



Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370

Free and Accepted Masons

855 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132

VOLUME 120, ISSUE II NOVEMBER 2025

THIS MONTH NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 5

•STATED MEETING
NOVEMBER 10 & 24

•MASONIC FORMATION
CLASS

NOVEMBER 12

•INSTALLATION
PRACTICE

NOVEMBER 18

•DSOI HOSTED BY CAL 1
NOVEMBER 19

•DEGREE CONFERRAL

DECEMBER

DECEMBER 10

•INSTALLATION
PRACTICE

DECEMBER 13

•OFFICER INSTALLATION
DECEMBER 14

•TENTATIVELY
SCHEDULED 2026

PLANNING MEETING
DATE AND TIME TBD

•MYSTERY TRIP (WATCH
FOR DETAILS)

From the East

Worshipful Master, Anil Awasti



Brethren and Friends,
With thanks and gratitude, I send greetings from the East. Happy Thanksgiving! This is the time of the year when many cultural, religious, and secular groups celebrate a range of reasons for being grateful including successful harvests, repent-ance and atonement, light overcoming darkness, good overcoming evil, and the anticipation of a new season. May each of us have had and

or have the opportunity to observe this this period in a manner most appropriate to his or her situation. In addition to the observances listed above, many in the United States contemplate and honor, with gratitude, our military veterans on November 11th which commemorates the armistice between allies of World War 1 and Germany in Compiegne, France formally ending major hostilities of World War 1 at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. The service and sacrifices of our military Brethren align with the Masonic principles of service and brotherhood. I thank and honor all members of our armed services and particularly our Brethren who have supported and or served as members of our country's armed services.

Our Senior Warden Brother Bruce Lyons, our Junior Warden, Brother Frank Pertierra, our Senior Deacon, Brother Jimmy Fowler, and our Junior Deacon, Brother Jod'l Cruz have been preparing for their proficiencies for the for the offices of Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Senior Deacon, respectively, for the ensuing Masonic year. Please join me in congratulating them on their work.

As a Lodge we have been going through what I would like to refer to as a "storming and norming"¹ process and many of us are working together to support the overall goals of the Lodge. Our masonic values have assisted many of us in our efforts. I am grateful to the officers, committee members and brothers who have assisted me this year and along our
Continued on Page 4.



From the West

Senior Warden, Bruce Lyons

Greetings Brothers, Sisters, Family, and Friends:

The season is changing, a little Indian summer and a little bit of rain. At some point the Great Architect will decide what season we should be enjoying.

We are excited that Brother Huey Thomas will give his proficiency to the lodge during the November Stated Meeting, and soon we will have another Brother taking his next step in Freemasonry.

The Masonic Formation Class is being held twice each month, and I thank Worshipful Brother James for his preparation to conduct an

interesting and productive class. You are encouraged to come and join one Monday night and impart some of your knowledge to those who come to learn. The way to create more perfect ash-lars is to impart knowledge and wisdom to them. The men attending this class do enjoy learning and discussing masonic concepts, so come and join them and teach them some of your vast wisdom, and the truth of masonry. You are welcome.

In follow-up to my article from last month, I wanted to continue to expand on what I found at: MasonicFind.com: Masonic Knowledge & Community.

"The 3 Core Tenants of Freemasonry: An Explanation." #3: The third is truth. Truth, as we are taught, is the foundation of every virtue. As Masons we should be known as men to whom hypocrisy and deceit are unknown, who deal honestly and fairly with all men, who promote each other's welfare, and who are happy rather than jealous of each other's prosperity. Truth is pivotal for personal growth and spiritual development. It is a light showing us the way through confusion and dishonesty. Without truth, life can feel lost, like a ship without a

Continued on Page 5.

From the South

JUNIOR WARDEN, FRANK B. PERTIERRA

Greetings Brethren

I hope that everyone is enjoying the cool weather.

As we enter the holiday season, I want to express my gratitude for the continued fellowship and support within our lodge. This season presents a special opportunity to appreciate one another and to reaffirm the values that bring us together, reminding us of the importance of supporting and uplifting each other as we move forward.

We held the Black and White Ball in October. Thank you to

Brother Jim Guerrero and his wife Mayra who chaired this event.

October was one of the busiest months for the officers as we work on our proficiencies to move forward to the next offices. We extend our sincere appreciation to Coach WB Reyno Del Rosario, Asst Coach WB Francis Feliciano, and the many Past Masters and brothers who assisted in our preparation.

We will celebrate Thanksgiving during the November Stated Meeting Dinner with

a traditional turkey and ham feast and a vegetarian option for non-meat eaters.

I encourage all brothers to attend our stated meeting and other events.

The lodge collects toys for its annual Toy Drive. Join us and make your reservations early through sign-up genius via text at 707-342-8770 or via email at fbpertierra@aol.com.

I hope to see you all there.

