



The Trestleboard is the name for the newsletter of Freemasons. A Trestleboard was a tool utilized by Operative Master Masons to detail the daily work of the Craftsman. The plans and designs for the work were scratched or carved into or drawn on the surface of the board. The earliest Trestleboard (or more accurately Tracing Board), was thought to have been a wooden board covered in wax. The designs were cut or carved into the wax. The wax could be scraped off and renewed as needed. A modern-day Trestleboard in Operative vocations is the Blueprint.

December

Richard Duffy

Master



Thank you for allowing me to serve as Worshipful Master of Harding San Juan Lodge #579 for our 100th anniversary. It has been a great honor and achievement as a Mason, and I have truly enjoyed the experience. My goal was to make it an eventful year to help get more attendance at lodge functions and to bring positive recognition and public awareness of Freemasonry through our many fraternal and social activities.

We were honored with not one, but two visits within the year from the Most Worshipful Grand Master Randall Brill. We had many successful events like the annual Crab Feed with over 250 guests served and we raised money for the lodge and for the Sunrise Christian Food Ministry across the street from the lodge. The St. Patrick's Day Stated Meeting Dinner was our most well attended dinner serving over 70 guests and had a live

Bag Piper.

The Strawberry Festival and garage/yard sale was a partnership with the Natoma San Juan Eastern Star, Breakfast Crew and Jobs Daughters and was another fun event that brought more positive public awareness to the lodge and raised more money for the food closet. Our 100th anniversary was celebrated with a re-dedication ceremony hosting Grand Lodge again and saw a packed lodge room.

The Jobs Daughters were a great help throughout the year, serving and helping clean up at each of the stated meeting dinners.

This year for the annual Fall Festival we went with an Oktoberfest theme complete with authentic German/Bavarian food and drink. The annual turkey drive was replaced with a \$15 gift card drive and we raised over \$600 in grocery store gift cards to be distributed by the food closet for Thanksgiving.

We also had many fun events for social and educational experience that included wine tasting, a Murder Mystery Dinner with a 1920's theme in honor of our 100th anniversary, and a bourbon tasting and education. We tried something new, "Fellowship in the Dark", which was basically cigars and bring your own whatever to drink on the patio with fire pit and socializing. This will be continued next year by Worshipful Steve "Doc" Larsen.

There are so many I want to thank who helped make this a successful and fun year as Master that would take up this entire Trestle Board. I do have to call out a special thanks to one special person, who without her help, I would not have succeeded with half of what I accomplished, my wife, my partner, my best friend, Diane Duffy! She also rallied the ladies, wives and partners of the brethren to help throughout the year and have their own meeting while we had stated meeting. We often heard the laughter from the group of ladies while we were conducting our stated meeting business.

Lastly, I want to congratulate Worshipful Elect Doc Larsen, Senior Warden Elect Greg Treible, Junior Warden Elect Bruce Gavin and all the appointed officers for the ensuing Masonic Year. I look forward to watching from the sidelines and helping wherever I can.

Fraternally,

Rich Duffy, WM

Steve "Doc" Larson

Senior Warden



Belated hello from the West,

I am finally recovering from a very severe illness, and I apologize to everyone for my absence.

That being said, I wish to thank everyone for the vote of confidence in electing me to the East for this coming year. It is a great honor to be asked to lead such a great Lodge filled with so many dignified Masons and so many truly good friends. It is very humbling. Following in the footsteps of W. Henning and especially W. Duffy will be a real challenge. I appreciate both of their offers for help. I need all the help I can get.

December is a great month. Not only is it a month of holidays and joy, but the very thought of Christmas brings joy to the hearts of all of us, regardless of faith. Many of our Masonic principles, especially our three most important ornaments, "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth" are rooted deeply in all religions and were adopted long before the Birth of Jesus. Take time this Holiday Season to remember our brothers of all faiths and include them in our prayers. It is a time of giving so try to be generous to those less fortunate.

December is also the time to remember St. John the Evangelist one of our Patron Saints. December 27 is the date dedicated to him. In olden times, this was considered the Winter Solstice He is also, the Patron St. of Firefighters. The first of the disciples of Jesus, he followed him to the Cross, and Jesus asked him to care for Mary, his mother. December 27 is a feast day for Masons, (don't eat too much), dating back to the 18th Century when the day was used for the Installation of Presidents and Grand Masters.

