

# In the



# Daylight

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

December '22 (Winter Ed.)

## Collaboration

### Foreword ...

It's back, "In the Daylight" is back, but maybe quarterly or even just when the mood strikes. No promises however.

This edition's theme is collaboration. To me collaboration means working together toward common goals. Our goals include improving ourselves, our Lodge, and the community in which we live. I would like to focus on how we can improve our Lodge in a collaborative fashion.

Collaboration in the Lodge requires joint effort, not just among the officers but also among the sideliners (like me). What is it we can do, together, to improve the Lodge?

I would say the answer includes both "voluntariness" and "enthusiasm."

I saw enthusiasm in the way new members clamored to become Master Masons so they could attend the 2022 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California. And I observed even more enthusiasm as they participated; yes, I saw those pictures of Lodge members having a great time together in San Francisco.

Enthusiasm fades however if not supported by others in the Lodge. Officers must encourage participation from all members, especially but not only the enthusiastic ones. Members must create a culture of inclusion that brings about enthusiastic volunteerism. There are so many ways a sideliner can help: become a mentor to someone new; attend degrees and support new members; compliment them on their ritual and the work they may do for the lodge; solicit their

opinion on activities the Lodge might do, get them involved!.

And make sure their efforts are voluntary. This is the "voluntariness" component. We are all members because we want to be, and no one likes to be cornered or pushed into doing something he is not ready to do. As a Mason for 32 years now, it took many years until I was ready to offer active assistance in a Masonic Lodge. Each one of us must "wait a time with patience" until the time is right to contribute.

On the other hand, I applaud the new members who have enthusiastically "jumped in" to leadership roles, whether or not as officers.

Let's create enthusiasm and voluntariness in the ensuing Masonic year and beyond. Congrats to the newly elected officers and to all those members who are striving to make the Lodge the best it can be.

Fraternally,  
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor.

### DUES NOTICE

Per our Secretary, 2023 dues will be \$161.00. To avoid an online processing fee, send your dues via Zelle directly to the Lodge bank account. Email address is [Cfsjuniorwarden@gmail.com](mailto:Cfsjuniorwarden@gmail.com). Or mail a check, payable to Clarence F. Smith Daylight No. 866, directly to the Secretary. His address is in iMember2.0 if you don't have it.

## Collaboration Defined

“**Collaboration** (from Latin *com-* "with" + *laborare* "to labor", "to work") is the process of two or more people, entities or organizations working together to complete a task or achieve a goal.[fn.] Collaboration is similar to cooperation. Most collaboration requires leadership, ... although the form of leadership can be social within a decentralized and egalitarian group.[fn.] Teams that work collaboratively often access greater resources, recognition and rewards when facing competition for finite resources.[fn.]”

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



## What Does Collaboration Involve?

“Collaboration at the conceptual level involves:

**Awareness** We become part of a working entity with a shared purpose.

**Motivation** We drive to gain consensus in problem-solving or development.

**Self-synchronization** We decide as individuals when things need to happen.

**Participation** We participate in collaboration and we expect others to participate.

**Mediation** We negotiate and we collaborate together and find a middle point.

**Reciprocity** We share and we expect sharing in return through reciprocity.

**Reflection** We think and we consider alternatives.

**Engagement** We proactively engage rather than wait and see..

“Collaboration relies on openness and knowledge sharing but also some level of focus and accountability on the part of the [organization.] Governance should be established

addressing the creation and closing of [teams] with the assignment of responsibility for capturing the emergent results of the collaborative effort.”

<https://www.aiim.org/what-is-collaboration>

(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.)

**December 1, 2022**, 7PM – Exec. Comm. on Zoom

**December 3, 2022** – 10AM. Masonic Scouter Award (public invited) preceding tiled Stated Mtg. Formal dress. Light refreshments for non-Masons. Lunch after Stated Mtg., donation \$10.

**December 10, 2022** – TBD

**December 14, 2022**, 6PM – Fellowship at Lulu’s  
**December 17, 2022** – Van Nuys 450 Installation of officers, 3PM, CFS invited. Holiday Party 6PM w/ VN450.

