

CALIFORNIA FREEMASON



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JANUARY FEBRUARY 2017 65 02



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Grand Master John R. Heisner reflects on our tricentennial Masonic anniversary (1717-2017), and Freemasonry's important role in leading mankind towards a future where all people are treated with kindness and respect.

4 SOLIDARITY GUIDES US

As the light of California Masonry is passed on from brother to brother, Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou believes that Masonic unity will be the fraternity's guiding force - and instrumental to its success.

5 LIGHTING OUR NEXT CENTURY

From members who are setting the bar for excellence to communications advancements, exciting accomplishments at Acacia Creek, and brand-new lodges throughout the state, the future is bright for California Masonry.

6 TWO VISIONS, ONE FRATERNITY

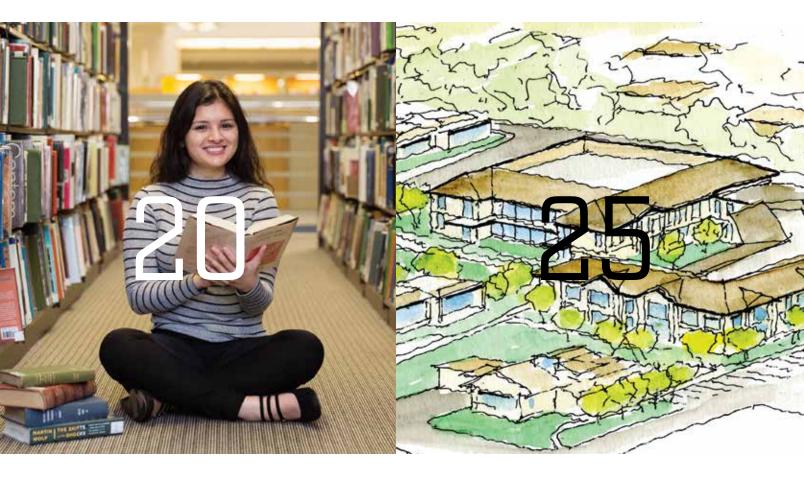
Two new lodges are envisioning a promising future at California's oldest Masonic hall.

AWARD-WINNING TABLE OF CONTENTS



Judges at the 2016 Eddie and Ozzie Awards named California Freemason's redesigned table of contents the best in the industry!

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The Masonic Homes is achieving a variety of milestones to improve access and quality of life on its residential campuses.

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These generous donors have aided and sustained the most vulnerable among us through their crucial gifts to California Masonic charities.



EXECUTIVE MESSAGE LIGHTING THE WAY

n June 24, 2017, we will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the formation of the first grand lodge in England: the beginning of Freemasonry as we know it today. It will be an occasion to reflect upon our fraternity's good work and to plan for making an indelible imprint upon mankind during the century to come. I encourage you to read this annual report and marvel at California Masons' progress in the past year alone.

We collectively embraced our culture of philanthropy by providing vital support to Masonic family members and public schools. Our



devotion to the most vulnerable among us is a crowning achievement and I am grateful for the donors named here for enabling this good work. Among our most impactful achievements were those in support of Masonic youth. From establishing scholarships to launching a new youth leadership experience, we are preparing to pass the torch of Freemasonry to the next generation so that they can lead us into the next 100 years and beyond!

Freemasonry calls us to improve ourselves and humanity. At the recent Annual Communication, our leaders unanimously voted to protest the discriminatory policies of the Grand Lodge of Georgia and Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Our formal dissent has called upon Masons worldwide to embrace greater equality for all. The Supreme Architect disinherits none of his children. As Masons, we are committed to "meet on the level"; to celebrate our diversity; and to unite in our shared values through which we will advance ever forward.

John R. Heisner, Grand Master

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2020 FRATERNITY PLAN

Fostering lifelong friendships. Learning and improving ourselves. Making a positive impact on society: These are some of the reasons we join California Masonry – and it is only through our united efforts that we will achieve these aims. Our 2020 Fraternity Plan offers a light to guide our way, focusing our attention on four priorities that were identified by more than 7,000 brothers throughout the state.

Carrying the Light Through Our Next Century REWARDING MEMBER EXPERIENCE MEMORABLE + MEANINGFUL DEGREES POSITIVE IMPACT ON SOCIETY **STRONG LODGES AND HALLS** 3 The 2020 FRATERNITY PLAN was developed to lead us through the next five years, but its impact will be measured long beyond them. Design the future of California Masonry:

FREEMASON.ORG/FRATERNITYPLAN

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



Entered Apprentices initiated 778 Master Masons raised

801 members affiliated with California lodges

Fellow

Crafts

passed



Masons and guests gathered in San Francisco for the 167th Annual Communication

TO OUR BROTHERS WHO HAVE SPENT A LIFETIME WITHIN THE CRAFT, WE BESTOWED

> Diamond Jubilee Awards (75 years)





GRAND SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

SOLIDARITY GUIDES US

Freemasonry works best when we work together: Trusting each other, teaching each other, and acting as family. Our fraternity was created in this spirit of solidarity, and it is precisely what we must continue in order to move forward.

Over the past several years, we have found new, productive ways to work together. With Grand Lodge shouldering some administrative burdens – through accounting, tax, real estate, legal, and other services – lodge leaders benefit from technological advances while focusing on the core mission of Freemasonry. Through iMember, the most advanced membership data system of any grand lodge's in the world, we securely store deep knowledge of our membership body, enabling reliable, secure recordkeeping and seamless administrative integration. And, through communications tools like the lodge app and website templates, lodges can easily stay in touch with members and engage the general public.

During the next three years, California lodges and Grand Lodge will continue to unite under the 2020 Fraternity Plan. We'll work together to strengthen our deep sense of fraternity and inspire a highly rewarding member experience. We'll make memorable and meaningful ritual experiences. We'll develop leaders and tools to keep our lodges and halls strong. Through outreach, service, and encouraging one another to live the tenets of Freemasonry, we'll make a positive impact on society. In all of these efforts Grand Lodge will work diligently to empower lodges and brothers to build upon our treasured pledge of unity.

As Masons, we know that we are at our best when we support each other. We feel it when we are part of a well-delivered, meaningful ritual, and we feel it when we look around lodge at the men who have become our brothers. As we continue along California Masonry's path to 2020, I am proud to walk beside each of you toward an even stronger and more vibrant fraternity.

