

October 2025

WLN20 Trestle Board



From the East

Joseph Wallach - Worshipful Master



*hello
October*

Greetings, Brethren.

It's October, and change is afoot.

As my time in the East is waning and ramping down, the opposite could be said of next year's Officers.

They have assumed their advanced stations and have worked diligently on their qualifications.

I am always impressed by the quality and character of our Lodge members, as well as the vigor and zeal they bring to their endeavors, both within and outside the Lodge.

We have important work to do in the next few months, and I am confident that we will meet any challenges with the same care and empathy that we have consistently demonstrated on our Masonic journey.

We will be having a presentation by the Masonic Homes during our October 2nd dinner.

I look forward to seeing you all.

Fraternally,

Joseph Wallach WM





From the West

William Workman - Senior Warden



Autumn us here! It's time for the leaves to turn and paint the city of Sacramento into a rich, warm, and earthy palette of fall colors. Did you know that the city of Sacramento is known as the city of Trees? It wasn't always so wooded.

When settlers arrived during the Gold Rush, the Sacramento Valley was originally known as the "City of the Plains" because it was largely covered by grassland. Because of the region's hot, dry summers, early residents planted an extensive urban forest for shade and a healthier environment.

Local government and community groups—including the Sacramento Bee newspaper editor C.K. McClatchy, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Sacramento Tree Foundation—influenced and supported tree planting throughout the 20th century.

A major community campaign launched in 2000 sought to plant one million trees in the city. The milestone was reached in 2011 with the planting of a valley oak in César Chávez Plaza.

A 2017 study by MIT's Senseable City Lab ranked Sacramento as the greenest city in the U.S. and third globally based on its tree canopy coverage.

I hope that during our hot summers, that you were able to take refuge under one for its glorious shade. With fall here, just make sure not to paint anything under one unless you would like to have it accented with leaves.

Masonry has many roots in which trees have been utilized in creating great works of architecture, as they have for thousands of years. As we all should well know, King Solomon's temple would never have been built without trees, though mostly stone.

In the construction of the Temple in Jerusalem, King Solomon utilized cedar logs extensively. [1 Kings 5:6](#) records Solomon's request to Hiram, king of Tyre: "So give orders that cedars of Lebanon be cut for me. My servants will work with yours, and I will pay you for your servants whatever wages you set." The use of cedar in the Temple underscored the sacredness and grandeur of the edifice, as it was a place where God's presence would dwell among His people.

Cypress wood was also used in the construction of the second Temple, as recorded in [Ezra 3:7](#) : "Then they gave money to the masons and carpenters, and food and drink and oil to the people of Sidon and Tyre, so that they would bring cedar logs from Lebanon to the sea at Joppa, according to the authorization they had from Cyrus king of Persia."

One of the Great Lights of Masonry is full of references to trees. Next time you find yourself under one, sit and contemplate the wonders of nature and life itself. The act will be earthly grounding and at the same time heavenly uprising.



Of course, this well-known excerpt from a very important prayer in masonry is my favorite reference to trees. It originates from Job lamenting on the finality of death. "For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease." This demonstrates the faith that even when things seem dead, there is always a potential for new beginnings. My brothers, do not despair at the falling of leaves, or the dying off of branches and may hope always envelope you with everlasting possibilities and renewed joy.



From the South

Brandon Jenkins - Junior Warden



Autumn is finally upon us, Brothers, and I am grateful for the changing weather. The [Autumnal Equinox](#) was on September 22nd, and it has brought with it longer nights and cooler days. I know I write often about the ambient temperature, but as I grow older, I notice that it seems to occupy much of my attention. My internal dialogue goes something like this: “Will I go for a walk today? Well, how hot is it outside? 95 degrees??? Forget it. Back to the couch!” Et cetera, et cetera.

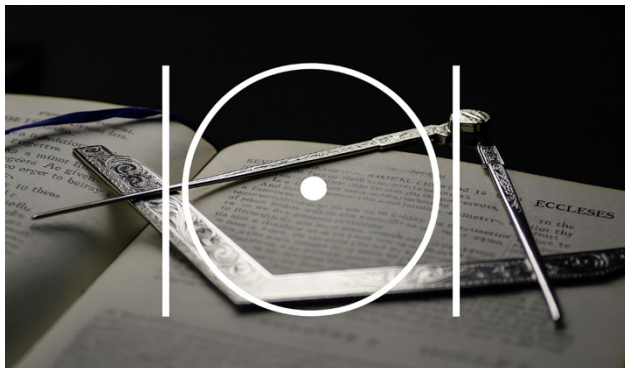
[Autumn](#) is also my favorite season of the year, although having grown up in the western United States, some may say I have never actually experienced a “true” autumn. Changing colors of the leaves aside, I greatly appreciate the cooler weather, the beginning of our rainy period, and the longer nights associated with the season. Autumn leads my mind to reflect on the year that will soon end, and I am usually left wondering where all of the time went so quickly. “Wasn’t [Halloween](#) just a couple of months ago?” “Has it been a year already??!” Et cetera, et cetera.



