



Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370

Free and Accepted Masons

855 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132

VOLUME 120, ISSUE 12 DECEMBER 2025

THIS MONTH

DECEMBER 3

•STATED MEETING

DECEMBER 10

•INSTALLATION PRACTICE

DECEMBER 13

•OFFICER INSTALLATION

DECEMBER 14

•2026 PLANNING MTG

JANUARY

JANUARY 7

•STATED MEETING

JANUARY 12 & 26

•MASONIC FORMATION CLASS

JANUARY 14

•DEGREE & DSOI PRACTICE

JANUARY 21

•DSOI HOSTED BY CBL 370

JANUARY 28

•DEGREE CONFERRAL



From the East

Worshipful Master, Anil Awasti



Brethren and Friends,

During this time of thanksgiving and reflection and looking forward to the annual installation and December holidays, including the feast of Saint John the Evangelist, It is with gratitude that I send you greetings from the east.

As we reach the end of my year in the east, I reflect on my time as Master of our

Lodge and of our shared experiences as we work on our individual and collective Masonic and human journeys. We continued to get to know each other through lodge meetings and events. We've watched football games together, attended baseball games together, gone on picnics together, danced, shared a whole lot of food and drink. Several of us represented the Lodge in Panama and established friendships with new brothers there. We practiced our ritual together initiated one new brother, passed two brothers, and raised one brother. In addition, we learned more about Masonic principles and Lodge management through our Masonic Formation Class Program, Grand Lodge

leadership retreats, and interaction with members of other Lodges through District Schools of Instruction and shared events. We celebrated the service of several of our brothers who received Golden Veterans and Hiram Awards.

Sadly, we bade farewell to several brothers who laid down their working tools and who are now in the presence of the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe. We have offered our prayers in support of our departed Brothers and of their loved ones.

All of this was possible as a result of the participation of Lodge members, our officer's team, our event committees and their chairmen, our investment trustees, services

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From the West

Senior Warden, Bruce Lyons

Greetings Brothers, Sisters, Family, and Friends:



Thanks to the brothers for choosing me to serve the lodge as Master next year. I am honored by the trust that you have bestowed. As I mentioned at the Stated meeting, my hope is to create a harmonious lodge dedicated to the principles of free masonry. If you have any advice or thoughts about what should be planned, please let me know as soon as possible as we are finalizing these plans right now. Just remember that I am the occupant of the Oriental chair for the year, but I am still on the level with every good Mason, and it is our duty to

create a successful and prosperous lodge. Your help in this endeavor is appreciated.

The holiday season is fast approaching, and my wish is that peace and joy prevail for you and your family during this special season. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and Happy New Year.

Brother Huey Thomas gave his long-form proficiency to the lodge in great form, and soon we will have his second degree along with Brother Charles Gages. The Masonic Formation Class will be on hiatus in December, but classes will start again in early January. Thanks to Worshipful Brother James for his preparation to conduct an interesting and productive

class. The way to create a more perfect ashlar is to impart knowledge and wisdom to them.

As you know, education is the focus of the Senior Warden and hence his duty is to inform and emphasize certain principles of free masonry. One focus of our masonic teachings is the duty to **not disparage a brother in his person or good name**. Every person has a basic need for **both self-respect and respect from others**. When our friends show, by word or deed, that they hold us in low regard, we may react as strongly as if we were threatened. On the other hand, we would do almost

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From the South

JUNIOR WARDEN, FRANK B. PERTIERRA

Greetings Brethren,



I would like to extend my congratulations to the newly elected officers for the upcoming Masonic year 2026. I am glad and looking forward to working with you for the betterment of our lodge.

The new set of lodge officers will be installed on December 13th. It will be our 121st Installation of CBL officers which will be held at the lodge. To RSVP for the

Installation, please contact our newly elected Junior Warden Brother Jimmy Fowler. Please let us support him as you have supported me during my time as JW.

Our menu for the December Stated Meeting will be a choice of prime rib or halibut. I encourage all brothers to attend our stated meeting and other events.

Join us and make your reservations early through

sign-up genius, email me at fbpertierra@aol.com or text me at 707-342-8770.

Last but not the most important one, I wish all brethren and their families a blessed Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year.

