

JUNE  
2009



Volume XCVI  
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

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*100 Years of Freemasonry  
in California - Organiza-  
tion of Grand Lodge*



442

#### contact us

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



## AMITY LODGE'S HONORED LADIES LUNCHEON

JUNE 15, 2009  
NOON  
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CENTER

Call Arnold Korey  
619-291-0465

Our Honored Ladies are our  
guests.  
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## TRESTLEBOARD BY EMAIL

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TELL YOUR  
BRETHREN

## PAGES

5 to 9

bonus pages  
for our email  
subscribers



A WAY OF LIFE

## 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, PM<sup>4</sup> 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](mailto:ctandrews@ca.rr.com)

Web Site: [www.calodges.org/no442](http://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](mailto:ctandrews@ca.rr.com)

## WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THE RITUAL? OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

If you would like to keep your ritual sharp or would like learn and participate in our Masonic ritual we are organizing an Amity Degree Team. If you are an "old hand" or just received your degrees you will be welcomed and encouraged in this low pressure environment for "learning the work". It does not matter if you have never done the ritual before as this is one of the purposes of our team; to teach non-officers, whether they want to do degree work or just increase their Masonic knowledge. We will also do some explanation of the meaning of the ritual to make it more understandable.

If you want more information call John McQuown, Senior Warden, at (858) 452-8204.

## WHAT TO WEAR

Stated Meetings for June through September the answer to "what to wear" is: Hawaiian Shirt or Barong Tagalog. No shorts or flip-flops.

## LODGE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

Gain the tools and training you need to effectively manage your lodge. This summer the five courses in the certification program are offered in intensive one-day workshops:

- Program Planning
- Lodge Finance
- Hall Association Management
- Membership Development
- Lodge Administration

### Masonic Formation Certification Program

Masonic Formation officers help inspire candidates and renew the spirit of Masonry in the lodge. Get certified and learn how to:

- Create an effective candidate education program
- Motivate lodge members to seek more knowledge about Masonry
- Organize a lodge Masonic Formation program
- Tap new materials and resources for lifelong learning

### Dates and locations (same for both programs)

June 6: Sheraton Pasadena Hotel, Pasadena

June 13: Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, San Diego

June 20: Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Fresno

June 27: Radisson Hotel Sacramento, Sacramento

July 11: Crowne Plaza San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco

July 18: Holiday Inn, Chico

To register, call Kim Hegg, Grand Lodge Program Manager, at 415/292-9111 or download registration forms at [freemason.org](http://freemason.org):

- Lodge Management Certification Program: select Leadership Development from the Member Center pull-down menu
- Masonic Formation Certification Program: select Masonic Education from the Member Center pull-down menu

## GOLDEN VETERANS HONORED

Amity Lodge is honoring its Golden Veterans this month at a special dinner on June 25th at 6:30 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Center. Our honorees are Brothers Dunst, Kahn, Harnly, Hom, Kanagy, Seeto and Summers. Brothers Harnly, Hom, Kanagy, Seeto and Summers will receive visits at their homes by the Master and other Brethren and Brothers Dunst and Kahn will be honored at the dinner. Please contact Brother Arnold Korey at the Secretary's Office to make your reservations for this chance to honor those who have been Masons for 50 years or more, a truly notable accomplishment.

## OOPS

The Trestleboard and its editor would like to apologize for a continuing problem with a particular Brother's birthday. We have gotten it wrong more times that right and we truly hope that next year it gets in the "right" column. Past Master, Ron Newell's birthday is May 15, NOT May 18. We do hope you had a Happy Birthday on the 15th.

## RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

We would be delighted to have you attend our Stated Meeting and Stated Meeting dinner. If you do plan on attending, please make your reservation by calling Arnold Korey at the Lodge office. The number is 619-291-0465. BE COURTEOUS AND MAKE THE CALL and remember, a reservation made is a contract and payment due unless cancelled..

