



TRESTLE BOARD

Natoma Lodge #64

June
2009



FROM THE EAST

Greetings
from the East—

Welcome to our newest Mason—Brother Brian Tatro, who was initiated as an Entered Apprentice in May—welcome, Brother! Please take a moment to congratulate Brother Tatro the next time you see him. Congratulations will be in order later this month to our newest Master Mason, Richard Brooks, who will be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason with the assistance of the Shrine Unit's Past Master team.

This past month has been busy for your officer corps—we participated in and won both the District level and the Division-level Ritual Competitions – now its off to State. Our wardens both completed their respective leadership retreats as well. Both of these events are cornerstones to the continuance of our presence in the community. By continuing to perfect our ritual we are perpetuating our craft for the future. And our Wardens, by attending their leadership retreats, are preparing to make the immediate future one filled with promise as well as preparation.

June will be an exciting month!

This month we pay homage to our Past Masters—those men who have led our Lodge in the past and have continued to be mentors to the leadership that has followed them. Please come out to our Stated Dinner and show your appreciation to the Brothers who have given so much to make Natoma Lodge what it is today. Special thanks to our Junior Past Master, Worshipful Geoff Risse for all of his hard work and planning in making this event memorable!

June 20th is our annual Lodge picnic. A special thanks to Brother Scott Leventon and his committee for all of their hard work and planning. Please come out and enjoy the fruits of their labors—it promises to be an afternoon well spent! For more information please contact Scott Leventon.

Looking forward, July will be our annual Golden Veteran's Celebration—we will gather together to honor those Brothers who have set a positive example in our world for over fifty years. Please come out and show these Brothers our appreciation for their half-century of service in our communities and mentorship to our craft.

We are indebted to those Lodge leaders from the past, those who are in leadership roles today, and those who are

about to undertake the Natoma leadership of tomorrow. Our Past Masters have set the bar high for those who are to follow that path, and by looking at the officers and key members in our Lodge I have nothing but confidence that Natoma will continue to be the Gold Standard in California Masonry, as well as the Standard of Freemasonry in general.

Travel Well, and continue to be one step in front of all others as the shining example for our ancient and honored Fraternity!

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2009 OFFICERS

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HALL ASSOCIATION

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
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Members	
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OTHER CONTACTS	
District Inspector	
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Grand Master	
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Rainbow	
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Amaranth	
Patricia Schilder	(916) 988-9518
York Rite Bodies	
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NATOMA BOOK CLUB	
When: June 24th at 7 PM	
Where: Natoma Lodge	
What: Discuss the book " <u>The Temple and the Lodge</u> "	
Who: All lodge members are welcome.	
Come on out and discuss Masonic literature and find out a little more about your fraternity...and yourself!	
Contact Bro. Bill Miklos PM for more information.	



FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

Brethren,

My wife, Kim and I just returned from the Senior Warden's Retreat. A retreat by definition is relaxing and restful, not the most accurate description of this weekend event. The two days are choreographed to have a maximum effect on the participants by filling their time with the ingestion of information in significant quantities. Seminar modules presenting topics such as leadership, team building, strategic planning, lodge finance and budgeting etc., etc. are held for three hours Friday night, all day Saturday and Sunday morning until noon. It is poetically comparable to a parched man drinking water from a fire hose. With pleasure, between seminars and during meals we enjoyed fellowship with other Northern California Masons and their wives, which is certainly more in tune with my definition of a retreat. Please do not consider my words to be negative in regards to the Senior Warden's Retreat or participation in it. The ideas, knowledge and training are invaluable. The Warden's Retreats are a Grand Lodge program worthy of our time and expense. Thank you for providing me the opportunity to attend.

We have many 2009 events such as the picnic and Past Masters' dinner to look forward to and enjoy. We advanced in ritual competition to the division level. This year the competition is very competitive, but we are up to it and have high hopes of bringing home another trophy. The year of 2009 is shaping up as a year to

remember for Natoma 64. Nevertheless, as I mentioned in last months Trestleboard, this year is quickly passing and the planning for 2010 cannot begin to soon. I asked that you each consider your talent and the time that you can lend to the lodge by participation on a committee or as and appointed officer. The request remains, and as a stimulus, please see the list of open committee and officer positions elsewhere in the Trestleboard.

This month I ask you to look forward and address our vision for the lodge. During the 2006 year, the Five Year Strategic Team (FYST) developed a five year plan, which the Lodge adopted. Within the plan, we established a vision:

Our Vision

Natoma Lodge, through the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, develops the strength of a man's character, inspires lifelong friendships, and encourages service to the community.

