



NAVAL LODGE NO. 87
FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA

December 2011 • Volume 18 • Issue 11



the vallejo
masonic news

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By Naval Lodge No. 87

Free and Accepted Masons of California

NAVAL LODGE...

...attracts and brings together good men of diverse generational, racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds for self-improvement, friendship, and service;

BECAUSE,

We provide an authentic initiatory experience and engaging education programs based on a tradition of living and animate speech to effect a personal transformation that inspires each man to a principle driven way of life based on brotherly love, relief, and truth.

PLEASE NOTE!

If you have recently moved or will be moving soon, please notify the secretary so that we may ensure our records are accurate and that you won't miss any mailers.

Thank you!

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"Think for yourselves and let others enjoy the privilege to do so, too."

-Bro. **François-Marie Arouet**
"Voltaire"

Initiated April 4, 1778
Loge des Neuf Soeurs
Paris, France



Officers and Committees

Naval Lodge No. 87 Officers for 2011

Committees

Master

Barry Hughes
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Senior Warden

Leo Guison
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Junior Warden

Joe Yow
(707) 553-8344 * yowwolf@aol.com

Secretary

Robert Wilson, PM
(415) 302-7270 * rww588@aol.com

Treasurer & Assistant Secretary

William Hems III
(707) 554-554-2588 * whems@sbcglobal.net

Senior Deacon

John Wasson
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Junior Deacon

Rick Lauziere
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Senior Steward

John Schaefer
(707) 641-3959 * j.schaefer88@yahoo.com

Junior Steward

Yassine Talha

Chaplain

Mike Woodruff
(707) 422-6246 * angelfeathers@comcast.net

Marshall & Officer's Coach

John Snell, PM
(707) 558-8309 * jvs724@comcast.net

Tiler

Albert Lawson, PM
(510) 921-4629 * jazzmoe39@aol.com

Organist

Charles Bailhache
(707) 644-1560 * charlesabailhache@prodigy.net

Inspector 131st Masonic District

Leo Paule
(707) 704-1920 * leopaule@yahoo.com

Audit

Henry Budding PM, Albert
Lawson PM, Keith Wattles PM

Budget & Finance

Leo Guison, Bill Hems III,
Barry Hughes, Joe Yow

Candidates Coaching

Leo Guison

Charity

Leo Guison, Barry Hughes,
Joe Yow

Constitutional Observance

Albert Lawson PM

Entertainment

John Schaefer, Yassine Talha,
Joe Yow

Funeral

Henry Budding PM, Barry
Hughes, Tom Langford PM,
Keith Wattles PM

Lodge Ambassador

Bob Prenton

Masonic Formation

Frank Peterson, Brent Wolke

Masonic Homes

Kerry O'Brien PM, Gary Pirkig

Membership Retention

Albert Lawson PM, John Was-
son, Robert Wilson PM

Public Schools

Charlie Bailhache,
Gerry Bettman

Scholarship

Bill Hems III, Albert Lawson
PM, Jeff Massingham

SMEF

Charles Bailhache,
Henry Budding PM,
Barry Hughes, Jim Jaeger,
Matt King, Glenn Munkres PM,
Russell Parker-Taft

Telephone/Phone Tree

Bill Hems III,
Robert Wilson PM

Trustees

Glenn Munkres PM,
Bob Prenton, Brent Wolke

Widows

Brazen Pillars
(Gary Pirkig, Chairman)

Youth Groups

Albert Lawson, Bob Prenton
Joe Yow

Hiram Award

Bill Hems III, Barry Hughes,
Tom Langford PM,
Russell Parker-Taft:
Albert Lawson PM Recipient

Mason of the Year

Bill Hems III, Barry Hughes,
Tom Langford PM,
John Schaefer:
John Wasson Recipient



a mason's christmas

"I don't believe in a Christmas celebration by the lodge. I don't think we ought to have one, or be asked to contribute to one or in any way engage in Christmas festivities."

"The Junior Mason spoke emphatically and with marked disapproval of the little ante-room group nearby, making happy plans for Yule-tide.

"That's very interesting," commented the Old Past Master. I like to hear points of view unfamiliar to me. Would you mind telling me why?"

"Of course not. It's very simple. Masonry is not Christian. King Solomon, of course, wasn't a Christian, nor were either of the Hiram's. Masonry admits to her ranks any good man of faith; Christian, Jewish, Mohammedan, Buddhist... it makes no difference, so he has a Faith. Then, as a lodge, we celebrate a holiday belonging to one faith. Now I personally am a Christian, and of course I celebrate Christmas. But my brother across the way is a Jew, who does not recognize Christianity. To ask him to spend his proportion of lodge funds in celebrating the birth of a Leader in Whom he does not believe would be exactly like asking me to celebrate, with my proportion of lodge money, the birth of Confucius. Of course, I have only one vote and the majority rules, but when it comes to personal contributions to a Masonic Christmas celebration, my hands will never come out of my pockets."

