

In the



Daylight

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

April 2023

Just for the Fun of It

Foreword...

Masonry is social and it's fun, not only formal and ritualistic. In this Lodge, we do get together for fun social occasions, not just business and degree meetings. I believe this to be our sitting Master's priority, that is, to create more meaningful and enjoyable experiences for Lodge members and their families.

Such a priority is encouraged by the Grand Lodge of California in its 2025 Strategic Plan:

"The main purpose of a lodge is social, but lodge business has long been the focus of many lodges' stated meetings. Lodges [are encouraged to] develop ways to ensure that members' valuable time is respected, and that less time is spent on administrative matters, and more time given to fellowship."

Also,

"[Lodges are encouraged to] re-imagine lodge activities. Lodges [should] plan activities that provide more opportunities for social and fraternal connections among members."

At Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge this year, we have already had some outstanding and fun experiences: a big party following January's Installation Ceremony; a delightful Sweethearts Dinner in February; this month a family day possibly bowling. More is on the way, including a Golf Tournament in June.

There are other ways in which our Lodge can have fun. Our monthly informal restaurant dinners are one way, and quite nice (see p. 10).

This April edition, on its own, is another. Enjoy reading it: just for the fun of it.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp, Editor.

April 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.)

March 30, 2023, 7PM – Exec. Comm. Mtg. on Zoom

April 1, 2023, 11AM – Stated Mtg. Dress: formal. Lunch donation \$10.

April 8, 2023 – Dark, but see p. 10.

April 15, 2023 – Second Degree Practice

April 18, 2023, 7PM – OSI, Van Nuys 450

April 22, 2023 – Second Degree (2X)

April 29, 2023 – Family Day (bowling)

Postponed until May – CFS Dinner Group at a restaurant – will be announced via Facebook

Looking Ahead to May

May 4, 2023, 7PM – Exec. Comm. Mtg. on Zoom

May 6, 2023, 11AM – Stated Mtg. Dress: formal. Lunch donation \$10.

May 13, 2023 – Degree meeting

May 20, 2023 – TBD

May 27, 2023 – Dark (Labor Day weekend)

Not yet determined – CFS Dinner Group at a restaurant – will be announced via Facebook

CFS Daylight's Officers for 2023

Worshipful Master
Wor. Fernando ("Jhonny") O. Lebrilla, Jr.
Senior Warden
Bro. Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan
Junior Warden Bro. Gerald J. Alvarez
Treasurer Bro. Ramiel Malabanan
Asst. Treasurer Bro. Eli Ayao
Secretary Bro. Akram Al-Awar
Asst. Secretary
Bro. Thomas ("Tom") K. Sheehan
Chaplain Bro. Virgilio ("Virgil") A.
Maravillas, Sr.
Senior Deacon
WB Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig., PM
Junior Deacon Bro. Elvis L. Alvarez
Marshal Bro. Hamood Hamood
Senior Steward Bro. Raffi Hovhannisyan
Junior Steward Bro. Joseph R. Chavez
Organist Bro. Mark G. Cano
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

Contact information:

Master: Worshipful, Jhonny Lebrilla

Sec'y: Bro. Akram Al-Awar



**The Tiler's
Dilemma**

It was Saturday, April 1, 2000, and one of the Texas Daylight Lodges was meeting that day. A few tricksters were members of the Lodge and realized the date coincidence.

Surreptitiously, two such comedians, the Senior and Junior Deacons respectively, removed the Tiler's sword and replaced it with a rope and a garden rake.

The Tiler was perplexed. He had no idea about the rake, but thought maybe the rope represented "the Mystic Tie" about which he had recently read a description at <https://porchwaylodge7027.co.uk/masonic-glossary-of-terms/> :

"The Mystic Tie is the sacred and inviolable bond which unites men into one band of brothers, which gives but one language to men of all nations and one altar to men of all religions, [it] is properly, from the mysterious influence it exerts, denominated the mystic tie. Freemasons, because they alone are under this influence, or enjoy its benefits, are called 'Brethren of the mystic tie.'"

Or maybe the rope represented a form of Cable Tow also described in the same source:

"A Cable Tow is ... a rope or line for drawing or leading. Gaedicke, says that, 'according to the ancient laws of Freemasonry, every brother must attend his Lodge if he is within the length of his cable tow.' The old writers define the length of a cable tow, which they sometimes called, 'a cable's length,' to be

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three miles for an Entered Apprentice. But the expression is really symbolic and really means the scope of a man's reasonable ability to attend a Lodge meeting or duty. In our case this ranges from brethren living within 5 minutes drive, to some who travel close 1.5 hours such is the special bond the Lodge has with them."

That couldn't be it either, he thought, not a Cable Tow. The rope was too long; it was more like one used as a lasso. This was a Texas Lodge after all.

