

The Master Mason



VOLUME CIII, Issue 11

November 2025

The Master's Message

Greetings Brethren,

As I am writing this Madam Kelli and I are looking forward to attending the Annual Communications at Grand Lodge in San Francisco later this week. This year has gone by fast for us and we appreciate all the hard work put in from our candidates and officers working on the degrees.

As the year comes to a close we are looking forward to Elections in November's Stated Meeting for next years officers.

Also, on November 17th we have a second degree scheduled for Brother Jay Abbott. Please plan on attending to show support to Brother Abbott during his degree.

Lastly for November, please RSVP with our Secretary to attend Brother Keith Meeker's 50 Year Ceremony on November 21st.

Madame Kelli and I hope that you all enjoy the month of November as we prepare for the holiday season. November is truly a month for Thanks Giving.

See you in Lodge!

Eric Fuller
Master



**Advance the
Lodge with
Purpose**

**Eric Fuller
Master**

From The

West

Greetings Brethren!

As the crisp autumn air settles over our city and the scent of pumpkin spice begins to mingle with the smell of salt water, we find ourselves at the threshold of November, a month rich with reflection, gratitude, and the promise of renewal. It is my privilege to address you not merely as your Senior Warden, but as a brother who stands in awe of our craft and the light we kindle together.

First, let me extend a heartfelt and fraternal thank you to Worshipful Brother Eric Fuller, our esteemed Master this year. From the East, you have been nothing short of a beacon. A true exemplar of leadership tempered by wisdom, humility, humor, and an unwavering commitment to the principles of our ancient order. Under your steady hand, we have not merely maintained the course; we have charted a bold path forward. As I am sure all our officers will agree, Wor. Fuller has laid

the tracks: strong, straight, and true for the years to come. His vision, his tireless labor in degree work, and his ability to inspire even the weariest among us have left an indelible mark on this lodge. We are better for his service, and I, for one, am deeply grateful. Thank you, Worshipful, your legacy will echo long after the gavel passes.

As we turn the page on this Masonic year, our thoughts naturally drift to the elections this month. Let us approach them with the same gravity and brotherly love that define our craft.

November also brings us Thanksgiving, that cherished American rite which reminds us to pause amid the bustle and count our blessings. Brethren, take this month to gather with your families—those sacred circles where love is spoken without ritual, yet felt with profound depth. Share a meal, a story, a laugh. Reflect on the roof over your head, the craft in your heart, the brothers at your side.

I look forward to seeing each of you soon in lodge. Until then, may God bless you and keep you, and may the bonds of our fraternity grow ever stronger.

See you in Lodge,

Brandon C. Schoonover
Senior Warden

From The South

Greetings Brethren,

As far back as Anderson's Constitutions, Masons were charged with being "...a peaceable Subject to the Civil Power, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concern'd in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation..." Our more recent charge makes it more understandable "...never proposing or countenancing any act which may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good will of society..." But what does this mean to us in our everyday lives?

The key may be in the word "act."

We usually consider "act" to mean some type of overtly physical action; marching, picketing, or even as far as picking up arms. This is not to say that Masons have not "acted" in the past. Consider the French Revolution, WWII Germany, and the American Civil War: Masons participated in each of these and many more recorded and unrecorded. Acting can also be making speeches, publishing pamphlets. However, in today's world in addition to the physical acts of taking up arms, marching, and picketing; we have better and faster communication to get our views dispersed around the globe.

As Masons we understand that we are not to "...injure a brother in his person or good name..." The United States Constitution provides for Freedom of Speech. Does this mean that we can always say whatever we want? Well, yes AND no. Sure, we can say what we want, but there

may be consequences for that speech. While we are technically allowed to say what we want, we understand there are rules and limitations that have been created not only by culture and social moirés but even at times by our employers or the government.

Challenges of speech can arise when we have disagreements with our neighbors, co-workers, government, and brothers in Masonry (I won't digress into a discussion on Communication 101 here). This is where we, as Masons, can be true role models. A principal tenant of Masonry is Brotherly Love. The Golden Rule, treating others as we would want to be treated goes a long way in creating a harmonious society. The Golden Rule may be fine when disagreements are small.

When disagreements are large, complex, and emotionally charged, we must lean into that teaching and act on the principal of Civility. Yet, civility is in the eye of the beholder. Civility can be defined as "...polite, reasonable, respectful behavior when dealing with others." Civility extends beyond simple word choice and includes tone, posture, active listening, and gestures. It can be difficult to extend civility when both individuals are intellectually and emotionally invested in their positions, but that is when it is most needed. Also, what passes for "civility" changes with time, location, and those engaging in discussions.

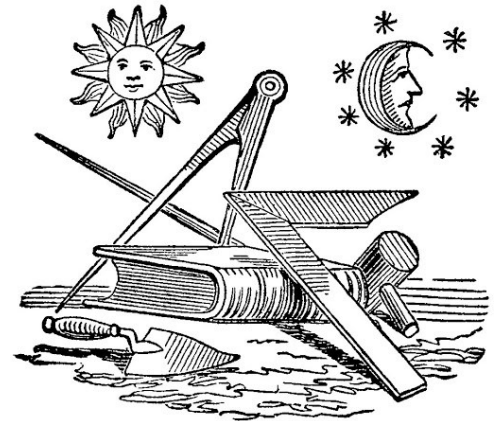
When we practice civility in our speech, ever remembering the tenant of Brotherly Love, we can make this ever-polarized world a

better place for everyone.

More information on Civility can be found in The Civility Mosaic: How anyone can use the Principles of Freemasonry to repair our world by Russ Charvonia PGM and Michael Ashley.

See you in Lodge!!!

