

In the



Daylight

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

September 2021

Equality and the Measure of a Man.

Foreword ...

Masons are familiar with the 24 inch gauge. It is a tool of a stonemason. It is also given symbolic meaning for every man who is initiated into our fraternity. Certainly, it measures length; but there is more to it. It is divisible into 24 *equal parts*. Thus, from the outset of any man's Masonic journey, he comes face to face with a reference both to measurement and to equality.

We know, too, that each person is to be treated equally in Freemasonry and in our Lodge. We are "on the [same] level" with one another, without regard to age, education, station in life, trade or profession, race, creed, color, national origin, financial status, whatever. Equality among us is a basic tenet of our Craft.

With a nod to our Grand Master of Masons in California, who declares September to be "Constitutional Observance Month," [see p. 2, *post*] we note that the ideal of equality is a basic tenet in our society as well. Consider the 14th amendment: it guarantees "equal protection of [our] laws" to any person within any state's jurisdiction.

But let's return to the 24 inch gauge. It reminds us to devote our time (in each 24 hour day): in the service of God and people in distress; in our work lives; and in our personal lives. The 24 inch gauge tells us *what* we should do. However it stops short of reminding us of *how* we should measure ourselves in those efforts.

To me, the measure of a man refers to "the content of his character" as in the words of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. For that measure, let's look at another tool—the compasses of a mason.

"This tool consists of two legs equal in length that are fixed together at their apex by an adjustable hinge. In geometry, it is used for drawing perfect circles and arcs, a crucial element of architectural planning. In ... Masonry, the compasses symbolize self-restraint and man's ability to reign in his yearnings so that he may live a balanced life." See, <https://www.freemason.com/masonic-symbols-square-compasses/>.

So, the measure of a man may be determined by the balanced life he lives. How do we achieve a balanced life? The words of the Entered Apprentice's Charge tell us:

We are instructed thereby to practice the domestic and public virtues of temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice, and to maintain fully our adherence to the concepts of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

At bottom, the ideals, practices and symbols of Freemasonry help to emphasize good character with a balanced life; and it is the content of our character, and how we live our lives, which constitute the measure of a Mason.

Treat everyone equally. Do the right thing. And in the words of the Coneheads, "maintain low tones." You will thus improve yourself in Masonry and for life.

Fraternally, Bro. David I. Karp, Editor.

September Trestle Board appears on page 2.



Grand Master's Proclamation

SEPTEMBER 2021 IS CONSTITUTIONAL OBSERVANCE MONTH

Embracing the Next Evolution

Whereas the Constitution of the United States is the foundation of our modern democratic government; and

Whereas many of the Founding Fathers of our country were Freemasons, and through their efforts developed a society that promoted democracy and was committed to upholding the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

Whereas as Masons, we strive to set an example for others in our society and communities through demonstrating compassion, kindness, temperance, and respect alongside the tenets of brotherly love, relief, and truth;

As grand master, I therefore proclaim September 2021 as Constitutional Observance Month in California.

Freemasons played a central role in the founding of the republic, and in so doing imbued in our constitution many of the values that are central to the fraternity. This month, I ask all California Masons to select a date to celebrate that legacy. Invite local Masonic youth orders to participate in a celebration of this guiding document and the parallels between our Founding Fathers' words and the Masonic ritual. By publicly celebrating the links between our fraternity and the foundational values inscribed in the constitution, Masons highlight not only their historical significance but also their continued relevance today and into the future.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Grand Master Arthur H. Weiss

Attest: Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou

September 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.)

September 2, 2021, 7PM Exec. Comm. Mtg.

September 4, 2021, 10AM Stated Meeting. Tiled. In person. Dress casual.

September 9, 2021, 7PM Zoom Fellowship. Join Zoom Meeting

September 18, 2021, 10AM Lodge Open House/Information Meeting. In person. Dress Formal

September 25, 2021, 10AM Poss. Degree meeting. In Person. Dress Formal.

September 30, 2021 Exec. Comm. Mtg.

Looking Ahead to October

October 2, 2021, 10AM Stated Meeting. Tiled. In person. Dress Casual.

October 9, 2021 Annual Communication.

October 14, 2021, 7PM Zoom Fellowship. See login above.

