

In The



Daylight

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No.866, F. & A.M.
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December 2019

The Masterful Work of Masons

Foreword . . .

As we all know, “Masons believe in the importance of religion; men of all faiths are members of the organization.” Document entitled *Masonic Philosophy and Values* from the Grand Lodge of California.

As we also know, we do not dwell on members’ religious beliefs in the lodge.

On the other hand, we recognize, of course, that December is a month of religious observances. Even so, we will not dwell on them in this edition, except (a) to acknowledge that we will have a holiday party on December 21 in respect of the season, and (b) to wish each Brother, his family and friends, a warm and heartfelt wish for enjoyment and fulfillment as they observe their respective December holidays.

Instead, we will focus on the masterful work of our Brethren, in the lodge and in history.

We start with an acknowledgment and appreciation for the masterful work of Wor. Roger L. Soriano, our 2019 Worshipful Master of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge. We have had a great year largely due to the leadership and devotion of our Wor. Roger.¹

Because we are a new Lodge, we have had only two Masters so far: Wor. Roger Soriano, and his predecessor, Wor. Steve Wolvek, PM. I

have been in the Lodge long enough to see each of these men lead the Lodge, improve it, and lay the foundation for our next Worshipful Master, Wor. Celso Cardano, Jr., PM. As did his predecessor, Wor. Roger has given his heart and soul to this lodge, devoting time and energy above and beyond expectation. Undoubtedly, Wor. Celso will do no less.

Wor. Roger: On behalf of the Lodge and all of its members, thank you for everything you have done and continue to do for Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge.

Wor. Celso: We know that you have filled this role elsewhere previously and we congratulate and thank you in advance for being Master for the ensuing Masonic Year. We look forward to your exemplary efforts as well, as you lead us through another successful term.

As you, the reader, proceed through this edition, in addition to the usual inclusions, please enjoy articles about the Master’s Work, one regarding a Master Jurist and another concerning some Master Aviators as well. Happy reading.

Fraternally,
David I. Karp, Editor.

The December Trestleboard appears on p. 2.

¹By these accolades, we do not ignore our Past Masters and other officers of the lodge. We appreciate them as well.



The Master's Work

The Worshipful Master is: “[t]he head and chief of the Lodge, the source of light, of knowledge and instruction in Masonry. It is he who opens [the Lodge]; and by his authority the Lodge is also closed. It is he who makes Masons and advances them. For the purposes of the lodge and its activities, he personifies the Sublime Art of Masonry and is the spokesman thereof.” Waite, Arthur Edward. *A New Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*. New York: Wings Books, a division of Random House Value Publishing, inc., by arrangement with University books, Inc., 1996 ed., p. xxiv.

The job of being the Master is much more than as described above. He steers the ship, as it were, and navigates our journey towards the East, as would a ships' master, an analogous position.

<https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/careers-guide/browse/ships-master> .

“Ships' masters oversee navigation and manage the operation of ships at sea, in port and at anchor. They consult weather forecasts, make voyage plans and conduct equipment and inventory inspections in preparation of a vessel leaving port.” *Id.*

Thus, as would a ships' master, the Lodge's Master manages the operation of the Lodge, consults with key members, makes action plans, inventories the Lodge's holdings and membership, and, most certainly, conducts inspections (i.e. requires proficiency) before the Lodge or a Brother embarks on a set course.

In our Lodge, each Master exhibits these qualities of a ships' master: “able to make decisions under pressure; responsible and diligent; good oral and written communication skills; literacy, numeracy and computer skills; able to lead and manage a crew [i.e., a lodge or line of officers]; willing to spend time at “sea” [i.e., both in and out of the Lodge dealing with Lodge issues, meetings, events, people, etc.], often being away from home for long periods....

It is a great honor for a Mason to be the Master of a Lodge, and Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge has the privilege to have Brethren ready, willing, and able accept that honor and to chart and navigate each year's voyage toward the East.

Fraternally,
David I. Karp

December Trestleboard

(We meet on 1st/3rd Saturdays at 10:00 AM except as otherwise noted..)

- Dec 7 Stated Meeting (Dress Casual)
- Dec. 12 CFS Second Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM
- Dec. 21 Degree TBD / Holiday Party.

