



Palo Alto-Roller Lodge No. 346 F. & A. M.

Trestle-Board for July 2007

Palo Alto Masonic Center 461 Florence Street Palo Alto, Ca. 94301

Mailing Address: P.O. Box # 346 Palo Alto, Ca. 94302

Lodge Office: 650-322-0338

Lobby: 650-326-4610

Happy Birthday Brethren!

From the Secretaries Desk:

John W. Young III
 Louis Strauss
 John R. Primm
 Philp C. Gustafson
 Robert E. Dannenberg
 Richard T. Mogy
 Nicholar H. Peters
 John A. Myers Jr PM
 Roy J. Millender Jr
 Edward L. Walls PM
 Robert H. Eng
 John G. Lew PM
 Gary C. Yount PM
 A Michael Stewart
 Mitch Halpern PM
 Beverly L. Davis Jr

"Brethren! The Worshipful Master invites you to join us at our Stated Meeting for your *Complimentary* birthday dinner!"

Lodge Activities

03: Stated Meeting/Dinner 6:30 pm
 04: Order of the Eastern Star DARK
 09: Temple Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 10: 1st. Degree Conferral 7:30 pm
 Officers dressed in tuxedos
 14: Annual Picnic noon
 17: Practice second degree
 Advanced Stations 7:30 pm
 18: Order of the Eastern Star DARK
 22: Calvin Lessing, Masonic memorial
 service 2 pm at the Palo Alto-
 Roller Masonic Center
 23: George Washington Club DARK
 24: Practice second degree
 Advanced Stations 7:30 pm
 31: Officer Planning Meeting 6:30 pm
 Second Degree advanced stations
 Checkout 7:30
 31: Officer Association Meeting DARK
 **Notify the Secretary promptly of
 any change of address.**
 *Report cases of Sickness and Distress
 to the Lodge, or the Master.*

Stated Meeting

Assemble and Feast
 7:30 pm on the 3rd

Goodie Table: 6:00 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm
Dinner will be: Lasagna
Our host is: Blue Lodge
Price: \$ 8.00

Family Picnic

The Picnic will be held at Mitchell Park at the Pine Grove Site. There is plenty of parking by the Tennis Courts. Mitchell Park is located in Palo Alto. It's the same place it was last year.

Date: July 14, 2007

Time: Noon

*Adults: \$5.00 Children: Free
 There will be plenty of food. Plan to join us for a great afternoon of fun and fellowship.*

2007 Officer Association Meeting Schedule

Dinner 6:30 pm, School 7:30 pm

July DARK

*August 23rd Friendship No. 210
 Investigations/Objections & Funeral Service
 Sept 24th San Jose No. 10
 Grand Lodge Preview & Masonic Information Nights
 Sept 28th-30th GRAND LODGE
 Oct 6th (Sat) Grand Master's Reception
 Oct 22nd Los Altos 712 Grand Lodge Results & 3rd Degree
 Candidate's Proficiency
 Nov 27th Mt. View/DeAnza No. 194 Swan Song/Installations &
 Protocol
 December DARK*

Officer Planning Meetings for 2007

All members may attend Planning Meetings.

July 31st

*August 28th
 September 28th
 October 30th
 November 27th
 December 18th*

We're on the web at: www.paloaltolodge.com

God hides some ideal in every human soul. At some time in our life we feel a trembling, fearful longing to do some good thing. Life finds its noblest spring of excellence in this hidden impulse to do our best. -Robert Collyer

Brethren,

By the end of July, Palo Alto-Roller Lodge will have raised two brothers to Master Masons and conferred eight Entered Apprentice Masons. An enviable position to be in, but we have a serious problem, we have only one designated candidate's coach and he is in need of assistants. We as Master Masons have an obligation with the coaching of candidates, with their advancement to become a Master Mason. If this call for help is not taken seriously, we will lose a number of the conferred Entered Apprentice Masons. These young men represent the future of Palo Alto-Roller Lodge.

