

In The



Daylight

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No.866, F. & A.M.
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February 2020

Brotherhood!

Foreword . . .

Over my desk hangs a certificate from the Grand Lodge of California acknowledging my status as a Master Mason and stating that I am “therefore recommended to the friendship and hospitality of the Craft, wheresoever dispersed.”

Because of the strong ties of our Brotherhood, I have enjoyed visiting other Masonic lodges elsewhere and have equally enjoyed having other Masons visit our Daylight Lodge. In that sense, upon entry, strangers become brothers, instantly. It is no different when I meet another Mason on the street, at a mall or the airport, or anywhere. This instant connection is one of the things I treasure most about our fraternity.

I often quote from a document from our Grand Lodge entitled “Masonic Philosophy and Values.” In it are two notable sentences: “Freemasonry celebrates ethnic diversity and welcomes men of all racial backgrounds.” Also, “The fraternity transcends religious, ethnic, cultural, social, and educational differences.”

Ours is an inclusive society emphasizing brotherhood and diversity, which reminds me of the song entitled “Brotherhood of Man” from the Broadway Musical, “How to Succeed in Business...” See, <https://genius.com/Frank-loesser-brotherhood-of-man-lyrics> . Some of the lyrics go like this: “There is a brotherhood of man / A benevolent brotherhood of man / A noble tie that binds / All

human hearts and minds / Into one brotherhood of man.”

In a very different context not relevant here, Theodor Hertzl wrote in his novel, *Alteneuland* (1902), about the very same theme of Brotherhood in and for an inclusive society he envisioned: “It would be immoral if we would exclude anyone, whatever his origin, his descent, or his religion, from participating in our achievements.... There is only one way..., the highest tolerance. Our motto must therefore be, now and ever: Man, you are my brother.” See, Kolatch, Alfred J. *Great Jewish Quotations*. New York: Jonathan David Publishers, Inc., 1996 at pp. 199-200.

My Brothers, as you enjoy this edition, think of the Cable Tow and our Obligations which bind us to one another and to all Masons “wheresoever dispersed.” And let us extend our sense of brotherhood and amiability to all whose paths cross ours.

In this edition, please find, in addition to our usual inclusions: an article on Chief Justice Frederick M. Vinson and the Court’s version of Brotherhood; a piece about Bro. Davy Crockett and the Brotherhood at the Alamo; a selection on the Brotherhood at Valley Forge; and our Grand Master’s February Proclamation.

Happy reading Brethren.

Fraternally,
David I. Karp
Editor

The Trestleboard for the month of February
appears on p. 2.

Our Brother, Chief Justice Vinson, and the Court's Version of Brotherhood

Equal justice under law is a corollary to the concepts of Masonic equality and the Brotherhood of Man. At least this writer believes so.

After all, as the Declaration of Independence teaches, "all men are created equal;" and that Declaration is known to have had its roots in the age of enlightenment (<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/creating-the-united-states/interactives/declaration-of-independence/equal/index.html>), of which Freemasonry was certainly a part¹.

When the 14th Amendment became a part of the US Constitution, it further confirmed the concept of brotherhood (i.e., equality and inclusion): "nor shall any state ... deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." See, <https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/amendmentxiv>.

The Supreme Court of the United States has had many occasions to interpret the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. *Id.* And it is notable that many of the Justices were Masons. See, <http://fairfaxmasoniclodge556.com/history/famous-masons.html>.

Once such Justice was our Brother, Frederick M. Vinson, appointed by President Truman (also a Mason) as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court following the death of Chief Justice Harlan

Stone.

