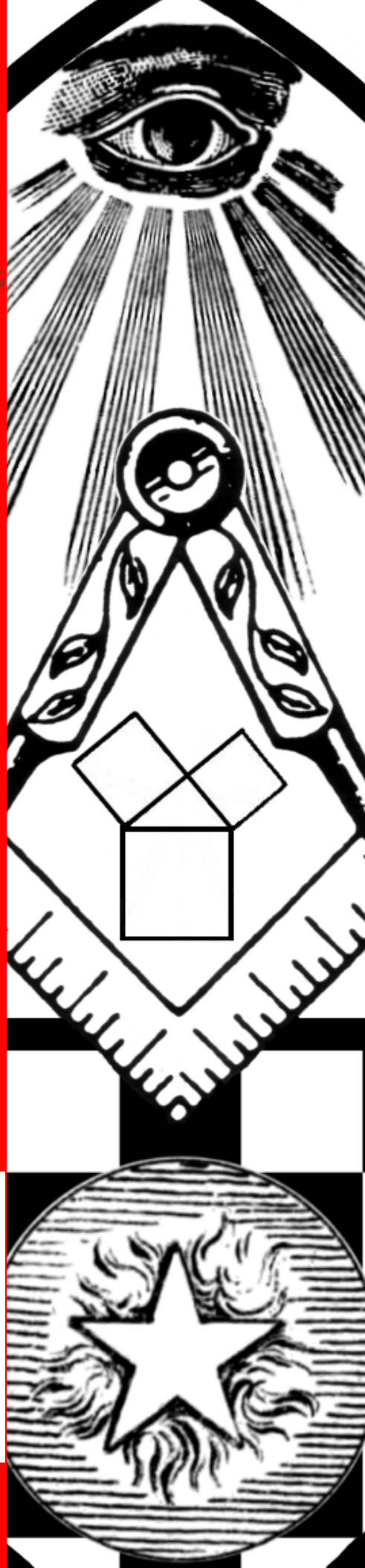


CLAREMONT MASONS

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

2019



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EDUCATION, GROWTH, & FRIENDSHIP

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings Brethren and Friends,

I hope this message finds you in good health and spirits!

2019 is here, and with it the many possibilities that a fresh start offers.

2018 was a successful year, though it didn't start off that way. At the beginning of that year we were given a deadline by which we were expected to "shape up", or risk closure; and while not every hoop we were tasked with jumping through was entirely warranted, many of them were. We had no choice but to start jumping.

We had four main areas that needed work:

1. Member participation
2. Officer ritual proficiency
3. Overall lodge health and ability to keep "making masons"
4. Interest in membership by new applicants

We attempted to work on these areas of growth by various means, including individual hard work, lodge events, and a couple of "put on your lifevest" improvement meetings. How did we do?

All four areas improved! The officers have made great strides in their ritual proficiency, the lodge's health and longevity look promising, and we have had some members who were not regulars start to attend again. Best of all we have some new applicants knocking at the door.

Momentum is finally on our side and now comes the real test- can we maintain it? I absolutely believe we can, if we can do two things:

1. Share a common vision for the BEST possible lodge, and not settle for anything less,
2. Each understand our individual roles in making that happen.

I have written a piece on this very subject and it is included on page 5. I hope you enjoy it!

I also hope to see you at our Installation Ceremony on the 26th at 1:00pm. Come out and support our officer corps for 2019!

In Fellowship,



Jonathan Dru Wood
JONATHAN DRU WOOD

CALENDAR

01/03 7:30pm	»»»→	Stated Meeting
01/10 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice
01/17 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice
01/22 7:30pm	»»»→	OSI - Ontario
01/24 7:30pm	»»»→	Installation Practice
01/26 1:00pm	»»»→	Installation of Officers
01/30 7:30pm	»»»→	Masonic Info Night
01/31 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice
02/07 7:30pm	»»»→	Stated Meeting
02/13 7:30pm	»»»→	Discussion Group
02/14 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice
02/21 7:30pm	»»»→	OSI - Upland-Mt. Baldy
02/27 7:30pm	»»»→	Masonic Info Night
02/28 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice
03/07 7:30pm	»»»→	March Stated Meeting
03/14 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice
03/16 4:00pm	»»»→	St. Patty's Party
03/21 7:30pm	»»»→	OSI - Claremont
03/28 7:30pm	»»»→	Degree or Practice