Congratulations are in order for Brother Jonathan Holt, who was conferred to the degree of an Entered Apprentice Mason on May 29, 2007. Thank you, to the Officers of Palo Alto-Roller for doing an excellent First Degree.

Palo Alto-Roller Annual Picnic will be July 14th at Mitchell Park at high twelve.

Fraternally, Charles S. Grech, Worshipful Master

San Jose Pyramid No. 9 Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots is presenting the Second Annual Cornerstone Awards; recognizing Outstanding and Dedicated Service to Masonry. Friday July 27, 2007 at Los Gatos Masonic Hall 131 East Main Street, Los Gatos. Dinner 6:30 pm and the Ceremony is at 8:00 pm. This is to Honor fine Masons from local lodges and our Senior Warden John Myers is the honoree for Palo Alto. All Masons, family and friends are invited; cost of dinner is \$12.00 per person. Reservations are a must! Call Randy Downey (408) 255-3719 or e-mail randy@starandcompass.com

Around the Pillar

Salutations Brethren,

Our Stated Meeting Dinner for June was well done. Every inch of the food table was covered with goodies. Thank you to our ladies for all their efforts. Before our meeting we had a service for Hal Lesser. Members got up and told stories about Hal.

There will be a Masonic memorial service for Calvin Lessing; the service will be on July 22nd at the Palo Alto Masonic Center at 2:00 pm.

Planning meeting for this month is on the 31stth.

Officer Association Meeting is DARK

The Ladies Sunday Brunch at Macarthur Park was very nice. We could not have asked for a better day, the weather was perfect. We had twenty that attended the brunch all excited and happy to get together. In fact it was such a nice time no one wanted to leave.

Our scholarship recipient for this year is Zev Karlin-Nenmann a wonderful pick. We hope to invite him and his parents to a stated meeting dinner soon, so that we can meet and find out a little about him.

I have some ideas that I found at the Senior Wardens Retreat in San Ramon; which I will be implementing through out the next year. If anyone needs a ride to our meetings please call the lodge we will be happy to make arrangements for you.

Fraternally, John Myers, Senior Warden

The Corinthian Column

Brethren,

FREEMASONRY AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

From The Grand Lodge Of Texas

The month of July is special to all Americans because we celebrate the birth of our nation on the fourth of July. On that date in the year 1776, representatives of the thirteen American colonies, assembled at what is now known as Independence Hall in Philadelphia, adopted a manifesto asserting their political independence from the British crown. We know that document as the American Declaration of Independence. Over the last two centuries various Masonic writers have often attempted to inflate the involvement of members of the Masonic fraternity in the events leading up to and resulting from this important historic event. It has often been claimed that all or most of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were Freemasons; or that all or most of the general officers serving under Washington were Freemasons. These claims have been made to bolster the theory that the events of the American Revolution and the formation of the American colonies into an independent republic were carried out according to some Masonic plan, and in accordance with universal Masonic principles. It is always best that such claims be tempered by the light of responsible and accurate historic research, not for the purpose of discounting the patriotic nature of our early American Masonic, but rather to understand the role that Freemasons did play in the formation of this great nation.

(continues on page 4)

Fraternally, Raj Naidoo, Junior Warden

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Let us wish you a Happy Independence Day. We would also like to thank the men and women serving in our military. Their volunteering to serve allows us liberties that have been forgotten or overlooked. We are grateful for our freedom of speech and religion. Our year is starting to wind down. There will be no meetings in July. Our Chapter will meet again on August 15 when we will celebrate the Chapter's birthday. We hope that you have enjoyed our year so far. We thank each of you for your friendship and support. We couldn't do this without. There are chapters that will be meeting during the time that we are Dark and we urge you to support them if it is convenient. Please refer to your 2007 Roster for Chapter meetings and special events. If you will be serving as a guest officer, please let us know so that we can attend and support you. July 14th is the date for both the Lodge picnic and Grand Adah Delma Davis' reception that evening. August 11 is the 2007 Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron Hot August Nights event to be held at the Mountain View Masonic Center from 5:00 – 10:00pm. Cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets are available from all Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons. Dinner and entertainment are included. Wear your best 50's outfit and dancing shoes. Elvis will be there.

