

In the



Daylight

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405
Editor: davidikarp@karpmediation.com

December 2021

The Sun, The Moon, and the Heavens

Foreword ...

December is upon us, with fewer hours of daylight and longer nights. Winter begins on December 21, which is the Winter Solstice when the northern hemisphere tilts furthest away from the sun. The sun reaches its lowest point in the sky here. But it is not a “winter of our discontent” (Shakespeare’s *Richard III*, Act 1, Scene 1): we are more than happy to have our Lodge, our Leaders and Brothers, our friendships, and our fellowship. Moreover, the moon still illuminates the long nights and we can still see by its lesser light.

Even in Winter, “the sun also rises” [a loose reference to a book of the same name by Ernest Hemingway], and we “let the sun shine in” [cue The Fifth Dimension singing *Aquarius* from the Broadway Musical, *Hair*]. We might just say, “Let there be light.” The sun oversees the day.

Regardless of the season, we can always find harmony, regularity, consistency, and more “Light” (knowledge) in our Lodge as we move through the Masonic year. And we are thankful for the officers and active members for their attendance and leadership in this regard.

Quoting from an article by John L. Cooper III, PGM, it is well known that “Masons are governed during the day by the sun, at night by the moon, and in lodge by the master.” See, <https://californiafreemason.org/2019/11/14/the-sun-the-moon-and-the-master/>.

We look forward to the ensuing Masonic year under the leadership of Master-Elect Edgar, in

whom we have reposed our trust for a successful year. We wish him all the best as he endeavors diligently to lead the Lodge. We congratulate him, and all of the officers in their forthcoming new stations, and we pledge to support and assist each of them, and each other, as we begin the next cycle of the seasons.

Lastly, here’s my hint to those who do not regularly attend our Lodge: We miss your smiles, come join us at our meetings and/or events and see what you’ve been missing. A new Masonic year will be upon us soon so it’s a good time to “rise and shine.”

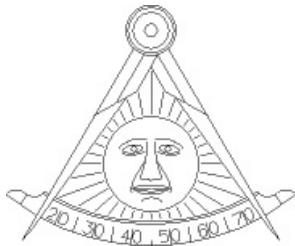
Please enjoy yet another edition of “In the Daylight.”

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor

DUES NOTICE

Per our Secretary, 2022 dues will be \$157.25. To avoid an online processing fee payable by the Lodge, send your dues via Zelle directly to the Lodge bank account. Email address is Cfsjuniorwarden@gmail.com. Or mail a check, payable to Clarence F. Smith Daylight No. 866, directly to the Secretary. His address is in iMember2.0 if you don’t have it.

Trestle Board is on page 2.



An Explanation of the Past Master's Jewel

Editor's note: This article is dedicated to all of our Past Masters, but especially Wor. Celso V. Cardano, Jr., PM, whom we thank for his leadership over two years during the pandemic. The article is quoted from the Facebook Page of Exeter Masonic Lodge #303 F&AM (GL CA) at <https://www.facebook.com/ExeterMasons/posts/the-past-master-jewel-is-an-often-seen-but-not-so-frequently-explained-masonic-s/736244290089699/>.

“The Past Master Jewel is an often seen, but not so frequently explained Masonic symbol. It commonly consists of the compass, sun, and quadrant (or protractor).

“The compass has a familiar interpretation, for it is by the compass that a Mason is reminded to keep his actions within due bounds. The square also has a familiar meaning, for in acting on the square, a Mason conducts himself honestly, with morality and virtue.

“The quadrant is the arc that the compass rests upon, either before or in place of the square on the familiar symbol of the fraternity. The quadrant shows at which angle the compass is opened.”

“Symbolically, as every Mason is supposed to use the compass to keep his actions within due bounds, it is the quadrant that measures those due bounds, and is the responsibility of the Master of the Lodge to ensure that Masons under his jurisdiction are making proper use of their own compass. The Quadrant also shows the

compass to be opened at 60 degrees or the angle of an equilateral triangle, which is a symbol of balance.

