



**LADIES ONLY!**  
**BARGAIN SALE!**  
**HITLER MUST VACATE!**  
 CLEARANCE SALE STARTS TOMORROW

**1 FLYING FORTRESS**  
 Formerly Priced at \$300,000  
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 for a limited time only!  
**\$249,999<sup>98</sup>**  
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**OWN A GENUINE BOMBER!**  
Doors open at 6:30 a.m. sharp tomorrow for the beginning of our unprecedented sale of one Boeing Flying Fortress. A nationally advertised product, this bomber regularly sells for \$300,000. But during the Fifth War Loan only it is especially priced at \$249,999.98. This sale is for women only. All war bonds bought by Boeing women employees through deduction or cash will be credited toward the purchase of this beautiful, huge bomber. Get your war bonds now, and own a share in this Flying Fortress.

**YOU SAVE THE DIFFERENCE WITH OUR DIRECT FACTORY TO YOU PLAN**  
**U.S. TREASURY**

## Relay for Life

El Dorado County's Relay for Life is scheduled for September 9-10 at the fairgrounds. We have a team again this year and you need to be a part of it. If you are interested in becoming a team member, please let me know so I can give you the particulars. You can make a donation to the team, plan to walk during the 24 hours we are on the track (only one hour commitment), or BOTH. We would love to see you on the team. We have a great time, get to sleep under the stars, eat great food, visit with wonderful people, play games, and bid on silent auction items.

I also receive information from the American Cancer Society and this month they had a very interesting article. They have a program called Road to Recovery which helps patients get to and from their cancer treatments. This is especially helpful for those who live in rural areas or have no family members or friends who are readily available. That program is also looking for volunteers to help drive patients. If you would like to volunteer or need help getting to treatments, give them a call at 800-227-2345. This service is available nationwide-not just in our county.

Jackie Bozeman 916-257-7020

## Thanks Jimmy!

Worshipful Brian Ludwig & Charlane Gross (his better half) about to board the WWII B-17 Liberty Belle for a ride at Mather Field on April 17th. Brother Jimmy Waldon donated two rides to the annual crab feed and auction held at Placerville 26 in March.

(SORRY, it's not really for sale).



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## - Trestleboard -

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

Although spring has definitely “sprung” in the lower elevations, I’m not completely convinced of the change of seasons until it snows on the blooming dogwoods in Pollock Pines. As I write this May Gold Country Mason article, this has yet to happen but rest assured, the lingering winter weather hasn’t slowed down your lodge one bit. Between degrees, other events, and our April stated meeting and dinner, your officers and many lodge members were really on their toes to say the least. Most notably, our Junior Deacon, Glen Roussell and his better half, Rose, provided us with one heck of an authentic Cajun gumbo feast. Since preparing such a meal is a multi-day event, Rose was in the lodge kitchen days before preparing the rue and other base ingredients and the results were just super. As many of you now know, Glen’s career will be taking him home again to Louisiana but you have to admit, he sure went out with a bang didn’t he? As they say in Cajun country - Laissez les bons temps rouler! His service to our lodge has been much appreciated and we wish him the best of luck. He will not, however, be a total stranger. Glen has expressed a sincere interest in maintaining his membership in Placerville 26 and the Scottish Rite and we should see him periodically when he returns to California for family visits.

April also saw the raising of our newest Master Mason when Brother Dan Dentone was treated to a fantastic third degree performed by the Ben Ali Past Master’s team. It was gratifying to see a number of side-liners there as well and I understand our “robo-call” phone contact system played a role in their attendance by providing a reminder that this event was coming up. So far we’ve gotten rave reviews for the robo-call system and while it still needs a little fine-tuning so its full potential can be realized, it already appears to be accomplishing its intended purpose so stay tuned for future informative calls.

Speaking of degrees, May is also shaping up to be a busy month and we already have a second degree scheduled for Brother David Habedank (Friday May 6th) and another Ben Ali Past Master’s team third degree scheduled for brother Jeff Schideler on Friday, May 13th. Your officers are going to continue to be very busy conferring degrees on a large number of younger family men in the coming months which bodes well not only for lodge membership but also for getting our youth and families potentially involved in Rainbow, Job’s, and any of our other Masonic organizations and lodge activities. In April alone we balloted on four new applications – some of which came to us as referrals from existing brethren and others due to our increasing visibility in the Placerville area. The Kid’s Expo on April 9th, for example, provided your

lodge with another great opportunity to make Masonry relevant and get your lodge out in the community. Thanks in large part to the dedication of Brother Glen Lyons, our Kid’s ID booth provided fingerprinting and identification forms for nearly 250 children in just five hours and we had a large number of inquiries from young men about Masonry and how to join. Between the ID program, the Rainbow Girls booth, our new Masons Serving El Dorado County banners, and a lot of guys asking about the Craft, I’d say we did a great job in raising our profile and working towards keeping Masonry alive and well in El Dorado County and making a tangible difference in our community.

