

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Gold Country MASON

The GAVEL Edition

JACKSON BAILEY'S TREASURES

By Worshipful Brian Ludwig

One of the great pillars of Masonry is that the brethren, regardless of their material wealth or social standing, can meet on the level and as equals in the lodge and in their daily lives. Few trappings consistently serve to distinguish one Mason from

another; all the officers wear jewels, all the brethren wear aprons, and most don a ring or a pin to identify themselves as Freemasons to their fellows and to those in the outside world. The same holds true for the sitting Master. Think about it; what really distinguishes the Master from the rest of the brethren? A square on his apron? Not necessarily; not all Master's aprons have the square on it. His top hat? Other hats are used in other jurisdictions. His jewel? Well, yes, but the design of the Master's jewel can vary widely too. No, about the only constant that truly distinguishes the Master without fail is his gavel. The gavel, more than any other item in the lodge symbolizes the Master, his position, and the responsibilities with which he has been entrusted. Consequently, gavels are symbolically important, frequently highly ornate, made of special materials, and often not necessarily meant to be used but to be presented as mementos of important occasions.

Placerville 26, like most historic lodges, is privileged to keep watch over a number of gavels possessing special historical significance. Two of these were presented to Worshipful Jackson Bailey (who passed away earlier this summer) when he was Master of Rio Vista Lodge 206 in 1954. One (the example with the bark still on the gavel's head) was made from the branch of an olive tree from the Mount of

[\(Baily Gavel, Continued on Page 5\)](#)



another; all the officers wear jewels, all the brethren wear aprons, and most don a ring or a pin to iden-

THE GAVEL

by Paul M. Bessel February 1995

"Perhaps no lodge appliance or symbol is possessed of such deep and absorbing interest to the craft as the Master's mallet or gavel. Nothing in the entire range of Masonic paraphernalia and formulary can boast of an antiquity so unequivocally remote," according to Joseph F. Ford in *Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry*. (Hunt)

[\(GAVEL, Continued on Page 5\)](#)

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Trestleboard

Worshipful Master - Brian Ludwig • (530) 647-0872

Finally...summer is over! Tahoe-bound traffic is starting to lighten, the nights are getting chilly and the leaves are starting to turn in the mountains. It's been a very busy summer all around for everyone I'm sure and your lodge certainly hasn't slowed down one bit over the typically "dark" summer months. As stated in the September Trestleboard article, we've had quite the flurry of contacts from men interested in Masonry over the past few months in particular. This seems to be continuing and as we enter the month of October I'm pleased to say that just in the past couple of weeks alone we've had several additional inquiries and at least three applications have gone out to prospective members. Grand Lodge is right - it is indeed an exciting time to be a Mason in California! Part of keeping our lodge active and members coming in and interested is a strong candidate's coaching program. This is something that for any number of reasons never came to be in Placerville. That, however, is rapidly changing. Scott Bertram has volunteered to take on a wide range of duties related to candidate's coaching and with his deep appreciation for and interest in Masonry we can all rest assured that this will be a major positive development for Placerville 26. Scott will be going well above and beyond just the occasional phone call to candidates and their coaches and intends to provide informal presentations and discussions with our new guys to make sure they really know what Masonry is all about; history, philosophy, and the often overlooked influence Masonry had on the renaissance period and the development of uniquely American institutions. It's an exciting time to be a Mason in Placerville!

Regarding other lodge activities, we had a good showing at the September Relay for Life event with Jackie Bozeman and Glen Lyons again leading the charge in fund-raising and organizing. I had the pleasure of pulling an early morning shift on Sunday and was very impressed with the whole event. In past years I've been out-of-state or otherwise occupied and it was a real treat this time around. My timing was also very fortunate in that I got to hear a fantastic jazz group called The Blue Onion Sextet. These guys are remarkable and most interestingly they're all a bunch of high-school kids! If you haven't heard of them or perhaps seen them playing local venues don't worry. They will be playing at our December stated meeting. More to come on that so stay tuned.

