Soquel Masonic Temple 3001 N Main Street, Soquel, California (no mail) Mailing Address: Frank R. Young, Secretary 659 High Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060-2644

THE TRESTLE BOARD CONFIDENCE LODGE # 110 F. & A. M. OF CALIFORNIA

JULY 2020

www.confidencelodge110.org



Brian Calverley - Master

Brethren, Family and Friends,

a lot has changed in the world in a few short weeks.

Covid-19 became a bit of a side story. We are all watching as the world has responded to the recent events that have highlighted the racial injustices in America. While it may be hard to understand, I believe it's important we are committed to listening and supporting each other and not rush to judgement. I think we can all do better and be part of the solution. It starts with kindness, courage, fairness, and checking our biases and assumptions at the door. As a Freemason, I cannot be prouder of the lessons we are taught of open discussion, respect for different views and the willingness to work with others and trying to work together for the common good. By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family......we are to aid, support and protect each other.

We were also shocked locally by the senseless ambush killing in Ben Lomond of Sgt. Damon Gutzwiller of the County Sheriff's department. He was our neighbor and a local hero who will be missed. Let's keep his young family in our prayers.

On the lodge front we are still in a holding pattern and not allowed by Grand Lodge to meet in person due to Covid-19 restrictions. We may be able to hold a stated meeting in the near future however I get the feeling it will be scaled back quite a bit.

Now for some great news! Our Hall Association has done a wonderful job on the building renovation project. As you know the building is in much need of repair! We now have a building renovation proposal from a well-established Santa Cruz County construction firm to renovate the building completely. This proposal is based on our architect's design (see schematic attached). It is time to finally renovate the building and make it something we are proud to share with our Soquel Village Community. See the important notice enclosed herein for more information.

Join us! We will hold weekly virtual meetings, so please try and attend. Please contact me for Zoom invite.

Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. calverley@outlook.com

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2020 CONFIDENCE LODGE OFFICERS

Wor. Master	Brian Calverley	(408) 427-5901
Sr. Warden	Rey Morales	(831) 465-4776
Jr. Warden	Zeke Floro	(831) 428-2689
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Sr. Deacon	Peter Cardilla	(831) 214-9012
Jr. Deacon	Leo Ornelas	(831) 524-3685
Marshal	John Sigismondi P.M.	(732) 979-1101

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The Worshipful Earl Kieser, Inspector of the 349th Masonic District (831) 338-6989



Important Notice



July 7, 2020

Dear Members of Confidence Lodge,

During our virtual stated meeting yesterday, we voted and approved moving forward on the building renovation project by accepting the Slatter Construction proposal dated May 31st, 2020. This means that we are taking the next step by sending the proposal to the Grand Lodge Properties Committee along with a completed "Application For Property Improvements over \$25K" form. Grand Lodge can then either accept or reject our application.

As you know, our building is in much need of repair. Over the years, various committees have been formed and multiple meetings have been held, but the necessary renovations have never advanced beyond the planning stages. All the brethren should be applauded for their efforts in finally moving this forward. The Hall Association has incorporated ideas from previous efforts, listened to everyone's input, and worked with architect Daniel Silvernail and engineer Richard Irish to design a building layout that will satisfy the needs of all tenants for many years to come. The plan includes significant structural repairs, disability features, increased storage, and new access to the outside area that can be used for social and banquet purposes (see floorplan attached).

Fortunately, we have the funds to complete the project and pay for it outright. At a high level, we are looking at the following financial numbers:

Slatter Construction Project

- Construction subtotal = \$390,468.16
- Overhead/profit/insurance = \$42,951.50
- Total contract amount = \$433,419.66