As for making a difference, those of you that were fortunate enough to have attended our April dinner and meeting got to see a number of very special presentations ranging from the awarding of the Masonic crab “jewel” to Brother Jeff Schideler to the gift of \$1,000 to Placerville 26 for contributing to the Grand Master’s By Your Side project. This gift was provided by a good friend of mine, Jason Coleman, who was at our 159th officer’s installation in January. Jason’s mom passed away a number of years ago from cancer and upon hearing of the Grand Master’s By Your Side project, he wanted to help. It truly warms the heart to know that people like Jason are out there and whether Masons or not (don’t worry...I’m working on him!), they’re willing to chip in and make good things

LUDWIG Continued next page...

### 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

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

## LUDWIG Continued...

happen. I also had the pleasure of formally presenting Brother John Doktor with his third degree proficiency certificate and the lodge was also presented with a "thank you" plaque from the kid's baseball team we sponsored this past year. With a record of 8-2, I'd say they did quite well and many thanks to our Junior Warden Brian Creel for leading the charge on this effort.

As a part of your lodge doing its best to "make good things happen", don't forget to call Brian Creel for reservations for the May stated meeting dinner (dinner is \$10.00 with a reservation but \$12.00 without). Once again, it will be an event you definitely will not want to miss. In celebration of Cinco De Mayo, Jean Halderman will be preparing her highly-regarded Mexican buffet, Worshipful Andrew Spencer's surfboard margarita bar will make a return appearance and we will all be entertained by a live trio from Mariachi Mi Tierra – a prominent Sacramento-area mariachi band! Check them out at [www.sacramentomariachi.com](http://www.sacramentomariachi.com).

Lastly, and to wrap up this article on a business-focused note, in accordance with a recent Grand Lodge recommendation I received from Alan Casalou (Grand Secretary), the 2010/2011 Dues Committee presents the following resolution (first read at the April stated meeting) which will be discussed and voted on at the June stated meeting:

Whereas the 2010/2011 Dues Committee has recommended that membership dues in Placerville 26 be raised approximately 5.5 cents per day for a total of \$20.00 per year, it is resolved that dues be increased this amount starting in 2012. It is further resolved that dues be raised every year the same amount that Grand Lodge per-capita is raised and rounded up to the next whole dollar amount. It is finally resolved that every four years, starting from the year 2012, that the Master appoint a dues review committee to

determine if the current dues amount is sufficient to cover lodge activities and programs.

Five explanatory points accompanying the reading of this resolution were also presented at the April meeting:

- In that Placerville Lodge 26, in keeping with long-noted trends in membership attrition throughout Freemasonry, has seen our roster reduced by approximately 30% over the past decade since dues were last raised, funds provided through lodge dues have decreased dramatically while expenses have risen concurrently.
- The recommended increase of \$20.00 in dues per annum was developed strictly in accordance with the Grand Lodge dues calculation formula.
- Assuming 2012 lodge expenses are approximately the same as those budgeted for 2011, a 5.5 cent per-day dues increase will enable the 2012 Master to present a balanced budget without reliance on assumed Hall Association profits – in accordance with established Grand Lodge guidance.
- Assuming overall Masonic membership attrition rates continue as they are projected for the next eight to ten years per Grand Lodge research, the recommended nominal yearly lodge dues increase would provide a mechanism whereby Placerville Lodge 26 could continue to minimize the effects of current downward trends in the annual acquisition of financial resources.
- The recommended 4-year dues review committees would serve to further ensure that dues are indeed covering lodge expenses and provide an additional mechanism whereby the dues structure could be reviewed and recommendations be developed for continued lodge financial solvency.

Happy spring and I hope to see everyone at our stated meeting, dinner, and all the upcoming degrees and lodge-supported events!

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# **GOLD COUNTRY LODGES SENIOR SUPPORT SYSTEM**

### *Contact*

**Dean Buckholz**  
**Bernie Dowse**  
**Brian Ludwig**

### *Phone Number*

**530-626-5821**  
**530-622-1564**  
**530-647-0872**

### *Lives in/near...*

**Kelsey**  
**Lotus/Placerville**  
**Pollock Pines &  
Pleasant Valley**  
**El Dorado**  
**El Dorado Hills**  
**Cameron Park**

**Jerry Roberts**  
**Jason Burgess**  
**Joe Carlson**

**530-626-1981**  
**916-501-3812**  
**916-799-4033**

## - Trestleboard -

Brethren,

Well, here we are five months into the new year already! How the time flies sometimes.

This month, we are making our annual visit to the Odd Fellows in Diamond Springs for our stated meeting. Our own Wor. Barney Noel, PM will be leading that crew in preparing a wonderful ham and scalloped potato dinner. The Sons of the Golden West will also be in attendance with "refreshments" available for donation.

Remember brothers, this is dinner is our commemorative dinner for the years that the Odd Fellows allowed our lodge to meet when our hall burned down. Our patronage helps support their association and the upkeep of that wonderful historic hall. If you can manage it, I urge you to attend. Please call our brother Brian Kennedy with reservations if possible. Besides the wonderful meal, Wor. Noel will be delivering a fantastically interesting historical tour of the building and its archives. Treasures from the earliest establishment of our communities make appearances at his presentations and are not to be missed. If you like seeing (and sometimes even holding) actual history you absolutely must attend.

Also, we have a third degree scheduled on May 11 for Chuck Brasiel. It's great news to see so many new Masons coming into our lodge. Let's see if we can manage a great turn-out for these new brothers and really show them the brotherhood and fraternity that Masonry stands for and get them active in our lodge. The poem I have included this month really illustrates the impression we leave on these men who are new to our fraternity. Our one night of support for them leads to a lifetime of their support of us.

The officer-hopefuls for next year are beginning to prepare their plans for 2012 at the lodge. If there are things you liked about this last year (or two) and want to see continue, or if there were things you want to be sure never happen again, come to stated and/or the degrees and practices and let the officer candidates know. If you prefer to do it in private, then feel free to contact Bros. Dusty Deryk, Joe Carlson, Denny Luce, Bobby Diesel or Kevin Brown. Their numbers are located elsewhere in this publication or can be obtained from our brother the Secretary, or can be located online at [www.freemason.org](http://www.freemason.org). Just sign up, sign on, and access a treasure-trove of Masonic information and publications from

Grand Lodge. This includes a full contact listing for all California Masons. And, as always, the computer and internet connection in the lodge is a great place to access this information.

Do you carry your lodge membership card with you? As you know, it is needed to gain admission into a lodge you visit other than your home lodge, and to attend Grand Lodge during its annual communication. Being a thin piece of paper though, it is subject to being easily destroyed. Protect it by having it laminated at lodge. The lodge now has a hot/cold laminating machine which can place a protective coating over your membership card, certificates of achievement or other items. Contact Wor. Nick Battaini, PM to have your items laminated. There is a small fee for the service to cover the cost of the materials used in the process.

Next month will seemore degrees and Wor. Nick cooking a barbeque dinner for the lodge. Keep on the look-out for next month's Gold Country Mason for details! Until then, my brothers.

Fraternally,

*Jason W. Burgess, PM • Master, Hiram #25*

### **Hiram Building 601 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**

<b>Master:</b>	<b>Jason W. Burgess, PM</b>	<b>(916) 501-3812</b>
<b>SW:</b>	<b>Nickalous Battaini, PM</b>	<b>(530) 391-6802</b>
<b>JW:</b>	<b>Joseph Carlson</b>	<b>(916) 799-4033</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Kevin Brown, PM</b>	<b>(530) 626-3795</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Brian Kennedy</b>	<b>(916) 712-2891</b>
<b>Senior Deacon:</b>	<b>John L. "Dusty" Deryck</b>	<b>(530) 919-1773</b>
<b>Junior Deacon:</b>	<b>Robert Sweeley, PM</b>	<b>(530) 344-8394</b>
<b>Chaplain:</b>	<b>Bobby Diesel</b>	<b>(530) 306-3586</b>
<b>Marshall:</b>	<b>Chris Brackmann</b>	<b>(530) 957-1161</b>
<b>Senior Steward:</b>	<b>Chad Oxford</b>	<b>(916) 933-0942</b>
<b>Junior Steward:</b>	<b>Jeremie Thompson</b>	<b>(530) 626-6463</b>
<b>Tyler:</b>	<b>Roy Kilday, PM</b>	<b>(530) 677-3068</b>

# Calendar of events:

# M A Y

**MOVED TO  
2nd MONDAY!**

Widdle Weels  
Meeting at  
Veteran's hall  
7:00 pm

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 <b>Sweetheart Breakfast</b> Mother's Day	9 A Placerville Masonic Ctr. Rainbow Girls 7:00 pm Sutter Creek York Rite Council Meeting 7:30pm	10 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	11 B Hiram Lodge 3rd Degree for Chuck Brasil 7:00 pm	12 A Placerville #26 Stated Meeting Fellowship 6:00 Cinco de mayo 6:30 Meeting 7:30	13 B Memorial Night Eastern Star Meeting 7:30 A Placerville #26 3rd Degree by Ben Ali Degree team 7:00 pm	14 B Hiram Lodge Bethel 74, Job's Daughters 10:00 am
15	16	12 A Placerville #26 Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	18 B Hiram Lodge 2nd Degree Mr. David Wright 7:00 pm	19 Rainbow Fundraiser at Sweet Score Yogurt on Missouri Flat 6 - 9 pm	20	21 A Placerville #26 SCOTTISH RITE Stated Meeting 11:30 am
22 Gold Country Mason Deadline for June Issue	23 A Placerville Masonic Ctr. Rainbow Girls 7:00 pm	24 District School of Instruction 7:00 pm B Hiram Lodge	25 B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm	26	27	28 B Hiram Lodge Bethel 74, Job's Daughters 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt Shrine Center, Sacto
29	30 Memorial Day (Observed)	31	B Hiram Lodge Officer's Practice 7:00 pm			

Locations:

Hiram 25 Website: <http://www.eldoradomasons.org/>  
 Placerville 26 Website: <http://www.calodges.org/no26/>  
 Grand Lodge: <http://www.freemason.org/>

