



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.

# March



## Richard Duffy

Master

Brethren and Ladies,

"In like a lion, out like a lamb", is an old Farmers' Almanac saying. That is how March is looking for us at Harding San Juan Lodge #579, starting with the stated meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will be Corned Beef and Cabbage, "Duffy" style. Last year Diane and I cooked for the lodge and we are back to repeat this traditional St. Patrick's Day meal. Please RSVP for dinner so we have an accurate head count. We have invited the Masonic Youth to join us for dinner, so come and show your support. The program after the meal and before stated meeting will include our annual Honor

Roll Ceremony, to honor those brothers who have been called to the Lodge on High, followed by recognition of our Masonic Youth Orders. Immediately after the open program, we will have our stated meeting and the ladies will meet as a group to prepare for the Open House (see below) and the upcoming Strawberry Festival in June.

March 11<sup>th</sup> will be the Open House at the San Juan Masonic Center mentioned above. This event is open to the public and is designed to bring positive awareness of our fraternity to the community, one of the Grand Lodge themes of the 2025 strategic plan. Invitations have been sent to community leaders and we have already received replies to attend. Posters have also been placed in public places around the communities we represent. This is a great opportunity for anyone who has not been to the lodge for a while to come and meet the brethren and officers. The Job's, Rainbow and DeMolay will also be present to talk about the Masonic Youth Orders. The event begins at 12:00 PM with light refreshments. Worshipful Tom Tompkins will present a "Walk About" in the lodge and we will have an open discussion and Q&A about Freemasonry, Harding San Juan and our efforts to support the community. If you know of someone interested in Masonry, bring them to the open house. It will be a great time to see who we are and what we are all about. Please RSVP on the lodge website in the "Store" tab. There is no cost and we will feed and entertain you.

Lastly, being Masonic Youth Orders month, I just want to say how much DeMolay has made an impact on my life and why I believe in the Masonic Youth Orders. My experience in DeMolay went beyond the seven cardinal virtues of the order: filial love (love of parents), reverence for sacred things (respect for your faith as well as the faith of others), courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanliness, and patriotism. DeMolay taught me important lessons of leadership, community service, public speaking and true friendships. These same important lessons are reinforced in Masonry and its teachings and why I am grateful to be part of this great fraternity.

Fraternally,

*Rich Duffy*, WM

# Steve "Doc" Larson

Senior Warden



Brethren and Ladies,

It is still February at the time of this writing and important events took place during this month.

George Washington was born February 22, 1752 and was our first President under the new Constitution. All of you know that. He admitted to not being the first President, and was proud of his heritage. He joined Fredericksburg Lodge in 1788. Alexandria Lodge No. 22, composed of largely Revolutionary War officers, petitioned the Grand Lodge of Virginia for a charter and asked Washington to be their founding lodge Master. He complied with his brethren's request and served as Master for 20 months, starting in April, 1788.

He was inaugurated President on April 30, 1789 and became the first and only President to serve as Master. His time as Master ended in December 1790, but he remained very active in Masonry throughout his Presidency.

Happy Birthday Father.

Abraham Lincoln was never initiated, however, he did apply for the Degrees and was accepted. However, he became the nominee for the Republican Party, and felt if he went on to receive the Degrees he would attain an unfair advantage over his opponents. He, therefore, asked to put off being Initiated until after his Presidency, should he be elected. In my mind, he should have been granted Masonic status posthumously. He certainly led the life. Happy Birthday, belatedly, Brother Abe.

We have witnessed a lot of troubling events over the past few years, many of which I think would have caused the hair to stand up on these founders of our country. Let us not lose faith in our country but continue to be good Masons and citizens knowing that things will get better if we can just remember our founding fathers and the ideas and hopes for which they fought and stood.

We have a lot of events coming up. Please try to attend and if you know Brothers who aren't so active, give them a call and ask them to come. I've been having a lot of fun.

Yours in the Bond of Brotherhood

Steve "Doc" Larson, PM

Senior Warden

Our Brethren's families, friends and neighbors in need of food can go to Sunrise Christian Food Ministry; 5901 San Juan Ave; Citrus Heights, CA 95610; (916-965-5431) **Hours: Monday through Friday (10:30am - 3:00pm) (Note: No questions asked) Web Site: [sunrisechristianfoodministry.org](http://sunrisechristianfoodministry.org).** Covid-19 Statement: Sunrise Christian Food Ministry takes the health of its patrons and volunteers very seriously. For that reason we have implemented a drive-thru style of food distribution. All volunteers are required to wear masks and gloves while loading your car with food. Another result of the Covid-19 is our method of food handling and distribution. No longer are clients allowed to stand in lines outside the building and then come in to register. We have changed to a process of prepacking all the food supplies and set up a "no contact" distribution. We are using the lower parking lot for a check in/registration station. People stay in their vehicles during the complete process. After checking in they proceed up the hill to the food closet. All the boxes and bags of produce and bread are now located outside. We load the food into the vehicles, and they turn around and drive out.

