

# In the



# Daylight

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

January 2024

## Patience

### Foreword...

This month's theme is "patience." A synonym is "fortitude" (see, <https://www.thesaurus.com/browse/patience>) which the Monitor tells us is "equally distant from rashness."

An antonym is "impatience," [*id.*] an example of which is rushing through the intersection while the light is changing to red instead of slowing, stopping, and waiting for the next green light.

This is a pet peeve of mine. Why do people do this? Are they in such a rush that they cannot wait a few minutes for a safer trip through the intersection?

Is it so terrible to "slow down, you move too fast" as in the 1966 Simon and Garfunkel song, "The 59th Street Bridge Song (Feelin' Groovy)?" See, <https://www.paulsimon.com/song/59th-street-bridge-song-feelin-groovy/>.

I think, on the whole, our society is just too impatient to "stop and smell the roses," (meaning "to relax; to take time out of one's busy schedule to enjoy or appreciate the beauty of life." <https://www.thesmellofroses.com/posts/what-does-it-mean-to-take-time-to-smell-the-roses>).

I also think that there's a thread of society's need for "instant gratification" as a part of the rush to do things these days.

Fortunately, we Masons have the teachings of Freemasonry as a guide. Some of the first words

heard are these: "You will wait a time with patience..." Why is that?

I think the reason is to remind each candidate, and everyone in the Lodge, not to rush into things, to take the time necessary to absorb all that Freemasonry has to offer, which is a lot. In this edition you will find an article by MW Tom Hendrickson, PGM (GL Minn.) which discusses waiting with patience. See pgs. 3-4.

I have had the experience, of which I am grateful, of mentoring newer Masons as they become proficient in memorizing some of our ritual work. Some are impatient to get to the next degree. (I don't blame them, as I went through the degrees in seven months.) Our Grand Lodge has even enabled this, however, by offering a "short form" of proficiency that I think is a mistake, but it is what it is. In years past, as when I went through the degrees (1990-91), there was no such thing as a "short form." As did others, I learned the whole of each degree's proficiency, which has given me a world of appreciation for the Craft and its lessons. So, I recommend the "long form" and applaud our Lodge's preference for it for our candidates.

There is so much to be gained in having patience, in Freemasonry as in life. So, as the song goes, "Slow down, you move too fast / You got to make the morning last."

<https://www.paulsimon.com/song/59th-street-bridge-song-feelin-groovy/>. Take the time to enjoy the journey in Masonry. And, please, also take the time to enjoy this edition of our newsletter.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp, Editor.

## An Esoteric View of Patience

**E**ditor's Note: The following is quoted from an online Masonic Encyclopedia at

<https://masonicshop.com/encyclopedia/topics/entry/?i=2389> .

"In [Masonic teaching], it has been said that "time, patience, and perseverance will enable us to accomplish all things..." The idea is similar to one expressed by the Hermetic philosophers. Thus Pernetty tells us (Dictionary of Hermetic Mythology), that the alchemists said: "The work of the philosopher's stone is a work of patience, on account of the length of time and of labor that is required to conduct it to perfection...."

"He that can have patience can have what he will." – MW Benjamin Franklin, PGM (GL PA)

(Benjamin Franklin Quotes. (n.d.). BrainyQuote.com. Retrieved October 6, 2023, from BrainyQuote.com Web site: <https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/benjami>



[Is it implicit, in our understanding of the twenty-four inch gauge, that we should be patient in the use of our time? One would think so. DIK.]

### January 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.)

**January 4, 2024**, 7PM – Executive Committee Meeting on Zoom

**January 6, 2024**, 11AM – Stated Meeting

**January 12, 2024**, 6PM, Installation Practice/Setup

**January 13, 2024**, 11AM, Installation of Officers

**January 20, 2024** – Second Degree Practice

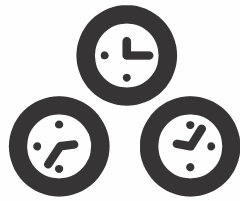
**January 27, 2024** – Second Degree Conferral

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For February and subsequent months, please visit our online calendar at <https://clarencefsmith.org/events/> .



[Stated Meeting, December 2, 2023]



## Wait a Time with Patience

**E**ditor's Note: The following is excerpted from an online article entitled "To Wait with Patience" written by MW Tom Hendrickson, PGM (GL Minn.) available at

<https://allthingsmasonic.blogspot.com/2021/05/to-wait-with-patience.html>.

