

Trestleboard

September 2023

Valley Lodge No. 135

Free & Accepted Masons

PO Box 443

4917 North Mill Street, Linden, California 95236



05/11/1860

163 Years

09/01/2023

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

Scotty Joe Christian: Officers Coach

Scotty Joe Christian: Inspector, 428th Masonic District

Grand Lodge Officers

Randall Louis Brill: Grand Master

G. Sean Metroka: Deputy Grand Master

Arthur Lupe Salazar , Jr.: Senior Grand Warden

Garrett Scott Chan: Junior Grand Warden

Charles P. Cross: Grand Treasurer

Allan Lesley Casalou: Grand Secretary

Ricky Lee Lawler: Grand Lecturer

Ralph Conrad Shelton, II: 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

John Hays Crago, III: Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IX

David George Rathgeber: Grand Orator

Jordan Tyler Yelinek: Assistant Grand Secretary

Michael David Thibodeaux: Grand Marshal

Joseph Kouassi Dongo: Grand Standard Bearer

Nicholas Wesley Bertell: Grand Sword Bearer

Johnny Ray Wells: Grand Bible Bearer

Rodrigo Esguerra Cuevas: Senior Grand Deacon

Marty Milford Cusing: Junior Grand Deacon

David Gibran Vassall: Senior Grand Steward

Corey Payton Allen Leighty: Junior Grand Steward

George Eugene Whitmore: 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 August 2023 ****

3 Applicants (for Entered Apprentice Degree)

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--|
| • Wilfredo T. De Mesa | No Date | 368531 | wdemesa@gmail.com |
| • Yasser Tamarit | No Date | 353647 | ytolivera@gmail.com |
| • Herbert T. Tubillara | No Date | 371190 | htubillara@gmail.com |
- **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 | dlonverg777@yahoo.com |
| • Jayr T. Rafanan | 387410 | karruba00@gmail.com |

5 Fellowcrafts

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--|
| • Lourd Xedric Ramos Miguel | 384131 | x_dmiguel@yahoo.com |
| • Erickson Culannay Ordonia | 387408 | erickson_milyo1925@hotmail.com |
| • Erwin Culannay Ordonia | 387407 | erwin.ordonia@yahoo.com |
| • Christian Matthew Soriano | 366941 | cmmostolessoriano@gmail.com |
| • Karl Dominique Torres | 366934 | karldomtorres@gmail.com |

Valley Lodge No. 135 has 77 Master Masons



From the East

Brethren of Valley Lodge No. 135

Today is Saturday, August 20, 2023, good afternoon, Brethren I am very proud of all officers of Valley Lodge No. 135. The last SOI held on Thursday, August 17, 2023, thank you so much to everyone who present themselves as Officers of the Lodge. It was a very successful performance, *KUDOS* to each officer and every brother performance, we satisfied our brothers from other Lodges who came in and support us in our excellent performance in opening the LODGE OF ENTERED APPRENTICES DEGREE. Thank you SO MUCH AGAIN WELL DONE.

The LODGE OF ENTERED APPRENTICES. As has been already intimated, the presiding officer of a Lodge of Masons, and in fact its supreme head, for the time being, is the Worshipful Master. Next to him in official rank is the senior Warden: and next to him, the Junior Warden. These Officers always occupy stations in the East, West, and South respectively, the Lodge-room being situated due East and West, and the religious symbolism of Freemasonry they represent, they represent the sun at his rising, his meridian, and his setting. The other Officers of the Lodge are the Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Tyler, and take rank after the Wardens, and occupy each position as represented.

A Senior and Junior Steward are also generally appointed, and sometimes a Chaplain and Organist, though in most Lodges, these later are usually dispensed with. The Stewards sit at the right and left, and a little to the front, of the Junior Warden.

On entering a Masonic Lodge, the first object that will particularly attract one's attention is the Altar, situated in the center of the room, midway between the East and West, and hence directly opposite the South. Near the Altar it will be noticed that there are three burning tapers, either candles or gas jets or electric lights- which are also situated- or as to point towards the East, West, and South, as seen on every Lodges and be always lighted before the Lodge is opened. On the Altar there is also a copy of the Holy Bible closed and on top of Holy bible the closed compass and square with figure sign of spear.

