

WELCOME HOME

THE HOME LODGE No.721 F.&A.M. BULLETIN

AUGUST 2018

WWW.HOMELODGE721.ORG

BROTHER MOZART

THE MAGIC FLUTE



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was twenty-eight years of age when, in the autumn of 1784, he joined a Masonic Lodge. As a pianist, little Wolfgang had been an infant prodigy, exhibited by his father throughout Europe, but he was now a recognized and admired composer living in Vienna. The very year of his initiation his first great opera, *The Marriage of Figaro*, had been produced in Paris. This was, however, before the days of copyright law and the earnings of genius were meager.

During the eighteenth century, Freemasonry in Vienna had a political as well as a benevolent side. It counted as its members many highly placed politicians and ecclesiastics whose ideal was the regeneration of humanity by moral means. It was hated by the Catholic Church

and certain despotic political authorities who deemed it dangerous, both to religion and the well being of the state. The Church, however, even as today in certain Latin countries, did not consider it expedient to challenge high-placed persons nominally its members but also of the Fraternity.

The Empress Maria Theresa had been one who was opposed to Masonry and, in 1743, had ordered a Viennese Lodge raided, forcing its Master and her husband, Francis I, to make his escape by a secret staircase. The Emperor Joseph II (1780-90) was favorably inclined to the Fraternity, although the clergy did their best to get the Lodges suppressed.

Such was the Masonic milieu when Wolfgang Mozart became a Master Mason. He must have been greatly moved and inspired by his experience. Almost immediately he composed his Freemasons Funeral Music and his music for the opening and closing of a Lodge. He now composed his opera, *Don Giovanni*, and his three great symphonies - the E flat, the G minor and the C major, as well as a great number of concertos and chamber-music works.

»Home Lodge's August Trestleboard«

Wednesday, August 1st
STATED MEETING
HAWAIIAN SHIRTS

Wednesday, August 8th
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, August 15th
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, August 22nd
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, August 29th
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

His last great opera, The Magic Flute, opened in Vienna on the evening of September 30, 1791. Mozart conducted the first two performances, when he was overtaken by his last illness. He lingered on while the opera had an unprecedented run of more than one hundred consecutive performances. It is said that in his sick bed, watch in hand, he would follow in imagination the performance of The Magic Flute in the theatre. Then he died after its 67th performance.

The Magic Flute makes no mention of Freemasonry as such, but it has always been accepted as a Masonic opera. Musicians assert that even the music has much Craft significance, beginning in the overture with its three solemn chords in the brass.

In keeping with the fashion of the time, the plot is half-serious, half-comic, a fantasy of magic and mystery laid in a never-never land called Egypt. It depicts the ancient mysteries and presents much Craft symbolism. To the Viennese of that day, The Queen of the, Night was clearly the unfriendly Empress Maria Theresa; the good Sarasto was Ignas von Born, an eminent scientist and Masonic leader; the hero Tamino was the good Emperor Joseph and the heroine Pamina, the Austrian people themselves.

The first program credited the libretto to the actor-producer, Schikaneder, but it is now thought that it was written by Giesceke, the friend and intimate of Goethe and Schiller, who probably desired to remain anonymous for political reasons.

The opera has remained popular through the years and is included in the present repertoire of the Metropolitan Opera Company.

*By: Newcomb Condee
33rd Degree*

Home Lodge Officers

Wor. Aaron J. Cohen, P.M. Worshipful Master
(818) 761-5803

Artin Aladadyan Senior Warden
(818) 321-0449

Andre Aladadyan Junior Warden
(818) 309-9318

Moses Gazazian Treasurer
(818) 298-5652

Richard A. Weiser, P.M. Secretary
(818) 326-3841

Gerard E. Deprest Assistant Secretary
(818) 980-8370

Michael Egbert Chaplain
(818) 691-0069

Benjamin Lupu Senior Deacon
(818) 804-5592

Peter Vogelsang Junior Deacon

Orlando Salas Marshal

David Ter-Petrosyan Senior Steward

Hayk Dilanian Junior Steward

Calvin A. Frieling Tyler
(661) 296-2186

Michael David P.M. Officers' Coach
(818) 414-7080

Wor. Jeff Yates, P.M. Inspector 709th

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS LODGE NIGHT

**A Message From
Our Worshipful Master
Wor. Aaron J. Cohen, P.M.**



Greetings Brethren and Ladies,

As the Summer months are here now, we are wearing either Hawaiian shirts or the Lodge polo shirt. If you would like one, see Moses, he is taking orders for the shirts. He is also working on getting us the shirts with a pocket. We also have shirts available to the ladies of Home Lodge.