<http://www.travelingtemplar.com/2017/09/justices-of-supreme-court-and.html>. Justice Vinson "served as Chief Justice until his death from a heart attack on September 8, 1953. He is listed as a member of Apperson Lodge No.195 and Louisa Chapter No.95 of Royal Arch Masons, both in Louisa, KY. *Id.*

The Vinson Court decided an important equal protection case supporting the concept of Brotherhood (i.e., that all men are created equal) in the case of *Shelley v. Kraemer*, 334 U.S. 1 (1948) (holding that the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause prohibits racially restrictive housing covenants from being enforced). In *Shelley*, the facts were these:

[continued on p. 2, see "Vinson"]

February Trestleboard

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

- Feb 1 Stated Meeting (Dress Casual)
- Feb 13 CFS Second Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM
- Feb 15 First Degrees
- Feb 20 OSI @ VN Masonic Center, 7:30pm
- Feb 29 Fellowship TBD

Looking Ahead into March

- March 7 Stated Meeting (Dress Casual)
- March 12 CFS Second Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM
- March 15 Grand Master's Breakfast
- March 28 Golf Tournament

¹It is notable that the "lofty ideas of Brotherly love, charity, truth, religious tolerance, fidelity, uprightness, [etc.], the ideas of the Freemasons, were the driving force of the age of enlightenment."

http://www.freemasons-freemasonry.com/freemasonry_enlightenment.html



["Vinson", ctd from p. 1]

"In 1911, a St. Louis, Missouri neighborhood enacted a racially restrictive covenant designed to prevent African-Americans and Asian-Americans from living in the area. In 1945, an African-American family (the Shelleys) moved into the neighborhood. Louis Kraemer brought suit to enforce the covenant and prevent the Shelleys from moving into their house. A similar lawsuit arose in Detroit, Michigan. Both state supreme courts enforced the covenants because they were private rather than state action. The Supreme Court consolidated the cases on appeal."

<https://www.oyez.org/cases/1940-1955/334us1> .

Declaring *enforcement* of these restrictive covenants unconstitutional as violative of the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, Chief Justice Vinson wrote for the court:

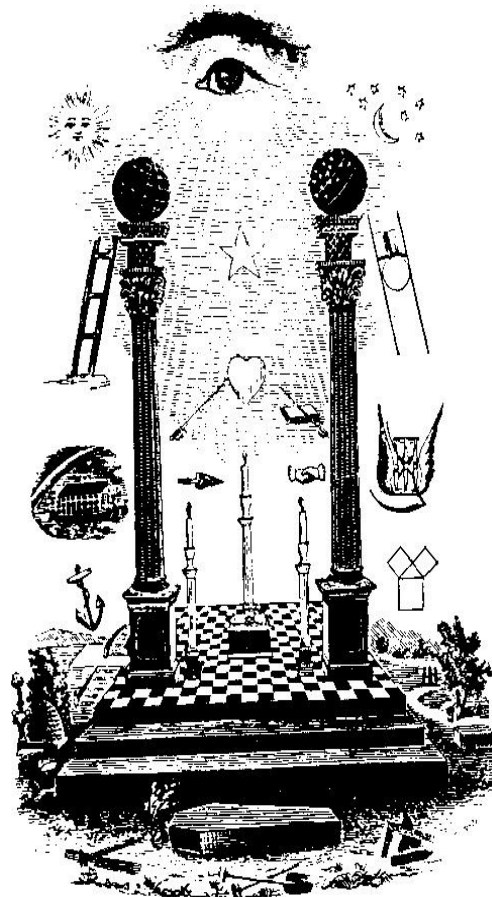
"We hold that, in granting judicial enforcement of the restrictive agreements in these cases, the States have denied petitioners the equal protection of the laws, and that, therefore, the action of the state courts cannot stand. We have noted that freedom from discrimination by the States in the enjoyment of property rights was among the basic objectives sought to be effectuated by the framers of the Fourteenth Amendment. That such discrimination has occurred in these cases is clear. Because of the race or color of these petitioners, they have been denied rights of ownership or occupancy enjoyed as a matter of course by other citizens of different race or color. [fn.] The Fourteenth Amendment declares 'that all persons, whether colored or white, shall stand equal before the laws of the States, and, in regard to the colored race, for whose protection the amendment was primarily designed, that no discrimination shall be made against them by law because of their color.' [fn. 26] *Strauder v. West Virginia*, [100 U. S. 303, 307 (1880)]." *Shelley v. Kraemer*, *supra*, 334 U.S. 1, 20-21.