Fraternally Yours,

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

From the West

Brethren of Valley Lodge No. 135

HAPPY LABOR DAY TO Y'ALL!

I hope everyone had a great month. As summer draws to a close, the days become shorter and the weather starts to cool down. People often take this time to reflect on their summer experiences, from vacations and outdoor adventures to spending time with friends and family. Back-to-school preparations and the anticipation of autumn's arrival also become more prominent. It's a transitional period that prompts many to make the most of the remaining warm days while looking forward to the upcoming changes that fall will bring.

Looking forward to an exciting month as we will be conferring a 3rd degree, we invite you to support our Brothers to a memorable Degree.

See you all on our Stated Meeting!

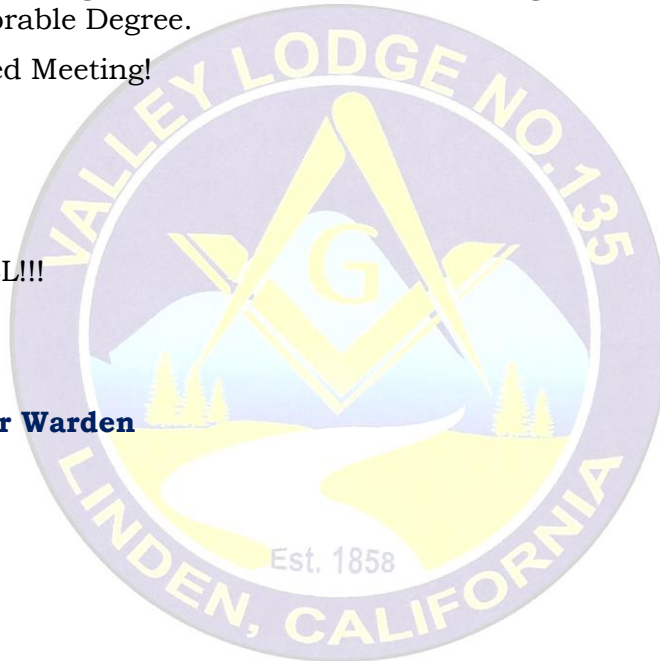
Never Over

Never Under

ALWAYS ON THE LEVEL!!!

Fraternal Grip,

**Bro. Ryan Amil, Senior Warden
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 Heckendorg	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

DeMolay of Stockton

Every 2nd & 4th Monday 7:00 pm; 340 East Market Street, Stockton

Job's Daughters, Bethel 83

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday 7:00 pm; 340 East Market Street, Stockton

Bethel83stockton@gmail.com



Est. 1858

Masonic Education

Freemasonry During the Revolutionary War



When the first Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, nine English Lodges, four “Modern” lodges, five “Ancient” lodges and one Scottish lodge had been warranted in that city.

From the best available records, it is estimated that there were approximately one thousand Masons in that city.

The first men of the city and state were among their number.

The membership of old St. John’s Lodge Number 1 alone, included nine lawyers, of whom seven were judges; four Mayors of Philadelphia, two High Sheriff’s, two physicians, two coroners and two Governors of Pennsylvania.

No less than eight were scientists of great distinction and were members of the American Philosophical Society.

The same was true throughout the colonies; the men of education, culture, prominence, and leadership were members of the Masonic Lodges.

Men like Joseph Warren, (later General Warren lost his life at Bunker Hill,) and Paul Revere in Mass., Ethan Allen of Vermont, Roger Sherman of CT., John Sullivan (later a great Revolutionary General from New Hampshire,) Franklin of Philadelphia, Robert Livingston of New York, George Washington and Patrick Henry of Virginia and many others among the recognized leaders were Freemasons.

When the war was declared, and every citizen had to take his stand, either for or against independence, it was found that every Masonic leader was among the patriots.

As an illustration of the influence Masonry exerted at that time, was of the appointment of George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary forces.

It was said Washington was chosen partly because of the fame he had won in the Braddock expedition, and partly to ensure the support of the Southern Colonies.

