

# Master's Trestle Board



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**Elysian Lodge 418**  
 1900 N Vermont Avenue  
 Los Angeles, CA 90027  
 (323) 394-2447 - barbano@mac.com



Brothers coming together to honor Bro. Ernesto Fajardo Balba who has gone to the Great Lodge above.

# Greetings From The East

Dear Brothers, September reminds us of the changing of the seasons and the many lessons that can be learned from the natural world. As Masons, we are provided tools to help us pursue knowledge and understand the importance of growth and progress. We strive to embody these values in our daily lives.

Congratulations to our new brothers, Tyler Michael Sirovy and Charles D'Atri who were just initiated. Congratulations also to Bro Jonathan James Smith who was recently passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. This month, September, we will continue our focus on degree work. We have many worthy brothers and candidates. We are excited to encourage their advancement into our Lodge and into the broader Masonic community. The purpose of the Blue Lodge as reminded to us by Most Wor. Randy Brill recently is to allow and assist worthy and qualified men whom seek Masonry to become Masons. Any issue, concern or objection to membership should be addressed to the Lodge Master and discussed together. The chain of command for any issue or problem in a Lodge is to first discuss with the Master and if applicable include the Executive Committee. Then, if unresolved, our District Inspector can be contacted for guidance and council. Our Inspector should be the man to contact Grand Lodge if/when he feels it appropriate. A letter of objection without a reason or a black ball should NEVER be used. Think of them like nuclear devices. Sure we have them as options but we should not use them. It is the expectation of every Blue Lodge to assist men in their pursuit in Masonry, conduct initiations & degrees accordingly and maintain harmony.

September is also Constitutional Observance month. Elysian Lodge 418 is celebrating the Constitution by 13 of us Elysian guys donating our time and efforts to be a part of and participate in, the live play, "The Living Constitution". The event will occur September 30th at the Pasadena Scottish Rite. The event is free to all Masons, their friends and family! Hope to see you there!

We are postponing the Classic Car Show and BBQ that was previously set for September 16th, which is open to family and friends. The new date will be October 21st. This promises to be a fun and exciting event, with huge trophies awarded for a variety of categories, including Master's Choice, Warden's Choice, Deacon's Choice, Steward's Choice, Marshal Award, and the Rough Ashlar award for the most promising entry. All proceeds collected during this event will be tendered to the Sciots Foundation, a worthy cause that supports children with autism.



Next month on October 26, 2023 at 6:45pm, we will be having Masonic Education in our Lodge. Our guest speaker is Illustrious Merrick Hamer, 33° who has prepared a fantastic presentation on the Holy Saints John and their significance in Masonry and history in general.

As we look to the future of our Lodge and our fraternity, it is important to remember the values and principles that have guided us for centuries. We must continue to strive for personal growth, to support one another in times of need, and to give back to our communities in meaningful ways. Let's continue to build upon the legacy of our craft and to work towards a brighter future for Masonry and Elysian Lodge in particular.

Fraternally,  
Frank Barbano  
Master of Elysian Lodge 418 F&AM

**CALIFORNIA SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION  
PASADENA SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY  
3rd ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2023**

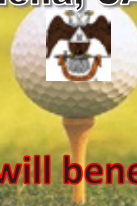
**IN MEMORY OF ILLUSTRIOUS REES PADFIELD**

**Brookside Golf Course  
1133 Rosemont Ave, Pasadena, CA 91103  
Shotgun 10:00am**

**&**

**Dinner Ceremony  
Pasadena Scottish Rite  
150 N Madison Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101  
6:00pm**

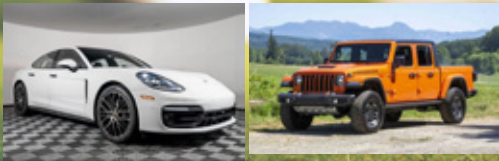
**Dinner Only  
\$40**



**Net Proceeds will benefit the  
RITE CARE CHILDHOOD**

**Language Center of Pasadena**

**Tournament Fee  
\$150 Single  
\$600 Foursome**



**Tee prizes for all guests**

- **2 Cars, hole-in-one**
- **Closest to the pin & long drive**
  - **Cigars**
- **Complimentary soft drinks**
  - **Mulligan**
- **Dinner after the tournament**

**Game Sponsor  
Platinum \$5,000  
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\$250**

**Lodge Sponsor  
\$100**

**Registration**

**[Pasadenascottishrite.org](http://Pasadenascottishrite.org)**



# Tidings From The West

*H*i Brethren, Congratulations to John Smith for passing to the Fellowcraft Degree. Welcome Tyler Sirovy and Charles D'Atri as our newest initiated brothers!

