

CALIFORNIA 

# FREEMASON

Feb / Mar 2009



**Leading**  
OUR YOUTH ORDERS

[freemason.org](http://freemason.org)





# PROFILE:

## Youth Orders Committee, 18 members

The committee's purpose is to maintain ongoing fraternal relations with Masonic youth orders (DeMolay International, Rainbow for Girls, and Job's Daughters International), support increased member participation in youth orders leadership roles, support development of new and emerging chapters, bethels, and assemblies, and encourage lodges to do the same.

### GET INVOLVED and make a difference

The Grand Lodge of California relies on members to provide volunteer leadership for the important work done by 21 committees and six boards.

Committee and board positions are opportunities to share your expertise,

enhance your leadership capabilities, and make a difference.

For information about the committees and boards, including a purpose statement and list of members, log in at the Member Center on [freemason.org](http://freemason.org), go to ROSTER,

then click on boards and committees.

If you are a warden, master, or past master who is interested in being considered for an appointment, please send an email to [communications@freemason.org](mailto:communications@freemason.org).

**PUBLICATION BOARD**

Larry L. Adamson, Grand Master  
 Allan L. Casalou, Grand Secretary and  
 Editor-in-Chief

**EDITORIAL STAFF**

Terry Mendez, Managing Editor  
 Angel Alvarez-Mapp, Associate Editor  
 Laura Normand, Senior Editor  
 Tom Phillips, Art Editor

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Resolusean Photography

**DESIGN**

Phillips Creative

**OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE**

**GRAND MASTER**

Larry L. Adamson, Sunset No. 369

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**

Kenneth G. Nagel, Liberty No. 299

**SENIOR GRAND WARDEN**

William J. Bray III, North Hollywood No. 542

**JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN**

Frank Loui, California No. 1

**GRAND TREASURER**

Glenn D. Woody, Huntington Beach No. 380

**GRAND SECRETARY**

Allan L. Casalou, Acalanes Fellowship No. 480

**GRAND LECTURER**

Paul D. Hennig, Three Great Lights No. 651

[freemason.org](http://freemason.org)

**CALIFORNIA FREEMASON**

(USPS 083-940) is published bimonthly by the Publishing Board and is the only official publication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California, 1111 California St., San Francisco, CA 94108-2284.

Publication Office – Publication offices at the Grand Lodge Offices, 1111 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94108-2284. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Francisco, CA and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster – Send address changes to California Freemason, 1111 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94108-2284.

Publication Dates - Publication dates are the first day of October, December, February, April, June, and August.

Subscriptions – CALIFORNIA FREEMASON is mailed to every member of this Masonic jurisdiction without additional charge. Others are invited to subscribe for \$2.00 a year or \$2.75 outside of the United States.

Permission to reprint – Permission to reprint original articles in CALIFORNIA FREEMASON is granted to all recognized Masonic publications with credit to the author and this publication.

Phone: 800/831-8170 or  
 415/776-7000;  
 fax: 415/776-7170;  
 e-mail: [editor@freemason.org](mailto:editor@freemason.org)



# Contents

Feb/Mar  
 2009



## 12 Feature

### Leading Our Youth Orders

In today's Masonic youth orders, strong adult leadership is a key factor for success. For both youths and adults, it's also part of an incredibly rewarding experience. Meet Barry Gwin and Mark Pressey, two of California's dedicated adult leaders, and their sons, the catalysts for their DeMolay involvement.



page 5



page 8

5

**Lodge Spotlight** Three California lodges go above and beyond to help their local Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters, and DeMolay orders thrive.

8

**Around the World** Young people today have a lot competing for their attention – which can make recruitment and retention challenging for Masonic youth orders. Read how two states have achieved success.

10

**Masonic Education** John Cooper introduces a new twist on Masonry's Ancient Charges, reminding us that there are right and wrong ways to support our youth.

16

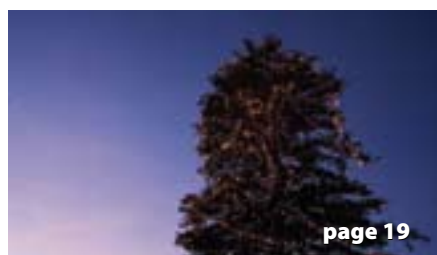
**History** In the years following World War I, Masons helped establish a trio of youth orders. Learn how the organizations got their start.

19

**Masonic Homes** At Union City and Covina, the oldest and youngest generations of the fraternal family build relationships with service projects, holiday fun, and a Senior Ball.



page 10



page 19

# Where Have All the Young People Gone?

Our true challenge

Larry L. Adamson

Grand Master



Just about a century ago, men and women of the Masonic family shared a vision of extending the moral and ethical teachings of our orders to younger people. They carefully structured three youth orders called DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls with the hope that they could share with young people that which they themselves experienced within the family of Freemasonry: a unique environment of brotherhood and sisterhood with shared moral values built around the tenets of respect, patriotism, tolerance, and reverence. Hundreds of thousands of young people have shared in that legacy over the past century and the three organizations continue to offer that same experience to today's youth.

But much has changed. For over three decades, most of the adults of our Masonic family have stood idle and watched our youth orders dwindle and suffer from our neglect and indifference. Today, in the most populated state in our country, with a population of more than 30 million people, we now have less than 5,000 members of our combined youth orders in California. We have seen one after another of our chapters, assemblies,

and bethels close due to the lack of adult involvement – not the lack of interest by the young people involved. As Masons, this should be as unacceptable to you as it is to this grand master, and it is time today that we all accept a role in seeing that this situation changes.

Rebuilding our youth orders is essential to the long-term health of the family of Freemasonry and the time for debate is long past. Action and commitment now must be our response. I have set as a top strategic priority the rebuilding of our youth orders. This rebuilding must begin with our commitment of service to our young people as advisors and mentors. This means supporting them not only with your treasury, but also with something much more valuable: you!

