



# 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

Greetings to all my brothers, friends, and acquaintances, in Masonry. It has been a long year thus far and the year is not over yet. I hope the ban on social gatherings gets lifted soon; it will be nice to see you all soon.

I have some exciting news to announce (some of you know this already). The Hiram Committee has met and chose a recipient for the Hiram Award for the year 2020. The recipient is Worshipful Alan Miller. I extend my most sincere congratulations to Worshipful Miller. I can't think of anyone more deserving than Alan for this distinguished award. From the first time he ever came into the lodge, Worshipful Miller has always done something extra for lodge; not to forget about all his work for the Jobs Daughters. We plan on having an award dinner to present the award to him and celebrate him but have to wait for Grand Lodge to open Lodges for "Social Gatherings".

On October 15 th, we had a Zoom meeting celebrating our 94th consecutive yearly visitation with Live Oak Lodge. For those of you who do not know, we are the longest consecutive visitation between two lodges in the "State of California". With that in mind, I felt in extremely important to find a way to make this happen so we would not miss the visitation this year. The event was open to the general public; some of you may not have received that info. The event was a huge success. We had Most Worshipful John Cooper give a lecture on Thomas Star King. Over 33 Masons attended the event and everyone seemed satisfied with it. Thanks to all who helped put this together.

On the 5 th of November, we will have our November Stated meeting on zoom. All Masons are invited to join but as per rules in our by-laws and constitution, only Master Masons will be able to vote. In the first letter from the newly elected Grand Master, Most Worshipful Weiss has given us permission to nominate and elect, but has withheld the permission to hold a "Installation". So we will do what the Grand Master requires and wait for instruction on how he would like us to do the installation.

Update on Worshipful Jim Leonard: Jim has been moved to a care facility in Pleasant Hill. Jim was experiencing difficulty performing his therapy at home so it was deemed best to move him. They do not allow visitors inside the facility due to the Covid crisis. Any information regarding Worshipful Leonard can be obtained by contacting his daughter Katie Pintado.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you, and I wish you all the very best.

Sincerely and Fraternaly, Tom Kilgallen PM



*Tom Kilgallen, 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!**

**Kyle R. Schmid** 11/01  
**John A. W. Densem** 11/03  
**Robert J. McNair** 11/04  
**Tarek Elgendi** 11/05  
**Larry P. Becker PM** 11/06  
**James G. Dickow PM** 11/07  
**H. Joel Curtis-Brown PM** 11/09  
**Wilford D. Roe PM** 11/10  
**Donald G. Carter PM** 11/11  
**Marston Watson** 11/14  
**Donald R. Parker PM** 11/14  
**Michael M. Ganitch PM** 11/18  
**Allan E. Taylor** 11/18  
**Weylin G. Eng** 11/22  
**William D. Nason** 11/23  
**Harold B. Wells** 11/25  
**Carlton D. Williams** 11/26

# From the West

By Alan Miller

Greetings from the West,

November is upon us, the heart of the Autumn, a month filled with traditions. While in this extraordinary year some traditions have had to go on hiatus, others can be adapted to the times. There is a World Series, and football, though being on the sidelines for a game with no fans in the stands is a very strange experience. And speaking of traditions, I want to commend Wr. Tom Kilgallen and Wr. Vic Vickers for finding a way to keep the annual visitation between Orinda and Live Oak going - 94 years strong. Well done Worshipful Sirs!

November is also a time for elections both nationally and at the lodge level. Grand Lodge has expanded what business can be done in an online Stated Meeting, which allow us to have elections as is traditionally done at the November meeting. We expect guidance on holding an online installation via Zoom as well. But unfortunately, our Orinda tradition of the Past Masters turkey cook-off at the November stated meeting dinner has to be skipped this year, as the reviews I've read on eating virtual turkey haven't been particularly good. But it will come back stronger than ever next year.

