

In the



Daylight

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

January 2021

“On the Level”

Foreword ...

Here's how we have influenced the English language: According to a book of mine, "'on the level' is believed to have originated as a part of the language of Freemasonry. Among members of the order the mason's level is a symbol of integrity. Therefore, a fellow Mason who is *on the level* is entirely trustworthy." [Emphasis in original.] Morris, William and Mary. *Morris Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins*. 1977 New York: Harper & Row, at p. 419. Similarly, "on the level" suggests "bona fide" or "honest" as traits. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/level>.

"On the level" also means, as we know, treating one another equally, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, all men of every country, sect and opinion. We know too that monarchs have on occasion exchanged the scepter for the trowel, to patronize our mysteries and join in our assemblies.

Even Presidents have done so, like MW Harry S. Truman, PGM, who knew that he would be treated safely and the same as any other Brother in Lodge. As reported at <http://freemasonsfordummies.blogspot.com/2019/07/site-of-harry-trumans-historic-masonic.html>, President Truman famously snuck away from the press during a campaign stopover in Indianapolis to attend a Master Mason degree at Beech Grove Lodge 694. "Because Masonic degree rituals are

considered secret, Truman's non-Mason security agents were not permitted to actually enter the lodge room during the ceremony. Forced to wait nervously outside, the President assured them he was in the safest possible place on Earth." Also, "[w]hen asked how he wanted to be formally introduced to the gathered members and visitors, he humbly declined the presidential title and instead asked to be identified simply as a Past Grand Master of Missouri." *Id.*

"I will level with you" is a related phrase. To level with someone is to tell someone the truth, especially when it may be unpleasant. See, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/level-with-someone>. Or to deal frankly and openly. See, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/level>.

So I will tell you frankly and openly that I will do my level best to provide yet another interesting edition of this newsletter. Please enjoy reading January's "In the Daylight."

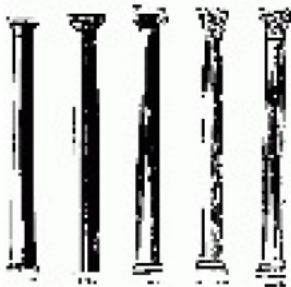
Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp
Editor

January Trestle Board is on page 2.

Architecture at its Highest Level – Sir Christopher Wren

The following is quoted verbatim from the excellent website of Lodge St. Patrick No. 468, Irish Constitution, at <http://www.lodgestpatrick.co.nz/famous.php> :

“Wren, Sir Christopher (1632-1723) The most famous architect in British history; Wren was educated in Latin and Aristotelian physics at the University of Oxford. He was a notable astronomer and mathematician and, following the Great Fire of London in 1666, Christopher Wren organised the rebuilding of 51 churches in that city for King Charles II, the most illustrious of which is St. Paul's Cathedral. Lest we forget to mention his other architecture masterpieces, most notably, Hampton Court and the Wren Library at Trinity College, Cambridge University. Christopher Wren's portrait featured on the reverse side of the £50 banknotes issued by the Bank of England from 1981 until 1994. On the 28 November 1660, Wren became a founder of The Royal Society of London ..., becoming president in 1680. His scientific work was highly regarded by Sir Isaac Newton and Blaise Pascal (see above). He was an active Freemason; the Master of Lodge Original, No. 1. (This is now the Lodge of Antiquity No. 2, "adopted" on 18 May 1691.) His remains are interred in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, where a simple stone plaque is inscribed: ‘Reader, if you seek his memorial look around.’”



January Trestle Board

When we meet in person, but not now, we meet on 1st/3rd Saturdays at 10:00 AM except as otherwise noted. With authority from Grand Lodge, we will conduct our January Stated Meeting online. Thus:

January 2, 2021, 10AM, Zoom. Tiled.

