

Trestle Board

December 2024

Valley Lodge No. 135

Free & Accepted Masons

PO Box 443

4917 North Mill Road, Linden, California 95236



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

Saturday, May 11, 2024
164 Years of Service
Worshipful Oscar Ryan Amil, PM

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Valley Lodge No. 135

Status

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

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 dlonyerg777@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 Holidays 🎄 🎅 🎁

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to serve you as Master of Valley Lodge. It has truly been an honor to lead such an exceptional group of brothers. I am confident that our lodge is in good hands moving forward.



Congratulations to our newly elected and appointed officers for the ensuing Masonic year. I am confident that our lodge is in excellent hands under the stewardship of our new Worshipful Master-elect, Brother Noel Cubol, together with his two Wardens, Brother Senior Warden-elect Apollo Cueto and Brother Junior Warden-elect Constante Molina. I am excited to see the great work you will accomplish together. A special congratulations as well to Brother Xedric Miguel for his well delivered 3rd degree proficiency an achievement that makes us all proud.

The Valley Lodge Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at 3:00 PM at our lodge, located at 4971 N Mill Road, Linden, California 95236. The attire will be Christmas colors. Kindly bring a minimum \$20 gift for our gift exchange.

Additionally, we are collecting new and unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots program. Your generosity will help make the holiday season brighter for children in need. Please bring your donations to our December Stated Meeting.

Speaking of which, our next stated meeting will be on Tuesday, December 3rd, at 7:30 PM, with dinner served at 6:30 PM. The attire for the evening is business casual.

Thank you, brethren, for your continued support and dedication. I look forward to celebrating the holidays with all of you and sharing fellowship at the upcoming events.

May GAOTU bless us all abundantly.

Together, Brethren

OneLove, One3Five!

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

VALLEY LODGE # 135
Christmas Party

December 7th 2024
SATURDAY

From 3pm onwards

Valley Lodge #135
597 N. Mill St. Linden California

**Wear your Christmas
inspired Colors and Style**



Brethren
and Ladies

We will have a **Yankee**
Swap EXCHANGE Gift
worth \$20 (max)



TOYS FOR TOTS®



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE











From the West

To My Valley Lodge No. 135 Family



I am Honored and Bless to be able to greet you all with the Love from our Lord God and from the bottom of my heart. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope you and your families had a wonderful Thanks giving and also will have a blessed Christmas. I am wishing you all a good health, bountiful blessing and prosperous year 2025. This year we all had different situations and circumstances in life, some of us had some difficulties and challenges in life. Let us continue to share our love by helping one another and show our love to everyone by showing to them that we are there to help and provide our care in times of their needs.

Let's continue to show our Brotherly love by giving relief and assistance no matter what is needed to be done to be able to raise up a fallen Brother and their families.

I want to inform you all that if you or anyone you know anybody that needs some help please approach me or any Brother in our lodge, so we could help you or the people you know. Thank you so much.

On the month of January our lodge will do our first charity work, and show out love to the community. We will be donating old clothings, canned foods and dry foods to the people who are in needs through the help of Bread of Life in Stockton. We will bring the goods on January 24 Friday to their office and then the next day January 25th Saturday we will provide assistance to give the foods to those people in needs in Lodi. Address is to be announce on our stated meeting. Please if you have any old clothes that you don't want or don't need anymore, please bring it to the lodge this December or before January 24th. Lets make the people in needs received the blessings of God through us who are more fortunate than them. Again thank you so much, I am grateful that I have you all as my Brother and part of my family. I love you all and God Bless us..

May God continue to Bless us all.

I love each of you, my Valley Lodge No. 135 Family.

Your Future Worshipful Master.
Emmanuel C Cubol.

From the South

Junior Wardens Corner

'Tis the season

December is finally here. The end of the month. The conclusion of the year 2024. This month will be a busy time for all. Families, Friends, Fellow Masons and more. People prepare for one of the best Holiday everyone may be looking forward to, Christmas. But let us not forget the meaning of this wonderful holiday.



Christmas commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. He solidifies our FAITH by being born to this world and brings joy and HOPE into our world. He is a King but brought into this world in a manger that embodies Humility.

