



# Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370

Free and Accepted Masons

855 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132

VOLUME 120, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2025

## THIS MONTH

- APRIL 2  
STATED MEETING
  - APRIL 9  
DEGREE PRACTICE
  - APRIL 11-13  
GL LEADERSHIP RETREAT
  - APRIL 14  
MASONIC FORMATION CLASS
  - APRIL 15  
DSOI HOSTED BY CAL 1  
3<sup>RD</sup> DEG OPENING, WORKING  
TOOLS, CONGRATULATIONS  
SPEECH
  - APRIL 19  
GRAND LODGE 175<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY
  - APRIL 23  
PROPOSED DEGREE CONFERRAL
  - APRIL 28  
MASONIC FORMATION CLASS
  - APRIL 29  
TEMPLE BOARD MEETING
  - APRIL 30  
OFFICER PRACTICE / MEETING
- M A Y**
- MAY 5  
TRUSTEE MEETING
  - MAY 7  
STATED MEETING
  - MAY 12  
MASONIC FORMATION CLASS
  - MAY 14  
DEGREE PRACTICE
  - MAY 21  
DSOI HOSTED BY CBL 370,  
RECEPTION OF GRAND LODGE  
OFFICER
  - MAY 26  
MASONIC FORMATION CLASS
  - MAY 27  
TEMPLE BOARD MEETING



## From the East

Worshipful Master, Anil Awasti



Brethren and Friends of the Lodge,

Having completed the first quarter of our Masonic year and the Vernal Equinox, signifying the return of spring, I send you greetings from the East.

Our plan for the year included activities intended to enhance the skills of those in the officer's line, to increase community participation, and to strengthen fraternal ties within our Masonic Family.

During the first quarter, our Lodge hosted the annual Grand Lodge Visit, hosted two fraternal events, held multiple officer practices and

meetings, facilitated six Masonic Formation Class meetings, held three stated meetings, hosted one District School of Instruction (DSOI), attended two DSOI's, learned more about the services offered to our members and their families through the Masonic Outreach Programs, and initiated two new Brothers. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to several members of our Fraternal Family.

Sister Anne Browning Scudder Holly, Widow of Worshipful Brother Alfred George Holly, completed her earthly endeavors on November 1st, 2024, and we said goodbye to her on February 22nd. WB Mario Reyes laid down his tools on December 18th, 2024, and we celebrated his life on March 1st, 2025. During the March Stated Meeting, our

Secretary announced he received word that Brother Awdry Anthony Dodson laid down his tools in January 2025. WB Waymon Clyde Lynch laid down his tools on February 16, 2025, and our community laid him to rest on February 26th, 2025. The ultimate result of each person's life's work is his figurative graduation from this life. Although we will miss the presence of our late Sister and Brothers, our good and hopeful wishes are offered to them and their families who have, temporarily, been left behind.

In his article entitled, "My Masonic Journey," Right Worshipful Brother Christopher J. Busby of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire sums it up Freemasonry with the following statement. *"Through the study of her history and contemplation of her ritual and symbols, Freemasonry is a spiritual*

*Continued on page 4*



## From the West | SENIOR WARDEN, BRUCE LYONS

Happy Spring Brethren,  
Sisters, Family, and Friends,

As we spring forward into the warmth and beauty of the season, I wanted to wish all who celebrate a very Happy Easter. May the Easter Bunny visit you and bring great prosperity to your home this year.

It is exciting to know that we have two new Entered Apprentices in our midst, Brothers Kelvin Sanders, and Huey Thomas, who are starting their journeys in Masonry. If you were able to attend the degree, the Master and officers, and our newly initiated Brothers appreciate your support.

We expect to pass Brothers Eugene Dumlao and Corey Dussault to the degree of Fellowcraft in April. Please plan to attend. We will appreciate your attendance. Kelvin and Huey have spent

many evenings at our Masonic Formation Classes (MFC) learning and experiencing the history and lore of Masonry.

Freemasonry seeks to make good men better by encouraging its members to focus on improving their relationships with others, and to practice a life of tolerance, compassion, honesty, and the pursuit of justice. It is a place for self-improvement, and Kelvin and Huey have already proved their interest in improving themselves. They will be a great asset to our Fraternity. I want to thank Brother James Gonzalez, PM for leading this class and nurturing a great line-up of new Masons for our lodge. Well done, sir!

