SAN FRANCISCO LODGE 120

FEBRUARY 2025

And Happy Lunar New Year

From the East From the West From the South From the Secretary Masoic Education Donor Recognition Officers/Trustees

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HAPPY Valentine's

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San Francisco Lodge 120



GREETINGS FROM THE EAST WORSHIPFUL MASTER Oliver Mangubat



Celebrating Valentine's Day in Freemasonry

Valentine's Day is a celebration of love, unity, and devotion. For Freemasons, this special day reminds us of one of our most cherished principles: Brotherly Love. Beyond the romantic ideals of the holiday, Brotherly Love in Freemasonry represents our commitment to care for one another, support and uplift one another, and nurture the bonds that make our fraternity strong.

This love, however, extends beyond the walls of our lodges. Our success as Masons is deeply rooted in the unwavering support and love of our dearest wife or life partner. Recognizing this, we have included in this month's program a Renewal of Vows ceremony for brethren and their spouses who wish to reaffirm their sacred "till death do us part" promise. Our esteemed Assistant Grand Lecturer of Division 1, Worshipful Gary Sparks, will lead this meaningful event.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day, let us honor the love that unites us as brothers and cherish the love that sustains us in our personal lives. May we embody kindness, compassion, and the spirit of service, bringing light to all those around us.

Happy Valentine's Day to all, and may our bonds of Brotherly Love remain strong and everlasting!

Bro. Oliver S. Mangubat Worshipful Master

February 2025

San Francisco Lodge 120



GREETINGS FROM THE WEST SENIOR WARDEN Salvador Tandoc



My Brethren!

It's great to be back. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Worshipful Master, the Officer's Coach and all the Officers who diligently worked on the establishing the 3rd Degree Team and untiring practices to ensure a quality and a memorable degree for our upcoming 3rd Degree events. This year is going to be a good year.

I also wanted to acknowledge the effort of our Brother James Meade and all those who facilitated the Masonic Education for our young travelers and new prospects. This is a critical step in promoting brotherly love and affection. This step is critical in the growth and education for all light seekers, including myself.

My focus is to broaden the perspective of all brother masons of our Lodge. To enhance the learning and to further develop the fundamental understanding of what it means to be a mason. We all have our individual travels, but we do have a common bond, understanding of our obligations and of our own personal motivation.

If you are interested in becoming an officer, please let me know as soon as possible so we can begin core self-analysis. You must understand that being an officer means you have the time and the dedication to commit yourself to all the functions of the Lodge. This is in addition to the basic requirement of your personal travel.

Problem resolution is an art. Whatever the issue, however complicated, whomever it affects, it shall remain an issue until acted upon. With due diligence, compassion and brotherly love, there is nothing we cannot conquer.

Masonic education in Freemasonry is a continuous journey of learning and self-improvement that begins with initiation and continues throughout a Mason's life. It encompasses various aspects, including:

1. Ritual and Symbolism:

• Masons learn the rituals and ceremonies of the fraternity, which are rich in symbolism and allegory. These rituals are designed to impart moral lessons and philosophical truths.

• They study the meaning of the symbols used in Freemasonry, which represent virtues, values, and principles.



2. History and Philosophy:

 \cdot Masons explore the history of Freemasonry, tracing its origins and evolution through the centuries.

 \cdot They delve into the philosophical underpinnings of the fraternity, examining its teachings on morality, ethics, and the nature of humanity.

3. Masonic Law and Governance:

 \cdot Masons learn about the rules and regulations that govern the fraternity, including the constitutions and bylaws of their Grand Lodge and local lodge.

 \cdot They study the structure and organization of Freemasonry, understanding the roles and responsibilities of different officers and bodies.

4. Self-Improvement and Personal Growth:

 \cdot Masonic education encourages members to reflect on their own lives and strive to become better men.

 \cdot It promotes personal growth through the development of virtues such as brotherly love, relief, and truth.

5. Community and Service:

 \cdot Masons are encouraged to engage in community service and charitable activities, putting into practice the principles they learn in the lodge.

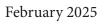
 \cdot They learn about the importance of contributing to the well-being of society and helping those in need.

Resources for Masonic Education:

· Lodges: Local lodges are the primary source of Masonic education, offering instruction, mentorship, and opportunities for discussion and learning.

· Grand Lodges: Grand Lodges provide educational materials, resources, and programs for their members, including online courses, publications, and workshops.