Paul Chouinard
Junior Warden



Freemasons Guide & Compendium
— by **Bernard E. Jones**

(Continuing from the August Edition of the SD.35 Master Mason)

The Candidates Circumambulation

Thousands of years ago people became nervous of proceeding except in the sunwise direction. We read that when Plato, who lived in the 5th century B.C., gave a symposium—a dinner and drinking party—the greatest care was taken to

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 Bauersfeld
Michael Thomason
James Helt**

To add names to the list, please contact the Secretary. His number is listed in the last page.

Contact the Secretary for addresses and phone numbers.

pass the wine cups around from right to left, and even conversation and eve-rything that took place in the entertainment was made to observe that same rule. The superstition was strongly held through the centuries and is often met today. For instance, who has not noticed the look of horror on a guests face when his left-hand neighbor at table has attempted to pour him wine with his left hand? The superstition appears in simply countless guises. Here is a ludicrous example. A man of marked learning became Lord Chancellor of England in 1529. He was the famous Sir Thomas More, one of the greatest men of his day and a sombrely pious man. His receipt for curing toothache is just this -- "For the toothache go thrice about a churchyard and never think on a fox's tail"

*In the mysteries and religions of all ages there has been the formal procession three times around a sacred place or object, and always sunwise-that is, with the devotees right side on the inner side of the procession.
To be Continued...*

November Birthdays

1	William Maddox	11	John Orman	21	Peter Buitenhek
	John Thomas III	13	Margarito Alvarado		Trevor Ambrosini
2	Paul Robison	14	James Mellos III	23	Eddie Raley
	James Macrae		R. Bullard	25	Joseph Artes
	Allen Long	16	Daniel Speece	26	William Mc Daniel PM
3	Robert Eichelberger	17	Caesar Dispo	27	Paul Williamson
			Hutchinso		
5	Ronaldo Briones	20	Robert n	28	Walter Myers jr.
	William Mc Intyre		Edward Struiksma		Mark Crosby PM
6	William Parker jr.		John Hinck		Matthew Hanafin
	Gordon Levinson	21	Allen Jaffe		DeAndre Simmons
7	Kenneth Babione		Gerald Salyer	30	Joseph Segal

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Pictures from the 2025 Annual Communication in San Francisco



Above: Wor. Eric Fuller Addressing the attendees of our annual dinner at Fior d'Italia following Fridays session.



Above: Our Worshipful Master and Senior Warden.



Right: Our most senior Past Master of the evening, Wor. Thibodeaux, delivers a speech and takes a great photo of the dinner.

Below: More Photos of the Dinner



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Pictures from the 2025 Annual Communication in San Francisco



Left & Right: the fun and fellowship continued at the Buena Vista, where the brethren and Ladies enjoyed Irish coffees. Hosted by Wor. Thibodeaux.



Left & Right: with appointments and awards our Past Masters Continue to Make San Diego No. 35 proud!



Above: Congratulations to Wor. Michael Thibodeaux (*Right*) for receiving the Most Worshipful John R. Heisner Leadership Award!

Above & Below: Congratulations to our very own Wor. David Vassall for being appointed and installed as the new Assistant Grand Tiler!



Right: Brethren from San Diego 35 and S.W. Hackett 574 enjoy a night on the town following Saturdays session.



San Diego Lodge No. 35, F. & A. M.
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 San Diego, CA 92108-3522

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Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth

2025 LODGE OFFICERS

Master..... Eric Fuller (Kelli)
 Senior Warden Brandon Schoonover (Rhiannon)
 Junior Warden Paul Chouinard (Carie)
 Treasurer Melvyn Stein, PGM (Betty)
 Secretary John Goodloe, PM (Diane)
 Assistant Secretary Richard Bullard, PM (Sharon)
 Chaplain David Vassall, PM (Amanda)
 Senior Deacon..... Hector Heredia
 Junior Deacon Ray Flores
 Marshal..... Matthew Hanafin.....
 Senior Steward..... TBD.....
 Junior Steward Aaron Garofano (Neha)
 Musician Christian Moreno, PM
 Tiler..... Chuck Makray.....
 Lodge Ambassador Richard A. Fisher (Connie)
 Lodge Ambassador Jay Sener IV, PM (Cindy).....

For your convenience...

Inspector, 925th: Roberto Reyes, PM (Ressa)
 Officers' Coach: John Goodloe, PM (Diane)
 Head Candidates' Coach: TBD
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STATED MEETING and DINNER

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2025

**** ATTIRE: COAT & TIE ****

(TUXEDOS FOR OFFICERS)

Dinner at 6:00 pm

By Reservation - \$25.00

Make or Cancel Reservation with Secretary by

Noon – November 5th, 2025

Entrees: Roast Turkey w/Gravy, Honey Baked Ham, Sweet Cream Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Ambrosia Salad, Dinners Rolls

Dessert: Pumpkin Pie

Food from Ranch Catering

Stated Meeting at 7:30 pm

Dessert served following the Stated Meeting

Calendar Of Events

November 2025

3rd	Monday	6:00pm	Hiram Award: Bro. Makray
7th	Friday	6:00pm	Stated Meeting Dinner
		7:30pm	Stated Meeting: Elections
10th	Monday	5:30pm	Exec Meeting
		6:30pm	Officers Practice: 2°
14th	Friday	6:30pm	Officers Practice: 2°
17th	Monday	7:00pm	2° Conferral: Bro. J. Abbot
18th	Tuesday	6:30pm	Officers Practice: 50 year
21st	Friday	6:30pm	50 year: Bro. Keith Meeker
24th	Monday	6:30pm	Officers Practice
26th	Wednesday	6:00pm	OSI District 921, at SRC
28th	Friday	————	DARK

The Master Mason
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