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Contemplating on seasonal changes, I am reminded of the balance that exists within nature and should exist within our own lives. This balance is constantly represented in the natural universe, and is especially illustrated by the [Equinox](#). The Equinox, both Spring and Autumn, is the moment when both light and dark, day and night, stand in perfect balance. At that particular moment, the sun rules the day and the moon governs the night for exactly the same amount of time. The pendulum of nature, conducted by geometry, is flawlessly flat for one brief moment, and all is in harmony. This equilibrium demonstrates to us the divinely appointed [law of balance](#), which is apparent in every facet of the universe, including the tiny stars that reside deep within the most hidden recesses of our being. This cosmic balance is maintained from infinity to infinity, and order reigns over every creation.

In Masonry, balance is symbolized by many of our working tools. The [plumb](#), the [level](#), and the [24-inch gauge](#), as well as numerous others, remind us of this. They demonstrate the balance between labor and refreshment, justice and mercy, duty and fellowship, life and death. These aspects of life are also not exclusionary. On the contrary, they of necessity must [coexist](#). These symbols are simple reminders that one cannot have light without darkness, justice without mercy, life without death.

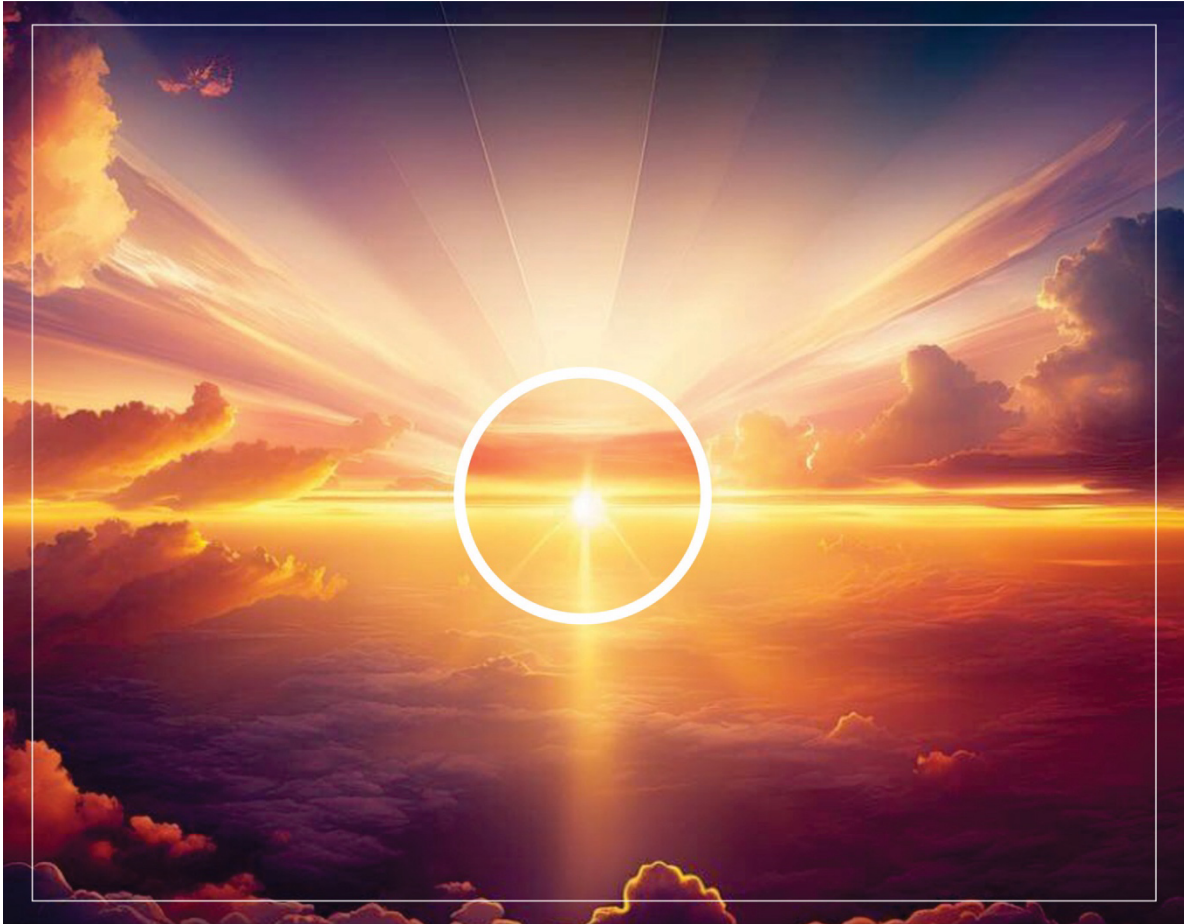


Additionally, our most prevalent symbol, the [Square and Compass](#), demonstrates to us that we are dual beings striving to live a balanced life. Our mortality, symbolized by the Square, and our immortal selves, symbolized by the Compass, are intertwined upon the Sacred Law, signifying to the discerning eye that

we are two halves of one whole, both mortal and immortal, guided by the Great Architect of the Universe to seek balance and order.

The sharp, angular, mortal man, so inclined towards pride, anger, greed, and lust, is tempered by the boundaries drawn by the divine circle of restraint and humility, with the instruction of Deity to point the way.

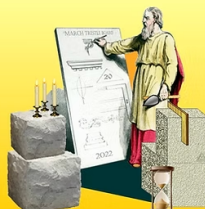
