

# The Trestleboard

JULY & AUGUST 2020 | ISSUE no 7 VOL 168

## SILENCE IS GOLDEN

---

Messages from your officers and the Grand Master on how we are moving forward safely and prudently.

COVER: A view of Old Glory above Cort Tower as seen from the club parlor of the Stockton Masonic Temple.  
Happy Independence Day to our country!



# From the East

Worshipful Sonny Gotos, Jr.

BRETHREN & FRIENDS,

I have been thinking quite a lot lately about the progress of society and the arc of history and I've come to the conclusion that things have gotten better over the course of time, but things have also gotten a lot louder.

Have you noticed that both good news and bad news seem to be presented loudly and flashily these days? I'm not exactly sure when, how, and why it happened, but above the din of it all a good bit of silence makes me feel better about the state of things.

Silence is a great healer. As an example? Recently, Marie Striplin (Bro. Ziggy Striplin's lady), Cassandra Church (Hal Church's lady), and myself have been making pizzas as a fundraiser for our distressed brother fund and also to support our various masonic charities. Over the course making some 150+ pizzas over a month, I've realized that the most important messages humans can communicate to each other can often be done in silence. It's a great joy to focus on making something you love (i.e. a pizza) for people you appreciate (i.e. brethren, family, and friends all). An observation of the three of us making pizzas might lead you to believe that we might communicate telepathically, but it's really about the human connection of knowing what needs to be done and by whom.

So it is that we must do the same today and in this climate of separation and great anxiety. We no longer have the luxury of casual communication on degree nights or stated meetings or a Friday night Stonecutters to communicate the news, good or bad, of our lives to each other.

Instead, we have to rely upon equally something as equally healing as silence: the attentive ear.

These next two months, I challenge you to dig deep and seek silence as a personal healer AND to use your attentive ear to listen kindly to the concerns of others so that you can both heal and be healed.

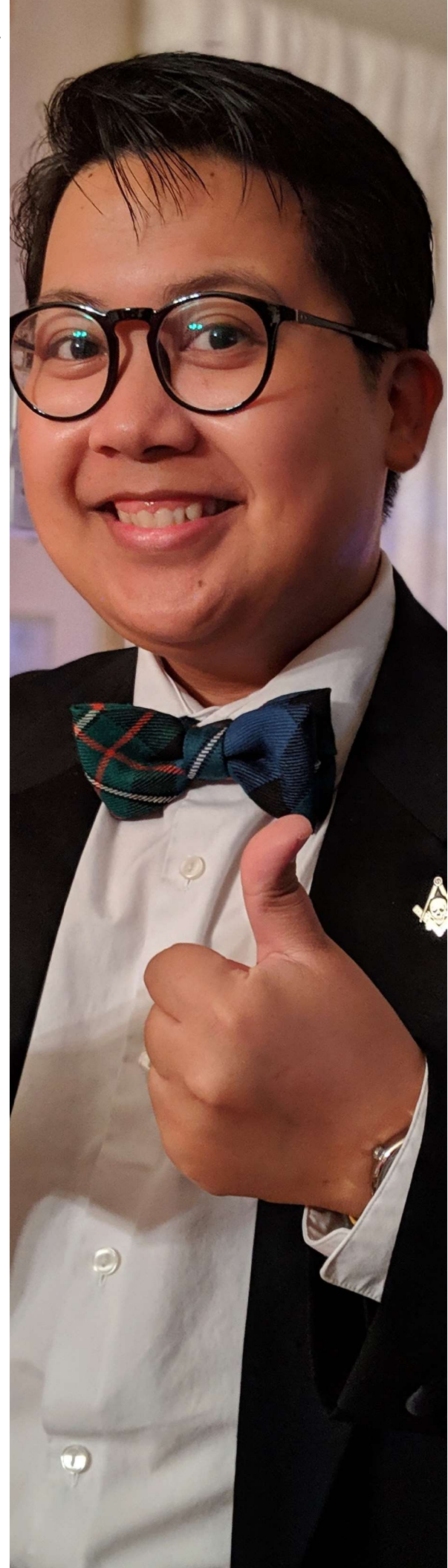
We Freemasons have a sincere obligation to be healers. Our ancient brethren must have sometimes looked at the cracks in the facade of a cathedral and thought of repairing (healing, if you will) than to rebuild.

