



TRESTLEBOARD
Salinas Masonic Lodge
F&AM #204

December 2015



Salinas Masonic Lodge F&AM #204 2015 Officers



Master
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Secretary
Treasurer
Chaplain
Senior Deacon
Junior Deacon
Marshall
Senior Steward
Junior Steward
Tyler
Officers Coach
Inspector

Thomas Crompton, P.M (Nanci)
Dennis Smith, P.M (Sun)
Jonathan Wong (Ana)
David Isaac, P.M (Karen)
Andrew J. Bonfield
John Williams, P.M (Lan)
Jamcee Castro
Mark Washburn
Orlando Jimenez
John Mungia
Michael Chasen (Carli)
Ron Wilmoth, P.M (Doris)
Samson Mante, P.M (Julia)
B.J. McCuiston, P.M



FROM THE EAST

Brethren and Friends,

This is the end of a great year for Salinas Lodge and I thank the many of you who made this possible. We are embarking on a new year of activities and I encourage everyone to attend and take part in our activities. In the meantime, enjoy a happy holiday season. We will be dark during the Christmas and New Years holidays but will continue to have coaching and practice available to those who are interested.

Worshipful Jon Pariser, PM continues to heal from his serious traffic collision in Wyoming. He is convalescing now at home. Prayers for Jon's health and quick recovery.

On December 1, 2015, we had the honor to initiate a new mason into our lodge, Mr. Edsel Salindo. Brother Jonathan Wong, Junior Warden, did an excellent job officiating in the East. Many thanks to those of you who attended to support him in his first experience acting as Master of a Lodge. We need to have a lot of these in the coming years to keep Masonry in Salinas alive. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Officers and Candidates: Worshipful Sam Mante, PM. Officers Coach and I are both available just about any time for our candidates and our upcoming officers to learn their ritual. Keep up the hard work so we can be ready for 2016.

We have had some interest from non-members in joining our Lodge. They have been invited to the next stated meeting dinner and I encourage all members who see a new face to greet them and get to know them. We are always seeking new membership applications so if you know of a likely candidate, please invite him to a dinner so we can get to know them too.

And always remember, "Tuesday Night is Lodge Night!"

Fraternally,

Thomas C. Crompton, PM

Master of Salinas Lodge #204





FROM THE WEST

Ladies and Brethren,

This being my final message to you from the West I will attempt to make it short and newsworthy. Sincere congratulations to Tom Crompton on being reelected to the East and our Lodge is again in steady hands. Brother Jon Wong is at the halfway point on his trip eastward and I am sure with our assistance it will be an easy trip from West to East.

I will assume my favorite position in the South I think for the 6th or 7th time and my main concern is not only our meals but re learning ritual for proficiency for Bro BJ. I keep reminding him I'm going to be 75 soon and he reminds me that is my problem not his. Oh Well!

Sun and I returned from Europe just before the Paris attack and glad we did. Our annual Schnapps production turned out 700 Liters and we bottle in April. My responsibility this year is tasting and quality control which is where I excel as long as I can stand up under the pressure.

Menu for or December Stated Meeting is:

Appetizers

Soup

Green Salad

Roast loin of pork, Garlic mashed potatoes with gravy and grilled asparagus.

Dessert (TBD)

Beverages of choice

Merry Christmas to all and please support our Troops always! I will need volunteers to decorate and put up our nine foot Christmas tree, if you're taller than me please call me if you're shorter don't bother.

Dennis Smith, P.M

Senior Warden





FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren and friends,

Well what a nervous joy I had this past Tuesday initiating our newest youngest entered apprentice, Edsel Salindo. As this was my first time sitting in the East, I would like to give sincere thanks to Worshipful Tom Crompton who spent hours and hours of practice prepping me for this tremendous honor. While I was nervous, I kept my composure, or what was left of it, and tried to make it as memorable as possible for our newly obligated brother, Edsel. Sitting in the East and having all eyes gazed upon me was certainly an experience I won't soon forget.

Thanks to the many brothers who came out and showed brotherly love to our newly obligated brother, Edsel. He and I have known each other since high school. While we haven't maintained contact in quite some time, so it was a pleasant surprise to hear his name read during the stated meeting with the intent of applying to join the fraternity. He will do great things for the fraternity, no doubt about it.

As the year ends, this is my final note as well as Junior Warden. I'll soon be sitting in the West on my way to the East. I'm hopeful I can sit in the West as well as our current Worshipful Brother Dennis Smith has. We had a tremendous year under Worshipful Tom. We will have an even better year next year under his leadership again – Congrats on being reelected.

We do have interest flowing in through FaceBook (Thanks John for maintaining the site). I encourage all the brothers to continue showing their support for potential new candidates as they show up to our stated dinners or stop by to say hello. We're going to grow and it'll be up to us to keep showing that brotherly love.

Thank you all and have a Merry Christmas!!

