

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

May

- 1 Thurs 7pm 2nd Degree Practice
- 3 Sat Ramona Pageant
- 5 Mon 7 pm Temple Board/ Executive
- Cinco de Mayo
- 8 Thurs 6:30pm Stated dinner/ meeting
- 11 Sun Mother's Day
- 15 Thurs 7pm 2nd Degree Practice
- 22 Thurs 7pm 2nd Degree Nicolas Saldarriaga
- 26 Mon Memorial Day
- 29 Thurs 6:30pm OSI @ our Lodge

June

- 2 Mon 7pm Temple Board / Executive Meeting
- 5 Thurs TBD
- 12 Thurs 6:30pm Stated Dinner / Meeting
- 14 Sat Flag Day
- 15 Sun Fathers Day
- 19 Thurs Juneteenth TBD
- 21 Sat Lodge Night Out
- 24 Tues @ 6:30pm OSI @ Pacific Rim
- 26 Thurs TBD

Stated DINNER

We warmly welcome you to join us for our Stated Dinner prepared by a Taco Guy

Menu:

- Tacos
- Rice
- Beans

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.



@goldentrowel273

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Happy Mothers Day

This May promises to be an engaging and active month for our Lodge.

We commence with a trip to the renowned Ramona Pageant, offering an opportunity for fellowship and enjoyment of this exceptional outdoor performance. For those who have yet to experience it, the Ramona Pageant is highly recommended.



Our regular schedule of meetings will follow, including the Temple Board and Executive meetings, culminating in our Stated Meeting. In keeping with the Cinco de Mayo spirit, we are pleased to announce the return of our popular taco caterer, allowing our dedicated kitchen staff to enjoy the evening. We will also be honored to host the leadership programs (ROTC) from Appletree and Waite Middle Schools as part of our ongoing support for public education. The evening's program will feature Brother Fred Davis presenting on Masons-4-Mitts, insights from our youth groups regarding their respective orders, and a special floral presentation for the ladies of our Lodge.

Brethren are reminded that there will be two crucial practice sessions in preparation for Brother Nico's Second Degree, scheduled for May 22nd. Your attendance and participation are vital to ensuring a smooth and meaningful ceremony. The month will conclude with an OSI event hosted at our Lodge on May 29th. We encourage all members to attend and lend their support in filling the necessary stations.

Please note that with the arrival of warmer weather, the dress code for Lodge meetings will transition to business casual, with the exception of degree work, where formal attire remains customary.

Finally, as Mother's Day approaches, let us take a moment to acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contributions of the women in our lives. Their often unseen efforts provide significant support to our Lodge and to us individually. Let us ensure they feel cherished and recognized on their special day.

Fraternally,

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

Upcoming Trips & Events



Medieval Times – Sweethearts Dinner

Date to be announced

Medieval Times for Lodge Sweethearts - \$20/person

Lodge Sweethearts Free



Angels Baseball Game

Date to be determined

Cruise

4-Day Baja Mexico from Los Angeles, CA

September 22-26th

Interior - \$50/person (Double occupancy required)

Upgrades available

Start: **Long Beach** (Los Angeles) > **Catalina Island** > **Ensenada**

>End: **Long Beach** (Los Angeles)

More Info to come



Laughlin

October 3,4,5 return 6th

Bus leaves at 9am from Lodge for Laughlin - \$25/person

Includes In-n-out \$15 card up and back

Contact Frank Gillespie regarding all announcements and money collections for our upcoming events.

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 call the Secretary's office.

We've had a few folks inquire to join our lodge on our website GTN273.com as well as in person. If you have a prospect looking to join contact Larry Orozco or myself and we can help them get started down the path.

Grand Master's Restoration Campaign

In 2019, the Grand Master's Restoration Campaign was enacted to provide a pathway for selected members who were suspended for Non-payment of Dues (SNPD) to return to good standing after a nominal payment is made to the lodge. We'll be voting on this at our May meeting and will be using it to help bring many of our brothers back.

Fraternally,
Jason Tucker
Secretary
Office: (562) 863-9101
Email: secretary@gtn273.com



TEMPLE BOARD



Greetings from the Temple Board,

As some of you may already know during the rainy season we encountered a couple roof leaks. We have split the two into phases for roof repairs which will start next week. With the influx of rentals we just had our carpets deep cleaned and they look great! We have also updated our water filling station in the kitchen so everyone can enjoy some nice filtered water at the dinners. We have also been slowly making everything look more uniform throughout the building. As always we hope everyone has a fantastic month and any issues you may find with the building please feel free to email us at the below address.

Thank you,

Andrew Demofonte H. A.

