

Master's Trestle Board

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Greetings From The East

Greetings Esteemed Brethren of Elysian Lodge 418 F&AM,

As we bask in the warmth of spring and the renewal it brings, I am reminded of the great lengths our forefathers went to ensure the perpetuity of the Masonic Order with a spotlight on the month of April.

On April 24, 1717, four London lodges came together to form the first Grand Lodge of England. This meeting is sometimes referred to as the “Four Old Lodges” meeting, and it marked the beginning of a new era in Freemasonry, as it established the framework for a centralized system of Grand Lodges, which spread throughout the world.

At this meeting, the lodges agreed to form a Grand Lodge, which would be governed by a Grand Master and a set of regulations known as the “Constitutions of the Free-Masons.” This event is considered by many to be the birth of “modern” Freemasonry, and it set the stage for the development of Freemasonry as a global fraternal organization. While June 24, 1717 is the official founding date of the Grand Lodge of England, the meeting that took place on April 24th is still remembered and celebrated by many Freemasons as a significant moment in the history of the craft.

The Prince Hall Masonic Order was formed on April 29, 1784 and is still operating today.

April has been an important month for our local brothers here at Elysian as well. Our local Brothers also went through great lengths to ensure the future of Masonry by their work with our Lodge. From the cornerstone laying of our current building on April 5, 1958 to the creation of the Los Angeles SCIOTS in Los Angeles on April 30, 2022, April has been a month of Masonic triumphs and achievements Internationally and locally.

As we gather for our April Stated Meeting on the 6th, let’s continue to build upon the foundation of the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth; striving towards making our world a better place, one degree at a time. Speaking of degrees, we have two 3rd degree conferrals this month on April 20th and 27th, so let’s pack the house to support and congratulate our fellow brethren on their journeys.

Our social times before and after our meetings are a time for us to come together in fellowship, and to celebrate the bond that unites us as Masons. Let’s cherish the friendships that we have made in this noble fraternity, as they are truly invaluable. Let’s continue to tread the winding staircase of Masonry with humility and reverence, always keeping in mind the symbols and teachings that we have been entrusted with. As we move forward, please remember that we are but mere builders, constructing a spiritual edifice of morality and virtue.

In closing, I challenge each and every one of you to continue to seek light and knowledge, and to remain steadfast in your commitment to the craft. May the light of the Great Architect of the Universe guide us always, and may we continue to stand firm and erect, like the pillars of Solomon’s Temple.



On the Square, Frank Barbano
Master, Elysian 418

Tidings From The West

Hi Brothers, First I would congratulate R J Hodges on receiving his 3rd degree it was a great night as we performed a very nice degree.

Also I would like to thank our officers who were in the degree .Thank you for your hard work and coming to the practices.

Our Degree work and Rituals are probably the heart and soul of Freemasonry .

I need to remind you of the importance of giving a candidate a proper and Heartfelt degree ,it makes the candidate feel special and important especially when he thinks of the work that went into that degree by a bunch of men that he hardly knows.

When a candidate experiences his degree it's a memory he will have for the rest of his life.

So lets PRACTICE, practice so we can give some great memories to our candidates.

To all Candidates Remember you have 90 days to complete your Proficiencies so you can move up to the next Degree . Looking forward to Seeing you all at our next meeting!

Fraternally,

Irving Rosenbloom, P.M.
Senior Warden



Pasadena Scottish Rite 2023 Reunion Class Upcoming Degree Dates

April 28th & 29th
degrees 4-14

June 24th
degrees 15-18

July 29th
degrees 19-26

August 26th
degrees 27-29

October 13th & 14th
Makeup Degrees

October 21st
degrees 30 - 32

(See Frank Barbano, Pasadena Scottish Rite
Ambassador, for an Application)

Message From The South

Elysian has reached the month of April, fourth month of the year! We have now conferred first, second and third degrees, with the competence and prominence that they deserve.

Brethren, This is a, Call to Arms!

A lodge is only as good as its officers and we need everyone to participate. Being an officer is a heavy burden. Everyone covets the status the title brings but few know the work involved. Not only do we need the current officers to be present in mind and body but Master Mason's on the sidelines shadowing, as well.

Attending the practices is a good way to understand the ritual side better. It also helps to absorb the content that was launched at you like a bucket of cold water during your degree.

The Worshipful Master has taken it upon himself to carry the majority of the burden during these last few degrees, this should not be the case. Take it upon yourselves brethren, to lighten the ritual load, regardless if it is your station or not. Learn other positions, charges, and openings as it ultimately helps the lodge and your future masonic career. You will be surprised just how much you retain from simply being present during practices.

Journey before destination!