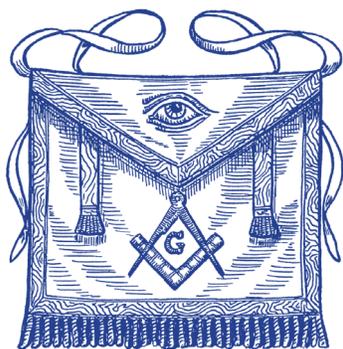
Last month's picnic was a success and was enjoyed by everyone who attended.

August will be dark except for the stated meeting so the officers can qualify for their step-up positions.

Reseda Lodge is working on a blood drive scheduled for the end of September at the Scottish Rite building in Pasadena and has issued a challenge to the officers of the lodges in the district. I will have more information at the Stated Meeting on Wednesday.

I would like to thank the lodge in advance for sending Artin, Andre and myself to San Francisco for the Annual Communication.

Fraternally from the East,
Wor. Aaron J. Cohen P.M.
Worshipful Master



**A Message From Our
Senior Warden
Artin Aladadyan**



Brethren & Ladies, it being August, we've reached our traditional Home Lodge vacation month, and as such I expect many of you to be out enjoying your travels. I'd like to again remind everyone to take care while abroad,

and hope all enjoy their vacation. The Officer's of Home Lodge are going to have a special vacation as always because what better way to relax than to qualify in our ritual work? I have fond memories of the first year I got to take this special vacation. We announced at the stated meeting that Lodge is going to be dark for summer vacation, and as an instinct, I got excited for planning something to do. That is until the Master informs up that the Officers will be practicing and qualify. It's bittersweet, on one hand, vacations are great, on the other, the Officers always have a great time when we get together & that's one of the key factors that make being a Home Lodge Officer great, even when we're hard at work we're having a great time.

I've got to say, I'm very proud of the men that have volunteered to serve the lodge next year. These brothers are giving up their free time to be Officers & to be this is the most admirable thing we can do. From the Junior Steward to the Worshipful Master, every Officer's service is essential to the Lodge. We have a great group of guys & each and every one of them are deserving of this privilege.

As always, I want to recognize and thank the brethren that take the time to join us on degree nights, sometimes your presence is what makes or breaks a degree. To our brothers that haven't been to Lodge in some time, come by if you can make the time, we miss you all. Remember, there's no better place to be on a Wednesday than Home.

Fraternally from the West,
Artin Aladadyan
Senior Warden

A Message From Our Junior Warden Andre Aladadyan



I hope everyone had a Happy Fourth of July and enjoyed the annual Home Lodge Picnic. I would like to thank all of the Officers and Members of Home Lodge No. 721 for helping make it happen. Unfortunately, this was the first year in 6 years I missed the picnic. I hope

everyone had fun and, if you missed it or got there at the tail end of it, I hope that you make it out next year for all the fun.

I like to write my articles about something personal to me but tie it into Masonry if I can so whoever if reading this learns more about who I am. In a short time, I will most likely be Master of Home Lodge No. 721, and it's important that you all know me a little better. With that being said, I want to share one of my flaws with you all.

This flaw has been something I've tried working on for many years and, still try to this day. The flaw, one of many, is my lack of ability to break away from the end goal and be in the present, trusting the process that I'm going through.

Dictionary.com defines "process" as, "a series of actions or steps taken in order to achieve a particular end." Everything has a process. Becoming a doctor, an attorney, a welder, and even an Officer of a lodge all the way up to the most "prestigious" chair of Master. The purpose of the process is to understand the end goal.

I've spent my whole life always thinking about and worrying about the end result; making it to the destination. Part of that worry has been, will I never make it there, am I capable, what if...[insert here whatever crazy thing that CAN happen]. So often in my life, I have lost sight of the now, which is "the process."

As I write this, I recall what, late Fred Price said to me once, as he showed up for a State Meeting to give a Trustee's report. The open session was still going and he walked in. I walk over and give him a hug and, Uncle Fred said, "So Jerry's got you out here working, huh?" I smiled and said, "Eh, I do whatever

I can to help him out, Uncle Fred." He replied, "it's all part of it kiddo... you'll see." He smiled, gave his cool-guy wink, put his hand on my shoulder and walked inside. That was it. At that time what he said to me made no sense until I realized many years later that Uncle Fred was referring to my process in becoming the Mason I'm meant to be. It's the same as I study for this CA Bar Exam again. I need to trust the process, and also to enjoy it.

