In the Daylight

Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, F.&A.M. June 2026
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405
Ed: davidikarp@karpmediation.com

Freemasonry and Sports

Foreword...

If I may be candid, I was never very good at sports. I even flunked out of Little League. Maybe that's why my youth was spent in Cub Scouts rather than on the ballfield.

Years later, I became acquainted with Peter, Paul and Mary's wonderful song, *Right Field*. It is nearly a perfect description of my plight as a boy. The chorus of the song goes like this:

"Right field, it's easy, you know.
You can be awkward and you can be slow
That's why I'm here in right field
Just watching the dandelions grow."

(Full lyrics may be found at: https://www.streetdirectory.com/lyricadvisor/song/eejeoo/right_field/ .)

Although personally I have little interest in Sports my interests include classical music, musical theater, art, reading and writing I have learned that there were/are Masons involved in sports. Some of them are even in our Lodge. Some play golf, some bowl or play bocce ball, some fish, hunt or shoot guns, some ride bikes, and so forth. Some are simply athletic supporters. But no spoilsports, hopefully.

This edition is about some of the professional athletes whose lifetimes have been enriched by the values, ideals, and tenets of Freemasonry. There is also a nod to the game of golf.

I hope you enjoy the read.

Fraternally,

Bro. David I. Karp

Editor

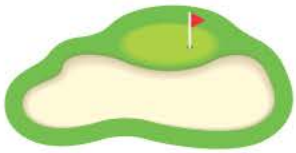
June Trestle Board

(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.*)

June 6, 2026 11AM, Stated Meeting. Lunch donation $15/person. Attire: Business casual (polo shirt); Officers - CFS Navy Blue Polo.
June 6, 2026 12:30PM-2:30PM, Practice
June 13, 2026 3PM-5PM, Fellowship at Bro. Roland's home
June 17, 2026 7PM-9PM, DSI/OSI Host: Home Lodge No. 721 3rd Deg, 1st Section
June 20, 2026 8AM, DSI/OSI Master Masons' Seminar, Host: Downey United Lodge No. 220

*See Messenger or text messaging for the Master's postings or contact him directly for add'l info or changes.. Ed.





Golf and Freemasonry

Editor's Note: This is a reprise of an article in the April 2019 Trestle Board due to its relevance.

Brother Arnold Palmer (1929-2016) was a member of Loyalhanna Lodge #275, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. He was an American professional golfer and generally regarded as one of the greatest players in professional golf history. He won numerous events on both the PGA Tour and Champions Tour, dating back to 1955. Palmer won the PGA Tour Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998, and in 1974 was one of the 13 original inductees into the World Golf Hall of Fame. (see, https://eb1870.org/project/arnold-palmer/):

Bro. Palmer is not our only connection to golf. There is a much greater, and more ancient, connection. In a lengthy article about Scottish Golf History and Freemasonry which you can read online at https://www.lodge76.co.uk/lectures/scottish_golf_history.htm there is much to learn. In short, Masons comprised the membership of many early golf clubs.

"Extracts of the early minutes of five of the early clubs ... show that many important people who were involved with golf were Freemasons and acknowledged as such... [For instance,] the laying of the foundations of the first ever purpose built golf clubhouse for The Honourable Company in 1768 on Leith Links is a case in point.

"'Leith, July 2, 1768 [¶] This day William St Clair of Roslin, Esq., the undoubted representative of the Honourable and Heretable G.M.M of Scotland, In presence of Alexander Keith, Esq., Captain of the Honourable Company of Goffers, and other worthy Members of the Goffing Company, all Masons, The G.M., now in his GRAND CLIMAX of GOFFING, laid the Foundation of the GOFFING HOUSE in the S.E. corner thereof, by THREE STROKES with the Mallet. [¶] ALEXR. KEITH, C., Wm. ST. CLAIR, G.M.M.'

