

GOLDEN TROWEL NORWALK LODGE # 273



Stated Meeting 2nd Thursday of each month

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. – Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Golden Trowel Norwalk Lodge No.273

12345 Rosecrans Ave

Norwalk, CA 90650-5053

Main: (562) 863-9101 - Hall Association: (562) 863-9061

TRESTLEBOARD



GOLD TROWEL NORWALK

OFFICERS

Mark F. Patton, PM - **Worshipful Master**

Phone: (562) 613-7829

E-Mail: pantherpatton38x@aol.com

Joseph Patronas, PM - **Senior Warden**

Thomas Ocampo - **Junior Warden**

Ben Carr - **Treasurer**

Jason Tucker - **Secretary**

Phone: (562) 863-9101

E-mail: secretary@gtn273.com

Frank Gillespie, P.M. - **Officer's Coach**

Home: (562) 863-6388

Mobile: (562) 328-5431

Andrew Demofonte - **Hall Association President**

Phone: (562) 863-9061

E-mail: hallassociation@gtn273.com

Ryan Reyna - **Chaplain**

- **Senior Deacon**

- **Junior Deacon**

Michael Heist - **Marshall**

James Dawson - **Senior Steward**

Arturo Marin - **Junior Steward**

Jose Piceno - **Tiler**

Max Rush, P.M. **Inspector**
646th District

Mobile: (562) 412-0501

Home: (562) 926-5169

E-Mail: mrjr5860@gmail.com



LODGE CALENDAR

December

- 2 **Mon** 7pm Temple Board meeting
- 5 **Thurs** 7pm Executive meeting
- 12 **Thurs** 6:30pm Stated dinner/meeting
- 19 **Thurs** 7pm Practice
- 24 **Tues** Christmas Eve
- 25 **Wed** Christmas Day
- 26 **Thurs** DARK Hanukkah/Kwanzaa
- 31 **Tues** New Years Eve

January

- 1 **Wed** New Year's Day
- 2 **Thurs** 7pm Executive Meeting
- 6 **Mon** 7pm Temple Board Meeting
- 9 **Thurs** 6:30pm Stated dinner/meeting
- 18 **Saturday** Lodge Installation
- 20 **Mon** MLK Day & Inauguration Day
- 23/30 **Mon** TBD
- 31 **Fri** Masonic family game night

Stated DINNER

We are excited to announce this month's stated dinner at Norwalk Golden Trowel Lodge, promising an evening filled with festive cheer and brotherhood.

The menu will feature a succulent **honey-glazed ham, creamy garlic mashed potatoes, and a crispy green bean casserole**. A fresh side salad and warm bread rolls will complete the feast.

This evening will be a wonderful opportunity to share stories, enjoy each other's company, and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. The supportive lodge family we have built is something to be proud of, and this dinner will highlight the enduring spirit of Freemasonry.

We look forward to seeing everyone there and sharing in the joy of good food and good company. Wishing everyone a happy and prosperous holiday season. Thank you in advance to all who will attend and make this evening special.

RSVP in one of two ways:

1. **Respond to the email** sent from Grand Lodge and click the event link to RSVP with number attending.
2. **Call the lodge at 562-863-9101**, press 2, and leave a voicemail with your name and the number in your party.



WORSHIPFUL MASTER



Happy Holidays

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Kwanzaa! Wishing everyone peace, love, and happiness during this festive season.



First, a heartfelt congratulations to Brother Andrew DeMofonte on receiving his well-deserved Hiram Award. We had a wonderful turnout, and our very own Emerald Star prepared a delicious meal for the event. Thank you to all who came out to support our Brother.

There are a few important matters to address. As of the closing of Grand Lodge in October, everyone's dues were in arrears. This does not mean you did anything wrong or that you will be suspended; it simply means you owe dues. Suspensions are not considered until after two years of nonpayment. If you received a suspension letter and are less than two years in arrears, please disregard that message. We are currently working to catch up with Brothers who have been behind on their dues for more than two years.

