Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370

Free and Accepted Masons

855 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132

VOLUME 121, ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER 2026

THIS MONTH NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 4
- Stated Meeting / Veteran Honors

NOVEMBER 9 & 23
- Masonic Formation Class

NOVEMBER 13
- Friday Fun Night

NOVEMBER 25-27
- Lodge Dark for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

DECEMBER 2
- Stated Meeting

DECEMBER 12
- 122nd Annual Installation of Officers

JANUARY

JANUARY 6
- Stated Meeting

From the East

Worshipful Master, Bruce Lyons



Happy Thanksgiving, Brothers, Ladies, and Friends,

As we enter November, we reflect upon the year with thanks and appreciation for our station in life, our health, and our role in our fraternity. I wanted to thank my brothers of Columbia Brotherhood for allowing me to be of service this past year as Master. I have been honored to hold this position. I look forward to our future and my role as an advisor to future masters. I also wanted to put out a clarion call for our brothers to contact Brother Frank to see how you can help him next year. His success and the success of our lodge will be greatly enhanced with more brothers participating in the activities of our fraternity.

Many of our officers and members joined in the celebration of Masonry at the Annual Communication on October 9th to the 11th at the Grand Lodge. We celebrated Grand Master Garret Chan's successful year and welcomed our new Grand Master Ara Maloyan. We voted on legislation, made new friends, and learned about the achievements of Masonry in California.

We experienced a unique District School of Instruction this month as our inspector WB Allan Nubla was away. We joined with a second district led by inspector WB Ray Harrold, who combined DSOI's for his District #143 and WB Allen Nubla's District #141. Pacific Starr King #136, Golden Gate Speranza 30, and Phoenix Lodge 144, joined San Francisco #120, California #1, and our lodge, and we practiced elections.

On Veterans Day, join me in extending our deepest gratitude to the brave men and women who have answered the call of duty to defend our nation's freedom.

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays because it celebrates family, food, and cheer. My hope is that our Lodge will also

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From the West *Senior Warden, Frank Pertierra*

Greetings Brethren,

November will be a busy month for our lodge, as it is election month. The officers have been working hard to move forward in their respective stations, and I encourage all the brethren to attend and participate in the election. Our officers' installation will take place on December 12, 2026, at Columbia Brotherhood Lodge.

I also extend my thanks to our coach, WB Reyno Del Rosario Jr., and assistant coach, WB Francis Feliciano, as well as to all past masters and brothers who have helped us in their own way.

This month, we honor veterans and remember their sacrifices to protect our country.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Let us embrace the holidays with grateful hearts and express our appreciation to those who have made our lives easier through their kindness, support, and service. May this season remind us of the importance of fellowship, generosity, and gratitude as we gather with family, friends, and fellow brothers.

November Masonic Formation Class (MFC) meetings are planned for Monday, November 9th and Monday, November 23rd, and they offer prospects, candidates, and members the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Masonry.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. We look forward to seeing you at the lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Frank B. Pertierra,
Sr. Warden

From the South *Junior Warden*

Stated Meeting Dinner & Logistics

- **November's Stated Meeting Menu:** Traditional Turkey and Ham Dinner or Vegan
- **December Stated Meeting Menu:** Prime Rib and Yorkshire Pudding, Fish, and Vegan.
- **December Officer Installation: Our Annual Officer Installation is scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2026.** Please save the date; invitations and RSVP details will follow.
- **Planned activities for our Ladies:**
  - **Stuffing bags for Casa de las Madres**, a SF Women's shelter and a social services organization for foster youth, in **November**
  - **String quartet with dessert in December.**



2026 LODGE OFFICERS

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Orlando Arce, PM (Sylvia) **TREASURER EMERITUS**

Jason Yen, PM (Sunny) ..... **SECRETARY**
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2026 COMMITTEES

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Orlando Arce, PM ..... (415) 244-5373
Robert De Luzuriaga, PM ..... (415) 309-7506
James Gonzalez, PM ..... (510) 772-7415
Augusto Tagaro, PM ..... (650) 346-4551

CHARITY COMMITTEE

Bruce Lyons, Worshipful Master ..... Chairman
Frank Pertierra, Senior Warden ..... Member

