



TRESTLE BOARD

Natoma Lodge #64

**November
2009**



FROM THE EAST

Greetings from the East—Autumn is now upon us, and as the leaves fall from the trees, and as the evening descends much quicker each day, can we reflect upon the past spring and summer and the accomplishments we made at Natoma Lodge. With autumn also comes renewal. This month we look forward to our annual election of officers at the Stated meeting, so please show your support to our leadership of next year by attending the meeting.

October was another productive month as we welcomed Brother David Coolidge by affiliation to Natoma Lodge—welcome Brother Coolidge! We also passed Brother Brian Tatro to the degree of Fellowcraft—keep up the good work, and congratulations Brother Tatro! Special thanks go out to the *Dirty Hands* committee and chairman Christian Ramsey for their efforts in making *Project Birthday* special and successful—good job team!

October also was our 160th Annual Communication in San Francisco. I want to congratulate Most Worshipful Adamson for a great year and welcome Most Worshipful Nagel as our new Leader in California Freemasonry. The results of the legislation are now available in hard copy at the Lodge, but I will be happy to summarize with anyone either via phone or e-mail (barbuse@yahoo.com).

At the time this article is being written we are preparing to participate in our annual *Make-a-difference Day* late in October. We will again be collecting goods and donations for the *Soldier's Angels* Organization to send to our troops abroad—special thanks to those who participated in this event and for Brother Mike Titus and his committee for organizing the event this year.

In November we will be participating in the City of Folsom's annual *Veteran's Day Parade* on Wednes-

day, November 11th. Festivities will begin at the Lodge at 0800 for a Pancake Breakfast put on by the Natoma Assembly of Rainbow Girls, and then the parade at 0900, followed by an open house at the Lodge immediately following the parade. This is a great opportunity to meet our neighbors and show support for our troops and those who have served our great nation! Special thanks to Brother Dan Leonard and his committee for all the hard work in planning this event!

December will be our annual Christmas party on the evening of the Stated dinner, and the Installation of Officers on the Saturday immediately following. I charge all Masons to be in attendance to show support and encouragement to our upcoming Officer line. There will be refreshments after the Installation ceremony.

As it is November, which we traditionally celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember those who have put themselves in harm's way to allow us to remain free to do what we do. Our service men and women have given all so we can live in freedom, so we owe our opportunities to their memory. Let us also be grateful for our families and for our Lodge, and everything else we hold dear.

Travel well, and take a moment to appreciate all that we have, as well as those who have cleared the path for us to travel safely.

S (Erin Seeley's Installation)



2009 OFFICERS

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IT'S MONITORIAL

Our ancient brethren assembled on the highest hills and in the lowest vales the better to observe the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers.

The Form of a Lodge is oblong. It extends from East to West and from North to South, and it is said to be thus extensive to denote the universality of Masonry and to teach us that a Mason's charity should be equally extensive; for in every country and in every clime are Masons to be found.

A Lodge is metaphorically said to be supported by three great pillars, denominated Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty; it being necessary that there should be wisdom to contrive, strength to support, and beauty to adorn all great and important undertakings. These pillars are represented in the Lodge by the Worshipful Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens.



FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

As most of you know, Kim and I are typically very busy with our two boys, their school, and church. In our spare time we enjoy Freemasonry, especially the friendships that are built upon the values promoted by our ancient and honorable organization. Our schedule is full and we enjoy every minute of it and all its rewards. However, it is the sense of accomplishment that provides us the greatest reward, in particular those rewards received from our efforts in working with all of you towards the goals of Natoma 64.

This past month we attended the 2009 Grand Lodge Communication representing Natoma 64, both Kim and I had a fantastic time and thank you for the opportunity. The legislation results are listed on the Grand lodge web site. If anyone has a question about a piece of legislation, or has trouble accessing the information please let me know.

Natoma 64's greatest moment, during Grand Lodge Communication, was the **presentation of the Ritual Competition Trophy**. The trophy was presented by **Grand Master Larry Adamson** and the **Grand Lecturer Paul Hennig** at the Grand Master's reception on Saturday night. Many awards were handed out that evening and all carry prestige. However, the Ritual Competition award was reserved for last and received special recognition as our entire team was asked to collectively receive the award from the Grand Master on the dais. This is the second year in the past three we have won the competition, and received this honor – the first Lodge to repeat as a Champion. It should also be noted that our winning team this year included many new competitors, which shows the **depth of our ritual talent at Natoma 64**. Of course we are now a large target; lodges across the State are gunning for us in hopes of taking the top spot next year. Until it is taken from us we are the State Ritual Champions, and this is worthy of another round of applause. However, accolades aside, it is the internal sense of accomplishment that provides the greatest satisfaction.

