

# In the



# Daylight

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

March 2026

## Quiet

### Foreword...

As you probably know, I struggle with Hearing Loss every day. I am not a whiner. Yet, every time I visit our Lodge, it's a challenge. So, I appreciate the quiet that surrounds us when we are at labor in a meeting or during a ceremony. It's a different story when we are at refreshment, in the small dining room upstairs or in the larger one downstairs. It's the acoustics, among other things, that make attendance difficult.

There is a misconception about hearing aids. That is, the hearing aids will amplify the voice of the person speaking. That's not all, however. Hearing aids also amplify the ambient noise of the environment. Here's why it makes a difference:

It's *very difficult* to pick out the speaker's voice from the other noises in the room. The words drown in an ocean of sound. To try to hear one person is to use up a significant amount of brain power. It is exhausting. There are some actions I can take, however, to manage the experience.

I can ask to move to a quieter environment to have our conversation. Or, I can simply take a break and move away from the noise, maybe go outside, one or more times, to give my brain a break. Or I can turn off my hearing aids and mute all the sounds around me, but then I cannot converse easily with anyone. When I do that, it's like hearing under water, as if I were submerged in the ocean or a pool. Or, as in many cases, I

can forgo attending large gatherings altogether, although I miss out on fellowship that way.

Hearing Loss is an invisible disability, but a disability nevertheless. So, I appreciate quiet when I am in Lodge. And I appreciate your understanding when I struggle or am absent.

This month's issue is about quiet, but not only in the sense of the foregoing. It is also about avoiding disquiet, or the unease, disorder and dissonance when people vocally disagree.

I treasure the valuable silence and the quiet moments, but also the peace and harmony of Masons when we gather, whether within or without the Lodge. You will see what I mean when you read through this edition.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp, Editor.



Trestle Board appears on page 2.



[“Silence” by *Augustus Saint-Gaudens*, about 1874.  
Image Attribution: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site  
<https://saint-gaudens.org/augustus-gaudens-cd-html/Monuments/Ideal/Silence.htm>  
 (“Marble, 8 feet (2.44 m.) high, Masonic Soldier's and Sailor's Hospital, Utica, NY.”)]

## Silence (Quiet) in the Lodge

Editor’s note: The following is quoted verbatim from a web page at <https://www.nos-colonnes.com/en/blog/our-items/the-silence-in-freemasonry>.

The silence of the Lodge is unlike any other. It is not merely the absence of noise, but a quality of the space itself, a way in which the place is inhabited. It doesn’t merely express reverence or solemnity – it alters perception itself. One enters this silence as one would enter another kind of time or rhythm of breath : slower, denser and more deliberate.

This silence does not appear on its own. It begins the moment the pillars are raised, the ritual elements are arranged according to the craft customs and the light is revealed to the brethren. Then, without anyone saying a word, something shifts. The outside world fades. The space draws in on itself, not in exclusion, but in gathering. In that collected stillness, a particular kind of silence settles in – not enforced, but welcomed.

Silence [is the] the gateway to secrecy.

This silence shapes the space as much as it emerges from it. It provides the lodge with its invisible structure. It surrounds movements,

setting the pace of gestures and framing glances. It does not forbid speech; it prepares it. It is not just a decorative element, but an essential condition for true presence.

It connects the Brethren without words or ambiguity. It enables a bond that doesn’t require explanation or verbal agreement. In this silence, each person meets [himself] while remaining connected to the group. It opens an inner space rarely invited by the outside world – a quiet, vulnerable and deeply alive place.

It is not merely respect or reverence. It becomes a shared breath; a different way of being together. In the silence of the Lodge, everything falls into place without merging. What binds us is no longer words, but a shared, quiet presence – subtle, vibrant and undeniably real.

[Continues on page 3, see “Silence (Quiet)”]

### 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.)

March 7, 2026 10AM, Masonic Education  
March 7, 2026 11AM, Stated Meeting.  
Lunch donation \$15/person.  
March 21, 2026 11AM, 50-Year Golden Veteran Award Ceremony for Bro. Bill R.

Additional information, including any changes to the calendar, may become available subsequently. So, look to Messenger or text messaging for the Master’s postings or contact him directly. Ed.

["Silence (Quiet)," continued from page 2]

Silence [is] the Matrix of Masonic Speech

It takes a long time to earn the right to speak.

In the Lodge, speech is never uttered lightly. It does not arise from a need to speak, much less a desire to convince. Rather, it emerges slowly from a silence that has been inhabited, traversed and matured. This silence is not mere waiting; it is a time of fermentation. It is not merely a preparation for speech; it is the very substance from which meaningful speech can emerge.