"GMM stands for Grand Master Mason. The St Clairs of Roslyn were hereditary patrons of the Masons in Scotland for centuries and William St Clair was the first elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1736. He was Captain and prominent member of both the Leith and the St Andrews golf clubs. Apart from laying the foundation stone of the world's first golf clubhouse, his name is on the St Andrew's minute shortening the Old Course to be eighteen holes in 1764. He died in 1778 and is buried in Roslyn Chapel." *Ibid.*



A Swimming Mason

Editor's note: This article is reprised from the August 2023 Trestle Board due to relevance. Here are some quoted snippets from the article about Duke Kahanamoku at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duke_Kahanamoku .

"Duke Paoa Kahinu Mokoe Hulikohola Kahanamoku (August 24, 1890 January 22, 1968) was a Hawaiian competition swimmer who popularized the sport of surfing. A Native Hawaiian, he was born to a minor noble family less than three years before the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom. He lived to see the territory's admission as a state, and became a United States citizen. He was a five-time Olympic medalist in swimming, winning medals in 1912, 1920 and 1924.[fn]"

"During his time living in Southern California, Kahanamoku performed in Hollywood as a background actor and a character actor in several films."

"While living in Newport Beach, California, on June 14, 1925, Kahanamoku rescued eight men from a fishing vessel that capsized in heavy surf while it was attempting to enter the city's harbor.[fn]"

"Kahanamoku joined fraternal organizations: he was a Scottish Rite Freemason in the Honolulu lodge,[fn] and a Shriner. He worked as a law enforcement officer, an actor, a beach volleyball player, and a businessman.[fn]"

"He was initiated, passed and raised to the degree of Master Mason in Hawaiian Lodge Masonic Lodge No 21[fns] and was also a Noble (member) of the Shriners fraternal organization.[fn]." DIK.

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





Honus Wagner, Shortsop

Editor's note: The following is quoted verbatim from an online post of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction at https://scottishritenmj.org/blog/masonic-athletes

"Born in 1874, Johannes Peter "Honus" Wagner, nicknamed "The Flying Dutchman" because of his speed and German heritage, was an American shortstop who was a Brother of Centennial Lodge No. 544 in Carnegie, Pennsylvania.

"Wagner was initiated into the Craft on May 19, 1919 where he was raised alongside 700 other Masons, the largest single initiation ever for the Centennial Lodge No. 544.

"Wagner played 21 seasons of Major League Baseball, playing for the Louisville Colonels and, later, the Pittsburgh Pirates where he spent most of his career as the star shortstop. In addition to his shortstop acclaim, Brother Wagner was well-known for his tremendous speed and aptitude at the plate. He was the first player ever to be credited with the first official steals of second, third, and home base. He also led the Majors during his career in hits, runs, doubles, total bases, extra-base hits, runs batted in, stolen bases, batting average, on-base percentage, and slugging percentage.

"In 1936, Brother Wagner became one of the first of five members to ever be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. He received the second-highest vote total, trailing behind Freemason Ty Cobb and tied with Babe Ruth. Even though Cobb is often recognized as the greatest player of the dead-ball era, most baseball historians today consider Wagner to be the better all-around player and the greatest shortstop ever.

"Brother Ty Cobb himself called Wagner, 'maybe the greatest star ever to take the diamond.' In addition, Wagner is the featured player of one of the rarest and most valuable baseball cards in the world. The 1909-11 T206 Honus Wagner set a new world record price for a baseball card, selling for $3.12 million through Goldin Auctions."



Sugar Ray Robinson, Boxer

Editor's Note: The following is also quoted verbatim from an online post of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction at https://scottishritenmj.org/blog/masonic-athletes

"Born Walker Smith Jr. in Ailey, Ga. on May 3, 1921, Brother Robinson first found his love for boxing as a teenager training at a Harlem gym. As he started to get better, his natural talent in the ring attracted a notable crowd where his future coach, George Gainford, first saw him fight. An early look at the future champ prompted Gainford to say he was "sweet as sugar," giving birth to his ringside nickname.

