



ORINDA LODGE

Alamo 122 | Chartered May 13, 1858

Acorn 494 | 10/14/1920 East Bay 489 | 10/14/1920 Hillcrest 573 | 10/11/1923
Piedmont 521 | 10/12/1923 Plymouth 560 | 10/9/1923 Orinda 704 | 10/12/1950

From the East

Tom Kilgallen, Worshipful Master

So, there goes another January. We had a fairly busy month where we awarded the Hiram award to Worshipful Gary Peare. His family and friends attended the event and it was also well attended by the brethren and their significant others. A good time was had by all. Thanks to the Jobs Daughters for their great service, and thanks to Worshipful Kavishi for the wonderful wine and fabulous dinner. Aside from degree practices we conferred a First Degree upon Brother Mark Swimmer. Welcome to the fraternity brother! The degree went well and was well attended. The officers did a splendid job conferring the degree.

So, in comes February...I remember the Februaries I spent in Brooklyn, New York in my youth; they were cold, icy, wet and the sky was always grey. I got spoiled living out here and couldn't conceive of living back there again LOL. We have our Stated Meeting coming up on Feb. 6th a rehearsal for a couple more 1st Degrees, and the Degrees on the 20th of Feb. All Masons who are Entered Apprentices are welcome to attend as well as all other Masons. Please join us in welcoming 2 new Masons to the fraternity. It is always nice to see the sidelines full during a degree.

Feb 28th is the date for our Crab Feed. It is usually a sellout event so get your reservation in as early as possible. My understanding is that your reservation is confirmed with your payment for the ticket(s) and is paid to the Lodge by way of Secretary Dick Anderson. Greg has been hosting this event well before I became a Mason and has always done a wonderfully fabulous job. Worshipful Gary Peare has made arrangements for music for the evening; Thank you Gary. Don't miss this event.

Just a reminder, please continue to help us by making reservations for Stated Meetings on the lodge phone. It helps us to keep costs down by not having to order extra food. Worshipful Sean Mergy is cooking for this dinner and is making his famous Burgundy Beef so make your reservation and come and enjoy our brother's cooking.

And a final note; We are asking everyone to refrain from bringing personal items into the lodge room during all tiled events (Stated meetings, Degrees, etc) and special events that may not be tiled. Please have the courtesy to respect this request as well as to respect your brothers. I have spoken to a few of you already but felt an official notice is appropriate.

Sincerely and Fraternaly, Tom Kilgallen



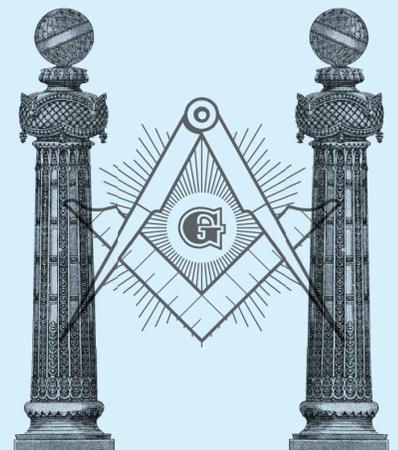
Tom Kilgallen, Master

Lodge at a Glance

- 1/30 1st Degree
- 2/06 Stated Meeting
- 2/20 Double 1st Degree
- 2/28 Annual Crab Feed

Note from the Secretary

Due to the fact that the per capita of Grand Lodge has increased the Dues for 2020 will be \$101.



Secretary's Note

Brethren:

I thank the many of you who have paid your 2020 dues. Unfortunately, the supply of the blank dues receipt forms has been back ordered since last November. Due to technical problems with the printing contractor, the supplier of the forms does not anticipate filling our orders for the forms until late February. I hope this explains why you have not received your receipt for your payments. Please be patient with me. Your payments have been duly recorded and as soon as I get the forms, I will send you your receipts. Meanwhile, those whose dues receipt doesn't say 2019 on it are in arrears and are in a situation to be suspended for non-payment of dues. Please consider bringing your account up to date so that you can continue your membership in our wonderful fraternity.

Phone Reservations

For those of us who still enjoy the phone line, remember you can press 2 at any time during the recording to leave a message for your reservation instead of listening to the whole thing through.