Looking Ahead into January

- Jan 4 Stated Meeting (Dress Casual)
- Jan 9 CFS Second Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM
- Jan 18 Installation of Officers (10AM)



NOTICES

Proposed Changes to Bylaws

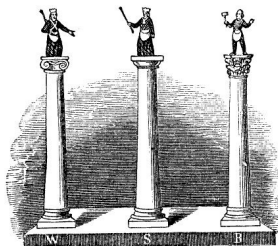
These proposed changes to our bylaws, will be voted-on at the December 2019 Stated Meeting:

1. Application fees for new members should be stated now at \$455 rather than \$450, to accommodate the same \$5 increase imposed by Grand Lodge for the cost of background checks;
2. The phrase “rounded up to the nearest whole dollar” should be added for our annual dues statement, to read “\$100 plus per capita, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar,” to avoid complications when quoting to our members our annual dues amount and to make the accounting easier upon receipt.

The above changes are proposed by WM Roger L. Soriano

Dues

Dues for 2020 are \$153. To avoid an online processing fee payable by the Lodge, please bring your check to the Secretary payable to “Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866.” Payment is due by 12/31/19 to remain in good standing.



From the East

Brethren,
We are approaching the end of the year, and this is the time we think about family, as well as the blessings we have in the past, present, as well as future. With all these blessings, we can easily forget those others less fortunate. That's why we had our first lodge visit to the Midnight Mission. (See p. 9.) This is to remind us that as much as we are blessed, we also need to remember those who are not so blessed. I hope this can become a regular lodge event in the future.

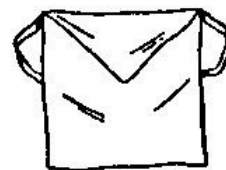
We also hosted our MERT training presented by Most Worshipful Russ Charvonia, and it was a day of great information. (See p. 9.) If you missed this, please contact the pillar officers to get more information. We are looking forward to starting CERT training soon.

Please note that we have two more 3rd degree conferrals remaining for the rest of the year, and to be capped off with our holiday party on Dec 21st. That is a great time to gather as many of us as possible and celebrate our productive year.

Finally, at this coming stated meeting, we will be voting on the bylaws change to increase the application fees to match the Grand Lodge increase, as well as rounding up of the dues to the nearest whole dollar. Our dues for 2020 will be \$153. All officers next year need to pay their dues before the end of the year to be installed.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our stated meeting.

Fraternally from the East,
Wor. Roger L. Soriano,
Master



From the West

Brethren,
November was a fruitful month for the lodge. During our November Stated Meeting we held our election of officers. Congratulations to our upcoming 2020 Officers.

We also had a 1st Degree Conferral for Bro. Nolando Sanchez.. We look forward to working with him and getting him involved in our many lodge activities. It was also great to see our 2020 Officers advancing in their respective stations.

We also hosted our first annual meeting for the Masonic Emergency Response Team led by our Past Grand Master Most Worshipful Russ Charvonia. We have witnessed first hand the many natural catastrophes, from earthquakes to fires, and this program will be a big help in our community to look out for those in need when a crisis occurs.

We also had our annual charity at the Los Angeles Midnight Mission. Thank you to all who volunteered their time to give back.

(See the photo gallery on p. 9.)

Lastly, as we begin planning for the next Masonic year we look forward to hearing all of our members' ideas so that we can continue to uphold our standards as Masons and brothers all while having fun and helping each other out.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 18th, 2020 at 10 am for our annual installation of Officers.

Fraternally from the West,
Wor. Celso V. Cardano, Jr.,
Senior Warden



From our Treasurer

Brethren,
Annual dues this coming year will be \$153.00. Please plan on bringing your check to our December stated meeting. Please DO NOT pay your dues online. The Grand Lodge will take a portion of your dues as a processing fee. We will accept cash, but check is preferred.

Fraternally,
Bro Barry Mann,
Treasurer

From Our Secretary

It has been written that “[o]f all the officers of a Masonic Lodge, the Secretary is burdened by the heaviest and most vital tasks although he is outranked by the Master, Wardens and Treasurer; the importance of his work is second to none.” So says the *Handbook for Lodge Secretaries* published in March 2009 by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado, published in March 2009 available at <http://www.coloradofreemasons.org/pdfDocuments/secretariesHandbook.pdf>.

