



The Master Mason



VOLUME XCIX, Issue 8

August 2021

The Master's Message

Settling in to the second half of the year and we are finally back to holding in-person meetings. The officers held our first in-lodge practice of the year in July and it felt great to be back in lodge. We are thankful for the outstanding generosity of East San Diego Lodge No. 561 and Worshipful Robert Reyes who are lending us a Masonic hand during our times of trouble and flood. The repairs to the Scottish Rite Center are well under way but we are estimating several months before we can get back into the building. We received our dispensation to temporarily hold meetings at East San Diego Lodge No. 561 until the end of September, and will address a continuance if necessary.

Let it be it known - The San Diego Lodge No. 35 August 2021 Stated Meeting will be in person at East San Diego Lodge No. 561, 7849 Tommy Dr, San Diego, CA 92119, on 8/6/2021 at 7:30pm.

Meeting details and other important notices are sent in separate lodge emails – if you do not receive these emails, contact any lodge officer for assistance.

In July, the Pillars and I attended the online Masters and Wardens Retreats. The Grand Lodge officers presented a myriad of great material which prompted great thought and discussions; we'll be bringing many of these ideas back to the lodge.



David G. Vassall, Master

Together we will accomplish great things!

In August, we are planning to continue our virtual lodge fellowship events, attend online Masonic education, host inter-lodge and community events. We are looking forward to hosting our Masonic blood drive and BBQ in cooperation with East San Diego Lodge No. 561 **on August 8th**. The BBQ will be free but any donations will be earmarked for the Let's Write the Future Campaign and Masons4Mitts. Please see the attached flyer and if you are able to donate blood, please make sure to reserve your spot with the San Diego Blood Bank at: https://www.mysddb.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/70273

The San Diego Blood Bank is operating on a two day, critically low blood supply. Let's prove San Diego Lodge No. 35's community involvement and help refill the reserves! Every day, San Diegans struggle with life-threatening medical conditions including cancer, blood disorders, severe burns, or-

gan transplants, emergency surgery, trauma, and childbirth complications and blood is needed. A beautiful day in August, a BBQ with your friends, music, and saving lives makes for a perfect day! ...and all donors will get a cool Comic Con shirt as a thank you for donating!

We are doing well with our **Let's Write the Future** contributions but we still have a long way to go to fulfill our commitment this year. Worshipful Jay Sener, IV, PM and family graciously offered to match any donations in the month of July up to a total maximum of \$1,000.00 and the membership came through - we will announce their generosity at the August Stated Meeting. Donations can be mailed directly to the lodge in care of the Lodge Secretary or made online securely via PayPal links. My sincerest thanks to all who have already made generous donations! **Brothers, we need those donations to meet the commitment we made to Grand Lodge 4 years ago.**

Zoom links for all lodge events will be sent via separate emails to all. If you do not receive the lodge notification emails, please contact me, the secretary, one of the pillars, or any lodge officer.

In closing, this month especially, I contemplate this quote by George Washington, "*Freemasonry is founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice and its grand ob-*"
(Continued on page 2)

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ject is to promote the happiness of the human race."

There are very few immutable laws; truth and justice at the foundation of every Mason's obligation. The events of the past 18 months may have slowed our pace but Masonry will bloom and thrive, for at its foundation, we cherish that which is good and right in the world.

Together, especially, we will accomplish great things!

David Vassall
Master

From the West

We had our first in-person officers' practice in July; it was great to see everyone and be in lodge once again, even if it was not in our regular lodge room at the Scottish Rite Center. A big thank you to East San Diego Lodge #561 for offering us their facilities. I am looking forward to our first in-person August Stated Meeting and our September degrees. We had a few applications turned in so we (the officers) are dusting out the ritual cobwebs to get these applicants initiated. We also have a few brothers that have pending 2nd and 3rd degrees so we have a lot of work ahead of us; we will definitely be busy for the rest of the year. I am excited to be back in-person and look forward to doing degrees once again.

Masons4Mitts got off to a late start this year and our numbers are looking pretty low. Our lodge has a his-

tory of bringing in a lot of donations for this cause and I hope that continues this year, especially since one of the two captains for the Mid-City Marauders is from our lodge... namely Me. Help me have a strong San Diego Lodge #35 representation for this year's Masons4Mitts. Our donation season ends in September, which is coming up fast! Details to come for Mason's Night at Petco Park.

