



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.

February

Richard Duffy

Master



Brethren and Ladies,

. Looking for the meaning of life as a Traveling Man in Masonry

“The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.”, Brother Mark Twain.

The most important day of your life is when you find your purpose. If you haven't found your purpose yet, keep looking and you may find it on your own and at the right time. There have been a few times in my life where I thought I was close to finding it. The closest I felt to the answer was the day my daughter was born. At that moment I believed my sole purpose in life was to raise and protect her until she reached adulthood. But now that she is grown and on her own, living on the other side of the country, I find myself looking for the answer again. Maybe that is why I returned to a more active role in the lodge.

In speaking with recent initiates or men interested in joining Freemasonry, I am hearing the same underlying desire; they seem to be looking for answers or more purpose in life and Freemasonry may help them find the answer. Some have said they want to do more for the community. Others have said they are looking for more meaningful connections or friendships. Still others have read about famous men in history who were Masons and want to be a part of that same fraternity or society of great men who may also have found their purpose in Freemasonry.

I tell them there are two types of purpose, a pre-defined purpose and one you define on your own. A pre-defined purpose may come from others and may not feel like a good fit. They must find their purpose on their own. The journey is the most fulfilling and exciting part of discovering, defining, and living that personal purpose. Masonry may offer the tools to guide them on that journey.

Yes, Mark Twain was a Freemason. He received his Entered Apprentice at Polar Star Lodge on February 18th, 1861, and eventually was raised a Master Mason in the same lodge before setting out to the Nevada Territory on his journeys and beyond. Twain made various references to Freemasonry in his writings and the term, “great Architect of the Universe” when referring to God. I am not sure if Brother Twain ever realized his purpose in life, but his dedication to writing, exploring and Freemasonry is an inspiration to us all and why many refer to him as the “Father of American Literature”.

My Masonic journey is still defining my purpose. As Worshipful Master, I find myself looking deeper into the teachings of Masonry. I am finding deeper meaning in the ritual and lectures of the degree work. I find myself reflecting more on the words that I have heard, memorized, and repeated many times before. Maybe the way to find purpose is through different perspective. Maybe that is why a Mason is also known as a “Traveling Man”.

Fraternally,

Rich Duffy, WM

Steve “Doc” Larson

Senior Warden



Brethren and Ladies,

I hope you have not all drowned. The weather has been miserable for most of us, and some have had prolonged power outages. If anyone is in need of help, please let one of the officers know. We had a good show of FC's and EA's this past weekend, and it was good to get to know some of them better. I look forward to their advancements and growth in Masonry. Our WM is a great leader and to get your Master Mason Degree with Rich as Master will just be a wonderful honor.

Thinking of rain and Noah, we are blessed to know that the Supreme Architect of The Universe does, at times, speak to us. We may not always be aware of his communication, but it does occur. If you have had such experiences, please share them. I certainly have been so blessed and I encourage each of you to think about the good fortunes you may have experienced, or the otherwise unexplained messaged you may have received.

We have a busy schedule for this upcoming year so check your calendars frequently. If you have tickets to this weekend's Crab Feed, I will look forward to seeing you there. It may be that we will have a break in the weather and that would be a relief.

An especial thanks to those who work so hard to keep the Lodge clean and prepare our meals, as well as the clean ups. God bless you all.

Yours in the Bond of Brotherhood

Steve “Doc” Larson, PM

Senior Warden



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Gregory Treible

Junior Warden



My Brothers,

As I mentioned last month, Masonry is often described as a ‘system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.’ I intend for my Trestleboard articles to explore the topics which I believe attracted many of us to the Craft in the first place. Last month we explored the meaning of Ecclesiastes 12:1-7. This month let’s look at the Entered Apprentice Degree’s use of Psalm 133 – the blessed unity of God’s people.

This is the first message we hear as we take our first steps in Masonry:

¹ Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

² It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments.

³ As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew the descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

In this psalm, the beauty and richness of God’s blessings are made evident. Brethren here are not from a single family, but from an extended and adopted family, as when the tribes returned to Jerusalem for feasts and festivals. When we get along, we are not wasting time and effort, and we are acting more in the image of God that was intended. Living together in peace and unity where we listen to each other well is a reminder of the origins of creation and Eden itself. It harkens back to Genesis Chapter 2:

¹⁸ And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

¹⁹ And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

²⁰ And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him.

²¹ And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof.

²² And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

²³ And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

God intends for us to live in community. We are supposed to live together and love one another as members of God’s family. In so doing, we share God’s blessings and represent them well. Unity and brotherly love are represented in Ps 133:2 as the precious sacramental ointment of the priests. Normally, the priests would be given a ritual anointing with a small amount of this oil with its very expensive spices. When Aaron was made High Priest, it was poured over his head, representing how much God showers grace and blessings on those who love Him and follow His commandments. In this passage, God’s blessings on Aaron are almost wasteful in the generosity, as all of those blessings are extraneous, as even a little of God’s blessings are enough to change the world. Exodus 30:22-30 describes the Anointing Oil.