Our Brother Secretary is attending to those important tasks at this time. Please wait a time with patience for his next article.

Fraternally and on behalf of
Bro. Akram Alawar, Secretary



Upcoming Lodge Events

Here are upcoming lodge events other than our regular meetings:

December 12, 2019, 5:30 pm

CFS Second Thursday Fellowship at Lulu's Restaurant, 16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, California 91406. Join the Brothers of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 for fellowship and a happy hour. This is a no-host event for Masons and for non-Masons interested in our lodge and/or the fraternity. Please join us if you can for camaraderie and conversation.

December 21, 2019 Holiday Party

Member News

December birthdays:: Bruce L. Ewald; Luc Paul, Jr.; Emmanuel D. Espiritu; Thomas K. Sheehan; Majd Fahma.

Happy Birthday Brothers.

December Third Degree Anniversary:

Christopher E. Robles. Congrats!

Congratulations to the following Brethren elected as officers for the ensuing Masonic Year: Wor. Celso V. Cardano, Jr., PM (WM); Bro. Edgar O. Yeghiazryan (SW); Bro. Fernando ("Jhonny") O. Lebrilla, Jr. (JW); Bro. Barry Mann (Treas.); Bro. Akram Alawar (Secy).

Welcome to our newly initiated Brother, Nolando Sanchez. You are now on the first step of a Mason.

Wor. Bruce Hawley, PM, is traveling a rough and rugged road. Please keep him in your thoughts as his health improves.

New Master Masons' Corner

Bro. Raffi Hovhannisyan, 49, affiliated as a Fellowcraft with Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge in 2018, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in our Lodge in September 2019. An active participant in Lodge activities, Bro. Raffi most recently served as one of our Stewards at

the initiation of Bro. Nolando B. Sanchez on November 16, 2019.

Bro. Raffi is married and works as a Family Service Counselor providing at-need and pre-need services at Hollywood Forever, a landmark cemetery and cultural event center in the heart of Hollywood. He also maintains a real estate sales license. As in his professional life, Bro. Raffi is easy going and a pleasure to be with.

Congratulations to Bro. Raffi on becoming a Master Mason in our Lodge.

Masonic Recognition

Past Masters of Clarence F. Smith
Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.
Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)

Past Masters by Affiliation

Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr. (2012)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2012)
Alberto L. Casanova, Jr. (2014)
Emmanuel D. Espiritu (2014)
Bruce L. Ewald (2004-2006)
Bruce L. Hawley (1984)
Luc Paul, Jr. (2018)

Hiram Award*

Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr., PM (2013)
Alberto L. Casanova, Jr., PM (2016)
Keith S. Cotton (2017)
Bruce L. Ewald, PM (2011)
Bruce L. Hawley, PM (2000)
John T. Seletos (2017)
Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)
Rogelio L. Soriano (2018)
Steven A. Wolvek, PM (2019)

*A high honor presented to a Master Mason who has served the Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary.

A Master Jurist, Brother Salmon P. Chase, Keeps the Union Together.

Our Brother, “Salmon P. Chase[,] was an American jurist and politician who served as the United States Senator from Ohio as well as the 23rd Governor of the State of Ohio. He also acted as the United States Treasury Secretary during the Lincoln administration and most notably, as the sixth Chief Justice for the U.S. Supreme Court.”

<https://supreme-court.laws.com/salmon-p-chase> .

“In October 1864, President Lincoln ... named Salmon P. Chase ... to replace Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, who had died that month. President Lincoln issued ... the justice nomination on December 6, and Chase was confirmed the same day by the Senate. Chase held this office from 1864 until his death in 1873. Unlike his predecessor, Salmon P. Chase did not hold a pro-slavery stance, and one of his first acts as the Chief Justice was to allow John Rock to argue cases before the Supreme Court as the first African-American attorney. As Chief Justice, Salmon P. Chase presided at President Andrew Johnson’s impeachment trial in 1868.” *Id.*

A major case decided by the Chase Court was *Texas v. White*, 74 U.S. 700 (1869) in which the State of Texas litigated a dispute over financial instruments bonds. At issue, among other things, was whether Texas, a secessionist state, could lawfully bring the suit at all. The Court held that Texas did indeed have the right to bring suit; that Texas continued to remain a state, despite joining the Confederate States of America and its being under military rule at the time of the decision; and that individual states could not unilaterally secede from the Union. See,

<https://www.oyez.org/cases/1850-1900/74us700> .

