



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

Alan Miller, Worshipful Master

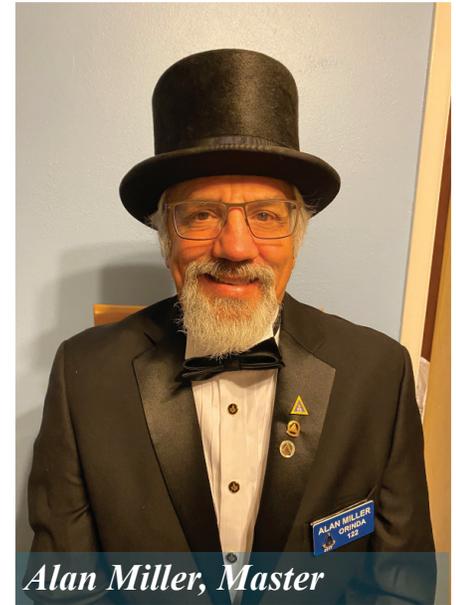
It is nearing time to shed the pandemic-induced winter of our discontent; Spring will be upon us soon, and with it the rebirth it brings, of which the acacia is a worthy symbol. With it also comes the hope of widespread vaccination against the Covid scourge, thereby allowing us again to meet in person, and resume our masonic rituals. Until then we will continue fellowship with our regular Zoom gatherings, with the March Stated meeting next on the horizon.

As many, many businesses and individuals have been impacted by this pandemic, I'd like to focus the March meeting on Relief, or Charity, one of our core tenets. We are always at the ready to help a brother in need, as well as his widows and orphans, on an individual level. We also as a lodge contribute to larger scale efforts, such as the Grand Lodge "Let's Write the Future" campaign, which has been a resounding success. I hope everyone had a chance to view the video presentation at the February Stated meeting, as presented by our guest Br Candler Gibson, which illustrated some of the difference that our contribution has made, both to the Masonic Homes as well as to Raising a Reader (which continues our tradition of supporting public schools). But I also feel it is important that we find charitable efforts that include local engagement; community level impact that can allow us as individual brothers to actively participate in some degree, to increase that personal sense of making a difference. I am always looking for recommendations for both charities and activities that fit that frame. For the March stated meeting, I have invited Mr. Cal Stanley, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Oakland, to give us an overview of how their organization makes a difference for the children of Oakland. For us to come together to find ways to support organizations such as this helps lead to that personal fulfillment as a mason, that we not become just a "sounding brass or tinkling cymbal".

Since March is also designated by Grand Lodge as Youth Orders Month, for our March 18th social meeting I have invited our local Job's Daughters Bethel 218 and LaMorinda DeMolay chapter to present exemplifications of their ritual work. I hope everyone can attend both of these March meetings.

Stay Safe Everyone!

Fraternally, Alan Miller, Master



Alan Miller, Master



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 03/05
Alvin J. Weis 03/06
Thomas P. MaGee 03/07
Frederick V. Bowles PM 03/13
Jon R Blasquez 03/14
James W. McNamara 03/14
Dimitri Carapanos 03/19
Tom PM Kavishi 03/20
Maurice Emile Marcillac 03/21
Alfonse Martin 03/22
Henry J. Gannett PM 03/26
Alexander S. Meloy 03/27
Antonio S. Benavides 03/28
Richard D. Streeter 03/28
Michael E. Finein 03/31

From The Secretary

By Gary Peare

Brethren,

A quick reminder to pay your 2021 dues if you have not already done so.

Dues notices were sent out late last year, so if you do not recall receiving yours or need a new copy, please let me know. Note also that if you had a balance due from prior years, that will be detailed on your dues notice. Please be sure to pay the full amount in order to remain in good standing. If your financial situation is such that you are unable to pay your dues, or if you are a family member of one of our brothers in need, please contact me in confidence and I will assist you.

