



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.

# November

Richard Duffy

Master



## Open Boarders or Guarding the Gate

No, this is not an opinion on current events. It is about something more important!

We know the drive for membership is strong. Many volunteer and fraternal organizations struggle to maintain their membership against social changes. More members added, more dues collected, more expenses covered. In the short view quantity may seem more pressing than quality. In the long view, the quality candidates will sustain the craft and provide more than the annual dues payment. The Fraternity's longevity is a result of the membership. The dues sustain the building, the membership sustains the Craft.

When we enter our own Lodge, or travel to another, we are greeted by friends and brothers. We share food, drink and conversation. The time spent before and after the Communication are often our most meaningful and memorable experiences.

When standing before our secret ballot, the question we ask, "Is there a reason why this candidate should not be a mason?" When reviewing candidate petitions and conducting investigations perhaps the question we should ask ourselves is "Is there a reason for this candidate to be a mason?" What does this candidate offer us and what do we offer him? It is our responsibility to know our candidate before they are recommended for membership.

I recently interviewed a young man referred by Grand Lodge who was well prepared with a list of questions about Freemasonry and what it could offer him. After finishing my call I was left unsure of his motives and desires. After mulling it over for several hours in my head I felt that what he was searching for and expecting was not what Freemasonry had to offer. There was no Masonic reason for him not to be a mason, but more importantly, nor was there any reason for him to be one. I offered him several opportunities to come to open lodge functions and meet other brothers that he may get to know them and in turn, have us come to know him. He never showed and I never bothered to call him back with additional invites. Communicating with prospects should not require us to convince them to join. Nor should we allow a man to join, just because he wants to, without knowing if he truly understands what it means to be a Mason.

It is difficult to let a dues paying candidate walk away. It is more difficult to see a candidate go through the instructions and degrees, and then walk away.

Fraternally,

*Rich Duffy*, WM



## Steve "Doc" Larson

Senior Warden

### Greetings from the West,

We have had another great month at HSJ with two new MM, congratulations to Brothers Schwegler and Rubal, we are happy and privileged to have you both and look forward to you both getting active in the Lodge.

The world is a strange place and getting stranger and perhaps more dangerous every day. The tragic events of the Middle East are certainly a warning that if we are not careful, our own lives could be in jeopardy. Hence, how important it is that we should truly try to band as Brothers and Friends and show our love and caring for all in the world to experience/ and pray for peace, tolerance and understanding for all. It is in the 2025 Plan. Pray for those whose lives have been lost and pray that the Great Architect of the Universe will show us all how to live-in peace and harmony.

November is replete with Masonic history. In 1922 the Cornerstone of the George Washington Masonic Memorial was laid in Alexandria, VA, using George Washington's trowel. November 2, 1795, James K. Polk was born, 11th President of the US. He had been Initiated, Passed and Raised in 1820 at Columbia Lodge 21 of Columbia, TN. Nov. 2 also saw the birth of our own Warren G. Harding in 1865. On November 3 was born Stephen Fuller Austin, founder of the State of Texas. November 4, 1752, George Washington was Initiated into our Fraternity. In 1850, Albert Pike received his Master Mason Degree in Western Star Lodge #2 in Little Rock, Arkansas, Will Rogers was also born November 4.

In 1912 "King of the Cowboys" was born, one Leonard Slye (AKA Roy Rogers} and the wonderful career he had.

November 6, 1854 was born John Philips Souza, a trumpeters dream and composer of so many famous Marches and tunes. In 1861, James Naismith, inventor of basketball. 1876 the Order of the Eastern Star first General Grand chapter formed in Indianapolis, IN.

1731, Brother Ben Franklin laid the Corner Stone for what would eventually become the first public library in the United States, the Philadelphia Public Library.

In 1483 Martin Luther was born who became an Augustin monk and leader of the Reformation and Protestants. He was known to have been a member of the "Guild at Steinmetzen" in Germany thought to be one of the earliest Masonic Lodges, but in disguise.

November 30, 1874, Winston Churchill was born. Attended Lodge regularly, but never held office.

Don't forget Officers Elections this month and be sure to study your little blue book to be ready for certification.

Yours in the Bond of Brotherhood,

Steve "Doc" Larson, PM

Senior Warden

## 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.

# 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 two month's JW trestle board article as a refresher.

Without them, there would be no United States of America: The Founding Fathers, a group of predominantly wealthy plantation owners and businessmen, united 13 disparate colonies, fought for independence from Britain and penned a series of influential governing documents that steer the country to this day. All the Founding Fathers, including the first four U.S. presidents, at one point considered themselves British subjects. But they revolted against the restrictive rule of King George III—outlining their grievances in the Declaration of Independence, a powerful (albeit incomplete) call for freedom and equality—and won a stunning military victory over what was then the world's preeminent superpower.

The Founders proved equally adept later on in peacetime. When the federal government tottered under the Articles of Confederation, prominent citizens met again to hammer out the U.S. Constitution, overcoming major areas of disagreement between large and small states and Southern and Northern ones to form a stable political system. Showing foresight, they included a Bill of Rights, which enshrined many civil liberties into law and provided a blueprint for other emerging democracies.

There's no official consensus on who should be considered a Founding Father, and some historians object to the term altogether. On the whole, though, it's applied to those leaders who initiated the Revolutionary War and framed the Constitution. The following few JW trestle board articles (to continue the Freemasonry in Colonial America series) are eight of the most influential characters in America's origin story beginning with Worshipful Brother and President, George Washington.

Before he fought against the British, George Washington fought for the British, serving as a commander in the French and Indian War. A prosperous Virginia farmer who owned hundreds of enslaved people, he came to resent the various taxes and restrictions being imposed on the colonies by the British crown.

Once the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, he was placed in charge of the Continental Army and soon suffered a near-disastrous defeat at the Battle of Brooklyn. More defeats followed—all in all, Washington lost more battles than he won. Nonetheless, he kept his ragtag troops together even through a freezing winter at Valley Forge and, with the help of his French allies, was able to expel the British by 1783.

Washington then returned to Virginia intent on resuming his career as a farmer. But he was persuaded to re-enter politics as head of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, believing that a stronger federal government was needed to preserve the nation. In 1789, Washington was overwhelmingly elected the first president of the United States. He is aptly known as the "Father of His Country."

Next month, we'll continue with Alexander Hamilton and Ben Franklin by summarizing a few key historical facts and draw their connections with Freemasonry.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*Greg Treible*, PM, Jr. Warden

# Tom Tompkins, PM

Hallboard President



Greetings from your Hallboard

We hope you all enjoyed our Oktoberfest. It was a huge success, and a great time was had by all who attended. The admission fee was to bring some unexpired canned goods for the food bank. We took over 100 lbs. of canned goods, many, many empty egg cartons, lots of shopping bags and, oh yes, peanut butter. Great load, the back seat and floor of my truck was packed. Thank you all.



The middle toilet in the girl's bathroom was out of order for a couple of days and has now been repaired. The overflow valve and the wax seal have been replaced.

With the new water regulations coming down the pike, we may have to alter our sprinkler schedule. We have quite a bit of grass surrounding our facility and it takes a lot of water to keep our grass green. We will have to monitor the new regulations and adjust our watering accordingly.

The part for the right oven is on order and when the part comes in, we will have the oven back in working order. Thank you for your understanding.

The kitchen/ hallway air conditioning unit has been repaired. The blower fan was replaced and some of the motor electronics were repaired. We should be good for a while.

Our facility is used by many groups, and with that things become worn and break or cease to function properly. Please, if you see something that needs fixing, let us know. Thank You

Your continued support for the food bank is greatly appreciated. Keep up the great work.

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.**

*5944 San Juan Avenue*

*Citrus Heights, CA 95610-6509*

*Web Site: [www.hardingsanjuan.com](http://www.hardingsanjuan.com)*

*Email: [harddingsanjuan@gmail.com](mailto:harddingsanjuan@gmail.com)*

***Trestleboard November 2023***

*Trestleboard Editors, Bob Jackson*



**Roasted Chicken, 2 sides, salad, rolls and apple pie for desert.**

My Brothers & Sisters

**November Stated Meeting Dinner**, Please make your reservations online , by going to [www.hardingsanjuan.com](http://www.hardingsanjuan.com) and hit the button to make your reservations.

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



## Whiskey/Bourbon Education Tasting– November 4

- Saturday, November 4th
- Time: 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- Charcuterie
- Sinatra music socializing and dancing afterwards
- Cost for the class is \$25 per person
- RSVP on-line



# HARDING SAN JUN LODGE CALENDAR

## November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6PM - Officers Practice	2	3	4 4PM - Bourbon Tasting
5	6 6PM - Exec. Mtg. 7PM - Officers Practice	7	8 6:30 HSJ Dinner 8PM HSJ Stated Mtg	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12	13 7PM Officers Practice	14	15 7PM OSI	16	17	18
19	20 7PM Officers Practice	21	22 6PM Officers Practice	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25 8AM Lodge-Breakfast
26	27 7 PM Officers Practice	28	29 6PM Officers Practice	30		

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.





We owe so much to these men and women  
Harding San Juan Lodge would like to invite  
them to a **FREE** stated Meeting dinner and  
breakfast this November.

Stated Meeting Dinner: Wednesday, Nov. 8th @ 6:30pm  
Breakfast from 8am to 10am, Saturday Nov. 26th