"At just 19 years old in 1940, Sugar Ray joined the ranks of professional boxers. Two

[Continues on next page, see "Sugar Ray"]

["Sugar Ray," continued from page 4]

short years later, he was named Boxer of the Year and by 1946 was named the world welterweight champion, a title he held for five years. By the time he retired in the mid-1960s, Brother Robinson had also taken the world middleweight title (held five times between 1951-1960) and held a career record of 128-1-2 with 84 knockouts. World Champion Muhammad Ali called him, 'the king, the master, my idol.'

"Brother Robinson's Masonic membership remains, to this day, somewhat of a mystery, yet most sources cite Sugar Ray as a Prince Hall Mason and Brother of the Joppa Lodge #55 in New York City. Nevertheless, Brother Robinson was a man who led by example, often donating his boxing earnings to charity. Most notably, after defeating opponent Jimmy Doyle, who died as a result of the match, Brother Robinson collected earnings from his next four fights to buy a house for Doyle's mother, fulfilling Doyle's promise and dying wish."



Shaquille O'Neal, Basketball

Editor's Note: The following is also quoted verbatim from an online post of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, this one at https://scottishritenmj.org/blog/sporting-gold-masonic-athletes

"At 7 ft 1 in tall and 325 pounds, Shaquille O'Neal might be one of the tallest Freemasons of the 21st century. The legendary basketball star played on six NBA teams during his professional career and is currently an analyst on the television program Inside the NBA. Shaq is said to be a member of Widow's Son Lodge No.28 in Boston, where Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts F&M Grand Master, MW Frederick B.Summer, made him a Prince Hall Mason at sight. Shaq has also shown his Masonic ring on his television show, sporting the square and compass symbol."

Our Past Masters

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)

*Deceased.

Other Masonic Athletes

Editor's note: This list was obtained from a web page at https://masonry101.com/masonic-athletes/ . A few of the athletes listed on the web page have been omitted below because they were covered in other articles in this Trestle Board edition.

Ty Cobb MLB Baseball, 1886 1961, Was a member of Royston Lodge No. 426 F&AM in Detroit, Michigan

Scottie Pippen NBA Basketball, Born 1965, Is a member of Unity Lodge No.454 PHA in Arkansas

James Naismith Inventor of the Sport of Basketball, 1861 1939, Became a Freemason at Russell Lee Lodge in Springfield, Massachusetts

Tim Horton NHL Hockey, 1930 1974, Was a member of Kroy Lodge No. 676 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

John Elway Jr. NFL Football, Born 1960, Became a Freemason in January 2002 at South Denver Masonic Lodge No. 93 F&AM in Denver, Colorado

Manny Pacquiao Boxing, Born 1978, Has been initiated as an Entered Apprentice in March, 2021 at Mamamayang Pilipino Lodge in the Philippines.

Joe Frazier Boxing, 1944 2011, Became a Freemason in March 2009 at M.B. Taylor Lodge No. 141 F&AM in Hammonton, New Jersey

Jack Dempsey World Heavyweight Champion, 1895 1983, Was a member of Kenwood Lodge No. 800 AF&AM in Chicago, Illinois

Award Recipients in our Lodge

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.





[Stated Meeting, May 2, 2026]



An Endurance Athlete Among Us

[Editor's note: Mr. Patrick Jason ("PJ") Toledo, an applicant for the degrees in our Lodge, is a triathlete. A triathlon combines three sports: swimming, cycling then running. Toledo believes that both in a triathlon and in Masonry, there are thus three stages to becoming a better man. He will know more as an EA, FC, and then MM.]

In 2013, I was just an ordinary guy no endurance background, no strict training. A friend encouraged me to try a Half Ironman. I couldn't even swim just a regular person. But I started. Patience became my foundation. I built the habit of showing up day by day, learning to swim, training consistently, and viewing nutrition as my fuel, not just food.

