



# Palo Alto Lodge #346

## Trestle-Board

VOLUME 2017, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2017

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## The Pillar of Wisdom by WM Raj Naidoo

Brethren it's the fall season and we are still enjoying the wonderful hot summer weather that is lingering on.

September was a somewhat busy month with a couple of events namely;

First, the 50 year pin awards ceremony for **Worshipful Don Groshart** as well as few other brothers on Saturday, September 2nd 2017. It was wonderful evening topped off by a very nice dinner prepared by **Worshipful Larry Fama PM**. that was enjoyed by a number of our brethren, friends and ladies from the Eastern Star.

Secondly, the Hiram Award for **Worshipful Rod Creason** on Saturday, September 16th 2017, another great evening with about 50 or so of our brothers from the various masonic bodies, friends and families. Worshipful Rod had the Dinner catered by Buca di Bepo Italian Restaurant. It was a wonderful dinner with our own **Worshipful Rob Lott** providing the music for the evening.

I would personally like to thank all the brethren that assisted with the setting up and cleaning up after the event.

Looking forward, on October 10th we will be checking out in the 3°

advanced stations. We will also be voting on Eugene Oka (who has made application to our lodge to join masonry) at our stated meeting on October 3rd , and thereafter on October 24th, we will be conferring a 1° on Eugene Oka.

After our checkout we will be planning in Ernest for the coming year.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Stated Meeting on October 3rd , 2017.

**Fraternally**

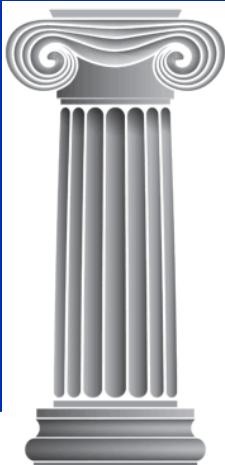
**Raj Naidoo**

**Master**





**A Masonic trestle board is a design board for the Master Workman (Architect) to draw his plans and designs upon to give the workmen an outline of the work to be performed. In today's terms, we might call it a blueprint.**



# The Pillar of Wisdom by WM Raj Naidoo

## MASONIC LEADERSHIP

The role of a leader in a volunteer organization is a special challenge. It requires thoughtful understanding of the group to be led. This is especially true in a Masonic organization, because the lodge in most instances is composed of some members who have proven capacities for leadership, and others who may have had no training or experience in any type of leadership role. Your role also requires an understanding of Masonry, its tenets, its teachings, its practices, its organization, and the authority and responsibility of the Worshipful Master and other officers of the lodge, both elected and appointed.

When leadership is discussed regarding the Masonic lodge, it is extremely important to understand the authority and responsibility of the Worshipful Master. Because of the Worshipful Master's sovereign authority and power within the lodge proceedings, a person with little or no leadership qualities or training, will be very ineffective in conducting the lodge affairs and accomplishing the many objectives and tasks that must be done during the year. However, a Worshipful Master who can organize his plans for the year, can envision the obstacles of manpower, monetary needs, time restraints, etc. and can enlist the help of other lodge members to work in a unified force toward achieving the goals, will have a very successful and enjoyable year as Worshipful Master, and the lodge will benefit.

With these general precepts you must understand the unique composition of your own lodge. Is it a young lodge? An older lodge? Does it have specific areas of weakness that you should address in your year? Knowing the needs of your lodge will help you define your role as the lodge's chief executive.

So, when do you begin to think about your year as Worshipful Master and begin to plan for it? Obviously, it should start long before you are actually installed. You should start to prepare yourself as soon as you get elected or appointed to your first station and have hopes and ambitions of serving in the various chairs and eventually becoming the Worshipful Master.

The Junior Warden's station in some lodges becomes the first real "test" of a person's leadership and planning abilities. For example, in the Slidell Lodge, the Junior Warden is responsible for all refreshments at each meeting and meals for all open meetings--working within the budget, providing the food, preparing the dining area, serving the members and guests, cleanup, etc. A lot of preplanning, preparation and coordination of many people are involved.

## The Pillar of Wisdom by WM Raj Naidoo

After this initial test, the Senior Warden's position has relatively little outside responsibility, because it is here that the Senior Warden develops his plans for his year as Worshipful Master and begins to consider the most qualified, dedicated, and promising members for the appointed positions. This is perhaps the most critical year in the short career of a Worshipful Master.

