

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 2025

Leadership and Service

Foreword...

Masonry inspires us to serve others others within the Craft and others without. We give our time, energy and money to benefit individuals and institutions. We become leaders in support of community endeavors. We give of ourselves freely, fervently and zealously as men and Masons, inspired by our Masonic principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

We put others first, so far as we can do so without injuriously diminishing our responsibilities to ourselves, our faiths, our families, businesses or professions. We are exemplars of leadership and service.

One need not be designated as an officer in a lodge to be a leader and/or to give service in some way. The inspired Mason will invest his energy in Lodge endeavors willingly. He will do so when encouraged to be a part of the greater good for which our fraternity is known. He acts to improve the lives of others within or without the Lodge and becomes a better man as a result. This is both the duty and the reward of being a Mason.

In this edition, we will explore more of what leadership and service mean. Please enjoy the read.

Fraternally,
Bro. David I. Karp
Editor

March Trestle Board

(We meet in person each month on the first and third Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM at the Van Nuys Masonic Center, except as otherwise noted. Always subject to change.)

Feb. 27, 2025 – 7PM, Exec. Bd. Mtg. on Zoom

Mar. 1, 2025 – 11AM, Stated Meeting. Lunch donation \$15/person.

Mar. 8, 2025 – Practice / Fellowship

Mar. 15, 2025 – Degree / Practice

Mar. 22, 2025 – Bowling Fellowship

Mar. 29, 2025 – Practice / Fellowship

Please check our online calendar at <https://clarencefsmith.org/events/> or Messenger for changes, updates and future events.





Servant Leadership I

Editor's Note: The following is quoted from <https://www.leland.edu/theologically-speaking/servant-leadership-inherently-christian> :

“Those who hold that servant leadership is inherently biblical may be surprised to learn that it did not originate from the Bible. As it stands, it has its beginnings in the writings of Robert Greenleaf, a long time AT&T executive and management consultant. In building his theory in the late sixties and early seventies of the last century, Greenleaf drew his inspiration from various sources, primarily from *Journey to the East*, a novel by Herman Hesse. Leo, the main character, exemplifies the servant leader: in leading a group on the journey, he does menial chores and sustains the group spiritually. Greenleaf defines the servant leader as the one who feels the call to serve first, and then lead..”



CFS Daylight's Officers for 2025

Worshipful Master Bro. Gerald J. Alvarez
Senior Warden Bro. Joseph (“Joe”) R. Chavez
Junior Warden Bro. Roland (“Letroc”) Cortel
Treasurer Bro. Ely Ayao
Secretary Bro. Akram Al-Awar
Asst. Secretary
Bro. Thomas (“Tom”) K. Sheehan
Chaplain
WB Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, PM
Senior Deacon Bro. Lloyd Donasco, Sr.
Junior Deacon Bro. Elvis L. Alvarez
Senior Steward Bro. Ibrahem Hannoun
Junior Steward Bro. Marvin De Guzman
Marshal Bro. Mkhitar (“Mike”) Mkrtchyan
Organist Bro. Earl Austria
Tiler WB Fernando (“Jhonny”) Lebrilla PM
Officers' Coach
WB Archimedes (“Kim”) S. Cabanig, PM
Candidates' Coach Bro. Aldrin Perez
Inspector WB Leland H. Celestre, PM

Contact information:

Master:
Worshipful Gerald J. Alvarez

Secretary:
Brother Akram Al-Awar



Servant Leadership II

Editor's note: The following is excerpted from an online article from Spalding University entitled "8 Characteristics of Effective Servant Leadership," <https://online.spalding.edu/blog/8-characteristics-effective-servant-leadership>.

"What is Servant Leadership?"

"Servant leadership is a leadership philosophy developed by Robert Greenleaf in the 1970s. It prioritizes people over profits. Servant leaders develop, empower and ensure the well-being of people in their organizations.

"This type of leadership is rooted in the idea that individual growth drives collective success. When servant leaders empower employees to grow, employees feel included and valued. As a result, they try their best to achieve organizational objectives.

"Servant leadership is a transformational leadership style. Transformational leadership inspires people to grow and innovate. On the other hand, transactional leadership incentivizes people to produce optimal outcomes through rewards, penalties and close supervision.

"What Are the Benefits of Servant Leadership?"

"Servant leadership focuses on people, but its benefits extend beyond individual growth to organizational success. By prioritizing people's needs, servant leaders can improve employee turnover, productivity and ethical behavior....

"What Are the Characteristics of a Servant Leader?"

"Servant leaders have several key traits and behaviors for effective leadership. They prioritize understanding others' perspectives and needs while fostering a culture of trust and empowerment. They also leverage past experiences for strategic planning, promote collaboration and continuously seek opportunities for personal and organizational growth.