“The compass paired with the quadrant could also be seen as a Sextant, which is a navigation tool used to measure altitude. The Sextant symbolizes that not only did the Past Master have to navigate the course of his lodge in the past, but also that he is qualified to do so, should his successors require his advice or assistance.

“The sun represents light, and the Master of a Lodge is supposed to be a source of Masonic light. It also signifies that the Past Master has observed the Sun at Meridian height, (the South), setting (the West), and Rising (the East)....”

December Trestle Board

(We meet in person on 1st/3rd Saturdays at 10:00 AM at the Van Nuys Masonic Center, except as otherwise noted. See Masthead, p. 1 for address.)

December 2, 2021 Exec. Comm. Mtg.

December 4, 2021, 10AM Stated Meeting. Tiled. Dress: Casual.

December 9, 2021, 7PM Last Zoom Fellowship, Join Zoom Meeting

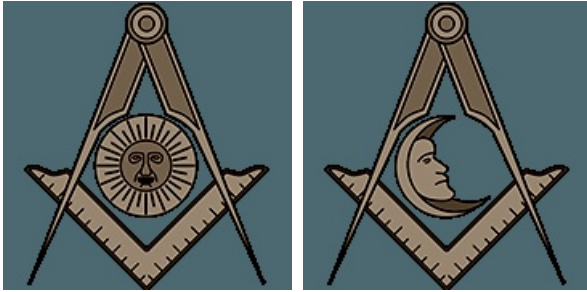
December 11, 2021 Third Degree Conferral upon Bro. Engstrom. Dress Formal.

Looking Ahead to January

January 6, 2022 Executive Comm. Mtg.

January 8, 2022, 10AM Stated Meeting. Tiled. Dress: Casual

January 22, 2022, 10AM Installation of Officers



Sun, Moon, and Related Deacon's Jewels Signify Support for the Master.

Editor's note: The following descriptions and the images above are from the website of our friends at Conejo Valley Lodge No. 807, F. & A.M. at <https://conjomasons.org/freemasonry/lodge-officers/>.

“The Senior Deacon (and the Junior Deacon) both carry long staffs (or rods), because as messengers of the Worshipful Master, the staffs are symbolic of the caduceus (or wand) that the Roman winged god and messenger Mercury carried during their duties. Atop the rods are the jewels of their offices.”

The Senior Deacon's Jewel “is the Square and Compass with the Sun in the middle. The sun signifies that his position is on the lower level, to the right of the Worshipful Master in the east. His duty is as messenger of the Worshipful Master....”

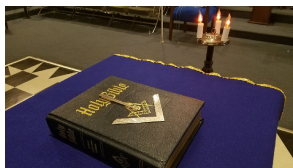
“Like his senior counterpart, the Senior Deacon, the Jewel of [the office of Junior Deacon] is the Square and Compass, however the Junior Deacon's Square and Compass has a moon in the center (rather than a sun), which signifies that he is in the West....”

CFS Daylight Lodge Officers for 2021

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Worshipful Master | Celso V. Cardano, Jr., P.M. |
| Senior Warden | Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan |
| Junior Warden | Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr. |
| Treasurer | Barry Mann |
| Secretary | Akram Alawar |
| Asst. Secretary | Thomas (“Tom”) K. Sheehan |
| Chaplain | Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig |
| Senior Deacon | Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan |
| Junior Deacon | Ihrahim Hannoun |
| Marshal | Keith S. Cotton |
| Senior Steward | Michael (“Mike”) J. Chavez |
| Junior Steward | Rami Alawar |
| Organist | Majd Fahma |
| Tiler | William (“Bill”) C. Raddatz |
| Officers' Coach | Steven (“Steve”) A. Wolvek, PM |
| Candidates' Coach | Roger L. Soriano, PM |
| Inspector | Leland H. Celestre, PM |

What about the Heavens?