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bruce Lyons, Worshipful Master
Frank Pertierra, Senior Warden
Reyno Del Rosario, Jr., PM Treasurer

INVESTMENT-COMMITTEE TRUSTEES

William F. Aldridge, PM ..... Exp 2026 ..... President
Markos Balopoulos, PM ..... Exp 2028 Vice President
Lawrence Di Giacomo, PM... Exp 2028 .....Member
Francis Feliciano, PM ..... Exp 2028 ..... Member
Robert Ranum, PM ..... Exp.2029 ..... Member

PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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James Gonzalez, PM .....(510) 772-7415
Jason Hui, PM .....(415) 812-0911

RETENTION & DELINQUENT COMMITTEE

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Bruce Lyons .....(415) 309-0495
James Gonzalez, PM ..... (510) 772-7415

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

William F. Aldridge, PM .....(510) 790-8924

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Ron Ragland, PM .....(650) 303-9369
Ron Sickler..... (650) 464-8717



HALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

RICHMOND MASONIC TEMPLE COMPANY

Carlos Suncin..... Exp 2027.....President
Jose Rivera..... Exp 2026..... Vice President
James Gonzalez, PM..... Exp 2028 ..Secretary-Treasurer
Patrick Cheng..... Exp 2027..... Member
Amelio Feliciano..... Exp 2027..... Member
James S. Guerrero ..... Exp 2026..... Member
Bruce Lyons, Worshipful Master.....Ex Officio Member
Frank Pertierra, Senior Warden.....Ex Officio Member

INSPECTOR

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TRESTLEBOARD EDITOR

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CMC, §802.020, Lodge Bylaws, Section 2, specifies that, "the dues of each Mason of this Lodge shall be payable in advance on the first day of January." The 2026 dues are $92.50 per annum. Several payment options are available, including online payments at www.freemason.org or via mail in or in person presentation of checks directly to our secretary.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS
The annual election of officers for the year 2027 will be held during our Stated Meeting on November 4, 2026. Only CBL members in good standing (current on dues) are eligible to vote in the Election of Officers.

Please remember that no motion can be made during the Stated Meeting unless the Worshipful Master has been properly notified and has included it in the meeting agenda. Failure to do so may cause undue delays and your motion may not be recognized or voted on.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. Congratulations to our officers as they return their proficiencies positions for their ensuing Masonic year. May each of us strive for a better understanding of our Masonic Principles and balloting responsibilities. May we examine our motives to ensure the ballots we cast will do justice to both the candidate and to Freemasonry. This will allow us to grow, to maintain an open and inviting culture and a healthier lodge for all involved.

Fiat Luz "Let there be Light."

COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE NO. 370

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celebrate our brothers, our families, great food, and cheer for the balance of 2026 and beyond.

However, when brothers think of their own personal feelings rather than thinking about the health of our lodge and how we can create a warm and welcoming place for the future of masonry in San Francisco, it makes it hard to envision a future thriving lodge. Rejecting masons that want to affiliate with our lodge is the right of every brother, but every brother is also obligated to reject them for "masonic reasons" not for personal animosity.

A negative vote should never be cast lightly. The expectation is that a Mason votes according to his conscience, the welfare of the lodge, and the preservation of harmony, not personal dislikes, or trivial disagreements. We do not want a reputation for rejection, but a reputation for acceptance, brotherly love, and harmony. Our lodge has shrunk about 12 brothers this past year. Let us work together to solve this issue and expand our brotherhood rather than shrink our membership.

Masonry takes good men and makes them better. Columbia Brotherhood Lodge #370 should do the same.

Let each of us reflect on why we are thankful for masonry and create a fraternity that welcomes men of good character who want to join us and thrive through the teachings of masonry.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Fraternally,

Bruce Lyons
Worshipful Master, 2026



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For living in Union City:
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For living in Covina:
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For Masonic Assistance:
(888) 466-3642
masonichomes.org

mcyaf.org
(877) 488-6293 (Union City)
(626) 251-2300 (Covina)

Masonic Value Network:
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masonichome.org/valuenetwork

IN MEMORIAM

Thankfully, we have not received word of any brothers who laid down their working tools in the past month. However, our thoughts and prayers are with Brother Ron Sickler and Worshipful Brother Alex Ellescas following the loss of their loving spouses, Joy Sickler and Maria "Maita" Ellescas.