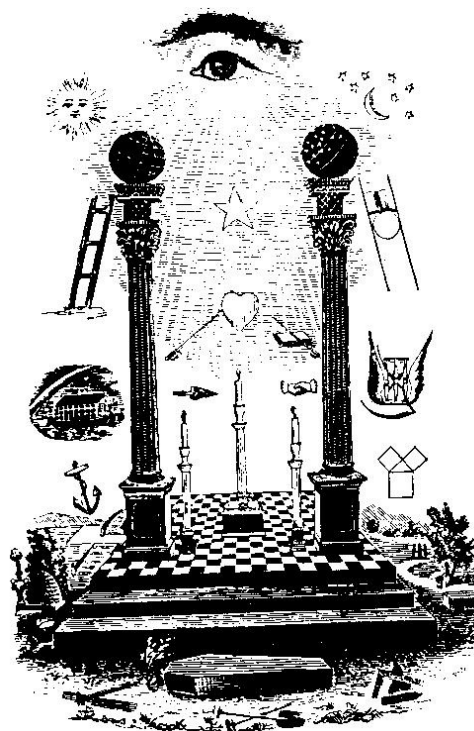
The Court said: “The Constitution, in all its provisions, looks to an indestructible Union composed of indestructible States. [¶] When,

therefore, Texas became one of the United States, she entered into an indissoluble relation. All the obligations of perpetual union, and all the guaranties of republican government in the Union, attached at once to the State. The act which consummated her admission into the Union was something more than a compact; it was the incorporation of a new member into the political body. And it was final. The union between Texas and the other States was as complete, as perpetual, and as indissoluble as the union between the original States.” *Texas v. White, supra*, 74 U. S. at 726-727.

Mr. Chief Justice Chase was a Freemason, active in the lodges of the Midwest. See, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salmon_P._Chase. See also, <https://eb1870.org/project/salmon-chase/> .

As a master jurist, he kept the Union together.

Respectfully submitted,
David I. Karp



Masters of Flight, Freemasonry, and an Unlucky Aviator

December 17 is Wright Brothers Day.² That fact inspired this article. There were personal reasons for this article as well, as I will explain at the end of this piece. First, however, some generally available background information:

Reportedly, Orville Wright was a Brother Mason. See, <https://eb1870.org/project/orville-wright/>. However, the site does not show any lodge affiliation or other Masonic information about him. It identifies him only as “[o]ne of two American brothers, inventors, and aviation pioneers who are generally credited with inventing, building, and flying the world’s first successful airplane.” *Id.*

Also, I do not recall any Masonic information about Orville Wright in David McCullough’s 2015 book on the Wright Brothers, which I read eagerly when it first came out because of my personal fascination with the Wrights and early aviation. (You’ll see why later.)

Neither did I find any reference in McCullough’s book to information I was seeking for purely personal reasons. (You will understand at the end of this article.)

I do know from McCullough’s book, and from other independent research, plus a visit to the Smithsonian Institution’s Early Aviation exhibit in Washington, D.C. (<https://airandspace.si.edu/node/315/>), that the Wright Brothers established and ran a flying school at which one of the students was Brother "Hap" Arnold.

[Continues on next page, see “Flight”]

² Congress, by a joint resolution approved December 17, 1963, as amended (77 Stat. 402; 36 U.S.C. 143), designated December 17 of each year as “Wright Brothers Day.” See, <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/wright-brothers-day-december-17/>

CFS Daylight Lodge Officers for 2019

Worshipful Master Rogelio (“Roger”) L. Soriano

Senior Warden Celso V. Cardano, Jr., P.M.

Junior Warden Open.

Treasurer Barry Mann

Secretary Akram Alawar

Asst. Secretary Thomas (“Tom”) K. Sheehan

Chaplain Virgilio (“Virgil”) A. Maravillas, Sr.