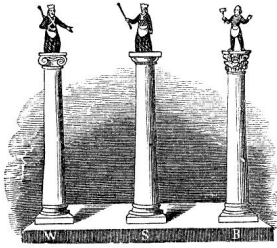
In footnote 26 to the *Shelley* opinion, the Court said: "Restrictive agreements of the sort involved in these cases have been used to

exclude other than Negroes from the ownership or occupancy of real property. We are informed that such agreements have been directed against Indians, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Mexicans, Hawaiians, Puerto Ricans, and Filipinos, among others." *Id.*

"Equality in the enjoyment of property rights was regarded by the framers of that Amendment as an essential pre-condition to the realization of other basic civil rights and liberties which the [14th] Amendment was intended to guarantee." *Shelley, supra* at p. 10.

If we think back to the premise that all men are created equal and that Freemasonry is a fully inclusive Brotherhood and holds that we treat one another as on the same level, it makes sense to conclude that Justice Vinson, writing for the Court in the *Shelley* case, was also espousing Masonic ideals of brotherhood, equality, and diversity.





From the East

Brethren,
Thank you to all who supported the 2020 Installation of Officers and congratulations to the Officers. A special thank you to the Installing Officers, WB Alberto Casanova, WB Steven Wolvek, WB Jovi Rivera, also Bro Majd Fahma and WB Roger Soriano's daughters Samantha for the Musical interlude. Thank you also to the Los Angeles Commandery #9 Knights Templar's for a beautiful flag presentation. I would also like to thank those who helped set up and prepare the feast which we all enjoyed following the ceremony. It was a truly joyful and memorable installation.

As I mentioned in my Installation remarks, we have a lot of work ahead of us, but we are going to have a lot of fun doing it. In the February stated meeting I will assign our Lodge Committees and Annual Plan that will focus on Membership. We will emphasize membership experiences and membership development. We will continue to put on meaningful degrees, raise funds for the lodge all while supporting Grand Lodge support services, continue to establish the Masonic Emergency Response Team (MERT Program), continue with our Fathers Day Degree at the Covina Masonic Homes and we will have many fellowship activities. We have a great year ahead of us the lodge is counting on all members to participate and get involved.

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

From the West

Brethren,
First, I would like to congratulate all the newly installed officers for all their hard work and dedication, you deserve it. Second, I would like to take this time to go over our general agenda in this promising year ahead.

As you all know, one of the most important tasks that I have had the pleasure of inheriting is coaching and also reviewing the responsibilities of all of our candidates. Therefore I would like to let everyone know that we are always here for each and every single individual in need of any sort of guidance and assistance, to be part of our great fraternity and to advance. Consequently, I would like to state the following:

All candidates willing and prepared for improvement and advancement only need to ask for help if needed; we are all here for each other and are at your side in any and all situations. Officers positions must be filled, therefore I encourage everyone to take the necessary steps and preparation to do so.

I have confidence that this year will be very productive and highly successful.

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

Master's Theme for 2020
"Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge #866:
A Beacon of Light"

"Where We Hone Our Craft All Day, So That
in an Uncertain World Our Acts as Men and
Masons Will Be a Beacon of Light."

From the South

Editor's Note: The following information is being provided as if by our Junior Warden - Elect who, at the time of publication, is busy working on his lecture proficiency and is due to be officially installed (which takes priority over this newsletter):

WM Celso has determined that, to cover the cost of our lunches following each Stated Meeting, the charges, to be paid by the Brethren to the Junior Warden's Fund, will be \$10/meal or \$70/year for all of said meals. Please bring your funds with you to the February Stated Meeting. If paying for a year's worth of Stated Meeting lunches, a tally sheet will be set up to make and keep a record of payments and meals consumed. Ed.



From our Treasurer

Brethren,
[Reprinted from last month. Ed.]
Annual dues for 2020 are \$153.00. If not already paid, please plan on bringing your check to our next 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

Brethren,
We are starting a new year and we need to be as fruitful and successful as the past years. We need the efforts of all the

brothers to be able to achieve our goals for this year. First we need everyone to pay their dues so no one will be a burden on our financial status. Second, attending the meetings and being involved in all the activities are essential to our success. Third, please participate in community events as a Mason so you can draw attention to our Lodge and Fraternity.

Please help us continue our success and participate in all Lodge's events. Be there and make a difference

Fraternally,
Bro. Akram Alawar,
Secretary

Upcoming Lodge Events

Here are our lodge events other than our regularly scheduled meetings:
February 13, 2020, 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.

