



Gardena Moneta Lodge 372

Free & Accepted Masons of the State of California

Gardena Masonic Center

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Volume 08 - Issue 06

Masonry a Way of Life

June 2008

FROM THE EAST

My Brothers,

The June Stated meeting and dinner was a huge success, it was an evening of the brothers enjoying the camaraderie of each other in the true spirit of Masonry. An excellent dinner was prepared, by one of our members and enjoyed by all. Please go to our web site as our web master has posted pictures of the evening that will make you feel as though you were actually there with us. There was karaoke singing, even a toast to our birthday brother. We invited the Avery brothers. For those of you who do not know, these are two young brothers from a broken home having family problems. We as Masons, through our lodge, are sponsoring them into the home in Covina. We presented them our extra lap top computer. The home graciously furnished the chaperones and transportation for them. As you can see in the pictures they had a great evening.

As you all know our charter was taken by Grand Lodge due to problems. This led to a meeting of some of our Past Masters to discuss what could be done to save the lodge. During the meeting a plan was developed to meet the criteria for the return of our charter. This required a dedicated corps of officers to fill the stations then obtain acceptance of the plan from the Grand Master with his permission to meet and begin functioning as a lodge. The present corps of officers answered the call and stepped forward and have worked with our inspector Richard Pierce PM and Fred Davis PM in solving the many problems.

We began holding regular Stated meetings. The necessary committees were formed, the chairmen are now working at making the committees function in accordance with Grand Lodge edits.

East Con't.

There is however still a lot of work to be done before asking the Grand Master for the return of our charter.

The lodge is now beginning to bear the fruits of our brothers labors. We have a full line of proposed officers for 2009. They are busy in qualifying for their stations under the tutelage of Senior Warden Ken Martin PM. They are going to put on a 3rd degree at Beverly Hills lodge No. 528 to qualify for their stations.

Brothers serving as an officer is a very rewarding experience. It is not only educational but also a wonderful learning experience as each officer memorizes and delivers each word with true passion and feeling while moving about the lodge in the performance of our ritual.

Brothers come to lodge, enjoy the brotherly love and understanding that abounds at our meetings, ask a brother to attend with you and please wear your Masonic jewelry to let the world know you are a member of the greatest fraternity in the world. For you brothers that live out of the are check our web site and when you are in town join us for an evening of brotherly love, camaraderie and rewarding friendship.

Fraternally
Ira Waterman PM

FROM THE WEST

Brethren

Time sure flies when your having fun, here it is already June and half the year is gone.

Your Officers and local brothers have really come together in trying to get our Charter back and it looks like it's working. Our Inspector Worshipful Pierce is trying to get us reinstated on or about the first of August.

West Con't.

We are going to have our first Officers School of Instruction (OSI) on Friday June 20th at 7:00 pm for the proposed new line. All brothers are welcome as sideliners always bring out the best in your Officers (we don't like to make mistakes in front of witnesses).

Those brothers attending the June Stated Meeting had a chance to meet and greet the Avery brothers, who joined us for dinner and they seemed VERY pleased with the laptop computer we presented to them (it's for homework but we all know some games will slip in sometime). Thanks to Brother Morel for setting it up.

Thanks to Brother Jun Bernabe for getting the Teachers Recognition Program underway. We will be presenting an engraved plaque to an outstanding teacher from each of the Gardena Schools as our way of saying "Thank You" for a job well done and helping to insure our future is in good hands. Education to a Mason is second only to Relief and all brothers need to become involved with their local school, even if it is only going to their "Fun Nights". Show your support.

I am pleased and proud that Inspector Worshipful Pierce asked me to be the Officers Coach for the foreseeable future. This is a job I held before the merge and I enjoy working with the officers and helping them prepare for the different degrees. I just love it when a plan comes together.

I've said it before, but the Trestleboard is for all brothers, not just the Officers. If you would like to submit an article dear to your heart or just let the brothers know how you are doing, please e-mail it to me and I will make it fit.

Fraternally
Ken Martin PM
Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren,

The last Stated Meeting was a VERY Joyous Occasion as we celebrated in STYLE the Birthday of a Brother... a WHOLE Roasted Pig with ALL the trimmings... seems I personally had the after dinner "snatch another piece" just like after Thanksgiving dinner with the Turkey.... I'm sure all present were WELL nourished.. and at this dinner, we had the pleasure of meeting the 2 kids from the Masonic Home. A Presentation was made of the Laptop and the boys seemed to be overjoyed. They're a couple of really great kids and I hope they do well in their future endeavors.

According to our Inspector Richard Pierce, PM, we are really close to achieving the return of our Charter, and if we continue to proceed as we are doing at present, August 1st is the proposed return.... **HURRAY!!!!**

To **ALL** the Brothers who have put so much work into this, I applaud you.... A thanks is not enough, but it is all I have and it is Heart Sent.....