Our lodge reflects the efforts of us all, and we have achieved many successes beyond this single establishment of our lodge as one dedicated to great ritual. As well we also have areas where our success is not as great and more work needs to be done. If elected to serve the lodge as Master next year **I will lead the charge** to address these deficiencies. They are not insurmountable, our deficiencies actually represent opportunities. They are **opportunities for leaders to step-up**, for past leaders to act as mentors, and for all of us to pitch-in. I will use the Trestleboard, and other means, in the coming months to present these opportunities that I hope we will collectively turn them from **weaknesses to strengths** -- deficiencies overcome. My hope is that we do so with a **commitment** from a greater number of Natoma Mason, past leaders mentoring new leaders, while new leaders teach and train younger members and newer members who will grow into the leaders of tomorrow. This is how we **perpetuate our fraternity** and it represents Freemasonry at its best.

With opportunities turned into achievements by this time next year, we will need no accolades, no trophies; we will collectively share the deepest satisfaction of all – a **shared sense of pride** in our accomplishments. I look forward to all this with the humility befitting a servant to a master it loves.

Yours in Brotherhood and On the Level,

Mike





FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren and Ladies— October has been a busy month; we started October off with **The 160th Annual Grand Lodge Communications** and received our award for winning the **2009 Ritual Competition** in front of over 900 brethren and ladies. The 2010 competition will be all three proficiencies full form. Now that we have won two out of the last three years I suspect that **Team Natoma** has a large target on our backs.

Our Rainbow girls are doing well, they had their Installation of Officers on September 26th and I had the honor to be asked to be **Rainbow Dad** for our assembly by **Worthy Advisor Erin Seeley**. Our Rainbow Assembly meets the first and third Monday's of each month at 7:00 PM so please **come out and support our young ladies**. If you are wondering why I was asked to be Rainbow dad it all started one stormy night back in January when they were having what is called Shadow Night. Ms. Seeley was sitting in the South and I was asked to shadow her. I found her and the rest of the young ladies to be delightful and after having been served several dinners and having several small talk conversations Ms. Seeley asked me to serve as the Assembly's Rainbow Dad and I'm proud and honored to serve.

I would like to congratulate **Brother Tatro** for being passed to the **Degree of Fellowcraft**. It was step up night and all next year's officers did a fine job. Congratulations to you Brother Tatro and also to **Brother Coolidge on affiliation**.

Natoma Lodge will also be participating on the Folsom Veteran's Day Parade please see Brother Dan Leonard if you are interested in participating. Our **Rainbow Assembly** will have a **pancake breakfast** and they will also participate in the parade. We will have an open house and we will also have the Child ID equipment so we will **need volunteers** to run the equipment.

One more thing, if I am elected to serve as Sr. Warden for 2010 as you know I will be providing Masonic education. I have asked a few Brethren to provide some articles and I'm asking once again for some Brethren to write some articles for next year.

Travel well—The Other Scott

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 danny123@hotmail.com and put in the subject line: **Folsom Parade**.



FROM THE SECRETARY

Lodge Dues—The economy has created many stories of hardship. Our Lodge suffered as well. However our Lodge is recovering in its financial well being. Many of you must still be suffering as we have **39 members that have not paid their 2009 dues**. I will be sending you dues notices for 2010 shortly that will include previous dues that haven't been paid. Keep in mind that those past due for 2009 payments are eligible to be suspended for non payment of dues as early as February 2010. So please pay your dues.

New Lodge Roster—On another note everyone should have received the new Lodge Roster. Even though it is nice to have a new one there are some errors. Many of you have sent me changes that need to be made. We used the data base of the Grand Lodge and it is evident that some data is missing or incorrect. None of the errors were made intentionally and we hope you understand. For example some wives names were missing or incorrect. We can only go on the information that you provide to us. In some cases the husband's name is missing as we used the informal name and in for some there is no informal name in the data base. Those have been corrected to be the formal name unless we hear differently from you. **If you have corrections please email them** to me and I will make the changes. [bo-johnso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnso@sbcglobal.net)

