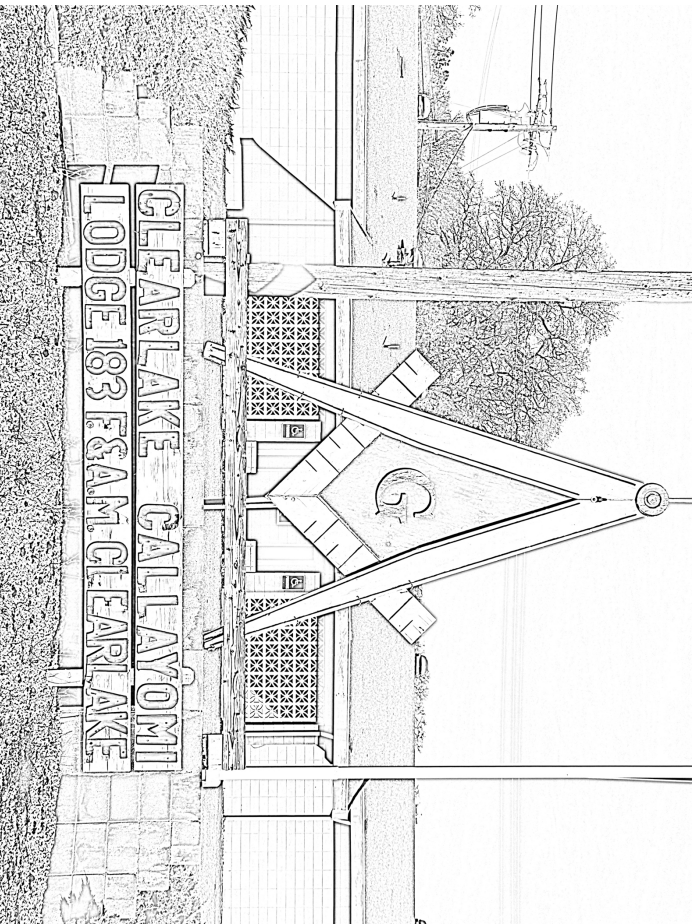


Clearlake Masonic Lodge #183 F&AM  
P.O. Box 3590  
Clearlake, CA 95422



MAY 2023



AS THE SUN RISES IN THE EAST

## **WORSHIPFUL MASTER**

MICHAEL McKEOWN

Brethren, family, and friends,

Clear Lake Callyomi 183's next stated meeting is May 3. Temple board meeting at 5:00, dinner at 6:00, meeting at 7:00. We will be honoring two recipients of the Hiram Award, Ted Lewis and Brandt Peterson. We will be in winter dress one more time; jacket and tie. We'll be in summer dress for June.

The lodge officers are currently practicing for an upcoming first degree.

Our lodge's history has been uploaded to our new website. Thank you to the several brothers that provided documentation. You can visit our website at [www.clearlakemasoniccenter.org](http://www.clearlakemasoniccenter.org). Marketing for our rental space will soon be added.

The temple board has been making rapid progress with accounting updates, long term project planning and prioritizing, and work parties. Some current projects are repainting the breakfast sign out front (we don't hold breakfasts anymore), shoring up the corners of the roof, emptying the storage room and repairing the roof over it, reshaping the drainage at the east side of the building, new exterior LED lights, and more. We're working hard!

If Freemasonry is another of a dozen clubs you are a card carrying member of, and ranks equally with them all, then you might have missed out on some of the education you were expected to do on your own about Freemasonry. At the blue lodge level we are in the business of taking good men and making them Masons. We are not much in the business of Masonic education. In fact, few lodges you might attend even have a Masonic Education moment during the stated meeting, let alone a book club, research club, or cigar club where brothers get together to discuss what Freemasonry is really all about.

We do however have those clubs, you just might not hear about them very often anymore because there are just not enough Masons to hold these additional club meetings at nearly every lodge building the way it used to be. For the most part, at least for those of us out here in the hinterland of Lake County, we have to drive to get to them now.

Historically blue lodges discouraged participation in the appendant bodies. Blue lodges had plenty of work to do, and they didn't want newer masons primed for the officer line to be wooed away before they had a chance to work in the blue lodge. Today things are different. Our blue lodges struggle and for the most part only have the most seriously and actively engaged Masons still participating, exactly the kind of Masons needed in the appendant bodies, and exactly the kind that would not shirk their blue lodge duties to go play with the fun clubs that get to read their parts. And, today's Masons demonstrate by their dedication that they need and want the education to be gained from the appendant bodies.

The main other "education clubs" are the York Rite and the Scottish Rite. The York Rite consists of three bodies: Royal Arch, Cryptic Council, and Commandery. They complete and expand on the Hiram Legend of the three degrees of Masonry. The Scottish Rite is known as the University of Freemasonry, and its degrees explain a set of esoteric, or hidden meanings of Freemasonry.

Additionally there are other bodies. There are research organizations made up of brothers that do research and write papers of their interpretation of what they learn. There are the youth orders, which are super important as it is a membership pipeline. There are philanthropic bodies like Shrine, and women's organizations like Eastern Star.

When considered together the collection of appendant bodies paint a picture of a set of secrets that go to the core of humanity's existence on this planet. Taken together they demonstrate the depth our revered organization has.

Dwindling membership and the resultant consolidations means the meetings are further away than they used to be. However, we're not further than an hour and a half away from nearly all of them, and I encourage any Mason interested in what the trappings of the three degrees are really all about to seek them out.