**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  
 All other locations are indicated

THEY ALL CAME JUST FOR ME  
by Bro. Richard L. Jenkins

Something big is going on here.  
Or so I thought that night,  
As the Masons came to gather round  
the Great and lesser lights.  
One from here and one from there  
From places far and wide,  
They came to do, I knew not what,  
As they gathered there inside.  
But from each man I was greeted  
With a smile and voice of cheer.  
One said, "so you're the candidate.  
The reason that we're here."  
I scarcely knew just what he meant,  
For this was my "first degree."  
There must be much for them to do  
Before they got to me.  
Surely these guys would not travel  
for the sake of just one man.  
Yes, there must be much for them to do,  
Before my part began.  
The "Brother Tiler" was my company  
As I waited at the door  
To step into this brand new realm  
I had not known before.  
They shared with me the three Great Lights  
and some tools of the trade,  
That I might learn a thing or two  
of how a man be better made.  
When at last I had been seated  
In this brotherhood of men  
The Master then began to bring  
The meeting to an end.  
And with all things then completed,  
They stayed a little more,  
To eat and drink and share a laugh  
Before heading toward the door.  
But as we left I understood  
And then began to see.  
That they all came for one reason.  
They all came just for me.  
Dear brothers I pray every lodge  
Will make new ones like me,  
Feel as welcome as these brothers did,  
When they held my First Degree.  
Thank you, Brothers!

## Order of Eastern Star

### – El Dorado Foothills

#### Calendar for 2011

- May 13 – Memorial Night  
Chairman-Cherri Whiteley.
- June 10 – Past Matrons & Past Patrons  
– Potluck Dinner Chairman – Jean Cast-berg
- July 22 – River Cats baseball game.  
See Jackie to order tickets.
- Sept 9 – Western Night,  
Chairman-HeatherAnn Dawson
- Sept 10-11 – Relay for Life,  
El Dorado County fairgrounds
- Oct 14 – Mascot night  
(Dress as your favorite mascot!)  
Chairman-Lisa Blum, Mary Lou & 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

#### Schedule of the upcoming

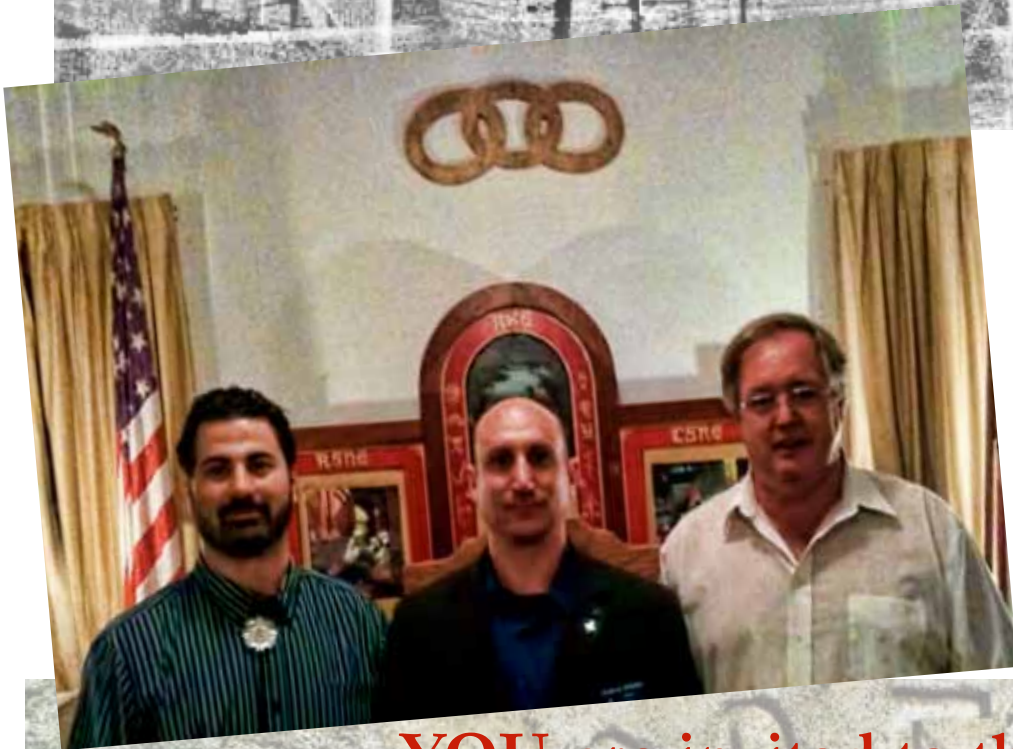
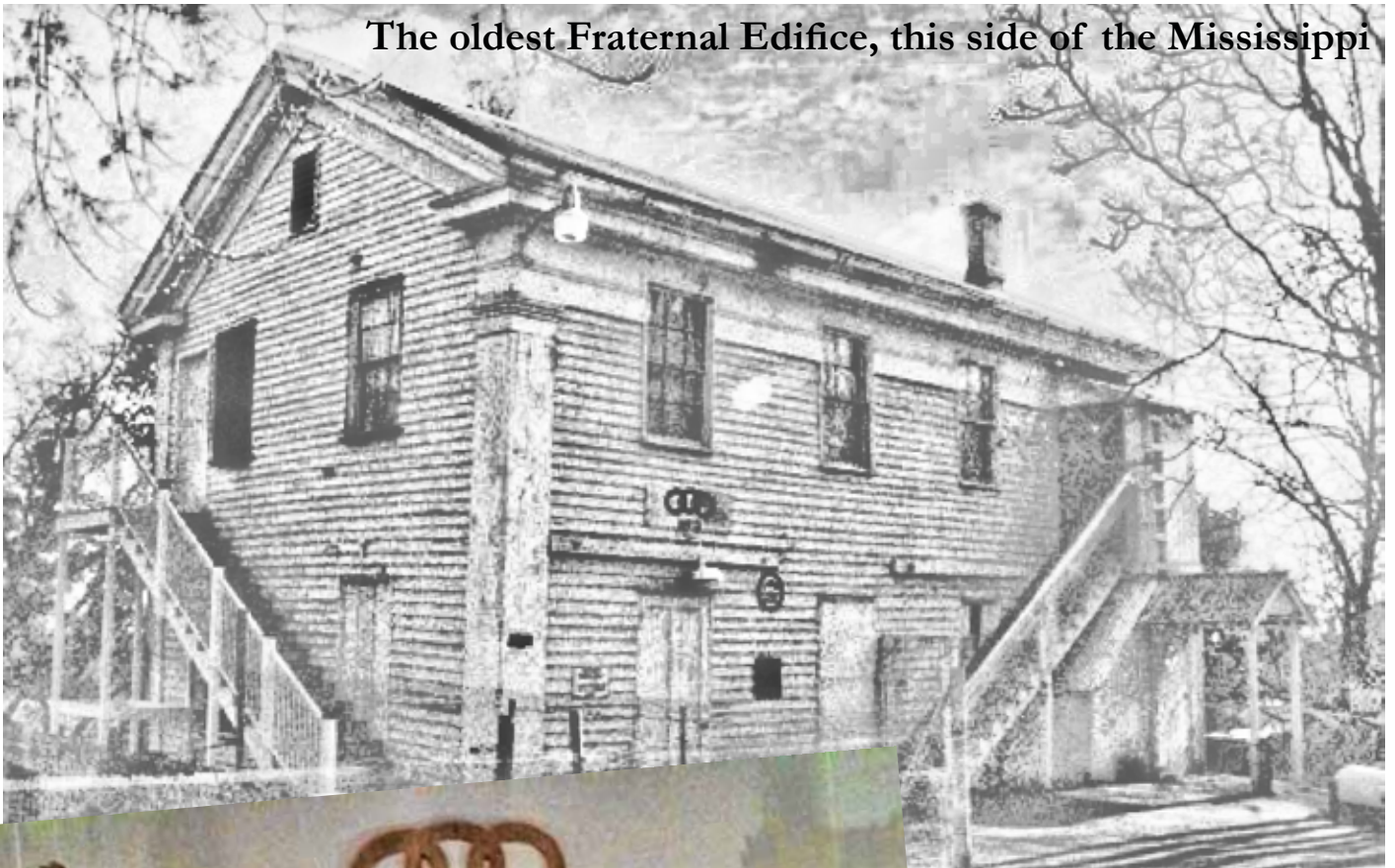
## 2011 YORK RITE MEETINGS

