

**MARCH 2024** 

Clear Lake Callayomi No. 183 P.O. Box 3590 Clearlake, CA 95422

## AS THE SUN RISES IN THE EAST WORSHIPFUL MASTER MICHAEL MCKEOWN

The March stated meeting is March 6 at the Clearlake Masonic Center. Temple board meeting 5:00-6:00, dinner 6:00-7:00, Stated Meeting starts at 7:00. Winter dress, which means tie and jacket and long pants. No shorts! If you are not dressed properly, you will have to go change. The Eastern Star made me change once. If they can do it, we certainly should hold ourselves to the same standard.

Officers, stay tuned to your text messages about upcoming degree practices. It doesn't seem worth our time to call for a practice when we don't have enough players and stand around wringing our hands like last week, but as we finalize the first degree we will do with Hartley Lodge, we will have a practice at some point, so you who have a part, please maintain your proficiency with a daily run-through of your work.

Freemasonry in Clearlake continues to hold on by a thread. With the help of our sister lodge across the lake plan on putting on a first degree near the end of March.

We are all very grateful for Brandt Peterson continuing on as Treasurer despite this being what was supposed to be his first year of retirement from the position he has long held, and equal gratitude to our newest Master Mason Scott Derby who has jumped into the significant responsibilities of the Secretary position. The secretary is almost always a past master and someone that has been around Masonry a long time and well knows what happens with lodge management, so Bro. Derby is stepping into a set of responsibilities that will surely be challenging. If not for these two brothers, we would most certainly no longer be a lodge.

Our position is tenuous. We need candidates who are local and motivated to become Master Masons. It is incumbent on all our members to help find us good men who will quickly and with dedication pursue a Masonic career. We can not ask someone to join Masonry, but there is no restriction at all, in fact it is encouraged, that we tell the good men in our life about Masonry and encourage them to look into it. Tell them they would make good Masons and that Masonry needs them. Invite them to dinner. If we come up with several such men, let's have a prospect event at a local restaurant/bar and show them the good time brotherhood entails.

Share with them the benefits of Masonry to themselves and their family. Tell them about formal dinner/dance events, the Eastern Star for the women, and the Grand Lodge events. We used to be worried that people would join Masonry only for the benefits and be a burden on our Fraternity. For example, we don't particularly want to encourage someone who is already in their dotage to pursue the degrees of Masonry just in time to utilize the Masonic Homes. However, the Masonic Homes is a significant benefit Masons, and especially their wives, may later in life enjoy the benefit of. Tell the good men in your life about the Masonic Homes. Tell them about the 5 star facilities with white linen restaurants for the dining hall. Tell them about the independent living, assisted living and memory care, and a lodge on the premises. If you have never visited one of the homes, I encourage you to, especially the one near us in Union City.

Tell them about the Masonic Foundation that provides fraternal relief and education benefits. While I'm on the subject, please consider joining the Cornerstone Society. I am a member. The Cornerstone Society is a special group of donors who have included the California Masonic Foundation in their will or estate plan. A legacy gift to the Foundation ensures that critical fraternal relief and support of public education will endure for future generations.

Today's younger men are fascinated by the hidden esoteric secrets they suspect may be hiding in Freemasonry. Please, allude to those secrets. Tell the men you are talking to that there are indeed real, ancient secrets hidden in the fabric of our ancient and honorable Craft, waiting to be discovered by those with eyes to see and the interest to learn about them. You yourself may not know much about them, but I assure you they exist, and are fascinating for those with interest in them.

Tell the good men in your life that Masonry is not a religion, but is rather a philosophical system of moral integrity.

And please tell the good men in your life about the overarching goal of Freemasonry: to make the world a more enlightened, more civil place. A world where all are recognized as being members of the same human family trapped on a space ship that is going endlessly in circles and not getting anywhere and that we must all care for each other equally, globally. Tell them that we strive to do this first as brothers by behaving with integrity and honesty, and that by extension those in our life will be influenced by our standard of behavior until the world gets the message.

