

# Trestleboard

January 2024

Valley Lodge No. 135

Free & Accepted Masons

PO Box 443

4917 North Mill Street, Linden, California 95236



**January** 2024

**05/11/1860**  
Lodge Charter

**163 Years**

**01/01/2024**  
Donie Navarro

## **Valley Lodge No. 135 Officers**

**Donie Navarro, PM: Worshipful Master**

**Oscar Amil, PM: Senior Warden**

**Emmanuel Cubol: Junior Warden**

**Edison C. Espeleta, PM: Treasurer**

**Richard Thornton, PM: Secretary**

**Jose Cueto: Senior Deacon**

**Richard Boado, Sr: Junior Deacon**

**Reynaldo S. Manalang: Senior Steward**

**Onofre C. Carillo: Junior Steward**

**Ferdinand D. Aben: Marshal**

**Erwin Guzman, PM: Chaplin**

**Jericho Reyes, PM: Assistant Secretary**

**Alejandro Villanueva, PM: Tiler**

**Oscar Amil, PM & Edison Espeleta, PM: Officers Coach**

**Scotty Joe Christian: Inspector, 428th Masonic District**

## **Incoming**

## **Valley Lodge No. 135 Officers**

**Oscar Ryan Pol Nodado Amil, PM: Worshipful Master**

**Emmanuel Clamosa Cubol: Senior Warden**

**Jose Appolo Hular Cueto: Junior Warden**

**Edison Claveria Espeleta, PM: Treasurer**

**Richard Eugene Thornton, PM: Secretary**

**: Senior Deacon**

**Constante Miguel Molina: Junior Deacon**

**Warren I. Santos: Senior Steward**

**Onofre Cajaine Carillo: Junior Steward**

**Robert Victor Lopez: Marshal**

**Donie Brosas Navarro: Chaplin**

**Jericho Reyes, PM: Assistant Secretary**

**Alejandro Villanueva, PM: Tiler**

**Oscar Amil, PM: Officers Coach**

**Edison Espeleta, PM: Officers Coach**

# Grand Lodge Officers

<b>G. Sean Metroka:</b>	<b>Grand Master</b>
Arthur Lupe Salazar, Jr.:	Deputy Grand Master
Garrett Scott Chan:	Senior Grand Warden
Ara Maloyan:	Junior Grand Warden
Charles P. Cross:	Grand Treasurer
Allan Lesley Casalou:	Grand Secretary
Ricky Lee Lawler:	Grand Lecturer
Alan S. Rellaforde:	Grand Chaplain
Gary Richard Quintrell:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division I
Mike Edwards:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division II
Antonio G. Cimarra, Jr.:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division III
<b>Jairo Jesus Gomez, Jr.:</b>	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IV
Robert Glenn Beeson, III:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division V
Matthew Scott Vander Horck:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VI
Alberto Luke Casanova, Jr.:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VII
Victor Michael Ropac, Jr.:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VIII
Russell Elliot Hennings:	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IX
Narbeh Bagdasarian:	Grand Orator
Jordan Tyler Yelinek:	Assistant Grand Secretary
Steven Leslie Yeffa:	Grand Marshal
Christian Gegajo Marano:	Grand Standard Bearer
Daniel Steven Yeffa:	Grand Sword Bearer
Robert Lavern Lavy:	Grand Bible Bearer
Jonathan Chan:	Senior Grand Deacon
Chay Alexander Wright:	Junior Grand Deacon
Gabriel G. Mariscal:	Senior Grand Steward
Josh Michael Jacob Le Vesque:	Junior Grand Steward
Wil Smith:	Grand Pursuivant
Stephen Richard Miller:	Grand Organist
Vinz Olivar Tolentino:	Grand Tiler
Tigran Agadzhanian:	Assistant Grand Organist
<b>Scotty Joe Christian:</b>	Assistant Grand Tiler

