



# **VALLEJO MASONIC NEWS**

**FRIEND TO FRIEND, BROTHER TO BROTHER**

## **NAVAL LODGE #87**

**FEBURARY 2020**

### **VISION STATEMENT**

**Naval Lodge attracts and brings together good men of diverse generational, racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds for self improvement, friendship, and service; because we provide an authentic initiatory experience and engaging education programs based on a tradition of living and animate speech to effect a personal transformation that inspires each man to a principle driven way of life based on brotherly love, relief and truth.**

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## **2020 COMMITTEES**

**LODGE AUDIT:** Rollie Caabay, PM (Chairman), Dennis Timmons

**SMTA:** President- Dennis Timmons (2020), Barry Hughes, PM (2020),  
CFO- Seth Thomas (2020), Secretary- Alex Gaoiran (2022),  
Member- Ralph Lindeman (2022), Member- Mario Cruz (2021)  
Ex-officio's: Master & Sr. Warden

### **2020 COMMITTEES CONTINUED**

**SMTA AUDIT:** Sam Sarmiento, PM (Chairman), Rollie Caabay, PM

**MEMBER RETENTION:** Mervyn Nicholas (Chairman), Keith Wattles, PM, Guy Benjamin

**CANDIDATE COACHING:** Keith Wattles

**CHARITY:** Mervyn Nicholas (Chairman), Keith Wattles, Guy Benjamin

**FUNERAL:** V. Thomas Langford, PM, John Wasson, PM, Keith Wattles, PM, Manuel Sarmiento, PM

**MASONIC FORMATION:** Keith Wattles, PM

**PHONE TREE:** Barry Hughes, PM

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Gerald Bettman, PM (Chairman)

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Gerald Bettman, PM (Chairman)

**SMEF (Elected):** Albert Lawson, PM - President, Glenn Munkers, PM, Jim Jaeger, Jose Ferrer,  
Manuel Sarmiento, Mervyn Nicholas

**TRUSTEES (Elected):** Glen Munkers, PM (2021) (Chairman), Guy Benjamin (2022),  
Douglas Campbell, PHD (2023)

**WEBMASTER:** Joaquin Loayza

**YOUTH ORDERS:** Jim Jaeger (Chairman), Gerald Bettman, Seth Thomas

**Sunshine:** Keith Wattles, PM

**Property:** Mike Nesmith (Chairman),

## **TWENTY-FOUR INCH GAUGE**

**THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO BE INCAPACITATED, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU ARE THINKING OF THEM. PLEASE SEE THE SR. WARDEN TO REPORT ANY SICK OR DISTRESSED BROTHERS:**

## **FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER....**

Black History Month: The celebration of Black History Month began as “Negro History Week,” which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Fredrick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. Let us at Naval lodge #87 start out the month-long celebration with a traditional meal at our monthly stated meeting. This meal will be prepared by brother Dennis Timmons and WM JJ Nicholas.

There will be a joint daylight degree to be held at Naval lodge #87 on Presidents’ Day February 17 at 9:00 AM, with refreshments starting at 8:00 AM. Lunch will be served following the degree.

Our coat drive will continue until February 13. Collection will continue at Naval lodge. All individuals wishing to help with the distribution of Coats should contact brother Lee Horton, Angelito Dumaop and PM Barry Hughes.

Thanks for your support and dedication to Naval Lodge #87 and looking forward to your continuous participation in building our community outreach.

Fraternally

Mervyn (JJ) Nicholas WM

As the Sun is in the West at the Close of the Day

As we enter February, I can't help but bring to your attention the progress that one of your Brother's made in January. Brother Gairan was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on September 19, 2019. Some of us (put me in this group) failed to listen to our Candidate Coach when he told us that we shouldn't quit our Ritual memorization but should continue with it and get our 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Proficiency done while everything was still fresh in our memory. Brother Gairan took this advice and on January 16, 2020, sat in the middle of the Major Lodge Room and performed, what I was told, one of the best 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Proficiency's that had been performed in Naval Lodge in years! Congratulations my Brother. I hope that everyone takes a moment and congratulates Brother Alex for a job well done. I should also add that there were several Brothers who were a part of the Assistance Crew who worked with Brother Alex so this would happen. My hat is off to those Brothers too.

On that same note, where are you in your Masonic Journey? When was the last time that you met with your Candidate? When was the last time you contacted your Coach? Are you ready to advance? If there's a problem, let me know. It's my job as your Senior Warden to oversee the progress of advancement and I take that responsibility very seriously.

On another subject, I want to commend all you who have taken on the task of collecting coats and jackets for our homeless community. The Master has made it his goal to get Naval Lodge more involved in Vallejo. This is the first project and you have all answered the call for service admirably! Keep up the great work.

February appears to be a month of advancement. We will Passing at least one Brother to the Degree of Fellowcraft. Will you be on the calendar for advancement?

Until then, I stand in the West, awaiting your needs.

Keith E. Wattles, PM

Senior Warden

## From The South

Brethren, as the calendar turns to February, we celebrate many things, February 14 is Valentine's Day, and then on the 17 we celebrate Great Presidents on Presidents Day. In addition, we celebrate Black History throughout the month of February.

Valentine's Day is a great reminder to be softer, gentler and kinder in all our doings. It is so easy to be caught up in the daily emotions of life and say things or do things that we will regret later. Imagine what would happen if on this Valentine's Day if we all took the time to reach out to someone in addition to our significant others, just to let them know how important they are to us or perhaps apologize for something we said or did. Whom do you need to reach out to this Valentine's Day?

Our Lodge has several things going on this month;

On February 2, we will party like it's 1999 with our Annual Super Bowl Party, this kicks off at 2:00. We will be serving traditional fare of Hot Dogs, Polish Dogs and Brats in addition to some tasty ribs from my smoker. The lodge will provide soft drinks and you are encouraged to bring a side dish and if you like an alcoholic beverage.

At our Stated Meeting on February 6 in honor of Black History Month, we will be treated to Soul Food prepared by our Masters Wife Max and Dennis Timmons along with a supporting cast of assistants and helpers.

The Lodge's traditional Day Light Degree will occur again this year on Presidents Day, February 17. Coffee and Doughnuts will be provided starting at 8:00. A traditional Ham luncheon prepared by Seth Thomas will be served after the degree with Cherry Pie for dessert. We might even have some Ice Cream for that Pie!

I am always open to suggestions and ideas for meals and snacks that we provide at our dinners, practices and other events. Please let me know your ideas.

Respectfully Submitted

Guy Benjamin  
Junior Warden

