

JUNE
2008



Volume XCV
Number 6

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

Inside this issue

Two

*Dine Out - Filipino Style
The Winner Is
What to do?! continued
Trestleboard by email
Page 5,6,7,8 notice*

Three

*From the East
From the Secretary
With Privileges Come...
Birthdays*

Four

*AmityLodge Officers
Lodge Events Calendar
Stated Dinner Menu*

Five

*"Remember now thy
creator..."*

Six to Eight

*100 Years of Freemasonry
in California - There is a
Seafaring Man*

contact us

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

ESSAY CONTEST - HILLSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monday, April 28th, our Secretary, my wife and myself visited Hillside Middle School to announce the winners of Amity Lodge's 2008 Essay Contest Winners.

The contest was entitled "Why is Public Education Essential to a Free Society". I presented the winners, Crystal Hopkins, a sixth grader, with a first place certificate and a check for \$500. The second place winner, Hannah Stevenson, a seventh grader received a certificate and a check for \$100, and third place winner, Daniell Shirazi, another seventh grader, received a certificate and a check for \$50.

After the presentation a close circuit telecast was made to the school with a joint announcement by the Vice Principal, Ms Louise Conway, the winners and myself. The broadcast was totally done by the students. This was part if their daily Pledge of Allegiance and updates on

events at the school. Approximately 1400 students and teachers were able to see the broadcast, which was quite professionally done.

Ms. Conway thanked Amity Lodge for allowing their school to participate in this years contest. I thanked all the students that took part in this years contest and for allowing Amity to partner with Hillside Middle School.



WHAT TO DO?!

Fathers Day = Sunday, June 15 - Don't miss it!

Annual C. Jack Liefer Memorial Outdoor 3rd Degree is on Saturday, July 12th with Lodge opening at 9AM. Coffee and goodies for the early birds at 8 AM. This is an annual event produced by Temecula-Catalina Island Lodge at Liefer Ranch at 47461 Rainbow Oaks Drive in Temecula. The cost is \$15 in advance and \$20 at the "door". There will be a barbeque and refreshments to follow. For advance tickets contact Tom Hafeli, Secretary at tom@hafeli.org or send a check with a self addressed stamped envelope to Tom Hafeli, Secretary, 27895 Diaz Road, Temecula, CA 92590. Your editor has attended this event several times and it is highly recommended. The Degree work is top notch, the setting is wonderful and the BBQ is excellent.

Presented by the San Diego/Imperial Past Masters Association, the **Annual Flag Day Breakfast** and program has the specific purpose of supporting our Masonic Youth organizations,

Rainbow for Girls, Jobs Daughters and DeMolay. This is an excellent opportunity to have a great breakfast, see our Youth Groups each present the Flag and hear a great patriotic program. Please contact our Secretary or Dave Haslim for additional information and ticket availability.

Scottish Rite Appreciation Dinner

Hosted by the San Diego York Rite College In coordination with the San Diego County York Rite Chapters, Councils & Commandery on Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 6:30PM at the San Diego Scottish Rite Center Ladies are welcome and encouraged to attend. Cost: \$15 - Paid Reservations Only - by June 15th Please send check to Fred Kleyn, 11073 Plum Tree Lane, Spring Valley, 91977-7047 Attendees are encouraged to wear their Scottish Rite Caps and York Rite Jackets. For further information, call Fred Kleyn at (619) 461-5724 or Jerry Wohlfarth at (760) 724-3033

continued on page 2

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

**PAGES
5 & 6-8
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

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

Subscription is free and all material is copyright by AmityLodge #442 or other sources and may be reprinted with proper credit given.

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

DINE OUT - Filipino Style at Scottish Rite

Our special Lodge Dine Out is sort of dine in. It will be on June 17 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 all our Dine Outs. Please call the Secretary, Arnold Korey to make your reservation for this Special Dine Out event.

Harry Besnoy, our Dine Out Specialist, will

appreciate 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.