(Top Photo) Worshipful Gary Peare with his wife (Left) as Worshipful Sean Mergy (Center) delivers speech, with Mickey Ganitch (Right) watching his back.

Hiram Award to Gary Peare

Congrats to Worshipful Brother Gary Peare!

A grand time was had by all as Orinda Lodge held the Hiram Award Ceremony for Worshipful Gary Peare, a Mason's Mason who is well deserving of the prestigious honor.



Greetings From the West

By Alan Miller, PM.

The year is off to a fine start. In addition the 49ers making the Super Bowl (Loren Piper has permission to skip reading that previous line), we also have three initiates who will joining our lodge in short order. It is always a joy to bring new members into the lodge, and give them that first exposure to our craft. I would encourage all brothers to attend the degrees if able, as a full sideline makes the night extra special.

Part of the duties of the Senior Warden is to ensure our candidates have the proper instruction to be able to become proficient, so they may advance to higher degrees. And since I also serve as candidates coach, I have a more-direct involvement in ensuring ample opportunities are available for our Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts and even Master Masons who desire to complete their proficiency

work. To that end, I am generally available at the lodge on Tuesday evenings at 7PM for anyone who wants to stop by, but can always make alternate arrangements as well, including pairing up with a brother who may be more-local to the candidate.. In addition to memory work, symbols, landmarks and general masonic education are also often discussed.

There are also general masonic education opportunities available at other lodges in our area, sometimes held on a monthly or quarterly basis. As these become known to me, I will provide updates through our various communication channels, such as the lodge App.

Fraternally,
Alan J Miller, PM
Senior Warden

From the South

By Mick Finein

One of the lessons of Freemasonry and of being a Mason, which I try to use every day, is not letting others control my emotions, actions or words. Prudence is a large part of this lesson, but also keeping my passions in check.

Growing up from an early age I had a very quick temper which I sometimes blamed on my Irish roots. As I got older, I learned to contain that quick temper, but it still at times gets the best of me.

I try to keep my Masonic lessons in mind every day in an effort to minimize the affects others have on me.

If someone's actions or words cause you to lose your temper or react negatively, you have let them win and validated their behavior. Think about it, why would you give someone the power to control your life? You own your actions and emotions. Responding negatively to someone's poor behavior gives them the upper hand. You have let them control you and you lost.

For most of us, this as many things is easier said, than done. But if we keep our teachings in mind, the more we practice them, the more we will be able to live them.

Daily life provides a pretty much constant stream of interactions that can go two different ways. We can choose not to react and deal with it proactively or we can let the interaction get the best of our emotions, word and actions.

As an attorney, I often get very provocative and "snarky" emails from other attorneys. My first inclination is to fire back an equally snarky reply. I have learned to write the email to get it out of my system, but not send it. And later send a reply with a positive spin and usually a call for proactive measures to resolve the dispute. Killing them with kindness in a way.

Just driving around the Bay Area provides any number of interactions that can cause an angry reaction. Someone cuts you off, squeezes into your lane at the last second "cutting" in front of a line of traffic. Or some of my favorites, deciding to turn left without a turn signal or turning it on at the last second after sitting at the red light for 2 minutes. Or driving really slow, then speeding up through the yellow light leaving me at the red light. I love that one!

Whenever that happens I try to remember my teachings and not let someone else control my life.

I try to keep in mind that the person who loses their temper first loses not only the argument, but has also validated the other's behavior and diminished themselves.

Two weeks ago I witnessed a wonderful example of not letting someone gain control over you. I was at breakfast at a local diner. Next to me was a Hispanic family finishing up their brunch. A mother, father, two young children and two grandparents. They were minding their own business and talking quietly in Spanish. An elderly man came in and sat at the table next to them. Within about 2 minutes the elderly man started yelling at them, so that the entire restaurant could hear "Speak English, you live in America, show some respect". The family tried to ignore him, but he persisted. After a few minutes, the mother turned to the man and said in perfect English "Sir, I was born here, I am an American. We are finishing our breakfast and leaving. Happy New Year to you and please have blessed day". She said this without anger or sarcasm. The family left. The older man was left trying to continue to vent his misplaced anger and was eventually escorted out. I was impressed by her and her family's reaction to the situation and how it was handled.

The mother did not let the man get to her and as a result won the day.

I will try to keep that example impressed upon my mind.