On September 14th we will be having a Third Degree Practice. It is imperative that all Master Masons try to attend this practice in addition to the Installed Officers. We need alternates and understudies for each part, chair and position. If all goes well, we plan to raise Dimitrios on

September 21st and William Blankenship on September 28th. Flexibility is required however due to our practice to be approved and any other requirement satisfied.

I'm calling on all-Entered Apprentice Masons, Fellowcraft Masons, and Master Masons: Mark your calendars and come and join us as we perform our Excellent Degree work. Our officers are working hard and diligently to put on meaningful and informative degrees for our candidates. The brethren need to join us as we perform our degrees as this encourages the candidates, our degree team, and most importantly our prospects who are waiting to get their degrees. Come and join us for fellowship Friendship and meet our new prospects. Looking forward to seeing you at the lodge!

Fraternally and Sincerely, Irving Rosenbloom, PM, Senior Warden



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# Message From The South

~~ Brethren & Prospects ~~

*W*ith the Autumnal equinox arriving in September, the days of summer are soon at an end. We survived the brazen heat, a somewhat tame hurricane and even a 5.0 earthquake! Elysian is prospering this month and September will be even better as we initiate more prospects into the fold. Congratulations to Bro. John on being Passed to Fellowcraft and to our newly initiated brothers, Charles & Tyler! The future of Elysian is looking as bright as ever.



Brothers, I ask that you make an effort to get to know some of our prospects, help our newly initiated brothers with masonic education or simply introduce yourselves to someone you haven't met yet. We are the faces of this building and your first interaction with them will be a memory they'll remember for a long time.

I also ask that officers show up to all Elysian events and Degree Practices. We need to put on a strong presence/ attendance so that the powers-that-be know our resolution and determination is solid.

Lastly, I ask that some of you step up and help. We do need some donations to our pantry. Whether it be buying drinks or desserts, we could use the help on dinners. We are averaging around \$80-100 in dinner donations but they are costing us 3-4 times that and not including drinks, napkins, etc. I will also be asking for some of you to pick up our dinners from time to time, as I am sometimes getting ready for degrees to perform.

Gentlemen, we have good vibes going on at Elysian Lodge and we should keep it going into the new year. Be kind, be good, be empathetic.

Let us not forget our charities! **DONATE TODAY!!!**  
Masons for Mitts, Masonic Homes, Masonic Foundation

-Ronald J Perez  
Junior Warden,  
Elysian Lodge #418

PRESENTED LIVE ON STAGE & IN PERIOD COSTUME



# ★ THE LIVING ★ CONSTITUTION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 ★ 6PM

A REENACTMENT OF THE DRAFTING  
& SIGNING OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

FREE SPAGHETTI DINNER  
6PM-7PM • RSVP REQUIRED  
RSVP TO [tlc@pasadenascottishrite.org](mailto:tlc@pasadenascottishrite.org)