## BIRTHDAYS FROM THE EAST - CHRISTIAN QUIMPO

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
Neil Simpson	6/13
Rolando DelosReyes	6/14
Timothy Cooper	6/14
Andrew Davis	6/15
Harlod Dodds	6/17
Edmund LaValle	6/17
Donald Callender	6/20
Dusan Martin, Sr., PM	6/21
Raymond Thuftedal	6/22
Brian Funk	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

With summer starting in about three weeks, we all think about having fun in the sun with our families and friends. On Memorial Day, we remembered what it means to be Americans and all those men and women who gave their all for the freedoms we enjoy today. For this, I am truly thankful. I am also thankful for those men and women that have supported us in the past...those Honored Ladies who supported their husbands as they came to Lodge and worked along side our Golden Veterans (50 year members) to build the Lodge we have today—a growing and significant organization that is Amity Lodge No. 442 F & AM.

Join Emily and I at these events. See Trestleboard articles for more details. Our newest Fellowcrafts are Bro. Travis Knowlton and Bro. Israel Graham. These Brothers are great examples of their generation. Let us all congratulate them on their achievements. Also, Amity Lodge may have two first degrees on June 8th and Brother Nick Borden will give his 2° Proficiency and be raised a Master Mason on June 15th, likewise with Bro. Dan McBride on June 22nd. Attend our Stated Meeting or call / E-mail the Master for details.

The Grand Lodge of California is offering the Masonic Formation and

Lodge Management Certification Programs again. These programs are well thought out and taught by the most knowledgeable and experienced Masons. These programs are essential to those who are looking forward to leading the Lodge. If you are interested, please let me know by June 2nd.

Emily and I wish all Dads a happy Father's and congratulations to everyone who have achieved their goals in advancing education and careers.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless and protect us.  
Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Christian P. Quimpo, WM

## FROM THE SECRETARY - ARNOLD KOREY

Brethren,  
Where has time gone? Half the year is gone. We have the rest of the year for more Degrees and fraternal get togethers.

WE have two important events coming in June: the Honored Ladies Luncheon on the 15th of June and a Fifty year Mason Dinner on the 25th of June. Please plan on coming and joining the Lodge as we honor these individuals who

have been a part of Masonry for many years. You can call the Secretary's office for your reservations. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

For those that have not come and joined us for our dine-out events you are missing some great dinners take a look at what we have this month. Don't miss the Officers that do the Degrees. Come join us.

I have to apologize to any Brother that has not

received the Trestleboard or other correspondence from the Secretary's office. I have tried to keep up with all the address changes. If you know of any Brother who is not receiving any of these please have him contact me by phone or e-mail. I am here to serve you and the Fraternity.

Fraternally  
Arnold L Korey, Secretary

This month's  
Average age = 64.69 years  
Oldest = 94 years old  
Youngest = 21 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.

### Upcoming events

#### Honored Ladies Lunch

June 15, 2009

#### Honor 50-year Members

June 25, 2009

#### Past Masters' Night

July 23, 2009

## DINE OUT - Sycuan Casino Buffet - June 23 at 6:30 pm

Our Dine-Out is on Tuesday, **June 23rd** at Sycuan Casino at the buffet.

A return trip to this fabulous buffet is in order for the month of June. We will be dining on a huge assortment

of delicious items that will surely satisfy any appetite.

We look forward to seeing you at 6:30 p.m. to join in partaking of good food and even better fellowship. Brethren, ladies and friends

are invited.

If you need directions or have comments or suggestions, please call Harry at home 619-562-7465.

**THE FOURTH TUESDAY FOR THIS MONTH.**

**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**  
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Attention wives, family and care givers: Should the person to whom this Trestleboard is addressed be ill or in some difficulty, please call Arnold Korey, Secretary of Amity Lodge #442 at 619-291-0465.