AND THE PAGE THREE OOPS WINNER IS...

Michael Coe, a Brother from Temecula-Catalina Island Lodge sent an email back about an hour after the Trestleboard had been sent. He pointed out

the following OOPses: In the "From the East", dinner was spelled diner, distinguished was misspelled and the one that actually prompted the chal-

lenge: WHOW should be WHO. Thank you to all those who took the time to read the Trestleboard and reply!

WHAT TO DO?!

continued from page 1

Masonic Formation Certification Program Workshops. The Workshops are designed for Master Masons who will be trained as Masonic Formation officers for their lodge. Topics covered include:

- How to create an effective candidate education program
- How to inspire members to seek more knowledge about Masonry
- How to organize a Masonic Formation program in their lodge
- How to find new resources for life-long learning about Masonry

Join other Masonic Formation leaders for this exciting new approach to "Masonic Education". Workshops will be held:

- May 31st in Sacramento
- June 7th in San Diego
- July 26th in Culver City

Registration forms for the Masonic Formation Certification Program Workshops are attached, posted online at www.freemason.org under Masonic Education and on the administrative website under "Forms/Leadership Training Programs."

Lodge Management Certification Program - In San Diego on July 19 at Mission Valley Resort. Offering several seminars on Lodge management including Program Planning, Lodge Finance, Hall Association Management, Membership Development and Lodge Administration. Registration deadline for the San Diego session is July 3. These are great programs for anyone who might have a desire to enter into a position of Lodge leadership or anyone thinks he might have such a position in his future.

Barbeque - The **Annual Ed Denton Pit Barbeque** at East San Diego Lodge will be held on Sunday, July 6th. This is one of the best pit BBQ's around. Time: 11 am to 3 pm.

Amity Lodge - There are many opportunities to attend Lodge and see our Officers and their **superior degree work**. June's schedule has three Third Degrees and two First Degrees. This is a good thing and you should be there. Degrees begin at 6:45 so we may enjoy the Degree presentation and then excellent fellowship and refreshments afterwards and still be home at a good hour.

YOU ARE INVITED!!! Monday, June 30, 6:30 PM

Dinner followed by presentations. At the Scottish Rite Center. California Master Masons, Wives, Widows and Mothers.

Come and learn about the programs that are available to you! Representatives from the Masonic Homes and Acacia Creek at Covina will be presenting information on the **Masonic Homes, Masonic Outreach Services, Childrens' Program and the new, exciting Acacia Creek projects**. There will also be a special presentation on Eastern Star programs. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and enjoy a meal. There is no cost for this event. Reservations can be made by calling 866-559-0444.

BIRTHDAYS FROM THE EAST

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| James Mills | 6/2 |
| Sy Brenner | 6/2 |
| Earl Noll | 6/2 |
| August Dale | 6/3 |
| Howard Johnson | 6/3 |
| Donald Nutter | 6/5 |
| Evan Rose | 6/5 |
| David Magin | 6/5 |
| John Warner, PM | 6/6 |
| Jeffrey Merrick | 6/10 |
| Neil Simpson | 6/13 |
| Rolando DelosReyes | 6/14 |
| Timothy Cooper | 6/14 |
| Harlod Dodds | 6/17 |
| Edmund LaValle | 6/17 |
| Donald Callender | 6/20 |
| Dusan Martin, Sr., PM | 6/21 |
| Raymond Thufedal | 6/22 |
| Nestor Bala | 6/22 |
| James Cooley | 6/24 |
| David Bing | 6/24 |
| Scott Pearce, PM | 6/26 |
| Eduardo Apostol | 6/27 |
| Leonard Starbeck | 6/27 |
| Dewey Froseth | 6/27 |
| Alex Bedoya | 6/27 |
| Harold Weiss | 6/28 |
| Gary Clare | 6/29 |
| Rodrigo Cuevas, PM | 6/30 |

Average age = 64.9 years old
Oldest = 93 years old
Youngest = 24 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.