Autumn is a season of reflection. Have we sown while the soil was fertile? Did we harvest while the fields were ripe? Have we stored and prepared for the long nights that await? As we participate in introspection during this time, may we work to seek balance in all we do, as the Great Artificer has demonstrated in His holy creations.



Washington Lodge No. 20
Free & Accepted Masons

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WLN20 Trestle Board

Francisco Marques • PM
Editor

Dave Freeman
Grammarian

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 02 **Stated Meeting Dinner** (Banquet Room) Thursday 6:00 PM
Masonic Homes Presentation
- 02 **Monthly Stated Meeting** (LR1) Thursday 7:30 PM
- 09 **DARK**
- 15 **OSI (Officers School of Instruction)** (LR3) Wednesday 7:
- 16 **DARK**
- 23 **DARK**
- 24-26 **176th Annual Communication in San Francisco, CA**
- 30 **DARK**

NOVEMBER

- 01 **Ladies Night: Oktoberfest** (Ballroom) Saturday 7:00 PM
- 04 **Executive Committee Meeting** (Zoom) Tuesday 6:30 PM
- 06 **Stated Meeting Dinner** (Banquet Room) Thursday 6:00 PM
- 06 **Monthly Stated Meeting Annual Election of Officers** (LR1) Thursday 7:30 PM
- 13 **DARK**
- 19 **OSI (Officers School of Instruction)** (LR3) Wednesday 7:00 PM
- 20 **DARK**
- 27 **DARK**

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.

OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 03 **Russell Tomas** (Past Master)
- 03 **Martin Zimmerman** (Master Mason)
- 09 **Jonathan Bray** (Entered Apprentice)
- 13 **John Otten** (Master Mason)
- 15 **Christopher Boothe** (Master Mason)
- 26 **Jack Cornelius, Jr.** (Entered Apprentice)
- 28 **Scott Goode** (Past Master)
- 28 **Douglas Arrington** (Master Mason)
- 28 **Emad Sweidan** (Master Mason)

MASTER MASON ANNIVERSARIES

- 08 **James Lenau** (27 Years)
- 10 **Norman Helsel** (23 Years)
- 13 **Kevin Hall** (3 Years)
- 17 **Eric Van Houten** (6 Years)
- 19 **Rodrigo Bitar** (8 Years)
- 21 **Dwight Bradish** (26 Years)
- 23 **Robert Cameron** (22 Years)
- 24 **Paul Evans** (57 Years)
- 25 **David Minke** (13 Years)
- 26 **Mark Christie** (25 Years)
- 28 **Richard Entrican** (49 Years)
- 28 **Richard Redmond** (32 Years)



★★★★★ WASHINGTON LODGE #20 ★★★★★

OKTOBERFEST

LADIES NIGHT

**FOOD
DRINKS
MUSIC
DANCE**



Special Performance
SACRAMENTO TURN VEREIN ALPENTÄNZER

SACRAMENTO MASONIC TEMPLE
WLN20.ORG/RSVP



11.1.2025 7:00PM
\$30 PER GUEST
