



# Gardena Moneta Lodge 372

Free & Accepted Masons of the State of California

## Gardena Masonic Center

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Masonry a Way of Life

May 2008

### FROM THE EAST

My brothers,  
Remember the old saying, "April showers bring spring flowers"? Well this came to me as I looked at the rose bushes in my front yard. The blossoms are big, red and beautiful. They reminded me of our lodge for it has survived a bitter winter of discontent and unhappiness which resulted in the loss of our charter. I am happy and proud to say that we are in the spring time of our endeavors, that of bringing back the truths of brotherly love, relief and truth. Brotherly love and fellowship is in full bloom just as it was when we took our obligations.

I hope each will log on to the new web site as it is very impressive. I had a little trouble finding it, if you have trouble, try [www.Mason372.org](http://www.Mason372.org). Our web master Romell has done a great job. There is a history section, a gallery section with pictures of those at the last Stated Meeting, a calendar section, there are pictures of the officers section and even back ground music. I think I spent about an hour in the history section as I am a history buff. There is also a reply section. So please go online, look it over and let us know how you like it and what you have been up to.

Jerry Sato PM reported the pull top collection is going well. My brothers, please get involved in this worthwhile project. Alcoa Aluminum pays for one second of time on a kidney dialysis machine for children. It doesn't sound like much time but multiply it times our membership, see his report.

Spoke with Roger Garst PM, our chairman of the Widows Committee, he is going to be out of town until sometime in October so we will be planning on having a luncheon in your honor, ladies. We will give a date a little later on.

Roger is a great chairman for this event as he has been involved with DeMolay, Eastern Star and of course our lodge and he is a great speaker.

Worshipful Al Fowler has the Child Id program just about ready to go so expect some really good news on its progress, in his report.

We have twenty six members that are more than two years in arrears in paying their dues. We are doing our best to contact them and let them know Masonry has a way of handling dues problems. It is called "Remission of Dues". All any brother has to do is send the lodge a letter explaining the problem and his dues will be remitted. Brothers if you are having financial problems let us know, we are your Brothers and want to help.

When a member does not pay his dues Grand Lodge still considers him a member and charges the lodge per capita for each member whether they have paid their dues or not. Grand lodge does not however charge per capita for members that have had their dues remitted.

I want to wish all the birthday brothers a great happy birthday. I saw my old brother and buddy Art Howard listed. He and I were in the Shrine a few years back. He managed to keep me in trouble constantly with the Potentate. He emptied the champagne out and filled the bottles with white vinegar. There were some sour faces after the toast.

My brothers please do two things for me, first ask a brother to have dinner at our stated meetings with you and attend lodge afterward. The second thing is proudly wear your Masonic jewelry in public for all to see.

Fraternally  
Ira Waterman  
Worshipful Master.

### FROM THE WEST

Brethren:

Look what happens when things come together. Here we have the May Trestleboard that's four, (can you believe) pages long and I am having issues trying to get it to fit.

The Officers and Committee Chairs are trying to keep you informed on what we as a Lodge are trying to do to in order to get our Charter Back. As you can see, there is plenty to do if you have the time to help or any suggestions you may have. I'm sure the Chair would like to hear them.

I am pleased that Brother Al Fowler has taken up the mantle as Kid ID Chair. There is no one I can think of better qualified nor as knowledgeable about this Program than Al. He and I ran the old system for a couple of years and had a ball doing it. This new system is so much better and faster, you have to see it to believe it. Thanks Al.

The Lodge has taken on the sponsorship for two young men at the Masonic Home in Covina. According to Brother Morel they seem to have found themselves a new if not better home. Brothers this is a responsibility we have all taken on and it is more than just the \$ money \$. These young men need to know we care. If you have the time, drop them a line to see how they are doing. Better yet contact Brother Robert O'Dell or Morel Callueng and see if you can go visit the home with them.

Fraternally,  
Ken Martin, P.M.  
Sr. Warden

Please if you have a computer that's internet ready, do us both a favor and let me send you the Trestleboard via E-Mail. It's faster, easier, and cheaper, plus you get it now and in COLOR.

