



# 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

Hello Folks. Well, the Crab Feed was a smashing success as always. Everyone seemed to have a good time and seemed to eat their fill. The event was a sellout so we couldn't do better. Greg Bloom did a splendid job as usual and we graciously thank him for that. The event always raises a substantial amount of money for the lodge and we thank all the participants for their contributions and their participation. We also were entertained by students from the Stanley Middle School jazz band and they and they did a wonderful job.

Toward the end of March (Thursday, March 26th at 6:30 PM) we will be passing brother Osip Lisitsa to the degree of Fellowcraft. He performed his proficiency in good form and we look forward to advancing him to the 2nd degree of Masonry. Congratulations in advance Brother Lisitsa.

Next month we have three events happening in April worthy of note. First, our stated meeting will be celebrating our Sweethearts of the lodge. All sweethearts are invited to come and participate and share a story or two at the lodge; reservations will be required so please help us by reserving early, it also will be our Inspector's official visit. Next we have a special event featuring Dr. Richard Berman presenting a Topic on Masonic History. Reservations are also required and should be made early since this went out to the whole district: Dinner at 6pm (\$45 per person) and presentation at 7:30 pm. Last but not least we have our annual visitation to Live Oak Lodge on Thursday, April 23 at 6pm; officers in tuxedos please. All are invited to attend but again, we need your reservation so Live Oak knows how many are attending dinner.

As reported last month, we are requesting all members to keep their personal belongings outside the lodge room during all tiled meetings and special events to keep the lodge room uncluttered. There will be space in the Tiler's room to keep your back-packs and other items not necessary during the meeting. Exceptions are made to folks needing to bring medications into the lodge ( please try to keep meds in a carrier as small as possible; exceptions also made for folks with a "service dog" or oxygen tank). Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

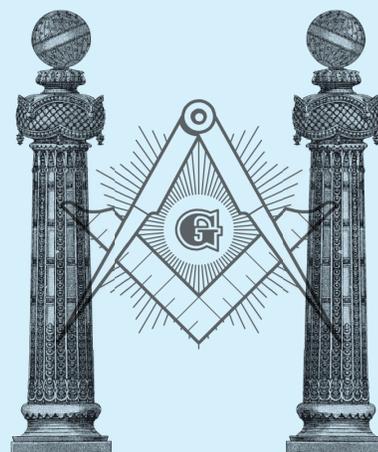
Sincerely and Fraternally, Tom Kilgallen



Tom Kilgallen, Master

## Lodge at a Glance

- 3/05 Stated Meeting
- 3/19 DOSI at Orinda
- 3/25 Hall Assoc. Meeting
- 3/26 Second Degree
- 4/02 Sweetheart's Dinner
- 4/21 Dr. Berman Presentation



## Email Update

**Brethren,**  
We have been working hard to update our means of communication. Some of you may remember the latest advent being a new program named "Mailchimp" which enables Orinda Lodge to send bulk emails to any subscribers. If you have yet to subscribe I highly recommend it so that you can stay up to date with the latest Lodge reminders and events.

The latest updates to our emails include a few fun new features. You'll notice three icons at the bottom of the email. As seen below.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)   [EMAIL](#)   [FEBRUARY TRESTLEBOARD](#)

Each of them a clickable link to help you out. "Visit Our Website" will take you directly to the Orinda Lodge Website and "Email" should auto set-up a draft email to the Lodge Email. However, the best and most beneficent is the third. Its called "February Trestleboard" and will take you directly to a digital copy of the Trestleboard. I will be including all three of the links at the bottom of every communication I send out of Mailchimp.

Thank you for your time.



(Above Photo) Our new Brother, Mark Swimmer (Center), next to Worshipful Tom Kilgallen (Left) and brothers of Orinda Lodge.

## Come meet the Swimmers

**The newest addition to our family, the Swimmer Family!**

Our newest Brothers consist of Mark Swimmer, and his two sons, Blake and Kevin. His two sons received their first degree together on February 20th, and hope to continue on together.