Fraternally,

Frank B. Pertierra
Junior Warden



2025 LODGE OFFICERS

Anil Awasti (Manisha) **MASTER**
 (415) 846-7129
 Email: awastianil@gmail.com

Bruce Lyons **SR. WARDEN**
 (415) 309-0495
 Email: bruce@coastalpacifcins.com

Frank Pertierra (Roselle) **JR. WARDEN**
 (707) 342-8770
 Email: fbpertierra@aol.com

Reyno Del Rosario, Jr., P.M (Jen)..... **TREASURER**
 (925) 642-2717
 Email: reyowen@yahoo.com

Jason Yen, P.M*. (Sunny) **SECRETARY**
 (925) 989-6898
 Email: jasonyen@cbl370.com

Jason Hui, P.M. (Roxana) **CHAPLAIN**
 (415) 300-0911
 Email: jason@hui.cc

Jimmy Fowler **SR. DEACON**
 (415) 530-9779
 Email: jaf1331@yahoo.com

Jod’l Cruz (Jem) **JR. DEACON**
 (707) 631-8001
 Email: jodljaycruz@gmail.com

Jeremias Jugal **MARSHAL**
 (707) 334-8549
 Email: jerryjugal70@gmail.com

Jose Rivera (Maria) **SR. STEWARD**
 (408) 234-4609
 Email: medusklein5@gmail.com

Patrick Cheng (Diana)..... **JR. STEWARD**
 (925) 755-6728
 Email: backdocssf@yahoo.com

Dionisio Dela Cruz, P.M.(Nonie)..... **TILER**
 (707) 718-0825
 Email: onnie6219@gmail.com

2025 COMMITTEES

AUDITING COMMITTEE
 Orlando Arce, P.M. (415) 244-5373
 Robert De Luzuriaga, P.M. (415) 309-7506
 James Gonzalez, P.M. (510) 772-7415
 Augusto Tagaro, P.M. (650) 346-4551
 Carlos Suncin (415) 806-2711
 William Nichols (720) 883-2501

CHARITY COMMITTEE
 Anil Awasti, Worshipful Master Chairman
 Bruce Lyons, Senior Warden Member
 Frank Pertierra, Junior Warde..... Member

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 Anil Awasti, Worshipful Master
 Bruce Lyons, Senior Warden
 Frank Pertierra, Junior Warden
 Reyno Del Rosario, Jr., P.M. Treasurer
 Jason Yen P.M., Secretary

INVESTMENT-COMMITTEE TRUSTEES
 William F. Aldridge, P.M. ... Exp 2026 President
 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
 Jason Yen, PM Secretary

RETENTION & DELINQUENT COMMITTEE
 James Guerrero (415) 595-9127
 Anil Awasti (415) 846-7129
 James Gonzalez, P.M. (510) 772-7415

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
 William F. Aldridge, P.M.....(510) 790-8924

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE
 Ron Ragland, P.M.(650) 303-9369
 Ron Sickler..... (650) 464-8717



HALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

RICHMOND MASONIC TEMPLE COMPANY
 James S. Guerrero Exp 2026..... President
 Jose M. Rivera Exp 2026 Secretary
 Patrick Cheng Exp 2027... Vice President
 Carlos Suncin Exp 2027..... Treasurer
 Amelio Feliciano..... Exp 2027..... Member
 Gil C. Palencia..... Exp 2025..... Member
 Anil Awasti, Worshipful Master..... Ex Officio Member
 Bruce Lyons, Senior Warden Ex Officio Member

INSPECTOR

Alan Nubla, P.M. (Jacqueline)(650) 922.4684
 Email: Allan9128@comcast.net

OFFICERS’ COACHES

Reyno Del Rosario, Jr., P.M., Officer’s Coach (Jen)
 (925) 642-2717
 Email: reyowen@yahoo.com

Francis Feliciano, P.M., Assistant Coach (Joy)
 (415) 407-0199
 Email: djfrance@comcast.net

TRESTLEBOARD EDITOR

James Gonzalez, P.M (Mary)..... (510) 772-7415
 Email: jgonza9916@aol.com



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.

IN MEMORIAM

Thankfully, we have no reports of brothers who have laid down their tools during the past month. For all who have laid down their tools in the past month.

*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.*

EDITOR’S NOTES

Sincere congratulations to our officers on their proficiency work for their 2026 duties. Happy Thanksgiving to all our Brethren and those they care about, and wishing all of you wonderous personal, spiritual and Masonic journeys of this season during which many will observe and or celebrate gratitude, successful harvests, repentance and atonement, light overcoming darkness, good overcoming evil, and the anticipation of a new season for our individual journeys.

Continued From Page 1

Collective Masonic Journey.

Our lodge had the honor of hosting WB Gary Sparks, Assistant Grand Secretary at our stated meeting on October 1st. At the end of our stated meeting, he gave a talk on brotherly love, why Masonic Lodges exist, and balloting and the objection processes. One of the principle points is that it is a Masonic offense to use the balloting process inappropriately and that suspicion of this type of activity eliminates the privacy of the balloting process and allows the master to declare that the ballot is not private and to investigate. A summary of his comments is provided, on pages 8 and 9, below.