For all who have laid down their tools and or entered into rest:

Soft and safe to thee, my brother or sister, 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.



HALL ASSOCIATION

The Richmond Masonic Temple Company of San Francisco holds hybrid monthly Hall Association meetings (in person or via Zoom).

Columbia Brotherhood Lodge members who are interested in attending should refer to the Columbia Brotherhood Lodge Calendar and or contact a member of the Hall Association, (listed on Page 3) for meeting specifics.

MASONIC FORMATION CLASS



Columbia Brotherhood Lodge facilitated Masonic Formation Class (MFC) meetings on Monday, October 12th and on Monday, October 26th. Planned discussion topics included participant questions, Elements of a Lodge, Lodge Operations, and Lodge Elections.

Meetings in November are planned for Monday, November 9th and Monday, November 23rd Planned discussion topics include participant questions, exemplary behavior, and a review of selected subjects covered in 2026.

Two fellowcrafts are working on their 2nd degree proficiencies, and one recently raised Master Mason returned his Master Mason proficiency.during the October 2026 Stated Meeting.

Summaries of Elements of a Lodge, Lodge Operations, Lodge Elections, and of selected October events follow.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Gonzalez, PM
MFC Coach

ELEMENTS OF A LODGE



In Freemasonry, the word "lodge" has a double meaning: it not only refers to the community of members themselves, but it also describes where they meet. The inside of a traditional Masonic lodge is designed as a symbolic representation of King Solomon's Temple. Structured as a rectangular room oriented from East to West and North to South, its vast dimensions represent the global reach of the fraternity and a reminder that Masonic charity and goodwill should know no boundaries. Lodges are traditionally arranged from East to West because King Solomon's Temple was built that way, and because learning, civilization, and the search for truth have historically progressed from East to West.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND.

Upon entering a Masonic lodge, the room's symbolic design immediately unfolds. The space is supported by three grand pillars representing Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty, which correspond to the leadership roles within the fraternity. Looking upward, the ceiling is symbolically viewed as a celestial canopy reaching the heavens, reminding members that their daily lives and actions are open to a higher power. At the center rests the foundational "furniture" of the lodge: the Volume of the Sacred Law (such as the Holy Bible), alongside the traditional Mason's Square and Compasses. The room is further decorated with symbols like the checkered Mosaic Pavement, which represents the dualities of human life, and a decorative border reminding members of the virtues that should surround them.

The Transition of Leadership and the Ensuing Masonic Year



As we approach our annual election and installation season, the Lodge prepares for a vital cycle of renewal and constitutional transition. Our upcoming annual election is not a political contest, but a silent, harmonious process governed by ancient landmarks and conducted via secret ballot without electioneering. This sacred tradition unites the Brethren in selecting the constitutional pillars of our Lodge—the Worshipful Master and Wardens and elects the Treasurer, and Secretary. The incoming Master carefully selects appointed officers to fill out the progressive officer line and to direct our ritualistic labor.

To ensure this transition is executed with the dignity the Craft demands, our incoming officers and Installing Past Masters are actively engaged in floor-work rehearsals and logistical planning for the upcoming Installation Ceremony. This ceremony serves as the legal and ceremonial bridge into the ensuing Masonic year, marking the moment our leaders publicly vow to maintain the high standards of our fraternity.

Behind the scenes, strategic planning for the ensuing masonic year is typically underway. This can include a comprehensive calendar including ritual degrees; Masonic education; fellowship; and a budget to protect the Lodge's financial health. All focus on harmony, education, community service, and preparation to guide the Lodge into a prosperous and meaningful year ahead.

SELECTED EVENTS OCCURING DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

October 8, 1865, October 21, 1868, and October 17, 1989: October has historically been a seismic month for San Francisco, highlighted by three major earthquakes on the dates listed above. While the 1865 and 1868 earthquakes are sometimes dramatically referred to in creative texts as the "Battle of the Twin Quakes," these two events and the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake are distinct,

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powerful geological milestones.

