

Ararat Lodge Trestle Board

November 2009

Ararat Lodge No. 848 F. & A.M.

33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, Ca 91024

<http://www.ararat848.org/>



Calendar of Events

November 5 th	Stated Meeting at 8:00 PM (<i>Dinner at 7:00 PM</i>)
November 12 th	OSI - <u>All</u> officers in Tuxedos
November 19 th	Third Degree - <u>All</u> officers required to Attend
November 26 th	Thanksgiving Holiday – Lodge is dark

Our stated meeting is on the first Thursday of each month

Greetings from the East

Dear Brethren;

The annual communication was very productive and went well. Past Grand Master Larry Adamson expressed how he felt in regards to the Masonic degree being done for the first time in Armenian and asked the brethren of Ararat Lodge to stand and be acknowledged. The brethren of Ararat lodge received a standing ovation. This type of recognition for such a young lodge is truly an honor.

October was like all the rest of the months prior busy as usual. Ararat lodge passed five brethren and are preparing to raise as many as possible to the sublime degree before the end of 2009 or prior to installation. We have met our new inspector, Worshipful Hamlet Khacherian. He is very motivated and is planning to meet each of you individually.

Brethren, the stated meeting in November is the time to elect the future master and the principle officers of Ararat Lodge for 2010. I urge you to attend as part of your duty and show your support by voting. Also in November, we will honor our Armenian degree team and treat them to dinner at Corfu Restaurant in Sierra Madre. Please contact Worshipful Sarkis Sepian the chairman of this event prior to November 20th for reservations. The event will take place on November 25th at 8pm and will cost \$20.00.

November is also a month we give thanks. On Veteran's Day we remember and give thanks to our nation's heroes for their service to this country. On Thanksgiving, we give thanks for our family and friends and celebrate with traditions. The lodge will be dark on the last Thursday of November due to Thanksgiving. As you find yourself surrounded with your family and friends, remember our country's troops, our brethren and our lodge.

December 5th we will have our first Hiram Award presentation. The committee will announce the recipient of this award at our November stated meeting. On December 19th, I will proudly pass the torch to the incoming master, please save this date. I am confident that our lodge will continue with the same vision with the selection of our new officers. I am positive their knowledge will lead us into a bright 2010.

Fraternally,

Kevork Klahejian , PM
Master of Ararat Lodge

From the Secretaries Desk

Dear Brethren;

The 160th Annual Grand Lodge Communication was again, a very great experience for me and the other brothers from Ararat Lodge who attended. There were 1,352 Masons registered in attendance and 289 of the 332 California Chartered lodges were represented. If you have not been before, I urge you to make plans to attend the 161st Annual Communication next year – you will enjoy the experience. The following are the Elected Officers for the 2010 Masonic Year:

Kenneth G. Nagel.....	Grand Master
William J. Bray III	Deputy Grand Master
Frank Loui.....	Senior Grand Warden
John F. Lowe.....	Junior Grand Warden
Glenn D. Woody	Grand Treasurer
Allan L. Casalou	Grand Secretary
Paul D. Hennig.....	Grand Lecturer

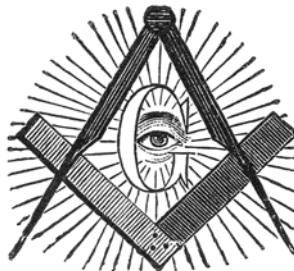
Any Brother wishing to obtain a summary of the 160th Annual Communications can do so by sending me a message requesting a copy.

Respectfully,
Alex Ashjian, Secretary

Congratulations Brothers!