Additionally, Now is the time to start thinking about moving up in the line. An officer should start thinking about what his next position will be. We do not simply move up to the next chair! The officer who has worked to earn the next chair will receive it. Please, do not fall into complacency. We have new Master Mason's being minted every month wanting to join the line. Prove that you belong in those stations and the next. The Master of the lodge will have us moving up in chairs, in

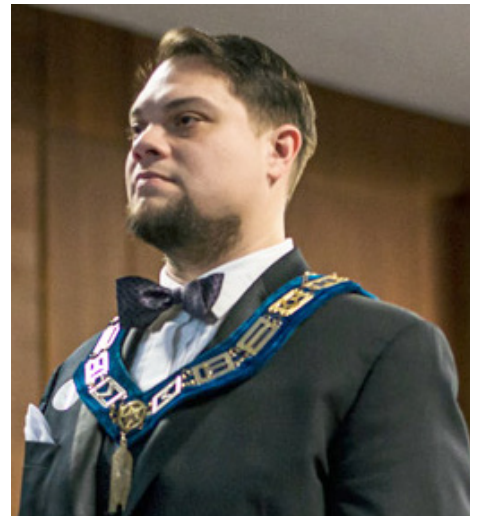
the next couple of months, to practice next year's positions.

Be Ready!

I will be personally working with some officers to form a study group to help the line progress.

My contact information is readily available for questions and advice.

Fraternally, Ronald J Perez, JW
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Elysian Lodge in Los Feliz is home to the
Ancient Egyptian Order of SCIOTS!

Los Angeles Pyramid No. 59
www.LA59.org

We meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month
at 9:00 am - 1900 N Vermont Ave., L.A.



ELYSIAN LODGE, OUR HISTORY

Part 3, The Los Feliz Era Begins



During the early years of the 1950's a frequent topic of conversation among Elysian members was the need for more spacious and modern accommodations necessary to advance and support our rapidly growing and expanding Lodge.

Discussions focused on three alternatives as potential solutions to these concerns.

- **First,** Reconstruction and expansion of Elysian's current Echo Park property.
- **Second,** Construct a new Income-type building (Lodge facilities and Commercial rentals) at another location.
- **Third,** Construct a new Non Commercial-type building (Lodge facilities only) also at an alternate location.

On May 6, 1953 a committee was appointed to explore the possibility and feasibility of each alternative and report their findings to the Lodge. Based on the report presented to the Lodge a decision was made to move forward with the Third alternative, purchase property at an alternate location and construct a "New Elysian Masonic Temple" thereon.

Resulting from the efforts of Elysian Past Masters Henry Coley and John Filbert a site in the Los Feliz area of Los Angeles was located and arrangements were made for its' consideration by the Lodge. A favorable vote was received from the Elysian membership and our Lodge purchased the land whereupon our present building now stands.

The new property had a frontage of 212 feet on North Vermont Avenue, a depth of 182 feet on Franklin Avenue and 185 feet on Welch Place thus having streets on three sides. Ample space was available to also provide a Parking lot with adequate capacity for the Lodge.

Elysian Lodge had now made a commitment to proceed with the design and the task of constructing the proposed Project that would provide the new home of Elysian 418.

GROUND BREAKING - November 7, 1957

A formal ceremony was conducted on site to celebrate the actual beginning of construction. Our 1957 Lodge Master G. Basil Bates, 33rd Degree, presided over the event. It was recorded in the Minutes of the event "The problems of design for beauty, utility and spaciousness were many, but were worked out with a patience and zeal that were not to be denied."



The anticipation and excitement of beginning construction had become a reality for Elysian Lodge and its' entire Membership.

CORNERSTONE LAYING - April 5, 1958

The ceremony of Laying the Cornerstone for our new building was conducted during the term of our 1958 Lodge Master, Kenneth E. Hill. The Cornerstone was laid by Most Worshipful Leo V. Anderson, Grand Master of Masons in the State of California under the auspices of the Grand Lodge and in Full Form. A time capsule was placed within the wall behind the Cornerstone and remains unopened and undisturbed to this day.

During the many months of construction several Elysian Masons gave of their time and effort supplementing the work of the General Contractor and various Specialty Subcontractors. For instance, Past Master Arthur E. Gray, Master in 1940 and a Plumbing Contractor provided the Plumbing installation for the project. For a period of over thirty months, Past Masters John Filbert (1932 Master) and Henry Coley (1935 Master) gave their Full time to the overall, day to day supervision of the entire project ensuring its successful completion.

ELYSIAN TEMPLE DEDICATION - January 10, 1959

The formal Dedication of the New Elysian Masonic Temple was performed by Most Worshipful Phil N. Myers, Grand Master of Masons in the State of California under the auspices of the Grand Lodge, with full representation of the Grand Lodge and in Full Form. The Ceremony was conducted during the term of Arthur L. Holt, Master of Elysian Lodge in 1959.

