

THE MASTER WORKMAN

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

MAY 2019

WWW.HOMELODGE721.ORG

BLENDING THE LEGENDARY AND HISTORICAL IN FREEMASONRY

THE NEW AGE - FEBRUARY 1951

In deciphering ancient history there is always the question as to how much is legendary and how much is historical. With an institution like Freemasonry, whose teachings reach back into thousands of years, such problems inevitably present themselves. There are indications of Masonic teaching as far back as twenty-two centuries before Christ. In one of the oldest classes of China will be found a directive that "Officers of Government apply the compasses."

Writing in *The Pentagonam* (1949), the Official Masonic Gazette of the District Grand Lodge of the Eastern Archipelago (comprising the Malaysian area), C. L. Edwards calls attention, in an article "Legend or History - Which?", to the fact that in the Fifth Century B.C. a work entitled "Great Learning" says that a man should refrain from doing to others what he would not want done to himself. This the writer characterized as "acting on the square." In a similar manner Confucius and his disciple Mencius measured proper conduct with the Compasses and the Square, together with the Level and the Marking Line.

The historic stones of Ancient Egypt give further proof were any needed.

Mysterious rituals practiced at Memphis are described by Plutarch. There were two groups of these orders. The lesser one allowed a large membership and the greater one restricted its membership. The lesser embraced dialogues and ceremonies, and had signs and passwords. But the greater order confined its membership to the few who proved that they were capable of receiving the secrets of science, philosophy and religion. These had to undergo trial by ordeal before they were held eligible to receive by symbols the highest wisdom to which man had up to that time attained, namely, the fine arts and the laws of nature as well as of faith.

A central theme that of the immortality of the soul runs through many of these ancient mysteries and, spiritually at least, Masonry is held by many to be the descendant of the Great Ancient Mysteries. For instance, along about 1800 B.C., the Grecian Mysteries depicted the death of Dionysius. There was a stately ritual, which led the neophyte from death to immortality. Similarly, the Druids, as far north as England, conducted candidates from bodily surcease to spiritual perpetuity. A considerable time prior to the coming of Christ the Mysteries preached the same general theme - birth, life, death, immortality.

Plato's interpretation of the Mysteries was that they were intended to teach purity, to lessen and, if possible, cure cruelty, improve morals and manners, and to instill a strong consciousness of human responsibility. There was clearly no mystery as to what was taught. The only secrecy was as to the rites and symbols used.

The fortified isle in lake Como of northern Italy was the seat of a colony of architects known as the Comacines. They had fled from the ruin of Rome. In the Roman Empire special privileges were extended to the Colleges of Architects. They were presided over by a Master and Wardens. They used the simple tools of the builder as their emblems. The ruins of Pompeii have revealed much information about these architects who had settled on the fortified isle in Lake Como.

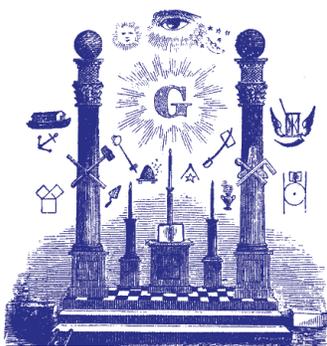
They are credited with having carried their knowledge of architecture to Germany, France, Spain and England. Masonic authorities have characterized them as Freemasons because they were builders of a privileged class, relieved of the duty of paying taxes, absolved from servitude and free to travel about in times of feudal bondage.

In England their descendants are credited with being responsible for many of England’s most magnificent structures of the early centuries. And one fact stands out to show the camaraderie of these architects and builders. During the reign of Henry II and many years after the arrival of St. Augustine, there were built in England over 150 cathedrals, churches and monastic buildings, and, despite the ravages of World War II, many of these magnificent buildings exist today and reveal superb symmetry and exquisite beauty, yet the name of no one individual is associated with any of these buildings. The theory is that they were built by communities or lodges of operative Masons living in the precincts of each building during the process of its erection, which must have been a long and laborious undertaking. When the operative element and speculative Masonry gradually merged, there remained a system of morality “veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.”

A book setting forth a history of the Company of Masons of the City of London, published in 1375, shows that the word Freemasonry appears to have been used in England for the first time about the year 1350.