**AMITY LODGE OFFICERS**

- Master ..... **CHRIS QUIMPO** (Emily)  
858-231-3226 ..... chrispq@hotmail.com
- Senior Warden ..... **JOHN MC QUOWN, PM** (Lourdes)  
858-452-8204 ..... jmcquown@san.rr.com
- Junior Warden ..... **MARK KAUFMAN** (Karen)  
858-248-1502 .....
- Treasurer ..... **HAROLD THURBER, PM** (Patricia)  
619-669-4731 ..... hdthurber@att.net
- Secretary ..... **ARNOLD L. KOREY** (Marlene)  
619-582-1468 ..... pote1995@pacbell.net
- Chaplain ..... **DELANO RIVERA** (Remi)  
619-392-9976 ..... del.rivera@sbcglobal.com
- Senior Deacon ..... **JERRY DEL MAR** (Flor-Ella)  
858-672-0573 ..... gem091340@aol.com
- Junior Deacon ..... **RICHARD ANDERSON** (Helen)  
858-229-5268 ..... rgandersonjr5@yahoo.com
- Marshal ..... **TIMOTHY COOPER**  
619-303-4292 ..... the.centipede@gmail.com
- Senior Steward ..... **ANDREW DAVIS**  
858-568-0491 ..... adavisamity442@gmail.com
- Junior Steward ..... **JACK KNISH** (Stephanie)  
619-531-2804 ..... jknish@pd.sandiego.gov
- Tiler ..... **HARRY BESNOY** (Gaye)  
619-562-7465 ..... hbesnoy@hotmail.com
- Officers' Coach ..... **ERNIE ASTUDILLO, PM** (Filipina)  
858-271-4555 ..... ernbobiastu@yahoo.com
- Head Candidates' Coach ..... **JOHN MC QUOWN, PM** (Lourdes)  
858-452-8204 ..... jmcquown@san.rr.com
- Inspector ..... **JOHN HEISNER, PM** (Margo)  
619-437-8119 ..... jheisner@san.rr.com
- Immediate Past Master ..... **HAROLD THURBER, PM** (Patricia)  
619-669-4731 ..... hdthurber@att.net

**JUNE 2009 CALENDAR**

- June**
- Mon 1st** First Degree practice, 6:30
  - Thurs 4th** **STATED MEETING OF AMITY LODGE** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Make your reservations please call 619-291-0465. Hawaiian or Barong Tagalog.
  - Mon 8th** 6:45 p.m. **First Degree** - Mr. Bashi and Mr. Payne
  - Thurs 11th** 6:45 p.m. Third Degree Practice
  - Mon 15th** **NOON - Honored Ladies Luncheon - see page 2**
  - Mon 15th** 6:45 p.m. **Third Degree** - Brother Borden
  - Thurs 18th** 6:45 p.m. Third Degree Practice
  - Mon 22nd** 6:45 p.m. **Third Degree** - Brother McBride
  - Tues 23rd** **Dine Out at Sycuan Casino Buffet** - see page 3
  - Thurs 25th** **6:30 p.m. Golden Veterans Award Dinner** - see page 2
  - Mon 29th** Inspector's School of Instruction - all Officers must attend. Amity works 2nd Section Third Degree

- July**
- Thurs 2nd** **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 6th** 6:45 p.m. Third Degree Practice

**NOTE: Officers' attire: First and Second Degrees is coat and tie or Barong Tagalog, Third Degrees it is TUXEDO.**  
 Stated meeting attire June through September is Hawaiian Shirt or Barong Tagalog, no shorts or flip-flops.

**JUNE STATED MEETING DINNER MENU**

- Stir-fry Beef and Chicken Teriyaki
- Steamed White Rice and Mixed Vegetables
- Seafood Pasta Salad and Pineapple Upside Down Cake
- Beverages and Assorted Rolls



# ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF FREEMASONRY IN CALIFORNIA

## Organization of Grand Lodge, continued...

But, where New Jersey Lodge presented its dispensation for approval, Benicia Lodge, which held its first meeting as Pacific Lodge, March 6, 1850, presented nothing but the credentials of its own Master, Hyam. For this, Hyam was accused in some quarters of having deliberately left his Lodge's dispensation at home for fear the convention would discover how irregular it was under the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. (As if there had not been sufficient discussion of that matter already.) The committee duly reported that it had examined his credentials, but had received no dispensation or charter "or any other Masonic information of the existence of the said Benicia Lodge." This detail was taken care of, however, by the previous-mentioned Stevenson resolution, which provided that "the representative from Benicia Lodge and all other Master Masons in good standing, now present" be invited to participate in the convention.

