

OAKLAND DURANT ROCKRIDGE NEWS

Oakland Durant Rockridge Lodge #188, Free & Accepted Masons

November/
December 2014



5449 College Avenue
Oakland, California 94509



UPON THE SQUARE

David A. Forsyth, Master 2014

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 4

**Stated Meeting
Elections**

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 7

Third Degree Practice

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Practice 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11

Third Degree Practice

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Practice 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 18

Third Degree Practice

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Practice 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 25

Third Degree

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Degree 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 2

Stated Meeting

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 6

**Pancake Breakfast
And Christmas Party**

Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Puppet Show 10:00 a.m.
(Is Santa Claus coming?)

Saturday, December 13

**Installation of Officers
3:00 p.m.**

Reservations Required

Tuesday, January 4

Stated Meeting

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Thank you for being a part of this 12 month journey through the history, past life and times of Oakland Durant Rockridge No. 188. This last year has seen us present 75 and 50 year anniversary pins, rededicate the last resting place of Nathan W. Spaulding our first Master, hold a second degree conferral at , our Mother Lodge, Mission Lodge No. 169 as well as host the Grand Lodge of California on two occasions. During the year we raised funds for the local middle school after-school programs and paid for three Raising-a-Reader classes in local Oakland schools.

We are perpetuating the good deeds of those masons who have come before us, men who built schools, created cities and gave generously of their time and money. We are truly standing on their shoulders. In talking with longstanding members I have come to realize that although decades separate us in time as masons, we are carrying forward the same traditions and holding firm to our commitments. In doing so, we continue to make a difference in the lives of others, in our lodge, our families and our communities.

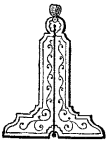
I want to thank my Brothers for making this an incredible year, giving of their time unstintingly, whispering

good counsel in my ear and being ever willing to stretch forth that helping hand. My true heartfelt gratitude goes out to each and every one of you - everyone who made it to a degree conferral, helped set up the dining room for dinner and organized candidates coaching. Those who sent emails to tell me about a long forgotten moment in the history of our amazing lodge, a few who spared an hour out of their day to enjoy a cup of coffee and chat about times past and EAs who just wanted to let me know how excited they were about the journey before them. I thank you all for your encouragement, participation and brotherly love.

These glimpses of our esteemed history remind us we must carry that spirit well into the future. We all have the ability to draw designs upon our own Trestleboards and pursue our own labors, let us make sure we make as good use of our time as all masons have done in ages past.

Lastly, I cannot finish without thanking my wife Batya and our daughter Hannah for their incredible support and love. They are my pole star.

As one Brother from out of town, who wrote to me last month, closed his letter. A fair wind and calm seas to you all, God Speed.



ON THE LEVEL

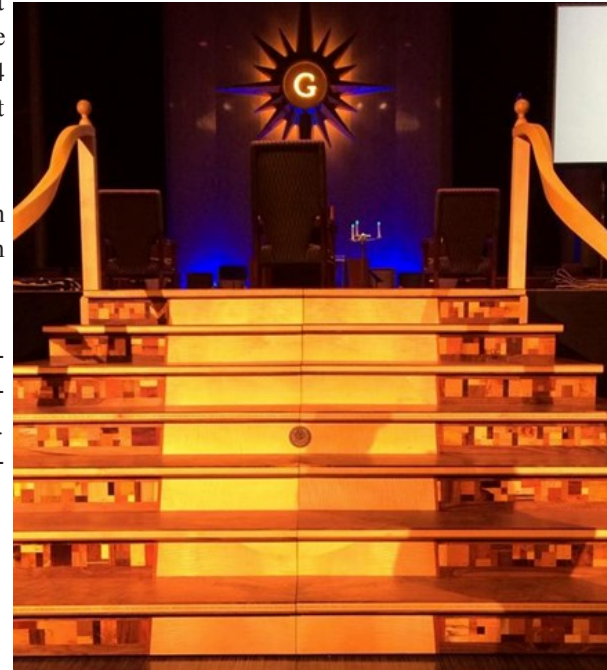
Chris Nowell, Senior Warden



Many Lodges throughout the State of California donated a wooden item to be part of a new staircase for the new Grand Lodge stage. After much deliberation, we agreed to donate our famous 18-inch gauge to the effort. Six inches of this ruler broke off long ago, but it often seemed easier to find than our 24-inch gauge. The artist who created the staircase shortened it again to 24 quarter inches. It was beautifully integrated into the left side of the second step of the finished staircase.

These interconnecting pieces of California Lodges is an apt symbol of the next year's theme of connections. We have visitations planned with many of our neighboring Lodges, including Prince Hall and The Chinese Acacia Club.

Our 18-inch gauge wasn't the first working tool that our Lodge contributed to a construction project. On November 26, 1966, Oakland Lodge No. 188 provided the trowel to lay the cornerstone for the Masonic Memorial Temple on Fortieth and Broadway. That was the site of Oakland, Live Oak, Chateau Thierry, and Fellowship lodges. Today, it remains the current home of Live Oak Lodge No. 61.



*Photo courtesy of Christopher C. Wright, P.M.
Petaluma– Hamilton Lodge No. 180*

November Masonic Anniversaries

Craig Baker.....	9 years
Dennis Baum.....	1 year
Alexandre Bayen.....	3 years
Douglas Bowen.....	41 years
John Eldridge, P.M.....	49 years
Edmund Evans.....	18 years
George Graham.....	18 years
Paul Handlerey.....	63 years
Everett Hunt.....	58 years
Harold Jordan.....	54 years
Jay Martinez, P.M.....	14 years
Patrick Miles.....	23 years
William Nelson.....	57 years
Christopher Nowell.....	3 years
Jim Odle.....	41 years
Lanthey Pepares.....	65 years
Sava Popovic.....	2 years
Christopher Rohrer.....	26 years
Sean Symonds.....	32 years
Andrew Vanke.....	3 years
Wilbert Yip, P.M.....	34 years



From the Secretary's Desk

Lawrence Altomare, Secretary

As I write this article, the Grand Lodge Annual Communication for 2014 has finished and we have a new Grand Master installed.

One of MW Charvonia's suggestions for the Sr. Warden is that they publish a little about themselves in the November trestleboard so members who do not make it to lodge can learn a little about our Sr. Warden.

Most people commonly use a resume (or curriculum vitae (CV)) to accomplish this task. However I have found a better way to really get to know a person is to listen carefully to what he talks about and look for his underlying values.

When our Senior Warden gives a summarized version of himself, one of the items he lists is "feeding the lodge". He is referring to his time as Junior Warden. I find it enlightening that, when he is pressed to come up with just a few items to describe himself, it is a task of serving others, his lodge brothers, that comes to mind.

To me, that tells me far more about our Sr. Warden than any resume will communicate.

November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Stated Meeting Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	5	6	7 Practice Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	8
9	10	11 Practice Dinner 630 pm Practice 730 pm	12	13	14 Practice Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	15
16	17	18 Practice Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	19	20	21 Practice Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	22
23	24	25 Third Degree Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	26	27 Eat to much Day	28 Nor Cal DeMolay Convention	29 Nor Cal DeMolay Convention
30 Nor Cal DeMolay Convention						

December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Stated Meeting Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	3	4	5	6 Pancake Breakfast & Holiday Party
7	8	9 Practice Dinner 630 pm Meeting 730 pm	10	11	12	13 Installation 3 pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Feast of St. John
28	29	30	31			