# Valley Lodge No. 135

## Status

\*\*\*\* As of December 2023 \*\*\*\*

### 3 Applicants (for Entered Apprentice Degree)

- |                        |        |  |         |
|------------------------|--------|--|---------|
| • Wilfredo T. De Mesa  | 368531 | <a href="mailto:wdemesa@gmail.com">wdemesa@gmail.com</a>       | No Date |
| • Yasser Tamarit       | 353647 | <a href="mailto:ytolivera@gmail.com">ytolivera@gmail.com</a>   | No Date |
| • Herbert T. Tubillara | 371190 | <a href="mailto:htubillara@gmail.com">htubillara@gmail.com</a> | No Date |
- \*\*Please note: Herbert T. Tubillara has been contacted and wants to advance\*\***

### 5 Entered Apprentices

- |                                |        |  |
|--------------------------------|--------|--|
| • Cameron Eric William Bregman | 385573 | <a href="mailto:cameron@bregmanfinancial.com">cameron@bregmanfinancial.com</a> |
| • Argiene Jomer Sison Castillo | 384984 | <a href="mailto:argiene.castillo@gmail.com">argiene.castillo@gmail.com</a>     |
| • Reginald Guerrero Galanto    | 387411 | <a href="mailto:reginaldgalanto@yahoo.com">reginaldgalanto@yahoo.com</a>       |
| • Reynoldo Gorospe Guerrero    | 387415 | <a href="mailto:dlonyerg777@yahoo.com">dlonyerg777@yahoo.com</a>               |
| • Jayr T. Rafanan              | 387410 | <a href="mailto:karruba00@gmail.com">karruba00@gmail.com</a>                   |

### 3 Fellowcrafts

- |                             |        |  |
|-----------------------------|--------|--|
| • Lourd Xedric Ramos Miguel | 384131 | <a href="mailto:x_dmiguel@yahoo.com">x_dmiguel@yahoo.com</a>                 |
| • Christian Matthew Soriano | 366941 | <a href="mailto:cmmostolessoriano@gmail.com">cmmostolessoriano@gmail.com</a> |
| • Karl Dominique Torres     | 366934 | <a href="mailto:karldomtorres@gmail.com">karldomtorres@gmail.com</a>         |

**Valley Lodge No. 135 has 75 Master Masons**



# From the East

**Brethren,**

Special thanks to the brethren and Ladies of 135 who attended in our Christmas Party, 2nd of December 2023 and to those who did not make it **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** to all of you and I hope everyone in **GOOD HEALTH** and I wish all of you **HAVE A VERY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2024.**



I would like to ask all of you let's **RENEW OUR OBLIGATION FOR THIS NEW YEAR TO RALLY AND SUPPORT OUR LODGE, LET US SUPPORT OUR STATED MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT SPECIAL MEETING**, every **1st TUESDAY OF THE MONTH**, our Stated Meeting and this is the day of Our Communication to each brother and the Ladies of 135, please come if you have time? Let us support our new **Worshipful Master Bro Oscar Ryan Pol Amil PM.**

At the Christmas Party I was so elated with the performance from every family. It was clear from the cheerfulness in the air that everyone, including the kids enjoyed the festivities and camaraderie. We enjoy ourselves so much also and we stayed together from 2 PM until 10 PM at night. I would like to thank Bro Alex Cabugos for his kindness and also such as Worshipful Brother Rovil Ruiz and three others member of Carquines No.958 who helped Bro Alex Cabugos to bring his music system and donated his voice and acted as MC and Jockey for the w night of the party to Valley Lodge No.135 with no charge. Valley Lodge save an amount of sum of money for great gesture of Bro Alex Cabugos.

Month of December and January are the months of every LODGES to set up their schedule to have a public Installation of OFFICERS for their advancement in their respective position. Each LODGE is busy to set up their schedule for Installation of Officers for these 2 months. Each LODGE intentions to complete their Public Installation of Officer prior end of January.

I would like to thank the three lights Officers of Valley Lodge No. 135 for their **\*OUTSTANDING\*** Proficiency for advancement that they were given without hesitation to our Inspector WB Scotty Christian PM in District No. 428 of State of California \*kudos\* to three of YOU.