[Here are the eight characteristics of effective servant leadership:]

- "1. Empathy....
- "2. Listening Skills....
- "3. Integrity....
- "4. Empowerment....
- "5. Foresight....
- "6. Collaborative Spirit....
- "7. Awareness....
- "8. Commitment to Continuous Learning...."





Leadership Qualities in a Lodge from This Writer's Perspective

These important qualities come to mind:

- * Prioritizes our Lodge.
 - * Manages time and responsibilities, business, personal, Lodge.
 - * Well Prepared and well organized, well in advance.
 - * Self-Aware, attentive to others.
 - * Communicative.
 - * Active, visible, and present for lodge activities nearly all the time, setting an example of participation for others to follow.
 - * Forward thinking, a good planner.
 - * Devoted and enthusiastic.
 - * Diligent.
 - * Good delegation, but delegation does not mean abdication.
 - * Accepts responsibility for things that go well and things that don't go well.
 - * Capable and adept at ritual and at overseeing the activities and finances of the lodge.
 - * Encouragement of other officers, committeemen and members, oversight without obstruction, complimentary and supportive.
 - * A role model within and without the lodge.
- Respectfully submitted,
Bro. David I. Karp

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)
Spartak ("Spo") Khachatryan (2024)

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)

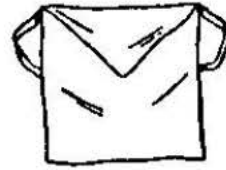
Akram Al-Awar (2024)
Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig (2022)
Celso V. Cardano, Jr. (2022)
Keith S. Cotton (2017)
Bruce L. Ewald, PM (2011)
Bruce L. Hawley, PM (2000)*
David I. Karp (2020)
Barry Mann (2021)
John T. Seletos (2017)
Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)
Rogelio L. Soriano, PM (2018)
Steven A. Wolvek, PM (2019)
* Deceased.



Service to Others

Editor's note: Editor's note: The following is excerpted from an online article by Chad E. Cooper entitled "The Importance of Being in Service to Others for Your Own Success" at <https://medium.com/thrive-global/the-importance-of-being-in-service-to-others-for-your-own-success-c1d7f5711b21> .

"I believe to be truly successful and live a legendary life you must be in balance with all aspects of life and being of service is a big part of that balance. This means being of service to others in whatever way fits your lifestyle. Whether its mailing a check to your favorite charity, donating time to the homeless, or assisting in your community as a mentor; it's as important to you as to those you may serve. Contribution beyond yourself keeps your life in check, where you form a good foundation to build your successes upon. When you just take from the world you live in and choose not to contribute to it, it keeps you in a state of [survival only] no matter how much you have or how much money you make."



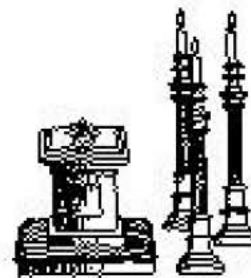
Masonic Service to Others

“Masons take an obligation to support their fellow members and their communities. In California, this is illustrated by their commitment to the health and well-being of all members and their families, and through support of statewide public education and literacy programs.”

Source: <https://freemason.org/about-us/>

Also, as we are charged to do for our neighbor, we are “[to render] him every kind office which justice or mercy may require; [to relieve] his distresses and [sooth] his afflictions; and “[to do for] him as, in similar cases, you would that he should do unto you.”

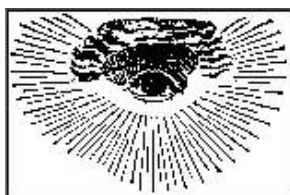
Source: *Monitor and Officers Manual*, Grand Lodge of California (1989), p. 16.



Service to Humanity

Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from our lodge newsletter of October 2023 and is excerpted verbatim from an essay entitled "Masonic Justice Requires Action," by WB Scott S Dueball, available at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C7LfljacDYAolVPRStxs4hARD5G62-2r/view> .

"A Mason's duty is to serve humanity. Service to humanity cannot be accomplished while possessing any measure of indifference.... [W]e must be concerned with the suffering of our fellow human beings. If we are to truly live Masonry then we must continually ask ourselves if our actions are justifiable through the lens of Masonic Philosophy. Each of us struggles to stomach the image of a hungry child, an abused woman, a family separated by immigration law, or a homeless veteran. Masons must be committed to turning concern in into action. When was the last time you took action to help relieve another man's discomfort? When was the last time you and your lodge discussed the needs of the disenfranchised in your community? We must rise above political, social, and racial divides to see that humanity is at stake every day in the communities that surround us. We cannot continue to treat justice as the inconvenience in our lives. Our cement of affection is what draws us toward reducing this perspective of inconvenience. The Mason must endeavor so that no creature goes without food, or protection, or shelter, or love."