In conjunction with this vision we set goals -- and actions to meet those goals -- to thereby realize the vision. Natoma is a manifestation of the vision above, to a great extent we have followed this plan these past few years, but we have not achieved all that the five year plan set out to do. I learned at the Sr. Warden's Retreat that our shortcomings are not unique. Natoma 64 shares with most all lodges across our State difficulty in advancing EAs and Fellowcrafts, attracting membership to attend functions and participate in fellowship, and filling all the positions of leadership. This naturally limits the impact Freemasonry has on our membership, and on our community and society. It is my goal to change

this trend, before the challenge becomes even greater, while Natoma 64 is still regarded as one of the stronger lodges in our area.

My thoughts, my vision, and those of the officer corps are sufficient and will surely bring success to Natoma 64, but Natoma 64 is limited if we consider them alone. I seek your thoughts, those of you who read the Trestleboard every month but have not attended a Stated Meeting or other event in years, the Brethren who by life changes are now living beyond the boundaries of the Sacramento Valley, and those of you who sought membership in Freemasonry at Natoma 64, but have not been passed to Fellowcraft or raised to Master Mason. Your thoughts, your ideas are what we seek most. If we continue doing what we do, participation will remain as it is. While this works, it's not good enough, we can accomplish more. Therefore, to broaden the perspective of our leadership I submit the following open ended statements to **ALL** the Brethren of Natoma 64 asking that you provide your answers -- your vision -- your goals -- and the actions that we may take to bring about a greater participation by you, by all Natoma Masons, and thus a more significant impact on them, and through them the community in which we live.

1. I became a Master Mason with a desire to affect my life...my family...my community in the following manner...
2. If Natoma 64 Free & Accepted Masons of California accomplished just one thing every year, I wish it was...
3. I am a Mason but never became a Master Mason because...
4. I live out of the area and remain a

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FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings Ladies and Brethren,
 It's hard to believe that the days of summer are here along with the hot weather. As June is around the corner so is our lodge picnic. My picnic committee has worked hard to put together a wonderful picnic. Our main dish is going to be seasoned tri tip steak and a bunch of other nice dishes. There will be plenty of food so bring a potential member, family and friends. The picnic will be at Jack Kemp starting at high noon and will end about 4:00 PM. If you have any out door games you wish to bring you are more then welcome to bring them. Even if

you have indoor games they are welcome too.

Our ritual team advanced to the Division level of competition and proved victorious once again. Out of about 1000 spoken words Team Natoma missed 14 words. What a great job we did and you should all be proud that we advance to the finals. Win or lose we did great. This brings up a point and that is come to a degree and watch us work, we would love to see you there and offer up your support. We recently initiated Brother Rich Gardner, you all know him he cooks all out dinners that first Thursday of every month. I would like to congratulate him

and say it was an honor to be in the East for his degree.

The next event after the picnic will be the Child ID booth at the State Fair. There is a rumor that this event will not take place and I hope it is not true. If is true then it is a shame, not only do we ID hundreds of children but we as Masons get exposure and that's always a good thing. If the rumor is not true then I will be calling on our Masonic family to work a shift or two.

Travel well,
 The other Scott



PAST MASTER'S NIGHT

FROM THE JUNIOR PAST MASTER

Calling all *PAST MASTERS* of Natoma Lodge No. 64 F.&A.M!

You are hereby invited to be the **guest of honor at the June Stated Meeting Dinner** as Natoma Lodge honors its Past Masters by recognizing their year of service as Master of the Lodge. As a guest of honor of the Lodge, Your **meal** and that of one guest will be **free of charge**. Also, all of our guests of honor will receive a small token of the Lodge's appreciation for their year of service to the Lodge.

Please **RSVP** your dinner reservation to Scott Leventon, Junior Warden, (Home-916-386-2966, Work-916-552-8827, Cell-916-224-1196, scott_leventon@sbcglobal.net) by **June 1, 2009** and also indicate that you are a Past Master of Natoma Lodge No. 64 when RSVPing.

For more information, please contact Geoffrey Risse, Junior PM, at 916-801-1705 or by email at gdrisse@hotmail.com



LET'S EAT

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RSVP YOUR STATED MEETING DINNER RESERVATIONS TO THE JUNIOR WARDEN SCOTT LEVENTON AT scott_leventon@sbcglobal.net

If You Forget To RSVP, Please Come Anyway...But You Will Be Charged The Full \$12.00 Cost Per Meal.

