

In the



Daylight

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

March 2024

Longevity and Prosperity

Foreword...

The first time I saw a television program on a color TV (not black and white), I was 12 years old (1966) and it was an early episode of *Star Trek*. That is when I met Captain Kirk and his First Officer, Mr. Spock, whose Vulcan salute, "Live Long and Prosper" later became synonymous with Spock and with Leonard Nimoy, the actor who brought Spock to us.

To my knowledge, Nimoy was not a Freemason and I doubt there are any Masonic Lodges on Planet Vulcan from whence Spock came. However there are tidbits of both longevity and prosperity in our Masonic emblems. For example, note the Monitorial explanation of the three steps: they are "emblematic of the three principal stages of human life, viz: Youth, Manhood and Age.... In Age, as Master Masons, we may enjoy the happy reflection consequent on a well-spent life...." Similarly, the Anchor and the Ark "are emblems of a well-grounded hope, and a well-spent life."

The Perfect Ashlar reminds us of "that state of perfection at which we hope to arrive by ... our own endeavors" among other things. And, the Beehive reminds us to be industrious and to keep busy so that we will prosper and be able to relieve the distresses of others "without inconvenience to ourselves."

Moreover, corn, wine and oil are emblematic of prosperity, health and peace.

To me, "Live Long and Prosper" is also a blessing when said to another person. See p. 2.

So I say the same to you: "Live Long and Prosper" and please enjoy this edition of "In the Daylight."

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor

March 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.)

Feb. 29, 2024 7PM, Exec. Comm. Mtg. on Zoom

Mar. 2, 2024 11AM, Stated Meeting.
Lunch donation \$15.

Mar. 9, 2024 3rd Deg. Practice

March 16, 2024 3rd Deg. Conferral (2X)

March 21, 2024 6PM, Fellowship dinner
Presidente Restaurant, 11451 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills (SW corner Sepulveda/Rinaldi)

March 23, 2024 6PM, Family Bowling Event (Fellowship/fundraiser)

March 30, 2024 Dark

For April and subsequent months, check our online calendar at

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



Live Long and Prosper; It really is a Blessing!

Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from an online article entitled *This is Why We "Live Long and Prosper"* by Lindsay Traves, published on May 10, 2023, at <https://www.startrek.com/news/live-long-and-prosper-jewish-history-month>

"These words ['Live Long and Prosper'] are immediately recognized and associated with Star Trek and its fandom, and the Vulcan salute is an even more recognizable extension of that phrase. The salute's origin, however, doesn't come out of the vast final frontier, but instead from Leonard Nimoy's Jewish heritage....

"When Leonard Nimoy had an idea for a Vulcan greeting, Roddenberry let him bring along a piece of his culture. Nimoy introduced the hand sign of the *Kohanim* Jewish blessing, which would become the Vulcan salute....

"The words in the blessing itself are part of the *Amidah*, the daily prayers, but the sign we know as the Vulcan salute is only done when the *Kohanim* are called upon to stand before the congregation and recite them.

"The Lord spoke to Moses, "Speak to Aaron and his sons, This is how you bless the people of Israel, say to them, 'The Lord will bless you and protect you, the Lord will go kindly and graciously with you. The Lord will bestow his favour upon you and grant you peace.'" ...' *Bemidbar* [Numbers], Chapter 6, Verses 22-27." [Add'l Editor's note: This is sometimes referred to as "the Priestly Benediction."]

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") Mkrтчyan
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
Secretary:
Brother Akram Al-Awar



<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-06-02-0136>. [Original source: The Papers of George Washington, Presidential Series, vol. 6, 1 July 1790–30 November 1790, ed. Mark A. Mastromarino. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1996, pp. 287–288.]

What is Prosperity?

“Prosperity is far more than wealth; it is when all people have the opportunity and freedom to thrive. Prosperity is underpinned by an inclusive society, with a strong social contract that protects the fundamental liberties and security of every individual. It is driven by an open economy that harnesses ideas and talent to create sustainable pathways out of poverty. And it is built by empowered people, who contribute and play their part in creating a society that promotes wellbeing.”

