

OAK PLAINS LODGE
F&AM #789
IT'S CRAB FEED TIME



Oak Plains Lodge #789
Crab & Shrimp Feed

6:00 pm Saturday, March 25, 2017
George Primrose Masonic Temple
3010 Becerra Way, Sacramento
\$50.00 per person
NO tickets at the door
Children under 6 Free 6-12- \$20.00
each.

TICKETS ARE ON STILL AVAILABLE!

TRESTLE BOARD

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3010 Becerra Way
Sacramento CA 95821-3915
(916) 485-6864

Managing Editor: Mike Perry
Pmike2351@gmail.com

2017 Lodge Officers

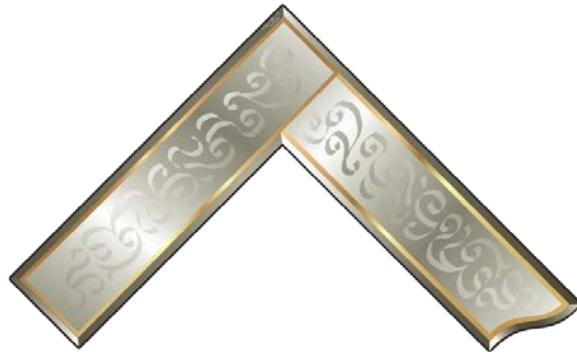
Marshall Scott Henry marshall.henry@edd.ca.gov (C) (916) 595-2588	Master
David V. Meneley (H) (916) 718-5878 davemeneley@gmail.com	Sr. Warden
Bill Brewer, PM (C): 916-715-6427 Retired830PC@comcast.net	Jr. Warden
Carroll O. Dudley, III codudley3@comcast.net (H) (916) 395-8736 (W) (916) 457-3121	Treasurer
Steve Brown (C) (916) 531-3218 palmasteveb@sbcglobal.net	Secretary
Gene Olson, PM (H) (916) 483-5594 (C) (916) 740-9172	Chaplain
Justin E. Rubsam (H) (775) 671-1167 justin@stellar-tv.com	Sr. Deacon
Mauricio J. Pasos (W) 916-973-8016 (C) 916-218-9224 mpasos@serveallcontracting.com	Jr. Deacon
Maury Hicks (C): (520) 528-9977 hr.harley@yahoo.com	Sr. Steward
Vacant	Jr. Steward
Mathew DeVilbiss (C): (916)320-1816 (H): (916)-408-2806 yankone1967@gmail.com	Marshal
Ed Alvarez (H) (916) 791-4934	Tiler
Jeff Askins, PM HiJoltage@aol.com (H) (916) 275-5778	Officer's Coach
Joseph Juelch, PM Joejuelch@yahoo.com (C) (916) 225-9486	Inspector, 404 ⁿ Masonic District

Oak Plains Lodge F&AM #789 Vision Statement:

To create a strong and viable Lodge made up of men who have a strong desire to practice together the principles of Freemasonry, ensuring that it becomes relevant to today's society while maintaining its high moral, social and charitable standards, thus making a positive difference in the quality of life in our community.

2017 Committee Chairmen and Members

Audit	Rene Burghgrave, PM
Charity	M. Scott Henry, WM (Chair)
Member Retention and Welfare	Steve Brown, (Chair) Jeffrey Wiech-Warren David Meneley
Masonic Widows Outreach	Jeffrey Wiech-Warren
Junior Chaplain	Jeffrey Wiech-Warren
Funeral Master	Joseph Juelch, PM
Finance	Carroll O. Dudley, III
Hiram Award	Vacant
Masonic Education	Vacant
Youth Liaison	Alex Vuckovich
Candidates' Coaches	Joseph Juelch, PM (Head) Bruce Manby
Communication Chairman	Mike Perry
Assistant Secretary	(Vacant)



Dark in The East



From The West

Greetings Brethren!