I hope my message finds you happy and healthy and with a renewed vigor to listen to the silence of your soul!

Until we can meet again in person: may the Great Architect give you peace.

Sincerely & Fraternally Yours,  
Bro. Sonny Gotos, Jr.  
Worshipful Master

PS: think about buying a pizza in July and August. Our pizza also has healing powers... \*this statement has not been evaluated by the FDA\*



# From the South

Brother Daniel M. Tao

BRETHREN & FRIENDS,

Summer is upon us! And I'm sure many of us have felt like this year might have been one long, summer break.

As the State of California is continuing to figure out how to return things to normal in light of the Covid Pandemic, the fraternity looks towards the Grand Lodge of California for direction for dealing with our Masonic business.

As Brothers, let us look towards each other and continue to support our membership and our families with the same level of care that we have been during the first half of this year. As a member of Morning Star, I am proud to say that we take care of our own. Let the tenets of Freemasonry be embodied through our actions, especially Brotherly Love, which allows us to be the friendliest Lodge around!

Let us enjoy the Summer like a family,

Fraternally,  
Bro. Daniel Tao  
Junior Warden







## FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

Greetings Friends and Brothers,

I hope everyone is doing well, and that everyone is healthy and safe. The Stay at Home Orders are gradually being relaxed, but as of yet there are still no Masonic Gatherings taking place. The Lodge Officers did meet on June 3, 2020 via Video Conference and worked through some of the essential business of the lodge. Bills were ordered to be paid, and a few other issues were dealt with. Part of which is what happens when we open?

The Grand Master has recently spoken regarding when will we open. We have been informed by the State that Masonic Lodges and Grand Lodge are in Phase 4 of the reopening.

That means we are probably next to last in line in which to open. I believe we are ahead of sports venues full of fans. Of course, opening could be delayed if the state experiences a significant spike in cases and deaths so it remains a fluid situation.

When we do open there will be changes as to the way we do things. Social Distancing will be the new norm, and we at Morning Star will take the necessary steps to keep the brethren and our families safe. We will be able to have Stated Meetings but Stated Meeting Dinners will either not occur or be modified to provide for social distancing and safety. I personally believe that we will be able to still serve dinner, but we are working through those solutions so that they are done safely and in compliance with State and Grand Lodge directions.

The things that we do when we meet will also change. According to the Grand Master, because of the way that our ritual is performed it does not comply with social distancing requirements. The Grand Master indicated

that he is not going to provide a special dispensation to change the ritual. First, if he did change the ritual, he feels that he would dilute the ritual of its meaning and not make it nearly as effective. Secondly, he does not feel that he has the power to change the ritual as that is a province for the brethren to vote on at the Annual Communication (Grand Lodge). Therefore, degrees and other rituals requiring close contact or touching will not be allowed.

Before we can open, we will have to file a plan for re-opening with the State. Our plan will have to provide for social distancing, meals, and how we will conduct meetings. There may also be a maximum attendance requirement as well. Grand Lodge will provide a template for the Lodge plan in the next couple of weeks and we will begin work on it immediately. This template may further define the rules and give us some guidance as to the form of the report to file with the state.

I realize that everyone has a feeling regarding the restrictions that are upon us. However, we are bound by the laws of the State and the Orders of the Grand Master. Some of the changes will not be so popular, and the Officers of Morning Star understand that. However, the safety and health of our brothers and families are paramount on our minds, and any action that we take will be with that interest in mind. We will keep you up to date the best we can, and we will try to keep our operations as close to normal as we can.

Until then, please stay vigilant and watch over each other..

Fraternally,  
Roger A. Moore  
Secretary



## SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

Good day my Brothers,

It seems that every article you read in our Trestleboard and every other Trestleboard you may receive, says the same thing. Each begins with the update that we are still in a holding pattern and will begin meetings again when the Grand Master releases us to do so.

What we ARE permitted to do is meet via Zoom or some other electronic means. The Scottish Rite, our Lodge, Hi 12 and the Stonecutters club have been holding regular get-togethers. As have most every Lodge in the nation.

It's a tribute to humanity that we will do what is necessary to keep our lives and our sanity in one peace. It's a tribute to Masons that we do it without endangering others.

Carry on, my Brothers. This too will pass.