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

- May 9, 2011 - 7:30 pm Chapter  
**Re: Annual Grand York Rite Sessions.**
- June 27, 2011 - 7:30 pm Commandery
- July 25, 2011 - 7:30 pm Council
- August 22, 2011 - 7:30 pm Chapter
- 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 pre-  
siding officer for that meeting a few days before the meeting.*

The oldest Fraternal Edifice, this side of the Mississippi



Odd Fellows Hall in Diamond Springs, IOOF Parlor No.9 Established in 1852. Note the *brand new* STAIRS on the East side of the building! Native Sons of the Golden West also meet here regularly.

*Pictured Left to Right -*

Nick Battaini, P.M.

Worshipful Jason Burgess, P.M.  
Barney Noel, P.M. (& Odd Fellow Big-Wig & Native Son Big-Wig & SIRs Big-Wig) at the 2010 Odd Fellows Hall meeting.

**YOU are invited to the  
Hiram annual Stated Meeting  
at Diamond Springs Odd Fellows Hall  
(IOOF #9, est. 1852) Friday May 6, 2011  
6:00 Fellowship 6:30 Dinner, 7:00 Meeting**

PROCLAMATION  
YOUTH ORDERS MONTH

*The past is our heritage. The present is our responsibility. The future is our obligation.*

The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California is dedicated to the support of the young men and women of our Masonic youth orders: DeMolay International, the International Order of Job's Daughters, and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

These youth orders represent our roots; They are where many of us began our Masonic journeys. In recent years our fraternity has made it a priority to rebuild them. Thanks to the dedication of many lodges and members, it's working.

We must continue that mission. Reach out to youth orders in your community, and find ways to become involved. Serve on their advisory teams. Attend their meetings. Invite them to attend yours. Make them partners in lodge activities.

Above all, offer them the friendship and encouragement that should always be a part of our fraternal family. Take time to talk with these young men and women about their hopes, dreams, and challenges. Pay attention to the kind of support they need most: It might be financial assistance to attend leadership training, or it might be a place in the lodge Trestleboard to share their news. It might simply be your presence at their events.

Let's each find a way to honor our obligation to Masonic youth orders. After all, these young people are tomorrow's leaders. Their ideas and innovations will change how we live. Their values will make the world a better place.

They're also the future of this Masonic family.


I therefore PROCLAIM the month of MAY 2011 to be **YOUTH ORDERS MONTH**

and I direct that this Proclamation be read by the master at the May stated meeting and included in the lodge Trestleboard.