Norwalk Masonic Building Association President

Office: (562) 863-9061

Email: hallassociation@gtn273.com



In Loving Memory



Michael L. Wittig

Entered into Rest March 29, 2025

At the age of 78 years and 5 months

Offices Held Junior Deacon, Tiler

Masonic Honors Hiram Award

Initiated on February 23, 1982 in Norwalk No. 315

Passed on August 09, 1988 in Norwalk No. 315

Raised on November 14, 1989 in Norwalk No. 315



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

Masonic History in May

May 6, 1850 – Grand Lodge of California was established in Sacramento, CA

The Grand Lodge of California was established in Sacramento in 1850, a few months before California became a state. A decade later, California Freemasonry had more than 5,000 members, and lodges up and down the state. Many of the leaders of early California counted themselves among its members.

May 17, 1921 – High Twelve founded, Sioux City, Iowa

High Twelve International's founder, former minister, E. C. "Wallie" Wolcott, who was the YMCA's General Secretary at the time and eight of his business associates who were also Master Masons, met in Sioux City, IA, for fellowship and camaraderie and chartered the first High Twelve International club. It was Founders #1, chartered May 17, 1921. "High Twelve is an organization of Master Masons who support Masonic causes with special emphasis on youth support and patriotic events. There are over 3,000 members in over 130 clubs nationwide and in foreign countries.

May 20, 1989 – Grand Lodge of Hawaii founded

The twelve Masonic Lodges of Hawai'i instituted The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawai'i.

The Grand Lodge of Hawai'i is the smallest and youngest of American jurisdictions, consisting of eleven constituent lodges and about 1,700 members. Over the years, its members have included three kings, four governors and six chief justices of the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

May 31, 1801 – Ordo ab Chao, Founding of the The Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, USA

The motto "Ordo ab Chao," meaning "Order from Chaos," symbolizes the process of creating order and meaning from the initial state of disorder or suffering, a concept central to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. This concept is particularly relevant to the Supreme Council, 33°. The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite traces its origins to the 17th century and was formally established as a Supreme Council in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1801. This Supreme Council, now the Southern Jurisdiction, USA, is the oldest and largest of the Scottish Rite Supreme Councils worldwide

Living Past Masters that are members of Golden Trowel Norwalk

David J Alexander (1986 - Brea 339)

James T Arend (2021, 2014 - GTN 273)

Hans F Bohn (1974 - San Antonio 694)

William M Booth (2009 - GTN 273)

Ronald T Easley (1975 - Lynwood 600)

Rick A Evans (2005, 1991 - Covina 334)

Gary D Gerken (1995 - Norwalk 315)

H. Frank Gillespie (1987 - Palisades 637), (2000 - GTN 273)

Joseph A Grubb Jr. (2015, 2016 - Rim of the World 711)

Travis L Halstead (2013, 2025 - Cornerstone 659)

Robert B Kirklin (2004, 2008 - Bellflower 320)

Brett A Mac Donald (1997 - Southern Calif Research 1005), (1989 - Covina 334)

Robert T Mc Adam (2002, 2003 - Norwalk 315)

Richard L Mc Adams (1986 - Tyre 741)

Glenn C Mc Elroy (1972 - Centennial 729)

Everett E Miller (1991 - Bell 483), (1999, 2003, 2006 - GTN 273)

George C Miller (1982 - Hollenbeck 319)

Robert R Mitchell (2015 - GTN 273), (1983 - Downey United 220)

Charles J Ogden (2001, 2002 - Anaheim 207)

Joseph Patronas (2016, 2018, 2019 - GTN 273)

Mark F Patton (2017, 2021, 2024, 2025 - GTN 273), (2015 - Cornerstone 659)

Roy R Pool (1973 - West Covina 446), (1999 - West Covina 446)

Romeo E Ricarte (1989 - Service 594), (2001 - Artesia Sunrise 377)

George L Rodriguez (1989 - Norwalk 315)

Charles D Rose (1990 - Norwalk 315)

Wallace M Sanderson (1980 - Jordan 654), (1975 - Golden Bowl 755)

Robert E Sickles Jr. (1985 - Norwalk 315)

David G Swanston III (1976, 1987, 1988 - Lynwood 600), (2001, 2002, 2013, 2014 - GTN 273)

James R Thompson (1984 - Centennial 729)

William J Tripler (1984, 1991 - Artesia Sunrise 377)

Daryl L Weathers (1986 - Norwalk 315)

Gordon L Williams Sr. (1987, 1985, 1969 - Centennial 729)

Michael T Winford (2011 - GTN 273), (1988 - Bellflower 320)

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