



1883–2016  
 133rd Year of Excellence  
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Vol XVIII

December 2016

No.12

**Attend Important Stated Meeting December 6, 2016-7:30 PM  
 Re-Voting for Two Positions for 2017**

**NOTICE from the Secretary**

The Grand Lodge of California has informed us that a procedural error took place during the voting for the stations of Master and the unexpired term created by the resignation of the Temple Board President.

Therefore, to correct this wrong at the Stated Meeting on December 6, 2016 we will re-vote for brothers to fill these positions.

Gerald E. Harris, PM, Secretary

*Merry Christmas*

Meets Every Tuesday Evening

First Tuesday is our  
 Stated Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Second Tuesday is our  
**Family Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**

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Our Temple Board meets  
 on the **Last Wednesday** at 6:30 pm  
 Every Month

**CONTENTS**

Re-Voting Dec 6 Stated Meeting	1
Calendar	2
December Birthdays	2
December Family Dinner	2
Master's Message - Choose Wisely!	3
Senior Warden - Thank You	4
Junior Warden - Review & Commentary	5
The Gift of Gab(e) -	6
Officers	7

**Reminder: Dues Are Due**

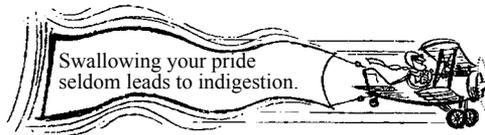
***Please Pay Your Dues If You Have Not Already Done So***

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## December 2016

Tuesday, December 6	7:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting**	
Officers Coat & Tie	
Tuesday, December 13	6:30 p.m.
Family Dinner	
Tuesday, December 20	7:00 p.m.
Practice or Degree	
Tuesday, December 27	7:00 p.m.
Practice or Degree	
Wednesday, December 28	6:30 p.m.
Temple Board Meeting	

**\*\* Reminder: Dec. 6th Lodge Re-Vote for Two Positions at 7:30 p.m.**



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## December Birthdays

**(If your Birthday is in December, your dinner is free.)**

Jim Hazboun,1, Garabed H. Tutundjian,1, Donald S. Kane,5,  
James M. Blakely,6, Zuheir M. Tweini,6, Henry C. Zipperian,6,  
William W. Milbradt,8, Sami F. Masri,9, Elliott C. Ellenson,13,  
Charles F. Foster,13, Jon D. Van Wye,14, David W. Aurell PM,15,  
Mitchell L. Lathrop,15, James H. Flack,16, Ben E. Buttler,22,  
Kraig R. Blythe,23, Christopher G. Christiansen,23, Joseph Waian PM,25,  
Devin T. Acosta,27, William R. Packard,27. George Agamalian,28

## Tuesday, December 13, 2016 Family Dinner

Christmas Style Dinner

Ham

Potatoes and Vegetables

Caesar Salad and Rolls

Apple Pie

*Please make Family Dinner Reservations by Friday, Dec. 9, 2016*

*(626) 795-5610 or*

*email: [secretary@emasons.org](mailto:secretary@emasons.org)*

*\$12.00 per person*



From the Master



## THROW THE BUMS OUT!

By now, most of our active brothers know that we will be re-voting for Master of the Lodge and the Temple Board position for 2017. Our elections were ruled out of order as a result of a procedural error. We are told by our inspector **Paul Bazerkanian** and the Assistant Grand Lecturer that, "Grand Lodge has ordered you to re-cast your lodge vote for these two positions at your upcoming December 6th Stated Meeting".

Please join us for the fun and intrigue! At our November 1st stated meeting the President of our Temple Board, **Dave Doermann, PM**, resigned. We are sorry to see Dave leave us. Dave and his wife are relocating to Bullhead City, Arizona, where they will be retiring. He states that he will be searching for another lodge near his new home.

Dave, you have been a valued leader of Pasadena Lodge No 272 for over forty years. You have served multiple times as Master of the lodge, you are a life member of the lodge, you have served as ritual coach and you have been awarded the distinguished Hiram Award for our lodge. Many thanks for your valuable service.

