



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

## Trestle-Board for August 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:*

Pastor George Tarleton  
 John D. Armantrout  
 Robert A. Gass  
 Jon W. Hamilton PM  
 Dean R. Beer  
 Loyal L. Hanson  
 Richard Wing PM  
 Robert E. Foster  
 Jeff Searles  
 Robert D. Burnley  
 Alvie K. Hartsog PM  
 James Bertain  
 Kevin D. Hall SR PM

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

### Lodge Activities

01: Order of the Eastern Star  
 DARK  
 07: Stated Meeting and dinner with a Guest Speaker  
 13: Temple Board Meeting 7:30 pm  
 14: Practice third degree Advanced Stations 7:30 pm  
 15: Order of the Eastern Star Chapter's Birthday  
 21: Practice third degree Advanced Stations 7:30 pm  
 23: Thursday: Officer Association Meeting, Friendship No. 210  
 28: Officer Planning Meeting then Practice third degree Advanced Stations 7:30 PM  
 George Washington Club 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 7th

Goodie Table: 6:00 pm  
 Dinner 6:30 pm  
 Dinner: Taco Night  
 Our host is: Blue Lodge  
 Price: \$ 8.00  
 With a Guest Speaker

*On the 11<sup>th</sup> of August there will be an information fair:*

*Family of Freemasonry at Los Gatos Masonic Hall, from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm*

*For more information, call Bud Ramsey (408) 224-9431 or e-mail budsusanr@comcast.net*

### 2007 Officer Association Meeting Schedule Dinner 6:30 pm, School 7:30 pm

**August 23<sup>rd</sup> Friendship No. 210  
 Investigations/Objections & Funeral Service**

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

### Officer Planning Meetings for 2007 All members may attend Planning Meetings

**August 28th**

September 28th  
 October 30th  
 November 27th  
 December 18<sup>th</sup>

We're on the web at: [www.paloaltolodge.com](http://www.paloaltolodge.com)

Freemasonry is "veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols" because these are the surest way by which moral and ethical truths may be taught. It is not only with the brain and with the mind that the initiate must take Freemasonry but also with the heart. -C. H. Claudy

Brethren,

The Ladies Sunday Brunch for the Masonic Widows and their guests was a great success and well attended. This event was held at Macarthur Park Restaurant. The ladies were very complimentary.

Congratulations are on order for Brother Scott Krueger and Brother Erik Wolf who were initiated and conferred as Enter Apprentice Masons on July 10, 2007, embarking on a Masonic career that can last a lifetime of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Palo Alto-Roller Lodge Annual Picnic was a great success, the weather was ideal, and there were about 80 people in attendance. Thank you to all who contributed their time and helping to make a successful annual picnic.

At the next stated meet on August 7th we will have a guest-speaker; the subject will be the different methods of deferring the capital gains tax that would be on the sale of real estate in California.

As we begin the 2007-2008 year of the Annual Fund for the Masonic Homes and Outreach Services, remember to make your gift. Without you, we are unable to succeed as a fraternity and provide for those in need of our assistance.

Fraternally, Charles S. Grech, Worshipful Master

### Around the Pillar

#### Greetings Brethren,

Our Stated Meeting Dinner for July was lasagna and garlic bread. We certainly had a good time that evening. Two perspective candidates joined us; it would be great if more members could come to the dinners. Sit with these men tell them stories about your times in the lodge and give them helpful information about being a member.

Our August Stated Meeting Dinner will be Taco night, or anything you wish to create, with a guest speaker to boot. Please plan to join us.

We have two new Entered Apprentices, congratulations Brother Scott Kuriger and Brother Erik Wolf.

The Entered Apprentice receives his First Degree, which is intended to prepare him for the higher and fuller instructions of the succeeding degrees. The Entered Apprentices are our future

Officer Planning meeting for this month is on the **28th**. Officer Association Meeting is at **Friendship No. 210** on **Thursday, the 23rd**. Carpooling will be available.

Our Annual Picnic, how wonderfully everything went. We had good company and good food. Thank you to all who pitched in to help, to cook and to those that bought food. What a perfect day it was. To meet in such surroundings with our brothers, sisters, family and friends, well how can you beat that.