Worshipful Brother Rufo A. Macaraeg (4/20/1959 – 9/25/2025) Rufo laid down his tools on September 25, 2025, after 35 years of Masonic Service which included being the Past Master of three of our Sister Lodges; and leadership in the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Order of the Amaranth. Over 140 of our fellow Brothers attended his Masonic Service on Thursday, October 9th and he was interred after a graveside Masonic service on Friday, October 10. I send my condolences to his immediate and Masonic families and thank our Brothers who represented Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 at his funeral services.

WB James Gonzalez planned and facilitated Masonic Formation Class (MFC) meetings on Monday, October 13th, and Monday October 27th. The primary topics discussed by participants included Civility, Harmony, and Geometry. These Ideas are further developed in the MFC portion of this Trestle Board.

Our officers represented our lodge during the October DSOI meeting which was hosted by our brothers at San Francisco Lodge No. 120. I thank all who attended for their participation and their dedication to learning the craft.

On Saturday October 18th, many brothers and their spouses arrived clad in formal elegant attire to participate in our 2025 Black and White ball. Dinner was delicious, the music inspired many to dance, and all expressed that they had an enjoyable time. I thank Brother Jim Guerrero, Sister Myrah Gurerra, Maria Reyes, her team, and all involved for a most enjoyable evening.



Our Grand Lodge held its 175th annual communication meeting Friday, October 24th to Sunday October 26th. During the work sessions, representatives of the constituent lodges of the Grand Lodge of California

viewed committee presentations, listened to talks from various Grand Lodge members, viewed debates on legislation, and voted on the same. On Sunday October 26th our new Grand Master, Most Worshipful Garrett Chan was elected and installed. The results of the 2025 legislation balloting are provided on Page 5 of this Trestle board, and additional information about the same can be found at the following url:

https://member.freemason.org/resource_attachments/89b5d3ab-bc08-4c2a-b6a4-c4ae02657a33?download=0

I thank those who represented our lodge during this most important event. Also, please join me in congratulating Most Worshipful Garrett Chan on becoming our Grand Master for the ensuing 2026 Masonic year.

Our November 5th Stated Meeting will be an important day for our Lodge as we will hold elections for elected officers, for Hall Association directors, for trustees managing. I encourage Master Masons in good standing to participate in this process, and I wish all the candidates much guidance and success.

Masonic Formation Classes are scheduled for November 10th and 24th, installation and degree practices are scheduled for November 12th.

The November District School of Instruction (DSOI) hosted by California Lodge No. 1 is scheduled for November 18th.

Finally, The Toys will be collected at the December stated meeting by representatives from the San Francisco Asian Peace Officers Association Foundation. They will distribute the toys locally to underprivileged kids during the holidays. Let us show our Masonic support of this worthy cause. Please bring a donation of an unopened, unwrapped toy to the November and December stated meetings for a free dinner at each event.

I am grateful to all who have assisted with and participated in this year's events. I look forward to seeing you in November and wish you much success with your Masonic Journeys.

Fraternity yours,

**Anil Awasti,
Worshipful Master**



¹Tuckerman's Stages of Group Development, Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuckman%27s_stages_of_group_development, 10/22/2025, 10/27/2025



GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA MASONIC MEMORIAL TEMPLE
1111 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109-2284
415/776-7000

October 26, 2025

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 176th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of California:

GRAND MASTER'S DECISIONS				
Grand Master Salazar's Decision No. 1:	YES	557	61.14%	PASSED
Esoteric or secret part of the ritual	NO	354	38.86%	
Grand Master Salazar's Decision No. 2:	YES	688	75.52%	PASSED
Installation of lodge officers not included in the ritual	NO	223	24.48%	
GRAND MASTER'S RECOMMENDATIONS				
Grand Master Salazar's Recommendation No. 1:	YES	723	79.54%	CARRY-OVER
Updates Grand Lodge committee membership, duties, and tenure	NO	186	20.46%	
Grand Master Salazar's Recommendation No. 2:	YES	788	87.17%	PASSED
Eliminates code provision relating to officers' associations	NO	116	12.83%	
Grand Master Salazar's Recommendation No. 3:	YES	829	91.30%	PASSED
Centralized notification for suspension due to non-payment of dues	NO	79	8.70%	
Grand Master Salazar's Recommendation No. 4:	YES	906	96.69%	PASSED
Updates the duties of the lodge secretary	NO	31	3.31%	
Grand Master Salazar's Recommendation No. 5:	YES	867	92.73%	PASSED
Permits charges to be withdrawn in the pre-trial phase	NO	68	7.27%	
2024 CARRY-OVER LEGISLATION				
Grand Master Metroka's Recommendation No. 4:	YES	550	58.05%	FAILED
Update required applicant contributions	NO	383	41.05%	
Grand Master Metroka's Recommendation No. 6:	YES	803	85.61%	PASSED
Modifies lodge vote required to restore a mason suspended for non-payment of dues	NO	135	14.39%	
Grand Master Metroka's Recommendation No. 8:	YES	746	80.13%	PASSED
Clarifies process by which lodges may use alternative ritual	NO	185	19.87%	
Grand Master Metroka's Recommendation No. 11:	YES	742	79.10%	PASSED
Permits a secretary to serve as master, warden, or secretary of another lodge	NO	196	20.90%	
Resolution No. 24-01:	YES	723	77.41%	PASSED
Make the third degree proficiency a prerequisite for nomination to the office of master, senior warden, or junior warden	NO	211	22.59%	
RESOLUTIONS FOR 2025				
Resolution No. 25-01:	YES	000	0.00%	OUT OF ORDER
Out of order	NO	000	0.00%	
Resolution No. 25-02:	YES	822	89.35%	PASSED
Allow Cicero Research Lodge to hold a single stated meeting annually	NO	98	10.65%	
Resolution No. 25-03:	YES	000	0.00%	WITHDRAWN
Withdrawn	NO	000	0.00%	
Resolution No. 25-04:	YES	849	91.68%	PASSED
Changes the offices of grand organist, assistant grand organist, and organist to grand musician, assistant grand musician and musician	NO	77	8.32%	