(Above Photo) Blake and Kevin Swimmer (First row, left two seats) surrounded by Brothers of Orinda Lodge and their Father, Mark Swimmer (First row, right most seat)

## Hall Association

*By Gary Peare, PM.*

We hope everyone is enjoying the new chairs in the dining room! New ones have been needed for some time now. In addition to being more comfortable, they're making a good impression on our renters, and will help us maximize our rental income. In turn, this will support ongoing building repairs and improvements, and help us return dividends to our sole shareholder, Orinda Lodge.

Contributions to help defray the cost of the chairs will be gratefully accepted.

\$25.00 pays for one chair  
\$200 furnishes chairs for an entire table

We've come together as a lodge community in the past to fund Officer Jewels, dishes, and silverware.

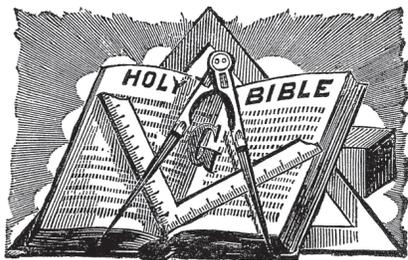
Contributions in any amount are most welcome.

Note: a little update. Please make checks payable to Orinda Lodge No. 122. You may deliver your check while visiting lodge (the preferred method, because we want to see you!), or via mail to our Secretary:

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

Please consider helping your Lodge by making a contribution for this much needed upgrade!

A final note: have a suggestion or request for improving our edifice? You are welcome at our next Hall Association meeting at the lodge on Wednesday, March 25 at 7pm.



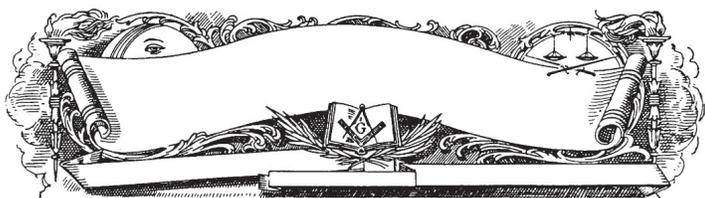
## Greetings From the West

By Alan Miller, PM.

Well, seems like we've skipped winter and went straight into spring. Hopefully the warmer weather locally will keep perils such as the flu and corona virus at bay. Writing this prior to the crab feed, but you will all be reading it after the event, so I'll be prognostic and state that everyone had a wonderful time at our annual end of February shindig.

A wonderful time was certainly at the initiation of the Swimmer Brothers, Blake and Kevin, who joined their Dad (and now Brother) Mark in the craft. As candidate's coach I am looking forward to helping further them in their masonic education. And the recent combined School of Instruction held at Oakland Scottish Rite was certainly a most-excellent opportunity to further one's masonic education. A Brother from Academia Lodge presented a paper he wrote as part of his Fellowcraft Proficiency, on the application of geometry to the Liberal Arts, and more specifically on the Art of Rhetoric. The paper was distinguished enough to be published in Philaetes, the oldest masonic education journal. The arguments brought in masonic core values and how they apply to our rather tempestuous modern times, and was followed by a very spirited discussion among the brothers in attendance. Overall a great evening of fellowship and learning. Remember you do not need to be an officer to attend a District School of Instruction - they are open to all brethren, though some specific schools are limited to Fellowcrafts or Master Masons only. Check with Wr. Kilgallen or Officers Coach Wr. Cary Carlson if you are interested in attending the next school of instruction

Fraternally,  
Alan J Miller, PM  
Senior Warden



## From the South

By Mick Finein

### Update on Dr. Richard Berman's Presentation!!!

I am extremely pleased and excited to confirm that our Lodge has the honor and distinction to host Dr. Richard Berman for a presentation on Masonic history on Tuesday, April 21st.

Orinda Lodge is the ONLY lodge Dr. Berman will be visiting in the East Bay.

Dr. Berman will present "Over the Hills and Far Away – the Irish Influence in American Freemasonry".

Dr. Berman is a world renowned expert on Masonry, a much sought after speaker and is the author of a series of books on Masonry.

Dr. Berman has been a Mason for over 40 years. He is the current sitting Master of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge in England which is the largest Masonic research Lodge in the world. He holds an active Grand Rank in the United Grand Lodge of England, as well as Provincial and Senior London Grand Rank.

·Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. at a cost of \$45 per person. The event is open to Masons only.

·Dinner is buffet style catered by Worshipful Tom Kavishi and The Original Hick'ry Pit.

