

In the



Daylight

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

June 2024

Hearing, Seeing, Feeling

Foreword...

Our Lodge is young, not only in the sense that it was formed only a few years ago (2017) but also because many of our Brothers were born after 1969. Nevertheless, for those old enough to remember the rock opera, *Tommy*, and for those younger, let me help you to understand why I write of it now.

First, here is some context from Wikipedia at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tommy_\(The_Who_album\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tommy_(The_Who_album)) :

“*Tommy* is the fourth studio album by the English rock band the Who, first released on 19 May 1969.[fn] Primarily written by guitarist Pete Townshend, *Tommy* is a double album and an early rock opera that tells the story of the fictional Tommy Walker [who, among other things, witnesses a murder which causes him] to disassociate and [become] deaf, dumb and blind to the outside world.”

There is much more to the story, but, for me, the opera stands out with these words sung by Tommy:

“See me, feel me, touch me, heal me.”

Maybe it is only coincidence that the bassist for The Who, John Entwistle, was a Mason (see, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Entwistle) but these lyrics remind me of the following:

“The five human senses, hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling, and tasting are introduced [to Masons] as they relate to our acquisition of knowledge. It is through these senses that the mind receives its perception of things exterior to

ourselves and thus becomes the storehouse of ideas. Of these five senses, *Masonry reveres hearing, seeing, and feeling, as they are particularly important to our intellectual development.* [Emphasis added] Hearing allows man to enjoy the pleasures of society and communicate our thoughts, knowledge and desires to others. Seeing allows us to explore the universe and perceive the dispositions of others. Feeling provides man the ability to distinguish different qualities and alludes to the fact that we learn through experience.” (Quoted from The Five Steps” as described by The Grand Lodge of Texas at

http://www.themasonictrowel.com/Articles/degrees/degree_2nd_files/the_five_steps_gltx.htm).

So, in this edition of “In the Daylight,” let us consider hearing, seeing, and feeling. I hope you enjoy the read.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp, Editor



Trestle Board appears on page 2.



Hearing – The Attentive Ear

Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from an online article from the Masonic Mentor, entitled Hearing The Attentive Ear at <https://masonicmentor.com/hearing-the-attentive-ear/>.

“By hearing you receive ‘the most important part of your knowledge’.

“Hearing is the cornerstone of the Fellowship that constitutes Freemasonry. You have been told that the Grand Architect of the Universe intended by its design that you should be a social creature. You are to reciprocally communicate your thoughts, purposes and desires. In Freemasonry, you receive the most important part of your knowledge by communication with others....

“Freemasonry’s design to make you wiser, better and happier relies on your willingness to listen. This is why you were charged with a duty to converse with well informed Brethren....

“The ear was provided by the Grand Architect, but [for it] to be a jewel, you have to provide the “attentive”.

“Hearing is a function - Listening is a desire. [¶] I heard what you said, I just wasn’t listening. Have you found yourself at times on each side of that statement? Most of us have. As frustrating as it is to be the speaker, it is far more harmful to be the non-listener....

[continues on next page, see “Hearing”]

June 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.)

May 30, 2024 7PM, Exec. Comm. Mtg. on Zoom

June 1, 2024 11AM, 2024, Stated Meeting. Lunch donation \$15.

June 8, 2024 Family Walk @ 2024 Long Beach Walk4Hearing, see p. 8 for details

June 12, 2024 DSI, 3rd Deg, 1st Sec. - Home 721

June 15, 2024 Degree Practice or Conferral

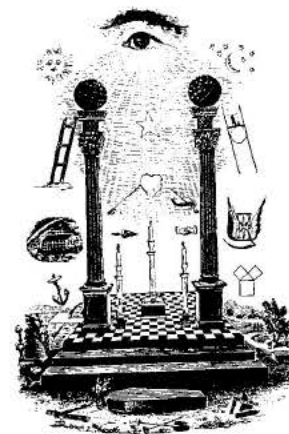
June 20, 2024 6-8PM, Fellowship Dinner

June 22, 2024 Dark

June 29, 2024 Golf Tournament, see p. 9 for details

For July and subsequent months, check out our calendar at

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



[Hearing, continued from p. 2]

“I just had to get that off my chest. [¶] Your fellow Freemasons stand ready to allow you to do just that. In turn, they expect you to be willing to allow them to do the same.... Nothing builds a sense of fellowship faster than open communication between caring, concerned interested Brothers. Freemasonry is designed to provide you with just that.