So if you're working on your career or you're a young Mason or Officer, and you have goals, trust the process. Be a part of it and work with it. I believe it is the only way to get to that goal and have it truly mean something.

Fraternally from the South,
Andre Aladadyan
Junior Warden

A Message From The Secretary Of Home Lodge, Wor. Richard Weiser, P.M.



August already. Time sure flies. This month we will be dark other than our Stated Meeting on August 1st. This gives the officers a chance to practice and qualify in their positions for next year.

They have been working hard, and we are looking forward to continuing the strong ritual work that Home Lodge has been known for many years.

Our incoming officers are also putting a lot of effort into programs for the coming years. There will be a large push in Masonic education. Bro. Mike Egbert has been doing an outstanding job putting together outside activities for the Brethren and will continue in the coming years.

Please make an effort to join us on Wednesday nights for Lodge. It means a lot to the candidates and the officers when you are present at our degree nights.

Fraternally,
Richard Weiser, PM
Secretary

A Message From The Treasurer Of Home Lodge, Brother Moses Gazazian



Sometimes members don't know or don't see what goes on, or what it takes beyond the Stated Meetings and Degree nights "backstage" so to speak. There is a staff which includes Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Executive

Committees, Board of Trustees, Marketing and Communications, IT team, Membership Development team, Candidate Coaching, Officers' Coaching and others just to keep the lodge running like a smooth "well-oiled machine". The Lodge is a business that needs to run as smoothly as possible to succeed. Everyone in those positions is responsible to perform their duties and they're all doing their "Job" for the betterment of one thing and one thing only "Our Lodge. Home Lodge".

I'd like to take a moment to talk about what it takes to be the Treasurer and, I'll take you all thru the familiar steps that you hear in the open portion of the Stated Meetings and to clarify their meanings :

1. To receive the money from the Secretary. That means to be accountable and precise when it comes to allocating funds in the right classification.
2. Keep a just and accurate account there of. Input info of the records with INTAACT.
3. Payout the same by the order of the WM and consent of the Lodge. This means to pay the bills in a timely manner and record and classify why and for what purpose and where the money goes. *(To Be Accountable)*

Sounds simple right? It is not!

These three steps take about a week if not more and it takes four to five hours a day. Monthly, Grand Lodge will send emails asking for our information, such as payroll processing, payroll records, quarterly payroll filing, quarterly payroll payments, IRS filings and

other things to clarify that the INTAACT inputs and classification records are correct. INTAACT is a great program originally designed for large corporations and CPA's, which we are neither, but with time and constant training at the Secretaries and Treasurers retreats and knowing everyone at Grand Lodge by their first name, I can say that I have managed to tackle that too. When I call Grand Lodge and tell them this is Moses they are probably thinking "not him again". Both Wor. Rick, Jerry and I have spent several hours with the INTAACT and iMember teams to make sure it works for us and that we're not just doing uniformed inputs.

Home Lodge played a large role in developing the use of the INTAACT system in the Masonic lodge. Thanks to our late Brother Bill Rosenthal's accounting expertise, his comments, suggestions and his joking about "why do we need such a 'Sophisticated' program", he liked the old way of doing things better. They got it done for us to use in the lodge, thanks to him, the developers, programmers and Grand Lodge, the INTAACT system now works.

With that said this is just the "tip of the iceberg" not counting the Trustees and their functions.

Our Secretary and Assistant Secretary do the same thing and also follow the steps above, they spend countless hours updating iMember, dues reports, follow up with dues payments, transfer and push data to INTAACT, they're also involved with degree planning, stated meeting planning, membership concerns and answer their calls and questions sometimes late at night.

Our web developer Brother Scott puts together one of the best, if not the best website there is about our lodge, the Masonic Fraternity and also puts out a great bulletin every month. Our website and Facebook page attracts new candidates and develops an interest in our Lodge and Masonry.

