

# In the



# Headlights

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)

April 2024

## It's April, No Foolin'!

### Foreword...

Certain traditions abound among writers and editors of periodic publications. One of them is the Spoof edition which honors tongue-in-cheek creativity and April Fools' Day. See, e.g. <https://calvinchimes.org/spoof/> .

"Spoof" means "a funny and silly piece of writing, music, theater, etc. that copies the style of an original work"  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/funny> .

As in the past, the April edition has been the perfect time for a spoof edition, although, this month, everything included happens to be true ... just like in other editions of other papers (see, e.g.

<https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/national-day/april-fools-day-april-1> ): "*Times of London* reported in 1992 that Belgium was negotiating to join Holland[;] *The Evening Star* of Islington advertised in 1864 a display of donkeys at the Agricultural Hall the next day. Those who arrived early soon realized who the donkeys on display really were [;] In 1950, *The Progress* in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, published a picture of a UFO flying over the town. Claiming to have "scooped" larger publications of the first-ever published picture of a real flying saucer."

In the case of this edition, you might observe that the masthead has been modified in keeping with the nature of this month's effort. Thus, like a deer in the headlights, you may be surprised or perplexed by what follows.

Finally, with apologies to some readers, you might not "get it" in some cases if you have not traveled.

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.)

**April 6, 2024** Dark (Master/Wardens Retreat)

**April 11, 2024** 7PM, Exec. Comm. Mtg.

**April 13, 2024** 11AM, Stated Meeting.  
Lunch Donation \$15.

**April 17, 2024** 6PM, Fellowship dinner  
Presidente Restaurant, 11451 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills (SW corner Sepulveda/Rinaldi)

**April 18, 2024**, 7PM, DSI, 2<sup>nd</sup> Deg., Reseda 666

**April 20, 2024** 8AM, MM Seminar, Simi Valley Lodge 806, 1541 Patricia Ave., Simi Valley, 93065

**April 27, 2024** 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Conferral  
For May and subsequent months, please review our online calendar at

<https://clarencefsmith.org/events/> .



## The Gourd and the Meal

A member of the Boston Chinese Freemasons Athletic Club visited a Masonic Lodge in Southern California and spoke about his group. From its website he cited the following:

“Considered to be the oldest Chinese civic organization in the United States, the Chinese Freemasons is a fraternity that dates back to the 1800s during the East-West maritime trade and the construction of the transcontinental railroad.” (See the article at <https://www.bostonchinesefreemasons.org/chee-kong-tong> written by Lai Ying Yu (The Chinese Historical Society of New England) and Reggie Wong (Chee Kong Tong)).

He later affiliated with the California lodge he had visited.

In an event planning meeting for the local lodge, our Chinese Brother heard the mention of an upcoming Open House event at which dinner would be provided without charge to the visitors.

He thought this was a great idea and brought up the subject of a give-away for that event too, a gourd for each visitor. He related the meaning of the gourd in China to “longevity,” a theme evident in Freemasonry given his awareness of 25 year pins and our 50 Year Golden Veterans Award, among other things.

He then reiterated from an online source:

“In China, [the gourd] represents longevity because of the durability of its dried fruit; therefore Shou Lao, the god of longevity carries a gourd attached to his staff.” Wilson, Eddie W. “The Gourd in Folk Symbolism.” Western Folklore, vol. 10, no. 2, 1951, pp. 162-64. JSTOR, <https://doi.org/10.2307/1497969>.

Accessed 23 Nov. 2023. See also, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/1497969>.

The Lodge considered his suggestion and voted. In consequence of this novel idea, the Lodge decided that, before the anticipated Open House, each visitor would receive his own Free Meal and a Gourd.

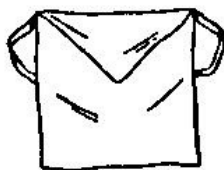
### CFS Daylight’s Officers for 2024

Worshipful Master –  
W Bro. Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan  
Senior Warden – Bro. Gerald J. Alvarez  
Junior Warden – Bro. Joseph R. Chavez  
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 – Bro. Lloyd Donasco  
Junior Deacon – Bro. Elvis L. Alvarez  
Senior Steward –  
Bro. Mkhitar (“Mike”) Mkrtychyan  
Junior Steward –  
WB Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, PM  
Marshal – Bro Marvin De Guzman  
Organist – Bro. Mark G. Cano  
Tiler – Bro. William (“Bill”) C. Raddatz  
Officers’ Coach –  
WB Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, PM

Candidates’ Coach –  
Rogelio (“Roger”) L. Soriano, PM  
Inspector – WB Leland H. Celestre, PM

### Contact information:

Master:  
Worshipful Spartak (“Spo”) Khachatryan  
[spo@clarencefsmith.org](mailto:spo@clarencefsmith.org)  
Secretary:  
Brother Akram Al-Awar



## Waiting a Time with Patience

A beautiful and somewhat lustful and audacious young woman named Patience was engaged to be married to a candidate for the degrees of Masonry. It was always difficult for her to be apart from him. Perhaps she was also jealous of the time he would spend at Lodge and away from her.