“You do not have to agree with everything they say and they do not have to agree with everything you say. To be open with each other, both you and the other Brother have to be non-judgmental.

“Minimize distractions [¶] ... Focus on the speaker and what is being said, not how you plan to respond or other things going on around you or in your mind.

“You appear brighter when you listen and are a more effective leader [¶] People who are willing to listen to what you say are obviously smarter than those who refuse to....

“Apply these skills in Lodge. [¶] Think about how this skill can improve discussions and debates in your Lodge. How many times have you have heard the lectures, but did not listen to their meaning? Each was a wasted opportunity to improve yourself in Masonry. Use this skills to listen attentively and consider how each lecture can improve your life.”



CFS Daylight's Officers for 2024

Worshipful Master
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”) Mkrтчhyan
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@clarencesmith.org
Secretary:
Brother Akram Al-Awar



Sometimes I Can't Hear You

You might know that those of us with hearing loss sometimes resist attending parties, business mixers, large-scale Masonic events and similar situations.

It's not because we are shy or feel as if there is a stigma associated with hearing loss, although there is such a stigma.

Rather, it's because the ambient noise in the room is usually too much for us. It is, for me anyway.

As an advocate for myself and others with hearing loss, here's what I try to do in various places e.g., in large rooms with many people, large meeting places, dining rooms with poor acoustics, restaurants, airports, other cavernous places, etc. to manage my own hearing loss.

I remind people if necessary that I do not hear everything they are saying and ask them to repeat words if I don't understand. (Just please don't respond with "never mind.")

I ask people to speak slower and more distinctly. Yelling won't help. Neither does mumbling or slurring words.

I ask people to face me when they speak. Yes, reading lips helps.

I am not a wallflower; however, I usually situate myself at or near a wall to reduce the noise behind me.

I might move our conversation to a quieter place, perhaps a corner of the room or elsewhere.

I might take a break ... or more than one ... by moving myself to a quiet room or even outside for awhile. You should be aware that it is very

hard and extremely taxing to discern distinct voices from all of the other sounds of the room. So, don't think I am being rude, I'm not.

Finally, I ask here that you be kind and supportive to anyone similarly situated if you see that any of us is having difficulty comprehending all that is being said.

For more in helping the hearing impaired see: <https://hearhear.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/10-Commandments-of-Hearing-Loss-1.pdf>

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp

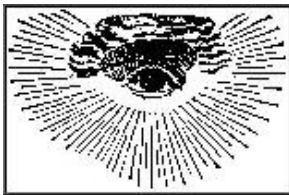
Seeing and Feeling

“[SEEING is that sense by which] we perceive the tempers and dispositions, the passions and affections of our fellow-creatures, when they wish most to conceal them; so that, though the tongue may be taught to lie and dissemble, the countenance will display the hypocrisy to the discerning eye. In fine, the rays of LIGHT which administer to this sense, are the most astonishing parts of the animated creation, and render the eye a peculiar object of admiration. [¶] Of all the faculties, SIGHT is the noblest. The structure of the eye, and its appurtenances, evince the admirable contrivance of Nature for performing all its various external and internal motions; while the variety displayed in the eyes of different animals, suited to their several ways of life, clearly demonstrate this organ to be the master-piece of Nature's works.”

“FEELING is that sense by which we distinguish the different qualities of bodies: such as heat and cold, hardness and softness, roughness and smoothness, figure, solidity, motion, and extension.” [Italics omitted..]