By then, the delegates concluded they had done enough work for one day, and adjourned till the next morning.

After satisfying themselves that there were enough "duly and constitutionally warranted Lodges" in California to authorize the formation of a Grand Lodge, the delegates passed most of the 18th pondering a constitution. Gilman, Stevenson, Tutt, Gihon and Gray were appointed a committee of five to draft one. Before the day was over, they presented for approval of the convention nine articles which

were unanimously adopted. By the morning of the 19th, the whole constitution was ready for approval, and, after careful consideration, it was adopted in its entirety.

There was little to do after that but open a Lodge of Master Masons "for the purpose of organizing and opening in Masonic form" the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California. Gilman was accordingly appointed Worshipful Master; Stevenson, Senior Warden; Doughty, Junior Warden; Hyam, Secretary; Jennings, Senior Deacon; Gore, Junior Deacon; and Joseph C. Derby, Tiler. As soon as the Lodge was opened, Tutt moved that the election of Grand Officers be held immediately. As a result, Stevenson was elected the first Grand Master of Masons in California. Tutt was elected Deputy Grand Master; Caleb Fenner, Senior Grand Warden; Woods, Junior Grand Warden; and Gihon, Grand Secretary.

At this point, on motion of Gore, the Lodge resolved to suspend the election of the remaining officers and proceed with the installation of the Grand Officers elect. This called for the services of Past Grand Master Gilman, who installed Stevenson as Grand Master. And Stevenson installed his own Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary. The Grand Wardens, Fenner and Woods, were absent and, therefore, could not be installed at that time.

With that, Hyam made the final entry of the convention in his minutes book: "The Master Masons Lodge was then closed in ancient Masonic

form, and the convention, having completed the business for which it had assembled, was adjourned sine die."

The morning was fast slipping away. It was time for Gihon to take up where Hyam had left off. He moved into his chair and awaited further procedure. A few minutes later he had made the following entry in his minutes:

"IN GRAND LODGE

"City of Sacramento

"April 19, A. L. 5850

"The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California was opened in AMPLE FORM, in the Masonic Hall, at 12 o'clock, M.

Present:

The M. W. Jona. D. Stevenson  
Grand Master

R. W. John A. Tutt

...Deputy Grand Master

" " Thomas E. Gray, as Senior Grand Warden

" " W. N. Doughty, as Junior Grand Warden

" " John H. Gihon

..Grand Secretary

" " W. Berryman Jennings, as Senior Grand Deacon

" " B. B. Gore, as Junior Grand Deacon

" " Joseph C. Derby, as Grand Tyler

"With other members of the Grand Lodge, and sundry visiting brethren."

Up to this point the most notable episode of the day was perhaps Gilman's refusal to accept the honor of becoming the first Grand Master of California. He had already been Grand Master of two states and, since his stay in California was only a temporary

from

*One Hundred Years of Freemasonry in California*

Leon O. Whitsell, Past Grand Master  
copyright 1950

one, he preferred to pass the honor on to his good friend and law partner, Stevenson, Past Master of Phoenix Lodge No. 40, of New York City.

The first business of the new Grand Lodge was the granting of charters to New Jersey Lodge, of Sacramento, and Benicia Lodge, of Benicia. New Jersey received first consideration. Its Master, Doughty, flanked by his Senior and Junior Wardens, Berryman Jennings and A. G. Hart, got the floor the moment it was cleared of officers engaged in the opening ritual. They represented that they had been operating under a dispensation for some months past and they now wished to have their Lodge chartered under the name of Berryman Lodge. They were plainly naming the Lodge after a living person, Berryman Jennings, its greatest benefactor, but there is no indication that Grand Lodge at the time saw anything wrong with it.

