

In the



Daylight

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

June 2022

Freemasonry and Family

Foreword ...

June celebrates family life. In June, people celebrate Fathers' Day, children's graduations, weddings, anniversaries, and with the onset of summertime, even the family vacation.

In our Lodge, as in Freemasonry more generally, we celebrate family life as well. This is evident from the various life stages of our membership in a wide age range.

Our membership includes: seniors with grown children and grandchildren; younger men with young children; some men not married or not yet fathers; as to all of them we celebrate one another's family occasions and milestones:

Our website sets forth members' birthdays and we have fraternity gatherings that include birthday celebrations. We even have two young men whose weddings we celebrate this year, one having recently occurred in March and one forthcoming this month.

In a much larger sense, Freemasonry honors family life as we care for our members in their golden years or their widows and orphans, and we have a history of doing so. As set forth by our Grand Lodge on its website at <https://freemason.org/masonic-charities/masonic-homes/> :

"California Masons dedicated the first Masonic Home in Union City in 1898. Created to shelter widows and children left destitute and alone, it was our fraternity's first major, tangible testament to the Masonic ideals of brotherly love and relief. Today, the Masonic Homes of

California has expanded into a robust, statewide network of critical resources and services. [¶] Through compassionate care, the Masonic Homes pledges to keep Masonic family members of all ages, throughout California, safe, healthy, and connected through relevant, impactful resources including [senior outreach, family outreach, residential senior communities,] even "[c]omprehensive, integrated behavioral health services ... for children struggling with mental health difficulties."

In other ways, we honor our family connections. Many of us have a family tradition of joining the fraternity. For instance, my father, my grandfather, two great grandfathers, my brother in law, and two nephews are all Masons. Also, our Secretary's son is a member and Bro. Allan Mandia and his Dad are both Masons. There are other such father/son pairs throughout the fraternity. (By the way, this is not a prerequisite as we have members in our Lodge who are the first in their family to join.) See also p. 7.

With the Order of the Eastern Star and the fraternity's youth orders [DeMolay, Job's Daughters, Rainbow for Girls], we provide additional opportunities for our family members in Masonry.

Finally, although this is a men's organization, we also plan social events that include our spouses and children. In April for instance, there was an egg hunt at the park. Other times we have had outdoor BBQs and such. I have enjoyed

[continues on page 2, see "Foreword"]

["Foreword," continued from page 1]

seeing Brothers' families join us at our lunches after our meetings. Hint: more family events would be welcome to round out the experiences and attractiveness of this Lodge.

All of this shows that one of our priorities, among many, is for the lodge to be as inclusive as possible.

Please enjoy this edition, and share it with family members if you like; I do.

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor



Grand Lodge Suggests Local Lodges Host Family Friendly Events

As a part of the Grand Lodge's focus on "Positive Awareness" of Masonry as a goal in its 2025 Strategic Plan, the Grand Lodge has many suggestions, including holding events for family, friends and colleagues. In relevant part Grand Lodge says this:

"A whopping 82 percent of prospective members and 76 percent of current members say they learned about Masonry at an early age typically under 25. Holding family-friendly events where young people can see and learn about Freemasonry is important for our organization to thrive into the future. While men may not become Masons for years after they first hear about Masonry, the research shows that awareness at a young age is important for positive awareness and membership growth."

An important document, the Strategic Plan is available in iMember2.0 for your review. DIK

June Trestle Board

(We meet in person each month on four Saturdays at 10:00 AM at the Van Nuys Masonic Center, except as otherwise noted. Always subject to change. See Masthead, p. 1 for address.)