The 1865 earthquake was an estimated 6.5 magnitude event centered in the Santa Cruz Mountains that caused significant damage in San Francisco's downtown and South-of-Market areas. The intense shaking heavily impacted masonry structures which were erected on unstable artificial fill; it damaged blocks of these commercial buildings beyond repair, ruptured municipal gas and water mains, and caused street surfaces to heave and sink by up to 14 feet.

Author Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens), who had been living and working as a reporter in San Francisco since May 1864, famously chronicled the panic as a firsthand witness for his book *Roughing It*. He described a quiet Sunday noon suddenly shattered by severe shocks that made the ground roll in waves and caused a four-story brick building on Third Street to collapse, scattering terrified citizens into the open roads. Interestingly, Twain experienced this disaster as a newly minted Freemason, having petitioned Polar Star Lodge No. 79 in St. Louis; he rapidly advanced through the degrees in 1861, being initiated as an Entered Apprentice on May 22, passed to a Fellow Craft on June 12, and raised to a Master Mason on July 10, just before heading west.

Three years after Twain's experiences in the city of San Francisco, the devastating October 1868 earthquake struck with an estimated 6.3 to 6.7 magnitude, physically rupturing the Earth's crust and opening it all the way to the surface along the area currently known as the Hayward Fault. This violent, 42-second tremor leveled buildings in the town of Hayward, claimed approximately 30 lives across the region, and completely collapsed the Alameda County Courthouse in San Leandro. The widespread damage to brick masonry left a visible, 20-mile-long scar cutting directly through communities like Fremont, Hayward, San Leandro, and Oakland, instantly jerking the western side of the fault roughly six feet to the north in a matter of seconds, snapping fences, tearing up roadways, and cementing its status as the region's "Great Earthquake" until the April 18, 1906, disaster.

More than a century later, the October 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake registered as the strongest of the three at a measured 6.9 magnitude, releasing roughly four times more energy than the 1865 quake and severely crippling the Marina District. During this 1989 disaster, the intense shaking caused a 50-foot section of the San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge's upper deck to collapse onto the lower deck, completely severing the vital transit link for a month.[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]



177th Annual Communication

October 9-11, 2026: The Grand Lodge of California hosts its single largest fraternal gathering of the year—the Annual Communication very the Annual Communication at its iconic California Masonic Memorial Temple on California Street in San Francisco. Nearly 1,300 Masons from around the world gather to vote on key fraternity legislation, attend the Grand Master's Gala, and install the new Grand Master of California. [1, 2, 3]



During the California Grand Lodge's 177th Annual Communication Meeting held October 9th through the 11th, the members elected Most Worshipful Ara Maloyan as the Grand Master for the 2026-2027 Masonic year. He, the other elected officers, and his appointed officers were installed on Sunday, The current Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California is Ara Maloyan, who was installed during the annual communication in October 2026. He succeeds Most Worshipful Garrett S. Chan.

The elected and appointed officers for the ensuing Masonic year and legislation covered during the annual meeting are listed on the following page in a letter from Right Worshipful, Allan L. Casalou, Grand Secretary.

October 12, 1898: The Grand Lodge of California officially dedicated the Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans in the old town of Decoto which is now part of Union City, California. Reflecting the fraternity's charitable mission, this event marked the opening of the first physical Masonic Home campus in California, fulfilling the Fraternity's decade-long effort to establish a permanent system for Masonic relief. [1]

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GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA MASONIC MEMORIAL TEMPLE
1111 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108-2284
(415) 776-7000

October 11, 2026

To: All Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Grand Lodge Officers, Inspectors, Committeemen, and Lodges

Brethren:

Herewith for your information are the results in summary form of the actions taken at the 177th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of California:

GRAND MASTER'S DECISIONS

Grand Master Chan's Decision No. 1: Master's authority to refuse to admit or to exclude a member	YES	787	83.1%	**PASSED**
	NO	160	16.9%	

GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Grand Master Chan's Recommendation No. 1: Updates required applicant contributions and contribution amounts	YES	581	61.0%	**CARRY-OVER**
	NO	372	39.0%	

2025 CARRY-OVER LEGISLATION

Grand Master Salazar's Recommendation No. 1: Updates Grand Lodge committee membership, duties, and tenure	YES	833	88.0%	**PASSED**
	NO	114	12.0%	