What is the challenge? A 10-fold increase in the number of Masons directly involved in adult roles within the youth orders; a statewide opening and reopening of a combined 100 chapters, bethels, and assemblies over the next five years; doubling

the number of active members of these orders; and an overall commitment of sustained support by all of us.

You see, that is what I believe it means when we as Masons apply our principles. It is what distinguishes us as members of this great fraternity and there should be no question in any of our minds that we, our families, and our communities all benefit from this investment in the future. You are not too old, you are not too young, and you are not too busy. You are Masons! And Masons do what is right. So before we look around and wonder where all the young people have gone, join me in this challenge. ✧

## \*COMING SOON

Watch for the launch of [masons4youth.org](http://masons4youth.org), a Web site dedicated to Grand Master Larry L. Adamson's challenge to increase the number of Masons directly involved as adult leaders of California youth orders. The site will contain detailed information about each order and a form to submit your interest in becoming an adult leader. Check the Current News on [freemason.org](http://freemason.org) and future issues of The Leader for announcements of the site's launch.



# The Next Generation

by Richard Berman

## California lodges rev up support for local youth orders

**W**hen lodges commit to active, involved support of Masonic youth orders, it's an investment in our future. Job's Daughters International, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and DeMolay International play a unique role in promoting values-driven, ethical behavior among adolescents and young adults, and in many ways provide a bridge to the future of Masonry. Here are just three of many California lodges that are recommitting to providing leadership, guidance, and financial support to Masonic youth organizations.

The members of Yosemite Lodge stand behind Merced Bethel of Job's Daughters with financial support, mentorship, and a regular presence at youth meetings.



## Nevada Lodge No. 13

**Whether** a lodge plans to establish a new youth order or revive a flagging one, positive results can be achieved in a relatively short time. In 2005, Nevada Lodge No. 13 in Nevada City decided to establish a DeMolay Chapter – and rallied local and lodge support to make it a reality within just three months.

Lou Trovato was master of the lodge at the time. “The youth orders seemed to be dwindling, which I thought was a problem,” Trovato recalls. Committed to making a change, he discussed the situation with several other Masons and they decided to get involved and take action.

According to Brother G. Sean Metroka, now the advisor for North Star Chapter of Northern

“The youth orders seemed to be dwindling, which I thought was a problem.”

California DeMolay, lodge brothers tackled the problem in record time. “Within three months, we had a trained advisory council, we’d received applications from 12 young men, and we held the chapter institution and installation ceremonies.”

Nevada Lodge has rallied support from community members and brothers from Madison Lodge No. 23 to provide advisors, a place to meet and hold chapter functions, and financial support. In addition, the lodge takes an active role in helping the chapter develop fundraising activities and community service projects.

The effort was so successful that in 2007, Nevada Lodge partnered with Evangeline Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star to establish a local assembly of Rainbow for Girls.

“The lodge’s support allows the youth orders to exist and thrive,” Metroka says. “Our lodge provides the function that is most vital to a youth order’s success: actively engaged advisors. These are not people that simply fill a post on the advisory council – they are people who are willing and able to guide the members and serve as examples.”

## Yosemite Lodge No. 99

### Understanding

the need to support our youth orders is an important first step for lodges and members, but knowing what they can do is just as important. Past Master Wes Monier, Yosemite Lodge No. 99 in Merced, has a simple answer: “Everything.”

In keeping with that

“The lodge’s support allows the youth orders to exist and thrive.”

mentality, Yosemite Lodge supports Merced Bethel, one of the most active Job’s Daughters bethels in California, on many levels.

“We are truly blessed to have them,” says Keta Ortega, Merced bethel guardian. The lodge’s annual donation to the bethel is the first of many examples of support. With that donation, the bethel has created an annual scholarship fund, which awards \$200 to every graduating senior,





and is able to send its members to leadership camps and Grand Bethel. "We currently have 24 active members in our bethel, and this donation has helped immensely," Ortega says.

But it's more than financial support. Ortega stresses that she can count on the attendance of Yosemite Lodge brothers at all bethel meetings – an important show of moral support for the girls in the bethel.

One of the most dedicated is her husband, Brother Isador Ortega, who served as grand associate guardian. He continues to lend constant support to the youth order – arriving before all meetings to make sure the lodge building is unlocked and ready, supervising activities, and contributing his

woodworking and cooking skills to make their events a success.

"I'm retired, but it sure doesn't feel that way sometimes," admits Isador Ortega, who is also serving as district inspector this year. "It's worth it, though. It's been an honor. They're such great kids."

.....

**"Supporting DeMolay is a natural way to introduce young men to the values of Masonry and to help them learn our history."**

.....

#### Fellowship Lodge No. 668

##### **In Yucaipa,** Fellowship

Lodge No. 668 has a strong relationship with its local youth orders, including Green Valley Assembly of Rainbow Girls. Kenneth R. Dowell Jr., past master and secretary, says one example of lodge support was a recent shadow night, which was attended by nine members of the lodge. After sitting down to dinner together, each of the men drew the name of a Rainbow girl out

of a hat, then "shadowed" that girl around the assembly room to share in her ritual opening, closing, and escort. The event, which was some brothers' first time attending a Rainbow Girls meeting, has also raised youth order awareness in the lodge.

"We all enjoyed the evening," reports Dowell, "and those who participated have been discussing it with those who couldn't attend."

Beth Katzman, who serves as mother advisor for Green Valley Assembly No. 220, says that the support of Fellowship Lodge has been indispensable. "The men always help when I ask, even if they can't attend all of our functions," she says. That help includes providing free rent, help on the budget, space in the lodge Trestleboard, and a generous annual donation to help send the group to Grand Assembly.