·The menu is: tri tip, chicken Marsala, a pasta dish, salad, rolls and dessert.

·Dr. Berman will talk at 7:00 p.m. with a Question and Answer to follow.

Reservations can be made via

·Reservation line (925)254-5211

·Email at: [orindalodge122@gmail.com](mailto:orindalodge122@gmail.com)

·Or on the Lodge App.

Payment in advance is required to reserve a seat. I will get out further instructions on how to get your payment in shortly.

However, you can always give a check to me or Dick Anderson made out to Orinda Lodge.

We have a maximum capacity of 100 for this event which will be open to other East Bay lodges as well as our Lodge.

So please get your reservations in as early as possible.

You can email me at: [orindalodge122@gmail.com](mailto:orindalodge122@gmail.com) with any questions.

I look forward to a great turnout by our Lodge and a wonderful event for our Lodge.

# The Road back to 1723

*A presentaion by Ric Berman*

*at the Quarterly Communication. June 12, 2019*



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

## — Happy Birthday! —

**Clark W. Swank** 5/03

**Alvin J. Weis** 6/03

**Thomas P. MaGee** 7/03

**Frederick V. Bowles PM** 13/03

**James W. McNamara** 14/03

**Jon R Blasquez** 14/03

**Dimitri Carapanos** 19/03

**Tom PM Kavishi** 20/03

**Roland B. Bell** 21/03

**Maurice Emile Marcillac** 21/03

**Alfonse Martin** 22/03

**Henry J. Gannett PM** 26/03

**Alexander S. Meloy** 27/03

**Antonio S. Benavides** 28/03

**Richard D. Streeter** 28/03

**Michael E. Finein** 31/03

Some years ago I was invited to a lodge in Greensboro, North Carolina. Having been seated, my neighbour informed me in a low voice that the ritual – like that elsewhere in North Carolina - was modelled on the form used in England in the early nineteenth century. However, much to my surprise, before the lodge was opened, the master asked the senior warden to order the deacons to ‘take the word’ from each of those present. And as the deacons walked the lines to receive the whispered password from each attendee, I was thankful that I had recently visited a lodge in Dublin and knew what was required. But rather than focus on my potential embarrassment, the more important point is this: North Carolina’s Masonic ritual was not from nineteenth-century England but had descended from the Irish and Antients, with roots dating back another sixty years to the mid-eighteenth century.

This made me think about historical context and how an awareness of the background to our ceremonies and ritual helps inform our understanding of Freemasonry and why we do what we do.

Many people consider that the origins of our Constitutions, published in 1723, lies in the ‘Old Charges’. These were the documents that governed the creation and regulation of stonemasons’ lodges and guilds, the first known of which – the Regius manuscript, dates from around 1390-1400. The second, the Cooke manuscript, is believed to date from around twenty to thirty years later. And there are more than a hundred such documents that reach from the end of the fourteenth century into the early eighteenth.

Each document follows almost exactly the same format. They begin with a statement of belief in God and the Holy Trinity – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; continue with a pledge of allegiance to the king and lawful authorities; contain a ‘traditional history’ of Freemasonry; and conclude with the regulations governing the operation of the guild or lodge.

There is a reason for this structure. Anti-labour legislation enacted by Parliament rendered wage bargaining illegal and in order to circumvent this the guilds need to demonstrate that they were not seeking to disrupt but rather respected the established order of Church and State, and that their demands for ‘fair wages’ were part of a long tradition that dated back centuries and was associated with leading historical figures.

The Regius manuscript dates the arrival of Freemasonry in England to King Athelstan, an Anglo-Saxon king reigning in the tenth century. He is regarded as the first true English king, a man who united England against the Vikings and an iconic figure to mediaeval Britons. The Cooke manuscript pushed the date back 700 years further to the third century and St Alban, the earliest English Christian martyr. The manuscript notes that ‘Saint Alban loved well masons, and gave them ... their charges and manner first in England’.

Cooke also states that the level of wage rates the stonemasons were seeking to obtain had been ‘approved’ by Athelstan, who had also given his imprimatur to masonic guilds and assemblies: ‘and he loved well masonry and masons. And he became a mason himself, and he gave



them charges and names as it is now used in England, and in other countries. And he ordained that they should have reasonable pay and purchased a free patent of the king that they should make [an] assembly when they saw a reasonable time.'

