



South Valley Lodge No. 187 Trestleboard



Volume 5, Issue 11

November 2024

View from the East



Worshipful Amir Safakish

Master: South Valley Lodge No. 187
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We are now at the end of our Masonic year. The installation of the officers for next year will be on Sunday December 1st at 11am and I hope you all can attend to support our new core of officers.

We had a very good year overall. With new members, and our first 3rd degree in our lodge after 5 years, we seem to be regaining momentum after the COVID shutdown. Our lodge is also the center for Eastern Star chapter #46 as well as the Rainbow Girls chapter # 125. We are also supporting multiple Scouting organizations who all meet at our hall on a regular basis.

Financially our Lodge is doing fine. Other Masonic bodies related to our lodge are all active, growing and doing well.

It was my honor and pleasure to be the master of the lodge for the last two years and WP of Eastern Star in 2024. All of this was possible with the great help of the officers and members of our lodge including Wor. Jeff Gopp, Wor. Steve Chase, Wor. Dan Manuto, Wor. Steve, Cole, Wor. Scott Preston & brothers Don Harley, Brad Meyer, Eric Kallio, Branden Winter. We also received tremendous support from San Jose 10 and other Lodges in many of our activities. In my

Eastern Star chapter, all the members were very supportive particularly Worthy Matron Mrs. Rhoda Johnson in helping me to navigate through the year. I can't thank her enough.

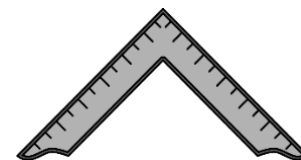
Now, it is time that I say farewell to the East and take care of my business as well as get more involved in some public activities in our county.

Santa Clara county election center is now operating in our hall, and you can visit the lodge and vote NOW through final day November 5th if you reside in Santa Clara County. The center was opened last Saturday, October 26th and it remains open from 9 in the morning, until 6 pm every day and until 11 pm on election day November 5th, 2024. We hosted the Santa Clara Registrar of Voters in our facility during the primary and everything went smoothly with all the county staff commenting on how pleased they were using our hall. They liked the size and amenities of our hall which really worked for them. We look forward to hosting them in future elections.

Last Saturday Wor. Gopp and I participated in the 175th Grand Lodge Annual Communications and voted for new rules on lodge's behalf. We will review all the details in the lodge coming up in the November Stated Meeting, but generally there would some changes to procedural conduct of the Grand Lodge.

Our next stated meeting would be on November 7th with the election of the officers for the next year. Your participation is very important to elect our next year officers. Those who want to become an officer, need to be at that meeting to either get elected or appointed depending on qualification and experience.

I wish everyone a happy Halloween & Thanksgiving Holidays.



Upcoming Dates to Remember

Nov. 3		Daylight Savings Ends
Nov. 5		Voting Day
Nov. 7	6:30 pm	Lodge Dinner, Stated Meeting, Officer Elections
Nov. 14	7:00 pm	Hall Board Meeting via zoom
Dec. 1	11:00 am	Installation of Officers

The Secretary's Desk



Wor. Jeff Gopp
Lbman_55@outlook.com

The 175th Annual Communication was held on October 25, 26, and 27. South Valley Lodge voted on the resolutions presented this term by the Grand Worshipful Master and various Carry-over resolutions from 2023. The breakdown is as follows:

12 - Total Recommendations from Grand Master Metroka 2024

6 - Passed, 2 - Failed, 4 - Carried - Over

3 - Carry-over Resolutions from 2023

2 - Passed, 1 - Failed

1 -Resolution for 2024 - Carry-over

More detailed information can be found on the Grand Lodge iMember website.

Many Grand Officers and dignitaries from other states and countries attended the event. Speakers addressed the Acacia Creek Retirement Community, California Masonic Foundation, California Masonic Memorial Temple, and Masonic Homes of California. Plus, a great number of vendors.

This year will bring numerous celebrations related to 175 years of Masonry in California (1849 to Present), the Demisemiseptcentennial Celebration, similar to the Sesquicentennial celebration of SVL 187 in 2018 (only 25 years longer). A challenge coin commemorating this celebration which includes several other states across the US is also available.