• Masonic Libraries and Museums: These institutions preserve and make available a wealth of information about Freemasonry, including books, manuscripts, and artifacts.





 \cdot Research Lodges and Societies: These organizations focus on the study and research of Masonic history, philosophy, and symbolism.

 \cdot Online Resources: Many websites and online forums offer information and discussions about Freemasonry, although it is important to be discerning and seek out reliable sources.

The Importance of Masonic Education:

Masonic education is essential for understanding the true meaning and purpose of Freemasonry. It helps Masons to:

- \cdot Deepen their understanding of the fraternity's teachings and values.
- Apply Masonic principles to their daily lives.
- · Become more engaged and active members of their lodges and communities.

• Experience the full benefits of Masonic membership, including personal growth, fellowship, and service.

By embracing Masonic education, Masons can embark on a lifelong journey of learning, self-improvement, and service, ultimately becoming better men and contributing to the betterment of society. A quote from Eliyahu M. Goldratt, The Goal: A Process of Ongoing Improvement

"Since the strength of the chain is determined by the weakest link, then the first step to improve an organization must be to identify the weakest link."

There will be a presentation on DeMolay on our February Stated Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is the ascertain the request of our San Francisco community request. Please prepare your questions. For those who wish to be an Honorary Member of DeMolay, this will be the time to ask questions.

On the Level, Sal Tandoc Sr. Warden San Francisco Lodge 120



February 2025

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH JUNIOR WARDEN Garry Fontillas



Greetings Brethren...

As we step into the month of February, we find ourselves surrounded by two powerful celebrations that remind us of the importance of love, unity, and new beginnings: Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year. Both offer us meaningful opportunities to reflect on our relationships, traditions, and the ways we can bring more light and kindness into the world.

Valentine's Day is not just for couples but a day to honor all types of love—whether for family, friends, or even for the community at large. As Masons, we are reminded to approach each other with love and respect, fostering relationships built on mutual trust and understanding. The bonds we create within our lodge are grounded in the love we share for one another as brothers, bound by our shared principles of charity, brotherly love, and truth.

This Chinese New Year, we find ourselves under the auspices of the Wood Snake, a sign that invites reflection, renewal, and wisdom.

As Freemasons, the theme of renewal and personal growth is something we hold dear. Just as the Snake sheds its skin, we are reminded to cast aside old habits, negative patterns, and anything that no longer serves us. It is a time for us to grow and evolve, both as individuals and as a Lodge, fostering an environment of mutual respect, learning, and continuous improvement.

Whether you are marking the season with loved ones or reflecting on the changing cycles of the year, this month invites us all to renew our commitment to love—both in the world around us and within our lodge. Let's use this time to build stronger, more compassionate relationships with one another, and with the communities we serve.

Wishing you all a month filled with love, renewal, and prosperity.

Fraternally, Garry Fontillas Junior Warden



February 2025

SECRETARY Donato T. Lara



February's Dual Celebration: Love and Renewal in Masonic Light

As we gather in our Lodges this February, we find ourselves blessed with two meaningful celebrations that embody our Masonic principles: the Lunar New Year and Valentine's Day. These observances remind us of the fundamental tenets of our Craft - brotherly love, renewal, and universal harmony.

Cycles of Renewal

The Lunar New Year ushers in the Year of the Dragon, symbolizing wisdom and strength - qualities that resonate deeply with our Masonic journey. Just as our operative ancestors studied the celestial cycles, we too recognize the importance of periodic renewal in our spiritual work. This season of new beginnings offers an opportunity to strengthen our Masonic commitments and reinvigorate our dedication to the Craft.

The Bonds of Brotherhood

Valentine's Day reminds us that love lies at the heart of our fraternity. Our Cable-Tow, that symbolic bond that unites all Masons, represents our commitment to extend love and charity to all within our reach. Through our support of Masonic widows and orphans, our community service, and our brotherly affection, we demonstrate that love is the force that binds our fraternity together.

A Time for Action

Let us use this month to put our Masonic principles into practice. Whether joining in cultural celebrations with our Asian brethren or organizing events for our Masonic families, each action strengthens the mystic tie that binds us. May we continue to build our spiritual temple with wisdom, strength, and beauty, guided by the light of brotherly love.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless our labors as we celebrate these occasions in true Masonic spirit.

SMIB Donnie Lara Secretary

7 7



February 2025

MASONIC EDUCATION Larry Laidlaw, P.M., H.A.