He shoved them deeper in as he spoke to emphasize his intention not to spend.

"Hum!" answered the Old Past Master. "So you think your Jewish brother across the way doesn't recognize Christianity? Don't you mean he doesn't recognize Christ as the Son of God? Wait a minute... Oh, Brother Samuels." The Old Past Master called across the ante-room. "Here a minute, will you?"

The Jewish brother rose and came forward.





“I just wanted to ask you if you are in favor or against the lodge Christmas celebration?” asked the Old Past Master.

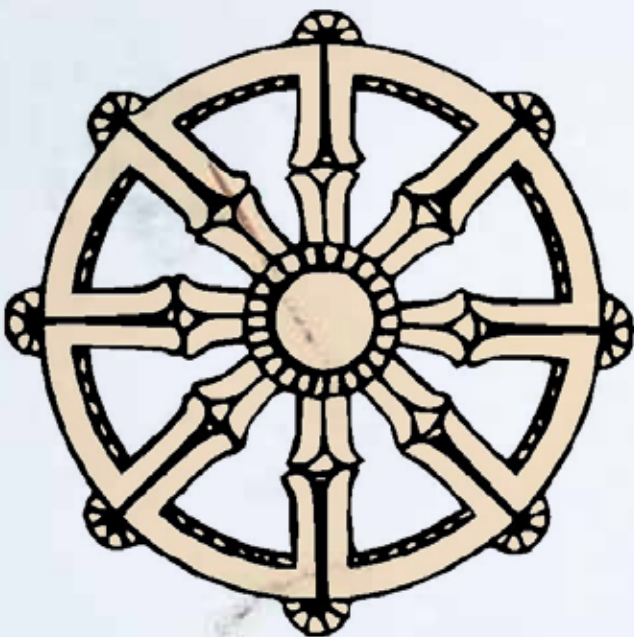
“Me? I am in favor of it, of course, both for the lodge appropriation and the individual contribution.”

“Thank you,” nodded the Old Past Master. Then as the Jewish brother went back to his seat, he turned to the Junior Mason.

“You see, my son, our Jewish friend is not narrow. He does not believe in Christ as the Redeemer, but he recognizes that he lives in a country largely Christian, and belongs to a lodge largely Christian. To him the Christmas celebration is not one of His birthday, but of the spirit of joyousness and love which we mean when we sing, at Christmas time ‘Peace on earth, good will towards men!’ If you argue that ‘peace’ is only a Christian word, he might even quote to you the words of One who said ‘I bring you not Peace, but a Sword.’

“Now let me explain something to you. The Jew has just as much right to refuse to recognize Christ as the Son of God, as you have to refuse to consider Mohammed the Prophet the followers of Allah say he is. But as an educated man, you must know that Mohammed was a good man, a devout leader, a wise teacher. As an educated man, you admit that the religion founded by Buddha has much in it that is good, and you admit that Confucius was a wise and just leader. Were you in the land where the birthdays of any of these were celebrated, would you refuse your part in the people’s joy in their Leader, simply because you followed another? I trust not. Well, neither do our Jewish brethren or our Mohammedan brethren, desire to be left out of our celebration. They may not believe in the Divinity of Him we, as Christians, follow, but if they are good men and good Masons... they are perfectly willing to admit that the religion we follow is as good for us as theirs is for them, and to join with us in celebrating the day which is to us the glad day of all the year.

“Believe me, boy, Christmas doesn’t mean Christ’s birthday to many a man who calls himself Christian. It is not because of joy the He was born that many a good man celebrates Christmas. It is because his neighbor celebrates it, because it is a time of joy for little ones, because it is a day when he can express his thanks to his God that he is allowed to have a wife and family and



children and friends and a lodge, because of that very 'peace on earth' spirit which is no more the property of the Gentile than the Jew, the Chinese or the Mohammedan.

"It is such a spirit that Masons join, all, in celebrating Christmas. It is on the Masonic side of the tree we dance, not the Christian side. When this lodge erects its Christmas tree in the basement and throws it open to the little ones of the poor of this town, you will find children of all kinds there; black, white, yellow, and brown, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Mohammedan. And you will find a Jew at the door, and among the biggest subscriptions will be those from some Jewish brethren, and there is a Jew who rents cars for a living who will supply us a dozen free to take baskets to those who cannot come. And when the Jewish Orphan Asylum has its fair, in the Spring, you will find many a Christian Mason attending to spend his money and help along the cause dear to his Jewish brethren, never remembering that they are of a different faith. That, my son, is Masonry."