The initiatory ceremonies of our prehistoric ancestors were the true origin of Freemasonry according to some Masonic scholars. Masonry is an answer to those unexpressed yearnings for Light, which is to be found in all religious systems and prove that the spiritual basis of Masonry is as old as the human race itself. As Mr. Edwards so aptly states: “On the floor of the Lodge men of all races and creeds are able to meet on common ground and make their devotions to a Creator who is neither God, nor Buddha, n or Allah, nor Brahma, nor Jehovah, but who is yet each and all of these.”

The symbols of Masonry, old and simple and universal, still have magnetic appeal to bring men together in a bond of integrity and brotherhood and humanity.



Home Lodge Officers - 2019

- Artin Aladadyan Worshipful Master
(818) 321-0449
- Andre Aladadyan Senior Warden
(818) 309-9318
- Peter Vogelsang Junior Warden
- 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
- Orlando Salas Senior Decon
- David Ter-Petrosyan Junior Decon
- Boris Linares Senior 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
Artin Aladadyan**



To start I'd like to wish a happy Mother's Day to all mothers. We owe them more than we can ever repay. My mother has done so much for me; from tutoring me through math to teaching me to cook, skills I'll forever be thankful for.

As we approach the mid-year, I want to express the pride I have in the officers of the Lodge. They've taken on so many roles and done so much that I would not be able to continue my term without them. These men are putting in hours of work, from ritual to other committees & we're making great progress toward a better future for Home Lodge.

I've also had time to reflect on what it means to be Master of a Lodge. The rewarding feeling, the duties, and the pressures that come with it. The Master is the ultimate servant of a Lodge. It is his duty to guide the Lodge towards a prosperous future, and to ensure the members are experiencing the most that the Lodge can offer. I take this duty to heart & urge our members to express to us what we can do to enhance what Home Lodge is offering.

We've taken the goal of our Grand Lodge to in stride and want to make Masonry more than just regular meetings. Our great aim is to pull inspiration from the original Masons of the United States and bring back the great discussions they once had; those of philosophy and the state of the world and all therein contained. It is only in Masonry that we know these discussions can be had without malice or offense, because we know to keep our passions within due bounds. Our founding fathers in Masonry were the best and brightest; the ones who laid the foundation for the ideals which created our nation. We should take inspiration from them and strive to be the ones that lay the foundation for the future. I encourage our Brethren to engage in these conversations and emulate of great predecessors in all aspects. It is only then that we can truly achieve the most as Masons.

As always, I thank those that join us week after week and urge those that have been away from Lodge to visit us again. The door is always open...

...Remember, there's no better place to be on a Wednesday night than at Home.

Fraternally,
Artin Aladadyan
Worshipful Master

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



"Harmony is the strength and support of all societies, especially of ours."

This is truly a profound statement as it means without Harmony Masonry lacks support. A lodge has three great supports, the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens. So that would mean the three great supports are to maintain the Harmony of Masonry by maintaining it within their lodges.

One definition of harmony is, "an interweaving of different accounts into a single narrative." By definition harmony requires the cooperation and efforts of each person to create and then, maintain.

I do not believe the Master or Wardens can "create" harmony on their own. Harmony is created by the collective of the brethren understanding and agreeing that peace, cooperation and, dignity is in their best interest of the lodge. More importantly, each brother must understand, regardless of their own beliefs, the good of the lodge must always prevail.

The opinion of how ritual is "supposed" to be done is not as important as encouraging, empowering, and respectfully teach the officer performing the ritual... that is now how you create harmony.

True, the Master's job is to maintain the harmony, but he cannot create it. Harmony is created by the collective. Therefore, this month, I encourage my brethren to evaluate how they can contribute to the harmony of a lodge, or, at the very least, not disrupt the It.

Fraternally Yours,
Bro. Andre Aladadyan
Senior Warden

**A Message From The
Junior Warden
Peter Vogelsang**



Firstly, a very happy Mother's Day to all the mothers of Home Lodge. None of us would be here without our mothers, and mine is still one of the most important people in my life.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Public Schools Night. The commitment of Home Lodge supporting California public schools was extended by your attendance. This year's presentation may have been brief, but we were able to show our continued support of California public schools. I must show my gratitude to Boris for stepping in to help by presenting his student.

