



TRESTLE BOARD

Natoma Lodge #64

October
2009



FROM THE EAST

I can't believe this year has progressed as quickly as it has! This has been such an eventful year. This past September I had the privilege of presenting Brother Hollis Beckett the *Golden Veteran's* award at his home. In attendance was his lovely wife, Nadine, as well as many of his family and friends. It was one of the most gratifying events I have had as Master. Congratulations and well done, Brother Beckett, for your years of service and for being the Masonic light that shines in our community!

Also in September, we had the opportunity to witness Brother Scott Morrison pass his third degree proficiency with flying colors—nice work, Brother Morrison! We anticipate great things from you in the ensuing years!

In October, Worshipful Eric Wells, PM, will present to us the state of our portfolio and update us on the financial health of our Lodge. This is very important to all Masons, so you won't want to miss this presentation.

October is also the 160th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. Last month I summarized some of the pending and newly proposed legislation—below I will summarize the Grand Master's Decisions and Recommendations for this year. Your Master, Wardens and a Past Master representative will be attending the Communication to cast their votes on behalf of the Lodge, so it is every Mason's duty to discuss their opinions before these officers leave for the Communication. At the Communication, our State Championship Ritual Team will also be honored by the Grand Master himself!

Grand Master Adamson's Decisions for the year are as follows:

Grand Master Adamson's Decision #01 defines the guidelines for use of alcoholic beverages at Masonic func-

tions to be expanded to reflect more tolerance. Under the new policy alcohol will be allowed if the beverages have been donated by one person (as opposed to a *BYOB* situation) which would not require a liquor license, or if the beverages are to be served by a licensed caterer. In addition, unless the Lodge room is also the social hall, no alcohol will be permitted in the Lodge room or stored on premises. In addition to the guidelines for use, under no circumstances shall any Masonic funds be used for the purchase of or reimbursement of alcohol. In addition, if there is alcohol present, it must be at a function that is not available to the general public (but to Masons, their families and friends only).

Grand Master Adamson's Decision #02 expands the definition of Moral Turpitude to include the court system's definition of Moral Turpitude—this would apply if the result is a conviction, of which the charge can be translated to a Masonic violation of Moral Turpitude as well.

Grand Master Adamson's Decision #03 defines Masonic membership restoration criteria for suspended members.

Grand Master Adamson's Decision #04 will allow the use of Social Networks (such as *Face book* or *My Page*) to promote a Masonic Web presence and bring us up to speed with the rest of society, while at the same time not violating the CMC. This *social networking* often employs third party advertisers which, under the Grand Master's definition, would not reflect the values of Freemasonry but would simply be a common business practice (providing the advertisements were not offensive, of which we could choose to remove our presence).

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendations for the year are as follows:

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #01 would allow two Grand Organists and two Grand Tilers to better represent Grand Lodge throughout the State.

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #02 would require personal service to a Brother when correspondence must be served—this would supersede the use of postal service and would guarantee communication between the parties.

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #03 would allow the Grand Lodge to hold the same authority as a natural person (under the CMC), which is allowed under California law for non-profit mutual benefit corporations.

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #04 would allow the concurrent jurisdiction with the Grand Lodge of Iran (in exile) in order to benefit California members (of the GL of Iran) from experiencing the hardship of having to travel to Boston whenever conducting business or conferring degrees.

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #05 would modify the current procedure for ballot box rejection of Masonic candidates by allowing the Master to request (not demand) that the Brother (in a single-cube rejection only) who objected to the candidate discuss the reason why the candidate was being rejected. If the Brother (who will remain anonymous to all except the Master) does not approach the Master to discuss the rejection, then the Master may declare the candidate elected at the next Stated meeting.

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #06 would modify the CMC to allow for *reasonable* Masonic fund-raising activities.

Grand Master Adamson's Recommendation #07 would better define (in the CMC) un-Masonic conduct; by using a more measurable definition of what is reasonable and what is unreasonable (regarding un-Masonic conduct) can the Grand Master make determinations relating to (but not limited to) fiduciary responsibilities in Lodge investments as well as disputes between members (i.e., the filing of Masonic charges). *Cont. pg 5*

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IT'S MONITORIAL

A LODGE is a certain number of brethren duly assembled with the Holy Bible, a Square and Compass, and a Charter or Dispensation authorizing them to meet.

A CHARTER is an instrument emanating from a Grand Lodge, and in this jurisdiction signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, authorizing certain brethren therein named, when duly assembled, to Initiate, Pass, and Raise all good men and true who may apply for the purpose and whom they may find worthy.