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU !!!

**Alvin "Al" Fowler, PM,
Jr. Warden**

Membership Gardena Moneta

My Brothers as Chairman of the Membership Committee I wish I could write more on things we are doing to promote our lodge and possible membership in it. What I would like to say my Brothers is that I want to hear any ideas you may have concerning activities and or programs we can start when our charter is returned and we can start accepting applications and doing degrees. A Layman's Night Program is the

Obvious one that comes to mind. However I know there are many more things we can do to promote our lodge and becoming a member. The Grand Lodge has the Pass it On Program we will take a look at to see if it fits our lodge.

My Brothers when the time comes I know I can count on all of you to assist the lodge In growing membership the old fashion way,"of my own free will and accord"

Fred Davis

CHILD ID

OOPS!.... we were scheduled to run the Child ID Program on June 6th at the Madison Elementary School in Lakewood California, but MURPHY jumped up and threw in a massive monkey wrench.

After the Stated Meeting on June 4th, I loaded the equipment into my vehicle and went home and decided to run the program to see if it did indeed work. It did NOT

The bugger would NOT recognize the camera and I spent 4 hours that evening trying to get it to work with NO success.

The next morning, Thursday, I spent another 2 hours trying to get it to work with again NO success. I then called Grand Lodge and spoke with their Tech about this problem..... after 3 hours on the phone and trying all sorts of remedies, still NO CAMERA!..... I thought, HMMMM I wonder if it could be the computer, so I loaded the program, Scanner and Camera software into my own personal Laptop with the same results... NO CAMERA....

I called Grand Lodge again on Friday, the 6th and spoke with Lawrence Altomare, a Tech at Grand Lodge who suggested we send him the Camera and he would see what the problems are.... I shipped the Camera, its driver software and the Child ID software to him on Tuesday, June 10th... he received it Thursday, June 12th and said he would start investigating right away and would let me know of his results. Another suggestion he made was to purchase a camera made by a different company such as "Creative Labs" as it would probably work. I informed him that the Camera we purchased was recommended by the GL Chairman and that is the one we bought, a "Logitech 9000 Pro". He said he would still investigate what the problems are with the camera we bought and sent him. I'm now awaiting his findings.

**Alvin "Al" Fowler, PM,
Child ID Chairman**

EVERY BROTHERS

Brethren,

I am happy to report that the Avery Brothers, Demetri and Richard, were able to join us in our June stated dinner meeting. On said occasion, our Senior Warden Ken Martin, PM handed to them our donation of the spare Child ID laptop computer. Both were indeed very grateful to the Lodge for this donation as they will have something to use for their school homework.

Also, I would be remiss if I fail to thank Ms. Marissa Espinoza, the Director of Child Services at Covina Masonic Homes for accommodating our request for the Avery Brothers to join us in our June stated meeting.

One of the principal tenets of the Craft is relief and it is clearly manifested in the support we have been providing to the Avery Brothers.

I would also like to commend the Lodge for supporting the Tree Project of our Grand Master, the Most Worshipful Richard W. Hopper. This donation will be a big help for the improvement of the child services at Covina Homes.

We should be proud of ourselves for this little contribution to the cause of charity.

Fraternally,
Morel R. Callueng
Avery Brothers Committee

PULL TABS

Brethren,

The update on the pull-tab pop-tops from the aluminum cans, we have collected approximately 1900 so far.

Please save the pop-tops from your various beverages and/or food containers with aluminum pop top rings. Send these small pop tops to the lodge so that we can donate them and help those in need of kidney dialysis.

This is what Masonry is about ... Brotherhood – Relief & Truth.

Every little bit helps.

**Jerry Sato, PM
Senior Deacon**

The Secrets of Freemasonry

In the discussion of Masonry's secrets it is probably well, as was the case in the preceding chapter, to point out there are many mistaken assumptions arising from a lack of knowledge - a failure to inform oneself.

The fraternity is often called a secret society. This, of course, implies that Masons conceal the fact of their membership, that they meet in secret, that their purposes are secret.

Nothing could be more remote from the truth.

Masonry is definitely not a secret society. Its members make no attempt to conceal their Masonic affiliation, often proudly wearing rings or other jewelry marking them as Masons. Meeting places are prominently located and clearly marked. Dates and times of meetings are often advertised in newspapers or posted on bulletin boards. The history, the teachings, and many records of the order are available in any good public library. The rules and regulations of Masonry are in print and no effort is made to lock them away from interested persons. Minutes are made of its meetings and are often studied by those who are not members. These practices are clearly not those of a secret society.

Someone many years ago made the following statement: "Masonry is not a secret society, it is a society with secrets." Freemasonry does have some secrets it attempts to preserve.