The men over whom he was placed in command were simple, democratic, hard-working people, dissenters to the backbone.

Washington was a Freemason, and as such, was acceptable to the leading patriots in both civil and military life.

The Military Lodges, to which were referred to earlier, continued to function during the war. Attached to particular regiments they followed the movements of the regiment and flourished under the vicissitudes of the conflict.

Washington and other Masonic Generals visited these lodges from time to time and distinguished foreign Masons, such as Lafayette and von Stueben were frequent visitors.

In fact, there is a story that Lafayette was made a Mason in a Military Lodge in the presence of Washington.

This story, however, is largely discredited, as there seems to be conclusive evidence that Lafayette was raised a Master Mason in a French Lodge before coming to America.

There is greater evidence that Alexander Hamilton was made a Master Mason in a Military Lodge.

These Military Lodges were a source of patriotic enthusiasm, a continual incentive to patriotic “fervour,” and aided materially to the discipline of the Continental Armies and furnished a meeting place for brethren engaged in a great crusade and bound together by the mystic tie of their “Brotherhood” fraternity.

Events

Valley Lodge No. 135 3rd Degree on Saturday, September 16, 2023 beginning at 10:00am

OSI: Thursday, September 21, 2023, 7:00pm Elk Grove

OSI: Thursday, October 19, 2023, 7:00pm Woodbridge

September						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm	6	7 Lodi Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm	8	9
10	11	12 Practice 3 rd if needed	13	14	15	16 Valley Lodge No. 135 3 rd Degree 10:00am
17	18	19	20	21 OSI Elk Grove No. 173 2 nd degree Fellowcrafts & Master Masons	22	23
24	25	26	27 Stockton York Rite	28	29	30

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm	4	5 Lodi Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 OSI Woodbridge Lodge No. 131 3 rd Degree Master Masons	20	21
22	23	24	25 Stockton York Rite	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Lodi Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm (Elections)	3	4
5	6	7 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm (Elections)	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Stockton York Rite	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24 My Birthday	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Valley Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm	6	7 Lodi Lodge Stated Meeting Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Ryan Amil Installation
17	18	19	20 Stockton York Rite	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 59 th Wedding Anniversary	27	28	29	30
31						



September Birthdays

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

**Monaliza Boado
Yolanda E. Manalang
Sumaila Clarisse Ibanez
Maria Jailita Dominguez
Marika Campbell
Maria Carolina Etis**

Secretary's Chat

Many members stay away because of a lack of engagement, an inflexible lodge culture, or unmet expectations. If your members are not having a good experience, they may be at risk of staying away.



CAUSES PRESCRIPTIONS

- **Members feel that the lodge lacks harmony.** Identify conflict in the lodge. Listen to your members. They may see something that you don't. Expect that members behave in a correct manner. Bad behavior such as interrupting or excluding others can be detrimental to the lodge. Talk to members that behave inappropriately.
- **Organize small social events** where members who don't know each other well can strengthen their relationships.
- **Members feel as if their attendance doesn't matter.** Set expectations that members are required to attend most stated meetings, degrees, practices, etc. Start with your prospects and active members. Ask members to send regrets to the master or secretary if they cannot come. Read regrets during your stated meetings. Follow up with members who do not attend lodge as they may need your help.
- **Members feel they have no meaningful way to contribute.** Find out what members' skills and interests are by using a Member Skills and Interests Survey. Match skills and interests to lodge needs. Assign short, discreet jobs, such as investigations, to members with busy lives so that they can contribute, too. Help members invest in their contributions by permitting them to make mistakes and figure out how to correct them. Micromanaging doesn't allow members to grow and learn.
- **Members don't feel that they are learning and improving.** Find out how your members want to learn and improve by talking to them or using a simple survey. Ask members to read a part of the ritual and lead a discussion on what it means to them or how it applies to real life.