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES		ANNIVERSARIES	
Mark Lamb	2-Nov	Tim Roberts	20-Nov	Gilmore, Dwight	12-Nov-80
David Barnekoff	3-Nov	Timothy Bowling	23-Nov	Grey, James	11-Nov-04
Rafael Secco	4-Nov	Malcolm Hill	24-Nov	Hamilton, Laurence	16-Nov-54
Max Josan	4-Nov	Justin Barnes	24-Nov	Lamb, Mark	11-Nov-98
Jerald Clements	6-Nov	Kenneth Lopez	24-Nov	Ledoux, Roland Jr.	7-Nov-73
Mark Noel	6-Nov	Joseph Bergen PM	27-Nov	Leffler, Perry Jr.	16-Nov-00
John Holt	7-Nov	Jere Jacobs	29-Nov	Leonard, Dan	15-Nov-06
James Minton	8-Nov			Lockett, Rodney	18-Nov-06
D. W. Camden	10-Nov			Lowery, Wayne	26-Nov-75
Ken Darnell	10-Nov			Manaresi, Albert	15-Nov-72
Dennis Davis	10-Nov	Armstrong, Wayne	1-Nov-57	McCade, Theodore	3-Nov-90
Dennis Buckman	11-Nov	Bowling, Timothy	8-Nov-07	Noel, Mark	11-Nov-96
William Nichols	11-Nov	Buwalda, Robert PM	3-Nov-90	Peach, Craig	23-Nov-98
Joseph Catching	12-Nov	Carroll, Terry PM	17-Nov-71	Rice, Frank	11-Nov-61
John Messerli	12-Nov	Clarke, James Jr	15-Nov-07	Rivera, Abraham	10-Nov-81
Peter Martin	14-Nov	Conley, James	11-Nov-86	Sarte, Randall	18-Nov-99
John Holkko Sr.	15-Nov	Copeland, Robert Jr.	11-Nov-99	Titus, Michael	17-Nov-05
Tal Norwood	15-Nov	Critz, Wade	30-Nov-00	Wimer, Rex	23-Nov-53
John Mellberg	16-Nov	Cotton, Don	30-Nov-06	Yost, Paul	13-Nov-43
Philip Moeszinger	17-Nov	Davis, Craig	9-Nov-00		
Brian Schilder	17-Nov	Dodson, James	18-Nov-70		
Charles Phillips	18-Nov	Galbraith, Carlton	9-Nov-88		



Michael J. Titus
Master-Elect

Scott Edward Leventon
Senior Warden-Elect

Dan Leonard
Junior Warden-Elect

The Members
of
Natoma Lodge No. 64, F. & A.M.
Cordially Invite You and Your Guests
to the
156th Annual Installation of Officers
on
Saturday, December 5th, 2009
at
Seven O'clock in the Evening
at the
Charles F. Anderson Masonic Center
1000 Duchow Way
Folsom, California 95630
(Reception & Light Refreshments Immediately Following)

DIRTY HANDS DOINGS

Brothers,

It is with great pleasure and personal satisfaction that I am reporting to you a successful mission! The Birthday party we sponsored on Monday Sept 21st was a success.

Through the generosity of our brethren we were able to provide a real birthday bash to 22 children, three of which were celebrating their 10th and 11th birthdays respectively. (2 10 yr olds and 1 11 yr old) These children had all recently experienced a divorce of their parents and all are living in shelters.

The most touching part of the event was when one of the mothers of the children said something to the effect of "and you didn't think you would have a good birthday" that I happened to overhear as gifts were being handed out.

I have to say it made me a little misty.

The kids were all very high energy and my photography skills are marginal at best, but here are the best of the pictures I managed to take in between serving ice cream and cake and helping out with the activities. Events for the children included making bookmarks, football toss, long jump competition and a mummy-wrapping event (the only activity picture that sort-of turned out) followed by a three legged race.

Kids and their parents had cupcakes, birthday cakes, ice cream and juice as well as party favors and cups and plates and plasticware provided by various Brothers of our lodge. This allowed the Project Birthday group to fund some pretty cool gifts to these kids that might have had nothing (as the single parents of the three are currently unemployed and homeless).

Sterling turned 10 and got his birthday wish of a skateboard.

Tisha turned 11 and received an Electronic Keyboard and several books of music.

Tyrell turned 10 and got a pretty snappy radio controlled car and a soccer ball.

All in all I think the event was a great success and our lodge helped to bring joy to some families in sore need of something good to focus on.



Best Regards
Christian Ramsey
916-233-6010

Return Service Requested



DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DRESS</u>	<u>INVITEES</u>
11/02	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
11/05	6:30pm	Dinner	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Public
11/05	8pm	Stated Meeting	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
11/06	8pm	American River	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Casual	Master Masons
11/10	7:30pm	Amaranth	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Amaranth Memb.
11/11	7pm	Hall Association	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Masonic Adults
11/14	8am	Shrine Club	Natoma Lodge	Casual	Shriners & Wives
11/16	7pm	Rainbow	Natoma Lodge	Bus. Formal	Masonic Adults
11/23	7:30pm	York Rite Bodies	Sutter Creek	Bus. Formal	York Rite Masons
<i>SPECIAL EVENT</i>					
11/11	7AM	Rainbow pre-Parade Pancake Breakfast	Natoma Lodge	informal	Public
11/11	9AM	Veterans Day Parade, Folsom	Folsom	informal	Public