PLAY BEGINS  
PROMPTLY AT 8PM

OPEN & FREE  
TO ALL MASONS,  
FRIENDS, & FAMILY



PASADENA SCOTTISH RITE CATHEDRAL  
150 N. MADISON AVE PASADENA CALIFORNIA

WRITTEN BY CHARLIE FISHER DIRECTED BY FRANK BARBANO STARRING MERRICK HAMER CHARLIE FISHER FRANK BARBANO HAIK HAIRAPETIAN JONATHAN KANAREK JAMIE GALEN STEVEN KLEIN  
GABRIEL SMITH GIUSEPPE ARIOLA TYLER SIROVY RALF LOPEZ LOUIS LEGGE BRIAN WAGONER KIMBERLEY EDWARDS RICHARD "RJ" HODGES OLIVER TORREALBA MANUEL "MANNY" JIMENEZ  
ROY HAVENS BRUCE EWALD VACHE KIWANIAN YUKI HAMADA GUILLERMO QUEZADA CHARLES D'ATRI JOEY JOSÉ DAVID TADIVOSYAN OMEROS VASILAKIS WITH MICHAEL DAVID SMITH  
MUSIC BY PAUL BAZERKIANIAN GARY ARAKELIAN COSTUME DESIGNER CHRIS LEBEDEFF SET DESIGNER JEFF YATES LIGHTING DESIGNER GHANNES ANTABIAN ROBERT CALDRON STEVE PASHBY  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER CHARLES KREFTING EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KNIGHTS OF ST ANDREW PRODUCED BY RON ALCORN III WRITTEN BY SIMON McILROY DIRECTED BY GREG GABRIEL COSTUME DESIGNER WILLIAM ROOK

JOIN, or DIE.

# From The Secretary's Table

## Member Information

Please log into [www.FreeMason.org](http://www.FreeMason.org) and update your profile. It is important that each member keep your contact information current, add an emergency contact and remember that membership dues can be paid online via credit card.

Once logged into the member portal, you can:

- Update your contact information (Plz keep this current)
- Pay your lodge membership dues via credit card
- Print out your membership dues card
- View your full masonic history & record
- Add an emergency contact to your contact information
- View & search the lodge membership roster as well as search for other California Freemasons

We have AWESOME Elysian Lodge branded polo shirts available! Please see me if you want one. I think we can offer them for a short time at \$40 per shirt!! Grab one before they go for the suggested \$100 per shirt!!

## September 16th is... "Stock the Pantry & Supply Closet Day!"

Saturday the 16th between 9am and 11am

If we all bring in 12 packs or cases of soda or drinks, including cases of water it would really help the budget! Individually packaged snacks are welcomed too. Individual ice cream type treats would also be good but should be coordinated as space in the freezer is limited.

S&F, Jon Tierney



## Happy Birthday

Art Abraham  
September 3

Jonathan James Smith  
September 12

Bruce Swinton Miller  
September 16

Jamie Galen  
September 17

Adolfo Ernesto Panameño  
September 28



# September 2023

## Calendar of Events

Please keep Thursday evenings for Elysian Lodge!  
*Business casual minimum dress code. Suites for Degrees.*

**Thursday, September 7th, 6:30pm**

Stated Meeting

1st Degree Meeting

Dinner is open to invited guests and family

**Thursday, September 14th, 6pm**

Dinner then Temple Board Meeting  
Followed by Third Degree PRACTICE

**Saturday, September 16th, 9am**

OPEN HOUSE @ Elysian!!

Coffee, Bagels & Donuts

SCIOTS Meeting!!

**Thursday, September 21st, 7:00pm**

3rd Degree for Dimitrios Papavasileiou

**Thursday, September 28th, 7pm**

3rd Degree for William Blankenship

**Thursday, October 5th, 6:30pm**

Stated Meeting on the 1st Degree

Dinner is open to invited guests and family

**Thursday, October 12th, 6:30pm**

Dinner then Temple Board Meeting  
Degree Practice to follow

**Thursday, October 26th, 6:30pm**

Masonic Education, Illus Merrick Hamer, 33°  
The Holy Saints John

# Elysian

# Lodge

## OPEN HOUSE

### September 16, 2023

Saturday at  
9:00am until Noon  
Coffee • Bagels • Donuts  
Fellowship!





# The Three Great Lights

*An exploration of the fundamental objects of Freemasonry.*

Jim Hoerricks, PhD, Archimedes Lodge #871. Lecture was Presented to Elysian Lodge on, 8/24/2023

*T*he **Three Great Lights** are known around the world as the **fundamental objects in Freemasonry**. To the uninitiated, this bears no meaning; to a brother, **a way of life**. Their importance is highlighted when the Worshipful Master directs attention to the **Three Great Lights** during ritual exemplification.