Fraternally,

Frank B. Pertierra
Junior Warden



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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 Warden 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

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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 2026Secretary
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 WardenEx Officio Member

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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 NOTES

Brothers Bruce Lyons, Frank Pertierra, Jimmy Fowler, and Jod'l Cruz worked diligently in preparation for their proficiencies as Worshipful Master, Senior warden, Junior Warden, and Senior Deacon, respectively. Congratulations to each of them on completing their proficiencies. May they each enhance their mastery of the craft and may they and the officer's line receive all of our support for a most harmonious and successful ensuing Masonic year. Congratulations to our brothers who have been initiated, passed, and raised in 2025. May each of them have continued success on their individual and life journeys. Thanks to all for their participation and support throughout the past year. May each of you and your loved ones have most a joyful and meaningful holiday season and a new year blessed with joy and light.

2026 LODGE OFFICERS

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provided by our Hall Association members, including Maria and her teams, and several of our past masters who have been generous with their time, expertise, and guidance. I feel fortunate and am grateful for the opportunity to have served our Lodge and extend heart felt gratitude to each of you for your participation and support.

The holiday season, which includes the winter solstice celebrated by some as the feast of our Masonic Patron Saint John the Evangelist, allows time for reflection and renewal and the opportunity for each of us to create our individual and collective futures, which includes the path of our Lodge. May each of us embrace and be guided by the spirit and teachings of our Masonic traditions; engage in respectful discourse; discourage gossip; strive for integrity, honesty, genuineness, and authenticity in our interactions. These behaviors will encourage the fellowship and enlightenment which strengthen our lodge.

Please accept my sincere thanks for the opportunity to serve the lodge as Worshipful Master and wishes for a wonderful holiday season, and for the Great Architect's kind love support protection during the ensuing masonic year.

Fraternity yours,

**Anil Awasti,
Worshipful Master**



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anything for a person who holds us in high esteem. Thus, respect is both the least honor that we require and the highest honor that we can hope for in our dealings with our fellow men. The term "respect" includes courtesy, tolerance, kindness, sympathy, prudence, temperance, and a host of other concepts that refer to our relationships with people. It encompasses our words, our actions, our appearance and even our thoughts. Inside the Lodge and outside of it, we should strive to demonstrate in every way our respect for a Brother's honor, feelings, efforts, hopes and any other part of his life that we may contact. **Let's spread the cement of brotherly love and affection in our lodge through our acts and our deeds.**

We will have a planning committee on December 14th, and the officers, and committee chairs and their partners are invited to join and plan the upcoming year.

See you on the 13th at the annual installation.

Fraternally and Happy Holidays

Bruce Lyons,
Sr. Warden



IN MEMORIAM

WB Michael Balopoulos (October 10, 1932—November 21, 2025) laid down his tools at the age of 93 years and 1.3 months and over 64 Years of Service. He was raised October 27th, 1961. He was active in Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 and Ross Valley Lodge No. 556. He has served as the Worshipful Master of Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 in 1968, the Grand Tiler in 1991, the Inspector of District 134 between 1994 and 2003, the Chairman of the Grand-Lodge-Week Activities Committee between 1993 and 1997, the Worshipful Master of Ross Valley No 556 between 2019 and 2023, and Trustee of Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 in 2010, 2012-2013 and 2019 to 2025.



*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.*



2026 Dues

Greetings Brethren and families,

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving. We truly have much to be grateful for. I also want to take a moment to once again thank the Brethren for entrusting me with the honor of serving as your Secretary.

The dues for 2026 are **\$92.50**.

Here are some answers to common questions I've received about paying dues this year.

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 2026 dues are paid, your new card will also be available online at 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 have any questions I haven't answered, feel free to reach out. I'm always happy to hear from you!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jason Yen, P.M.
Secretary



MASONIC FORMATION CLASS

During the 2025 Masonic year, Columbia Brotherhood



Lodge No. 370 initiated one brother, passed two brothers and raised one Brother. Brother Charles Gagas was initiated and completed his long-form, Entered-Apprentice Proficiency within

three months. Brother Huey Thomas recently completed his long-form, Entered Apprentice proficiency and looks forward to being passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. Brother Eugene Dumlao and Corey Dussault were passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. Both have been working on their second-degree proficiencies. Brother Corey has completed his second-degree proficiency, and Brother Eugene is expected to complete his early in 2026. Both are expected to be raised during the ensuing Masonic Year. Finally, Brother Romarico Miranda was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Congratulations are in order for each of our Brothers. Congratulations and thanks are in order for several officers and Past Masters who have and continue to assist.