RESOLUTIONS FOR 2026

Resolution No. 26-01: Updates ritual and ceremonies to use the term "Holy Writing" when describing the volume of the sacred law	YES	602	63.2%	**CARRY-OVER**
	NO	350	36.8%	
Resolution No. 26-02: Modifies ritual to have Brethren meet on the level during a portion of the lodge closing ceremony	YES	383	40.2%	**FAILED**
	NO	569	59.8%	
Resolution No. 26-03: Permits lodges that hold stated meetings less frequently than monthly to receive and ballot upon applications at special meetings	YES	859	90.1%	**PASSED**
	NO	94	9.9%	
Resolution No. 26-04: Make qualification in the master's work and lectures of the degrees and in lodge governance a prerequisite for nomination to the office of master	YES	393	41.5%	**FAILED**
	NO	555	58.5%	

In addition to the above, the following actions were also taken:

In accordance with California Masonic Code §801.065, the Grand Lodge granted charters to the following lodges under dispensation and entered them into the registry of this Grand Lodge as: Lautaro No. 896 in Culver City, Laguna Lux No. 897 in Elk Grove, Maharlika No. 898 in Anaheim and Starfleet No. 899 in San Francisco.

In accordance with California Masonic Code §407.050, the Grand Lodge adopted the budget for 2026-2027 as proposed by the Deputy Grand Master. The background check fee was set at $45.00.

The per capita assessment for the fiscal year November 1, 2027, through October 31, 2028, as proposed by the Senior Grand Warden, was adopted and fixed at $75.50.

Total registration for the 177th Annual Communication was 1,205 with 282 of 332 chartered lodges represented. (The number of chartered lodges includes one lodge under dispensation, two historic lodges, seven research lodges, and the Grand Master's Lodge.)

The elected and appointed officers of the Grand Lodge duly installed for the Grand Lodge year commencing on October 11, 2026 are:

ELECTED OFFICERS

Ara Maloyan	Grand Master
Christopher D. Smith	Deputy Grand Master
Charles P. Cross	Senior Grand Warden
Jairo J. Gomez Jr.	Junior Grand Warden
Steven L. Yeffa	Grand Treasurer
Allan L. Casalou	Grand Secretary
Matthew S. Vander Horck	Grand Lecturer

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Patrick I. Muldoon	Grand Chaplain
G. Michael Wilson	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division I
Corey P. Leighty	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division II
Adam J. Hanin	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division III
Scott A. Morrison Jr.	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IV
Christian G. Marano	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division V
Rio L. Santonil	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VI
Narbeh Bagdasarian	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VII
Ned M. Reber	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VIII
Russell E. Hennings	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IX
Charles D. Dimaano	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division X
David M. Ferreria	Grand Orator
Jordan T. Yelinek	Assistant Grand Secretary
Brandon A. Millan	Grand Marshal
Ronald W. Alcorn III.	Grand Standard Bearer
Sebouh Badoyan	Grand Sword Bearer
Roberto Diaz Jr.	Grand Bible Bearer
Shaunt Der-Grigorian	Senior Grand Deacon
Johnathan H. Prestage	Junior Grand Deacon
Michael K. Gowder	Senior Grand Steward
Matthew R. Mason	Junior Grand Steward
Johnathan M. Wood	Grand Pursuivant
Wadleigh R. Riformo	Grand Musician
Nicholas A. N. Hirlinger Saylor	Assistant Grand Musician
Scotty J. Christian	Grand Tiler
David G. Vassall	Assistant Grand Tiler

The 178th Annual Communication will commence at 1 p.m. on Friday, October 8, 2027, in the City and County of San Francisco.

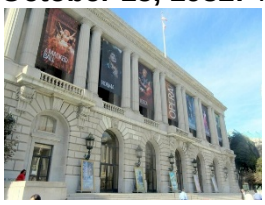
Sincerely and fraternally,

Allan Casalou.

ALLAN L. CASALOU
Grand Secretary

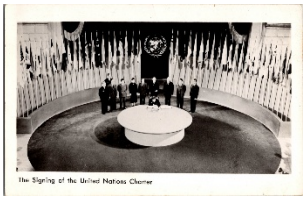
Casalou, Allan L. "2026 Legislation Results Letter." Letter to All Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Grand Lodge Officers, Inspectors, Committeemen, and Lodges. Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of California, October 11, 2026. https://freemason.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/2026-Legislation-Results-Letter.pdf.