Greetings, Brethren!

The Worshipful Master has asked me to submit an article that would contribute to our continuing Masonic education. But first, let me share something about my Masonic history.

My first introduction to Masonry was in 1968 while visiting my grandparents in Aitkin, Minnesota. My grandfather was a member of Mystic Lodge #213, as well as the Scottish Rite Bodies in Brainerd, Minnesota. This introduction was only a passing thing, as I was only 13 years old and didn't visit the family very often. What I remember most is his Masonic ring and the lodge building he pointed out, although I didn't visit his lodge until many years later.

Fast forward to 1981 and my graduation from the Carpenter apprentice program, where the Financial Secretary of the Union was Russell Pool, who also wore a Masonic ring. I told him my grandfather had the same ring, and he explained that he was a member and that other carpenters I knew were also members.

A year later, I inquired again about his Masonic ring. He asked me what I thought of the other carpenters I knew to be Masons. I responded that I thought they were good carpenters, nice to me whenever I asked for help finding work, or encouraged me when things got tough. He then explained that this was the caliber of men who became Masons. It was at this point that I asked how to become a Mason. And the rest is history.

Through this curious connection between my grandfather and a member of my carpenter's union, I became a Mason and have enjoyed all the work, commitment, knowledge, experiences, and the many great friends who are my brothers for life.

This could be considered modern history as it applies to my experience or maybe your own. My interest in Masonic history has included many books, particularly about my own lodge. Starting in Park Crockett Lodge #139, and then the San Francisco Educator merger which resulted in the shortened name of Just San Francisco Lodge, and currently San Francisco Lodge #120 after our merger with Fidelity Lodge #120. The consolidations over the years included a total of 11 lodges and go back even further to the earliest days of the California Grand Lodge.

As I mentioned above, my first lodge was Park Crockett Lodge. This was a result of the merger of Crockett Lodge #139 and Park Lodge. Crockett Lodge was created from the dissolution of San Francisco Lodge #7 (originally Davy Crockett Lodge #7 under the Grand Lodge of Louisiana). Now you can see where Crockett Lodge came from.

San Francisco Lodge #7 was dissolved due to a conflict within, consisting of a Law & Order group opposed by the Vigilante group. The result was Pacific Lodge #136 and Crockett Lodge #139.

Pacific Starr-King Lodge #139 still exists today, and San Francisco Lodge #120 has survived but with the number 120.

One last note: San Francisco Lodge has had the numbers #7, #366, #139, and now #120.

I hope you enjoyed this bit of personal and lodge history.

Fraternally, Larry Laidlaw Masonic Education

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2025 LODGE OFFICERS

Oliver Sarmiento Mangubat (Michelle) Master

Salvador C. Tandoc (Candace) Senior Warden

Garry Fontillas (Michelle) Junior Warden

Robert Gonzales Treasurer

Donato Lara (Flor) Secretary

Dennis Duey (Sahlee) Assistant Secretary

Jerry Verzosa, P.M., H.A. (Cristy) Chaplain

Clarito A. Balquedra, Jr. (Catherine) Senior Deacon

Ricky Hermoso (Jo) Junior Deacon

Jonathan Galvez (Emely) Marshal

James Meade Senior Steward

Eddie Fernandez Junior Steward

Ernest Batara (Aldelyn) Tiler

Joseph Espinueva Organist

Alexis Rueda, P.M.,H.A. Officer's Coach

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(650) 892-1051 Ar_fdl376@yahoo.com

(650) 922-4684 Allan9128@comcast.net

TRUSTEES

Thomas Chavez, P.M. Becker Cheng, P.M. Fady Zoubi, P.M. Ed Del Rosario, P.M., H.A. Albert Cua, P.M.

Member	1st	2025
Member	1st	2026
Member	2nd	2027
Member	2nd	2028
CHAIRMAN	2nd	2029



San Francisco Lodge 120

COMMITTEES

Audit:

Tom Chavez, P.M., H.A. Rufo Macaraeg, Jr., P.M, H.A. Dennis Silva, P.M Edwin Del Rosario, P.M., H.A Mario Esteban, P.M. Ernest Batara Virgil Dacasin Allan Baquilar

Charity:

Oliver Mangubat Salvador Tandoc Garry Fontillas

Refreshment and Entertainment Committee:

Garry Fontillas - Chairman James Meade Eddie Fernandez Joseph Espinueva Jay R Mansilungan Thomas Tandoc Ralph Fernandez Jonathan Galvez