And James Anderson's 1723 Constitutions appear to follow a similar vein, with Anderson noting that Freemasonry began with 'Adam, our first parent ... [who] had Geometry written on his Heart'.

It is important to understand that such histories were not to be taken literally. As with the Old Charges, Anderson's historical account was designed to set a literary context for Freemasonry. By positioning it as an ancient institution linked to icons from the past, the narrative afforded the organisation legitimacy and gave it an aura and attraction that was important in a society that valued tradition.

But although the overall form and structure of the 1723 Constitutions may have been similar to that found in the Old Charges, the substance was fundamentally different.

The most important aspect of the 1723 Constitutions is a section known as the Charges. This was written by Dr Jean Theophilus Desaguliers, a Huguenot, the third grand master and a subsequent deputy grand master. Desaguliers' Charges comprise a set of Enlightenment principles and provide the foundations for the creation of what is now modern Freemasonry. The philosophical outlook that Desaguliers' Charges embrace was radical at the time, and the thoughts expressed remain valid today.

The first masonic charge - Concerning God and Religion - replaced the traditional invocation to the Trinity and formal declaration of Christian belief. As written, the charge obliged Freemasons only to 'obey the moral law' within a framework of 'that Religion in which all Men agree'. It would no longer be the case that a mason should 'be of the religion of that country or nation' where he resided, but necessary only to believe in God and be a 'good man and true'.

The charge was not an avowal of support for a specific religious canon or church. The new Masonic oath was a simple declaration of faith in a divine being without a stated preference for any given form of worship. It was openly latitudinarian, if not almost deist, and represented a denial of the importance of doctrine and of ecclesiastical organisation.

The second charge - Of the Civil Magistrate Supreme and Subordinate - made plain that there would no longer be fealty to a divinely-appointed absolute monarch - instead, a Mason will be 'a peaceable subject to the Civil Powers wherever he resides'. He would also respect civil order - 'A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers ... is never to be concerned in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation.'

At a deeper level, the second charge echoed the changes to England's constitutional structure in the wake of the 1688 Glorious Revolution. Where allegiance to the crown - 'to be a true liege man to the king' - was core to the Old Charges, the 1723 Constitutions and later oaths would state that Freemasons were subject to the 'supreme legislature'. For Desaguliers and the new Grand Lodge of England, the ideal political structure was that 'which does most nearly resemble the Natural Government of our System'. Grand Lodge and hence Freemasonry would be supportive of constitutional monarchy and parliamentary government aligned with an independent judiciary - the 'supreme legislature'.

The implication was that resistance to the crown could be justified where a king was in breach of his Lockean moral contract with those he governed. This had been the basis of the Glorious Revolution and the justification for replacing James II with William and Mary. It was no longer obligatory for Freemasons to be bound to 'be true liegemen to the King of England without any treason or falsehood'. They would instead 'attend' and 'respect', but be 'guided, not enslaved'.

And in the fourth charge there would be a rejection of patronage, the wheel upon which eighteenth-century Britain turned: in Freemasonry, 'all preferment is to be grounded upon real worth and personal merit'.

Taken as a whole, this was a social and political manifesto born of Enlightenment values and based on Enlightenment philosophical ideas pioneered by John Locke, Isaac Newton and others.

In June 1723, Freemasonry faced a threat to these tenets from one of its own - the Duke of Wharton, the second noble Grand Master. During his term of office the duke had embraced the Jacobites - the supporters of the exiled Pretender, James Stuart. In response, and at Desaguliers' request, the Grand Lodge of England resolved 'that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry without the consent first obtained of the Annual Grand Lodge'.

2023 will of course be the tercentennial anniversary of the publication of Anderson's Constitutions and of Desaguliers' Charges. The Constitutions and Charges provide the cornerstone upon which English and much of international Freemasonry rests. And it is not only appropriate but incumbent upon us to mark and celebrate this event. To paraphrase T. S. Elliot, we should explore our past and, at the end of so doing, arrive where we began and know the place for the first time.

But as we look back over three hundred years along the Road to 1723, it is also incumbent upon us to turn and to look forward.



