

THE MASTER WORKMAN

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

SEPTEMBER 2020

WWW.HOMELODGE721.ORG

A MESSAGE FROM OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER ANDRE ALADADYAN



Dear brethren, ladies and, friends:

I hope everyone is doing well, remains healthy, and safe. Certainly, this year thus far has been filled with a lot. Who knew the passing of the late & great

Kobe Bryant would follow utter catastrophic events: plague, civil unrest, aliens, kill hornets, etc. (I'm sure there is more but who is keeping up at this point).

I can say for sure, I genuinely miss that feeling of the anxiousness surrounding Wednesdays. I miss the feeling of Tuesday night, knowing there was lodge the next day. I miss the feeling of being exhausted after a whole day but know we had a degree to put on. I miss putting up into the parking lot seeing my brothers. Usual, Peter, Orland, or General Jack would be there to greet me followed by a whole team of brothers and friends.

It's for these reasons I understand how the Zoom/Ring video chats have begun to die down. Masonry was never meant to be virtual, and although we try our best to maintain a sense of continuance and familiarity – it's not the same, I know. **I know it's been difficult for many of you. It's just not the same.**

I wish I could take the keys, open the doors, grab the awesome projector and speaker Mike Egbert got the lodge, throw on a classic movie, grab ice cream and popcorn and other snacks, invite you all

in and for us to just be around each other – sadly, I cannot. (Side note: this may not be a bad way to get back into it – I will bring the idea up with the Master).

I'm writing this article way in advanced of September (thinking of you Bro. Weber). To be honest, it's July 20, 2020. I'm at home (my home since I moved out), working from home, and writing this on my lunch break. During this moment, I'm thinking of my younger brother, Artin, and my father, Zhorzh (George). The two men that have shaped who I am today, the two who have, in essence, guided all of my decisions and goals whether they knew it or not.

I'll begin with the obvious. My father has been half of my greatest support, the other being my mother; but my mom is for a whole separate and entire article itself. My father, in his many flaws and strengths, has been the mold that I have become to realize I am shaped from. My laugh, my sneeze, my attitude (not temperament – that I have of my mother's), my desire to help and support others, and carry burden, and to place others before myself, even if at my detriment, come from my father. My father is the best man I know and have ever known. My father fed his family and many others, all while making sure Sunday's he saw his boys. My father built a business from his reputation that fed 300+ employees and their families, along with the families of his brothers. My father has two boys, but raised 10 children.

My father has had to weather many difficulties and overcome constant set-backs in life. When I was younger I blamed him for a lot of the misfortunes we had (however little they were). As I got older, I understood it's never been that cut and dry. My father gave my brother more than we could have every needed or wanted. The success I enjoy and

have today I owe in part to my father. So whatever we have had to endure, and whatever he has had to endure, I am forever grateful.

My brother is cut from a different cloth. Although he is my younger brother, in many ways I look up to him. My brother has an analytical mind that, at the same time, is very much creative. I admire the way he calculates his approach to an issue, instead of spear heading it like I do. I admire my brother's patients and resolve. As we both grew with our own life experiences, I quietly took example from him. In many ways, I have taken example from my brother and tried to emulate his qualities. This is not to say he is without flaw and doesn't take after me in many ways. However, when I stepped out of my own ego to learn from others, one of the first people I looked at was my younger brother. Like my father, I am truly grateful for Artin. In more ways than I can count, he has made me a better person.

Both men have taught me many things, but one in particular is humility, resulting in the ability to accept the fact that one can learn from anyone. Through that learning we become better. Where the lesson comes from is not as important and learning. I'm just lucky and grateful the lessons came from two of the most important people in my life. Masonry is all about learning and growing. This is what Masonry is about. Just saying, "making good men better" doesn't do anything. To be better, you have to step out of your own way sometimes. True growth in life and in Masonry comes then. If we think our answers are the only ones, or our understanding is the only one, then we will never grow, we will never understand the first line of the first sentence of our Entered Apprentice Degree.

I look forward to seeing the faces of my friends and brothers. I miss you all, and wish you all healthy and safety.