Budget & Finance:

Candidate's Coach:

Coach

Sunshine:

Ricky Hermoso

Donnie Lara

Retention:

Ernest Batara Donnie Lara

Oliver Mangubat

Ed Lim

Salvador Tandoc – Chairman

All masons assigned by Head

Clark Balquedra – Head Coach

Albert Cua, P.M. – Chairman Edwin Del Rosario, P.M. Tom Chavez, P.M., H.A. Edmond Lim, P.M., H.A. Salvador Tandoc

Executive:

WM, Oliver Mangubat SW, Salvador Tandoc JW, Garry Fontillas Treas., Bob Gonzalez Secty., Donnie Lara Asst., Dennis Dewey

Prospect Committee:

Ernest Batara Bob Gonzalez Dennis Silva **James Meads Ricky Hermoso**

Communication:

Jerry Verzosa, P.M., H.A. Chairman Donnie Lara- Chairman Dennis Duev Jonathan Galvez Arvin Menchavez Austin Cua Raymund De Luna

Masonic Education:

Larry Laidlaw, P.M., H.A.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Albert Cua, P.M. – Chairman

Rufo Macaraeg, Jr., P.M, H.A

February 1, 2025 (Saturday @ 9:00am) Free Breakfast Hosted by SF Scottish Rite February 6, 2025

Stated Meeting

February 13, 2025

Valentine's Celebration with Renewal of Vows

February 19 , 2025 (Wednesday) 7:00pm

DSOI Hosted by CBL

February 20, 2025

3rd Degree Presentation with the Inspector

February 27, 2025

3rd Degree Practice or Conferral

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!

For those who haven't paid their dues, please send in your payment in as soon as possible. If you are having difficulties or personal issues, please contact the Secretary, Donnie Lara, at sfl120.secretary@outlook.com. There are payment options available.



STATIED MIEETIING









FUNDRAISING EVENT



WIDOWS: FREE \$45/PERSON \$50/COUPLE \$450/TABLE

FREE PARKING, 5PM-10PM

2850 19TH AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94132

RSVP by 2/19/2025 (415)664-4700 sfsrassitsecretary@sfscottishrite.com

			-
GABRIEL LUCIANO	2/3	ALBERTO FORNELLS	2/18
MARTIN HARBAND	2/7	MAXWELL MYERS	2/19
JERRY VERZOSA	2/8	CARLO GONZAGA	2/20
ROSS WORBOYS	2/8	EDWARD BARRELIER	2/21
ROBERT GONZALEZ	2/10	TONY MAN	2/21
OLIVER MANGUBAT	2/11	EDMUND ENRIQUEZ	2/25
MICHAEL SALAZAR	2/11	SCOTT SINOR	2/25 🔨
MATTHEW RUSSO	2/14	WAYNE HANNIBAL	2/27
BENER AGTARAP	2/17	GEORGE MITCHELL	2/27
ALFREDO DEGAMO	2/17		

Schematical ScienceScienceScienceGABRIEL LUCIANO2/3ALBERTO FORNELLS2/18MARTIN HARBAND2/7MAXWELL MYERS2/19JERRY VERZOSA2/8CARLO GONZAGA2/2ROSS WORBOYS2/8EDWARD BARRELIER2/2





MAKING TRUE FRIENDS, IMPROVING OURSELVES, HAVING AN IMPACT

OUR MISSION AND OUR LODGE

Welcome to San Francisco Lodge 120. One of the most diverse, friendly, and celebrated lodges in the Bay Area. Here we welcome all looking for friendship and brotherly love and to those who are interested in our vast history and tenants that have survived for time immemorial.
We meet meet every Thursday at 7:30pm at 2850 19th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132. Our Stated Meeting Dinner is held every first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.

Join Us

San Francisco Lodge membership is open to men 18 and older who meet the qualifications and standards of character and inten-tion, and who believe in a Supreme Being. Men of all ethnic and religious backgrounds are welcome. One of Freemasonry's customs is not to solicit members – men must seek membership on their own initiative. Anyone is welcome to request information about the fraternity. If you are interested in applying for membership to our lodge, now is a good time to start. Please contact us to schedule a visit during an event, or request more information.

> Lodge Secretary: Donnie Lara Phone: (209) 640-4941 Email: sfl120.secretary@outlook.com

2850 19th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94132