



# TRESTLE BOARD

Natoma Lodge #64

July  
2009



## FROM THE EAST

Greetings from the East—Welcome to our newest Mason—Brother Daniel Lowrance, who was initiated in June—Welcome, Brother!

June was productive for us at Natoma Lodge as we enjoyed our annual picnic, competed at the State level for the Ritual Competition, re-launched our *Dirty Hands* club, had a few degrees and had a few ritual practices. For all of these efforts I salute you for a job well done! We really do set the gold standard at Natoma Lodge for California Masonry, and for that I am truly proud to be a part of it!

In July, we look forward to the celebration of fifty years of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth for Brothers Hollis H. Beckett, Jr., Herman D. Graham and James W. Minton. What a wealth of Masonic knowledge, mentorship, service and inspiration these Brothers have given us! I congratulate these Brothers for their years of service and for being the role models for the current as well as future generations of Masons. Special thanks to Worshipful Tom Golden, PM, for making the ceremony so special!

This month's issue of *California Freemason* magazine exemplifies the point made earlier about Natoma Lodge being the Gold Standard in Masonry as we are in this month's edition. For many years, Natoma Lodge has aided and assisted the public school system and has awarded scholarships to those who would be our future leaders. Although the economy has not been at

its best lately, we dug down deep and still managed to provide several generous scholarships to local area students. In fact, for 2008 the average Lodge in California gave approximately \$1447.00 dollars toward student scholarships—last year we gave approximately 622% more than the average Lodge in California (source: 2008 Member Annual report/ Grand Lodge F&AM of California). We aren't bragging, but we should be proud of the effort in doing what we feel is worthy. Our Senior Warden stated in his June, 2009 *Trestle Board* article what our *Vision Statement* is; "...encouraging service to the community." We live up to this vision, and I know that we will continue to live up to it in the years to come, despite economic conditions.

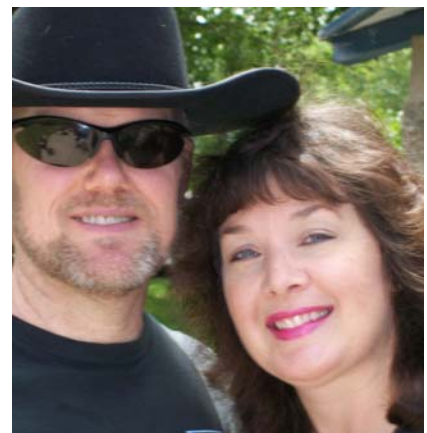
July also represents a time for preparation as we start to look forward to 2010. I am not going to rest on my laurels and start handing off assignments to next year's Officer line and take a five-month vacation—on the contrary—we are all working very hard to be prepared to meet the challenges that next year will present. With economic factors impacting us as they have in 2009, we are evaluating and implementing programs as well as establishing the Officer Corps in anticipation of 2010. As such, I am calling on all Brothers who are interested in becoming a part of next year's leadership to come forward and let Senior Warden Mike Titus know what it is you would like to do. In addition, we would like to have more Masonic research and discussions at the Stated dinner/ meeting—if you have a topic in mind and would like to shed some Masonic light on us next year, please see Junior Warden Scott Leventon for

details.

Looking forward to August, we will be having a presentation from one of our Masonic Homes at the Stated dinner. In fact, the August theme and this month's theme are really not so different—as we celebrate our fifty year members this month we also celebrate the lifetime of Masonic work the residents of our Masonic homes have given to the world. For one reason or another, many of our elder members no longer attend Lodge functions, and that is truly sad—not to mention the loss of knowledge that could be transferred to this generation and those to follow. So, here is the challenge I offer to you all—how can we continue to keep in touch with these elder members who cannot make it out to us as regularly as the rest of us? I will leave this challenge open and re-examine it periodically—this would be so beneficial to all of us if we could find better alternatives than we presently employ.

On this note I bid you all farewell until next time, and remember to travel well the path of righteousness and truth, which has been travelled by those who preceded us.

S



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## SECRETARY'S DESK

Again, this time of year brings the **noisy secretary** out of his cave to remind you that *nearly fifty of you haven't paid your dues*. I know it was late this past year that I notified you of your dues responsibilities but this is carrying it a little too far. I could reiterate the CMC requirements but you have heard that before. Please look in your wallet and if there is not a **2009 dues card** in there among the moths then you probably haven't paid your **2009 dues**. They are **\$81** for the year. If for any reason you cannot afford the dues please let the charity committee know through a note, email, or phone call that you would like your dues remitted.

Send that to me, the Secretary, Bob Johnson,  
3320 Bryant Ct.  
Sacramento, CA 95821  
Phone 916-488-5730  
email [bojohnso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bojohnso@sbcglobal.net).

Please help me keep the Lodge records up to date by paying your dues.

Any questions give me a call.

Bob Johnson,  
Your Secretary.



## FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

### 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 last month's Trestleboard I spoke of our current lodge Vision Statement and asked your help in refining it by responding to a few questions. Thus far no one has responded, and a wise past master (it's always wise to call them wise) suggests a web based survey may garner more response. We are now putting together such a survey.

