

Trestleboard

December 2023

Valley Lodge No. 135

Free & Accepted Masons

PO Box 443

4917 North Mill Street, Linden, California 95236



05/11/1860
Lodge Charter

163 Years

12/01/2023
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

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. Rellaford: 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 Agadzhanian: Assistant Grand Organist

Scotty Joe Christian: Assistant Grand Tiler

Valley Lodge No. 135

Status

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

3 Applicants (for Entered Apprentice Degree)

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--|---------|
| • Wilfredo T. De Mesa | 368531 | wdemesa@gmail.com | No Date |
| • Yasser Tamarit | 353647 | ytolivera@gmail.com | No Date |
| • Herbert T. Tubillara | 371190 | htubillara@gmail.com | No Date |
- **Please note: Herbert T. Tubillara has been contacted and wants to advance****

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 |

5 Fellowcrafts

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--|
| • Lourd Xedric Ramos Miguel | 384131 | x_dmiguel@yahoo.com |
| • Christian Matthew Soriano | 366941 | cmmostolessoriano@gmail.com |
| • Karl Dominique Torres | 366934 | karldomtorres@gmail.com |

Valley Lodge No. 135 has 78 Master Masons



From the East

Brethren of Valley Lodge No. 135

I would like to thank so much to my all Brethren and the Ladies of 135 as well for being very supportive of me as a Worshipful Master for whole year of my tenure. Thank so much again to every one of you. Today is Wednesday and in three days the Brethren and the Ladies of 135 will come with me on Saturday the 2nd December 2023 for Our Christmas Party. We will help each other to set up for this yearly Traditions of Valley Lodge No. 135 and to see each other again, because we missed each other for long time especially those brothers and Ladies of 135 who missed the Stated Meetings, we missed you all and please come and share with us this time, we love to see you all on this Christmas Party.



On November 7, 2023 we held our Stated Meeting and conducted our annual election of Officers for advancement for the ensuing Masonic Year. The election of officers went very well, from the office of Master up to the office of Secretary. Each one, unanimous, I asked them will you serve? And each one said they will, and I said to each one them, I Hereby Declare You Elected. For the three Lights, for office of the Master, elected WB Oscar Ryan Pol Amil PM, for office of the Senior Warden, elected Bro. Emannuel Cubol, for office of the Junior Warden, elected Apollo Cueto, for office of the Treasurer, elected WB Edison Espeleta PM

and for office of the Secretary WB Richard Thornton PM.

And I have a very good news to every one for all brethren members of Valley Lodge No. 135 the three lights, they are already given and completed their proficiency to our Inspector WB Scotty Christian and every one passed it. ****KUDOS**** to the three Lights Officers. However, it seems WB Oscar Ryan Pol Amil missing some personnel for appointed Officers positions, such as Senior and Junior Deacons, or Marshall for the mean time? He has Bro Warren Santos as Senior Steward position and Junior Steward Bro Onofre (JING)Carillo.

I would like to thank Our all-Past Masters they are the Great and Strong Pillars of Valley Lodge No. 135 their will and pleasure is for the benefit of the Lodge always and their wisdom, knowledge are paramount to work, to keep, to help for the best of Masonry. They are our spare help whenever we need some help.

Winter season is up for the cold with us now, we must prepare and dress up for the cold weather, to be equipped to protect ourselves for the inclement weather, avoid getting sick. Drive carefully when roads are wet, especially when driving on wet leaves on the road, if you speeding be careful you might wind up skidding and not to control your wheel.

Fraternally Yours,

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

Our Masonic Valley

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

Masonic Education

A Lodge is a certain number of Masons duly assembled, with the Holy Bible, Square, and Compass, with a charter or warrant empowering them to work.



Ask a brother how his lodge is doing, and his answer is very apt to be either that things are going well because there has been a lot of work to do or that the life of the lodge is at a low ebb because there hasn't been much work lately. Ten to one, he is talking about degree work. Degree work is a means not an end.

Another possible and closely related short circuit lurks in the word jurisdiction. In our everyday Masonic usage, this term signifies the geographic area from which a lodge draws its candidates. Just as the work of a living lodge embraces much more than doing degrees so there is more to the concept of a lodge's jurisdiction than the place a lodge draws its candidates. The working of a lodge of Freemasons is a many faceted businesses which takes place, not just within a lodge hall or just among its members, but within the lodge's jurisdiction of compassion and service.