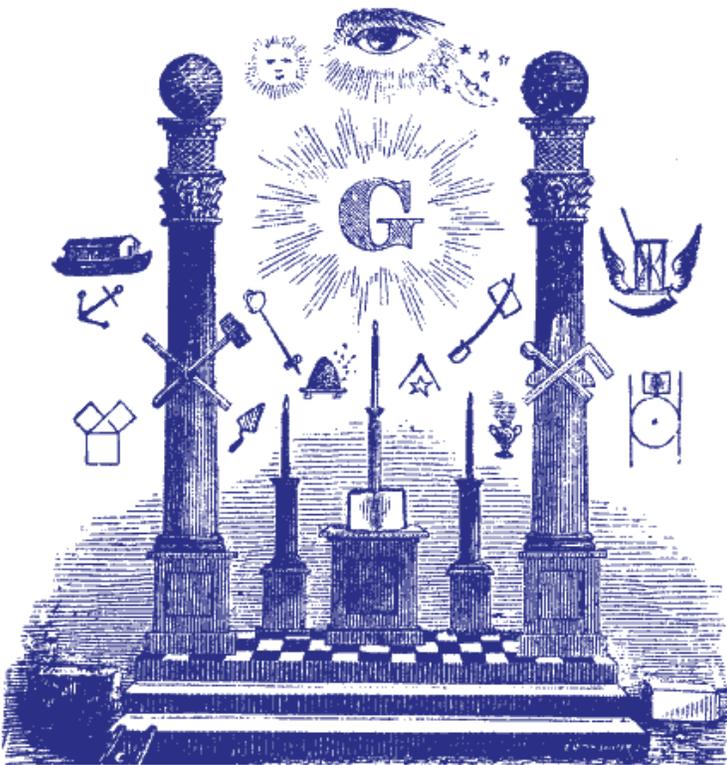
Candidates coaching is by far the best with the leadership of W. Brother Varsam. Everyone that walks thru those doors has been coached and readied by him and his assistants, I was and always will be one of those who walked the path with his guidance. Officers coaching with Wor. Brother Michael is moving forward successfully as well.

Brethren all these responsibilities take time, money, resources, supplies, a humongous effort and sometimes it takes time away from family, but we all do it because we love our Home; Home Lodge 721 with no strings attached and we do it to make sure that all the Brethren who come after us have Home Lodge to come Home to.

This article is not about me, or any individual it's about the "STAFF", the brothers who day in and day out take care of the business of the Lodge. Yes, the business of assuring that it was there before us, it is there today, and it will be there tomorrow.

When you see us just shake our hand and give us that brotherly smile and it will add more spark to our Passion.

Fraternally,
Brother Moses Gazazian
Treasure



**Trestleboard
August 2018**

Wednesday, August 1st 6:30 p.m.
STATED MEETING
HAWAIIAN SHIRTS
Donation for all \$15.00
Home Lodge Widows are Free
BBQ Tri-Tip or Baked Salmon
For dinner reservations please call (818) 446-6305

Wednesday, August 8th 7:00 p.m.
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, August 15th 7:00 p.m.
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, August 22nd 7:00 p.m.
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, August 29th 7:00 p.m.
LODGE WILL BE DARK FOR
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, September 5th 6:30 p.m.
STATED MEETING
OFFICERS BACK IN TUXEDOS
Donation for all \$15.00
Home Lodge Widows are Free
Chicken or Baked Salmon
For dinner reservations please call (818) 446-6305

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS LODGE NIGHT

Home Lodge Dues Information

Our dues for 2018 are \$99.00 per member, due on or by the 1st day of January. If you are not at the very least in possession of a 2016 dues card (haven't paid your dues for 2017) we will be sending you a notice of possible suspension, beginning in March. If you have not paid your dues in arrears or made proper arrangements, we will be suspending you in May of 2018. Many brethren have asked what that means. It means this, if you are suspended for nonpayment of dues, your name will be read in lodge the night you are suspended, the other Masonic bodies will be notified of your suspension (per the CMC) and you will become suspended in those bodies as well until you are back in good standing with your blue lodge. Bringing yourself back into good standing involves the following process-you must pay your dues in arrears, then you are put up to a vote of the brethren for reinstatement, then the other bodies are notified upon your reinstatement.

- Dues for the 2018 term are \$99.00*
- Petitions for membership are \$425.00*
- Petitions for affiliation are \$130.00*
- Petitions for out of state affiliation are \$285.00*

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2018

- Under the age of 49 is 21 times the annual dues: \$2,037.00
- 50 to 54 is 19 times the annual dues: \$1,843.00
- 55 to 59 is 17 times the annual dues: \$1,649.00
- 60 to 64 is 14 times the annual dues: \$1,358.00
- 65 and older is 11 times the annual dues: \$1,067.00

Sickness & Distress

Many of our brethren and their ladies have had health issues, we should always keep them in our prayers, but take a minute to notify either Wor. Bob Brandt, P.M. or Wor. Richard A. Weiser, P.M. so that we can get a card out to them and check on them.