I urge every lodge in this jurisdiction to demonstrate its support for Masonic youth by planning a special meeting or program to include youth orders.

Dated this 15th day of April, 2011.

Sincerely and fraternally,

  
William J. Bray III  
Grand Master

Attest:

  
Allan L. Casalou  
Grand Secretary



## **Potentate's Visit**

April 10 was an eventful date with the visit from the Ben Ali Shrine's Potentate, Michael Grottkau and the First Lady, Shannon Grottkau.

For a change, this year's visit was held at the Cold Springs Golf and Country Club. The Potentate's Divan outnumbered our local club members, but we had a good time visiting with our Brethren from around the Sacramento area. The weather was perfect for their journey "up the hill". I want to especially thank those members of the El Dorado Shrine Club who changed their plans and made openings in their calendars to attend. This is a busy time of year, and we are grateful to those who were able to join us.

As the El Dorado Shrine Club President, my wife and I had the pleasure of sitting with Mike and Shannon Grottkau during the lunch. I had met Mike briefly during BASCO Days and I was looking forward to speaking with him further. Michael Grottkau is a leader who has some very impressive priorities. First Lady Shannon has also taken on some worthy ambitions.

I was truly impressed with the Potentate's emphasis in supporting the screening clinics for the Northern California Shiner's Hospital for Children. Michael Grottkau is trying to expand the funding for the screening clinics and thereby make the Hospital available to more children in need. Shannon Grottkau, in addition to continuing the efforts started by the Rizo's to replace the old lobby furniture at the Hospital, has made it her project to assure that the care provided the children is more than just medical. Mrs. Grottkau, a teacher, is working to make sure the children are given the opportunity to continue their educations during their stays at the Hospital.

I am sorry more of the El Dorado Shrine Club members could not have attended the event. The event was very inspiring, motivational and a very nice change of pace from the less pleasant events in our daily lives.

Fraterally,

Brian Kennedy President,  
El Dorado Shrine Club

## **Headstone in Coloma Cemetery**



**JOSEPH ANDERHOLDEN**

**A Mason and an Odd Fellow**

**Born November 6, 1859 • Died May 21, 1885**

## **MOTHER LODGE SCOTTISH RITE IS HOSTING THE MAY STATED MEETING**

### **11:30 a.m., May 21, 2011 • Placerville Lodge No. 26**

The Scottish Rite Bodies of the Sacramento Valley are taking the show on the road for the May Stated Meeting.

The meeting will open promptly at 11:30 at the Placerville Masonic Center. At the conclusion of the meeting, we will adjourn for a relaxing sandwich and salad buffet being prepared by Brother Steve Anderly (Hiram #25's Executive Chef). Steve is working very hard to provide a quality meal at the affordable price of \$10.00. Please RSVP so there will be enough food for all and have minimal waste.

*This is the one stated meeting in the year where a lot of the excuses for not attending will be nullified by the time of day and location.*

I hope to see and meet a lot of our members that normally can't make the Stated Meetings.

Fraternally Brian Kennedy, 32°, KVCVH • President, Motherlode Scottish Rite Club

**RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2011 BRIAN KENNEDY (530) 621-3702 OR (916) 712-2891**



Inspector – 402nd District  
Thomas A. “Tom” Golden  
3234 Grace Drive  
Diamond Springs, CA 95619-  
9526  
Home: (530) 626-1275  
Cell: (530) 305-5279  
E-Mail: tom@tomgolden.org

## DISTRICT SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION (“SOI”) SCHEDULE FOR 2011

It is required that Inspectors conduct a District practice of each of our Three Degrees at least twice each year. We will also practice various other aspects of non-Degree ritual, such as reception of the Inspector / Grand Master / flag of our country, balloting, Stated Meeting agendas, election of Officers and other such items as are necessary to the proper functioning of our Lodges.

Our monthly SOI will be held on the 4th Tuesday of every month, with the exceptions of July, August and December. There will be no SOI during those 3 months. After much consideration, it would be a greater impact to our District if we tried to select a different night for our school of instruction, so it will remain as in previous years. Each school will begin promptly at 7:00 PM and I will make every effort to conclude the instructional by 9:00 PM. However, some months may go longer, depending on the amount of material to be covered. One example would be the month when we review legislation for the upcoming Grand Lodge Annual Communication, in addition to our Ritual and other work. As is customary in our District, each month the SOI will rotate to another Lodge. Please pay attention to which Lodge is the host Lodge for each SOI.

Each month, the host Lodge will be responsible for filling the chairs. If any chairs are empty, I will assign Officers as I deem appropriate to fill the empty chairs, so even if your Lodge is not the host Lodge for any given month, you may still be called on to fill your chair, so always be fully prepared to work at each school of instruction. The host Lodge has the option to provide light refreshment after the instruction has concluded. Each Officer must contact the Inspector directly if he will be unable to attend a school of instruction. No one else can excuse you. It would also be appropriate to inform your Master and Officers Coach. Your potential for advancement to higher Office will depend in part on your attendance at these schools, so please make every reasonable effort to attend.

In the first half of the year, Officers will sit in their proper, installed stations. After the summer break, Officers will each practice in advanced stations.

The format I follow consists of any specific items I wish to cover or Grand Lodge pass downs come first. Then we will practice the assigned material.