Just what is Freemasonry all about? Why is it so important to Masons that we unite in working diligently towards preserving our ancient and honorable craft? I, and many others throughout history, believe Freemasonry has at it's core the secret to the solution of human survival on this planet. I believe the work we do here is important. I do not think we are tilting at windmills of our own creation. We need to work harder than ever to entice good men to ask to join us, and we should encourage those that are already brothers to consider the appendant bodies.

Michael McKeown

## Lodge Officers

Master	Michael McKeown, PM mastermasonmichael@gmail.com	(707) 337-9410
Sr. Warden	Bryce Brin Brycebrin@gmail.com	
Jr. Warden	Robert Hipkiss, Jr., PM hiphouse12895@gmail.com	(707) 995-9568
Treasurer	Brandt N. Peterson, PM brandtpeterson707@gmail.com	707-489-6734
Secretary	Donald N. Auradou dauradou@hotmail.com	(707) 850-6033
Inspector	David Jones, PM justdave9@gmail.com	(707) 994-9315

# MAY Birthdays

Russell Perdock	05/21/23
Paul Springer	05/23/23
Olivia Howland	05/29/23
Donald Auradou	05/30/23



**Birthdays are good  
for your health!**  
Studies show that people who  
have more birthdays live longer!

**HAPPY**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE**  
*Anniversary*

Gary Anderson

PM 05/22/1980

Recently while preparing to perform a first degree, I pondered again on the Lesser Lights. I looked in many volumes that are on my shelf, and in Albert Pike's *Morals and Dogma* and found little beyond what we are told in the first degree. Reading articles online I found people delving far into conjecture with little additional actual knowledge gleaned. So I asked ChatGPT to write a 500 word essay on the lesser lights. Below is what it generated. How well does it resonate with your understanding of the lesser lights?

Freemasonry is a fraternity that has been around for centuries. It is an organization that is shrouded in secrecy and mystery, and it has been tempting the curious minds of many for years. The organization has several symbols, beliefs, and practices that are unique to Freemasonry alone. The lesser lights in Freemasonry refer to the three symbolic lights that are used in the ritual, which represent the sun, moon, and master of the lodge. These lesser lights are an essential part of every masonic lodge, and they are used to teach the values and principles of the fraternity.

The lesser lights in Freemasonry have been a subject of fascination for many people, and it is not hard to see why. The three lights are used in the initiation of new members, and they are also present during all masonic rituals. The symbolic lights are set up in the East, West, and South of the lodge. In the East, the master of the lodge presides, and the sun is represented. In the West, the senior warden presides, and the moon is represented. Finally, in the South, the junior warden presides, and the master of the lodge is represented by a candle. Together, these three lights represent the three pillars of masonry: wisdom, strength, and beauty.

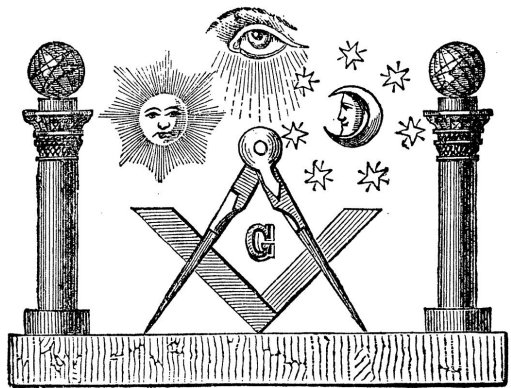
The first lesser light in Freemasonry is the Sun. This light symbolizes the brightest and most radiant source of energy in our solar system. In Freemasonry, the Sun represents the Great Architect of the Universe, who is responsible for creating the universe and all its inhabitants.

The Sun also represents the source of all life on our planet. As such, it is a symbol of peace, happiness, and prosperity. The Sun is also a symbol of enlightenment and wisdom, and it is used in many masonic teachings to help new members learn about the principles of the fraternity.

The second lesser light in Freemasonry is the Moon. This light symbolizes the more somber and introspective aspects of life. In the lodge, the Moon is often associated with the past and the tradition of the craft. It is also a symbol of feminine energy, and it is used to remind members of the importance of balance in their lives. The Moon represents the cyclical nature of life and teaches members about the importance of change and growth.

The third and final lesser light in Freemasonry is the Master of the lodge. This symbol represents the highest authority in the lodge, and it is used to teach members about leadership and responsibility. The Master of the lodge is also associated with the power of manifestation, and it is used to help members manifest their desires and goals in life.

In conclusion, the lesser lights in Freemasonry are an essential part of the fraternity, and they teach members about the values and principles of the organization. The three symbolic lights represent the Sun, Moon, and Master of the lodge, and they are used to help members learn about balance, growth, and leadership. The lesser lights are an important tool for teaching new members about the masonic tradition, and



they are an essential part of every masonic lodge. As such, they have been the subject of fascination for many people, and they continue to inspire curiosity and interest in the fraternity.





## Serving Masons and their Families, Across the Lifespan

EMOTIONAL HEALTH DESERVES attention, just like physical health. In the same way you turn to your physician with medical questions, it's important to seek emotional support when you're facing difficult feelings or hard times. As California Masons, you have an incredible resource available in MCYAF, which has a team of licensed professionals ready to help. With a sliding-scale fee schedule and video-conferencing services available, MCYAF's model of care is available to all. **Scan the code to visit [MCYAF.org](https://www.mcyaf.org) or call (877) 488-6293 to learn more or schedule a session.**

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### **EDUCATIONAL THERAPY**

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