October 16, 2021, 10AM, Poss. 1st Degree. Dress Formal

October 23, 2021, 10AM, Poss. 1st Degree.





[Image attribution:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:EqualJusticeUnderLaw.jpg>]

Equal Justice Under Law

In lieu of an in-person Constitution Observance in Lodge per the suggestions of our Grand Master, *ante*, the following is respectfully submitted (because we will have an Open House/Information Meeting this month instead).

“Equal justice under law is a phrase engraved on the West Pediment, above the front entrance of the United States Supreme Court building in Washington D.C. It is also a societal ideal that has influenced the American legal system.

“The phrase was proposed by the building's architects, and then approved by judges of the Court in 1932. It is based upon Fourteenth Amendment jurisprudence, and has historical antecedents dating back to ancient Greece.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_justice_under_law .

“Measure of a Man” Quotes

These few quotes are from <https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/measure-of-a-man-quotes>

The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good.
Samuel Johnson

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. Martin Luther King, Jr.

If there be any truer measure of a man than by what he does, it must be by what he gives.

Robert South

The measure of a man is the way he bears up under misfortune. Peter Nivio Zarienga

If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals.

J. K. Rowling

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 (imminently in 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.



[Second Degree Conferral, 7/24/2021, for Bros. McQuaig and Sanchez. They measured up with their proficiencies in the preceding degree.]

Open House/Information Meeting, September 18, 2021, 10 AM

Consistent with the Grand Lodge's 2025 Strategic Plan, recently published, Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 will host its 2021 Open House/Information Meeting on September 18, 2021, for men interested in learning about the fraternity and this Lodge. The event is open to the public. Doors open at 9:30AM with the program set to start promptly at 10:00AM. Dress is formal for Masons, business casual is okay for guests. Reservations are preferred but not required. RSVP to davidikarp@karpmediation.com.

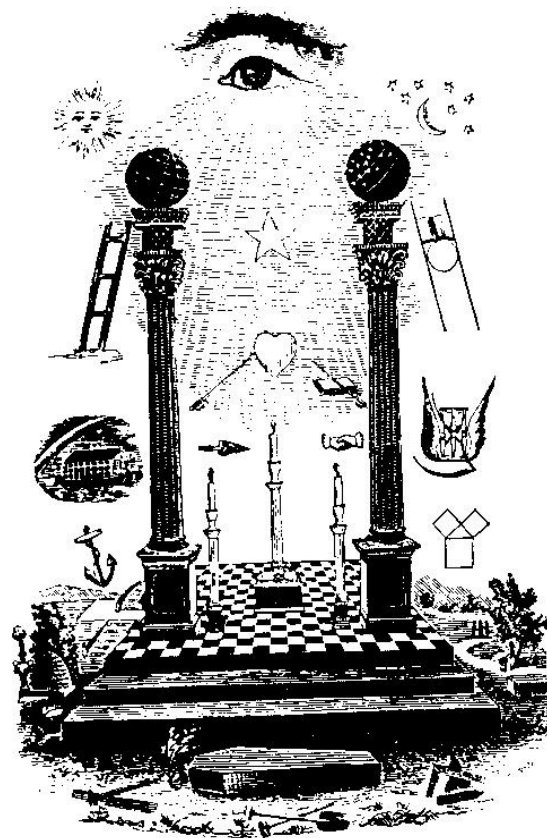
Interestingly, this is precisely what the Grand Lodge hopes our Lodge, and all Lodges, will do as a part of the Strategic Plan. Under "Theme III, Positive Awareness," the Grand Lodge asks us to share our Masonic experiences and inform the public of who we are and what we do in Open Houses and in other ways.

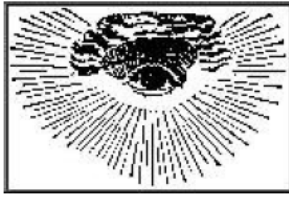
One of those ways is through social media. For the Open House/Information Meeting, our Lodge has begun a social media campaign to promote the event (and the Lodge), to help the public learn about us and avoid misconceptions.

Take a look at this page for more information: www.facebook.com/masonicopenhouse . If so inclined, please "like" the page so you can see and share our postings from there.

