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1122 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA 94939 • Michael Paynter Worshipful Master 415-925-0459

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

◆◆◆ MAKE THURSDAY NIGHT YOUR LODGE NIGHT ◆◆◆

MARCH 2011

Thur. Mar. 3 rd	Stated Meeting - Dinner 6:30 PM Mexican Meal Theme <i>Ladies/ Guests / Birthdays receive gradus dinner.</i> Please RSVP to Rich Lyon JW	7:30 PM
Thur. Mar. 10 th	Practice. First Degree. Light refreshments 6:30 PM	7:30 PM
Fri. Mar. 11 th	<u>St. Patrick's Day Celebration</u> Cocktails 5:00 PM Dinner 5:30PM <i>This Event Features the famous Healy Irish Dancers!!</i> Please RSVP to Rich Lyon JW \$25 Per	5:00 PM
Tues. Mar. 15 th	Fairfax Masonic Building Assoc. Monthly Meeting	10:00 AM
Thur. Mar. 24 th	First Degree Mr. Erik Korondy Dinner 6:30 PM.	7:30 PM
Thur. Mar. 31 st	First Degree Mr. Andrew Dreitcer Dinner 6:30 PM.	7:30 PM
Thur. April. 7 th	Stated Meeting - Dinner 6:30 PM <i>Musical Entertainment-The Redwood High School Music Department</i> <i>Ladies/ Guests / Birthdays receive gradus dinner.</i> Please RSVP to Rich Lyon JW <u>Important upcoming events</u> <u>St. Patrick's Day Celebration Friday March 11th!!</u> <u>Kentucky Derby "Day at the Races" Sat. May 7th!!</u>	7:30 PM

MASTERS MESSAGE

Our primary local Fairfax Lodge 2011 philanthropic effort is supporting our public schools. Ms. Laurie Kimbrel the Superintendent of the Tamalpais Union High School District and Mr. John Wright (Trustee of the District) joined Fairfax Lodge at our February Stated Meeting. There are three high schools in the Tamalpais Union District; Tamalpais, Redwood and Drake High Schools. Ms. Kimbrel presented many aspects of the Districts academic, social and athletic programs that for years have made the Tamalpais Union High Schools "California Distinguished Schools." The District possesses excellence in administration, teachers and renovated facilities (thanks to a recent bond measure for infrastructure upgrades).

Unfortunately the Tamalpais Union High School District is facing significant budget pressures. The fiscal crisis in Sacramento is forcing large cuts to school funding. Ms. Kimbrel shared that the District has recently had a multi-million dollar cut in its budget. As a result (painful) reductions in administrative staff were recently made. Thankfully she indicated that none of the core programs for children have been eliminated (yet). Virtually all of the remaining District funding is now from local sources (very little from Sacramento). Ms. Kimbrel also shared that we have a large district wide measure coming up in November to re-approve long existing funding. This school parcel measure requires renewal about every eight to ten years. This measure provides eight million dollars (per year) to support our local schools (about 15% of the total District budget). A loss of this measure in November would certainly end many essential programs for our children in the Tamalpais Union High School District.

Brothers and guests discussed the several ways Fairfax Lodge can support our children and the District this year. However nothing seemed as critical (at this time) as communicating to all our local Brothers and friends our need to continue to support our high schools with renewal of this district wide measure in November. Each of us should remind our friends and neighbors in the Ross Valley community that our local schools must have our support in 2011. Please visit "www.tamdistrict.org" for more details and updates on the District (or for information on the "Senior Exemption" from the measures parcel assessment).

Fairfax Lodge will continue with our efforts to support our public schools since **April has been designated by the California Grand Lodge as Public Education Month.** For those who were not able to attend our February Stated Meeting, a photo of Ms. Laurie Kimbrel and Mr. John Wright from their visit at Fairfax Lodge is enclosed.

Starting in April Fairfax Lodge will likely have musical entertainment at our Stated Meeting dinners. Student musicians are expected via the Tamalpais, Redwood and Drake High Schools. I expect these to be very memorable evenings for those who attend and I encourage the Brothers to bring spouses and guests to our meals to enjoy the entertainment. Fairfax Lodge is certain to provide a warm and appreciative audience for these young people.

Reminder-Life Membership Plan Vote in March. The discussion of the Life membership plan took place at our December Stated meeting and was presented in writing at the January Stated meeting. It will be voted on formally at the March Stated meeting. The plan was listed in its entirety in the February Trestle Board. Please review it and join us at Lodge in March for consideration of this important measure. If it is found agreeable to our members by vote, it will be forwarded to the Grand Master for his approval. It will take effect upon his signature.