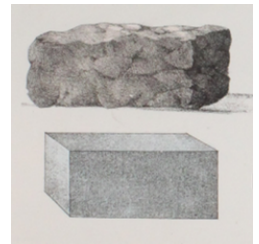
UPCOMING EVENTS



**107th Annual
Installation of
Officers**
Saturday,
January 26th
at 1:00pm

Information Night
(for membership prospects)

01/30 7:30pm



**Masonic
Discussion Group**
02/13 7:30pm

*Behold, how good and pleasant it is for
brethren to dwell together in unity*





3RD DEGREE ANNIVERSARIES

NAME:	RAISED:	YEARS A MM:
DAVID LOWRY	01/15/69	50
DAVID GODWIN	01/26/70	49
RICHARD PUMERANTZ	01/04/90	29
THOMAS SANDKAMP	01/27/00	19

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Day</u>
Anthony Adriano	01/01
Roy Marchant	01/01
Walter DeJesus	01/06
Niles Rose	01/06
Andrew Bridges	01/11
Chet Olson	01/14
Tony Perry	01/17
Harout Markarian	01/18
Kevin Purdy	01/22
Gary Lyttle	01/28



Youth Orders

Hello,

Our new term has officially begun!

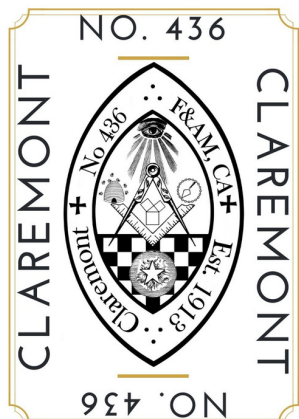
Last month we had a great time at Installation, caroling at the Covina Masonic Homes, visiting Santa, and seeing the Polar Express on a rooftop in LA.

This month we will be going to the LA Zoo on January 4th. Then we'll be having our school of instruction meeting on Saturday January 12 at 10am. This is where the girls get an opportunity to get direct instruction from the adults on how to do their ritual work correctly, after which we will be going ice skating.

This term we are working on improving our ritual work, so we are going to have two in-robe meetings per month, rather than our more casual business meetings at the end of the month. So on Tuesday January 22, we will be having an in-robe meeting at 7pm.

Happy New Year!

Patty Cass
Bethel Guardian
Bethel 301, Job's Daughters Intl.





LIGHT!

“We Take Good Lodges and Make Them Better”: A Master’s Manifesto

Freemasonry is said to take good men and make them better. In this idea two things are implied:

1. That we must be good men, before and after we join
2. That even good men are not complete, and there is something more for them to learn, to gain, to do.

By this theme we are taught that improvement is always possible, that growth is a journey, and that becoming better is our duty as long as we live.

This may seem obvious to us as masons. What may not be as obvious is the implication that a lodge, being made up of masons who are “good, and becoming better” has by extension the same duty- to be good, and to work to be better.

So how can we each contribute to the improvement of the lodge as a whole? That is the focus of this manifesto.

Applying the process of self-improvement to the lodge as a body (or “egregore”, i.e. group-mind from the Greek “grigori”) involves active participation from each cell of the organism.

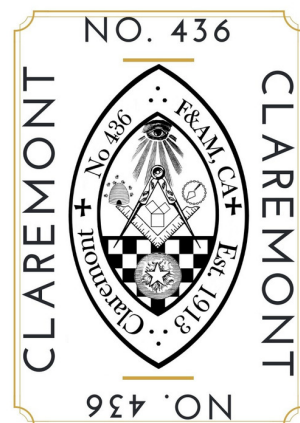
We each have a role to play, and within our roles there are best practices that can support a healthy, effective, and enjoyable process of lodge growth.