“These [are among the] three senses, Hearing, Seeing and Feeling, [which] are deemed peculiarly essential among Masons.”

Source: From an online page entitled “The five Senses of Human Nature” at <https://sacred-texts.com/mas/gar/gar44.htm> .



A Few Words about the All-Seeing Eye

Editor's note: The following is quoted from a web page of the Grand Lodge of Ohio at

<https://www.freemason.com/eye-of-providence-masonic-symbol/> ,

“The symbol of the all seeing eye serves as a reminder to Freemasons of the watchfulness of the Great Architect. Our brotherhood is held to a high moral standard, dedicating our lives to community, self-improvement, and seeking light. As we commit to Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth in all that we do, we have these symbolic reminders that surround us, reminding us of where our values lie. Thus, the Eye of Providence reminds us of the need for our actions to be just and for us to live humbly and in harmony with all creation.”

“THE ALL-SEEING EYE, Whom the sun, moon, and stars obey, and under Whose watchful care, even comets perform their stupendous revolutions, pervades the inmost recesses of the human heart, and will reward us according to our merits.” Monitor and Officer's Manual, Grand Lodge of California, 1989 edition.

Masonic Recognition

Past Masters of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F. & A.M.

Steven A. Wolvek (2017-2018)
Rogelio (“Roger”) 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.



The Mason's Grip, with Feeling

Diana Ross' solo debut in 1970 was with a song called "Reach Out and Touch (Somebody's Hand)." See, ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reach_Out_and_Touch_\(Somebody%27s_Hand\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reach_Out_and_Touch_(Somebody%27s_Hand))). Here are the opening lines:

"Reach out and touch/Somebody's hand/Make this world a better place/If you can" (<https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/dianaross/reachoutandtouchsomebodysband.html>).

Obviously Ross was not a Mason, but her lyrics ring true for me as one.

As a fraternity, we have a special grip for Masons. Yes, it is a secret for members only, as was the grip from my college fraternity, but that's no matter.

Whenever I meet a man whom I know to be a Mason, especially in our Lodge, I extend my hand in greeting and I give him a Masonic handshake. That is the physical part of feeling, one of the three important senses addressed in this edition.

But there is also an emotional feeling that comes about when shaking hands with a Brother in greeting. As I read in *The Washington Post*, in an article by Trisha Pasricha, MD, published on February 12, 2024, about holding hands with a loved one (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/wellness/2024/02/12/why-we-hold-hands-benefits/>), "It expresses all the things that we are for each other."

So too does taking the hand of a Brother Mason express all the things we are for each other. Personally, I feel a strong emotional connection to the Brother and an affinity with him. And I am happy that we share common

interests, goals and ethics, and a strong bond of fellowship with one another.

And, as the lyrics above tell us, we strive "to make the world a better place/[Because we] can." That is, we extend a helping hand to our Brethren, and to all distressed worthy Brothers wheresoever dispersed around the globe.

Greeting a fellow Mason with the grip can be one of the most important things we do. We can feel the grip and we both feel good when we do so.

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp

Our Brothers in the Philippines

We are very lucky to be a Masonic Lodge with such a diverse membership, including men with cultural ties or family histories from places around the globe. Although we are not a Filipino Lodge per se, we do have several members who trace their roots to the Philippines. Our Brothers with ties there feel a strong connection with the country, the culture and each other; and there is certainly a strong connection both here and there between the Filipino community and Freemasonry. Some of our Filipino Brethren recently attended the 105th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines. Also, as shown in the picture below, our Brothers, among other events, met for a fellowship meal while there and had a great time. Hopefully, they will share their experiences with the Lodge after their return. DIK.



While They Were There, We Were Here.

