

Gold Country Newsletter

March 2025

Madison Lodge #23
PM; Dinner at 5:30

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30



From The East

Well, we are off to a good start for the year. Bringing in our core of new officers in January, February we had our official visit from our Inspector Worshipful Mat Enright. He talked about the upcoming retreats for treasurer, secretary and Master and Wardens noting that these retreats have expanded beyond just these positions to include Decans, too.

The Temple Board is moving forward with the roof project. They are looking for volunteers to help do some clean up on weekends.

We had a great turn out for the Madi Gras parade with the brothers from our local lodges and Shiner support from other lodges, and the youth groups. Thank you, Brother Al Shafer for your continued organizing and support of the parades.

Respectfully,

Worshipful Bob Aunchman

Madison #23, Grass Valley



From the West

Greetings Brethren,

This month's newsletter comes to you with warm wishes for a safe and blessed March. We've had a busy and productive start to the year, and there's much to look forward to in the coming weeks.

District Breakfast a Success!

The District Breakfast held on March 1st, was a resounding success! We were delighted to see so many Brethren from Madison Lodge #23, along with our friends from the Shrine and guests, in attendance. It was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and enjoying a delicious meal together.

A Call for More District Participation

While we were pleased with the turnout, we'd love to see even more Brethren from the surrounding Lodges in our district join us at these monthly breakfasts. A special invitation is extended to the Brethren of:

Harmony Lodge #164

Penryn Lodge #32

Nevada Lodge #13

These breakfasts are a fantastic way to strengthen the bonds of Brotherhood across our district. Remember, the breakfasts are held every first Saturday of the month, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM at Madison Lodge #23, and are open to ALL FAMILIES.

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The Breakfast Menu - Something for Everyone!

We strive to offer a breakfast menu that caters to all tastes. From hearty pancakes and sausage to lighter fare like granola, berries, and yogurt, there's sure to be something you'll enjoy. Come for the food, stay for the fellowship! It's a great time to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Open House Planning - Your Input Needed!

We are continuing to plan our Open House, scheduled for early Spring. This event is a crucial opportunity to showcase our Lodge and Freemasonry to the wider community.

We are actively seeking your ideas and suggestions to make this Open House a truly memorable and successful event. We need your help with:

Organization: How can we best structure the event to be welcoming and informative?

Promotion: What are the most effective ways to reach out to the community and invite them to attend?

Conduct: What activities, displays, or presentations would best represent Freemasonry and Madison Lodge?

Please share your thoughts and suggestions with Brother Jon Waller at rellaw@gmail.com. Your input is invaluable!

Closing Thoughts

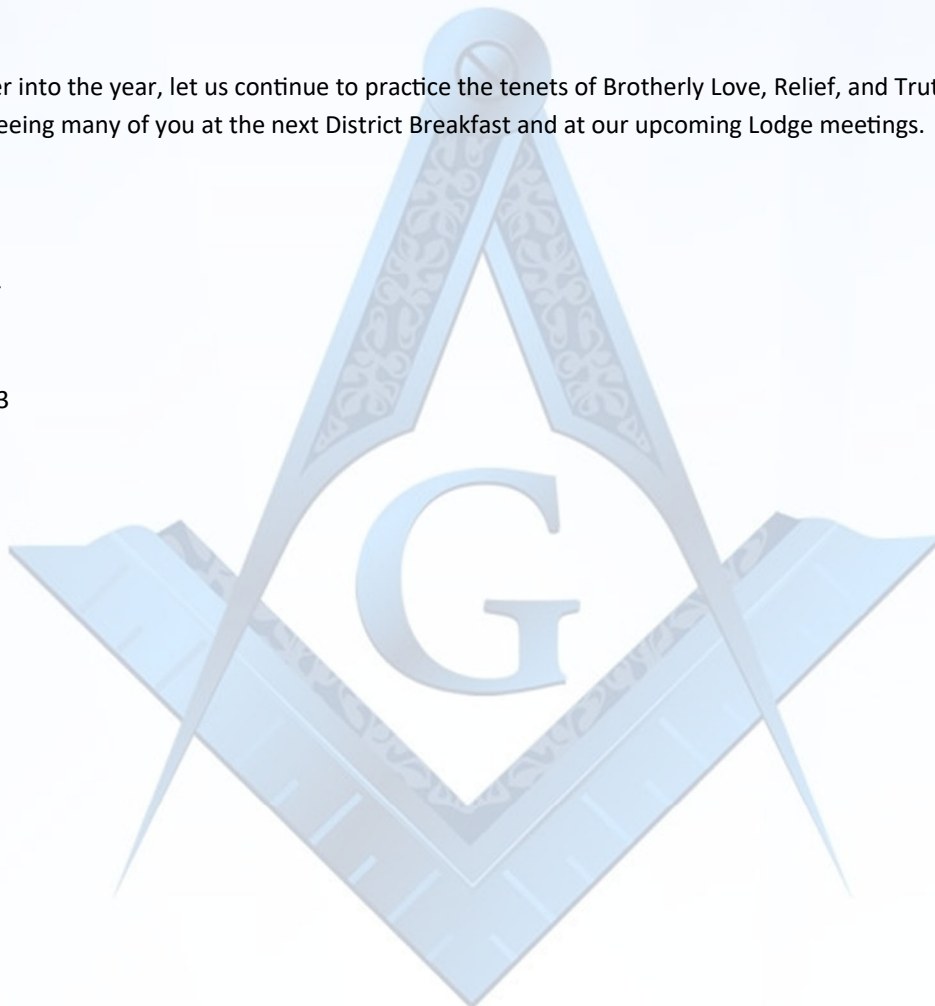
As we move further into the year, let us continue to practice the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth in all our endeavors. I look forward to seeing many of you at the next District Breakfast and at our upcoming Lodge meetings.