If your dues are current for 2021, you should have received your dues card by mail. Please contact me if you have not. (Of course, if you just paid, please wait a few days for processing.) You can also print a copy of your dues card by visiting logging in to freemason.org and clicking on the "Virtual Card" link in the "My Portal" section.

Very soon, Bro. John Densem and I, as the lodge's Member Retention Committee, will begin reaching out to our brothers who are two or more years in arrears on their dues. Our goal will be to return as many of these brothers as possible to good standing. The California Masonic Code generally requires that lodges suspend brothers for non-payment of annual dues (there are some exceptions for reasons of infirmity, charity, or military service), but we want to avoid suspensions whenever possible. The lodge is required to pay the annual Grand Lodge per capita on all non-suspended masons, so it creates a financial burden on your brothers if you are carrying an outstanding balance. In fine, if you are able to be current on your dues, please do so. If you are unable, just contact us and we will more than happy assist you. It's why we are here!

Now would also be an excellent time to make sure we have current contact information for you and that your masonic profile is accurate. Go online to freemason.org and log in by clicking on the "For Members" link at the top right of the home page. Once logged in, click on the "My Profile" button and you'll be able to review and update your information.

Still have a question or need assistance with updating your information? Happy to help.

Just email me at gpeare@gmail.com or call me at 925-285-8175.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Gary A. Peare, P.:M.:

Secretary

From The West

By Mick Finein

We had a good and lively discussion about civility on Thursday, February 18th. Quite a few of us had watched Most Worshipful Russ Chavonia's Grand Lodge presentation on civility the previous night.

I encourage everyone to go to the Grand Lodge website and watch the presentation. You can also check out the following; Wikipedia definition of civility; www.Masoniccivility.org or just Google "Masonic Civility to find the website."

During the year I plan on continuing to discuss civility in my Senior Warden's articles. As Most Worshipful Russ pointed out Masons are uniquely positioned to promote civility and restore civility in our world. As often quoted "If not us, then who?, If not now, then when?" (This quote has often been attributed to RFK but apparently he never used the phrase).

Master's Wages

A Master Mason's wages are the rewards you obtain from your personal and spiritual growth as a person and as a Mason.

Spiritual Wages are your belief in God and your connection to your Deity. Remember, what were your first spoken words in your Entered Apprentice initiation?

Temporal Wages. Temporal refers to worldly vs. spiritual affairs. Temporal wages then refer to the pride and satisfaction you receive from your contributions to society and to your Lodge. The satisfaction that rewards your work in the Lodge, with charities or community and youth groups.

Personal Wages are derived from your friendships, Brotherhood and fellowship. Your willingness to help others and make the world a better place.

As Masons we should strive to act and embody our ideals to restore and promote civility. The rewards from those efforts are a Master Mason's Wages as well.

As Masons we do it because it is right.

Fraternally,

Mick Finein | Senior Warden



From The South

By Dennis Trammell

As I pondered the wise words of The Most Worshipful Russ Charvonia during his presentation of *Our Role of Returning Civility to Society*, I found myself waiting to hear about the dreaded plague of social media and its contribution to the degradation of civility. Instead there was a concise and brief remark on social media as a whole the has stuck in my head ever since. Russ explained how social media is simply a tool, its uses for good or evil remains for us to decide.

For the first time in my life I found my self deeply contemplating this seemingly simple explanation. I was reminded of the trowel and its glorious purpose of spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection. The ability to communicate through various platforms is an ancient practice, merely refined through Internet connection. I propose that this new tool of instant communication was placed in each of our hands with the trust that we would as good use of it, with our Masonic teaching, as all others may have in the times before us.

We were meant to unite as a society of friends and brothers, with the belief the we are all bound by agape. A selfless love that presence is made clear through our use of charity. Our obligations do not end when we leave the lodge, so from this day forward I am placing myself in charge ever to walk and act as a proper Mason, even through my online connection. To remember the core lessons of civility and being able to engage in difficult discussion while respecting and caring for those I am communicating with.

I will fail, I know somewhere I will fall prey to a comment that I feel personally is attacking me or my beliefs. I hope that I can reflect back on the trowel and spread the cement friendship instead of breaking its foundation.