While some of our Filipino Brethren were away (see preceding article)... some of our Lodge Brothers, some of their family members, and a potential applicant, enjoyed a morning locally on April 27, 2024, at a shooting range followed by an excellent lunch together for camaraderie and fellowship. The pictures below show our happy participants. DIK.



Eventful May Stated Meeting.

Our Inspector, Wor. Leland H. Celestre, PM, made his official visit on behalf of the Grand Lodge of California. He was formally escorted into the Lodge, handed the gavel to which he demurred and gave it back to our Worshipful Master to lead the meeting and had a few words of wisdom for the assembled Masons. See top picture below.

After the meeting, we then had a visit from two representatives of the LAUSD Homeless Education Program who spoke about themselves and their program, received certificates of appreciation, had lunch with us, and gratefully received all of the school supplies we had been gathering for them for the past several months. Their presentation was very informative and well received. See bottom picture below.





Image Attribution © Shawn Bell

Hiram Award Announced. Will Be Presented July 27.

At the May 4 Stated Meeting, our Worshipful Master announced that the 2024 Hiram Award will go to Bro. Akram Al-Awar, our Secretary since 2017.

The Award will be presented to Bro. Akram on July 27, 2024.

The Hiram Award, named for a legendary allegorical figure from the Bible, is presented to a Master Mason in California who has served the Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary. It is the highest honor (other than being Master of the Lodge) that can be bestowed on a member of a Masonic Lodge.

Congratulations Bro. Akram!



Walk and/or Fund-raise with the Lodge at the Long Beach Walk4Hearing, June 8

Consistent with the theme of this edition, “Hearing, Seeing, Feeling,” our Worshipful Master has added this event to his June calendar. Here is what you need to know:

Walk4Hearing is a nationwide campaign which brings hope to people with hearing loss in 21 cities, meeting them in their communities to raise awareness and show support. Teams join with local HLAA Chapters and others to raise awareness and funds for local programs and to promote hearing health.

Our Team is “Masons of CFS Daylight Lodge No. 866.” You can walk and/or fund-raise for HLAA by registering at <https://www.walk4hearing.org/team/5250> . Simply to donate to the Walk4Hearing, if you so choose, you can search for our team name at: https://www.walk4hearing.org/index.cfm?fuseaction_donordrive.donate&eventID_508 .

Here are some additional details:

The Walk is on **Saturday, June 8, 2024, at Shoreline Park, 200 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802. Registration starts at 9 a.m. At 10:30 a.m. there is a Stage Presentation, and the Walk starts at 10:45 a.m.** This is a flat walk, 5K/3.1mi., along the water, rain or shine.

For the Walk: Strollers and wagons are allowed, but no skates, scooters, bikes, etc. due to the safety of participants and for those with hearing loss who may not hear others approaching.

[continues on next page]

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Dress appropriately for the weather and Walk, bring sunscreen, hat, bug spray, sunglasses, water bottle.

For a picnic lunch on the grass afterwards, if you choose: blankets, folding chairs (if needed), sack lunch or cooler with cold food and drinks (non-alcoholic), etc. Not allowed: BBQs, hibachi, campfire, other picnic activities or games. Just lunch. Stay at the park, if you wish, until 2:30 p.m.

This event serves our Masonic Lodge's goals for a family-friendly outdoor event, for public awareness, and for our charitable efforts. Invite friends, too. Wear a shirt, if you have one, to identify yourself as a Mason of our Lodge (or any lodge).

Thanks,

Bro. David I. Karp, "Team Captain"



Fourth Annual Golf Tournament is June 29

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866 will hold its Fourth Annual Golf Tournament on **June 29, 2024, at Knollwood Country Club, 12040 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91355. Registration at 9AM, Tee time at 10AM. Green Fees are \$120, Hole Sponsorships \$100.** Portions of the proceeds support Rainbow for Girls Van Nuys Chapter and Lodge projects and activities. For more information, sponsorship and any payment, contact Bros. Darren Hojjati (818-554-7938) or Ely Ayao (818-335-5919). Zelle payments go to Darren Hojjati (818-554-7938); Venmo: @DarrenHojjati. Awarding and fellowship to follow at Van Nuys Masonic Center (the address

is above). The awards include: "Closest to Pin," "Longest Drive," "\$10K hole in one," trophies for Class A, B, C, and other things.

