

# WLN20 Trestle Board



## Washington Lodge No. 20 2022 Officers

Master: Russell Tomas  
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(707) 315-6593

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Junior Warden	Mauro Lara
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Senior Officers Coach	Jared Yoshiki • PM
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Inspector 414th District	Michael Woo • PM

Secretary's Office  
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## From the East

WM Russell Tomas



May is going to be an interesting month.

Not only are we celebrating **Star Wars** (May the 4th be with you) and the release of Marvel's first movie of 2022 (**Dr. Strange in Multiverse of Madness**), but we will also have our first Initiation of the year. We will be welcoming Mr. **Jonathan Brown** to our Brotherhood in the upcoming Entered Apprentice Degree on May 26.

Our Brothers (especially our Brother Junior Warden, **Mauro Lara**, who will be in the East for the ritual) and Candidate will be happy to know that we have a special guest delivering the lecture. The Senior Grand Warden, Right Worshipful **Sean Metroka**, will be joining us that night.

We will have our **Brother's Walk** on May 7th (location and time to be announced) and practice for the first degree ritual on May 12th in Lodge Room 1 at 6:30 PM.

**Officers School of Instruction (OSI)** has also been upgraded. Instead of the normal class at the J Street Temple, there will be a Masonic Education presentation by Dr. **Andreas Önnorfors**, Past Master of **Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076**, at the Sacramento Scottish Rite (6151 H St, Sacramento Map). Of course, Officers' attendance is mandatory, but all Brothers are invited to attend.

### Good Old Days

As time passes, we often look back at different times of our lives and refer to them as the "good old days." I fondly remember being a member of our Fraternity some years ago and the sense of freedom that came from not being an Officer and having responsibilities in the Lodge.

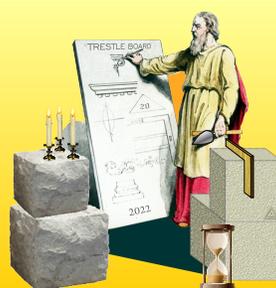
These days the top hat can feel a little heavy at times. I have a memory that still replays in my head of our departed Past Master, the late Worshipful **Victor Sanchez**, as he stood in front of the Installing Officer in December of his year in the East.

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Free & Accepted Masons

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WLN20 Trestle Board

Francisco Marques • PM  
Editor

Dave Freeman  
Grammarian



# From the East

WM Russell Tomas



(continued from page 1)

With a bit of relief in his voice and a sigh, he spoke the words, "I stand relieved."

I look forward to the feeling of doing the same this December.

Maybe many years from now, I will look back to 2022 and think of those days as the good old days. I hear statements from others (especially Past Masters) like "time will fly by fast" or "enjoy these days while you have them." And you know what? They're right.

Earlier in April, the interns in my workplace had an opportunity to meet graduates of the internship program who moved forward with their careers. The alums were each successful career-wise in their own right.