For our October meeting Larry Lococo and my better half Charlane will be cooking a wonderful Oktoberfest dinner and we will be having a presenter from the El Dorado Western Railroad. After years of work, the

EWRR (or would that be EDWRR?) finally started their pleasure excursions on the rail lines you may have seen them working on recently. Restoration work continues on the 1907 Shay locomotive and other cars and hopefully they'll be operating before much longer. This marks the first time in generations our local rail lines have been active and is the result of countless hours of volunteer effort by folks living right here in and around Placerville. However, as you may know there has been some controversy and "friction" between the railroaders and trail enthusiasts. Just so we present both sides of the story we're looking into getting a local representative of the hiking/trail clubs to speak at our November meeting. Speaking of November, Marlene Sorsabal has also arranged for a presenter and a bit of an additional fundraiser for that month's dinner. Here's a message from Marlene regarding this:

Brothers - Please share this with your wife..... Ladies, are you tired of changing purses all the time to match your outfit? Here's the solution. A representative of Miche Bags will be at our November meeting to show these purses. She will give a percentage of sales to Charlane's project for the year. Men - you can even do some Christmas shopping! You can look up Miche Bags at this web site: www.my.michebags.com

Continued on Page 7

Placerville Masonic Center

2820 Cold Springs Road • Placerville, CA 95667
 Stated Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month.
 Fellowship is at 6:00 p.m. Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.
 Stated Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Website - <http://www.calodges.org/no26/>

2011 OFFICERS

Master:	Brian Ludwig	(530) 647-0872
Senior Warden:	Dan Boone	(530) 620-7313
Junior Warden:	Brian Creel	(530) 626-4412
Treasurer:	Jim Mackey	(530) 621-3603
Secretary:	Dan Segalas	(916) 933-0340
Chaplain:	Glen Lyons	(530) 626-9007
Senior Deacon:	Larry Lococo	(530) 626-8386
Junior Deacon:	Glen Roussell	(530) 344-4321
Marshall:	George Neilsen	(530) 622-2165
Senior Steward:	Scott Bertram	(510) 427-1215
Jr. Steward:	John Kunkel	(530) 644-4323
Organist	Joe Olio	(530) 642-2167
Tiler	Bernie Dowse	(530) 622-1564

O C T O B E R

Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

			B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	Volcano Stated Meeting		† Stated 10:00 am Drytown Lodge A Bethel 74 Job's Daughters
2	3	A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	6	7 B Hiram #25 Stated Meeting 7:30 Fellowship 6:00 <small>Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown</small>	8 <small>First Day of Yom Kippur</small>
9	10 Rainbow Girls 7:00 pm WIDDLE WEELS 7:00 VETS HALL <small>Columbus Day (Observed)</small>	11 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	12 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	13 A P'ville #26 Stated Meeting Fellowship 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	14 B Eastern Star Meeting 7:30 pm	15 A Bethel 74, Job's Daughters B ED SR/SC - IMPORTANT - Meeting!10a.m.
16	17 November G.C.M. Deadline	18 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	19 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	20	21	22
23	24 York Rite Council 7:30 <small>Halloween</small>	25 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	26 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	27	28	29
30	31					

A=Placerville Lodge • Est. May 6, 1853

Placerville Masonic Center • 2820 Cold Springs Rd., Placerville

B=Hiram Lodge • Est. May 3, 1853

601 Main St., El Dorado

N O V E M B E R

Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

		1	2	3 Volcano Stated Meeting	4 B Hiram #25 Stated Meeting Fellowship 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	5 Drytown Lodge Stated Meeting 10:00 am Plymouth
6 <small>Daylight Saving Time Ends</small>	7 <small>Eid-al-Adha</small>	8 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm <small>Election Day</small>	9 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	10 A P'ville #26 Stated Meeting Fellowship 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	11 B Eastern Star Meeting 7:30 pm <small>Veterans Day</small>	12
13	14 WIDDLE WEELS 7:00 VETS HALL York Rite Chapter 7:30	15 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	16 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	17 December G.C.M. Deadline	18	19 A Placerville Masonic Ctr. Bethel 74, Job's Daughters
20	21	22 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	23	24  Thanksgiving	25	26  6:00 pm Game In Sacramento
27 A Eastern Star Installation 3:00pm	28 A Rainbow Girls 7:00 pm	29 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	30 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice			

- Trestleboard -

Worshipful Master - Jason Burgess • (916) 501-3812

Brethren,

September is past and we are on to October. We initiated two new masons last month and are on to have a strong year again. Thank you for all your effort bringing new men into our lodge.