Brethren,
Some of the most exciting times are coming up in June. We are planning three Master Mason degrees and we need your support. Remember the degrees themselves represent a journey through the three stages of life in search of the light of knowledge – youth, manhood, and old age. At each step a Mason learns more and is taught lessons of morality and virtue, wisdom and strength, honor and fortitude. This is from *Freemasons for Dummies*. Come help these new

FROM THE SECRETARY

Brethren,
Where has time gone? It is already June and it seems that it was only yesterday that we became Amity Lodge.
This is the time of year when we need to start getting our membership count in line with Grand Lodge's so they can properly bill us for the annual per capita. We still have several members who have not sent in their dues for this year, I urge those who have not

When a Mason becomes Master of his Lodge, one of his duties upon the election of a candidate is to send to three Master Masons a request that they investigate the candidate. The form is self explanatory and is

Master Masons in their search for the light of knowledge.
With more First Degrees scheduled for the end of June, we are experiencing a surge in new Masons. We haven't experience a wave of new membership like this in the last few years. Membership is on the rise and more men are looking to masonry to help them become better men. By your deeds and words of friendship, we show these new brothers that masonry has something for everyman, whatever his interest may

done so to please send them in as soon as possible. Our dues are the major source of funds for Lodge operations and programs. I also urge you that if there has been any change in your mailing address or phone number you contact the Lodge office and let us know. I am still getting returned mail and there is a cost to the Lodge for each letter or Trestleboard that is returned.
I want to thank everyone who calls for

CONFIDENTIAL between the Master and the investigator. If a Master Mason receives such a request from the Master, it is obligation and duty to complete the investigation and return the form to Master. If the investigation

be. Try to attend some of the degrees this month. Share our fellowship. The officers appreciate the fellow brothers attending and the candidates like to know they are involved in a lodge that welcomes them.
Don't forget our special Filipino dine-in this month. It is scheduled for June 17th. Definitely make your reservations with the Secretary, as we have to order enough food ahead of time.
Fraternally,
Harold Thurber WM



dinner a reservation. It is a big help with the dinner count for the caterer and helps me keep a correct count. Please feel free to contact me if you have any news about one of our members so we can inform everyone. The officers are doing a great job in putting on the Degrees and if you haven't been to Lodge you are missing some great work! Try and join us for some fellowship.
Arnold L. Korey, Secretary

cannot be completed, it is incumbent on the investigator to inform the Master in a timely manner of the reason it cannot be done so that he may appoint another brother to make the necessary investigation.

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

Non-Profit
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Permit No. 129
 San Diego, CA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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 (Flor-Ella) 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 fkley@cox.net
 FRED KLEYN, PM 619-461-5724
- Immediate Past Masters ERNIE ASTUDILLO and MIKE ZDRAVKOIVIC

JUNE 2008 CALENDAR

- June**
- Mon 2nd** **THIRD DEGREE** - Brother Fabien
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m.
 - 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.
 - Sun 8th** **FLAG DAY BREAKFAST AT SCOTTISH RITE**
 - Mon 9th** Dark
 - Thurs 12th** **THIRD DEGREE** - Brother Tique
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m.
 - Mon 16th** **THIRD DEGREE** - Brother DelMar
 Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m.
 - Tues 17th** Dining Out at 6:30 p.m. - Filipino Diner at the Lodge
 (see article or call Harry Besnoy)
 - Thurs 19th** Dark
 - Mon 23rd** **FIRST DEGREE** - Mr. Cooper, Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m.
 - Thurs 26th** **FIRST DEGREE** - TBA, Lodge opens at 6:45 p.m.
 - Mon 30th** Dark

**NOTE: Officers' attire: First and Second Degrees is coat and tie,
 Third Degrees is TUXEDO.**

- July**
- 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.

JUNE STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

- Chicken Parmesan and Snapper
- Potatoes Au Gratin and Grilled Mixed Vegetables
- Spring Salad with crumbles - Assorted rolls
- Pineapple Upside Down Cake and Beverages

"REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR..."