Fraternally,  
John L. Baker, 33°  
Venerable Master



## SHRINE NEWS

Summer is here and it's getting hot! Here's hoping you have a pool to dunk in and if you skinny dip be sure that there is a fence around you.

To give you an update on my quarantine status. The Lovely Lynn (my beautiful bride) and I have passed our 36th Wedding Anniversary. She is wonderful and I am not sure how I can be so lucky as to have her put up with me for so long. She is still talking about Spousal Distancing and I just cannot understand why she isn't thrilled to have me around 24/7. Oh well such is life when you are a trophy husband.

As we all know we are all still waiting for us to be able to meet again as Masons. As you know by reading my missives in the Secretary's column the current thinking is September, however the situation is fluid and it is hard to tell when we will be able to meet. I hope it is soon as I miss every one of you.

When we do meet again the way we meet will probably change. It is very unlikely that we will be able to cram ourselves in the small room at Chuck's. Hopefully, a larger room at Chuck's will do the trick, but the most important thing is the safety and wellbeing of all of you. We will adapt. However, for the time being we will have to wait for our monthly get togethers.

My Shrine Family 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 have to figure out how to do it. As Masons we will adapt to find a way to serve, and we will do it with the energy and vigor that we have always used. 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.

Roger Moore

# MORNING STAR LODGE #19

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

July 2020							Aug 2020 ▶
◀ Jun 2020	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 MS #19 Stated Via Zoom	3 Stonecutters Club Social    DARK	4 Indep. Day  Temple Closed
5	6	7 Temple Board Via ZOOM	8	9	10 MS #19 Via Zoom	11 Stonecutters Club Social    DARK	12 Queen of the West OES    Dark
12	13 DeMolay Dark	14 Jobs #83 Dark	15 Amaranth    Dark	16	17 MS #19 Via Zoom	18 Stonecutters Club Social    DARK	19
19	20	21 Officers School Is Dark	22	23 MS #19 Via Zoom	24 Stonecutters Club Social    DARK	25 Keystone #14 Stated    Dark  York Rite    Dark	26
26	27 DeMolay Dark	28 Jobs #83    Dark Scottish Rite Stated Via ZOOM	29	30 MS #19 Via Zoom	31 Stonecutters Club Social    DARK		



# MORNING STAR LODGE #19

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

August 2020							◀ Jul 2020	Sep 2020 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
						1		
2	3	4 Temple Board Via ZOOM	5	6 MS #19 Stated Via Zoom	7 Stonecutters Club Social DARK	8 Queen of the West OES Dark		
9	10 DeMolay Dark	11 Jobs #83 Via ZOOM	12	13 MS #19 Via Zoom	14 Stonecutters Club Social DARK	15		
16	17	18 Officers School Is Dark	19 Amaranth Dark	20 MS #19 Via Zoom	21 Stonecutters Club Social DARK	22 Keystone #14 Stated Dark York Rite Dark		
23	24 DeMolay Dark	25 Jobs #83 Via ZOOM Scottish Rite Dark	26	27 MS #19 Via Zoom	28 Stonecutters Club Social DARK	29		
30	31							



## BETHEL 83 NEWS

Hello all!

During this time of physical distancing the Bethel has been holding our meetings virtually through Zoom. We are finding ways to stay connected during this time. We had a movienight, where we watched Mulan together.

We are looking forward to being together in person again soon. One of these get togethers will be our pancake breakfast. Keep a look out for more information on it in the future.

Our state-wide convention, Grand Bethel has been postponed to Aug. 6-8, 2020. At this session one of our Past Honored Queens will be going in as a Grand Bethel Officer for 2020-2021. This will be an exciting time for our Bethel.

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. All Master Masons & spouses are welcomed to attend all Bethel Meetings.