In addition to supporting Rainbow for Girls, Fellowship Lodge is also taking an active role in creating a new DeMolay chapter in the community.

"Supporting DeMolay is a natural way to introduce young men to the values of Masonry and to help them learn our history," points out Brother Steve Denton. "This is important to help DeMolays become Masons, but it also benefits older Masons because it helps us fulfill our mission." ♦



**From left: Yosemite Lodge brothers Wes Monier, treasurer, Richard Wallace, master, Isador Ortega, district inspector, and Michael Hall, secretary, make time for adult leadership and active support of Merced Bethel.**



A gathering of California Rainbow Girls and DeMolay pauses from a game of pick-up football. Shared activities are popular with all three youth orders.

by Cason Lane

## Trends in recruiting and retaining members for Masonic youth orders

**W**hen the first Masonic youth order was founded in 1919, young people didn't have TVs, computers, or soccer games to fill their days. Those circumstances have changed. Today, youths are constantly on the go with school, work, and sports leagues – not to mention video games and social networking on the Internet.

It represents a big commitment when a young man or woman carves out time to be a member of a Masonic youth order. That commitment is apparent in the young members of existing California bethels, chapters, and assemblies. The state's overall youth

orders membership numbers, however, reflect the challenges presented by so many free-time options.

As youth membership declines in many orders across the country, California and other jurisdictions are committed to reversing the trend. Two organizations, a DeMolay chapter in Illinois and a Rainbow for Girls assembly in Texas, are succeeding in getting the attention of today's youth.

### ILLINOIS

"When I took over the chapter six years ago, it was almost dead," says Russ Scanlan, an advisor for the Stanley Garrity DeMolay Chapter in Riverside, Ill., and a member of Neighbor Lodge No. 1169 in Homewood, Ill. "It took a year to get the chapter



on its feet, and then we began growing membership.”

Under Scanlan’s direction, Stanley Garrity Chapter added 15 new members in 2008, which upped total membership to nearly 100. Scanlan credits the success in attracting new members to good old-fashioned program planning.

“The biggest piece of the puzzle is something very sensible: We develop a program plan,” he says. “The advisors sit down with new officers and ask them what they’re going to do during their term. We then put the responsibility on them to make it happen.”

At Stanley Garrity Chapter, the youth generate the ideas, and the advisors provide support and guidance. When one youth member suggested a ski trip to Switzerland, for example, the group went skiing – but in less-costly Iowa. And thanks

.....  
**“It took a year to get the chapter on its feet, and then we began growing membership.”**  
.....

to thoughtful planning, the chapter has organized and funded other trips to Washington, D.C., and to West Virginia for white-water rafting.

Scanlan says that offering activities that appeal to young men – and planning them well – is the key to recruiting and retaining members. “That’s why kids keep

coming back and why they want to join,” he says. “We try to keep our hands off their ideas.”

## TEXAS

In early 2008, membership at Rainbow for Girls’ Kilgore Assembly No. 168 in East Texas was dwindling.

“We were down to really low numbers,” says Jennifer Utzman, grand deputy of the Kilgore and

.....  
**“The secret to attracting and retaining members is having good adult advisors.”**  
.....

Nacogdoches Assemblies. “So we decided to try a prospect party.”

Working from a list of names and addresses provided by the local school district, Utzman mailed letters to young women and their parents, introducing the organization and inviting them to the party. To further entice prospects, Utzman scheduled the event to follow a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Masons.

“People came for the food and stayed for the party,” she says. “We drew a much bigger crowd because of it – more than 30 prospects and their parents.”

During the event, Utzman conducted a question-and-answer session with parents, while the girls got to know each other in another room and learned about the organization. The party proved

to be an incredible success, as the assembly enrolled 10 new members. And while attracting new members is important, Utzman says retaining them once they’re initiated is a whole other challenge. Her advice is to keep members busy with new and exciting activities.

“You’ve got to do fun things,” she says. “You can’t just meet, meet, meet all the time.”

## A LITTLE ADULT SUPERVISION

Along with engaging activities and strategic party planning, Masonic youth orders say that strong adult leadership can make all the difference in chapter success.

“The secret to attracting and retaining members is having good adult advisors,” says Dave Poffenbarger, a former executive officer for Illinois DeMolay and a member of Moline Lodge No. 1014 in Moline, Illinois. Poffenbarger should know. As a young DeMolay, he appreciated the relationships he had with his chapter’s adult advisors, who were key to building and sustaining membership.

“The men kind of replaced my father, and I always felt there was a debt I owed the DeMolay,” he says. “They do good things, and we need that now more than ever.” ✦



John L. Cooper III, Past Grand Secretary

# NO MORE *Than He Really May* DESERVE

Helping our youth orders The Right Way

**IN** 1723, Dr. James Anderson laid a new version of the Ancient Charges before the Grand Lodge in London. Before the formation of the first Grand Lodge in 1717, lodges read from copies of the Ancient Charges at the making of a Mason.

Realizing that a contemporary version was required for the reorganized state of Freemasonry under the new grand lodge, Dr. Anderson created the foundation document of modern Freemasonry. The section of this work called “The Charges of a Free-Mason” was divided into six parts, and contained an interesting mix of old and new. Some of the material obviously referred to Freemasonry as a stonemasons’ guild, while other material reflected the contemporary state of Freemasonry as a purely philosophical society.

In Charge V, “Of the Management of the Craft in Working,” Anderson set forth the rules for “working” Masons. Here, he said that “The Master, knowing himself to be able of Cunning, shall undertake the Lord’s Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own; nor to give more Wages to any Brother or Apprentice than he really may deserve.”