### 2011 PRACTICE SCHEDULES 402ND MASONIC DISTRICT

*All schools will begin promptly at 7:00 PM and will end as close to 9:00 PM as practical on the date listed for each month. Be on time and prepared to sit in your own station, even if your Lodge is not the host.*

*Please note that this year we have 2 joint training meetings with District #404 (Natoma, American River & Harding-San Juan Lodges).*

#### **APRIL 26TH – DRYTOWN #174**

Third Degree beginning with 2nd Section all the way through long form closing. No lecture.

#### **MAY 24TH – HIRAM #25**

First Degree beginning at 2 raps at opening through Candidate's return to lodge room in 2nd section. No lecture, no closing.

#### **JUNE 28TH – PLACERVILLE #26**

Second Degree from very beginning through end of 1st section. Possibly Middle Chamber lecture.

#### **SEPTEMBER 27TH – PLACERVILLE #26**

(Joint training with District #404)

Review legislation and items for Grand Lodge Annual Communication. Third Degree beginning with 2nd Section all the way through long form closing. No lecture.

#### **OCTOBER 25TH – DRYTOWN #174**

Election of Officers. Reception of the flag of our country. Discuss Annual Communication issues, legislation. Will discuss which Degree work with Master of AR Lodge prior to this date and notify all by email.

*Junior Deacons: You must be proficient in the Senior Deacon's work in all sections of all three Degrees to qualify for installation as Senior Deacon! I strongly urge you to be ready to qualify by November 1st.*

#### **NOVEMBER 22ND – HIRAM #25**

Installation ceremony practice, and any work that anyone needs to use for qualification for Installation.

## **A Word From Hiram #25, Secretary**

Nastygrams are soon to be mailed to the Brethren who are delinquent in their dues.

Many members have failed to pay their dues that are payable January 1 of every year. Several of those members are delinquent for more than one year and exposing themselves to suspension for nonpayment of dues. Major issues arise when one is suspended:

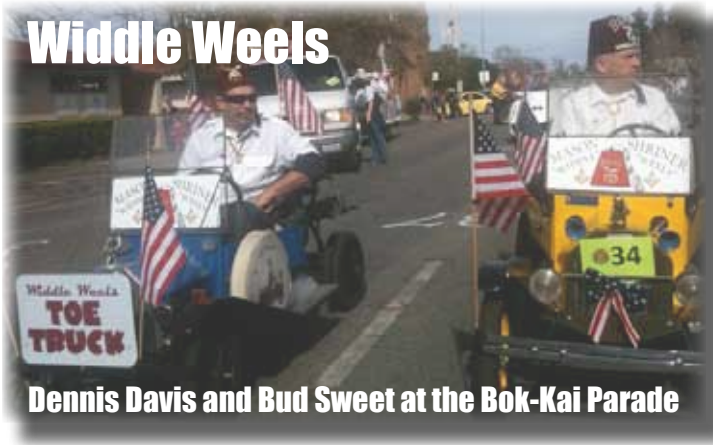
- A member's ability to continue to participate in concordant body activities is compromised.
- A **unanimous** vote of the Lodge is required for a member to be reinstated
- Exposure to paying back dues, the sudden burden of which may be prohibitive.

If you are delinquent, the general membership of the Lodge has been carrying your expenses for per capita fees to Grand Lodge, publications and mailings, etc., etc., etc.

If you are having financial issues, please contact the Secretary or Master of your Lodge. The economy has been hard on all of us and your issues will be addressed with absolute confidence.

Remember, we are Masons! We have committed ourselves to “Brother Love, Relief and Truth”. We are not clairvoyant or possess crystal balls. If the Master and Secretary are not informed of issues that need to be addressed, not only is the issue going unabated, but those who could have helped have been denied the opportunity to fulfill their commitment to their Brethren.

Fraternally,  
Brian Kennedy,  
Secretary, Hiram #25



# Widdle Weels

**Dennis Davis and Bud Sweet at the Bok-Kai Parade**

The Potentate's visit was a hoot. The change of venue from the Sequoia Restaurant to Cold Springs Country Club was effortless. The members enjoyed the casual Country Club atmosphere and Patty's fabulous food. Not having a dias was really nice, because it allowed the pote and his divan opportunities to talk with everyone around the table, not just who they were sitting next to.

The highlight of the afternoon is when our Captain, Bud Sweet stood up to present the Potentate and his Lady with checks for their projects. Bud started out all nice and congenial-like and then he questioned why, as Shriners, we are not allowed to ride kids on our cars. This has apparently been a burr in Bud's saddle for a while because he gave an empationed plea to the Pote to fix this injustice. Now this is on the heels of the \$80. per vehicle Insurance issue, which was just repealed. Is the riding of kids on the back of the WW vehicles an Insurance issue or is it a "I don't think they should be riding kids on the back of those things" issue? Are we not riding kids because we are afraid of getting sued? Think back. When most of us were young, we either didn't wear seatbelts or we just had a lap belt, we never wore a helmet riding our bicycles, we rode in the beds of trucks. The vast majority of us made it through childhood OK. Our society has made it ok to NOT be responsible for yourself. Therefore you are entitled to sue if something happens to you. In fact, I knew a lawyer in Southern California who would hang out on a bench by the squirt fountains (the kind that kids would run through on a hot day and get all wet) at the Spectrum outdoor mall in South Orange County. He saw it as income potential. Sure enough there are planters all around the fountain now with signs that say to "keep out" (and probably one kid who doesn't have to worry about how to pay for college). The following are fine examples of our sue-happy society...