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	

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Kenneth R. Evans, PM	-	July 1, 1943
Julian W. Girouard Jr. PM	-	July 5, 1973
Ernest McDonald, PM	-	July 5, 1979
Ronald W. Coale	-	July 6, 1956
Dominic C. Weatherford	-	July 7, 1969
Hugo Flores-Moreno	-	July 8, 1941
Jerrold J. Largin	-	July 8, 1941
Thomas R. Kriss	-	July 9, 1953
Virgilio U. Ambida, PM	-	July 11, 1933
Max D. Vargas	-	July 12, 1987
Roger V. Bustos	-	July 15, 1952
Robert C. Irwin	-	July 15, 1951
Doyle A. King	-	July 20, 1933
M. Fred Priebe	-	July 20, 1936
James M. Morris	-	July 21, 1943
Corey M. Shaw	-	July 23, 1987
Mabini C. Francisco	-	July 23, 1961
Albert L. Palmer	-	July 23, 1930
Milton Yarbrough	-	July 23, 1925
Sean P. Johansen	-	July 26, 1972
Matthew C. Baker	-	July 29, 1971
Daniel M. Tao	-	July 29, 1984
D. Brook Cunningham, PGM	-	July 30, 1945
Albert Duncan	-	July 30, 1971

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRETHREN!





## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Albert F. Stokes, PM	- August 1, 1945
Franco de Leonardis	- August 2, 1939
Anthony T. Linnerman-Smith	- August 2, 1991
Thomas H. Morrison	- August 3, 1931
David E. Duley	- August 7, 1943
Raymond H. Huey Jr.	- August 7, 1952
Patrick O'Hern	- August 7, 1953
Robert W. Hong	- August 8, 1924
Darryl L. Collins	- August 9, 1948
James R. Freshour	- August 9, 1935
James L. Jensen	- August 9, 1944
Darren K. Hill	- August 10, 1960
Jeff Lennox	- August 13, 1942
Steven R. Astorino	- August 14, 1949
Wayne J. Moore	- August 14, 1940
E. Darryl Knak, PM	- August 16, 1931
Brian Frymire, PM	- August 16, 1946
Toshiaki D. Saruwatari	- August 16, 1947
Ralph M. Womack	- August 17, 1948
Wes C. Martin	- August 22, 1977
Kevin R. Kennedy	- August 23, 1964
Harlow M. (Hal) Church	- August 24, 1974
Gregory A. Louis, PM	- August 26, 1952
R. Carter Warmke	- August 27, 1947
Dax F. Martin	- August 28, 1975
Gary R. Carrera	- August 29, 1972
James E. Striplin Sr.	- August 29, 1971
Howard F. Turner	- August 29, 1948
Ezio A. Aicardi	- August 30, 1953

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRETHREN!**

## I-MEMBER 2.0: WHY DO I CARE?

On July 1, 2020; Grand Lodge will unveil the newest version of i-Member, which is a web based member management system. Prior to the development of this system i-Member was only available to the Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Inspector and other Grand Lodge Officers. iMember2.0 will change that

Beginning July 1, iMember2.0 will be available to all members. What you can see, of course depends on who you are. For example, Secretaries will see more than an average member and the officers of the Lodge. Other officers and Grand Lodge Staff will have greater access depending on what their position is. iMember2.0 promises to be an easy to use system that will allow a member of Morning Star 19 to log onto the site and look up their profile. They will be able to make changes to their profile (such as when they move or change phone numbers and e-mail addresses. iMember2.0 will allow you to not only update your profile. You will be able to pay your dues online using the square or credit card. You can make those dues payments in monthly installments if you choose, or they can be a lump sum payment. You can also RSVP to dinners and events and pay for them through Grand Lodge. Once you do pay your dues it is no longer necessary to wait for the secretary to send your dues card in the mail. It will be available for you on the site and you can download it to your smart phone or print it. However, if you prefer to have me mail you your dues card, I will be happy to do so.

Yours Truly (that would be me) will also have an easier time using iMember2.0. Grand Lodge promises that with an easier to use dashboard my job will become easier by enabling me to be able to communicate with you sending mass e-mails, robo-calls and merge mail. To our widows and other friends of the Lodge I will continue to keep my e-mail lists so that I will be able to notify you of upcoming events and other announcements.

If you would like to explore the system you can log in and work with it either with expert guidance or at your own pace. Here is how you do it:

### AT YOUR OWN PACE

Log in to: [https://membertest.freemason.org/membership\\_regisration](https://membertest.freemason.org/membership_regisration)

↳Log into the test site using your own credentials.

↳Use the Help Desk to navigate the site and learn tips for success.

### FOR THE GUIDED WEBINAR

Log in to: [https://membertest.freemason.org/membership\\_registration](https://membertest.freemason.org/membership_registration)

(Training webinars with platform experts are held weekly.)

↳Log into the test site using your own credentials.