I wrote this article for Donie's January Issue, while waiting

*It is with sadness January will be my last Stated Meeting as Master of Valley Lodge No. 135 but I am also overflowing with joyfulness of all accomplishments during the year of my reign 2023.*

*We were initially taken by surprise that our Charter was being pulled and then told what we, all officers of Valley Lodge No. 135, must accomplish to have our Charter restored to Valley Lodge No. 135. Wow.*

*The officers came together and pulled off the requirements to have our Charter returned to its respective place, not only as a surprise to ourselves but our Inspector was impressed and for our Inspector or factually, any Inspector to be impressed, our accomplishments must have been outstanding. And, as a side note, what is the definition of "outstanding"? There is only one person that is outstanding in his field and that by definition is a "Farmer". The rest of the year was also fantastic.*

*We traveled to Philippines and assisted a public school, with donations and materials.*

*We, Valley Lodge No. 135 awarded the coveted Hiram Award to our **Senior Warden Oscar Ryan Amil, PM**, who has done so much, over the years, for Valley Lodge No. 135.*

*We, Valley Lodge No. 135 awarded Mason of the Year to our **Chaplin Worshipful Brother Erwin Guzman, PM**, who, again has done so much for Valley Lodge No. 135.*

*I could list our accomplishments on this page and the next pages, but wanting to keep my article short and the desire to say something about Valley Lodge No. 135 upcoming officers.*

*For the Masonic year 2023 of the positions of Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden we had a Past Master filling the positions of Master and Senior Warden and a brother, not a Past Master filling the position of Junior Warden.*

*For the upcoming Masonic year of 2024 of the positions of Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden we will have a Past Master sitting in the position of Master but filling the positions of Senior and Junior Wardens will be non-Past Masters but Brothers working their way up the Officers Line.*