"For Charity is neither Christian nor Jewish, nor Chinese nor Buddhistic. And celebrations which create joy in little hearts and feed the hungry and make the poor think that Masons do not forget the lessons in lodge, are not Christian alone, though they be held at Christmas, and are not for Christians alone, though the celebration be in His honor. Recall the ritual: 'By the exercise of brotherly love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and low, the rich and poor, who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other'.

"It is with this thought that we, as Masons, celebrate Christmas, to bring joy to our brethren and their little ones, and truly observe the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God, whether we be Jew or Gentile, Mohammedan or Buddhist." The Old Past Master ceased and stood musing, his old eyes looking back along a long line of lodge Christmas trees about which eager little faces danced. Then he turned to the Junior Mason.

"Well," he said smiling, "Do you understand?"

"I thank you for my Christmas present," came the answer. "Please tell me to which brother I should make my Christmas contribution?"

Author Unknown

"peace at home, peace in the world"
~ bro. mustafa kemal atatürk

Founder and First President of the Turkish Republic
Initiated 1907, Lodge Veritas, Salonica, Greece



from the east

As the Sun Rises in the East

Brethren,

This will be my last tresleboard as my year has come to an end. Installation is on Dec. 10 at 2 PM. I will be handing over the gavel to Bro. Guison and he will assume the oriental chair for the next year. I am sure he will do a great job and keep the lodge strong.

This year has been a good one but let no one fool you, the term in that chair is a rough and rugged road and not to be treated lightly; decisions must be made and problems solved almost on a daily basis. I did not know what a job it was till I assumed the position last December but it made me a stronger (and maybe a gentler, kinder) man but I did grow hopefully for the better. I could not have done it with out the help of many mentors and brothers. I will not attempt to name them all because I know I will leave someone out and hurt their feelings. So I thank all of you who helped me make this year a success - you know who you are.

I accomplished most everything I set out to do last December and we are on track with the five year plan started in Wor. Langford's term. I hope that the new line officers continue to finish it and add to it for the future of the lodge. Someone once said that when your finished changing ,your finished. Thanks for entrusting me with the care of the lodge this past year and thanks for the memories and great friendships I have forged during my year as Master. I am stepping down from the East but I will still be here to help the new master in his Masonic Year if required.

Fraternally,
Barry Hughes, Master
Naval Lodge #87
707-333-7866



from the west

Thank you Brothers for your trust in electing me as the Worshipful Master for the incoming Masonic year. I am counting on your support for I will surely depend on the officers, members and committees of all levels of the craft in accomplishing our goals and objectives for the year that I have defined as follows: Increase community involvement and increase public awareness of the fraternity; increase support and mentorship to the youth orders; and continue much-needed fundraising for the repairs and beautification of our Lodge.

One of the highest priorities of our Grand Master as you are probably aware of is to make a profound difference in the lives of Masons, children and community. These goals fortunately coincide with my goals for the year. Let us be united in supporting the success of the five-year strategic plan for the future of Masonry in California. Let us keep our mission statement alive in our minds and hearts. It is the best tool we have going for us. I have no doubt that we can accomplish these goals because we have done it in the past.

We have already proven that we are men “who best can work and best agree”.

Thank you again and happy holidays to everyone.

Fraternally,
Leo Guison, Senior Warden
Worshipful Master-Elec



from the south

Politics and religion. These two subjects significantly affect our daily lives, and dominate probably every culture around the world. Yet, mankind's approach to politics and religion has been, and continues to be, the cause of much suffering, turmoil, upheaval and even death around this planet. In light of this, it becomes obvious why the framers of the "rules" practiced in our lodges forbade discussion of and around these topics in lodge. The harmony of the lodge must prevail, as it is the strength of our Masonic society.

Nonetheless, in my few years as a Mason, I have seen the invasion of politics and political maneuvers in the lodges of our district. Much of these political endeavors have fortunately been minor and trivial, having little ill effect on the health of the lodge. However, in one of the local lodges, I recently discovered an unforgivably ruthless application of self-serving agendas, which will surely drastically affect the wellbeing of that lodge. While I will not give details regarding what I had learned, I will say that the aforementioned lodge is already experiencing major effects in the forms of alienation, distrust and significant discord.

I bring this matter to light because I greatly value the friendship and brotherhood I have thus far experienced in Naval Lodge 87, and do not want this lodge to go the way of the earlier referenced lodge. I urge all to leave the politics and self-serving agendas outside the lodge doors, and to make decisions that are positive and beneficial to all of the brothers. I, for one, will make the effort to do this much more effectively than I have in the past.