The flyer for this event is posted on our website at <https://clarencefsmith.org/>.

Fore!



From the East

Congratulations, Bro. Akram, on being selected as this year's Hiram Award recipient. It is well deserved and long overdue. Please mark your calendars for July 27th, which is when we will hold the Hiram Award Ceremony.

Fraternally,

Wor. Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan, Master

From the South

Hello Brethren,
I would like to remind you that our Golf tournament is on June 29 at Knollwood Country Club Golf course located in Granada Hills. EAs and FCs please try to block this entire day so that you may help us out; your help/assistance will be much appreciated. Events like this cannot be done without the support and manpower of many.

I would also like to say: "Happy Fathers Day to all the dads, the not yet dads, the step dads, the moms who are dads, the adoptive dads, the granddads and the dads who are no longer with us." - Unknown.

Also, Happy Birthday to our June Brothers: Steven T.; Angelito R.; Marvin D.; Timoteo Z.; Nolando S.; William R.; Earl A.; Raffi H.

Sincerely and Fraternaly yours,

Bro. Joseph Chavez, Junior Warden

Op-Ed: With Anger You Don't Get Too Far

Editor's Note: The following is adapted from a piece posted on January 4, 2018, in "The Blog of David I. Karp: Mediation, Law and other Bubbe Meises" at <https://karpmediation.wordpress.com/2018/01/04/with-anger-you-don-t-get-too-far/>

In a father's speech at a wedding, I heard the following advice to the newlyweds: "It's hard to stay angry with each other when you're both naked" or words to that effect. Momentary silence followed. Then the room erupted in hearty laughter at the truth of it.

Here is a corollary which I think is equally profound and at least slightly more relevant in conflict situations.

In Yiddish, it goes like this: "*Mit rugzeh fort men nit veit.*"

In English, it means, "With anger you don't get too far." See, http://kehillatisrael.net/docs/yiddish/yiddish_pr.htm.

This is axiomatic: In mediation, and in other conflict settings, you just don't get too far with anger.

So the question is: how do we deal with people's anger?

First I think that we have to understand anger or at least consider what it might be.

I believe that anger is a mask that maybe hides deeper feelings, like these: hurt, insult, vulnerability, guilt, insecurity, powerlessness, humiliation, shame, mortification, diminished self worth or self esteem, frustration, disappointment, etc., or any one or more of these. I think I read this somewhere. I believe it nevertheless.

Anger also comes out as a reaction to perceived injustice, unfairness, inability to control the situation, and so much more.

So what do we do with someone's anger?

Listening is a good start, with empathy for the person's distress. This is like the "hearing" part of this edition's theme which may lead to more understanding on the part of the listener and less hostility on the part of the speaker, even if they continue to disagree.

Labeling sometimes helps, like this: "I hear that you are angry." In response, people sometimes calm down or at least pause to consider what else to say.

Redirecting is useful. Helping the person to refocus after venting, by redirecting him or her from the problem itself to finding a solution to the problem, sometimes works.

Both apology and forgiveness come into play as well.

There is also science about the brain that suggests that anger and other emotions short circuit rational thought and problem solving. Sometimes pointing this out helps too.

Overall, I think empathizing, paying attention, understanding and respecting the person and his or her feelings, and even forgiving when appropriate (whether or not preceded by his or her apology), go the furthest to get past the anger and onto the subsequent peacemaking aspect of conflict resolution.

As a postscript, let me add that, as Masons, we have additional tools that help us to avoid rancor among us in the first place, especially the compass, "for, by due attention to its use, we are taught to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds towards all mankind" and in particular towards our brother Masons.

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor