



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.

# October



## Richard Duffy

Master

Brethren and Ladies,

The Grand Lodge of California, which governs Freemasonry in the state of California, holds its Annual Communication in October. The Annual Communication is a significant event where members of the Grand Lodge gather to discuss and conduct the business of Freemasonry in California.

During the Annual Communication, various reports are presented, committee meetings are held, and important decisions are made that impact the operations and governance of Freemasonry in California. It is a time for Freemasons from different lodges in California to come together, share ideas, participate in discussions, and vote on matters that affect the fraternity.

But who is "Grand Lodge"? Grand Lodge is the collective representation of all chartered lodges, Past Masters and Current and Past Grand Masters. Put simply, Grand Lodge is all of us. And we gather each year to help improve Freemasonry in California and to keep the fraternity thriving. Each lodge gets 4 votes at Grand Lodge, one for each Pillar Officer and one collectively for the Past Masters of the lodge. Each lodge has a say in the legislative matters presented at Annual Communication. If you are interested in the legislative matters for 2023, please go to iMember and review them or contact me, and I will be happy to forward you a copy. We plan to have full representation at Annual Communication for 2023.

October is also known for the season of harvest and plenty. Look for a separate article in the trestleboard with details about our upcoming Fall Festival on October 14<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is Octoberfest or a Duffy version of Octoberfest (actually, I am a quarter part German and Diane is mostly German, so we think we can pull off a decent Octoberfest to rival our St. Patty's Day celebration). Be sure to RSVP online so we can plan for enough food and refreshments for the event. There is no cost to attend, but we ask you to bring a non-perishable or cash donation for the Sunrise Food Closet, across the street. There will also be a baking contest for bragging rights. See the article for details.

Fraternally,

*Rich Duffy*, WM

## Steve "Doc" Larson

Senior Warden



Greetings from the West,

We have had a very eventful month for September, many good things and the visit from Past Grand Master Weiss was small in number but greatly appreciated and very educational. My thanks to all those who helped me get this event done. You know who you are. (Thom, Richard, Robert, Dave, etc.)

The month of October will see us confer two Third Degrees, Oct. 2 will be for Chris Schwegler and on the 9th will be Zachary Rubal, a carry-over from American River Lodge. Both excellent young men. I congratulate you both a bit ahead of time.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be from October 27 to 29 and W. Duffy, W. Treibel, W. Boxell and I will be going there to sit at the legislative sessions, at least. Please take a few moments, alright, maybe more than a few moments, to review the legislation and feel welcome to discuss any of it with one of us if you have any opinions you would like to have taken into consideration.

October is a month full of Masonic history. On Friday the 13th, 1307, in one fell swoop, the King of France had all the Knights Templar arrested and many put to death, others such as Jacques DeMolay, were tortured for many years before being put to death by fire. Yet many escaped and made their way to other lands, especially Ireland where much Masonic lore still resonates. While being placed at the stake for his execution, DeMolay announced that before a year was up, both King Philip and Pope Clement would be dead, both died in 1314.

On Saturday, Oct. 13, 1792, the Corner Stone for the Presidents House, later known as the White House. Washington never resided there. First couple was John and Abigail Adams who only lived there for 4 months. Thomas Jefferson then took office and moved into the building. As I am sure you recall, it was burned by the British in 1814 and the rebuilding was supervised by James Hoban, Thomas Jefferson's personal architect.

Have a wonderful Halloween,

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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 as 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 month's JW trestle board article as a refresher of the context for this article.

## **How did someone who was not a mason learn what occurred at meetings?**

As far as we know, the first Masonic book published in the colonies was Benjamin Franklin's reprint of Anderson's constitution in 1733. Franklin sent copies of that book to Boston and the Carolinas for sale. We also know there were Masonic orations and sermons being published in the colonies in the 1740s, 50s, including two in Annapolis in 1751.

As far as the publishing of the actual secret work of Freemasonry, the rituals, those were exposed in the 1720s in newspapers and pamphlets by Freemasons or lapsed Freemasons. Unfortunately (for the individuals responsible, not the Craft), those exposures were very prominent by the 1750s. I say it's unfortunate for those responsible because their disloyalty to their obligation presents a personal moral failing (a character flaw that I'm sure had to have haunted them) and ironically undermines their credibility. To the extent that non-masons knew that masons took oaths to keep secrets, I wonder how could they have believed a thing an ex-mason shared (the secrets they exposed) considering that by the act of sharing the secret work, the ex-mason was violating his oath to God, to himself and his brethren? While we don't know exactly what ritual George Washington received when he joined in 1752, those exposures of the ritual around 1760 likely provide clues.

## **Did Masonry influence the American Revolution?**

It is often important to delineate between institutions and individuals. While a government may be "good" there are bad politicians. While a corporation may be responsible for doing bad things to make a profit, there may be "good" officers within the corporation who strive to do the right thing and behave according to moral principles. Likewise, Masonry, through individual masons who fought during the War for Independence, had at least an indirect influence. However, it would be difficult to say the Craft conspired to directly influence the war.