On the day of the candidate's initiation and well before the appointed hour for the degree ceremony, Patience, alone, discovered and stole into the lodge's anteroom to hide and wait. Of course, this was without her fiancé's knowledge or consent and certainly without the knowledge or consent of the Lodge.

Hours went by. Ultimately her fiancé entered the room with others who left. Patience made no sound although aching by then, crouching down in hiding.

Anticipating privacy with her fiancé in the moment, impulsive Patience, maybe intending to lure him away from joining the Lodge, removed her clothes, while undiscovered, in expectation of a brief interlude with him then and there.

After a time, the candidate was told by the SD, among other things, to wait a time with patience. Then he was alone, he thought.

Suddenly, Patience popped up *au naturel* to make her presence known. The candidate was taken aback as were others later, and Patience ultimately blushed, regretting her impetuosity. The candidate, naturally somewhat excited by her, nevertheless refused to dally, but said he was at least as embarrassed as she should have been, that their wedding might be delayed or canceled in consequence, and that she should be removed

immediately from the room. Grabbing her clothing, but donning an apron she found to hide a few things, she was led out forthwith. Later, the proceedings recommenced.

At some point thereafter, someone remarked that he was relieved that the candidate was Neither Naked nor Bad.

### 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)  
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)  
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.

## Something Went Wrong

It was a dark and stormy night for the Brethren and there was no peace and harmony in the lodge that evening. Something went wrong too un-Masonic to describe. The men were aghast. Some looked at others in wide-eyed dismay. There were stares all around and complaining and whining.

Suddenly, *en masse*, the Brothers rose and ran out the door.

When the door crashed open, the Tiler, who was not in the room where it happened, asked the Master, who was last out, "what was that?"

The Master replied, "that, my Brother, was the flight of whining stares."



## 12 Tone Music and an Ailment

A flute player was studying music at UCLA's Schoenberg Hall and learned both that the building was named for Arnold Schoenberg who taught at the university (<https://schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/facilities/schoenberg-hall/>) and that Schoenberg had developed a non-melodic experimental form of musical composition called 12 Tone Music:

"The new unifying principle in composition would ... arise from the particular order given to a collection of the 12 tones, an order that would be different for each composition. The basic order for any one composition came to be known as its basic set, its 12-tone row, or its 12-tone series, all of which terms are synonymous."

<https://www.britannica.com/art/12-tone-music> .

Notwithstanding that the 12 tone music was both difficult to play and difficult to listen-to, the flutist became fascinated with this 20th Century

form of music and joined a practice group of music students to study it.

Two such groups had formed, one principally focused on the form of music written in the bass clef for the lowest sounding instruments ("Low 12") and one focused on music written in the treble clef for the higher pitched instruments ("High 12"). The flutist joined the latter.

Several of the students in the flutist's group were also members of Acacia Fraternity which, incidentally, has its roots in Freemasonry. See, <https://www.acacia.org/history> . One of those students was an oboist, another a clarinetist, and they and the flutist were great friends and Brothers.

The three of them met agreeably to appointment for lunch at the brow of a hill in front of Schoenberg Hall one weekday to discuss which piece they would practice that afternoon in the High 12 group. The flutist and clarinetist had brought lunch from the fraternity house. The oboist had forgotten and bought something to eat from the on-campus vending machines nearby.

Unfortunately, the vending machine food was from the week before and not good anymore.

They lunched, they talked, and later the three of them went to High 12 for their afternoon practice session. By then, the oboist wasn't feeling well at all. "I think lunch from the vending machine wasn't such a good idea," he said.

After practice, the oboist, feeling sick from the food, went to Student Health and was advised to take it easy the next day, not to attend class or socialize, and just lay low until he felt better.

Of course, the oboist missed the High 12 session the next day. The clarinetist, asked the flutist if he'd seen their friend and Brother the oboist.