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Allan L. Casalou, Grand Secretary

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LIGHTING OUR NEXT CENTURY

Making an Extraordinary Impact

Adam P. Harvey

Every year, each California lodge may present one worthy brother with the Hiram Award to recognize extraordinary devotion to serving the community. Hiram Awards reflect the highest esteem, respect, and admiration of a Mason's peers. Congratulations to this year's 168 awardees!

Richard A. Acton-Maher Mark W. Allen Harold M. Andrews Sr. Oscar D. Arguello Jr. Frank Arruda Jr. Jonathan A. Asis Jeffery W. Askins Emilio H. Augustine Robert S. Averv Marshall J. Baer Jon E. Baker Robert M. Barrett Ronald M. Bass Christopher Bazacos Gerald I. Beall Rupert R. Beckford Michael J. Bepko Aaron T. Beranek Rickey I. Bonbright Juanito A. Borreta Donald P. Bright Charles E. Brown Jason G. Bryant Antonio T. **Bunaventura**

John M. Burke Joshep R. Cabado John L. Caldwell Martin A. Carlson Charles C. Carroll Alberto L. Casanova Jr. Edward J. Caughie Peter G. Champion Joseph A. Ciriello David R. Clarke Sr. Joe D. Colvard Brandon M. Cook Pedro B. Corona Charles B. Cowden Hilarion V. Crisostomo Thomas C. Crompton Parish D. Cross Benny D. Croyle Gary W. Cullins Charles S. Cunningham Raymond C. D'Angelo Herbert E. Dallas Wesley W. Daniels

Frank M. Dean David V. Dionida Larry A. Donnelley Bernell A. Dowse Victor R. Duadico Ronald E. Duncan Sr. Robert L. Dupree Michael H. Dwyer Darrell K. Elder Manuel G. Filoteo Gary D. Fishbeck Bernardo Gapuz Lauro L. Garcia Incarnacion O. Garcia Jr. John C. Garrison Joseph L. Gludt Russell Godt Ernest A. Gonzales David W. Goold Jeffrey A. Gopp John W. Gravitt Loren R. Griffith Charles T. Grim Kenneth A. Hamm Theodore R. Hammond III

Liborio B. Hasal Steve A. Heglin John C. Henson Frederick G. Hink Robert L. Hipkiss Jr. Todd G. Hoffman Ralph W. Howard Harold D. Hughes Roger D. Hushour Peter Jackson Daniel R. Jones Gary A. Kiddie Christopher A. Kiner Gary A. Kuhm Kai E. Larson Bruce A. Last Lawrence Leong Steve D. Lerner Barry J. Letzler Jerry B. Livingston-Joy Gary M. LoGalbo Jess L. Lowe Robert P. MacQuiddy Glenn E. Martin Gregory G. Martin **Roger Matining** Tay W. McArthur Robert E. McGill Anthony C. McLean George W. Melious Michael G. Metzler Howard E. Miller

David R. Molina Ted L. Morris Rajendra Naidoo Frank B. Neff Nenar N. Nicolas Robert W. Nidever Ernest J. Nidick Jr. Mark A. Nielsen Antonio W. O'Campo Rafael A. Ochoa Thomas H. Oldham Howard G. Orpe **Enrique Ortiz** D. Lynn Parker Norman A. Pearson Daniel O. Pepa Perry D. Phillips Manolito P. Ramirez Lee G. Razalan Sr. Craig A. Reade Aaron S. Reddoch Robert W. Rhea Erick A. Rice Dago Rodriguez Michael A. Rogers Lloyd A. Roper C. Douglas Russell Francis A. Russell Jr. Victor Salcedo Robert L. Salini Robert N. Sechrest Thomas W. Shannon Scott R. Shaw

Gary C. Silverman Guy A. Sisco John C. Snell John J. Sorenson Michael J. Strand Leonard J. Streeb Matthew E. Swanson Wilbert G. Tenchavez Warren A. Thomas John A. Togersen Nathaniel M. Torres John P. Unger Douglas S. Veale Richard E. Vitz Alan D. Walbridge Jr. Murl D. Walker Michael S. Weis Richard A. Weiser Ronald L. Welsh Darvin L. Weston James M. Weyant Thomas G. White Dean L. Williams Donald L. Williamson Fric D. Wilt Ronald E. Witte Nolanel M. Yabut Jr. Sam C. Yee Jesse T. Young Joseph H. Zusin



Shining the Light on an Extraordinary Man

At the 167th Annual Communication, Thomas W. Moberly – a 54-year Mason and member of Martinez Lodge No. 41 – was recognized as the Mason of the Year for his long-term service to Freemasonry and devotion to his fellow man. Instituted in 1978, this award has only been presented 10 times in our fraternal history. Moberly was also the first-ever recipient of the Builder's Award. Like the Mason of the Year Award, it is awarded to a Mason who has made an extraordinary difference – who has risen to the occasion to build a deep impact on the future of our great fraternity.

Read more at freemason.org/Jan17Moberly

REV. BAYANI RICO, MASTER OF CARGUINEZ LODGE, U.D. AND ARTHUR PORTER, MASTER OF BENICIA LODGE, U.D. ARE LEADING A RESURGENCE OF FREEMASONRY IN BENICIA, CALIFORNIA AND ITS SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. THEIR TWO NEW LODGES BOTH MEET IN THE RECENTLY REMODELED HISTORIC BENICIA MASONIC HALL.

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LIGHTING OUR NEXT CENTURY

Two Visions, One Fraternity

Last year marked an exciting chapter in California Masonry's growth: For the first time since 1958, nine new lodges were created in a single year! Fledgling lodge leaders are adopting innovative approaches towards member engagement, community outreach, and even physical spaces. In Benicia, California, Rev. Bayani D. Rico, master of Carquinez Lodge, U.D. and Arthur Porter, master of Benicia Lodge, U.D. are coming together to breathe new life into the Benicia Masonic Hall – the oldest hall in California and one of the state's oldest buildings. These two brothers and their lodges have different inclinations for revitalizing local Masonry, but their end goals are the same: a stronger brotherhood and deeper community relationships.

