

FROM THE EAST

Aloha my brethren, a busy January is in the books and I'd like to thank all of you for your diligent efforts and contributions to masonry. Between officer practices a funeral service and our first degree we were active to say the least. Congratulations to our new brother, Eric Moller who was initiated on January 23rd. Welcome to the fraternity it was a pleasure to participate in your admission into masonry.

We are planning on doing some lodge upgrades to the floor as soon as we form a working group and pick a date. I'd like to again thank all of the brethren for working together with Brother Jim Lysiuk to upgrade our lodge.

I encourage any brother who hasn't been to lodge in a while to come down and visit your lodge and meet some of your brothers.

One housekeeping note, if your address phone number or email has changed please let Worshipful brother Dan Miller know so he can update our roster. While I was making my holiday calls I found quite a few phone numbers to be non working anymore.

As always it is my honor to serve the fraternity at the will and pleasure of the brethren.

Fraternally yours
Troy Gibson Sr.
Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST

Aloha Brethren, January was a special month for our lodge, not only was in the first month since we've been back in full officer and lodge practicing, but we also had our first degree. Big congratulations to our newly raised entered apprentice mason Mr. Eric Moller.

Masonry is a forever growing experience and knowledge and with that said, it's always an honor to participate in such an eventful evening.

Big congratulations to all the officers, some of you this was the first time conducting a degree in your new station and your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed.

I extend my invitation to all our members who are available on February 23 & 24 to contact me as we will be redoing our lodge floors. It's going to be quit the change for our lodge and would encourage all brethren, visiting or not to come and see the improvements.

Please attend our February monthly Stated Meeting and Dinner, it is our privilege in accepting all traveling brethren and their families to come and experience our Kona Lodge Ohana (family).

Fraternally Yours
Chris Domino
Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings from the South!

I was born on July 24, 1783 and passed from labor to rest on December 17, 1830 in Venezuela. At an early age I was sent to Spain to be educated, and later moved to France to continue my education.

After being enlightened on the continent, I returned to South America to start planning for the overthrow of the Spanish Colonialists and the eventual self governing of the residents of the South American continent.

I organized and led an army of revolutionaries that fought and defeated the large number of Spanish expeditionary forces sent to wipe out the patriot army.

Following the triumph over the Spanish, I helped form "Gran Colombia" the first union of independent nations in South America. I was its President from 1829-1830. In the peak of my power I ruled an area from the Caribbean Sea to the border of Argentina.

I was initiated in the "Masonic Lodge Lautaro" in 1803 in Cadiz Spain. In May 1806, I obtained the status of Master Mason in the "Scottish Mother of St. Alexander" in Paris France. In 1824 I was given the 33rd of Inspector General Honorary. I founded the Masonic Lodge No.2 of Peru, named "Order and Liberty".

I was very anti-slavery, I admired the American Independence movement, but didn't believe that governmental system would fit and work in South America.

Who am I?

Simon Bolivar was the liberator of much of South America and the namesake of Bolivia.

This is another example of our famous Freemason forefathers, who helped shape

portions of the historical past and whose legacies continue to this day.

Sincerely and Fraternally
Bob Brogan PM
Junior Warden

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb 06 Troy "LT" Gibson
Feb 07 Leon Peters
Feb 10 Doc Halliday
Feb 11 Cory Akers
Feb 13 Richard Burt PM
Feb 17 Tha Kribbs PM

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 02 1984 William Hutchison
Feb 07 2002 Lee Meyerson PM
Feb 02 2013 James Little
Feb 26 2014 Giovanni Tolentino
Feb 10 2016 Chis Hannigan
Feb 21 2018 Michael Olson



Shown above are members, visitors and Officers of Kona Lodge at the initiation of Brother Eric Moller on January 24, 2019.

February Calendar

Feb 05 6:00 Stated Dinner and Meeting
Feb 13 6:00 Practice (2nd Degree)
Feb 20 5:00 Hi12 Dinner and Meeting
Feb 23 & 24 Installing Lodge Tile
Feb 27 6:00 Practice/ Degree TBD

August 2016 Trestle board article by Worshipful Greg Cherry, Master of Santa Monica Palisades (CA) Lodge No. 307

“Practice, out of the lodge, those great moral duties which are inculcated in it.” I struggled with an appropriate Trestleboard post this month, but with all of the recent headlines in July dominated by shootings, mass killings, acts of war, and political debates, I would feel remiss not to address our current state of affairs. Most Worshipful Russ Charvonia used his platform as the Grand Master last year to address civility, or the lack thereof, in our society. He wrote that “When we are uncivil to one another, we silence the other person; we take his or her voice away.” At this point, it often feels like the incivility, the dangers, and the brokenness of this world have reached such a fever pitch that there is no turning back.