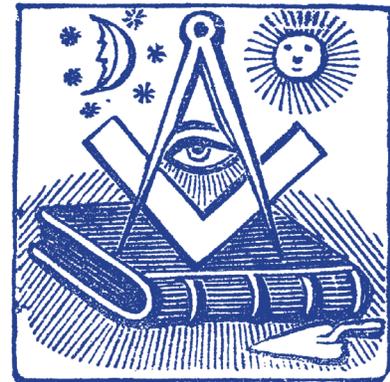
Home Lodge Sweethearts

Dear Home Lodge widows and family, please keep us up to date on any changes to your mailing address and phone numbers and if there are any changes in your health. You are a part of our Home Lodge family and if we or Grand Lodge can be of service to you we will need to be able to reach you. Please let us know if you are aware of other Home Lodge widows. You may contact the Home Lodge Secretary, Richard A. Weiser, P.M. at (818) 326-3841.



Past Masters of Home Lodge No. 721

*William H. Eyler	1952-54	*Mark A. Leibert	1993
** Allyn S. Abramson	1955	Herschel P. Mazer	1994
*Marius Thisted	1956	*Allen F. Kelman	1995
*Samuel Crystal	1957	*Jack A. Klapper	1996
*Michael Garner	1958	David M. Townsend	1997
*Arthur D'Avellar Jr.	1959	Russell E. Singer	1998
*Abraham J. Marks	1960	Ralph B. Dash	1999
*Marvin Shapiro	1961	Rafael Hernandez	2000
*Seymour Glick	1962	Stanley R. Taub P.M.	2001
*Sidney L. Herman	1963	*Robert V. Downs	2002
*Frank Gelfound	1964	Robert M. Berger	2003
*Jay Ludwin	1965	Lynn M. Freed	2004
*Abel Tobey	1966	*Gordon E. Perry P.M.	2005
*W. Robert Banks	1967	Harvey M. Tapper	2006
*Irving Wapner	1968	Lynn M. Freed P.M.	2007
*Harold J. Zinkow	1969	Eduardo Estrada	2008
*Benjamin Ennis	1970	*Jose A. Fiss P.M.	2009
*David Tribich	1971	Steve L. Eberhardt, P.M.	2010-11
Stanley Kadesh	1972	Robert H. Borden	2012
*Harvey Solochek	1973	Michael David	2013
*I. Robert Brown	1974	Richard A. Weiser, P.M.	2014-2015
David Springer	1975	Aaron J. Cohen	2016
*Marvin Linn	1976	Leland H. Celestre	2017
*Meyer M. Swartzman	1977		
*Stuart A. Graboyes	1978	*Deceased	**Demitted
**Marvin Winchell	1979		
Murray Tobias	1980		
*Lester Price	1981		
*Meyer S. Levine	1982		
**Joe Winchell	1983		
*S. William Gershon	1984		
Roger Sterneck	1985		
*Irving Levine	1986		
Melvin H. Barlam	1987		
Stanley R. Taub	1988		
Seymour Empol	1989		
*Norman I. Libes	1990		
Donald T. Pollock	1991		
Clifford C. Schlesinger	1992		



WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS LODGE NIGHT

Past Masters By Affiliation

Gordon M. Van Sanford	1962
David S. Handelman	1970
Henry H. Tarica	1971
Robert B. Brandt	1972
Richard V. Franco Sr.	1974
Ken Judd	1976
Stanley Garnett	1978
Harvey B. Lyman	1982
David P. Ottinger Jr.	1983
Thomas C. Crompton	1985
Vanso O. Jenabian	1986
Sam Makarem	1986
Alvin Gorenbein	1988
Ray Rosenbaum	1990
Jerome A. Shubb	1992
Russell H. Weis	1992
Aldo A. Dipre	1993
Jose A. Fiss	1994
Bruce E. Hudson	1995
Steven M. Weinberg	1995
Steven L. Eberhardt	1996
Sean N. Foran	1996
Stepan S. Varsam	1997
Victor M. Lerma	1998
Lloyd R. Turnquist	1998
Carlos H. Gonzalez	1999
Gordon E. Perry	1999
William H. Pike	1999
Vatche Izakellian	2001
Nishan "Nick" Khatcherian	2002
Avedis A. Abdoyan	2004
Burton E. Haaz	2004
Vartan Assadourian	2006
Ralph W. Morton	2009-10
Dan Shepard	2015
Leland H. Celestre	2016

