

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



GOLDEN 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, H.A. - Hall Association President
Phone: (562) 863-9061
E-mail: hallassociation@gtn273.com

Ryan Reyna - Chaplain

Larry Orozco - Junior Deacon

Michael Heist - Marshall

James Dawson - Senior Steward

Albert Estrella - 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

April

- 3 Thurs 7pm 2nd degree practice
- 7 Mon 7pm TempleBoard/ Executive meeting
- 10 stated dinner/ meeting
- 17 Thurs 7pm TBD
- 20 Sun Easter- Easter Orthodox
- 22 Tues Earth Day
- 24 Thurs 6:30pm OSI Lakewood
- 25 Fri Arbor Day

May

- 1 Thurs 7pm TBD
- 3 Sat Ramona Pageant
- 5 Mon 7 pm TempleBoar/ Executive Cinco de Mayo
- 8 Thurs 6:30pm Stated dinner/ meeting
- 11 Sun Mother's Day
- 15 Thurs 7pm TBD
- 22 Thurs 7pm TBD
- 26 Mon Memorial Day
- 29 Thurs 6:30pm OSI 2• our Lodge

Stated DINNER

We warmly welcome you to join us for our Stated Dinner prepared by our own Emerald Star

Menu:

- Lasagna
- Salad
- Strawberry Shortcake

The dinner is not just about the food; it's about reconnecting with old friends and making new ones, all while enjoying a free meal that has been prepared with care and love.

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

Spring of Growth and Fellowship

The lodge is buzzing with activity! We've already welcomed a new brother with our first First Degree of the year, and another is on the horizon this month. It's truly inspiring to see our prospects become candidates and our candidates rise to membership.

Despite a weather-challenged February, we're looking forward to a vibrant spring. As the days lengthen, we anticipate seeing many familiar faces returning to fill the various roles within our lodge.

Daylight Saving Time: Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour!

Ramona Pageant Trip: Join us on May 3rd for our first outing of the year! We'll be attending the historic Ramona Pageant. The cost is \$25 per person, covering the bus, lunch, and the show. Sign up and pay at the March-stated dinner on Thursday, March 13th.

Our Super Bowl party, though intimate, was a great success. We also enjoyed a fun game night with the Order of the Eastern Star, which yielded a promising prospect for the lodge. Looking ahead, we're planning more social events: game nights, movie nights, ice cream socials, and more! These gatherings are fantastic opportunities to connect, build camaraderie, and introduce potential members to our lodge. Please let me know if you have ideas or would like to help plan these events.

If you've been away, now is the perfect time to return. Let's rekindle the spirit of fellowship and shared purpose that defines our lodge.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Mark Patton P.M. H.A. Worshipful Master



Upcoming Trips & Events



102nd SEASON OF RAMONA - May 3rd 2025

Since 1923, the Ramona Bowl, a magnificent outdoor amphitheater, has hosted an annual production of the story of Ramona. This open-air play breathes life into Jackson's characters, transporting audiences back in time and immersing them in the struggles and triumphs of Ramona and her world.

The Story - The Ramona pageant is a love story about Ramona, an orphan of mixed race, and Alessandro, the son of a Native American chief. The story is set in Old California during the time of white settlers taking over Native land



\$25 per person, all members of Golden Trowel Norwalk Lodge their wives and children above the age of 12. Frank Gillespie will be collecting money at the March and April stated meetings. The cost is \$25 per person. Bus ride to and from included.



SECRETARY



Greetings Brothers,

If you have moved, this Trestle Board and other Masonic material is still going to your OLD Address. Please send an email secretary@gtn273.com or a call the Secretary's office.

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

New Program Launches to Enhance Math Outcomes for L.A.'S Young Learners

The Masons of California, Center for Family Math, Raising a Reader, PowerMyLearning, and Partnership for Los Angeles Schools Collaborate to Bring Multilingual and Technology-Based Materials for Math Learning to Families.

LOS ANGELES – March 14, 2025 – The Masons of California, in partnership with the Center for Family Math, Raising a Reader, PowerMyLearning and the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools, today announced the approval of a three-year, \$968,000 investment to improve math outcomes for young students.

The initiative, which funds a range of family math engagement programs and resources, will support 1,000 transitional kindergarten through second grade students attending high-need schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), where the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools works to accelerate student achievement. This initiative aims to bridge math opportunity gaps and ensure all students build a strong foundation in mathematics. The effort brings together several community partners working toward these ends through a combination of classroom-based instructional supports and family engagement strategies.

“Through this partnership, our organizations have united to fulfill our shared mission of advancing public education and making educational opportunities accessible to students of all backgrounds,” said Doug Ismail, president of the California Masonic Foundation. “When families are given the tools to get involved in their child’s education, students succeed—period. Together, we will provide the resources to do just that.”