October 15, 1932: The War Memorial Opera House



in San Francisco, which dedicated its grand architecture on October 15, 1932, stands as a brilliant monument to the virtues of memory and sacrifice, built to honor the brave citizens who laid down their lives in the Great War. Just over a decade after its opening, this magnificent structure, along with its sister venue at the San Francisco War Memorial complex, served as the sacred ground for a monumental effort in international brotherhood—the 1945 United Nations Conference on International Organization. From April 25 to June 26, 1945, the campus became a literal workshop of the Craft, hosting a high-stakes, two-month diplomatic marathon where 850 delegates from 50 nations labored to design the core pillars of global peace.

True to the tenets of our fraternity, several prominent Masons stood as chief architects of this universal design. The overarching vision of a post-war peacekeeping body was first conceived by Brother Franklin D. Roosevelt, while the heavy lifting of the conference itself was anchored by his successor, Brother Harry S. Truman—the sitting President of the United States and Past Grand Master of Masons in Missouri—who delivered the opening address to the assembly. Across the Atlantic, the wartime declarations that paved the way for this assembly were vigorously shaped by Brother Winston Churchill, who had been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in 1902.


The Signing of the United Nations Charter

As these leaders and diplomats labored on the level, the intense committee drafting sessions culminated in a unanimous vote to adopt the UN Charter inside the Opera House auditorium on

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June 25. The following day, June 26, the formal, historic signing ceremony took place next door at the Herbst Theatre. Coming precisely as the dark clouds of World War II were parting across Europe, this historic gathering—supported by the overwhelming hospitality of local citizens—forever transformed San Francisco into a shining symbol of global hope, demonstrating to a war-torn world the beauty of seeing humanity dwell together in unity.

October 19, 1781 On this day in 1781, British General, Brother Charles Cornwallis surrendered some 8,000 troops to General Brother George Washington at Yorktown, Virginia, effectively ending the Revolutionary War. Cornwallis pleaded illness and skipped the ceremony, and when his deputy tried to hand his sword to the French commander, he was directed to Washington instead, who passed the honor to his own second-in-command.

October 19, 1909: Just three years after the devastating April 18,1906 earthquake, San Francisco launched the historic Portolá Festival. While officially organized under the name of commemorating explorer Gaspar de Portolá's 1769 discovery of the bay, this grand five-day celebration served a far deeper civic necessity. It was a strategic effort to restore global economic confidence, prove the city's newly rebuilt infrastructure could handle massive tourism, and uplift the morale of a traumatized population.

For the Masonic community, this festival stood as a magnificent testament to the enduring principles of fortitude, relief, and collective industriousness. Where ruin once prevailed, the timeless craftsmanship of dedicated builders restored a grand metropolis. With its streets brilliantly illuminated by over a million lights and flooded with magnificent parades, the festival showcased a triumph of human willpower and cooperative labor, ultimately securing San Francisco's bid to host the historic 1915 World's Fair.

October 29, 1850: On October 29, 1850, San Francisco erupted in a grand, historic celebration to formally mark California's admission into the Union. While statehood had officially been granted on September 9, the monumental news did not reach the Pacific coast until the steamship *Oregon* sailed into the bay on October 18, flying a banner that proclaimed the joyous tidings.

For the early Masons of San Francisco—who were actively laying the foundational moral and structural pillars of the frontier metropolis—this formal civic jubilee on October 29 represented a profound triumph of order and recognition. The grand parade and festivities centered at Portsmouth Square did not just celebrate a political boundary; they marked the dawn of a new era of stability, governance, and brotherhood under the American flag, permanently securing San Francisco's place as a recognized jewel within the fully sovereign U.S. State of California.



"**It's a Wrap!** Over the past months, our First Lady JoMay Chan and the ladies of our California Lodges lovingly made blankets for the children being cared for at our two California healthcare locations. On Saturday, October 17, 2026, our Northern California Lodges delivered their blankets directly to **Shriners Children's Northern California** in Sacramento, while Southern California Lodges delivered theirs to **Shriners Children's Southern California**.