# Jobies Corner

## Message From the Bethel Guardian

Pictures from a Jobie sewing outing, as they make pillow cases to support their 2020 philanthropic project , Ryan's Case for Smiles.

The organization provides whimsical pillowcases to kids going through extended hospital stays - something fun and personal to help them cope with what can be a sterile and impersonal environment. This is the California Job's Daughters project for 2020, which is the 100th anniversary of Job's Daughters International.

Cynthia Tubbs  
Bethel Guardian  
Bethel 218 Orinda JDI



**Job's Daughters  
International®  
of California**

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

**Honored Queen Unlisted**

**Bethel Guardian Cynthia Tubbs**

**Assoc. Bethel Guardian Alan Miller, PM**

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

# The Deacon's Beacon

*By Dennis Trammell*

Brethren, I want to apologize for a few mishaps in regards to the last Trestleboard. I have added a new Bulk Mail Permit so that I may use Brentwood instead of taking half a day off of work to deliver everything to the Walnut Creek post office. Unfortunately there were some unforeseen obstacles once this process began.

Its purely my fault that February went out later in the month, but I fear that one of the trays may have been misplaced within the post office after being sent out. A large number outside of the 945 zone are still reporting they haven't received it. I'm looking into what happened.

In the meantime, I have been sending out digital copies through our Mail chimp (email) account. One main link is sent out at the beginning of the month, and any further communication have a link to the Digital Trestleboard and the bottom of the email. I hope this helps, should any further hesitations persist.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,  
Dennis Trammell

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: Orindalodge122@gmail.com  
or via the Orinda Lodge Phone App.

Orinda Lodge, 9 Altarinda Road

# March Calendar

## Thur. March 5th Stated Meeting

Please make your reservations  
Dinner 6:00 pm

Officers: Suit or Jacket & Tie

## Thur. March 12th 2nd Degree Practice

Officer's Practice at 7:00 pm

## Tues. March 17th 2nd Degree Practice

Officer's Practice at 7:00 pm

## Thur. March 19th DOSI at Orinda

District Lodge of Instruction on  
Second Degree. All Fellowcraft  
and Master Masons are  
welcome.

Light Dinner at 6:30 pm

## Thur. March 25th Hall Association Meeting 7pm

## Thur. March 26th 2nd Degree Ceremony

Borther Osip's Second Degree  
Ceremony. Opening Lodge at  
6:30pm

Officers: Tuxedo Required

## 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



## 2020 Lodge Officers

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

**Senior Warden | Alan Miller PM (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

**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

**Greg Bloom PM**

**Sean Mergy PM**

**Vic Vickers PM**

**Mick Finein**

**Michael Gooding**

**Alan Miller PM**

**Tom Kilgallen PM**

**Dennis Trammell**

### Trustees

**Henry Gannett PM 11/20**

**Tom Steig PM 11/21**

**Greg Bloom PM 11/22**

**Tom Kavishi PM 11/22**

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

[www.orindalodge.org](http://www.orindalodge.org)  
[orindalodge122@gmail.com](mailto:orindalodge122@gmail.com)  
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## 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.

## March Youth Orders Month

**Whereas** the young men and women who participate in DeMolay International, Job's Daughters International, and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls embody the Masonic values that undergird our fraternity; and

**Whereas** members of Masonic youth orders represent future generations of the fraternity, becoming leaders and partners of Masonic lodges and improving their communities through a commitment to respect, integrity, and compassion; and

**Whereas** Masons are in a unique position to positively affect the lives of these members of the Masonic youth orders by providing mentorship, guidance, and support; and

**Whereas** California Masons have an obligation to improving the lives of those in their communities;

**As Grand Master, I therefore proclaim March 2020 to be Youth Orders Month in California.**

I urge all California Masons to reflect on how their lodge can provide meaningful support for the Masonic youth orders in their community and across the state. Consider organizing a joint service project, establishing a mentorship program, or sponsoring a Masonic youth fundraising program. These programs provide young men and women around the world with important leadership skills, instill confidence, and teach the values of respect, integrity, and compassion that Masons hold dear. This month, show our youth that Masons do indeed live by those values. Visit [Masons4Youth.org](http://Masons4Youth.org) for more information on ways to support Masonic youth.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
John E. Trauner | Grand Master