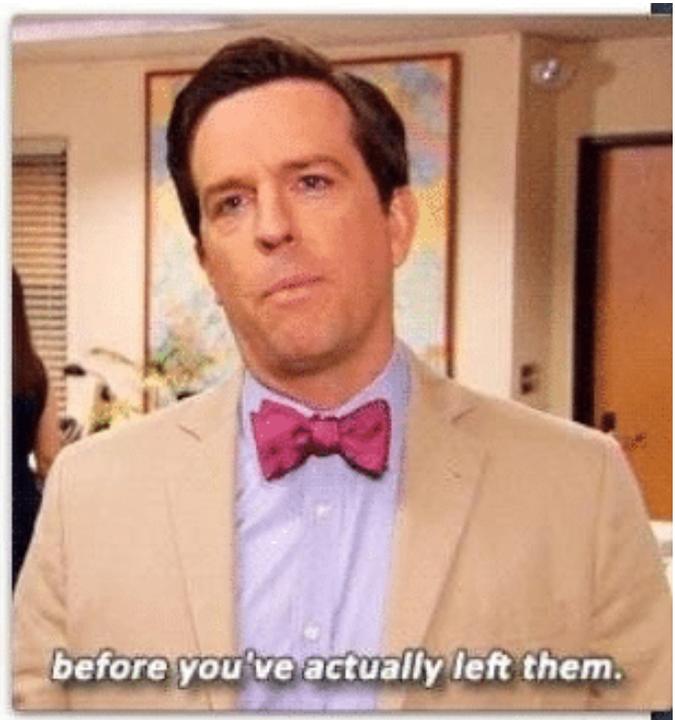
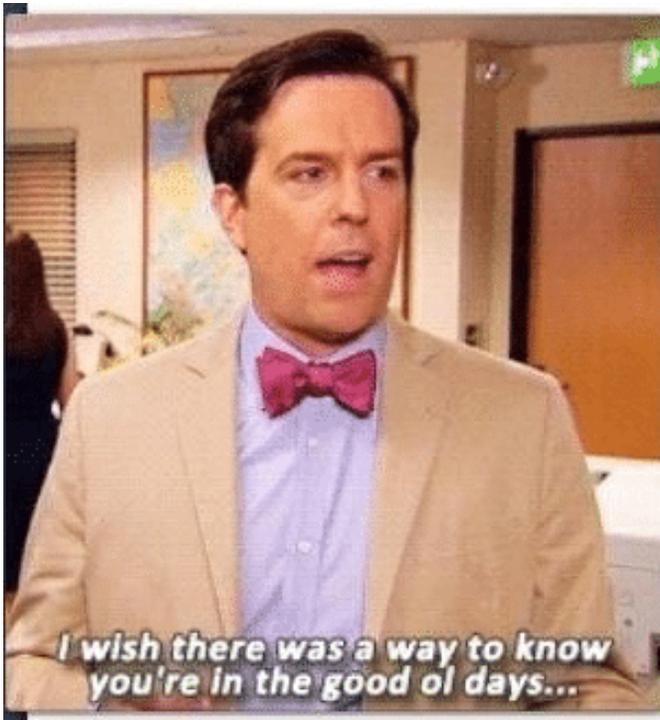
As a moderator for this meeting, I posed the question to the alumni, "Knowing what you know now, if you could tell your intern-self one thing what would it be?" One alum answered, "These are the good old days."

His response struck a note with me. I instantly remembered a line from The Office TV show (Worshipful **Jared Yoshiki** would be proud) finale:

**"I wish there was a way to know you were in the good old days before you actually left them."**

We truly do not know what will be the "good old days," so I recently chose to live as if we are experiencing those days right now. I took stock of what I have and am now enjoying the moments I like.

It's actually been a relief and to be honest, that top hat feels a little lighter.





# From the West

SW Nicholas Johnston



Normally our Junior Warden recognizes birthdays, but I had the luxury of reading our current Junior Warden's draft for this month's Trestleboard, and I noticed that our Class Act of a Junior Warden of course omitted himself (May 19th) from the parties to which he sent birthday wishes.

I am more than happy to assume this duty for a month: Happy Birthday, Brother **Mauro Lara!**

This month we are very excited to put on an Entered Apprentice degree, the first of the year.

Please join us on May 26th for this wonderful ceremony.

There is a portion of the ceremony that talks about the common gavel, and its purpose to "divest our hearts and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting our minds as living stones..."

This is certainly a reference to 1 Peter 2:4-5.

However, further reading drives a deeper connection to the degree and the Fraternity in general.

In 1 Peter 2:6, Peter subsequently recants Isaiah 28:16, which states:

"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste."

A cornerstone did you say?

What is interesting about a corner stone is that it's typically laid in the North-East corner of any building.

It is also more than simply the first brick of many to be laid down, as it also serves as the reference stone from which all remaining stones are laid: all squared, plumbed and leveled in reference to that one initial stone.

Freemasons have been performing ceremonial cornerstone layings of public buildings since time immemorial, so the Fraternity no doubt appreciates the importance of this key stage of the construction of an edifice.

Please join me this month in further exploring the role of new beginnings, as well as deeper connections between the public and private aspects of our ceremonies, as we welcome our newest Brother at our upcoming Entered Apprentice degree.





# From the South

JW Mauro Lara



Hello Brethren.

It's that time of year when we start our celebrations in anticipation of summer.

May brings several dates of note for holidays and celebrations. The month starts off with May Day on the 1st. On May 4th, we celebrate **Star Wars Day** (more to follow on this one).