In 1891, 12/01 B. James Naismith invented basketball, and B. Henry Ford developed the assembly line beginning the production of Model T Fords, a complete car could be built in 93 minutes. He was raised in Palestine Lodge # 357, Detroit, MI in 1894. December 3, 1828, Andrew Jackson became our 7th President of the USA. He defeated John Quincy Adams, incumbent, and his election triggered a national comeback for Freemasonry, overcoming the forces of the Anti-Masonic Party which had been successful in darkening 2/3 of the Lodges in America.

December is replete with much Masonic history. It is a very special month.

Remember we will try to have a New Years Eve Celebration at the Lodge beginning 6:30 to 9:00 our time, and hopefully watch time square on the TV in the Dining area. After the Ball descends, we will adjourn that all may go home safe and sound. Very casual, hor d'oeuvres, charcuterie, wine and champagne. Maybe some brief fireworks.

Black eyed peas Monday morning January 1st, Yum!

Merry Christmas to all, and Happy New Years

Yours in the Bond of Brotherhood,

Steve "Doc" Larson, PM, Sr. Warden

Gregory Treible

Junior Warden



Greetings Brothers and Ladies,

This month, we continue our exploration of Masonry in Colonial America. It may be helpful to review last three months of JW trestle board articles as a refresher.

This month we look at Ben Franklin and John Hancock.

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, **Benjamin Franklin** was an enthusiastic writer. At 12 years old, he became an apprentice for his brother James' printing company. Three years later, James had established the first US newspaper, *The*

New England Current, and much to young Benjamin's dismay, his brother forbade him to submit his own work to the paper. However, having always been an advocate for free speech, Franklin submitted his work under the pseudonym, Silence Do-Good. Ardently committed to this fundamental right, Franklin said, "Without freedom of thought, there can be no such thing as wisdom and no such thing as public liberty without freedom of speech."

In 1731, 17-year-old Franklin's travels took him to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was initiated into the Philadelphia Masonic Lodge. His dedication to Freemasonry led him ultimately to become Grand Master of PA in 1734 (a Grand Master at 20?!) and Secretary of John's Lodge from 1735 to 1738. Also noteworthy, he edited and published the second edition of James Anderson's *Constitutions of the Free-Masons*.

Over time Franklin's popularity and political clout grew and he was eventually selected as the Pennsylvania Delegate to the Second Continental Congress. During the rise of the Revolution, Franklin became an appointed member of the Committee of Five, which was responsible for drafting, presenting and, ultimately, signing the Declaration of Independence.

John Hancock played a pivotal role in sparking the rebellious flame of independence that liberated the American colonies from under British rule. Like many notable figures of the Revolution, Brother Hancock was born in Massachusetts. He graduated from Harvard Law and dedicated much of his life to the Revolutionary cause, his political aspirations, and the Craft.

During a trip to Quebec in 1762, Hancock was first made a Freemason in the Marchant's Lodge No. 277. Upon his return to the colonies later that year, he became a devoted Brother to the Lodge of St. Andrew in Boston.

Hancock's career in politics was prolific. While serving as President of the Second Continental Congress, Hancock etched his place in American history when he scribed his famously flamboyant, oversized signature upon the Declaration of Independence. As legend has it, Hancock claimed he wanted King George III to be able to read his signature without the use of his eyeglasses.

Following the Revolutionary War, he was elected as the first Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As Governor, he pushed for the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and would end up holding the office twice. In poor health during his second term, John Hancock passed away while in office and was buried in Boston. His grave remains a popular destination for those visiting the city to this day.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Greg Treible, PM, Jr. Warden

Tom Tompkins, PM

Hallboard President



Greetings from your Hallboard

We hope you and your loved ones had a great Thanksgiving.

Another year in the books. Thanks to you it has been a great year. Lots of stuff happened around our lodge and all of it was good.

Let's make sure 2024 is just as good if not better.

Worshipful John Scofield will be spending some time with us during the holidays, be sure to go out back and say hello to our full-time rv'r. It will be great to have him back with us for a short while.

We are getting close to finishing the parking lot. By the end of December, we should have the six additional lights on the three new poles installed with new cameras.