# Gregory Treible

## Junior Warden



My Brothers,

In the lecture of the Entered Apprentice degree, we are told that “at the building of King Solomon’s Temple, there was not heard the sound of axe, hammer or any tool of iron in the house (temple) while it was building.” This part of the lecture is founded in scripture, 1 Kings 6:7. What is the symbolic significance of the axe to Masonry?

Axes were said to have been used to cut down cedars used in the building of King Solomon’s Temple, The Ark of the Covenant, and even Noah’s Ark. The initials on the axe are those of Solomon and Noah, whereas the initials on the handle are those of Libanus and Tsidun, Libanus referring to the area where the cedars were found, and Tsidun, the city whose people helped cut down the trees. The initials on the one side of the blade are said to be those of Shem, Ham, Japheth (The three sons of Noah), Moses, Aholiab, and Bezaleel (who together led a large group of workers who worked in fine metals, rare wood, and precious stones). Initials on the other side of the blade are those of Adoniram (civil servant responsible for acquiring laborers), Cyrus (original issuer of decree allowing the rebuilding of the Temple), Darius (who re-issued Cyrus’s decree and provided for all costs from royal revenue), Zerubbabel (credited with the Temple’s reconstruction), Nehemiah (who rebuilt Jerusalem’s walls) and Ezra (to collect contributions from the Babylonian Jews). These initials appear to represent the prominent people who, in their own ways, helped rebuild the Temple.

The axe is one of the oldest tools of modern man. As with so many symbols, it has an dualistic association, in this case representing both destruction and creation.

In pre-historic times, axes were made from stone, which sometimes created sparks. Many ancient cultures associated sparks with thunder, which in turn was known to have great powers. American Indians, the Chinese and even the Celts called axes “thunder stones”. As such, axes became closely associated with power, both the power of destruction, and the power of creation.

Thunder led the axe to become an important symbol of power. Axes were often depicted on Chinese robes worn by top officials, representing the emperor’s power to guide the nation through tough times if need be. Similar usage is often also seen in European heraldry, where a lion or other powerful animal is shown holding an axe as a symbol of the nations, or its leader’s powers. Other flags prominently show an axe, including those of the Royal Standard of Norway, Telemark (also Norway), Santa Isabel Province (Solomon Islands), and Toporiv in the Ukraine.

The axe is most often used as a symbol of creation. As axes were closely associated with thunder, it also naturally became associated with rain, an important giver of life. Axes were also an essential tool in spreading civilizations. Using the axe to represent the spreading of civilizations can also been seen in flags. For example, the coat-of-arms of Brazilian municipality of Brusque shows an axe, added there to remember the “pioneering work of the first settlers and explorers”. It is also a German tradition to strike a blow with an axe at the site of a new building. This custom originated from the legend of St. Wolfgang, who after having selected a solitary spot in the wilderness, prayed, and then threw his axe into the thicket; the spot on which the axe fell he regarded as the place where God intended he should build his place.

The axe is also a symbol of destruction, as it can be used as a weapon, as was often the case with a weapon known as a battle-axe. This was probably an older usage of the symbol, as the earliest axes must have been double sided stones attached to an end of a piece of wood to serve as a tool.

As axes were often used for killing large animals intended as a sacrifice, some cultures associated the axe with sacrifices. This especially grew since martyrs such as Barnabus, Matthew, and Matthias were executed with an axe, and were often portrayed with one.

Hope you enjoyed this analysis of the axe with respect to Masonry.

*Gregory Treible, P.M., JW*

\*The above is credited to Harold Meij via the themasonictrowel.com.

## Tom Tompkins, PM

Hallboard President



Greetings from your [Hallboard](#)

Looks like we may have survived the worst that winter had to offer. We shall see.

Your Hallboard is continuing our solar lighting project. Our first light was not bright enough, so we have ordered larger lights with more lumens. Let's see if this works.

We are in the process of removing some trees as I reported to you last month. Hopefully, by the time you read this article, that project will be finished.

There is still one light in the lodge room that needs fixing and one of the track lights is hanging down. In order to accomplish this we need a 10 foot A-frame ladder as the ceilings in the lodge room are quite high. This project is on our radar, so it will get done shortly.

There is a need for someone to clean the filters above the stove in the kitchen. The exhaust fans above the stove are used on a regular basis and keeping the filters clean will help with the longevity of the exhaust fans.

The ovens in our kitchen unfortunately, are not self-cleaning. The ovens have not been cleaned for sometime and this also needs to be done. Having done this procedure before, it is not an easy chore.

If you see anything around our lodge that need attention, please let one of your Hallboard members know.

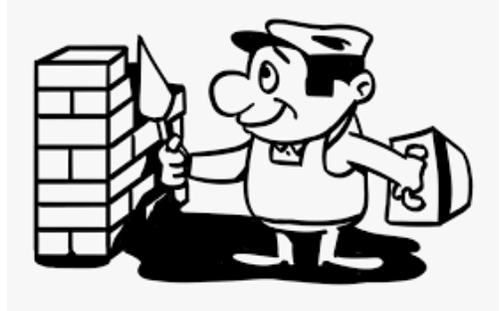
Thank you all for your continued support of our food bank. Worshipful Rich Duffy presented the food bank with a \$ 4,000.00 check at our February stated meeting. This money was raised at our crab feed silent auction, thanks to all who participated in this endeavor. We need peanut butter, so please grab a couple of jars on your next visit to the supermarket and bring it to the lodge. Thank you.