Many of the blankets shown in the background were crafted by the ladies of Columbia Brotherhood Lodge. A huge thank you to all the ladies for their hard work, and to Worshipful Master Bruce Lyons and our Lodge Brothers for supporting this wonderful project."

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY BRETHREN

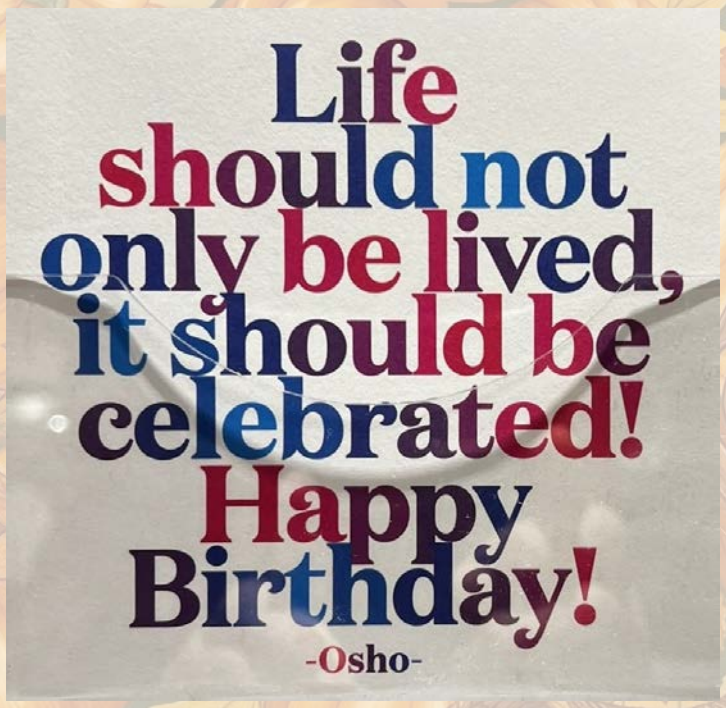
Brother	Brother	Brother
Frank Doodha, Jr	John Lewkowitz, PM	Gary Pittman
Corey Dussault	Bruce Lyons, WM	Harry Rogers
Roy Eidson	Illya Mc Camant	Paul Sabelstrom
Julio Mario Esquivel	John Murphy, Jr	Kelvin Sanders, Jr
Francis Feliciano	King Man Ng	Donald Sinnar
Rajiv Gutral	Paul Pietroski, PM	Kevin Sorbello
Edward Lee		Herleiv Storseter, PM

HAPPY NOVEMBER MASONIC BIRTHDAY BRETHREN

Brother	Degree Raised Mm Date		
William Albright	11/16/1971	Martin Kloess, PM	11/10/1992
Renato Alfonso, Jr	11/23/2016	John Lewkowitz, PM	11/30/1995
William Botieff	11/17/1975	Ross Mandt	11/18/1978
Robert Bueno	11/21/1983	Kirk Maringer	11/24/1969
Raymond Choye	11/17/1962	George Masson	11/28/1972
David Castello, Sr	11/15/2006	Preme Mota, Jr	11/15/2017
Howard Fong	11/20/2007	James Schaupp	11/10/1970
Gerardo Guzmi	11/12/2008	Richard Siegel	11/15/1977
Paul Hamor	11/16/2011	James Sissle	11/28/1966
William Hord	11/15/1983	Stephen Toy	11/24/2009
Peter Ishaq	11/28/1994	Jason Unluata	11/21/2015
Andrew Kerr	11/28/1966		