In addition to providing suitable assistance to Brothers who are working on proficiencies for each of their degrees, Masonic Formation Classes (MFC) are intended to assist them in becoming the best Masons they can be through general and degree specific coaching. Since program participants include prospects; Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason candidates; Master Masons who have completed their proficiencies; Master Masons who have officer and other training; and Past Masters, the program is designed to provide a forum for discussing Masonic concepts and to encourage exchange of ideas associated with becoming our best selves.

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Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370 offered MFC meetings on Monday, November 10th and Monday, November 24th. Discussions included participant questions, Historical Masonic-associated events which occurred during the month of November, Lodge structure and operations and Geometry.

MFC Meetings will be dark in December and are planned to resume on Monday, January 12th and Monday, January 26th, 2026. Summaries of selected November MFC Meeting discussions are provided below.

Selected Masonic Events In November

In addition to Veterans Day and Thanksgiving, two selected events of Masonic significance in the United States, are discussed below.

On November 1, 1923, the official cornerstone was laid for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, via a Masonic ceremony during which with President Calvin Coolidge used the same trowel that Washington used for cornerstone of the Capitol building.

On November 4, 1752, George Washington at the age of twenty, was initiated an Entered Apprentice in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia. He is said to have paid two pounds and three shillings (approximately \$488 to \$596 in current US Dollars) to join this Lodge. He was subsequently raised to the degree of Master Mason in 1753.



Brother John Philip Sousa, born November 6, 1854, sometimes called the "American March King" was the composer of "The Stars and Stripes Forever." He was a member of Hiram Lodge No. 10 in Washington D.C.

Brother Dr. James Naismith, the inventor of basketball, was born on November 6, 1861. He was an active Freemason, who served as Worshipful Master of Lawrence Lodge No. 6 in Kansas. He invented basketball in December 1891 while working as a physical education instructor at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. He created the game to give his students an indoor activity during the winter months, and the first game was played using a soccer ball and two peach baskets.

Brother Bram Stoker (11/8/1847-4/20/1912), Irish



Novelist and author of the novel, Dracula was born on November 8, 1847. He was a member of Buckingham and Chandos Lodge No. 1150 located in London, England. It was established during the late 1830s,

met at Freemasons' Hall on Great Queen Street, London, and is a member of the United Grand Lodge of England. Brother Stoker was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason in February 1883, Passed to the degree of Fellow Craft in April 1883 and raised to the degree of Master Mason on June 20th, 1883.

On November 9th, 1775, Brother James Monroe, the fifth U.S. President, was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason at Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 in Virginia. He completed his degrees later in a military lodge while serving in the Continental Army.

The United States Marine Corps, also referred to as the United States Marines or simply the Marines, is the maritime land force service branch of the United States Department of Defense was founded on November 10th, 1775, in Philadelphia, PA

Veterans Day, also known as Remembrance Day and Armistice Day, observed November 11th, is particularly significant to Masons in many countries. Its Masonic themes include memory, ritual, and sacrifice.

Veteran's Day is celebrated on the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I, with cessation of fighting beginning on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 and that ended World War I. It was originally named Armistice Day originally to commemorate the end of World War I, the "war to end all wars," but in the United States, the name was changed to Veterans Day in 1954 to honor all U.S. veterans of all wars.

The war officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in June 1919, but the armistice date is recognized as the symbolic end of the fighting.

Remembrance Day is observed in other countries like Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom to honor those who have died in conflict.

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In the United States, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November.

It is said that in 1621, the settlers from the Mayflower gathered in celebration to thank God for the harvest and for his many blessings. It is also said that members of the Wampanoag tribe in Plymouth, Massachusetts were also invited to the feast.

In 1789, President George Washington delivered the Proclamation of 1789 assigning November 26th as the National Holiday of Thanksgiving. This proclamation was also a symbol to our former monarchy that the colonies were a self-governing and legitimate state. Washington remarked, "both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

In the United States, the Thanksgiving holiday aligns with core Masonic principles of gratitude, charity, and community service. The cornucopia, one Thanksgiving symbol, is the jewel of the Senior and Junior Stewards and it can represent the abundance and generosity valued by the fraternity.

Lodge Structure and Operations from a Leadership Perspective

The leader of a Masonic lodge, the Worshipful Master, oversees all lodge activities, finances, and administration, and is an elected officer. He Oversees the administration, management, and direction of the lodge, manages finances, and plans events, serves as the primary point of contact between the lodge and the community, leads meetings and is in charge of and presides over ritual ceremonies, especially the Third Degree. He sits in the East of the east, chairs all of the business of his lodge, and is vested with considerable powers without further reference to the members. The Worshipful Master's jewel is the square.