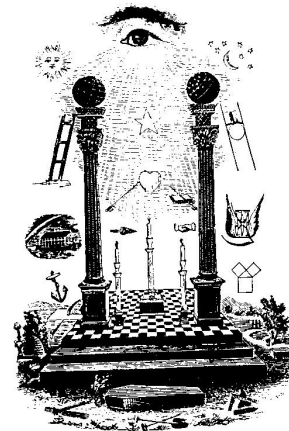
- June 2, 2022** Executive Comm. Mtg. on Zoom. Login will be sent via FB Messenger.
- June 4, 2022** Stated Meeting. Tiled. Dress: Casual
- June 9, 2022** 5PM, Fellowship at Lulu's?
- June 11, 2022** Practice and/or Fellowship
- June 15, 2022**, 7:30PM, OSI*, Home 721
- June 18, 2022** Degree or Special Mtg.
- June 25, 2022** Degree or Special Mtg.

*OSI Officers' School of Instruction.

Lodge Contact Information

Worshipful Master
Wor. Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan

Secretary
Bro. Akram Alawar





Appreciating Dad

Fathers' Day is June 19. Here are some words on the occasion from 2014 by MW William J. Thomas, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, found on this page:

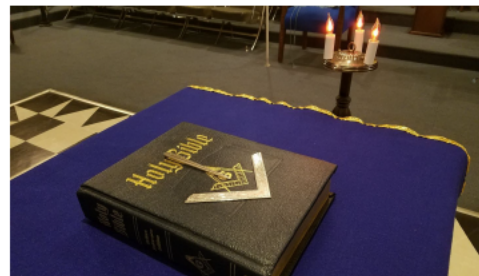
<https://nymasons.org/site/message-craft-observe-flag-day-fathers-day/> :

“We give special thanks and appreciation to Dad for all that was good in our upbringing and our development. If you are blessed with having your dad still with you, I know that you understand and we need not elaborate on this point. And if you are a Dad in your own right, I also know you will share your pride as a role model by all your actions since you are an upright man and Mason. As such, you recognize that our children are indeed our most precious resource and our heritage. We all must love and cherish every opportunity we have to make children, especially ours, better citizens. We give thanks to the Great Architect for all the opportunities we have to celebrate our parents....”



CFS Daylight Lodge Officers for 2022

Worshipful Master Wor. Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan
 Senior Warden Bro. Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr.
 Junior Warden Bro. Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan
 Treasurer Bro. Ramiel Malabanan
 Secretary Bro. Akram Alawar
 Asst. Secretary Bro. Thomas (“Tom”) K. Sheehan
 Chaplain Bro Christopher "Toby" Robles
 Senior Deacon WB Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig., PM
 Junior Deacon Bro. Ibrahim Hannoun
 Marshal Bro Hamood Hamood
 Senior Steward Bro. Elvis Alvarez
 Junior Steward Bro. Gerald Alvarez
 Organist Bro. Michael Chavez
 Tiler Bro. William (“Bill”) C. Raddatz
 Officers’ Coach WB Steven (“Steve”) A. Wolvek, PM
 Candidates’ Coach WB Roger L. Soriano, PM
 Inspector WB Leland H. Celestre, PM





Grand Master's Proclamation for June

JUNE 2022 IS MASONIC HOMES
MONTH
Crafting Leadership

Whereas Masons have taken a pledge to support all brothers and their wives, widows, and children in their hour of need; and

Whereas for more than 100 years, the Masonic Homes of California has provided critical services to Masons and their families; and

Whereas Masonic Outreach Services [MOS] plays a crucial role in connecting vulnerable Masons and their family members to local and immediate forms of relief; and

Whereas the Masonic Center for Youth and Families [MCYAF] provides children, teens, and adults important counseling services and tools for maintaining mental health and emotional wellness; and

Whereas the Masonic Homes, MOS, and MCYAF have worked especially hard to provide Masons from around the state important services during the pandemic;

As grand master, I therefore proclaim June 2022 to be Masonic Homes Month in California.

Since 1898, California Masons have fulfilled their obligation to care for fellow members and their families through their support of the Masonic Homes. More than a century later, the fraternity remains committed to delivering on that promise by offering crucial services to those in need through retirement homes in Union City and Covina and the brand-new Pavilion at the

Masonic Homes, which provides important memory care and assisted-living care in Union City; through Masonic Outreach Services throughout the state; and through MCYAF in San Francisco and Covina.