On the other hand, Santa Claus, Saint Nick, Kris Kringle is a legendary figure whose known to bring gifts on Christmas eve. Accomplishing this with the help of his Elves that work tirelessly in his workshop. He is depicted as a Jolly white-bearded man wearing a red suit riding a magical sleigh with his flying reindeers.

We associate our traditions with goodness and joy. Part of that tradition is having a Tree full of decoration and lights. A Nativity scene depicting his birth. Holiday cheers and songs bringing happiness to all. But Christmas would not be complete without the tradition of Gift giving.

Santa Claus symbolizes CHARITY by the spirit of giving and sharing our Blessings not just with family but with others. This Holiday is also known as the season of Giving, Let us also celebrate this season by also sharing Love and warmth towards one another. Have a very Merry Christmas to all.

Bro. Jose Apollo H. Cueto

Junior Warden

Valley Lodge No. 135

Master Mason of the Year 2024

From Assistant Secretary

Assistant Secretary Corner

An Embracing the Spirit of Christ in Freemasonry

As we gather this season to celebrate Christmas, we reflect on the profound teachings of Christ—lessons that resonate deeply within our fraternity. His message, transcending centuries and cultures, offers a roadmap for how we interact with our fellow man. These principles of tolerance, justice, hope, and kindness are not exclusive to Christianity; they form the foundation of many world religions and philosophies. In Freemasonry, they are central to our values and practices. Tolerance teaches us to embrace diversity, respecting the beliefs and differences of others. Just as Christ extended compassion to all, Freemasons strive to build bridges, not walls, among brethren. Justice, a cornerstone of both faith and Freemasonry, calls us to uphold what is fair and right, ensuring harmony within and beyond our lodges. Hope is the light we carry, illuminating the path of progress. It reminds us that, even in challenges, better days lie ahead—an eternal flame ignited by faith in the Great Architect. Kindness, perhaps the simplest yet most transformative virtue, is the foundation of brotherly love, guiding our interactions and reminding us of our shared humanity. In this season of giving, let us embody these lessons not just as Freemasons but as men striving for moral excellence. Through our actions, we can honor the spirit of Christ and uphold the principles that unite our Craft, transcending religious or cultural differences. Together, we continue the great work of building a world rooted in love, understanding, and universal brotherhood.

Jericho Reyes, PM
Assistant Secretary
Valley Lodge No. 135

Our Masonic Valley

Antioch-Brentwood Lodge No. 175
Bicentennial Daylight Lodge No. 830
Calaveras Lodge No. 8
Elk Grove Lodge No. 173
Escalon Lodge No. 591
Hornitos Lodge No. 98
IONE Lodge No. 80
Lodi Lodge No. 256
Modesto Lodge No. 206
Morning Star Lodge No. 19
Mount Oso Lodge No. 460
Oak Summit Lodge No. 112
Patterson Lodge No. 488
Smyrna Lodge No. 532
Stockton York Rite
Turlock Lodge No. 236
Tyrian Lodge No. 439
Valley Lodge No. 135
Volcano Consolidated Lodge No. 56
Woodbridge Lodge No. 131
Yosemite Lodge No. 99

1st Wed @ 7:30pm
3rd Tue @ 1:00pm
2nd Wed @ 7:00pm
2nd Thu @ 7:30pm
3rd Wed @ 7:00pm
2nd Sat @ 6:00pm
3rd Mon @ 7:00pm
1st Thu @ 7:30pm
1st Thu @ 7:30pm
1st Thu @ 7:00pm
2nd Mon @ 7:30pm
3rd Tue @ 7:30pm
2nd Thu @ 7:00pm
1st Tue @ 7:30pm
4th Wed @ 6:00pm
1st Thu @ 7:00pm
1st Thu @ 7:30pm
1st Tue @ 7:30pm
1st Thu @ 8:00pm
1st Tue @ 7:30pm
1st Wed @ 7:30pm

Ed Marquez
Dave Hughes
Gary Bennis
William Hall
Matt Due
Robert McAllester
Bill Wells
William McVicker
Charles Heckendorf
John Baker
William Johnson

