

The Trestleboard

DECEMBER 2020 | ISSUE no 11 VOL 168

TO BE GRATEFUL IS TO BE BLESSED

Messages from the officers on gratitude and how to get the most out of the coming year.

PLUS - info on our upcoming virtual stated meeting and a profile on the 100th birthday of Mary Ellen Dunbar

COVER: A Christmas tree ornament of your stereotypical Worshipful Master. In Wor. Sonny's opinion, the top hat looks worse, but the moustache looks good.

From the East

Worshipful Sonny Gotos, Jr.

BRETHREN & FRIENDS,

I sincerely hope this issue of the Trestleboard finds you and yours happy, healthy, and blessed.

Thank you for once again granting me the privilege of serving you as Master of this storied institution: Morning Star Lodge. Even though I have served previously (you must be getting tired of seeing my face in the Trestleboard), I nonetheless don't take the duty lightly.

Service in the office has brought me many blessings. It has refined my character, made me grateful for the manifold blessings that surround us, and most of all, has brought me closer to the virtues that Freemasonry compels us to practice.

As we enter the new year, I encourage all of you to do one thing which will help me, the lodge, and the world at large. Please, endeavor to be helpful and kind to one another. Everyday, seek to do a helpful and kind deed for your fellow man. On the surface, this seems an easy enough thing to accomplish, but it can actually be quite difficult. We are humans, and as humans are oft to do, we take the easier route. We chose to value our time over others and in doing so sometimes lack an attentive ear. We value our own opinions over others and in doing so sometimes lack the instructive tongue and quiet counsel.

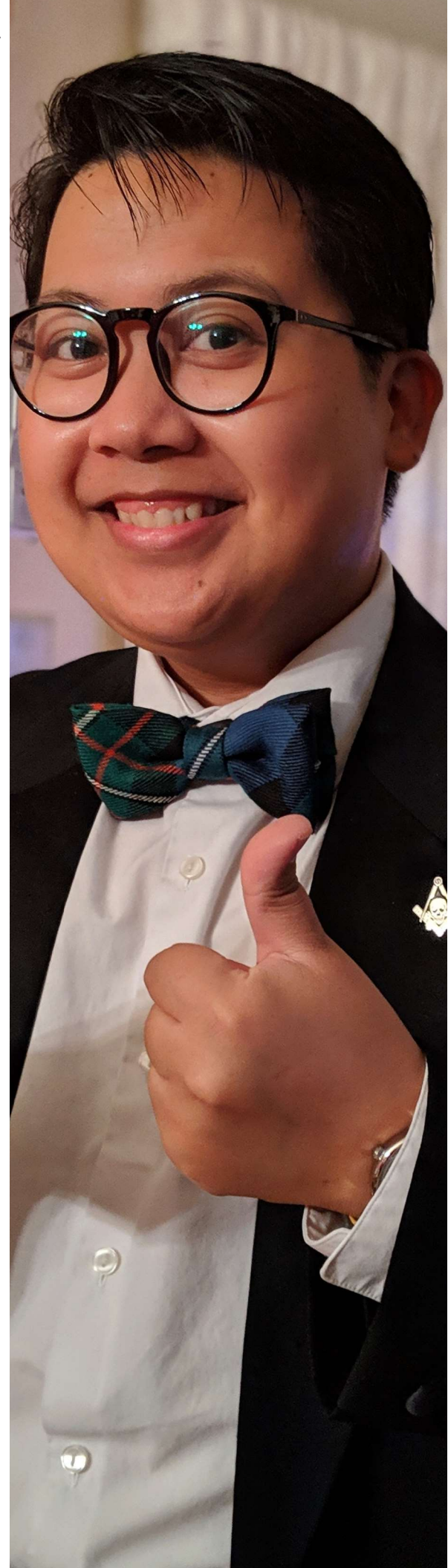
But nothing worth doing was ever easy. As the sentiment once expressed by the late great John F. Kennedy makes clear: we do these things not because they are easy, but because they are hard. "...because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept..."