"Not since yesterday..." was the response.



## A Visit to New Orleans

**T**wo Masons, one from New Orleans and the other from Southern California, have been good friends for many years. They first met at a national convention and the relationship has flourished since then. Although rarely together in person, they share much in common, including but not limited to their love of words. In fact, both are writers. They share other interests as well which gives rise to phone calls and emails from time to time.

One day, our Southern California Mason decided to visit New Orleans and reached out to his Brother who was delighted and wanted to show him around. The dates were set, travel arrangements were made, and the visit took place.

Because both enjoy “adult beverages” immensely, one of their stops had to be a 24 hour bar called “The John” a well known dive bar that serves drinks in, of all things, Mason Jars, which amused them greatly! See, <https://www.yelp.com/biz/the-john-new-orleans> .

They were also tickled, as word-smiths can be, because “the john” is a euphemism for none other than the toilet. (See, <https://www.plumbworld.co.uk/blog/what-are-some-alternative-words-for-toilet-and-where-do-they-come-from> [“Sir John Harrington was the

inventor of the forerunner of the first flushing toilet (known as the Ajax), so it’s only fitting that his first name should have become synonymous with the toilet.”]).

As you know, beer in quantity gives rise to a need to go to the john, and of course they had to make a visit while there. They chuckled at the thought of going to the john at The John. They did their business and made ready for their next move.

Their next stop was to see a football game with the home team, the New Orleans Saints, of which our Southern Brother is a huge fan. Of course, both had a beer or two and a great time at the game. Afterwards, since our Louisiana Brother had a press pass and access to the Saints’ locker room, they went to meet with some of the players.

Once there, introductions began but were interrupted when our California Brother insisted that he’d drunk too much beer, had to go!, and sought out the restroom. Being a Rams fan, he asked, to the amusement of his Brother: “Is this a wholly Saints’ john? I mean, is it for your team’s exclusive use?” It wasn’t and he was permitted to make use of it. What a relief!





## Bro. Christopher Wren, Architect

Sir Christopher Wren (1632-1723) was perhaps the most famous architect in British history. “He was [also] an active Freemason; the Master of Lodge Original, No. 1. (This is now the Lodge of Antiquity No. 2, “adopted” on 18 May 1691.) His remains are interred in St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, where a simple stone plaque is inscribed: ‘Reader, if you seek his memorial look around’.”  
<https://www.lodgestpatrick.co.nz/famous2.php#M> .

Among his many great works are these college buildings: Pembroke College Chapel at the University of Cambridge; Emmanuel College Chapel at the University of Cambridge; and North Building, Garden Quadrangle at Trinity College, Oxford.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_works\\_by\\_Christopher\\_Wren](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_works_by_Christopher_Wren) .

There is even a building named after him The Wren Building at the College of William and Mary in Virginia.  
<https://www.wm.edu/about/history/historiccampus/wrenbuilding/> .

He is considered by many to be...  
“The Great Architect of the Universities.”

## G-Men

“Before 1934, ‘G-Man’ was underworld slang for any and all government agents.... By 1935, though, only one kind of Government employee was known by that name, the Special Agents of the FBI.”  
<https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/news/stories/2003/september/kelly092603> .

Inasmuch as J. Edgar Hoover was a Mason<sup>1</sup> and the first director of the FBI ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J.\\_Edgar\\_Hoover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Edgar_Hoover)), to call those men associated with Bro. Hoover “G-Men” in the FBI was to honor his directorship and his and their Masonic affiliation.

So too do we honor his and their Masonic ties, as we are G-Men as well even though not affiliated with the FBI.

We need look no further for proof than to the letter “G” in the East or within the emblem below.



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<sup>1</sup> “In 1920 the 25-year-old Edgar Hoover was initiated as a Freemason [fns.] at D.C.’s Federal Lodge No. 1 in Washington, D.C. He went on to join the Scottish Rite in which he was made a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary in 1955.”  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J.\\_Edgar\\_Hoover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Edgar_Hoover) .



[Fellowcraft Degree, Feb. 24, 2024.  
Congrats to Bros. Arman and Ryan]



[Stated Meeting, March 2, 2024]



## Now For the Real News ...

I hope you enjoyed the first six pages.  
Following is the real news. DIK.



## Our “Write-On” Campaign Continues

Began in February, Clarence F. Smith Daylight No. 866 continues collecting unopened boxes of new Blue/Black Pens, Pencils, Crayons, Colored Pencils, Pencil Sharpeners, Erasers, Spiral Notebooks, Filler Paper, and Composition Books, for students to use for their writing assignments.