Benicia Lodge was represented only by its delegate Hyam, who stated it had been working under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. He must have considered it expedient to forget the "Ancient York Masons" part of his Grand Jurisdiction's title, for he said nothing about it. He simply stated "that for some time past a Lodge had been working at Benicia . . . and that if their work be approved they would most earnestly pray that you grant them a charter for a Lodge at that place, to be called Benicia Lodge...."

These applications

were forthwith turned over to a committee especially appointed to consider them, while the Grand Lodge got along with other business of the day, which consisted mainly of recognizing Connecticut, Western Star, and California Lodges as legally constituted Lodges of the Grand Jurisdiction of California. Save for Connecticut, which wished its name changed to Tehama, they were endorsed under their original names.

By the time this was done, the committee on the charter applications of New Jersey and Benicia Lodges was ready to report. It had found New Jersey's dispensation and "books of proceedings" in proper shape, and unhesitatingly recommended a charter for that Lodge. But since Benicia had presented neither dispensation nor books, the committee recommended that no charter be granted to it till such time as "those documents" were submitted to the Grand Master. If he found them in order, he could grant the charter, himself.

New Jersey Lodge was thereupon chartered under the name of Berryman No. 4, and recognized as a member of the Grand Lodge. But less than three weeks later, it changed its name again, from Berryman to Jennings. Thus, it was still named after the same man.

Just when Grand Master Stevenson examined the books and papers of Benicia Lodge, if ever, is unknown. But he granted a charter to it, "dated April 19, 1850" the very day that the aforesaid committee reported! This is most significant in view of the fact that it was he who introduced the resolution that permitted "the representative of Benicia Lodge and all other Masons in 'good standing' " to participate

in the convention that organized Grand Lodge.

The last items on the agenda of Grand Lodge that day were the unanimous election of Jennings as first Grand Treasurer and the ordering of five hundred copies of "the convention and the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. . . ." The proceedings et cetera were to be published by the Grand Secretary in pamphlet form.

With that, the Grand Lodge of California closed its first communication in Ample Form and Stevenson and Gihon signed the minutes. But eighteen days later, on May 7, it again met in Sacramento and opened its first Annual Communication, with Deputy Grand Master Tutt presiding.

When the roll was called for this second gathering, several changes had to be made in the roster of Grand Lodge officers. The most notable of them was providing a successor for Jennings who, on moving to Oregon, had resigned as Grand Treasurer. The offices of Senior Grand Warden and Senior and Junior Grand Deacon were filled by pro tern, appointees. Stevenson, unable to be present, sent a message commenting on the general condition of the Craft in California and advising that he had granted charters to Berryman and Benicia Lodges. Tutt briefly announced that, on recommendation of Tehama Lodge, he had issued a dispensation to a Lodge to be called "Sutter" in the City of Sacramento. Sutter received its charter later that same day.

The only subordinate Lodge sending returns to this communication was California Lodge, which reported thirty Master Masons and nine Entered Apprentices. It also reported that it had contracted

for a "new and handsome hall," now under construction, and had on hand three petitions for affiliation and three for initiation.

The first order of business of the second day of this communication was numbering the subordinate Lodges. Heretofore, they had been working under the numbers given to them by their former Grand Jurisdictions. Now they were to be renumbered by the California Grand Lodge "in accordance with the dates of their organization?"

Whereupon something happened. California Lodge No. 13, of San Francisco, organized November 15, 1849, under the Grand Lodge of District of Columbia, became No. 1, on the Grand Roster of California. Western Star Lodge No. 98, of the Grand Jurisdiction of Missouri, organized at Benton City October 30, 1849, over two weeks earlier, became No. 2, of California!

How this happened, nobody seemed to know. Or at least nobody showed too much inclination to talk about it—perhaps for peace and harmony. Only Sherman had the temerity to put what he thought had taken place into print. He bluntly and categorically stated:

"When it came to the numbering of the charters by the Grand Lodge of California at the first Annual Communication in May, 1850, Western Star Lodge No. 98 was deprived of its seniority. Its charter was in California before the charter of California Lodge left Washington by the Isthmus of Panama. The Committee on Credentials of the convention which formed the Grand Lodge of California had been misinformed as to the date of the opening of California Lodge, and awarded that Lodge No. 1."