The Grand Lodge of California has a long tradition of recognizing Masons who have been with the Fraternity for 50 years. I am excited to let

you know that Worshipful Brother Nick Rasis, PM, will be honored at our April Stated Meeting. In 1975 Nick was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Ata Vista Lodge, No. 464, and in 1986 he served as Master of Argonaut Lodge No. 461. He also has a long tradition of serving in concordant bodies and deserves this recognition and honor.

Please join us as we celebrate our worthy Brother.

Please also remember that your Blue Lodge is the starting point of Masonry and reaching the sublime degree of Master Mason is an honor of a lifetime.

The Master and officers of our lodge appreciate your support and want to make your journey through our degrees a memorable and joyous time. To help our

[Continued on page 4.](#)



## From the South | JUNIOR WARDEN, FRANK PERTIERRA

Greetings Brethren

Daylight saving time and spring season are here. Spring has sprung as they say. So, let us enjoy the good weather and hope it will not be too hot.

And at the same time, it is also the Lenten season which is a period of penitential preparation for Easter. It is a 40-day period in the Christian liturgical year starting on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Thursday. People focus

on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving symbolizing reflection and spiritual growth as they look forward to Easter Sunday and hope for a new beginning.

The April Stated Meeting will be busy. Aside from our stated meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup> we will also honor the Golden Veteran Awardee, Worshipful Nick Rasis on his 50 years as a Mason. The ceremony will start at 5 p.m. but I would like to request that everyone be

be there early. Please make your reservations and join us to congratulate the Golden Veteran awardee. We will be serving steak, fish, and vegan options for those who are not meat eaters.

During the May meeting, we will celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a Mariachi Band, and we will feast with some of our Mexican Favorite food like fajitas, beans, rice, and more.

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## 2025 OFFICERS

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 James Guerrero ..... (415) 595-9127  
 Anil Awasti ..... (415) 846-7129  
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Anil Awasti ..... Chairman  
 Bruce Lyons ..... Member  
 Frank Pertierra..... Member

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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 Frank Pertierra ..... Reyno Del Rosario, Jr., P.M.  
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 Markos Balopoulos, P.M. .... Exp 2028 Vice President  
 Mike Balopoulos, P.M. .... Exp 2029 ..... Member  
 Lawrence Di Giacomo, P.M. ... Exp 2025 ..... Member  
 Francis Feliciano, P.M. .... Exp 2028 ..... Member  
 Anil Awasti, Master ..... Ex Officio Member  
 Bruce Lyons, Senior Warden ..... Ex Officio Member

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 Jose M. Rivera ..... Exp 2026 ..... Member  
 Patrick Cheng ..... Exp 2027 ..... Member  
 Amelio Feliciano..... Exp 2027 ..... Member  
 Anil Awasti, Master ..... Ex Officio Member  
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### EDITOR'S NOTES

May you and everyone you care about enjoy your spring activities and have ample opportunities for reflection and rejuvenation. I wish our Lodge officers success with their upcoming conferrals, and I wish the candidates interesting, meaningful, and satisfying Masonic Journeys.

**Just a reminder that no motion can be made unless you have properly notified the Worshipful Master so that he can include it in the meeting agenda. Failure to do so may cause undue delays and your motion may not be recognized nor voted on.**

EDITOR'S CORRECTION: The Heading in the right column on of the "In-Memorandum" section on Page 9 of the March Trestleboard should have read, "Worshipful Brother Mario Reyes" instead of "Worshipful Brother Waymon Clyde Lynch." This has been corrected and the update Trestleboard is available in the March 2025 Trestleboard section of the CBL370.com website.

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*and philosophical system which, when properly applied, provides men with a framework upon which to improve themselves and their world.”<sup>1</sup>*

Spring can be a reminder of these enduring and timeless principles and can be an opportunity for the reflection, renewal, and regeneration needed to apply Masonic rituals and practices during the execution of the next part of our Masonic year.

Our officers’ efforts within the past month have resulted in the addition of Brother Huey Thompson and Brother Kelvin Sanders to our Masonic Family. I congratulate them on becoming newly obligated Entered Apprentice Masons, and I thank our officers for all their efforts to prepare for these conferrals and to the brothers who attended in support of our newly obligated brothers. Brother Jimmy Fowler is recovering from surgery, so he participated from the sidelines. I thank him for his participation and WB James Gonzalez for filling in for him as Senior Deacon for these conferrals.