Source: Legatum Institute at <https://www.prosperity.com/about-prosperity/what-prosperity>



Bro. George Washington's Best Wishes to Rhode Island Masons

“Being persuaded that a just application of the principles, on which the masonic fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtue and public *prosperity* [emphasis added], I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society, and to be considered by them a deserving Brother.”

Source: "From George Washington to the Masons of King David's Lodge, Newport, Rhode Island, 18 August 1790," Founders Online, National Archives,

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.



Masonic Cornerstone Consecrated with Masonic Symbols of Prosperity, Health and Peace

“Bob Bullock, the namesake of the [Bullock] Museum, was an Endowed Member of Hillsboro Lodge No. 196 and member of University Lodge No. 1190. He was also a 33rd Degree member of the Austin Scottish Rite. He insisted that the Museum be "leveled" by the Masons. In a centuries-old ceremony, the cornerstone was added to the Museum's exterior on the north-east corner. To Masons, the North traditionally represents darkness and the East light, so the placement on the north-east corner represents man's path from darkness into light or ignorance to enlightenment. In the Masonic cornerstone ceremony, the stone is checked using ancient tools to be certain it's square, plumb (straight), and level because a building constructed on a poor foundation isn't strong. Then the cornerstone is consecrated with corn (or grain), wine, and oil all of which are Masonic symbols of prosperity, health, and peace. Finally, the stone is symbolically tapped into place.”

Source: Bullock Museum at

<https://www.thestoryoftexas.com/discover/artifacts/bullock-museum-masonic-cornerstone>

Wages of a Mason

Editor's Note: The following is quoted from an online article at <https://www.wellington127.org/print/Ed-MM%20Wages-2010.pdf>

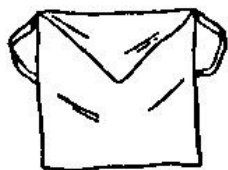
“Wages of a Master Mason are not paid in silver or gold or articles of commerce and trade that may be stolen or may deteriorate and moulder through the passage of the years.

“They are paid in those things that the Brother may keep within the repository of the faithful breast. One Brother may not be paid in the same wages as another. One may receive wages in gratitude of one for whom he has performed an act of charity. Another may receive wages in the joy that comes from having brought cheer into a sick room. Another may receive wages in the appreciation of Brethren to whom he has imparted something of Masonic knowledge.

“Another may receive wages in gratitude of a brother's family to whom he has been a main stay during their hour of grief. Another may receive wages in honors conferred upon him by Brethren whom he has faithfully served. Another may receive wages in friendships that have come to him through his Masonry. Another may receive wages in the satisfaction he derived from service to others. Another may receive wages that to him seem sufficient when he is privileged to coach someone in the lectures or when he is given a part in degree work.

“They are paid in those things that are secure in the hearts of his Brethren and his friends. The wages of a Master Mason have no intrinsic value. They cannot be measured by any standard by which the value of intrinsic things is measured.

“Wages of a Master Mason are measured only by the value placed upon them by the one who has received them.”



Masonic Longevity: A Journey of a Lifetime

Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from the October 14, 2019 "Messages from our Grand Master" of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, F. & A.M. at

<https://www.nhgrandlodge.org/from-the-grand-master-a-journey-of-a-lifetime/>

"Let's be clear. You didn't 'join' Freemasonry. You were accepted into our Ancient Craft. This acceptance should be viewed as a great honor, and one not to be taken lightly. You have a strong tradition to uphold in this Grand Jurisdiction, men have been proudly accepted into our Fraternity for the last 230 years! It is your duty to both uphold this tradition and better yet, to thrive in it. Your Masonic experience should be a "journey of a lifetime". Whether you are relatively young or not so young, it is my hope that your Masonic experience has become a "journey of a lifetime", filled with many precious memories. Regardless of rank or privilege, it should be every Mason's goal to ensure fulfillment for you and your brethren.