But he really had no idea why he had both a rope and a rake and no Tiler's sword at hand.

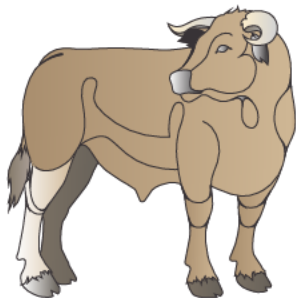
It wasn't until he heard the Junior Deacon's description of the Tiler's duty that day that he understood. The Junior Deacon said:

"His duty is to observe the approach of cowhands and leaf-droppers...."

The Tiler was not impressed.

Fraternally,

Bro. Seymour Bull; Ft. Worth, Texas



The Third Meaning of the Letter "G"

“Freemasons have ... long turned to nature to help create and contextualize our philosophies. Acacia, an evergreen tree that can be found throughout Africa and the middle east, is a prime example. Given its rich history and significance within Judaism, this tree is an interesting symbol worthy of closer examination.” See, the Grand Lodge of Ohio's page at <https://www.freemason.com/acacia-tree/>. See also,

https://www.chabad.org/library/bible_cdo/aid/9898/jewish/Chapter-37.htm [“Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood.” (Exodus 37:1 et seq.)].

This is the Ark of the Covenant which was placed “into the Holy of Holies (Sanctum Sanctorum) in Solomon's Temple after it was built.” GL Ohio, *supra*.

It becomes obvious to a Degree candidate, then, that the Acacia is also significant in Freemasonry:

After being raised a Master Mason, one such candidate pointed to the letter “G” suspended over the Oriental Chair in the East and said, “Now I understand more fully.”

“The Letter ‘G’ stands for ‘Gee, I'm a Tree.’”

Fraternally,

Bro. G. Whizz; Lone Tree, Colorado



CFS Daylight's 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)
Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan (2022)

Past Masters by Affiliation

Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig, (2021)
Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr. (2012)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2012)
Alberto L. Casanova, Jr. (2014)
Omar Cervantes (2021)
Emmanuel D. Espiritu (2014)
Bruce L. Ewald (2004-2006)
Bruce L. Hawley (1984)*
Luc Paul, Jr. (2018)

Past Masters who are "Honorary Members"

Jovito ("Jovi") R. Rivera (2017)
Timoteo ("Tim") Zuniga (2020)

Hiram Award (for dedicated Service)

Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig (2022)
Demetrio C. Cahapisan, Jr., PM (2013)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2022)
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)

Peace and Harmony in Lodge

One of the Lodge's sideliners gave a Masonic Education lecture in Lodge about peace and harmony.

Citing to an article written by *Midnight Freemason* Contributor, Bro. Brian Schimian (see,

<http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2016/03/peace-and-harmony.html>), the lecturer quoted:

"Peace and Harmony in Lodge is ... a pillar of the degree work. If you look at the teachings of all three degrees, you will find that topic repeated, either directly or through ritual and symbolism."

The sideliner droned on, during which time the Junior Warden, one of the Lodge's eldest brethren and hard-of-hearing, seemingly dozed off.

Seeing that his Brother had nodded off, the lecturer directed a question to him to rouse him.

(As you know, the Junior Warden's duty is to arrange meals for the lodge. See, <https://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/lodge-officer-duties.html> .)

Awakened from his apparent nap, the Junior Warden, who hadn't been paying close attention, responded:

"Yes, of course, I can serve peas and hominy with next week's meal if that's what you want. Very healthy."

Not surprised, the lecturer said nothing further to maintain peace and harmony and ended the presentation.

Fraternally,

Bro. Harmon E.; Detruth, Minnesota

The Freemasons' Tartan

According to the website at <https://masonictartan.com/>, “[i]n 2004, The Grand Lodge of Utah sponsored the design and production of a Tartan fabric that would represent Freemasonry in Utah as well as elsewhere. Scottish Tartan plaids have been used for centuries by Scottish clans as a means of identifying and unifying families across the country. This tartan was designed with the family of Freemasonry in mind.... The colors in the cloth were carefully chosen to represent the various Masonic family organizations including but not limited to the Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine of North America, Job's Daughters International, DeMolay International, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile and et cetera.”

A Brother Mason from Utah was visiting a Lodge in New Jersey, wearing a tartan as described. Seeing these habiliments, the Worshipful Master quipped, “I see we have a dis-dressed worthy Brother Mason among us.”

Fraternally,
Bro. Harry Legz
Short Hills, New Jersey

Brother Jack Horner sat in a corner eating his apple pie. He stuck in a thumb and pulled out a plumb and said, “Huh, must have been made by a Mason.”

Another Brother added, “Must have been the fruit of his labor.”

-Anon.



The Instrument Store and its Neighbor Doing Business

You probably know that an accordion is “a portable keyboard wind instrument in which the wind is forced past free reeds by means of a hand-operated bellows.”