I look forward to seeing you at the April stated meeting and continue to hold that we may always receive the blessing of heaven and that we may we live our lives according to the tenants and virtues taught by our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity.

Fraternity yours,  
**Anil Awasti**  
 Worshipful Master



**Work Cited**

<sup>1</sup> Right Worshipful Brother Christopher J. Busby, My Masonic Journey, 2017, Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, Free & Accepted Masons, <https://www.nhgrandlodge.org/article-my-masonic-journey/>, February 28, 2020, March 24, 2025.

Continued: “From the West,” page 2.

newly obligated Brothers have the best journey, it is important to come to our Stated Meetings and events, to support the lodge that brought you into Masonry, the same Lodge that is here to support you throughout your journey. We can all learn more about ourselves and our ancient and honorable Fraternity by interacting with our Brothers at the Stated Meeting, the MFC classes, and the events of our Lodge.

Enjoy the change of seasons and see you at lodge.

Fraternally,  
 Bruce Lyons  
 Sr. Warden



Continued: “From the South,” page 2.

During the June stated meeting, we will celebrate the Philippine Independence Day. It will be the 127 years celebrating Filipino Freedom. And during the July Stated meeting, we will celebrate the United States Independence Day.

Please make your reservation and join us. You can reserve through our sign-up genius, you can email me at [Fbpertierra@aol.com](mailto:Fbpertierra@aol.com), or you can send me a message at 707-342-8770.

I hope to see you all there.

Fraternally,  
**Frank B. Pertierra**  
 Junior Warden



### Masonic Formation Class

Columbia Brotherhood’s officers and coaches facilitated Masonic Formation Class (MFC) Meetings on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and continued preparing for the Entered Apprentice degree conferral on March 26 and for the upcoming Fellowcraft degree in April. MFC meetings March topics were selected in response to requests for Masonic historical and cultural context, to encourage reflection, to introduce and explain Masonic Concepts, to facilitate discussions associated with Freemasonry in general, to prepare participants for degree proficiency work, and to respond to participant questions.

The MFC meetings started at 6:00 PM with the sharing of meals, building rapport and camaraderie through

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discussions about current topics and points of interest and how they associate with Freemasonry.

At 7:00 PM, the in-person group joined the Zoom conference call set up for MFC meetings. Several short talks were presented with discussion about the topics and associated Masonic principle. The talks were followed by general discussions about Freemasonry, about the upcoming degrees, and about the conferral and application processes.

At the close of these discussions, those working on proficiencies were invited to a breakout session which was devoted to learning and practicing proficiencies.

The March short talks included continuation of the exploration of Lodges which consolidated to become Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370, several well-known individuals who were also Freemasons, some well-known individuals who seemed to practice Masonic principles but were not proven to be Freemasons, and several Masonic symbols.

A brief summary of these talks follow.

### Columbia Brotherhood Lodge History

Sixteen Lodges were chartered between 1903 and 1926 and consolidated between 1963 and 2005 to form Columbia Brotherhood No. 370.

A portion of the short talk period in March was used to discuss the creation of Jonathan Lodge No. 545 and Veritas Lodge No. 640, selected members, their accomplishments, and the places where these lodges met. The building that housed both lodges for a period of time is the Masonic Temple at 25 Van Ness Ave. Its entryway has an arched portal with allegorical figures of Veritas (Truth), Caritas (Compassion) and Fortitudo (Fortitude).



Much of the information on the creation of the initial sixteen lodges is derived from the book, One Hundred

Years of Freemasonry in California, Volume III, which provides a synopsis on lodges between 1850 and 1950. Less information is available about the period between 1950 and 2005, so anyone who has information or stories associated with the lodges which consolidated to form Columbia Brotherhood or information about the consolidations is asked to contact WB James Gonzalez to share the stories or to arrange a time to talk directly to the MFC Class? Your experiences, wisdom, and contributions will be most appreciated.

### Famous Masons and Famous Non-Masons

Freemasons come from all walks of life. They can be blue-collar and white-collar; they reside in urban areas, suburban areas, and rural areas. So, what unifies Freemasons if it is not what they do for a living or where they live. Some have said it is what Freemasons aspire to be that unifies them.