Suppose we find ourselves standing outside "Valley Lodge" in a place called "Linden". Here, according to our ritual, gathers a certain number of masons duly assembled, inspired by the Sacred Book and guided by the compasses and the square. They are, by a charter, empowered to work-that is they have the honor of laboring as Freemasons. On reflection, we realize that "Valley Lodge", like all Masonic lodges, exists even when there are no masons meeting in the building. It exists in the shared belief system of the brethren and in their united endeavor to give concrete evidence of their beliefs through their service to others.

Every Mason who has received his training in "Valley Lodge" should know that the dimensions of his lodge spread symbolically to the ends of the earth and that nothing short of universal compassion is the aim of the Fraternity. In more immediate terms, the dimensions of "Valley Lodge" spread across "Linden" to the borders of the lodge's jurisdiction. Jurisdiction defines a certain community of lodge members and wayfaring brethren alike. It is a community within the community at large, a community of the Craft, alive and operative.

As in the case of the Masonic terms work and jurisdiction, the word "lodge" with its varied meanings may cause confusion. Your wife asks you if you will be at home this evening. "No" you answer, "I am going to lodge. " In this response "lodge" means a place and an event. You are signifying a communication of the officers and brethren at the lodge hall. Such usage indicates a partial manifestation of the lodge, but, in this last instance, "lodge" identifies an entity neither limited to a particular place or to a special event. Put simply, lodge meetings represent a vital and special function of the larger lodge which is the local community of Masons. The lodge hall houses the operating and training center for this larger lodge. It houses the nerve center, if you will.

Consider the extensive dimensions of the lodge's mission! This labor falls into three categories all of which are interrelated and partake of the vision of the Craft.

- (a) Care for the Masonic family
- (b) Serving the needy and building a better community
- (c) Training the builders

"Take care of the widows and the orphans" this is the great charitable charge we have received from our operative predecessors. This noble charge still stands, but it has been expanded to the entire Masonic Family. Our obligations have enlarged with our growing conception of what we as Freemasons came here to do and as new needs have demanded. We feel it our wider calling to support the aging members, the young Masons laboring to bring up their family amidst an enlarging circle of dangers, and our youth who may find their first introduction to the great beliefs of humanity within our youth organizations.

Who are we as Masons if we do not look after our own? But there is more. What do we understand about our work if we curtail our mission within our own Masonic house? We come to work upon a fairer city of humanity this is what we intend to do. It is our vision to bring a new era of hope and joy within our lodge's jurisdiction of compassion and service. It is the result of our calling as builders within our given jurisdictions of compassion and service which constitutes the work of our lodges.

We all like to see a large number of brothers out to our meetings, for, after all, fraternal companionship is one of the great joys of Freemasonry. However, it is not the primary business, or even the business at all, of the master or his officers to entertain the brethren in an attempt to populate the "sidelines. " Lodges at one time may have served as places of entertainment, they may properly do so now, from time to time, for happiness is part of our business, but lodges are not primarily about "sidelines." They are about mainlines of action and vision. Masons, even those who seldom attend lodge meetings, are duty bound to practice and to live Masonry within their own "Linden".

Recently I had the opportunity to present a fifty-year veterans medal. As so often is the case, the receiving brother began to apologize for not having come to lodge more often. When he was done, a young mason rose and said, "Don't you apologize. I watched you all the years I was growing up in this community, and I wanted to be like you. You and your life are why I am here."

It is the master and his officers' duty to see that the living of Freemasonry throughout the jurisdiction is not haphazard. Every member according to his time and his capabilities should be given some part to play in the work of the lodge, as it promotes the human conversation, as it conciliates true friendships, as it stands for justice and equality, and as it "restores peace to troubled minds." It is from the "nerve center" of the living lodge that such direction and leadership of the Craft must come. All this is implied in the phrase "a lodge duly assembled"-assembled, coordinated for the accomplishment of its work.