May 5th is the well-known and better celebrated **Cinco de Mayo** (with a lot of margaritas). At the end of the month on May 30th, we observe **Memorial Day**. On this holiday every year, we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice in Military Service for our country.

## Star Wars Quiz

As mentioned, there is more on Star Wars Day. Many of us have come to know and love Star Wars over the last 45 years since its first release. The First release was **Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope** on May 25, 1975. Can you believe it's been 45 years?

Also, who knew that this saga of films that started with Episode IV, out of the order we are accustomed to, would be so lasting and impactful on our culture?

The most recent movie from the saga is **Star Wars: Episode IX – The Rise of Skywalker**. Based on this saga, I'll provide you with a few clues to the quiz to see if you can determine the answer:

- This character made his debut in the second installment **Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back**
- In 1983's **Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi**, this character bid goodbye
- **Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace** sees a return of the character in a younger version
- The character displays his dueling abilities for the first time in an epic battle against his former apprentice. This occurs in **Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones**
- This character pioneers the Jedi Council and makes efforts to help Anakin resist the "Dark Side."
- **See the next page for the answer**

## Milestones

This May has 12 of our brethren celebrating the anniversary of their birth. Among the celebrated 12 are Worshipful **David Hall** (May 20th), Worshipful **Richard Pullen** (May 8th), and Worshipful **Jesse Solis-Jacques** (May 5th). We send all of our brethren a Very Happy Birthday wish.

The Masonic birthdays number 21 in May. A particular shout-out to Brother **Thomas Weary** who celebrates his 10th Masonic Birthday and to Brother **Martin Buff** who celebrates his 5th Masonic Birthday. Congratulations and many happy returns to one and all.

## History

Our Lodge had a very significant moment in its history that was missed and is very much worth mentioning. This historical moment occurred earlier this year in February.

**Washington Lodge No. 20**, the fourth Lodge organized in the City of Sacramento, could be well described as an embodiment of courage and optimism.

It came into existence at anything but a propitious time. Its sister Lodges -- **Tehama, Jennings, and Sutter** -- were in dire straits. Tehama and Jennings were staggering under a huge relief debt, their load of sick and destitute increasing with every wave of migration into the gold country. Jennings could not stave off the inevitable much longer, and Sutter, which had lost its hall in flames, was already done for.

Then, too, their troubles were by no means alleviated by the periodic overflowing of the Sacramento River.

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# From the South

JW Mauro Lara



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Twice in early 1850, the whole town, save for a bot of high ground near Tenth Street, was inundated by floods that caused untold damage and misery.

Many a brother knew what it was to see most of his household belongings, and even whole buildings, float off toward San Francisco on swirling muddy waters. And these were nothing compared with the ever-present dread of cholera.

Nevertheless, twenty (20) Master Masons, presided over by **Jesse M. Morrill**, met in the business office of **Joel Ball**, on February 19th, 1852, for the purpose of organizing another Lodge, to be known as Washington Lodge.,

They drew up and signed a petition for dispensation, recommended by Tehama Lodge, and presented it to Deputy Grand Master **B. D. Hyam**, who granted it two days later.,

**Charles Duncombe** was Master; **Jesse M. Morrill**, Senior Warden; and **Jeb L. Thompson**, Junior Warden.

On May 5th, 1852, they received their charter, as **Washington Lodge No. 20**.

On May 13th, 1852, **Nathaniel Greene Curtis** was elected the first regular Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 20 under the charter. He was re-elected Worshipful Master of the same in 1853-1854 and 1857.

Brother Curtis also served as Grand Master of Masons of California in 1857-1858-1859-1860. He laid the cornerstones of the State Capitol in Sacramento, and also of the Masonic Temple in San Francisco.

This Worshipful Brother remained a member of Washington Lodge No. 20 for a period of 45 years, 4 months, and 21 days, until passing to the Eternal Orient on July 12th, 1897, aged 71 years, 5 months, and 4 days, mourned by his family and the entire State of California.

One of the earliest noticeable characteristics of Washington Lodge was the general levelheadedness and solid business methods of its guiding spirits.

As early as the second meeting under dispensation, they concerned themselves not only with obtaining just a meeting place but with obtaining a meeting place of their own. Therefore, they appointed **Joel Ball**, **J.A. Bullard**, and **Nathaniel Greene Curtis** on a committee to confer with the various Masonic and Odd Fellows Lodges of the city on purchasing "a suitable lot on which to build a Masons and Odd Fellows Hall."