Orinda Lodge Chair Drive

In the past members and friends of the Lodge came forth financially to defray some of the costs of certain purchases. We came together when a new carpet was needed in the Lodge Room. When we needed new Officer Jewels, new dishes or silverware for the dining room, the Brethren of Orinda helped out.

Today, our banquet chairs have been falling apart and have necessitated the Hall Association to purchase new ones.

The Hall Association would welcome your financial help in defraying this recent expense. A \$25.00 donation would buy one chair. A \$200.00 donation would buy chairs for an entire table.

Please think about helping our Lodge out by making a contribution for this chair upgrade.

Your check would be made payable to:

Orinda Masonic Hall Association

You can give this contribution when at Lodge to our Secretary or mail it to his attention.

Richard G. Anderson
300 Calle Molino
Pacheco, CA. 94553

Thank you for your Fraternal support.

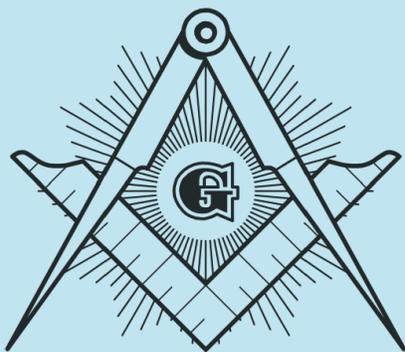
The Orinda Masonic Hall Association

Charitable Giving

By Larry Becker

We made a commitment to Grand Lodge last year of \$15,000.00 for the Grand Master's initiative.

Since 2019 was a good year for our investments, this expenditure was feasible. However, with the uncertainty of today's market, I would hope that the Lodge realizes the need to protect our assets for future Brethren. Charitable giving is necessary along as it is reasonable.



Boots & Bling

Brethren, on Saturday February 8th a non-profit that is very dear to my heart will be hosting a benefit dinner at Cedar Creek Stables, 1095 Edne Plans Road Brentwood, in order to raise funds for equipment and emergency relief during disaster situations in California. Boots & Bling is held by Hold Your Horses Emergency Evacuations and its fearless leader Chantel Tieman.

If you all remember I spent a considerable amount of time and effort with this non-profit at the Paradise fires in order to bring animals off the hill, help run aid centers and provide relief to both homeless families, shelter in place animals, and communities who desperately needed assistance.

Hold your horses helped bring trailers to those without a home, pet and livestock supplies to safe point to be distributed amongst the community and so much more, but none of it is possible without the support of warm-hearted individuals like yourself.

I will be working and this event and look forward to seeing any of my brethren there amongst the festivities. Dinner, dancing, raffles and auctions are to be had, along with a good time for all. Tickets are \$45 dollars a person. You can either call 925-584-1976 to RSVP or email me personally at djtrammell@yahoo.com. (You will see a snippet of one of their advertisements below.)

Fraternally, Dennis Trammell | Senior Deacon

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF MUSIC, BBQ DINNER,
DANCING, LIVE AUCTIONS, AND MORE



BOOTS & BLING
IT'S A COWBOY THING!



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2020
4:00-9:00 PM

CEDAR CREEK STABLES
1095 EDEN PLAINS ROAD BRENTWOOD CA 94513

HOST: BENEFITING HOLD YOUR HORSES
LIVESTOCK EMERGENCY
EVACUATION RESPONSE TEAM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM OR 925-584-1976

CRAB FEED

Brethren, it is that time of year once again!

We are right around the corner from our Annual Crab Feed on February 28th. This year it will once again be hosted by Worshipful Greg Bloom who has for so many years dedicated his time, service and expertise to this wondrous tradition.

This years ticket cost is \$45 per person.

Reservations are required for this event.

Your check/ payment is considered your RSVP.

You can RSVP with payment through our Secretary Dick Anderson by mailing him a check at 300 Calle Molino. Pacheco, CA. 94553. The RSVP cut-off deadline is set at February 21, so be sure to get your in before its too late!

Come enjoy fellowship and feast on hors d'oeuvre, bread, salad, shrimp, rigatoni & more!! Chicken is available on request. See you all at the feed!



