

In The



Daylight

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

The Kindness of the Craft

Foreword . . .

In preparing this introduction I learned that November 13 is World Kindness Day. (Who knew?) See, <https://nationaltoday.com/world-kindness-day/>.

Over the years, I have seen such kindness emanate from the Masons I have known, from visiting ailing Brethren, to helping an infirm Brother navigate to his seat in lodge, to collecting clothes for the homeless, to serving breakfast to the downtrodden at the Midnight Mission, which we will do on November 24, etc.

In so many words, we are charged as Masons to offer to our neighbors every kind office which justice or mercy may require and to do for him or her that which we would expect him or her to do for us. We are also enjoined to conduct ourselves in an exemplary fashion even as we are entrusted to the kind care and attention of our fellow Masons.

Whether in or out of the lodge, it is incumbent upon us as human beings to better ourselves and in so doing to better our surroundings. I can think of nothing more constructive and beneficial than to help another person, and it is our responsibility to do so.

The web page for World Kindness Day informs us that doing something for others, without an agenda, simply feels good. But also, doing something for ourselves is kind as well. I agree as to both.

As you read through this month's edition think kindly of your Brethren who work so hard for the lodge, think affectionately of those family

members and friends who are important to you, and think, most of all, of how, through some small act of your own, *you* can make life better for another person and/or yourself.

This edition includes, among other things, a piece on "Masonic Values in the Law of the Land," an item about the "Real First Thanksgiving," an article about "asking for an open mind about Freemasonry," and one remembering JFK and 11/22/1963.

Fraternally,

David I. Karp, Editor and Contributor.

November Trestleboard

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

- Nov. 2 Stated Meeting (Dress Casual)
- Nov. 14 CFS **Second** Thurs. Fellowship @ Lulu's 5:30PM
- Nov. 16 - Double First Degree
- Nov. 23 MERT Training (10AM)
- Nov. 24 Serving Breakfast at Midnight Mission (with Scouts), 6:00 AM
- Nov. 30 Third Degree

Looking Ahead into December

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

Masonic Values in the Law of the Land

In the landmark Supreme Court case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), the justices of the United States Supreme Court ruled unanimously that racial segregation of children in public schools is unconstitutional.

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/brown-v-board-of-education-of-topeka> .

Mr. Chief Justice Warren delivered the opinion of the Court and wrote: “To separate [children in grade and high schools] from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely ever to be undone.” *Brown, supra*, 347 U.S. at 494.

Chief Justice Earl Warren was a Freemason and a member of Sequoyah Lodge #349 Oakland, California.

<https://eb1870.org/project/earl-warren/> .

Thurgood Marshall, who argued the case with others

(<https://www.oyez.org/cases/1940-1955/347us483>), was also a Freemason

(<https://eb1870.org/project/thurgood-marshall/>).¹

Although Freemasonry was not necessarily the catalyst for the Court’s decision, it is not a stretch to suggest that the tenets of the Craft might have subconsciously influenced the motivations of Warren and Marshall; neither the concept of equality nor the importance of public

education of children is foreign to the hearts and minds of Freemasons (or the Court).

As to equality, we know, under the principle of Brotherly Love, to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, and we are enjoined to aid, support and protect one another. Moreover, in our lodges we meet one another “on the level” which is to say that we treat each other as equals, no matter what our stations in life or our differences might be.

As to the importance of public education, one need look no further than to the website of the Grand Lodge of California, at

<https://freemason.org/contribute/californiaMasonicFoundation.htm>, wherein we find the

following: “Masons have championed many great causes throughout history, but perhaps none as far-reaching, or as personal, as public education. We started some of the first public schools in America and advocated for legislation to help make education accessible to everyone.”

As Masons, we believe that a man who strives to improve himself can also improve his community and the world at large. Thus, in the above discussion, we can see that our values did and do contribute to the betterment of society, as in the pursuit of just laws and actions and in furtherance of equality and inclusiveness for ourselves, our children, and our community as a whole.

There is no longer any such thing as “separate but equal” in public school (*Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, 347 U.S. 483, 495 (1954) overruling *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537 (1896)). Or elsewhere.