At first, this seems to be language from the Operative days of the craft, referring to actual working stonemasons. But is it? Freemasonry’s teachings are full of surprises, and sometimes, what seems to





have an obvious meaning has a symbolic meaning, as well. I believe that this excerpt from the Constitution of 1723 has just such a symbolic meaning, and that it applies to our Masonic youth as well as to Masons.

In this issue of California Freemason magazine, we learn much about our Masonic youth orders and the adults who work with them. It might seem strange to suggest that an important principle in working with our youth is not to give them more than they “really may deserve,” to quote the Charges of a Free-Mason of 1723. But it was an important principle in the days of Operative Masonry, and it is an important principle today. To give someone more than he may deserve is to take away the privilege of earning something. The Entered Apprentice who was paid for work that he did not do learned nothing about the value of the work, just as giving our Masonic youth something without teaching them the value of working to obtain it teaches them nothing about the pride of accomplishment that comes from hard work.

I am not speaking of giving our youth places to meet at prices that they can afford. All too many lodges fail to make their facilities available to the youth orders at an affordable rental rate. Nor am I suggesting that lodges not support our youth orders financially; Our youth orders need our financial support in order to thrive. But we should not give our youth orders the wrong kind of support, by doing things for them that they can do for themselves.

An important principle in all three of our Masonic youth orders is that they are a learning experience for leadership – and learning to be a leader involves making mistakes. As adult leaders of our Masonic youth orders, we are there to serve as a “safety net,” but we are not there to do the job for them. If youths plan and carry out a community or Masonic service event on their own, they learn how to do it. If they plan and conduct meetings, they learn how to make meetings an attractive and productive experience. And if we involve them in a meaningful way in some of our adult community service activities,

they learn not only what adults do, but values of those adults that they can admire and copy.

Supporting our youth orders is much more than buying a car wash ticket or paying them to serve dinner. It must involve a personal commitment to working with them, and a personal commitment to not do the job for them. As in Operative days, giving someone “more Wages... than he really may deserve” is

---

**But giving our youth orders what they really deserve – the chance to achieve something of merit – is helping them the right way.**

---


not helping at all. But giving our youth orders what they really deserve – the chance to achieve something of merit – is helping them the right way. Whether it is a “perfect ashlar,” as in the days of the working stonemasons, or the perfect community service project today, we give our young people what they truly deserve if we let them do it themselves – with our guidance, encouragement, and support.

Dr. Anderson summarized all this in a later paragraph in Charge V: “None shall discover Envy at the Prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him or put him out of his Work, if he be capable to finish the same...” ❖

Barry Gwin is a dedicated mentor for son Trevor, both in DeMolay and at his scooter shop.







# Leading our youth orders

AND BUILDING THE FUTURE  
FOR MASONRY IN CALIFORNIA

**M**asons invest in children and the future – two things that are directly represented by our youth orders in California. One thing that's apparent in any conversation with successful chapters, assemblies, and bethels throughout the state is that this "investment" must mean more than financial support and lodge oversight of youth orders: It hinges upon strong adult leadership.

Adult leaders are key to the overall success and survival of a youth order, not to mention the experience of each young man or woman involved. Engaged, enthusiastic adult leaders are role models for youths in their formative years. By helping, mentoring, and challenging these youngest representatives of Masonic values, adult leaders directly influence the young people under their advisement, creating opportunities for growth and building leadership skills. It's a big and extremely fulfilling responsibility– and one that is vital today for the future of Masonry.

## **DADS TWICE OVER**

Two California Masons, Barry Gwin and Mark Pressey, know firsthand about how essential adult leaders are to youth orders.

Both men are advisors – and parents.

Gwin, junior deacon of California Lodge No. 1 in San Francisco and the owner of the San Francisco Scooter Centre, got involved with DeMolay shortly after becoming a Mason. Gwin's 13-year-old son, Trevor, was the catalyst.

"I just became a Master Mason last May," says Gwin, 41. "I found DeMolay after meeting other Masons with kids. Trevor went to a chapter meeting, and got involved with it immediately." Gwin's interest was piqued, and as a result of Trevor's involvement, he participated in the 'dad training' and became a DeMolay advisor. "In December 2007 I became the chapter dad," Gwin reports, "which is a great honor for me."

DeMolay International was

founded in 1913 and is open to boys aged 12 to 21. In California, there are northern and southern jurisdictions, which are then broken into chapters. Adult leaders known as "DeMolay dads" support each chapter.

Being an adult advisor is a sizeable commitment of time and energy, and Gwin is already busy with family, fraternity, and running San Francisco's neighborhood Vespa dealership. Why a youth order, too? "Trevor has gotten so much out of being in DeMolay," Gwin says. "It's introducing him to other boys with high values, which is important to me because not all of the kids in his school necessarily behave the way that I would like my son to behave."

Gwin's enthusiasm for his role is contagious, and he's already become known around lodge for

"With strong support, we're not only attracting new members, but also providing a stronger link to DeMolay, which encourages them to be more active and involved in the chapter."

his unflagging support of youth orders.

"I'm not just there to provide rides and attend meetings – I really fill the role of "advisor" in a lot of ways. I've had the opportunity to mentor the boys in our group about a lot of different topics," Gwin says. "You really don't know how rewarding it will be until you actually do it."

Pressey, 47, agrees. In addition to serving as treasurer of Irvine

Barry Gwin, owner of San Francisco Scooter Centre, has become his lodge's model for adult leadership of youth orders.





Valley Lodge No. 671, Pressey is an advisor with Agate Chapter of DeMolay in Escondido and district dad of the Southwest Pacific District. His youth order resume also includes past Rainbow dad with Infinity Assembly of Rainbow for Girls in Lake Forest and a current seat on the Grand Lodge youth orders committee. He's also a member of the California Masonic Foundation Board of Directors, the California Masonic Memorial Temple Board of Directors, the Leadership Development committee, and the Child ID Program committee.