Speaking in the Lodge always carries the risk of having to speak truthfully. This risk is not merely technical or rhetorical, but existential. It requires the speaker to be fully engaged. They must have listened not just to others, but also to what resists or consents within themselves. In silence, unnecessary words fall away. They simply have no hold. Beyond opinions and ideas, what remains deserves to be offered to the assembly as an act.

Silence does not merely precede speech; it surrounds, shapes and limits it. It protects what matters. Through this precise relationship with silence, Masonic speech transcends mere discourse to become an offering, a deposit and a commitment. It steps back as much as it steps forward.

When speech emerges from this kind of silence not to fill a void, but to extend listening it no longer seeks to impose itself. It does not seek to justify itself. It does not persuade. It invites. It proposes. It leaves a mark only because it has been placed in a space that is ready to receive it.

Perhaps this is what distinguishes Masonic speech: it does not seek to conclude, but to open up possibilities. What it opens is silence once again.

### CFS Daylight's Officers for 2026

Worshipful Master Bro. Joseph R. Chavez  
Senior Warden Bro. Roland Cortel  
Junior Warden  
WB Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig, PM  
Treasurer Bro. Ely Ayao  
Secretary Bro. Akram Al-Awar  
Asst. Secretary WB Gerald Alvarez, PM  
Chaplain Bro. Aldrin Perez  
Senior Deacon Bro. Ryan Lim  
Junior Deacon Bro. Harlem Ruiz  
Senior Steward Bro. Lloyd Donasco, Sr.  
Junior Steward Bro. Earl Austria  
Marshal Bro. Jamille Paas  
Organist Bro. Cody Morrison  
Tiler Bro. Marvin De Guzman  
Officers' Coach  
WB Archimedes ("Kim") S. Cabanig, PM  
Candidates' Coach  
Inspector WB Leland H. Celestre, PM

Contact information:

Master:  
Worshipful Joseph Chavez

Secretary:  
Brother Akram Al-Awar





## When Masonic Silence is Golden

**E**ditor's note: The following is quoted verbatim from a web page at <https://masonsleadbetter.com/why-is-silence-golden-practicing-the-art-of-masonic-silence/>.

In the Masonic ritual, we are directed to practice silence and circumspection, being “watchful and guarded in our thoughts, words and actions...”

As I [the unknown writer of this post] thought about my use of silence, I felt satisfied and congratulated myself on the practical use of Masonry.

I researched, “What are the psychological and mental benefits of not engaging in contentious arguments and remaining silent?”

Here are ten benefits I found.

**Reduced stress and anxiety:** Engaging in heated debates often triggers the body's stress response, elevating cortisol levels. You can avoid this physiological reaction and maintain a calmer mind by choosing silence.

**Improved emotional regulation:** Silence allows you to process your emotions without immediately reacting, helping you control your feelings and responses better.

**Enhanced self-awareness:** Quiet moments provide an opportunity for introspection, allowing you to better understand your thoughts, feelings, and motivations.

**Increased mental clarity:** Avoiding arguments gives your mind space to think clearly and rationally rather than becoming clouded by emotional responses.

**Better decision-making:** With a clearer mind and reduced emotional reactivity, you're more likely to make thoughtful, well-considered decisions.

**Preservation of relationships:** By not engaging in contentious arguments, you can prevent damage to personal and professional relationships that often result from heated exchanges.

**Improved focus and concentration:** Silence and the absence of conflict allow your brain to concentrate on essential tasks without the distraction of argumentative thoughts.

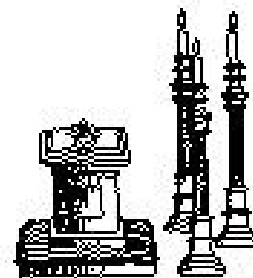
**Enhanced creativity:** A quiet mind free from argumentative clutter can foster creative thinking and problem-solving abilities.

**Improved sleep quality:** By reducing stress and mental agitation associated with arguments, you may experience better sleep, which is crucial for overall mental health.

**Increased empathy and understanding:** Silence allows you to listen more effectively, potentially leading to greater empathy and understanding of others' perspectives.

Wise King Solomon said in Proverbs 17:28  
Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

The art of Masonic silence. Sometimes it's tough.