Moreover, they carried this same practicality into their charitable works. The charity box was on the altar at every meeting, "if not for a specific purpose," as observed on history books, "then for raising funds for general relief." But there was no handing out of relief to every Tom, Dick, or Harry claiming Masonic Affiliation.

The brethren of Washington Lodge first made sure he was worthy of it.

In May 1853, when Washington Lodge sent its first returns to Grand Lodge, it had 39 Master Masons on its roll. Thus, it missed by 1 the doubling of its original number of members. A year later, it more than doubled its 1853 figure, having 94 Master Masons.

Many additions were by affiliation, among them Governor **John Bigler**, a member of Tehama Lodge No. 3.

Most of the 1854 gains were from initiations.

In one of the upcoming issues, I'll add a section here about the Gold Rush and Freemasonry in Sacramento that will add detail.

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**Answer to the Quiz: Yoda**

# MAY

## BIRTHDAYS

05 Jesse Solis-Jacques PM  
07 Prezell Harris  
08 Richard Pullen PM  
11 Douglas Pope  
12 Paul Derouen  
12 Walter Santwer  
15 Richard Stover  
19 Jonathan Brizuela  
19 Mauro Lara  
20 David Hall PM  
20 Michael Quinn  
26 Paul McNamee



## MASTER MASON ANNIVERSARIES

01 Prezell Harris (12 Years)  
08 Charles Moore Jr. (53 Years)  
08 Dallas Calmes (8 Years)  
11 Joseph Mayo IV (27 Years)  
11 Martin Buff (5 Years)  
12 Ronald Forsberg (45 Years)  
14 Thomas Goodwin (65 Years)  
14 Emad Sweidan (12 Years)  
15 Terry Cooley (8 Years)  
16 Scott Van Wagner (24 Years)  
16 Joseph Wallach (9 Years)  
17 Ko Chang (21 Years)  
18 Robert Brooks (50 Years)  
20 Ernest Owen Jr. (40 Years)  
20 William Dillon (58 Years)  
21 Phillip Richards (52 Years)  
21 Albert Lazare (9 Years)  
22 George Morrow (64 Years)  
25 Brian Jones (18 Years)  
31 Edwin Douthit (38 Years)  
31 Thomas Weary (10 Years)



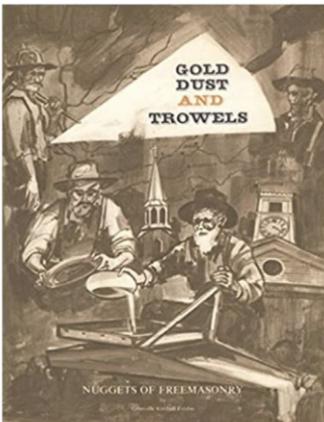
For Masonic Assistance • Call (888) 466-3642

# 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.



### **Gold Dust and Trowels: Nuggets of Freemasonry in the Gold Rush Days of California**

by **Granville Kimball  
Frisbie**

"It has seemed to me most fitting that an attempt be made to develop a short excursion into the gold rush days

when Masonry and Masons came to California in sufficient strength to form Masonic Lodges.