#### Mark your Calendars

**September 17, 2007 Constitutional Observance 2007; this will be hosted by Golden Rule Lodge.**

**Time: 6:30 pm Dinner cost \$10.00 Constitutional Observance starts at 7:30 pm Family and Friends are welcome.**

**September 28, 2007 Annual Communications at Grand Lodge**

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,

*The following is taken from a letter, drafted in June of 1861, from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, sent in response to a communication received from the Grand Lodge of Tennessee*

*decriing the situation that the country was in.* "As to the present deplorable state of this country, Masons cannot fail to have opinions as to the cause that produced it. It is to be feared that some of our brethren are in arms against the union of the States; others are in the ranks of its defenders. Taught by the history of the Order . . . they have carried these principles into the formation of opinions on the present crisis in our national history. But while Masons, as individuals, have been thus influenced and are acting in harmony with such views, Freemasonry is a silent, unimpassioned, abstracted observer of events . . . "Brethren -- We, with you, deplore the present unnatural and deeply distressing condition of our national affairs . . . But if this whirlwind threatens to overwhelm us, yet in this last extremity, the still small voice of Masonic faith will be uttered and heard, saying, Brethren, there is help at hand in this time of need. . . "Surely your God is our God; your faith our faith; your landmarks our landmarks; your joy our joy; your prosperity our satisfaction.' Then let us unitedly work together for the preservation and perpetuity of a common inheritance . . . We will aid in maintaining unity, peace and concord, among the brethren and citizens of united sovereign States in our glorious Union. If all bonds should be broken, all ties rent asunder; if discord, dissension, and disruption, shall mark the decline and fall of the most wise and wonderful of the governments of mankind, let the Masonic temple, in all States, kingdoms, lands, peoples or confederacies, be common refuge of an indestructible Masonic fraternity." These sentiments were echoed by virtually all of the other Grand Lodges at one point or another during this time period. Nobody wanted war. Negotiation was the overwhelmingly favored option. However, if war occurred, everyone hoped and believed that the Fraternity would be able to survive the conflict.

Fraternally, Raj Naidoo, Junior Warden

## Palo Alto Chapter No. 213 Order of the Eastern Star

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We hope that everyone is enjoying her or his summer. Our first meeting and getting back to busy will be on August 15<sup>th</sup>. How wonderful that our first meeting will be a celebration of our Chapter's birthday. There were two events scheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup>. The Lodge picnic, which was a great success – beautiful weather, a lovely spot, great food and wonderful company; what more could anyone ask for. The same goes for the reception for our Grand Adah – Sister Delma Davis.

The reception was very well attended Adahs from all over California were there. Since we were meeting at a school of education afterwards we had school lunches for refreshments; a tuna sandwich, a bag of chips, a bottle of water and cookies.

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. 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.

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

### August 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Order of the Eastern Star DARK	2	3	4
5	6	7 Stated Meeting Dinner 6:00 pm With Guest Speaker	8	9	10	11
12	13 Temple Board Meeting	14 Practice third degree Advanced Stations 7:30 pm	15 Order of the Eastern Star Chapter's Birthday	16	17	18
19	20	21 Practice third degree Advanced Stations 7:30 pm	22	23 Officer Association Meeting, Friendship No. 210	24	25
26	27 George Washington Club DARK	28 Officer Planning Meeting then Practice third degree Advanced Stations 7:30 PM	29	30	31	

# History is Here and Now

Boxes, tuxedos, papers, shirts, books, pins, caps, coins, pictures, stamps, frames, and more have been littering the library and the office of the Lodge Secretary for several months. “Stuff” that has been found through out drawers, cupboards, and closets from all over the Temple building. Some of this eclectic collection has been given to the Lodge from families of our Brothers and a few Sisters, who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above.

It all is a record of our history, our Lodge and our Temple.

When I became Secretary of the Lodge I knew I was being given an opportunity to participate in the continuation of this history. What a glimpse of history this “stuff” really represents. I did not realize then what a real privilege this would be. As an example, I was aware of several boxes of oversize books that were sitting on the floor in the Lodge equipment closet in the corner of the Blue Room. Many of the books had burned edges and pages, and most had evidence of water damage. Each box was in a large, torn and tattered plastic bag.

As caretaker of the records of the Lodge and per the California Masonic Code, the Secretary and Lodge are to the keep registers and minutes of our meetings for the future generations. I knew I had to do something with those boxes of books.

Knowing we have had a major fire, actually two in our history, at a regular stated meeting I asked the Brethren to approve funds to purchase an additional fireproof file cabinet. This would be an attempt in which to organize and keep all the books and records I was beginning to gather from the various corners and spaces I had been exploring.

Our Brother Jerry Colombi and his wife Batin came forth to donate a large, lockable cabinet that meets the fireproof requirements. They also covered the expenses to have this heavy piece of furniture moved to the office, and we thank them for this gift.

As I began to sort, organize, and label the “stuff” that would go into this cabinet I had no idea of what a journey this would be, and has become. I truly became lost in time on the first Saturday I began to work with this “stuff” that I am finding to be more of a “treasure”.

The minute books, registers and various journals from over one hundred years ago are bound in smooth reddish brown leather. The very early books have gold leaf edging on the pages. Some have a rougher edging of darker leather. Beginning in the 1920's the books are black or blue leather, and no gold edging.