## Quiet During Ceremonies

“The profound silence of a tiled Lodge during ceremonies such as the initiation of a candidate can be deeply impressive, and naturally induces solemn reflections upon the essential meaning of the work. The Masonic philosopher W.L. Wilmshurst held that an ideal Lodge, when properly tiled and duly opened, would be a sanctuary of silence and contemplation, broken only by ceremonial utterances or such words of competent and luminous instruction as the Master or Past Masters are moved to extend. And the higher the degree in which it is opened, the deeper and more solemn would be the sense of excluding all temporal thoughts and interests and of approaching more nearly that veiled central Light whose opening into activity in our hearts we profess to be our predominant wish. In such circumstances each Lodge meeting would become an occasion of profound spiritual experience. No member would wish to disturb the harmony of such a Lodge by talk or alien thought.” W.L Wilmshurst, *The Masonic Initiation*, Revised Edition (San Francisco: Plumbstone, 2007) pp. 30-31.” Eyer, Shawn. *Silence in Freemasonry*, 2009. See also, *Silence and Solemnity in Craft Freemasonry* by Shawn Eyer at

<https://www.scribd.com/document/822991046/Silence-and-Solemnity-in-Craft-Freemason#page18>



### 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)  
Gerald J. Alvarez (2025)

#### **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, PM (2022)  
Celso V. Cardano, Jr., PM (2022)  
Keith S. Cotton (2017)  
Bruce L. Ewald, PM (2011)  
Bruce L. Hawley, PM (2000)\*  
David I. Karp (2020)  
Fernando (“Jhonny”) O. Lebrilla, Jr., PM (2025)  
Barry Mann (2021)  
John T. Seletos (2017)  
Thomas K. Sheehan (2014)\*  
Rogelio L. Soriano, PM (2018)  
Steven A. Wolvek, PM (2019)

#### **Sciots’ Cornerstone Award**

Ely D. Ayao (2025)

#### **Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award**

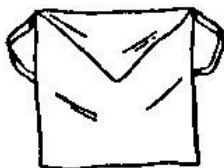
Steven W. Engstrom (2022)  
David I. Karp (2007)

\* Deceased.

## Two Images from the January Installation of Officers Below

The first illustrates the Brothers in position before being installed.

The second shows the incoming Worshipful Master, Bro. Joseph, affirming his responsibilities and accepting his new role in the East.



## Some Advice from Mother Teresa

“These are the few ways we can practice humility:

To speak as little as possible of one's self.

To mind one's own business.

Not to want to manage other people's affairs.

To avoid curiosity.

To accept contradictions and correction cheerfully.

To pass over the mistakes of others.

To accept insults and injuries.

To accept being slighted, forgotten and disliked.

To be kind and gentle even under provocation.

Never to stand on one's dignity.

To choose always the hardest.”

Mother Teresa, *The Joy in Loving: A Guide to Daily Living*, as quoted at <https://www.goodreads.com>.



[Stated Meeting, February 7, 2026]

## 10 Commandments of Hearing Loss

- I.** Thou shalt not speak to the listener from another room.
- II.** Though shalt not speak with your back toward the listener or while the listener's back is toward you.
- III.** Thou shalt not speak as you walk away.
- IV.** Thou shalt not turn your face away from the listener while continuing to talk.
- V.** Thou shalt not speak while background noise (water running, radio or TV playing, people talking, etc.) is as loud or louder than your voice.
- VI.** Thou shalt not start to speak before getting the listener's attention and while the listener is reading, engrossed in a TV program, or otherwise occupied.
- VII.** Thou shalt not speak while your face is hidden in shadow.
- VIII.** Thou shalt not obstruct a view of your mouth while speaking.
- IX.** Thou shalt not speak rapidly or by shouting.
- X.** Thou shalt be patient, supportive and [kind] when the listener appears to have difficulty comprehending what has been said.

Source:

<https://levinehearing.com/blog/ten-commandments-of-hearing-loss/>

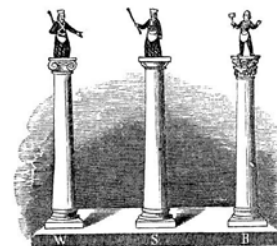
## The "Spirit of Hiram" Performance Announced

The Pasadena Scottish Rite presents The Spirit of Hiram, a dramatic performance of the Master Mason Degree, at 8PM on March 13, 2026. Doors open at 6PM, dinner (n/c) at 7PM. Master Masons only. Dues card required for admission.

[SoH@PasadenaScottishRite.org](mailto:SoH@PasadenaScottishRite.org) .