I look forward to seeing you on September 18.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. David I. Karp
Open House Chairman





The Measure of a Mason and of an Eagle Scout

I wrote this on July 21, 2021, because of the importance of the day in my family. I include it because the subject of this piece fits so well with the September theme of this newsletter: taking the measure of a man.

This is a very personal essay, as it is about two of my young relatives, both of whom live their lives with *menschlichkeit*. “*Menschlichkeit* is a Yiddish word that refers to all the qualities of being a ‘*mensch*’ - a moral and honourable person of good character and who behaves with common decency....” See, <https://www.herzlia.com/menschlichkeit/>.

These two young men (both 29) are third cousins of one another. One is my nephew, the other my second cousin’s son. Both, as boys, were scouts and went with me to Boy Scout camp. Both, as college students, joined fraternities, like I did, and did well at their respective universities. Both have gone on to advanced learning, one in business management/engineering the other in public policy/law. Both of them are close to my heart.

Interestingly, both had grandfathers who were Masters of their Masonic Lodges. One is currently a Mason, as I am, and the Master of his own lodge; the other is an Eagle Scout, not (yet) a Mason.

One has had kidney problems requiring a transplant. The other, the Master of Reno Lodge No. 13 (GL NV) donated one of his kidneys to his cousin.

We measure people by the content of their character. The gift of life to another person, and

the other’s grateful acceptance, constitute the measure of each of these two men.

For the donee, I am reminded of the phrase: “Choose life so that you and your children after you will live” (Deut. 30:15,19). See, <https://www.jtsa.edu/choose-life-and-torah>.

For the donor: “Whoever saves a single life is considered by scripture to have saved the whole world.” Talmud (Sanhedrin 37a), see <https://rac.org/blog/save-one-life-save-entire-world-including-yourself>.

With Masonic blood coursing through his veins, I was not surprised that my nephew, the WM of Reno 13, would have made this donation. And now, with the both of them having Masonic Kidneys, they each stand as equals and “on the level” with one another, as they always did, although one is considerably taller than the other! I am proud of them both.

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp



“How Do You Measure...”

“... 525,600 minutes / How do you measure the life of a woman or man?

“In truths that she learned, or in times that he cried / In bridges he burned, or the way that she died

“It’s time to sing out / Though the story never ends / Let’s celebrate, remember a year / In the life of friends

“Remember the love / ... / Measure, measure your life in love”

[Excerpted from “Seasons of Love” (from Rent (Original Broadway Cast Recording)” at <https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/rentcast/seasonsoflove.html>].



Star Trek: The Measure of a Man, The Measure of Us All

By Caameron Crain. [The following quoted material is excerpted from <https://25yearslatersite.com/2020/01/23/star-trek-the-measure-of-a-man-the-measure-of-us-all/>]

“Star Trek ... has frequently grappled with the question of moral status, and does so perhaps most directly in [an episode entitled] ‘The Measure of a Man.’ Broadly speaking, this is the question of who counts, morally. That is, what beings deserve moral consideration? Most everyone will agree that inanimate objects do not have such a standing. I could harm or destroy this desk, but it wouldn’t make sense to say I’ve wronged it. Conversely, most everyone will agree that human beings do have a moral status. The question is why? Is it our biological humanity? Star Trek dispenses with that possibility out of the gate. It must be something about us, but what? Life? What is life? No, what seems to make the most sense is to appeal to something like sentience, self-consciousness, or the capacity for self-determination (autonomy).

“[T]he question becomes the most interesting in Star Trek when it relates to the status of artificially intelligent beings such as Data, or the Doctor in Voyager. Do they count? They aren’t human, or even organic, but are they persons?

“The central question of ‘The Measure of a Man’ is whether Data has rights.... [¶] So when Cmdr. Bruce Maddox arrives and keeps referring to Data as ‘it’, we chafe. He’s not a thing; he’s a person. But is he, though? I want to suggest that ‘The Measure of a Man’ is at its most interesting

if we can manage to take up Maddox’s perspective:

“There is an android serving with a Starfleet crew. By all accounts, it is doing a great job. This is a complex machine.... Surely it is worthy of study. And the possibility of gaining the knowledge necessary in order to create more androids like this would be a boon to Starfleet....