**FROM YOUR INSPECTOR**

Greetings my Brothers, I have the honor to report that things are progressing well at your Lodge and with a few minor exceptions, we are missing only one thing to bring us up to the expectations of the Grand Master for the return of your Charter – that one thing my Brothers, is YOU!

The heart of a Masonic lodge is not brick and mortar or the other tangible property of the Fraternity – the true fabric of Masonry is its members, without which any Lodge will shortly become nothing more than a mere curiosity like the ruins of some long forgotten pagan temple.

My job, as your District Inspector is simple and direct – I am the servant to you, the members. My task is to promote brotherly love, healing and cooperation to restore Gardena Moneta to its full potential and privilege AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

I cannot do this without your help and cooperation – I need your attendance at our stated meetings and your support for our lodge programs as they startup again. Programs such as the Child ID program for which your leadership recently approved the purchase of new equipment to better serve the community, BUT, we need Brothers (YOU) to participate in the program without which, all the fancy equipment is just so much expensive junk.

Worshipful Ira Waterman has arranged for delicious Prime Rib dinners prior to the Stated Meeting and I have volunteered to provide a fresh salad each month but, unless YOU attend, we might as well not have bothered.

**A LODGE IS THE SUM TOTAL OF THE PARTICIPATION OF ITS MEMBERS!**

**ASK YOURSELF THIS QUESTION – AM I DOING ALL I CAN TO SUPPORT THE FRATERNITY AND GARDENA MONETA? THEN FOLLOW YOUR HEART AND JOIN YOUR BROTHERS AS TOGETHER, WE REBUILD THE TEMPLE AND THE BONDS OF FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE, LOVE AND MUTUAL RESPECT!**

Fraternally and Respectfully,  
Dick Pierce, P.M.  
District Inspector, District 368

**FROM THE SOUTH**

Brethern,

At this writing, I've just returned from the Jr. Wardens Retreat held at the Marriot Hotel adjacent to the Ontario Airport and as per usual ( like the last 2 Warden's Retreats I've attended, the last one before this one in 2001 ) A lot of information was crammed in, in a VERY short time..... some useful, some is yet to be decided upon...met a lot of Brothers and had outstanding Fellowship.... Was assigned to a work group with brothers from the local area, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Long Beach, Bellflower Lodges just to name a few and connected with a member of our Lodge who is an associate member of the El Segundo Lodge who is currently that Lodge's Jr. Warden... Brother Nathaniel Zipagan.... We are BOTH in agreement that it would be for the betterment of our conjoined Lodge ( Garden-Moneta Lodge 372 ), to have members of BOTH the old Garden-Ascot and Moneta Lodges become more Active Line Officers after our Charter is reinstated. We feel this would be a MAJOR step in building Fellowship and Brotherly Love.

Fraternally,  
Alvin "Al" Fowler, P.M.  
Jr. Warden

**When is a man a Mason?**

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage -- which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellowman.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins -- knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellowman, and with his God; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song -- glad to live, but not afraid to die!

He is a Mason. Reverend Joseph Fort Newton Grand Chaplain, Grand Lodge of Iowa

**CHILD ID PROGRAM**

The CHILD ID PROGRAM is up and running.... thanks to Worshipful Richard Pierce who made available a copy of the Child ID Software, I was able to load the software and run a few test runs at the last Stated Meeting Dinner. The OUTPUT is CONSIDERABLY better than the older version that we ran in the past. The Picture is sharper and the fingerprint scans are much crisper. The DOCUMENT that is produced also prints 3 smaller wallet sized pieces for placing in parents wallets (or guardian, sister, brother etc). We plan on running the Program at the Teacher Recognition function and the Constitution Observance Program. As it is late in the School Year, it is not feasible to offer it to the Schools, being there is not enough time to set up the program with the School's governing body before schools takes their summer vacations. I'm sure that we can offer this program upon the Fall Semester. If ANY Brother knows of a function such as a PTA meeting or SUMMER FAIR where this Program could be used, please contact me. I can be reached anytime that I'm awake at (310) 251-9353 or via E-Mail at fowalv@sbcglobal.net. If you contact me via E-Mail, PLEASE in the "SUBJECT" put "CHILD ID" as **I DO NOT** open any E-Mail from UN-KNOWN sources.