[Joint service project at Filipino American Community Los Angeles, 01/25/2025, with another Lodge]

Lodge Service to Others

Here is a short list of some of our efforts in service to others, not in any particular order:

Water Station to distribute water to runners at 5K/10K for Shriners Hospital

Degree ceremony and BBQ for residents of the Masonic Homes in Covina

Disaster relief here and in the Phillippines
Book, school supplies, hygiene kits
collections for students

Clothing collection and food service for Midnight Mission

Fundraising for Masonic Youth Programs
Volunteerism to support Scouting etc.

Participation in and donations for the Walk4Hearing in support of the Hearing Loss Association of America

Maintenance projects at the home of a "Masonic Widow" and a community center

Direct donations to/for Distressed Worthy Brothers

Indirect donations via the California Masonic Foundation

Individual donations by Brothers to charities of their choice, including but not limited to "Masons4Mitts"

Future projects yet to be determined. DIK.



Why Helping Others is Good for You

Editor's note: The following is excerpted from an online page of the University College London at <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/news/2020/apr/10-benefits-helping-others> .

“Here are 10 benefits of lending a hand to those in need....

“1. Helping others feels good. There is some evidence to suggest that when you help others, it can promote physiological changes in the brain linked with happiness....

“2. It creates a sense of belonging. Helping others can help us to make new friends and connect with our community....

“3. It gives you a sense of purpose. Studies show that volunteering enhances an individual's overall sense of purpose and identity. This is because helping others can make you feel rewarded, fulfilled and empowered.

“4. Giving helps keep things in perspective. Helping others, especially those who are less fortunate than yourself, can help to put things into perspective and make you feel more positive about your own circumstances.

“5. It's contagious. One study found that people are more likely to perform feats of generosity after observing another do the same....

“6. Helping others can help you live longer. Regular volunteering can improve your ability to manage stress and stave off disease as well as increasing your sense of life satisfaction....

“7. It will give you a sense of renewal. Helping others can teach you to help yourself....

“8. You'll boost your self-esteem. People who volunteer have been found to have higher self-esteem and overall wellbeing....

“9. You'll create stronger friendships. When you help others, you give off positive vibes, which can rub off on peers and improve your friendships....

“10. You become a glass half-full type person. Having a positive impact on someone else could help you change your own outlook and attitude. Experts say that performing acts of kindness boosts your mood and ultimately makes you more optimistic and positive.”

Cheerful Service

As a retired Scout Leader and a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow (“OA”), Scouting's Honor Society, I am aware that Scouting is a character development and leadership training program for young people.

Interestingly, the OA was founded by Bro. E. Urner Goodman (Robert A. Lamberton Lodge No. 487 (GL PA) [see, <https://www.wagion.org/2016/03/05/6-things-you-probably-didnt-know-about-e-urner-goodman/>]

Among other things, OA's purpose is to instill in its members the ideals of cheerful service to others.

In pertinent part, the OA Obligation includes these words: “I ... will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit, even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities, and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others.” (*Order of the Arrow Handbook*. 2000 ed. Boy Scouts of America, 10). DIK.



January Installation of Officers Well Attended

The Installation Ceremony and the related dinner celebration took place on January 26, 2025, with many in attendance, as shown in the image below, captured by our own Bro. Steve Engstrom, a professional photographer, who provides “cheerful service” to the Lodge. (He is also a Vigil Honor member of the OA, see preceding page.) Thank you Bro. Steve and congratulations once again to the 2025 line of officers identified on page 2 above.



Consequently, this is both an opportunity for leadership in the Lodge and service by the Lodge which will satisfy our obligation to make the world a better place.

And we have many Brothers in Lodge who might seize this opportunity to improve themselves by helping others.

As editor, I will be happy to write about it.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp



[Stated Meeting, February 1, 2025]

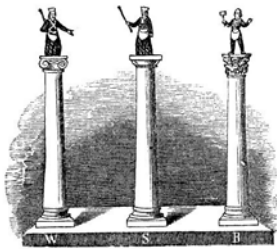
An Opportunity for Lodge Leadership and Service

Mr. Arthur Salazar, Grand Master of Masons in California, suggests in his April Proclamation (which will appear in the April edition of this newsletter) that California Masons mark the 175th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge’s founding on April 17, 1850, by having a Masonic “Day of Service” on April 17, 2025.

He recommends that a service project in or for the community should be planned and promoted for these purposes: to help others, for outreach, and for public awareness on that day. He believes the community should know who we are, what we do, and why.



[First Degree Conferral, February 15, 2025.
Congrats to Bro. Jam.]