Starter – Green Salad w/Ranch dressing,

Main Course - Baked Glazed Ham, Scallop Potatoes, Green Beans w/Bacon & onions, Dinner Rolls & Butter

Dessert - Apple Crisp

CONGRATULATIONS!!

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES			
Geof Podgorny	5-Jun	Abe Lahdo	4-Jun-86	John Brown PM	18-Jun-68
Herbert Blomquist	6-Jun	Walker Robinett	6-Jun-50	Robert Stewart	18-Jun-98
Casey Norris PM	12-Jun	Kenneth Taylor	8-Jun-83	S.E. Spas Jr	19-Jun-74
Laurence Hamilton	13-Jun	Joseph Isaac Sr.	8-Jun-59	Starr McConnell	19-Jun-71
Abe Lahdo	13-Jun	Allan Waldrop	8-Jun-06	Joseph Bellacera	19-Jun-71
Thomas Nickens	14-Jun	Harlie Linley	8-Jun-66	Charles Bonnes PM	19-Jun-70
Paul Tibbens	16-Jun	Harvey Phillips	10-Jun-81	Lloyd Parker	19-Jun-96
Michael Titus	17-Jun	Patrick Flynn PM	11-Jun-98	Craig Wilson	19-Jun-03
Karl Jolliffe	17-Jun	Melvin Warren	12-Jun-96	Craig Weaver	21-Jun-06
Theodore Barnes Jr	18-Jun	Brad Horn	12-Jun-90	Fred Johnson	23-Jun-93
Richard Nielsen	20-Jun	Glen Snell	13-Jun-73	Ronald Freed	23-Jun-53
Ernest Gardner	21-Jun	Huey Smith	14-Jun-63	Max Josan	24-Jun-04
Jerry Blevins	23-Jun	Rufus Hinton Jr.	15-Jun-72	Theodore Barnes Jr	27-Jun-79
Ronald Creel	23-Jun	Jerry Blevins	15-Jun-83	Jere Jacobs	27-Jun-62
Ryan Smith	24-Jun	Charles Berkness	16-Jun-82	David Clarke Sr	27-Jun-66
Robert Buck	25-Jun	Jakob Hopp	16-Jun-93	Jerald Clements	28-Jun-76
Edwin Ratcliff	27-Jun	Kenneth Lopez	17-Jun-87	Clarence Shew	28-Jun-55
		Theodore Mitchel	17-Jun-54	James Maitland	29-Jun-83
		J. G. Bittner	18-Jun-75		



FRED VEFFREDO RECEIVES HIRAM AWARD



Congratulations Fred! Your many years of dedicated service to the lodge, your community and the Masonic Fraternity have placed you in an esteemed and rare group of men—Hiram Award Winners!

Brothers—the next time you see Fred, go up to him, shake his hand and thank him for his devotion and dedicated service.

The “Hiram Award” is the highest honor, other than being elected as Master of the Lodge, that can be bestowed on a member of a Masonic Lodge.

SENIOR WARDEN CONTINUED...

member of Natoma 64, I wish the lodge provided _____ to Brothers in my situation.

I attend most of Natoma 64 events and functions. I would attend more often if, and be more active in leading the lodge if _____

I am sincere in my desire to garner input beyond the typical circle of brothers who attend our meetings and events. It would be great to eventually meet all of you, but until then I hope to hear from you and consider your input to the vision of our lodge. Please consider at least one of these statements and respond by email or otherwise. If you have a different issue, share it. If email is not your preference, call or write me. You have my word as a Brother that your input will be shared, but if you request, your name shall remain confidential. My contact information is as follows. I look forward to your thoughts.

