



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.

January

Steve “Doc” Larson

Master



Brethren and Ladies,

A new year is upon us and I really don't know where to begin. I owe so much thanks to so many people and Brothers in particular, to have helped me make this ascent to the East. Richard, Diane, Judi, Bobby, Greg, Bruce and so many others. A heartfelt thanks to you and all the officers of HSJ who have committed to making 2024 a successful year. And, although I mentioned Diane and Judi by name, the other Ladies who are so essential to this Lodge are not forgotten, including wives, significant others, OES, Jobs Daughters and their leaders and etc. etc.

Thank you all for your help, friendship, and guidance. Especial thanks to the young Ladies who did the Flag Tribute and to the Roseville DeMolay young men who did an excellent job of presenting the Flag of our Country. Thank you so very much.

A lot to do for the ensuing year. Worshipful Duffy did a great job and I will do my best, but doubt it will come close to the wonderful year he had. To W. Treibel and B. Gavin, you will be looked upon for input and help. Thanks in advance to you both. Brother Jackson has been a great help and should not be overlooked nor W. Rose. The remaining Officers are truly appreciated, and I look forward to your advancements, and well as nursing the along to newest members, encouraging the newest Entered Apprentices as well as the Fellowcrafts to complete their proficiency and take an active part in our Lodge. Ritual is a great learning experience, and as many have heard me espouse this before, the more you practice ritual, the more it becomes part of your daily life and practice. You don't necessarily have to take part in Degrees but join us in practice and work on becoming a better man.

Encourage others to consider our organization and feel free to speak about us. Come to appreciate Masonry and spread the word as to what a great organization it is and can be to them.

To all, I wish you a Happy New Year filled with good health, happiness and prosperity.

Yours in the Bond of Brotherhood,

Fraternally,

Steve “Doc” Larson, WM

Greg Treible

Senior Warden



Brothers, for the last several months my articles have explored the relationship between Freemasonry and the American Revolution. Hopefully the surface we scratched cultivated your curiosity. Alas, it is time to move on. Twenty-nine years after the Revolutionary War, which ended about 1783, Britain's behavior during the Napoleonic Wars (attempts to restrict US trade) triggered the War of 1812. Forty-seven years following the conclusion of that war (in 1814) our country was embroiled in another battle – a battle against self. Let's take some time to dig into the relationship between Masonry and the American Civil War (also known as the War of Northern Aggression and the War of Southern Independence).

BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER

Decades of tension and political strife over the economy (including slavery in the South and the paradoxically codependent industrialization in the North), culture, westward expansion, the role of the federal government, states' rights, disputed lands contributed to the start of the American Civil War in 1861. Our nation was wrought with divisiveness, the North and South, Union and Confederacy, vying for control while the country entered one of its darkest and most formative chapters of development. A once thriving nation, proud of the freedom, industry, and ingenuity of a new world, dissolved into war.

This fragmentation of our unified state presented an alarming struggle in Freemasonry: brother fighting brother. Fathers, sons, and fraternal brothers were often in opposition, still connected by the Masonic values of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. How did these values of light and honor in Freemasonry prevail during a time of such darkness? Some researchers identify historical records that indicate Masonic acts of compassion, where Masons worked to ease the suffering of fellow brethren through charitable Relief despite division. Loyalty to the craft prevailed. This is quite remarkable considering the penalty for treason (same on both sides) was death.

Michael A. Halleran, freelance writer, practicing attorney, and active Mason, provides possible insight into Freemasonry's role during those four years. In his book, [*Better Angels of our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War*](#), Bro. Halleran delves into the accounts of Masonic prisoners of war. He suggests that Masons provided resources to both allies and enemies to ameliorate hardship during conflict. In one instance, Bro. Halleran mentions the account of a soldier, John McElroy of Co. L. 16th Illinois Cavalry. In the soldier's writings, he observes Masons providing medicine, food, tent materials, and more within the prisoner camp.

We'll pick up here next month with a few stories of brothers helping brothers during a time where the country and even families were divided.

Greg Treible, PM, Sr. Warden

Bruce Gavin

Junior Warden



Greetings from the South! The holidays are now behind us and we give special thanks to the Eastern Star ladies who put up and decorate our fine Lodge Christmas tree year after year. The shortest day of the year is in the rear-view mirror and the days are getting longer as we head into Spring and Summer events and activities.

I congratulate Past Master Duffy and his wife Diane for an exemplary year in 2023. My wife Sharon has dubbed them the "Ministers of Fun" and we look forward to their future engagement in our lodge activities.

As Junior Warden, I have great plans for activities and meals. Breakfast at the Lodge will continue every fourth Saturday of the month. This is the Best Breakfast West of Reno TM and the best price West of Anywhere Else. Kitchen Crew chefs George Sims, Dick Lewis and Cris Bryceson look forward to serving up your favorite breakfast and just the way you like it. Much appreciation is given to Brother Henning, Duffy, Jones, Natano, Maglalang and the other brothers who serve you each month.

Sharon and I have plans for Stated Meeting home cooked dinners consisting of good food, and plenty of it. I have enlisted the expertise of Brothers Russ Meadows and George Sims and the ladies of Eastern Star for their guidance in quality meal preparation for large groups.

On behalf of the Lodge, I extend a special Thank You to Job's Advisors Kristi Peterson and Susan Glover-Smith and the Jobies for their much-appreciated efforts in the kitchen after Stated Meeting Dinner.

