



# SOUTH WEST LODGE NO.283

1140 B AVENUE  
NATIONAL CITY CA, 91950  
Tel; (619)477-4488

## Trestleboard

Stated Meeting 730PM  
First Thursday  
of Each Month



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### FROM THE EAST

April is here, and it's hard to believe how quickly the year is already moving—but it's been a great ride so far for South West Lodge.

First, a big congratulations to Brother Peter Cortes on being selected as this year's Hiram Award recipient. Well deserved, Brother. Your dedication, and the way you consistently show up for the lodge, truly embody what this award represents.

A shoutout as well to Brother Caloy Eballo, our newly crowned Mason of the Year. If you've been around the lodge, you already know why—his energy, commitment, and willingness to help out wherever needed make a significant impact. Congratulations, Brother, and thank you for everything you do.

We also just wrapped up our Q1 2026 Food Drive, and I'm happy to share that we didn't just meet our goal—we exceeded it. Our target was 283 pounds of food, and thanks to all of you, we surpassed it. I truly appreciate everyone who contributed and helped make this a success.

Looking ahead, we have a lot coming up in the next few months. With our public school event on the horizon, along with the Grand Master's visit, there's plenty to be excited about and opportunities for everyone to get involved.

Time really does fly, but it's been great seeing the momentum we've built as a lodge. I look forward to what's ahead and to continuing this good work together.

Upon the square! 🏛️

Fraternally,

*Francis Ryan T. Onate, Worshipful Master*

### ANNUAL DUES PAYMENT FOR THE YEAR 2026

(Excerpt from the Lodge By Laws Amendment dated January 2, 2025, Approved by the Grand Master of Masons of California)

X Section 2. The dues of each member of this Lodge shall be the sum of **\$90.00 per annum**, plus the Per Capita sum of **\$72.50** approved by Grand Lodge at the immediately preceding Annual Communication, payable in advance on the first day of January which is equal to **\$162.50**



## FROM THE WEST

As we close the month of March, I'm proud to reflect on the continued progress and strength of our lodge. This month marked important milestones for several of our brothers. Congratulations to Brother John Paul Cazessus on being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, and to Brother Justin Garcia on being passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft—both significant steps in their Masonic journeys.

We also recognize Brothers Kurt and Lanz for returning their Second and First Degree proficiencies, respectively. Their dedication to learning and growth reflects a true commitment to the principles of our Craft and strengthens the foundation of our lodge.

Beyond our ritual work, our food drive was a great success, exceeding our goal and demonstrating the power of unity and shared purpose. This effort is a true reflection of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and a reminder that our work extends beyond the lodge and into the community.

Together, these accomplishments highlight the spirit of our fraternity. Let us carry this momentum forward as we continue to support one another, strengthen our lodge, and uphold the values that define us.

*On the Level!* 

*Fraternally,*  
***Ira James T. Castro, Senior Warden***

### **Interpretation of Section 409.020 of the *California Masonic Code*.**

#### Fraternal Dealings with Unrecognized Masons (1993 G.M. Decision No. 6)

California Masons may engage in any activity with an unrecognized Mason so long as they do not share any portion of the ritual which in this jurisdiction is not monitorial. California Masons may do any of the following:

1. We may share facilities for tiled meetings. Our Masonic Hall Associations may rent their facilities to Prince Hall and any other group of unrecognized Masons just as our Masonic Hall Associations might rent to any other tenant. By like measure, a California Lodge may rent space from and hold its tiled meetings in facilities owned and operated by unrecognized Masons. The ritual is not shared when we simply share facilities.
2. In public Grand Lodge Ceremonies, unrecognized Masons may participate to the fullest extent permitted Knights of Columbus and others, so long as the unrecognized Masons do not participate during the performance of the ceremony as set forth in the Grand Lodge Book of Ceremonies.
3. We may participate with unrecognized Masons in public parades and other processions.
4. We may attend all untiled social and other events of unrecognized Masons in California so long as we do not engage in Masonic intercourse while there. We may invite unrecognized Masons to attend our untiled social and other events so long as we do not engage in Masonic intercourse while there. Of course, we may not attend any tiled meetings of unrecognized Masons nor may they attend any of our tiled meetings.
5. When our law otherwise authorizes the wearing of Masonic regalia, we may wear it when participating in joint activities with unrecognized Masons.



## FROM THE WEST

As we roll into April, I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the start of spring. It's shaping up to be a busy and exciting month for South West Lodge, with plenty of opportunities for us to come together and continue doing great work.

Our last stated meeting was a potluck, and I want to thank everyone who brought a dish and shared in the evening. There was an amazing

variety of food, but more importantly, it gave us a chance to relax, catch up, and enjoy each other's company. Nights like that are a great reminder of what makes our lodge special—it's not just the meetings, but the fellowship we build along the way.

Looking ahead, we have several projects coming up this month, with plenty of chances to get involved. Your participation, whether big or small, makes a difference and helps keep our momentum strong.

