

The Trestleboard

MAY 2020 | ISSUE no 5 VOL 168

ZOOMING TO KEEP IN TOUCH

Messages from officers on how we are conducting lodge business and still "meeting" on the level and in fellowship.

COVER: A picture of the lodge room from 2019. Only the pedestal and lesser lights are used to light the room. Bro. Dominic Weatherford can be seen across the room. "Consider, when everything seems dark, YOU may be the light."

From the East

Worshipful Sonny Gotos, Jr.

BRETHREN & FRIENDS,

I hope this message finds you and yours safe, happy, and healthy. We have certainly experienced a sea change in our way of life since my last message. That is, outside of particular activities, we've been asked to stay home.

I have found that this can be particularly difficult on one's mental health. It is easy to physically stay at home. It's another to mentally stay at home.

The mind likes to wander, to trace the well worn tracks of memories, of "what-ifs" and "what elses", and tries to unsuccessfully forecast an unknown future. In doing so, the mind can make the reality of sheltering in place more burdensome than it has to be.

When a mason finds a problem, as the wandering mind can sometimes be, he should look to his working tools.

If you previously had a daily routine, try to stick with it as best as you can, dividing your time as prudently as you can with the 24" gauge.

Remember, the ashlar must be shaped and material removed, not added. And so, please be mindful of the amount of news you consume. Be informed, but not overloaded, so that your mind becomes an appropriate living stone for the great spiritual building.

Most importantly, remember to use the trowel and the cement of brotherly love and affection. If you feel like, reach out to us. A friend is never far away.

We've added a 21st century tool to the Morning Star kit: video conferencing. It's no substitute for actually coming to the Temple and attending a dinner, a degree, or an evening at Stonecutters, but we have found it boosting to morale. It's been incredibly rewarding to see our old-timers and our younger brethren meet on the level once again.

I've been grateful for this tool because I've been able to tell jokes to folks and have them shake their heads and not laugh. Just like at Lodge!

If you'd like to make this part of your weekly routine, please reach out to me and Most Excellent Secretary Moore and we'll try our best to get you set up.

In last month's, I wrote about how sometimes helping yourself requires helping others. In the spirit of that, Morning Star has been diligently reaching out to our elderly brethren and our lodge widows. In the calls I have made, I've found that this most vulnerable segment of our masonic family are riding out this storm quite safely. What they need most is our sympathetic and attentive ear and less our toilet paper and hand sanitizer. So, please help us with this endeavor! Help us by reaching out to Most Excellent Secretary Moore and get the name of someone who could use your company.

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



From the South

Brother Daniel M. Tao

BRETHREN & FRIENDS,

In these times, I had to ponder what to write about. I want to bring up the topic of memories and social capital. We are living in strange times, surviving during the Covid-19 pandemic, and these events will make a distinct impact in our social consciousness. Being in the medical profession, I'm hoping this forces everybody to wash their hands regularly now. The experience that we are living through will become memories in a few months and we will reminisce later about it. We will talk about what we did during the Great Sheltering in Place of the Spring of 2020 to our children and our children's children.

I also hope that we also talk about what we did as a Fraternity, through the applications of the lessons that we were taught in the Lodge. One of the characteristics we have as a Fraternity is that we are a generational Fraternity. We have multiple generations under one roof, passing along their experience and enriching each other's lives. Therefore, these memories that we have and are making now, especially during these trying times, is a type of social capital that builds up within our Lodges and adds strength and durability to our individual relationships. Our ability to use this social capital, and to pass down our experiences, is one way we make Good Men Better.

Let me end with some Confucian wisdom. Our individual actions impact our family, and our families impact our neighborhoods, and our neighborhoods impact our towns and cities, and our town and cities impact our counties, and our counties impact our state, and our states impact our country. And our country impact the world. By continually striving for improvement, to reach that state of the Perfect Ashlar, and by helping others to do the same, is how we not only change our individual environments, but also help change the world.

Fraternally,
Bro. Daniel Tao
Junior Warden





FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

Greetings Friends and Brothers,

I hope everyone is doing well, and that you are all sheltering in place. The Stay at Home Orders are still in effect, and there are no Masonic Gatherings taking place. The Lodge Officers did meet on April 2, 2020 via Video Conference and worked through some of the essential business of the lodge. Bills were ordered to be paid, and we dealt with a few remittances.

I know this is not how we want to spend our days, and our routine is pretty well ripped to shreds. However, if we are successful and are able to get through this it will be a small time out of our lives, and will enable us to spend a great amount of time in fellowship. So please be safe and stay at home!!!!

One of the larger issues that loom over us is the payment of dues. Currently, there are seventeen (17) Brothers who are eligible for suspension. Their Notice of Intent to Suspend has been sent via Certified Mail. According to Grand Lodge the final roster for Morning Star is due by June 30, 2020. Any Brothers who are on the roster on June 30, 2020 will count against the Lodge's Per Capita.

The Executive Board for Morning Star recognizes that the COVID 19 virus may work a hardship on some of our brothers due to the mandatory closing of most businesses. Unfortunately, Grand Lodge has yet to extend the dates for the submission of Final Rosters so we are forced to work with a June 30,

2020 deadline. Therefore, dues for all brothers facing suspension will need to be paid by the June 4, 2020 Stated Meeting. However, after potential suspensions are announced I will place a motion on the floor to table the suspensions until June 29, 2020 at which time the Suspensions will be sent to Grand Lodge. If you are a brother who is facing hardship or know of a brother facing hardship. Please contact me so we can help solve the problem and keep our brothers in Lodge.

My goal is to have zero Suspensions for Non Payment of Dues for 2020. Help me meet that goal!!