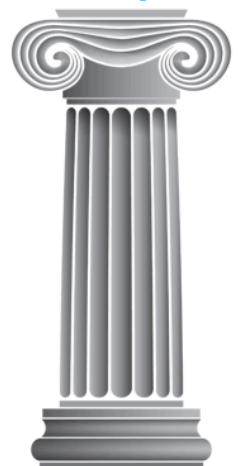
To be an effective leader of the lodge, you must set realistic goals that may be implemented during the year. You must also evaluate your position relative to the other members of the lodge. Are you involved in any clique that might make it difficult for you to lead effectively? It is essential to know where you stand with others in any administrative position, but particularly one in a volunteer organization.

What kind of Worshipful Master do you want to be?

The way you view your leadership role will go a long way toward shaping the decisions you make as Worshipful Master. In any case, there is one quality you will need to demand of your-self as leader--flexibility--because you will be leading volunteers. You cannot overly reprimand or terminate them if they fail to perform. That is to say you cannot be so critical and harsh in your dealings with your fellow officers and or members that you begin to alienate them from acting as a team. Tact, consideration for another's feelings, and common courtesy are always good rules to follow.

What are the various styles of leadership?

With flexibility as the key, we can say that there are three fundamental modes of leadership in a volunteer organization: The leader who shares responsibility; the leader who reconciles differing factions; the leader who chiefly builds on what has been done before. An unusually gifted leader may be able to use all three styles as the occasion demands, but most people will tend to favor one style over the other.

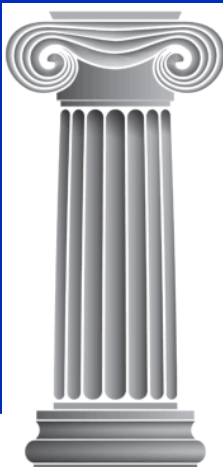


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# Around the Pillar by Senior Warden Michael Stillger

## THE 5 POINTS OF FELLOWSHIP

**William R. Fischer**

There are duties owing by every Mason to his brethren. By allusion to certain points of the body, we are taught the "The Five Points of Fellowship."

1. To serve
2. Pray for
3. Keep the secrets of
4. Support
5. Counsel

We must be constantly reminded of these points so we will not lose sight of them, once we leave the Lodge. More the brother who does not attend than he who attends regularly.

As always, we forgive the brother who does not frequent the Lodge. We should, because we know not the reason for his absence.

The five points of fellowship are a daily responsibility, and should become a habit. They should be so familiar to us, that we would act upon them with no more thought, than would be give to washing your hands or opening a door.

We constantly help, or serve our family, our brothers, our friends, and even strangers when we see the need.

We pray for others and ourselves, for strength and for peace.

We diligently keep the secrets from our detractors, from the ignorant, from the obsessed.

We support those who try to make life better, and we support those who fail. Then we counsel them, so they may have more knowledge, more understanding.....more light.

**Fraternally,**  
**Michael Stillger**  
**Senior Warden**



# The Corinthian Column by Junior Warden Robert Lott, PM

## FREEMASONS OF CARRIBEAN

By: Darmon Richter

In light of recent disaster occurred by hurricanes in the Caribbean, this month i would like to review history of freemasonry in that region. FREEMASONRY ARRIVED IN THE CARIBBEAN in the 18th century. It came by water, carried on the ships that sailed from Spain, England, the Netherlands, and France. Military men established many of the first lodges, although the practice was subsequently spread and maintained by colonial governments, merchants, and traveling businessmen.

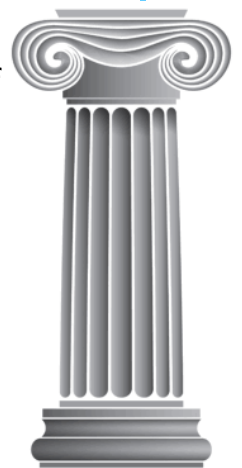
In the mid-to-late 18th century, the “Craft” would see alternating periods of rapid growth, and stagnation. Lodges opened and closed in quick succession as the European powers battled both amongst their Caribbean colonies, as well as back at home. The French Revolution, the Napoleonic Wars, and others would all have an impact on the practice of freemasonry in the Caribbean. The earliest record of an English-speaking lodge in the Caribbean is Antigua’s Parham Lodge No. 154 — consecrated in 1738. It was around the same time that other pioneer lodges began springing up in St. Kitts (St. Christopher’s Lodge No. 174) and Jamaica (Great Lodge of St. John No. 192, and Port Royal Lodge No. 193).