Additionally, there was an oversight last year regarding dues not being raised. This resulted in this year's per capita being \$77.50, while lodge dues were only \$75, causing the Lodge to pay \$2.50 for each member, putting us in violation of the Grand Lodge's minimum requirement of \$12 above per capita. At the beginning of the year, we addressed this issue, sent out notices, and after the allotted time, members voted to raise the dues to \$100 for 2025. There was a mix-up between the Lodge and Grand Lodge, with Grand Lodge sending out dues notices for \$75. We apologize for any confusion, but dues are indeed \$100.

The finance committee has reviewed the impact of members not paying their dues for over two years and the failure to raise our dues. The financial loss this year alone is significant. We are not asking for donations; we simply ask that you continue to pay your dues as you have been. We appreciate your payments and support.

We have welcomed new members and seen some familiar faces return to the lodge. It's wonderful to see Brothers we haven't seen in a while, and we appreciate all the help we can get with our officers' line, committees, activities, or mentoring new Brothers. We invite you to join us at any event you can so we can continue our fellowship and grow our membership through active participation and fun.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year and hope to see you soon.

Best wishes from the East, Mark Patton P.M. H.A.



@goldentrowel273

JUNIOR WARDEN



A Very Masonic Holidays

Freemasonry, one of the world's oldest fraternal organizations, has a rich history intertwined with the values of brotherhood, charity, and moral integrity. The holiday season, with its emphasis on goodwill, generosity, and reflection, resonates deeply with Masonic principles.



This year, our lodge has truly exemplified the spirit of brotherly love and unity. Despite the many changes and challenges we've faced, our lodge is moving in the right direction, and the positive culture within our lodge reflects this progress. I am incredibly proud to have a group of brothers like those we have in our lodge. The bonds we've strengthened and the support we've shown each other have made this group exceptionally special.

Historically, the holidays have been a time for Freemasons to come together in fellowship and service. Christmas, Hanukkah, and other winter celebrations offer opportunities for Masons to embody the spirit of giving and community support. Lodges often organize charity events, such as toy drives, food donations, and support for local shelters, reflecting the Masonic commitment to helping those in need.

The symbolism of light, prevalent in many holiday traditions, also holds special significance in Freemasonry. The winter solstice, marking the return of longer days, symbolizes hope and renewal. This aligns with the Masonic journey towards enlightenment and the pursuit of knowledge.

Moreover, the holidays provide a time for Masons to reflect on their personal growth and the bonds they share with their brethren. It is a season to celebrate the values of friendship, morality, and brotherly love that are at the heart of Freemasonry.

As we celebrate this festive season, let us remember the Masonic ideals of charity, unity, and the enduring quest for light and truth. Happy Holidays to all!

Thomas Ocampo - Junior Warden



@goldentrowel273

SECRETARY



Thank you for the fantastic turnout at our recent lodge events. November's events was particularly well-received, with many attendees. Andrew Demofonte's Hiram Award ceremony was a memorable occasion, where his brothers, friends, and family honored him by presenting him with his award, a metal, pin, and an exquisite dinner prepared by our esteemed Easter Star. I look forward to serving you in 2025 as Secretary. Thank you for your continued support!

Fraternally,
Jason Tucker
(562) 863-9101
secretary@gtn273.com

Rainbow Girls

Our official visit in September was a great success. The girls and adults of our assembly recently participated in the Southern California leadership summit where we took part in workshops on storyboarding and conflict resolution, as well as practiced proper closing ceremonies for our meetings.

Coming up November 18 is social media takeover day, so check out our assembly's Instagram account @buenaparkrainbowgirls and our Facebook. You know about Black Friday and Cyber Monday, but have you heard of Giving Tuesday? We encourage everyone to donate to charity and volunteer this Giving Tuesday on December 3. Don't forget that our meetings are on the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7 PM and we welcome all of you to join us.



TEMPLE BOARD



Greetings from the Temple Board, We have completed the upgrades to the buildings security cameras and the eyes in the sky are helping to keep our building safe. Our rental calendar is completely online now and able to be viewed before calling in. We are still hard at work trying to bring in more event rentals to keep raising money for our slow journey of improving our old building. All the members of the board would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Years. We would also like to wish safe travels for everyone who are visiting their family and friends. As always any issues you may find you are more than welcome to email us at the email below. Are meetings are every First Monday of the month as well.

Fraternally yours,
Andrew Demofonte
(562) 863-9061
hallassociation@gtn273.com
Temple Board President



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Return Service Requested*