"What is patience? Official definitions vary, but I prefer the Cambridge Dictionary definition: The ability to wait, or continue something despite difficulties, or to suffer without complaining or being annoyed.

"The Cambridge Dictionary defines wait, 'to allow time to go by, especially while staying in one place without doing much, until someone comes, until something that you are expecting happens or until you can do something.' If you don't have one of those three goals in mind at the start then it's just indecision, procrastination, or you are killing time.

"The first three degrees of the Blue Lodge contain lessons for us to build upon to be master of ourselves. Patience is an exercise in self-control; you can say patience is the neglected virtue, but patience is the foundational virtue that supports the development of other great moral strengths such as wisdom and courage. Patience is also needed before we take on our serious obligation of learning to subdue our passions....

"We are not born with patience. Patience is a learned skill that takes practice to master, but it is a skill that is essential in our daily lives. Patience has been described as like a muscle that needs to be exercised on a regular basis for it to

be effective. The more we exercise it, the stronger it becomes.

"Having patience means we can wait calmly in the face of frustrations, difficulties, obstacles or struggles. This ability to continue, despite adversity, is a skill all of us need during our lives. Whether stuck in a traffic jam, standing in a long line at the grocery store, or even in lodge when the secretary reads the electric bill....

"Patience is a state of mind, where you deal with your thoughts and emotions, between the experience and your reaction. To have patience, ultimately means [to deal] with your own thoughts and emotions. Patience requires you to control your thoughts, words and deeds.

"Patience, on the surface, appears to be passive, but it is an active and purposeful state. Patience is a decision-making process that allows us to make better decisions. Patience allows us to take a pause that allows us to gather our thoughts and manage our feelings. Patience allows us to observe more intently, ask questions to understand the situation more clearly, communicate better with a tempered response, and most importantly, find peace in situations that are outside of our control.

"I would guess that hardly a day goes exactly as we planned, free of any intrusions or without any adjustments. Who plans to have a car accident on the way to work? Accepting the fact that these intrusions or difficulties are part of normal life and exercising calm will help us all be more patient. If we can work to accept and tolerate a situation, without becoming upset or angry, that helps us manage our emotions and choose what behavior that we wish to respond with. We cannot choose our feelings, for our feelings just happen, but we can choose what behavior we wish to display....

"When needed, give yourself the 'quiet time' to take a step back, take a breath, and collect your thoughts before losing your patience....

[continues on next page]

[continued from page 3]

“Patience when practiced, can calm our minds, preserve positive emotions, and it can guide us to view life’s daily struggles in a better way. Developing the skill of patience can help accepting life’s daily frustrations and can help us to not lose our temper. There is no real point in losing your temper over the things we cannot control....

“... Patient individuals are viewed more positively by their employers’ co-workers and by lodge brothers. Patience allows us to be approachable, to learn, conquer a complex task, accomplish long term goals....

“In our Masonic life, patience is a necessity. From our relationships with our Lodge Brothers, learning our Ritual and its meaning, working on committees or projects and especially while leading the Craft.

“Patience makes us better leaders and mentors. As Masonic Leaders we need to establish relationships and work with our Brothers to develop their skills and understanding of the craft. As leaders, we may need to spend extra time with our Brothers to help them learn and [for] them to develop that sense of belonging with other Brothers. For the Masonic tradition to continue there should be allowance for Brothers to develop and grow while passing [our] knowledge to the next generation of leaders....”



### **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. Ely 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  
Asst. Officers’ Coach --  
WB Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig,. 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

\*2024 Officers will be listed in the next edition, after their installation on January 13, 2024. Please wait a time with patience.

### 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)  
Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr. (2023)

#### Past Masters by Affiliation

Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, (2021)  
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)  
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.

## Seven Tips for Practicing Patience

**E**ditor’s Note: The following tips are  
quoted *verbatim* from an online article  
at

<https://health.clevelandclinic.org/7-tips-for-better-patience-yes-youll-need-to-practice/> .

1. Practice mindfulness. Be in the present moment, without judging. Simply sit quietly and notice your breath. Notice what distracts you from your breath, then ease yourself back into awareness of your breath.

2. Practice accepting your current circumstances. This may mean being stuck in traffic or stuck in a job you hate. But that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t try to change things if you need to. It only means accepting your experience in the moment for exactly what it is — even if it’s unpleasant.

3. Actively build a tolerance for being a bit uncomfortable. Let other people go ahead of you in line or in traffic. Resist the urge to scratch an itch. Don’t act on every impulse to check your phone.