Another November tradition is to honor our Veterans. Though parades may be out, there are many other ways we can honor those many brave individuals who put their life on the line to protect this magnificent country of ours. Something as simple as flying a flag in front of your home, or giving a phone call to a vet you know, or making a donation to one of the many worthy veterans charities. I personally want to thank all of the veterans who grace Orinda Lodge - I salute you! Though I was saddened to hear of the recent passing of Bill Armstrong of Acalanes Lodge, a distinguished WWII vet. Soft and safe to thee My Brother.

And finally, there is the traditional celebration of Family: Thanksgiving. I sincerely hope everyone can find a way to safely celebrate with their family, renewing and strengthening those enduring bonds, like the bonds of brotherhood that link us together in this most honorable fraternity.

Bless you all

Fraternally,  
Alan Miller | Senior Warden

# From the South

By Mick Finein

Brethren,

We had a wonderful visitation on 10/15 with Live Oak Lodge. MW John Cooper III gave an informative presentation on Thomas Starr King. Worshipful Gary Peare contributed with his experience regarding the return of Thomas Starr King's statue to California.

MW Cooper gave us a varied history lesson dating back to the 1700's and including the Presidential election of 1824 that involved two Grand Masters Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay.

A link will be sent out so you can see the entire meeting, presentation and discussion.

Thomas Starr King was the Grand Orator for the California Grand Lodge.

Following is a portion of his Grand Oration from 1863 which MW Cooper discussed.

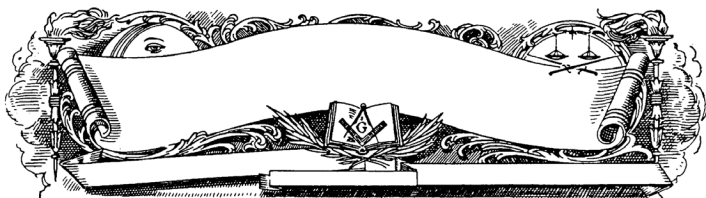
"Whatever will teach our people reverence, decorum and respect for others, in the utterance and defense of opinion, submission to constituted authority, with dignity and grace, will be medicine for our trouble, and will prepare us for a better future. I believe that the Order of Masonry, the quiet efficiency of its organism and the regard for forms it fosters, the love of order it induces and deepens, the graceful habits of submission it educates, and the sacredness it pours around organic law and the seats of authority, are a prominent portion of the bonds of civilization in our country, and an immense blessing when you consider our perils.

How good and how precious it is for brethren to dwell in such unity. May it continue brothers and widen through our fidelity and service and beneficence. God preserve our organization and guard our Order, inspire our beneficence, and grant that a century hence, our successors may meet here to enjoy in a larger fellowship, the result of our faithfulness, and within a nation not sundered, but presided over by one Grand Master, heir of the virtues, the hope and the blessing of (George) Washington."

Wonderful thoughts and words we must still live by as Masons.

Fraternally,

Mick Finein | Junior Warden



# New Spotlight!

Lamorinda Weekly Article

White Pony Express assembled some more "food kits" for its Blessings Project, which is designed to help recently immigrated Latinx families who are particularly vulnerable at this time. One of the volunteers helping on Sept. 8 was Katie Pintado, who is the building manager of the Orinda Masonic Lodge.

WPE's idea is to deliver food and spices that are familiar to Latinx neighbors. The food kits include fresh produce, rice, Masa flour, beans, tomato sauce, cheese, assorted peppers, an array of spices, Mexican chocolate, corn husks, and other items.

Although WPE picks up surplus food items from supermarkets and food distributors every day, it does not get everything needed for these food kits. For the Blessings Project, WPE needs the community's participation.

If you know of an individual or group that would be interested in sponsoring this initiative, or know someone who could host drives for food items needed to complete the food kits, contact Eve Birge, Executive Director at (202) 251-4174, [evebirge@whiteponyexpress.org](mailto:evebirge@whiteponyexpress.org) for sponsorships, and Pete Olsen, WPE's School Pantry and Food Sourcing Manager at (925) 322-0604 x 129,



Katie Pintado, building manager of the Orinda Masonic Lodge and volunteer for White Pony Express, helps assemble food kits to aid Latinx families who have recently immigrated. Photo by Lauren Militello

## Orinda News

By The Hiram Committee

Wor. Alan Miller, PM has been unanimously selected to receive Orinda Lodge's highest honor - the Hiram Award for 2020.