This month, I call on Masons to support these important programs and to make sure that all members are aware of the services they have access to as Masons and widows. Share the Masonic Assistance Line (888-466-3642) with members in need. Visit the Masonic Homes online to learn about the services being offered, and of course make a gift to the Masonic Homes to ensure that this proud legacy endures into the future.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Grand Master Jeffery Wilkins

Attest:

Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou

Opportunities for Family Involvement Beyond the Father- Son Relationship

Editor's note: The following is excerpted from a web page of the Grand Lodge of Vermont at <https://vtfreemasons.org/when-your-husband-or-father-is-a-mason/>

“A family’s involvement in Freemasonry can go beyond the father-to-son relationship. There are Masonic youth organizations for the children including opportunities for both boys and girls. These organizations offer Masonic values designed to support the strong family values parents should have already instilled in their children. They offer special programs that focus on the needs of youth including social, athletic and self awareness programs.

[continues next page, see “Opportunities”]

["Opportunities," continued from page 4]

"There are organizations for adult women including Eastern Star a world class organization for women to which Masons may also be members.

"But Freemasonry is foremost a fraternity for men. As a result, every father hopes the day will come when he will stand with his son just as his father stood with him as he was welcomed into the Craft."

Masonic Recognition

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

Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)

Rogelio L. Soriano (2019)

Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2020-2021)

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)

Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (Imminently)

Alberto L. Casanova, Jr., PM (2016)

Keith S. Cotton (2017)

Bruce L. Ewald, PM (2011)

Bruce L. Hawley, PM (2000)**

David I. Karp (2020)

Barry Mann (2021)

John T. Seletos (2017)

Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)

Rogelio L. Soriano, PM (2018)

Steven A. Wolvek, PM (2019)

*A high honor presented to a Master Mason who has served the Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary.

** Deceased.

Jokes to Share with Family on Fathers' Day

Editor's note: The following come from the web page of Scout Life at <https://scoutlife.org/features/20917/20-funny-jokes-for-fathers-day/>. Attributions are on the page.

Caroline: When does a dad joke become a dad joke?

Jackson: I have no idea.

Caroline: When it becomes apparent.

Teacher (on phone): You say Michael has a cold and can't come to school today? To whom am I speaking?

Voice: This is my father.

Johnny's father: Let me see your report card.

Johnny: I don't have it.

Johnny's father: Why not?

Johnny: My friend just borrowed it. He wants to scare his parents.

Timmy: What did the daddy buffalo say to its son before it left for school?

Bob: Beats me.

Timmy: "Bison."

Erin: What did the mother bullet say to the daddy bullet?

Fran: What?

Erin: "We're gonna have a BB!"

Son: For \$20, I'll be good.

Dad: Oh, yeah? When I was your age, I was good for nothing.

Dan: I made a bad mistake today and gave my dad some soap flakes instead of corn flakes for breakfast.

Jan: Was he mad?

Dan: Yup. He was foaming at the mouth!



[This is a family.]

The Meaning of “Family”

Editor’s Note: The following is excerpted from “The Meaning of Family” by Kristin McCarthy, M.Ed., updated August 21, 2021, at <https://family.lovetoknow.com/about-family-values/meaning-family> .

“The word family is one of the most loosely defined terms in the English language; because it means something different to everyone. While one person may define family as the relatives who share their home, another may consider family to include extended relatives residing near and far. Still, someone else views their beloved circle of friends or their pets as family. Families are vastly different, but they all function under one single premise: shared love and commitment.” ...

“The dictionary defines family in several ways. One definition is ‘a fundamental social group in society typically consisting of one or two parents and their children.’ While this definition is a good starting point, several modern family structures are excluded by this definition, such as childless couples, friends as family, or many other variations of the family unit. Another definition is “Two or more people who share goals and values, have long-term commitments to one another and commonly

reside in the same dwelling.” Today there are many definitions of the concept of family, and all are equally wonderful and celebrated....