In later years, Califor-

nia Lodge has sought to bolster its claim to priority with the recollections of the aged Brother William Schuyler Moses, first Master of Golden Gate Lodge No. 30. In 1916, the Lodge's Master, Jesse M. Whited, had Brother Willard W. Cole take down in shorthand Moses' personal recollections of California Lodge in early days. After sundry remarks on the Grand Lodge, punctuated by an occasional inaccuracy, Moses observed:

"California Lodge was originally the 132nd District, and it obtained its number by reason of priority of opening. The facts, however, are these: California Lodge was opened, I think, on the 17th day of October, while Western Star No. 2 was not opened until near the last of November, 1849." (Italics are the author's.)

Here in two short sentences are three errors, undoubtedly occasioned by an old man's lapses of memory, which weaken the structure of the main statement. The qualification "I think" shows that Moses himself was uncertain of the date of the Lodge's opening. And well he might be. For, though he came to California in '49, by his own testimony he did not visit California Lodge the first time till January 24, 1850. But if the California brethren actually met on October 17, as Moses thought they did, they met informally as Masons, but most assuredly not as a Lodge.

Nor was Moses the only one uncertain about the "October 17." So was Whited. When he published his history of the Lodge and entered upon its fourteenth page a list of the five Lodges attending the

convention that organized Grand Lodge, he put a question mark after October 17 as California Lodge's first meeting date.

In any event, the mistake was made and, as observed in another chapter, nothing can be done about it now. Connecticut Lodge No. 75, of Connecticut, which changed its name to Tehama, became No. 3 of California. And commencing with Berryman (Jennings) No. 4, all subsequent Lodges have been regularly numbered as they received their charters.

The rest of the Annual Communication of 1850 was devoted to changing the name of Berryman Lodge to Jennings and filling the vacancies on the roll of Grand officers.

Thus the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California was organized and passed through its first Annual Communication. For the first two years it would hold Annual and Semi-annual Communications, the Annual in May and the Semi-annual in November. In 1852, it held an Annual and a Special Communication, the latter in August. This marked the end of the Semi-annual Communications. Also, save for 1852 and 1855, when it met in San Francisco, all of its Annual Communications were held every May in Sacramento till 1861. In 1862, it changed its meeting place to San Francisco, and in 1864 the time was changed from May to October. And save for 1925, 1929 when it met in Los Angeles, and 1932 in Oakland, it has held its Annual Communications in San Francisco ever since.

Since the time of its removal to San Francisco, Grand Lodge has grown from one hundred and thirty chartered working Lodges to six hundred and one efficient,

smoothly functioning units. What is more, if all the Lodges that have gone extinct, from the diminution of gold production and other outside economic causes, could be revived, the figure would mount to well over seven hundred.

## Grand Lodge Temples

THE FIRST PRETENTIOUS edifice erected in the City of San Francisco for the special uses of Masonry was begun in the year 1860, at the corner of Post and Montgomery Streets, the corner stone being laid on Monday, the 25th day of June—the day following the Anniversary of St. John Baptist. This building was first occupied by Grand Lodge at its fourteenth annual communication, commencing Tuesday, the 12th day of May, 1863. It was finished in 1870, and was imposing to a degree beyond its time. In his address to Grand Lodge on the occasion of first occupying it, Grand Master William C. Belcher said: "This is the finest and most perfect building upon the Pacific Coast, and when finished it will be the most beautiful, if not the most expensive Masonic Temple in America." It was built during the most trying years of the civil war, and cost in the neighborhood of \$250,000. The membership in the State in 1863 was six thousand. The ground space occupied was seventy-five feet on Montgomery Street and one hundred and sixty feet on Post Street. To top of balustrade it measured seventy-nine feet, and to top of tower, one hundred and eighty-nine feet. This splendid building was the home of Masons and Masonry continuously until the eighteenth day of April, 1906, when it was

abandoned by order of the military authorities, and on the nineteenth of April it was destroyed by fire.