All successful lodges are operative lodges. Find such a lodge and you will discover leaders (or a leader) who knows how to bind the brethren in a significant expression of the Masonic enterprise, and who has the skill to set them to accomplishing this purpose for themselves. Perhaps we have not given enough thought to how much skill, how much informed art such leadership demands. [And this too must be primary in the concern and the services of a Grand Lodge to its lodges.]

Perhaps we have not sufficiently considered how much sophisticated skill is demanded if we are to help create within the community that communication, networking, and coordination which is now required in the building of a better world. Certainly, we all tend to forget that below all that we do, welling up and giving strength to all building endeavors, are those moral principles which illuminate and stimulate the Masonic vision.

So now we return to where we began this exploration of a lodge and its work. We find ourselves realizing why our degree work is a vital means and not an end in itself. At the "nerve center," the officers and those members who possess the special gift of being ritualistic teachers assemble to set another man upon the degree journey-that greatest gift which the lodge has to give a brother. One man at a time, heart to heart, mind to mind, the Craft builds its working force. The meaning which gives significance and purpose to the builder's life and to his labors must be discovered it must be journeyed after. This is the purpose of the degree journey, and this is the work of the degree givers, to share the old guideposts, to go in companionship as far as a brother can go, and to celebrate the new understanding and dedication found.

The brethren of "Valley Lodge" have a vision to give to "Linden". In giving that vision, the brethren, themselves, will come to understand its immense value. Through the work of the lodge which is going on within its jurisdiction of compassion and service, the brethren will be drawn back to that "nerve center." In that "sacred retreat of friendship and virtue," they will find the quiet joy of renewal. When the Sacred Book is spread and the working tools displayed, there will be created a special place apart from the press of time and the urgency of life's demands. It is a place we name "our lodge. " It is a place from whence we go out renewed and shoulder to shoulder to work again.

Events

**Saturday, December 02, 2023 Valley Lodge No. 135
Christmas Party – 3:00pm**

Tuesday, December 05, 2023: Valley Lodge No. 135 Stated Meeting

Social: 6:00pm

Dinner: 6:30pm

Stated Meeting: 7:30pm

Thursday, December 07, 2023: Lodi Lodge Stated Meeting

Social: 6:00pm

Dinner: 6:30pm

Stated Meeting: 7:30pm

Wednesday, December 20, 2023: Pacific Commandery No. 3

Social: 6:00pm

Stated Meeting: 7:00pm

Sunday, December 24, 2023: Christmas Eve

Monday, December 25, 2023: Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26, 2023: 59th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday, January 20, 2024: Valley Lodge No. 135 Installation

December Birthdays



December

Stephen Jeffrey Campbell – 12/18

Christian Matthew Soriano – 12/20

Romel Veridiano Acuavera – 12/22

Manuel Atencio Buentipo – 12/24

Ora Eugene Watters – 12/28

Cameron Eric William Bregman – 12/04

Cara Lou Thornton – 12/12

Secretary's Chat

Members,

Let's discuss Candidate's Coach to be assigned to each of our applicants, Entered Apprentices, and Fellowcrafts from the beginning to completion of becoming a Master Mason.



Why is a Candidate Coach important? Now that our candidate has been balloted on, secretary informs candidate of his successful acceptance and date and time of his first degree. It is now that Worshipful Master should name a coach.

A Candidate Coach ensures the candidate arrives on time, properly dressed and mentally prepared. He is also the Mason who will be responsible for teaching the candidate his examination and obligations.

Please keep in mind that each candidate is an Individual and as such each will require more or less time as circumstances present themselves. Candidate will become your brother. Be Patient. Be Kind. Be Masonic in your approach. Your work now will pay off later.

Candidate Coach is responsible for teaching symbolism and deeper meanings of Masonry to the Candidate, by using available information from Grand Lodge.

Candidate Coach explains his responsibilities will be over the next few months i.e. help with the examinations, obligations, and explain what is happening and about to happen during this progression.

The family should then be offered a tour of the Lodge Rooms; for that matter, the whole building. There are two reasons for this: first, it gives everyone a chance to see our memorabilia, Lodge room, dining area, etc., all of which will be important to the candidate in the near future. Secondly, it dispels the idea of a secret society. Show him the regalia, aprons, collars, charter, furniture anything to attract his admiration, attention and future pride...all the time asking if he has any questions, and answering them when asked.