Hiram Award Recipients

*Irving Levine P.M.	1979
*Fred R. Price	1980
*Sidney L. Herman P.M.	1980
*Allen Price	1983
*Irwin Rosenberg	1984
*Harry J. Angel	1985
*Buddy Samuel	1986
*S. William. Gershon P.M.	1988
*Ben Leibowitz	1988
*Lester Price P.M.	1989
*Allen F. Kelman P.M.	1990
Stanley R. Taub P.M.	1991
Howard Levine	1992
*Norman I. Libes P.M.	1993
Herbert Hyman	1994
Louis Kaminer	1995
Donald T. Pollock P.M.	1995
*Benjamin Ennis P.M.	1996
Barney B. Kort	1996
*Jerome H. Shatanoff	1997
**Bruce M. Blitz	1998
Clifford C. Schlesinger P.M.	1999
**Jack Brehm	2000
Leo W. Witz	2001
*Jack A. Klapper P.M.	2002
Ralph B. Dash P.M.	2003
Herschel P. Mazer P.M.	2004
Seymour Borenstein	2005
Gary B. Levitt	2006
Gerard E. Deprest	2008
Lynn M. Freed P.M.	2009
*William "Bill" Rosenthal	2010
*Ralph Feldfeber	2011
*Jose A. Fiss P.M.	2012
Steven L. Eberhardt P.M.	2013
Moses M. Gazazian	2015
Richard A. Weiser P.M.	2016
Javier De La Torre	2017

*Deceased ** Demitted

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS LODGE NIGHT

Concordant Bodies

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SCOTTISH RITE
Meets the 3rd Friday of Every Month at 6:30 p.m.
Van Nuys Masonic Building, 14750 Sherman Way,
Van Nuys

YORK RITE BODIES
SIGNET ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER #57
Meets the 1st Monday of
Every Month at 6:30 p.m.
Van Nuys Masonic Building,
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys

OMEGA COUNCIL #11
Meets Five Times a Year
Van Nuys Masonic Building,
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys

LOS ANGELES COMMANDERY #9
Meets the 3rd Monday of
Every Month at 6:00 p.m.
Van Nuys Masonic Building,
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys

AL MALAIKAH SHRINERS
NORTH VALLEY SHRINE CLUB
Meets the 4th Wednesday of
Every Month at 7:30 p.m.
At IHop Restaurant 22810 Van Owen, West Hills

ENCINO SHRINE CLUB
Meets the 2nd Thursday of
Every Month at 7:00 p.m.
Van Nuys Masonic Building,
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys

CENTURY HI TWELVE CLUB
Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of
Every Month at 12 Noon
At The China Olive Buffet
9224 Reseda Blvd., Northridge

RAINBOW FOR GIRLS SAN FERNANDO
ASSEMBLY #223
Girls Service Organization ... Ages 11 to 20 Years
Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of
Every Month at 7:00 p.m.
Van Nuys Masonic Building,
14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys

Committees, Chairs & Co-Chairs

Communications & Website
Scott I. Weber (*Webmaster*) - 818-280-0833
Michael David P.M. - 818-414-7080
Richard A. Weiser P.M. - 818-326-3841

Constitutional Observance
Ralph B. Dash P.M. - 818-766-3263

Funeral Committee
Wor. Aaron J. Cohen, P.M. - (818) 761-5803
Gerard E. Deprest - 818-980-8370
Moses Gazazian - 818-298-5652

Golf Committee
Eduardo Estrada P.M. - 818-880-8707
Scott I. Weber - 818-280-0833

Head Candidates Coach
Steve Varsam P.M. - 818-515-0093

Hiram Award Night
Gerard E. Deprest - 818-980-8370

Hunny-Do
The Ladies of Home Lodge

Picnic Committee
Gerard E. Deprest - 818-980-8370
Moses Gazazian - 818-298-5652

Public Schools
Andre Aladadyan J.W. - (818) 309-9318

Sick & Visitation Chair
Bob Brandt P.M. - 818-891-6476
Richard A. Weiser P.M. - 818-326-3841

Sideliners
Artin Aladadyan S.W. - (818) 321-0449

Social Events
Michael Egbert - 818-708-3810

Sweethearts Outreach
Michael Egbert - 818-708-3810
Richard A. Weiser P.M. - 818-326-3841

Telephone Committee
Richard A. Weiser P.M. - 818-326-3841

Trustee President
Moses Gazazian - 818-298-5652

Trustee Secretary
Gerard E. Deprest - 818-980-8370

Youth Activities Coordinator
Lynn M. Freed P.M. - 818-341-3954