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: High 12 No. 892 in El Segundo, Oasis of Light No. 893 in Palm Springs, Flat Lux No. 894 in Berkeley, Citlali No. 895 in Culver City and Cicero Research in San Francisco.

In accordance with California Masonic Code §407.050, the Grand Lodge adopted the budget for 2025-2026 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, 2026, through October 31, 2027, as proposed by the Senior Grand Warden, was adopted and fixed at \$72.50.

Total registration for the 176th Annual Communication was 1336 with 286 of 330 chartered lodges represented. (The number of chartered lodges includes seven lodges under dispensation, two historic lodges, six 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 26, 2025 are:

ELECTED OFFICERS

- Garrett S. ChanGrand Master
- Ara MaloyanDeputy Grand Master
- Christopher D. SmithSenior Grand Warden
- Charles P. CrossJunior Grand Warden
- Steven L. YeffaGrand Treasurer
- Allan L. CasalouGrand Secretary
- Matthew S. Vander HorckGrand Lecturer

APPOINTED OFFICERS

- G. Michael WilsonGrand Chaplain
- Gary D. SparksAssistant Grand Lecturer Division I
- Corey P. LeightlyAssistant Grand Lecturer Division II
- Adam J. HaninAssistant Grand Lecturer Division III
- Jairo J. Gomez Jr.Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IV
- Christian G. MararanoAssistant Grand Lecturer Division V
- Rio L. SantamiAssistant Grand Lecturer Division VI
- Narbeh BagdasarianAssistant Grand Lecturer Division VII
- Victor M. Ropac Jr.Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VIII
- Russell E. HenningsAssistant Grand Lecturer Division IX
- Charles D. DimaanoAssistant Grand Lecturer Division X
- David Y. OkamotoGrand Orator
- Jordan T. YelinekAssistant Grand Secretary
- Albert S. CuaGrand Marshal
- Romei D. RomeroGrand Standard Bearer
- John A. BermudezGrand Sword Bearer
- Ehren Z. HawkinsGrand Bible Bearer
- Gabriel G. MariscalSenior Grand Deacon
- Thomas R. JohnsonJunior Grand Deacon
- Dennis F. Trammell Jr.Senior Grand Steward
- Dennis C. CaoileJunior Grand Steward
- Bret H. HartGrand Pursuivant
- Wadeigh R. RiformoGrand Musician
- Scotty J. ChristianGrand Tiler
- David G. VassallAssistant Grand Tiler

The 177th Annual Communication will commence at 1 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2026, in the City and County of San Francisco.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Allan L. Casalou

ALLAN L. CASALOU
Grand Secretary

COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE NO. 370

Continued From Page 2

compass, leading us to what is known as spiritual darkness. Spiritual darkness is not just about being lost; it is about feeling confused and unsure about what's morally and spiritually right. Freemasons fight against this darkness with truth, which helps us deal with life's challenges, make smart choices, and act with honesty. The search for truth is also a search for wisdom and knowledge.

Truth should be found in everything, not just moral issues. The endless search makes sure that a Master Mason's life has a strong base of understanding, honesty, and enlightenment. In today's age of propaganda, whether it is through algorithms in social media feeds, or just problems and uncertainties around us, we need truth to guide us to a wiser and brighter path. The Masonic path promotes looking inward and improving one's ability to live according to one's true values, leading to greater self-honesty and awareness. **Truth helps in keeping our moral and spiritual vision clear and helps us to live in peace and harmony.**

In addition to 2026 being the 250th anniversary of the signing of the U. S. Declaration of Independence which we plan to celebrate in Philadelphia and New York, it is the 250th anniversary of the founding of San Francisco when the Spanish established Mission Dolores. Expect to celebrate both momentous occasions next year.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Fraternally,

Brother Bruce Lyons
Senior Warden



CONGRATULATIONS MOST WORSHIPFUL CHAN

Most Worshipful Garrett Chan began his masonic career



at 13 years of age when he was initiated into the San Francisco Chapter of the Order of DeMolay in 1976, and almost 50 years later he, a member of California Lodge No. 1, was installed as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California. We send our congratulations on this achievement and wishes for a most successful Masonic Year. We hope MW Chan, his wife, JoMay, and their sons experience a most transformative and wonderful Masonic Journey .