We continue our Masonic Fellowship meetings via Zoom, Thursdays, 7PM. Please take note of the following:

- Thu., Jan 7 Fellowship
- Thu., Jan. 14 Installation Practice
- Thu., Jan. 21 Installation of Officers
- Thu., Jan 28 Dark

Login for Thursday Zoom fellowship meetings, for each occurrence now through 3/25/2021 (except Thursdays preceding a Stated Meeting)





Sea Level – Commodore Perry

The following, again, is quoted verbatim from the excellent website of Lodge St. Patrick No. 468, Irish Constitution, at <http://www.lodgestpatrick.co.nz/famous.php> :

“Perry, Matthew Calbraith (1794-1858) As a Commodore in the U.S. Navy, Matthew Perry commanded one of the first steam frigates, USS Fulton, which was armed with the new, and for its time, highly destructive, Paixhans shell gun. In a similarly armed vessel, Perry made a famous expedition to Japan, compelling the country to open for trade with the U.S.A. Perry was initiated into the Holland Lodge No.8, New York, New York in 1819.”

High Above Sea Level – Buzz Aldrin

Again quoted from Lodge St. Patrick No. 468, Irish Constitution, at <http://www.lodgestpatrick.co.nz/famous.php> :

“Aldrin, Edwin Eugene ‘Buzz’ (1930 -) Buzz Aldrin is a mechanical engineer, an ex-USAf fighter pilot and an astronaut. On 20 July 1969, as the pilot of Apollo 11's Lunar Module, he famously became only the second human to walk on the moon. At the time of his lunar landing, Aldrin was a member of Clear Lake Lodge No. 1417, Seagate, Texas and, in the wake of Aldrin's space mission, the Grand Lodge of

Texas formed Tranquillity Lodge No. 2000, named after Tranquillity Base, the location of Apollo 11's landing site. Aldrin is now a member of Montclair Lodge No.144, New Jersey.”

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)
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.

The Level of Time

Excerpted from "The Level of Time,"
By William H. Sachs, 33° at
http://www.themasonictrowel.com/Articles/degrees/degree_2nd_files/the_level_of_time.htm :

"A passage from our ritual ... admonishes us ever to remember that 'we are traveling upon the level of time to that undiscovered country from whose [bourn] no traveler returns.' The words are beautiful, the allegory striking, and the meaning deceptively clear even at first hearing. But those of us who truly search for more light quickly realize that the apparently simple statement is in fact much more complex than we think. There is hardly any problem with the word 'level.' Whoever has been involved with any part of the construction business knows the function of this instrument.... The word 'level' is unambiguous.

"When we talk about time, however, it is a different story altogether. Any youngster over the age of 10 knows what time is, and yet very few of us can define or explain it....

"... [I]f we cannot catch [time] and cannot examine it--let alone define it with certainty--how can we derive wisdom from that mysterious 'level of time'? Perhaps the time-honored old phrase ... expresses the complete integration of my time and your time into our time, and ultimately into all time--that basic property of the incredibly immense universe which is the material manifestation of its Creator.

"[Maybe the 'level of time' refers to] the ephemeral character of our lives. As far as the human mind can see, time is the universal property of all creation, and it finds nothing anywhere which is timeless, except that Great Builder whom we respectfully acknowledge as the Grand Architect. Let us contemplate that fact, with awe, every time we hear of the 'level of time.'"

CFS Daylight Lodge Officers for 2020/2021

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 Ibrahim Hannoun

Marshal Keith S. Cotton

Senior Steward Michael ("Mike") J. Chavez

Junior Steward Open

Organist Majd Fahma

Tiler William ("Bill") C. Raddatz

Officers' Coach Steven ("Steve") A. Wolvek, PM

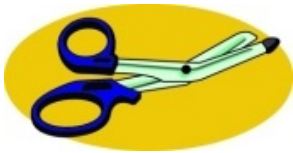
Candidates' Coach Roger L. Soriano, PM

Inspector Leland H. Celestre, PM

More about Being On the Level

When [people are]'on the level' they are honest, they deal with someone fairly.

This also can have another allusion most commonly held with one of the Cardinal Virtues of Freemasonry, Justice. The balance scale, which is a common symbol to indicate Justice, has a level as it's core element. With both sides being equal, a balance scale will be level across indicating that both sides are equal." See, TODAY in Masonic History at https://www.masonrytoday.com/index.php?new_month_6&new_day_4&new_year_2020.