Respectfully,

David I. Karp, Editor and Contributor

¹ Thurgood Marshall later became an Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court (<https://eb1870.org/project/thurgood-marshall/>), nominated by President Lyndon B. Johnson, himself an Entered Apprentice Mason although he did not go further in Masonry. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_presidents_of_the_United_States_who_were_Freemasons .



NOTICES

Proposed Changes to Bylaws

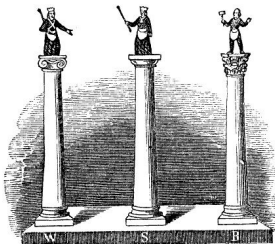
Second publication of proposed changes to our bylaws, to be voted at the December 2019 Stated Meeting:

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 will be \$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.”



From the East

Brethren,
 We are at our final push for the year. This month we traveled to San Francisco for the 170th Annual Communication for the Grand Lodge of California. We had six members in attendance to represent our Lodge: myself, WB Steve, WB Alberto, WB Celso, Bro Johnny, and Bro Ibrahim. [See the photo on the next page.] It was a great opportunity as well as a learning experience as this was the first year we had delegates with full voting rights. The road trip was another fun trip, just as fun as was the rest of the weekend.

We also connected with Brothers from local and visiting Lodges there. We learned how they operate and how they run their lodges, the ideas from some of which we can readily implement to our own Lodge. This is one of the reasons why we travel. We get to know other Brothers out there, expand our networks, and learn from them to see how we can apply their practices to our new lodge ... to make ours a much better one.

Our lodge was again honored in the 100% officer giving this year which was announced during the Saturday Night Gala. Thank you very much officers for your generosity.

This month, we have a few more events to close out the year.

The first is on November 23 at 10AM at the Lodge. That is our MERT (Masonic Emergency Response Team) Training meeting. Our most worshipful Russ Charvonja will be there to talk about this program, as well as Ms Janet Gibson. She is a certified CERT (California Emergency Response Team) trainer and will talk about the CERT portion of the program. Please invite as many other Brothers/Lodges as you think may want to join this program.

Second, the following day, (Nov 24th at 6AM) we are scheduled for Midnight Mission Breakfast serving. We will need to be there by [continues on p. 4, see “East”]

["East," continued from p. 3]

6AM. Car pooling is strongly recommended as parking is limited. This event is in cooperation with Scouts BSA Troop 10 under the supervision of Brother David Powell.

On December 21, we will then have our Holiday party to close out the year. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

In closing, all incoming officers, please make sure you are proficient in your new seats. If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or our Officers' Coach and Candidates' Coach. We are all here to support you all, to make our lodge an even stronger one for the years to come. Let us all join forces, also, to support our incoming Worshipful Master Celso Cardano, for his success is partly due to our unwavering support for him.

Together to the end Brethren!!

Fraternally from the East,

Wor. Roger L. Soriano, Master.



[Pictured above: Some of our Brothers at this year's Grand Lodge Annual Communication: Left to Right: Bro. Ibrahim, Wor. Roger, Bro. Jhonny, Wor. Celso.]

From the West

Brethren,

In October we attended the Grand Lodge Annual Communications and we had a blast supporting the lodge and seeing what is in store for Grand Lodge in the upcoming year

In November we look forward to our Stated Meeting where we will elect our 2020 Officers. We will also have the Midnight Mission Breakfast Service on Sunday, November 24th.

We will have a busy month and look forward to your full participation.

Fraternally from the West,

Celso V. Cardano, Jr.,

Senior Warden

From our Secretary

Brethren,

Our lodge has been growing at a healthy pace but we are behind on moving the EAs to next levels. We need to work harder with our Brethren EAs and help them to advance. Everyone please make the effort to reach out and encourage them.

We still have few Brothers that have not paid their past and current dues. Brothers who have not paid yet will be a burden on our financial status.

Our lodge was recognized and appreciated for our volunteer efforts passing out water to the runners at Tour de Cure, the premier fundraising campaign of the American Diabetes Association, on October 6, 2019. Also our Lodge was well represented in the Annual Masonic Communication.