Our stated meeting for October will be on the 7th. We are tentatively scheduled to hear from one of the Shrine screening clinic representatives about that program. In September, our Shrine club hosted a screening clinic in our area. These clinics help get local children in need of the services of the Shrine Hospital into the hospital. These clinics need our support to happen and our participation to get all the interested children seen and hopefully admitted. There will be another screening clinic in Sacramento this month as well, and your support is needed.

Your officer hopefuls for next year are preparing for their positions and planning some great activities and programs. Make sure you come out to stated and meet these great brothers and let them know what you would like to see from your lodge next year.

With October upon us that means that elections for officer positions are just around the corner. Plan to attend November's stated meeting to nominate and vote! Then in December, join the officers for installation. Open to all, bring family and friends to enjoy the lodge and learn a little about masonry.

My poem for you this month is a fun little rhyme about when you are a Mason. Is it in the name? In the pomp and circumstance? Or is it more than that? I hope it helps you think about what masonry means to you and why you joined. If it inspires you, more the better. Remember, talk to your officers, we have plenty of opportunity for you to participate.

Until next time brothers!

Fraternally,

Jason W. Burgess, PM
Master, Hiram #25

- From Drytown Lodge -

Brethren,

The Master has asked me to inform you of the passing of our Treasurer, Forster J. Cooke, known by all of us who have sat in Lodge with him over the years as simply Jack. Jack attended every Stated meeting, dutifully and faithfully over the years, unless he was on vacation or working out of town. He missed the September Stated meeting, explaining to one of our brethren that morning that he just had no strength in his legs and wouldn't be able to make it. He was gone about 18 hours later, passing away in his sleep from a form of melanoma around 2:00 am Sunday morning, September 4th.

He was buried on September 11th at the Fiddletown Cemetery, for which he served as curator for Grand Lodge, having taken over those duties from our longtime Secretary, Clyde Berriman. Finnes Bowman of Henry Clay Lodge #95 performed the Masonic Service.

A Masonic memorial service will also be conducted during the Stated meeting of October 1st, 10:00 am. Please attend if at all possible to honor Jack, who served your Lodge as Master on four occasions - 1981, 1982, 1995, and 2001. He also served as Treasurer since April 2, 2003. In his honor, that office will remain vacant, until normal elections in November.

Fraternally, Phil Hardiman, Secretary

Hiram Building 6201 Main St. El Dorado, CA

Stated Meetings are the 1st Friday of the month.

Fellowship is at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.

Stated Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

It is recommended that you call for Reservations
to Jackie Bozeman at (530)333-4732

Worshipful Master - Jason Burgess • (916) 501-3812

Website - <http://www.eldoradomasons.org/>

2011 OFFICERS

Master:	Jason W. Burgess, PM	(916) 501-3812
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JW:	Joseph Carlson	(916) 799-4033
Treasurer:	Kevin Brown, PM	(530) 626-3795
Secretary:	Brian Kennedy	(916) 712-2891
Senior Deacon:	John L. "Dusty" Deryck	(530) 919-1773
Junior Deacon:	Robert Sweeley, PM	(530) 344-8394
Chaplain:	Steve Anderly	(530) 306-5883
Marshall:	Chris Brackmann	(530) 957-1161
Senior Steward:	Chad Oxford	(916) 933-0942
Junior Steward:	Jeremie Thompson	(530) 626-6463
Tyler:	Roy Kilday, PM	(530) 677-3068

Jackson Bailey Gavels, Continued from Pg.1

Olives in Jerusalem. From Biblical times until today, Jews have been buried on the Mount of Olives and today over 150,000 graves have been documented here. It was the burial place of the city's most important citizens in the period of the Biblical kings. The Mount of Olives is first mentioned in the Old Testament in connection with David's flight from Absalom (II Samuel 15:30): "And David went up by the ascent of the Mount of Olives, and wept as he went up." Also according to the Old Testament, Solomon built altars to the gods of his wives on the southern peak (I Kings 11:7-8).