To this I add, we do this because we are Freemasons and brethren of Morning Star Lodge.

Sincerely & Fraternally Yours,

Bro. Sonny Gotos, Jr.

Worshipful Master



From the South

Brother Daniel M. Tao

HAPPY HOLIDAYS BRETHREN AND FAMILY,

I am honored to have been nominated and elected as Senior Warden of Morning Star Lodge, #19, for the 2021 Masonic year. Among other things, I am looking forward to working with Worshipful Sonny and the rest of the officers for the year of the Metal Ox. In Chinese cosmology, the Ox is the symbol of the undying work ethic, it is a domesticated animal that multiplied the productivity and efficiency of the egalitarian society by untold values. Before the Ox was domesticated, the Chinese used Horses as work animals for the fields; but when the Ox was trained and applied, it was an animal that you can attach a plow to, and it'll plow the fields in straight rows, without the need for oversight like the Horse. Naturally, the Ox became the animal of burden that allowed society to flourish. It has become a symbol of a strong work ethic, and the obvious harvest thereafter. As a forecast for 2021, the energies of the Ox is one that brings about just rewards for efforts applied. I hope this is true for all of our families and friends.

Looking forward, I am eagerly awaiting the time when the Pandemic has calmed down and the infection rates have lowered to the point where we can ease back into normal life, or whatever would be the new normal until Covid-19 becomes just another footnote in history. We must be like our forefathers and brethren who adapted to and survived the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic, who rose to the occasion and waited diligently for guidance from the Grand Lodge before they resumed Masonic work in the Lodge. I pray that we are on the tail-end of this ordeal, and that as a fraternity, we have built stronger bonds as Brothers, and as Friends.

Stay well my family.

Fraternally,

Daniel Tao, Sr. Warden-Elect.





FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

Greetings Friends and Brothers,

Here we are at that time of year where it is time to give thanks for all that we have, and for those that are in our lives.

I have put a lot of thought into this concept, along with the thought of whether Miller Lite actually tasted great or is less filling. But I digress. If being thankful is an opportunity to look at the good things that we have in life, what exactly do we have to be thankful about in 2020? I mean really? One could be hard pressed to find a silver lining.

After a lot of reflecting about the past year and all the change and human cost that has occurred, I have decided that I am thankful for the year 2020. Now that you are questioning the brand of pharmaceuticals I may be using or deciding that I have truly gone mad from isolation here is my reasoning.

The year 2020 has been unique and is a year like no other. It has started normally enough. We installed our officers and the business of the lodge had started off as usual. However, early on we learned about a virus called COVID-19. The discovery of this virus precipitated something that the world has not seen in a century. This virus has enacted a human cost that has cost many people their livelihoods, toppled world leaders and worst yet has cost the United States over 230,000 lives. When all is said and done the human cost will be insurmountable.

2020 also spawned a time of divisiveness that this country has not seen since the Civil War. Brother against the Brother, neighbor vs neighbor all intolerant of the other. What again is there to be thankful for?

I am thankful for 2020 because it has shown us many things that we formally took for granted. Because we have been isolated, we have become closer to our families and friends. We have learned how to communicate with each other, to have deeper conversations and learn about one another. To sum it up we have learned how to reconnect with everyone that we love. We have learned to slow down and be more self-sufficient.

As Masons we have learned that our brothers and their families are important to us. We care how each other are getting along and making sure that we are all doing well. We have learned how to adapt to do new things to continue to be engaged. Seriously, I did not even hear of Zoom prior to February 2020. We can honestly say that the term "that is not the way we used to do it" is truly a thing of the past, because as fraternity we have had to renew ourselves. Even when the pandemic lifts and we are able to meet again it will be a whole new world.

What I am most thankful for my brothers is you. Through thick and thin, disagreements and sorrow we have all been there for each other. This shows me that masonry is not just a formality, or someplace that I go but a way of life. A different way of thinking. I can honestly say that if I did not have you in my life it would not be nearly as full. Oh yeah, I am thankful my tuxedo still fits after not having worn it for a year.