The Senior Warden assists the Worshipful Master and is next in line to lead. He is responsible for the oversight of members during lodge hours, assists in

the preparation of the Master's work in all degrees. He sits in the West and focuses on building knowledge and fostering growth within the lodge and oversees the education and formation of candidates, ensuring their journey is meaningful and rooted in Masonic values. The Senior Warden's jewel is the level.

The Junior Warden is responsible for the welfare of the brethren during Lodge hours. He oversees food arrangements and catering for lodge events and dinners. He is the third of the principal officers and is charged with the supervision of the Lodge while it is "at refreshment." The Jewel of the Junior Warden is the Plumb.

The Treasurer Manages all financial transactions for the lodge, receives all money including money collected by the secretary, pays debts, and provides financial reports. He maintains accurate and detailed financial records, using a ledger and other accounting software or methods and prepares and presents regular financial reports to the Worshipful Master and the lodge members. The Treasurer sits to the right of the Worshipful Master in the East, and the Jewel of the Treasurer is a pair of keys.

The Secretary handles all administrative duties, including correspondence, minutes, and member records, compiles the list of new candidates and tracks their progress, communicates with other lodges and the Grand Lodge. The Secretary sits to the left of the Worshipful Master in the East, and the Jewel of the Secretary is a pair of quills.

The Chaplain Leads spiritual matters for the lodge and delivers prayers at the opening and closing of meetings and during ceremonies Chaplain sits directly to the left of the Worshipful Master in the East, and the Jewel of the Chaplain is an image of a book of holy writings, typically the Bible.

The Senior Deacon Acts as a messenger for the Worshipful Master, carrying orders to the Senior Warden, guides candidates during degree rituals, opens and closes the Bible to the correct passage for the degree, communicates messages, prepares candidates during ceremonies. The Senior Deacon Sits to the right of the Worshipful Master and his jewel is a square and compass with a sun.

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The Junior Deacon acts as a messenger for the Senior and Junior Wardens, controls access to the lodge room by guarding the inner door, assists the Senior Deacon in ritualistic work, ensures the lodge is properly secured ("tiled"), communicates messages, prepares candidates during ceremonies, ensures only qualified members enter the lodge. The Junior Deacon Sits to the right of the Senior Warden, and his jewel is a square and compass with a moon.

The Marshall's ceremonial responsibilities including escorting dignitaries and managing processions. His hospitality tasks include welcoming visitors, supporting the Master in various administrative and organizational functions, and giving the candidate challenge. The Marshall sits in the east in front of the Secretary, and his jewel is a pair of batons.

The Senior and Junior Stewards are responsible for hospitality and for assisting with degree ceremonies. They may help with setting up chairs and preparing and serving refreshments for meetings, leading the "Festive Board," selling raffle tickets, and generally fostering fellowship. They are often junior members, and the role serves as a way to learn lodge operations and get to know members. The Stewards sit in the South in front of the Junior Warden, and their jewels are cornucopias.

The Tiler guards the door of the Lodge, ensuring only properly qualified Masons are admitted, prepares the lodge room before meetings and secure it afterward, admits those arriving after verifying their credentials, and prevents "cowans" and "eavesdroppers" (unqualified individuals) from entering, and symbolically guarding the privacy and sanctity of the Lodge. The Tiler sits in the Lodge Entry Door, and his jewel is a sword.



Respectfully submitted,
James Gonzalez, PM, MFC Coach

DECEMBER 2025 BIRTHDAYS HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRETHREN

BROTHER	DAY
Renato Alfonso, PM	22
Amel Bausanta	22
William Beck	17
Gerald Bode, PM	21
Raymond Carlson	2
Juan Cespedes, PM	11
Jimmy Chow	16
John Conlan, PM	6
Robert De Luzuriaga, PM	16
Dionisio Dela Cruz, PM	6
Emil Estolano	17
Charles Gagas	4
John Gottsche	8
Martin Kloess, PM	25
Jaeame Koyil	25
Kenneth Lebovitz	7
Alejandro Maltez	28
Eduard Marchese	6
Isaac Mejia	14
Haralambos Papadopoulos	13
Frank Pertierra	22
George Poon	22
Theodore Prepoutse	12
Ronald Ragland, PM	28
Allen Smith, III	6
Christian Sorensen	28
Dewayne Watson, II	3

DECEMBER 2025 MASONIC BIRTHDAYS HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAY BRETHREN

BROTHER	DATE RAISED
Jeremias Jugal	12/7/2019
Kenneth Lebovitz	12/17/1964



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 Pertierra at (707) 342-8770 or via email at
fbpertierra@aol.com with questions.