Of all the quotations, allusions, facts, and names taken from the Great Light and made a part of the Masonic ritual none has a more secure place in the hearts of the brethren than the first seven verses from Ecclesiastes xii:

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain; In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low; Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail; because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets; Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Of the two favorite interpretations of Biblical commentators one makes this dramatic passage a description of old age and senile decay; the other, a reference to the seldom experienced and much feared thunderstorm in Palestine.

The first gives advice to remember the Creator before the eyes begin to go blind, the hands begin to tremble, the legs to weaken, the teeth to drop out; before the old man is frightened at every little sound, even the voice of a bird; before his voice ceases to be musical; before "the almond tree shall flourish" -that is, the hair whiten like the almond tree in bloom, and so tiny a weight as that of a grasshopper be burdensome; before

the silver cord (spinal marrow) be loosed or the golden bowl (heart) be broken and so on.

Whether or not the writer of this passage possessed a sufficient knowledge of anatomy to refer to the spinal cord, heart, internal organs, and brain as the "silver cord," the "golden bowl," the "pitcher," and the "wheel," is problematical. The storm interpretation is not open to such an objection; the little mills with which women ground corn would soon cease in the face of the feared thunder; the women in the houses would draw away from the windows and shut them and also the doors, but there is some difficulty in fitting the grasshopper and the almond tree into this analogy.

Read it how you will, the majestic and awe-inspiring poetry rings here the solemn warning with a shake of the heart and a shiver up the back. ... Remember *now* thy Creator ... *now*, before the fearsome storms of life, or the decay of old age is upon you; wait not until "fears are in the way" to cry for help to the Almighty. Delay not until toothless, sightless, white-haired age asks for help from on high because there is no help left on earth! Re-member *now* thy Creator, while limbs are strong and desire ardent, while life pulses redly and the world is all before. ...

No man thinks of his Master Mason's degree but hears again in his heart at least the beginning and ending of this sermon in poetry: "Remember now thy Creator, in the days of thy youth; . . . then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." The solemn strokes on the bell which is Ecclesiastes and the heart-gripping drama of the Legend of Hiram Abif are ever to be known apart by him who has met them together.

from
Introduction to Freemasonry -III-
By Carl H. Claudy
copyright 1931, 22nd Printing,
February, 1944



PAGE 5

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF FREEMASONRY IN CALIFORNIA

There is a Seafaring Man

The first Masons to reach California were seafaring men who traded along the coast from San Diego on the south to the Russian settlements on the north. They were a hardy lot who feared neither man nor element and, from some accounts, not averse to an occasional bit of smuggling. They sailed their flimsy little vessels out of New England ports, battled storms off Cape Horn, and months later declared their cargoes at Monterey. Some, engaged in straight hide and tallow trade, came up the South American and Mexican coasts, making their way here as directly as winds would permit. Others, in the China and Hawaiian Islands trade, often sailed across the Pacific and back between visits to our ports, while a few went as far north as Sitka.

Among the earliest of these traders were Captains John Meek, Robert J. Elwell, David P. Penhallow, Joseph O. Carter, John Paty, Supercargo Carter Carew, the brothers Robert G. and William Heath Davis, Jr., and probably Stephen Reynolds. Meek, Elwell, Paty, and Reynolds were from Massachusetts. The record is not clear on Carter, but Penhallow was a New Hampshire man and Carew was a Pennsylvanian. The Davis Brothers, born in Honolulu, were sons of William Heath Davis, Sr., a Boston shipmaster who died in the Hawaiian Islands in 1823. Save for Carew, who lost his life when his ship foundered in a storm, and Reynolds whose coming here is questioned by some historians, they were all sharp traders who realized substantial fortunes from their California ventures.