Additional Costs

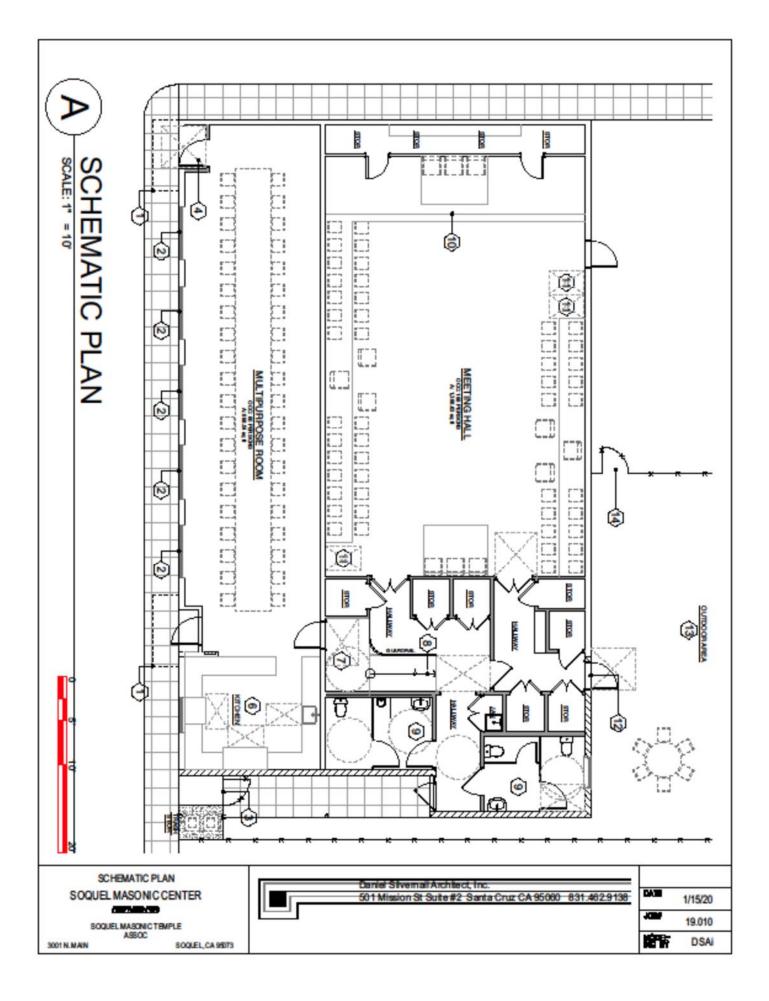
- Final construction-level design/architectural work = \$10K to \$12K
- Government/county permits = \$2k to \$4K
- Various mechanical/HVAC work, sound wiring, etc. = \$20K

The approximate cost estimate for complete building renovation is **\$470K** to **\$500K**. At the end of 2019 we had \$824,177.19 in our general funds. We could therefore end up with a completely renovated building and still have \$350,000.00 in our general funds. Even if the final balance were to go as low as \$250,000, we should still be sustainable for several years to come while enjoying a building that will finally shine new light in our beloved Soquel Village neighborhood.

If you have concerns or questions, please contact myself or our Masonic District Inspector, Worshipful Earl Kieser, by Friday July 24th. We are also holding virtual meetings July 13th and 20th at 8PM start, so please attend.

Fraternally,

Brian Calverley – Worshipful Master – 2020





The Origins of Freemasonry

In the Middle Ages, the term "freemason" was awarded to highly skilled stonemasons who were hired as free agents to build castles and cathedrals in England and Scotland. Because of the inherent danger of their work, stonemasons formed local organizations, called lodges, to take care of sick and injured members as well as the widows and orphans of those who were killed on the job. Eventually, men who were not skilled stonemasons wanted to join the group for the many advantages it offered. These men were known as "accepted masons." This is how the group began to shift from a craft guild to a fraternity.

The first Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was established in 1717 in London. In 1718, English Freemasonry spread to France and Spain, and after 1729, to India, Italy, Poland, and Sweden. Freemasonry spread to other parts of Europe and eventually made its way to the American colonies. In 1733, the first American lodge was established in Boston, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England. The United States now has grand lodges in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Masonry in California

Masonry has been an integral part of California for more than 150 years. During the Gold Rush of 1849, thousands of settlers came to California in search of fortune. Many of these men were Masons and brought with them Masonic values and traditions. Not surprisingly, some of California's first Masonic lodges were established in the mining towns of the Gold Country. In 1850 - the same year that California became a state - the Grand Lodge of California was established in Sacramento.

Within 10 years, the number of Masonic lodges in the new state had grown from 11 to 130, while membership soared from 258 to more than 5,000. Over the years, the Masons have played a key role in shaping the history of California. To date, 19 California governors have been Masons, and at least four California Masons have been elected to the U.S. Senate. Today there are more than 50,000 members and about 330 lodges, making the Grand Lodge of California one of the largest in the world.



www.freemason.org