Please visit: masons4mitts.org.

Click on "[Give a Mitt](#)" and select the following options so our team can get the credit:

Region: San Diego

Team: Mid-City Marauders

Any amount helps.

Jonathan Robles
Senior Warden

From the South

As we gear up to host in-person meetings again, and much like our Brother Senior Warden did, I also want to express my sincerest appreciation to East SD Lodge #561. They have not only been hospitable, but they have displayed the most incredible example of what freemasonry is all about. Behind the scenes, one might expect a great deal of coordination and effort dialing in the details and ironing out any timeline conflicts. That, however, couldn't be farther from what we have experienced. Worshipful Reyes and his team have made the process rather simple by clearing the schedule of virtually all Fridays until future notice. I am especially thankful that they have made us feel

welcome and at home the entire time. So, a huge thank you to East San Diego Lodge #561, and we appreciate everything.

This month I wanted to touch on the importance of self-improvement briefly. The lessons taught to us in our craft teach us the importance of self-improvement. Some of those lessons are easily visible how best to utilize tools of our craft to improve the dictates of our physical (and meta-physical) lives, to discourse on the role of the seven liberal arts and sciences, to learning how to be trustworthy, faithful, and prudent. Yet, these are only a few of the many lessons and examples taught in freemasonry. Self-improvement, I am learning, can sometimes be a little more cryptic and not so easily visible. When we synthesize the things we already know (or think we know), are more open to exploring new ideas and perspectives (you don't have to agree or like them, but we do stand to learn from them), and/or realize we need to focus on improving our own lives and not worry so much about others we are still improving ourselves. So that I am not confused as having said to not worry about others, for clarification purposes, I simply meant how can we expect to help others if we cannot even help ourselves.

Self-improvement has many faces and doesn't require much more than a desire and will to do so. Lately, for me, self-improvement looks a lot like going to the Online Master & Wardens retreat and studying the ritual book (religiously), actively listening to my brothers, and organ-

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To Families, Wives/Widows and Caregivers

Should the person to whom this newsletter is addressed be ill or in some difficulty, please contact the Lodge Secretary at (619) 296-0660 or email him at: secretary@sandiego35.org

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Let The Sun Shine



Richard Bauerfeld
Edward Bayes
Don Heath
B. M. 'Chik' Hylton

Raul Luna
Ken McMillen
John C. Thomas
Michael Thomason

Contact the Secretary for addresses and phone numbers.

Our infirmed brethren don't care what we know if they don't know we care.

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izing much of the work that I have put off over the last several months since beginning my master's degree program. I leave all of you with this quote to consider by James Allen, from his 1902 publication, *As a Man Thinketh*:

"A strong man cannot help a weaker unless the weaker is willing to be helped, and even then the weak man must become strong of himself; he must, by his own efforts, develop the strength which he admires in another. None but himself can alter his condition."

Gerry Craft
Junior Warden

Masonic Mirth by WB Greg O'Neal



Printed with permission. Cartoons by Worshipful Gregory O'Neal and art by Worshipful Adam Bayer of Corvallis Lodge #14, Corvallis, OR

August Birthdays

1 Thomas Black	6 Patrick Magosin	10 Dennis Brittain	19 Charles Behnke
Peter Mellos	George Hotaling - EA	Richard Porter Jr.	James Whelpley
Casey Miles	7 Leonard Hopkins	11 Steven Detsch	23 William Simpson
Eduardo Gonzalez Jr.	David Tobias	Randall Freeman, PM	24 Harry Young
Jonathan Robles	John Matkovich Jr.	Lawrence Getz III	Bartolome Briones
2 Charles Rubin - EA	Timothy Short	12 Thomas Boggs	26 Richard Jayroe
3 Richard Sprague	9 Bobby Saylor	16 Benjamin Astudillo II, PM	Jason Kandah
Jose De Luna, PM	Joseph Cardenas Jr.	Jared Whittemore, PM	27 Timothy Pendley
Leon Dame	10 James Harris	17 Gerald Jones	29 Andrew Poincot
4 Michael Lancaster, PM	Gerald Winstanley, PM	18 Erwin Harris	31 Keith Meeker
6 Michael Randall	James Waits Jr.	Alberto Castillo	