This effort benefits LAUSD’s Homeless Education Program and supports the Lodge’s charitable goals, its care for public education and literacy, its commitment to public awareness of the fraternity and its endeavors to improve the world.

Drop-off collection will take place at the Lodge (upstairs dining room) on the following Saturdays in the A.M.: April 13, and May 4. Alternatively, if you purchase online, you may choose direct shipping to our Campaign Coordinator, at his business address: David I. Karp, 6311 Van Nuys Bl. No. 409, Van Nuys, CA 91401.

Whatever you can donate will help. It’s a way of lifting others up. Thank you.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp

“Write On” Campaign Coordinator



[Third Degree, March 16, 2024. Congrats to Bro. Darren on being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason!]



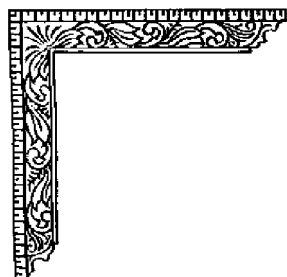
## From the South

Hello Brethren,  
Since this edition publishes in March, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our upcoming event and invite everyone to our Bowling tournament this coming Saturday, March 23 at 5pm. (See the flyer at the end of this edition.) Brother Barry Mann will be there at 4PM to share some bowling pointers being that he was a pro bowler himself.

It would be a pleasure to see everyone come out and support the Lodge, but if you are unable to do so, I invite all the brethren to find time to join us at our next stated meeting. I know that our busy schedules sometimes engulf our lives, but I ask that you make time for at least two hours to come down and join us, it would be nice to see and have lunch with you all.

Happy Birthday to our April Brothers: Alan M.; Michael M.; Ely A.; Martin M.; Erne L.; Gerald A.; Nestor M.

Sincerely and Fraternaly yours,  
Bro. Joseph Chavez  
Junior Warden



## From the East

Brethren,  
Congratulations to Bro. Darren on being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Thank you to all who made the degree a successful one.

Inasmuch as this edition publishes in March, here is a reminder to join us, please, on March 23rd at the Winnetka Bowl for our bowling tournament. Our Junior Warden has been working hard on putting it together so lets make sure to be there to support our lodge and have a good time together. The details are in the flyer at the end of this edition.

Another reminder: we have postponed our April stated meeting to April 13th, 11AM, and lodge will be dark on April 6th for the Master & Wardens Retreat.

Fraternaly,  
Wor. Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan  
Master





## From our Secretary

**E**ditor's Note: Bro. Akram, our Secretary, submits the following as generated by A.I.:

“Brotherhood and friendship are invaluable relationships that enrich our lives and make the journey worthwhile. By nurturing trust, open communication, mutual respect, and shared experiences, we strengthen these connections and create bonds that last a lifetime. Brotherhood and friendship offer support, understanding, and personal growth, fostering a sense of belonging and happiness. Let us cherish and cultivate these relationships, for in brotherhood and friendship, we find love, support, and a sense of unity that transcends blood and makes life truly meaningful.”

Respectfully submitted,  
Bro. Akram Al-Awar, Secretary

The poster features a blue and purple gradient background. At the top, it reads "CLARENCE F. SMITH DAYLIGHT LODGE #866 invites you to join us for our 1st BOWLING TOURNAMENT". Below this, there are several bowling pins and a large blue ball with "\$35 PER PERSON ENTRY" written on it. To the right, a pink circle says "FOOD RAFFLES PRIZES". The date "SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2024" is prominently displayed, along with "START AT 5 pm" and "Free Bowling Lessons @ 4 pm by: Bro. Barry Mann". At the bottom, it lists the location "Winnetka Bowl 20122 Vanowen St, Winnetka CA 91306" and provides RSVP information for WM. Spartak "Spo" Khachatryan and SW. Bro. Gerald Alvarez.

**CLARENCE F. SMITH  
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**SATURDAY MARCH 23,  
2024**  
**START AT 5 pm**  
Free Bowling Lessons  
@ 4 pm by: Bro. Barry Mann

Winnetka Bowl  
20122 Vanowen St, Winnetka CA 91306

RSVP: WM. Spartak "Spo" Khachatryan (213) 259-5999  
SW. Bro. Gerald Alvarez (323) 929-9161

Fellowship to Follow  
@ Van Nuys Lodge

