

THE MASTER WORKMAN

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

OCTOBER 2018

WWW.HOMELODGE721.ORG

WHAT IS A FREEMASON



Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest fraternal organizations. The lessons Freemasonry teaches in its ceremonies, are to do with moral values. Freemasonry's acknowledgement, without crossing the boundaries of religion, is that everything depends on the providence of God. Freemasons feel that these lessons apply as much today as they did when it took its modern form at the turn of the 17th century.

Despite what many people claim, Freemasonry is not in any way a secret society. Freemasonry's so-

called secrets are solely used as a ceremonial way of demonstrating that one is a Freemason. In any case, Freemasonry has been exposed by the media for almost as long as they have existed. The real point of a Freemason promising not to reveal their secrets is basically a dramatic way of promising to keep one's word in general.

Other reasons why Freemasonry cannot be called a secret society are that Freemasons do not promise to keep their membership a secret. Where and when Freemasons meet are matters of public record.

It is ironic that Freemasons used to be quiet about their membership. They were and still are taught never to use it to advance their own interests. Critics have taken this the wrong way and think that there is something secretive and nasty because of the silence. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Masonic ceremonies are secular morality plays, which are learned by heart, by members of the lodge for the benefit of the person who is becoming a Freemason. Each ceremony has a message for the candidate.

»October Trestleboard«

Wednesday, October 3rd
STATED MEETING
OFFICERS BACK IN TUXEDOS

Wednesday, October 10th
OFFICERS QUALIFICATIONS

Wednesday, October 17th
LODGE WILL BE DARK PRIOR
TO GRAND LODGE
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Wednesday, October 24th
HIRAM AWARD CEREMONY

Wednesday, October 31st
LODGE DARK FOR HALLOWEEN

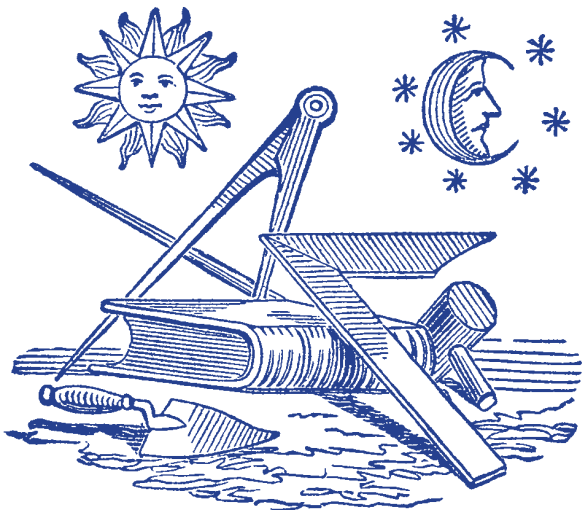
A further reason why Freemasons do not go around broadcasting their contents is simply because it would spoil it for the candidate. The same way you would not tell someone the ending of a good book or a film, you would not tell someone about the ceremony.

Freemasons are required to profess and continue in a belief in a Supreme Being. Their ceremonies include prayers, which are not in any way a substitute for religion. It has no theological doctrines, it offers no sacraments, and it does not claim to lead to salvation. By having prayers at its meetings Freemasonry is no more in competition with religion than, say, having a meal where grace is said.

Freemasons are not allowed to discuss religion or politics at meetings. Freemasonry's aim is to encourage its members to discover what people from all different backgrounds have in common. As is all too well known, debate about religion and politics can lead to heated discussion rather than enlightenment.

A Freemason is thus basically encouraged to do his duty first to his God, and then to his family and those who dependent on him. He is to help his neighbors through charity and service.

None of these ideas is exclusive to Freemasonry, but all should be universally acceptable and Freemasons are expected to follow them.



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
Peter Vogelsang Senior 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 Ladies and Brethren,

Now that Summer is over, we will be back in tuxedos for the remainder of the year.