4. When you’re feeling rushed, consciously slow down. You don’t have to feel like a hamster on a wheel all of the time. Know that you can choose slow. In our culture that prizes speed, know that there is value to be had in slow too.

5. Be playful. Practice acting like a kid sometimes. Sing around the house, be silly, laugh. Actively try to take yourself less seriously.

6. Let it feel broken. It doesn’t matter whether it’s a work project that’s gone off the rails, a problem in your relationship or something in your home that’s literally broken. Resist the urge to immediately fix everything.

7. Practice being a good listener. Listen carefully to what family members or other conversation partners are saying. Focus on understanding, rather than on formulating your response.



## Reframe Waiting

**E**ditor's Note: The following is excerpted from an opinion piece dated October 19, 2023, in *The Washington Post* entitled "Post-grads: Waiting doesn't have to be a waste of time." The piece is directed to people in their 20's but the ideas are good for everyone.

"1. Reframe Waiting. Instead of wringing our hands and drowning in our inability to control the passage of time, we can see waiting periods as possibilities for introspection. Author Jason Farman has written about how waiting helps us identify our desires and how we are connected to them. He says, 'The meaning of life isn't deferred until that thing we hope for arrives; instead, in the moment of waiting, meaning is located in our ability to recognize the ways that such hopes define us.' It's good advice for those of us who feel as if we can't move on with normal life until a particular goal is achieved...."

"2. Refrain (from checking!). If you're in a waiting period, cutting down on your tech use — such as scrolling on social media and excessively checking your email or applicant tracking system — will probably help.... Instead, take the time to reflect on your goals and progress. Avoiding excess tech use during waiting periods can help these times feel restful and restorative rather than frantic.

"3. Redirect your energy. While I was talking with recent grads this week, many of them shared that channeling heightened energy and anxiety into productive activities and hobbies helps them cope with waiting periods. This tip can be especially impactful if the

activities you invest in are related to your end goal. For example, while you are waiting on medical school acceptances, start volunteering at a free clinic or working as a medical assistant....

"4. Review. Exploring uncomfortable emotions is a necessary part of personal growth. When a goal or desire feels so all-consuming, it might be time to reflect on how we are linking the attainment of a particular goal to our worth, either in our own eyes or those of others...."

"5. Rest. Several recent grads told me that they have experienced major health issues while waiting because of serious anxiety and stress. It can be hard to rest and let go of the need for instantaneous answers or resolution during a waiting period. Taking extra time to invest energy into routines that are healthy, protective and productive — such as hobbies, meditation or prayer, exercise, reading or sleep — can help...."

### CLARENCE F SMITH DAYLIGHT LODGE #866

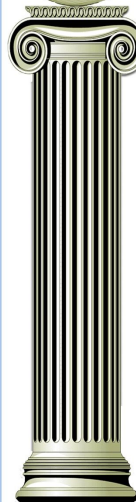
#### 7TH ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Saturday, January 13th, 2024 - Van Nuys Masonic Center  
Social: 10:30 a.m. | Installation: 11:00 a.m.

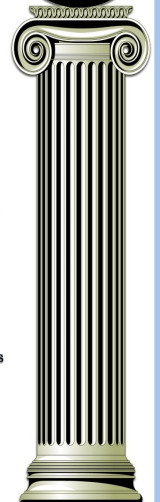
**Installing Officer**  
Worshipful Jovi Rivera, PM

**Master of Ceremonies**  
Worshipful Celso Cardano, PM

**Installing Chaplain**  
Worshipful Roger Soriano, PM



**Worshipful Master**  
Spartak Khachatryan



**Senior Warden**  
Gerald Alvarez

**Junior Warden**  
Joseph Chavez

**Treasurer**  
Ely Ayao

**Secretary**  
Akram Alawar

**Chaplain**  
Virgilio Maravillas

**Assistant Secretary**  
Thomas Sheehan

**Senior Deacon**  
Lloyd Donasco

**Junior Deacon**  
Elvis Alvarez

**Senior Steward**  
Mkhitar Mike  
Mkrtchyan

**Junior Steward**  
Worshipful Archimedes  
"Kim" Cabanig, PM

**Marshal**  
Marvin De Guzman

**Organist**  
Mark Cano

**Tiler**  
William "Bill" Raddatz



## Impatiens: The Touch-Me-Not, Not the Forget- Me-Not

**M**asons recognize the Forget-Me-Not as a symbol of Freemasonry from Germany during the Nazi era.

(More about it below.)