The diverse membership of Freemasonry throughout history has included kings, princes, emperors, statesmen including presidents and senators, military leaders, sports and entertainment legends, religious leaders, inventors, authors, saints, scientists, signers of the constitution, and Several of those actively involved with the fight for the independence of the original thirteen colonies and the creation of our new country. Several individuals who fall into the categories above including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, and John Hancock were discussed during the month of March.

Other well-known individuals in history have not been proven to be Freemasons, but our collective experiences leave some asking whether they have any association with Freemasonry.

One was Saint Patrick, a fifth century Christian missionary, who lived long before Speculative Masonry and was not a Freemason, but we learned that prior to the official recognition of the Saint Patrick's day holiday, the anniversary of his death was said to have been used twice in two different wars to provide a moral boosting respite to troops lead by General George Washington, the first President of the United States, founding father and Freemason. <sup>1</sup>

Some of the works of William Shakespeare; well-known Elizabethan and Jacobean era playwright, poet, and actor; appear to have influenced some portions of the Masonic ritual and Masonic symbolism appears in several Shakespeare's plays, so one might ask whether he was a Freemason, Several Lodges celebrate William Shakespeare

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and his work. And one lodge in Britain has attempted to prove without success that Shakespeare was a Freemason.<sup>2</sup>

### Working Tools and other Masonic Symbols

Three of the tools used by our ancient brothers in Operative Masonry include the square, level, and plumb which respectively represent morality, equality, and striving to be upright in thought and deed. In addition to the tools used by our ancient brothers in Operative Masonry, the Fraternity uses a number of other symbols. Discussion of these symbols began during the March 24<sup>th</sup> MFC Meeting and will continue during MFC Classes in April.

### Short Talks Planned for MFC Meetings

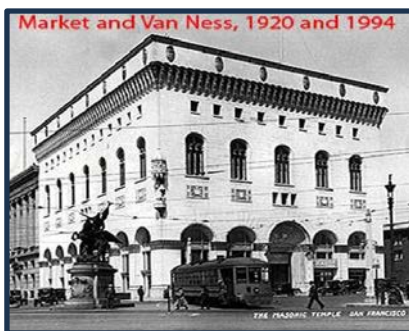
Short talk topics planned for April MFC Meetings include Orders of Architecture, Working Tools and other Masonic Symbols, Public Education, Hiram Award, King Solomon, Masonry and Public Education, and the Hiram Award.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Gonzalez, PM, MFC Coach