With Love,
Andre Aladadyan
Worshipful Master
Home Lodge, No. 721

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN PETER VOGALSANG



"Waste no more time arguing about what a good man should be. Be one." -Marcus Aurelius

Worshipful Andre Aladadyan and I first met at the July 2015 Stated Meeting. I'll be honest and admit that I was intimidated.

We were sitting in the anteroom to the Lodge, and the man sitting in front of me was the one enforcing who was allowed inside. There didn't seem to be a need for him to actively enforce as he knew every face that passed by and walked inside. Each one would grab an apron, put it on, and be greeted by name at the door.

After everyone was within that mysterious room, another man holding what looked to be a spear closed the doors. I, of course, was not invited in. This did not surprise me, but now it was just this man wearing a tuxedo with a small gold sword around his neck, and me. I'd been interviewed by other members of the Fraternity before, but now it was the Tiler's turn. If you've ever met Worshipful Aladadyan, you know that he has an almost permanently furrowed brow, and one that didn't soften now that a fresh applicant was in front of him. This isn't to say he was mean or aggressive; in fact, he was quite cordial and friendly for someone who never seemed to blink. We sat and talked for the full hour and a half that the doors were closed, and he invited me back the following Wednesday and every subsequent Wednesday. As a matter of fact, it wasn't an invitation. It came across more as, "You have an interest in this fraternity? This is what you're going to do." So I did, because I know what's good for me.

From that July until the following February when I was initiated, Andre and I sat and talked every Wednesday. We talked about our lives, we talked

about Masonry, and sometimes we talked about absolutely nothing, which is truly every man's favorite topic of discussion. Andre explained what Masonry is. He explained its history and its values, and how it doesn't matter if I call the Supreme Architect "God," "Allah," or "Hashem." He told me it didn't matter what I did for work or how much money I made. He would point at the photos on the wall around the room, the more than a century's worth of men who have led our Lodge. All that mattered was the content of their character. A genuine friendship grew from our time spent together, and on 10 February 2016, that friend turned into a brother.

Since then Andre has served as a very important mentor for me. He has never been shy to offer advice on various topics, Masonic or non-Masonic, whether I ask for the advice or not. It is always valuable. He has consistently stayed one chair ahead of me in the officer line and is a model of courtesy and leadership for me to follow. From attending the Tahoe retreat at his side to now being his Senior Warden, I have clearly seen that Worshipful Andre Aladadyan wastes no time arguing about what a good man should be. He just is one.

Fraternally from the West,

Peter G. Vogelsang
Senior Warden



**A MESSAGE FROM OUR
JUNIOR WARDEN
ORLANDO SALAS**



Dear Brethren and Home Lodge Ladies,

As we approach the month of September, I want to wish all my Jewish Brothers and families a Happy New Year. May this be a Good and Sweet

Year filled with health and joy.

I want to wish all my Brothers and Families a wonderful Labor Day! Sometimes it may seem like the world takes your efforts for granted. It may seem like you are inconsequential in the grand scheme of things. But remember, even with this pandemic going on, I want you to know that you are valued and the work you do is much appreciated, specially our Police Officers and Fire Fighters. Have a peaceful Labor Day!

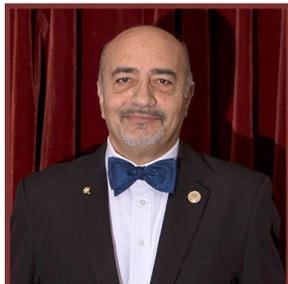
Please reach out to our older Brothers and let them know you care and think about them.

May G_d bless you all and your families.