FYI, Our November Stated Meeting was opened in a normal fashion. We followed our standard stated meeting agenda and then moved on to our annual elections for 2017. That is when the sparks began to fly.

Nominations for our various elected positions were normal except for the Master's chair and the Temple Board opening created by Dave Doermann's resignation. It was obvious that there was some significant lobbying going on by certain members several weeks before our stated meeting. Several unfamiliar faces suddenly appeared at this meeting to vote for these contested positions. You might ask yourself why are there unfamiliar faces showing up for our elections?

This is not unusual for this lodge. Over my past six-year tenure, I have witnessed this political abnormality occur over several years, always occurring at election time or when a new project is advocated by a new Master. FYI, 71% of our past masters (**Dave Doermann, Mark Khalaf, Dan Moran, Tommy Chavies & now myself**) have experienced the same challenges from the same recalcitrant people.

As you know, democracy is not a pretty sport! We have just witnessed a hotly contested election in our nations selection for the Presidency of our country. We have citizens rioting and demonstrating in the streets. One side wins and one side loses! We must learn to accept this challenge!

At the opening of our stated meeting, Dave Doremann, PM gave a passionate exit speech criticizing our lodge's long standing disharmony. He then resigned and walked out of the Lodge. Our inspector and some of our members, including myself, were surprised by his speech and his resignation.

In his resignation speech, he threw his opening comments toward my re-election. After announcing his resignation, he left the lodge without casting a vote. Out of respect for Dave, I permitted his comments to continue without challenging him. He was telling the truth as he sees it and since he has been a long-time leader in this lodge for forty plus years, I think he deserves our respect.

Our opening nominations for the Masters position had three names advanced. The vote was for two candidates: eleven for John Mc Dannel and eleven for Greg Habib, PM. The third candidate secured three votes. At the time of the announced tie, I was told by the inspector that "You have the right to cast the deciding vote". So, I did! I cast my vote for myself. I certainly did not cast my vote for myself because I have a passion for this job. I made a brief speech that I wanted us to finish the hotly contested downstairs bathroom remodel project that your Temple Board started and approved at the outset of this year.

As it turns out, we should have dropped the third candidate from the race for Master of the lodge after the first round of voting. This action would have allowed us to re-vote to break the tie. In the case of another tie between the two candidates, the Master still retains his final vote. This permits the master to legally break the tie by casting his second vote. An interesting comment and observation was made by **Bruce Chubbuck**. He said, "I don't think I have ever seen this happen in this lodge in my 60 plus years of Masonry". How sad!

Well, the same situation occurred for the opening on the Temple Board after Dave Doermann resigned. Manager Ron Alcorn III, PM, Greg Habib, PM and Tommy Chavies, PM were nominated to serve in this newly opened position.

Yes, a tie occurred between Ron Alcorn III and Tommy Chavies. Since I was told that I had a second vote, I leaned over and whispered to the inspector that I felt there was a conflict of interest for the Manager of the Temple and employee of the temple board to be serving in the position of President of the Temple Board. I then whispered to our inspector that "I will continued on page 7



## *Message from the Senior Warden*

## **Thank You**

As 2016 comes to a close, I want to thank everyone for your support during this Masonic year. We accomplished a lot and received high visibility for it. For starters, our current Master was installed by Most Worshipful M. David Perry, the sitting Grand Master of California at the time, and the Grand Master would return twice more on behalf of our Master Worshipful John McDannel.

In the Spring, we had our Annual Brunch and attended a Raising a Reader function where we participated with Grand Lodge in presenting local Pasadena schools a wonderful donation. The children and educators love it when we come by because they know that we care about the future of our State for the proof is in the lessons taught in these same schools.

Summer rolled around along with the heat and we assisted South Pasadena Lodge #290 in hosting the Second Annual District Wide Table Lodge. The evening's theme was the Roaring 20s as we saluted prominent Masons from that decade. All in attendance had a blast.