[1<sup>st</sup> Degree Conferral, February 21, 2026,  
Congrats Bro. JB]



## From the East

**H**ello Brethren, I hope this message finds you well.

First and foremost, I would like to thank each of you for placing your trust in me to serve and guide our Lodge this year. I am truly honored and humbled by the opportunity. Please know that the success of our year does not rest on one man, but on the participation, unity, and commitment of every single Brother. I respectfully ask that, whenever possible, you prioritize the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month so you may join us for our stated meetings, practices, degree work, or fellowship. Your presence matters more than you know, especially to our newer Brothers who look to us for guidance and example.

[Continues on next page, see "East"]

["East," continued from page 7]

Congratulations to Bro. Joseph B. Dizon on his First Degree Conferral. Brother, please know that you have many Brethren ready to guide and support you as you take your first steps in Masonry. I would also like to commend the conferral team for their outstanding work and dedication.

A special thank you as well to the Brethren who attended from Sunnyside, San Fernando, and Granada Hills Lodges. Your support and fellowship are sincerely appreciated. You are always welcome among us.

Additionally, I invite all of you to join us on Saturday, March 21st at 11:00 AM, as we celebrate Brother Bill's 50-Year Golden Veteran Award Ceremony. Reaching such a milestone is rare and remarkable, and it deserves to be honored by a full Lodge.

For the first time this year, the 709th Masonic District (Reseda No. 666, Home Lodge No. 721, Van Nuys No. 450, and C.F.S. Daylight No. 866) would like to cordially invite you, your families, and friends to our Spring District Celebration on Saturday, April 4th at Noon. More details to follow, but we hope you will mark your calendars and join us in fellowship.

If you have any questions or would like to become more involved, please feel free to reach out to me, our Senior Warden Roland Cortel, or our Junior Warden WB Archimedes "Kim" Cabanig, PM.

Thank you, Brethren. I look forward to laboring and collaborating alongside each of you this year.

Fraternally yours,  
Joseph Chavez, Master



## From the West

### GREETINGS BRETHREN FROM THE WEST!

Here are some reminders from various teachings for harmony:

A REMINDER TO BE JUST, BE FAITHFUL, BE TRUE, as on the Master's Pin!

As the Master suggests to every newly raised Master Mason: "Be just, be faithful, be true and convince the brotherhood by your acts that on becoming a Master Mason you have become a better man. Retain we entreat you, that goodness of heart, that purity of intention and that love of virtue of which we think you now possessed." *California Cipher*, Grand Lodge of California, F. & A.M. Allen Publishing Company, Richmond, VA 1990, at p.182 [in the clear].

This is a reminder for us to embody these fundamental principles of Masonry in the Lodge and in society. As Master Masons we are charged with making a profound difference in the community and that starts with growing and changing as an individual. That change may start with mentoring a new Mason, or attending lodge or any of our other social events.

Here's a refresher on the duties of THE THREE (3) PILLARS, representing the Power of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty:

The three pillars are symbolic supports of a Lodge, representing the foundational principles of the Craft. Wisdom is represented by the Worshipful Master, Strength by the Senior Warden, and Beauty by the Junior Warden. These pillars are linked to architectural orders that guide members in moral personal development and coordination. [See, <https://www.thesquaremagazine.com/mag/article/2025q4triadic-symbolism-in-freemasonry/> AND NOW, THE DUTIES OF OUR PILLAR OFFICERS [from the Grand Lodge of California, F. & A.M at <https://freemason.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/FUNCTIONS-OF-THE-LODGE.pdf> .

[Continues on next page, see "West"]

["West, continued from page 8]

"WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

The Worshipful Master is the elected leader of the lodge, embodying the spirit of the builder. He oversees all lodge operations, ensuring that meetings and ceremonies are conducted with precision and reverence for Masonic tradition. As chairman of the executive and charity committees, he guides the lodge in fostering harmony, promoting philanthropy, and creating meaningful change in the lives of its members and the broader community. His leadership sets the foundation for the lodge's mission, inspiring personal growth, strengthening fraternal bonds, and advancing the timeless values that unite us."

"SENIOR WARDEN:

The Senior Warden, second in command, is a leader focused on building knowledge and fostering growth within the lodge. Elected by the brethren, he oversees the education and formation of candidates, ensuring their journey is meaningful and rooted in Masonic values. As chairman of the Education Committee, he collaborates with Candidate Coaches to create a transformative experience for candidates and works with the Junior Deacon to provide engaging educational programming for all members. Prepared to step into the Master's role when needed, the Senior Warden's work strengthens the foundation and future of the lodge."