Elwell and William Heath Davis, Jr. (the latter nicknamed "Kanaka Davis") married native California women and, in all things but money matters, became more Californian than the Californians themselves. Meek and Paty were content to own property here and trade along our coast but, like Carter, Reynolds and Robert Davis, preferred to live in the Hawaiian Islands, Paty dying there in 1868 and Meek in 1875.

Unfortunately, though the business affairs of these brethren cover pages of history, their Masonic records are incomplete and hard to trace. The raising dates of only two, Elwell and Penhallow, are available. Fragments of personal correspondence, signatures in a Tiler's register, and a few minute entries must suffice for the rest.

Also, there seems to be no positive way of determining who among them got to California first. For reminiscences are faulty and at variance with shipping registries.

Take Captain John Meek, who appears to be first, for example. Born at Marblehead, Massachusetts, November 24, 1791, he went to sea at an early age, and was probably here on the West Coast throughout the entire War of 1812. It is possible that he did not even know the war had taken place till it was over. For Hubert Howe Bancroft, the celebrated California historian, mentions him as master of the *Amethyst*, engaged in otter hunting under Russian contract along the California coast in 1811 and 1812. William Heath Davis, Jr., mentions him as first officer on the *Eagle*, owned by Davis's father, which put in to *Refugio* near Santa Barbara in 1816. He was subsequently master of several other vessels in the California-Hawaiian trade, the brig *Tamaahmaaha* and Captain John Paty's famous bark *Don Quixote* being among them.

When *Le Progres* Lodge No. 124 was organized under

dispensation of the Supreme Council of France on board Captain M. Le Tellier's bark *Ajax* at Honolulu April 8, 1843, Captain Meek was one of its organizers and charter members. He was intensely devoted to its welfare, serving as Senior Warden in 1848, and furnishing his own house for a meeting place when no other edifice was available. His name frequently appears in the minutes of this lodge, and when he died at Honolulu January 29, 1875, his funeral received special mention in them. Elsewhere, the records reveal that he had been a member of *Le Progres* Lodge thirty-two years and was its oldest charter member at the time of his death.

Meek was also an organizer and charter member of Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, established in 1852 under jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of California. It seems that *Le Progres* Lodge languished almost to the point of extinction about that time, and he and Penhallow, helped to organize Hawaiian Lodge in order to keep the Craft alive in the islands. Paty and Robert G. Davis followed them into the new Lodge a short time later. But, by 1856, they had all withdrawn from it and returned to *Le Progres* Lodge which, in the meanwhile, had resumed work.

Yet, nowhere in all the history of Hawaiian Masonry is there a satisfactory clue as to where Meek was made a Mason, though all authorities agree he was a Mason before he went to the islands.

Outside the Craft, Meek is best remembered as one of the earliest Americans to visit the islands. He first went there in 1809, only thirty-one years after their discovery by our illustrious English brother, Captain James Cook, and eleven years before the arrival of the first missionaries. When he finally went ashore to live, he became a farmer, interested in blooded stock. About 1832, as master of the *Don Quixote*, he imported a bull and three heifers given to him by Ygnacio Martinez, comandante of the Presidio of San Francisco. These animals formed the nucleus of the vast herds that roam the islands today.

There is some question as to the next brother to visit California, but it appears to have been Captain David Pearce Penhallow, born at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, about 1805. Penhallow was the third known candidate raised in *Le Progres* Lodge. He was entered April 29, 1846; passed February 6, 1847; and raised March 31, 1847.

Bancroft's History of California mentions his arrival in California as master of the *Alert* in 1837, but in his application for membership in The Society of California Pioneers he stated that he was here in 1822. In either event, he did not become a Mason till sometime later. He is described as a jovial, well liked fellow with a boyish mischievousness and a liking for practical jokes. It is said that he once put a small snake under the plate of his host at a dinner.