It has secret modes of recognition, which enable its members to quickly recognize each other as Masons upon their first meeting. The value of these secrets to members away from home is fairly obvious and it does not seem unnatural that the fraternity should wish to preserve them. And Masonry has its secret ritual, its mode of instructing new members in the three symbolic degrees. This ritual originated, in large part, with the old cathedral builders earlier mentioned and has been handed down over the centuries. Most of the secret rituals are based upon writings in the Holy Bible and the writings of other great philosophers, so they are secret only in their unique adaptation and presentation.

Secrets Con't.

This ritualistic mode of instruction has proven remarkably effective over the centuries and its use, being peculiar to Freemasonry, has kept the fraternity apart from those that would imitate it. The lessons taught in the Masonic ritual are in no way secret, they may be obtained from many and various Masonic writings, available to all.

These secrets, the modes of recognition and the modes of instruction, are the only secrets Masonry has. The man who might be thinking of making application for Masonic membership solely out of curiosity concerning the secrets of Masonry will be well advised to let his curiosity lead him down other and less demanding paths.

TEACHER RECOGNITION

Brother Jun Bernabe just got in under the wire for this printing of the Trestleboard. He made a presentation for Outstanding Teacher to Mr. Jorge Lara of Gardena High. Hopefully this is the first of many such awards for the Gardena Public Schools.



MASONIC MEMBERSHIP CARD

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper 2 ½ x 3 ½ inches in size. It is of no intrinsic worth, not a bond, not a check or receipt for valuables, yet it is my most priceless possession. It is my membership in a Masonic Lodge.

It tells me that I have entered into a spiritual kinship with my fellow Masons to practice charity in work and deed; to forgive and forget the faults of my brethren; to hush the tongues of scandal and innuendos; to care for the crippled, the hungry, and the sick, and to be fair and just to all mankind.

It tells me that no matter where I may travel in the world, I am welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among brothers and friends.

It tells me that my loved ones, my home, and my household are under the protection of every member of this great Fraternity, who have sworn to protect and defend mine, as I have sworn to protect and defend theirs.

It tells me that should I ever be overtaken by adversity or misfortune through no fault of my own, the hands of every Mason on the face of the earth will be stretched forth to assist me in my necessities.

And finally it tells me that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be gathered around my lifeless body friends and brothers who will recall to mind my virtues, though they may be few, and will forget my faults, though they may be many.

It tells me that and a great deal more, this little card, and makes me proud, yet humble, that I can possess this passport into a society of friends and brothers that are numbered in the millions.

Knight Templar Magazine

JULY BIRTHDAYS

02 Frank Billingsley Jr
 03 David Gurski PM
 04 Myron Schlaegel PM
 06 Myles Morris
 08 Florante V. Cabanatan
 08 Peter C. White PM
 09 Dana Ax
 11 Billy Brown
 13 John Tolliver PM
 13 Bill Burnett
 14 Charlie A. Ponce
 14 Enrique F. Reola
 17 Ronald E. Powell Jr
 18 Bradley J. Young
 21 John Sparks Jr. PM
 23 James Slayton
 24 Frank Ussery
 27 Chester Bajak
 28 Carroll Dailey, Jr. PM
 29 Jeff Gance
 30 Donald Bell

2008 Committees Chairmen:**Avery Brothers:**

Robert O'Dell, Chairman,
 Mr Emil @aol.com

Budget and Finance:

Dana Wyatt PM, Chairman,
 KB6WQW @aol.com

Child ID Program:

Al Fowler PM, Chairman,
 fowalv@sbcglobal.net

Committee to Collect dues in arrears:

Victor Lerma PM, Chairman,
 vmlerma@yahoo.com

Constructional Observance:

Morel Callueng, Chairman,
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Funeral:

Ira Waterman PM Chairman,
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Public Schools:

Jose Bernabe, Chairman,
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Pull Tab:

Jerry Sato PM, Chairman,
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Rommel Macoy Chairman,
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Widows:

Roger Garst PM, Chairman,
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2008 Appointed Officers**Master**

Ira Waterman PM

Senior Warden/Officers Coach

Ken Martin PM

Junior Warden

Alvin "Al" Fowler PM

Secretary

Victor Lerma PM

Treasurer

Dana Wyatt PM

Senior Deacon

Jerry Sato PM

Junior Deacon

Dana Ax

Senior Steward

Dave Gurski PM

Junior Steward

Jason Cronin

Chaplain

Bart Bardner PM

Marshal

Roger Garst

Tiler

George Cronin II, PM

Inspector 368th District

Richard Pierce PM
 rpierce04@dslextreme.com

LODGE CALENDAR

June 25, 7:00 pm O.S.I. At Culver City Foshay Lodge. The Lodge is located at 9635 Venice Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232. (310) 836-0467. Come early the parking is limited.

July 2, Dinner and Stated Meeting

July 9, 6:00pm Temple Board Meeting.

July 16, 7:00 Officers practice.