With his dad's Masonic ties, it's no wonder that son Zack is a past master councilor with Agate Chapter and now serves as president of Southwest Pacific District of DeMolay.

"Zack was first introduced to DeMolay while sitting in a stroller at an Annual Communication," laughs Pressey.

Pressey became involved with Rainbow for Girls when he was senior warden of his lodge. "I was asked by an impressive young lady to be the assembly's Rainbow dad during her upcoming term as worthy advisor," he recalls. "Although with my commitment load I had every right to regretfully decline, I just couldn't. I became a Rainbow dad during my term as master, a tradition that was carried on by a few subsequent Masters."

Pressey's daughter, Zoe, now just nine years old, will likely join a youth order when she turns 12 and meets the age requirement. She'll be exposed to the same leadership training that has impressed Pressey throughout his involvement with

Rainbow Girls and DeMolay.

"I can't really express how much fun it is to see a shy 12-year-old blossom and mature into a commanding, confident, and even somewhat organized young adult, who could be put into any challenging environment and already have the experience and self-assurance needed to succeed," Pressey says.

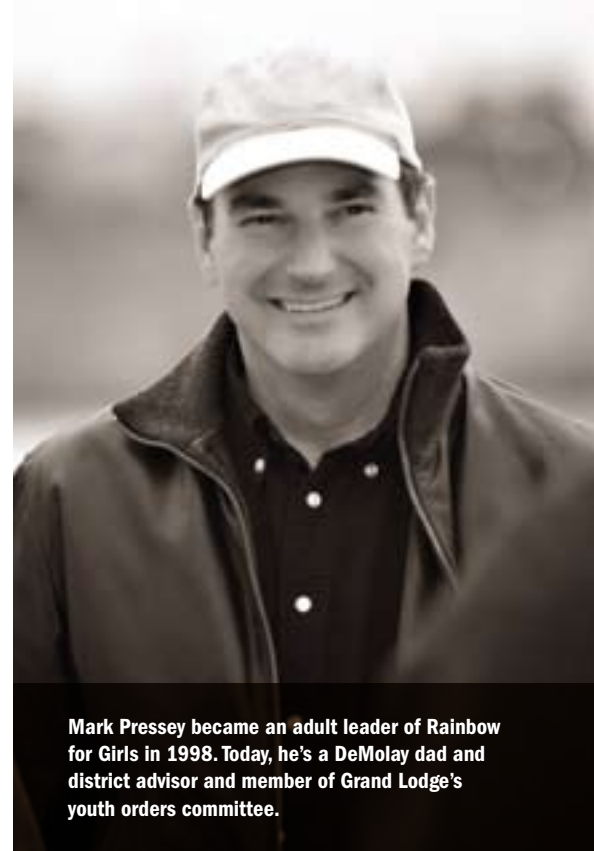
## STEPPING UP AND STEPPING BACK

Teens in today's hectic world are pulled in many directions, and even if a boy becomes a member of DeMolay, there is no guarantee that he will remain active. An involved group of dads can make a critical difference in promoting a vibrant chapter by keeping young men interested and active.

"With strong support, we're not only attracting new members, but also providing a stronger link to DeMolay, which encourages them to be more active and involved in the chapter," says Gwin.

Pressey points out that building membership has a lot to do with the attitude of the adult leaders. "The youth need positive adults, who will give them the attention they need to plan events that keep members participating and which draw in new members," he says.

The term "moral support" certainly applies. In a very real sense, adult advisors to youth orders provide exactly that. Many of the original DeMolays had lost their fathers in World War I, and today's advisors are called dads in honor of Frank Land, the Mason who founded the order and essentially served



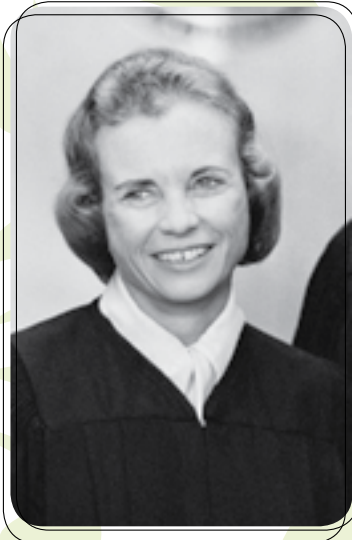
**Mark Pressey became an adult leader of Rainbow for Girls in 1998. Today, he's a DeMolay dad and district advisor and member of Grand Lodge's youth orders committee.**

as a surrogate parent for the boys. Today's advisors play a similar role, as role models that young people can look up to and emulate in word and deed.

According to Pressey, adult leaders' role is about helping youths grow – and sometimes, that means stepping back and letting them make mistakes. "The boys receive council from advisors, but they are to be given every opportunity to make mistakes so that they can learn from them," Pressey says.

"As a past master at that point, I had an epiphany and saw my position in my lodge as needing to be the same," Pressey adds. In this way, too, the benefits of adult leadership work both ways: providing strong role models for the youths, lending fresh perspective for the adults. ♦

Sandra Day O'Connor, U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Rainbow Girl



Kim Cattrall, Actress, Job's Daughter



# Cultivating Character

by Cason Lane

A brief history of Masonic youth orders

**In the years** following World War I, Masons in the United States helped establish a trio of youth orders dedicated to teaching young men and women the principles and values of Masonry. More than 80 years later, those three organizations – DeMolay International, Job's Daughters International, and the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls – continue to promote philanthropy, spirituality, family, and personal responsibility to youth across the country.

## ***DeMolay International***

In 1919, a Mason named Frank S. Land, a successful businessman, was discussing a job opportunity with Louis Lower, the teenage son of a Mason who had recently died. But Land was so struck by the young man's amiable demeanor and strong character that he wanted to do more than offer him a job. He wanted to help Lower – and other young men like him, many who had been left fatherless due to the war – grow and succeed in life.