“The traditional family consists of a father, mother, and children. This is the nuclear family often shown on television as the familial standard. However, the 21st century showcases various family units, some very different from the standard unit of prior decades. Today, children are often raised in single-parent homes, by grandparents, or by LGBTQ+ parents. Some families opt to have no children or cannot have children due to medical or emotional barriers. The idea that parents and children make a family is a basic definition; however, to accurately acknowledge other family structures, a broader definition is necessary. In addition to a universal family definition, plenty of people consider a group of friends to be family, and many consider pets as defining members of the family unit. [¶] Who comprises a family is up to the people in the family themselves.”



[This is a family too.]



[And this is a family.]

Some Family Connections Within the Craft

I have already mentioned my family connections in the Craft on p. 1. In our Lodge, we have other connected family members: Bros. Gerald and Elvis Alvarez (cousins), Bros. Martin and Joseph Manalo (brothers), Bros. Akram and Rami Al-Awar (father/son), Bro. Allan Mandia (son of Brother Brigs of San Fernando 343), WB Steve Wolvek (brother of Bro. Phil of Conejo Valley 807), to name a few.

Bro. David Powell of Granada Hills Lodge and his father, Bro. Mike Powell of Southern California 539 and Desert Daylight 873, are occasional visitors to our Lodge. Bro. David's grandfather, Russell Powell, of Blessed Memory, was also an active Mason.

Moreover, at our Third Degree meeting on April 23, 2022, WB James Barros, Jr., PM of Vallee De France 329, who delivered the Lecture of the Master Mason's Degree so well, informed me that he would be raising his father to the Third Degree soon in his own Lodge and invited me to attend. He was so proud telling me this. (Unfortunately I am unable to attend.)

WB Barros' raising of his father led me to search on Google for other similar situations. Here are two:

On July 30, 2008, Bro. Nick Johnson wrote that he was inspired by his grandfather, a Mason, to join a lodge, and then Bro. Johnson inspired Bro. Johnson's own father to become a Mason, and that his father was later raised by his grandfather in his Lodge. There is a picture of the three of them - son, father and grandfather on the web blog of *The Millennial Freemason* at <http://www.millennialfreemason.com/2008/07/friom-son-to-father-from-father-to-son.html>.

Here is another family grouping from the internet, as reported under the title of *Double Ceremony for a Father and Son* dated 20 November 2016 in *Freemasonry Matters* at <https://freemasonrymatters.co.uk/latest-news-free>

[masonry/double-ceremony-for-a-father-and-son/](#)
"Bro Colin and Bro Adam Turner father and son became members of Justice-cum-Waldron Lodge number 4763 [United Grand Lodge of England] on 8 November in a special double ceremony. The father and son were escorted by another father and son team Bro Martin and Bro Mathew Eldridge the Lodge's Senior and Junior Deacons...."

From my own experiences sitting in Lodge with my father, I can say that those meetings we attended together (along with his cronies who sat with us) gave me some of the warmest and fondest feelings for my Dad and our Masonic connection. One day perhaps my son will become a Mason, but I cannot ask him to join. (On the other hand, he did join me for the presentation to me of the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award in Home Lodge 721 several years ago. See below.)

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp





[Bro. Joseph Chavez, shown here holding the Lodge's banner on 4/23/22 after being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, flanked by a few of his Lodge Brothers in attendance that day.]



[May 7, 2022, Stated Meeting]



Kinship in Freemasonry

“In today's world, it is difficult for men to come together in a way that enables them to develop true and lasting connections. Increasing demands from our careers and family makes camaraderie difficult to establish and maintain. Masons develop a connection built on shared beliefs and experiences. This creates a profound bond that transcends ordinary kinship^[1]. Brothers support and challenge one another, share knowledge and wisdom, and provide light and hope in times of darkness. As a Masonic brother, you will always have a network of peers who care about you, no matter the hardships you may face.” From the website of Massachusetts Freemasons at <https://massfreemasonry.org/brotherhood/> .



[Fellowcraft Degree Conferral upon Bros. Mark Cano and Ian Orquiola, 4/30/22. Congratulations Brothers!]

¹Kinship is “the state or fact of being of kin; family relationship.” <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/kinship> .



