



# South Valley Lodge No. 187 Trestleboard



Volume 5, Issue 9

September 2024

## View from the East



**Worshipful Amir Safakish**

Master: South Valley Lodge No. 187  
amir@eta-usa.com

Brethren and Friends of Masonic lodge 187:

I hope everyone is doing well as we come to the end of Summer.

This month, the stated meeting coincides with the presentation of the 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Veterans Award to our brother Allen Peter Chaney. Come out on September 5<sup>th</sup> and wish our brother congratulations here at our hall in Morgan Hill.

In October, we will have a Hiram award presentation for our brother Brad Meyer for his excellent work for the lodge and hall. He manages our website, calendar, Trestle Board editing and publishing, planning events, and managing the hall rental program with the support of our brothers Don Harley & Brandon Winter, as well as serving as the Hall Board

Treasurer. The date for the presentation is still to be determined so keep checking the website for updates.

We also have our first third degree presentation tentatively scheduled on September 19<sup>th</sup>, for our brother Eric Kallio. Practice will be a week earlier on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

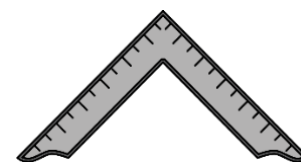
Our visit to the Winchester Mystery House in San Jose is on schedule for October 26<sup>th</sup>. Please visit lodge website for any updates on this and other upcoming events. We will share this event with our Eastern Star members who may want to attend. See the end of this newsletter for reservation information.

This article has been short as I am out of the country for the last three weeks. Japan has been very hot (over 102) with high humidity, for the last three weeks; and now has one of its strongest typhons causing some flooding in certain parts of the country. Looking forward to coming back home soon.

I wish everyone a great September.

Brotherly Love

Amir Safa-Kish



### Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sept. 5	6:30 pm	Lodge Dinner, Stated Meeting, 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary award
Sept. 12	7:00 pm	Hall Board Meeting via zoom
Sept. 22		Last Day of Summer

# The Secretary's Desk



Wor. Jeff Gopp  
Lbman\_55@outlook.com

Our Secretary and Hall Board President, Jeff Gopp, PM, would like to remind everyone that we're planning a 3rd Degree presentation for our brother, Eric Kallio, on September 19th. This degree will be compliments of Golden Rule Lodge #497. We receive a great deal of support from our brethren at Golden Rule and we are grateful for their help. Please plan on attending if you can to celebrate the raising of another brother.

He would also like you to know that we continue to update and improve the Leverton Masonic Hall. In the past month, we have replaced our old front doors for the hall with new wooden doors and they look great. A big thank you to Br. Eric Kallio for all the hard work and contractor expertise to make this long-planned project a reality.

We also have a brand-new drinking fountain by the restrooms that includes a bottle filling station. This is a great upgrade to what was there previously.

We have two rental events at the beginning of the month which helps with our ever-increasing hall expenses. And we are once again looking forward to hosting the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters in October and November. We are an official polling location for the upcoming presidential election.

The weather seems to be changing as autumn is approaching. I see Canadian geese flying overhead frequently these days, likely to their winter home. My Lakota calendar name this month Wasutun Wi (Moon when things ripen). The Summer fruits are all ripe now. Enjoy them while they're here.

There is lots happening here at the Lodge. Come by and check it out.



<b>September Actual Birthdays</b>	<b>September Masonic Birthdays</b>
Brad Meyer – Sept. 2	William Tapongna – Sept. 24 – 61 years
W. Amir Safakish – Sept. 11	Allen Chaney, PM – Sept. 17 – 50 years
Alan Black – Sept. 16	Robert Martin, PM, - Sept. 15 – 45 years
Jim Kouretas – Sept. 17	Carl Lehfeltdt, PM, - Sept. 25 - 27 years
David Kunkel – Sept. 18	Andrew Elmore – Sept. 15 – 19 years
Walter Shores – Sept. 18	Don Harley – Sept. 22 – 8 years
Brandon Winter – Sept. 28	Lloyd Mason – Sept. 27 – 6 years
	Nicholas LeBouef – Sept. 19, 5 years

# Communications Corner



**Brad Meyer**  
Brad@MilMey.com

The Masons have a long history of political involvement by individuals of our craft. From the very founding of our country to several of our presidents and pretty much every elected office in between. We also have a long history of supporting our Constitution at every level of government: federal, state, and local. Add on to that our very long history of community support and involvement and you start to have a glimpse of what we believe and some of the things we do as Freemasons.