“[To some extent,] Data agrees with this reasoning. He is not opposed to the idea of Maddox making copies of him in principle, he is worried about the possibility that the process would involve him losing his programming because Maddox doesn’t really know what he’s doing. [¶] His fear, in other words, is that he will lose himself insofar as his identity consists of a complex set of responses to the things he has experienced. This is what makes him Data.... [I]t is the possibility that he will be reverted to something like a blank slate, which would no longer be him.

“If that makes sense to us, then we should think about the same question when it comes to human beings. What makes me who I am? Once again, brute biology seems to be the wrong answer. Sure, there are genetic factors ... [but even] on the biological level, epigenetic factors would move to differentiate us. [E]ven more so, our experiences would.

“And, as Data says, it is not just the facts of those experiences, but their ‘ineffable quality’ that contributes to who we are.... [T]he point is that there is a level of meaning that goes beyond the brute facts of the matter, and Data is apparently as capable of engaging with this as we are.

“So when Maddox arrives and says that he will be taking ‘it’ to try to figure out how ‘it’ works in the hopes of replicating ‘it’, he is not respecting Data as a person.... He does not view Data as a being with a moral status....

[continues on next page, see “Star Trek”]

["Star Trek," continued from p. 6]

"In the background of this is a question which is actually rather difficult. Sure, in the context of the narrative of Star Trek it seems clear that Data is a person. By the time of 'The Measure of a Man' we've gotten to know him for a season and a half of the show, and of course Picard and the rest of the crew all view him as such as well. But could this be a kind of delusion?

Maddox is right that Data was built by a human being and is a machine. The question is whether such a being might nonetheless be one with rights, and this hangs on whether an AI might fit the bill for counting morally."

[Editor's note: There is much more to this fascinating discussion on the website cited at the outset. You should read it. As a thought experiment, however, consider whether Data would have equal rights in our society, if, as presented, he is a moral being. That is, does he measure up as a man? Consider also, whether Data would measure up as a Mason if he has high morals, thoughtfulness, self-consciousness, or the capacity for self-determination (autonomy), cares about others, and so forth. It is an interesting question.]



"*Measure for Measure* is a play by William Shakespeare, probably written in 1603 or 1604 and first performed in 1604, according to available records. It was published in the First Folio of 1623.... Today, it is often cited as one of Shakespeare's problem plays due to its ambiguous tone."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Measure_for_Measure

(I never read it. Ed.)

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 Ibrahim 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



Brother Barry Mann, Our Lodge's 2021 Hiram Award Recipient

Wor. Celso Cardano, Master of the Lodge announced on August 7, 2021, that Brother Barry Mann is the Lodge's choice to receive the Hiram Award this year. Such is the "measure of *this* man."

The award ceremony will take place on November 13, 2021, 10AM, either in-person with lunch following or via Zoom depending upon the pandemic situation.

Brother Barry joined the Masons in 2008 and has served his various Lodges as Chaplain and as head of the Temple Board. He has been a member of Clarence F. Smith Daylight No. 866 since its inception. He retires this year from his long time position as Lodge Treasurer.

The Hiram Award is an award presented to a Master Mason who has served the Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary. It is the highest honor (other than being Master of the Lodge) that can be bestowed on a member of a Masonic Lodge. While it is coming from Grand Lodge, it is the Lodge that has made the selection of the recipient.

Congratulations to Bro. Barry. Well deserved.

Such a Busy Lodge!

Here are some images from some of our recent meetings:



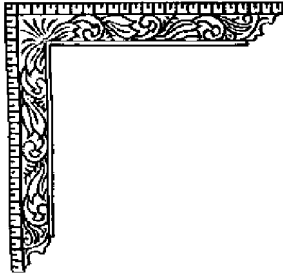
[Stated Meeting, August 7, 2021, Members and Visiting Brothers shown standing, some of our applicants in the front row.]



[Second Degree Conferral, August 14, 2021, for Bros. Graham and Engstrom. Congratulations!]



[First Degree, August 21, 2021 for Bros. Manalo, Manalo and de Villa. Congratulations!]