**Fraternally Yours,**

**Worshipful Master Donie Navarro, PM  
Valley Lodge No 135**

# Our Masonic Valley

<b>Antioch/Brentwood Lodge No. 175</b>	Ed Marquez	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday: 521 West 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Antioch (925) 642-5736	<a href="mailto:Secretary175@gmail.com">Secretary175@gmail.com</a>
<b>Argonaut Lodge No. 8 Even Months</b>	Rodger Walker	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday: 16 South Washington Street, Sonora (209) 532-5480	<a href="mailto:catnip@mlode.com">catnip@mlode.com</a>
<b>Calaveras Keystone Lodge No. 78</b>	Gary Bennis	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday: 5 West Charles Street, San Andreas	<a href="mailto:garpapa@sbcglobal.net">garpapa@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Drytown Lodge No. 174</b>	Richard Meyer	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday 10:00am except July; 9325 Main Street, Plymouth (916) 705-6616	<a href="mailto:sac1kings@gmail.com">sac1kings@gmail.com</a>
<b>Elk Grove Lodge No. 173</b>	William P. Hall	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday: 9075 Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove (916) 425-4160	<a href="mailto:Bill@EGHall.net">Bill@EGHall.net</a>
<b>Escalon Lodge No. 591</b>	Matt Due	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday: 1500 Viking Street, Escalon (209) 480-7667	<a href="mailto:mattdue@hotmail.com">mattdue@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Ione Lodge No. 80</b>	Bill Wells	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday: 19 West Main Street, Ione (209) 304-4853	<a href="mailto:bmwells31@gmail.com">bmwells31@gmail.com</a>
<b>Hornitos Lodge No. 98</b>	Robert M. McAllester	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday 6:00pm: 2877 Bear Valley Road, Hornitos (209) 374-3358	<a href="mailto:allister@rmmcallister.com">allister@rmmcallister.com</a>
<b>Lodi Lodge No. 256</b>	Will McVicker	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday: 321 West Pine Street, Lodi (209) 333-8406	<a href="mailto:wmcvicke@gmail.com">wmcvicke@gmail.com</a>
<b>Mariposa Lodge No. 24</b>	Charles O. Kendall	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday at 10:00am after Full Moon, 5154 Jones Street, Mariposa (209) 966-3081	<a href="mailto:chuckk@stii.net">chuckk@stii.net</a>
<b>Modesto Lodge No. 206</b>	Charles Heckendorf	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday: 800 Rose Avenue, Modesto (209) 572-2911	<a href="mailto:cmheckendorf@gmail.com">cmheckendorf@gmail.com</a>
<b>Morning Star Lodge No. 19</b>	John or Karen Baker	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday: 340 East Market Street, Stockton (209) 465-3711	<a href="mailto:JLBaker@pacbell.net">JLBaker@pacbell.net</a>
<b>Mount Oso Lodge No. 460</b>	William D. Johnson	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday: 1601 North Tracy Blvd, Tracy (209) 836-3770	<a href="mailto:wdjo001@comcast.net">wdjo001@comcast.net</a>
<b>Oak Summit Lodge No. 112</b>	Rodney Owen	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday: Main Street and Ellen Street, Knights Ferry (209) 545-5609	<a href="mailto:Rodneyowen66@comcast.net">Rodneyowen66@comcast.net</a>
<b>Patterson Lodge No. 488</b>	Stephen A. Bruce	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday: 650 North 6 <sup>th</sup> Street, Patterson (209) 529-2269	<a href="mailto:stephenbruce@sbcglobal.net">stephenbruce@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Smyrna Lodge No. 532</b>	John S. Coleman	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday: 2904 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street, Ceres (209) 404-5085	<a href="mailto:jscoleman@reagan.com">jscoleman@reagan.com</a>
<b>Turlock Lodge No. 236</b>	William Sargenti, IV	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday: 108 South Thor Street, Turlock (209) 535-3758	<a href="mailto:wsarge7407@gmail.com">wsarge7407@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tyrian Lodge No. 439</b>	Tim De Carie PM	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday: 212 North Powers Avenue, Manteca (209) 401-8268	<a href="mailto:timdecarie@gmail.com">timdecarie@gmail.com</a>
<b>Valley Lodge No. 135</b>	Richard Thornton	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday: 4917 North Mill Road, Linden	<a href="mailto:sj19secretary@att.net">sj19secretary@att.net</a>
<b>Volcano Consolidated Lodge No. 56</b>	John O. Stettler	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday: 16180 Charleston-Volcano, Volcano (209) 295-2272	<a href="mailto:JosofJSA@yahoo.com">JosofJSA@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Woodbridge Lodge No. 131</b>	Nelson Jones	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday: 1040 East Augusta Street, Woodbridge (209) 570-2615	<a href="mailto:nelsonjones1971@gmail.com">nelsonjones1971@gmail.com</a>
<b>Yosemite Lodge No. 99</b>	Larry H. Smith	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday: 1810 M Street, Merced (209) 658-0335	<a href="mailto:cuaione12@gmail.com">cuaione12@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ben Ali Shrine</b>		(916) 920-4107	
<b>Scottish Rite</b>	Steve Hauber	(209) 466-3391	<a href="mailto:stknsgs@stocktonscottishrite.org">stknsgs@stocktonscottishrite.org</a>
<b>Stockton York Rite</b>		6:00pm Social – 7:00pm stated meeting	
Chapter No. 2 & Council No. 5		4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday – odd Month – Red Jacket and Purple Jacket	
Pacific Commandery No. 3		4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday – even Month – Uniform	
	Richard Thornton		<a href="mailto:sj19secretary@att.net">sj19secretary@att.net</a>

# Masonic Education

For Del Lauderback, it was a matter of principle. The longtime preacher and special-needs educator first affiliated with Paul Revere Lodge No. 462 in 1973 (now Phoenix No. 144), and by 1990 he'd joined its officers' line as junior warden. But a question seemed to grate at him: Given Freemasonry's commitment to moral uprightness, why weren't California Masons and Prince Hall Masons, the historically Black Masonic fraternity, permitted to sit together in lodge?