Since this is my first article as Senior Warden I would like to start with thanking you for electing me to this position. I will do my best to serve you and be a good Senior Warden. I am excited as our new masonic year is starting off with quite a bang. At our last stated meeting Bro. Eric Parker gave his 1st degree proficiency and we have a new brother being initiated in a few days. We also have Bro. Parker's 2nd degree to get on the lodge calendar. We also came together to raise Bro. Matt DeVilbiss to the sublime degree of Master Mason back on Jan 2. We raised Bro DeVilbiss just in time for him to be installed as our Marshall. All these events combined with our annual installation of officers just over a week ago, have made for quite a busy month for the lodge.

Our officers line has been doing great work getting ready for these events. They learn their ritual work and floorwork and I am pleased to be able to say that your lodge officers work hard and give 110% to polish and learn the degree ceremonies as accurately as possible. It is a joy to be in office with these brothers. We do have some fun at our practices, but we get the job done. As many of you know about

me, I commit myself to ritual excellence in my work and I would like to see that carry on to the entire officers line. I believe we are well on our way to getting there, too. I want to see Oak Plains become a lodge that sets the standard on what a degree should look like. With our current line of officers, I think this is totally within reach.

To achieve ritual excellence it is really quite simple, we just need to try a little harder at officers practice and set aside an extra hour or two a week to study our ritual work. To you who are not in the officers line but are interested in becoming part of it, I would challenge you to come out one Monday night when we are practicing and get involved in what we are doing. We can always use extra guys. Oak Plains is your lodge, get involved and take pride in being part of the finest lodge in Sacramento if not Northern California!

Well, that about does it for now. I hope my article finds you doing well and excited to be part of Oak Plains Lodge! Take it easy and see you around the lodge!

**Your Senior Warden,
Bro. David Meneley**



Dark In The South



From the rough to the smooth... like the Ashlar, the Editor brings you the Trestle Board

From the Editor

“Communication to a lodge is like oxygen to life. Without it... the lodge dies”

Hello My Brothers:

What a first month of the year! The above quote is something that resonates with me as I put together this Trestle Board. Many of you may have noticed the lodge website CALodges.org is no longer in operation, this website was taken down by the web hosting company grand lodge uses, however the company was acquired by a third party, consequently they terminated our access to our website. Grand Lodge has provided

guidance and access to a new website domain, the new website will be <http://lodge789.wpfreemason.net> once it is up in running, fingers-crossed by the end of February. This website will have an up to date calendar, Facebook and Instagram links. I'm excited to get this up and running, I think you all will be impressed. As with anything new, there are bound to be some bumps and growing pains, if you find something that doesn't work or the information is incorrect please feel free to let me know pmike2351@gmail.com or 916-622-7769 - Fraternally - Mike Perry

*Sweetheart
Corner*

Once again to remind our Sweethearts: should you need assistance please give a call to the Lodge Master, Jeffrey or myself, Jeffrey's number is 916-208-1628.

Please come to a dinner we have such great food and at least one whole table of sweethearts shows for every dinner. YOU are always welcome.

Until next time,

**Jeffrey Wiech-Warren
Masonic Widows Outreach
916-208-1628**

In Memoriam

Friends, it is with a heavy heart, I have to inform you of Mrs. Donna Olson, Loving wife of Wor. Gene Olson (WM-1991) of Oak Plains Lodge #789 passed away Monday January 2, 2017. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have been married for 64 1/2 years. Mrs. Olson was 85 at the time of her passing. Services were held January 10th at the Elks Lodge in Carmichael, CA. Please keep Wor. Gene Olson in your thoughts and prayers.

"Let us be happy for our dear friend, because she is now with our Heavenly Father. We all know that she will always be here with us, shining on us, and looking over us forever. God bless." - Author Unknown.