Turning from the imagery of the Sun and the Moon, let's discuss the Heavens. Perhaps we refer to a Masonic Lodge as a "Blue Lodge" in reference to the sky above. That makes sense to this writer. But that may not be entirely accurate. (See next article.) Nevertheless Masonic tradition informs us metaphorically that a Lodge is covered by "the clouded canopy or star-decked heaven where all good Masons hope at last to strive by aid of that theological ladder which Jacob, in his vision, saw, reaching from earth to heaven..." DIK.



Why Called a "Blue Lodge?"

Editor's Note: The following is quoted from <http://masons180.org/2016/05/why-is-it-called-a-blue-lodge/>, which cites to "One Hundred One Questions about Freemasonry" as its source.

"Schools of thought give different answers. Some authorities think that as blue has from ancient Biblical times been associated with truth, with Deity, with wisdom and hope; that, as Mackey taught, the blue of the Old Testament is a translation of the Hebrew teklet, which is derived from a root meaning perfection, blue came into masonry as its color by a natural association. Others believe that as our ancient brethren met on hills and in vales, over which the blue vault of heaven is a ceiling; that as Jacob in his vision saw the ladder ascending from earth to heaven; that the covering of a lodge is a clouded canopy or starry decked heaven, these allusions seem to connote that blue, the color of the sky, is

that of all celestial attributes for which Masons strive.

"Man's earliest god was the sun. The sun rose, traveled, and set in a real of blue; to associate the color with Deity was inevitable. Blue also is the color of the ocean, of mountain streams, of lakes of good drinking water that blue should also become emblematic of purity is equally natural.

"The Grand Lodge of England in 1731 changed from a previous determination that white was the Masonic color and denominated blue as that hue. A noted English Masonic student Fred J. W. Crowe wrote: (1) that the Order of the Garter was the most famous Order of Knighthood in existence; (2) that Freemasons, in adopting the color (Garter blue) attempted to add to their dignity and the growing prestige of Grand Lodge Officers; (3) that two Grand Masters prior to the adoption of "Garter blue" were John, Duke of Montagu (Grand Master in 1721) and Charles, Duke of Richmond (Grand Master in 1724) both Knights of the Garter; (4) the Duke of St. Albans and the Earl of Chesterfield were both Craftsmen and Knights of the Garter and (5) Bro. John "Antis" (Anstis), member of the University Lodge, of which Dr. Desaguliers and other Masonic notables belonged, was Register of the Order of the Garter.

"The two theories which find the most believers are (1) the adoption of the color by early operative Freemasons because of an age-old association of blue with those virtues which are peculiarly Masonic (2) the adoption of the color by early Grand Lodge in imitation of the nobility and the fame of the color of the most famous Order of Knighthood in the world."





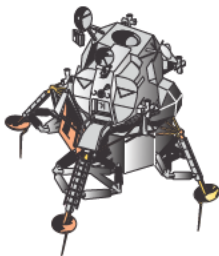
The Mason on the Moon

Editor's Note: The following is quoted from an article in *California Freemason* by Ian A. Stewart at <https://californiafreemason.org/2019/11/14/the-sun-the-moon-and-the-master/>,

“Buzz Aldrin is famously the second man to set foot on the moon, a few minutes behind Neil Armstrong, on July 20, 1969. He can take solace knowing he was the first Mason on the moon.

“During the Apollo 11 mission, Aldrin, of Clear Lake Lodge No. 1417 in Seabrook, Texas, carried a special deputation from then–grand master of Texas J. Guy Smith authorizing him to claim Masonic territorial jurisdiction on the moon on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

“Today, that connection is commemorated through Texas’s Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 (named for the Sea of Tranquility, where the lunar rover landed). According to its website, Tranquility Lodge ‘is based in Texas under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Texas until such time as the Lodge may hold its meetings on the Moon.’ For now, the group rotates among meeting sites and holds an annual event in Waco. It has pledged \$50,000 in support of the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation, first created by NASA astronauts.”



What is a Full Moon Lodge?

“In Freemasonry, the sun and the moon are still prominent symbols within the lodge, both giving light. Some lodges in the eighteenth and nineteenth century were known as full moon lodges, as they met on the night of the full moon, or on the nearest particular night to a full moon, as to light the way home in an age where there were no street lighting.”

