



5449 College Avenue
Oakland, California 94509



UPON THE SQUARE

Chris Nowell, Master 2015

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 1
Super Bowl Party
Oakland Scottish Rite
1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 3
Stated Meeting
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 7
Pancake Breakfast
Set-up 7:00 a.m.
Seatings 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00
<http://claremont-pta.brownpapertickets.com>

Tuesday, February 10
First Degree
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Practice 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 17
First Degree
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Practice 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 19
District School of Instruction
(Reception of GL Officers & 2nd Degree)
Oakland Masonic Center
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
School 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 24
Third Degree
Chinese Acacia Club
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Degree 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3
Stated Meeting
(Inspector's Official Visit)
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Our year of building connections is off to a great start. Last month, we enjoyed the warm hospitality of our brethren at Live Oak for the first time in nearly fifty years. On February 24th, we will welcome the Acacia club back to our Lodge for the first time since Wor. David Forsyth's third degree. As one of our events this year supporting public schools, we will hold our traditional pancake breakfast to support Claremont Middle School on February 7th.

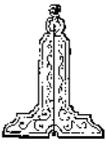
I was fortunate to enjoy the hospitality of our brethren in the Chinese Acacia Club at their last scholarship dinner and look forward to welcoming them back to ODR on the 24th. The club was founded in 1946 and first visited Oakland Lodge on October 20th, 1948. One of the degree team members that night was a Past District Grand Master of China.

Seventy years earlier, Enoch Pardee, a late Past Master of Oakland Lodge being honored this year, helped to maintain the Chinese communities in Oakland and San Francisco. Though bombarded by rocks and tomatoes as a result, Wor. Pardee maintained his Masonic ideals and fought calls to deport and limit the community in the late 1870s.

The Claremont Middle School breakfast has been a part of our Public Schools Month program since our current Senior Warden, Ed Stevenson, connected our Lodge with the school in 2010. This year, we moved the event from April to February to accommodate the school's schedule. In addition, for the first time, corporate sponsors will join ODR in supporting the school through the breakfast. This event holds a special place in my heart; if not for it, I may never have discovered ODR or Masonry in general.

One particularly self-indulgent morning, I set three goals for myself: drink BitterSweet hot chocolate, eat bacon, and listen to jazz. In a twist of fate, on my way back from BitterSweet, I heard the Claremont Middle School Jazz Band playing in a beautiful building with a sign on the door advertising a pancake and bacon breakfast. While I walked towards the band on the second floor, I ran into Wor. Peter Pedrotti. While serving as a docent, he introduced me to a fraternity that welcomes men from every sect, country, and opinion. I hadn't expected to achieve all three goals before lunch time – and certainly didn't foresee becoming Master of the Lodge a few short years later.

The eclectic perspectives, backgrounds, and paths that brought us to our Lodge enrich our lives with lively discussions upstairs after meetings. No matter what brought you to Masonry, it's a pleasure to enjoy your company and hear your stories. If you need assistance making it to Lodge to share yours, please contact me and we'll make arrangements to have the opportunity to share some time with you.



ON THE LEVEL

Ed Stevenson, Senior Warden

Since 2010, our lodge has put on a pancake breakfast to benefit Claremont Middle School which is located just a few blocks up the street from us. This event has been a great success over the past five years and with a big effort from the members of our lodge, this success will continue this year on February 7th.

The way this event works is that our lodge supplies the food, our building and the labor in order to put this event on. The Rockridge Community Association provides advertising by means of their newsletter to all residents of the Rockridge area and placing posters in the windows of most of the retail stores along College Ave. Finally, the school sells the tickets and coordinates the reception of guests to ensure we don't have lines of guest having to wait a long time for their breakfast.

There are multiple benefits derived from this event. First of all, the school earns \$4,000 to over \$5,000 from the ticket sales. It also provides a meaningful project for the Dads Club and the students to engage in. Secondly, it enables Oakland Durant Rockridge to be highly visible in the community in a good way. In addition, it's an opportunity for our brethren to come together as a team to execute a meaningful event. I believe that working together on something like this helps bond our fellowship.

In the past, we have scheduled this event during the month of April to coincide with the Grand Lodge's Public Schools Recognition month. To do this during that timeframe has turned out to be a burden for the school. So this year we will hold the pancake breakfast on February 9th. We will need every brother in our lodge to turn out and help make this, our sixth year a success. Please plan to be there with us if not for the entire morning, for as much time as you are able.

