who received a second and have already paid. We are still updating and validating information on our membership.

Please check the list again and if you have ANY contact information for these people, call me.

Fraternally, Arnold L. Korey

Please help locate the following:

Garey E. Grace

Daniel G. Duenez

Scott A. Brooks

Helen G. Medak

Ethel Feldman

Marica Leard

Marcelo B. Quintua

Michael J. Tekiko

John C. King

Raul Sierra



**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.**

**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

**AMITY LODGE NO. 442, F. & A. M.**  
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- Immediate Past Masters ..... ERNIE ASTUDILLO and MIKE ZDRAVKOIVIC

**MAY 2008 CALENDAR**

- May**
- Thurs 1st** **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 5th** Dark
  - Thurs 8th** **SECOND DEGREE** - Brother L. Manalo and ??  
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m. Degree at 7:00 p.m.
  - Sun 11th** **MOTHERS DAY**
  - Mon 12th** Dark
  - Thurs 15th** Dark
  - Mon 19th** Third Degree Practice at 6:30 p.m. all officers  
 Dining Out at 6:30 p.m. Souplantation at 9158 Fletcher  
 Parkway, (see article or call Harry Besnoy)
  - Thurs 22nd** **THIRD DEGREE** - Mr. H. Manalo  
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m. Degree at 7:00 p.m.
  - Mon 26th** Dark
  - Thurs 29th** **THIRD DEGREE** - Mr. J. Gerrado  
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m. Degree at 7:00 p.m.
- NOTE: Officers' attire: First and Second Degrees is coat and tie,  
 Third Degrees is TUXEDO.**

- June**
- Mon 2nd** TBA
  - Thurs 5th** **STATED MEETING OF AMITY LODGE** at 7:30 p.m.  
 Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Make your reservations please call  
 619-291-0465.

**MAY STATED MEETING DINNER MENU**

- Chicken Enchiladas and Roast Pork
- Spanish Rice and Refried Beans
- Caesar Salad and Fresh Tortillas
- Chocolate Cake and Beverages



## EDITORIAL - from *The Builder Magazine*, February, 1915

WASHINGTON, the Mason, renouncing a crown to be the Father of a great Republic, is one of the sublime figures of human history. Thackeray was not wrong in saying that it was one of the supreme feats of mortal greatness, as heroic as it was prophetic. The revolution which gave birth to this nation was the work of the people, but their leader so incarnated its spirit, its struggle, its purpose that it almost seems to have been the work of one man. Had Washington fallen in battle, or been captured by his foes, so far as human insight can see the fight of our fathers would have failed.

Alas ! that a man so noble, so heroic, so humanly lovable should have faded, as he seems well nigh to have done, into a mere statue in the Hall of History. Yet so it is. Today we look at his picture and see a great face indeed, but it is more like the Sphinx than a man, from which almost every flush of life has vanished. Parson Weems with his little hatchet did his pious part to turn a hero into a prig, and the Stuart portrait ironed every human wrinkle out of his face. As a result, we see a man of giant strength who carried the burden of a nation, Atlas-like, upon the shoulders, half hidden from those who owe him the homage belonging to the mighty spirits of the race.

There are those who say that Washington was not a genius. It is true that no separate faculty, or federation of faculties, stood out in him in such splendor as amazes us in Alexander or dazzles us in Napoleon. Th'e quality of his genius, like that of Alfred, was moral, and his greatness lay in the symmetry of useful, reliable, unpyrotechnic powers. There was in him a moral magnificence more rare and precious than the radiant gifts of other men. Frederick the Great said that the Trenton campaign was the most brilliant of the century, and it was the century of himself and Marlborough. If Washington was not a genius, he

was something better - a brave, true, strong man who picked his way amid the intrigues of friends and the treachery of foes, and led a people to victory, peace, and honor; bringing forth "on this continent a new nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

The people did not trust Jefferson, much as they admired him; Hamilton did not trust the people. Had it not been for Washington, who towered above all parties, our republic would have fallen between two partisan stools. He alone out-topped Hamilton and Jefferson, having a greatness unlike either, and which commanded the homage of all. Such a man the times demanded, and such a man in the providence of God was given to his country and his race. It behooves us to keep the image and spirit of Washington alive in our hearts, and tell his story, with all its vivid human color, to our children, and to those who knock at our gates. True patriotism may sometimes despair of republican institutions, but fear is folly so long as our soil can grow men who, like Washington, are proof to place and gold and show a manhood neither bought nor sold.