Finally, as most of you know, I have been sending out various announcements to the lodge and friends of the lodge through an E-Mail system through Google. Notices are sent in bulk via Blind CC (BCC) via Google Access. Unfortunately, Google has changed their rules regarding group E-Mails, and will not allow me to send E-Mails in this fashion. As a result, I was required to switch to Google Groups. I can only add you to Google Groups by way of invitation. I have sent out a group of invitations once, and I would like to do so again. I am planning on sending invitations soon, so please accept the invitation so you can remain on the mailing list.

Please stay vigilant and watch over each other.

Fraternally,
Roger A. Moore
Secretary



SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

Good day my Brothers,

As the date of the Scottish Rite Stated meeting has been changed from the first Wednesday of the month to the fourth Tuesday of each month this gives more brothers a chance to attend. I hope you are moved to do so. Of course, if this virus continues, who knows when we will actually be meeting again....

For those of you not members of the Scottish Rite, the spring class is upon us. Due to the virus situation, the Degrees will be conferred in the beautiful Oakland Scottish Rite Temple, but at a postponed date. That date is yet to be set.

Another thing, I am sad to report that we have decided to cancel the Mason of the Year celebration for this year. The last thing any of us want to do is put a couple of hundred vulnerable old men in one room at one time. We will return this great event in 2021, God willing.

Fraternally,
John L. Baker, 33°
Venerable Master



SHRINE NEWS

Like every other Masonic group the Shrine and the San Joaquin Shrine Club are dark waiting out this nasty little virus.

As a result of the Stay At Home Orders all Shrine events and gatherings have been canceled or postponed. Unfortunately, this includes the potentate's trip in May which is going to be rescheduled to August.

The Dixon Mayfair Parade scheduled for May 9, 2020 is canceled.

It is anticipated that the Stated Meeting for Ben Ali Shrine and for the San Joaquin Shrine Club will also be canceled. If those meetings proceed forward we will notify you.

The Fizz Breakfast scheduled for June 13, 2020 will be postponed. The San Joaquin Shrine Club is anticipating scheduling this favorite event for sometime in the fall.

Please keep a look out for future announcements and be sure to watch out for each other.

We'll see you at Chucks when all is well

Stay safe everyone!!

Roger Moore

MORNING STAR LODGE #19

May 2020							Jun 2020 ▶
◀ Apr 2020	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Stonecutters Club Dark	2 Taco's at the Temple postponed
3	4	5 Cinco De Mayo Temple Board Via Zoom	6	7 MS #19 Stated via Zoom	8 Stonecutters Club Dark	9 Queen of the West OES Dark	
10	11 DeMolay Dark	12 Jobs #83 Dark	13	14 MS #19 Dark	15 Stonecutters Club Dark	16	
17	18	19 Officers School in Lodi Canceled	20 Amaranth Dark	21 MS #19 Dark	22 Stonecutters Club Dark	23 Keystone #14 Stated Dark York Rite Dark	
24	25 Memorial Day DeMolay Dark	26 Jobs #83 Dark Scottish Rite Stated Dark	27	28 MS #19 Dark	29 Stonecutters Club Dark	30	
31	It's lonesome here at home						



BETHEL 83 NEWS

Hello all!

During this time of physical distancing the Bethel has been holding our meetings virtually through Zoom. After our April 14th meeting, we held an Egg Hunt in our own homes.

While the girls were participating in their meeting, their parents were hiding eggs in their own home. It was wonderful to be able to continue this new tradition for the Bethel during this physical distancing time.

Our Gourmet Pancake Breakfast that was planned for April 19th, will be rescheduled once we are allowed to physically meet together again. Information will be sent out once the Bethel has that information determined. Thank you for your continually support of the 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
Bethel Guardian
(209)483-6793

Jim Sanborn
Associate Bethel Guardian
(209) 570-7363

Bethel83stockton@gmail.com
jamesmacysanborn@gmail.com

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Laurence E. Drivon	-	May 1, 1941
Feliciano A. Garcia	-	May 2, 1980
Robert J. Clark	-	May 4, 1943
Ray L. Gowdy	-	May 5, 1945
Shawn A. McCarty	-	May 6, 1985
Nick Kosta	-	May 7, 1934
Miguel G. Blas	-	May 8, 1964
Ronald T. Stockwell	-	May 10, 1943
Richard L. Mano Jr.	-	May 10, 1988
Robert L. Westwood	-	May 11, 1933
Gary O. Kelley	-	May 16, 1945
Willard E. Miller	-	May 20, 1929
Robert W. Church, PM	-	May 23, 1949
James A. Linnerman, PM	-	May 24, 1945
Thomas C. Maples	-	May 25, 1976
Edward A. Simas	-	May 26, 1944
Michael J. Stern, PM	-	May 28, 1975

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRETHERN!

Throwback Photos from the Temple



A night view from the Temple's north balcony. The white dot in the middle of the picture is the moon and the white dot at the top of the page is Venus, also called the Morning / Evening Star.

From left to right, Worshipful Sirs John L. Baker, Richard Garcia, and Sonny Gotos, Jr. at last year's Scottish Rite Mason of the Year Awards.

It is sincerely hoped that we will have the event again!

A Stonecutters evening in July of 2019. Two Bobs (Bussman and Westwood) can be seen.

Just like the Scottish Rite MOTY Awards, we are looking forward to a return to Stonecutters as soon as it is safe and allowed.



Not a pic from the Temple, but from last summer's lodge picnic, another event we hope is part of our future plans.

Have any pics to share for next month's Trestleboard? Email them to Wor. John Baker [jl baker@pacbell.net]



May 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.

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MAY (VIRTUAL) MEETING MENU

As May's Monthly Meeting is 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!