Whether Captain Penhallow carried any of his mirth-evoking tactics into the Lodge room is not recorded but, as elsewhere noted, he was a good Mason and active in the affairs of *Le Progres* and other Lodges. Later in life he settled in San Francisco,

from
*One Hundred Years of Freemasonry in
California*
Leon O. Whitsell, Past Grand Master
copyright 1950

where he affiliated with Mount Moriah Lodge No. 44, sometime between November, 1859, and February, 1860. He died in San Francisco February 10, 1860, and was buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

If Robert Jonathan Elwell did not precede Penhallow here, he still gets credit for being the first Mason to settle in California. Captain Elwell, who was raised in the Lodge of St. Andrew at Boston January 23, 1823, was reputedly a "comical genius" who gradually abandoned the sea for an idyllic life at Santa Barbara. Family tradition cited by his posterity has him in California as early as 1816, but he himself said that he did not come till August, 1824.

Elwell was still following the sea in 1828, when he was naturalized a Mexican citizen. The shipping registries for 1827 and 1828 respectively, show him as master of the Tamaahmaaha and the Washington, and as late as 1830 he is mentioned taking a cargo of horses to the Hawaiian Islands. In 1829, he married Senorita Vicenta Sanchez, whom William Heath Davis described as a "handsome woman." Seven years later, the Santa Barbara padron (census) listed him as being thirty-nine years old and the father of four children. Captain Elwell "engaged in trade" at Santa Barbara till the time of his death there in 1853. He acquired land in Yerba Buena and elsewhere about the state and was considered a man of affluence. Still, his Masonic record seems restricted to the date of his raising in the Lodge of St. Andrew and to an amusing tale told by his descendants. According to the latter, some of the women folk of his household happened upon his Masonic apron one day when he was away from home on business. Not knowing what it was, but admiring the beautiful silk of which it was made, they swiftly converted it into a dress for one of his small children. The youngster was undoubtedly "the belle of the ball", but what the old sea dog thought of the destruction of his apron is more than likely unfit to print.

Captain Elwell was followed by Joseph O. Carter, who came here as master of the bark Volunteer in 1831. Captain Carter was a founder and charter member of Le Progres Lodge. His Masonic record can be found only in the minutes of this Lodge, and then for only a few years and at widely separated dates, for he was at sea most of the time. Between 1833 and 1840, he was master of several different vessels, one of which, the Alciope, was in the Boston trade. He was apparently loath to leave his family at home, and, as Bancroft points out, his wife and child frequently accompanied him on his voyages between California and the islands.

Captain Carter died at Honolulu about 1851. He has been described not only as an adviser to the Hawaiian Royal family, but also as a "many-sided man, familiar with commerce in all its branches and esteemed the soul of honor to his dying day."

Another arrival of 1831 was William Heath Davis, Jr., to whom we owe an eternal debt of gratitude for a several-hundred page volume of reminiscences and historical sidelights published in 1889 under title of *Sixty Years in California*.

Born into a Yankee seafaring family at Honolulu in 1822, Davis came here the first time as a boy of nine on the bark Louisa. We do not know whether he came just for the voyage or to learn something about the sea from his elders. It must have been the latter, for he repeated his visit in 1833 and 1838, and then went to work as clerk in the store of his uncle, Nathan Spear, at Yerba Buena.

While in his uncle's employ, Davis became so well acquainted with the San Francisco Bay waters that, in 1839, he piloted Johann Augustus Sutter and his little band of settlers through the

Strait of Carquinez and up the Sacramento to New Helvetia. Three years later he left Spear's employ for the job of super-cargo on Captain John Paty's *Don Quixote*, taking a voyage to Hono-lulu and back. Then, rounding out his education with a couple of years as agent for Paty's trading firm of Paty, McKinley and Co. in Yerba Buena, he again went to Honolulu on the *Don Quixote*. After that he was ready to go into business for himself.

While in Honolulu, in 1845, Davis and Eliab Grimes bought the brig *Euphemia* with a cargo of merchandise which they disposed of in California the following year. By then Davis had acquired considerable San Francisco property and was considered a man of affluence. But he apparently gave little attention to "settling down" till 1847, when he married Maria' de Jesus Estudillo, daughter of Jose Joaquin Estudillo, grantee of Rancho San Leandro in Alameda County.