All are written in ink. The cursive script is clearly legible, smooth flowing and evenly sized. Much of the grammar and sentence structure is “old school” and different than that used today. This beautiful record keeping continued until the last handwritten note entered December 10, 1921 by Bro. Al Werry. The first typewritten notes appear at the next meeting on January 3, 1922.

That first Saturday, I did not get much done as I spent some time wandering through a “Roll Book of Palo Alto Lodge”. Red and black leather, this 11 ¾ inch by 14-inch journal appears to be an alphabetical indexing of the members of the Lodge. Age and occupation follow each name entered. Some entries also note a home lodge or other pieces of information.

Frances McCleaver, plumber, age 42, October 31, 1908 from Holywood, Ireland, affiliated with Victoria Massachusetts Lodge 254.” Born in 1866, imagine what it must have been like for him to come from Ireland, raised there during the late 1800's. Why to Massachusetts and then to Palo Alto?

Many of the occupations are similar to those of today; merchant, attorney, student, minister, civil engineer, real estate broker, chemist, contractor, printer, school teacher, shoe dealer, railroad clerk, architect, gardener, civil mining engineer, physician, builder, sheriff, optician, chief of police, banker, tailor, bricklayer, undertaker, marshal, dentist, teamster, capitalist, stock raiser, insurance solicitor, retired, and geologist.

A bit more indicative of the time is a traveling salesman, a miner, blacksmith, “traveling man”, dairyman, coachman, liveryman, quarryman, stonecutter and two confectioners.

In 1902 Richard Werry is listed as a Drayman. I'm not aware we have these anymore.

Henry Winsar, age 29 is listed as a violinist in 1909. Where did he play?

Ray Thorpe, age 25 in 1907 is listed as an automobile dealer, and William McKinney age 46 is a harness dealer. From horse and buggy to motor vehicles. The end of one era and the beginning of another is found in our Brothers in this overlap of time! What is the history of each of these men? What became of them? Are there any members now who are descendants of these men or know their families, who can fill us in on “the rest of the story...”?

I've peeked into the recordings of the times of two world wars and the touches of these events to our Lodge. So much more to see of real times on real people who lived in this area.

I recently found a book of “minutes” of events leading up to the formation of the Lodge prior to 1902. I will again enjoy this opportunity to be “lost in time”.

It is a slow process, my wandering and wondering through this history. It will get done.

I am enjoying it, and hope you will take a look at the displays that will be made to give you the opportunity to share in this experience. It has taken over one hundred years to get to today, and some day the library and office will again be organized and clutter free. I cannot tell you when, but as time is relative, does it really matter?

Richard Wing PM, Secretary

## NEARER, MY GOD, TO THEE

“He saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to Heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.” Genesis 28:11-12

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Sarah F. Adams (1805-1848) Words: Verses 1-5, Sarah F. Adams, in Hymns and Anthems, by William Johnson Fox, 1841; verse 6, Edward H. Bickersteth, Jr.

Music: Bethany (Mason), Lowell Mason, 1856 (MI-DI, score):

One night, some-time after lying awake in the dark, eyes wide open; through the still-ness in the house the melody came to me, and the next morn-ing I wrote down the notes.

Al-ter-nate tunes:

American, composer un-known (MI-DI, score)

Communion, Samuel S. Wesley, in the European Psalmist, 1872 (MI-DI, score)

Horbury, John B. Dykes, 1861 (MI-DI, score)

Liverpool, John Roberts (1822-77) (MI-DI, score)

Propior Deo, Ar-thur S. Sullivan, 1872 (uses a modified refrain) (MIDI, score)

Rothwell (Shaw), Geoffrey T. Shaw, 1915 (MIDI, score)

Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

1890 Edition

“Nearer, My God, to Thee” is sung at the end of the 1936 movie San Francisco, which was nominated for several Academy Awards. It is also played by the ship’s band in Titanic, winner of the Academy Award for best picture of 1997.

There are also many inspiring true-life stories associated with this hymn. Some Titanic survivors said the ship’s orchestra played it as the ocean liner went down (though other survivors said it was a different song).

Another story concerns the death of American president William McKinley, assassinated in 1901. Dr. Mann, the attending physician, reported that among McKinley’s last words were “‘Nearer, my God, to Thee, e’en though it be a cross,’ has been my constant prayer.” On the after-noon of Septem-ber 13, 1901, after five minutes of silence across the nation, bands in Union and Madison Squares in New York City played the hymn in memory of the fallen president. It was also played at a memorial service for him in Westminster Abbey, London.

The hymn was also played as the body of assassinated American President James Garfield was interred at Lakeview Cemetery in Cleveland, Ohio.

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Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

E’en though it be a cross that raiseth me,

Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee.

Refrain

Nearer, my God, to Thee,

Nearer to Thee!

Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,

Darkness be over me, my rest a stone.

Yet in my dreams I’d be nearer, my God to Thee.

Refrain