When the tour is completed, thank the candidate and his family for attending, and remind him once again of the date and time of his initiation, and that a brother will be at his home to pick him up. This is something we should really try and do, as this is his first real glimpse of the fraternity, and we should have our best foot forward.

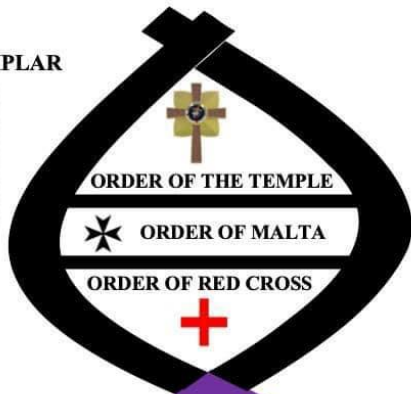
The Coach will continue to work with the candidate through all three degrees ensuring the work meets or exceeds the standards laid down. Beyond the degree work, the Coach may, from time to time, work with the new Brother as he begins to learn the lectures and charges.

In addition to teaching and explaining the symbolism and meanings of each degree, the Coach will introduce him to Lodge etiquette, take him on visits to other Lodges, introduce him to neighboring brethren and generally be there to guide and answer any questions. Even though these learning sessions will gradually diminish, there will no doubt be a bond formed between the two that will last a lifetime. Thus the bond that unites us into common society of friends and brothers is strengthened.



THE TRUE LIGHT!

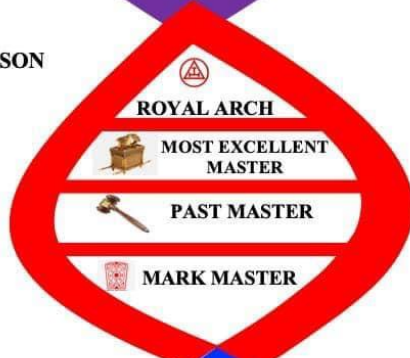
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



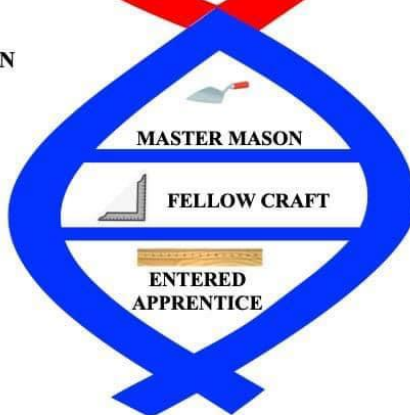
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS



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 Masters, 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".

Investment Committee	Mannie Buentipo, PM John Natividad, PM Alex Llanera, PM Victor Duadico, PM Edison Espeleta, PM	Chair Member Member Member Member
US Constitution Observance	Erwin Guzman, PM Jericho Reyes, PM Robert Lopez Ferdie Aben	Chair Member Member Member
Audit	Andy Villanueva, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM Ferdie Aben Richard Boado, Sr. Eric Molina	Chair Member Member Member Member
Charity	Donie Navarro, PM, Master Oscar Ryan Pol Amil, PM Emmanuel Cubol Jericho Reyes, PM Erwin Guzman, PM Joel Torres	Chair Senior Warden Junior Warden Member Member Member
Hiram Award	Ryan Amil, PM Emmanuel Cubol Alex Llanera, PM Andy Villanueva, PM Vic Duadico, PM Edison Espeleta, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM	Chair Junior Warden Member Member Member Member Member
Sunshine Committee	Linden/Stockton Area Ryan Amil, PM Robert Lopez Greater Sacramento Area Vic Duadico, PM Joel Torres	 Chair Member Chair Member
Retention Committee	All Officers	
Mason of the Year	Donie Navarro, PM	Master
Masonic Home Endowment	Rey Evangelista Robert Lopez Jerome Arrington	Chair Member Member
Masonic Education	Alex Llanera, PM Vic Duadico, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM	Chair Member Member
Resource Committee	John Natividad, PM Jose Cueto Richard Thornton, PM	Chair Member Member
Refreshment Committee	Emmanuel Cubol Rey Manalang Jose Cueto Onofre Carillo	Chair Member Member Member

Pictures



