



# Fairfax Lodge

## No. 556 F. & A. M.



1122 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA 94939

Andrew Kraft Worshipful Master 415.233.2142

MASTER'S TRESTLEBOARD

MARCH 2015

"The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it. It cannot be uttered; it can only be felt and acted. It is, in fact, an open secret, and each man knows it according to his quest and capacity. Like all things worth knowing, no one can know it for another and no man can know it alone."

- Dr. Joseph Fort Newton

Mar 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Stated Meeting</b> - Dinner 6:30 PM <i>Ladies/ Guests / Birthdays receive gradus dinner</i> <b><u>Please RSVP to Markos Balopoulos PM 415-870-9978</u></b>	7:30PM
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup>	Second degree practice first section All officers must attend Light snacks 6:30	7:30PM
Mar 19 <sup>th</sup>	Second degree practice second section All officers must attend Light snacks 6:30	7:30PM
Mar 26 <sup>th</sup>	2nd degree on Mr. Ryan Allen Dinner 6:30pm <b><u>Please RSVP to Markos Balopoulos PM 415-870-9978</u></b>	5:30PM
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Stated Meeting</b> - Dinner 6:30 PM <i>Ladies/ Guests / Birthdays receive gradus dinner.</i> <b><u>Please RSVP to Markos Balopoulos PM 415-870-9978</u></b>	7:30PM

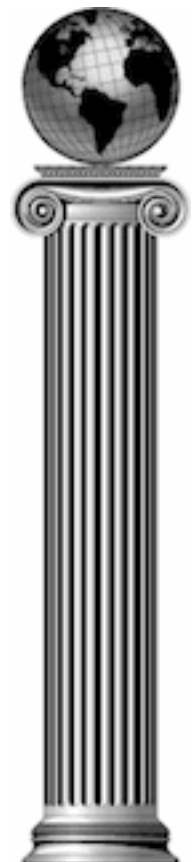
### Funerals

You might not know that the California Masonic Code Section 804.855 says: "It is the duty of every member to attend the funeral of a deceased member of his Lodge or any other Master Mason residing within the vicinity of his Lodge at the time of death, if he can do so without great inconvenience." Even if you did not know the departed Brother, a respectable attendance of Masonic Brothers really means a lot to the deceased member's family. This is also an opportunity to wear your Masonic Apron in public and to show that Masons care. Please help us pay proper respect.

Chartered Oct. 11 1923

FairfaxMasonicLodge556.com

March 2015





## 2015 Lodge Officers

Andrew Kraft	Worshipful Master	(415) 233-2142
Markos Balopoulos PM	Senior Warden	(415) 870-9978
Mylos Sonka	Junior Warden	(415) 516-1028
Jim Schulze	Treasurer	(415) 883-4845
Kameron Izadjou	Secretary - P. O. Box 10967 San Rafael, CA 94912 Email: <a href="mailto:izadjou@gmail.com">izadjou@gmail.com</a>	(415) 454-9999
Allan Glas	Chaplin	(415) 729-4527
Austin Ridley	Senior Deacon	(415) 320-0044
Juan Cespedes PM	Junior Deacon	(415) 740-9565
	Marshall	
	Senior Steward	
Warren Grabowski	Junior Steward	(415) 717-2173
Ray Piombo PM	Tiler	(415) 453-6949
Dave Von Bima PM	Inspector 134th District	(707) 795-0932
Michael Balopoulos PM	Officers' Coach	(415) 453-6403
Rusty Rubinsky	Head Candidate Coach	(415) 706-3962
David Von Bima PM	Auditing	(707) 795-0932

Building Association		
	Juan Cespedes PM - Director	Bob Ranum PM - Dir./Mgr.
Ray Piombo - Dir./Sec.	Kameron Izadjou - Director	Rusty Rubinsky - Director
Emergency 415-497-3180	Andrew Filipek - CFO	

Lodge Trustees		
Andrew Filipek PM	Rick Haenggi	Richard Lyon PM
Ray Piombo PM	Gary Towery PM	

Please contact the Trestleboard Editor Brother Andrew Kraft, if you have any questions or would like to add content to the Trestleboard, email: [Andrew@kraft.net](mailto:Andrew@kraft.net)

### Free Library

Did you know that there is a library at our Lodge? This library is a free loan and you are welcome to check these books out as well as some DVD's. The Library is in a growing stage. Any of you who have books lying around of Masonic interest or biographies of Masons that you would like to donate, your donation would be welcomed. There is a check out system, so please fill out the information in the notebook provided in the Lodge office. Those of you, who have checked out books and not returned them, please do, so that others may enjoy them as well.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY CORNED BEEF CABBAGE DINNER

And The Healy Irish Dancers  
Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm  
Cost \$35.00 per person  
Children Under 12 years Free  
(One Per Paid Guest)

Mail check to: Andrew Kraft WM  
**Fairfax Masonic Lodge No. 556**  
1122 Magnolia Ave. Larkspur

Reservations are required (limited to first 125) mail your check made payable to; 'Fairfax Masonic Lodge' at 1122 Magnolia Ave Larkspur, CA 94939.

### 2015 DUES OF \$68 NOW DUE

Thank you to all who have already paid their 2015 dues. If you have not yet paid your dues, please remit your payment to the Lodge Secretary or pay them directly next time you are at Lodge.