June was a sad month for Palo Alto Chapter with the passing of Brother Calvin Lessing and Sister Gloria Gage. At our June 6th meeting we honored our members who passed away this year. This meeting gives us another chance to remember them and all the good times we have shared over the years. We also heard about our members' trip to Yorba Linda to the Fiesta and presenting the Candlelight Ceremony for the members of the Senior Living Community. It was very well received and our Members enjoyed meeting the residents and other visitors from other Eastern Star Communities. Also at this meeting, a letter was read from Sequoia Chapter petitioning to join Palo Alto Chapter. We celebrated Hot Summer Nights at our second meeting in June. Also, the vote was taken on the petition of Sequoia Chapter. You will hear more about this in coming bulletins. Have a wonderful summer. We look forward to seeing everyone on August 15 and trust you will be rested, relaxed and eager to participate in our wonderful organization. Star love, Lynn and Richard

Has anyone in your Lodge taken the time to talk to your younger members? Have you asked THEM what interests them? If they've stopped coming to lodge, has anyone picked up the phone and TALKED TO THEM to find out what's wrong; what they like or Dislike about the lodge? Or is your lodge content to put young men through the degrees with the attitude that "if they really care about the Lodge, they'll show up"? If that's the case, I can guarantee your Lodge is in serious trouble.

We must keep the lines of communication open to our new brethren, especially the rare ones who haven't been privileged to blow out the candles on their 40th birthday cake. Show that you care about them, that you're interested in them, that you won't put undue pressure on them. Above all, remember these younger men are not only the future of your Lodge, but our great Craft as a whole.

July 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Stated Meeting and Dinner 6:00 pm	4 Order of the Eastern Star DARK	5	6	7
8	9 Temple Board Meeting 7:30 pm	10 1st. Degree Conferral 7:30 pm	11	12	13	14 Annual Picnic noon
15	16	17 Practice second degree Advanced Stations 7:30 pm	18 Order of the Eastern Star DARK	19	20	21
22 Calvin Lessing, Masonic memorial service 2 pm at the Lodge	23 George Washington Club DARK	24 Practice second degree Advanced Stations 7:30 pm	25	26	27 The Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots . Dinner 6:30 Ceremony 8:00	28
29	30	31 Officer Planning Meeting 6:30 pm Second Degree advanced stations Checkout 7:30	Officer Association Meeting DARK			

Probably Ronald E. Heaton, published by the Masonic Service Association at Silver Spring, Maryland, provides the best accounting of Masonic membership among the signers of the Declaration of Independence in the book *Masonic Membership of the Founding Fathers*. According to this well researched and documented work, proof of Masonic membership can be found for only eight of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence. They are:

Benjamin Franklin, of the Tun Tavern Lodge at Philadelphia;

John Hancock, of St. Andrew's Lodge in Boston;

Joseph Hewes, who was recorded as a Masonic visitor to Unanimity Lodge No. 7, Edenton, North Carolina, in December 1776;

William Hooper, of Hanover Lodge, Masonborough, North Carolina;

Robert Treat Payne, present at Grand Lodge at Roxbury, Massachusetts, in June 1759;

Richard Stockton, charter Master of St. John's Lodge, Princeton, Massachusetts in 1765;

George Walton, of Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Savannah, Georgia; and

