



VALLEJO MASONIC NEWS

FRIEND TO FRIEND, BROTHER TO BROTHER

NAVAL LODGE #87

APRIL 2021

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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2021 COMMITTEES

LODGE AUDIT: Dennis Timmons (Chairman), Lee Horton

SMTA: President- Barry Hughes, PM (2023)
Vice Pres.- Seth Thomas (2022)
CFO- Mario Cruz (2021)
Secretary - Ralph Lindeman (2022)
Member- Stephen Roberson (2023)
Member- Rick Lauziere, PM (2023)
Ex-officio's: Master & Sr. Warden

SMTA AUDIT: Albert Lawson, PM (Chairman), Mervyn Nicholas, PM

MEMBER RETENTION: Keith Wattles, PM (Chairman), Guy Benjamin, Mario Cruz

CANDIDATE COACHING: Guy Benjamin

CHARITY: Keith Wattles, PM (Chairman), Guy Benjamin, Mario Cruz

FUNERAL: V. Thomas Langford, PM, John Wasson, PM, Keith Wattles, 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, Matthew Vallarino, Keith Wattles, PM

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: Guy Benjamin

Community Outreach: Bryan Shields

Property: Mike Nesmith (Chairman)

Mason of the year Bro. Seth Thomas

Hiram Award Recipient Bro. Ralph Lindeman

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 BROTHER:

As the Sun Rises in the East...

As another month of uncertainty comes to an end, we find ourselves still asking when? When will we be able to come together as the Brotherhood we all joined? When will we be able to socialize the way we used to? When? When? Well, all I can tell you is sooner than the last time we asked that question!

Since our last Trestleboard and Stated Meeting, Solano County has moved from the Purple Group to the Red Group and there are talks that we will soon be moving to the Orange Group as several of the Bay Area Counties have already done. What does this mean for us? It means that we will be only one color group away from being in the least restrictive group that there is. It means that there is actually a light at the end of the tunnel! Once we have moved to the Yellow Group, all that will deter us from meeting in person will be the Grand Lodge.

Enough of that! Let's talk about things that we can control. I've put 2 events on the calendar. Both of these events are scheduled for later in the year since I am anticipating us being up and running by June. The first event will be the Hiram Award Dinner and Presentation. This is scheduled for June 26, 2021. We will honor Brother Ralph Lindeman. Please put that date on your calendar. Dinner will begin at 6PM with the Hiram Ceremony to follow. The second date for your calendar is July 10, 2021. On that date, we will be celebrating our Mason of the Year. Since we never got to celebrate last year's Mason of the Year, after discussing this with our Junior Past Master, I have decided to honor both last year's Mason of the Year, Brother Guy Benjamin and this year's Mason of the Year, Brother Seth Thomas, at this dinner. Please put this date on your calendars too. If there are any changes, we will get that out to you as soon as possible. For now, I'm looking at it from the positive side and moving forward.

I would also like to remind all of you that we are here to serve. We are here to serve our community, our members and our widows. If any of you are in need, whether it be you're lonely and need to talk to someone or you need assistance with a maintenance problem or you need financial aid, WE NEED TO KNOW! We can't help if you don't ask! On the same token, if you know of a Brother or Widow who need s help, please let us know and we will contact them. Sometimes our pride gets in the way and we choose not to ask for the help that we so much need or could use.

In closing, I'd just like to remind you that we are here for YOU, not vice versa. If you need ANYTHING just ask!

Until we meet again, stay safe and healthy,

Fraternally,

Keith E. Wattles, PM

Worshipful Master

As the Sun is in the West

It is pretty incredible that the arrival of April means that we have been slogging through this thing called COVID19 for over a year. I always like to look at challenging times as adventures that I get to take and learn from and ultimately become a better person. What have we learned from this Pandemic and how can it make us better?

As we started this adventure we initially went through a period of months where many were completely isolated. We learned that most of us are not built too well for a long term isolation experience. Personally, have found it interesting to watch, listen and learn as we all have been on our own adventure. Perseverance has been a watchword as we push through experiences that we never dreamt possible.

We learned that masks protect us, but then we're told no they don't and then finally masks protect those around us. We learned to wear them, essentially in service to others, not so we don't get sick but to lessen the chance that we might infect others if we are sick.

It has been a year of tremendous loss. Many people have lost jobs and many small business owners have been forced to shut down. In many cases a lifetime of toil was wiped out in a matter of months. I believe that everyone of us has been touched by the loss of a relative or friend that has succumbed to the virus. Have we learned to be more compassionate and patient not knowing what someone else may be going through in their life?

Perseverance, service to others, patience, gentleness and kindness. These are the best outcomes of the last twelve months. As Masons I think we strive to always be growing in these character traits, these are traits taught in our rituals and where we must strive to grow every day.

Guy Benjamin
Senior Warden

As the Sun at Meridian Height

Brethren,

As we roll into April with this excellent weather, I'm inspired by gratitude! It seems like things are slowly getting back to normal, and places are opening back up! I pray that everyone is in good health and I continue to look forward to great fellowship to come!!! Since I'm still unable to cook you all a meal, I will close with a food related joke!

What do you call a potato that is reluctant to get in the boiling water??

A hesi-tater!!

Wishing you all the best.

Warmly,
Bro. Mario Cruz
Junior Warden

Brother Charlie Bailhache 50 yr pin Presentation by Wor. Wasson, Inspector of the 131st Masonic district, Wor. Master Wattles & Wor. Hughes on March 10,2021