Last month we had two 1st degrees. By the time Annual Communication rolls around all the officers should be qualified in their step up positions.

I want to thank the lodge for sending me and the Wardens for San Francisco for Annual Communication.

When you see Wor. Steve Varsam P.M. be sure to congratulate him on being the recipient of this year's Hiram Award. The award ceremony along with dinner will take place on Wed. Oct. 24. The cost for dinner is \$15 Dinner is at 6:30 and the presentation will begin at 7:30.

Please contact Bro Gerard Deprest, Assistant Secretary at (818) 980-8370 to make your reservations. No money will be taken at the door.

Also at the end of the month, when you are out driving around, please be careful of all the ghouls and goblins that will out walking around collecting candy.

Remember that Wednesdays are Lodge Night.

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

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



I'd like to first thank Worshipful Eduardo Estrada, P.M. for putting together yet another amazing event at the Glendale Theater. For those of us that attended, we saw Mary Poppins...which was amazing. Thank you Wor. Estrada for

continuing to give your time and effort for making this happen year after year.

As we come back from being Dark for the month of August the Officers move into their step-up positions. I'm very proud of all the Officers for the work they put in towards qualifications. I'm also reminded just how much work goes into qualifying. I'm genuinely proud of you all. A big 'thank you' goes out to our Officers Coach Wor. Michael David, P.M. for helping us all along the way.

As Officers we work so hard for our Ritual work to be "perfect." Yes, I used quotes. Perfection to me means something different than maybe most people, particularly when it comes to Ritual work. In my opinion, Ritual is "perfect" when you, as the Officer, feel what you're saying and doing and, when the person you're doing it for feels it as well. For me speed is irrelevant. Flawless delivery is irrelevant. Feeling is all that matters. Sure, we should strive to deliver the right words and motions but, without putting your heart into it, Ritual has no value or purpose.

Rushing through our work for the sake of getting through it is an injustice for two reasons: for the person you're doing it for and, for yourself as the Officer. If you don't believe me, ask any candidate after a degree. Ask them how they felt during their degree. Ask what it meant for them. Ask how they feel after their degree. Because, at the end of the day we are Masons for one reason only...for the people we aim to help and better. Doing something for the sake of doing it, is not doing it at all. What's the point then?

Continued on the next page

Appreciate the process. Relish in being a part of that process. Enjoy the process. Join the brothers in going through this journey together. For when the process is over, it is all over and, we won't have anything but a memory of that process. I, for one, would like to remember it as something meaningful, not something that came and is now gone.

Take that into consideration. Each of us that are Officers, either at Home or elsewhere, or have a desire to become an Officer should consider this.

From Master to Master the expectations will change but, what will always remain the same is the efforts we put into it. Those memories cannot, and will not, ever change.

I, for one, will always keep in mind Ritual is for me, but most of all for the people that are with me and I will practice it with my heart.

Fraternally from the West,
Artin Aladadyan, Senior Warden

A Message From Our Junior Warden Andre Aladadyan



I hope our Jewish brethren and their families had a happy holidays. The month of September has been a busy month for us as we work towards qualifications. The officers have worked tirelessly towards that goal.

As reminder we will be having a side liners degree on October 24, 2018. The sidelines have worked really hard to put on a great degree so I hope everyone will show up for it.

As we continue to work on our ritual work, we invite all those who have an interest in being an Officer and seeing what it takes to come and watch our practices.

As always, Wednesdays are lodge night and there's no place better to be than Home.

Fraternally from the South,
Andre Aladadyan, Junior Warden

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



This month the officers of Home Lodge will travel to San Francisco for The Grand Lodge of California's Annual Communication. It provides an opportunity for the officers to meet with members of other lodges as well as our Grand Lodge Officers. It is important that we keep Home Lodge in the forefront of Masonry in California.