To finally close, I would like to wish each and every one of you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and remember to take care of one another.

I hope to see everyone soon and remember to take care of one another.

Fraternally,
Roger A. Moore
Secretary



SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

Good day my Brothers,

New and exciting stuff !!!!! California Scottish Rite accomplished a first. We have successfully completed a Virtual Class. Those of you who participated or had the opportunity to view this event witnessed a real production. I think what excites me the most is not what we just accomplished but what opportunities now await us for future virtual classes.

As on-line security continues to improve and the folks at Grand Lodge see the writing on the wall, we will have the ability to hold in person events while allowing distant members to attend virtually. This possibility washes over to Lodge meetings, youth group meetings and all the others as well.

Fraternally,
John L. Baker, 33°
Venerable Master



SHRINE NEWS

Greetings Friends and Brothers,

I hope everyone is doing well, and your family is safe and healthy. San Joaquin Shrine Club has held their elections, and I would like to congratulate our President Elect Matthew Harris, our First Vice President Brian Kass and our Second Vice President Randy Gonzales. As current president I promise a peaceful transition of power.....maybe. Currently, Installation will be on January 9, 2020 via Zoom. Please plan to attend.

Ben Ali is having their elections on December 8, 2020. The meeting will be on Zoom, and if you are a Shriner in good standing contact the Ben Ali Office to register. Log on and help elect the new officers of Ben Ali Shrine for 2021.

The Shrine is offering a Restoration Program. If you have been suspended for non-payment of dues the payment of simple fee will get you reinstated and you will be ready to get in on the fun. See me for information.

The Shrine offers a chance for brothers to participate in a more social atmosphere that is open to family. During Chief Raban Night the Chief Raban, Bill Wells outlined the activities and goals for the year 2021. Along with many trips, fun evenings and six (6) Command Parades an emphasis is being placed on membership. Talk to your brothers in Blue Lodge and see if they are interested in one of the greatest charities in the world, and let's get them involved. I can provide Petitions so contact me if you would like one.

It appears that we will not be able to meet as Masons/Shriners for quite some time. Please remember that this awful virus does not take away who we are and what we stand for. There are still sick children who need our help, and we are here to give it. We simply must figure out how to do it, but as Masons we are resilient and resourceful, and we will figure a way. Remember the children we have sworn to support are still there and need our help more than ever, so please keep them in your minds and hearts.

For now, everyone be safe and keep your families healthy, and we will see you at Chucks when this thing blows over.

Fraternally,
Roger A. Moore
President, San Joaquin Shrine Club

MORNING STAR LODGE #19

It's lonesome here at home Join us on Zoom!!!!

December 2020							Jan 2021 ▶
◀ Nov 2020	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Temple Board Via Zoom @ 7 pm	2	3 MS #19 Stated Via Zoom @ 7 pm Drive-Thru Dinner	4 Stonecutters Club DARK	5
6		7	8 Jobs #83 Via Zoom	9	10 MS #19 Via Zoom	11 Stonecutters Club DARK	12 Queen of the West OES Dark
13		14 DeMolay Dark	15 School of Instruction. Via Zoom @ 7 pm	16 Amaranth Dark	17 MS #19 Via Zoom	18 Stonecutters Club DARK	19
20		21	22 Jobs #83 Via Zoom Scottish Rite Stated Via Zoom	23	24 Christmas Eve MS #19 DARK	25 Christmas Temple Closed	26 Keystone #14 Dark York Rite Dark
27		28 DeMolay Dark	29	30	31 New Years Eve MS #19 DARK		



BETHEL 83 NEWS

Hello all!

The new Grand Master has ruled that there can be no Masonic sponsored gatherings outside. This means that the Bethel can not hold an event for our Bethel Daughters. However, if the Bethel gets asked by a non-masonic group to help with an event, we can do that.