Historical Photographs of both the Cornerstone and Dedication Ceremonies performed by Grand Lodge are proudly displayed on the wall of Elysian's Conference/Historical room.

The total cost of the Land, Building, Equipment and Furnishings was \$245,500. Many of Elysian's members contributed personally and substantially toward the purchase of the new building's Equipment and Furnishings.

On November 6, 1958 Elysian's entire property at the Sunset and Echo Park location was sold for \$138,000. On May 3, 1962 the Trust deed payable to Elysian Masonic Temple Assn. by the purchaser of the property was paid in full. The entire proceeds were applied to Elysian's indebtedness still owed on the New property and Improvements leaving an unpaid balance of \$16,000.

By late 1964 Elysian's entire debt on the new Temple was paid off. An appropriate "Mortgage Burning Ceremony" was conducted on April 1, 1965 in our new Banquet/Dining room as a celebration by our Membership of having achieved the goal of constructing a new Masonic Temple for Elysian Lodge and it's members for many years and generations into the future.



The ceremony was conducted by our 1965 Lodge Master, William L. Urban. Honored guests attending were Brother Mark A. Green, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Lodge Finance and Myron E. Smith, Deputy Grand Master. The evening program included an outline of Elysian's Financial history presented by Lodge Secretary, Harold C. Johns, an account of Elysian Masonic Temple Association accomplishments by Past Master Harry Templeton and Junior Past Master Henry A. Taylor concluded with a report on the manner in which Elysian's mortgage was paid off during his year as Master in 1964.

Written in Lodge records at the time.....

Our ancient brethren were both operative and speculative Masons. So are we. The ancient custom of temple building has not become obsolete in Elysian and the spirit of its brethren is such that while acquiring, magnifying and making secure the earthly tabernacle they find in it a constant symbolism in allusion to "that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

To be continued.....

Submitted by - Robert H. Petersen, PM
Treasurer, 2023



April 2023

Calendar of Events

Please keep Thursday evenings for Elysian Lodge!
Business dress

Thursday, April 6th, 7pm

Stated Meeting

1st Degree Meeting

Dinner is open to invited guests and family

Thursday, April 13th, 6pm

Temple Board Meeting

Dinner at 6:00pm, Temple Meeting at 6:30pm, OSI at 7pm

Saturday, April 15th, 9:00am

OPEN HOUSE @ Elysian!!

Coffee & Donuts

SCIOTS Meeting and Initiation
of 2 Masonic Celebrities!!

Thursday, April 20th, 7:00pm

3rd degree conferral

Thursday, April 27th, 7:00pm

3rd degree conferral

Thursday, May 4th, 7pm

Stated Meeting

1st Degree Meeting

Dinner is open to invited guests and family

Thursday, May 11th, 7pm

Dinner then Temple Board Meeting

Followed by

Masonic Education

An Evening with Ben Franklin

Pythagoras Quotes:

“You should make great things,
not promise great things”

“Never trust a friend who speaks
bad of his comrades”

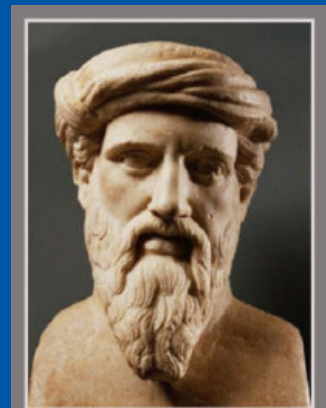
“Practice justice in word and deed,
and do not get in the habit of acting
thoughtlessly about anything”

“Whatever they think of you,
do what you think is fair”

“Anger begins in folly,
and ends in repentance”

“Be equally indifferent to blame and praise”

“Above all, respect yourself”



PYTHAGORAS

Spotlight On Mozart,

His Legacy and his Involvement in Freemasonry

How Masonry Shaped His Life.

Born in 1756 in Salzburg, Austria, Mozart was a child prodigy who began composing music at an astonishingly young age. By the time he was a teenager, he had already established himself as a virtuoso pianist and composer, and his talents continued to flourish throughout his short but prolific life.

Mozart's music is beloved around the world for its beauty, complexity, and emotional depth. From his early works such as the Symphony No. 1 to his final masterpiece, the Requiem Mass in D minor, Mozart's music has stood the test of time and remains as powerful and moving today as it was when it was first composed.

But Mozart's life was not always easy. Despite his incredible talent, he struggled with financial difficulties and was often forced to take on less-than-ideal jobs to make ends meet. And his health was always fragile, with frequent illnesses and bouts of depression.

Yet through it all, Mozart continued to pour his heart and soul into his music. He created some of the most sublime and transcendent works in the classical canon, and his influence on music has been immeasurable. From Beethoven to Brahms to contemporary composers, the legacy of Mozart's genius lives on.