Stephen Bruce

Richard Thornton
William Sargenti

Richard Thornton
John Stettler
James Jones
Larry Smith

Secretary175@gmail.com
davehughes32@aol.com
garpapa@sbcglobal.net
Bill@EGHalls.net
mattdue@hotmail.com
allister@rmmcallister.com
Bmwells31@gmail.com
wmcvicke@gmail.com
cmheckendorf@gmail.com
jlbaker@pacbell.net
wjjo001@comcast.net
randynoe@reagan.com
stephenbruce@sbcglobal.net
jscoleman@reagan.com
sj19secretary@att.net
Wsarge7407@gmail.com
timdecarie@gmail.com
richard@valleylodge135.org
josofsa@yahoo.com
nelsonjones1971@gmail.com
Cuaione12@gmail.com

5944 San Juan, Citrus Heights
5 West St. Charles Street/San Andreas
9075 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove
1500 Viking Street, Escalon

321 West Pine Street, Lodi
800 Rose Avenue, Modesto
340 East Market Street, Stockton

Main Street & Ellen Street, Knights Ferry
650 North 6th Street, Patterson
2904 3rd Street, Ceres
340 East Market Street, Stockton
108 South Thor Street, Turlock
212 North Powers Ave, Manteca
4917 North Mill Road, Linden
16180 Charleston-Volcano, Volcano
1040 East Augusta Street, Woodbridge

**Become well known in San Joaquin
County**

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

December Birthdays



December

Stephen Jeffrey Campbell
Christian Matthew Soriano
Manuel Atencio Buentipo
Ora Eugene Watters
Cameron Eric William Bregman

Cara Thornton
Romelyn Maningoling Sotto

Masonic Education

I love reading papers, specifically research papers, about ancient times and ritual. Found one particular fond of: example, we currently spell "Tiler" but history shows at one time it was spelled "Tyler". Example: Master to Junior Deacon: What is the chief Care of a Mason? "To see that his lodge is tyled."



One particular sentence is Master declaring the lodge is now opened: "This Lodge is open, in the Name of God and holy St. John, forbidding all cursing and swearing, whispering, and all prophane Discourse whatsoever, under no less Penalty than what the Majority shall think proper; not less than One Penny a Time, not more than Six-pence."

Notwithstanding the lack of documentation, managed to trace the antecedents of one particular aspect of the opening ceremony, namely the rehearsal of the officers' duties. This particular piece of dialogue first makes an appearance in Pritchard's *Masonry Dissected* of 1730, not as an opening but simply as part of the dialogue lecture of the EA degree in

that section discussing the form of a lodge.

- **Where Stands your Master?** In the East
- **Why so?** As the sun rises in the east and opens the Day, so the Master stands in the East [with his Right Hand upon his Left Breast being a Sign, and the Square about his Neck] to open the Lodge and to set his Men at Work.
- **Where stands your Wardens?** In the West.
- **What's their Business?** As the Sun sets in the West to close the Day, so the Wardens stand in the West, with their Right Hands upon their Left Breasts being a Sign, and the Level and Plumb-Rule about their Necks, to close the Lodge and dismiss the Men from Labour, paying their Wages.
- **Where stands the Senior Enter'd 'Prentice?** In the South.
- **What is his Business?** to hear and receive Instructions and welcome strange Brothers.
- **Where stands the Junior Enter'd 'Prentice?** In the North.
- **What is his Business?** To keep off all Cowans and Eavesdroppers.
- **if a Cowan (or Listner) is catch'd, how is he to be punished?** To be plac'd under the Eves of the House (in rainy Weather) till the Water runs in at his Shoulders and out at his Shoos.

A Paper Presented to The New Jersey Lodge of Research and Education No. 1786 Submitted by: Bernhard W. Hoff Senior Warden Highland Park Lodge #240 March 2003

The New Masonic Trestle-Board, adapted to the Work and Lectures as practiced in the Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Encampments of Knights Templars, in the United States of America. By Charles W. Moore, editor of the Freemasons' Monthly Magazine. 1868

Chapter IV, on the qualifications and Duties of Candidates for Freemasonry

Whosoever, from love of knowledge, interest, or curiosity say the Constitution, desires to be a Freemason, is to know that, as his foundation and great corner-stone, he is to believe firmly in the Eternal God, and to pay that worship which is due to him as the Great Architect and Governor of the Universe. A Freemason is obliged, by his tenure, to observe the moral law, and, if he rightly understands the royal art, he cannot tread in the irreligious paths of the unhappy Libertine, or stupid Atheist; not, in any case, not against the great inward light of his own conscience.