WM Bruce Lyons with Birthday Celebrants Sylvia Arce and Katina Aldridge








CBL 370
370


IT'S A WRAP

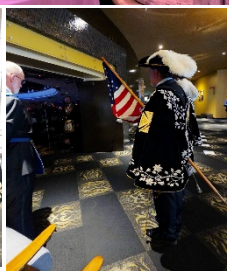












HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING? TRIVIA

1. The term _____ referrs to not only the members but also the space where they meet.
2. The three great pillars represent the foundational supports of the lodge, Wisdom, _____, and Beauty.
3. The covering of a Lodge represents a celestial or “clouded canopy” reaching the _____ reminding us that a Mason’s deeds are open to divine oversight.
4. A Masonic lodge is designed as a symbolic representation of King _____’s Temple.
5. Author Mark Twain (Brother Samuel Langhorne Clemens), who had been living and working as a reporter in San _____ chronicled the panic as a firsthand witness of the 1865 earthquake.
6. The Worshipful Master, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, _____, and Secretary are voted on during Lodge elections.
7. On October 19, 1781, British General Brother Charles Cornwallis surrendered to Brother George Washington at _____, Virginia, effectively ending the Revolutionary War.
8. The black and white pattern of a Masonic Lodge symbolizes the _____ of human life.
9. Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty correspond to the leadership roles of the Worshipful Master, the Senior and Junior _____.
10. The incoming Master carefully selects _____ officers for the progressive line.



November Cryptogram –

The November 2026 Cryptogram, provided in the box below, is a statement associated with gratitude and thankfulness within one’s soul. The decoded statement will be provided on the next Trestle board. Clues for the Cryptogram are: (Q=A), (K = E), (Z = I), (P=O),(R=B), (O = T)

ANSWERS TO OCTOBER 2026 TRIVIA

1. In 399 BCE in Athens **Socrates** was said to have declared that "the unexamined life is not worth living."
2. Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle identify three internal Ruffians as **Ignorance**, Unbridled Passion, and Intemperance respectively.
3. Worshipful Brothers James **Anderson**, Laurence Dermott, and Benjamin Franklin, operated during the Enlightenment to establish the institutional, legal, and operational scaffolding of organized Masonry.
4. The **19th**-century "Codifiers"—including William Preston, Albert Mackey, George Oliver, and Albert Pike—shifted their focus to infuse rituals with esoteric, theological, and metaphysical philosophies.
5. The conceptual shift of a man's symbolic journey in Masonry is described as moving between the Rough Ashlar and the **Perfect** Ashlar.
6. Individuals who refuse to audit their own behavior risk loss their **moral** compass, being blinded to ignorance, and face an increased risk of causing unintentional harm to their communities.
7. California was admitted into the Union as the **31st** State on September 9th, 1850.
8. In speculative Freemasonry, the **47th Problem of Euclid** (or the Pythagorean Theorem) and is hailed as the foundation of **Masonry**.
9. Early Egyptian surveyors who used knotted ropes to reset land boundaries after the Nile flooded were referred to as **"Rope-stretchers."**
10. The operative builder used the **Square** to ensure a stone was cut at a perfect ninety-degree angle, making it fit for the structure. The speculative Mason lifts the **Square** to the realm of the soul, using it to check his actions against the unshakeable standards of virtue, morality, and truth.



Decoded October 2026 Cryptogram In Plain Text

Is provided in the box below.

DBQOZOETK ZX OMK HPBGKBXOPGK PN AZXTPJ. ZG OMZX XKQXPG PN MQBFKXO, WKO KFKBI JQXPG REZWT Q OKJCWK PN OMQGSNEWGKXX AZOMZG MZX XPEW.

“You have power over your mind—not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength.”
— A modern paraphrase of Marcus Aurelius's *Meditations*.

COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE #370
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Important Reminder from the Master

As November begins, we reflect on our health, our roles in the fraternity, and the blessings of the past year. It has been an honor to serve as Master of Columbia Brotherhood Lodge #370, and I look forward to supporting our future leaders as an advisor. October brought wonderful opportunities for fellowship, from celebrating our new Grand Master at the Annual Communication to a great multi-district School of Instruction alongside five neighboring lodges. To keep this momentum going, I encourage all brothers to reach out to Brother Frank and see how you can support his leadership next year. Our collective success and vibrant future rely on our shared participation.

Thanksgiving celebrates family, food, and cheer. While giving profound thanks to our veterans who secure our peace, it is my hope is that our lodge carries that same warm spirit for the rest of 2026 and beyond. To ensure our brotherhood grows and thrives, let us focus on creating an environment rooted in acceptance, brotherly love, and harmony. When voting on candidates for degrees and affiliations, let us always prioritize the welfare of the lodge and the preservation of harmony over personal differences. By focusing on our core Masonic teachings, we will build a bright, welcoming future where men of good character can truly thrive together.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Bruce Lyons,
Master, 2026