A DISPENSATION is a like instrument, issued by the Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge, which for a limited period, confers similar powers.



FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

The Masonic year of every lodge is marked by milestones, which annually appear on the horizon and are passed. Like sign posts along our route they signal our progress through the course toward the following year.

Such a milestone was past in September as we celebrated the United States Constitution, which was signed and became our nations guiding document 222 years ago. Worshipful Casey Norris PM presented the history of the Continental Congress; the political body that first petitioned the King of England for regress from taxes declared our independence and governed the original 13 colonies until the constitution was adopted. Thank you Worshipful Casey.

An upcoming milestone of the Natoma 64 calendar is "Make a Difference Day," which the lodge, I am grateful to say, has these past three years adopted and resoundingly supported. This year, the reigns of this project have been passed to Christian Ramsey, a Mason new to our lodge and full of the energy needed to take this and other dirty hands projects to a new level. Brother Christian brings new and exciting ideas to his position as Dirty Hands Chairman, and I hope that you provide him all the support that I have had these past three years as chairman of the Dirty Hands committee. Our 2009 "Make a Difference Day" event will follow the same plan as the past. On October 24 – the forth Saturday in October – we will collect comfort supplies for the troops overseas from in front of Raley's in Folsom. If you are available on the 24th or the following weekend to package the supplies, please contact Brother Ramsey at loche451@yahoo.com.

I also alert you to an interesting presentation that will be given at the October Stated meeting by

Worshipful Risse. Those who know Geoff are aware of his passion for baseball, especially the Giants.

Without question Geoff is also passionate about Freemasonry. I asked him to put together a brief educational talk on the relationship of his two favorite subjects. Geoff tells me he has completed his research and his presentation will be enlightening and fun.

So as we enter the home stretch of the year, many milestones past and many ahead I thought a bit of inspiration was in order. I found this poem on the web whose author is unknown, which serves to remind us that a rich and eventful life is promised with divine assistance, but we are ultimately responsible for what is accomplished.

Butt Prints in The Sand

*One night I had a wondrous dream,
One set of footprints there was seen,
The footprints of my precious Lord,
But mine were not along the shore.*

*But then some stranger prints appeared,
And I asked the Lord, "What have we here?"
Those prints are large and round and neat,
"But Lord they are too big for feet."*

*"My child," He said in somber tones,
"For miles I carried you alone.
I challenged you to walk in faith,
But you refused and made me wait."*

*"You disobeyed, you would not grow,
The walk of faith, you would not know.
So I got tired, I got fed up,
and there I dropped you on your butt."*

*"Because in life, there comes a time,
when one must fight, and one must climb.
When one must rise and take a stand,
or leave their butt prints in the sand."*

Yours in Brotherhood and On the Level,
Mike



FOLSOM VETERAN'S DAY PARADE

The **Folsom Shrine Club** is participating in this year's parade and all Masons, Shriners, and concordant bodies are encouraged and welcome to join us.

We would like to get an idea of who or **how many folks** might be joining us in the parade. We're lining up vehicles for folks who need to ride and need a general idea of the number of participants.

The Natoma Assembly of **Rainbow Girls** is participating and is also hosting a **pancake breakfast fundraiser** before and during the parade.

After the parade we are planning to have an **open house** at the lodge and the **Child I.D.** program going and an **ice cream social**.

So if you or your group can join us, please email me the following:

- Group name and approximate number of participants (Clowns, Kops, etc) or
- Your name and how many i.e. spouse, family, etc.
- Will you need to ride instead of walk?
- Do you have a classic car or truck you might want to enter into the parade?

Feel free to call me, **Dan Leonard**, if you have any questions at **916-698-4252** or email me at dannyl123@hotmail.com and put in the subject line: **Folsom Parade**.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

This October 24th, a Saturday, the nationally organized "Make a Difference Day" will be held; the Dirty Hands Club is again organizing our participation in this great event; lend us a hand. "Make a Difference;" Isn't this one of the primary reasons you became a Mason??

We will again organize the volunteers to collect the sundries and supplies from in front of local retail stores. At this time we are planning to do so at both Raley's stores in the Folsom community. We ask that you commit to a morning or afternoon shift. We will be seeking your commitment October 1st at our stated meeting dinner.

We will send the collected materials directly to the troops, with the help of "Soldiers Angels."