Levels of Evidence in Medicine

Apparently there are levels of evidence in medicine. Who knew! The following snippet is from an article entitled *The Levels of Evidence and their role in Evidence-Based Medicine* at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3124652/> :

"As the name suggests, evidence-based medicine (EBM), is about finding evidence and using that evidence to make clinical decisions. A cornerstone of EBM is the hierarchical system of classifying evidence. This hierarchy is known as the levels of evidence. Physicians are encouraged to find the highest level of evidence to answer clinical questions.... [¶] The levels of evidence were originally described in a report by the Canadian Task Force on the Periodic Health Examination in 1979. [fn.] The report's purpose was to develop recommendations on the periodic health exam and base those recommendations on evidence in the medical literature."



Are there Levels of Evidence in Law?

Editor's Note: When I was in law school, the law of Evidence was a year-long course in which we studied the Federal Rules of Evidence and the California Evidence Code. Here is a small sample of "levels" of evidence if you consider direct evidence and circumstantial evidence to be "different levels." Really they are not.

"Evidence can come in many forms. It can be testimony about what someone saw or heard or smelled. It can be an exhibit admitted into evidence. It can be someone's opinion.

"Direct evidence can prove a fact by itself. For example, if a witness testifies she saw a jet plane flying across the sky, that testimony is direct evidence that a plane flew across the sky. Some evidence proves a fact indirectly. For example, a witness testifies that he saw only the white trail that jet planes often leave. This indirect evidence is sometimes referred to as 'circumstantial evidence.' In either instance, the witness's testimony is evidence that a jet plane flew across the sky.

"As far as the law is concerned, it makes no difference whether evidence is direct or indirect...." Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions (2020 edition), CACI 202.

You don't need a whole year-long course in Evidence. Really, this entry was only to give equal time to law, given the article at left about medicine. DIK.

Member Spotlight: Bro. David I. Karp, Editor

Originally from New Jersey, Bro. David Ira Karp came to the San Fernando Valley in 1968, where he attended junior high and high school. Thereafter he attended UCLA and then Loyola Law School, Los Angeles,. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Economics in 1976 and his Juris Doctorate degree in 1979.

After being admitted to the California State Bar in 1979, Bro. David worked for 25 years as a litigator of real estate and business disputes. In 2004, he began his mediation practice which continues to the present.

As an adult volunteer in the program of the Boy Scouts of America, Bro. David was involved in many ways. Among other roles, was the co-founder and the first Secretary of the National Association of Masonic Scouters. He received many Scouting awards including the Silver Beaver Award for Distinguished Service to Youth and the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award.

Bro. David has also volunteered as a mediator for the Los Angeles Superior Court and the California Court of Appeal. And he has given his time and attention to the Alumni Associations at UCLA and Loyola Law School, mentoring students at each school.

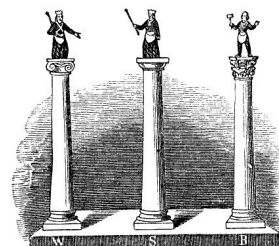
Now he volunteers as the newsletter editor for Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge and hosts its fellowship meetings on Zoom.

In Home Lodge No. 721 where his father and brother-in-law were also members, Bro. David was initiated in 1990, and passed and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in 1991. He affiliated with Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 in June 2018, and was awarded his 25 year pin on June 1, 2019. On December 10, 2020, CFS Daylight Lodge presented him with his Hiram Award.

Married 39 years, Bro. David and his wife, Geri, have raised two children, Hannah and Sam,

now both adults with their own careers and families. Geri and David have one delightful granddaughter, Eva.

Bro. David enjoys reading science fiction and historical novels, listening to classical music, and above all, writing and editing.



From the East

Brethren,
Happy New Years! As we welcome the 2021 Masonic year we look forward to preparing for the many blessings this year will bring as well as embracing the new challenges. This year we focus on remaining healthy and keeping a safeguard of our members to ensure that they also have the resources they need to get through these uncertain times. This year will be about overcoming this worldwide pandemic, coming back to normal, and then getting the lodge and our members back into the swing of things. Although these time lines and dates are still relatively unknown we will continue to follow the Grandmaster, the State of California Governor and CDC's guidelines until further notice.

We will continue with our Zoom fellowships online and we will have our 2021 installation of Officers on Thursday, January 21st, 2021.