"JUNIOR WARDEN:

The Junior Warden, third in command, is elected by the brethren and plays a key role in strengthening the lodge's sense of community. Responsible for membership engagement, prospect engagement, and overseeing the welcome committee, he ensures that prospective members are warmly welcomed and supported throughout their journey into the lodge. By engaging current members and promoting active participation, he fosters a culture of harmony and connection. Additionally, the Junior Warden supervises the lodge during times of refreshment, ensuring propriety and enhancing fellowship."

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On a personal note, I would like to congratulate Bro. JB Dizon on his First Degree conferral and WB Kim Cabanig on his election to the South as Junior Warden. You are now a Principal Officer, responsible for the harmonious operation of the Lodge at both labor and refreshment. May your stewardship of the South bring strength to our Craft.

Fraternally yours,

Bro. Roland Cortel, Senior Warden

## From the South

Greetings from the South, Brethren.

I am honored and humbled to have been elected as your Junior Warden. This role presents a valuable opportunity for me to share my experiences and work alongside you all. As we progress, there will be some adjustments in how we operate our lodge, in cooperation with the three pillars and, most importantly, under the guidance of our Worshipful Master.

I encourage every member to take time to read both the California Masonic Code and the California cipher. These resources offer valuable insight into our fraternity and help deepen our understanding of its principles. Should you need assistance, have questions, or want to share suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am available to support you at any time, day or night, throughout the year.

To further enhance our lodge operations, I recommend opening an account to access the iMember 2.0 app from the Masons of California. Exploring the lodge planning guide within the app provides a comprehensive look at our lodge programs, whether they span five or ten years. This ensures continuity for future officers and helps everyone understand how our lodge budget

[Continues on next page, see "South"]

[“South, continued from page 9]

is prepared, committees are organized, and programs and events are scheduled for the Masonic year. I hope these articles and recommendations offer greater clarity about our lodge's day-to-day activities.

Opportunity is often granted rather than requested, especially for those on the officer's line. Always remember that "time, patience, and perseverance will accomplish all things."

For our refreshments, please let me know if you have any suggestions regarding the food we share together. I am at your service in the station in the South. Thank you.

Fraternally yours,  
Archimedes "Kim" Cabanig, PM.,  
Junior Warden

**Belated and Upcoming Birthdays – 1st**

**Qtr. 2026 – Happy Birthday Brethren**

JAN: Bros. Joseph E.; Raed M.; Ernesto R.;  
Jamilie P.; Arman A.; Ramiel M.

FEB: Bros. Michael C.; Bradley W.; Axle D.;  
Ibrahim H.; Allen W.; John M.

MAR: Bros. Sergio L.; Hamood H., Omar C.,  
PM; Kim C., PM; David K.; Joseph M.;  
Joselito C.; Cody M.

## Quiet, Not Disquiet: An Op-Ed Piece

Occasionally (rarely, actually), I sense some wisps of disquiet in the Lodge, some rumblings of worry or unease among the members. Sometimes there is an undercurrent of disagreement or concern among the Brethren, or a murmured rumor about one thing or another. Even in a place of quiet or tranquility like our Lodge there can be disruption, although unwelcome.

We should always strive for peace and harmony. However, in a diverse group of

independent minds, unrest can occur from time to time. We are only human and we may see things differently from one another.

This does not mean that any of us should promote disquiet in our Lodge with argument, harsh words or attitudes, or otherwise harm the goodness of the ties that bind us to one another. (I am reminded of the word, “*kukhleffel*” which means “cooking spoon” in Yiddish and refers to a person who stirs up trouble.)

When we talk about “who best can work and best agree,” such a phrase, to me, does not contemplate submission to the will or desires of another Brother *ipso facto*, that is, automatically or inevitably; rather, I believe it calls for compromise or at least a respectful understanding of another Brother's spoken viewpoint even if different from one's own. It is the quality of attitude—kind condescension and commiseration, even courtesy and affability that these words suggest.

To reach for quiet in our Craft—that is, serenity, contentedness or calm—is to grasp the real meaning of peace and harmony among Masons.

As I have previously written, I see the Lodge as an oasis from the discord and contentiousness of the larger society around us. There is no reason for clashing attitudes among us. For this reason, among others, we don't discuss religion or politics in Lodge.

Brothers in our Lodge can and should be able to speak their minds earnestly, forthrightly, and without “passionate intensity” (a phrase appearing in a poem by William Butler Yeats) so as to bring forth courteous give-and-take and their best of intentions for consideration.

That is what I prefer. And that is a part of Freemasonry of which I am, and all of us should be, proud.

Fraternally,  
Bro. David I. Karp, Editor.