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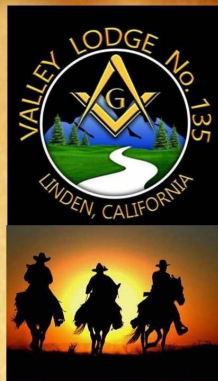
September 2024

Valley Lodge No. 135

Free & Accepted Masons

PO Box 443

4917 North Mill Road, Linden, California 95236



VALLEY LODGE no.135

WHAT : **HIRAM** Awarding Ceremony 2024

WHO : **RICHARD THORNTON P.M.**

WHEN : September 21st 2024 - **SATURDAY**

TIME : Lunch at 12 noon Ceremony at 2:00 pm

WHERE : 4971 North mill road Linden, CA

ATTIRE : Western / Cowboy inspired outfit



Valley Lodge No. 135 Charter
Friday, May 11, 1860
Worshipful Thomas Wasley

164 Years
Tuesday, September 03, 2024
Worshipful Oscar Ryan Amil, PM

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Valley Lodge No. 135 Officers

Oscar Ryan Amil, PM: Worshipful Master

Emmanuel C. Cubol: Senior Warden

Jose A. Hular Cueto: Junior Warden

Edison C. Espeleta, PM: Treasurer

Richard E. Thornton, PM: Secretary

: Senior Deacon

Constante M. Molina: Junior Deacon

Reynaldo Soriano Manalang: Senior Steward

Onofre C. Carillo: Junior Steward

Robert V. Lopez: Marshal

Donie B. Navarro: Chaplin

Jericho Reyes, PM: Assistant Secretary

Alejandro Villanueva, PM: Tiler

Oscar Amil, PM: Officers Coach

Edison Espeleta, PM: Officers Coach

Jericho Apolonio Reyes, PM: Trustee – Term Ends December 31, 2027

Richard Eugene Thornton, PM: Trustee – Term Ends December 31, 2026

Emmanuel Clamosa Cubol: Trustee – Term Ends December 31, 2025

Grand Lodge Officers

G. Sean Metroka: Grand Master

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

Jairo Jesus Gomez, Jr.: 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 Agadzanyan: Assistant Grand Organist

Scotty Joe Christian: Assistant Grand Tiler

Valley Lodge No. 135

Status

****** As of Thursday, August 29, 2024 ******

3 Applicants (for Entered Apprentice Degree)

- Wilfredo T. De Mesa 368531 wdemesa@gmail.com No Date
- Yasser Tamarit 353647 ytolivera@gmail.com No Date

5 Entered Apprentices

- Cameron Eric William Bregman 385573 cameron@bregmanfinancial.com
- Argiene Jomer Sison Castillo 384984 argiene.castillo@gmail.com
- Reginald Guerrero Galanto 387411 reginaldgalanto@yahoo.com
- Reynoldo Gorospe Guerrero 387415 dlonverg777@yahoo.com
- Jayr T. Rafanan 387410 karruba00@gmail.com

2 Fellowcrafts

- Christian Matthew Soriano 366941 cmmostolessoriano@gmail.com
- Karl Dominique Torres 366934 karldomtorres@gmail.com

Valley Lodge No. 135 has 73 Master Masons



From the East

Brethren of Valley Lodge No. 135

Fraternal greetings brethren! I hope everyone had a great month.



Happy Labor day!

Last August 21st, 19 members of Valley Lodge embarked on a journey to Escalon Lodge to reclaim the traveling gavel in a friendly competition against Tyrian Lodge. The spirit of brotherhood was evident as we came together to support our lodge and strengthen our bonds. Thank you, brothers, for your dedication and for representing Valley Lodge with such pride and unity.

We warmly invite you to join us for our upcoming blood drive, “Blood of a Mason, Blood of a Hero,” on September 14th. At 10am. This event is more than just a gathering; it’s an opportunity to embody the values we hold dear as Masons—charity, brotherhood, and service to our community. By donating blood, you are directly contributing to saving lives and making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need.

Your participation is crucial, and we hope to see as many of you as possible come out and support this noble cause. Whether you’re a regular donor or this is your first time, your contribution will be deeply appreciated by those who depend on these life-saving donations.