Until next time

Be safe and stay well.

Fraternally, Hallboard President

*Tom Tompkins*, PM



## SUNSHINE REPORT

Our Inspector John Knox is recovering, he is now home but will be out of commission. James Jackson is doing well after his heart transplant and Ora Harman is recovering from his back surgery as well, our best to all of them during their recovery period.

**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*

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***Trestleboard February 2023***

*Trestleboard Editors, Bob Jackson*

# HARDING SAN JUN LODGE CALENDAR

## March 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 - Officers Practice	7 10AM - #830 .Practice 6PM - ILA Neb	8 6:30 PM HSJ Dinner 8 PM HSJ State Mtg	9 8:30AM Coffee Zoom &PM - Hallboard Zoom	10 9 AM Leisure Hour	11 12PM - Lodge Open House
12 1PM - JOBS Board 2PM – OES Drill Team	13 7PM Officers Practice	14 1PM - #830 .Practice	15 7PM OSI	16 8:30AM Coffee Zoom 6/7:30PM - OES Dinner/ Mtg.	17 9 AM Leisure Hour ILA Neb Practice	18 7PM - JOBS
19 ILA Neb Installation	20 7PM Officers Practice	21 10AM - #830 .Stated Mtg.	22 6PM HSJ Practice	23 8:30AM Coffee Zoom	24 9 AM Leisure Hour	25 8AM - 10AM Breakfast 12PM - Sons of Norway
26	27 7 PM Officers Practice	28 10AM ILA Neb Sew 10AM - #830 .Practice	29 6PM HSJ Practice	30	31	



**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](http://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**



**Corn Beef & Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots, Soda Bread and Carrot Cake .**

**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. Last month we almost ran out of dinners, because we had 8 people show up without having a reservation.

## **This March, Celebrate Masonic Youth Orders Month**

March is a special month for two of our Masonic youth orders.

In the worldwide movement of DeMolay, March is DeMolay Month. This is not an officially recognized happening by local or national governments. You will not hear it mentioned on the radio or on the evening news. But it is a time of year that is very important to DeMolays around the world.

DeMolay Month is the time of year when every chapter and their members are keenly focused on two objectives: participation in activities that involve or serve the local community, and the exemplification or practice of their vows as DeMolays.

A common approach to fully participating in DeMolay month is holding an event or in some other way exemplifying the seven cardinal virtues of the order: filial love (love of parents), reverence for sacred things (respect for your faith as well as the faith of others), courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanliness, and patriotism. In both jurisdictions of California DeMolay, the second precept, reverence for sacred things, is regularly celebrated through a jurisdiction-wide devotional service event. Members attend this event en masse to satisfy and participate in this component of the month's celebrations. For the other six virtues, chapters, leagues and/or divisions (read as "districts") may execute their own activities or plans to represent each of the remaining virtues. In some cases, the members can also choose a personal form of acknowledgement for a particular virtue.

DeMolay Week is the week of March 18, which is the date DeMolay was founded in 1919. During DeMolay Week, chapters put forth an even more focused effort and often the majority of DeMolay Month events are scheduled during DeMolay Week. As DeMolay is a brotherhood like Freemasonry, chapters often schedule a brotherhood event around this date to celebrate the comradeship of the order. In the past, this has included a jurisdiction-wide excursion to a local amusement park, but can also be something more local to the chapter, like a trip to the movies or a barbecue.

Through participation in community service projects, other components of this celebration can be exemplified. They may volunteer to clean up a local veterans' cemetery or put on a free dinner for their parents, where the parents are the guests and the boys cook for and serve them. They may volunteer to do maintenance work around the home of an elderly neighbor or hold a fundraising event and donate the proceeds to their favorite local charity. It's all in the name of DeMolay and their commitment to what it stands for.

The young men of DeMolay look forward to this annual celebration and acknowledgement of their association. As Masons, we should do everything we can to support these young men in their efforts and recognize the good that they and the Order of DeMolay are doing for our community and the young men who live here.

Job's Daughters also has a reason to celebrate in the month of March. March 9 is the annual celebration of the birth of Ethel T. Wead Mick, or "Mother Mick," the founder of Job's Daughters International. At the bethel meeting closest to this date, bethels around the globe are asked to make a special announcement and take a moment to formally recognize the date. This can take many forms and might be formal or somewhat informal, as the bethel prefers.

For example, as Mother Mick was a poet, the members might write poems about Job's Daughters or their experiences in it. Some of Mother Mick's poetry may even be read aloud during the meeting. During the course of business, a donation in her name may be authorized by the bethel daughters. The bethel can throw a birthday party, honoring their founder and express their thanks for Job's Daughters and what it has done for them. There are also several ceremonies written to celebrate the founder and her dedication to young women around the world.

Regardless of the form, the heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for Job's Daughters and especially its founder is well-represented in the execution of this annual event.