Meanwhile, provincial grand lodges were appeared soon after both in Barbados (1740) and Bermuda (1745). In 1788, Irish Freemasonry would follow the English and Scottish rites, to establish the Union Lodge No. 690 in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as a significant presence in both Jamaica and Bermuda.

It’s interesting to note that in the Spanish colonies, however, freemasonry took much longer to establish itself.

The influence of the Roman Catholic Church was largely the cause for this, due to the anti-masonic position taken by the Vatican ever since the papal ban in 1738. Trinidad and Tobago wouldn’t embrace freemasonry openly then, until the islands passed from Spanish to British rule in 1797. In the Spanish (and later, Haitian) controlled Dominican Republic, freemasonry was not permitted to spread until after the 1844 Dominican War of Independence. The Grand Lodge of the Dominican Republic was founded shortly after, in 1858. In Cuba, likewise, freemasonry would not begin to flourish until 1898, when the island’s battle for independence would earn sympathy from the US, and escalate into the brief-yet-bloody Spanish-American War.

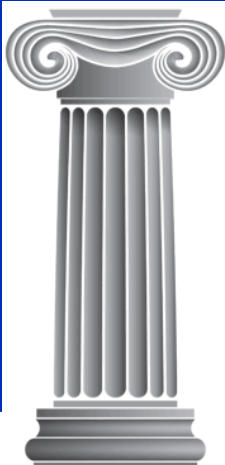
In the French and Dutch colonies, a similarly religious climate would slow the early progress of the Craft — Lodge “Les Freres Unis” would eventually be warranted by the Grand Lodge of France, in St. Lucia, 1795. As colonial grip loosened however, religious doctrine would relax and the societies took more of a hold, with new lodges popping up in Guyana, in the Dutch colony of Demerara, in Trinidad and Tobago, and in Martinique, so that the early 19th century was characterized by rapid acceleration of freemasonry’s popularity in the Caribbean.







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# The Pillar of Wisdom by WM Raj Naidoo

## MASONIC LEADERSHIP (Continued)

1.) The sharing leader. Shares responsibility with the other lodge officers. The sharing leader may receive less public attention, but will surely achieve greater results than the Worshipful Master who has difficulty delegating authority. The role of this type of leader is that of delegator in the midst of personal interaction. NOTE:

As a point of information, it must be noted that while authority may be delegated, you cannot delegate responsibility. You may assign responsibility to the person to whom you have delegated authority so that person may effectively accomplish the task assigned.

Although you may delegate authority and assign the responsibility for performing, you as Worshipful Master are still ultimately responsible for all that happens in the lodge during your year.

2.) The reconciling leader. Even within the fellowship of Masonry, there are times when pressures and tensions create factions in the lodge. No greater contribution to a lodge can be made than by a Worshipful Master who strives to restore harmony and friendship. Reconciling leaders may not see their cherished projects realized during their year in office, but will undoubtedly pave the way for growth in many areas for the Worshipful Masters who follow him. During the term of such a Worshipful Master, a lodge can solve thorny problems.

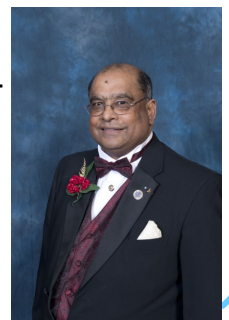
3.) The building leader. A Worshipful Master should know what to change and what to build on. Much energy is lost when a project is launched one year and dropped the next, before it is completed, and another is started in its place. However, it is not an example of good leadership to allow something to continue just because "it's always been done that way."

### SUMMING UP:

Outstanding leaders of volunteers are realistic people who can measure themselves and their goals for the lodge in relation to the facts around them: i.e., the resources and manpower they have to work with, chiefly their committee chairmen. Such leaders are able to keep their forces in balance and to work to increase their assets and diminish their liabilities.

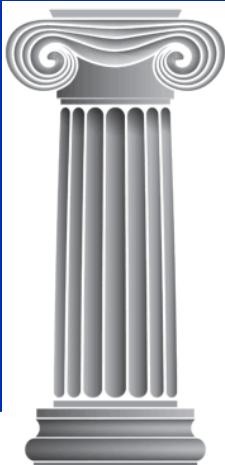
### BRIEF LEADERSHIP TIPS

Old fashioned leaders have a "heroic" concept of their role. They must be everywhere at once and do everything themselves. This is unfortunate because it stifles their committee members' initiative. On the other hand, successful leaders in a volunteer organization are friendly and understanding; communicate frequently and openly with their committee members; provide frequent encouragement and motivation; praise lodge members for a job well done; harmonize differences; attempt to enable team members to work to their full potential; take pleasure in developing the leadership talents of younger members in the lodge.