For December, our installation will be held virtually on Dec. 8 at 7pm. Our next Bethel meeting of the new term will be after the holidays in January. If you would like to join our virtual Bethel installation, please email the Bethel Guardian and she will share the zoom information with you. The Bethel would like to wish everyone a happy and merry holiday season. May you find joy during this special time of the year.

If you know of any girls between the ages of 7 and 19 that would be interested in joining in on any of the Bethel's fun activities please let us know. If you would like more information on any Bethel activities or about Job's Daughters, please contact the Bethel Guardian or the Associate Bethel Guardian.

Job's Daughters Love,

Ashley Eberhard	Jim Sanborn
Bethel Guardian	Associate Bethel Guardian
(209)483-6793	(209) 570-7363
Bethel83stockton@gmail.com	
jamesmacysanborn@gmail.com	

DECMBER BIRTHDAYS

Chad D. Dammarell	-	Dec. 1, 1986
Christopher "Kit" Gamble	-	Dec. 2, 1960
Bryan J. Culp	-	Dec. 3, 1963
Johnnie L. Hughes	-	Dec. 4, 1965
Robert H. Weaver, II	-	Dec. 6, 1946
Brian G. Kenney	-	Dec. 6, 1955
Dennis R. Jackson	-	Dec. 12, 1956
John F. Rice	-	Dec. 12, 1941
Duane L. Steward	-	Dec. 13, 1943
John Paul Pozar	-	Dec. 14, 1996
Rogelio V. Bustos	-	Dec. 15, 1950
Jake R. Steele	-	Dec. 15, 1992
Melvyn P. Escara	-	Dec. 16, 1942
Jon E. Sump	-	Dec. 16, 1969
Steve Parker	-	Dec. 19, 1970
Noel L. Turner	-	Dec. 20, 1938
Richard Garcia, PM	-	Dec. 23, 1951
Vijendra Govind	-	Dec. 24, 1941
Richard L. Turner	-	Dec. 25, 1935
Erik Funfar	-	Dec. 26, 1978
John Marquis	-	Dec. 26, 1941
Douglas M. Martin	-	Dec. 27, 1939
Richard T. Orr	-	Dec. 28, 1929
Phillip J. Herechski	-	Dec. 29, 1976
Gary M. Martin	-	Dec. 29, 1946
Richard W. Ariff	-	Dec. 30, 1951

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRETHERN!

CHEERS TO 100 YEARS!

*On Thursday, November 19th, one our our lodge sweethearts Mary Ellen Dunbar (wife of the late Hank Dunbar, PM) turned 100 years old! Below is her profile written by Bro. Jim Linnerman.
Happy birthday, Mary Ellen!*



On November 19, 1920, Mary Ellen Hooson was born in Oakland, California. She was the only child born to William and Marion Hooson. Her father was a railroad engineer, working for the Southern Pacific Railroad. Her mother,

maiden name Merriam, was a relative of California Governor Frank Merriam, Governor from 1934 to 1939. She and Mary Ellen's father dissolved their marriage and Mary Ellen stayed with her maternal grandmother. Mary Ellen attended local schools, graduating from Oakland High School in January, 1939.

Mary Ellen was born into a Masonic family, her father a Mason, with Mary Ellen becoming a Rainbow Girl. Mary Ellen joined Eastern Star a week after graduating from high school. Mary Ellen first met her later to be husband, William "Hank" Dunbar, on a "blind date" in 1941. At the time, "Hank" was in the Army. They continued their relationship throughout World War II via correspondence. Mary Ellen noted that she still has a large bundle of letters written between them. In 1945, two weeks after the Hank's Honorable Discharge, they were married in Stockton and, shortly thereafter, they began their family. They had two daughters, current ages 65 and 66. Mary Ellen has 4 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren and another waiting appearance into the world.