1905



2026

Columbia Brotherhood Lodge No. 370

Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California

Cordially invites you & your guest to its
121st Annual Installation of Officers

For the ensuing Masonic Year

Saturday evening

December 13, 2025

4:00 P.M. at our Lodge

*Brotherhood Masonic Center
855 Brotherhood way
San Francisco, California 94132*

Dinner and Dancing to follow in the Main Hall

Please RSVP by December 6, 2025

Brother Jimmy Fowler – (415) 530-9779 (call / text)

or via e-mail – jaf1331@yahoo.com



HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING? TRIVIA

1. The _____, the jewel of the Senior and Junior Stewards can represent the abundance and generosity valued by the fraternity.
2. Prominent Masons, including George Washington, influenced the establishment of Thanksgiving as a national holiday. Washington issued the first _____ Proclamation on November 26, 1789, promoting gratitude for the new nation's government.
3. The _____ proportion or golden ratio is a mathematical proportion approximately equal to 1.618 appears in nature, is used in art and architecture for aesthetically pleasing compositions and forms the basis of the golden spiral and Fibonacci numbers.
4. The dues for _____ are \$92.50.
5. George Washington at the age of twenty, was initiated an Entered Apprentice in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia. He is said to have paid _____ pounds and three shillings.
6. Brother Bram Stoker, Irish Novelist and author of the novel, _____.
7. Brother James Monroe, the _____ U.S. President,
8. Veteran's Day is celebrated on the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I, with cessation of fighting beginning on the _____ hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.
9. Brother Dr. James Naismith invented _____, in December 1891.
10. Thanksgiving holiday aligns with core Masonic principles of _____, charity, and community service.

Answers to November 2025 Trivia

1. In October, the California Grand Lodge held its **176th** Annual Communication Meeting.
2. Division 1 Assistant Grand Lecturer, Gary D. **Sparks**, PM talked to lodge members about Balloting. During this talk he made it clear that inappropriate use of the ballot is grounds for a Masonic Trial and Punishment.
3. **Civility** is respectful behavior that allows people with differences to coexist.
4. **Harmony** is the aspirational outcome of successful engagement.
5. The Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans was opened in **Union City**, CA on October 12, 1898.
6. The 47th problem of Euclid is the 47th proposition of the first of thirteen books of Euclid's Elements and describes the **Pythagorean** Theorem.
7. Aristotle's philosophy, particularly his virtue ethics, provides one of the most direct connections to the idea of **Civility**.
8. The square and **compass** are fundamental Masonic tools which represent the need for balance and proportion in life.
9. **Veterans** 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.
10. In the **Socratic** 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.

November Cryptogram

The decoded **November** Cryptogram is provided below.

"CIVILITY IS MORE THAN GOOD
ETIQUETTE OR POLITE BEHAVIOR.
IT IS ABOUT RECOGNIZING THE INHERENT
DIGNITY AND VALUE OF EVERYONE WE MEET."

December Cryptogram

The December 2025 Cryptogram is provided in the box below, and the decoded statement will be provided in the January 2026 Trestle board.

"RK QO AQB AZOM IPEB FZHKX,
QO CKQHK AZOM IPEB GKZDMRPBX,
QGT WKO KFKBI GKA IKQB
NZGT IPE Q RKOOKB JQG"

BY BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Clues for the Cryptogram are: (K = E), (Z = I), (O = T). The quote describes practices to be a better man.



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

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Permit No. 43

Important Reminder from the Master

I hope this finds you and your families safe, well and enjoying this holiday season and that each of us will experience a clear path to becoming our best selves.

As Master Masons we are held to a higher standard. Let each of us lead by example and continue to improve ourselves in Freemasonry. Let us meet on the level, act upon the plumb, and part upon the square.

Let each of us admonish our brethren of errors by whispering in most friendly and respectful ways. May this practice bring improvement to ourselves and the lodge. Let us take responsibility for our actions, let us practice Civility and respect and support each other thereby achieving a most successful and harmonious lodge.

Anil Awasti
Master, 2025