Land came up with the idea of a fraternal organization where young men could gather for companionship, learn responsibility, and develop leadership skills. He further envisioned his brother Masons acting as advisors, providing inspiration and direction.

On the evening of March 24, 1919, Land's idea became a reality. Lower and 30 other boys gathered at the Scottish Rite Temple in Kansas City, Mo., to officially launch the fraternal order. After much debate, members decided to name their group after Jacques DeMolay, a Templar Knight who was known for his loyalty, courage, and friendship.

In the 89 years since its founding, the Order of DeMolay has grown to more than 1,000 chapters throughout the world, including 68 in California, with a membership roll including the likes of Walt Disney, John Wayne, and Walter Cronkite.

### ***Job's Daughters International***

While Frank S. Land was dreaming up a fraternal organization for young men, Ethel T. Mick was thinking about an organization for young women. Mick, the wife of Brother William Mick, of Omaha, Neb., envisioned a group where young women of Masonic heritage could work together to better themselves and their communities.

Mick's concept was inspired by her mother, Elizabeth D. Wead, who taught her and her siblings about love for family, country, and God. Wead would often say that women should strive to be like the daughters of the Biblical Job – “the fairest in the land.”

So Mick called the organization “Job's Daughters,” and it humbly began with weekly meetings in the family parlor of the Mick home. The order soon won the approval of local Masonic leaders, and it was officially formed in the fall of 1920.

On May 6, 1921, the first class of the Order of Job's Daughters was initiated at the Omaha Masonic Temple. Today, Job's Daughters International has some 800 bethels, or chapters, worldwide, including more than 100 in California. The organization continues to unite young women with Masonic ties through community service and charitable work. Included in the ranks of famous Job's Daughters are singer Judy Garland and actresses Vicki Lawrence and Debbie Reynolds.

### ***The Order of the Rainbow for Girls***

In 1922, a few years after the creation of DeMolay, a Christian minister and Mason of McAlester, Okla., was inspired to create a similar organization for young women. William Mark Sexson envisioned a group where girls from Masonic families could form friendships and learn the values of faith, hope, and charity.

Known for his oratory skills, Sexson made an impassioned plea for a Masonic girls' order during a speech to local members of the Eastern Star. Given the green light, he quickly began writing a ritual for the order.

As a Masonic scholar, Sexson knew Freemasons commonly used the rainbow as a symbol of fraternal life, so he chose it as the foundation for his ritual. He then assigned each color of the rainbow a lesson that every member would learn: red (love), orange (religion), yellow (nature), green (immortality), blue (fidelity), indigo (patriotism), and violet (service).

On April 6, 1922, more than 170 young women were initiated into the Order of the Rainbow for Girls at the Scottish Rite Temple in McAlester. Today, there are more than 850 active Rainbow Girls assemblies around the world, including 75 in California, with a membership that's included astronaut Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger, U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe, and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. The youth order is open to all young women age 11 to 20, regardless of Masonic or religious affiliation. ❖



## Advancing the *Study and Understanding* of Freemasonry

The three Masonic youth orders were formed in the 20th century, and their relatively short histories have been clearly traced for the benefit and education of their young members. Masonry, with its roots in the 17th century, does not have such a well-documented past. The Grand Master's Project will help change that.

As the world's first and largest fraternity, Freemasonry's past is inextricably linked to the societies, governments, and histories of its host countries. Masonic values, tenets, and ideologies played a key role in developing constitutional democracies around the world. As only limited academic research has been devoted to the subject, widely varying accounts of Freemasonry's origins and history, many written by fanatics, conspiracy theorists, or laymen, have perpetuated myths and muddled the true history and perception of our fraternity.

The Grand Master's Project will lift the veil of secrecy that surrounds the craft and dispel myths by advancing the study and understanding of Masonry's history and how it has influenced society as we know it today. The project will raise funds to form a partnership between the Grand Lodge of California and the University of California at Los Angeles to support the work of Dr. Margaret C. Jacob, Distinguished Professor of History.

Dr. Jacob is among the world's foremost Masonic scholars. Her work, including the book "The Radical Enlightenment: Pantheists, Freemasons and Republicans," provides important insight into the early development of Masonry, and is

largely responsible for documenting and establishing connections between early European Freemasons and the craft today.

The project funds will be used for ongoing UCLA faculty research and graduate student support in one or more of the following ways:

### **Faculty research in the history of Freemasonry**

- Support the costs of research related to the history of Freemasonry and democratic society

### **Curriculum development**

- Support development of a course in the history of Freemasonry and democratic society

### **Graduate student support**

- Support graduate student work and interest in the history of Freemasonry and democratic society

### **Lectures on the topic of Freemasonry**

- Support public lectures on topics related to Masonry delivered by invited scholars

It's time we take the lead in how Masonry is defined to the world by supporting research that will sort fact from fiction and establish our true role in history. ✧



# Bridging the • generational DIVIDE

By Laura Normand

Youth orders bring Senior Ball and holiday fun to the Masonic Homes

**C**arlene Voss, volunteer and community resource coordinator at the Masonic Home at Union City and former Rainbow Girl, draws on her own youth order experience to bring residents and youth order members together.

"I came up here knowing that there were chapters and groups that needed to get involved," Voss says. "Once they call, I help them come up with ideas for service projects. If we open up the facility and give them ideas, they come."

"The youth groups are a lot more involved now than they've ever been," Voss affirms. In Union City and Covina, that involvement is building an important relationship between the youngest and oldest generations of the fraternal family.

Continued on page 20

Youth orders arriving for an early morning holiday project at the Home at Union City were greeted with this sight of the Home's Christmas tree.