William Whipple, of St. John's Lodge, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Additionally, another five or six signers have from time to time been identified as members of the fraternity based on inconclusive or unsubstantiated evidence. As for the Masonic membership among Washington's generals, it is true that many were members of the fraternity, but many were not. The recognized modern authority on the subject is James R. Case, former Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, who published his findings in the 1955 booklet *Fifty Early American Military Freemasons*. When examining the participation of Freemasons in the American Revolution we should first remember the Ancient Charges of a Freemason, and especially that charge concerning "the Civil Magistrates, Supreme and Subordinate," which enjoins the Mason to be "a peaceable subject to the Civil Powers" and "never to be concern'd in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation." This charge was listed as the second of those contained in the Constitutions adopted by the Premier Grand Lodge at London in 1723, long before the American Revolution. How then can we justify the participation of American Freemasons in their rebellion against the King? The answer can be given in two parts. First, the Masonic fraternity in the American colonies took no part in the Revolution, following Masonic tradition by taking no official stance. However, the fraternity's official neutrality may have owed as much to the divided loyalties of its leadership as it did to Masonic tradition. Many Masons were Loyalists. And second, rebellion against the state, whether justified or unjustified, is not a Masonic offense. The Old Charges state clearly "if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State, ... if convicted of no other Crime, ... they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his Relation to it remains indefeasible." This simply means that, in the case of the American Revolution, many brethren, feeling that the actions of the crown warranted revolution and independence, were justified in following their consciences without fear of violating their Masonic obligations or any Masonic law. As the charge concerning the Civil Magistrates reminds us, "Masonry hath been always injured By War, Bloodshed, and Confusion," the fraternity was indeed injured by the war. General Joseph Warren, Grand Master of the Ancient's Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, lost his life at the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775 and his body was thrown into an unmarked grave. While he had led the American troops during that battle, his lodge brother, Dr. John Jeffries assisted the British troops. Nearly a year later, his body was exhumed and identified by another Lodge brother, Paul Revere.

There are one-story intellects, two-story intellects, and three-story intellects with skylights. All fact collectors, who have no aim beyond their facts, are one-story men. Two-story men compare, reason generalize, using the labors of the fact collectors as well as their own. Three-story men idealize, imagine, and predict, their best illumination comes from above, through the skylight.

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

2007 Scholarship Award Recipient

Zev was an outstanding student in AP US History, the most rigorous course in the History/Social Studies catalog of classes. He earned the highest-class average earned in the last 5 years and was the recipient of the award for the best AP USH student. He writes very well and works ferociously hard. His outstanding classroom performance has continued this year in his H/SS classes. In addition to his academic accomplishments, he is also an athlete (distance runner), one of the Campanile editors, and teaches classes at his synagogue. Finally, to quote from my rec letter for Zev, "Zev has accomplished all this while remaining a kind, humble, soft-spoken young man who at all times seems aware and sensitive to those around him. He is liked and respected for the best reasons: he is genuinely warm and friendly to everyone in class, and is acknowledged by his peers for both his intelligence and incredible work ethic."

Even before the Declaration of Independence, colonial Masonry suffered from the disruptions of the war, and the division of loyalties among its members. Many lodges found it difficult to meet regularly, and others ceased to meet at all. Many lodges were disbanded as occupying British forces prohibited private assemblies, and loyalist Masons fled the country or joined the British forces. Although the Masonic fraternity played no part in the Revolutionary War, it can easily be shown that in many ways the revolutionary ideals of equality, the Masonic fraternity espoused freedom, and democracy long before the American colonies began to complain about the injustices of British taxation. The revolutionary ideals expressed in the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, and the writings of Thomas Paine, were ideals that had come to fruition over a century before in the early speculative lodges of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, where men sat as equals, governed themselves by a Constitution, and elected their own leaders from their midst. In many ways, the self-governing Masonic lodges of the previous centuries had been learning laboratories for the concept of self-government.

On September 18, 1793, President George Washington, dressed in his Masonic apron, leveled the cornerstone of the United States Capitol with the traditional Masonic ceremony. Historian Stephen Bullock in his book Revolutionary Brotherhood carefully notes the historic and symbolic significance of that ceremony. The Masonic brethren, dressed in their fraternal regalia, had assembled in grand procession, and were formed for that occasion as representative of Freemasonry's new found place of honor in an independent American society. At that moment, the occasion of the laying of the new Republic's foundations, Freemasons assumed the mantles "high priests" of that "first temple dedicated to the sovereignty of the people," and they "helped form the symbolic foundations of what the Great Seal called 'the new order for the ages'."