RESURGENCE OF A TREASURED LODGE

For Porter, creating Benicia Lodge, U.D. has been a labor of love. Porter is a two-time past master of Sublime Benicia Lodge No. 5, which lost its charter in 2014. He was heartbroken by the closure of the historic lodge, one that helped found the Grand Lodge of California in 1850, and made a personal vow to ensure its return. "Membership records from the beginning of Benicia Lodge still exist. I couldn't stand for it to go into oblivion," he says. Porter notes the lodge's important role within the development of California. Benicia Past Master Robert Semple was a founder of the city of Benicia and a tireless advocate for free public education. A school in town still bears his name – and Porter's grandson is among its students. "I have a lot of personal feelings about the school and the lodge of yesteryear," he says.

A six-term Grand Lodge officer, Porter brought a heartfelt plea for Benicia Lodge's future and ideas for its renewal to Past Grand Master M. David Perry and worked closely with the Executive Committee to create a viable plan. His wishes were granted on October 20, 2016, when Benicia Lodge, U.D. held its ceremony of institution. "I'm especially grateful that we were allowed to retain the name 'Benicia Lodge,'" Porter says. "It is a true honor."

EXPANDING LOCAL MASONRY

For Rico, master of Carquinez Lodge, U.D., which also meets in the historic Benicia Masonic Hall, creating a new lodge in Benicia has focused on ideals of community and inclusivity. Rico is senior pastor of the Ascension Episcopal Church in Vallejo, a position that has given him insight into the need for greater cross-cultural community ties. Rico, who is Filipino, didn't want an exclusively Filipino lodge. He purposely invited founding members who would reflect the racial, cultural, and generational diversity of the community. This sense of inclusiveness was extended to the lodge's name. "I asked brothers who were working to create the lodge for name suggestions. We chose Carquinez to be reflective of the whole geographic area where we live: American Canyon, Pinole, Vallejo, and beyond." The name references the Carquinez Straight, a

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

CALIFORNIA'S NEWEST LODGES

BENICIA Carquinez, U.D. Benicia, U.D.

FRESNO Regius University, U.D.



LOS ANGELES The Downtown Masonic, U.D.

<mark>OAKLAND</mark> Templum Rosae, U.D. ROSEVILLE Aquila, U.D.

SAN FRANCISCO Sempervirens, U.D. Logos, U.D. Pythagoras, U.D.

Learn more about the growth of California Masonry at freemason.org/Aug16Lodges

narrow waterway connecting Suisun Bay to San Pablo Bay, spanning Solano and Contra Costa counties. As the Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Napa rivers merge into the straight along with the two bays, so does Carquinez Lodge bring together local members to form a united lodge.

REVITALIZING THE HISTORIC TEMPLE

To celebrate the return of Masonry to Benicia, Grand Lodge organized a complete renovation of the historic Benicia Hall. Aged furniture was replaced, walls were repainted, flooring was restored, and a historic exhibit was installed. Today, visitors can trace Benicia's Masonic history, from Semple's 1847 founding of the city through the 2016 Carquinez and Benicia dispensations.

The historic space holds deep significance for members. "We are rebuilding Benicia Masonry from the ground up, but meeting in this hall reminds us that Masonry once thrived here and will again," says Porter.

"It's amazing to know that you can stand in the same spot where a Benicia master stood in the 1800s. It's a priceless experience," Rico says. "And," he adds, "imagine seeing yourself 25 years from now; looking back and knowing that you had a role in this revival. We're part of the community's past and a part of its future – it's history in the making."

BUILDING COMMUNITY

As they work to rejuvenate Benicia Masonry, both masters are rooted in modern-day realities: In order to thrive, efforts must reach beyond the lodge and into the community itself. Rico looks forward to spreading enthusiasm throughout the Masonic district, which includes Naval Lodge No. 4 in Vallejo. He hopes to plan shared events with the three local lodges in the coming year, perhaps a district-wide celebration with Grand Master Heisner. "I'm very positive about future shared events," he says. "We have a great capacity to work harmoniously." He hopes to also organize a booth at Benicia's annual summer festival with Child ID or another program to increase community visibility.

Benicia Lodge, U.D. is focused on community as well. The current lodge secretary is a retired local public

LODGE ANNIVERSARY MILESTONES

The following lodges celebrated milestone anniversaries during the 2015-2016 fraternal year:

150 Years

Petaluma-Hamilton Lodge No. 180

> **Windsor** Lodge No. 181

125 Years

Foothill Lodge No. 305

Inland Empire Lodge No. 306

Santa Monica-Palisades Lodge No. 307

> **Delano-Wasco** Lodge No. 309

school teacher and when Porter was master of the former Sublime Benicia Lodge, brothers' school grants were the most generous in the community. He's eager to get back to supporting schools, while also increasing lodge support of emergency services. A new committee, which includes a retired fire chief, will lead these new efforts. And, the lodge has reserved a booth at the city's farmers market, every Thursday evening starting this spring.

"We're serving hot coffee and answering questions," Porter says. "Community is number one on our list." His voice hums with pride — a passion for community, history, fraternity, and the future. "We're here to be seen. We're a part of Benicia." ♦

Celebrating Acacia Creek's Award-Winning Year

At Acacia Creek's founding, its board members set out to create a different kind of retirement community. One that would unite Masons and non-Masons alike in a shared culture of respect, community, and enthusiasm for life. One where the desire to "age successfully" – to establish continued growth and learning as an integral part of the aging process – would be a distinguishing factor.

Now, six years young, Union City, California's best-kept secret is out. The nonprofit continuing care retirement community (CCRC) has achieved an unprecedented victory: Masterpiece Living just designated Acacia Creek as a "Certified Center for Successful Aging." Based on qualifications determined in a landmark 10-year study by the MacArthur Foundation, this prestigious distinction has only been awarded to 15 other CCRCs in the United States. And, Acacia Creek's application is unique in that it not only met but exceeded Masterpiece Living's gold-caliber standards. Very few communities have ever scored above 90 on the evaluation; Acacia Creek's score was 95, the highest to date.

This announcement follows closely on the heels of two other major landmarks: In 2016, the campus reached 100 percent resident occupancy. A master waitlist was introduced, to accommodate climbing interest. And, the campus just received its permanent Certificate of Authority from the California Department of Social Services.