On a slightly more serious note, we must consider how our brothers interact in lodge. Masonry is an institution in which we focus on quality over quantity. Our fraternity has never been one to take every man who walks through the door. We have standards for membership, and expectations for how brothers conduct themselves. Because we are human, occasionally men forget, and need to be reminded. It is not Masonic to scold, it is Masonic to gently admonish.

Thank you for the brethren for sending me to the Leadership Retreat. I expect I'll have much to learn for my first Masonic retreat. I look forward to being able to better serve the lodge.

Fraternally from the South,
Peter G. Vogelsang
Junior Warden

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



We are working hard on getting the officers ready for their step-up positions and being able to qualify for next year. Because of this several of the dates this month will be reserved for practices. We will be doing a 1st degree

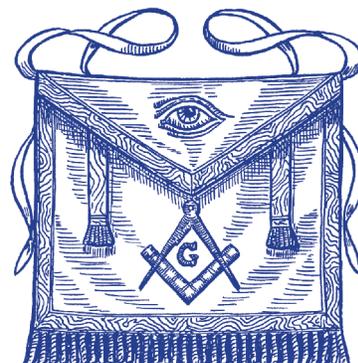
on May 22nd so please try and join us that night.

The education nights that Bro. Boris Linares has put together are a big hit and if you haven't made one yet please try to join us on the last Wednesday of the month.

Our May stated meeting will also be the official visit of our Inspector, Wor. Jeff Yates.

Those of you who have not sent in your dues, please remember that we will be voting to suspend at the June meeting. Please contact me or Jerry Deprest if you have any questions.

Fraternally,
Richard Weiser, PM
Secretary



WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS LODGE NIGHT

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



A few years back I had the privilege to represent Home Lodge at a conference of World Grand Lodges hosted by Grand Lodge of California with Brother Scott Weber. The Grand Executive Director of Supreme Council of Scottish Rite of Masonry Ill Bill Sizemore 33^o was the opening speaker and his words stuck with me till today. He said "Masonry is a great thing, but unfortunately it's being run by humans"

What I got out of it is that there are a few brother masons who just become masons to wear a ring and place an emblem on their car. That's all they get out of it. There are also a few brother masons who further pursue their Masonic education to gain more knowledge to improve their lives and some brothers who contribute to their lodge and concordant bodies by supporting each other and the causes that they truly believe in.

My belief in masonry and true understanding what it really is, to be honest, started when we were studying for our proficiency. It took a team of dedicated brothers to plan, get together and study for more than 3 months almost every weekend. We studied with Michael and Cal and then we went out and had fun. It developed a deeper understanding of the obligations that we took at the altar and also developed friendships, much better then what we had before.

Yes, we all are humans, we have our flows, but we always look at each other when a brother takes his proficiency and remember what we did, how we did it and how we pulled it through, despite doubts that some had if we were capable of doing that.

Human nature for centuries has changed, simple "climate" of thinking has changed, attitudes and status of humans is changing every day, but few things that we did develop and firmed upon each other will last for years to come and hope that it will never change.

Masonry to me is true brothers that I have around me and friendships that I have with few that I call my friends and don't have a problem opening my door for them at any time of the day. You know who you are and I have no doubt that you would do the same.

So thank you to those who believe and thank you to those who continue to better themselves, their family and the Craft every day.

Fraternally,
Moses Gazazian
Treasurer

Trestleboard - May 2019

Wednesday, May 1st 6:30 p.m.
STATED MEETING
6:30 PM - 10:00 PM
Dinner \$15.00 per person
Chicken or Baked Salmon
For dinner reservations please call (818) 446-6305

Wednesday, May 8th 7:00 p.m.
OFFICERS PRACTICE
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Wednesday, May 15th 7:00 p.m.
OFFICERS PRACTICE
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Wednesday, May 22nd 7:00 p.m.
FIRST DEGREE
Bro. Peter G. Vogelsang, Junior Warden Presiding

Wednesday, May 29th 6:30 p.m.
MASONIC EDUCATION EVENING
6:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Light refreshments & soft drinks
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Masonic Education

Masonic Symbol Quiz

Home Lodge Dues Information

- 6. *What does the "Anchor" symbolize?*
 - a. That early Masons were sailors
 - b. Part of Noah's Ark
 - c. That you should be set in your ways
 - d. The voyage of life