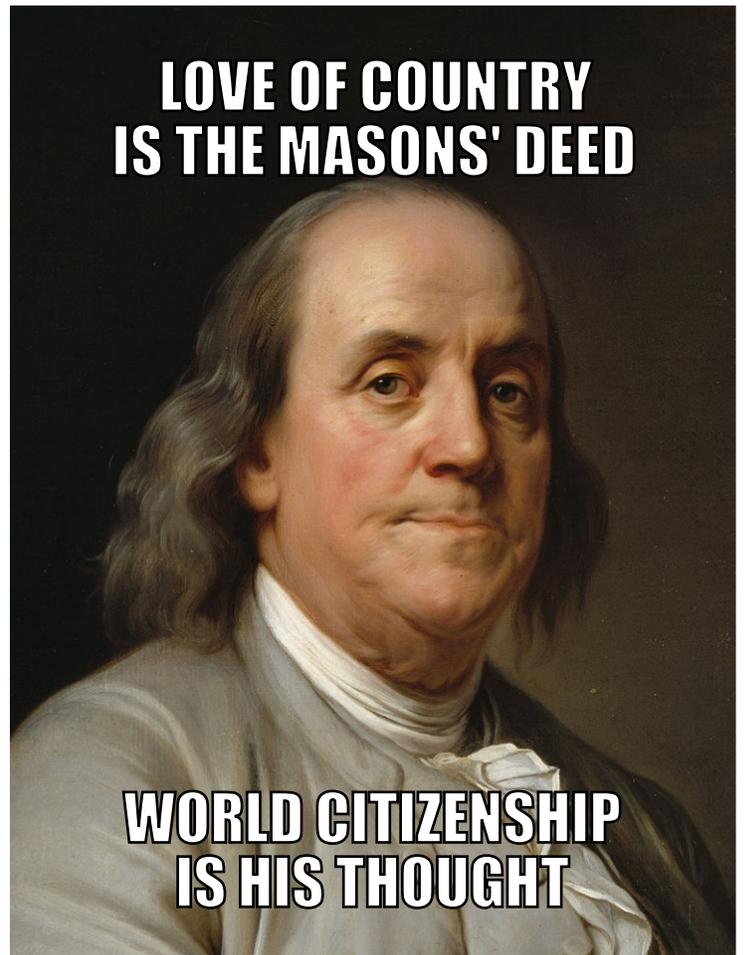
Their advent became important to the forward march of civilization as they exercise their ingrained habits of charity toward their own, or indeed, toward anyone whose fortunes had fallen upon evil times in a wild and unsettled country.

In preparing to write a popular paperback larded with pictures, I was struck by the great paucity of pictures currently available in the more than 60 Masonic Organization's homes that I knew were tucked away among the gold diggings, the mother lode towns, and the coastal cities, in which I have for more than forty years lived.

Hence this attempt to pique your interest, both Mason and non-Mason alike, with a brief recount of their beginnings and exploits."

--- excerpt from the book's preface.

ISBN-10 : 000  
ISBN-13 : 000  
ASIN : B000ITXOJ2



Up-to-date member information is critical for our Lodge to keep in touch with you.

Please email our Lodge Secretary to verify your contact information today.

**Secretary@WLN20.ORG**

Your prompt assistance is appreciated.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY

- 03 Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday • 06:00 PM (Zoom)
- 05 Social Hour Thursday • 05:30 PM (Club Room)
- 05 Star Wars Dinner Thursday • 06:15 PM (Banquet Room)
- 05 Stated Meeting Thursday • 07:30 PM (LR1)
- 07 Brotherhood Walk Saturday • 02:00 PM (Location TBD)
- 12 Officers' Practice Thursday • 07:00 PM (LR1)
- 18 Officers School of Instruction Wednesday • 07:00 PM (Scottish Rite Center)  
Topic: Masonic Education - Guest-Speaker: Dr. **Andreas Önnersfors**
- 19 DARK Thursday
- 26 Degree Dinner Thursday • 06:00 PM (Banquet Room)
- 26 First Degree Ceremony - Mr. **Jonathon Brown** Thursday • 07:00 PM (LR1)
- 31 Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday • 06:00 PM (Zoom)

### JUNE

- 02 Social Hour Thursday • 05:30 PM (Club Room)
- 02 MCU Dinner Thursday • 06:15 PM (Banquet Room)
- 02 Stated Meeting Thursday • 07:30 PM (LR1)
- 09 TBD Thursday
- 16 TBD Thursday
- 23 Officers' Meeting Thursday • 06:00 PM (Club Room)
- 30 TBD Thursday

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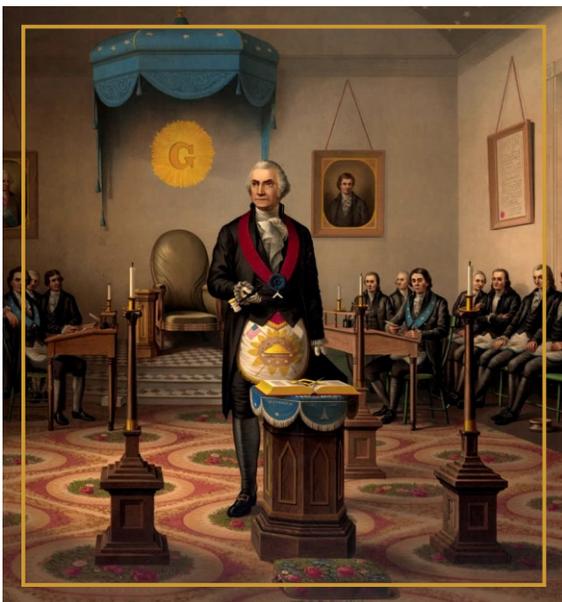
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YouTube