In the mean time I offer a thought to ponder: Why did you choose Freemasonry opposed to any other fraternal or civic organization? Many Masons, including some in our lodge, are Rotarians and members of Lions International, etc. Membership in these organizations is commendable. Through civic leadership, as well as local and international benevolence, these organizations offer their membership great rewards. However, I suggest Freemasonry is all that and more.

I know why my choice was Freemasonry. We have a rich and storied history that reaches beyond the aspirations of these organizations. Freemasonry through its allegorical lessons and the symbolism of geometry seeks to be the builder of men. Freemasonry embraces values that naturally come from a belief in -- and relationship with -- a Supreme Being. Freemasonry judges men

by their internal qualities and not their external appearance or station in life, and guides men in the building of an internal spirit, a quality of character, beyond that of other fraternal and civic organizations. The culture created by the practice of our principles and values thereby "makes good men better" and in so doing builds within Masons spiritual ethics that are displayed as we lead our communities, care for those less fortunate -- including our widows and orphans, and promote within our society brotherly love, relief and truth. It is a history decorated by the accomplishments of Freemasons, some more known than others, which have left a large and indelible mark on the free societies of our world.

That portion of our vision that we share with other civic and fraternal organizations is second nature to the Mason that invests in his Masonic education. We practice brotherly love, relief, and truth, not because we are Masons, but because we have become better men through Masonry.

Why do I bring about this conversation, because beyond the refinement of our Vision Statement, I ask that you consider the current opportunities for your development as a Mason. The making of a better man does not end when he is raised, especially in American Freemasonry. By European standards we have reduced significantly the time and effort in Masonic education required to become a Master Mason, but we have not lowered the expectation that as Masons we will continue to build our house, strengthen our spirit, and aspire to meet the expectations of the Supreme Being, which we reverently acknowledge.

You are encouraged to attend our degree meetings, as they are filled with Masonic life lessons worth visiting again, or discovering for the first time. We suggest you embrace the Masonic education that is presented in our Stated meetings, or within the Trestleboard. Please consider personal participation in Masonic Education through the study and presentation of a Masonic paper. Many have expressed an apprehension to be a Candidates' Coach, claiming they are unqualified. Humbug, as a master of the work you are qualified to teach Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons. In the experience of many, it is through teaching our Masonic degrees that we learn for ourselves the spiritual depth contained in the speculative craft lessons. Therefore, by teaching you continue building the Mason and strengthen the man that you are.

Please consider again the vision of Natoma 64, not only for its refinement, but that you might partake of, and live it. Consider why you are and continue to be a Mason. If you desire by Freemasonry to strengthen your character through its principals and values, that you might be a better man, a better husband, neighbor, friend, and Brother then I ask you to be more than a Mason. I pray you that you consider greater participation in Freemasonry, especially at Natoma 64. I ask that you become an active Mason.

Yours in Brotherhood and On the Level,

Mike



## FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings Ladies and Brethren,  
 I would like to congratulate Brother Brooks who was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, a degree put on by the Ben Ali Past Masters Degree Team. I would also like to welcome and congratulate our newest member Brother Daniel Lowrance who was initiated at the end of June.  
 At the beginning of June our ritual team traveled to Union City to compete in the State level competition. Out of one thousand spoken words Team Natoma missed only four words. I would be glad to

tip my hat off to whatever lodge can top our performance.

Our annual picnic committee was hard at work, we met early in the month to go over assignments and as always my committee's have gone above and beyond the call of duty and put on quite a spread. We met at Jack Kemp park in Folsom and we had between sixty and eighty people show up. We had tri tip cooked by Darin Marin, ribs cooked by our Sr. Warden Mike Titus - great job guys. I would like to also thank my committee members of Scott Barbu, Mike Titus, Dan and Susan Leonard, Joe Lopilusa,

Ken Lopez and his lady, Brian Wegesser, and Geoff Risse. These great people not only either cooked a dish but also helped out with the clean up. This annual event takes a lot of planning but also a lot of work and I would like to thank everyone for all your help on making this such a memorable and wonderful event.

Until next time,

The other Scott



## PICNIC PICS





## LET'S EAT

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RSVP YOUR STATED MEETING DINNER RESERVATIONS TO THE JUNIOR WARDEN SCOTT LEVENTON AT [scott\\_leventon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scott_leventon@sbcglobal.net)