Please remember to register in advance to secure your spot and help us make this blood drive a resounding success. Together, we can show the strength of our brotherhood and the power of our collective efforts.

This is a friendly reminder of the upcoming Hiram Award ceremony for Worshipful Richard Thornton on September 21st. The ceremony will start at 2 PM. We hope you can join us in honoring his outstanding contributions and dedication to our lodge. Your presence will help make this a truly special event.

I look forward on our next stated meeting, September stated meeting will be on Tuesday September 3rd at 7:30PM. Dinner will be at 6:30. Attire: Dress down wear any of your Valley Lodge shirt. No Tees, No Shorts and No Flip Flops/sandals.

May you all have a great month ahead, see you all soon.

Together Brethren! OneLove One3Five

Never Over – Never Under

ALWAYS ON THE LEVEL!!!

Fraternal Grip,

Bro. Ryan Amil

From the South

Junior Wardens Corner



Changes and Renewal

September is here. The changes in the weather, daylight getting shorter, Sun rises later. The leaves will begin to change color and the season transitions from summer to autumn. For some, this month also is a preparation for the colder season both body and mind. Some use this time to spend more time with family, get a last minute vacation or make this month the “last hurrah” to kick off the upcoming Fall season. Making us ready to gear up for the last quarter of the year.

They say September is a month of transition and change. It can be seen as the end of something and for new beginnings. Welcoming this month also gives us further understanding of what was and what it can be, meaning the transition of certain things will reflect on how it all began, its foundation and its potential. The visible changes in Nature during September reminds us of the importance of adaptability. Just as trees shed their leaves and animals prepare for hibernation. For us humans, it encourages us to let go of things that no longer serve purpose and prepare for something new.

This September also marks a change for our lodge. This month brings the opportunity for our aspiring officers to move up the ranks by means of being proficient to the seat of next year’s office. This will also be an opportunity to learn something new, whether it's a lecture, ritual, floor work or all of the above, or polish up on old skills that lay dormant over the time of being unused. The time draws near my Brothers, and of course the coaches and the three lights are here to be of assistance. This may not come as a surprise. We are indeed a band of brothers who can best work.

Renewal for other lodges for their officers to their respective offices are also coming. We are all gearing up for the transition to a new position, or the next seat, or a whole new set, to the South, West and East. Change is coming and we are all taking part. To my Brothers and I who are submitting their proficiency to our Inspector, Good Luck to all of us.

Bro. Jose Apollo H. Cueto
Junior Warden
Valley Lodge No. 135
Master Mason of the Year 2024