Please note the following:

Executive Meeting - Tuesday, December 29th at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Stated Meeting - Saturday, January 2nd at 10 a.m. on Zoom

[continues on next page, see "East"]

["East, continue from p. 6]

Fellowship - Thursday, January 7th at 7 p.m.
on Zoom

Installation Practice - Thursday, January 14th
at 7 p.m. on Zoom

2021 installation of Officers - Thursday,
January 21st at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Dark - Thursday, January 28th

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

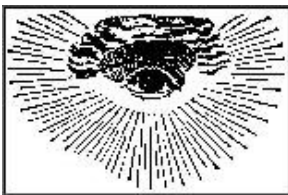
From the West

Brethren,
This newsletter being published in December, I send seasons greetings to all. I just want to start off by saying how thankful and fortunate we all are for our health and families. Our thoughts and prayers go to all those who were impacted during these hard times. I want to wish each and every single one Happy Holidays, with all that it entails and means to you. Due to the pandemic our year was dreary and uneventful. I would like for everyone who is to advance to prepare. We should all be optimistic about the coming new year. Hopefully we can go about our business as usual and prepare for advancements that were put off.

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." - Albert Einstein.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

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



From the South

Brethren,
Our steadfast commitment to be a part of an inclusive organization such as Freemasonry generally and this Lodge in particular has proved both unwavering and overwhelming, especially now. During this crisis, we have needed our experiences, our connections and our perspectives to adapt. With compassion and kindness, this has been our goal and our reward over the last few months.

Even so, our extended communities around the world are grieving deep losses and struggling day-to-day. I am also aware how change of this magnitude creates fear, fear which can result in racist behaviors, anger, and prejudice. I cannot imagine the additional stress this must cause during a time already riddled with uncertainty and anxiety.

As a global organization, we must stand in solidarity and lead with empathy and compassion. We must denounce negative behaviors. Inclusion, diversity, and respect are deeply embedded in our Mission and our fraternal vision. These values guide the way we work, the way we interact with each other, and the way we deliver on our commitments to other and new members. This will never change.

Since this article is being published in December, I want to take the opportunity on behalf of my family to share the Season's Greetings with you all! A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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



From our Treasurer

Brethren,
If you have not already done so, please remit your Lodge dues for 2021. The amount is \$156.00.

Please make your payment directly to the Lodge and DO NOT pay through the Grand Lodge portal.

Instead, 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.

Fraternally,
Bro. Barry Mann,
Treasurer

From our Secretary

Brethren,
A look at a year that will go down as the worst year in the recent history: In this year we have a Killer virus that killed over two million people, demolished economies, destroyed the social fabric of a lot of societies, and deprived families from being together.

In this year we see our country so polarized to a point of resorting to taking up arms against each other. The rest of the world didn't fare better than us.

I wish we could turn back the clock but we should learn from these hard lessons and prepare ourselves for what the future might bring us.

On another note, I am still collecting clothes for the Midnight Mission. If you want donate any clothes, please call me so we will make arrangement to pick it up from you.

Since we are allowed to have our Stated Meeting over Zoom, I would encourage all members and especially the officers to join us every first Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM. Also every Thursday at 7:00 PM to stay in touch.

Finally, practice social distancing ("6 feet apart is better than 6 feet under"). Avoid getting your loved ones infected.

Keep the Faith, We will get through this pandemic.

Fraternally,
Bro. Akram Alawar
Secretary

Bonus Article – Martin Luther King, Jr., Day is January 18, 2021

According to AmeriCorps, the only federal agency tasked with elevating service and volunteerism in America: "Observed each year on the third Monday in January as "a day on, not a day off," MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities." <https://www.nationalservice.gov/serve-your-community/mlk-day-service>. This website contains ideas and information to help celebrate volunteerism and suggests worthy service projects and other ideas. It is worth reviewing.

So you know, "Martin Luther King, Jr. was not a Mason during his lifetime, but both his father and his grandfather were Prince Hall Masons. Interviews from 1968 indicate that Grand Master X. L. Neal of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia had arranged for Dr. King to become a Freemason upon his return to Atlanta that year. King's assassination in Memphis on April 4th of 1968 had abruptly prevented that event from happening." From *Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Freemasons* by Christopher L. Hodapp at <http://freemasonsfordummies.blogspot.com/2018/01/martin-luther-king-jr-and-freemasons.html>