Fraternally from the South,
Orlando Salas
Junior Warden

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
IS LODGE NIGHT
JOIN US ON ZOOM CONTACT
BRO. MIKE EGBERT
TO FIND OUT MORE**

A MESSAGE FROM THE
TREASURER OF HOME LODGE,
BROTHER MOSES GAZAZIAN



*From the Treasurer's
Desk*

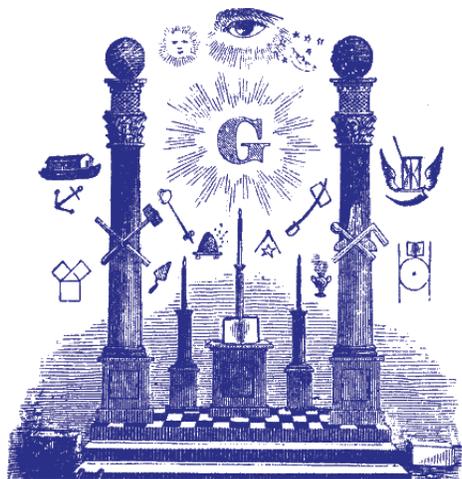
Hello Brethren,
We're moving in to September already and schools are starting in an unusual way, but we as parents and our children have to adjust somehow with current times. For centuries Masons found a ways to adjust, survive and prosper by simply doing our best to deal with it and keep our traditions alive. If we didn't have challenges and problems we wouldn't know how to resolve those and life would be boring.

All I can say is we are all in this together and we are all strong enough to face it head on as best as we can.

Please stay safe and healthy. Looking forward to the day where we can get together again for real.

My best regards to you, your family and your loved ones.

Fraternally,
Bro. Moses M Gazazian
Treasurer



A MESSAGE FROM THE
SECRETARY OF HOME LODGE,
RICHARD WEISER, P.M.



*From the Secretary's
Desk*

It is hard to imagine that most of us have been in isolation for the past five and a half months. It is difficult not being able to meet with our friends, go to a movie or out to dinner. All we can hope for is to stay safe, protect those we love and hope that things will be back to normal soon.

September is Constitutional observance month and we will continue in the tradition of hearing a talk on the subject. Wor. Andre Aladadyan will present this talk during our virtual meeting on September 2nd. If you are not sure how to join the meeting, you can contact Bro. Mike Egbert and he can help you.

We have also been using a new communications tool called **SLACK**. It allows you to get and send messages to the Brethren through your cell phone. Brother Mike can help you with that as well.

We are still working on setting up a virtual lesson on how to use the new member center on **iMember 2.0**. If you have been trying to use this program and need some help please contact me and I will try to help you or at least find out the answer to your question.

Keep Safe and be well.

Fraternally,
Bro. Richard Weiser, P.M.
Secretary

2020 HOME LODGE OFFICERS

- Andre Aladadyan Worshipful Master
(818) 309-9318
- Peter Vogelsang Senior Warden
- Orlando Salas Junior Warden
- Moses Gazazian Treasurer
(818) 298-5652
- Wor. Richard A. Weiser, P.M. Secretary
(818) 326-3841
- Gerard E. Deprest Assistant Secretary
(818) 980-8370
- Michael Egbert Chaplain
(818) 691-0069
- Wor. Michael David, P.M. Marshal
(818) 414-7080
- Boris Linares Senior Deacon
- Wor. Aaron J. Cohen, P.M. Junior Deacon
- Hayk Mushegian Senior Steward
- To Be Filled Junior Steward
- Zhorzh Aladadyan Tyler
- Wor. Artin Aladadyan, P.M. Officers Coach
(818) 321-0449
- Wor. Leland H. Celestre, P.M. Inspector 709th

2020 DUES INFORMATION

Our dues for 2020 are \$103.00 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 2019) 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 2020 term are \$103.00*
- Petitions for membership are \$425.00*
- Petitions for affiliation are \$130.00*
- Petitions for out of state affiliation are \$285.00*

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

Any member of Home Lodge to pay the prorated fees as prescribed in the Masonic Grand Lodge of California F.&A.M.'s *Masonic Code: 27020*

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2020

- 49 and under is 21 times the annual dues: \$2,163.00*
- 50 to 54 is 19 times the annual dues: \$1,959.00*
- 55 to 59 is 17 times the annual dues: \$1,751.00*
- 60 to 64 is 14 times the annual dues: \$1,442.00*
- 65 and older is 11 times the annual dues: \$1,133.00*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
IS LODGE NIGHT
JOIN US ON ZOOM CONTACT
BRO. MIKE EGBERT
TO FIND OUT MORE