Earlier this month, Brother Brent Thompson was a police Officer killed by a sniper in a violent act in Dallas. He was a Master Mason of Corsicana Lodge No. 174 in Texas, and the father of 6 children. The week prior, 33-year old Philandeo Castile was shot dead by Police Officers during a routine traffic stop. And while he was not a Mason, his Uncle Clarence is a District Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota, who made an impassioned Masonic plea during a CNN interview, which can be found on Facebook. In the face of so much violence and vitriol, I often feel powerless to do anything. I am not able to prevent a single, disturbed, young individual from bringing a semi-automatic into a nightclub, or driving an armored truck through a crowded street celebration in France. There is already too much anger and hatred towards a system that is perceived as corrupt, imbalanced, and beyond repair. It is hard to know where to begin. But as a Freemason, I already have the tools and resources to help make the world a better place. As a leader of this lodge, it is my duty to shine a light on the darker places of society with my moral and social virtues. Through the tenets of brotherly love, relief, and truth, I can move past prejudices and injustice, and treat others with respect and compassion. The language and the values of Freemasonry were vital to the development of

democracy in America. This is a country that was absolutely founded on Masonic principles. It is possible to return to those principles again. It will take the example and leadership of ever Mason out there. I can't stop every killing. I can't fix our political system. I can't change the world in one lifetime. But I can improve myself. And I can improve those around me. And in doing so, I choose to be a part of the solution, rather than the problem. Of all the threats to our society, one of the most insidious is apathy, or inaction. We all have a part to play. And as Freemasons, it is our duty to pass along those great moral duties which are inculcated within the lodge. It is time that we look to the trowel – the tool we all receive as Master Masons to

remind us of our role in spreading the cement of brotherly love, which forms the foundation of a stronger society, and unites us on the fraternal chain. To learn more about the Civility Project, please visit:

<http://www.civilitycenter.org/>

“I violate no secret when I say that one of the greatest values in Masonry is that it affords an opportunity for men of all walks of life to meet on common ground where all men are equal and have one common interest.” - Theodore Roosevelt

[Article from By Russ Charvonia, Past Grand Master - Grand Lodge of California](#)

I believe we have a problem in today's society; that the world about us is becoming increasingly uncivil. Polarized and hostile speech dominates the news media, our political arenas, and our everyday lives. This behavior has become epidemic. It is costing us money, our health, and our dignity, and is putting our democratic heritage in jeopardy. We tolerate being talked at instead of talking with each other. Listening has become an endangered skill. We have allowed divisions to grow into chasms so deep that simply getting people into the same room to talk has become difficult, and at times impossible. We have allowed ideological intolerance to evolve into self-righteousness, condemnation and, ultimately, persecution — and we all know that's wrong. And let's admit it: This incivility even makes its

way into our lodge rooms. I have to believe that each of us has been witness to situations where brothers have disturbed the peace and sanctity of our lodges by bringing in- appropriate and undesirable behavior and attitudes across the threshold. I believe that if we don't address this state of affairs now, incivility will soon become our “new normal.” And when this happens, we may be within just a single generation of it becoming so ingrained in our collective psyche, that our children and grandchildren may not know any other way. Do we really want to imagine such a world? “These are the times that try men's souls,” Thomas Paine said in his 1776 essay. When we are uncivil to one another, we silence the other person; we take his or her voice away. This is not a Masonic value. As Masons, we are about allowing and perpetuating alternative voices and ideas. Masonic lodges have long promoted the democratic habits of generous listening and civil discourse. My brethren, civil dialogue are the cornerstone that allows us to see things from a more enlightened perspective. This is not about avoiding difficult and complex topics. It is not about just “being nice” and keeping the dialogue on a superficial level. It does not silence those who wish to be heard. In- stead, civil dialogue allows all voices to be valued. And it can be achieved. We can restore civility back into our society. Uncivil behavior often triggers a physiological response in us that perpetuates this dangerous cycle. It limits the ability to have complex conversations and stops learning in its tracks. Masonry is different. The world is politically divided and antagonistic; Masons are taught to be good citizens and to welcome the opinions of others. The world is often dominated by factions that are hostile, confrontational and rude; Masons learn how to be civil and respectful. The world is fractured by religious intolerance and bigotry; Masons respect all religions and welcome all believers in The Great Architect of the Universe, in whatever form that belief may take. So if society hungers for a return to civility, and if we, as Masons, have the common language, tools, values and desire to create a better world, isn't it our duty to do all that we can to breed civility back into society? Aren't we uniquely positioned to tackle this problem?

Commitment & Dedication

(this is an part of an article by, MW Mac Sigmon, Grand Master of North Carolina)

I look forward to serving the and sharing my message of kindness, brotherly love and how I continue to strive each day to treat others as have been taught me through my book of faith and the various lessons taught me through the many Masonic Rituals that I have either observed, participated in, or conferred.

Maybe I have been put in this position because it is time we have a friendly reminder of how our ritual lessons can help bring a positive change to the world we live in. Our world is extremely divided and has been for some time. I truly believe as Freemasons, we have the tools to make a real difference in guiding this world on a more positive journey. Each of us must be committed if we are to bring a positive change both in our own lives as well as the lives of others. We do this by example, the example of the type of life we choose to lead. Actions always speak louder than words and men always speak what is in their hearts. Each of us have a choice, we choose to be a "Mason" or just a member.

To me a Mason is one who lives his life in accordance with the lessons taught to him from both his Book of Faith and the various ritual lessons he has received. Our dues cards say that we are a member of this fraternity. It does not say anywhere that we are Masons. Every day we must continually strive and work hard to earn that important title of "Mason". One of our Masonic rituals reminds us that Life is a school, Masonry is Work. It is not easy to be a Mason. I know. I have to work at it each day.

One of my guiding principles is how to treat others comes from one of my favorite Masonic lectures. Some of you may recognize which degree this lesson comes from

"Ever remember that, being human, you must of necessity often err; that those who hold different opinions entertain them as honestly as you do your own; and that you have no right to deny or doubt their sincerity. Especially, never harshly denounce an opinion that more experience and investigation my someday compel you to adopt. Therefore, always treat your opponents as if their opinions were at some time to become your own....."

(Short Talk Bulletin November 2018)

MASONIC CENTER
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FEBRUARY 2019 TRESTLEBOARD



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