From the East

Brethren,
Hope everything's well and all are in good health.

First of all I would like to congratulate our newly obligated brother, Bro. Jamille Paas on his first step in Masonry. Let us guide and support him to understand how Masonry works and how to use the working tools and his obligation as an Entered Apprentice Mason.

As Worshipful Master this year, I accept the position's challenges, trials and responsibilities. I'm fortunate that I have all the past masters' presence, support, understanding, patience, respect and guidance to rule and govern the lodge. The success of the Master is a great reward for the Lodge. This task is not easy but if we work together as one we will overcome any challenges or trials.

I will again remind all members to support our events and activities this year. We will feature more fellowships and family events so we will have more time together to share and learn from our experiences.

Let's also focus on how to help to grow our finances for the betterment of the lodge in the upcoming years.

I hope that every officer will fulfill his duties and that all members will do what is appropriate to help the lodge.

Let the light shine upon us.

Fraternally and Respectfully Yours,

Gerald Alvarez

Master

From the West

Brethren,
I would like to congratulate Brother Jamille Paas who took the Solemn Obligation of an Entered Apprentice Mason on Saturday, February 15, 2025. I look forward to seeing him as well as our other EA's grow and become Master Masons and hopefully someday be part of the officers line.

I would also like to thank Bro. Ely Ayao and his wife for opening their home and allowing us to have our first fellowship of the year.

Brethren, please make time to arrange your schedules so that you may join us in our monthly stated meetings which are every first Saturday of the month.

I hope that everyone is doing well and hope to see you all soon.

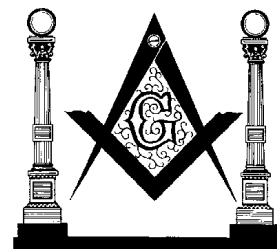
Thank you!

Sincerely and Fraternaly yours,

Bro. Joseph Chavez

Senior Warden

See next page for words "From the South"



From the South

Brethren,
It's great to be back in Lodge as Junior Warden after about six years' absence due to family and business work. My return gives me a renewed sense of belonging, with positive feelings and a renewed commitment to our Masonic values. It feels like coming home to a familiar group of people who share similar values and traditions.

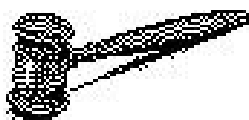
Let my return be an example for others. It can be meaningful to reconnect with old Brothers and mentors within the Lodge, while also forming new bonds of brotherhood with our new members, including our newest Entered Apprentice, Bro. Jamille Paas, to whom I say congratulations on your first step of a Mason.

To return to the Lodge is to reconnect with personal growth opportunities and to feel good about aiding, supporting and protecting one another. It is a chance, too, to reflect on that purity of life, service, and conduct as instilled by our obligations at the altar.

Also, I am happy, since my last involvement, to get a refresher on ritual as well as memorization. Thank you to Wor. Gerald and Wor. Kim, for encouraging my preparation for the station of Junior Warden and for reminding me of my obligation as one of the founding members to help the Lodge.

Thank you to all my Brothers for welcoming me back with your open arms.

Fraternally yours,
Bro. Roland Cortel
Junior Warden



Bonus Article: The Past Master

Editor's Note: We are lucky to have many outstanding Past Masters in our Lodge (see p. 4) and hope to see them often. The following is excerpted from a web page of Esoteric Freemasons at <https://esotericfreemasons.com/freemasonry/past-master-freemason/>.

“The Past Master Freemason is an esteemed and time-honored position within the Masonic fraternity.... [He] has demonstrated a deep commitment to [Masonic] values ... and has earned a place of honor in [the] lodge. [His] duties and responsibilities ... are wide-reaching, as [he is] charged with the task of preserving and promoting the traditions of Freemasonry. [He] is looked upon as a mentor ..., providing a valuable source of knowledge to younger members as they continue to grow in Masonic study and practice....

“Being a Past Master Freemason carries great responsibility. It is not only a privilege, but also a duty to the other members of the lodge. As a leader of the lodge, it is the responsibility of [each] Past Master to uphold the values and principles of Freemasonry. A few key responsibilities are [to]: Uphold proper Masonic etiquette and protocol; Assist the current Master in managing the lodge; Act as a mentor and guide for new members; Help to resolve disputes within the lodge; Maintain knowledge of Masonic history and tradition; Perform ceremonial roles in special events.

“As a Past Master, it is their duty to ensure that their Lodge runs smoothly and efficiently.... They should strive to foster strong relationships between all members and promote fellowship within the Lodge.

“The Past Master is also responsible for setting an example for new members. They should demonstrate proper Masonic etiquette and protocol at all times, as this will help to create an atmosphere of respect and mutual understanding amongst all members....”