MASONIC FORMATION CLASS

Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 offered two



Masonic Formation Classes (MFC) meetings during the month of October. Participants discussed Historical Masonic-associated events which occurred during the month of October, Civility and Geometry. Selected topics are discussed in the following pages.

Selected October Masonic Events

October 8th, 1803: Meriwether Lewis, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, mysteriously died of gunshot wounds. He had been raised as a Master Mason in Virginia in 1799.

October 10th, 1901: Manila Lodge No. 342, the first of several lodges founded in the Philippines by the Grand Lodge of California, was constituted.

October 11th, 1850: A group of 69 Sacramento Masons responded to a cholera outbreak by raising over \$32,000 (equivalent to over \$1.2 million today) to establish a hospital at Sutter's Fort in response to a massive cholera outbreak. It was considered the first mass charity effort by Masons in California.

October 12th, 1898: After nearly a decade of planning and fundraising, the Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans, was opened in Union City, CA.

MASONIC OUTREACH SERVICES
Here When You Need Us

Care Management
Financial Assistance
Referral Services
Masonic Homes Applications
(888) 466-3642 | masonichome.org

 **Masonic Homes**
of California

Roughly 16,000 Masons donated funds for the 268 Acres of land and construction, which cost over \$103,000 (about \$5 million today). And a gift of \$12,600 from the

estate of Jacob Hart Neff, former Lieutenant Governor of California, established the home's permanent endowment fund. The event marked a major milestone in the Masons of California's commitment to charity and fraternal relief.

The home is a tangible testament to the Masonic ideals of brotherly love and relief. It provided a much-needed social safety net for vulnerable members of the Masonic community during an era with few public services for the elderly, widows, and children. During its first year, the home admitted 41

COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE NO. 370

Masons, widows, and orphans. Since then, it with one in Covina have evolved into the Masonic Homes of California offering a range of services, including assisted living, memory care, and remote mental health programs. More information can be found in the article entitled *Masonic Assistance: It's So Much More than Retirement Homes* in the September 2023 edition of *California Freemason* which can be found at the following URL.

<https://californiafreemason.org/2023/09/14/masonic-assistance/#:~:text=Open%20to%20Masons%20of%20all,a%20bridge%20toward%20self%20sufficiency.>

October 13, 1792: The first stone of the White House) was laid, with a Masonic ritual and an inscription noting it was done in the 17th year of American independence. More information about the Whitehouse, written by Chris Ruli, independent scholar can be found in the following URL.

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/freemasonry-and-the-white-house#:~:text=A%20brass%20plate%20engraved%20with,the%20United%20States%20of%20America.>

October 17th, 1989: At 5:04 p.m.PST, the Loma Prieta



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0

Earthquake shook California's Central Coast and significantly impacted the Masonic community, particularly in the towns of Hollister and Watsonville, where historic Masonic

buildings suffered severe damage. California Masons mobilized to aid the broader community, as they had done following the catastrophic 1906 earthquake.¹

Emergency preparedness organizations regularly prepare for future emergencies including fires and earthquakes and recommend that individuals, families, and local organizations create emergency plans of their own. The Grand Lodge of California has a long history of coordinating earthquake preparedness and providing disaster relief to its own members and the community. In addition to organizing and training its members through its [Masonic Emergency Response Team \(MERT\)](#) program, established in 2015 by Los Angeles area Masons which helps lodges prepare for disasters by providing training in FEMA's [Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\)](#)² protocols and managing surge donations that support recovery efforts.

¹ 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1989_Loma_Prieta_earthquake), https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1989_Loma_Prieta_earthquake, 10/31/2025

Continued from Page 6.

² September 2022: *The Masonic Emergency Response Team Is Ready in a Crisis The Leader*, https://freemason.org/the_leader/september-2022/, September 2022, October 27, 2025.

Civility to achieve Harmony

Masonry is about being one’s best self, and its degree process provides a program which assists in pursuing that goal. In addition, Freemasons observe harmony in our surroundings and work to perfect behavior which contributes to harmony among brothers and in our Lodges.



Civility is the respectful behavior that allows people with differences to coexist. **Harmony** is the



aspirational outcome of successful engagement. One way of achieving this is to observe how our own conduct affects the conduct of others and to reflect on how our personal conduct increases or impairs harmony.

The legacy of Greek philosophy offers timeless principles for fostering civility in contemporary society. The Socratic method provides a model for public debate that values questioning, critical thinking, and intellectual honesty. Aristotle's emphasis on virtue highlights that Civility is not a momentary act, but a habit that must be cultivated.

The focus on the “*polis*” (a city state in ancient Greece) and the cultivation of virtuous citizenship reminds us that civility is vital for creating a balanced, functional society.

“...HARMONY BEING THE STRENGTH AND SUPPORT OF ALL SOCIETIES, ESPECIALLY OF OURS.”

The Stoic principles of self-control and detachment from external outcomes offer a guide for managing personal responses in social and political interactions, emphasizing respect for all people.