### MASTER MASON DEGREE

**Marin Lodge No. 191**  
Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>  
Dinner at San Rafael Joe's 6:00  
Degree Conferral 7:30  
Refreshments to follow

Reservations are required for the dinner  
454-4402.  
Marin Lodge No 191  
1010 Lootens Pl, San Rafael



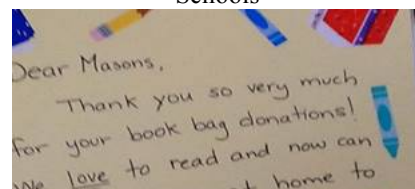
### MASTER MASON DEGREE

**Mill Valley Lodge No. 356**  
will be conferring the Master Mason Degree on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> promptly at 7:30  
19 Corte Madre Ave  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

### MASONS of CALIFORNIA

have raised \$1.2 million in just three years to support the Raising A Reader program, which will help thousands of public school students and their families build meaningful reading habits at home.

Kerry Bacho, who is a family literacy and RAR specialist for the Parent Services Project, the agency that provides the Raising a Reader program in Marin, dressed up as "Little Red Reading Hood" and read short stories to the kids. They really enjoyed it. She really engaged them in seeing what is inside one of our little red bags – books for the whole family to read. Kerry performed story times at four kindergarten classes in Marin, including Bahia Vista and San Pedro Elementary Schools



### MASONS OF MARIN CRAB FEED 2015



*Special thank you to Michael Balopoulos PM, Juan Cespedes PM, Ray Piombo PM, Markos Balopoulos PM, Michael Paynter PM and the Eastern Star Ladies for your support and contribution in making this event so successful.*

### Grand Lodge Policy on Privacy

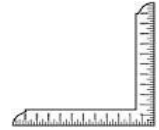
Brethren, the Grand Lodge policy on member's privacy has changed. Owing to the legislation that was passed at the recent Annual Communication in October of this year, members must notify the Lodge if they wish their personal information withheld from being published by the Lodge. The Lodge will no longer seek out to request from you permission to have your name published. If you wish to opt out, please contact our Secretary (by email at [izadjou@gmail.com](mailto:izadjou@gmail.com), or send a letter to Secretary P. O. Box 10967 San Rafael, CA 94912







## Message from the East



A big "Thank You" to everyone who assisted with and participated in this year's crab feed. We hope you had a good time and enjoyed both the food and the fellowship. We had a great turn out and it was nice to see so many of you in attendance. Many thanks to everyone who lent a helping hand & made this event so special, including the Brethren from Mill Valley and Marin Lodges for their great support and participation. This month we are continuing the trend of District events with St. Patrick's dinner and fabulous Healy Irish Dancers.

**St. Patrick** is the patron saint of Ireland and the Irish. He was born about 389 A.D. in Northern Wales, which at that time may have been part of England or Scotland. Saint Patrick had an adventurous life. He was captured by pirates at the age of 16. The Irish pirates brought him to Ireland to tend the flocks of a chieftain in Ulster. Six years of slavery made him a devoted Christian. He escaped to France and became a monk. In 432, a vision led him to return to Ireland as a missionary bishop. He brought Christianity to Ireland and taught there for 29 years. He used the shamrock, a 3 leaf clover (Ireland's national flower), to explain the Blessed Trinity. St. Patrick founded 365 churches, baptized over 120,000 people and consecrated 450 bishops. Many tales sprung up about this popular saint. One of the most popular legends was how he charmed all the snakes of Ireland down to the seashore to be drowned by the water. St. Patrick died on March 17, 461 A.D. The anniversary of his death is celebrated as St. Patrick's Day. It's interesting to note that the shamrock clover flowers around that time of year.

Fraternally,  
Andrew Kraft WM.

### "The Silent Summons"

A member of a certain Lodge, who previously attended meetings regularly, stopped going. After a few months, the Worshipful Master decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening, and the Worshipful Master found his brother at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for the Worshipful Master's visit, the brother welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Worshipful Master made himself comfortable, but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, the Worshipful Master took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth, all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent. His host watched all of this in quiet contemplation. As the one, lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow, and its fire was no more. Soon, it was cold and dead. Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Worshipful Master glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember, and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately, it began to glow once more, with all the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. As the Worshipful Master reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery summons, my brother. I'll be back in our Lodge next meeting."

-Author Unknown  
via <http://www.mastermason.com>

### LODGE OF SORROW



It's with a heavy heart that I inform you that **Bro. George C. Gmahling** passed upward to the celestial Lodge above on February 13<sup>th</sup> 2015

Born – October 21<sup>st</sup> 1929  
Raised – January 28<sup>th</sup> 1954  
Entered into Rest – February 13<sup>th</sup> 2015

**Soft and safe to thee, my brother, Be  
thy resting-place. Bright and glorious  
be thy rising from it**



## E - T R E S T L E B O A R D

In an effort to operate in a sustainable environment, increase cost effectiveness, and provide you with information as quickly and readily as possible, our TrestleBoard will be delivered by email and posted online. However, any member of our Lodge who wishes to receive a printed copy can contact our Secretary (by email at [izadjou@gmail.com](mailto:izadjou@gmail.com), or send a letter to Secretary P. O. Box 10967 San Rafael, CA 94912 and lastly by phone at (415) 454-9999 and one will be mailed to you by regular first-class mail.