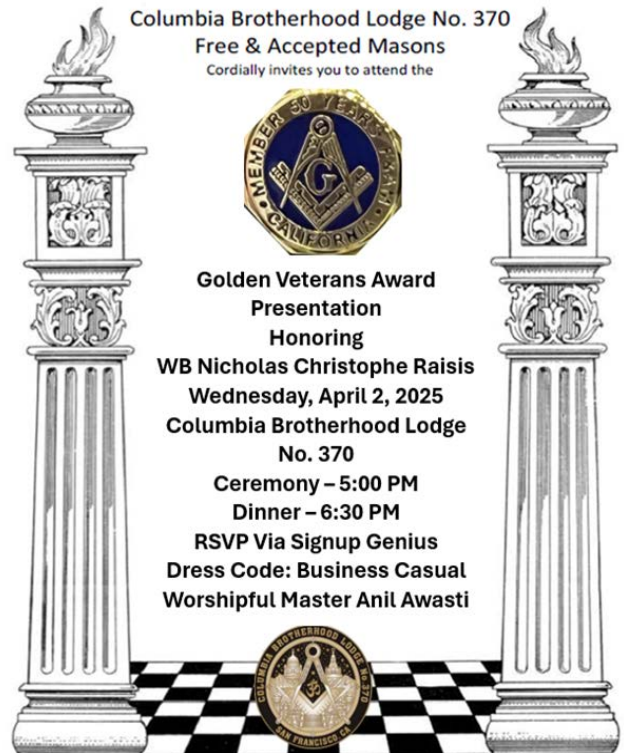


#### Work Cited

- <sup>1</sup> Steven L. Harrison, 33°, PM, FMLR, "St Patrick's Day and Freemasonry" The Midnight Freemasons, The Midnight Freemasons: St. Patrick's Day and Freemasonry, 3/24/2025
- <sup>2</sup> Masonic Encyclopedia, "Shakespear, Williams and Masonry," [Masonic Encyclopedia Entry On Shakespeare, William](#), Ashlar Group, LLC, 2025, 3/24/2025
- <sup>3</sup> Scottish Rite Blog, "The Working Tools of a Freemason," <https://scottishritenmj.org/blog/master-mason-working-tools#:~:text=As%20Freemasons%2C%20we%20strive%20to,brotherly%20love%20with%20all%20mankind.>, 2025 Supreme Council, AASR, NMJ, USA, 3/24/2025



25 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA  
The southeast corner of the building's façade still the building's signature statue of King Solomon



Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370  
Free & Accepted Masons  
Cordially invites you to attend the

**Golden Veterans Award  
Presentation  
Honoring  
WB Nicholas Christophe Raisis  
Wednesday, April 2, 2025  
Columbia Brotherhood Lodge  
No. 370  
Ceremony – 5:00 PM  
Dinner – 6:30 PM  
RSVP Via Signup Genius  
Dress Code: Business Casual  
Worshipful Master Anil Awasti**

## GOLDEN VETERAN AWARD CEREMONIES

Columbia Brotherhood No. 370 is planning a Golden Veteran Award Ceremony for WB Nicholas Christophe Raisis on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 5:00 PM.

Watch for more information regarding recognition for Brother Mario Arbis (Crocker Lodge No. 212), Brother William Botieff (Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370), WB Paul Davis Johns (Mission Lodge No. 169), Brother Ronald Ellis Sickler (Peninsula Lodge No. 168).

## IN MEMORIAM

In March Members of Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 became aware that Brother Awdry Anthony Dodson (May 25, 1927 – January 23, 2025) laid down his tools in January 2025 at the age of 97 years and 8 months. He was raised in Columbia Lodge No. 388 on January 23, 1962.

*Soft and safe to thee, my brother, be thy resting place.  
Bright and Glorious be thy rising from it.  
Fragrant be the acacia sprig that there shall flourish.  
May the earliest buds of spring unfold their beauties  
o'er thy resting place, and there,  
may the sweetness of the summer's last rose  
linger longest*



## As a reminder,

§804.855 of the California Masonic Code, Entitled, "DUTY TO ATTEND FUNERAL," indicates that "it is the duty of every member, Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft to attend the funeral of a deceased member of his Lodge or any other Master Mason residing within the vicinity of his Lodge at the time of death, if he can do so without great inconvenience."




**COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE**  
 2025 Annual Camping Trip  
 JUNE 5, 6, & 7 (three nights)  
 Loafer Creek Camp Ground  
 Lake Oroville

Join us for one day, two days, all days!  
 For more information contact  
 WB Alex Elescas 916-213-8829  
 Bro. Jod'1 Cruz 707-631-8001

\$10 pp  
 12 and under free






## From the Secretary

Dear Brethren,

Just a friendly reminder the dues for 2025 of \$88.50 are now considered delinquent. We appreciate the brethren who have already paid.

### Why am I receiving a notice from the Grand Lodge?

We are participating in the Grand Lodge's dues notification program, where they handle all the printing and mailing of notices. This service helps the Lodge save significantly on printing and postage costs.

- **Do I have to pay online?**

Not at all! While many brothers find paying online convenient and even have the option to set up automatic payments or renewals for future years, you are always welcome to pay directly to the Lodge by check.

- **They're saying there's a processing fee for online payments.**

Yes, if you choose to pay by card, a small processing fee will be added. This fee goes directly to the credit card processor, and the Lodge receives the full amount of your dues. The Grand Lodge charges the Lodge nothing for this service.

- **Can I still pay with a check?**

Absolutely! If you prefer to pay by check, you should be receiving a printed mailer soon, which might include a return envelope for your convenience.

- **Will you be mailing out dues cards?**

Dues cards will be mailed upon request. Once your 2025 dues are paid, your new card will also be available online at [www.freemason.org](http://www.freemason.org). You can download and print a valid copy, or access a digital version on your mobile device for identification purposes.