Announcing Our Golf Tournament, August 20, 2022, Knollwood

Not only does the upcoming Golf Tournament (details below) have a philanthropic goal, it ALSO serves as a family friendly event as well as a public awareness opportunity. That is terrific.

As the flyer indicates (affixed at the end of this newsletter), Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 presents its Second Annual Golf Tournament on August 20, 2022, at Knollwood Country Club, 12040 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344, starting at noon.

A portion of the proceeds will go towards supporting the Rainbow for Girls, Van Nuys Chapter (a separate Masonic organization for youth character and leadership development) and also supporting our Lodge's projects and activities.

The Green Fee is \$100.00 and there are other opportunities for paid sponsorships. Awards and fellowship will follow at our Lodge location.

You can contact any of the Brothers listed on the flyer for additional information and/or to make arrangements.

Be sure also to advertise this to your friends and family, your business colleagues, your social connections, and other members of the Craft. It should be a great experience for all involved.

See, e.g.

<https://patch.com/california/encino/masonic-lodge-plans-golf-tournament-nodx>. DIK

By the exercise of Brotherly Love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one *family*, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other. On this principle Masonry unites men of every country, sect and opinion; and causes true friendship to exist among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. - Monitor and Officers Manual.



Recent Fellowship Outside the Lodge

On Thursday, May 12, starting at 5PM, seven of us returned to Lulu's Restaurant and Sports Bar in Van Nuys for fellowship, food and liquid refreshment. This included Bros. Barry Mann., Bill Raddatz, Akram Al-Awar., Steve Engstrom., Ely Ayao, myself, and applicant Ryan L. This was the Lodge's first time back at Lulu's since the pandemic began. Good conversation and good times were had by all. There is a meaningful connection between the restaurant and the Craft inasmuch as one of the owners is a Brother Mason and very welcoming of us. We may make this a habit again. Next time will be June 9 if all goes well. Let's make it a bigger group! It's a family restaurant and "We Are Family!" DIK.



Some Other SoCal Events of Interest

June 4, 2022, 100 year Anniversary, Beverly Hills Lodge No. 525. Social 4PM, Ceremony 5:30PM, Dinner/Fellowship thereafter. Formal. See flyer on page 13. RSVP to Kenzi Smith, beverlyhillslodge538 -at- gmail -dot-com.

June 12, 2022 5-9PM Celebration of 124th Phillippines Independence Day with Menifee Valley Lodge No. 289. Contact Sec'y for more info at kjalvarez2126 -at- gmail -dot- com. RSVP@ 951-349-4957 text or voice mail.²

June 16, 2022, 6:30PM online California Masonic Symposium. See, <https://freemason.org/symposium/>

July 7, 2022, 7:10pm Filipino Heritage Night at Dodger Stadium. Contact WB Roger Soriano for info³.

July 9, 2022, CFS Breakfast at the Lodge. Contact Bro. Jhonny Lebrilla, SW, for info.

Sept. 22, 2022, 7:10pm Masons Night at Dodger Stadium. See <https://masonicfoundation.org/masons4mitts/> . Contact Bro. Barry Mann for info.

Oct. 8 CFS Table Lodge?

²We proudly note that our very diverse multi-cultural membership includes a sizable group who trace their roots to the Phillippines and that we give our support to the AAPI community without equivocation or mental reservation.. See also, <https://patch.com/california/encino/valley-masonic-lodge-sends-typhoon-relief-philippines-nodx> .

³See fn. 2, above.