George Washington and Ben Franklin were masons, but Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were not. And even men who are known to have been masons like Major General Henry Knox, there is no record of him being a Freemason until well after the revolution. The men who supported Freemasonry and who tended to join Freemasonry in Washington's era were men who believed in self-determination, Republic virtues, peaceful assembly of people, freedom of the press and freedom of religion – all of which were radical ideas in continental Europe. Because these ideas directly challenged the authority of the church and crown, the Roman Catholic Church, kings and emperors went after Freemasons in places like France, Bavaria, Italy and Spain. The ideas and values gave birth to both speculative Masonry and America.

Next month we'll further unpack the connection between the Craft and the American Revolution.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*Greg Treible*, PM, Jr. Warden

# Tom Tompkins, PM

Hallboard President



Greetings from your Hallboard

Well, we made it through another summer relatively unharmed. September was a great month getting back into the Masonic swing of things after our summer "dark " period.



As you are aware, our lighting project has helped our parking lots become safer places for our members, their families, our Jobs Daughters, and our Eastern Star ladies. However, we still have three more light poles to install and six more solar lights to go on those poles. The cameras have been approved and will be installed in December when Worshipful John Scofield returns for his annual visit to our lodge.

The right oven in the kitchen is not working at the present time. Hopefully, by the time you receive this article that issue will be fixed. It has been a while since the carpets have been cleaned, so that will be taken care of soon.

Did you know your lodge has an AED, Automated External Defibrillator. This unit is in the secretary's office. Let's hope we never have to use it. If you are interested, the Red Cross offers classes on how to use the AED.

Worshipful Rich Duffy and his wife Diane have done a masterful job of lining up events for our lodge members, their wives, and families. Please plan on attending some, if not all of the events. Check our lodge calendar via the internet to find out our practice schedule, stated meeting nights and other events going on at our lodge.

Our food bank donations continue to roll in, thank you. Paper and plastic shopping bags, peanut butter, dry cereal, unexpired canned goods are always needed. If you care to make a monetary donation, please make you check payable to **Sunrise Christian Food Ministry,** 5901 San Juan Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA. 95610. Let them know that you are from Harding San Juan Masonic lodge.

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](http://www.hardingsanjuan.com)*

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

***Trestleboard October 2023***

*Trestleboard Editors, Bob Jackson*



**Spaghetti, sausage links and cornbread. Desert  
will be provided by Thom Pryor and it will be a  
SURPRISE**

**My Brothers & Sisters**

**October 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, more details to follow.***



# HARDING SAN JUN LODGE CALENDAR

## October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 6PM - Exec. Mtg. 7PM - 3rd Degree for Chris Schwegler	3	4 6PM 3rd Degree Practice	5 8:30AM Coffee - On-line	6	7
8	9 6PM - Exec. Mtg. 7PM - 3rd Degree for Zac Rubles	10	11 8PM HSJ Stated Mtg	12 8:30AM Coffee - On-line	13	14 Oktoberfest - Fall Festival
15	16 7PM Officers Practice	17	18 7PM OSI	19 8:30AM Coffee - On-line	20	21
22	23 7PM 1st Degree Practice	24	25 6PM 3rd Degree Practice	26 8:30AM Coffee - On-line	27 Annual Communication	28 8AM Lodge-Breakfast Annual Communication
29	30 7 PM 2nd Degree Practice	31				

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.

## **October 14, is our Fall Festival / Oktoberfest.**

Social hour begins at 4 pm and dinner at 5 pm.

***NO charge for the event.*** **Please** make sure you RSVP on the website.

### **Food:**

#### ***German Food***

Pretzels, Bratwurst and good rolls (Grilled Bratts!) , Sauerkraut, German potato salad

Red cabbage,

Donated German beer and wine will be available for tasting!

Most likely there will be another entree item, such as schnitzel or sauerbraten.

Contact Diane Duffy if you want to bring a favorite dish, as well.

### **German Music!**

#### **Fundraiser for the food pantry:**

Bring in non-perishable items as your entry ticket to the event. The food pantry would welcome cash donations. They also need egg cartons and plastic bags, so please bring all you can.

#### **Baking contest for dessert:**

Anyone can bring in a baked item (homemade or even purchased is fine). Each entree has a chance to win in 3 categories.

1. Best Tasting
2. Authentic German
3. Presentation

Everyone is invited to try the desserts for free. However, if you would like to vote, donate \$3 to get 3 tickets. Proceeds go to the food pantry as well. Place the ticket in the jar in front of each dessert. Winners get bragging rights and a ribbon.

We will offer small samples on small plates or cups. We will serve desserts after everyone has had a chance to look at the presentations.

**Please RSVP online at the Harding San Juan Lodge webpage.**