Mark your calendars for January 13th, 2024, the lodge's crab feed. Should be a great event again this year. Last year we over sold the crab feed, this year when the specified number of tickets are sold. We cannot sell any more. Get your tickets early and plan to help with the set up and mark your seats.

We have learned that the food bank across the street has very limited space in their walk-in freezer. They requested \$ 15.00 gift cards this year instead of turkeys. So, next time you are at your favorite grocery store, pick up a \$ 15.00 gift card or two for the less fortunate in our community. However, they still need plastic and paper shopping bags, peanut butter, dry goods, and unexpired canned goods. Thank you for your continued support. As Masons, that is what we do.

Please have a great and safe New Year.

Fraternally, Hallboard President

Tom Tompkins, PM



2023 HSJ Lodge Officers

Richard L. Duffy (Diane)	Master
Steven “Doc” Larson	Senior Warden
Gregory L. Treible (Kyra)	Junior Warden
Edward E. Rose, PM (Elaine)	Treasurer
L.R. “Bob” Jackson (Terri)	Secretary
Richard E. Lewis (Violet)	Chaplain
Bruce F. Gavin (Sharon)	Senior Deacon
Douglas F. Jones (Heather).....	Junior Deacon
Christopher L. Globis	Marshal
Steven M. Rankin (Rae).....	Senior Steward
Thomas L. Pryor, PM	Junior Steward
Cris E. Bryceson (Joy)	Tiler
Tom Tompkins, III, PM (Lynn)	Head Candidates Coach
Jeffery E. Robertson, PM (Angela)	Officers Coach

Harding San Juan Lodge, No. 579 F. & A.M.

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Citrus Heights, CA 95610-6509

Web Site: www.hardingsanjuan.com

Email: harddingsanjuan@gmail.com

Trestleboard Editors, Bob Jackson



Tri Tip, 2 sides, salad, rolls and desert.

My Brothers & Sisters

December Stated Meeting Dinner, Please make your reservations online , by going to www.hardingsanjuan.com and hit the button to make your reservations.

After dinner there will be a open program and before the tiled meeting.



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33 Degrees?
You have 33
Degrees in
Freemasonry?
But why?

There are the first 3
Degrees. And those
above are for those
that did not understand
the first 3 Degrees.



HARDING SAN JUN LODGE CALENDAR

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 10am JOBS
3	4 6PM - Exec. Mtg. 7PM - Officers Practice	5	6 6PM Officers Practice	7	8	9
10	11 7PM Officers Practice	12	13 6:30 HSJ Dinner 8PM HSJ Stated Mtg	14	15 6PM HSJ Installation Practice & Set-UP	16 11AM HSJ Installation
17	18 7PM Officers Practice	19	20 6PM Officers Practice	21	22	23 8AM Lodge-Breakfast
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27 6PM Officers Practice	28	29	30
31 New Years Eve	1 January New Years Day					

Something many of you may not know, we have a daylight lodge that meets right here in this lodge. I know many of you can't travel at night or just don't think it is safe and this could be a solution to this problem and get you out of the house to enjoy some fellowship with other Masons that also miss the lodge experience.

Bicentennial Daylight Lodge #830 is your answer to this, headed up by Worshipful Gary Darrow and Secretary David Hugh, PM. They get together every Tuesday at 9AM for coffee & donuts followed by practice and on the 3rd Tuesday they have lunch (Pot Luck) with your partner/ wife before the stated meeting at 12 noon.

**Brethren, Family and Friends
are cordially invited to attend the
101th Annual
Installation of Officers
at 11 AM, Saturday December 16th
San Juan Masonic Center
5944 San Juan Ave, Citrus Heights, CA
Harding San Juan Lodge
No. 579**



2024 Elected Officers
Steven “Doc” Larson, PM, Master
Gregory L. Treible, PM, Senior Warden
Bruce F. Gavin, Junior Warden
Edward E. Rose, PM, Treasurer
L.R. “Bob” Jackson, Secretary



Appointed Officers
Richard E. Lewis, Chaplin
Douglas W. Jones, Senior Deacon
Stephen M. Rankin, Junior Deacon
Christopher L. Globis, Marshal
Carl L. Yager, Senior Stewart
OPEN - Junior Stewart
Chris E. Bryceson, Tyler

Please RSVP to Bob Jackson
916-952-4049 or bobjackon1@att.net