ORINDA LODGE CRAB FEED

ALL YOU CAN EAT & LIVE MUSIC
PAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

\$45
PER PERSON

FEB.
28, 2019

6PM BEER, WINE
AND SNACKS
6:30
CRAB FEED

HORS D'OEUVRE, BREAD, SALAD, SHRIMP, RIGATONI & MORE!!
CHICKEN AVAILABLE ON REQUEST | CHARITY RAFFLES TO FOLLOW

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ORINDA LODGE #122

MAIL TO OUR SECRETARY DICK ANDERSON AT 300 CALLE MOLINA, PACHECO, CA. 94553

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 21, 2020



From Orinda Lodge to our Brethren,
may you know nothing but happiness
from this day onward.
May God protect and keep you.

Happy Birthday!

Charles S. Crane 2/02
Ronald E. Dawson 2/04
Nathaniel M. Huffine 2/05
Phillip J. Brooks 2/05
John F. Hutchens 2/05
Kenneth F. Edwards 2/08
Marvin B. Rasmussen PM 2/09
Falah K. Aljibury 2/09
Behzad Raufi 2/09
Gregory W. Bloom PM 2/10
Craig E Andrews PM 2/11
Morgan J. Swiggett 2/16
Timothy F.M. Brown 2/17
Reyheo M. Espiritu 2/17
Vivian C. Flanagan 2/18
Thomas E. Lorenté III 2/19
Kenneth A. Ferguson 2/19
Sean P. Finney PM 2/19
Burnette R. Gorham 2/22
Dennis F. Trammell 2/24
Mustafa A. Tinawi 2/25
Paige W. Meyer 2/25
Mark W. Glasgow 2/028



**Job's Daughters
Bethel 2018, Orinda**

Honored Queen
Aubrey Newton

Bethel Guardian
Cynthia Tubbs

Assoc. Bethel Guardian
Allan Miller, PM

Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays
Orinda Masonic Center 6:30pm



Jobies Corner

Message From the Bethel Guardian

The Job's Daughters started the year in fine form with the semi-annual installation of officers. It was a great evening with good attendance, including many masons - thank you to Orinda Lodge as always for your fabulous support. Congratulations to Lindsay Johnson, who was installed Senior Princess, and Madysen Young who was installed Junior Princess. The girls have a fun-filled term planned with lots of activities, including many servings. They recently helped out at the Acalanes Crab Feed, which was good practice for what everyone knows is The Best Crab Feed, the annual Orinda bash held the last Friday in February. Proceeds from these events help fund their Bethel activities and philanthropic projects, in celebration of the 100th year of Job's Daughters.

Cynthia Tubbs
Bethel Guardian
Bethel 218 Orinda, JDI

*Past Honored Queen Aubrey Newton
(center) with new Senior Princess
Lindsay Johnson (left) and new Junior
Princess Madysen Young (right)*



Orinda Masonic Lodge No. 122
is proud to present

Sweethearts & Widows Night

Thursday, April 2nd, 2020

We would like to dedicate this years
April Stated Meeting to you,
the Sweethearts that we hold dear.

Please RSVP before March 23rd

Phone: (925) 254-5211
Email: Orindalodge@gmail.com
or via the Orinda Lodge Phone App.

Orinda Lodge, 9 Altarinda Road

February Calendar

Thur. Jan. 30th

First Degree

Orinda Lodge 6:30 PM

Officers: Tuxedo

Thur. Feb. 6th
Stated Meeting

Please make your reservations
Dinner 6:00 pm

Officers: Suit or Jacket & Tie

Wed. Feb. 19th
DOSI with Academia Lodge
at Scottish Rite

Reception of Grand Lodge
Officers and Masonic Education

Light Dinner at 6:30 pm

Thur. Feb. 20th

First Degree

Orinda Lodge 6:30 PM

Officers: Tuxedo

Fri. Feb. 28th
Annual Crab Feed

Reservations are required for
this event. You can not buy
tickets at the door.

Send checks made out to
Orinda Lodge for reservations
to Dick Anderson

Hail Brethren

As Officers Coach I can tell you the ritual work is being performed at a very high level. The officers take their work seriously and it shows. By the time you read this we will have performed our first 1st degree of the year. It will have been bestowed upon Dr. Richard Swimmer of Orinda. On February 20th we will confer a double 1st degree upon his two sons. You really must try to attend to lend support to the officers, but more importantly show the Swimmers that Orinda lodge is vital. Attendance at degrees has slowly diminished to an embarrassingly low level. Do your part. Come to degrees. Not only do we perform the work in the finest fashion, but afterwards we enjoy good fellowship in the diningroom over cake and libations. This is when we get to know our newly obligated brothers.