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## Around the Pillar by Senior Warden Michael Stillger

### MASONIC LEADERSHIP (Continued)

**TIME MANAGEMENT: AN INFALLIBLE RULE:** Any number of books have been written on how an executive should manage time, but there is one sure pathway to more efficient use of time, and it can be simply stated.

Because of your unique position and complete authority as Worshipful Master of your lodge, you are the only one who has ALL the relevant information and resources to know the difference between which matters are truly important for your lodge and which matters are merely "urgent to the person who brings them to your attention."

Your phone rings constantly, or will immediately upon your installation in the East, and you know that certain matters are critical for you to accomplish in a given time period. And you know what should be deferred no matter how urgent it seems to the person who brings it to your attention. The rule: unless an emergency interferes, keep your eye on the larger goals and let the "merely urgent" wait--not too long-- but let it wait while you get the truly important things done.

**LASTLY:** As you continue your year in your present position, and especially to those who will assume positions of responsibility in their lodge next year, please remember this little phrase, and perhaps pass it along to your new officers:

Realize that you, in essence, have volunteered to serve the lodge in either an elected or appointed capacity.

Remember, you are a volunteer until you volunteer. Once you volunteer, you then are a Mason with a job to do!

**Fraternally,**

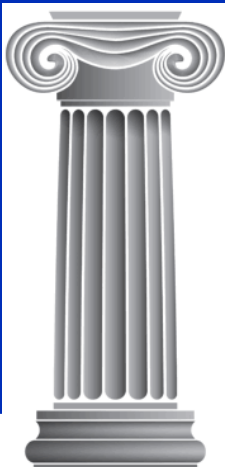
**Raj Naidoo**

**PM 2009—Master 2017**





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## The Corinthian Column by Junior Warden Robert Lott, PM

### FREEMASONS OF CARRIBEAN (CONTINUED)

In Haiti, too, the Craft arrived by way of the Grand Lodge of France. In 1697, the Spanish had ceded the Western portion of Hispaniola to the French, and by the 18th century, the colony (then known as “Saint-Domingue”) enjoyed a booming trade in coffee, sugar, and cocoa. With the increased movement of merchants, colonial officers, and slavers, the ideas and practice of freemasonry also became well established. When Haiti won its independence, and utterly abolished slavery at the end of the 1791-1804 Haitian Revolution, masonry was so ingrained into local culture that the all-black revolutionary government inherited the Craft amongst their other spoils of war. François-Dominique Toussaint Louverture, the former slave who led the revolutionary forces against the French, is himself reputed to have been a devout freemason. His own signature seems to attest to the fact, with its combination of two lines and three dots that mimic a popular masonic shorthand symbol of the time. In fact, some sources claim that masonry was so integral to Haitian culture and leadership, than any president of the country who was not a mason prior to office was ordained on the occasion of their election.

Meanwhile another of Haiti's founding fathers, Jean-Jacques Dessalines — the self-styled “Emperor Jacques I of Haiti” — was similarly invested in the Craft. The National Museum of History, in the center of Port-au-Prince, houses artifacts such as the slave-turned-emperor's own sword and scabbard, clearly engraved with square and compass motifs.

It was another Haitian freemason, in fact, who established freemasonry in Cuba.

Masonic ideas had begun to spread around Cuba from 1763 onwards. Perceived as anti-religious by the Spanish authorities, however, it had been largely outlawed. Later, during the island's brief occupation by Britain, the activities of English and Irish military lodges lay the foundations for the development of a Cuban charter.

When the Haitian Revolution kicked off in 1791, thousands of French colonists fled the uprising, escaping a widespread massacre of white slavers to land at ports such as Trinidad in the south of Cuba. Joseph Cerneau was one such French-Haitian freemason. He founded Cuba's first lodge in 1804, the Cuban Theological Virtue Temple in Havana.

Cuban freemasonry is noteworthy for being one of the most overt and colorful rites in the Caribbean. Rather than the secrecy that so often surrounds masonry in other parts of the world, Cuban lodges take pride of place in town centers, decorated in bright colors and with all the subtlety of an orchid in bloom. They permit female membership, and “brethren” favor relaxed attire over the traditional suits and ties, not only on account of the heat, but also so that no member should feel embarrassed for not owning formal clothes. More interesting still is that Cuba is the only country in the world where freemasonry has been protected by a communist regime.