Washington came up from Virginia, Lincoln came down from Illinois. They came with one faith, one spotless honor, one high, disinterested patriotism, each to do the work set for him to do. They were maligned, villified, and defamed, but they revealed the same dignity, patience, and courage. As we see them now on the distant slopes of fame, they seem akin, and we make a high profession of ideals when we pay them tribute. Neither could have done the work of the other. Each was a man sent from God in an hour of great need. Divided at time, as in temperament, they stand together in the grateful and venerative memory of a l:epublic which they founded and defended. They were providential personalities, and this nation, united and free, is at once their monument and their memorial.

## How it all began

In the Middle Ages, the terms "mason" and "freemason" were used interchangeably.

They were stonemasons who built castles and cathedrals in England and Scotland. Because of the inherent danger of their work, many stonemasons formed local organizations, called lodges, to take care of sick and injured members as well as the widows and orphans of those who were killed on the job. The masons also used the lodges as places to meet, receive their pay, plan their work, train new apprentices, and socialize.

In 1717, the first Grand Lodge was established in London. Within the next two decades, English Freemasonry spread throughout Europe and eventually made its way to the American colonies. The first lodge organized on American soil appeared in Philadelphia around 1730. By 1733 a Provincial Grand Lodge was organized in Boston. George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, and other founding fathers were among the first Masons in America. Of the 39 men who signed the U.S. Constitution, 13 were Masons.

## From the Middle Ages to California Gold

During the Gold Rush of 1849, thousands of settlers came to California in search of fortune. Those who were Masons brought their rich traditions with them, soon establishing some of California's first Masonic lodges in the mining towns of the Gold Country. In 1850 — the same year that California became a state — the Grand Lodge of California was established in Sacramento.

Today, the Grand Lodge of California boasts more than 65,000 members and 340 lodges located throughout the state, making it one of the largest Grand Lodges in the world.

from [www.freemason.org](http://www.freemason.org)



## THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON

Similarities exist in all the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry. Each has an entry, a reception, a circumambulation, an obligation, a bringing to light. Each discovers certain symbols to the initiate and, in demonstration and in lecture, gives him the key by which he may unlock the door behind which he will find their meaning.

In its Second Section the Sublime Degree departs utterly from the familiar. Instead of being concerned with moral principles and exhortations, as is the first degree, or with architecture and learning, as is the second, it answers the cry of Job, "If a man die, shall he live again?"

The degree delves into the deepest recesses of a man's nature. While it leads the initiate into the Sanctum Sanctorum of the Temple, it probes into the Holy of Holies of his heart.

As a whole the degree is symbolical of that old age by the wisdom of which "we may enjoy the happy reflections consequent on a well spent life, and die in the hope of a glorious immortality."

But it is much more than that. It is at once the universal and yearning question of man throughout all ages and its answer. It teaches no creed, no dogma, no religion; only that there *is* a hope of immortality; there *is* a Great Architect by whose mercy we may live again; leaving to each brother his choice of interpretation by which he may read the Great Beyond.

It teaches of the power-and the powerlessness--of evil. For those who are happy in a belief in the resurrection of the physical body, the Sublime Degree has comfort. For those whose hope is in the raising only of that spiritual body of which Paul taught, the degree assures of all the longing heart can wish.

When the lesson of the greatest hope and the dearest wish of all mankind is made manifest, the Sublime Degree turns to *this* life and *this* brother-hood, and in the symbolism of the Lion, the exposition of the Five Points of Fellowship, the means by which a Mason may claim all that a man may from his brother, and the Word, ties together the Hiram Legend and daily living in a manner which no thoughtful man may see and hear without a thrill; a way at once awe-inspiring and heartening, terrible but beautiful, sternly uncompromising yet strangely comforting.

It is because the degree is all this-and more, much more, which cannot be put into words-that it means so much to those of whom it becomes a part. The ceremony is not of the earth, earthy, but of that land of the inner life, that home of the spirit where each man thinks the secret thoughts he tells never--never.

Pull the flower to pieces; remain the petals, a perfume, but no rose. Play the symphony, isolated note by note; sound is heard, but no music. Every word Milton wrote is in the dictionary but great poems may not there be found.

So of any written account of this degree; we may write of its symbols, analyze its legend, tell of its meaning, but we pronounce but words without a rhyme, make a flower of wax, a song muted. The best we may do is to point out a path up the high mountain of spiritual experience which is the Sublime Degree, that he who climbs may see it with a new view-and clearer eyes.

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