Noted Hermeticist and Astrologer, CC Zain (Benjamin Parker Williams), noted that *“the three Great Lights of Masonry, are the Bible, or Oral Law, contains in its symbolism the knowledge gained by investigating nature’s laws in the remote past. The Compass and Square, or Written Law, represent the actual forces of nature. The square relates to the physical world, to the realm of effects, and the compass relates to the inner planes, the realm of causes. Together they embrace all natural law, and exemplify the Hermetic Axiom: As it is above, so it is below.”*

Let’s explore each of these fundamental objects, beginning with the Volume of Sacred Law.

## The Volume of Sacred Law

In Lodges chartered by the United Grand Lodge of England, the Worshipful Master would explain, *“The most important of these (the Three Great Lights) is the Volume of the Sacred Law, an indispensable part of the Lodge. The open Bible signifies that we should regulate our conduct according to it. The teachings are to rule and guide our faith, a symbol of man’s acknowledgment of his relationship to Deity.”* During the ceremony those assembled will be informed that *“It teaches us the important duties we owe to God, to our neighbour and to ourselves.”* The candidate is informed that the Volume of Sacred Law is the unerring standard of **Truth** and **Justice** and that it is to rule and govern our faith.

Our oldest Masonic documents make no reference to the Bible, possibly because no part of the Bible was printed in English prior to 1525, and the first complete Bible in English was not printed until 1535. At this point in history a Bible was rarely found outside a Church. The term Volume of Sacred Law, or **VSL**, first appeared in the Old Charges in the Grand Lodge No 1 Manual Script of 1583 as an essential part of the equipment of the operative Lodge.

The **VSL** is the greatest of the **Three Great Lights**. It is considered that it pours forth **light** from the East across the Lodge. But what is **‘Light’**? In Masonic culture, **‘Light’** means **knowledge**. The **VSL** records the Oral Law, or the **Will of God**. From this book, the

teachings are conveyed. It symbolizes **trust, justice, and the way** in which Masons conduct their lives by the divine precepts contained therein. For hundreds of years Freemasons have applied its teachings.

## What secrets do the Square and Compasses hold?

### The Square

**The Square** is prominent throughout the rituals and ceremonies of Freemasonry and is the second of the **Great Lights**. It is normal for this implement to be displayed with the **Compasses**. During the initiation ceremony, the candidate is informed that the **Square** should remind him of his conduct in life.

The importance of the **Square** cannot be understated it is the emblem that is associated to the Master of the Lodge, “being the implement which forms the rude and proves the perfect mass, is well applied by Master Masons to inculcate the purest principles of piety and virtue. Masonically speaking, it should be the guide of all your actions” - Board of Installed Masters, UGLE.

From time immemorial the **Square** has represented **right** and **honesty**. For Freemasons, the **Square** represents **morality**. Alongside the **VSL** it reminds Freemasons that the **Grand Architect** provides instruction to man to develop his moral and spiritual character, while the **Square** reminds us that we must constantly test our behavior by the **Square**.

Freemasonry is not just about regurgitating ritual in its ceremonies. It is **a way of life**; allowing the Mason to act by the **moral** and **ethical** code set out in ritual. Within each of us we have our own **Square** – essentially **our conscience**. We apply this in every thought, word or deed.

### The Compasses

The third of the **Great Lights** is the **Compasses**. Plural? Singular? **Compass** or **Compasses**? The UGLE Book of Constitution, Basic Principles for Grand Lodge Recognition, in item 6 states, “*That the three Great Lights of Freemasonry, (namely, the Volume of Sacred Law, the Square, and the Compasses) shall always be exhibited when the Grand Lodge or its subordinate Lodges are at work, the chief of these being the Volume of the Sacred Law.*” Thus, we’ll refer to them as such.

The **Compasses** are there to educate Masons in the duty we owe to ourselves. We are taught that we must keep our desires within due bounds, **circumscribing our**

**desires** as we practice **self-reverence** and **self-control**. Without such a restraint on our mind & deeds it could lead our lives to chaos. The restraint is needed to ensure that there is a **balance** between our relationship with God, our neighbor and ourselves.

The **Compasses** also act as a conduit for the mind. We hear the term ‘**daily advancement in Masonic knowledge**’ and the **Compasses** aids in this. Through the three **Degrees** the position of the **Compasses** on the altar changes, which represents the **progressive** nature of the instruction given in the ritual.