[...]

"Brethren, you are Freemasons for a reason. Your Masonic journey should be one that charts a series of milestones that help to grow you as a person, filled with enriching memories along the way. Make the very best of your journey. Don't wait for someone else to ask you to get involved. [¶] It's your journey, so make the most of it!"

Longevity as Celebrated by the Grand Lodge of California: The Golden Veteran's Award

Editor's Note: In a young lodge such as ours, some of our members may actually reach the 50 year mark for which the Grand Lodge of California has a beautiful and appropriate public ceremony. The following comes from Grand Lodge's Long Form Golden Veteran's Award Ceremony available in iMember2.0. It is hoped that we may hear these words in our lodge one day for one of our own.

"MASTER: Brethren and friends. It has been a custom of the Grand Lodge of California to present to those brothers who have attained a minimum of 50 years of membership in good standing, the Golden Veterans Award. This honor is presented only to the select few who have reached this point in time by their own volition, and at the will and pleasure of our Great Creator.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California has noted with gratification that Brother (or Worshipful if he is a Past Master) [ABC] has been a member of a regular Lodge of Masons for 50 years; at this time, we shall have the pleasure and privilege of bestowing upon him a visible token of our Fraternal love and appreciation.

[...]

[Continues on next page]

[Continued from page 5]

“This Golden Veterans Award is but a small token of the esteem in which you are held and the affection with which you are regarded. The gold color in this pin is used to signify 50 years of membership. The blue face alludes to a righteous conduct, as limitless as the vast expanse of the sky, which is so necessary to maintain that membership. The square and compass and the letter “G” etched on its face, are recognized as an emblem or insignia of our Masonic Fraternity....

“Certainly, many important, successful and even famous men have seen fit to adorn themselves with our beloved Square and Compass, but only a select few, a tiny fraction, are ever entitled to wear the coveted and prestigious “Golden Veterans Award”.

“It is emblematical of that purity of life and conduct which should be displayed by Masons whithersoever dispersed. It is a badge of merit and distinction which will cause your Brethren to recognize you as one who has long been devoted to the ideals of this Institution. This beautiful pin, we know, will be worn with pride. We sincerely hope that you will wear it with pleasure and honor to yourself and to the Fraternity.

[...]

“On a memorable occasion fifty years ago, when the badge of a Mason was placed in your hands, you were admonished to wear that spotless apron with pleasure to yourself and honor to the Fraternity. Thus, I trust, you will so wear the Golden Veteran’s Award. May you wear that emblem in health, happiness and prosperity, and may your days be long upon the land which the Lord God hath given us. May the joy of this moment abide with you always, and may you ever stand as once you stood a just and upright Mason, worthy to be known as a child of God.”



Aging

“You’re never too old to grow younger.”
Mae West

“Forty is the old age of youth, fifty is the youth of old age.” Victor Hugo/French Proverb

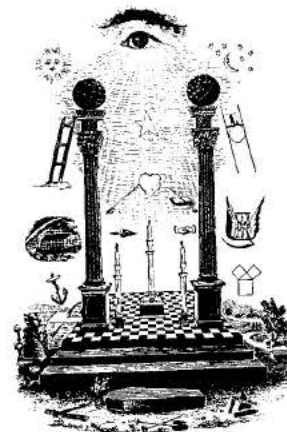
“Age is not a particularly interesting subject. Anyone can get old. All you have to do is live long enough.” Groucho Marx

“The old believe everything, the middle-aged suspect everything, the young know everything.”
[Bro.] Oscar Wilde

“I am in the prime of senility.” [Bro.]
Benjamin Franklin

“Middle age is when your age starts to show around your middle.” Anonymous

Source: Rosten, Leo. *Leo Rosten's Carnival of Wit*. New York: A Dutton Book, 1994. Print. pp. 40 et seq.