ROBERT L. WADE - DEMOLAY BOYS:

Brothers! You are cordially invited (and encouraged) to attend the events our lodge's very own chapter of DeMolay Boys will be holding now and in the future. DeMolay typically meets for dinner every 1st and 3rd Wednesday, with 4th Wednesdays reserved for DeMolay Advisory Council meetings. 5th Wednesday evenings are typically held as DeMolay game nights. Masons are welcome

to all events, and all events typically start at 7pm.

PHOTO GALLERY:

Did you know that Oak Plains has a photo album and Facebook where you can find pictures taken at many of our events? You can view the album online at any time by visiting:

<http://tinyurl.com/ksbwkwy> or <https://www.facebook.com/OakPlains789/>

EMAIL ADDRESS:

All brothers are welcome (and encouraged) to send articles for publication in the Trestle Board! Please send any and all suggestions or articles to Bro. Mike Perry at pmike2351@gmail.com. The previous issue of our Trestle Board was sent out via e-mail and is available on the Internet through Oak Plains Lodge's website <http://lodge789.wpfreemason.net> (coming soon) A paper copy was mailed to those who requested it.

NOT RECEIVING THE TRESTLE BOARD?

If you (or a brother you know) are not receiving the Trestle Board and should be, please let me know at my email address: pmike2351@gmail.com and we will correct that. Also, if you have a spam filter, please allow e-mail from oakplains789@gmail.com. If you have a chance to look us up on the Internet, you can find us Online at <http://lodge789.wpfreemason.net>

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES:

Please join us in congratulating each of the Brothers who were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in this month:

February

	Date	Years
Jeffery Askins, PM	02/10/2003	14
Robert Blohm	02/02/1957	60
Steven Brown	02/25/2013	4
Jack Gephart	02/06/2006	11
David Kerr	02/12/2007	10
Jon Leineke	02/15/1977	40
Eugene Olson, PM	02/26/1962	55
Bryan Rhodes	02/11/2013	4
John Taylor	02/22/1993	24





WHY WE GIVE

THE DIGNITY OF SERVICE

MEET MAJOR THOMAS SPENCER
MASON FOR 53 YEARS
CORNERSTONE SOCIETY MEMBER
GRAND MASTER CIRCLE DONOR



Before he entered into 30 years of civil service; before he began 20 years of active duty in the U.S. Army; before he earned the rank of major and dozens of military decorations, Thomas Spencer was a kid in the agricultural hub of Chula Vista, sweeping the floor at his dad's Masonic lodge. "My brother and I were a cleaning team," he says. "It was our duty." They were too young to understand much about the fraternity. But their father was the master of Chula Vista Lodge No. 626, and they were expected to do their part.

Spencer's father's lodge is now his own. He became a Mason there in 1962 when he was 28, home on leave after an Army tour in Korea. He was initiated by his father and the same men whose citrus orchards he'd worked on as a young man.

As an infantry officer, Spencer was dispatched on one overseas tour after another, where he made Masonic connections along the way. Some of his earliest posts brought him into small European lodges, and he thrived on their intimate gatherings and philosophical discussions. "Those conversations about Masonic principles helped me understand my father better – why he was always helping others; why he contributed money to things when our family didn't have a lot of money to begin with," says Spencer. "I try to emulate him with the things I do today."

Spencer's globetrotting career gave him the opportunity to found a military lodge in Frankfurt, Germany, and to join lodges and Masonic organizations in France, Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, Georgia, Missouri, Oregon, and Texas. The list of the charitable causes Spencer has led and supported are equally diverse, from veterans' causes to the Shrine and Scottish Rite children's hospitals to environmental conservation. He was awarded the charity jewel of the Germany-based American-Canadian Grand Lodge. To help young people afford college, he has endowed scholarships in Nebraska, Texas, and at Chula Vista Lodge.

Spencer is also a member of the Grand Master Circle level of giving, and a member of the Cornerstone Society, a special group of donors who include the fraternity in their estate plans or wills – supporting its philanthropic programs posthumously.