This all culminates with our South Valley Lodge, #187, and our involvement with the upcoming November elections. As Masons, we do not discuss politics in open lodge, but we are a patriotic bunch that believes in the election process. We urge every citizen to go out and register to vote and vote their conscience when it's time. Be involved in the election process.



Once again, we have rented our Leverton Masonic Hall to the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters to be an official polling place for the November elections. Early voting starts in October, and you can come to the Leverton Masonic Hall to cast your vote.

The schedule for our polling place starts October 26<sup>th</sup> and runs through election day, Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. During this time, we expect to see many of our local neighbors coming in to vote.

As Freemasons, we are proud to support the election process and our community, and we hope to have a long-standing relationship with the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters.



## 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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Website: [www.SouthValleyLodge187.com](http://www.SouthValleyLodge187.com)



## 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

Our August meeting was the All-Members party and was well attended with everyone dressed in Hawaiian attire. A head count of visiting chapters was taken, and San Jose #31 took home the traveling trophy. We had surprise visitors: The Grand Warder Bonnie Jain and Grand Sentinel Jennifer Craig. Members and visitors enjoyed a delicious dinner of ham and fixings. Following the meeting, members retired back to the dining room for refreshments and more social time. Thank you to Terry Gentry the chairperson for the evening.

Our Worthy Patron was traveling on Business in Japan. The Associate Patron, Bob Gentry presided in his absence. The Associate Patron was filled by Joseph da Silva. Others filling in were Carol Bish, Marshal, Rosalva da Salva Electa, and Bob Wilson organist. Bob also played before the meeting. We thank everyone who is always willing to step up when needed.

Our coin march this month went to the Cancer Fund.

The September meeting we will be presenting 25-year and possibly a 50-year pin and certificates. We will also honor our 25- and 50-year members. Our chairperson for the evening is Sue Bishop, PGM.

Circle of Concern: Marty Lamb would enjoy phone calls; she still has a long way to go in her rehab. Melanie Chase is still hobbling around with a boot on her right foot to repair the break. Margaret Wolford activities have slowed down due to her back and Diane West is still in rehab at Los Altos Sub-acute & rehab center.

### Upcoming events:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Sept<br>7th  | 7:30 PM Grand Warder and Grand Sentinel reception at the Scottish Rite Center in San Jose.  |
| Sept<br>24th | 6 PM Dinner, 7:30 PM meeting - Honoring 25- and 50-year members, Sue Bishop PGM Chairperson |
| Oct<br>22nd  | 6 PM Dinner, 7:30 PM meeting - This is election and farewell, Sue Tefft chairperson         |
| Nov<br>26th  | 7:30 PM Installation of the 2025 Officers   |

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Worthy Matron, Rhoda Johnson - sktrngma@garlic.com

Worthy Patron, Amir Safakish - amir@eta-usa.com

We Wish Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating in September.

Sept 4	Charlene Heinzeg	Sept 17	Robert Robbins
Sept 5	Judy Gayle Torgersen	Sept 17	Marian Kirby
Sept 7	Lue Lehfeltd	Sept 20	Dianne Schulenburg
Sept 9	Virginia Plucy	Sept 25	Elise Brentnall
Sept 10	Ruth Johnson	Sept 27	Samera King
Sept 11	Melissa Anne Bales	Sept 29	Marsha Nichols
Sept 11	Amir Safakish	Sept 30	Andrea Ames
Sept 13	Kristen Tindall Smith	Sept 30	Martha Pyle
Sept 15	Eva Kretz		

Have a great month. We look forward to seeing everyone on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Star Love,  
Rhoda Johnson, Worthy Matron  
Amir Safakish, Worthy Patron



# RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW



## **Winchester Mystery House Tour** **Saturday, October 26, 2024** **4:00 pm**

Sponsored by South Valley Lodge for their members,  
family, and friends.

Get into the Halloween spirit at San Jose's spookiest  
house.

RSVP: [Secretary@SouthValleyLodge187.com](mailto:Secretary@SouthValleyLodge187.com)  
25 spots, first come, first served

