

February 2024

# WLN20 Trestle Board



## From the East

Matthew Mason - Worshipful Master



Welcome to February, Brethren.

January's Stated Meeting was magnificent, with nearly 35 people in attendance enjoying brotherhood and breaking bread. Dinner was provided by Brother **Efrain Vallejo**, Master Mason of **Elk Grove Lodge No. 173**. If you remember **Vallejo's Restaurant** (1900 4th Street), this is him! It was a wonderful tamale dinner.

The Brethren voted for Mr. **Joaquin Lopez** to receive the First Degree of Masonry in our Lodge. This festive event will be on February 29th at 6:30 PM in our lodge room. Please attend if possible and bring a warm welcome for our new soon-to-be-brother. The Officers will be in tuxedos, but you may come in a tux or suit (preferred), but if you are coming from work and need to come straight to the temple, work clothes are just fine. Your presence is the most important thing.

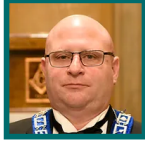
We also were able to notify Worshipful **Francisco Marques, PM**, at the January Stated Meeting that he will receive the **Hiram Award** this year for all his hard work and all the extra he gives to the lodge. Our Lodge just wouldn't be the same without his unending work. The Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May the 4th, at 11:00 AM in the Lodge Room followed by Luncheon and Live Music in the Ballroom.

Our February Stated Meeting Night will bring us our **Annual Roll Call Dinner**. We will honor our newly Raised Brethren as well as remember those who have traveled to that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns. Stated Meeting Dinner at 06:00 PM, including Roll Call presentation. We will open Lodge at 07:20 PM with the business meeting starting 10 minutes later.

Also, some of us have been gathering at **Locked Barrel** (921 11th Street) before dinner for an "attitude adjustment hour" at 05:15 PM, and all are welcome to join us.

Finally, mark March 14th on your calendar for the **Annual Bowling with Brothers** at **Country Club Lanes** (2600 Watt Ave). It is a stag event and more information to come, but the venue has already been booked and it's always a fun event with food and friendship.





## From the West

Joseph Wallach - Senior Warden



Greetings, Brethren.

Entering upon February, and winter is in full motion as the weather moves from cool and dry to cold, wet and humid. The landscape is a mixture of death and life.

The deciduous trees are barren of leaves and visible growth while other trees are observably active, some with the sweet needly smell of pine, others a green leafy frock, and some even with the bearing of fruit. Along the ground, the grass grows thick, rooted in the newly saturated soil.

The invisible life below that shock of green as worms feed and nourish the soil through their castings, they themselves becoming the occasional meal for the traveling bird.

All these things are there to be observed by the witnessing eye, but only understood by those knowing that not all that is occurring can be seen and that which is seen is often not fully observed.

Masonry exists in a similar fashion. It is made up of many different men of varying ages, backgrounds, and experiences yet all coming together to play their part in what constitutes the Lodge and the Craft.

The outer visible workings that all may see is the representation of the Lodge which is supported by the unseen, those working in the background to support the Craft and strengthen the bonds amongst the Brethren. The layer below that, being the family that supports the Mason allowing him to pursue his study of truth, becoming part of the foundation of his Lodge.





## From the South

William Workman - Junior Warden



Greetings, Brethren.

It being the month of February, it had me thinking about love, romantic and otherwise (and reminded me that I need to look for something special to give Dawn on the 14th for Valentine's Day!)

Of all the reference to Brotherly Love, this seems fitting for Masons as not only does it speak to Brotherly Love, but it also contains other principal tenets of Masonry, that of Relief, to compassionate their miseries, and that of Truth, as we join in promoting each other's welfare.

Wow! All three principal tenants in one? This John character must be a Mason! (or at least I'll wager he has connections).

John 3:17 says "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in Him?"

Charity is the heartbeat of compassion. It is through giving and doing something that we can demonstrate our Brotherly Love.

As you all may know, I am quite fond of our Founding Fathers and so had to include **Benjamin Franklin** on some of this Brotherly Love fest.

### **A Parable on Brotherly Love Written by Benjamin Franklin in 1755**

In a letter to Benjamin Vaughan, dated November 02, 1789, Franklin discussed his "Chapter of Abraham and the Stranger" and then went on to say: "When I wrote that in the form you now have it, I wrote also another, the hint of which was also taken from an ancient Jewish tradition; but, not having the same success with it as the other, I laid it aside, and have not seen it for thirty years past, till within these few days a lady of my acquaintance furnished me with a copy, which she had preserved. I think however it is not a bad one, and send it to you enclosed."



The “ancient Jewish tradition” that provided Franklin the “hint” for this parable derives from the Babylonian Talmud. To think that Franklin had this buried for 30 years. This is a bit heavy, not the easiest of reads, but it reveals some of the genius of Franklin and his thorough familiarity with the Old Testament.

1. In those days there was no worker of iron in all the land, and the merchants of Midian passed by with their camels, bearing spices, myrrh, balm, and wares of iron. And Reuben bought an ax from the Ishmaelite merchants, which he prized highly, for there were none in his father’s house.