<https://dr-david-harrison.com/freemasonry/the-sun-and-the-moon/>

According to the web page of Orrstown Lodge No. 362, F. & A.M, (GL PA) itself a Moon Lodge, here is a list of the Moon Lodges of Pennsylvania in operation as of 2020 that still follow this tradition: Bristol Lodge No. 25; Rural Amity Lodge No. 70; Evergreen Lodge No. 163; Lafayette Lodge No. 194; Warren Lodge No. 310; Adams Lodge No. 319; Lehigh Lodge No. 326; Orrstown Lodge No. 362; Mifflinburg Lodge No. 370; Howell Lodge No. 405; Meridian Lodge No. 411; Slatington Lodge No. 440; Middleburg Lodge No. 619; Friendship Lodge No. 663.

<https://orrstown262.org/whats-a-moon-lodge/> .

In California, at least as of 2019, “[t]here are now only two lunar lodges left in California: Harmony [No. 164 in Sierra City] and its Gold Country cousin, Mariposa Lodge No. 24, which are connected by Highway 49. But in another sense, all Masonic lodges are governed by the moon—a fact we’re reminded of every time they’re opened.” From the article by John L. Cooper III, PGM, at

<https://californiafreemason.org/2019/11/14/the-sun-the-moon-and-the-master/> .

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. David I. Karp

The Genesis of our Lights (Genesis 1:14-18)

“And God said, ‘Let there be luminaries in the expanse of the heavens, to separate between the day and between the night, and they shall be for signs and for appointed seasons and for days and years.

“And they shall be for luminaries in the expanse of the heavens to shed light upon the earth.’ And it was so.

“And God made *the two great luminaries: the great luminary to rule the day and the lesser luminary to rule the night*, and the stars.

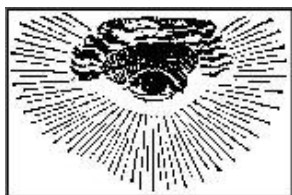
[Emphasis added.]

“And God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to shed light upon the earth.

“And to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate between the light and between the darkness, and God saw that it was good.”

Source:

https://www.chabad.org/library/bible_cdo/aid/8165/jewish/Chapter-1.htm



“Sun, eye, moon, and stars: These images are combined to describe God, whom the sun, the moon, and the stars obey. The sun and moon are also to remind the officers of the lodge to govern the lodge with regularity.”

<https://www.dummies.com/religion/spirituality/how-to-decipher-less-well-known-freemasonry-symbols/>

Masonic Recognition

Past Masters of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.

Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)
Rogelio L. Soriano (2019)

Past Masters by Affiliation

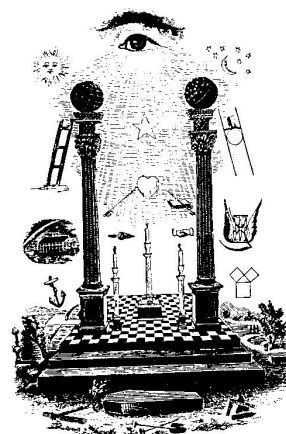
Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr. (2012)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2012)
Alberto L. Casanova, Jr. (2014)
Emmanuel D. Espiritu (2014)
Bruce L. Ewald (2004-2006)
Bruce L. Hawley (1984)**
Luc Paul, Jr. (2018)

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)**
David I. Karp (2020)
Barry Mann (2021)
John T. Seletos (2017)
Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)
Rogelio L. Soriano, PM (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.

** Deceased.





Sun and Moon as Masonic Symbols

“The sun in our monitorial handbooks typifies the call to labour, which is balanced by the complementary conception of repose, the two notions being united in the idea of refreshment. It represents also the progress of human life from infancy, through manhood, to old age, and the coming of the better day.” Excerpted from: Waite, Arthur Edward. *A new Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry*, 1996 Edition, New York. Wings Books, a division of Random House Value Publishing, Inc., Vol. II, p. 110

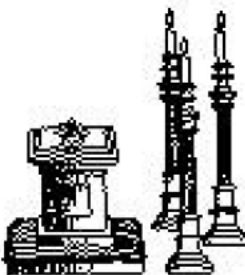


Photo Gallery

We've been busy. Take a look at the following images:



[Third Degree Conferral for our newest Master Mason, Bro. Nolando Sanchez, which took place on October 23, 2021, at the Burbank Masonic Center (not our usual place). Beautiful facility though.]