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/accordion> .

“The accordion was introduced from Germany into Britain in about the year 1828.[fn] The instrument was noted in The Times in 1831 as one new to British audiences [fn] and was not favourably reviewed, but nevertheless it soon became popular.[fn] It had also become popular with New Yorkers by the mid-1840s.[fn]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion> .

Accordions were prominent on the Lawrence Welk Show on TV many years ago. Between 1950 and 1980, the star accordionist was Myron Floren, who was highly regarded by Lawrence Welk.

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

Welk was a Brother Elk, not a Mason so far as this writer can tell.

<http://www.elks572.org/history/origins.html> .

Many people have disliked accordions after Welk’s time, and perhaps these instruments have fallen out of favor. Music stores have had slumping sales of them.

One store in New York City operated by Timothy Dooley, with declining sales of [continues on next page]

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accordions, had a law office next door to it. The solo practitioner there, James Trooly, did estate plans, wills and trusts and so forth. He, too, was having a tough time getting business with so much competition.

One day Trooly, the lawyer, and Dooley, the music store owner, were having coffee, as they did frequently, especially when business was slow. They ruminated about what they could do to increase traffic to their respective store front operations.

They decided on a bit of a joint venture.

Although both were continuing to charge for their respective products, accordions on the one hand and living trusts etc. on the other hand, they came up with a gimmick and posted a sign on each of their windows facing the street.

It said: "Buy One Get One: Free will and accordion."

The signs were Dooley and Trooly prepared and business improved for both.

Respectfully submitted,
O. Noh, NYC

Now, Beyond the "Funny" Stuff

The following articles are genuinely important regarding the work of our Lodge and our lives as men and Masons. DIK



[Shown above are books atop one another.]

Children's Book Drive Now Through End of August

This effort supports the Lodge's charitable goals, its care for public education and literacy, and its commitment to public awareness of the fraternity and its endeavors to improve the world.

This year we are collecting
NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS (K-5).

The plan is to present or deliver the collected books in conjunction with our Public Schools program now scheduled for September 9, 2023.

Drop-off Book collection will take place at the Lodge on the following Saturdays: April 1, May 6, June 3, July 8 and possibly August 5.

In other words, please bring your book donations to our Stated Meetings through August.

Alternatively at any time up through August, you can order from Amazon or any other source and have the order shipped to David I. Karp, 6311 Van Nuys Blvd. 409, Van Nuys, CA 91401) or to Bro. David's home (address is in iMember2.0) for receipt by August 31.

Two books each from each member should suffice. We plan to provide them to Noble Avenue Elementary School.

Thanks. Bro. David I. Karp, Book Drive Chr.





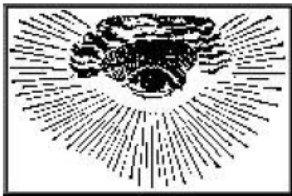
CFS Daylight Masons Quickly Came Together for a Charitable Purpose. It Was an Emergency.

Every Mason, within his means and so far as he can do so without serious injury to himself or family, commits to helping another Mason in distress. Charity is a fundamental responsibility of each Mason. It is the relief suggested as one of Masonry's three principal tenets (i.e., Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth).

Wor. Bro. Mark Torrez, 39, Master of Oxnard Lodge No. 341, suffered a horrible fall while on a hike this year in February. Local Masons rushed to his aid with charitable donations to help him and his family manage the extraordinary medical and other expenses that arise from such a tragic event.

More than \$1,000.00 was collected for Wor. Bro. Mark from members of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge.

We will continue to keep him in our hearts and thoughts as he travels the rough and rugged road to recovery. DIK.



We Will Have an Open House / Information Meeting June 10. You can help.

Our Open House / Information Meeting is scheduled to take place on June 10. Every Mason in this Lodge can help even before then.

According to the Grand Lodge's 2025 Strategic Plan, Masons do not spend enough time or energy talking to others about our Craft. We are empowered to speak about our experiences as Masons, our goals to help ourselves and other people, our social activities, the friendships we have made and so much more. We just do not talk about what occurs in our degree ceremonies and in the California Cipher.

So, what can you do? Talk to others, promote Freemasonry and our Lodge. Invite these people to our Open House: friends, family members, business associates, even strangers on the street who ask you about your Masonic ring, jacket, hat, car decal, or pin. Give them a copy of the flyer for the event. Share the flyer on social media. To do so, download the flyer from this Facebook page :

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Visiting-with-Clarence-F-Smith-Daylight-Lodge/100081085024328/> . Or ask Bro. David to send it to you via email.

What else can you do? Attend the Open House, help with putting on the event, ask for and distribute copies of Grand Lodge's booklet called "Opening the Door," and above all, enjoy the fellowship, camaraderie, and good deeds that make us who we are.