In Memoriam

Brother William Morris

Born May 17, 1923

Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason April 11, 1951

Elevated to the Celestial Lodge Above November 11, 2014

A fifty-three-year member

STAY IN THE KNOW

You can add an up-to-the-minute ODR calendar to your phone or computer calendar by clicking



under the "Upcoming Events" section at the top of www.odr.org



From the Secretary's Desk

Lawrence Altomare, Secretary

At the last Annual Communication, Grand Lodge approved an update to the California Masonic Code regarding the publishing of Personally Identifying Information (such as your name). Grand Lodge adopted an "opt-out" policy.

With an "opt-out" policy, if you have no objection to the Lodge publishing your Personally Identifying Information, you do not need to do anything. If you do not want your Personally Identifying Information published, you need to inform the Lodge in writing. This can be done via a written letter to me, the Lodge Secretary.

There are no plans on changing the type of information published in the trestleboard, such as officer contact information and Masonic birthday names. The intent is to continue "business as usual".

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

February Masonic Anniversaries

Robert Bianco.....	35 years
Luciano Chessa.....	10 years
Eric Chilton.....	9 years
David Forsyth, P.M.	7 years
Charles Geha, Jr.....	60 years
Gordon Hodgins.....	39 years
Thomas Lee.....	40 years
Richard Makin.....	12 years
Derith Motheral.....	56 years
Wilson Ogg.....	51 years

By the Plumb

Cal Gilbert, Junior Warden

As I look at the Brothers who compose our Lodge, or any Lodge for that matter, I see many shapes, colors, and beliefs all sitting side by side in peace and harmony. What I don't see is the intolerance, racism, and bigotry so pervasive in the world outside of Masonry. Why is that do you suppose? Are Masons, by their nature less inclined to the expression of these character defects or are we less inclined to harbor them in the first place?

I think Masons, being men just like any others, have come to understand the beauty that is possible by the taming of the passions and looking at the world not as a battleground to be conquered but as a home for all mankind, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, united under the Fatherhood of God and in the Brotherhood of Man. How do we get from the raw and rank emotionality of the World to the serenity of the Lodge?

Practice, my Brother. And study. And reflection. How do we practice? What do we study? Upon what do we reflect? For me, it has always begun with practicing the basics, the Big Four as it were – Temperance Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. Obviously (and thankfully) this column is too short to address all of these at once so I'll start with Temperance.

We hear a lot about Temperance in the Entered Apprentice Degree lecture. I've been studying that bit in detail lately and have gained a new perspective on this fundamental. I've come to understand the term is not limited to my intake of alcohol, food, or other substances. It's so much more than that. Everywhere I look in the Lodge, it seems I see Temperance exemplified. From the moment we enter the Lodge, we are expected to dress, act, talk, and even move by certain standards and rules. Our ritual prescribes this and our culture of decorum demands it. Had we not the due restraint required, this would not be possible. Temperance, my Brother, is what separates us from the unruly child and the ranting madman within us all.

By the practice of Temperance in the Lodge, I am enabled to study its effects on the microcosm it represents. I see illustrated before me in glorious reality the taming of the passions and the freeing of the mind from allurements to vice, if only for a few blessed hours.

After I leave the Lodge, it is up to me to carry forth the lesson, reflect upon its gravity and apply it to my own small world. After all, I cannot change the entire world. I can, and am bound by oaths and honor, to improve the portion of it I inhabit. The practice and study of, and reflection upon the virtue of Temperance, in and out of the Lodge, is a worthy beginning in making me a more brilliant reflection of the Light by which Masons work.

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Tim World

First Vice President

DeMolay Foundation of California, Inc.

SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The scholarship board is accepting applications through March 31st of 2015 for undergraduate college scholarships. The children and grandchildren of Lodge members in good standing are eligible. These scholarships are for a maximum of \$12,000 payable over 4 years.

Please contact the Lodge Secretary, Lawrence Altomare, PM, for an application or go online at www.odr.org. The scholarship committee must receive all completed applications by March 31st, 2015 to be considered for this year.

February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Super Bowl Party Scottish Rite 1:00 pm	2	3 Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 pm Meeting 7:30 pm	4	5	6 Practice 1st Degree, Breakfast Setup 6:30 pm	7 Pancake Breakfast 7:00 am All able-bodied brethren needed!
8	9	10 1st Degree Dinner 6:30 pm Practice 7:30 pm	11	12	13 Fridays at the Lodge 6:30 pm	14
15	16	17 1st Degree Dinner 6:30 pm Degree 7:30 pm	18	19 DOSI Live Oak Dinner 6:30 pm School 7:30 pm	14 Fridays at the Lodge 6:30 pm	21
22	23	24 3rd Degree Chinese Acacia Club Dinner 6:30 pm Degree 7:30 pm	25	26	27 Fridays at the Lodge 6:30 pm	28