Resident Jeanne Fershleiser, a former adult leader of Rainbow for Girls, has remained involved with youth orders thanks to regular activities at the Home.

## Sharing the dance floor

At Union City, Masonic youth orders have eagerly taken on Voss' ideas and generated more of their own, regularly donating time for everything from arts and crafts projects to full-fledged party planning, such as assisting at the resident's family barbeque in September and organizing an annual Senior Ball.

At this year's Senior Ball, held last October, all three youth orders worked together to make the event

**“There was great interaction between all three groups and the Home.”**

a success. After months of planning, numerous assemblies of Rainbow for Girls, chapters of NorCal DeMolay, and bethels of Job's Daughters donned cowboy hats, belt buckles, and boots for this year's Western dance theme, “Home Sweet Home.” The Home's residents mingled to country music, raffles, and Wii video games, all organized and selected by the youths.

This was the Ball's third year running, and based on its success, it promises to become a longstanding tradition. The youth orders came up with the idea in 2006 as a way to interact with each other and the Home's residents with board games, video games, and dancing. Each year has been assigned





**Hayward Bethel of Job's Daughters puts the finishing touches on its group Christmas tree, which they designed and decorated for the Home at Union City.**

a unique theme; In 2006, residents and youths dressed up for a mock Senior Prom, and in 2007, switched to leis and grass skirts for a Hawaiian luau theme.

Dorothy Shaffer, an adult leader with Rainbow for Girls for 40 years and a Homes resident since 2005, was one of the hosts for this year's Ball. In fact, Schaffer and husband Johnny first became involved in Masonry when their daughter joined Rainbow. According to Shaffer, that sparked Johnny's interest in becoming a Mason and kicked off many fulfilling years as advisors and members of the fraternal family.

The Senior Ball reinforces the fact

that youth orders are still a valuable experience. "There was great interaction between all three groups and the Home," Schaffer says. "The kids did an excellent job in getting together and deciding what they were going to do: DeMolay did the music, Job's Daughters did the food, Rainbow Girls made the corsages."

Jeanne and Irwin Fershleiser, residents who also served as hosts, attest to the event's success, too. Both are past adult leaders of youth orders – Irwin for Rainbow and DeMolay, Jeanne for more than 10 years with Rainbow.

"It's a wonderful thing to see a young man go up to an older

lady sitting by herself and ask her to dance," Irwin says. "It's just wonderful."

### **Playing Santa**

The Senior Ball is just one way that youth orders get involved at the Homes. They often hold events and receptions on the campuses and invite residents to attend. Job's Daughters has held their annual contest day at the Home at Covina, and frequently performs their Closing of the Cross ritual at Union City church services. Groups use both Masonic Homes for hosting ritual competitions and service projects.

Continued on page 22



**Members of DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls join forces each year to decorate the Home at Union City.**

Youth order involvement especially picks up around the holidays. At Covina, youth orders are involved every year around Christmas, whether it's decorating stockings for residents or joining in a carol sing-a-long. At Union City, the holiday decorating party has become the biggest event of the year, and draws youth orders and other community volunteers. This year, about 175 volunteers arrived early on December 6 at the Home at Union City for a family-style breakfast, then spent two frantic hours putting up 24 Christmas trees before the residents awoke.

"Some of the groups work on their ornaments and their decorations all year long," reports Voss. "It is really great for our residents, because many of them are older and they don't have a lot of family or friends. They wake up later that morning and it's like Santa's been here."

"It's wonderful for the youth orders to make that connection, too," Voss adds. "They feel like they're really contributing."

Jeanne Fershleiser sees the very real benefits of youth order involvement like this at the Home.

"I think it helps the youth understand that older people aren't just something that gets put away on a shelf – that we still have the minds and energy to have fun and communicate," Fershleiser says. "For us senior people, we get new energy from the youth. And the youth seem to get joy out of giving to us." ❖

# Connecting With the Homes

## MASONIC OUTREACH SERVICES (MOS)

Masonic Outreach Services (MOS), a program of the Masonic Homes of California, provides our fraternal family access to the services and resources they need to stay healthy and safe in their homes or in retirement facilities in their home communities.

These services include:

- Information and referrals to community-based senior providers throughout California
- Ongoing care management at no cost
- Financial support

MOS also provides interim financial and care support to those who are on the waiting list for the Masonic Homes of California. Contact us at **888/466-3642** or [intake@mhcuc.org](mailto:intake@mhcuc.org).

## ACACIA CREEK COMMUNITIES

To learn more about the Acacia Creek community, visit [acaciacreek.org](http://acaciacreek.org) or contact:

### Acacia Creek at Union City

**510/429-6479 or 888/553-7555**

[dwiley@acaciacreek.org](mailto:dwiley@acaciacreek.org)

## CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY SERVICES

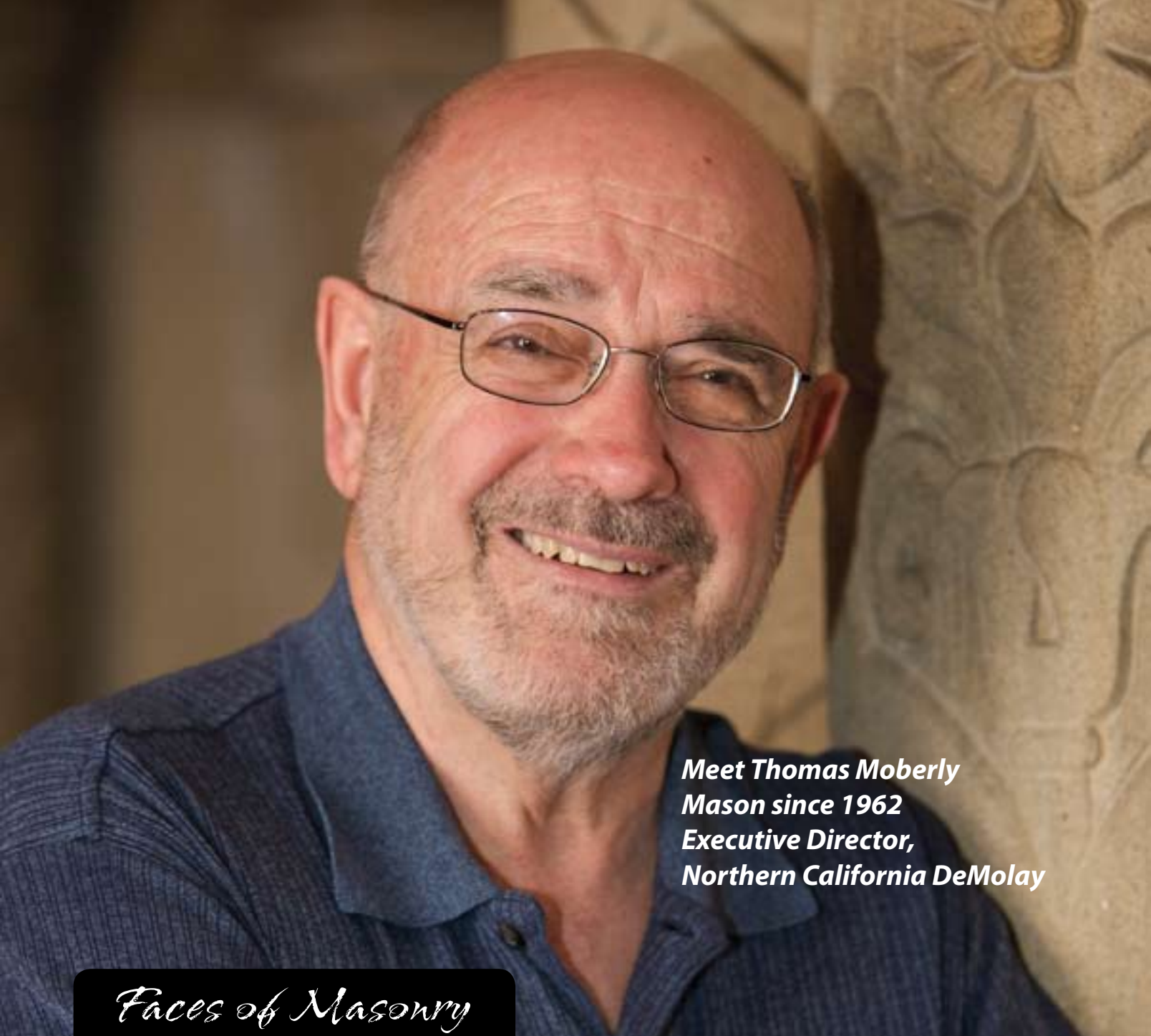
For program information or to sponsor a child in need, contact **626/251-2227** or [hramirez@mhcov.org](mailto:hramirez@mhcov.org).

## SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

The Masonic Homes has speakers available to come to your lodge to speak about our range of services.

For more information, contact **888/466-3642** or [communications@mhcuc.org](mailto:communications@mhcuc.org).





**Meet Thomas Moberly**  
**Mason since 1962**  
**Executive Director,**  
**Northern California DeMolay**

## *Faces of Masonry*

When Tom Moberly joined Ferndale Chapter of DeMolay as a high schooler in Michigan, he started down a path that's touched the lives of just about every NorCal DeMolay since.

Moberly took a job at DeMolay International headquarters in 1966, then in 1981 became the Executive Director of Northern California DeMolay. In the 27 years since, he's become known throughout the jurisdiction for his personal involvement and commitment to making every DeMolay's experience meaningful.

"There's something new every day," says Moberly, a member of Martinez Lodge No. 41. "The rewarding part is meeting these great kids and watching as they learn all the lessons of leadership."

Moberly's devotion to DeMolay means that he's constantly on the go – to leadership conferences and adult advisor retreats, not to mention youth broomball and bowling tournaments. His work has earned him just about every honor available, including the Grand Master's Masonic Youth Support Award in 2008. Moberly humbly dodges these accolades. For him, the work is a privilege.

"It's a chance to meet people and network with these kids," he says. "In Masonry and DeMolay, that's the best thing to me: all the friendships that you gain."



**Masons of California**



# 2009

## WARDENS' LEADERSHIP RETREATS

The success of our fraternity is a direct result of effective lodge leadership. To assist your planning for an effective year as master, make time to attend the Wardens' Leadership Retreat.

Designed to develop and refine your fraternal management skills, the training includes developing a lodge plan and vision, providing resources to execute the plan, and implementing benchmarks to measure lodge success. Deacons who are preparing to progress are also encouraged to attend.

Retreats are two and a half days, held over a weekend. Registration forms may be downloaded from the Member Center (administrative Web site) by selecting the Forms drop-down menu, then Leadership Training, or by visiting [freemason.org](http://freemason.org), selecting the Member Center drop-down menu at the top of the page, then choosing Leadership Development. Contact Kim Hegg, Grand Lodge Program Manager, at 415/292-9111 with any questions.

## DATES AND LOCATIONS

### JUNIOR WARDENS

April 3-5  
San Ramon, California

April 24-26  
Ontario, California

### SENIOR WARDENS

May 15-17  
San Ramon, California

May 29-31  
Ontario, California

**New date** for Ninth Annual California Masonic Symposium: May 1-2, 2009 • Information and registration at [freemason.org](http://freemason.org)

✧ Grand Lodge F & AM of California  
1111 California Street  
San Francisco, California 94108

PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE

**PAID**

AT SAN FRANCISCO CA  
AND AT ADDITIONAL  
MAILING OFFICES