That same year, I completed my first Half Ironman. But I didn't stop. I cycled 200 miles from Malibu to Santa Barbara and back. By year's end, I finished a full Ironman 140.6 miles. I faced fatigue, doubts, and moments where the road felt like a mountain. But my mindset was to keep pushing forward.

What I gained was beyond races. Consistency didn't just give me endurance; it gave me resilience. My mindset overcoming obstacles became part of life. Nutrition fueled not just my body, but my focus. I developed from an everyday guy into a fine-tuned endurance athlete. Now, with many races behind me, I can say these behaviors patience, habits, mindset, and nutrition developed not just my athletic success, but my life.

Respectfully submitted,
PJ Toledo





From The East

A Belated Mother's Day Tribute to Our Sisters,

Although Mother's Day has already passed, I still wanted to take a moment to dedicate this article to the incredible women who continue to support us, guide us, and stand beside us throughout our Masonic journey.

On behalf of the Brethren of Clarence F. Smith Daylight Lodge No. 866, we extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all of our Mothers, Wives, Widows, Sisters, and the wonderful women who are part of our Masonic family.

Mother's Day may come once a year, but the love, sacrifices, patience, and encouragement that you provide are felt every single day. Too often, the work and support given behind the scenes goes unnoticed, yet it is because of that support that many of us are able to continue growing as husbands, fathers, leaders, and Masons.

As Masons, we strive to become better men through the teachings and principles of our Fraternity. However, much of our strength, motivation, and character is shaped by the women who believe in us, encourage us, and walk beside us through life's challenges and successes. Whether it is your understanding during long meetings and events, your support of our charitable efforts, or simply the love and care you give to your families, your contributions are deeply appreciated.

Without your love, commitment, and unwavering support, we would not be the men that we are today.

Thank you for all that you do not only for us as husbands and Brothers, but also for the Lodge and the greater Masonic family. Your kindness, sacrifices, and dedication do not go unnoticed.

To all our Sisters, we sincerely thank you and honor you.

Happy Belated Mother's Day, and may you continue to be blessed with love, happiness, health, and joy.

Fraternally and with sincere appreciation,

Wor. Joseph Chavez

Master

From the West

Greetings from the West, Brethren.

I hope everyone will have a blessed and joyful summer season. As quickly as this year is passing, may we all take time to reflect on the many blessings that Freemasonry has given us. The lifelong bonds of friendship, brotherly love, and our shared sense of family are truly to be cherished.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Bro. Rolly Lagsa and Bro. Wynn Apao on being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Bro. David Karp for his unwavering dedication to Masonic education. His lectures continue to inspire and strengthen our knowledge of the Craft[1].

[Continues on next page, see "West"]

[1] Editor's Note: Bro. David has family obligations that conflict with June's Stated Meeting and probably July's too, so no lectures from him if/when he is absent; catch up with him thereafter.

["West," continued from page 8]

I sincerely hope you all enjoy this June Trestle Board as much as I do. Let us continue to share in fellowship, as we are charged to do and spread brotherly love, humility, and truth among the Brethren. May we all take time as summer begins this month to relax, enjoy moments with family and friends and recharge; we have earned it.

Reminder: Brethren, please note our upcoming DSI/OSI schedules:

June 17: Home Lodge 3rd Degree, 1st Section

July 16: Reseda Lodge 3rd Degree, 2nd Section

To all Officers of CFSDL #866, if you are unable to attend the above sessions, please call Worshipful Leland Celestre, PM, 709th Masonic District Inspector at 818-317-8402 (call only, no text). Officers, please double check the dates again.

Fraternally yours,
Bro. Roland Cortel
Senior Warden

From the South

Greetings from the South, Brethren. The month of June marks the midpoint of our Masonic year, and with it comes a renewed reminder of the importance of qualification for the 2027 Officer's line. To those who are planning to step onto the line and to those who have been approached to serve I respectfully urge you to make time to study the ritual work, strengthen your leadership skills, and complete your qualifications. The future of our lodge depends on prepared and dedicated officers.