October 20, 1632 - February 25, 1723

Gifted mathematician, scientist and architect Sir Christopher Wren was born in East Knoyle, Wiltshire. A founding member of the Royal Society, his many accomplishments included the designs for St. Paul's Cathedral. He personally oversaw the work from 1675 to completion in 1710. Records in the Royal Society archives state Bro. Wren was adopted into the Fraternity of Accepted Masons on May 18, 1691. "Records of the Lodge Original, No. 1, now the Lodge of Antiquity No. 2" mention him as being Master of the lodge; in all he left 50 churches, and many buildings at Oxford and Cambridge to remind us of his legacy.

Brethren, in Masonry everything is Symbolic. Hence, during our Ceremonies, you often hear the words "symbolizes", "symbolically", etc. The objective is to make you contemplate on what is said repeatedly and to lead you to research further. Maybe, to even try and find out what is implied between the lines. I tried this, restricting myself to choice thoughts and statements from published articles. I present here a collage of cogently arranged excerpts from published articles. What I am about to say has not appeared as a single article, to the best of my limited Masonic knowledge, but is a collection from various articles. In Symbolism of Colours in Craft Masonry the primary or first color is White. Remember when we were Initiated the first color referred to was white - I mean the color of the apron we were invested with. We were also instructed "it will remind you of that purity of life and actions which should, at all times distinguish a Freemason". Hence, the basis of Freemasonry is Purity. All aprons have a white base or background with several colors added. If white symbolizes purity or innocence, then what should the diametrically opposite color, Black symbolizes? I call it the Excellence or Exalted plane of Freemasonry. Instead of even considering impurity or guilt, it very cleverly symbolizes mourning experienced at the death of a Brother, or when he has been called to the Grand Lodge above. Hence, the next color in Freemasonry is Black. To digress a little, in the entire tenure of a Freemason, the apron states his rank or status in Freemasonry, and the collar, the duty he is attending to, at that particular time. The unique difference is that it progresses dynamically and adds several colors as you progress to reach greater levels in the institution. The collar, you remember, irrespective of your rank, clearly states the duties you are currently performing. Your further progress in Masonry is symbolized by the colors Silver and Gold. When you have reached the stage of a Master Mason, the white apron has a border of silver-grey with two rosettes of silver-grey. I wish to stress the difference that in Masonry, the colors silver and gold symbolize Masonic Wealth, which is knowledge attained through wisdom. In a larger perspective, it is the attainment of self-understanding. As your participation and involvement proceed you come to the level of gold. This happens at the first instance when the Immediate Past Master is invested with a Past Master's Jewel, the first gold investiture a Mason is usually conferred with. Then he is further honoured with Regional Grand and Grand ranks, when his apron still has a white background, but now has embellishments in gold. So does his collar, with a jewel in gold. Remember, all his wealth, which is gained, is Masonic and, hence, knowledge of Masonry and its tenets are cardinal. The color Deep Blue symbolizes Wisdom. Brethren, if you invite a few friends for dinner, you adorn your dining table with a cloth. This tablecloth gives importance to the objective of the evening. In a Craft Lodge no table, not even the Master's or the Wardens' tables or the Secretary's or Treasurer's has a cloth covering. The only table that has a tablecloth is the table on which the Volumes of Sacred Laws are placed. The color of this tablecloth is Deep Blue. I draw your attention to the color of the cushions on which the candidates kneel for a prayer before we proceed with our ceremonies. It is Light Blue in color. Then the cushion at the altar where he kneels again to take his solemn obligation is Deep Blue in color. Even the Master-Elect takes his obligation on the same deep blue cushions. The silver and gold colors in a Regional Grand Lodge or the Grand Lodge apron and collar, are emboldened with a band of deep blue all around, further indicating the significance and importance that the color deep blue symbolizes Wisdom.