But have you heard of the Touch-Me-Not?

"The ornamental species of impatiens known for their brightly colored flowers are native to the tropics of Africa and Asia. They are commonly known as Touch-Me-Nots because their seed pods are very sensitive and just a light touch will cause them to burst open." See,

<https://extension.umn.edu/flowers/impatiens> .

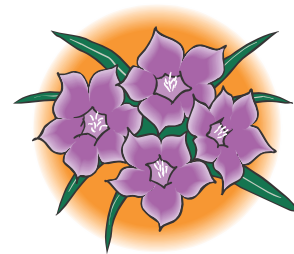
The Touch-Me-Not is not an emblem of Freemasonry. But the Forget-Me-Not is. Here is the reason as told by the Grand Lodge of Ohio (see,

<https://www.freemason.com/behind-masonic-symbols-forgetmenot/> ):

"From its beginning in 1933, Nazi Germany placed severe legal, political, and civic restrictions against institutions it saw as hostile to or inconsistent with its aims and ideals. Along with Jews, members of the LGBTQ+ community, those with mental and physical handicaps, Catholics, and Jehovah's Witnesses, Freemasons were likewise targeted for criminal prosecution and exclusion from society. The Enabling Act of 1933 dissolved all Masonic lodges in the Third Reich, confiscating all property and banning members from joining the Nazi Party. A year after, the Ministry of Defense ruled that soldiers, officers, and civilian personnel could not be members of Masonic organizations, and Hitler often linked

antisemitism to conspiracy theories about Freemasonry. Some Freemasons were political prisoners in concentration camps and were forced to wear an inverted red triangle badge. The SS dedicated two separate offices towards pursuing Masonic organizations and Freemasons; this would continue into the war and into countries under German control such as France and Italy....

"In 1934, members of one of Germany's pre-war Grand Lodges, Grand Lodge of the Sun, began wearing the blue forget-me-not instead of the square and compasses on their lapels as a secret mark of identity. The "forget-me-not" is the informal name for the Myosotis flower, known for being small and having blue or purple petals. Throughout this whole era, these flowers appeared on lapels across cities and even concentration camps, worn by brothers whose love for the craft remained strong, even through the worst times. In 1947, when the Grand Lodge of the Sun was reopened, a pin in the shape of a forget-me-not was adopted as an emblem of that first convention by those who survived the Nazi era. It then was also adopted as an official Masonic emblem honoring those brothers who dared to wear the flower openly, and also recognizes the contributions of Masonic educators."





[First Degree Conferral, December 9, 2023.  
Congrats to Bro. Joseph on becoming an Entered  
Apprentice Mason.]

## Rare Masonic Scouting Award Presented in December

**B**ro. Joe Morchy, a member of Home Lodge No. 721 and a past visitor to our Lodge, received the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award in the open session of Home Lodge No. 721's Stated Meeting on December 6, 2023.

The award is rare. Only a few others in Southern California have received it, including, among others, Bro. David Powell of Granada Hills 378, and Bros. Steve Engstrom and David I. Karp of our Lodge.

Bro. Morchy was recognized with the award before nearly a full house of Brothers, Scouting Professionals and volunteers ("Scouters"), family and friends. Bro. Karp made the oral presentation on behalf of the National Association of Masonic Scouters ("NAMS"), of which he was a co-founder and its first Secretary. Following, Worshipful Brother Peter Vogelsang, Master of Home Lodge, presented the award medallion and certificate to our Brother. Afterwards, Bro. Morchy spoke. The audience responded with a standing ovation and the Masons with a "Battery of Three Times Three."

Bro. Morchy, dressed in his scout uniform, wore his father's Masonic Apron at the presentation to honor his father's memory, and the open ceremony was an opportunity for positive awareness of our fraternity in the community.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America, created the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award as a national award program for Masons who exemplify the Scout Law and Masonic Virtues, in service to the Scouting Program.

The award is named for Daniel Carter Beard, a Brother Mason active in New York in the 19th Century. Beard created a youth program in the late 1800s called the "Boy Pioneers," which was merged into the Boy Scout program in 1910. When the BSA was formed, Beard became its first National Commissioner.