Fraternally,

Jonathan Wong

Junior Warden





WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

The first question that is usually asked by a non-Mason is "What is freemasonry?" There are many definitions of the word, but none are complete since the organization embraces a wide scope of activity. A very short definition provided by this website is: *"Freemasonry is a fraternal organization, religious in character, based on the principle of the Fatherhood of God and the **Brotherhood of Man** which does **charitable** work in the community through its members. In addition, its teachings and ceremonies seek to make good men better and thereby make the world a better place in which to live."*

Freemasonry is a "voluntary" society in that no one is invited to become a member. Unlike college fraternities and other organizations, Freemasonry never solicits anyone to become a member. As a matter of fact, it is a violation of Masonic law for a member to invite anyone to join. A prospective member must truly come of his own **free will and accord**.

Freemasonry is not a religion. Sometimes outsiders claim that Freemasonry is a religion. Most Freemasons do belong to an established Church. Freemasonry is religious in that one cannot become a Freemason unless he believes in God, but there is no religious test applied to the prospective member, nor is he required or asked to subscribe to any religious tenet or dogma. It is forbidden to discuss religion or politics in the Lodge.

Freemasonry is not a "secret society." A secret society is one that keeps its existence in secret, and whose members do not make known their affiliation with the group. Freemasonry is not a secret society because it does not hide its existence, and members do not hide their membership. On the contrary, the organization meets in buildings located in public, announces its meetings in newspapers and magazines, engraves the words "Masonic Temple" on many of its buildings, publishes periodicals, and has homes for orphans and the aged.

The degrees of Freemasonry consist of ceremonies of a strictly serious nature, which teach basic moral truths in an impressive and solemn manner. When the degrees are completed, the new member is provided a ritual that contains a philosophy of rite that provides the new member with something on which to build a hope that is eternal.

Freemasons are proud to proclaim to the world that we are a serious organization of mature men. An organization that instills a love of God, teaches charity in its broadest sense, and shows each member how to live a better life.

Non-Masons sometimes wonder at the close bond that exists between Freemasons. There is a simple explanation: Masons are bound together by the deep and abiding knowledge that each of them, during the ceremonies of the degrees, has accepted certain high ethical standards of conduct. These standards ensure a bond of faith and confidence.



Calendar of Events:

Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Stated Meeting

Dinner: 6:00 PM

Stated Meeting 7:30 PM

Tuesday, December 15, 2015, Installation Practice 7:30 PM

Tuesday, December 22, 2015. Lodge Dark. Merry Christmas. Coaching at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 29, 2015. Lodge Dark. Happy New Year. Coaching at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, January 5, 2015, Installation Practice 7:30 PM

Installation of Officers, Salinas Lodge 204 2:00 PM

Tuesday January 12, 2015, Stated Meeting

Dinner 6:00 PM

Stated Meeting 7:30 PM



CONCORDANT BODIES

WATSONVILLE COMMANDERY #22,

JOB'S DAUGHTERS, BETHEL 230 (Meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.)

Wednesday, September 2, 2015, Jobs Daughters Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2015, Jobs Daughters Meeting

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Reveille Chapter #47. Meetings on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM

At Salinas Lodge, 48 San Joaquin Street, Salinas, CA 93901

Monday, December 7, 2015, 7:30 PM: Christmas Party with Ornament Exchange Sunday, December 13, 2015, All Member Instructional, 9:00 AM – 3 PM

San Jose Lodge

Monday, December 21, 2015. Dark

Monday, January 4, 2015 Obligation 7:30 PM

Monday, January 18, 2015 Honor Past WM & WP 7:30 PM

LIVING PAST MASTERS OF SALINAS LODGE 204:

Nick G. Cominos, P.M.	1972 & 1983 (803)
Robert L. Dani P.M.	1979 (803)
Fred Roel, Jr., P.M.	1980
Dennis D. Stephans, P.M.	1980 (803)
James Carpenter, P.M.	1981
Ernest L. Cunningham, P.M.	1983
Thomas C. Crompton, P.M.	1985
Danny McCabe, P.M.	1986
Leroy W. Blankenship, P.M.	1987
Lawrence Chapman, Jr. P.M.	1989
John David Isaac, P.M.	1998
Roger King, P.M.	1997
Ron Wilmoth, P.M.	2001
Bruce M. Campbell, P.M.	2002
Dennis R. Smith, P.M.	2004, 2005
Samson Mante, P.M.	2006
Frederick W. Hughes, P.M.	1996, 2003, 2007, 2008, 2009
Robert Gentry, P.M.	2010, 2011, 2012
Jon Pariser, P.M.	2013, 2014



PAST MASTERS BY AFFILIATION:

Jim Myers, P.M.	203
John A. Williams, P.M.	217
Cecil F. Abrams, Sr., PM	1981 (680)
James E. Bradley, P.M.	2008 (680)