Our Masonic Valley

Antioch-Brentwood Lodge No. 175	1 st Wed @ 7:30pm	Ed Marquez	Secretary175@gmail.com	
Bicentennial Daylight Lodge No. 830	3 rd Tue @ 1:00pm	Dave Hughes	davehughes32@aol.com	5944 San Juan, Citrus Heights
Calaveras Lodge No. 8	2 nd Wed @ 7:00pm	Gary Bennis	garpapa@sbcglobal.net	5 West St. Charles Street/San Andreas
Elk Grove Lodge No. 173	2 nd Thu @ 7:30pm	William Hall	Bill@EGHalls.net	9075 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove
Escalon Lodge No. 591	3 rd Wed @ 7:00pm	Matt Due	mattdue@hotmail.com	1500 Viking Street, Escalon
Hornitos Lodge No. 98	2 nd Sat @ 6:00pm	Robert McAllester	allister@mmcallister.com	
IONE Lodge No. 80	3 rd Mon @ 7:00pm	Bill Wells	Bmwells31@gmail.com	
Lodi Lodge No. 256	1 st Thu @ 7:30pm	William McVicker	wmcvicke@gmail.com	321 West Pine Street, Lodi
Modesto Lodge No. 206	1 st Thu @ 7:30pm	Charles Heckendorf	cmheckendorf@gmail.com	800 Rose Avenue, Modesto
Morning Star Lodge No. 19	1 st Thu @ 7:00pm	John Baker	jbaker@pacbell.net	340 East Market Street, Stockton
Mount Oso Lodge No. 460	2 nd Mon @ 7:30pm	William Johnson	wjjo001@comcast.net	
Oak Summit Lodge No. 112	3 rd Tue @ 7:30pm		randynoe@reagan.com	Main Street & Ellen Street, Knights Ferry
Patterson Lodge No. 488	2 nd Thu @ 7:00pm	Stephen Bruce	stephenbruce@sbcglobal.net	650 North 6 th Street, Patterson
Smyrna Lodge No. 532	1 st Tue @ 7:30pm		iscoleman@reagan.com	2904 3 rd Street, Ceres
Stockton York Rite	4 th Wed @ 6:00pm	Richard Thornton	sj19secretary@att.net	340 East Market Street, Stockton
Turlock Lodge No. 236	1 st Thu @ 7:00pm	William Sargenti	Wsarge7407@gmail.com	108 South Thor Street, Turlock
Tyrian Lodge No. 439	1 st Thu @ 7:30pm		timdecarie@gmail.com	212 North Powers Ave, Manteca
Valley Lodge No. 135	1 st Tue @ 7:30pm	Richard Thornton	richard@vallevlodge135.org	4917 North Mill Road, Linden
Volcano Consolidated Lodge No. 56	1 st Thu @ 8:00pm	John Stettler	josofisa@yahoo.com	16180 Charleston-Volcano, Volcano
Woodbridge Lodge No. 131	1 st Tue @ 7:30pm	James Jones	nelsonjones1971@gmail.com	1040 East Augusta Street, Woodbridge
Yosemite Lodge No. 99	1 st Wed @ 7:30pm	Larry Smith	Cuaione12@gmail.com	

Become well known in San Joaquin County

Become well known in every County. Touching San Joaquin County.

September & October Birthdays



September

William Samuel Hall
Frank Albert Alimbini
John Thamar Engaling Sr.
Jayr T. Rafanan
Donie Brosas Navarro

The Better Half
Monaliza Boado
Yolanda E. Manalang
Sumaila Clarisse Ibanez
Maria Jailita Dominguez
Marika Campbell
Maria Carolina Amil

October

Karl Dominique Torres
Ora Eugene Watters II
Oscar Ryan Pol Nodado Amil
Rand Jeffry Spraggins
Arnel Magdaong Ibanez
Winston Alegre
Charles Arthur Willis

Rosemarie Tambot Veridiano
Mariam S. Reyes

Masonic Education

Masons build strong, long-lasting friendships



Deep friendship is one of the most important outcomes of Freemasonry. The trust and bonds members forge through their shared values, the ritual experience, and their social ties often last a lifetime. At its best, the membership experience helps members start and nurture those deep relationships. To that end, three goals were identified, which a number of campaigns, initiatives, and programming will be built around.

Goal 2: Masons build true friendships through excellent membership experiences.

While members overall report that they highly value their membership, only half of members are engaged with their lodge, with only a third of members highly engaged. Creating a lodge atmosphere where members feel engaged will help them develop true friendships.

Lodge initiatives:

- Streamline business at stated meetings. The main purpose of a lodge is social, but lodge business has long been the focus of many lodges' stated meetings. Lodges will develop ways to ensure that members' valuable time is respected, and that less time is spent on administrative matters, and more time given to fellowship.
- Reimagine lodge activities. Lodges will plan activities that provide more opportunities for social and fraternal connections among members. Building even small traditions into the culture of the lodge that help members get to know each other can deepen the friendships between members.
- Perform excellent ritual. Ritual at its best makes a lasting impression on all members, and the trust that is forged through it is foundational to our relationships. Lodges will make performing excellent ritual a priority and, in so doing, deepen the connection that candidates and members form with the fraternity.

Grand Lodge initiatives:

- Provide resources and training to lodges to create excellent membership experiences. Excellent membership experiences at all levels and events are important. Grand Lodge will provide resources and training to help lodges ensure excellent membership experiences for new and long-term members alike.
- Institute and promote affinity lodges. Grand Lodge will develop and promote "affinity lodges," providing members with new avenues to nurture strong connections based on interests outside of Freemasonry.
- Create opportunities for statewide fellowship. Grand Lodge will offer more opportunities for members from lodges around the state to come together in new and unexpected ways. This means supporting lodge partnerships and developing casual and fellowship-driven events programming.