Wealth

“There is only one class in the community that thinks more about money than the rich, and that is the poor.” [Bro.]

Oscar Wilde

“His money is twice tainted: ‘Tain’t yours and ‘tain’t mine.” [Bro.] Mark Twain

“I have enough money to last me the rest of my life unless I buy something.” Jackie Mason

“Why is there so much month left at the end of the money?” Maurice Chevalier/John Barrymore

“Whoever said money can’t buy happiness didn’t know where to shop.” Gittel Hudnick

Source: Rosten, Leo. *Leo Rosten's Carnival of Wit*. New York: A Dutton Book, 1994. Print. pp. 315 et seq.



Philanthropy as a Measurement of Prosperity

“The true wealth of a person lies in his hidden strength: his desire to help others without recompense. The best exercise for strengthening the heart is to reach down and lift others up.” Morris Mandel from his “Heaven, Man and a Carrot” (1963) as quoted in Kolatch, Alfred J. *Great Jewish Quotations*. New York: Jonathan David Publishers, Inc., 1996, at p. 305.

Lifting up others is a priority for Masons.
DIK.



“Write On” Campaign is Underway

Begun 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.: March 2, 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



Grand Master's Proclamation for March

MARCH 2024 IS YOUTH ORDERS
MONTH
Shining the Light of

Freemasonry

Whereas California Masons seek to shine the light of Freemasonry for the wider world around us; and

Whereas the young men and women who participate in DeMolay International, Job's Daughters International, and the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls represent the next generation of California Masonry and embody the Masonic values that support our fraternity; and

Whereas members of the Masonic youth orders serve as a beacon to their own communities through a commitment to the Masonic ideals of respect, integrity, and compassion; and

Whereas Masons are uniquely positioned to offer positive mentorship, guidance, and support;

As grand master, I therefore proclaim March 2024 to be Youth Orders Month in California.

The Masonic youth orders are one of the most important parts of our fraternal family; they represent the future of our organization, and their members often graduate into serving as leaders not only of Freemasonry but of our wider communities. Over the past several years, each of the three orders has celebrated its centennial, a truly amazing milestone and evidence of the

historic nature of these groups. Every bethel, chapter, and assembly benefits when Masons give back, whether as volunteers, donors, or as an audience. The benefits run both ways: What Masons give back to the youth orders, these impressive young people give back to us in energy and inspiration. This month, show our youth that Masons live by the values we instill in them. I encourage all California Masons to engage with the Masonic youth orders in their area and to remind them that the Masons of California stand proudly behind them. Visit Masons4Youth.org for information on ways you can help today and for a growing library of resources related to the Youth Orders that lodges can share with their members through trestleboards, emails, or social media.

Sincerely and fraternally,

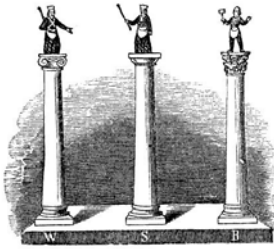
Grand Master G. Sean Metroka

Attest:

Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou



[Stated Meeting, February 10, 2024]



From the East

Brethren I want to start by congratulating Bro. Aldren on his affiliation with our lodge. We are thrilled to have you as part of our Masonic family. Welcome to Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge #866.

Congratulations to Bro. Earl and Bro. Darren on the excellent delivery of the Fellow Craft degree proficiency. I am looking forward to your Master Mason degree conferrals.

Moving forward, the remaining Stated Meetings during my term in the East will begin at 11:00 a.m. rather than 10:00 a.m. This seems to be a more convenient time for the majority of our brethren, and it will also make it easier for our Junior Warden to arrange our Stated Meeting refreshments.

Please note that our April Stated Meeting will be held on the 13th of April instead of the 6th, as the 6th falls on the same weekend as the Master and Wardens Retreat weekend.