February 29, 2020 Fellowship TBD

March 12, 2020 CFS Second Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM

March 15, 2020 Grand Master's Bkfst.

March 28, 2020 Golf Tournament

April 9, 2020 CFS Second Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM [This is the first day of Passover which is a conflict for some.]

April 26, 2020 Shriners for Children Medical Center Walk and Run 2 Heal Kids 5k 10k

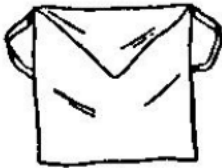


Member News

February birthdays: Michael J. Chavez, Ibrahim Hannoun, Edward W. Allen, Jr. Happy Birthday Brothers!

Third Degree Anniversaries: Celso V. Cardano, Jr., Keith S. Cotton, Emmanuel D. Espiritu, Jadd N. Halaby. Congratulations to each of you.

Our WB Bruce Hawley is in hospice at home. His absence impacts us greatly every day that he is not in lodge with us..



New Master Mason's Corner

Brother Majd Fahma, 40, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on December 21, 2019, in a most excellent degree ceremony at our lodge. A musician by trade, Bro. Majd has already joined our officers' line as Organist. It is such a pleasure to have live music to accompany all our doings.

Our brother is a regular performer at "The Gate to the Mediterranean," a hotspot for food and entertainment in Encino, CA. He hails from Jaramanah, Dimashq, Syria and is married to his lovely wife Rita.

We look forward to an enriching experience with Bro. Majd in our lodge.



CFS Daylight Lodge Officers for 2020

Worshipful Master Celso V. Cardano, Jr., P.M.

Senior Warden Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan

Junior Warden Elect
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 Ibrahim Hannoun

Marshal Keith S. Cotton

Senior Steward Michael ("Mike") J. Chavez

Junior Steward Raffi Hovhannisyan

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

Davy Crockett and the Brotherhood at the Alamo

Bro. Davy Crockett was among the brotherhood of Masons who fought and died at the Alamo. Other Brothers with him included: James Bonham, James Bowie, Almaron Dickenson, and William Barrett Travis.

<https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/why-we-remember-alamo/>.

As told by the Grand Lodge of Maryland A.F. & A.M, at

<http://mdmasons.org/about-md-masons/famous-masons/davide-crocket/> :

“David ‘Davy’ Crockett remains one of the best-known American folk heroes. Although commonly referred to in popular culture as ‘King of the Wild Frontier,’ he was so much more. He served as a Congressman, representing Tennessee. He was also a key figure in the Texas Revolution, and died heroically at the Battle of the Alamo.

“Crockett gained his reputation as an outdoorsman and adventurer growing up in eastern Tennessee. His larger-than-life exploits were chronicled during his own lifetime and continue to this day to be celebrated in American culture. After serving as a colonel in the Tennessee militia and in a stint in the state legislature, he was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1826. During his tenure in Washington, Crockett was initiated into Freemasonry and became a Master Mason.

“Although initially elected to Congress as a staunch supporter of President Andrew Jackson (also a Freemason), Crockett came to oppose several of Jackson’s initiatives, which eventually caused him to lose his seat in Congress due to the popularity of the president.

“Not one to retire quietly, Crockett immediately took up the cause of Texas independence, and set out with a company of men from his Tennessee home in November of 1835. Before leaving, he entrusted his Masonic

apron to his local lodge, where it remains to this day. His daughter Matilda later recalled the last time she saw her father: ‘He was dressed in his hunting suit, wearing a coonskin cap, and carried a fine rifle presented to him by friends in Philadelphia . . . He seemed very confident the morning he went away that he would soon have us all to join him in Texas.’

“This, unfortunately, was never to be.

Crockett arrived in Texas after a two month journey and immediately enlisted as a volunteer. Just a few short weeks later, he arrived at the Alamo in San Antonio just before the epic battle against the Mexican army of Santa Anna laid siege. Davy Crockett lost his life in that battle along with scores of other brave men many of them Freemasons.”