To the brethren who have adjusted their schedules to attend and participate in our degree practices on Saturdays. I extend my sincere thanks. Your commitment strengthens the harmony and proficiency of our lodge.

I have been a Mason for many years, and the virtue of humility has had a profound impact on me, especially during the time I was elected to serve the Brethren of Southern California Lodge 529 as Master in 2021 and again in 2025. I have learned that the virtue of humility has shaped me deeply, both as a Man and as a Mason. I was elected to serve the Brethren to the fullest of my ability, never to injure, diminish, or overshadow them, but to support, uplift, and guide.

To our June birthday celebrants, I extend my heartfelt greetings. May this month bring joy, health, and continued Light.

Lastly, as we are preparing for our June Stated Meeting, I kindly ask the Brethren to share their preference for the meal in which we shall partake. Your input is greatly appreciated and helps us ensure a good meal in the South. The Installed Senior and Junior Stewards will assist in the preparation. Thank you.

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

Grand Master Garrett S. Chan reminds all Masons that the Masons4Mitts campaign is underway and invites donations. Please make a gift in support of California youth. (I did.) DIK.

PEACE & HARMONY
MASONS OF CALIFORNIA



Bonus Article: Bro. Harlem Ruiz, an Amazing Family Man and Mason

Bro. Harlem was interested in providing an article in this edition about sports from his perspective, but was unable to do so before leaving for the Philippines. So, after a little investigation via Facebook, I found out why.

Among other things, I first learned that he attended a family reunion. Of course, family comes first. But I also found out that his family is part of a generous family tradition which includes a family foundation the Florentino Pascual Ruiz Memorial Foundation Inc. the beneficence of which reaches into areas of education support, healthcare, livelihood and skills training and community outreach. See, https://fprmfi.com/news-and-updates/articles-and-blogs/honoring-a-legacy-the-impact-of-florentino-tinoy-pascual-ruiz-through-fprmfi/ .

Bro. Harlem, a former Regional Sports Coordinator - North Luzon/ Cagayan Valley Region, for the Philippine Sports Commission, is also involved with the Maddela Sports Association - MSA, which was founded in 2009 in support of youth development through sports. See, https://www.facebook.com/MaddelaSportsAssociation . I believe he is also a former Special Consultant for Sports for City of Ilagan Sports and a Special Consultant for Sports Development, among other sports related organizations. See, https://www.facebook.com/harlemco . I'm guessing that this may be why he wanted to write an insert for this sports edition. But there's more to say.

Most recently, Bro. Harlem posted beautifully on his Facebook page from Maddela, Philippines, as follows about the work of the family foundation in which he is intimately involved as its President:

"Under the bright sky and surrounded by the beauty of nature, the gymnasium of Mataga-ay Elementary School was filled with cheers and laughter on the morning of May 17, 2026, as the Kids Hope Project, headed by the Florentino Pascual Ruiz Memorial Foundation Incorporated, held a special outreach activity for the school's students from Kinder to Grade 6. [¶] [At the event,] each child received a bag filled with school supplies, a brand-new pair of slippers personally handed out by the scholars, and a full Jollibee meal with toys capped off by a surprise appearance from the beloved Jollibee mascots, which made every student smile and scream with joy.... [¶] For the Florentino Pascual Ruiz Memorial Foundation Incorporated, the Kids Hope Project is more than a simple outreach activity it is a reflection of the foundation's mission to bring hope, encouragement, and opportunities to children through education and compassion. Through initiatives like this, the foundation continues to believe that even small acts of kindness can leave a lasting impact on a child's future."

Through the above efforts of personal and family kindness and generosity, our brother, Harlem Ruiz, quietly and modestly exemplifies the finest attributes of a Freemason. We are honored that he also serves as Junior Deacon in our Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. David I. Karp
Editor