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

From the Secretary

June and July were months of great surprise as we are all aware. We were all so anticipating our first in person Stated Meeting in July but due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, we continued with the Zoom Meetings. While those meetings allowed members who don't live in the area to join us and refresh acquaintances, after 16 months we were all yearning for the ability to meet in person, shake hands, and simply see live people. Well, finally in August we are going to do just that. While we won't be meeting in our beloved Shell Lodge Room at Scottish Rite, our sitting Master, Worshipful Vassall, secured us a temporary home at East San Diego Lodge #561. I really can't wait to see all that will attend. We have a full agenda that includes balloting on new members! Remember that feeling and experience? Be sure to come and share in that joy! Bring your money for the Senior Warden, who will have his "Candy Basket" and "Crown Royal" bag for donations to the Philanthropic Fund. Then we will learn how well the Senior Deacon REALLY cannot count and add the money collected.

The lodge office at Scottish Rite remains closed. Both Worshipful Creason and I have office computers setup in our homes and can receive email. The only thing we really don't have is the lodge telephone. So, if you need to contact the office for any questions, please use Secretary@SanDiego35.org to contact us via email. The Treasurer will have his email available soon. That will be Treasurer@SanDiego35.org.

With summer here and fall approaching, the Annual Communication will soon be here in October. Grand Lodge registration is open. If you plan to go, I recommend you do so early, as I am sure many brothers throughout the state are as anxious as we are to attend.

Also, with fall means dues notices. We will use Grand Lodge again this year for billing and payments. Of course, you can always send payment to the office. So again, I recommend you sign up for iMember 2.0 soon. Please follow the included instructions. Remember Dues Cards are located in iMember and are printable from the application. No Dues Card will be mailed. Call or email the office if you need assistance.

Follow these steps:

1. Gather these items:
 - your Lodge Number (35)
 - current email
 - your MEMBER NUMBER (back of your dues card)
2. Click this link: https://member.freemason.org/membership_registration

If you have any issues, you can contact Grand Lodge at this email address:
memberservices@freemason.org

The Lodge Office remains closed during the COVID Restrictions but I can be reached by email at Secretary@SanDiego35.org

Be well, be safe and take care of yourselves and families.

Richard Bullard, PM
Secretary

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Some Pictures From the Lodge Office



No more walls Taken from the south hallway looking through the Jos Shell Lodge office all the way to the Morrison Room.



The Shell Room— main entrance and preparation room doors.



Taken from the entrance of the San Diego Lodge office...the walls are gone.



The Heald Room taken from the Amity Lodge office. ...again, no walls.

Note: To see more pictures, visit the Scottish Rite website at: <https://www.scottishritesandiego.org>



SAN DIEGO MASONS

BLOOD DRIVE

+ AND BBQ

**Co-Sponsored By San Diego Lodge No. 35 and East San Diego Lodge No. 561
Blood Donations Performed by San Diego Blood Bank**



**10am - 3pm
Come
Anytime**

**FREE
FOOD**

--BUT--
**DONATIONS
WELCOME**



**Reservation
Required For
Blood
Donations**

**Contact Lodges
for Donation
Signup Link**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

7849 Tommy Dr, San Diego, CA 92119

Any donations earmarked for Masons 4 Mitts and Let's Write the Future!

Made with PosterMyWall.com

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Details on the Virtual Fellowship Meetings:

San Diego Lodge No. 35 will continue to hold virtual fellowship meetings in the following months until such time we are able to meet again in person. This will be done using the software platform Zoom. Please reach out to a brother if you need assistance accessing the software.

1. **Virtual Fellowship Meeting with San Diego Lodge #35** Monday, August 16th at 7:00pm PST

2. **Virtual Fellowship Meeting with San Diego Lodge #35** Friday, August 27th at 7:00pm PST

Stay tuned and check your emails.

NOTE:

The August Stated Meeting will be held in person at East San Diego Lodge #561.

The address is: *7849 Tommy Dr, San Diego, CA 92119*

The time is: *7:30pm.*

Spouse's Corner

Well, the month of August brings us wonderful news! We can finally meet in person!