Goal 3: Masons are known for true friendship.

The specific focus on friendship is unique to Freemasonry among similar service organizations, and one of the reasons members stay Masons for life. Promoting Masonic friendships is a priority for the fraternity, so that outsiders see Masonry at its best.

Lodge initiatives:

- Bring Masonic friendships outside the lodge. Lodges will identify opportunities to involve their members in events outside their Masonic hall, including community sports, volunteering opportunities, and other public events. Members will be encouraged to share their stories with those outside the lodge.
- Participate in/sponsor forums on friendship that are open to the public. As Masons are increasingly seen as experts on friendship, lodges and Grand Lodge will develop public events and forums where outsiders can learn about friendship as a foundation of the organization.

Grand Lodge initiatives:

- Focus on and celebrate Masonic friendship in all publications. Friendship will be an important topic for member and public-facing media, awareness campaigns, and Masonic education. Member stories and lodge practices will be shared and used as examples of how to make and nurture friendship.
- Cultivate partnerships with organizations also focused on friendship. Grand Lodge will network with other organizations that focus on friendship and connection, providing valuable lessons and resources for our membership and helping increase the reputation of Freemasonry in this area.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Key Performance Indicator: A majority of Masons say that they have a best friend at their lodge.

Key Performance Indicator: The number of members who say that they are engaged with their lodge increases, as measured by event attendance.

Key Performance Indicator: Stated meetings are seen as a good use of time and members are engaged.

Key Performance Indicator: Attendance at statewide fellowship events grows.

Key Performance Indicator: Friendship is a major theme in publications, events, and social media, and online traffic to this type of content grows.

Secretary's Chat

Members,

Our lodge, Valley Lodge No. 135 is doing Fantastic. We are family orientated, i.e., Social, Stated, Social. On the horizon we have a Hiram Award Ceremony approaching, Election of Officers for Valley Lodge No. 135, Linden 2024 Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, and Installation ceremonies.



Hiram Award Ceremony is the official recognition of a Brother by his own Lodge for his devoted service to that Lodge and to Masonic principles in general.

The Hiram Award is extremely important to the Brother receiving the Award but this year the desire is to turn the Hiram Award Ceremony into Hiram Award Valley Lodge No. 135 Family Event. Bring your family. The Hiram Award was given to me by Valley Lodge No. 135 and after crying when the award was announced, what better way to celebrate the award but with Brothers and Friends. I consider myself lucky in that I have lots of Brothers and Friends.

Dive in, tell me what is missing:

Let's get this rolling again, Hiram Award Celebration!!!!!!

I want this to be not only about me, but as a family, **Valley Lodge No. 135 FAMILY**

- ✓ Need BBQ Set, either Charcoal or Propane Ryan Amil
- Who:** Masons
Friends, Family, Neighbors, Favorite Enemy
- What:** Hiram Award Celebration
- When:** Saturday, September 21, 2024
Lunch: BBQ Hamburgers & Hot Dogs **Noon**
Ceremony: **2:00pm**
Social, Eat & Cleanup **After Ceremony**
- Where:** Valley Lodge No. 135 Casual Dress, Western Style
4917 North Mill Street Cowboy Hat, western shirt, levi's
Linden, CA 95236

What are we going to do? Well, first of all,

- ✓ arrive about 10:00am to setup, slice, and dice
- ✓ let's fire up the BBQ and start cooking, Ribs are on first then Hamburgers

What's to eat? We need a method to keep things cold, especially ice-cream

- ✓ Hamburgers: 225 1/3 pounds: Richard Thornton I will pre-order and pick up on September 21
- ✓ Mayonnaise, Richard Thornton
- ✓ lettuce, _____
- ✓ Catsup _____
- ✓ tomatoes, _____
- ✓ cheese, Oscar Ryan Amil
- ✓ onions, _____
- ✓ mustard _____
- ✓ French Fries _____
- ✓ Potato Chips Richard Thornton
- ✓ Hot Dogs 15pks Richard Thornton