**December 24 and 31** – Lodge Dark.

### Looking Ahead to January

**January 5, 2023**, 7PM – Exec. Comm. on Zoom

**January 7, 2023** – Stated Mtg. Bus. Casual. Lunch donation \$10.

**January 11, 2023**, 6PM – Fellowship at Lulu’s

**January 14, 2023** – TBD (degree or practice?)

**January 18, 2023** – Capt. Clarence Smith’s 140<sup>th</sup> Birthday (1883)

**January 21, 2023** – Installation of Officers

**January 28, 2023** – TBD

For a related and interesting article, see “How to be a Good Leader” from the Grand Lodge of Maine, A.F. & A.M. at <https://www.mainemason.org/resources/how-to-be-a-good-leader/>.

## Success in Teamwork

Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from an article by *Midnight Freemason* Contributor, Bro. Randy Sanders, at <http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2022/10/success-in-teamwork.html>

"I am blessed to have ... friends and Brothers [who helped me with a personal task I could not handle on my own], and these gentlemen displayed teamwork and applied their experience in many ways. They assessed the situation, observed obstacles to be overcome, removed or remedied the obstacles, created a plan to move forward, and executed the plan with only one minor adjustment made on the fly. I couldn't be prouder to showcase such dedication and teamwork ... and I believe it applies to our everyday Masonic objectives.

"We Masons meet with a bonding of fraternal ties. We work together within this fraternity, doing together what we as individuals may struggle to accomplish. We make something greater than the sum of the parts of our individuality. There showcases the lesson.

"Just as my Brothers and friends came together to assist me in a task, we took away something greater than the task itself. We took away an experience, a moment in time, where we met, found commonality and friendship, and worked together to accomplish a goal. I see the need in Freemasonry to approach membership in committees in the same light. I see the need to partner with our Grand Officers, Masters, and Wardens in the same light. I see the need to partner with our external outreach to charity and other functions in that same light of teamwork and joy.

"...Our gift is the fraternity of working with each other to be part of the greater good.

"... I believe we should rethink how committees and groups are meeting in this busy world. We should consider meeting over dinner or at least meeting socially while focusing on the goal of the meeting. The rewards of the efforts,

while in the fraternity of the task, should always be recognized and celebrated too, right?"

### CFS Daylight's 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 Al-Awar  
 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



## Fulfilling our Obligations

“Fulfilling our Obligations” is the 2023 theme of our newly installed Grand Master, Randall Brill. To me, however, these words are capable of meaning that we MUST do certain things, or we SHOULD do certain things, and not that we WANT to do certain things.

Truly, although Freemasonry is an individual journey for each of us alone, our obligations as Masons go beyond ourselves. They require a good dose of selflessness. This is apparent from the pledges we utter during our degree ceremonies.

But being COMPELLED to do certain things violates the “voluntariness” I spoke of in the Foreword. We should WANT to do certain things of our own free will and accord, based however upon a Masonic code of conduct inculcated in our own hearts, minds and character.

And our obligations go beyond our commitment to the Lodge. What about those things we WANT to do with or for our families or our customers or clients, or friends and neighbors?

To me Freemasonry should not be obligatory. There is a great sense of satisfaction in voluntarily doing for others what our consciences require. Our conduct comes from our character, and that is where, in my mind, Masonry fits in.

Masonry give us the tools to improve our character and to WANT to do things for others. This includes helping the Lodge, looking after our Brothers and our families “in sickness as in health,” taking care to do a good job for customers and clients and so forth.

So, don't let the Grand Masters edict to fulfill our obligations speak too narrowly to you and disarm you from your own chosen path, not only to help yourself but also, as the Scouts say, “to help other people at all times.”

The great sage, Hillel, famously said: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am

only for myself, who am I? If not now, when?" *Ethics of the Fathers*, 1:14.

These are wise words as we go forth in the world to “fulfill our obligations” in whatever way we understand the Grand Master’s pronouncement to mean.

Fraternally, Bro. David I. Karp, Ed.

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 Wor. Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr.  
 Senior Warden  
 Bro. Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan  
 Junior Warden Bro. Gerald J. Alvarez  
 Treasurer Bro. Ramiel Malabanan  
 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

## Teamwork Makes the Difference.

**E**ditor's Note: The following is excerpted from a long discourse available at

[http://www.themasonictrowel.com/masonic\\_talk/stb/stbs/72-05.htm](http://www.themasonictrowel.com/masonic_talk/stb/stbs/72-05.htm) .

“To keep active men interested in anything, they must be given something to do that interests them. To arbitrarily appoint them to some existing committee defeats the purpose you are trying to achieve. They aren't going to work at something in which they have no interest.

“How do we determine what interests a man? By asking him!