"You're supposed to leave this world better than you found it," Spencer says. "To do that you've got to leave some money to an organization that will work for the betterment of society." It's an echo of his first Masonic lesson, as a young boy sweeping the floor at Chula Vista Lodge: You've got to do your part.

Please join Bro. Spencer in giving back.

California Masons gave

\$737,471

this year – the highest amount since 2008

4,970

Number of member donors

209

Grand Master Circle donors – the most in recorded history

\$154

Average gift amount per member – the highest ever



Common questions about **Masonic Senior Outreach**

888/466-3642 | masonichome.org

What is Masonic Senior Outreach?

We offer **free** assistance to senior's age 60 and older, connecting you with the services and resources you need to stay healthy and safe at home or in your home community.

What kind of services do you provide?

We tailor services to each client's needs and preferences.

- Information and referrals to community-based senior services and resources
- Financial assistance and care plan, for those who need financial support
- Ongoing care management, including regular visits and telephone contact, to assess financial situation and health or medical condition

What services am I eligible for?

For all services, you must be age 60 or older.

- **Even if you don't have a Masonic affiliation:** You can receive information and referrals by calling 888/466-3642.
- **If you are a California Master Mason in good standing, or his wife, widow or mother:** You may also apply for case management.
- **If you are a California Master Mason in good standing for five consecutive years or more, or his wife or widow (or in extraordinary circumstances, mother):** In addition to the services above, you may be eligible for financial support.

If I receive financial assistance, do I have to repay it?

Only if you have the financial means to do so.

I have more questions. Where can I find answers?

Call Masonic Assistance at 888/466-3642 or visit masonichome.org

Masonic Assistance | We support and serve the whole family

Call 888/466-3642 for information about all our support services.

YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS:

An important reminder:

You're entitled to the following support services no matter where you reside – whether in California or out of state.

Member 60 years or older and in good standing for five consecutive years, or his wife or widow:

1. referrals to senior care providers, financial assistance, and/or care management in your home community, provided by Masonic Senior Outreach
2. admission to a Masonic Homes of California continuing care retirement community, located in Covina and Union City

Member of any age and degree level:

3. help dealing with family issues, such as the impact of divorce, the stresses of a special needs child, and other challenges, provided by Masonic Family Outreach

Contact Masonic Assistance at (888) 466-3642 or **masonicassistance@mhcuc.org** for information and support.

Some other member and widow benefits:

- Monthly lodge Trestle Board
- Inclusion on lodge phone tree and mailings
- Bimonthly California Freemason magazine
- Access to the Member Center on freemason.org (members only)
- Masonic funeral or memorial service (members only, at the request of family)

Contact the Secretary of your lodge with any specific questions or concerns.

For general information, contact Grand Lodge at 415/292-9180 or memberservices@freemason.org.

Visit masonichome.org for information about all of these support services.

TEMPLE BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP:

Every fourth Saturday, brothers of our lodge come together at 9am to work on keeping up the temple building. It's a lot of work keeping things clean and in working condition, but many hands make for light work and your hands are needed to take some of the weight off those that have cleaned, repaired and improved the building we all use for Masonic meetings. Clean Up Days are held only once per month, so please do consider coming and donating just a few hours of your time toward keeping our building presentable and worthy of our meetings.

The Temple Board, chaired by Bro. Carroll Dudley, meets on a monthly basis, and welcomes input from the Brethren on the status of the Temple. Feel free to contact Brother Dudley (his contact information is on the Roster of Officers on page 2 of the Trestle Board) should you have any questions or concerns, or if you wish to attend a meeting of the Temple Board or assist in the maintenance of the grounds or the building. Thank you!

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Officer Practice	7	8	9 Officer's School of instruction	10	11
12	13 Officers Practice – 7:00 pm	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Stated Dinner – 6:30 – Teriyaki Pineapple Pork Tenderloin w/ Salad Stated Meeting – 8:00 pm	21	22	23	24	25 Lodge Clean up – 9:00 am
26	27 Officer practice 7 PM	28				