Our newly passed Fellow Craft Masons:

Albert Khachigyan	October 8th
Arture Melkonyan	October 15th
Aren Soulahian	October 22nd
Kevork Horhor	October 22nd

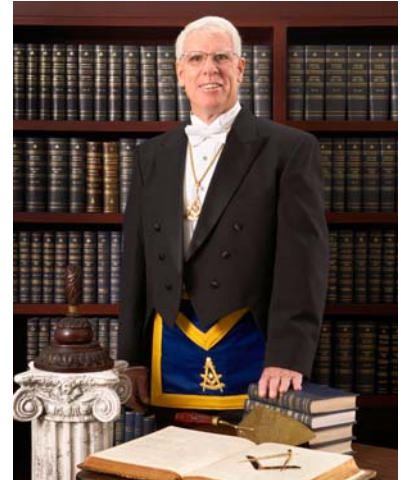


Grand Master's Biographical Sketch - Kenneth G. Nagel

Bro. Kenneth George Nagel, was Raised in 1972 in Liberty Lodge No. 299 in Santa Clara. After serving as its Master in 1995, he assumed the office of Secretary, a position he held for 12 years. An outstanding ritualist, Bro. Nagel served as Officer's Coach for Liberty Lodge and won the state jurisdictional competition for the Staircase Lecture in the Fellow Craft Degree in 2005.

A native Californian, Bro. Nagel began his association in Masonry through the Order of DeMolay. He was Master Councilor of Santa Clara Chapter in 1969, holds the Chevalier Degree and the Active DeMolay Legion of Honor. He has served as Chapter Dad for both Santa Clara and San Jose chapters, as well as a member and Vice President of the Northern California DeMolay Foundation.

Bro. Nagel served as Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of California, having been appointed to that position by Most Worshipful Frederick L. Sorsabal in October, 2005. In addition he served as a Trustee and Vice President of the Masonic Homes of California for eight years, as well as a member of the Nob Hill Masonic Center, the California Masonic Foundation, and the California Masonic Memorial Temple. He has served Grand Lodge as Chairman of the Masonic Homes Endowment Committee and Chairman of the Fraternal Support Services Committee. In 1988, Liberty Lodge presented Bro. Nagel the Hiram Award for his many years of service to the Craft.



Both an active Scottish Rite and York Rite Mason, Bro. Nagel served the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies as Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection in 2000 and as Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix in 2006. He also served as the Reunion Degree Director from 1998 - 2007. In 2007, he received the 33rd Degree, being coroneted an Inspector General Honorary in the San Jose Bodies.

His achievements in the York Rite have also been extensive. He has presided as High Priest of his Royal Arch chapter, Illustrious Master of his Cryptic council, and as Commander of his Commandery of Knights Templar. His rank as a Knight of the York Grand Cross of Honor recognizes his leadership in the York Rite, along with other honors such as the Grand Master of Ish Sodi Award in Cryptic Masonry, the Meritorious Service award in his Royal Arch Chapter and Knight of the Temple in his Commandery of Knights Templar as well as Cryptic Mason of the Year in 2005. Continuing his love of ritual, he served as the Grand Director of Ritual for the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of California from 1998 until 2007.

His other Masonic memberships include the Royal Order of Scotland, the Red Cross of Constantine, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the National Sojourners. He served the latter organization in 2001 as President of General Morrill W. Marston Chapter No 413 and in 2002 was Commander of the John Drake Sloat Camp of the Heroes of '76. The Order of the Eastern Star recognized his leadership in 1995 when he received the Rob Morris Award. He later served as Worthy Patron of his Eastern Star chapter in 1998.

Bro. Nagel now lives in Santa Clara with his wife, Kathy. They met while he was in DeMolay and she in Job's Daughters. They have been married now for 39 years. Their Son a Past Master of Whidby Island Lodge #15 in Washington, Daughter-in-Law, and Granddaughter who recently became a Rainbow Girl, live in Oak Harbor, Washington. Their Daughter, a Job's Daughter majority member and Grandson live in Sunnyvale, Calif. Bro. Nagel retired from the United States Navy as a Commander in 1994 after 21 years of service and in 2006 retired as vice president of a small software company in the Bay Area. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Administration of Justice from San Jose State University. He and Kathy are members of Hope Lutheran Church in Santa Clara. Brother Ken was elected GRAND MASTER at the 160th Annual Communication in October 2009.