Diagnosis:

- **Candidates don't advance** because they lack a true connection to the lodge, they have unclear expectations of their membership, or the lodge misunderstands their intentions. If your candidates are not having a good experience, they may not continue.
- **Candidates received a poor introduction to the lodge.** Ensure that before a prospect receives an application, he thoroughly understands the lodge. Give clear expectations regarding dues, fees, attendance, and requirements for advancement. Include any other aspects that are critical to your lodge. Much of lodge culture can't be explained; it must be understood over time. Ensure prospects have enough time to gain a deep understanding of the lodge.
- **Candidates received insufficient coaching.** Ensure every candidate has a qualified coach who has enough time to spend with the candidate. Qualified coaches focus on the meaning and lessons of the ritual. With each coach and candidate, clearly articulate the requirements for coaching, basic education, proficiency, and any other work piece required of candidates. Set dates for all three degrees and proficiencies as a part of the lodge's activity calendar. Allow for flexibility if a candidate needs more time.
- **There is no system for coach and candidate engagement and accountability.** Use the executive committee to oversee your system for coach and candidate engagement. Ask coaches to report on every candidate's progress at each stated meeting. (A lot of coaching will occur right before the meeting!) Assign your candidate education program to an officer

and/or members. Ask them to report on overall progress at each executive committee meeting. Talk to coaches and candidates when progress is stalled.

Secretary's Note: Upon completing the reading of the above, go back to page 2 under Status of Valley Lodge No. 135 and look at the categories; Applicants have "No Date" meaning long time in system and no followup; Entered Apprentices are all year 2022, excellent; Fellowcrafts show one with year 2022, 2 with year 2023, 1 with year 2019, and 1 with year 2018. We need to followup with all applicants, Entered Apprentices, and Fellowcrafts. We have 13 Master Masons having not paid dues to Valley Lodge No. 135. Why? Lack of reasons to attend?

Which brings up the following point.

I was a part of two different conversations during our last meeting and will discuss one conversation with you because of it's importance. Not that the other conversation was unimportant but it dealt with a long range solution that will take time.

The first conversation dealt with lack of attendance and before we could begin, one person spoke a truth, "**Lack of Fellowship**". We have fairly good attendance at our stated meetings, with the wives doing more than excellent work, fantastic even. Where are the other events on our calendar.

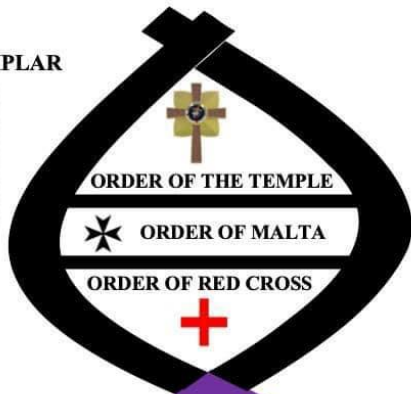
Now look at our calendars for the month of September, October, November, & December: if we remove all non-Valley Lodge No. 135 activities with the exception of OSI, we a listing of our stated meetings, OSI and no other activities on the calendar.

When I was initiated an Entered Apprentice, a Candidate Coach was assigned and this Candidate Coach followed me as I advanced to Fellowcraft and then to Master Mason. My Candidate Coach invited my wife & I to Stated Meeting Dinner and to a Clinton Lodge No. 19 gathering, sometimes it was a BBQ, or a Ice Cream Social, or a Lodge Dinner. Clinton Lodge No. 19 held officer's practice, Candidates practice. Candidates were involved with the lodge & its members, from applicant, entered apprentice, and fellowcraft.

Please remember, back then we opened for Transaction of Business on the 3rd Degree, currently we open on the 1st Degree for Transaction of Business.

THE TRUE LIGHT!

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



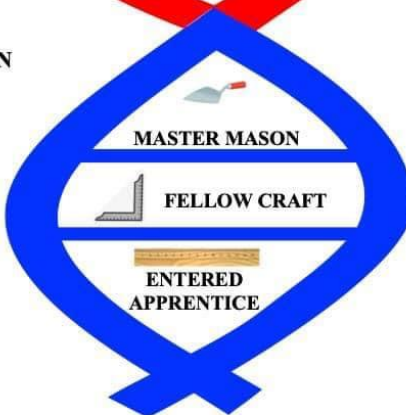
ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS



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!

Pictures