[Second Degree Conferral for Bros. Elvis Alvarez, Gerald Alvarez, and Nestor Maloles, on October 30, 2021, in the Lodge room of the San Fernando Lodge, another very nice facility.]

[Continues next page]

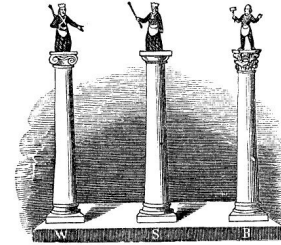


[Hiram Award Presentation to Bro. Barry Mann, 11/13/2021, at the Van Nuys Masonic Center. Left to Right: WB Steve Wolvek, PM, Master of Ceremonies; Wor. Celso Cardano, PM, Master of the Lodge; Bro. Barry and his wife Andy.]



[First Degree Conferral for Bros. Joseph Chavez and Marvin DeGuzman, on November 20, 2021, at home base. Welcome to the Craft!]

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 expresses its heartfelt condolences to a Brother of our Lodge, WB Alberto Casanova, PM, whose father passed away on November 22, 2021. May his memory be for a blessing.



From the East

Brethren,
As we wrap up the 2021 calendar year, our main priorities are to qualify the 2022 Officers and perform as many degrees as possible for our candidates and members who have been waiting for their degrees throughout the whole reopening process. In doing so the Officers have been taking more time to practice their stations to qualify all while putting on degrees for our candidates.

As we look ahead to 2022, we still need to find new Officers to fill in open positions and prepare for new members to take on these roles. If anyone is interested in becoming an Officer, please see our Officers Coach, WB Steven Wolvek or our Worshipful Master Elect Brother Edgar Yeghiazaryan.

In November, we had the honor of presenting Brother Barry Mann with the Hiram Award. He has been dedicating himself to the lodge and has selflessly helped our members administratively and in fellowship. He is truly deserving of this honor and we are thankful for all he has done for our CFS Daylight Lodge #866 and Freemasonry as a whole.

Fraternally from the East,
Wor. Celso V. Cardano, Jr., PM
Master

From the West

Brotheren,
This edition being published before Thanksgiving, I would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. We all have different reasons to be thankful this year and in the times we are in now especially. We held our election and we now have our officers for 2022. Hopefully 2022 will present itself in better light where we are not separated and are able to accomplish more than we have in the past year.

Fraternally in the West,
Bro. Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan
Senior Warden

From the South

Brotheren,
On behalf of the Lodge, I want to acknowledge and thank the applicants and new members for their assistance with our meals and other tasks around the lodge. You have been a great help and the lodge appreciates what you do. Also, congrats to Bro. Barry on receiving his well-deserved Hiram Award. Happy Holidays to all who celebrate.

Fraternally from the South,
Bro. Fernando ("Jhonny") O. Lebrilla, Jr.
Junior Warden

From our Treasurer

To my Brothers of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge:
Thank you for the honor bestowed upon me with the Hiram Award. It has been my pleasure to be part of our wonderful fraternity. We have created something amazing with our Lodge and I look forward to serving you, my Brothers, for many years to come.

Fraternally,
Bro. Barry Mann
Treasurer

From Our Secretary

Brotheren,
Masons believe in the importance of religion; men of all faiths are members of the organization. Each of us necessarily has a belief in a Supreme Being, yet we have different backgrounds, customs and beliefs.

If you have heard of the "December Dilemma," it is "that time of year where multiple holidays collide and people with good intentions can find themselves in the middle of potentially [uncomfortable] misunderstandings. This phenomenon occurs in workplaces across America [and elsewhere]."
<https://oie.duke.edu/knowledge-base/toolkit/december-dilemma>. Education can dispel such misunderstandings.