## 8 Frivolous Lawsuit Cases

1. The television show "Jackass" is being sued by a Montana man for plagiarizing his name, copyright and trademark infringement and defamation of character as well. In 1997, this Montana man legally changed his name to Jack Ass in order to raise public awareness about the perils of drunken driving. Mr. Jack Ass is seeking \$10 million in damages.

2. A former Houston ambulance driver stopped for doughnuts while taking an injured youth to Ben Taub Hospital. The youth's mother filed a complaint against the driver and the driver is suing the city for intentional infliction of emotional distress.
3. A woman who attended 'Halloween Horror Nights' at Universal Studios is suing for \$15,000 in damages for extreme fear, emotional distress and mental anguish.
4. Barney the Dinosaur sues the San Diego Chicken. The San Diego Chicken is a sports stadium mascot who, while doing a routine, pummeled a Barney look-alike. The judge threw out the case saying that the act was clearly parody and would not cause trademark confusion.
5. A New York City woman was awarded \$14.1 million by a state supreme court jury after she was hit by a subway train as she was patiently laying on the tracks in an apparent suicide attempt. Later, the reward was cut 30 percent, to a mere \$9.9 million, because of her "comparative negligence."
6. A California couple sued Bally Health Club for loss of consortium and emotional distress for a cyberspace romance on the man's part. Apparently, the man cut his hand on the towel dispenser at the health club sending him home for a few days where he decided to roam in an online romance.
7. A man is suing the Utah State Prison, saying the prison is violating his right to practice his religion by failing to provide him with a "vampire" diet. The man also filed a complaint that he was denied a conjugal visit with his "vampress" and denied to right to the sacrament of drinking blood.
8. In a "liar, liar no pants on fire case", a California nudist sued an event organizer when he burned his feet while doing a fire walk, after being told the activity may be dangerous.

The frivolous lawsuits listed above are fine examples of finger pointing, playing the blame game and other methods to avoid personal responsibility.

So, THANK YOU BUD for standing up to the ridiculousness of not being able to ride kids on the widdle weels. When we are able to bring joy to even one child, it is truly worth the fight.

The Elk Grove Parade is on the 30th of April and (hopefully the GCM will have made it out to everybody. We'll meet at Sweet Septic at 7:00am so we can stop and have breakfast at Bert's Diner in Sheldon on the way. This is a fun commack parade that Widdle Weels has been going to for years. So if you are interested in driving a Widdle Weels for the first time, this would be a great opportunity. The next Widdle Weels meeting is on the 2nd Monday of May (MAY 9th) at the Vet's Hall. 7:00.

I will keep a keen eye out for the guy from So. California.  
John Zachry, Secretary

### Legal Disclaimer:

Note: I really have great respect for lawyers. Just not the smarmy ones. This also was not written by a lawyer, so the legality of it would be in question only if I were to disclaim it's contents. But it doesn't really disclaim anything, so legally I can't be held responsible for your mis-understanding the content herein. Whereas this is what I believe, so it can't really be disputed because it is in my head and you can't have it. You certainly can't sue for it. Even though I am putting it on paper and publishing it, because I am not forcing you to read it. You are reading this on your own free will and accord, in fact you probably had to go out of your way to enlarge this somehow to see it. To me, that puts the ball squarely in your court (no pun intended). So, that being said... Isn't it crazy that at the end of TV commercials they put up on the screen a whole litany of stuff that you can't read because it's way too small and flashes for a nano-second. And, at the end of a radio commercial where they sound like they have swallowed a chipmunk, speaking at 5 times the speed of a normal person. Or the one I really like is car commercials where they have to put up "professional driver on a closed course" because you might mistakenly believe that you can go to Bonneville salt flats and do figure-8's at 100 miles per hour. But we must be protected from ourselves, which continually reminds me that "Nothing is idiot-proof to a sufficiently talented idiot!"

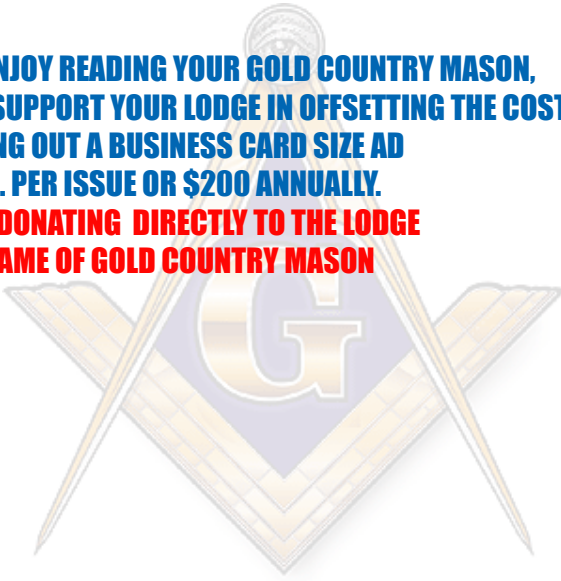
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