Geometry / Sacred Geometry

Geometry is said to be “...the first and noblest of sciences and the basis upon which the superstructure of Freemasonry is erected.” Our stonemason forefathers used geometry to construct pyramids and cathedrals that have withstood the test of time and which still inspire awe today. Our speculative

forefathers were inspired to use geometry and other tools of our stonemason forefathers to create a system which develops those who embrace a system of metaphorical lessons polish their rough selves into beings which can surpass the beauty and awe experienced when viewing these ancient architectural wonders.

The core concept of sacred geometry is that geometric order (shapes, curves, and constructs) precedes all physical existence and that geometry was invented by the Great Architect of the Universe as a structure through which to order all of creation. Under this tradition, its symbols take on metaphysical and symbolic meanings. William Preston, a seminal figure in 18th century British Freemasonry wrote, “Geometry, or Masonry, [originally synonymous terms] is of a divine and moral nature.” [and] “The contemplation of this science in a moral and comprehensive view, fills the mind with rapture... [and] proves the existence of a first cause.” For some, all of geometry is sacred. For others, sacred geometry may be regarded as a system of fixed symbols and their relationships.

As a coherent system, the origins of sacred geometry in Western civilization can be traced to the sixth century B.C.E. (Before Common Era) philosophical school of Pythagoras. His extensive legend, along with the writings of Plato, Aristotle, and his other followers, was transmitted through the centuries and had a direct influence on the development of speculative Freemasonry.

Like Freemasonry, sacred geometry appeals to both the rational and creative mind. While geometric proof is relentlessly logical, the truths it conveys and patterns it reveals within the natural world urge its scholars to contemplate their place in God’s cosmos. Many sacred geometric applications and symbols are familiar to Masons. First is the circumpoint, the point within a circle: In Masonry, the point represents an individual, and the circle, the limits of his behavior. In sacred geometry, this symbol is called the monad, which represented divinity and the unity of the universe to Pythagoras.

The standalone circle, being without end, symbolizes divinity and heaven. It is created using a compass and

Continued on Page 8

Continued from Page 7

defined by three points. These points can be interpreted as the three principal tenets of Freemasonry – brotherly love, relief, and truth (the last of which is often described as “a divine attribute”). As a divine symbol, these points can also be interpreted to correspond with St. Paul’s theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity. These virtues are said to originate in God, and they are evoked in the celestial description of the covering of a lodge as heaven itself.

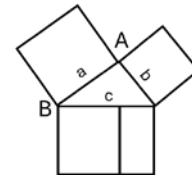
The circle’s complement is the square. Bound by four finite sides, it represents the limits of the physical world and our mortal existence. In Masonry, the square can be said to represent the perfect ashlar – a perfectly shaped square block without faults that is strong and steadfast, capable of supporting the blocks around it. Masons work to emulate this square; to be men of good character who are honest and reliable members of our communities. The square defines a lodge room with its four sides corresponding to the four cardinal points of the compass. It can also represent the four cardinal virtues adapted from Plato’s “Republic” – temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice.

The 3-4-5 right triangle discussed in the 47th Problem of Euclid can teach Masons to lovers the sciences and the arts, and Operative Masons are said to have used a length of rope divided into 12 equal segments as a quick and accurate way to layout right angles.

Euclid (325 to 265 B.C.E.) has been called the “father of geometry.” About 330 B.C.E. he compiled existing geometric knowledge into a 13-book mathematical treatise, Elements. It is said to have been written about 300 B.C.E. and that this work was first published as a printed edition in 1482. The 47th Proposition in the first of the 13 books describes the Pythagorean theorem, which describes the numerical relationships between sides of a right triangle which were known by the ancient Babylonians (1900-1600 B.C.E.) and formalized and exploited by Pythagoras (570-495 BCE). The 47th problem of Euclid is said to teach Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.

Geometry is said to reveal the wisdom and order of the universe, and this assertion is summarized in a quote attributed to Scottish Author, Brother William Preston (1742-1818) which reflected his view that

geometry being is of divine and moral nature – “By Geometry we may curiously trace nature through her various windings to her most concealed recesses. By it we discover the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Great Artificer of the Universe”



Assistant Grand Lecturer on Balloting

Worshipful Brother Gary Sparks, Assistant Grand Lecturer of Division 1, talked with our Lodge members during and after our October 1, 2025, Stated Meeting. He acknowledged the input from the Lodge members who spoke about the results of the most recent balloting for a candidate applying for the degrees of Masonry. He asked us to think about why each of us became a Mason, to remember the duties and conduct each of agreed to uphold.

Masonry unites men of every sect and opinion and each of us has his own unique reasons ranging from the desire to share similar values, ideals, and each of us shares goals for ourselves and our communities to make ourselves better men who embrace Brotherly love, relief, truth.

We each choose how to behave and how to conduct ourselves. Brotherly love, the first of three great tenants and the closest association between two people, encourages true freemasons to show tolerance and respect to all men as they are all our brothers including non-masons, prospects, and candidates. We regard the whole human species as one and strive to see good in all men, each of whom is our brother. As Masons, **we are better than petty grievances and must be able to overlook them.**

Upon becoming Masons each of us agreed to abide by the constitution and ordinances and edicts of the Grand Lodge of California, so we must follow the application, investigation, objection, and balloting processes as specified in the California Masonic Code (CMC). WB Sparks reviewed the application, investigation, objection, and balloting processes as specified by the CMC.