He will likewise shun the gross errors of bigotry and superstition; making a due use of his own reason, according to that liberty wherewith a Mason is made free. He is charged to adhere to those grand essentials of religion, in which all men agree; leaving each Brother to his own private judgement, as to particular modes and form a Whence it follows, that all Freemasons are to good men and true – men of honor and honesty – by whatever religious names or persuasions distinguished – always following the golden precept, "Of doing unto all men as they that all men should do unto them" and of worshipping God after that manner and form, which they conscientiously believe to be most acceptable in his sight."

Another of the Constitutions further provides, that no person shall be admitted a member, unless he be "free born; of mature and discreet age; of good report; of sufficient natural endowments, and senses of a man; with an estate, office, trade, occupation, or some visible way of acquiring an honest livelihood, and working in his craft, as becomes the members of this most ancient and honorable Fraternity, who ought, not only to earn what is sufficient for themselves and families, but likewise something to spare for works of Charity, and supporting the true dignity of the royal Craft."

"No Brother shall propose, for admission into this ancient and honorable Society, any person, through friendship or partiality, who does not possess the moral and social virtues, a sound head and a good heart; and who has not an entire exemption from all those ill qualities and vices which would bring dishonor on the Craft."

Secretary's Chat

Members, Valley Lodge No. 135

Greetings and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

October, November, December, and January are busy month's for all Secretaries, especially an old one.

October: York Rite, was especially busy in mailing dues notices to all members of Stockton Chapter No. 2, Stockton Council No. 5, and Pacific Commandery No. 3. Unlike Grand Lodge, Grand York Rite does not keep a database of all member, the local secretary/recorder has this



responsibility. I kept one data base of all members but due to changes in the work place, Grand York Rite changes and banking regulations changes, it was necessary to split the data base into 3 sections; a separate data base for Chapter, a separate data base for Council, and a separate data base for Commandery. Oh, well, work never hurt anyone.

November: little work for Valley Lodge No. 135 but to me, this is a very important month, November 24, 2024 I am officially an old guy, 82 years of age. My Grand daughter's birthday is November 25, 2024. Then Thanksgiving.

Every so often I go to facebook and start smiling, some old guys are on saying, "I am old, enlisting in the service in 70's, 80's, or even the 90's. Well, back in my day, I enlisted in the Regular Army in June, 1960.

Why did I say "Regular Army", since everyone wore the symbol "RA". Well, I enlisted, but we still had the draft. You enlisted in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and sometimes Marines. But more often, you had to consider the Draft. In the recruiting station we lined up in one line, the enlistee's took one step forward, not many. The second line was told to count by two's, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, the 1's went to Army and 2's went to Marines. John Patronas, a good friend, recounted, while we were talking, he was number 2.

December: How do I count the activities. Well, let's start, Saturday, December 02, 2024, my son's birthday. Tuesday, December 05, 2024 is Valley Lodge No. 135 stated Meeting. Saturday, December 07, 2024 is our Christmas Party and York Rite Meeting. We moved from nights to daylight due to many could not drive at night, moved from Wednesday to 1st Saturday. Then we have SOI on Tuesday, December 10, 2024. Then on Thursday, December 12, 2024 is my wife's birthday. Then come our installation on Saturday, December 21, 2024. Christmas on Wednesday, December 25, 2024. Then on Thursday, December 26, 2024, our 60th Wedding Aniversary.