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCEvUvpbyDMTOqF\\_Yuhuay9g](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEvUvpbyDMTOqF_Yuhuay9g)





**WASHINGTON LODGE No. 20 F. & A. M.**  
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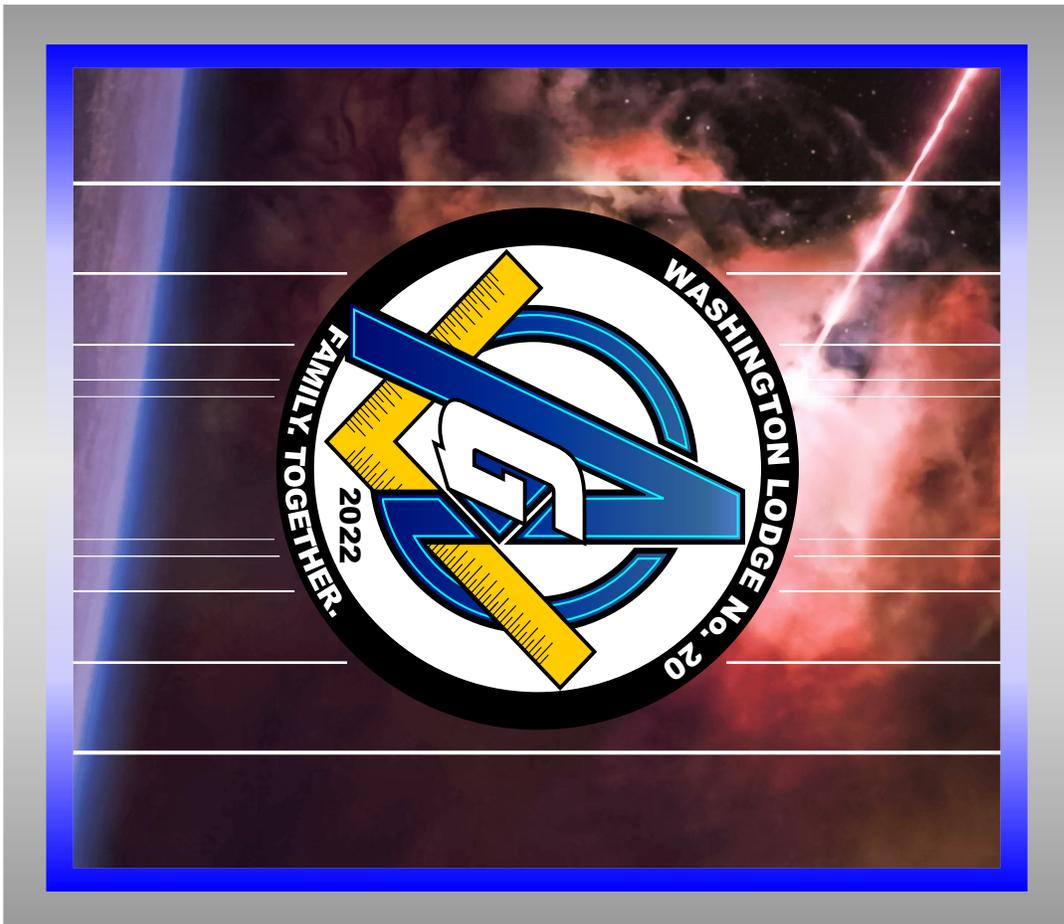
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ATTRACT WHAT YOU EXPECT • REFLECT WHAT YOU DESIRE • BECOME WHAT YOU RESPECT • MIRROR WHAT YOU ADMIRE



Washington Lodge No. 20 F&AM  
**TRESTLE BOARD**

May 2022



SACRAMENTO MASONIC TEMPLE  
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[WLN20.org](http://WLN20.org)