Call now to join the waiting list for spacious, light-filled apartments and villas. acaciacreek.org (877) 902-7555 The main reason for Acacia Creek's success and appeal is its residents and culture. The community's resident-driven lifestyle involves residents in every aspect of campus life, from selecting (and teaching) courses to setting menus, planning celebrations, initiating volunteer efforts, and more. As resident Karen Moody aptly puts it, "I don't want to spend my retirement just sitting around. That's why I'm here at Acacia Creek."

Another unique factor continues to be the Masonic values upon which the community was founded. They effuse through everyday life – from Acacia Creek's joint events with the Masonic Home at Union City, which shares its campus, to its democratic resident council, and pervasive spirit of generosity. Nine men have become Masons since moving to Acacia Creek.

"These achievements reflect the vitality and engagement that is the culture of Acacia Creek," says Acacia Creek President Chuck Major. "They are the result of the partnership between residents and team members in creating a community where all residents age happily and successfully." \diamond

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IIGHTING OUR NEXT CENTURY INSPIRED BY MASONIC RITUAL

Edwin L. Senga, junior warden of Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass Lodge No. 614, was honored as an individual winner of the 2016 Ritual Awards. Senga says, "Ritual is very important for the future of Masonry because it's how the bonds are formed between brothers. The more solemn and heartfelt the ritual, the better the experience — and the stronger the bond that's created between a candidate and his brothers. Because of our shared ritual experiences, I can travel anywhere in the world and greet another Mason as my brother."

Read more at freemason.org/Jan17Senga

BEAUTY

SCHOOL STAND

00 55



2016 RITUAL AWARD WINNERS

Annual Ritual Awards recognize individuals and lodges who demonstrate extraordinary performance of the Masonic ritual. This year's competition focused on the Second Section of the Third Degree for teams and on the Second Section of the Fellow Craft Degree for individuals.

	INDIVIDUAL	TEAM
Division 1	Gilberto Corpuz Francis Drake Lodge No. 376	Francis Drake Lodge No. 376
Division 2	Richard J. Jolley Orland Laurel Lodge No. 245	Masonic District No. 222
Division 3	Jesse Dela Cruz San Leandro Lodge No. 113	Golden Rule Lodge No. 479
Division 4	Chester Fristoe Union-Kit Carson Lodge No. 58	General Douglas MacArthur Lodge No. 853
Division 5	Frank Luenser Central Coast Lodge No. 237	Hesperian Lodge No. 264
Division 6	Thomas Farr Hornitos Lodge No. 98	Green Dragon Masonic Fellowship Lodge No. 857
Division 7	Edwin L. Senga Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass Lodge No. 614	Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass Lodge No. 614
Division 8	Bernard Shannon Coachella Lodge No. 476	Temecula-Catalina Island Lodge No. 524
Division 9	William Austin Swank San Diego Lodge No. 35	San Diego Lodge No. 35
Division 10	Louis McKay Long Beach Lodge No. 327	Sunnyside Lodge No. 577

Advancing Knowledge and Leadership

This year, brothers and friends advanced their knowledge through live and online Masonic education and leadership programs.

1,619

SHARING OUR NEXT CENTURY SHARING THE LIGHT OF BROTHERLY LOVE AND KNOWLEDGE



Y2K seems like a lifetime ago, but advancements in the information age continue to thrill – and Masons are at the forefront. Our expanding digital world offers new opportunities for the world's largest fraternity to bridge geographic divides and come together at the local, state, national, and even global level. This year's communications advancements mark an increased enthusiasm for a vibrant worldwide brotherhood.

Tech in the Homes

In 2016, the Masonic Homes welcomed the Masonic Communities and Services Association (MSCA) to the Union City campus for its 86th annual conference. The conference topic, "Click. Connect. Care: Masonic Relief at the Edge of Silicon Valley," highlighted Masonic Homes' initiatives to bring the best in modern technology to inform and improve resident lifestyle and care. Guests toured modern "smart apartments," which featured sleep monitoring devices, voice activated controls, safety mechanisms, and more.

New Lodge Tech Resources

More than 150 lodges have now adopted the lodge app. Calendar, payment, and roster functions continue to be among its most used features. And, just one year after launching the app, Grand Lodge introduced new lodge website templates. All California Masonic lodges can now set up a high-quality, simple-to-maintain website (with free hosting) to provide basic information about their lodge and Masonry to prospects and the general public. Get an app or template for your lodge at **freemason.org/lodgeservices**

Adopting New Technologies

Lodges throughout California are breaking the mold when it comes to member communications, trying innovative new technologies to keep members connected – wherever they are. This year's Lodge Communication Awards Committee applauded Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520 for its original use of Periscope and Facebook Live during the open portion of their stated meetings. This unique approach allowed the lodge to involve members who were not able to attend the meeting.

An Industry Darling

The Masons of California were once again praised by industry leaders for award-winning communications. Recognitions for 2016 included:

BEST TABLE **OF CONTENTS**



Eddie and Ozzie Awards for the April/May 2016 issue of California Freemason, "The Power of Initiation."

SILVER: SINGLE TOPIC ISSUE

Awarded by Association Media & Publishing (AM&P) for the December/

January 2016 issue of California Freemason. "The Art of Being a Gentleman."



BRONZE: INTEGRATED MIXED MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Awarded by AM&P to recognize materials created for the XIV World Conference of Regular Masonic Grand Lodges.

BRONZE: MAGAZINE REDESIGN

Awarded by AM&P to recognize the new California Freemason design, which launched with the October/ November 2015 issue.



View all Lodge Communications Awards winners at freemason.org/ **Jan17Communications**

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

The 2015-2016 Masonic year brought thousands of Masons from around the globe to our Grand Lodge, but our online communities drew even more visitors! See who's been in touch and from where.

CALIFORNIA FREEMASON ONLINE AND APP:

subscribers from 26 countries

U,ðð readers from 138 countries

Freemason.org 3,374,637 page views from 205 countries

Facebook 124,361 followers from **48** countries

YouTube 15,977 views from 149 countries

BIGGEST BUZZ

MOST 'LIKED' FACEBOOK POST

January 19, 2016 106.5k likes

"Here are a few more pics from vesterday's Kingdom Day Parade in Los Angeles. Thank you to the Prince Hall Masons of California, the Masonic youth orders represented, and the Grand Lodge officers and California Masons that participated in this inspiring event!"