2. And Simeon said unto Reuben, his brother, **"Lend me, I pray thee, thine ax."** But he refused, and would not.

3. And Levi also said unto him, **"My brother, lend me thine ax."** And he refused him also.

4. Then came Judah unto Reuben and entreated him, saying, **"Lo, thou lovest me, and I have always loved thee do not refuse me the use of thine Ax, for I desire it earnestly."**

5. But Reuben turned from him and refused him likewise.

6. Now it came to pass that Reuben hewed timber on the bank of the river, and the ax fell therein, and he could by no means find it.

7. But Simeon, Levi, and Judah, had sent a messenger after the Ishmaelites with money and had bought for each of them an ax also.

8. Then came Reuben unto Simeon, and said unto him, **"Lo, I have lost mine ax, and my work is unfinished, lend me thine, I pray thee."**

9. And Simeon answered, saying, **"Thou wouldest not lend me thine ax, therefore will I not lend thee mine."**

10. Then went he unto Levi, and said unto him, **"My Brother, thou knowest my loss and my necessity; lend me, I pray thee, thine ax."**

11. And Levi reproached him, saying, **"Thou wouldst not lend me thine when I desired it, but I will be better than thee, and will lend thee mine."**

12. And Reuben was grieved at the rebuke of Levi; and being ashamed, turned from him, and took not the ax; but sought his Brother Judah.

13. And as he drew near, Judah beheld his countenance as it were confused with grief and shame; and he prevented him, saying, **"My Brother, I know thy loss, but why should it grieve thee? Lo, have I not an ax that will serve both thee and me? Take it, I pray thee, and use it as thine own."**

14. And Reuben fell on his neck, and kissed him with tears, saying, **"Thy kindness is great, but thy goodness in forgiving me is greater. Lo thou art indeed a Brother, and whilst I live will I surely love thee."**

15. And Judah said, **"Let us also love our other brethren. Behold, are we not all of one blood?"**

16. And Joseph saw these things and reported them to his father, Jacob.

17. And Jacob said, Reuben did wrong but he repented, Simeon also did wrong, and Levi was not altogether blameless.

18. But the Heart of Judah is princely. Judah hath the soul of a King. His father's children shall bow down before him, and he shall rule over his brethren, nor shall the scepter depart from his house, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes.

[Original source: The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, vol. 6, April 1, 1755, Yale University Press, 1963]

As I'm sure we all remember from that first lecture we received from the Master of the Lodge

"By the exercise of Brotherly Love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family - the high and the low, the rich and the poor, (those with axes and no axes, per Benjamin) - who, as created by one

almighty parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support, and protect each other."

On this principle, Masonry unites men of every country, sect, and opinion; and causes true friendship to exist among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.

I am so grateful to you my Brethren, that we have crossed that perpetuity and have thus created true friendship, enriched with the sublime principle of Brotherly Love through our travels together in Masonry.



# HIRAM AWARD

*Honoring Worshipful*  
**FRANCISCO MARQUES, PM**  
*Washington Lodge No. 20*

**MAY THE 4TH**

## Special Announcement

Please join us as we honor **Worshipful Francisco Marques, PM**  
with the presentation of the **Hiram Award**

**Saturday, May the 4th**

Hiram Award Ceremony at 11:00 AM (Lodge Room)  
Followed by Luncheon with Live Music (Banquet Room)

Please call (916) 832-8357 for Reservations



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- 01 **Roll Call Dinner** (Banquet Room) Thursday 06:00 PM
- 01 **Monthly Stated Meeting** (LR1) Thursday 07:30 PM
- 08 **Degree Practice** (LR1) Thursday 06:30 PM
- 15 **Degree Practice** (LR1) Thursday 06:30 PM
- 21 **Officers School of Instruction** (LR3) Wednesday 07:00 PM  
(Second Degree, First Section, Long Form Closing)
- 22 **DARK** Thursday
- 29 **First Degree - Mr. Joaquin Lopez** (LR1) Thursday 06:00 PM

### MARCH

- 05 **Monthly Executive Committee Meeting** (Zoom) Tuesday 06:30 PM
- 07 **Monthly Stated Meeting Dinner** (Banquet Room) Thursday 06:00 PM
- 07 **Monthly Stated Meeting - Past Masters Night** (LR1) Thursday 07:30 PM
- 14 **Annual Bowling with Brothers** (Country Club Lanes) Thursday 06:30 PM
- 20 **Officers School of Instruction** (LR3) Wednesday 07:00 PM  
(Third Degree, First Section, Long Form Closing)
- 21 **DARK** Thursday
- 28 **Degree Practice or Degree** (LR1) Thursday 06:00 PM

## Washington Lodge No. 20

### Mission Statement

To practice and promote a way of life that binds like-minded men in a worldwide brotherhood that transcends all religious, ethnic, cultural, social and educational differences.

Through Masonic principles and tradition, and by the outward expression of these through its fellowship and compassion, **Washington Lodge No.20 Free & Accepted Masons** provides ways in which to serve God, family, country, neighbors, and self in an environment that contributes to the enrichment and betterment of its members, mankind, and its communities.