↳Click on "My Portal"

↳Select the "Seminars" tile, and choose the day and time you prefer.

Be sure to register for webinars at least a day in advance. They generally run about 40 minutes to an hour.

I know that new things frighten us all, but this new version will allow all of us to be more interactive with the system and have control over our information. It will also make it easier to take care of dues and keep your information updated.

I will keep you informed as I learn more.

Roger Moore

Secretary, Morning Star #19.

# A MESSAGE FROM MOST WORSHIPFUL JOHN TRAUNER

Dear Brethren,

It's clear from the past week that the world is longing for higher ideals – more unity, harmony, and focus on the common good. Freemasons have been champions of these ideas for centuries. The principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth; of temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice have never been more vital. First, it is important for us to reflect on these values. And second, as modern Masons, it's our duty to display the best of these ideals in our daily lives; to be a good example for our families and neighbors. It's what called us to Masonry in the first place. And being together is an important part of cementing our brotherhood and unity as Masons.

It's been some 80 days since we suspended Masonic meetings and events to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission among our members and communities and to adhere to subsequent state and local orders to stay at home. These orders are being updated to allow greater economic, medical, educational, and religious activities to safely resume. The California Department of Public Health recognizes that “meetings or other events that bring together persons from multiple households at the same time for a shared or group experience in a single room, space, or place pose an especially great danger of transmission and spread of COVID-19.” The state updated this guidance for religious and faith based organizations on May 25. However, social gatherings like ours are not yet permitted. I'm developing plans with the executive committee so that we are prepared to issue guidance for the safe resumption of Masonic meetings and events when the time is right.

When state and local government agree that activities like ours are permitted, we should be prepared to gradually resume our activities, avoiding those aspects of our practices that might not be best to undertake initially. Local Masonic leaders should think about a plan to address the safety of our activities. Each lodge will be expected to have a written plan in place before activities resume. We'll issue a template for lodge plans soon. In the meantime, look through state or county resources for re-opening guidelines. These guidelines tend to be similar across all sectors and we believe guidelines for our activities will be similar. State guidelines can be found [here](#).

There isn't yet sufficient information to determine if the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be permitted to take place in October as planned. We hope more information will be available in the weeks ahead. We've made contingency plans if we're not able to conduct the Annual Communication in person. These plans are based on existing Masonic law and will allow us to conduct the essential business of the grand lodge, including the normal succession of leadership. We'll announce these plans once we're able to make a final decision about the Annual Communication.

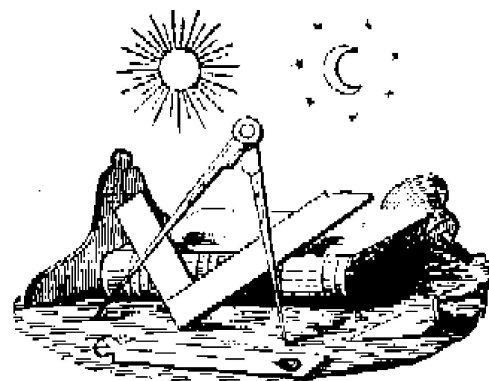
Though we're not able to meet in person, we can continue to shine the light of Freemasonry in our lives. I continue to be awed by the generosity of Masons. The response to the Distressed Worthy Brother Relief Fund is incredible. We're helping over 120 brothers and their families who have been seriously impacted by the pandemic. If you know of a brother who needs help, please direct him to Masonic Assistance. And, I'm thrilled to report that our California Masonic Foundation has brought together some of our favorite community partners – Raising A Reader and the Major League Baseball foundations – to help children and families across the state. Next month, we'll distribute Super Summer Book Bags filled with learning resources to thousands of California families, addressing a growing educational challenge known as the “COVID-slide.” Learn more about how you can help our communities through this important and vital effort on [Masons4Mitts.org](#) in the coming weeks.

Again, thank you for your dedication to our craft and our brethren. I've never been more proud to be a Mason as I am today.

Sincerely and fraternally,

John E. Trauner

Grand Master, Masons of California







JULY & AUGUST 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

---

## JULY & AUGUST (VIRTUAL) MEETING

As July and August's Monthly Meetings are held  
via the internet in your own home,  
the meal planning is your responsibility.

We suggest that you prepare something special and comfortable,  
And offer a toast to the Masons of your life and their ladies!