After some forty years of occupancy, the great growth of the city and state and the Fraternity demanded that larger and better quarters should be secured, and on the 12th of October, 1904, Past Grand Master Orrin S. Henderson introduced a resolution relative to the disposition by the Grand Lodge of its stock in the corporation owning the Masonic Temple, which resolution was referred to the Finance Committee. On the 14th of October of that year, Past Master Oscar Lawler, for the Finance Committee, reported that the "demand for the acquisition of quarters sufficiently commodious to meet the requirements is imperative," and further reporting that a committee of three be appointed to confer and act with other bodies and committees, with the view of acquiring a site for the erection of a new Masonic Temple in San Francisco. It was also resolved, "that the Grand Master be empowered to sell all stock of the Masonic Hall Association owned by Grand Lodge."

At the annual communication of 1905, Brother Reuben H. Lloyd, chairman of the special committee appointed to confer with other bodies holding stock in the Temple, reported, recommending that the old building be razed and a new and larger structure be erected on the same site. The matter was referred to the same special committee, to report in 1906. Meantime the great fire of April, 1906, destroyed the building, and Grand Master Motley H. Flint reported that he had called into consultation as many of the Past Grand Masters and elective officers as could be

secured to talk over the situation, "and after thorough and exhaustive discussion, it was decided by more than a majority present that it was for the best interests of the Grand Lodge that the property at Post and Montgomery streets be sold at a price not less than \$750,000." The Grand Lodge at the time owned 5,881 shares of the stock out of a total of 25,000 shares.

On the 10th of October, 1906, Past Grand Master Charles L. Patton, in behalf of the Masonic Hall Association, reported that "after receiving the consent of more than two-thirds of the stockholders, he entered into a contract with Rudolph Spreckels, selling to him the lot on the northwest corner of Post and Montgomery streets, for the sum of \$750,000." He further reported that on receipt of the money it was the intention of the Hall Association to obtain an order of court permitting the distribution of all the funds among the stockholders, and to disincorporate. He also reported that it was the expressed desire of the Masonic bodies holding stock to form a new hall association, and requested that a committee be appointed with power to act in all matters connected with the consummation of the sale of the Temple site and the erection of a new Temple in San Francisco. A committee of nine was that day appointed.

At the morning session of Friday, October 12, 1906, Past Grand Master Henderson, from the special committee on new Temple, reported inter alia that "we think the new organization should be under the control of this Grand Body, and the stock be owned

exclusively by the Grand Lodge and other Masonic organizations of California."

October 9, 1907, Brother Reuben H. Lloyd reported that the special committee had formed a corporation under the name of "Masonic Temple Association of California," accompanying his report with a copy of the articles of incorporation, the capital stock being fixed at \$1,500,000 of par value of \$10 each. Grand Lodge fully concurred in this, and the sum of \$225,000 was ordered to be used for the purchase of stock.

In his address to Grand Lodge October 13, 1908, Grand Master George M. Perine said: "The committee appointed to select and purchase a site for a new Masonic Temple in the City of San Francisco, after carefully considering the many pieces of property offered to them, unanimously centered upon the property situated on the west side of Van Ness avenue, between Oak Street and Hickory Avenue, having a frontage of 120 feet on Van Ness avenue by a uniform depth of 109 feet 9 inches." Subsequently, in 1909, an additional lot was purchased, immediately adjoining the original purchase, and having a frontage of 47 feet 9 inches on Oak Street by a depth of 120 feet to Hickory Avenue, with an additional frontage of 21 feet on Hickory Avenue by a depth of 40 feet. Grand Lodge approved the report and the purchase.