TOP TWEET

September 9, 2016: 3,191 impressions "Wow. @AskMen just posted a great piece about the fraternity and why men are joining! Read it now: http://www.askmen.com/ entertainment/better_look/aninside-look-at-the-masons.html #Freemasonry"

TOP NEWSLETTER

January 6, 2016 7,217 readers "Worthy of Being Worn"

MOST WATCHED VIDEO

3,375 views last year "The Art of Masonic Education" youtube.com/CaliforniaMasons



MOST 'LIKED' **INSTAGRAM PHOTO**

October 20, 2016 506 likes Image of vintage LIFE magazine cover





YOUR GIFTS 2015-2016

\$4,215,542

was generously contributed by more than 5,300 fraternal family members and friends.

> \$3,004,381 through trusts and bequests

\$869,362

to the Annual Fund for fraternal relief and public education

\$161,198 to Raising A Reader

\$158,700 to Masons4Mitts

\$21,901 to Louisiana disaster relief

WHY WE GIVE

CARRYING THE TORCH OF GENEROSITY

• 👕 ow much can I give?

For many of us this question likely arises regularly. Our personal resources are often pulled in a variety of directions – by religious organizations, alumni associations, health-related causes, and our California Masonic charities. Of course, our ability to give is not limitless, and the volume and demand placed upon us by even the worthiest causes can seem daunting.

As a California Mason myself, I believe that gifts in support of our Masonic charities are always "worth it." Ours are causes that resonate deeply with our fraternal values, those that truly put our principles into action – and to great effect. It is for this reason that I am proud that the California Masonic Foundation now stewards charitable dollars for both the Masonic Homes and our support for public education, unifying our fundraising efforts for the programs and initiatives so important to each of us.

Since its beginning, our fraternity has upheld a deep commitment to charity and relief, and to supporting the most vulnerable among us. For generations, brothers like us have ensured the perpetuity of our remarkable programs and initiatives for future generations by passing the torch of generosity and shared Masonic ideals.

In the early days, Masons supported those in need within their lodges, correcting local, immediate crises. Today, because we pool our resources, our reach stretches much farther. Instead of providing bread to a widow in need, we can offer her groceries, shelter, and care. Instead of donating a few books to a local school, we provide books and critical literacy skills to tens of thousands of students.

Each gift to the California Masonic Foundation has the capacity to make an impact much greater than any of us could dream of achieving alone. That is why I give. Please join me in ensuring that the most vulnerable among us will always be able to count on us.

Douglas D. Ismail, President, California Masonic Foundation

WHY WE GIVE

THE RIGHT THING TO DO

MEET EDWARD MACKERLEY MASON FOR 54 YEARS GRAND MASTER CIRCLE DONOR Edward Mackerley grew up in a town of 1,100 people in rural New Jersey – "Everybody knew everybody," he says. As is often the case in small towns, his fifth grade teacher, Ms. Chambers, kept tabs on her former students. She was active in Eastern Star, and took an interest when Mackerley joined DeMolay. As a young man, Mackerley recalls her speaking of Masonic charity, "She said, 'We do these things not to impress people or for public approval; we do them because they are the right thing to do.'"

These words stayed with him over the years – when he became a Mason in his father's lodge; when he joined Consuelo Lodge No. 325 after moving his own family to Escondito, California; and when he raised his son to Master Mason.

"I've received much more from the fraternity than I've given to it," Mackerley says. He contributes to the Annual Fund, and in 2016 joined the Grand Master Circle level of donors. As his inspiration, he cites Ms. Chambers, and her description of Masonic charity as "the right thing to do." "I give because I care a great deal about the fraternity," he says, "and I'll do whatever I can to see that the charitable programs achieve their goals. When you give money to Masonic charities, you know it's going to be put where it will do good." **•**

Read more at freemason.org/Jan17Mackerley

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ANNUAL FUND HIGHLIGHTS

California Masons gave

\$737,471 this year - the highest amount since 2008

4,970 Number of member donors

209

Grand Master Circle donors – the most in recorded history U.S

\$154 Average gift amount per member - the highest ever

SPENCER

WHY WE GIVE

THE DIGNITY OF SERVICE

MEET MAJOR THOMAS SPENCER MASON FOR 53 YEARS CORNERSTONE SOCIETY MEMBER GRAND MASTER CIRCLE DONOR

Before he entered into 30 years of civil service; before he began 20 years of active duty in the U.S. Army; before he earned the rank of major and dozens of military decorations, Thomas Spencer was a kid in the agricultural hub of Chula Vista, sweeping the floor at his dad's Masonic lodge. "My brother and I were a cleaning team," he says. "It was our duty." They were too young to understand much about the fraternity. But their father was the master of Chula Vista Lodge No. 626, and they were expected to do their part.

Spencer's father's lodge is now his own. He became a Mason there in 1962 when he was 28, home on leave after an Army tour in Korea. He was initiated by his father and the same men whose citrus orchards he'd worked on as a young man.

As an infantry officer, Spencer was dispatched on one overseas tour after another, where he made Masonic connections along the way. Some of his earliest posts brought him into small European lodges, and he thrived on their intimate gatherings and philosophical discussions. "Those conversations about Masonic principles helped me understand my father better – why he was always helping others; why he contributed money to things when our family didn't have a lot of money to begin with," says Spencer. "I try to emulate him with the things I do today." Spencer's globetrotting career gave him the opportunity to found a military lodge in Frankfurt, Germany, and to join lodges and Masonic organizations in France, Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, Georgia, Missouri, Oregon, and Texas. The list of the charitable causes Spencer has led and supported are equally diverse, from veterans' causes to the Shrine and Scottish Rite children's hospitals to environmental conservation. He was awarded the charity jewel of the Germany-based American-Canadian Grand Lodge. To help young people afford college, he has endowed scholarships in Nebraska, Texas, and at Chula Vista Lodge.

Spencer is also a member of the Grand Master Circle level of giving, and a member of the Cornerstone Society, a special group of donors who include the fraternity in their estate plans or wills – supporting its philanthropic programs posthumously.