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

**What's Cookin'?**

**Soup/Salad—Macaroni Salad**

**Main Dish - BBQ Chicken, Roasted Red Potatoes, Grilled Zucchini w/Garlic, Dinner Rolls & Butter.**

**Dessert - Ice Cream w/Strawberry Topping**

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES			
Ron Stromstad	2-Jul	Kevin J. Goleno	19-Jul	James O'Hara	1-Jul-71
Rodney E. Lockett	4-Jul	Ed Halvorson	20-Jul	Lauro A. de Rojas	8-Jul-43
Tommy L. Smith	5-Jul	Terry L. Carroll PM	20-Jul	William P. Gilbert	9-Jul-94
Rich Briner	7-Jul	Henry R. Smith Jr.	20-Jul	Jonathan Haney	12-Jul-07
Richard Loechner	10-Jul	Everett Thorne PM	20-Jul	Robert H. Walden	13-Jul-57
Howard F. Day	10-Jul	Tom Ayers PM	21-Jul	Walvin Schnaible	14-Jul-61
Ralph Ward Jones	10-Jul	Huey P. Smith	23-Jul	Richard Nielsen	15-Jul-99
Edward Swanson	11-Jul	Russ Stevenson	26-Jul	Earl R. Campbell PM	16-Jul-55
Paul B. Yost	12-Jul	Larry Dowd PM	27-Jul	Justin De Wolf	17-Jul-08
Milt Briner	15-Jul	Daniel G. Brown	27-Jul	Wes Mindermann PM	18-Jul-02
Gary Sanders	17-Jul	Murray E. Jevning	29-Jul	Eric L. Wells	21-Jul-94
Mark S. Kimzey	18-Jul	William J. Burnham	29-Jul	Hollis H. Beckett Jr.	21-Jul-59
Donald P. Cotton	18-Jul	John Barrozo	30-Jul	Robert H. Parkyn	22-Jul-55
Larry A. Lesieur	18-Jul	Justin C. De Wolf	31-Jul	Karl Jolliffe	22-Jul-63
John C. Hewitt	19-Jul			Steven J. Metheny	27-Jul-98
				James W. Minton	29-Jul-59
				Brian Schilder	31-Jul-96



## RAINBOW GIRL HAPPENINGS

Natoma Assembly #90 had another wonderful week at Grand Assembly "Boot Scootin' Time in 2009" where we celebrated Kelli's promotion to Grand Editor. We also saw Kira retire after serving her second year as Grand Officer. Carolyn participated as an Observer Helper and Rebecca and Erin sang in Grand Choir. We arrived home in time for several of the girls and adults to join the Masons in stuffing Easter Eggs for the Folsom Eggstravaganza. We again hosted Rainbow's Northern California Adult Retreat. Several girls took part in Creek Cleanup Day.



OV season is upon us. We attended the first Official Visit (OV) in Galt where they announced the new Grand Service Project which is the Bay Area Crisis Nursery. We are now actively working on the details of our own OV to be held at the Jackson Lodge on July 20 at 7pm. The theme is "Rainbow Anatomy" (a spin-off of Grey's Anatomy). As always, please feel free to attend, we would love to see some familiar faces!

We had a spaghetti dinner followed by an Open Meeting. That night we received one signed petition and since then have received another one! Because of this, we will be performing two initiations this term, one on Monday, July 6th and another on Monday, August 6th. Both initiations will start at 7:00 p.m. and we would love to see you there. We are also looking forward to inviting our friends to upcoming activities such as the Rainbow Rummage Riot and Movie Night. If you know of any girls between the ages of 11 and 18, please call or email Mrs. Marshall on any open upcoming events. The girls have set a goal of initiating at least 10 new girls this year. With the 3 petitions that we have already received, they only have 7 more girls to go!

Our newest member, Jaia moved here from San Jose where she was a very active member. We enjoy she smiling face and the energy she brings to our Assembly. She is currently serving her first term as an officer here in Folsom as drill leader. She also shares the duty of writing articles for the Pot of Gold with Erin.

We had the pleasure of meeting every runner at the Shrine Run as we volunteered to support this event and

removed the racing chip from each runner's shoe and awarded medals to all of the young runners.

As always, thank you for your continued support.



## Other News...

### **Natoma 64 Polo Shirts**

We are currently developing plans to design our own member polo shirts that you may purchase. They will feature a square and compass and Natoma 64 F&AM on the breast, and on the sleeve – 2B1ASKME.

The shirts will be of high quality and available for members to purchase. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please contact Mike Titus at [michaeltitus02@gmail.com](mailto:michaeltitus02@gmail.com).

The plans are preliminary at this point, but a general idea of the demand, which will hopefully be high, will help us to minimize set-up costs.

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### **TEMPLARS...PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN?**

**Please join us at the Scottish Rite Center for**

**The NCRL Stated Meeting**

**On September 15, 2009 at 6 PM**

**The stated meeting will be followed by dinner and a special paper presentation.**

**All Master Masons are welcome!**

**Dinner \$15; You may use Paypal. Reservations are suggested.**

**Contact Bill Miklos, Master ([billmiklos@sbcglobal.net](mailto:billmiklos@sbcglobal.net))**

**Or John Cooper, Secretary ([johnlilburnfreemason@gmail.com](mailto:johnlilburnfreemason@gmail.com))**



**"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](http://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**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>LOCATION</u></b>	<b><u>DRESS</u></b>	<b><u>INVITEES</u></b>
07/02	6:30pm	Dinner	Natoma Lodge	Festive	Public
07/02	8pm	Stated Meeting	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
07/03	8pm	American River	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
07/06	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
07/08	7pm	Hall Association	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Masonic Adults
07/14	7:30pm	Amaranth	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Amaranth Memb.
07/11	8am	Shrine Club	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Shriners & Wives
07/20	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
07/22	7:30pm	York Rite Bodies	Sutter Creek	Bus. Formal	York Rite Masons