With advancing years, Davis conceived the idea of writing an account of his experiences and adventures in California since the day he went to work for his uncle, Nathan Spear, in Yerba Buena. He had traveled all over the state, was well acquainted with the native Californians, and on sufficiently intimate terms with them to be considered an authority on their ways and customs. The result was his previously mentioned *Sixty Years in California*, a work filled with human interest material from cover to cover. He took note of the Californians' social and religious life, their diet and physical habits, the missions and their great herds of live stock, the hide and tallow trade, the grizzly bear and other wild life, the first American immigrants, and the Gold Rush. Especially interested in trade, he not only listed all the people living in 1846 within the area now known as the City of San Francisco, but he also recorded, so far as he could discover, all ships arriving there from 1774 to 1847. He even included the names of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers of Stevenson's Regiment, plus some particulars on the regiment itself.

Indeed, this amazing product of Davis's industry was the most comprehensive ever published on the subject. Today it is considered a valuable item by collectors of Californiana. Yet its author omitted one thing that would have interested thousands of people. He mentioned other men as being Masons, but for some reason neglected to say that he himself was one—a member of Le Progres Lodge in the city of his birth. And here, in California, he appears as a dispensation member in the records of San Diego Lodge No. 35.

Save for Brother Stephen Reynolds, a Massachusetts trader, who Bancroft thought might have come here in 1833. Meek, Penhallow, Elwell, Carter, and Davis were the only known seafaring Masons to visit California until the coming of Captain John Paty in 1837.

Reynolds was apparently made a Mason somewhere in Massachusetts, but his name is mentioned from time to time in the minutes of Le Progres Lodge and, in January, 1846, he was mentioned as Master of that Lodge. Beyond that, not much is known about him. According to Bancroft, he acquired considerable property in the islands; then lost it all in an unfortunate sugar plantation venture. He is supposed to have returned to Massachusetts, where he died insane about 1853.

But, in Captain Paty, a founder and charter member of Le

Progres Lodge, we come to the most colorful shipmaster in the Pacific for thirty years. His name was synonymous with the royal Hawaiian court, in which he was a trusted adviser, and with the California-Hawaiian trade in which he was easily the most important figure. In February, 1846, Kamehameha III appointed him official representative of Hawaiian interests in California and commodore of the Hawaiian navy. It is said that when officiating as the latter he wore a resplendent uniform that delighted the natives.

Captain Paty first went to the islands on the brig Avon from Boston in 1834, accompanied by his wife who was so impressed with the tropical beauty of Honolulu that she soon persuaded him to make his home there. In course of his long seafaring career, he was master of several vessels, the most famous being his bark Don Quixote, which was almost a household word in Honolulu and along the mainland coast from Yerba Buena to San Blas. From 1843 to 1845, he was senior partner of Paty, McKinley & Co., a Yerba Buena trading establishment composed of himself, James McKinley, and Henry D. Fitch. Moreover, he was well liked and respected all along the coast by Mexican officialdom for whom he did many favors. In fact, he seems to have been on especially good terms with Governor Manuel Micheltoarena, a brother Mason, with whom he played chess till all hours of the night every time the opportunity presented itself. When that official and his "army" were ousted by the Native Californians in the revolt of 1845, it was on the Don Quixote that they returned to Mexico.

As a Mason, the captain was most concerned with the fortunes of Le Progres Lodge from the day he helped to organize it till the day of his death. Of course, when, for reasons over which it had no control, it almost slipped into extinction between 1850 and 1854, he and Brother Robert G. Davis allowed Meek and Penhallow into the newly-organized Hawaiian Lodge No. 21. But it is doubtful that they ever really left Le Progres Lodge. More than likely, they held something akin to dual membership. For by 1856 they had all withdrawn from Hawaiian Lodge and returned to Le Progres, which had recovered itself and resumed labor.