"You're supposed to leave this world better than you found it," Spencer says. "To do that you've got to leave some money to an organization that will work for the betterment of society." It's an echo of his first Masonic lesson, as a young boy sweeping the floor at Chula Vista Lodge: You've got to do your part. \diamond

WHY WE GIVE

EVERYONE IS ON THE LEVEL

MEET D. ADAM KARIM MASON FOR FIVE YEARS PAST MASTER AND LODGE OFFICER ANNIVERSARY LEVEL DONOR

The white apron that D. Adam Karim wears these days is not the one in which he took his degrees. In his earliest days as a Mason, Karim accompanied his lodge to a brother's funeral, where they were asked to perform an impromptu service. The family didn't have the brother's apron to bury with him — so Karim offered his. "Masonry's unique like that," he says. "Your social class and status don't matter. Everyone's equal; everyone is on the level."

This is one of the things he values most about the fraternity. A software engineer and classically trained guitarist, he's also been moved by Masonry's charitable philosophy. He recalls a few years ago when a family in his community, a single father with three children, lost their home in a fire just weeks before Christmas. Karim was an officer by that time, and emailed the lodge for help. Within days, brothers had raised \$700, invited the family to the lodge, and presented the children with gifts. "We gave them a Christmas," Karim recalls proudly. It was a poignant experience for Karim, who has three children with his wife, Michelle: two daughters, ages 11 and 9; and a son, age 4. They adopted their son in 2014. When they first began the process, Karim had been a Mason for a handful of years, and was serving as a DeMolay chapter dad. He could imagine having a boy, and passing the torch of Masonry through DeMolay to a son of his own. In part because of their Masonic involvement (Michelle is in Eastern Star) and the desire to give back, the Karims began to seriously consider adoption.

"We had always talked about the possibility of adopting," says Karim, now chaplain and a past master of Modesto Lodge No. 206. "But we might not have done it had I not become a Mason." This spirit of generosity goes hand in hand with the reason he donates to the Annual Fund: "As Masons, during our degrees, we agree to be charitable. As lodge officers, we demonstrate to our members that this is more than just lip service." And, he adds, "We have to understand that this charity is not limited to our individual lodges – a lot of people out there need help." ♦



100% OFFICER GIVING

When lodge officers give, they truly lead by example. These are the brothers to whom we have entrusted our future – whose words and actions we aspire to follow. Their gifts perpetuate a legacy of generosity within our craft.

This year's officer giving was the highest to date, with 67 participating lodges and 1,337 officers.

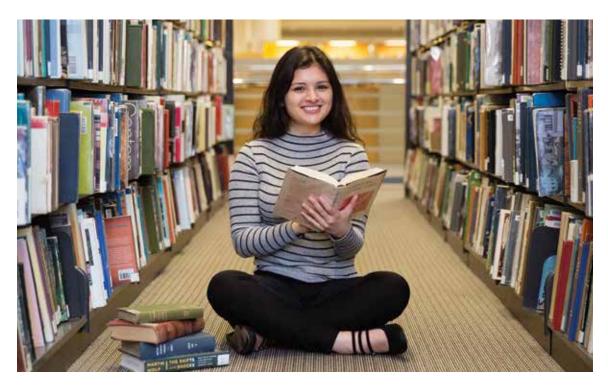
Thank you to the lodges whose officers achieved 100 percent officer giving this year. You have made an indelible impact upon those who need us most.

Acacia No. 243 Acalanes Fellowship No. 480 Amity No. 442 Arcadia No. 278 Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass No. 614 Black Mountain No. 845 Burbank No. 406 Calaveras No. 78 California No. 1 Carpinteria No. 444 Coastside No. 762 Columbia-Brotherhood No. 370 Conejo Valley No. 807 Crocker No. 212 Destiny No. 856 Drytown No. 174 East San Diego No. 561 Fallbrook No. 317 Fillmore-Santa Paula No. 291 Francis Drake No. 376 Green Dragon Masonic Fellowship No. 857

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INVESTING IMPACT



Guadalupe Esquivel is ambitious by nature. She graduated from California State University, Monterey Bay this past December with an impressive double major in business and math. In addition to a jampacked class schedule of 18-20 hours of coursework per semester (not to mention homework and study time), she completed two senior projects – a stock option analysis and a strategic business analysis for a contract manufacturing firm. In her remaining free time, she began working at an accounting firm to further her business acumen.

To many people this schedule might seem exhausting, but for Lupe, the opportunity to set and conquer her goals has been a dream come true – and it's one made possible by generous gifts from California Masons. "My mom is a single mom and I'm the eldest of four," explains Lupe. "This [Investment in Success] scholarship took pressure off my family and really allowed me to pursue the education I dreamed of. Without it, I would have had to stay home and go to community college part time."

Now that her diploma is all but in hand, Lupe is working full-time at the accounting firm and spending some of her free hours tutoring her colleagues' children. She loves seeing her students' eyes light up as they grasp complicated logic. The tutoring work is also preparation for the future: Her next educational pursuit is gaining a teaching credential to be a professional math teacher. Her reason? "Helping people, especially kids, just feels right." \diamond

Read more about Lupe at freemason.org/Jan17Lupe

LxWeek Informs and Inspires

Giving Back To Nick



Nicholas Chan just finished his third semester of college, and he's already looking forward to the year to come. His inspiration? His family. And, golf.

Ever since the day his father, Bro. Garrett Chan, brought him to a greenway, Nick has been hooked. He works at a golf store, and spends his off-days and school breaks studying the sport and perfecting his swing. Someday, he hopes to make a living from this passion, in a sales or marketing role with one of his favorite brands.

Golf wasn't the only passion Nick gained from his family. As a child, Nick followed

in the footsteps of his father, uncles, and brother to join the youth order of DeMolay, where he gained confidence and a solid foundation of Masonic values. "DeMolay helped me to find myself. It showed me what was possible," Nick says. He became a youth leader, and will soon be honored with the Degree of Chevalier, the highest honor an active DeMolay can receive.

At the 167th Annual Communication, the fraternity announced new Masonic Youth Leadership Scholarships, which reward Masonic youth leaders for years of service by helping them to achieve their academic goals. Nick was one of the 22 recipients. "I truly am grateful for the scholarship, and for everything the Masons have done," he says. "They've helped more than I could ever imagine." \diamond

Read more about Nick and view all 2016 Masonic Youth Leadership Scholarship recipients at freemason.org/Jan17Scholars

Last June, the fraternity partnered with DeMolay to produce LxWeek 2016, a new annual event providing real-life and practical leadership skills to Masonic youth leaders. Adult experts led engaging sessions on leadership, education, civility, membership, dance, art, music, and youth order development. *Learn more at freemason.org/Jan17LxWeek*

HELPING YOUTH EXCEL

This year the fraternity gave \$417,090

in scholarships to 199 deserving students throughout California.