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 upcoming lodge events other than our regular meetings:

November 14, 2019, 5:30 pm
CFS Second Thursday Fellowship at Lulu's Restaurant, 16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, California 91406. [Now the Second Thursday, as we tinker with the calendar for the best date.] 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. This event replaces the previously planned monthly breakfasts to afford a better opportunity for more participation. Please join us if you can for camaraderie and conversation. RSVP on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/542770539791473/> so we can inform the restaurant of our needs.

November 23, 2019 MERT (Masonic Emergency Response Team) Training at the lodge (10AM)

November 24, 2019, 6AM Serving Breakfast at Midnight Mission (with Scouts BSA), 601 S. San Pedro S., Los Angeles, CA 90014

December 12, 2019, 5:30 pm CFS Second Thursday Fellowship at Lulu's Restaurant, 16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, California 91406.

December 21, 2019 Holiday Party.



[Pictured above: Wor. Steve receives his Hiram Award, which was previously back ordered.]

Member News

November birthdays: Rolando L. Cortel, Michael J. Karobonik, Fernando O Lebrilla, Jr., Virgilio A. Maravillas, Sr. Happy Birthday, Brothers. Also, Rola Alawar and Tamara Seletos. Happy Birthday to you as well.

November Third Degree Anniversaries: Edward W. Allen, Jr., Michael Karobonik, Ramiel R. Malabanan, John T. Seletos, Rogelio L. Soriano. Congratulations.

Wor. Steve Wolvek, PM, would still like to receive your family recipes for a fund-raising recipe book. Also, at the October Stated Meeting, we congratulated Wor. Steve once again for being awarded the Hiram Award earlier this year. In the picture below and at left, he receives his own medal and certificate which were back ordered at the time.

Bro. Edward W. ("Jay") Allen, Jr. is on the mend and recovering at home, although further surgery is expected soon. During a recent visitation at his home by some of our Brothers, Bro. Jay received his 25 year anniversary award pin which was long overdue. Bro. Jay has been a Master Mason for 35 years. Congratulations to our Bro. for the award, and best wishes for a speedy recovery so we can see you at lodge soon.



The “Real” First Thanksgiving

By Midnight Freemason Contributor
Bro. Steven L Harrison, PM, FMLR
33°.

“We all know the story of the ‘Pilgrims and Indians’ celebrating the ‘First Thanksgiving.’ First in the ‘New World’ it may have been, but it was not the first United States Thanksgiving.

Brother George Washington proclaimed that first official Thanksgiving celebration in 1789, when he declared November 26 to be set aside not to be thankful for the nation's bounty but to give thanks for the newly adopted Constitution. Washington also enjoined people to ‘...unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications... beseeching [God] to pardon our national and other transgressions.’

Although celebrated off-and-on, usually unofficially, from that time forward, Thanksgiving did not become a permanent official US holiday until Brother Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed it so in 1939.” See, <http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2013/11/the-real-first-thanksgiving.html>

Asking for an Open Mind about Freemasonry

Benjamin Franklin’s mother was troubled that Freemasonry might be a religion or even contradictory to her or her son’s religious beliefs. So Bro. Ben tried to explain and asked her, in so many words, to keep an open mind about the Fraternity.

In response to a letter he had received, our Brother, Benjamin Franklin, wrote the following to his parents in 1738:

“As to the Freemasons, unless she will believe me when I assure her that they are in general a very harmless sort of People; and have no principles or Practices that are inconsistent with Religion or good Manners, I know of no

[continues on next page, see “Open Mind”]

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

["Open Mind," continued from p. 6]

Way of giving my Mother a better Opinion of them than she seems to have at present, (since it is not allow'd that Women should be admitted into that secret Society). She has, I must confess, on that Account, some reason to be displeas'd with it; but for any thing else, I must entreat her to suspend her Judgment till she is better inform'd, and in the mean time exercise her Charity."²

As Bro. Franklin knew, we also know, and can say, that Freemasonry is not and never was a religion and does not interfere with anyone's religious beliefs, which Franklin's mother feared. Men of all faiths are Freemasons.

Unlike Franklin, we know and can say that the fraternity is not a secret society which is what Bro. Franklin believed at the time, although we are a society that has some secrets. Which we can also say.

As the Craft has evolved, we are and can be open about who we are and what we do (mostly).