"I ask of each Mason, of each member, of each brother, that he shall remember ever that there is upon him a peculiar obligation to show himself in every respect a good citizen; for after all, the way he can best do his duty by the ancient order to which he belongs is by reflecting credit upon that order by way in which he performs his duty as a citizen of the United States." -Theodore Roosevelt



FROM THE EAST (CONTINUED)

November will be our annual Officer nominations for 2010, so you will want to set that time aside and be present to support those who will be your 2010 Lodge Leadership team. In November you will also have the opportunity to participate in the Folsom Veteran's Day parade on the 11th. Afterward, there will be an open house at the Lodge where we can hang out with our neighbors. We also plan on another *Make a Difference Day*, and we look forward to hearing from many of you who wish to volunteer their time in this great venture—for more information please contact Brother Dan Leonard.

December is fast approaching, and with it represents the annual Lodge Christmas celebration. Plans are already under way as communication with that Jolly fat guy in the red suit to be in attendance has already been established, and it looks as though he will once again be in Folsom! December also represents the introduction of the 2010 Natoma Lodge Officer line, so make sure you are able to attend the December Stated meeting and the Installation ceremony on the Saturday following.

At the beginning of this year I was leery about the economy and concerned about how much our Lodge would be able to give back to our community. In the past several months, however, I have noticed how resilient we are in Folsom and how we always manage to do what is important no matter the budget. I am very proud of the efforts we have put forth this year, and for that I am truly grateful and appreciate those who have given so much of themselves. As we hear about our financial health this month and as we head into the Christmas season—if we are fortunate enough to rebound from the dismal forecast of last year let us remember the spirit of this year, and what we accomplished with the limited resources we had to work with.

Travel well, and as you travel the path of righteousness, be always ready to extend your hand in goodwill and friendship, and also to aid and assist when the opportunity presents itself. **S**

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

Christian Brown	1-Oct	Joseph Davis, PM	20-Oct	Carlock, Chad	9-Oct-93
Jerry Center	1-Oct	Ruben Perez	21-Oct	Creel, Ronald	9-Oct-91
James Dodson	2-Oct	Ronald Freed	22-Oct	Dowd, Larry PM	31-Oct-84
Charles Straw	2-Oct	Robert Buwalda PM	23-Oct	Drennan, Jay	25-Oct-07
Abe Rivera	3-Oct	Brad Horn	23-Oct	Englehart, Bob	17-Oct-56
Todd Reyes	6-Oct	Randall Sarte	24-Oct	Ford, Leon	10-Oct-46
Glenn Chapin	8-Oct	Robert Parkyn	25-Oct	Freidson, Joseph	28-Oct-69
Lauro De Rojas	10-Oct	Timothy Strauch, PM	25-Oct	Jevning, Murray	30-Oct-03
Rex Wimer PM	11-Oct	Thomas MacKenzie	26-Oct	Kimzey, Mark PM	26-Oct-00
Gerald Dickerson	11-Oct	David Clarke Sr.	26-Oct	Kitchen, Franklin	25-Oct-01
Frank Kitchen	11-Oct	John Brown	26-Oct	Loechner, Richard	28-Oct-70
Jonathan Haney	14-Oct	Vernon Keller	30-Oct	Mac Donald, Shawn	22-Oct-08
Jim Basden	15-Oct	James More	30-Oct	Maxwell, Foster E.	22-Oct-98
Cliff Brooks	17-Oct	Ronald Flanders	31-Oct	Nielsen, James	15-Oct-57
Lance Rifenburg	18-Oct			Roberts, Douglas	19-Oct-88
				Sawyer, Glenn	27-Oct-53
				Shultz, Douglas	10-Oct-08
				Small, Tony R	13-Oct-05
				Strauch, Timothy PM	3-Oct-88
				Tibbens, Paul	28-Oct-81
				Van Sickle, Paul	20-Oct-93



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

W. Scott Barbu and Secretary Bob Johnson travelled to Pleasanton, CA on September 5th and presented the **50 year, Golden Anniversary Certificate** and pin to **Brother Hollis H. Beckett Jr.** Bro. Beckett was joined by his wife, daughter and friends for the presentation. This was an extremely gratifying experience to visit this 50 year veteran, his family and friends and enjoy their hospitality.



SILVER ANNIVERSARY

What is it like to be a Mason for twenty-five years? What are some of our "old timers" up to these days? I spoke with two of our brothers recently and they're very happy, prosperous and appear to be 'living the good life'.

Brother **Russell Stevenson** (raised 2/15/84) and his wife are certainly enjoying themselves as they keep busy traveling, playing seniors baseball and enjoying their children. Russ was pleasantly surprised to realize he'd been in the fraternity 25 years.

Brother Stevenson says one of his Masonic highlights was when he visited his son recently, he attended Frederickburg Lodge #4, (chartered in 1758) after meeting some members. To his great surprise and pleasure, he was selected to be the lodge treasurer for that evening's stated meeting. This is the "Mother Lodge of George Washington." The evening was quite entertaining and educational for Russ.