All of it promotes our Lodge and contributes to our Positive Awareness Campaign.

Fraternally, Bro. David I. Karp, Event Chair.

PS On March 4, 2023, Wor. Jhonny announced that a fund-raising breakfast will precede the Open House on June 10. Look for more info later when available. DIK.



Breaking News – June Golf Tournament

The Master of our Lodge, Wor. Jhonny Lebrilla, has declared that the Lodge's 2023 Golf Tournament will take place at Knollwood Country Club, 12040 Balboa Blvd, Granada Hills, CA 91344, on June 17, 2023, starting at 10:00AM. As in prior years, a portion of the net proceeds of the event will be directed for charitable purposes and the rest to support Lodge activities and events. Green fee, sponsorship and donation opportunities will be announced later when available. For any other information, please contact the Master, Wor. Jhonny, or the Event Chair, Bro. Ely. at 818-335-5919 or elyyao@gmail.com.

For the Children

Editor's Note: As we begin our Children's Book Drive (see p. 6) leading up to our Public Schools event on September 9, I was also thinking that April 1, relatedly, is "National Love our Children Day," which honors all children and encourages the development of respectful relationships with and for our children. See, <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-love-our-children-day-first-saturday-in-april/>.

In their schools, they will likely experience alienating behaviors and sometimes cliques will form. They should be aware. See the following article. DIK.



Some Advice for Teens on Cliques.

Another note: The following is excerpted from an interesting online article at <https://abrighterday.info/6-golden-rules-for-dealing-with-cliques/>.

"There is a pretty good chance that you'll have to deal with cliques sometime during middle school, high school, or college. Believe it or not, cliques can even form in adult groups.... If you've ever felt left out, you already know how unpleasant (and sometimes very hurtful) it can be....

"We develop friendships with people [with] whom we share things in common. Friends feel supported and welcomed because of their similar interests.... A clique is a group of friends who don't socialize outside of the 'in-group.' That means that they leave people out on purpose.... It's rare that they will allow an outside[r] into the group....

"Generally speaking, we all want to feel like we belong. People join cliques not because they're mean or malicious, but simply because they want to find friends who are similar to them and who share their interests.

"Just remember it takes character strength and integrity to be the bigger person! It's always better to be friendly, inclusive, and welcoming....

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“When you limit yourself to one group, you might limit yourself to the beliefs, values, and interests of that one group as is often the case with cliques.

“Having friends from all walks of life makes life much more interesting! You might discover new things about yourself while learning about all types of cultures and subcultures (and their values and beliefs).”

[Many of our Brothers have younger children. This is something to talk about with them as they grow up to become the people we want them to be. We are their role models and guides in this regard. DIK.]



[A few of the Brothers of CFS Daylight 866 on March 11, 2023, at Del Mar Beach, expressing the April theme of this newsletter: “For the Fun of It.”]



[First Degree, February 25, 2023. Congrats to Bro. Earl.]

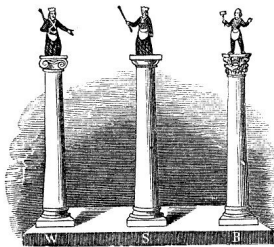


[First Degree, March 14, 2023. Congrats to Bro. Arman. Pictured are a few of our Brothers from CFS Daylight who attended this initiation for our Brother hosted as a courtesy by another Lodge.]





[More fun with the Brothers of our Lodge The “official” CFS Dinner Group enjoying a Lebanese Feast, March 15, 2023]



From the East

Brethren,
Although the Lodge is dark on April 8, 2023, you can still fill the day with Masonry at UCLA where the 11th Annual International Conference on Freemasonry will take place. Its theme is “From the Attic of the Grand Lodge.” For further information and to register, go to <http://freemason.org/ucla/>.

The Spring Holidays are upon us; Happy Holidays for all who celebrate.

Fraternally, [by DIK for]
Wor. Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr.
Master

From the West

Brethren,
I have updated our website at <http://clarencefsmith.org>. Please visit it and share the link with your friends, family, and other contacts as a part of our Public Awareness campaign.

See you in Lodge.
Fraternally, [by DIK for],
Bro. Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan
Senior Warden.

From the South

Brethren,
I would like to announce that we will celebrate all the Brothers' "Birthdays" monthly, starting with the March and April Birthdays at the April Stated Meeting. I will order cake for all the celebrants, just a simple token that I can give to all Brothers to express “how good and pleasant it is” for us to be together as one family. I encourage everyone to support our Lodge and come to our Stated Meetings so our newer members will know them. I been here for two years but I haven't seen everybody yet and I would like the chance to greet them. Also, I will bring the Lodge T-Shirt pictured below (\$30) this coming Stated Meeting. A portion of the money collected will be donated to the Lodge.

Fraternally,
Bro. Gerald Alvarez
Junior Warden