Even 30 years ago, that rule seemed like a relic of an even more distant past—something more likely to be seen half a century earlier in the Deep South than in the Bay Area of the early nineties. So he resolved to do something about it.

As it turned out, there was a simple—if not particularly straightforward—answer. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, which traces its origins to 1784, has operated continuously in California since 1855 but it and the Grand Lodge of California had never officially recognized one another. As a result, members of the two groups were precluded from pursuing any sort of Masonic work together.

Masonic recognition has long been an important tool for establishing connections between Masons around the world. In recent years, it's one the Masons of California have used to cement those relationships: Since 1923, when it began tracking it, the Grand Lodge of California has entered into mutual recognition with more than 200 Masonic jurisdictions in the U.S. and abroad, with more than a quarter of those occurring since 2000.

Those links represent an important bond for Masons. Ask any member who's had the opportunity to attend a ceremony at another lodge and they'll tell you that the experience is profound—a reminder that the fraternity makes brothers out of people living worlds apart.

1990, Lauderback took it upon himself to introduce a resolution at Annual Communication recognizing the “regularity” of Prince Hall Masonry in California. “A fraternity divided along the lines of color is an anachronism of segregation,” he wrote. The resolution was a trial balloon. Even assuming that a century and a half of nonrecognition could be undone, both grand lodges would need to agree to it for any such move to happen.

So Lauderback agreed to withdraw his motion, with then-Grand Master Ron Sherod pledging to appoint a special committee to work alongside Prince Hall Masons to explore “the possibility and method of an equitable and just union of those lodges with this Grand Lodge.”

There may have been miles of track ahead of them, but to Lauderback and many others, the train had finally left the station.

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of California joined one another in mutual recognition in 1996.

## HISTORIC STEP

Worldwide, there are somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 Masonic grand lodges, each with slightly different traditions, rules, and eligibility criteria. Members of each order consider themselves Freemasons. All of them, however, are barred from visiting or even associating with lodges in jurisdictions that are not recognized by their own. As is often the case with a 300-year-old fraternity, the devil is in the details.

On May 18, 1991, there were lots of details to work through.

It was on that date, in a room at the Oakland Airport Hilton, that the first formal meeting between the Grand Lodge of California and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California took place. With that, what would become a years-long process was launched to establish the framework for a historic pact. One of the first issues the groups faced was also the most significant: historical precedent. Since before the founding of the Grand Lodge of California in 1850, Masonic grand lodges throughout the country had subscribed to a concept called the American doctrine. Put simply, this established that only one grand lodge could claim jurisdiction over a given territory, and that any other grand lodge working there would be considered persona non grata (or, in the parlance of the time, “clandestine”). Even if a grand lodge wanted to recognize another group within its borders, the American doctrine didn't allow it. “It was considered a bedrock principle,” explains Past Grand Master John L. Cooper II.



The aim was to impose order on what had become, in certain places during the 19th century, a Masonic free-for-all. The various lodges in a single town might be connected to any number of foreign countries, each of which had its own rules and traditions—and all competing for the same members. To those early Masonic leaders, the very structure and reputation of Freemasonry seemed to be at stake. The American doctrine established a jurisdictional claim in each state. But it also had the effect of marginalizing a great number of Masons—including, in the case of Prince Hall Masonry, many people of color.

Freemasonry has always stipulated that membership cannot be closed to any qualified prospect on the basis of race or creed. Yet, over the past 200 years, the fraternity has reproduced many of the same patterns of discrimination and segregation seen elsewhere in society. Reports from the early and mid-20th century in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California frequently distinguish between “white Masonry” and “colored” or “Negro” lodges. A report on Prince Hall Masonry published in the 1946 Proceedings, summarizing correspondence from North Carolina, read, “The several Grand Lodges of the United States almost without exception limit their membership to the white race.”