We have two exciting events coming up, but we need the support of all of our members to ensure they are successful and beneficial for our lodge. On March 23rd, we will have our bowling night event, where we will hang out, bowl, eat, and have a great time together. Our Junior Warden is currently finalizing the details, so we will have an update about it soon. On June 29th, we will be hosting our fourth annual golf tournament at the Knollwood Country Club. If you have friends or family who like bowling or golf, please promote our events and encourage

them to join us. Both events are open to friends and family.

I regularly update the calendar on our lodge's website; visit <https://clarencefsmith.org/events/> to stay up to date on what we have going on.

Fraternally,

Wor. Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan, Master

From the West

Editor's note: As of this edition's publication, our Brother Senior Warden, Gerald J. Alvarez, is diligently preparing for the double Fellow Craft conferral upcoming in three days. We look forward to his role in the ceremonies of the Second Degree and to his message in next month's Trestle Board . DIK.

From the South

Brethren,
I wanted to thank every single one of you who took the time to fill out one of the emergency cards we handed out last stated meeting. If you were not there and would like to fill one out, just let me know and I would gladly give you one and explain why we are doing this. I know it might seem unnecessary to some but I assure you it's not, especially if someone is having an emergency.

Brethren I hope the stated meeting lunches have been to your liking; if there is something you would like us to try out during one of our upcoming stated meetings please let us know ahead of time. Thank you so much for participating and I hope to see you all next stated meeting on March 2.

Happy Birthday to our March Brothers: Bro. Sergio L.; Bro. Hamood H.; WM. Omar C.; WM. Archimedes C.; Bro. Demetrio C.; Bro. David K.; Bro. Joseph M.; Bro. Joselito C.

Sincerely and Fraternaly yours,

Bro. Joseph Chavez, Junior Warden



From our Secretary

Editor's note: Utilizing A.I., our Secretary had an article generated on the theme of this month's edition: Prosperity and Longevity. Following is a snippet from it:

“Prosperity and longevity are vital components of a truly fulfilling life. Building financial stability, pursuing education and skill development, and embracing entrepreneurship can lay the groundwork for prosperity. Simultaneously, prioritizing health and wellness, fostering social connections, and engaging in lifelong learning promote longevity. By striving for both prosperity and longevity, individuals can unlock the potential for a rich, satisfying, and meaningful existence. It is through the harmonious combination of these two elements that we can truly thrive and make the most of our time on this planet.”

Submitted by

Bro. Akram Al-Awar, Secretary

Op-Ed: A Few Concepts for the Longevity and Prosperity of our Lodge

I have always believed wholeheartedly and enthusiastically in diversity and inclusion. You can see this from these examples from my past activities in Scouting, for instance.

See, e.g.,

https://www.karpmediation.com/app/download/7124984456/David+Karp_+A+Guide+for+Unity+in+Scouting+_+Jewish+Journal.pdf ; also, <http://www.metnews.com/articles/2010/scou072010.htm> .

I still vigorously adhere to these Masonic values, which is why I cherish my connection with our Masonic Lodge, even as a minority member both ethnically and religiously.

And I believe this: To “live long and prosper” as a multi-cultural and multi-religious Masonic Lodge, we should always strive as members to be self-aware and mindful of the important concepts that follow, as defined by Lisa Dunn in her article, “What Is Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)?” at <https://www.inclusionhub.com/articles/what-is-dei> :

“Diversity: Acknowledges all the ways people differ: race, sex, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic status, religious beliefs, and more. [I would add culturally and ethnically.]”

“Inclusion: Is about diversity in practice. It's the act of welcoming, supporting, respecting, and valuing all individuals and groups.”

“Equity is the goal of diversity and inclusion.”

“Belonging: Implies that an equitable structure is in place and functioning to make all people, no matter their differences, feel welcome.”

The 2025 Strategic Plan of our Grand Lodge recognizes the importance of diversity in our lodges.

Inclusion and Belonging are concepts implicit in the definition of Brotherly Love: “By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family.”

Let us remember how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Respectfully submitted,

David I. Karp, Ed.