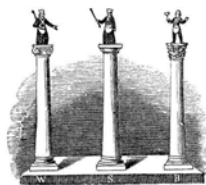
NAMS, which promotes the award, was established in 2007; it is recognized by BSA's National Council and by the Grand Lodge of California, among other Grand Lodges. Hundreds of Masons involved in Scouting nationwide are affiliated with NAMS, as are all of the award recipients named above.

Congratulations to Bro. Joe Morchy.



[Bro. Joe Morchy and his certificate, with Bro.  
David I. Karp (at right), Dec. 6, 2023]





## From the East

**B**rethren,  
On behalf of the Lodge, thank you to the 2023 officers for a successful year and also best wishes to the 2024 officers for the same.

Fraternally,  
Wor. Fernando ("Jhonny") O. Lebrilla, Jr.  
Master

## From the West

**B**rethren, I hope you are all having a nice, relaxing holiday break. I would like to congratulate and thank our 2023 officers for all of the hard work and time they put into having another successful year for our lodge.

Installation Day is almost here! I respectfully request that the 2024 officer's line attend the Installation practice and assist with preparations on the evening before installation day, at 6 p.m. The Installation ceremony is set for Saturday, January 13th at 11:00 a.m. Please feel free to invite family and friends, as it is open to both Masons and non-Masons. The dress code is formal, and refreshments will be served after the ceremony. Officers, please be at the lodge by 9:30 AM on Installation Day so that we have enough time to have our officers' pictures taken by Bro. Steve Engstrom. We'll have a social at 10:30 a.m., followed by the Installation ceremony at 11 a.m.

As I work on the lodge's annual plan, I've been thinking about which aspects of the lodge should be prioritized in order to make our year as productive and beneficial as possible. Some of the things I believe are worth focusing on are

these: more social and charitable programs with higher attendance; improved communications with all members; better and stronger committees; better overall organization; more involvement among the membership; and greater community involvement. Your input, thoughts, and suggestions are always welcome.

Fraternally,  
Bro. Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan,  
Senior Warden & Master-Elect

## From the South

**B**rethren,  
First of all, since this edition publishes in December, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all members of Clarence F Smith Daylight Lodge No.866. The New Year brings a new line of officers who will be installed on January 13, 2024. Congratulations to all officers. We look forward in the upcoming year to the challenges that we will face together. We will overcome those challenges together by supporting our newly elected Master Bro Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan.

Every member has important duties in the Lodge. Whether you may be side liners or officers, your presence is the key to succession of the lodge. As the newly elected Senior Warden I will do my best to guide and support our youngest members in their proper use of the twenty four inch gauge, to divide their time and to teach them how to use the four cardinal virtues in their everyday lives. I'm passing the torch to Bro Joseph Chavez as newly elected Junior Warden to do our refreshment every Stated Meeting. Let us support him in his new and challenging duties.

Lastly, thank you to all for your support, patience, and guidance. Hope to see you all at the installation. Also, congratulations to our newly initiated Bro Joseph Eilia.

Fraternally and Respectfully Yours,  
Gerald Alvarez, Junior Warden &  
Senior Warden Elect.



## Moving to the South

**H**ello Brethren,  
Allow me to introduce myself to those who don't know me. My name is Joseph R. Chavez and I have been elected Junior Warden for the ensuing Masonic year of 2024. It is an honor to be able to serve and help the Lodge as well as our Worshipful Master Elect and Senior Warden Elect.

Brethren, your presence and participation is greatly appreciated, not just for the support of our New Worshipful Master Elect, but also to show and help mentor our newly raised EAs, FCs and MMs.

In the January 2022 Trestle Board, courtesy of Brother David Karp, you will find this: "We take responsibility for the well-being of our brothers, our families and our communities" (p. 1). This means "becoming a better person while helping to improve the quality of life for others" (p.2). See, [https://clarencesmith.org/trestle\\_board/january-2022](https://clarencesmith.org/trestle_board/january-2022) .

Being a part of a diverse Lodge like ours, where we are able to learn from one another, has been a great experience in my Masonic journey. I hope that this coming year we are able to see every Brother in Lodge and engage more in supporting each other's well-being as well as strengthening our Lodge. As this publishes in December, Happy Holidays from my family to yours.

Also, Happy Birthday to these Brethren born in January: Joseph A. Elia, Spo Khachatryan,

Raed Malaeb, Arman Antonyan, Ramiel Malabanan.

Sincerely and Fraternally yours,  
Bro. Joseph Chavez  
Junior Warden Elect



[Some Brothers, and others, enjoying the Lodge Holiday Party, December 16, 2023]