## Diving Deeper

As with everything in Masonry, there are surface / literal meanings and there are the multiple layers of symbolism attached to the objects and lessons within the Lodge.

## As above / So Below

Madrid-based author, Richard Cassaro, wrote on the symbolism of the **Square and Compasses**, *“What secrets does it hold? What mysteries does it enshrine? The answer is, the Masonic Square & Compass relates a powerful ancient wisdom, now lost. It’s the symbol of man—of you and me. More specifically, it symbolizes both our outside and inside. But what exactly does that mean, our outside and inside? It means every human being is made up of two parts. There’s the part we see when we look in the mirror each day. But there’s also a part that we don’t see. The part you see is your body, but the part you don’t see is your soul. The Square symbolizes your body, the part you see. The Compass symbolizes your soul, the part you don’t see. When placed together, the Compass & Square is designed to teach us that we’re more than just the body (the part we see). Deep down underneath it all, we are an eternal soul (which we don’t see).”*

# The Three R’s of the First Degree

## Rules, Respect, and Repercussions

One of the lessons we learn as **leaders** is the importance of making **rules** and following through with them. This expectation setting happens early in the **initiation** process. Candidates are presented with the **rules** as well as the penalty for violating the rules. There is no ambiguity in this presentation. As such, it’s a model practice for those who would **lead**.

In business, **leaders** reward people who follow the **rules** and achieve their goals and establish consequences for those who do not. Consistently communicating the benefits of staying within established guidelines versus the challenges of “driving outside of the guard rails” gives everyone the best chance to succeed in life. At home, in raising children, it’s important to teach our children to **respect authority**, understand expectations, and realize that there

are **repercussions** (good and/or bad) for either meeting those expectations or not. We do our kids a disservice if we ignore the rules we set at home, because there is very little chance of that happening later in their lives.

In Lodge and in life, it is important that we clearly communicate what behaviors we expect in order to create as much positive energy as we can. As **leaders**, it's our job to make sure everyone knows what the **rules** are, how to **respect** them, and what the **repercussions** will be when the **rules** are broken. When expectations are vague and/or not communicated plainly, it creates confusion and unnecessary negative energy. Simply defining rules goes a long way towards eliminating any chance for mutual mystification.

At home, **leaders** need to teach their children how to be independent, healthy, stable adults who can function on their own. The real world certainly has rules and consequences for not following through on them. Our job is to create good **habits** while they are living at home that will continue to positively impact their lives once they are on their own.

### **Do you wish to proceed?**

As regards the **Great Lights**, the candidate is left with clear instruction as to what's important, what's expected, and what help is available. We'll explore that help, **the working tools**, in a future discussion.