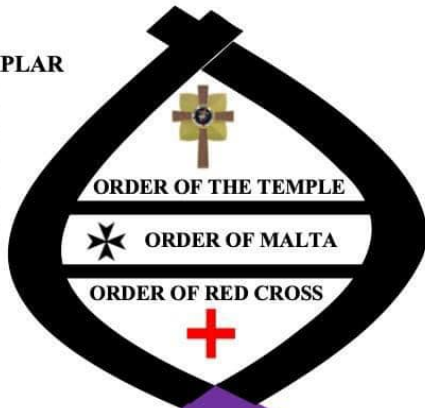
- ✓ Hot Dog Buns-12 pks _____
- ✓ 225 Hamburger Buns-29 pks _____
- ✓ BBQ Sauce, Baby Rays Richard Thornton
- ✓ Ribs: Jericho Reyes 42lbs of St. Louis Port Ribs and 10lbs of beef short ribs
- ✓ Lots of ICE _____
- ✓ 6 gallons of Ice Cream _____
- ✓ 32 six packs of Soft Drinks _____
- ✓ 32 six packs of Beer – Coors Richard Thornton
- ✓ coolers to keep items cold

This is a list with my thoughts, if something else is desired, voice it.

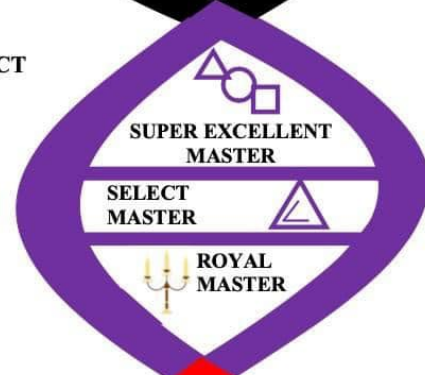


THE TRUE LIGHT!

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



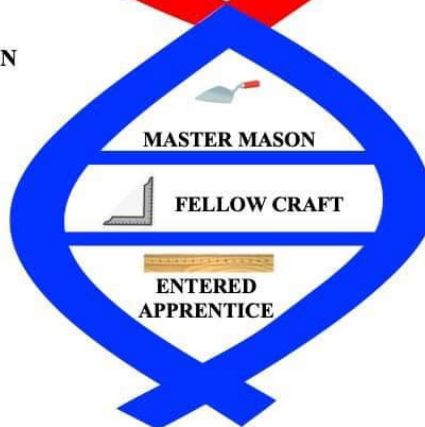
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS



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".

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

Pictures



Picture of Valley Lodge No. 135 Oscar Ryan Amil, PM, Master, Emmanuel Cubol, Senior Warden, and Jose Cueto, Junior Warden. We are going to have an excellent year and how do I know this, well it's a fact, look at the picture; this could be put in the dictionary as definition of "Serious"



Buddy Espeleta and Imee Espeleta

We have only reached this many years together because of the grace of God... Happy Anniversary to my beautiful wife, 28 years and counting Love you



Happy birthday to my amazing wife! On this special day, I just want to remind you how much you mean to me. I'm so grateful for all the memories we've created together. Thank you for putting up with me over the years and I promise to behave today. Here's to another year of love, happiness, and me trying to remember where I left my keys. Enjoy your daand I Love you always!

Traveling Gavel was heartwarming to see a full house on our August stated meeting, filled with the spirit of brotherhood and camaraderie. Having the brethren from Valley Lodge and Tyrian Lodge join us added a wonderful dimension to our gathering. It is indeed a pleasure for us to dwell together in harmony, fostering connections that transcend our individual lodges. As we witnessed the friendly competition for the traveling gavel, it was clear that both Valley Lodge and Tyrian Lodge brought their enthusiasm and dedication to the table. While Valley Lodge may have the advantage in numbers and took the gavel, it is the spirit of unity and fellowship among us all that truly matters.

Let us continue to support one another and cherish the bonds we share as Masons.