Senior Deacon Archimedes S. Cabanig

Junior Deacon Keith S. Cotton

Marshal Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan

Senior Steward
Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr.

Junior Steward Ibrahim Hannoun

Organist William (“Bill”) C. Raddatz

Tiler Allan Mandia/Tony Nader

Officers’ Coach Wor. Bruce L. Hawley, PM

Candidates’ Coach Steven (“Steve”) A. Wolvek, PM

Inspector Leland H. Celestre, PM

["Flight," continued from p. 7]

Much later, Brother "Henry H. 'Hap' Arnold was made a General of the Army, on December 21, 1944, and then General of the Air Force on May 7, 1949. He was initiated, passed, and Raised in Union Lodge #7 in 1927 in Junction City, KS. He joined the Scottish Rite on April 11, 1929, in Leavenworth, KS, and received the 33° on October 19, 1945."

<http://www.travelingtemplar.com/2017/03/figure-stars-and-freemasonry.html> .

Going back to 1911, Hap Arnold's teacher at the Wright Flying School was Arthur ("Al") Welsh, ultimately an unlucky aviator. Nevertheless, "[i]n his book *Global Mission*, Arnold wrote of Welsh, 'He had taught me all he knew, or rather, he had taught me all he could teach. He knew much more.' In 1930 Arnold wrote to Welsh's sister, Clara, 'The pioneers in the aviation game were the ones who took all the risks and received little in exchange for their daring. Al was one of those pioneers. I admired him very much for the work he was doing, the manner in which he did it, and his personal characteristics.'"

<https://reformjudaism.org/blog/2015/06/11/first-jewish-aviator> .

On June 11, 1912, Al Welsh's luck ran out. "[On that day], during an assignment to test a new Wright Brothers military plane design, Welsh and his passenger, Army Lieutenant Leighton W. Hazelhurst, were killed when their plane crashed while attempting a ten-minute flight to carry 450 pounds to a height of 2,000 feet.... Orville Wright attended the funeral, only two weeks after the death of his brother, Wilbur, who died of typhoid at the age of 45." *Id.*

Arthur Welsh, originally Laibel Wellcher or Laibl Willcher until he Americanized his name, was born in Russia in 1881. He was my maternal grandfather's uncle, thus an ancestor on my family tree. His personal history is now to be found at the site to which I have already referred, <https://reformjudaism.org/blog/2015/06/11/first-jewish-aviator> .

Uncle Al was not a Mason so far as I know. But he was a master of flight, as were Bros. Wright and Arnold, and a hero in my family during and after his lifetime for his connection to the Wrights and his notoriety as the first Jewish American Aviator.

So now you know my personal interest in Wright Brothers Day, in the Wright Brothers themselves and in early aviation. My ancestry is why. Happy Wright Brothers Day, Brothers.

Respectfully submitted,
David I. Karp

Masonic Traveler

By Felix Gordillo (Universal Lodge #178 - Tampa, Florida)

There is a lodge located in the backwoods of a small southern town where the brethren are faithful Masons, but lack knowledge of receiving brothers from other jurisdictions.

During one of the meetings, the JD (Junior Deacon) informed the WM (Worshipful Master) that there was an alarm at the door, whereupon the WM replied "Attend the alarm and report your findings".

The JD opened the door and saw, to his amazement, a brother, impeccably dressed with an elaborate apron and jewels about his chest.

The Tyler, being somewhat slow to answer for the visiting brother, the visitor stated, "My name is John Smith, Past Grand Master, who humbly requests an audience with the WM."

The JD, upon hearing these words from the visiting brother and the elaborate apron and jewels upon his chest, immediately closed the door, returned to his post and informed the WM: "Worshipful Master, The Grand Architect of the Universe is at the door!!!"

[Source:

<https://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/masonic-traveller-joke.html>]

PHOTO GALLERY OF NOVEMBER EVENTS



Above: Initiation of Bro. Nolando Sanchez
November 16, 2019



Above: Presentation re Masonic
Emergency Response Team [MERT] Program
November 23, 2019



Above: Brothers, Family and Friends
Assembled for Community Service at Midnight Mission
November 24, 2019