- **Dues have increased, and I'm unable to pay them right now. What should I do?**

Please reach out to me or the retention committee. If you're facing financial difficulties, we have the ability to remit (reduce or forgive) some or all of your dues. I'm happy to discuss this with you in confidence, so please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email. Don't risk losing your good standing in the Craft by ignoring your dues notice. We are here to help.

- **Is there something I haven't addressed?**

If you need any assistance or have questions, please feel free to reach out to me or any of the officers. We are here to support you.

**NAME TAGS:** Members who wish to have a new name tag, please take this opportunity to order it. For efficiency and cost saving reasons, I will be taking orders beginning January 10 to April 05, 2025. The cost will be \$15 per name tag.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,  
Jason Yen, Secretary





**MARCH BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS**

**WBs YEN & ALDRIDGE**



**WELCOME BROTHERS SANDERS & THOMAS**



**APRIL 2025 BIRTHDAYS**

Froilan A Ancheta	14	Milorad V Golubovich	29	Richard San Mames	3
Markos Balopoulos	3	Donald E Bohn	29	William H Shaw	4
Chris A Beckman	6	Andrew F Kerr	23	Jeffery M Souza	2
Russell S Breed	11	Norman I Krug	19	Ronald L Swanson	5
Timothy R Curren	21	Benson Lau	28	Michael E Williams	1
Eric H De Jesus	5	Thomas Leon	8	Allan M Young	4
Alexander L Ellescas	5	Peter R Engel	9		

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRETHERN**



**CONGRATULATIONS BROTHERS THOMAS AND SANDERS**

## **CBL #370 MASTER'S TRIP TO PANAMA**

### **JULY 10-24, 2025**



***Join us on our Master's trip to Panama!***

***Dates: July 10 through July 24, 2025***

**Some of our planned activities are:**

- \*Charity Work with local nonprofit organizations**
- \*A Visit to the Pacific Lodge No.5 and the Grand Lodge of Panama**
- \*A Stay at a Beach Resort**
- \*Brotherhood and Fellowship**
- \*Local and Regional Tours**
- \*Sightseeing and Shopping for Everyone**

***For more information, contact Carlos Suncin at 415-806-2711 and e-mail: [sun1car@earthlink.net](mailto:sun1car@earthlink.net).***

# HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING? TRIVIA

1. The Psalm number starting with "Behold how good it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" is: \_\_\_\_\_
2. In three subjects that make up the trivium: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
3. The form of a Lodge is: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Masonry is a progressive, moral: \_\_\_\_\_
5. The three principal stages of human life: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
6. What Lodge was assigned Number 545 in 1923? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What anniversary will the California Grand Lodge celebrate in April 2025? \_\_\_\_\_
8. The Level represents: \_\_\_\_\_
9. The Masonic Treasurer's jewel is often depicted as: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Lodge No, 640 chose Veritas because it is Latin for: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answers to MARCH 2025 Trivia

1. The three principle tenants of Masonry are brotherly: **LOVE, RELIEF and TRUTH**
2. Lodges are situated due East and **WEST**
3. The first and noblest of sciences: **GEOMETRY**
4. Freemasonry is known as the following type of order: **INITIATIC**
5. The number of Lodges that consolidated to form CBL 370: **16**
6. The number 370 was first assigned to **AMITY** Lodge in: **1905**
7. Lodges at present are dedicated to Saint John the **BAPTIST** Saint John the **EVANGELIST**.
8. The Hourglass is an emblem of human: **LIFE**
9. The Lodge's Marshall carries a: **BATON**
10. The number of years a Golden Veteran Recipient has served as a Master Mason in Good Standing: **50**

# What is What?

Answers to What is What in the April Trestleboard:



Can you Identify the orders of Architecture shown?

Answer from Left to Right:

**Doric, Ionic, Corinthian**

Are they of Greek or of Roman Origin?

**Greek**

# What is What?

Can you Identify the tool shown to the right which was used by our ancient Masonic Brethren and what they used it to do?

*The answer will be in the **MAY 2025 Trestleboard.***





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# Important Reminder from the Master

I hope that you and your family are well and safe. Just a reminder that as Master Masons, we are responsible for all our actions, to meet on the level, act upon the plumb, and part upon the square. We are held to a higher standard. Let us all lead by example, whisper good council to our brothers and continue to improve ourselves in Free masonry.

Anil Awasti  
Master 2025