If transportation is an issue, we can arrange a ride for you.

We hope to see you soon,

Cary Carlson, Officers Coach



"Among whom no contention should ever exist but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree."

2020 Lodge Officers

Master | Thomas (Tom) Kilgallen
(510) 220-7695 | treqmas@outlook.com

Senior Warden | Alan Miller (Michele)
(510) 673-2900 | milleraj61@yahoo.com

Junior Warden | Mick Finein
(415) 810-8060 | orindalodge122@gmail.com

Treasurer | Ed Lana (Diana)
(925) 676-7811 | ed122@edlana.com

Secretary | Dick Anderson PM
(925) 686-3930 | dandson@comcast.net

Chaplain | Mickey Ganitch PM (Barbara)
(510) 352-1257 | mbganitch@earthlink.net

Assistant Secretary | Erik Johnson PM
(510) 872-9013 | Esjohnson13@gmail.com

Senior Deacon | Dennis Trammell
(925) 584-6600 | djtrammell@yahoo.com

Junior Deacon | Tony Benavides (Seema)
(925) 708-4756 | bbtonybb@aol.com

Marshal | Michael Gooding (Brenda)
(510) 660-7388 | mmmgoodin@yahoo.com

Junior Steward | John Densem
(925) 945-1664 | johnawdensem@gmail.com

Organist | Bill Richmond PM (Bonnie)
(510) 531-5078 | birch1011@sbcglobal.net

Tiler | Michael Malliaris
(510) 338-8250 | mmaliarys@hotmail.com

Officers Coach | Cary Carlson PM (Lynne)
(925) 360-2716 | caryorinda122@gmail.com

Officers Coach | Don Weisse Jr. PM (Pat)
(510) 534-8377

Hall Association

Board

President | Gary Peare PM

Vice President |

Chief Financial Officer | Ed Lana

Secretary | Ben Bloom

Members

Larry Becker PM

Michael Gooding

Alan Miller PM

Tom Kilgallen PM

Greg Bloom PM

Sean Mergy PM

Vic Vickers PM

Mick Finein

Trustees

Henry Gannett PM 11/20

Tom Steig PM 11/21

Greg Bloom PM 11/22

Tom Kavishi PM 11/22

Larry Becker PM 11/23

Orinda Lodge No. 122 F. & A.M.
Richard Anderson, PM
300 Calle Molino
Pacheco, CA 94553-5263

www.orindalodge.org
orindalodge122@gmail.com
(925) 254-5211

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DATED MATERIAL



Our Lodge Mission

Orinda Lodge's mission is to promote personal growth and improve the lives of others.

We take responsibility for the well-being of our brothers, our families, and the community as a whole. We value respect, kindness, tolerance, and our differences – religious, ethnic, cultural, generational, and educational, and strive for harmony in our individual lives, in our lodge, and in the global community.

As a lodge, we strive to be active in our community. We have various charitable and educational events throughout the year, as well as social occasions. Some events are for members only, but many include our families.

February Masonic Widows Month

Whereas upon our obligation to one other we pledge to keep our brothers' families close to our hearts, treating their loved ones with the same respect we would afford our own; and

Whereas the partners and spouses of our lodge members hold a vital role in our Masonic family; and

Whereas we endeavor to provide a lifelong source of comfort, support, and friendship to the widows of all Masons;

As grand master, I therefore proclaim February 2020 to be Masonic Widows Month in California.

In recognition of this proclamation, I encourage all California Masons to make efforts to reconnect with Masonic widows in their communities. This can take many forms: Reaching out to widows of former lodge members—particularly those you have not heard from in several years—and invite them to a lodge event; organizing a service project to give back to lodge widows through grocery delivery, home improvements, or offering transportation to medical appointments; and writing and calling widows living at the Masonic Homes in Union City or Covina.

Just as Masons take an obligation to care for one another, they are bound to support their surviving family members. This month, remind them they are not alone.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Stuart A. Wright | Grand Master