- 7. *What does the "Compass" symbolize?*
 - a. Used for navigation
 - b. Used to draw circles
 - c. Infinite spiritual boundaries
 - d. The Junior Deacon's Jewel

- 8. *What does the "Square" represent?*
 - a. Fairness, balance, firmness and stability
 - b. Honesty, charity, fairness and balance
 - c. Brotherhood, hope, faith and charity
 - d. The Treasurer's jewel

- 9. *What does the "Level" represent?*
 - a. A symbol of equality
 - b. A symbol of stability
 - c. A symbol of truthfulness
 - d. A symbol of brotherhood

- 10. *What does the "Sheaf of Corn" represent?*
 - a. Harvest
 - b. Plenty
 - c. Fall
 - d. Straw

Our dues for 2019 are \$101.00 per member, due on or by the 1st day of January. If you are not at the very least in possession of a 2018 dues card (haven't paid your dues for 2018) 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 2019. 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 2019 term are \$101.00*
- 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 2019

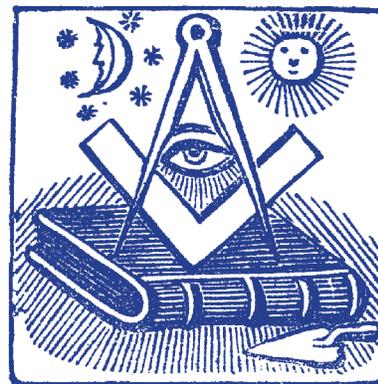
- 49 and under is 21 times the annual dues: \$2,121.00*
- 50 to 54 is 19 times the annual dues: \$1,919.00*
- 55 to 59 is 17 times the annual dues: \$1,717.00*
- 60 to 64 is 14 times the annual dues: \$1,414.00*
- 65 and older is 11 times the annual dues: \$1,111.00*

Masonic Symbol Quiz Answers

q-0l 'v-6 'v-8 'c-7 'p-9

Past Masters of Home Lodge No. 721

*Deceased	**Demitted		
*William H. Eyler	1952-54	Donald T. Pollock	1991
** Allyn S. Abramson	1955	Clifford C. Schlesinger	1992
*Marius Thisted	1956	*Mark A. Leibert	1993
*Samuel Crystal	1957	Herschel P. Mazer	1994
*Michael Garner	1958	*Allen F. Kelman	1995
*Arthur D'Avellar Jr.	1959	*Jack A. Klapper	1996
*Abraham J. Marks	1960	David M. Townsend	1997
*Marvin Shapiro	1961	Russell E. Singer	1998
*Seymour Glick	1962	Ralph B. Dash	1999
*Sidney L. Herman	1963	Rafael Hernandez	2000
*Frank Gelfound	1964	Stanley R. Taub P.M.	2001
*Jay Ludwin	1965	*Robert V. Downs	2002
*Abel Tobey	1966	Robert M. Berger	2003
*W. Robert Banks	1967	Lynn M. Freed	2004
*Irving Wapner	1968	*Gordon E. Perry P.M.	2005
*Harold J. Zinkow	1969	Harvey M. Tapper	2006
*Benjamin Ennis	1970	Lynn M. Freed P.M.	2007
*David Tribich	1971	Eduardo Estrada	2008
Stanley Kadash	1972	*Jose A. Fiss P.M.	2009
*Harvey Solochek	1973	Steve L. Eberhardt, P.M.	2010-11
*I. Robert Brown	1974	Robert H. Borden	2012
David Springer	1975	Michael David	2013
*Marvin Linn	1976	Richard A. Weiser, P.M.	2014-2015
*Meyer M. Swartzman	1977	Aaron J. Cohen P.M.	2016-2018
*Stuart A. Graboyes	1978	Leland H. Celestre	2017
**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		



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 P.M.	2009-2010
Dan Shepard	2015
Leland H. Celestre	2016

Hiram Award Recipients

*Deceased	**Demitted
*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
Stephan Varsam, P.M.	2018

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 - 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. Artin Aladadyan - 818-321-0449
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
Peter G. Vogelsang J.W.

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

Sideliners
Andre Aladadyan S.W. - 818-309-9318

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