California lodges reported more than

\$34,250

in scholarship gifts.*

Chowchilla Lodge No. 485 CHOWCHILLA MASONIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Chula Vista Lodge No. 626 TAS CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Confidence Lodge No. 110 CECIL AND BONITA BAXTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND T. FENTON HAM SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Greenleaf Gardens Lodge No. 670 ARNOLD WILMOTT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

> Welcome Lodge No. 255 COALINGA MASONIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*To add a scholarship to next year's report, or to request scholarship management from the California Masonic Foundation, contact foundation@freemason.org



California Masons were honored to receive a personal letter from baseball great Willie Mays, a former San Francisco Giant and Freemason. Mays wrote:

"This special partnership truly helps children and families throughout the state and is reflective of the core belief of Freemasonry: that each of us has a responsibility to help make the world a better place."

Read the letter at freemason.org/Jan17Children

OFFERING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

California Masons just finished their eighth year of bringing joy to vulnerable youth through the fraternity's innovative Masons4Mitts program, which provides high-quality leather baseball mitts, embossed with the Masons of California logo, to children who participate in charitable baseball programs through Major League Baseball teams.

Children from economically disadvantaged urban areas gain a safe place to play, teamwork skills, and crucial advice on topics related to health, nutrition, and more.

Every year, regional teams of local Masonic lodges compete to fund the most number of mitts for children who participate in programs through the Los Angeles Dodgers, San Diego Padres, and San Francisco Giants. Each regional winning team presents a ceremonial check to foundation officials during a special ballpark ceremony. This year's winning Masons4Mitts teams are:

- » San Francisco: SF Sluggers, 1,622 mitts
- » Los Angeles: Media Central Titans, 774 mitts
- » San Diego: Mid City Marauders, 388 mitts

Congratulations to all California Masons and friends for helping the fraternity raise more than \$157,000 through Masons4Mitts this year enough to donate 7,880 high-quality mitts to kids in need. \diamond



Through its partnership with child literacy leader Raising A Reader, California Masons have brought greatly needed literacy training to



New Beginnings At Covina



Bro. John Pomroy sits on a cottage porch at the Covina Masonic Home, gazing out over gentle hills. This cottage is the headquarters of the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Covina, which Pomroy, a Master Mason at Destiny Lodge No. 856, helped found.

Caring for children in need has been Pomroy's lifelong calling. When Covina housed the fraternity's residential children's program, he was a house parent. Today, he ensures that children who are victims of abuse or who have witnessed violent crimes have a safe place to come for forensic interviews. For both of these important missions, the Covina campus has provided a stable, compassionate setting.

Last month, the Masonic Center for Youth and Families (MCYAF) moved in across the way. MCYAF provides evaluation and treatment for children and adolescents, ages 4 to 24, who struggle with emotional, learning, and behavioral difficulties. It is an industry best practice brought to life: Multidisciplinary professionals collaborate to understand each child's complex situation. And, a sliding-scale payment model makes services accessible to struggling families. In Covina, MCYAF is expanding its services and building an important partnership with CAC. After CAC guides each child through the interviews that numerous agencies require for evidence, staff can now walk them over to MCYAF. There, children wait in a cozy space designed just for them, with younger children lounging on beanbag chairs and teens playing foosball. The setting and staff effuse a sense of reassurance.

"These are vulnerable kids who otherwise couldn't access high-quality resources. They are struggling," says Kimberly Rich, MCYAF executive director. "At MCYAF, we create lasting change. When you strengthen the family – improve relationships; improve parenting – you can impact that family for generations." ♦

Read more about the Masonic Center for Youth and Families and its expansion to Covina at freemason.org/Jan17MCYAF



EXPENSES IN SUPPORT OF MASONIC VALUES

\$51,139,362

for fraternal support and care

\$42,645,523 Masonic Homes in Union City and Covina

\$5,647,632 Masonic Senior Outreach Services

> \$2,630,336 Masonic Center for Youth and Families

\$215,871 Masonic Family Outreach Services

\$690,784

for leadership development, Masonic education, and public education initiatives

\$351,090

for scholarships and <u>youth</u> leadership grants

\$182,810

for Masonic education and leadership development

\$66,000

for Masonic Youth Leadership Scholarships

\$58,400 in support of nurse education

\$32,484 in support of public education



GRAND TREASURER'S MESSAGE ENVISIONING

OUR FUTURE

s we celebrate 300 years of Freemasonry, we find ourselves wondering what our forefathers envisioned for the future of our great fraternity.

Did the earliest Masons believe that one day Freemasonry would cover the globe? For those who brought Freemasonry to California, was theirs anything more than a dream that Freemasonry would thrive here? Or, did these brothers envision the great impact we would make upon public education and other critical statewide initiatives, as well as the exemplary care our Masonic Homes would grow to provide?

Just as we consider our forefathers, we must wonder what questions may come to mind for brothers 100 years from now. Will they marvel at the dedication to philanthropy that we exemplified, not only in preserving our Masonic Homes and public schools programs, but expanding our impact? In order for this to happen we must all remember the teachings of our Masonic degrees, focusing on our shared belief that the greatest of these is charity. Only through our charitable giving can we preserve our most precious resources for the future – our children and their education. Only by giving back can we express our devotion to those who came before us by compassionately serving aging brothers and loved ones in our care.

If our forefathers held great aspirations for Freemasonry's future, it is we to whom the torch for realizing these dreams has been passed. And, it is our responsibility to keep it lit for the generations that follow. As we celebrate our rich Masonic history, let us live by example through our actions and donations so that we may demonstrate charity for all those yet to come through Freemasonry's doors.

Arthur L. Salazar Jr., Grand Treasurer

MAKING A LASTING IMPACT MAKING A LASTING IMPACT MASONIC HOMES ROADMAP

FULFILLING THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN



In 2015, after nearly a year of conversations, the Masonic Homes of California Board of Directors finalized their campus master plan. They titled it Roadmap 2020, and got to work. The overall goals? Replace aging structures on both campuses with new, state-of-the-art facilities that meet or exceed today's best practices. Add new facilities in Covina to provide additional levels of care on that campus. And, add new residences in both Union City and Covina to shorten the 18 to 24 month waiting period for moving into the Homes. As we enter the middle stretch of this five-year campus plan, we recap the Homes' recent progress and what it's poised to complete next.