In 1954, Mary Ellen, Hank and daughters established residence in the Morada area. Hank and Mary Ellen purchased her current home and orchard, where Mary Ellen currently lives with her faithful dog and five cats. This home has been the central point of the family and Masonic events for some period of time. "Hank" was not initiated into the fraternity until December 1966. Her father held to the code of not soliciting a member and did not discuss it with him. Mary Ellen recounts that she was a member of Lodi

Chapter of Eastern Star, in the progressive line and had a function that kept her out into the evening. Upon return, "Hank" inquired as to the reason for being out so late, learned about Masonry and, soon thereafter, submitted his petition for membership. Mary Ellen, in the meantime, became Worthy Matron of Lodi Chapter and twice thereafter.

She and husband "Hank" were Worthy Patron and Matron for the 100 year anniversary of Lodi Chapter. She also is a member of Amaranth, Daughters of the American Revolution and Morada Garden Club.

In the time after becoming a Mason, "Hank" was Master of San Joaquin Lodge No. 19, F&AM, in 1976. As it also was the second centennial of the nation, he wore the tri-corner hat during his term. He became prominent in Masonic organizations and Mary Ellen was by his side. She provided support in the organizations. During my term as Master of San Joaquin Lodge, No. 19, F&AM, she made 25 individually fire glazed cups with my name, year as Master, and square and compass in gold for presentations to the officers. Mary Ellen, who enjoys making decorations, is well known for her supply of beautiful table decorations and, in fact, "still has a closet full".

Mary Ellen, who had attended two-years of junior college, subsequently began working for San Joaquin County Welfare Department. She initially began as a clerk, progressed to an Eligibility Work and then was Eligibility Worker Unit Chief. At age 65, she retired with 17 years of service.

William "Hank", her husband of 51 years, passed in 1997. The Daughters of Boaz (Masonic widows' group), which her husband, she and others helped organize, gained her as a member.

She is the current president and has been for some years. They (hope) meet (when the pandemic is over) at a restaurant the second Sunday of each month. Mary Ellen and the Daughters of Boaz would enjoy your visit to their meeting.

In Memoriam

Stanley Eugene Jacobs, PM

Born December 16, 1930

Raised January 25, 1971

Died November 4, 2020

Aged 98 Years, 11 Months, 4 Days

Served as Master of San Joaquin #19

Soft and safe to thee, our
brother...



NOTICE OF DECEMBER STATED

BRETHREN! PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT MORNING STAR, NO. 19 WILL HOLD IT'S REGULARLY SCHEDULED STATED MEETING ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M. ON THE ZOOM PLATFORM.

THE MEETING WILL BE TILED SO BE SURE TO BE IN A QUIET, PRIVATE LOCATION. EACH MEMBER ATTENDING WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE AND HAVE HIS VOICE HEARD IF THEY SO CHOOSE.

TO ACCESS THE ZOOM ACCOUNT:

BY COMPUTER OR MOBILE PHONE:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88000458672?pwd=UU5DMTBVbktBbVQzN2xEZWg2dnRoUT09>

By phone: 1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 880 0045 8672

Passcode: 544934

YOU CAN ATTEND BY COMPUTER OR MOBILE PHONE. IF YOU ATTEND BY MOBILE PHONE YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.
DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER CALL A BROTHER WHO HAPPENS TO BE A FRIEND.





DECEMBER 2020

Morning Star Lodge No. 19,
F&AM P. O. Box 956
Stockton, CA. 95201-0956

Return Service Requested

Request to the family of the
member whose name appears
below: Please notify the above
address if our member is in the
hospital or nursing home or is
deceased.

NON-PROFIT ORGN.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STOCKTON, CALIF.
PERMIT NO. 38

DECEMBER (VIRTUAL) STATED MEETING

Make your own meal

or

Phone in and Pick Up

Chicken Soup & Genova Bread

Donation of \$10 would be appreciated

A reservation made is a reservation paid (no shows will be billed)

PLEASE CALL JOHN OR KAREN BAKER @465-3711 FOR YOUR

RESERVATIONS BY

December 1st (Tuesday)

Then join us on Zoom at 7pm!