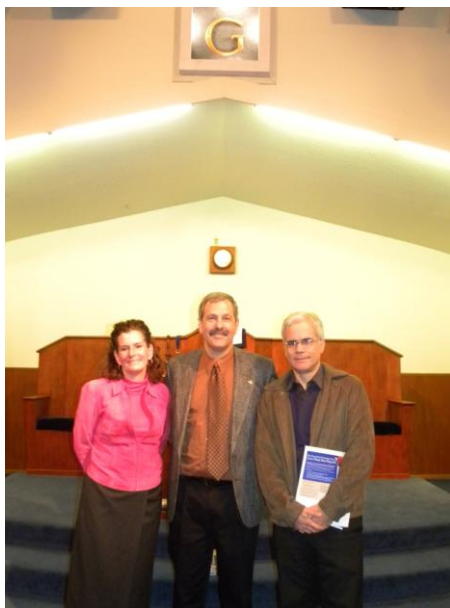
Fairfax Lodge has two tentative Entered Apprentice Degrees scheduled in March. We will likely have three Master Mason's Degree's in April. I encourage all Brothers to attend these degrees. As is our long custom at Fairfax Lodge we will have complimentary meals served prior to all ceremonies.

In the future we will focus on Entered Apprentice and Master Mason icons and items of interest. However prior to moving on I would like to share the symbolism of one more Fellowcraft icon; "The Plumb and Plumb-Line." Masonic tradition informs us that the Plumb and Plumb-Line were primary working tools of the Fellowcraft Mason. The use of the plumb as a working tool symbolizes that a candidate is progressing in knowledge and ability. The Entered Apprentice was simply taught to use the more elementary tools used to extract the rough stone from the quarry and to hew it to an approximate size. It was the operative Fellow Craft who finally finished the stone through his advanced knowledge and ability to use the tools of his trade,

the plumb, square and the level. The plumb is an instrument used to try perpendiculars-to gauge the true uprightness of the stone.

The speculative Mason is taught to use the plumb to gauge the uprightness of his conduct and he is told that it admonishes him to walk uprightly in his several stations before God and man. Of all the straight lines, real or supposed the plumb-line comes the nearest to perfection. In all ages, the straight line has been the perfect symbol of perfect actions, the shortest distance between two points, the best way of living a life. "Thus, the Lord standing on a wall of material masonry showed Amos as nearly perfect a symbol of moral rectitude, as can be shown to man in a material universe." To the Mason, this is what "The Plumb and Plumb-Line" represents and teaches us- the best way to live our lives.

For those who were not able to attend Brother Ben Ostroff's Fellowcraft degree ceremony, pictures of the event are enclosed below. Also enclosed are the pictures of our Annual Crab Feed in February. Special thanks to Brother Mylos Sonka, who provided the musical entertainment at our Crab Feed with his wonderful seven piece band!



Left Picture; Ms. Laurie Kimbrel the Superintendent of the Tamalpais Union High School District, Michael Paynter Worshipful Master and Mr. John Wright (Trustee of the District).

Right picture, rear row (left to right); Jim Schulze Treasurer, Charlie Hoyez PM, Michael Balopoulos PM Senior Deacon, Ray Piombo PM Chaplain. Front row (left to right) Iain Scarr Senior Steward, Richard Lyon PM Junior Warden, Juan Cespedes Worshipful Master, Ben Ostroff Fellowcraft, Michael Paynter Senior Warden, Richard Davey Junior Deacon, and Luke Wheeler Junior Steward.

Presentation of the "Wages of a Fellowcraft Mason"



Left to right; Juan Cespedes Worshipful Master and Brother Ben Ostroff Fellowcraft Mason.

Lodge Officers 2011

Michael Paynter	Master
Juan Cespedes	Senior Warden
Richard Lyon	Junior Warden
Jim Schulze	Treasurer
David Von Bima	Secretary
	PO Box 568 Fairfax CA 94978-0568
Ray Piombo, PM	Chaplin
Mike Balopoulos, PM	Senior Deacon
Rick T. Davey	Junior Deacon
Iain Scarr	Marshall
Austin Ridley	Senior Steward
Luke Wheeler	Junior Steward
Alex McLean	Tiler

Dave Von Bima, PM Inspector 134th Masonic District

Coaches

Michael Balopoulos PM	Officers' Coach
Rusty Rubinsky	Head Candidates' Coach

Departments

Bob Ranum	Building Manager
David Von Bima	Auditing

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Board of Directors	Fairfax Masonic Building Association
Alex McLean	Board President
Vance Spencer	Secretary
Andrew Filipek, PM	CFO

Bobby Holloway
 Charlie White PM
 Jim Franklin PM
 Ray Piombo, PM
 Bob Newman

Board of Trustees	Fairfax Lodge Board of Trustees
David Von Bima PM	
Michael Balopolous PM	

Gary Towery PM
 Rick Haenggi

**CONGRATULATIONS BRETHERN!
 Happy March Birthdays and
 3rd Degree Anniversaries**

Birthdays	Day
Frank L. Herrington	4
Richard J. Stenstorm	7
Ronald Piombo	9
Steven J. Phillips	21
Robert H. McEachern	30
Paul G. Eliopoulos	30
Ronald L. Colvin	30

3 rd Degree Anniversaries	# of Years
Harold A. Schulz	10 Years
William W. McNerney	45 Years
Stanley S. Swift	37 Years
Morgan T. Kelly	45 Years
James C Schulze	50 Years
Robert R. Ranum	6 Years
Clifford L. Walker	62 Years
David F. Von Bima, P.M.	42 years
David B. Roach, P.M.	25 Year
Jon H Bechtel	49 Years
Thomas M. Wean	9 Years



The Fairfax Lodge Crab feed 2011!