South Valley Lodge will hold annual elections at the Stated Meeting on November 7. The recommended slate of officers are as follows:

Worshipful Master - Jeff Gopp PM
Senior Warden - Scott Preston PM
Junior Warden - Steve Chase PM
Treasurer - Don Harley
Secretary - Brad Meyer
Chaplin - Dan Manuto PM
Senior Deacon - Steve Cole PM
Junior Deacon - Eric Kallio
Tiler - Tom Tefft

The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters is open for early voting at South Valley Lodge. Polling will be occupying the space until Friday, November 9. Until then the kitchen, office, and dining area will be secured. We will have dinner in the foyer and a full agenda will occur for this month's stated meeting.

Dues for 2025 will increase slightly. The lodge's 2024 total dues were \$183.50 and the lodge's base dues for 2025 is **\$118.00**. plus, the per capita amount of **\$68.50**. Therefore, the dues for 2025 will be **\$186.50**. Dues may be paid online using iMember beginning November 1, 2024.

November Actual Birthdays	November Masonic Birthdays
Roel Resurreccion – Nov. 2	Jerard Benes – 50 Years
Robert Martin – Nov. 4	Stanley Moniz – 48 Years
	Howard Honerlah – 46 Years
	Robert Pollard – 25 Years
	Ryan Jojin – 13 Years
	Christopher Mays – 7 Years

Communications Corner



Brad Meyer
Brad@MilMey.com

On October 25, the Lodge sponsored a family-friendly outing to the Winchester Mystery House in San Jose. We had 27 people show up for the tour and everyone had a great time. It's wonderful that we can gather as an extended Masonic family and enjoy some social time together. Please enjoy some of the photos included here. For more photos, check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/southvalleylodge187>



Lastly, a sincere thank you to all the officers of the Lodge for 2024, in particular, W. Amir Safakish, W. Dan Manuto, W. Steve Chase, and W. Jeff Gopp. Their efforts, sacrifices, and dedication to Masonry and our Lodge kept our Lodge moving forward in a positive direction and we all look forward to a great 2025.



Lodge Officers 2024

Master Amir Safakish, PM
Senior Warden Dan Manuto, PM
Junior Warden Steve Chase, PM
Secretary Jeffrey Gopp, PM
Treasurer Don Harley
Chaplin
Senior Deacon Brad Meyer
Junior Deacon Ryan Jojin
Marshall Nick LeBouef
Senior Steward Steve Cole, PM
Junior Steward
Tyler Tom Tefft

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**Contact Us**  
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MANZANITA ATHENA STAR CHAPTER #46 ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Worthy Matron, Rhoda Johnson - sktrngma@garlic.com
Worthy Patron, Amir Safakish - amir@eta-usa.com

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

FAREWELL !!!

Another year has ended. Amir and I thank everyone for helping us have a great year. We now turn over the reins to Shelley Ware WM Elect, Bob Gentry WP Elect and their core of officers for 2025, on November 26, 2024.

Our thanks to Sue and Tom Tefft for organizing our farewell dinner of Chinese food and refreshments of pie after the meeting. Because of the members stepping up each month we have been able to have dinners and social time together before our stated meetings. **THANK YOU!!!!!!**

Up Coming Events:

Nov 26th 7:30 PM Installation; 5:30 PM practice; 6:30 PM Anti room meeting

We wish Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating in November

Nov 1 Karen Fletcher	Nov 24 Christine Brown Hall
Nov 3 Mary Alice Wilton	Nov 28 Nina Fields
Nov 10 Tracy Jacobs	Nov 28 Cathy Rogers
Nov 17 Linda Jayne Davidson	Nov 29 Sousan Safakish
Nov 17 Lynne Bonino	Nov 30 Jan Miracle
Nov 22 Carolyn Roberts	

This is our last newsletter for this 2024 term. We have enjoyed serving the Chapter as your Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. We wish Shelley and Bob a great year in 2025.

Star Love,
Rhoda Johnson Worthy Matron
Amir Safakish Worthy Patron