Lodge Online

Below are a list of online meetings, hosted via Zoom. You should be receiving regular updates about these meetings via email. If you have not seen any please check you spam folder for emails from dtrammell@designs1994@gmail.com, or reach out to the provided email.

Social & Stated Meeting

Hosted via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.

Stated Meeting (Masons Only)

March 4th | 7PM

Social 7 PM | Opening 7:30 PM

Meeting ID: 846 2866 2385

Password: 335965

Social Meeting (Open to all)

March 18th | 7 PM

Meeting ID: 846 2866 2385

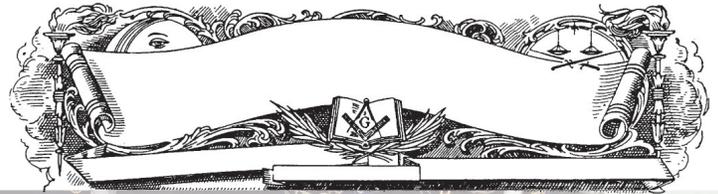
Password: 335965

Hall Association

March 24th | 7 PM

Meeting ID: 861 2117 5333

Passcode: 025217



“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 | Alan Miller PM

(510) 673-2900 | milleraj61@yahoo.com

Senior Warden | Mick Finein

(415) 810-8060 | orindalodge122@gmail.com

Junior Warden | Dennis Trammell

(925) 584-6600 | djtrammell@yahoo.com

Treasurer | Tom Steig PM

tsteig@sbcglobal.net

Secretary | Gary Peare PM

(925) 285-8175 | gpeare@gmail.com

Chaplain | Mickey Ganitch PM

(510) 352-1257 | mbganitch@earthlink.net

Assistant Secretary | Dick Anderson PM

(925) 686-3930 | dandson@comcast.net

Senior Deacon | Michael Malliaris

(510) 338-8250 | mmaliar@hotm.com

Junior Deacon | Tony Benavides

(925) 708-4756 | bbttonybb@aol.com

Marshal | Michael Gooding

(510) 660-7388 | mmmgoodin@yahoo.com

Organist | Bill Richmond PM

(510) 531-5078 | birch1011@sbcglobal.net

Tiler | Open Steward Chairs | Open

Officers Coach | Cary Carlson PM

(925) 360-2716 | caryorinda122@gmail.com

Officers Coach | Don Weisse Jr. PM

(510) 534-8377

Hall Association

President | Gary Peare PM

Chief Financial Officer | Ed Lana

Secretary | Ben Bloom

Greg Bloom PM

Sean Mergy PM

Vic Vickers PM

Dennis Trammell

Michael Gooding

Alan Miller PM

Mick Finein

Trustees

Tom Steig PM 11/21

Greg Bloom PM 11/22

Tom Kavishi PM 11/22

Larry Becker PM 11/23

Norm Gorsuch PM 11/23

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DATED MATERIAL



Masonic Speaker Series

Join the Masons of California for an exciting and entirely digital speakers' series featuring lectures and talks from Masonic experts on a range of topics. All events are totally free—to attend, simply register online at <https://freemason.org/speakerseries/>

If you've missed one, catch up on past lectures on their archives page. <https://freemason.org/speakerseriesarchive/>

Next Series Presentation:

The Origins and Customs of the Festive Board
by Andrew Farleig

When Masons meet, Masons eat. But as with all things Masonic, the customs and traditions behind even wining and dining have incredibly deep roots. Join Masonic researcher and orator Andrew Farleig as he discusses the origins and customs of the Masonic festive board, from the Premier Grand Lodge of London to present-day lodges around the globe. Farleig is the grand orator for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex, England, and orchestrates a team of more than 30 Masonic lecturers in talks given around the world. He also serves in several Grand Masonic capacities in Great Britain.

Bringing leading voices
on Freemasonry to the fraternity.



All live lectures are online, free,
and open to the public.