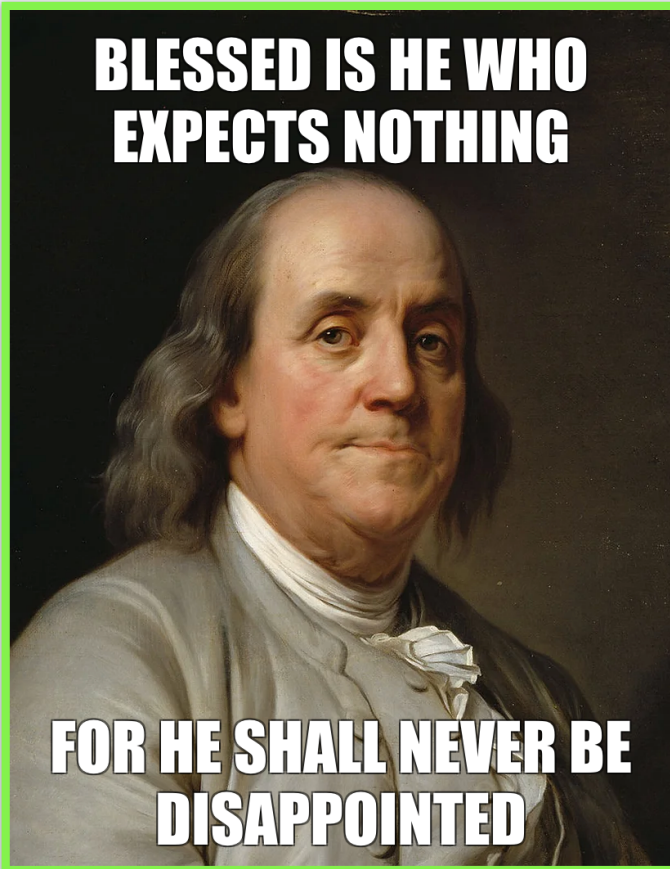
## FEBRUARY

### BIRTHDAYS

- 03 **Joseph Dongo (Past Master)**
- 05 **George Jamison Jr. (Past Master)**
- 05 **Allan Harlan** (Entered Apprentice)
- 07 **William Dillon** (Master Mason)
- 08 **Richard Redmond** (Master Mason)
- 10 **Bradley Mitchell** (Master Mason)
- 13 **David W. Cameron** (Master Mason)
- 13 **William D. Cameron** (Master Mason)
- 17 **Wally Clark** (Master Mason)
- 17 **Garth Tanner** (Master Mason)
- 18 **Phil Hardiman (Past Master)**
- 18 **Craig Spilman** (Master Mason)
- 19 **Ryan Gooch** (Master Mason)
- 19 **Eric Hardiman** (Master Mason)
- 27 **Bob Taylor** (Master Mason)
- 27 **Dallas Calmes** (Master Mason)

### MASTER MASON ANNIVERSARIES

- 11 **Michael Mc Glone** (36 Years)
- 16 **Michael Allen** (07 Years)
- 20 **Carlos Brusel-Casals** (10 Years)
- 20 **Douglas Pope** (55 Years)
- 21 **Paul McNamee** (11 Years)
- 21 **Richard Stover** (05 Years)
- 22 **Richard Pullen (Past Master)** (23 Years)
- 22 **Nicholas Johnston (Senior Steward)** (06 Years)
- 23 **David W. Cameron** (12 Years)
- 23 **Gerald Singer** (40 Years)
- 24 **David Cameron (Past Master)** (19 Years)
- 25 **Douglas Arrington** (42 Years)
- 25 **Victor Novak** (25 Years)
- 26 **Cyril Shah** (26 Years)
- 27 **D. Edward Entrican (Past Master)** (62 Years)



## iMember 2.0

Update your  
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[member.freemason.org](http://member.freemason.org)

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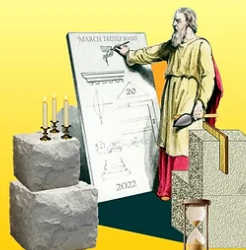
Or just email  
your updates to the  
[Lodge Secretary](mailto:Secretary@wln20.org).



**Washington Lodge No. 20**  
Free & Accepted Masons

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[WLN20.ORG](http://WLN20.ORG)



**WLN20 Trestle Board**

**Francisco Marques • PM**  
Editor

**Dave Freeman**  
Grammarian



**MASTER**

**MARK FREE DEGREE**

**PRESENTED BY:**

**Sacramento Valley**

**York Rite Sovereign College**

**IN ASSOCIATION WITH**



❖ **UNION-TEHAMA LODGE NO.3**

❖ **WASHINGTON LODGE NO.20**

❖ **SACRAMENTO LODGE NO.40**

❖ **GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR LODGE NO.853**



**MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY**

**6:00 PM Mark Master Degree**

**7:30 PM Dinner & Fellowship**

**Place: 1123 J Street Temple**

**All Master Masons Are Welcome!**