Keeping fit sounds like it's a way of life for Russ, who trained for a bike tour of Europe at age 55, from Paris to Frankfurt. He says that experience was one that he'll never forget.

As a baseball player, coaching kids and manager, he is also involved in degree work in Elk Grove. Russ is a man who is having a great time in the lodge and in the community.

Brother **Larry Dowd, PM** (raised 10/31/84) has retired twice, once from Pennzoil after 22 years and later from being self employed. He and his wife Jacqueline enjoy traveling with their kids and grandchildren. Recently they visited Mt. Rushmore, Denver, Hawaii. They are proud grandparents of active, athletic kids and go with them as much as time allows. Their last trip was to Bodega Bay to take the grandchildren fishing.

Twenty five years contributing to your community and taking care of your family is a beautiful thing. It's obvious that these two brothers understand the lessons of the twenty-four inch gauge and utilize their time well. Congratulations brothers and may you celebrate your fiftieth anniversary with us.

Travel well—Dan Leonard

RAINBOW GIRL HAPPENINGS

It has been a great summer for the Natoma Rainbow Assembly.

Our "**Rainbow Anatomy**" Official Visit (OV) began with a fire engine arriving at the hotel to pick up Mrs. Martin, our Supreme Deputy and Samantha Forcum, our Grand Worthy Advisor, and deliver them to the Jackson Lodge for the OV. The girls from Natoma Assembly once again did us proud with their **excellent ritual work** and floor work. The OV was a lot of fun on a very hot afternoon and evening in Jackson.

We **initiated 3 new Rainbow Girls** this summer. Caitlin Howard joins her sister, Melanie, as a Rainbow girl. She lives in Pollock Pines and is an active Jobs Daughters in El Dorado. She did an excellent job quickly learning the ritual work for our sister of Patriotism and participated in the next initiation where we initiated two new girls. Alyssa Franco lives in Fair Oaks and Gracie Williams lives right next door to our lodge! and is following in the footsteps of her older sister who was a member of Natoma Assembly. It's wonderful to see these beautiful new faces join our assembly.

The girls have attended Northern Instructional, numerous OV's and are getting ready for our own Installation. We had a membership party called a **Rainbow Rummage Riot** and it was just that, a riot. The girls were given \$5 and were then given the task of purchasing items from yard sales to make an outfit that was comprised of every color of the rainbow. Once back at the lodge, scissors and fabric were flying as they prepared their styles for the **fashion show** for the parents. A luncheon was held and award certificates were given out for many wacky categories. They had a great time!

A **spaghetti dinner is planned for October 17** at 6pm at the lodge. The cost will be \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 10. This is a fundraiser to raise money for our new Worthy Advisor, Erin's, term. We would love to see you there! The girls will be **selling tickets** at the Stated Meeting Dinner on October 1st. If you would like a ticket and can't make it to the meeting, please contact Mother Advisor Karen Marshall at 849-6677 or crazybasketlady@aol.com and we will make sure that you get one!

Thanks again for all your support for Carolyn Sweeney's **charity project** of collecting school supplies for the **Mustard Seed School**. Thanks to the generous help of the Masonic Lodge of Folsom, we were able to raise \$273 to purchase school supplies and we also received many, many donations as well. Carolyn and all of the girls of Natoma Assembly appreciate your support. We will be purchasing the supplies and delivering them to the school in the coming weeks.

Rainbow Love,
Barbara Seeley and
Karen Marshall



Natoma-Assembly Rainbow Girls are Having a Spaghetti Dinner!

When: October 17, 2009

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Folsom Masonic Center

Cost: \$8 for Adults ... \$4 for Children 10 and Under

Members of Natoma-Assembly will be selling tickets at the Stated Meeting Dinner on October 1st. If you would like to attend and need tickets, please contact Karen Marshall at 849~6677 or crazybasketlady@aol.com

Your meal includes salad, spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, iced tea and dessert

Return Service Requested



DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DRESS</u>	<u>INVITEES</u>
10/01	6:30pm	Dinner	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Public
10/01	8pm	Stated Meeting	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
10/02	8pm	American River	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
10/05	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
10/07	7pm	Hall Association	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Masonic Adults
10/10	8am	Shrine Club	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Shriners & Wives
10/13	7:30pm	Amaranth	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Amaranth Memb.
10/19	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
10/26	7:30pm	York Rite Bodies	Sutter Creek	Bus. Formal	York Rite Masons