Sometime in 1865 or 1866, Captain Paty celebrated his hundredth voyage between California and the islands. He died at Honolulu in 1868 at the age of sixty-one, covered with all honors that could be received by a man of his calling.

In June, 1839, about two years after Captain Paty first sailed a ship into a California port, Robert G. Davis arrived as clerk on the Boston ship Monsoon. Not much is known about him besides the fact that he was a brother of William Heath Davis, Jr., and was born in Honolulu and educated in Boston. He came to California again as a trader on the schooner Julia Ann in 1841-1842. Also, Bancroft mentions him as later being Peruvian consul and a judge at some unnamed place. In short, he seems to have been one of those characters who flits across the historical stage without giving anyone a good look at him.

It is well known, however, that he was a Mason. He was a charter member of Le Progres Lodge and served at its Master in 1857. As before noted, he also went into Hawaiian Lodge for a short period about a year-then returned to Le Progres Lodge in whose minutes his name appears from time to time for some years thereafter. According to Bancroft, he died about 1872, pre-sumably in the islands.

The tenth and last known seafaring Mason to touch the California coast prior to the American conquest was Carter Carew of Philadelphia. Carew, though principally engaged as supercargo on

vessels in the China trade, occasionally came to California on some trading ship from the Hawaiian Islands. He did not say in so many words that he was a Mason, but while in the harbor at Yerba Buena June 14, 1843, he wrote a letter to his brother James Porter Carew, of Philadelphia, that leaves no doubt of it.

It was an interesting letter, apparently the second that he had written from this coast to his brother. After touching upon business matters and describing the Roman Catholic clergy's power in California, and how hard the Indians worked for the priests, he went on to say:

"Some of the American gentlemen speak of forming a society of Free-masons and have asked my advice, which was a negative one, for the Fathers would look upon such a society as the work of the devil, to be suppressed, and naught but trouble might result; for after all we are in a foreign land and the customs of that land might with propriety be observed by us. A Captain Paty, a merchant and who is of the Freemasons, seems to be the leader of the idea, and says even some of the Americans who have become citizens here and have embraced the Catholic church, would secretly join, but I do not like secrecy in our great society. It should be open to the knowledge of all. But some day there will be a strong society of our Order here as more and more Americans come, and I even think that many Californians, devout as they may seem, would like to be of the brotherhood, as they are most estimable people of temperate habits and kindly disposed to all who visit them."

Thus Carew, who went down with his ship off the coast of South America six years later, records the first discussions of opening a Masonic Lodge in California, with Brother Paty as leader of the movement. And, as his reason for opposing it, he cites the ancient hostility of the Roman Catholic clergy for our free institution. With the clergy dominating the minds of the native Californians, the establishment of a Lodge at that time might have led to anything from simple eviction of foreigners to international complications of a high order.

Carew's comment on the naturalized Americans who might secretly join the Craft was extremely pertinent. He was evidently unaware that there were already two Americans here who were Masons and, at the same time, Mexican citizens and Roman Catholics -Brothers Robert J. Elwell at Santa Barbara: and Abel Stearns at Los Angeles. The latter was a Massachusetts trader who was naturalized a Mexican citizen in Mexico, where he had lived three years before coming up to California.

As a matter of fact, nobody was too surprised in those days when a Protestant American, Masonic or otherwise, became a Mexican citizen and Roman Catholic-at least long enough to marry a beautiful native woman or acquire a several-thousand acre land grant. Writing to J. B. R. Cooper, a New England Shipmaster who had done the same thing himself, Elwell once cynically observed that a certain other American who had joined the church was "a no better Catholic than ourselves."

Of course, Carew may not have been familiar with all the details of this practice of some of his fellow countrymen, for, unlike Elwell, he questioned neither their sincerity nor piety. On the other hand, his belief that native Californians might join the Craft was confirmed by subsequent events.