This is a result of years of hard work and dedication to our Lodge and to Masonry in general. A presentation and Award Dinner will be held for the Miller's when it is allowed by Grand Lodge in 2021. Please congratulate and thank Wor. Alan for all his hard work.

## Board of Trustee's News

Larry Becker, PM

We are pleased to announce the nomination of Brother Norm Gorsuch to the Orinda's Board of Trustees. Bro. Norm will be replacing Henry Gannet, PM who has faithfully served nine years on the Board. We all thank Bro. Henry for his service.

Bro. Norm's appointment needs to be approved by the Lodge membership once Grand Lodge indicates how this can be accomplished due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Bro. Norm's term will start 11/1/20 and will run for three years.

Larry P. Becker, PM  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

*"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](mailto:treqmas@outlook.com)

**Senior Warden | Alan Miller (Michele)**  
(510) 673-2900 | [milleraj61@yahoo.com](mailto:milleraj61@yahoo.com)

**Junior Warden | Mick Finein**  
(415) 810-8060 | [orindalodge122@gmail.com](mailto:orindalodge122@gmail.com)

**Treasurer | Ed Lana (Diana)**  
(925) 676-7811 | [ed122@edlana.com](mailto:ed122@edlana.com)

**Secretary | Dick Anderson PM**  
(925) 686-3930 | [dandson@comcast.net](mailto:dandson@comcast.net)

**Chaplain | Mickey Ganitch PM (Barbara)**  
(510) 352-1257 | [mbganitch@earthlink.net](mailto:mbganitch@earthlink.net)

**Assistant Secretary | Erik Johnson PM**  
(510) 872-9013 | [Esjohnson13@gmail.com](mailto:Esjohnson13@gmail.com)

**Senior Deacon | Dennis Trammell**  
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**Junior Deacon | Tony Benavides (Seema)**  
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**Marshal | Michael Gooding (Brenda)**  
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**Organist | Bill Richmond PM (Bonnie)**  
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**Tiler | Michael Malliarys**  
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**Officers Coach | Cary Carlson PM (Lynne)**  
(925) 360-2716 | [caryorinda122@gmail.com](mailto:caryorinda122@gmail.com)

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

### Hall Association

**President | Gary Peare PM**

**Vice President |**

**Chief Financial Officer | Ed Lana**

**Secretary | Ben Bloom**

**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**

**Larry Becker PM 11/23**

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## NOVEMBER 2020

### ARTHUR H. WEISS THE NEW GRAND MASTER

Worshipful Brother Arthur Harold Weiss was raised a Master Mason in Conejo Valley Lodge No. 807 in Thousand Oaks on January 28, 1986. He served as Master of the lodge in 1991 and 2003, and was presented the Hiram Award in 1997 for his distinguished service to the lodge.

Brother Weiss served the Grand Lodge as an Inspector, as Grand Marshal, and as Grand Chaplain. He served on the Leadership Development Committee, was a founding member of his Public Schools Advisory Council and has served on all five Constitutional Boards, including twelve years on the California Masonic Foundation, eight of them as President and Chairman of the Board.

In addition, Brother Weiss is active in the concordant and appendant bodies; including the Southern California Past Masters Association, the Los Angeles York Rite Bodies, Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons, the Red Cross of Constantine and the Rosicrucians. He is a 32° Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in the Scottish Rite Valley of Los Angeles, a member of Al Malaikah Shriners, Hi Twelve and the National Sojourners. Brother Weiss is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, served as Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of California and is a General Grand Chapter Committee member.

Brother Weiss received a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering in 1973 from Purdue University. He enjoyed a 42-year career in aerospace and defense at Rocketdyne, where he was part of the Space Shuttle Main Engine development team, led development of the RS-68 booster engine flying on the Delta IV, and propulsion for missiles currently deployed by the U.S. He was Executive Director of Missile Defense and of Advanced Programs prior to his retirement in 2015. He continues to consult and started an executive consulting firm.

Art and his wife, Barbara, live in Newbury Park and have one married daughter.