# The Corinthian Column by Junior Warden Robert Lott, PM

## FREEMASONS OF CARRIBEAN (CONTINUED)

It is well known that freemasonry was heavily suppressed by the Soviet Union; Stalin was not a man who liked having secrets kept from him. Yet in a post-revolutionary Cuba, ruled over by the Cuban Communist Party and closely allied to the USSR, it was elevated to a highly respected position within society.

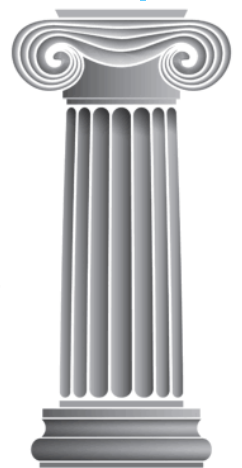
Much of this stems from the Cuban War of Independence, and the subsequent American-Spanish War. Freemasons were hugely influential in the formation of the United States, and as Cuba battled for freedom from the Spanish they won the support of many lodges in the US. Besides, Cuba's own revolutionary thinkers — social philosophers such as José Martí and Carlos Manuel de Céspedes — were themselves outspoken freemasons.

In aligning itself with Cuba's proud revolutionary past, Fidel Castro and his 1965 "Communist Party of Cuba" had no choice but to embrace those bold thinkers who came before. To denounce freemasonry would have been to deny Cuba its national heroes — a poor choice for any political movement with hopes of stable government.

There is, however, a popular theory that closer ties the Castro brothers to the Craft. In 1956, 82 freedom fighters set sail from Mexico to Cuba, aboard a yacht named Granma. Amongst them was Che Guevara, along with both Fidel and Raúl Castro. As these revolutionaries began their assault on the despotic government of President Fulgencio Batista, the story goes that a masonic lodge offered them shelter, hiding them from Batista's troops, a gesture of support for their revolutionary mission. It might certainly explain Fidel Castro's subsequent tolerance for the craft; with some versions of the story going further to suggest that Castro himself was raised to the level of master mason prior to his appointment as President of Cuba.

Today there are almost 30,000 practicing freemasons in Cuba, spread across 316 provincial lodges, and all answering to the "Gran Logia de Cuba" in Havana. The "Grand Orient" Lodge in Haiti claims 48 provincial lodges and around 6,000 practising masons. The Dominican Republic has 1,200 masons. In the English-speaking Caribbean nations, meanwhile, the Craft continues to move from strength to strength, with 45 lodges in Jamaica, 23 in Barbados, 21 in Guyana, 20 in Trinidad and Tobago, 14 in Bahamas and Turks, and another 14 in Bermuda. (Numbers are from this report and cited on Wikipedia).

Not only has freemasonry contributed to the development of the Caribbean nations — their passage from colonies to autonomous states — but it continues to play an integral role in Caribbean culture today. The resultant rites are as unique, as varied, and as colorful as those nations are themselves.



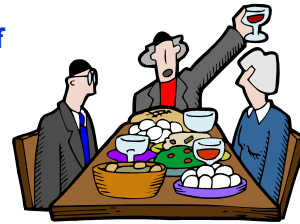
**Fraternally,  
Rob Lott,  
Junior Warden—Master 2016**



## Events and Announcements

### Stated Meeting Dinner – Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Our October 2017 Stated Dinner will feature a menu of Oktoberfest with Sausage and Chicken, Goodie Table, Red Cabbage, Sauerkraut, Potato Salad, Iced Tea and Dessert.



Please join us from 6:00 pm and dinner is at 6:30 pm. Stated Meeting will begin at 7:30 PM. \$15 for the dinner, payable by cash or check or online (on our website or app)

### Happy Birthday Brethren!

- Charles J. Alley
- Gustavo H. De Souza
- Robert F Kodweis
- Charles T. Weiler Jr.
- Aykut Gokce
- Kenneth D. Cox
- John D. Jorgenson
- John D. Roberts
- Lloyd W. Jordan
- Ralph H. Nikolaus
- Kenneth R. Tracton
- Patrick O. Stephens



The Worshipful Master extends you greetings and invites you to join us at our Stated Meeting for your complimentary Birthday Dinner!