One of Mozart's most enduring works is his opera "The Magic Flute." Composed in the final year of his life, "The Magic Flute" is a testament to Mozart's mastery of the operatic form. With its intricate melodies, complex harmonies, and deep symbolism, "The Magic Flute" is a work of art that continues to captivate audiences today.

But what made Mozart's music so special? What was it about his compositions that made them so enduring?

One answer is Mozart's unique ability to blend technical precision with emotional expressiveness. His music is not just beautiful to listen to; it also speaks to the heart and soul in a way that few other composers can match.

Another factor is Mozart's gift for melody. From the soaring lines of his piano concertos to the haunting melodies of his operas, Mozart's music is full of unforgettable tunes that stick in the mind long after the music has ended.

Yet perhaps the most important factor in Mozart's enduring popularity is his ability to speak to our shared humanity. His music touches on themes that are universal and timeless: love, loss, joy, and sorrow. Through his music, Mo-



zart reminds us of the beauty and complexity of the human experience, and helps us to see the world in a new light.

As we celebrate the life and legacy of Mozart, we can remember the incredible gifts he gave to the world. We are inspired by his dedication to his art, his perseverance in the face of adversity, and his unyielding belief in the power of music to uplift and transform the human spirit.

Freemasonry played an important role in Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's personal and artistic life. His membership in the "Zur Wohltätigkeit" (Beneficence) lodge in Vienna, which was known for its musical and artistic interests, allowed him to connect with like-minded individuals and establish valuable professional relationships. Mozart was initiated into the lodge in 1784, at 28 years old, and his involvement in the organization likely influenced his compositions and served as a source of inspiration for his music.

Freemasonry emphasizes the values of brotherhood, charity, and morality, and it is likely that these values had a significant impact on Mozart's personal beliefs and worldview. Moreover, the philanthropic nature of Freemasonry provided support to its members in times of need, which have benefited Mozart, who was not always financially stable, and helped him continue his artistic pursuits.

Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute" is a prime example of the influence that Freemasonry had on his work. The themes and symbols in the opera are common in Masonic ritual and symbolism, and the historical context of its composition and performance for Masonic audiences cements a connection between the opera and the organization. Additionally, the dedication of the libretto to the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Vienna cements the link between the two.

Here is what Past California Grand Master R. Stephen Doan said about the Magic Flute,

"The Magic flute is not only a tale of love and trials, there is a deeper meaning. It is a dramatic interpretation of a person's initiation into freemasonry. It is known as Mozart's masonic opera, written in the last year of his life.

Mozart did something he knew his masonic brothers would attend and that non-masons would come out of curiosity for what the masons were about.

Mozart thinly disguised this masonic initiation ceremony in this opera. As part of the initiative ceremony at the time, the candidate goes through these 4 elemental tests, earth, water, air and fire... to prove to the brethren that they have the right balance of these 4.

We see these in the 2nd act of the opera. Tomino's going through the initiatic process. The 1st two are earth and air. then he does fire and water subsequently.

Freemasonry is all about harmony. That's why geometry is the central symbol of freemasonry. Because geometry measures the harmony in the universe. There is a principal of theology, it's called hypostasis. We can never know the divine, we can only see the work of the divine. Because geometry measures the harmony of the universe, geometry therefore becomes the symbol of the creator of that harmony. That's the whole point of freemasonry. That's really the whole point of this opera. The Magic Flute conveyed that sense of harmony.

The flute is magical because the 4 elements are in balance. It's made from wood from the earth; it was made on a rainy night when there was water. There was also thunder and lightning which is fire.

And most importantly, it takes someone to apply the breath. Somebody who has the wisdom to play the music on the flute that will return harmony."

It is clear that Mozart's involvement in the Freemasons was an important aspect of his personal and artistic life, and it had a lasting impact on his music and his beliefs. The Beneficence lodge, which played such a crucial role in Mozart's life, continues to be an active and influential organization within the Masonic community in Austria, promoting the values and principles of Freemasonry to this day.

Mozart was a musical genius, but his life and work were also deeply influenced by his involvement with Freemasons. His music and his beliefs were shaped by the principles of brotherhood, charity, and morality that he encountered through his membership in the organization, and his compositions, such as "The Magic Flute," reflect the themes and symbols of Masonic ritual and symbolism.

Mozart's legacy as one of the greatest composers of all time is due in no small part to his involvement with Freemasons, and we can only imagine what he might have achieved had he lived longer and continued to draw inspiration from the organization that played such a pivotal role in his life.

Respectfully submitted, Frank Barbano, Master, Elysian 418 F&AM

Nineteen Twenties Gatsby Gala

May 20, 2023 at 6:00pm

Elysian Lodge #418

1900 North Vermont Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Formal 1920's Attire!!