As reported by the Grand Lodge of Texas at <https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/david-crockett-king-wilderness/> :

“Proof that Crockett was a Mason is based mainly on the survival of his Masonic Apron, made for him by Mrs. A.C. Massie of Washington, D.C., during his tenure in Congress. Before leaving for Texas, he entrusted the apron to the sheriff of Weakley County, Tennessee, and it was inherited and preserved by the sheriff’s nephew, E.M. Taylor of Paducah, Kentucky.² The lodge at Weakley County, near the Crockett home, burned during the Civil War destroying all the lodge records.”

Davy Crockett lived his life as the embodiment of the American spirit of freedom and justice. Although his life was cut tragically short, his legend shall endure forever. See, <http://mdmasons.org/about-md-masons/famous-masons/davide-crocket/>

Postscript: Because of a popular TV series in the 1950s about Davy Crockett, his coonskin cap became a fad for boys in the 1950s. Even I had one. Ed.

² Note possible factual inconsistency with a preceding paragraph. Ed.

The Brotherhood at Valley Forge

The following material is excerpted without further citation from *Freemasonry in the American Revolution* by Sidney Morse (Kila: Kessinger Publishing Company. No publication date, preface dated 1924, pp. 102 et. seq.).

“After the battle at Germantown [October 1777, Bro. George] Washington went into winter quarters at Valley Forge, a place made sadly famous in American history by the suffering of the American Forces. Such was the destitution of the army that, in the words of Washington, ‘They might have been tracked from White Marsh to Valley Forge by the blood of their feet.’ The men were utterly without proper food, clothing or blankets, and their only shelter was log huts daubed with clay. Only their spirit of self-sacrifice and their devotion to a great leader and a great cause kept the little army together during the dark days of the winter of 1777-1778.

“Pennsylvania Lodge No. 8, every member of which is said to have served in the army, was located in the vicinity of Valley Forge. According to Masonic tradition, Lodge meetings and informal Masonic gatherings were frequently held in the camp, a number of which were attended by Washington. Alexander Hamilton is said to have been made a Mason at this time, and in the presence of the Commander-In-Chief. Many such fraternal gatherings were held during the Revolution by troops on garrison duty, in winter quarters, and in other periods of inaction....

“Washington made daily tours of inspection of the camp at Valley Forge to cheer and comfort his men and learn their needs. He was often accompanied by [Bro.] La Fayette....

“In spite of the hardships endured at Valley Forge, all the troops that were fit for service were daily drilled in the manual of arms by Baron [Friedrich Wilhelm von] Steuben, who had seen service under Frederick the Great.... Steuben was

a member of Trinity Lodge, No. 12, New York, and was afterward made an honorary member of Holland Lodge, No. 8.”

Thus was the Brotherhood encamped at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778.

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)
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.



Grand Master's Proclamation

FEBRUARY 2020 IS MASONIC
WIDOWS MONTH

California Masonry: Rooted in the
Gold Country, Forged in Ideals

Whereas upon our obligation to one other we pledge to keep our brothers' families close to our hearts, treating their loved ones with the same respect we would afford our own; and

Whereas the partners and spouses of our lodge members hold a vital role in our Masonic family; and

Whereas we endeavor to provide a lifelong source of comfort, support, and friendship to the widows of all Masons;

As grand master, I therefore **proclaim** February 2020 to be Masonic Widows Month in California.

In recognition of this proclamation, I encourage all California Masons to make efforts to reconnect with Masonic widows in their communities. This can take many forms: Reaching out to widows of former lodge members particularly those you have not heard from in several years and invite them to a lodge event; organizing a service project to give back to lodge widows through grocery delivery, home improvements, or offering transportation to medical appointments; and writing and calling widows living at the Masonic Homes in Union City or Covina.

Just as Masons take an obligation to care for one another, they are bound to support their surviving family members. This month, remind them they are not alone.

Sincerely and fraternally,
John E. Trauner, Grand Master

Attest:

Allan L. Casalou, Grand Secretary

Photo Gallery

Here are just two pictures from last month's meetings, our January Stated Meeting and our Installation. When more images become available from the Installation, some will be included in a subsequent edition. Ed.



[Above: Stated Meeting of Jan. 4, 2020]



[Above: The Lodge setup for Installation]