As I'm sure by now all of you know about the flooding incident that happened last month at the Scottish Rite Center. Since we are unable to have our Stated meeting there, East San Diego Lodge 561 has been very gracious and allowed the members of Lodge 35 to hold our meetings at their Lodge. For the month of August the ladies will not be able to join. I'm hoping we can find a place for coffee and/ or food that is near by so that we can finally see each other. I will be in touch soonest with some ideas!

Please put August 8th on your calendars! San Diego Lodge 35 will be co-hosting a blood drive and BBQ with East San Diego Lodge 561. It will be a great day and I hope to see you there! There are still a few spaces available for blood donations, please donate if you can. You don't need to be a Mason to sign up. Here is the link to sign up: https://www.mysddb.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/70273

Please let Dave and me know if you or your Mason do not receive the emails about upcoming lodge events or need to be added to the ladies and spouse mailing list.

Amanda Vassall

Madam of San Diego Lodge #35

San Diego Lodge No. 35, F. & A. M.
 1895 Camino del Rio South
 San Diego, CA 92108-3683

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth

2021 LODGE OFFICERS

Master..... David Vassall (Amanda).....
 Senior Warden..... Jonathan Robles (Desiree).....
 Junior Warden..... Gerry Craft (Serene).....
 Treasurer..... Gary M. Creason, PM (Mia).....
 Secretary..... Richard Bullard, PM (Sharon).....
 Assistant Secretary.....
 Chaplain..... Patrick Wohlrabe, PM (Barby).....
 Senior Deacon..... Eddie Gonzalez.....
 Junior Deacon..... Chris Natwick (Elthne).....
 Marshal..... Mark Doubleday, PM (Kim).....
 Senior Steward..... Eric Fuller (Kelli).....
 Junior Steward..... Mohamad Yassin.....
 Organist..... Quan Gu (Celeste).....
 Tiler..... Chuck Makray (Carole).....
 Lodge Ambassador Richard A. Fisher (Connie).....
 Lodge Ambassador Jay Sener IV, PM (Cindy).....

For your convenience...

Inspector, 925th: Richard Bullard, PM (Sharon).....
 Officers' Coach: Austin Swank, PM (Julia).....
 Head Candidates' Coach: Gerald Winstanley PM (Joy)..
 Junior PM: Peter Newman (Katie).....
 Editor: JoJo Quimpo, PM (Jenny).....(619) 296-0660
 San Diego Lodge No. 35 Office.....(619) 296-0660
 San Diego Lodge No. 35 Office (Reservations).....(619) 296-4821

San Diego Lodge No. 35 Website: <http://www.sandiego35.org>
 San Diego Lodge No. 35 email: secretary@sandiego35.org

STATED MEETING and DINNER

AUGUST 6, 2021

****BUSINESS ATTIRE****

(Tuxedos for Officers)

Face covering required for non-vaccinated

Dinner at 6:00 pm

By Reservation \$18.00

~~Make or Cancel Reservation with Secretary by~~
~~Noon July 28 2021~~

Entrees: KFC & Popeyes Fried Chicken

Potato Salad, Mashed Potato w/ Gravy

Mac & Cheese, Banana Split

Stated Meeting at 7:30 pm

Dessert served following the Stated Meeting and the
ladies' activity — TBD

Calendar Of Events

August 2021

6th	Friday	7:30 pm	Stated Meeting — (In Person @ East San Diego Lodge #561) NOTE: No dinner
8th	Sunday	10:00 am	Masonic Blood Drive - BBQ
9th	Monday	4:30 pm	Exec. Committee Meeting (Zoom)
11th	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Officers' Practice @ East SD Lodge #561
13th	Friday	6:00 pm	Officers' Practice @ East SD Lodge #561
16th	Monday	7:00 pm	Zoom Fellowship Meeting
20th	Friday	6:00 pm	1st Degree @ East SD Lodge #561
23rd	Monday		Open
27th	Friday	7:00 pm	Zoom Fellowship Meeting
30th	Monday		Open

Please check the web site for updates:
WWW.SANDIEGO35.ORG

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San Diego Lodge No. 35, F. & A. M.
 1895 Camino Del Rio South
 San Diego CA 92108-3683
secretary@sandiego35.org

Richard Bullard, PM

Secretary (619) 296-0660

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