I love movies! I have a desire to do a regular informal monthly movie night on our big new screen. My collection of 4k UHD movies is ideal for playing in high definition on the new set.

I look forward to continued work with Wor. Paul Cary to photograph and publish our events and officer installations for the lodge web site, Google drive and social media pages.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Bruce Gavin, Jr. Warden

Tom Tompkins, PM Hallboard President



Greetings from your Hallboard
Happy New Year



What a great year our lodge had. As we enter the new year our lodge is as vibrant and active as it has been in many years. A special thanks to Worshipful Rich Duffy and his wife Diane for all their hard work and devotion to our lodge. I am confident that Worshipful Steve Larson will continue the path that Worshipful Rich and Diane have put us on.

The parking lot poles are in and ready for the solar lights and the cameras. When this project is completed, we should have a well-lit and safe parking lot for our lodge members and tenants. A huge thank you to Worshipful John Scofield for all his hard work to complete this endeavor.

One of our heaters decided to quit, that has been fixed. The right oven in the kitchen has a mind of its own and works when it wants to. Brother Bob Jackson has contacted the repair person and hopefully, this will be fixed by the time you receive this Trestleboard.

The Eastern Star did a fantastic job putting up and decorating our Christmas tree as they have done for many years. So, hats off to the Eastern Star ladies and gents for insuring the Christmas spirit lives in our lodge every year.

We continue to support the food bank across the street, it is behind the Lutheran Church and gets extremely busy after 9 AM. So, if you wish to take your donation directly to the food bank, please do it early in the morning. They are open five days a week except for selected holidays. They also can use gift cards of the amount of \$ 15.00 from Walmart, Winco, Raleys, Safeway. As usual they still need our help with paper and plastic shopping bags, peanut butter, empty egg cartons and dry goods, also unexpired canned goods. Thank you all who keep supporting this very important effort.

Until next time.

Fraternally, Hallboard President

Tom Tompkins, PM

2024 HSJ Lodge Officers

Steven “Doc” Larson	Master
Gregory L. Treible (Kyra)	Senior Warden
Bruce F. Gavin (Sharon)	Junior Warden
Edward E. Rose, PM (Elaine)	Treasurer
L.R. “Bob” Jackson (Terri)	Secretary
Richard E. Lewis (Violet)	Chaplain
Douglas F. Jones (Heather).....	Senior Deacon
Steven M. Rankin (Rae).....	Junior Deacon
Christopher L. Globis	Marshal
Carl Yeager (Delila).....	Senior 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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Trestleboard Editors, Bob Jackson



Chili-coterie

Secretary's Desk

We have a New Mailing address for any letters or correspondence you send to the San Juan Masonic Center or Harding San Juan Lodge #579 in the future it is: P.O. Box 594, Citrus Heights, CA 95621.

Our mailbox was broken into and we will be removing it by the time you get this notice.

Bob Jackson, Secretary

January 2024 Birthdays

Robert	Knuckey	Jan. 2
Jess	Shrum, PM	Jan. 5
Abraham	Mark	Jan. 6
Larry	Wood	Jan. 9
Daniel	Larsen	Jan. 10
Christopher	Tompkins	Jan. 10
Clifton	Stauff	Jan. 10
Shane	Fackrell	Jan. 14
Marvin	Johnson	Jan. 15
David	Shields, PM	Jan. 16
Harold	Simmons	Jan. 17
Matthew	Silva	Jan. 18
Joseph	Freitas	Jan. 18
William	Maneely	Jan. 19
Russell	Meadows	Jan. 21
Michael	Nichols	Jan. 21
Eli	Kazer	Jan. 23
Michael	Hale	Jan. 24
Dallas	Phenneger	Jan. 24
Michael	O'Brien	Jan. 26
Edward	Rose, PM	Jan. 27
Ronald	Swan	Jan. 31

January 2024 Masonic Anniversaries

Gary	Darrow, PM	58
Ronald	Capps	58
Larry	Miramontes	50
Steven	Borglund, PM	40
Thomas	Awalt, PM	38
Roger	O'Hagan	37
Tom	Tompkins, III, PM	21
Michael	Pulsipher	18
Blair	Williams, PM	18
Momo	Larmena, Jr.	14
Subi	Qalliu	7

HARDING SAN JUN LODGE CALENDAR

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 December 2023 6pm — New Years Eve Party	1 12 noon to 2pm - Black Eyed Peas & Cornbread	2 6:30pm – ILA Neb	3 6pm - HSJ Practice	4 7:30 - OES Meeting	5 9am - OES Leisure	6 10am JOBS
7	8 6PM - Exec. Mtg. 7PM - Officers Practice	9 9am #830 Social Hour 10am #830 Practice	10 6:30 HSJ Dinner 8pm HSJ Stated Mtg	11 7pm - Hallboard (On-Line)	12 9am - OES Leisure 7pm - Crab Feed set-up	13 HSJ Crab Feed
14	15 7PM Officers Practice	16 12pm Pot Luck Lunch 1pm Lunch	17 7pm - OSI	18 6pm - OES Dinner 7:30pm - OES Meeting	19 9am - OES Leisure	20 10am - Amerath 7pm JOBS
21	22 7PM Officers Practice	23 9am #830 Social Hour 10am #830 Practice	24 6pm - HSJ Practice	25	26 9am - OES Leisure	27 8AM Lodge - Breakfast
27	29 6pm - Rusty Trowel 7PM Officers Practice	30 9am #830 Social Hour 10am #830 Practice	31 6pm - HSJ Practice			

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.