NEW SHORT-TERM CARE

In addition to the care that it's always provided to residents, the Union City Home now offers rehabilitative care for Masons and members of the community recovering from surgery, illness, or injury. A new short-term rehabilitation program, called Transitions, was developed and opened in late 2015 in partnership with Washington Hospital, the local healthcare system. Transitions occupies the third floor of the Lorber skilled nursing building, which was renovated into an upscale, finely appointed environment for short term stays. An interdisciplinary team offers specialized care in cardiac, orthopedic, and neurosurgical rehab. Transitions also provides short-term respite care for full-time caregivers.

Thanks to a new payment option, it's now easier for Masonic seniors – particularly those who are not Homes residents – to take advantage of all the skilled nursing services at the Union City Home. This year, a direct-admit payment option was introduced for those seeking short stay or longer-term care in the Home's skilled nursing program, which has consistently earned Medicare's coveted five-star rating for its high-quality services. Now, fraternal seniors

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Take a video tour through the Transitions short-term rehabilitative and respite care program at masonichome.org/transitions



can access skilled nursing care for as long as they need via a fee-for-service arrangement, without assigning over assets.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR MORE SENIORS

On the campus of the Covina Masonic Home, renovations will begin in early 2017 to repurpose houses from the former children's residential program.



Since that program concluded in 2009, several of the family houses, designed by famed midcentury architects A. Quincy Jones and Frederick Emmons, have not been used. Under Roadmap 2020, two are being transformed into shared senior housing, suited to those with independent and ambulatory lifestyles. After the remodel is complete, each house will feature seven private residences – each with at least one bedroom and private bathroom, and several with a sitting room – plus a common kitchen, living spaces, pantry, laundry room, patio, and garage. The remodel will make the homes more senior-friendly and ADA-compliant, adding an elevator in each and other safety features.

The houses are set to open later this year, welcoming new fraternal family members to the Covina campus. In particular, the shared housing is being developed for senior Masonic Outreach Services clients who need temporary, affordable housing while they are on the wait list to move into the Masonic Homes. While living in shared senior housing, they will be able to access many of the amenities offered by the Covina Home, including the fitness center and the library.

"We are looking forward to being able to bring these individuals onto the Covina campus to live with their fraternal family," says Gary Charland, president and chief executive officer of the Masonic Homes. "It's an ideal solution for our independent brethren and widows needing an affordable place to call home."

NEW HEALTH CENTERS

Among the many projects set forth in Roadmap 2020, two of the biggest



are new skilled nursing facilities on both campuses. These have entered a key step on their way to breaking ground: The preliminary design plans have been completed, and are pending approval from California's Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. The timeline for state approvals is fluid, typically involving at least several rounds of revisions. But, construction could begin on both campuses as early as this year.

Both centers are planned around best-practice "neighborhood" models. They'll feature groupings of private rooms with their own baths and showers, anchored around communal kitchen, living, and dining rooms. Besides offering a more comfortable and lively setting, a major feature of this model is flexibility: Spaces can be used interchangeably for short term rehab, memory care, long term care, or assisted living. The Union City facility will be a state-of-the-art replacement to the existing Lorber building, with 96 beds. The Covina facility, with 32



beds, will introduce skilled nursing and memory care services to that campus for the first time. Once its doors are open, Covina members and their spouses will no longer have to leave campus to access these levels of care.

Both centers embrace a "Green House" model of senior living, a personal, homelike environment that differs completely from the institutional feel of older designs. The new centers will emphasize autonomy, dignity, and well-being — concepts that the Masonic Homes has embodied since its first campus doors opened in 1898. In this way and many others, Roadmap 2020 leads the Homes into the future while preserving its long-time philosophy: successful aging, built on a foundation of fraternal values. \diamondsuit

Masonic Value Network: Easily Find Potential Care Providers

Trying to find a caregiver, senior care provider, or similar services in your community can be daunting, especially if you're not quite sure how to get started or what questions to ask. To help you get started, we recently introduced the Masonic Value Network: a list of independent care-related services and providers that could be of interest to you.

From in-home care to senior communities, turn to the Masonic Value Network for help researching and accessing care near you. This convenient listing is free for California Masons and Masonic families.

masonichome.org/ValueNetwork

RELIEF FOR OUR MASONIC FAMILY

3,261

Masons, Masonic family, and community members were cared for by the Masonic Homes of California in the 2015-2016 fraternal year:

372

Masonic Homes of California residents

455

Masonic Center for Youth and Families Clients

388

Masonic Outreach Services Clients

2,046 Information and referral line callers

LODGE OUTREACH

Congratulations to San Dimas Lodge No. 428, the 2016 recipient of the Joe Jackson Lodge Outreach Award!

Named in honor of Bro. Joe Jackson, a 60-year Mason and Hiram Award recipient who is celebrated for his exemplification of Masonic relief and brotherly love, this annual award recognizes a lodge that has demonstrated excellence in outreach to their members and widows. The Masonic Outreach Services Joe Jackson Award has now reached six Masonic jurisdictions.

HONOR ROLL OF

GIFTS BY INDIVIDUALS

Impactful gifts at the Grand Master Circle level are the foundation of our Annual Fund. Thank you to this year's Grand Master Circle donors for their exemplary generosity on behalf of our fraternity.

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\$5,000 +

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1ST-TIME DONOR

5+ YEAR DONOR

🛨 15+ YEAR DONOR

28

Last year, thousands of California Masons, lodges, Masonic organizations, and friends of the fraternity demonstrated their devotion to our Masonic charitable programs through generous gifts to our fraternity.

This crucial support ensures that we will be able to bring hope and relief to Masonic families in their darkest hour. It allows the light of Freemasonry to reach the most vulnerable members of our communities and provides support for deserving students. It tells brothers, wives, widows, and children throughout California, and beyond: You can count on us.

While this space does not allow us to list all donors, every single donation has allowed our fraternity to make a great difference in the lives of those in need. Here we recognize Anniversary Level donors and above, and first time donors of at least one hundred dollars.



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