In October, 1908, Brother Benjamin F. Bledsoe introduced the following: "Resolved, that this Grand Lodge hereby pledges its unstinted aid and influence, and such financial assistance as its available resources will permit, to the end that there may be erected on the site selected a permanent abiding

place for the Grand Bodies of this jurisdiction, adequate to the needs of the craft in our State and worthy of the name and standing of Masonry in California." This was referred to the Committee on Finance, which committee cordially indorsed the sentiments, and Grand Lodge adopted the resolution.

Thus was the preliminary work of the Temple done. Its corner stone was laid October 11, 1911, and it was dedicated in ancient form Monday evening, October 13, 1913, by M. W. William P. Filmer, Grand Master, and officers of Grand Lodge.

## GOVERNORS

Though their biographies appear in connection with the Lodges to which they belonged, the following list of Governors who have been members of the Craft in California is here set forth for ready reference.

John Bigler—Tehama Lodge No. 3—Sacramento.  
J. Neeley Johnson—Tehama No. 3—Sacramento.  
Henry H. Haight—Pacific Lodge No. 136—San Francisco.  
Milton S. Latham—Washington Lodge No. 20—Sacramento.  
John G. Downey—Los Angeles Lodge No. 42—Los Angeles.  
Leland Stanford—Michigan City Lodge No. 47—Michigan City.  
Romualdo Pacheco—San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 148—San Luis Obispo. Demitted to Washington Lodge No. 20—Sacramento.  
George C. Perkins—Oroville Lodge No. 103—Oroville.  
George Stoneman—Temple Lodge No. 14—Sonoma (also Benicia No. 5).  
Henry S. Markham—Corona Lodge No. 324—Pasadena.  
George Pardee—Oakland Lodge No. 188—Oakland.  
Hiram W. Johnson—Washington Lodge No. 20—Sacramento.  
William D. Stephens—Southern California Lodge No. 278—Los Angeles.  
Friend W. Richardson—Durant Lodge No. 268—Berkeley.  
C. C. Young—Sequoia Lodge No. 349—Oakland.  
James Rolph, Jr.—California Lodge No. 1—San Francisco.  
Frank Merriam—Seaside Lodge No. 504—Long Beach.  
Earl Warren—Sequoia Lodge No. 349—Oakland.



THE RED HOUSE

Masonic Hall where Grand Lodge was organized in Sacramento in 1850.

APPLIED  
FREEMASONRY



LIVING THE  
VIRTUES TODAY  
BUILDING FOR A  
BETTER TOMORROW  
LARRY L. ADAMSON



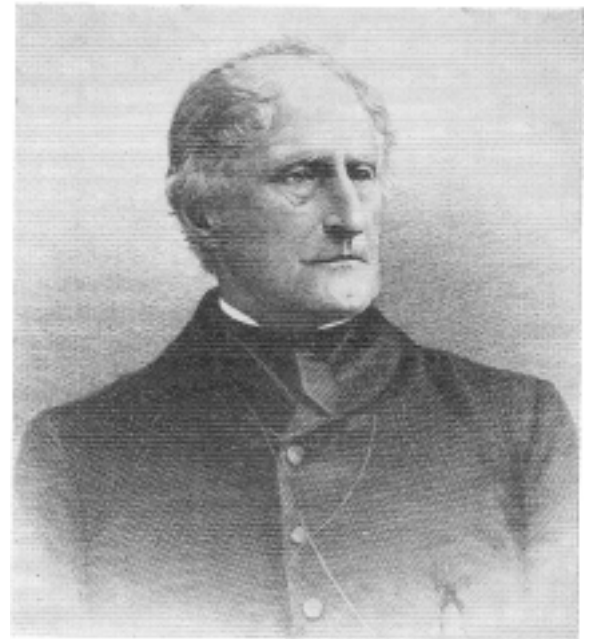
PRESENT GRAND LODGE TEMPLE  
Dedicated October 13, 1913, by Grand Master William P. Filmer.



FIRST MASONIC TEMPLE IN SAN FRANCISCO  
Post and Montgomery Streets. Begun in 1863, completed in 1870,  
and destroyed by fire in 1906.



1850  
First Grand Master



JONATHAN DRAKE STEVENSON