May was Public Awareness Month

As decreed by our Grand Master, May was Public Awareness Month. Notwithstanding the absence of an Open House in May, the Lodge's efforts for public awareness continued unabated as follows via online media:

Name change of our public awareness page on Facebook to "Visiting with Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge" at

<https://www.facebook.com/Visiting-with-Clarence-F-Smith-Daylight-Lodge-108895338421743>;

Continuing posts on that page;

Advertisements from that page promoting our website (<http://clarencfsmith.org>) resulting, in the last 30 days preceding this article, with 2,299 men "reached" within a short radius of the Lodge; 113 post engagements; and 109 Link clicks;

Overall statistics for the above page in the last 28 days preceding this article also include: 41 page views; 193 post engagements, 5 new page followers, etc.;

Published articles on patch.com promoting (1) the Lodge's selection of WB Celso Cardano for the Hiram Award; and (2) the Lodge's forthcoming golf tournament. (See, <https://patch.com/california/encino/celso-v-cardano-jr-named-2022-hiram-award-recipient-nodx>; <https://patch.com/california/encino/masonic-lodge-plans-golf-tournament-nodx> .

Many of the above digital items were shared via Facebook by our members and it is highly recommended that the Brethren continue to share these and other posts with their family, friends, business and social contacts, as this benefits the Lodge in the short and long term. DIK.



Materials Received from Grand Lodge

Just prior to this edition's publication, the Lodge received some printed materials for our use. They include some back issues of our Grand Lodge's *California Freemason* magazine and a new booklet entitled *Opening the Door: A Simple Guide to Understanding and Talking About Freemasonry*.

Ours might be among the first of California's Lodges to receive the new booklet.

Even absent an open house event, they will be useful when we have visitors interested in learning more about Freemasonry and our Lodge.

The booklet is also useful for Masonic Education purposes to explain what we can, and cannot say, to prospective members. It is very thorough.

Maybe ask for the booklet, read it first, and then pass it along to a prospective member who might ask you about Masonry.

Special thanks goes to the Communications Team at Grand Lodge for providing these materials for us. DIK.



From our Secretary

Here is something I read and wanted to share with you. It is excerpted from "The Masonic Family Welcomes your Family to Freemasonry" at <https://stlawrencemasons.tripod.com/>.

"What is the purpose of Masonry? The main purpose of Masonry is to take good men and assist them in becoming better husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. Masonry does this by keeping them exposed to moral and ethical teachings and by consistently asking them to consider important character building issues.

One of most important concerns is what each Mason gives back to his community. Masonry's cornerstone is charity. Approximately two million dollars a day is given to charity by all Masonic organizations combined. In short, by improving ourselves we are placed in a better position to help others. Should the Mason in your family becomes ill or hospitalized, please take a moment to call the Secretary or Master of his Lodge. You will be amazed at the support he and the family will receive. Taking care of Brother Masons and their families is a labor of love for a Mason.

Masons help in good times too! Inquire about scholarships for college bound teens, housing and care for senior family members, and Masonic Youth Camps for children. There are many ways in which Masons live out their way of life.

It is up to each Masonic Family to choose its own way to contribute. How can your Family be involved in Masonry? Some of the countless ways that your family can be involved in the Masonic family include:

- Attending Lodge sponsored functions such as public programs, parties, dinners, tours and civic programs.
- Working with the Lodge at its various charitable events such as fund drives, bike rodeos, child identification programs, blood drives, drug and alcohol prevention programs, telethons, and private charitable work such as visiting the sick and tending to the needs of widows.
- Becoming familiar with the full family of Masonry which includes Eastern Star, Amaranth and Daughters of the Nile for women, DeMolay [continues on next page, see "Secretary"]

["Secretary," continued from p. 11]
for teenage boys, Constellation of Junior Stars, Rainbow and Triangle for teenage girls. All of these groups provide the wholesome environment which springs from Masonry....

It is our sincerest hope that you will be proud of your Mason and of your family's involvement in Masonry. We welcome you with our hearts! The Masonic Family Welcomes Your Family to Freemasonry! ..."

Fraternally,
Bro. Akram Al-Awar
Secretary

Improving our Diversity – An Opinion Piece

Diversity is one of the major themes of the Grand Lodge's 2025 Strategic Plan; and, as suggested above on p. 10 fn. 2, we as a Lodge are very fortunate and proud to be a prime example of Masonic diversity and inclusion with our present, very mixed composition. We're doing great; nevertheless, we can always improve.