Worshipful Bailey was particularly lucky in that he was presented with another gavel of historical significance, but with a very different association. The head of this gavel was turned from an ironwood tie from one of the railroads originally used in the construction of the Panama Canal. Still considered one of the largest and most difficult engineering projects ever undertaken, the canal had an enormous impact on shipping between the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, replacing the long and treacherous route via either the Strait of Magellan or Cape Horn at the southernmost tip of South America. The concept of a canal near Panama dated to the early 16th century. The first attempt to construct a canal began in 1880 under French leadership, but was abandoned after nearly 22,000 workers died, largely from disease and landslides. The United States launched a second effort and succeeded in opening the canal in 1914 due in part to a very successful fight against disease-carrying mosquitos. This brief article will be only the first in a series of occasional pieces on the historical items and documents maintained by Placerville 26. If anyone wishes to view these particular gavels they are currently on display in our library. If you know of any particular item in the lodge you would like to know more about or if you know a great story behind one of our historic gavels, aprons, or other items please let me know and I'd love to hear about it and share with the brethren and their families.

GAVEL (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)

Gavels, hammers, mallets, or mauls, have both practical and symbolic uses in lodges and other meetings, as well as both practical and symbolic uses in operative and speculative Freemasonry.

Keeping order and punctuating actions

The gavel has been generally adopted by Masonic bodies and many other groups as a means to call meetings to order, keep order, announce the results of votes, and otherwise punctuate actions of the group. (Coil) However, it is a mistake for the presiding officer to try to stop noise and keep order by pounding with the gavel. (Roberts)

The use of a hammer to keep order was common in medieval institutions such as an Elizabethan guild in Exeter where, "the governor having a small hammer in his hands made for the purpose, when he will have silence to be had shall knocke the same upon the Borde, and who so ever do talke after the second stroke to paye without redempcion two pence." (AQC, XL) There is also a reference in a biography of the founder of the Cistercians to "the harsh strokes of the wooden mallet used for calling the brethren together." (AQC, XL)

Symbol of authority

In a larger sense, gavels symbolize the executive power, as this is the instrument which strikes blows (Hunt), or it can be thought of as a symbol of authority without the use of force. (Haywood)

The gavel is an emblem of the authority of the Master in governing the Lodge. (Macoy) At the installation of a Master he is informed, upon being tendered this implement, that it constitutes the essential element of his authority over the assembled brethren, without which his

efforts to preserve order and subordination would be ineffectual. It is the symbol that inducts him into the possession of the Masonic lodge. (Hunt)

In the middle ages mallets were thrown and all ground over which they traversed were acknowledged to be possessed by the thrower. This practice gave rise to the symbolism of the mallet indicating the Master's possession of his lodge. (Hunt and Haywood) A somewhat different use of a thrown hammer is shown in an English ordinance of 1462 which is said to have declared that lewd women should remain as far from the territory of Masonic lodges as a hammer could be hurled. (Hunt)

The appropriate item for this purpose should be wooden with a flat surface at one end and a pointed surface at the other. French and Spanish Freemasons sometimes refer to it as the "president's hammer" and use an instrument that is flat at both ends, then slightly pinched, and larger again in the middle. (Macoy) The gavel should not resemble a setting maul. (Hunt)

The gavel is sometimes confused with the setting maul which is a different instrument used for different purposes. (Macoy) The gavel is an implement of both the Master and his Wardens, and is an emblem of power, while the maul is a heavy wooden hammer with which the mason drives his chisel. The maul is also the weapon with which the Master was traditionally said to have been slain, so it is an emblem of violent death. It is incorrect to use a gavel instead of a heavy maul in the dramatization of the third degree. (Jones) It is also inappropriate to use a little auctioneer's hammer in place of a gavel, as this may connote that the initiate is being sold. (Mackenzie)

GAVEL Continued on Pg. 6

GAVEL (Continued)

The gavel of the Master of a Lodge is also called a "Hiram" (Macoy) because, like that architect, it governs the Craft and keeps order in the Lodge as Hiram did in the Temple (Mackey and Hunt), or because of the use made of the maul in the third degree. As early as 1739 both gavels and mauls were referred to by that name. (Jones) A negative sense of this implement is found in the Bible, Proverbs XXV, 18, "A man that beareth false witness against his neighbour is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow."