The result in many states, including California, was a sort of parallel system, in which the mainstream grand lodge could not and would not formally recognize its Prince Hall counterpart. But neither did it make overt attempts to shut it down. In 1930, the Proceedings referred to Prince Hall Masonry as “quasi-legitimate,” and having “a sort of qualified standing with our Grand Lodge.” By 1938, it stated that Prince Hall Masonry should be “generally termed ‘irregular’ rather than ‘clandestine’”—perhaps a semantic difference but also an olive branch.

In 1931, regarding Prince Hall lodges in California, a Grand Lodge report stated that, in fact, “They have been unofficially aided in various ways by officers of the Grand Lodge of California, though no recognition has been or can be extended to them either as a Masonic body or individually.” In 1936, as a show of “cordial feelings” between the two grand lodges, Prince Hall Grand Master Theodore Moss gifted a copy of his organization’s proceedings dating back to 1904 to the Masonic Library of Southern California. “Relations between this Grand Lodge and the white Masons of the state [are] as close as same could be without recognition, and apparently that relationship is satisfactory to both sides,” he said.

Over the many decades, this arrangement remained the status quo. Even to those for whom a parallel system smacked of “separate but equal,” the so-called American doctrine seemed to prevent progress. “That was the big roadblock,” says Frank Russell, who became chairman of the Grand Lodge committee on Prince Hall recognition.

So Russell pored over century-old proceedings books and Masonic writings, looking for the basis for the rule. He wrote to researchers at the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin’s vast Masonic library and found the first references to the doctrine, from around 1840. But what he didn’t find was equally important: The doctrine was not written into a single, binding document. It certainly wasn’t law (though its principle had been enshrined in the California Masonic Code). As far as he could tell, the doctrine was more concerned with protecting a grand lodge’s jurisdictional claim than dictating who it could recognize.

That seemed to leave the committee some wiggle room. “We had a really good lawyer in Past Grand Master R. Stephen Doan,” Russell explains. “Steve said, ‘If we have the right to dictate the confines of our jurisdiction, then we also have the right to recognize who we want to recognize within that jurisdiction.’ And that’s what really opened the door.”

# Events

<b>Tuesday, January 02, 2024:</b>	<b>Valley Lodge No. 135 Stated Meeting</b>	
	<b>Social:</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Dinner:</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
	<b>Stated Meeting:</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday, January 04, 2024:</b>	<b>Lodi Lodge Stated Meeting</b>	
	<b>Social:</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Dinner:</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
	<b>Stated Meeting:</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday, January 18, 2024:</b>	<b>SOI (Host Valley Lodge No. 135)</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Saturday, January 20, 2024:</b>	<b>Valley Lodge No. 135</b>	
	<b>Installation:</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, January 24, 2024:</b>	<b>Chapter No. 2 and Council No. 5</b>	
	<b>Social:</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Convocation:</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Tuesday, February 06, 2024:</b>	<b>Stated Meeting</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday, February 15, 2024:</b>	<b>SOI-Elk Grove</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>

# January Birthdays



## January

**Jose Apollo Cueto**  
**Albert Macario Medrano**  
**Jaime Navarroza Morco**  
**Sheldon George Moore**  
**Don Beltran Veridiano**  
**Robert Tod Ruse**  
**Athens Randolph Salvador**  
**Angelito Miranda**

**Jennifer Cueto**  
**Priscilla Herrera**  
**Daisy Miranda**

# Secretary's Chat

Members,

Let's take you back to a time when you became a Freemason, day that you became an Entered Apprentice. For some, it was just yesterday, but for some of our seasoned members, it was quite a while ago when you stood at the Northeast Corner of the Lodge.



Why were you placed at the Northeast Corner of the Lodge and not some other place within the Lodge?

No Mason ever forgets the moment when he is placed in the Northeast Corner of the Lodge, and hears the Master say, that he there stands an upright man and Mason.