WB Sparks reminded us of the Monitor’s definition of

Continued on Page 9

Continued from Page 8

a charter discusses the function of Lodges in development of Masons. Apathy, financial mismanagement, dues issues, failure to comply with the CMC, and failure to create new masons can put a lodge at risk for failure or for loss of its charter. Moral turpitude, failure to pay dues, failure to comply with the CMC, and inappropriate use of the ballot can put individual masons at risk for being suspended.

Harmony is critical to the strength of our organization, so unanimity in our decision making and who we add to our organization is important, so we strive for a group of those who can best work and best agree. As a result, we are a selective organization in that we are selective about candidates, and they are selective about us.

A prospect becomes an applicant by submitting an application and once the secretary reads the application during a meeting it cannot be withdrawn. Acceptance of the application triggers the investigation. If the investigation determines the candidate is qualified, the master ballots the candidate, if the investigation indicates the candidate is unqualified, no ballot is required.

The CMC specifies an objection process between the completion of the investigation and the opening of the ballot, any member in good standing can raise an objection. The master considers the objection and can decide the objection is unfounded. If the objection has some basis, another investigation can take place. All investigations are subject to revision. If someone has an issue, the master can direct the investigator to go back with more questions and or appoint additional or replacement investigators. If objection not resolved in 60 days, it is treated as a rejection, but each objection can extend the process by 60 days, and this buys time to resolve the objection. If the lodge agrees the objection is unfounded the ballot can proceed. If it is a matter of more information the ballot can be postponed, and if the objection is withdrawn the ballot can go forward. Finally, the lodge can openly discuss any questions or concerns about the candidate prior to the ballot and If requested by any member on the floor.

WB Sparks stated that the **Ballot is a reflection of the applicant’s character and his qualifications and COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE NO. 370**

that it not about anything else. We are charged with acting with brotherly love toward applicants, so if you are going to object, you have to have a valid reason. The ballot is not to be used for politics, to punish an applicant. It is not to be used as a statement against the master, officers, or for any inappropriate reason. Use of ballot in this manner violates brotherly love and not excusable. **Dropping a cube for an inappropriate reason is blatant misuse of the ballot box and is unmasonic conduct.**

Harmony has dependence on unanimity of the ballot, and the secrecy of the ballot allows members to vote privately, but if there is an allegation of balloting improprieties, the ballot is no longer confidential and is subject to investigation.



2025 TOY COLLECTION DRIVE

COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE NO. 370 AND THE SAN FRANCISCO ASIAN POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION

Are collecting new and unwrapped toys
Between now and December

Bring your donation to the lodge during our Special or Stated meetings or during our Monday Masonic Formation Class Meetings for a free Stated-Meeting Meal.

Cash donations are also welcome.

Contact Brother Frank Pertierria at (707) 342-8770 or via email at fbpertierria@aol.com with questions.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Brother Patrick Cheng, 2025/2026 President Kiwanis South San Francisco



NOVEMBER 2025 MASONIC BIRTHDAYS HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAY BRETHREN

Brother	Raised	Brother	Raised	Brother	Raised
William Clayton Albright	11/16/1971	Paul Sebastian Hamor	11/16/2011	George Lee Masson	11/28/1972
Renato Orti-Luis Alfonso Jr	11/23/2016	William Troy Hord	11/15/1983	Preme David Monta Jr	11/15/2017
William Botieff	11/17/1975	Peter Abdalla Ishaq	11/28/1994	James Flagg Schaupp	11/10/1970
Roberto Bueno	11/21/1983	Andrew Frank Kerr	11/28/1966	Rik Barton Schrammel	11/12/1980
Raymond Robert Choye	11/17/1962	Martin Carl Kloess, PM	11/10/1992	Richard Edward Siegel	11/15/1977
David A Del Castello Sr	11/15/2006	John M Lewkowitz, PM	11/30/1995	James Edward Sissle	11/28/1966
Howard Y Fong	11/20/2007	George James Mainis	11/10/1950	Stephen Toy	11/24/2009
Gerardo Guzman	11/12/2008	Ross Gaylan Mandt	11/18/1978	Jason Kerim Unluata	11/21/2015
		Kirk Bruce Maringer	11/24/1969		

NOVEMBER 2025 BIRTHDAYS HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRETHREN

Brother	Day	Brother	Day	Brother	Day
Frank Norman Doodha Jr	3	Edward Lee	23	Gary Nelson Pittman	20
Corey Matthew Dissault	11	John M. Lewkowitz, PM	3	Harry Chester Rogers	9
Roy Maron Eidson	5	Bruce Kenneth Lyons	20	Paul Berthold Sabelstrom	26
Julio Mario Esquivel	18	Illya Jon McCamant	12	Kelvin Alonza Sanders Jr	9
Francis San Juan Feliciano	20	John Joseph Murphy Jr	16	David Lee Sinnar	17
Rajiv Kumar Gujral	10	King Man Ng	6	Kevin Morgan Sorbello	15
Alex Ignatovsky	20	Paul David Pietroski, PM	2	Herliev Ingvar Storster, PM	3



HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING? TRIVIA

- In October, the California Grand Lodge held its _____ Annual Communication Meeting.
- Division 1 Assistant Grand Lecturer, Gary D. _____, PM talked to lodge members about Balloting. During this talk he made it clear that inappropriate use of the ballot is unmasonic.
- _____ is respectful behavior that allows people with differences to coexist.
- _____ is the aspirational outcome of successful engagement.
- The Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans was opened in _____ CA on October 12, 1898.
- The 47th problem of Euclid is the 47th proposition of the first of 13 books of Euclid's Elements and describes the _____ Theorem.
- Aristotle's philosophy, particularly his virtue-ethics, provides one of the most direct connections to the idea of _____.
- The square and _____ are fundamental Masonic tools which represent the need for balance and proportion in life.
- _____ Day, a federal holiday for honoring military veterans of the US Armed Forces. Memorial Day is a federal holiday for mourning the US Military personnel who died while serving in the US Armed forces.
- In the _____ method of teaching an instructor asks a series of open-ended, probing questions to guide students toward a deeper understanding of a subject, rather than directly providing answers.

Answers to October 2025 Trivia

- Temperance**, one of the four cardinal virtues, is how we regulate or 'moderate' our appetites and emotions.
- Justice** governs human relationships and social interaction.
- On September 18, 1793, WB George Washington acting as Grand Master pro-tem conducted the Cornerstone placement Ceremony at the **US Capital**.
- In 1908, Amity Lodge No 370 met in the **Mission** Lodge Building
- The Ca Grand Lodge met at **25 Van Ness** before moving to 1111 California St.
- Candidates for the degrees of Freemasonry are vetted by the **California Grand** Lodge and are investigated by three brother Master Masons.
- The three allegorical figures by Alexander Weinman in the entrance arch of the SF Masonic Temple at **25** Van Ness avenue represent Caritas (Charity), Fortitudo (Fortitude), and Veritas (Truth).
- A **Lodge** is the local chapter of the fraternity and place where it meets.
- Albert Pike described three ruffian brothers who are the greatest enemies of individual welfare and social progress as kingcraft, priestcraft and the **ignorant** or mob mind.
- Socrates** is considered a founder of Western philosophy.

November Cryptogram

The September Cryptogram is provided in the box below, and the decoded statement will be provided in the October Trestle board. Clues for the Cryptogram are: (K = E), (Z = I), (O = T), and the phrase describes a virtue.

**HZFWZOI ZX JPBK OMQG DPPT KOZYEKOOK PB CPWZOK RKMQFZPB.
ZO ZX QRPEO BKHPDGZLZGD OMK ZGMKBKGO TZDGZOI QGT FQWEK PN KFKBIPGK AK JKKO.**

October Crossword Puzzle: Find the notorious Freemasons for whom San Francisco streets and or areas in San Francisco are Named. This puzzle derives from the article entitled *The Masonic Streets of San Francisco* on page 27 of the fall edition of California Freemason "Fall 2025: Masonic San Francisco at, <https://californiafreemason.org/#>.

ACROSS

- Past CA Governor "Sunny Jim", James _____, Jr.
- Commodore John D. _____
- Charles and William and sons of Charles _____ SP Railroad Tycoon
- Charles Henry _____, City supervisor and Golden Gate Park Planner
- Joseph Libby _____.
- San Francisco's first millionaire, Samuel _____.
- Avenue named after first Grand Master of California, Charles _____.
- Lieutenant Richard Coulton _____.
- Filipino national hero, Jose _____.
- Charter Member of Cal 1, Jonathan Drake _____.
- Masonic Cemetery, and current location of the University of San Francisco campus
- Hippie movement ground O Street, Governor Henry _____ and Supervisor and Planner, Monroe _____.

DOWN

- UC Med School Founder, William Beverly _____.
- 1830's Pilot and Trader, Wiliam Heath _____.
- San Francisco's First Mayor John White _____.
- First mayor of San Jose Josiah _____.

DOWN CONTINUED

- Leland _____, governor and railroad tycoon.
- Joseph Warren _____, son of American Hero Paul _____.
- Irish Surveyor Jasper _____.
- First US President.
- California's First licensed doctor, John _____.
- Colonel Richard B. _____, fifth military governor of California
- Recruiter during Mexican American War, Thomas _____
- Built one of the first houses in the Yerba Buena Settlement, Jacob Primer _____.



COLUMBIA BROTHERHOOD LODGE #370
855 BROTHERHOOD WAY
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94132

First Class Mail
Presorted US
Postage Paid
San Bruno, CA
Permit No. 43

Important Reminder from the Master

Gratitude

I hope that you and your family are well and safe.

During this season of reflection and expression of gratitude, I am thankful for getting to know many of our lodge members and for their participation and support. I thank the officers, members and committee members who assisted me during the year and wish them much success during their future Masonic journeys and ask our brother Master Masons to remember that each of us is responsible for his actions, to be civil, and to maintain harmony in our Lodge.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Anil Awasti
Master 2025