Fraternally,
Joe Yow
Junior Warden



December 2011



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 NAVAL LODGE ANNUAL DINNER 6:30 PM STATED MEETING 7:30 PM	2	3 BRAZEN PILLARS 9:00 AM • HALE AND FAREWELL PARTY 4:00 PM
4	5 DEMOLAY 7:30 PM	6	7 RAINBOW BOARD 7:00 PM	8 NAVAL LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY 6:30 PM INSTALLATION PRACTICE 7:30 PM	9 OES 7:30 PM	10 NAVAL LODGE INSTALLATION 2:00 PM CANCER SUPPORT 10:30 AM
11	12	13 ROYAL ARCH 7:30 PM	14 THIMBLE CLUB 12 NOON • RAINBOW 7:00 PM	15 NAVAL LODGE OFFICER'S ORIENTATION 6:30 PM	16	17
18	19 DEMOLAY 7:30 PM	20 SMTA 7:00 PM	21	22 NAVAL LODGE PAST MASTERS & SENIOR MEMBERS (VOLUNTARY) 6:30 PM	23 OES 7:30 PM	24
25	26	27 DEMOLAY COUNCIL 7:30 PM	28 THIMBLE CLUB 12 NOON • RAINBOW 7:00 PM	29 NAVAL LODGE OFFICER'S & COM- MITTEE MEETING 6:30 PM	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE PARTY 8:00 PM

Make sure you check us out

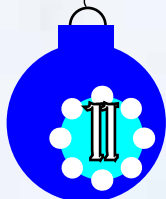
on

Facebook and flickr.



december birthdays

<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>
Dr. Douglas Campbell	Dec 01
Harley Johnson	Dec 01
John Craft	Dec 02
Alfonso Monzon	Dec 02
Kevin Smith	Dec 05
Thomas Stauch	Dec 05
Richard Flanigan	Dec 09
Yassine Talha	Dec 11
Charles Shallenberger	Dec 15
Noel O'Brien	Dec 16
John Garvin Jr.	Dec 19
Curtis Wise	Dec 19
Daniel Rogers	Dec 20
Kenneth Mc Kenzie	Dec 23
Alex Pader	Dec 23
John Strickler	Dec 25
Harry Knott	Dec 27
James Lemison Jr.	Dec 27
Greggory Miller	Dec 28
Kirby Baluyut	Dec 31
Jack Saunders	Dec 31



Third degree anniversaries

<i>Name</i>	<i>Raised Date</i>	<i>Years</i>
Karl Kaiser	12/09/1943	68
John Strickler	12/14/1950	61
Edwin Webber	12/27/1951	59
Dan Robison PM	12/15/1958	53
Hector Stewart	12/07/1965	46
LeRoy Lindbloom PM	12/06/1966	45
Darrell Van Schaack	12/11/1972	39
Tony Balot Jr. PM	12/01/1974	37
James Crane	12/15/1975	36
Stanley Hazlak	12/29/1977	33
William Hems III	12/09/1993	18
Gregory Parrish	12/16/1999	12
Kevin Smith	12/15/2009	2

24" inch gauge

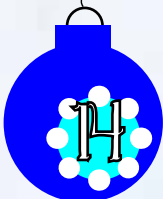
The following Brethren have reported as being ill, injured, or indisposed. Please feel free to call, drop off food or medicine, visit, and/or send a card. Call the Master, or the Secretary, if you need phone numbers and addresses. Please notify the Senior Warden to report any Brother not on this list.

Antonio Espinosa
Kenneth Kershner
Brad Larson
LeRoy S. Lindbloom
Eddie Martinez
Ken McKendry
George Miller
William A. Pratt
Ned Shamlan
Horia Tanasescu

masonic life



Wor. Keith Wattles is shocked at his surprise birthday party arranged by his wife, Kim. Thanks to everyone who helped pull it off!





Bring in 2012
at our New Year's Eve Celebration
Saturday, December 31, 2011

Springbrook Masonic Temple

101 Temple Way, Vallejo

8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

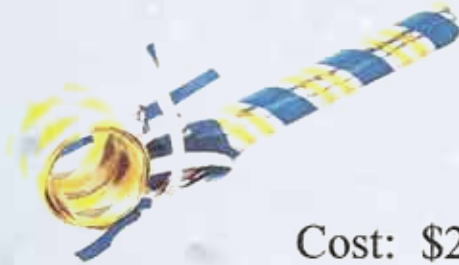
Enjoy an evening of
Music and Dancing until midnight

Appetizers

Beer and Wine

A Champagne Toast at midnight

Party Favors



Cost: \$25/person

for Advance Tickets Contact Rick Lauziere

(707) 246-6735 or rmlauziere@aol.com

So buy your tickets in advance.