Here are some suggested best practices:

Past Masters: You are to support the lodge in any way possible because your knowledge and experience is an asset. Because you have been there and have had to learn some of the hardest lessons already, you can add valuable insight. You are also perceived to be the wisest members of the lodge, so you must strive to act it. Be patient, encouraging, and whisper good counsel but also be okay when your counsel is not heeded, for some need to learn by experience. You are especially tasked with supporting the Master, for you remember how hard that job can be. A Master has a grand hope and new energy that can transform a lodge for the better- or quickly dissipate in frustration- and your help and support make all the difference.

Masters: The Master’s design upon the trestleboard defines the culture of the lodge. It sets the tone and defines what the rest of the lodge considers to be the standard. What the master considers acceptable will become acceptable, so aim high. Always strive for the best possible vision of your lodge, and work to define and maintain the highest standards. Yet do not be attached to the outcome. Your duty is to steer and lead by example, and success is a journey.

- cont on next page



“We Take Good Lodges and Make Them Better”: A Master’s Manifesto cont...

Wardens: You have the most important job in the lodge! You set the standard of brotherly love and affection that the lodge will emulate, and you cannot expect your members to follow the example of the master if you cannot yourself do so. For instance you can merely “indulge” the master out of a sense of duty, or you can encourage him and lend support out of respect and brotherly love. The spirit with which you carry out your duties is everything. The more cheerfully you step up to help and support the master, the more likely the rest of the membership will be to follow your example. When your turn at the wheel comes, you will get the very same support system you taught by example; so be a good example!

Officers: Officers are depended upon a great deal. It is easy to miss how much you matter, and it’s totally normal at times to feel burned out, critical of the leadership, and to wonder why you are doing it at all. It is not easy to serve. We often have other ideas of how we would do things, and we don’t always feel appreciated or valued. Yet service is one of the ways in which Masonry makes us better men. When we help a leader even while disagreeing with him, we get to test our assumptions and ideas without taking all of the impact if he has made a mistake. Furthermore it teaches us patience, exposes us to new perspectives, and gives us opportunities for charity- not in charity in the sense of “philanthropy”, but benevolence (forgiveness, patience of shortcomings, encouragement)- that kind of charity all masons are charged to practice with one another, and which makes us worthy of emulation.

Master Masons: You are tasked with pure and simple participation. Only by coming to the place where “masonry” happens can you hope to be a “mason”. A lodge is not the building, it is the brethren, so you are missed when you are not around. Truly, one who will wear a masonic ring and tell people he is a mason, but won’t join his fellows in the quarry is clearly fooling himself.

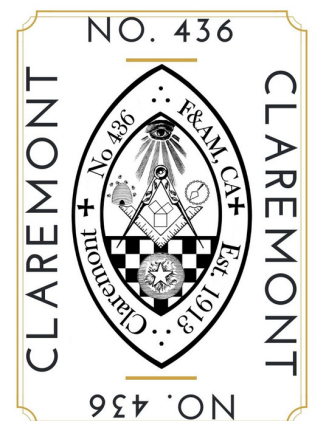
Brotherhood is not something that can be faked, yet that is exactly what happens when we join a brotherhood and don’t spend time with said brothers. Most importantly, you are needed every week to lend your voice, support the new members, and to continue your personal growth. You are mentor to the apprentices and fellows of the craft, and this is critical job. Now, if the lodge you joined is not your style; if it is lacking in brotherly love, in truth (education), and if it does not foster growth- then you have a duty to participate and help to build it into something better, for masons are, after all, builders! Also, see above about benevolence.

Fellows and Apprentices: Study and participate. Apply yourself in learning everything you can about the lessons and symbols of your degree, and the history of the fraternity. Come to every event and meeting you can. Get to know every member you can and work right from the beginning to understand their unique experiences, perspectives, and values. Be sure to listen more than you speak so that you can soak-in as much as possible just like the apprentices of old. You are the future masters and past masters of the lodge, use this time to learn about the system so that you can later teach it and improve upon it. Also, enjoy your time in the first two grades, go slow and allow each to stage to do its work in changing you for the better. Each has its own value to impart to you, rushing only cheapens the experience you get. Surely, we have three degrees for a reason!