# October 2017

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Schedule of Events:
1	2	3 <i>Stated Meeting</i>	4 <i>OES</i>	5	6	7	10/03 Stated Meeting 10/04 OES 10/09 PAMTA
8	9 <i>PAMTA</i>	10 <i>3rd de- gree check-</i>	11	12	13 <i>Grand Lodge</i>	14 <i>Grand Lodge</i>	10/10 3rd Degree Checkout 10/13 Grand Lodge 10/14 Grand Lodge 10/15 Grand Lodge
15 <i>Grand Lodge</i>	16 <i>OAM</i>	17	18 <i>OES</i>	19	20	21 <i>GM Reception</i>	10/16 OAM 10/18 OES 10/21 GM Reception 10/22 GM Reception 10/23 GW Club 10/28 PA346 Com- mittee
22 <i>GM Reception</i>	23 <i>GW Club</i>	24	25	26	27	28 <i>PA346 Committee</i>	
29	30	31					

# November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Schedule of Events:
			1 <i>OES</i>	2	3	4	11/01 OES 11/06 PAMTA 11/07 Stated Meeting 11/14 OAM 11/15 OES 11/27 GW Club
5	6 <i>PAMTA</i>	7 <i>Stated Meeting</i>	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14 <i>OAM</i>	15 <i>OES</i>	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27 <i>GW Club</i>	28	29	30			

## 2017 Officers' Association Meeting Schedule

(Dinner 6:30, School of Instruction 7:30)

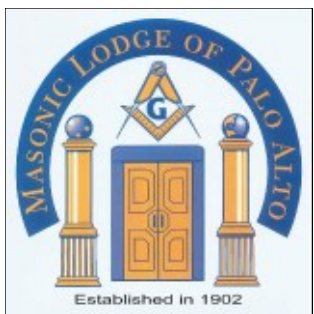
Date	Day	Hosting Lodge	Instruction	Inspector
October 16th	Monday	Los Altos #712	Candidate Education/Proficiency, Elections, Reception of the Flag	Hink, Valdez
October 13-15	Fri-Sun	Grand Lodge	Annual Communication	
October 21 or 22		WG-Fraternity #399	Grand Master's Reception (at Scottish Rite)	Valdez
November 14th	Tuesday	MV De Anza #194	GL Results, Installations, OAM Elections, Swan Song	Hink, Campbell, Valdez

## 2017 Lodge Officers

<b>Worshipful Master</b>	<b>Raj Naidoo, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:wm@paloalto346.org">wm@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Senior Warden</b>	<b>Michael Stillger</b>	<a href="mailto:sw@paloalto346.org">sw@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Junior Warden</b>	<b>Robert Lott, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:jw@paloalto346.org">jw@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Chuck Grech, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:tr@paloalto346.org">tr@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Ralph Nikolaus, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:sec@paloalto346.org">sec@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Fred Beckner, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:ch@paloalto346.org">ch@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Senior Deacon</b>	<b>Rod Creason, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:sd@paloalto346.org">sd@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Junior Deacon</b>	<b>John Myers, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:jd@paloalto346.org">jd@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Marshal</b>	<b>Don Groshart, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:mar@paloalto346.org">mar@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Senior Steward</b>	<b>Sinsuat Andang, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:ss@paloalto346.org">ss@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Junior Steward</b>	<b>Tony Teo, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:js@paloalto346.org">js@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Tyler</b>	<b>Larry Fama, PM</b>	<a href="mailto:ty@paloalto346.org">ty@paloalto346.org</a>
<b>Organist</b>		<a href="mailto:org@paloalto346.org">org@paloalto346.org</a>







### **Palo Alto Lodge #346 F. & A.M.**

Palo Alto Masonic Center

461 Florence Street

Palo Alto, CA 94301

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box # 346

Palo Alto, CA 94302

Lodge Office: 650-322-0338

<http://www.paloaltolodge346.org/>

### ***The Palo Alto Lodge Trestle-Board :***

The only publication from the lodge that reaches all its members. These publications are a framework to instruct, plan, and alert all members to the events and happenings of the lodge.

***Vision Statement:*** We are committed to attracting men of honor, integrity, dedication, and a pleasant bearing, who strive for self-improvement and the opportunity to make a positive difference in the community, while preserving the history and ritual of the institution.

### ***Keep Your Contact Information Current:***

Notify the secretary promptly of any change of address.

Please report any cases of Sickness and Distress to the Lodge, or the Master. Contact us if there are any changes in receiving the trestle-board, or if you wish to be taken off the mailing list.

**Palo Alto Lodge #346**

**P.O. Box # 346**

**Palo Alto, CA 94302**