Fraternally,

Brother Jon Waller

Senior Warden

Madison Lodge #23



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Harmony Lodge #164

Meets at 1:00 PM, 1st Thursday following the first full moon of

From the East



Plans for this year's Sardine Lake retreat.

Lodge Camping Trip to Sardine Lake

An Unforgettable Adventure

Nestled in the heart of the Sierra Nevada mountains, Sardine Lake offers an idyllic retreat for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers alike. With crystal-clear waters, scenic landscapes, and abundant wildlife, it is the perfect destination for a lodge camping trip. This document outlines the details and attractions of a trip to Sardine Lake, with two potential dates to consider: the weekends of August 9th or August 23rd.

Lodging Options

The Sardine Lake area offers a variety of lodging options to suit different preferences and budgets. Guests can choose from rustic cabins, modern lodges, or traditional campsites. The cabins and lodges come equipped with basic amenities such as comfortable beds, heating, and private bathrooms, ensuring a cozy stay.

Camping Facilities

For those who prefer a more traditional camping experience, Sardine Lake provides well-maintained campsites with fire pits, picnic tables, and access to clean restrooms and showers. The campsites are spacious and offer stunning views of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Activities and Attractions

Fishing

Sardine Lake is renowned for its excellent fishing opportunities. Anglers can expect to catch a variety of fish, including rainbow trout and brown trout. Fishing enthusiasts can either fish from the shore or rent a boat to explore the deeper waters of the lake.

Hiking

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The area around Sardine Lake boasts numerous hiking trails that cater to all levels of experience. From leisurely walks to challenging hikes, there is something for everyone. One of the most popular trails is the Sardine Peak Trail, which offers breathtaking views of the Sierra Buttes and the surrounding wilderness.

Choosing the Dates

The weekends of August 9th and August 23rd are both excellent choices for a lodge camping trip to Sardine Lake. August is a prime time to visit, with warm weather, long daylight hours, and a bustling atmosphere filled with fellow campers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Weekend of August 9th

Choosing the weekend of August 9th offers several benefits. The earlier date means slightly cooler temperatures and potentially fewer crowds, providing a more tranquil experience. It is also an ideal time for fishing, as the water temperatures are perfect for trout activity.

Weekend of August 23rd

Opting for the weekend of August 23rd allows guests to enjoy the tail end of summer, with warm and pleasant weather conditions. This date might coincide with late-summer events or festivals in nearby towns, adding an extra layer of entertainment to the trip. The wildlife activity is also at its peak, offering more opportunities for sightings..

Conclusion

A lodge camping trip to Sardine Lake promises an unforgettable adventure filled with natural beauty, outdoor activities, and relaxation. Whether you choose the weekend of August 9th or August 23rd, you are sure to have a memorable experience. With its serene environment and array of attractions, Sardine Lake is the perfect destination for anyone looking to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life and reconnect with nature.

The Cut-off date for date choice and reservations is March 22

Worshipful Greg Novotny

Harmony Lodge #164

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Penrhyn Gold Hill #32

Meets 2nd Thursday of the month, 7:30 PM; dinner at 6:30

From the East...



Greetings Brethren,

Fraternal greetings brethren! Thank you all who were able to attend our last stated meeting and meal. As always, kudos to our brother Senior Warden, his meal preparations have always been tasty. I would recommend every time you encounter our Senior Warden, Wor. Brother Ronny Daniel, please show him gratitude for the great meals he prepares and provides for us. Beyond our stated meetings, let's gather more often to strengthen our bonds as brothers. To support this, Thursdays have been designated as Penryn Evenings, where we will hold Executive Committee meetings, fellowship gatherings, and other Lodge-focused events. A detailed calendar of these activities will follow, so please keep an eye out for it and add it to your calendars and post it in an accessible place for your use.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Here's a snapshot of the events planned for March 2025

- 6th Penryn Executive Committee/Hall Board/Committee Meetings
- 9th through 14th WM on travel for work
- 13th Penryn Dinner/Stated Meeting
- 19th Inspector's Review of Books
- 20th Penryn Lodge (Ritual Practice)
- 26th DSI Eureka (2nd Degree (Focus on Opening))

Something additional I wanted to alert you all to is our upcoming Lodge Roll Call luncheon/stated meeting, scheduled for May 31st, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Why We Have a Roll Call?

One of the principal purposes of a Lodge has always been to MAINTAIN permanent contacts and a zestful and friendly fellowship among its members. In earlier days this was not difficult to do. Many men lived in small communities, very often remaining in them from birth to death; they were neighbors and friends outside the Lodges as well as within and were able to keep in constant touch with each other in the natural course of events.

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Penrhyn Gold Hill #32

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Today all that has changed.

More men live in large towns and cities than in small communities; few of them remain in the same place all their lives, or even for many years at a time; even when they do, they are likely to live at a distance from each other.

This presents a problem of peculiar difficulty to Masonic Lodges. Its members are obliged to attend its communications as regularly as possible; the Lodge itself is under an obligation to foster the closest possible fellowship and to be ever watchful of the welfare of its members in times of sickness and distress. How is this to be done when its members are so widely scattered that the lodge often has difficulty even in keeping their post office addresses up to date? Roll Call Night is one of the many methods for solving this problem.

Please reach out and we can coordinate transportation for you if needed.

Closing Thoughts

Brethren, the strength of our Lodge lies in its unity and the commitment of each member to the principles of Freemasonry. Let us enter this new year with enthusiasm and a renewed dedication to our Craft. Together, we can achieve great things.

Fraternally and with warm regards,

Jarrold Washington

Master, Penryn Gold-Hill No. 32

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