The Grand Master’s Theme – “Freemasonry, the Foundation of our Country; Blue Lodge, the Foundation of our Craft; Coming Home”



Coming Home is a Fraternity wide effort to bring all members, new and senior, active and inactive, back to their Blue Lodge, beginning with the February Stated Meeting. It’s an event that will reaffirm our fraternal commitment, celebrate our shared Masonic experiences, and reach out to inactive brothers. It will be the largest Blue Lodge gathering in decades.

We took a vow to care for our brothers – and that includes helping them stay connected to the fellowship and shared values at blue lodge. Active, participating members are critical for a viable lodge. To achieve a high level of engagement, we must plan programs that bring men back to the lodge.

Contact every member of your lodge. Make an earnest effort to have a conversation with each brother – don’t simply leave a voicemail or send an e-mail. If they haven’t been to lodge in awhile, check on their well-

being. Remind them that they are valued assets of the lodge and that they matter. Invite them to the February stated meeting. Together, determine what would inspire them to return to blue lodge long-term, and develop lodge programs that will keep them coming back.

Grand Master’s Project – Operation Greatest Gift

Greatest Gift for the Greatest Generation World War II ended in 1945, but it wasn’t until 2004 that a memorial was dedicated in Washington, D.C. to the 16 million who served in the armed forces during that war. Health and financial obstacles have prevented most surviving veterans, now well into their 80s, from taking the long trip to honor their fallen friends and their years of service.

Operation Greatest Gift, the Grand Master’s Project for 2009-2010, will make this dream come true for hundreds of California’s World War II veterans. We will organize several three-day trips to Washington, D.C. designed to provide what many veterans cannot provide for themselves: an assisted visit to the memorial, at no cost to them. Because of our support, they will have an opportunity to say goodbye to fallen friends, be recognized for their service to our country, and come to terms with an important part of their lives. The Grand Master’s Project will also raise funds to support the work of the Masonic Hospital Visitors Program Committee. This committee of dedicated Masons ensures that there is always a presence at our state’s veterans’ hospitals by providing friendship, social programs, and regular visitation. Together, we can show our veterans that their service has not been forgotten. Supporting Operation Greatest Gift We expect to raise \$400,000 to make this dream a reality. The Grand Master will be traveling throughout the state, and will be honored to accept gifts from both lodges and individuals.

Please contact the Grand Lodge
Office of Philanthropy at
415/292-9117, or online at
www.freemason.org.

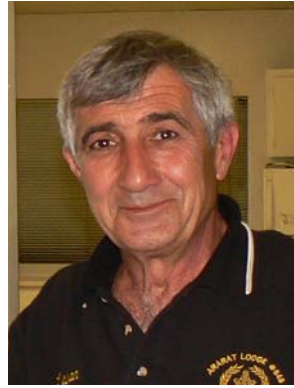
Happy Birthday Brothers!



Hovsep Kirikian (1st)



Samuel Syrakanian (6th)



Levon Zezaghian (7th)



Armen Metzoyan (9th)



Michel Srour (9th)



Andy Jabourian (10th)



Sahak Boyamyan (13th)



Jose Caire (21st)



Fares Haffar (24th)



Raffi Barsamian (28th)



Brother Mike Hovakimyans Birthday is on November 3rd. *Picture unavailable at the time of print.*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Brothers, please put the following dates on your calendars:

- Wednesday November 25, 2009: Dinner Recognizing the Armenian Degree Team; 8:00 PM at Corfue Restaurant in Sierra Madre, Tickets \$20.00. For reservations, contact Sarkis Sepian (PM) at (818) 212-3248.
- Saturday December 19, 2009: Public Ceremony and Installation of Officers; 5:00 PM at the Sierra Madre Masonic Center. More information to be announced.



Ararat Lodge No. 848 F. & A.M. Trestle Board – November 2009

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