Therefore, for comparative-religion educational/study purposes only, I would like to share with you just a few items of interest about the Druze religion. I have been asked by Brothers more than once to give an explanation of the Druze; and the remarkable diversity and tolerance of our lodge merits this brief discussion.

As a member of the Druze faith, I of course respect the religious beliefs of all of my Brothers in their December celebrations; and when we have holiday parties, I join in the merriment as well. On the other hand, "Druze celebrate only one religious holiday, ostensibly "Eid al-AdHa" (Festival of the Sacrifice)... acknowledging the event of Abraham's obligation to sacrifice his 'only' son at God's command....The holiday is a celebration of God's act of mercy whereby the practice of human sacrifice is condemned."
<https://druzeworldwide.com/EidAlAdha.html>. Eid al-AdHa occurred in July this year.

Following is a summary of some valid and important points of the Druze Faith as summarized in the famous Scholar Dr. Sami Makarem's book "The Druze Faith".

A five segmented star is the primary emblem of The Druze faith, symbolizing the five tenets of

Druze belief. Each segment is a different color, and each color represents a different universal principle: GREEN is for "The universal Mind", 'al-'akl, which is necessary for understanding the truth; RED - is for "The Universal Soul", an-nafs; YELLOW - is for "The Word", al-kalima, which is the purest form of expression of the truth; BLUE is for "The Antecedent or Cause", as-sabik; WHITE is for "The successor or Effect", al-tali.

The Druze Faith, in its present form, came into being at the beginning of the eleventh century A.D in Cairo, Egypt in A.H 408 [1017 A.D] The faith thrived in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Jordan, after some followers migrated to those countries.

The Druze spiritual leader is called the Shaykh al-Akl.(Akl means the Mind). The Druze Faith was a result of the intellectual ferment within the various philosophical and theosophical schools that had emerged in Islam at that time. The Fatimid s promoted allegorical interpretation of revelation according to man"s needs and his readiness for esoteric knowledge. The Faith conveyed the esoteric teachings and meanings of the Message.

The five Principles of the Druze faith are: The Universal Mind; The Universal Soul; The Word; The Antecedent or Cause; The successor or Effect.

The seven Commandments are: A Truthful Tongue; Cultivation and Protection of the Brethren; Excision of Fallacies and Falsehood; Rejection of the Villain and Aggressor; Adoration of the Lord in every Era and at all Times; Cheerful Acceptance of Whatever Comes from Him; Spontaneous Submission to His Will.

The belief of the Reincarnation is one of the most important beliefs on which the Doctrine of Tawhid is based. Without this belief, the whole idea of man's evolution as conceived by the Muwahhidun, would be invalid. The Druze's Faith believes that the Soul of human being is immortal and the body is mortal, each soul experiences thus every sort of life, wealth and poverty, high and low positions, health and

sickness. If this was not the case, the Druzes believe, then there would no divine justice among mankind.

The Druze law of domestic relations, legislated by Hamza ibn Ali, stipulates that when a man marries a woman he must put her on the same footing as himself and even must share with her equally all his possessions, as well vice versa for the woman. Man is not allowed to marry more than one woman at a time.

Our fraternity transcends religious, ethnic, cultural, social, and educational differences and we celebrate our diversity. For us to grow and develop as human beings, it is important that we understand and respect one another, as I know we do in this Lodge.

Happy Holidays to all my Brethren who celebrate the many observances that occur in December and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
Bro. Akram Alawar
Secretary

Bonus: An Interfaith Prayer for Thanksgiving

This edition being published just before the Thanksgiving holiday, here's a simple tried-and-true interfaith prayer you might use at your Thanksgiving dinner table or at any other time. It is from *Eagles Soaring High*, a publication from Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, NM:

“For food, for raiment, / For life, for opportunity, / For friendship and fellowship [and family], We thank thee, O Lord. Amen.”

Happy Thanksgiving.

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp
Editor