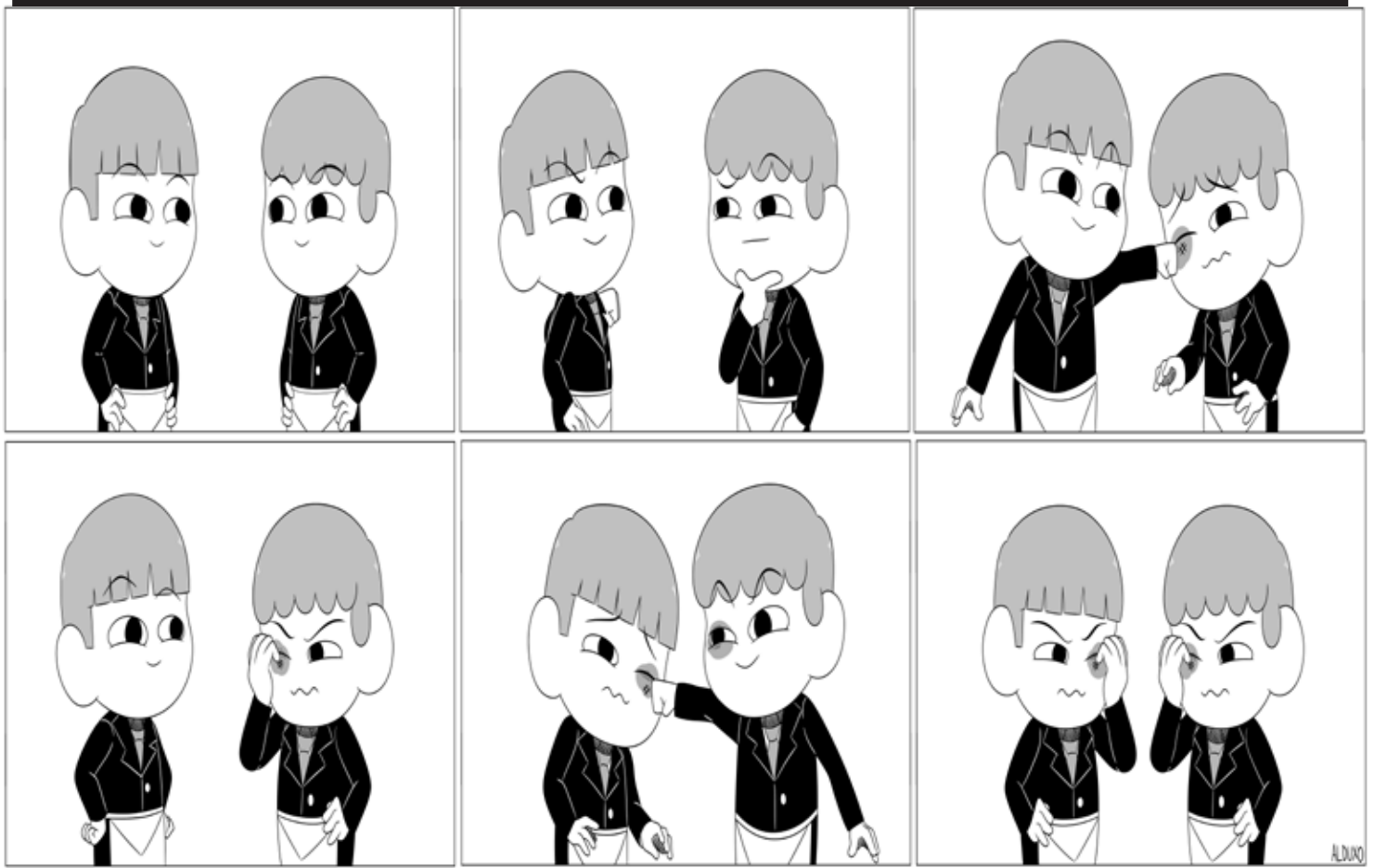
#### *About the Author*

**Jim Hoerricks, Ph.D.**, was initiated, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in North Hollywood Lodge #542 (2003-2004) but now spends his time at the Archimedes Lodge #871 in Pasadena, CA, as well as travelling the world visiting Masonic bodies in his spare time. Being very busy professionally, he has also been a member of Oasis Lodge #854 (Chaplain, 2012), Lancaster Lodge #437, Reseda Lodge #666, and Beverly Hills Lodge #528 (Treasurer, 2006). He is a member (33°) of the Scottish Rite bodies in Pasadena, CA and Guthrie, OK., the San Fernando Valley York Rite bodies, the Grand College of Rites, the Royal Order of Scotland, Al Malaikah Shrine, the Scottish Rite Research Society, the WSB Club, and the Oklahoma Lodge of Research. Jim is an active Masonic speaker and can often be found presenting on a variety of topics in Lodges around the western United States. Additionally, he is a graduate of the Grand Lodge of California's Lodge Management Certification and Funeral Service Programs. Jim has been most active in the Ancient and Accepted



ed Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ. He has served the Valley of Pasadena, Orient of California, in many ways. He was Wise Master of the Pasadena Chapter of Rose Croix (2012) and served as Classroom Director from 2008-2014 and Director of the Work from 2021-2023. Prior to his receiving the investiture of K.C.C.H., he served in the Valley's Knights of St. Andrew service organization, attending to the Valley's needs as necessary. He completed the Scottish Rite's Master Craftsman program in 2021 and is currently working his way through Guthrie's College of the Consistory.