Use by Operative and Speculative Masons

Mackey and Coil say the gavel used as a hammer has one flat face opposite the sharp end so that from the top it resembles a gabled roof on a house, and because of this, "gable" becomes the German word "gipfel" meaning summit or peak (Mackey, Coil, Hunt) or "giebel" (Macoy) and then the English word "gavel," although in German lodges the gavel is called the "hammer."

It is one of the oldest working tools used by man, as illustrated by stories of Scandinavian mythology where Thor, the principal god, was given a special hammer or mallet which always struck its targets with great force and then returned to the thrower without any injury to him. Symbolically, as the hammer of Thor destroyed his enemies, so it should continue to be used to destroy the enemies of that which is good and true. (Hunt)

It is used on stone to make a rough shaping or dressing, with the finishing done with a chisel and mallet or maul. Gavel is defined in the Oxford English Dictionary (1901) as a mason's setting maul or a presiding officer's hammer, and it is said to be an American usage. (AQC, 101 and XL) The name "gavel" was not known in England before the nineteenth century. (Jones)

Freemasons are taught that the common gavel is one of the working tools of an Entered Apprentice. It is used by operative masons to break off the corners of rough

ashlars and thus fit them the better for the builder's use. It is not adapted to giving polish or ornamentation to the stone, and hence it should symbolize only that training of the new Freemason which is designed to give some limited skill and moral training, and to teach that labor is the lot of man and that "qualities of heart and head are of limited value 'if the hand be not prompt to execute the design' of the master." Its meaning has been extended to include the symbolism of the chisel, to show the enlightening and ennobling effects of training and education. (Street)

The gavel is adopted in Speculative Freemasonry to admonish us of the duty, often painful (Hunt), of divesting our minds and consciences of all the vices and impurities of life, thereby fitting our bodies (Mackey and Macoy) or minds as living stones for the spiritual building, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. (Mackey)

The gavel is an instrument common to the lowest and the highest in the Lodge. The common gavel is shown to each Entered Apprentice to remind him that symbolically he should use it in Freemasonry to divest himself of the vices and superfluities of life. Years later, even when one has attained the highest rank in the Lodge by becoming its Master, the same implement of a gavel is placed in his hand as a reminder that we all need to continue to strive for improvements in our manner and character. (Mackenzie)

Albert Pike felt the mallet and chisel (and gavel) symbolized development of the intellect of each individual and of society. He wrote, "...a man's intellect is all his own, held direct from God, an inalienable fief. It is the most potent of weapons....Society hangs spiritually together....The free country, in which intellect and genius govern, will endure....To elevate the people by teaching loving-kindness and wisdom, with power to him who teaches best; and so to develop the free State from the rough ashlar;---this is the great labor in which Masonry desires to lend a helping hand."

Hello from the Eastern Star!

We hope the Lodge Brothers have enjoyed our dinners. If you have any meal suggestions for future dinners, please contact any of the Eastern Star members at the next dinners. Remember also, you need to call in your reservations to Jackie at 530-333-4732 or 916-200-8191. We want to make sure you are well fed.

We are looking forward to September 16th when our Grand Officers for next year will be announced. We especially want to find out who will be named to lead our state in 2018. We were pleased to find out that one of the 2008 Grand Officers that Jackie served with has been named Grand Chaplain for your Grand Lodge, Joe Ross. He was an excellent Grand Chaplain in 2008 for Eastern Star and he replaced your current Grand Chaplain, Len Froomin, who was an escort for our Grand Adah also in 2008. We are always excited to see Eastern Star members being recognized by the incoming Grand Master with appointments.

The Relay for Life was successful, thanks to those mem-

bers who came out to walk. I missed seeing members from Hiram Lodge and I hope you'll be active next year. Save the dates of September 8 and 9, 2012. It's not too early to put those dates on your calendar. Unfortunately we were under our fundraising goal and raised about \$1,000 less than last year. We know it's been a tough year for many and I hope that next year will find everyone better off financially so we can give from our hearts. Jackie brought the luminaria bags home and will bring them to the October dinners so you can see and take the bag you ordered.