Our target market here in Clearlake is small. Few seek us out on their own. Fewer have even heard of Freemasonry, let alone know what we are about. The survival of our lodge is really dependent on each of you brothers to share our message with those good men in your sphere of influence.

Michael McKeown



King Solomon's Temple, shrouded in antiquity and mystique, transcends its physical existence to embody profound esoteric meanings and symbolisms. Beyond its historical significance as a center of ancient worship, the temple serves as a metaphorical blueprint for spiritual enlightenment, inner transformation, and cosmic harmony. Delving into the esoteric depths of King Solomon's Temple unveils a rich tapestry of allegory, ritual, and sacred geometry, offering seekers a glimpse into the hidden wisdom of the ages.

At the heart of the esoteric interpretation of King Solomon's Temple lies the concept of "as above, so below," encapsulating the principle of cosmic correspondence and interconnectedness. According to esoteric traditions, the temple's architectural design and sacred geometry mirror the celestial realms, reflecting the divine order and harmony of the universe. The temple's layout, orientation, and dimensions are believed to encode esoteric teachings and cosmic principles, inviting initiates to decipher its hidden meanings.

The three main components of King Solomon's Temple: the Outer Court (ulam, or porch), the Sanctuary (heikal), and the Holy of Holies (the Middle Chamber, or debir) symbolize stages of spiritual ascent and levels of consciousness. The Outer Court represents the physical realm and the mundane aspects of existence, where initiates confront the challenges and distractions of worldly life. As one progresses inward, the Sanctuary signifies the realm of intellect and higher knowledge, where seekers cultivate wisdom and spiritual insight. Finally, the Middle Chamber represents the inner sanctum of the soul, the dwelling place of divine presence and transcendental truth.

The symbolism of King Solomon's Temple extends beyond its architectural features to encompass its furnishings, rituals, and sacred artifacts. The Ark of the Covenant, enshrined within the Holy of Holies, symbolizes the divine presence and the covenant between God and humanity. The menorah, with its seven branches, represents the spiritual enlightenment and illumination bestowed upon the faithful. The altar of incense signifies the power of prayer and spiritual communion, while the table of showbread symbolizes sustenance and nourishment for the soul.

Rituals performed within the temple precincts serve as vehicles for spiritual transformation and mystical experience. The offering of sacrifices represents the surrender of ego and the purification of the soul, while the recitation of prayers and hymns invokes divine presence and communion with the divine. Initiates undergoing initiation rites or mystical experiences within the temple's confines are said to undergo profound spiritual rebirth and enlightenment, emerging with a deeper understanding of the cosmos and their place within it.

The history of King Solomon's Temple is replete with esoteric lore and legend, intertwined with the fortunes of ancient civilizations and mystical traditions. According to esoteric teachings, the temple's origins can be traced back to the dawn of creation, when divine wisdom was first imparted to humanity. Its construction by King Solomon is seen as a reenactment of cosmic principles and archetypal motifs, symbolizing the divine plan for humanity's evolution and redemption.

Over the centuries, King Solomon's Temple became a focal point for esoteric teachings and secret societies, including the ancient mystery schools, the Templar Knights, and Freemasonry. These traditions preserved and transmitted the temple's hidden wisdom through allegory, symbolism, and initiation rites, safeguarding it from profane eyes and unworthy seekers. The Knights Templar, in particular, were believed to have uncovered esoteric knowledge hidden within the temple's ruins during their sojourn in the Holy Land, leading to profound insights into the nature of reality and the mysteries of existence.

In contemporary esoteric circles, King Solomon's Temple continues to inspire seekers on the path of spiritual enlightenment and Selfrealization. Its timeless teachings and symbolic significance resonate with those who seek to unlock the mysteries of the universe and discover the divine spark within. Whether viewed as a historical relic, a sacred edifice, or a metaphorical template for spiritual growth, King Solomon's Temple remains a beacon of esoteric wisdom and mystical insight for all who dare to explore its hidden depths.

## Lodge Officers

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03-11-2015 03-12-1998 03-22-2023 03-22-1984 03-26-2002 03-26-1975 03-27-1973 03-28-1977 03-31-2010