Jim is the author of several books, including *Leadership in the Lodge of Perfection* and *No Place for Autism?*



## Congratulations to Wor. Charlie Fisher who has received The Henville Award from the Pasadena Scottish Rite.

Pictured below: Commander Ara Maloyan, Venerable Master Seb Badoyan, Honorable Charlie Fisher, Ann-Marie Fisher, Wise Master Frank Barbano, Master of Kadosh Michael Schnieder, Illustrious Greg Gabriel



Worshipful Ernie Balba, Past Master of Elysian Lodge says goodbye to his recently departed father, Bro. Ernesto Fajardo Balba. Wor Ernie delivered heartfelt and impressive Masonic Funeral ritual among family, brothers and friends.



ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ORDER OF SCIOTS  
LOS ANGELES PYRAMID N° 59

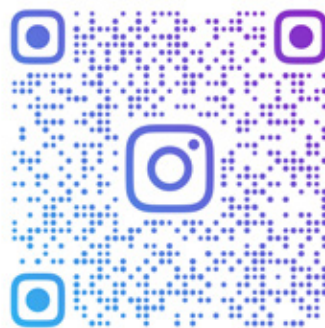


We meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month at Elysian Lodge No. 418 at 9:00 am.  
All Master Masons are welcome to join our pyramid, where we "BOOST ONE ANOTHER"  
and unite all Master Masons in a closer bond of Friendship, Fellowship and Cooperation.

# Connect With Elysian Lodge

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[www.instagram.com/elysian418](http://www.instagram.com/elysian418)



ELYSIAN418

## *Batter Up!*

2023 Masons4Mitts Fundraiser.

Fund a child's baseball mitt.

*Support the LA Dodgers Dreamteam.*



For each \$20 donation a quality baseball glove will be provided to a needy youth in the LA Dodgers Dreamteam program. This program is more than just baseball and softball. Kids and parents attend programs about leadership, teamwork, health, safety, finances and good citizenship.



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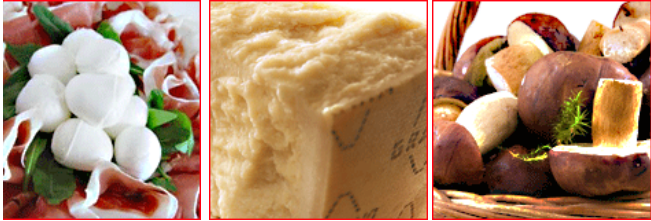
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Click Give a Mitt

Click Donate

Contact Bernie Morse at (310)556-4463

if you have any questions.



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*Elysian Lodge Thanks*  
**Palermo Italian Restaurant**  
*For Years of Friendship and Generosity*



**We are More Than Our World Famous Pizza's**



**Antipasto 'Sicilia'**  
 Provolone, mortadella, capocollo, tomatoes, black olives and more! Served with garlic bread  
**Small \$14.50 Large \$20.10**



**Caesar Salad**  
 Served with garlic bread  
**Small \$12.20 Large \$17.70**



**Spinach Salad**  
 Spinach, tomatoes, red onions, mushrooms and lemon oil dressing. Served with garlic bread  
**\$14.65**



**Greek Salad**  
 Romaine lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, calamata olives, pepperoncini, red onions, feta cheese, rice vinegar, olive oil dressing. Served with garlic bread  
**\$17.00**



**Meatball Sandwich**  
 Large tender meatballs served with meat sauce.  
**\$14.05**



**Fresh Mozzarella Sandwich**  
 Fresh mozzarella cheese, tomatoes and Italian dressing.  
**\$14.05**



**Turkey on Italian Roll**  
**\$14.05**



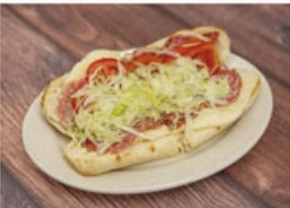
**Submarine**  
 Mortadella, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato and Italian dressing served on fresh Italian roll.  
**\$14.05**



**Philadelphia Steak Sandwich**  
 Onions and bell peppers  
**\$16.75**



**Prosciutto and Melon**  
**\$16.45**



**Salami and Cheese**  
 Genoa salami, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato and Italian dressing served on  
**\$16.75**



**Chicken Parmigiana Sandwich**  
**\$16.75**

**Closed Monday's and Tuesday's - Call To Order: (323) 663-1178**