Retaining Younger Brethren

How to stop them leaving the Lodge

Get them involved



Encourage them to take part in the Ceremonies



Encourage the senior Brethren to be more youth friendly



Adjust the Lodge times to suit modern working hours



Take them on a Fraternal visit to friendly Lodge

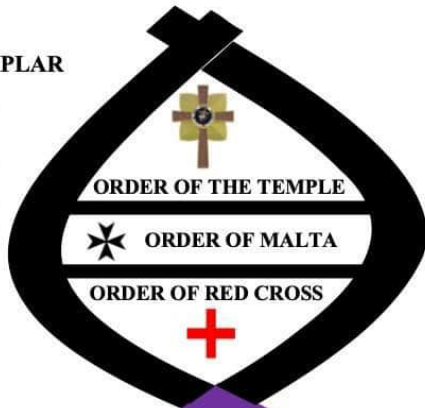


Finally lock and bar the door

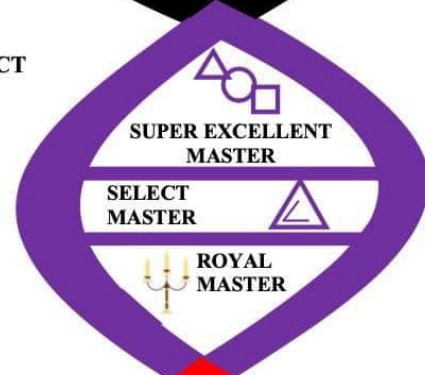


THE TRUE LIGHT!

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



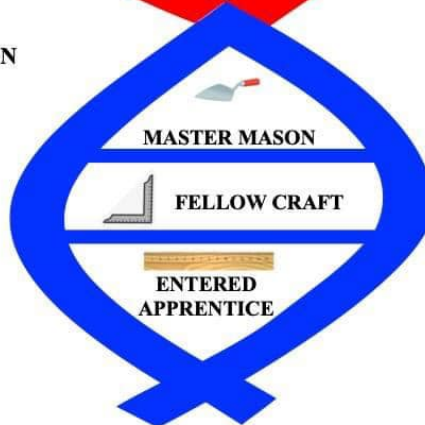
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS



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	Member	
	Emmanuel Cubol	Member	
	Jose Apollo Cueto	Member	
	Donie Navarro, PM	Member	
Audit	John Jay Natividad, PM	Member	
	Alejandro Villanueva, PM	Member	
	Donie Navarro, PM	Member	
	Erwin Guzman, PM	Member	
Budget and Finance	Ryan Amil, PM	Member	
	Edison Espeleta, PM	Member	
	Richard Thornton, PM	Member	
Dues and Delinquent Dues	Ryan Amil, PM	Member	
	Edison Espeleta, PM	Member	
	Richard E. Thornton	Member	
	John Jay Natividad, PM	Member	
Charity	Oscar Ryan Pol Amil, PM	Member	
	Emmanuel Cubol	Member	
	Jose Apollo Cueto	Member	
Fund Raising	Emmanuel Cubol	Member	
	Jose Apollo Cueto	Member	
	John Jay Natividad, PM	Member	
	Angelito Miranda, PM	Member	
	Marcial Gullem, Jr, PM	Member	
Sunshine Committee	Donie Navarro, PM	Member	
	Robert Lopez	Member	
	Richard Thornton, PM	Member	
Hiram Award	Emmanuel Cubol	Member	
	Jose Apollo Cueto	Member	
	Edison Espeleta, PM	Member	
	Andy Villanueva, PM	Member	
	Mannie Buentipo, PM	Member	
Mason of the Year	Oscar Ryan Pol Amil, PM	Member	
Masonic Education	Edison Espeleta, PM	Member	
	John Jay Natividad, PM	Member	
	Mannie Buentipo, PM	Member	
US Constitution Observance	Jericho Reyes, PM	Member	
	Richard Thornton, PM	Member	
	Donie Navarro, PM	Member	
	Erwin Guzman, PM	Member	
Refreshment Committee	Jose Cueto	Member	
	Warren Santos	Member	
	Onofre Carillo	Member	
	Constante Molina	Member	
	Erickson Ordonia	Member	
	Erwin Ordonia	member	
Candidates Coach	Emmanuel Cubol	Member	
	Jose Apollo Cueto	Member	
	Angelito Mirando, PM	Member	
	Paulino Collado, PM	Member	
Retention	All Members	Member	
Trustees	Jericho Reyes	Term Ends 12/31/2027	Election November 2027
	Richard Thornton	Term Ends 12/31/2026	Election November 2026
	Emmanuel C. Cubol	Term Ends 12/31/2025	Election November 2025

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"