Just before the arrival of Fall, we hosted a British third degree put on by a

team of Brethren from across the pond. Many Thanks need to go to Brother Younes Safa for being the point-of-contact for Pasadena Lodge and being able to make the journey to England for the coordination of the historic event. Needless to say, we kicked off the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Masonry in a very special way.

In terms of being the official Officers' coach, we conferred many degrees upon many candidates in all three degrees. I congratulate the officers for the time and effort put forth. My special pleasure is that I helped prepare your next Senior and Junior Wardens. With Brothers Steve Hawkins and Dennis Yen looking to finish qualifying, I will take my place once more on the side lines.

So, I wish you all a wonderful Holiday season as we look forward to 2017. I will still be around to assist and even to coach, but it will be nice to not be an officer! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fraternally,  
Ronald M. Lewis, Jr., P.M.  
Senior Warden 2016



## *Message from the Junior Warden*

### **Looking Forward to New Ideas**

Brethren:

I want to thank all of you who attended our November elections. I am now Senior Warden-Elect, and am busy qualifying for the upcoming installation in January, 2017. I have met with the new Junior Warden-Elect Dennis Yen and we are starting to develop some long term plans for the Pasadena Masonic Lodge # 272 for the years to come. Grand Lodge has been promoting a member centered plan to be used in the years to come, a plan that they want most lodges to do by 2020. In 2017, we will start to put that plan and its various steps in motion.

One thing that Dennis and I agree on is to have more Masonic Education for our members. We are looking to do a historical/illumination series in our lodge, similar to the one in South Pasadena Lodge. Our new inspector Paul Bazerkanian has offered his assistance to me in helping this program becoming a reality. I will let you know how things are developing with this program.

As you may have noticed with my previous articles, I am an idea man. I look for new ideas and new directions that we should take. The direction I would like to see us take is becoming more involved in our community. When I wrote about this earlier, I did get

some interesting feedback from some members. I am pleased to see that some of you agree with this idea. I hope to introduce some of these ideas in the new year and years ahead. So, I will repeat my philosophy on new ideas:

**New Ideas are sacred.** All ideas need to be examined, nurtured, grow and allowed to bloom. Without new ideas, there is no invention, no growth, no stimulus to improve upon an existing invention, product or service. It is the absorptions of new ideas into the planning, building or manufacturing process that we can all have better and more products and services. Some ideas may not fit the situation; some ideas come forth at the wrong time; some ideas challenge our goals and direction; and some ideas will get us off track completely. But new ideas are the food of innovation. Without new ideas, creativity would starve!!!

What new ideas for the lodge do you have today? Please contact me about yours.

Fraternally,  
Stephen Hawkin  
Junior Warden



## *The Gift of Gab(e)*

# Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

'Tis the time of year we march to the garage, pull the boxes off the rafters, inhale a year's worth of dust and spider webs, and take out the seasonal decorations. We follow the same ritual each year as we unwind the tangled strands of lights and try to hang them symmetrically on the tree and around the eaves of the house. Only to reverse the process (and relive the headache) a few weeks later.

It seems we can thank the Germans for this as they were the first to chop down a tree and drag it into the house for the Christmas season in the late 18th century. Soon after, having a tree wasn't enough as they decided to decorate it before it dried out and became kindling. And thus, small candles were affixed to the branches to simulate stars twinkling in the night sky. From around 1902 to 1914, small lanterns and small hand blown glass balls were used to contain the wax and protect the tree from the flames.

In the late 1880s the tradition of trees in the house had hit America and the electrification of the country had also begun. As a result, in 1881, Thomas Edison was responsible for an electric light display in the United Kingdom. "Fairy Lights", as they were called, became a huge success and of course the custom spread across the pond and landed in Washington D.C. In December of 1895, President Grover Cleveland sponsored the first electrically lit Christmas Tree in the White House. It was during the same period that General Electric Corporation began mass producing Christmas tree lights making it possible for all to enjoy a bright, shiny tree for the holidays.