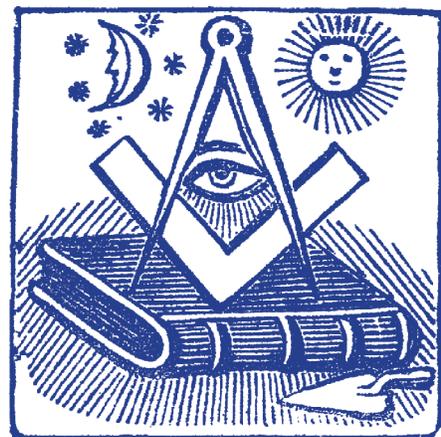
PAST MASTERS OF HOME LODGE NO. 721

*William H. Eyler	1952-54
** Allyn S. Abramson	1955
*Marius Thisted	1956
*Samuel Crystal	1957
*Michael Garner	1958
*Arthur D'Avellar Jr.	1959
*Abraham J. Marks	1960
*Marvin Shapiro	1961
*Seymour Glick	1962
*Sidney L. Herman	1963
*Frank Gelfound	1964
*Jay Ludwin	1965
*Abel Tobey	1966
*W. Robert Banks	1967
*Irving Wapner	1968
*Harold J. Zinkow	1969
*Benjamin Ennis	1970
*David Tribich	1971
Stanley Kadesh	1972
*Harvey Solochek	1973
*I. Robert Brown	1974
David Springer	1975
*Marvin Linn	1976
*Meyer M. Swartzman	1977
*Stuart A. Graboyes	1978
**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
*Mark A. Leibert	1993
Herschel P. Mazer	1994
*Allen F. Kelman	1995

Jack A. Klapper	1996
David M. Townsend	1997
*Russell E. Singer	1998
Ralph B. Dash	1999
Rafael Hernandez	2000
Stanley R. Taub P.M.	2001
*Robert V. Downs	2002
Robert M. Berger	2003
Lynn M. Freed	2004
*Gordon E. Perry P.M.	2005
Harvey M. Tapper	2006
Lynn M. Freed P.M.	2007
Eduardo Estrada	2008
*Jose A. Fiss P.M.	2009
Steve L. Eberhardt, P.M.	2010-11
Robert H. Borden	2012
Michael David	2013
Richard A. Weiser, P.M.	2014-2015
Aaron J. Cohen P.M.	2016-2018
Leland H. Celestre	2017
Artin Aladadyan	2019

*Deceased

**Demitted



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

*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
Aaron J. Cohen, P.M.	2019

*Deceased

**Demitted

HOME LODGE COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS & WEBSITE

Scott I. Weber, Michael David, P.M.
Richard A. Weiser, P.M.

FUNERAL COMMITTEE

Wor. Artin Aladadyan, Gerard E. Deprest,
Moses Gazazian

GOLF COMMITTEE

Eduardo Estrada, P.M., Scott I. Weber

HEAD & ASSISTANT CANDIDATES COACHES

Steve Varsam, P.M., Jack Artinian

HIRAM AWARD NIGHT

Gerard E. Deprest

HOME LODGE TRUSTEE PRESIDENT

Moses Gazazian

HOME LODGE TRUSTEE SECRETARY

Gerard E. Deprest

HONNY-DO

The Ladies of Home Lodge

MASONIC EDUCATION NIGHT

Boris Linares

PICNIC COMMITTEE

Gerard E. Deprest, Moses Gazazian
Javier Del la Torre

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Orlando Salas, J.W.

SICK & DISTRESSED

Tommy Ray Smith

SIDELINERS

Peter Vogelsang, S.W.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Michael Egbert

SWEETHEARTS OUTREACH

Michael Egbert, Richard A. Weiser, P.M.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE

Richard A. Weiser, P.M.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

Lynn M. Freed, P.M.

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

ENCINO SHRINE CLUB

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

**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