When I was in a prior Lodge, its cultural homogeneity was palpable, and although we were mostly alike, that presented its own issues, which might have included making others feel uncomfortable, out of place, or unwelcome.

By contrast, and thankfully, Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge is comprised mostly of men not like me at all, many from disparate parts of the world. It has been both enlightening and refreshing to become friends with my Lodge Brothers and to share in and learn about our different cultural experiences, traditions and so forth.

One of Freemasonry's sayings is that "Masonry is a brotherhood of like-minded men who genuinely care about one another" and we promote this concept. This poses its own risks, however.

Each of us has a natural tendency to gravitate towards like-minded people in our own cultural groups when we are out in the world for

instance in our neighborhoods, places of worship, and/or in our social circles and the ones in our respective circles outside the Lodge are likely similar to ourselves in so many ways, probably sharing our own interests, beliefs and backgrounds. When we introduce them to Freemasonry, this potentially insular grouping can create the same inherent difficulty that I suspect my prior lodge faced with its homogeneity perhaps making others feel uncomfortable, out of place, or unwelcome.

This difficulty has a name: "affinity bias." When we welcome people just like us to the Lodge, there is a tendency towards emphasizing our own normal, inherent, innocent, unintentional, implicit biases.

I think this is why Grand Lodge wisely says in its 2025 Strategic Plan that each Lodge should strive to "[c]ultivate and embrace a culture of inclusion. Lodges will prioritize diversity and inclusivity in communications with members, prospects, and the public. This includes: [s]tressing the principles and best practices of diversity and inclusion, especially their fundamental role in Freemasonry, [and making] diversity an important consideration in prospecting new members...."(Strategic Plan, p. 6)

The Strategic Plan also notes: "[O]ur market research has revealed that we can do a better job of welcoming and admitting people of all backgrounds and races. For example, the Latino population is under-represented in our membership, even though our Latino prospects report higher levels of enthusiasm about the fraternity than any other group." (*Id.* at p. 5).

If we are careful and intentional in the composition of our membership, we may not fall into the trap of our own "affinity biases." We can reach out to people outside of our social circles, particularly to people not like us, and our Lodge's objectives of diversity and inclusion will be enhanced even further. That's what our social media campaign can do/has done. But know this: we are exemplary in diversity nevertheless.

Fraternally, Bro. David I. Karp, Editor

Here is our flyer for the Golf tournament.

**CLARENCE F SMITH DAYLIGHT
LODGE #866
2ND ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
KNOLLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB**

AUG 20, 2022 12040 BALBOA BLVD, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344
TEE TIME: 12:00
GREEN FEE: \$100

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND SPONSORSHIP
PLEASE CONTACT:**

BRO FERNANDICO GONONG (310) 570-0795
BRO ELY AYAO (818) 335-5919
BRO BRIGGS MANDIA (818) 419-8366
BRO RAMIEL MALABANAN (661) 755-8094
BRO BARRY MANN (818) 231-4856

**ZELLE OR VENMO PAYMENTS TO:
BRO JHONNY LEBRILLA (818) 266-3532**

**AWARDING AND
FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW AT
VAN NUYS MASONIC LODGE
14750 SHERMAN WAY**

**Includes:
18 Holes of Golf
Golf Cart
Trophies
Raffle Prizes**

**CLOSEST TO THE PIN
LONGEST DRIVE
\$10,000 HOLE IN ONE
LOW NET
LOW GROSS 1ST & 2ND**

**Portion of the proceeds will go towards support of the Rainbow
For Girls Van Nuys Chapter and continue to support lodge
projects and activities**

Here is Beverly Hills Lodge’s flyer.

Beverly Hills Lodge #528
Free & Accepted Masons of the State of California

cordially invites you to the

BEVERLY HILLS LODGE #528
100 YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1922-2022

Saturday, June 4, 2022
Social 4:00 PM
Ceremony 5:30 PM
Dinner & Fellowship follows after

Westchester Masonic Center
7726 W Manchester Ave.
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

Attire: Tux for Officers
Business Formal/Dinner Dress for Guests

RSVP To: Kenzi Smith
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