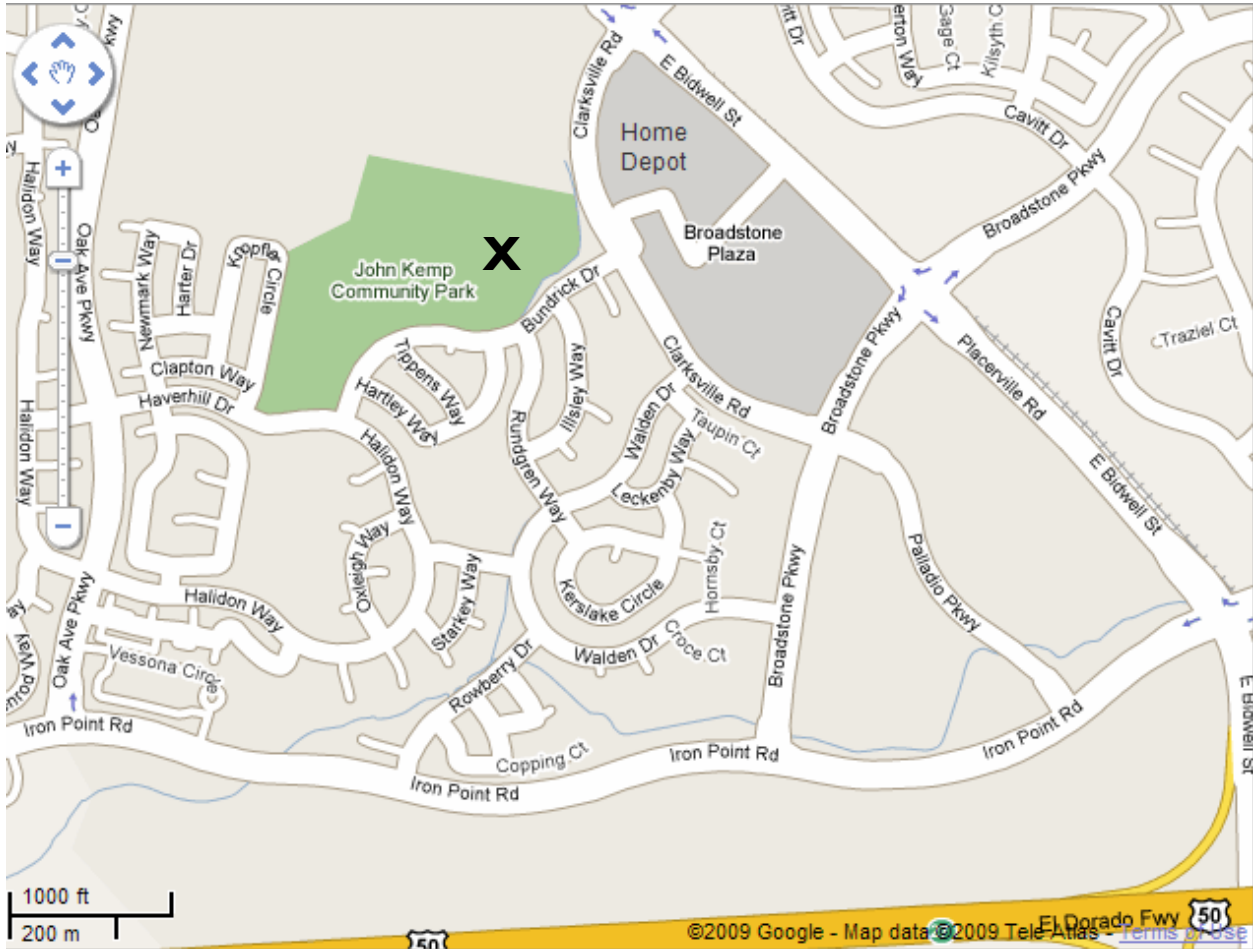
Michael Titus (916) 726-5272
8120 Donnawood Way
Orangevale CA 95662

michaeltitus02@gmail.com

Yours in Brotherhood and On the Level,

Mike

Natoma Annual Picnic - June 20th



Our annual picnic is June 20th at Jack Kemp starting at high noon and will end about 4:00 PM. All members and their families are encouraged to come out and swap stories in a different environment. Bring your favorite out door games and get some friendly competition going..

The park is located in Folsom off of Bundrick drive behind Home Depot



"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, ... and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing..."

Does this sound familiar? It should, as it is a part of our Masonic rituals! You don't have to wait for the annual giving requests,

You may go to www.freemason.org and create a giving plan to our Masonic foundation today!!

"...And now abideth faith, hope, & charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."



Return Service Requested



DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DRESS</u>	<u>INVITEES</u>
06/01	7pm	Rainbow	<i>Natoma Lodge</i>	<i>Bus. Formal</i>	<i>Masonic Adults</i>
06/04	6:30pm	Past Master Dinner	Natoma Lodge	Festive	Public
06/04	8pm	Stated Meeting	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
06/05	8pm	American River	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
06/09	7:30pm	Amaranth	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Amaranth Memb.
06/10	7pm	Hall Association	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Masonic Adults
06/13	8am	Shrine Club	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Shriners & Wives
06/15	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
06/20	Noon	Annual Lodge Picnic	Jack Kemp Park	Casual	Family and Friends
06/22	7:30pm	York Rite Bodies	Sutter Creek	Bus. Formal	York Rite Masons
06/24	7pm	Book Club Meeting	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Public
06/30	7:30pm	Amaranth	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Amaranth Memb.