“This simple solution is far too often overlooked.. As a candidate is working with his instructor and, hopefully, his Mentor, the Teams working for the Lodge should be explained to him. He should be asked to think about the Team he would like to work with after he is raised. If the one he wants to work with doesn't exist, start a new one! It just might turn out to be the boot the Lodge needs.

“A TEAM, properly balanced with men of differing opinions and knowledge, cannot be static. It must move forward. It will be dynamic. It will set goals for itself that no Master, or any other leader, would dare to. In endeavoring to reach those goals it will create enthusiasm in the whole Lodge.

...

“Teamwork is constructive. It puts plans into effect. It achieves goals. It takes constructive leadership.... The chairman of a committee can manipulate his members; the leader of a TEAM cannot. If he tries to, he will soon have no Team to manipulate.

“There are certain criteria that should be considered in selecting men for the various Teams: Willingness to serve; Ability; Temperament; Time available for the task; Skills; Experience; Training; Capacity to learn.

...

“The number of Teams necessary will vary for every Lodge. The number of members needed on a Team will differ according to the situation. It should be the goal of each Lodge to have every resident member actively participate on one or more Teams....

“Every man is an individual. We all know this, but we tend to forget it. Every man has his likes and dislikes. Every man has ideas that will benefit his Lodge and Freemasonry in general. No one can benefit from ideas that are kept buried. By utilizing Teams, by encouraging each member to serve where he is best qualified, ideas will be flushed out into the open. All of us will be the beneficiaries.

“If we must continue to appoint committees, let's do it-BUT let's make them work as TEAMS.

“Try it. You'll find that Teamwork does make the difference - the difference between success and failure, between stagnation and dynamic growth.”



[Stated Meeting, November 5, 2022]





Bro. Steven  
Engstrom to  
Receive the  
Daniel Carter  
Beard Masonic  
Scouter Award,  
Dec. 3

Masons and non-Masons (including those affiliated with Scouts BSA) will come together on December 3, 2022, 10:15 A.M., at Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M., located at 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405, for a formal public ceremony at which the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award will be presented to Bro. Steven Engstrom.

All Masons, Scouters, Scouts, friends, and family are invited to the public ceremony. See the invitation posted online at <https://www.facebook.com/Visiting-with-Clarence-F-Smith-Daylight-Lodge-108895338421743>.

On that day, Lodge will open for the Stated Meeting on the First Degree at 10AM and the Master will immediately call the Lodge from Labor to Refreshment for the award ceremony, after which time the non-Mason guests will retire to the dining room for a brief reception while the Lodge resumes Labor for the Stated Meeting.

The award ceremony celebrates both the intersection of Scouting and Freemasonry and Bro. Engstrom's outstanding service to youth through the program of Scouts BSA.

The award will be presented by Bro. David I. Karp of this Lodge who also received the same award in 2007 while an active Scouter himself.

Congratulations to Brother Steven Engstrom who personifies the synergy between Scouting and Freemasonry. DIK.

### CFS Daylight's Masonic Recognition

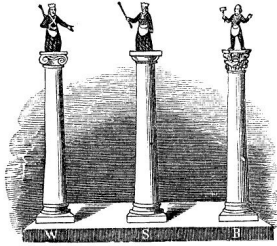
**Past Masters of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.**  
Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)  
Rogelio L. Soriano (2019)  
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2020-2021)  
Edgar O. Yeghiazaryan (imminently for 2022)

**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)  
\* Deceased.

**DCB Masonic Scouter Award** (a nominated award for Masons who serve(d) the Scouting community)  
Steven Engstrom (2022)  
David I. Karp (2007)



## From our Incoming Pillar Officers

**B**rethren,  
First, thank you for electing us to our new positions in the lodge as Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens.

Second, please join us and our appointed officers for the annual installation of officers which will take place at the Lodge on January 21, 2023.

Third, you probably know that, “[a] Lodge is metaphorically said to be supported by three great pillars, denominated Wisdom, Strength and Beauty” and that these Pillars “are represented in the Lodge by the Worshipful Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens” (*Monitor and Officers’ Manual*). However, we do not have a monopoly on the wisdom, strength and beauty of our Lodge. Thus, we seek the input and collaboration of every member for ideas and events in the 2023 Masonic year that may be innovative, attractive, and exciting for our members and guests. Please reach out to any one of us if you have something you would like, as men and Masons, to do for ourselves, our Lodge, and/or our community.