May these suggestions help to strengthen us, and to demonstrate the vital role each of us has to play in the health of Claremont Lodge.

After all, a lodge is only a mirror held before the faces of the members of which it is made.

What do we see when faced with ourselves?



2019 Event Calendar

This is tentative (and open to suggestion), but includes a balance of social and members only events. Hopefully these will also be supplemented by fun outings and other events as the desire and opportunity arises.

Having this many dinners is very optimistic, and will require a greater amount of participation in the planning and execution than just the executive committee. If one of these appeals to you or is in your "wheelhouse" please let the Master and Wardens know!

Jan - Installation 01/26 @ 1pm

Feb - Masonic Discussion Group

Mar - St. Patty's Day event (possibly)

Apr - Masonic Discussion Group

May - Festive Board

Jun - Masonic Discussion Group

Jul - Lodge BBQ

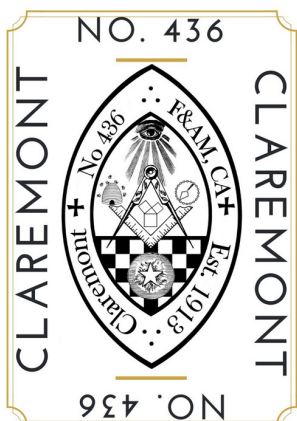
Aug - Masonic Discussion Group

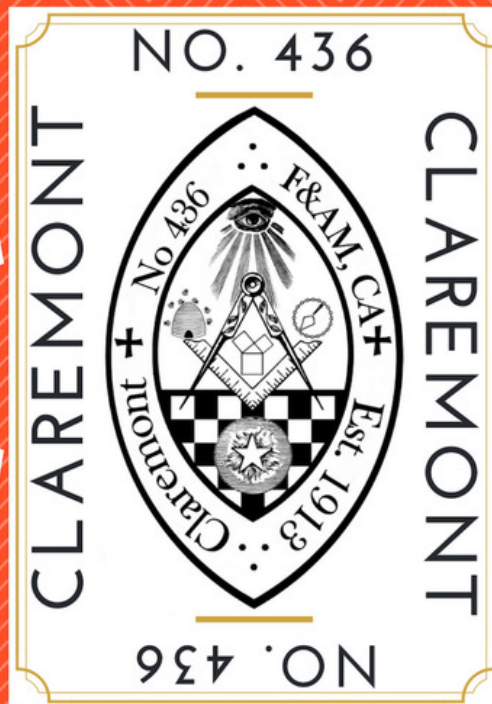
Sep - Sweethearts Dinner

Oct - Youth Orders Appreciation

Nov - Masonic Discussion Group

Dec - Holiday Party





107TH ANNUAL
INSTALLATION
OF
OFFICERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26
AT 1:00PM

12:30PM SOCIAL HOUR | 1:00PM CEREMONY
REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

272 W 8TH ST, CLAREMONT, CA 91711

RSVP AT
CLAREMONTLODGE436@GMAIL.COM

One sacred band or society of friends and brothers...



The Design Upon The Trestleboard

We are a vibrant and diverse group of men coming together to celebrate the shared vision of an oasis of peace, harmony, and fraternal affection.

We value our role within an organization which is recognized as being a positive and relevant force of influence in the world.

We strive to maintain an environment where all members can go and expect to meet other positive, like-minded men who value family, friendship, spiritual development, self-improvement, and traditional values.

We look to emulate the ideals of the Fraternity; and we accomplish this by working to ensure that the deeper implications of Masonic wisdom are explored and cultivated within each member through solemn and sincere degrees coupled with a contemplative approach to education.

We always seek to foster friendship, personal growth, and individual success through both formal and informal mentoring, and friendly concern.

EDUCATION

GROWTH

FRIENDSHIP



CLAREMONTLODGE.ORG

INSTAGRAM: @CLAREMONT_MASONS

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