In his commentary, the theologian Charles John Ellicott reminds us that this psalm was read at the reception of a new member into the brotherhood of the Knights Templars and quoted by St. Augustine as the Divine authority for monastic life.

Questions for your consideration:

1. Which of the words, lines or ideas of the lines above do you recognize from Masonic work?
2. How do these words, lines or ideas take the meaning of the degrees and Masonic Work and focus them to help make our lives more fit for the Builder’s purpose and be Good Men and Masons?
3. How do these words, lines or ideas build our Faith in the Great Architect of the Universe?

Until next month, my brothers...

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Greg Treible, PM, JW

*This is an excerpt from “Bible Study for Freemasons” by Wor. Robert J.F. Elsner.

Tom Tompkins, PM

Hallboard President



Greetings from your Hallboard,

I hope you enjoyed our crab feed. This was by far the largest one we have had in many years. Thank You to those who joined us at this annual event.



The drainpipe on our patio drain collapsed, we had to have another drainpipe installed to drain the water off the patio. A special thank you to Worshipful John Scofield for overseeing this project. Worshipful John also installed a new faucet and sprayer in the kitchen and fixed the alter receptacle and switch along with the double door entering the lodge room.

Our kitchen floors have been cleaned and clear coated, hopefully this will last for a while.

With all the rain, we had several problems with the gutters, and they have been fixed and are no longer leaking. The roof also had some leaks and we had that fixed, however we will need a new roof down the road.

We are in the process of removing the trees just east and south of the patio, these trees were planted prior to the patio cover being installed and provided much needed shade. The trees have unfortunately grown rather tall, and the roots are damaging our paved parking lot. They must go. We did lose one tree during one of the storms and that tree was taken down.

We are having an issue with the homeless thinking our front entry way is a great place to sleep at night, Worshipful Scofield has taken care of this issue for the time being. The hall board may elect to enclose the front entry way and install a gate to keep these unwanted folks away.

We are experimenting with solar lighting, so keep an eye on that. The first solar light we installed was not bright enough, so we will get some that will light up our parking lot for better safety.

Please keep up the great work providing the food bank with empty egg cartons, paper and plastic shopping bags, peanut butter, and fresh fruit if you have a tree that is overproducing for your needs.

Until next time.

Stay well and safe.

Fraternally, Hallboard President

Tom Tompkins, PM

SUNSHINE REPORT

Our Inspector John Knox is recovering, he is now home. Also, your old secretary was out for 3+ weeks with the flu/Covid. Just heard that Ora Harman is going in for back surgery 1/26.

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.

5944 San Juan Avenue

Citrus Heights, CA 95610-6509

Web Site: www.hardingsanjuan.com

Email: harddingsanjuan@gmail.com

Trestleboard February 2023

Trestleboard Editors, Bob Jackson

HARDING SAN JUN LODGE CALENDAR

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6PM HSJ Practice	2 8:30AM Coffee Zoom 7:30PM OES	3 9AM Leisure Hour 6PM ILA Neb	4 10AM Jobs
5 2PM - OES Drill Team	6 6PM - Executive Mtg. 7PM - HSJ Practice	7 10AM - #830 .Practice 6PM - ILA Neb	8 6:30 PM HSJ Dinner 8 PM State Mtg	9 8:30AM Coffee Zoom &PM - Hallboard Zoom	10 9 AM Leisure Hour	11 12PM - Sweethearts
12	13 7PM HSJ Practice	14 1PM - #830 .Stated Mtg. 4PM - Sons of Norway	15 7PM OSI	16 8:30AM Coffee Zoom 6/7:30PM - OES Dinner/ Mtg.	17 9 AM Leisure Hour	18 12 Dick Lewis B/D Party 7PM - JOBS
19 2PM - OES Drill Team	20 7PM HSJ Practice	21 10AM - #830 .Stated Mtg.	22 6PM HSJ Practice	23 8:30AM Coffee Zoom	24 9 AM Leisure Hour 4PM - ILA Neb	25 8AM - 10AM Breakfast
26	27 7 PM Officers Practice	28 10AM ILA Neb Sew 10AM - #830 .Practice 2PM - ILA Neb Mtg.				



Brethren,
 Our dues for 2023 are \$140.00. Check your dues card, it should say: "Paid through December 31, 2023". If not: They are due now and delinquent after January 1, 2023. You can pay by snail mail directly to the lodge address or pay online a www.hardingsanjuan.com.
Bob Jackson, Secretary

FOOD LOCKER

Remember to drop off your food donations at the Sunrise Food Ministry at 5901 San Juan Ave, across the street, or at the lodge an they can also use empty egg cartons and paper bags.



HARDING SAN JUAN NO. 579
STATED MEETING DINNER



**Chicken Piccata, Chicken Marsala, Penne
Vodka, salad, rolls and cannoli's.**

My Brothers & Sisters

It is absolutely necessary that you make reservations with Greg Treible, PM 406-231-2332, if you don't have one you will not be eating dinner with us, this is a catered meal & we only get enough for the reservations called in.