Best wishes for the holidays and Happy New Year.

Fraternally, Bros. Jhonny Lebrilla (WM2B), Spo Khachatryan (SW2B), and Gerald Alvarez (JW2B).

## “Thank You” from our Sitting Master for 2022

**B**rethren,  
Thank you for the privilege afforded to me to be the Master of this Lodge in 2022. The Lodge has grown this year tremendously and we have had many fine degree ceremonies this year to accommodate our growth. I have also grown as a man and Mason in this leadership role, as this Lodge and Freemasonry in general have been an important component in my life. So, thank you.

Best wishes also for the holiday season and Happy New Year.

Fraternally, Wor. Edgar Yeghiazaryan,  
Master

## From our Secretary

**B**rethren,  
Please review the Dues Notice on the first page of this edition and be sure to get your dues paid, especially but not only the incoming officers, before January 1, 2023.

Best wishes to you and your families for the holidays and Happy New Year.

Fraternally, Bro. Akram Al-Awar, Sec’y

## Making Sure Everyone Feels Included – An Opinion Piece

**A**s our thriving Lodge grows, we must continue to make sure that everyone feels included...or we will lose them.

The Foreword of this edition talks of inclusion in the sense that newer members should be embraced and encouraged for their opinions, suggestions, enthusiasm and/or participation. Otherwise, they may feel that they are or continue to be “outsiders.” (“An outsider is a stranger ... someone who observes a group from afar. An outsider stands outside the group, looking in.” See,

<https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/outsider>  
.)

Among other things, a mentorship program, if we have one, would help here to give new(er) members the feeling of being included. Also, ask them to join in the planning and execution of Lodge events and activities so they feel more included in the group.

Inclusion applies even to potential members or applicants. We must reach out to those who knock on our door and want to come in. As the Grand Lodge has said: "We welcome men of all ethnic backgrounds and religious beliefs." But we must really make them feel welcome: invite them in to meet us, have them get to know us (and us to know them), include them in meetings and events that are not tiled. Some are spending way too much time in the dining room, apart from us, just waiting.

Inclusion also means outreach to others not like us perhaps for potential membership from the African American, Latino, or other communities for example so that we have a more balanced approach to the diversity goals expressed by the Grand Lodge in its 2025 Strategic Plan. See, [https://member.freemason.org/resource\\_attachments/736?download=0](https://member.freemason.org/resource_attachments/736?download=0) (Click, sign in, then click again).

Which brings me to a recurring theme: affinity bias and its consequences.... (This is not to make anyone or any group in our Lodge feel defensive; consider this simply a reality check for all of us.)

"Affinity bias is our tendency to surround ourselves by and spend time with people we believe are 'like' us. When we do this collectively, we create in-groups. Almost everyone does this to some extent. We've all been in situations where we're hanging out with others who share our particular worldview. We may say or do things, without even thinking, that would make outsiders feel uncomfortable or unwelcome.

"On the other hand, we've all been the new person at school or at work. We've all shown up

somewhere under- or over-dressed for the occasion. We've all felt like outsiders at some point. Sometimes our differences are obvious to everyone. Sometimes they're only and often painfully obvious to us.

"Whether we're 'in' or 'out' is usually circumstantial. When we find an environment where we're 'in,' we tend to spend more time there. It's more comfortable....

<https://leadatanylevel.com/affinity-bias-ingroups-privilege-work/>

The opposite is also true. If not "in," then it may be less comfortable. It may make the person feel like an outsider who is not welcome, which may cause him to spend less time in the lodge.

WB Celso proactively had all this in mind when the food for his Hiram Award dinner celebration was ordered. Among other things, he knew that some guests could feel uncomfortable being offered a Roast Pig Philippine Style for dinner and he accommodated with other food (e.g., deli platters) that would help them feel included. That was thoughtful and appreciated.

That is but one example of the collaboration, forethought, conscious awareness and intentionality that helps keep all of us together although from different backgrounds and cultures.

Another example is speaking English only in the Lodge. It's for everyone's benefit and is much more welcoming.

We should all think about the things we say or do that either separate us or that unite us into "one sacred band or society of friends and brothers," and we should emphasize the latter and not the former.

No one in this Lodge wants to spend less time with his Brothers because he feels he is an outsider. We must do our best to make sure everyone feels welcome and included.

"How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Fraternally, Bro. David I. Karp, Ed.