It is one of the thrills along the great journey of initiation, a point at which the idea and purpose of Masonry begin to take shape in the mind. A thrill of joy is felt in the Lodge, not only by the initiate but by the Master and the Brethren present, as if a new friend found; a note of exaltation on having arrived at so happy a climax, as when a pilgrim

pauses to rejoice in so much of a journey done. And naturally so, because the Corner Stone of a Mason's life has been laid.

As back as we can go in the story of mankind, the laying of a Cornerstone has been a happy event. It has always been celebrated with solemn and joyous rites. It is the basis of a new building, the beginning of a new enterprise; and the good will of God is invoked to bless the builders and the building.

How much more, then, should it be so when a man takes the first step out of Darkness toward the Light, and begins the adventure of a new life? More important by far than Temple or Cathedral is the building of the moral character and the spiritual personality of a man. Stones will rot and Temples crumble under the attrition of time, but moral qualities and spiritual values belong to the Eternal Life.

The initiate stands in the Northeast Corner on a foundation of Justice, the one virtue by which alone a man can live with himself or with his fellows. Without it no structure will stand, in architecture much less in morals. He has learned to love Mercy, and at the Altar of Obligation prayer has been offered, in fulfillment of the word:

**“He hath Shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love Mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God!” Micah 6:8 (KJV).**

In the Northeast Corner the initiate stands midway between the North, the place of darkness, and the East, the place of Light, whence healing, revealing rays fall upon the life of man. Such is his position, symbolically, and rightly so. He is an Entered Apprentice, a beginner in the Masonic Art, neither in the Dark nor in the Light. He has come out of the Darkness, his face set toward the Light, and his quest is for “more Light”, with yet much light to dawn upon him.

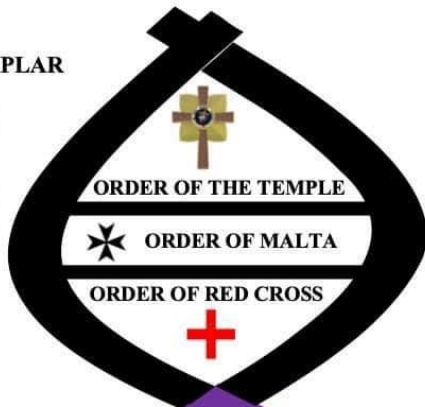
What is life for? To live, of course, an adventure, a new adventure for each man, despite the millions that have lived before us, only by living can we learn what life is. Yet it means much to have the wisdom learned by ages of living taught us in symbols and told us in a story, as it is taught us and told us in a Masonic Lodge. It brings to us the truth tried by time and tragedy, and the principles wrought out and discovered by the race in its long experience. It gives us a plan, a picture, a prophecy, and the fellowship of men going the same road.

The initiate stands erect in the Northeast Corner, upright and ready to receive his working tools, a son of the Light, himself a living stone to be polished. What is more wonderful, what more beautiful, than standing erect before God – not cringing, not groveling - seeking the Light by which to make its way through the dim country of this world to the City that hath foundations! Truly, our Masonry is the organized poetry of faith!



# THE TRUE LIGHT!

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



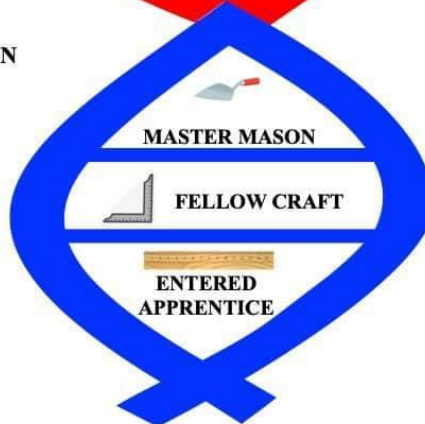
## ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS



## ROYAL ARCH MASON



## MASTER MASON



## CHIVALRIC MASONRY:

**The Order of the Red Cross:** The story told in the ritual for the Red Cross acts as a link between the Capitular Degrees and the ones that follow and bridges the period between the Old and New Testaments.

**The Order of Malta:** The story of this order begins by making the candidate a Knight of St. Paul or the Mediterranean Pass.