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



**AVERY BROTHERS**

Brethren:

I visited the Avery Brothers at the Covina Homes on April 2, 2008 to check on their current situation. I brought them a large pizza as a simple token to show that our Lodge continues to care for them. I talked extensively to Richard Avery because at that time Demetri was in the middle of a marathon competition. He informed me that he is currently in his 1<sup>st</sup> year in high school, while his brother Demetri is now in middle school. He informed me that all their needs were properly provided by the homes. I promised to visit them again in May 2008. Before the stated meeting on May 7, 2008 I again dropped by at Covina Homes and brought a Lord of the Rings pocket book for Demetri. I sat down with Melissa Espinoza, the Director of Child Services of Covina Homes. She told me that Richard and Demetri's grades are either As or Bs. I told her about the decision of the Lodge to donate the two (2) old Child ID laptop computers of the Lodge to the Avery Brothers. She welcomed this generosity of our Lodge. Melissa also told me that one way of recognizing these kids is either to invite them to attend our Lodge stated meeting dinner (a staff from the Homes will bring them) or hold a BBQ birthday party for them at the Homes. I promised Melissa to visit the kids again in June 2008.

Morel R. Callueng  
Avery Brothers Committee

Also, this to memorialize in writing my pitch for the GM's TREE Project. This project will expand the Children's Services at Covina Homes. One of the salient points of the project is to shorten the residency of the child in the Homes from 2 years to 18 months. Currently, the residency of a child in the homes averages from 5 to 7 years. The yearly expenses for each child is between \$60,000 to \$70,000.

The GM needs our help. Hopefully our Lodge can donate at least \$5000.00 for this worthy project. I hope we can take this up in our June stated meeting.

ThankYou

**THE SECRETARY'S TABLE**

Brethren:

As time goes by, I reflect on what it used to be and warmly remember, people and places that have influenced my life for the better.

I cannot repay Freemasonry for its teachings and with it the benefits it has brought me by becoming a better member of society.

When I entered the "English" Freemasonry of California at Gardena, and became a Master Mason I was invited to attend a meeting of the Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau (LAMSB). The Chief Executive Officer CEO is none other than Brother Larry L Adamson, our Deputy Grand Master.

The Masonic Service Bureaus serves as clearinghouse between the blue Lodges and the Grand Lodge. It investigates new applicants coming to our fraternity. We are fortunate to belong to one of the biggest Service Bureaus in the World, and the best is that none of the Lodges pay the additional tax to have this service. The LASMSB gets its funds from the Bush Foundation, which is in charge of the Midnight Mission in downtown LA.

I was not sure what LAMSB encompassed, but I remember the coffee and donuts were fresh and delicious. The message by the speaker was very good about what Freemasonry is: a family.

I continued attending the LAMSB meetings and in January of 2004, I was voted in as a board member, unfortunately this year the board was reduced from 12 members to 10. But the following year I again was voted in and installed as the newest board member Representing Gardena-Moneta Lodge # 372.

Gardena became more important, for this Lodge participated in the annual clothing drive for the Midnight Mission, a program dear to my heart..

Gardena Moneta Lodge is recovering and gaining strength, let us focus on the positive and think, this is not a bad nightmare but a good learning experience. I challenge my brothers to get involved by supporting this Lodge, and become active again,

Martha and I moved to the San Fernando Valley, and I missed my friends at Gardena Lodge, specially the warm handshake of my fraternal brothers. Still working some nights I asked to join Home Lodge # 721 in Van Nuys. It is great to be a Mason because in this Lodge I also found good brothers and friends.