From the East

Brethren,
 Congratulations to our two recently passed Fellowcrafts, Brothers Gerald Alvarez and Elvis Alvarez. Also congratulations to our newly initiated Entered Apprentices, Brothers Axel de Villa, Martin Manalo, and Joseph Manalo. With just a few months left before the end of the year the 2022 Officers need to start qualifying for their respective offices. Please make sure that you learn your roles and be ready to practice as we still need to qualify as a lodge.

September is a special month as we will host our Masonic Open House on Saturday September 18th, 2021, at 10am. If you know anyone who is interested in joining Freemasonry or would like to learn more about our Craft please feel extend an invitation to this event as this is open to the public.

In October we will have Grand Lodge's Annual Communication in San Francisco. If anyone is interested in attending please let us know as we are booking our hotels for this event now. The business meeting is open to Master Masons only but there are a ton of other activities in which all brothers may participate, including fellowship with other lodges, banquet dinners, hall exhibits, and the Grand Lodge Officer Installation.

Also congratulations to Brother Berry Mann who will be our 2021 Hiram award recipient. Brother Berry was one of the originators of our

lodge and has been instrumental as our Treasurer in keeping our finances in order. He is a brother of true character, it is a pleasure to have him in our lodge, and it is an honor for us to give him this award. The Hiram award ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 13th 2021.

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



From our Secretary

Equality and Free Masonry.
 The human race is extraordinarily diverse in so many ways: gender, ethnicity, race, class, religion, nationality, philosophy, lifestyle. The areas in which we differ are endless and that is exactly where the beauty resides.

This diversity of our existence is beautiful, but people today are still entangled in a predicament, one that has plagued mankind since the beginning of time. Although "every man is entitled to the same right enjoyed by other men, to the unhindered and normal functioning of his own nature," the Civil Rights struggle is and has been something extremely controversial in the US.

For us Freemasons, equality and freedom, according to our bylaws and taken together, is a non-negotiable topic. Equality is intrinsically a part of who we are, it is our very essence!

Freemasons have historically fought against racism and inequality. We are the most diverse fraternity in the world with hundreds of thousands of lodges spread all over. Freemasons

are well known for their tolerance, prudence and understanding. Even during a time when knowledge was considered a privilege of just a few "special and chosen" people, Masons fought and stood for the Enlightenment.

Equality is an aspiration, a hope, a dream, an ideal, hard to capture in words, difficult to envision by the mind. During the French Revolution, Masonry had much to do with convincing the French masses that they had rights of their own. To this day liberty and democracy are widely understood in France in the egalitarian sense. "Liberty, Fraternity, Equality" is a slogan that has not lost its power of appeal.

In the US, it was Masonry itself that wrote into the Declaration the words "All men are created equal." It is certain that Masonry had much to do with the strain of egalitarianism that runs through the Constitution. And at the present time equality and Masonry are almost synonymous in many minds.

We Masons are under a peculiar obligation to devote ourselves to the task of making equality everywhere a fact. For equality is one of our central tenets. The ritual impresses it upon the candidate in every way; the lodge is so organized that everyone "meets upon the level." Finally Equality is a necessity of our nature, without which we live miserable lives.

[Some material herein sourced from the website of Illinois Freemasonry at <https://ilmason.org/our-blog/2018/a-masonic-reflexion-about-civil-rights> .

Fraternally,
Bro. Akram Alawar, Secretary

"I have measured out my life with coffee spoons...." *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* by T. S. Eliot

Bonus Article – September 21 is International Peace Day

Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace> .]

"The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. Two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to designate the Day as a period of non-violence and cease-fire."

"The 2021 theme for the International Day of Peace is 'Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world'.... Celebrate peace by standing up against acts of hate online and offline, and by spreading compassion, kindness, and hope in the face of the pandemic, and as we recover."

"The pandemic has been accompanied by a surge in stigma, discrimination, and hatred, which only cost more lives instead of saving them: the virus attacks all without caring about where we are from or what we believe in. Confronting this common enemy of humankind, we must be reminded that we are not each other's enemy. To be able to recover from the devastation of the pandemic, we must make peace with one another."

"And we must make peace with nature. Despite the travel restrictions and economic shutdowns, climate change is not on pause. What we need is a green and sustainable global economy that produces jobs, reduces emissions, and builds resilience to climate impacts."