**The Order of the Temple:** Confers knighthood on the pilgrim making him a Knight's Templar. Every Christian Mason should be a Knights Templar.

## CRYPTIC MASONRY

**Royal Master:** The Temple is nearing its completion and certain Overseers are anxious to receive the Master Word and be honored with the rank of Royal Master before their employment ceases. Shortly before his death Hiram Abif explains to one of these Overseers, Adoniram, that with patience and industry he will, in due time, receive it. This discourse is widely regarded as the most beautiful in any Masonic Degree.

**Select Master:** The preparations for the building of the Temple having commenced in the Mark Master Degree, the three Grand Masters are anxious that the form of the sacred treasures, including the Ark of the Covenant, could be lost forever in the event of the Temple being sacked. They therefore arrange for a small number of Select Masons, sworn to secrecy, to construct a secret vault beneath the Holy of Holies and deposit replicas therein.

**Super Excellent Master:** The Temple had stood in all its glory for nearly 400 years but had then fallen to Nebuchadnezzar and his army. The King and his principal citizens were taken into captivity in Babylonia. Zedekiah, Nebuchadnezzar's puppet King, has rebelled against him and fled, leaving the remaining citizens to defend the Temple and pledge their devotion to God.

## CAPITULAR MASONRY

**Mark Master:** It concerns the workmen building King Solomon's Temple. The Degree of Mark Master teaches the candidate the value of workmanship, honesty, and charity and how they received their wages.

**Past Master:** In the York Rite system, the Past Master is a symbolic degree, and the candidate isn't actually installed as the Master of a Lodge.

**Most Excellent Master:** Deals with the completion and dedication of King Solomon's Temple.

**Royal Arch Mason:** The completion of the story started in the Symbolic Lodge Degrees, about the search for secrets that were once lost now discovered.

**IS THE YORK RITE IN YOUR DNA? IT SHOULD BE!**

# Valley Lodge No. 135 Committees

**All Reports must be in writing, given to Secretary for attachment to minutes. When Master calls upon the Committee, give verbally the report, stating a copy has been presented to Secretary, or state "No Report".**

<b>Executive Committee</b>	Ryan Amil, PM Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto Donie Navarro, PM	Member Member Member Member
<b>Audit</b>	John Jay Natividad, PM Alejandro Villanueva, PM Donie Navarro, PM Erwin Guzman, PM	Member Member Member Member
<b>Budget and Finance</b>	Ryan Amil, PM Edison Espeleta, PM Richard Thornton, PM	Member Member Member
<b>Dues and Delinquent Dues</b>	Ryan Amil, PM Edison Espeleta, PM Richard E. Thornton John Jay Natividad, PM	Member Member Member Member
<b>Charity</b>	Oscar Ryan Pol Amil, PM Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto	Member Member Member
<b>Fund Raising</b>	Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto John Jay Natividad, PM Angelito Miranda, PM Marcial Gullem, Jr, PM	Member Member Member Member Member
<b>Sunshine Committee</b>	Donie Navarro, PM Robert Lopez Richard Thornton, PM	Member Member Member
<b>Hiram Award</b>	Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto Edison Espeleta, PM Andy Villanueva, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM	Member Member Member Member Member
<b>Mason of the Year</b>	Oscar Ryan Pol Amil, PM	Member
<b>Masonic Education</b>	Edison Espeleta, PM John Jay Natividad, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM	Member Member Member
<b>US Constitution Observance</b>	Jericho Reyes, PM Richard Thornton, PM Donie Navarro, PM Erwin Guzman, PM	Member Member Member Member
<b>Refreshment Committee</b>	Jose Cueto Warren Santos Onofre Carillo Constante Molina Erickson Ordonia Erwin Ordonia	Member Member Member Member Member member
<b>Candidates Coach</b>	Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto Angelito Mirando, PM Paulino Collado, PM	Member Member Member Member
<b>Retention</b>	All Members	Member

# Pictures









Pictures of December Stated Meeting













Christmas Party Pictures



