Now that the great indoors had become electrified, it was time for all-weather outdoor lights to make their appearance. The first outdoor city display was the City of San Diego in 1904. Household lights became popular in the early 1950s. The Rockefeller Center first started to light its tree in 1931 but the first recorded use of electric lighting was in 1956. Also in that year, we saw the first Philadelphia's Christmas Light Show and the tree in the center plaza at the new Disneyland park was electrically illuminated.

The humble light strand has come a long way since Edison. From those early mono-filament bulbs, to florescent lamps, neon lamps and even those spinning color light wheels of the 60s to today's efficient and economical Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights. And while Christmas along with blue and white Hanukkah lights are the big sellers in December, there are other popular holidays where lights are strung on and around the house. Halloween is the next "lit" day followed by Easter, Independence Day, Flag Day and Birthdays.

So as you spend a day trying to untangle the strands of lights and not falling off the ladder, try to enjoy the holiday season. Remember the reason for the season. Happy Holidays!

Thought for the Month: Why is Monday so far from Friday, and Friday so close to Monday?

Gregory J. Gabriel, P.M.

God's Retirement Plan  
is out of this world!



**Master's Message** cont'd. from page 3  
 cast my vote for Tommy Chavies". Which I did!

Regarding the bathroom remodel project: In January the downstairs bathroom remodel project was approved by your Temple Board. We met with the City of Pasadena planning department in Feb. to discuss the planned remodeling project. We were told by the city planning department that we needed to hire an ADA specialist to be sure that our plan will meet current ADA standards. So, we hired Jeff Becker an ADA specialist as recommended.

We hired Don Murphy, a local well respected Architect, to prepare our bathroom remodeling plans. Our architectural renderings have been run by roughly 85% of our active lodge members without criticism. Numerous job walks have been conducted with our active members as well as some contractors. We have made numerous reports about this topic at our various stated meetings. We have recently begun a bidding process with various contractors. Per the Temple Board's recommendation, Ron Lewis, PM and I visited with the Director of Masonic Properties at Grand Lodge while we were attending the Annual Communications in October and he gave us positive support on how we are approaching this challenging remodel project.

So, what is the rub with the bathroom project? There is no question that we desperately need this improvement to our Temple

property. The proposed improvements to the bathrooms have been going on for more than ten years. Now we are finally addressing the issue. There is no question that we need to update our restroom facilities so that we can improve our rental prospects in the future. We have offered a thoughtful and a well thought out plan. The project achieves several improvements to our downstairs bathrooms. In the women's bathroom we are gaining some significant architectural improvements plus an additional sink for our female renters. In the men's bathroom we are gaining an additional sink, another urinal and an added water closet. In both cases we will be ADA compliant. This has been the quest of our Temple Board since the first of the year.

We have worked hard to bring positive change to this Lodge this year. We have been trying to enhance the ritual side of our duties as well as trying to make physical improvements to our building. We have accomplished a lot of good things as pointed out in last month's Master's message. It is truly unfortunate that a few of our brothers desperately want to retain control of the Lodge and its Temple Board. I believe they see a new Master with good ideas as a threat! They do not like change! They are like the "Luddites" of old England in the early 19th century. Wake up boys! You are out of touch! Your Lodge is shrinking!

John Mc Dannel, Master

## *Officers for 2016*

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<b>Gerald E. Harris, PM (Beverly), Secretary</b> .....	Home: (626) 445-0949
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<b>M. Bruce Chubbuck, PM (Lynda), Chaplain</b> .....	Home: (626) 797-2641
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	Home: (818) 541-9460; Work: (818) 248-0304; e-mail: george_amirian@yahoo.com
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<b>Garabed H. Tutundjian (Rossana), Junior Steward</b> .....	Cell: (626) 487-9850
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<hr/>	
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	e-mail: xino3rd@xino3rd.com
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Pasadena Lodge # 272 F & AM  
200 S. Euclid Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

December 2016  
TRESTLE BOARD

IMPORTANT  
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