I am very excited about the officer line that we have at Home Lodge. It contains a group of young men who have shown their dedication to Masonry and Home Lodge. They have many activities and educational programs planned for the coming years and I hope you will come to lodge and support them in their efforts to provide a meaningful experience to the Brethren.

Fraternally,
Richard Weiser, PM
Secretary

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



Home Lodge has been Home for me since 2011. I look back and last 7 years has been a ride filled with joy, happiness & sadness. Joy & happiness came along when friendships were made, and we reaffirmed our common believe in our Craft and in each other. Sadness was like we all say "Life happens" we lost quite a few well worthy brothers to the "Celestial Lodge" above.

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What we experience in our lives and in our lodge, is part of life and part of our daily routine which we cannot change, except make things better for us, our family and each other.

With that said, in this political turmoil with wide ranging opinions if you are a supporter or a critic, it should never come to lodge and never come between us as Masons. Civility should always prevail when we are in our lodge and other Masonic bodies.

I always keep mentioning that during the World Conference of Grand Lodges a couple of years ago where I attended with Brother Scott Weber. Ill Sizemore 33^o from Supreme Council of Scottish Rite Masons was the opening speaker and he said the following which till today has been engraved in my memory, "Masonry is one of the great things that happened to us, but unfortunately is being run by humans." The fact is that it was so true, as Masons we know better, we know to "act upon a square and always meet on the level."

Titles and positions along with all the masonic credentials that we hold in our lodges and concordant bodies are nothing and useless if you don't have the respect and support of your brethren of the Craft. I am proud that Home Lodge continues its efforts to keep the true tradition of Masonry alive, by education and training that we all need and deserve to have for not only ourselves, but for our new generation that will follow us.

Once again Civility has to always prevail in us, within us, and around us!

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Brother Moses Gazazian
Treasure
Home Lodge No. 721

**Trestleboard
October 2018**

Wednesday, October 3rd 6:30 p.m.
STATED MEETING
OFFICERS BACK IN TUXEDOS
Donation for all \$15.00
Home Lodge Widows are Free
BBQ Chicken or Baked Salmon
For dinner reservations please call (818) 446-6305

Wednesday, October 10th 7:00 p.m.
OFFICERS PRACTICE & QUALIFICATION

Wednesday, October 24th 6:30 p.m.
**HIRAM AWARD PRESENTED TO
WOR. STEPHAN VARSAM, P.M.**
Award presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.
\$15.00/person
Steak of Baked Salmon
For reservation please contact:
Bro. Gerard Deprest - (818) 535-5628

Wednesday, October 31st
LODGE DARK FOR HALLOWEEN





HOME LODGE No.721

*Free and Accepted Masons
of the State of California*

Cordially invites you to attend the
2018 HIRAM AWARD
Presentation

Honoring
WOR. STEPHAN VARSAM, P.M.

Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Dinner - 6:30 PM

Presentation will begin at - 7:30 PM

Van Nuys Masonic Center
14750 Sherman Way
Van Nuys, CA 91405

Dinner \$15.00 per person
Steak or Salmon

**NO MONEY WILL BE TAKEN
AT THE DOOR**

Make your reservations NOW!
Please contact

Bro. Gerard Deprest, Assistant Secretary
818-980-8370

Masonic Humor

On the subject of humor, have you heard this one: while visiting a newly initiated brother at home one day, his wife took me to one side and said her husband had started behaving very strange since joining. I enquired in what way? He locks himself in the toilet for hours on end mumbling to himself with his little blue book. As the evening proceeded I turned the talk to lodge, and asked him how he was getting on. Oh fine was his reply. I asked him about his behavior and was there anything wrong No was his reply. So why read the book in there? Well he said "Its the only TYLED room in the house."

A man is walking through the recreation ground of his local park when he notices a huge fight in full fury on the football pitch he is passing. "What's going on?" He asks a spectator watching from the side-lines. The other replies "It's a match between the Masons and the Knights of St Columbus." "What's the score?" asks the first man. "I don't know, it's a secret."



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