FYI

The next Bureau Meeting:  
May, 18, 2008  
150 North Madison Avenue  
Pasadena California  
Calendar for the rest of the year:  
September 21, 2008  
Grand Lodge Resolutions discussion  
November 16, 2008  
Cloths drive for the Midnight Mission.

Fraternally  
Victor M Lerma PM  
I Care.

**PULL TABS**

Brethren,  
Greetings! Worshipful Ira Waterman has appointed me as a one-person committee to assist people getting kidney dialysis treatment. As many of you know kidney dialysis is very expensive, even with insurance coverage.

We all can help these people! One way we can help is by saving the small pop-tops from aluminum cans and containers. We have commitments from various aluminum companies to subsidize kidney dialysis for patients if we turn in these pop-tops to them. Most of these pop-tops are of a higher quality than the aluminum cans and these companies have committed 1 second of dialysis for each pop-top.

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.

This is what Masonry is about ...  
Brotherhood – Relief & Truth.  
Every little bit helps.

Jerry Sato, PM  
Senior Deacon



**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

01 Daniel P. Valdez  
 01 Lester J. Ioerger  
 04 Rudy P. De Vera  
 05 Frank Abrosion  
 06 Leslie Slye  
 07 James Smith Jr  
 08 Robert T. Limpus  
 08 Michael V. Paysan  
 09 Elmor L. Villanueva  
 09 Kenneth Levitt Jr  
 10 Caesar Flores  
 10 Howard Neill  
 10 Beryl J. Howard  
 11 Robert Winfield  
 14 Cosimo Cataldi  
 15 Paul Widrig PM  
 16 George Mayner PM  
 16 James Rothenberger  
 16 Jeffrey Fox  
 19 Ira Waterman PM  
 19 Javier M. Villanueva  
 20 Owen E. Strand  
 21 William M. Fisher Jr  
 22 James W. Dougherty  
 24 Armand H. Vilain  
 25 Manuel Benedicto  
 28 Harold H. Hoffman  
 29 George Bell  
 29 Paul M. Rodriguez  
 30 Dana Wyatt PM

**RETURNED TRESTLEBOARD**

These were returned  
 "Unable to Forward"

Manuel Benedicto  
 Lorenzo G. Castaneros  
 Gerald Cully  
 Ali De Guinto  
 Willington Ho PM  
 Sydney G. Huston  
 Dennis Iiao  
 Oscar P. Leus PM  
 Floro G. Luna  
 Allen Sill Sr.  
 Eugene W. Swacker  
 Frank Ussery  
 Delfin Viola

Any Brother having contact with any of the above brothers is asked to contact Worsh. Vic Lerma or Ken Martin as we need to bring them back into the fellowship.

**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,  
 dynamiclegal@sbcglobal.net

**Funeral:**

Ira Waterman PM Chairman,  
 H2osba @aol.com

**Masonic Education:**

George Cronin PM, Chairman,  
 Gmcrinin@sbcglobal.net

**Masonic Service Bureau:**

Victor Lerma PM,  
 vmlerma@yahoo.com

**Membership:**

Fred Davis PM, Chairman,  
 fd2563@att.com

**Public Schools:**

Jose Bernabe, Chairman,  
 Junbern@yahoo.com

**Pull Tab:**

Jerry Sato PM, Chairman,  
 54effie@sbcglobal.net

**Sickness and Visitation:**

John Rockwood PM, Chairman,  
 JER0211 @aol.com

**Trestle Board:**

Ken Martin PM, Editor,  
 kenny364 @aol.com

**Web Master:**

Rommel Macoy Chairman,  
 webmaster@mason372.org

**Widows:**

Roger Garst PM, Chairman,  
 RogerGarst @aol.com

**2008 Appointed Officers****Master**

Ira Waterman PM

**Senior Warden**

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

**CALENDAR**

Stated Meeting:

June 4, 2008 @ 7:30 PM

Stated Dinner:

Spaghetti and Salad by Richard Pierce  
 @ 6:30 PM