Leveraging a combination of age-appropriate, math-focused books and games, multilingual guides, play-based math activities, and virtual parent and educator workshops, the investment empowers families by giving them the tools they need to engage with their child’s math education and ensure all students reach their full potential in mathematics.

<https://masonicfoundation.org/what-we-support/literacy-and-public-education/>



@goldentrowel273

TEMPLE BOARD



Greetings from the Temple Board,

We are currently working on getting our roof repaired in a couple spots. Along with looking into carpet cleaning and some drywall work from past water leaks. We hope that everyone has a fantastic month and as always any issues you may find feel free to send us an email at the address below.

Thank you,

Fraternally yours,
Andrew Demofonte H. A.
Norwalk Masonic Building Association President
(562) 863-9061
hallassociation@gtn273.com



Welcome Brother David Arias





MASONS 4 MITTS

Who would have thought that a simple baseball mitt could change a child's life? For 16 seasons, the Masons of California have proven it can. Through Masons4Mitts, we've raised an incredible \$2.376 million statewide, providing 118,800 mitts to deserving young kids across California.

But Masons4Mitts is about more than just baseball—it's about opportunity. By partnering with the San Francisco Giants, Los Angeles Dodgers, Los Angeles Angels, and San Diego Padres, the California Masonic Foundation helps bring mentorship, teamwork, and character-building to children who might not otherwise have access to such enriching experiences.

With MLB Opening Day just around the corner, we want to give every brother a chance to be part of this incredible program. And this year, our Masons Night games are coming earlier in the season! Join us for an unforgettable night at the ballpark with your fellow Masons, friends, and family. Wear your Masonic hats, jackets, shirts, and bling—let's pack the stands and make some noise!

Even if you don't live near one of our four MLB teams, you can still step up to the plate. A gift of \$20, \$40, \$80, or \$100 helps provide mitts—and opportunities—for kids in need. Every mitt is more than just a piece of equipment. It's a symbol of hope, a gateway to learning, and a chance to play.

Secure your tickets to Masons Night at the links below and donate today at www.Masons4Mitts.org—and don't forget to select your team! You should also be receiving a similar message in your mailbox, so keep an eye out for more details.

Our statewide goal this year is our biggest yet: \$300,000. But together, we can knock it out of the park.

Let's make this season the best one yet!

Michael Thibodeaux

Chairman - California Masonic Foundation



Celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of California!

This April, we mark a momentous milestone—the 175th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of California! And we want the entire fraternity to be part of this unforgettable celebration.

On April 19, four incredible gala events will take place simultaneously across the state—in San Francisco, Sacramento, Pasadena, and San Diego—bringing together Masons and friends to honor 175 years of history, tradition, and brotherhood.

Enjoy an elegant banquet, uplifting toasts, and captivating entertainment as we reflect on our shared legacy and look ahead to the future of Freemasonry in California. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to celebrate an organization that has stood the test of time. Don't miss it—be part of history!

<https://freemason.org/175gala>



The fires in and around Los Angeles have devastated entire communities and impacted hundreds of thousands of people, including many members of our fraternal family. We know of at least 1,100 households of California Masons or widows in the affected areas; meanwhile, nine Masonic halls are in close proximity to the fire zones.

Update on L.A. Fires and Resources for Fire Victims

If you are within the fire zone, please take all necessary precautions and follow local authorities' instructions. If you are in need of immediate aid, here are some useful resources:

- Masons and their families in need can reach out to Masonic Outreach Services. Through MOS, displaced Masons can access case management and emergency funds as well as connect to community-based resources and supports. Call Masonic Assistance at [888-466-3642](tel:888-466-3642) or email masonicassistance@mhcuc.org. The Masonic Center for Youth and Families is also available for trauma-informed counseling. Call MCYAF at (877) 488-629 or visit mcyaf.org.
- 211 LA/AirBnB.org: AirBnB.org, the nonprofit arm of AirBnB, is partnering with 211 LA to identify those directly impacted by the fires to connect them with free temporary housing. Fill out this intake form to get started.
- Mutual Aid L.A. Resource Guide: This Google Doc is being updated with links to community-based resources including temporary housing, shelters, food pantries, and more.
- FEMA Fire-Related Assistance: The Federal Emergency Management Agency can provide financial support to fire victims for food, water, baby formula, breast feeding supplies, medication and other emergency supplies, as well as housing needs while they find a more permanent housing solution.
- United Policyholders: For help navigating insurance claims, UP provides information on buying insurance and navigating claims

<https://freemason.org/wildfires/>

*Golden Trowel Norwalk Lodge No. 273
Secretary's Office: (562) 863-9101
12345 Rosecrans Avenue
Norwalk, CA 90650-5053
Return Service Requested*