We strive to be visible and informative to the public when we can. Our lodge is fully committed to such openness (within appropriate limits of course): which is why we worked so hard to inform our guests about Freemasonry at our Lodge Open House in September; which is why we appear in public with our shirts, rings and pins; which is why our monthly socials are so important (I am thinking of our recent Fellowship gathering at Lulu's on Oct. 17); which is why we, among other salutary reasons,

give public service supporting marathons, conducting clothing drives, helping in feeding the hungry, supporting Masonic charities and other Masons, and so much more.

We want people to be curious and to ask, so we can tell them.

Individual outreach is also important.

When preparing for the Open House, Wor. Roger Soriano provided me with a business-card sized pamphlet from Grand Lodge entitled "Masons of California." In the briefest terms, it describes, among other things: "What is Masonry," "The Rewards of Being a Mason" and a list of our values education, philanthropy, family, tolerance, diversity, community, personal growth, and ethics. I have begun keeping this small brochure in my business card wallet, to have with me and ready to share if the opportunity presents itself.

I also prepared, as you know, a six-page "special edition" of our newsletter, describing Freemasonry and our Lodge in much greater detail. It is available for download from our members only Facebook page or from me via email at davidikarp@karpmediation.com. I now keep a copy of it in my briefcase as well in the event there is an opportunity to share it.

It might not be such a bad idea if each of us were so armed with these implements of Masonry and had them available to share personally, and even collectively at our public events.

Moreover, as Bro. Franklin asked of his mother, we should ask any skeptical or doubting Non-Mason we come across (there might be a few out there), to have an open mind until further informed and in the mean time to be charitable (i.e., accepting) of us and our Craft.

These efforts will all redound to our benefit as we strive to promote personal growth and to improve ourselves and the lives of others.

Bro. Franklin wrote, "[we] are in general a very harmless sort of [p]eople." I think so too.

Respectfully submitted,

David I. Karp, Editor and Contributor

² Source: "From Benjamin Franklin to Josiah and Abiah Franklin, 13 April 1738," Founders Online, National Archives, accessed September 29, 2019, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Franklin/01-02-02-0037>. [Original source: The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, vol. 2, January 1, 1735, through December 31, 1744, ed. Leonard W. Labaree. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1961, pp. 202-204.]

Remembering November 22, 1963

I was nine years old on November 22, 1963, just old enough to remember the events of the day and the days following.

Those events are etched in my memory, the same as those of people old enough at the time to recall December 7, 1941, and the attack on Pearl Harbor, the same as those of people old enough at the time to recall the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

November 22, 1963, was the day that President John F. Kennedy (JFK) was assassinated and Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) acceded to the office of the presidency.

I was in the fourth grade in Union NJ and I remember the announcement over the school intercom that the president had been shot. I was in a morning music class at the time learning to play the trumpet. I remember that the music teacher was stunned and silent. The students including myself did not know what to do. I think I remember that we were sent home early due to the news of the day.

I remember the pictures of the events surrounding the assassination so well: the home movie of the motorcade in Dallas capturing the moment of the shooting; the picture of LBJ taking the oath of office on Air Force One (the presidential jet), Jackie Kennedy in a blood-stained dress looking on; later images of the funeral procession with little John John, JFK's son, saluting the caisson as it went by; the eternal flame illuminating JFK's grave at Arlington Cemetery; the image of suspected assassin Lee Harvey Oswald being shot in the stomach by Jack Ruby.

Mostly I remember the deep mourning of the entire nation on that day and the days following. The country was in shock. Somber stuff for a nine year old..

JFK was not a Mason. LBJ was initiated and Entered Apprentice on October 30, 1937 in

Johnson City Lodge No. 561, at Johnson City, Texas, but did not advance any further.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_presidents_of_the_United_States_who_were_Freemasons .

Even so, as we Masons reflect on the events of November 1963, we might consider certain hieroglyphical emblems of our Craft as relevant, especially The Hour-Glass and The Scythe, as explained in the Monitor.

And we might say for JFK: "Soft and safe to thee be thy resting place." May his memory be a blessing for his family and for the country.

Respectfully,

David I. Karp, Editor and Contributor

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.

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