Summer will be official over soon. Thunderstorms are racing around our foothill communities. We hope that wildfires will be only in isolated areas so that communities are not affected. Nature uses wildfires to make our forests healthy. It is devastating when a fire happens in a home so make sure you make a list of your possessions, make sure you have defensible space to help the fire departments, and make sure you have adequate insurance, even if you are a renter. Possessions are not covered by a landlord's policy so you don't want that surprise.

Order of Eastern Star

– El Dorado Foothills

Calendar for 2011

Oct 14 – Mascot night

(Dress as your favorite mascot!)

Chairman-Lisa Blum,

Chairman-Lisa Blum, Mary Lou and Brian Johnson

Nov 11 – Last Night, Veteran's Day –

Wear Red, White & Blue--

Potluck dinner Chairman-Jackie Bozeman

Nov 27 – Installation of 2012 officers

General Chairman-Cherri Whiteley

3 pm, Placerville Lodge

W.M. Ludwig, Continued from Pg.2

Also, and speaking of fund-raising, Charlane's next opportunity drawing will be at the November stated meeting. You can bet there's going to be loads of great items there and I have it on good authority that at least one of the lots will be some well-regarded vintage El Dorado wines donated to the lodge. As for this month's (October) stated meeting I'm afraid I will not be in attendance since I have to direct a survey project in the Ozark mountains in southern Missouri for the entire month. Between Brian Creel heading up the meeting and Charlane and Larry whipping up dinner it will be yet another event not to be missed!

- Brian Ludwig, W.M. Placerville #26

When are you a Mason?

By Wilbur D. Nesbit

When are you a Mason?
When you go to Lodge
If there is a meeting
That you cannot dodge?
When you wear your button?
When still up you climb?
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one all the time.
When are you a Mason?
When there's fun and feast,
Or when you can bolster
With a word at least
Some poor devil's spirits!
The real help you give.
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one as you live.
When are you a Mason?
When some gossip spreads
Of another brother,
Are you the one who heads
Off the hurtful babble,
And helps make things right?
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one day and night.
When are you a Mason?
Brother, you and I
Can make great the Order
As the days go by,
Through each word and action,
Through each song and smile:
The way to be a Mason
Is to be one all the while!

Schedule of the upcoming

2011 YORK RITE MEETINGS

We meet at the Sutter Creek Masonic Hall located at 45 Main Street in Downtown Sutter Creek.

September 26, 2011 - 7:30 pm Commandery

October 24, 2011 - 7:30 pm Council

November 14, 2011 - 7:30 pm **Chapter**

Thanksgiving Schedule

December 12, 2011 - 7:30 pm Commandery

Christmas Schedule

Many members usually meet before the meeting for dinner beforehand at 6 pm at a local Sutter Creek restaurant.

The choice of restaurant is announced via email by the presiding officer for that meeting a few days before the meeting.

As a teenager I was a DeMolay. I was Sr. Councilor, soon to become Master Councilor of California Chapter in San Francisco and my Grandfather, Garnet A. "Eddie" Nunn. Eddie was a past Potentate in Oregon and he was also an "Oregon Caveman" a group from the Grants Pass area who promoted Oregon tourism by dressing up as cavemen. (Their Gavel was a cows jawbone).

When Eddie presented me with my gavel, it was an amazing gavel with a two tone wood in it and it made a rich sound when struck. The wood is cocobolo wood, which is a South-American hardwood that has the rich burgundy reds of rosewood with streaks that are almost a honey-oak color. The wood has a lot of character and tone. It is apparently easy to work with and polishes up really nice, which is why it is a favorite of guitar manufacturers world-wide. That gavel has always been one of my most cherished possessions.

John Zachry

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IMPORTANT SCOTTISH RITE/SHRINE CLUB MEETING!

October 15, 2011 • 10:00 AM • Hiram Lodge #25
6201 Main Street (Pleasant Valley Road) El Dorado, CA

All members and prospective members of the Scottish Rite &/ or Shrine Clubs of El Dorado County are requested to attend this important meeting. The future of these clubs will rest upon your participation in and outcome of this meeting. New members will be accepted. Be prepared to decide if there are to be Masonic Clubs in El Dorado County, and if so, who will be your President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board of Directors. Depending on the participants desires, the Brethren can adjourn the meeting to have lunch at a local restaurant. Remember, Masonry will be what you to put into it. This is your opportunity to enhance your experiences in Masonry.

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