I also want to give a big shoutout to everyone who contributed to our food drive. As we wrap it up this month, I'm happy to share that we've surpassed our original goal—something we can all be proud of. It speaks volumes about the generosity and commitment of our members in supporting the community.

Thank you again to everyone for showing up, pitching in, and making our lodge what it is. Let's keep that same energy going through April and beyond.

**BY THE PLUMB,**



Fraternally,

*Lynnnyrd G. Delapaz, Junior Warden*

## "Interpretative" Degrees

When you were made a Master Mason you received the highest honors Masonry had to bestow. Progress in other branches of Masonry beyond the Third Degree gives you no authority over your brethren of the Blue Lodge. There is no superiority in Masonry save that conferred by service to others.

A man's importance in Masonry is not gauged by the number of emblems he may wear, but only by what he is in his heart and the service he renders his brethren. The Blue Lodge comprises the first three degrees and constitutes all the essential and ancient part of Freemasonry.

Masonry neither encourages nor discourages membership in other fraternal orders, whether or not the Blue Lodge degrees are a prerequisite to membership in them. By becoming a Master Mason, you do not become obligated to take any of the so-called concordant degrees of Masonry, and whether you do or not is a matter of your own free choice. You have promised not to make such application until you are proficient in the candidate's lecture of the Degree of Master Mason.

**South West Lodge No.283 2026 Lodge Officers**

	MASTER	Francis Ryan T. Onate	<a href="mailto:francisryanonate@gmail.com">francisryanonate@gmail.com</a>
	SENIOR WARDEN	Ira James Castro (Marilyn)	<a href="mailto:castro13md@yahoo.com">castro13md@yahoo.com</a>
	JUNIOR WARDEN	Lynnnnyrd Delapaz (Gerel))	<a href="mailto:lynnyrd.delapaz@yahoo.com">lynnyrd.delapaz@yahoo.com</a>
	TREASURER	Dan Jeffrey T. Onate	<a href="mailto:danjeffreyonate@gmail.com">danjeffreyonate@gmail.com</a>
	SECRETARY	Jacob V. Borillo, PM(Linda)	<a href="mailto:jakeborillo@gmail.com">jakeborillo@gmail.com</a>
	CHAPLAIN	Andy T. Padilla (Letty)	<a href="mailto:andy.padilla10@gmail.com">andy.padilla10@gmail.com</a>
	ASST. SECRETARY	Alan I. Ambito, PM (Lynn)	<a href="mailto:alspar72@gmail.com">alspar72@gmail.com</a>
	SENIOR DEACON	Jonathan Diputado (Elizabeth)	<a href="mailto:jdiputado@gmail.com">jdiputado@gmail.com</a>
	JUNIOR DEACON	Archibald Picar (Cherrylyn)	<a href="mailto:spykesmen@gmail.com">spykesmen@gmail.com</a>
	MARSHAL	Jake Valencia (Esmeralda)	<a href="mailto:jake.gochargers@yahoo.com">jake.gochargers@yahoo.com</a>
	SENIOR STEWARD	Jose Dante V. Jacinto	<a href="mailto:docjoeyjacinto@yahoo.com">docjoeyjacinto@yahoo.com</a>
	JUNIOR STEWARD	Rogel Allan F. Dale (Karen)	<a href="mailto:rogerallandale@yahoo.com">rogerallandale@yahoo.com</a>
	TILER	Raymark C. Mariano	<a href="mailto:ray_mariano@live.com">ray_mariano@live.com</a>
	OFFICERS COACH	Clarito A. De Vera, PM	<a href="mailto:ldevera44@yahoo.com">ldevera44@yahoo.com</a>
	OFFICERS COACH	Peter D. Cortes, PM	<a href="mailto:pcortes0620@yahoo.com">pcortes0620@yahoo.com</a>
	OFFICERS COACH	Ralph A. Banci, PM	<a href="mailto:ralph.banci@aol.com">ralph.banci@aol.com</a>
	935 <sup>th</sup> Masonic District Inspector	Walter J. Sener, PM	<a href="mailto:jay@sener.com">jay@sener.com</a>

**South West Masonic Temple Hall Corporation Directors**

PRESIDENT	Peter D. Cortes, PM
VICE-PRESIDENT	Jake Valencia
TREASURER	Raymark Mariano
SECRETARY	Jose Dante Jacinto
<b>Board of Directors</b>	
Villarey Umali	
Andy Padilla	
Lynnnnyrd Delapaz	
Nestor Leonor	
Rogel Dale	
RENTAL MANAGER	<b>Reynaldo Quiba, (619) 861 - 9783</b>
<b>TRESTLEBOARD STAFF</b>	
EDITOR	Raul Norris, PM
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Raymark Mariano
CONTRIBUTORS	Master- Francis Ryan Onate
	Senior Warden- Ira James T. Castro
	Junior Warden- Lynnnnyrd G. Delapaz
TYPE SETTING/LAYOUT /DISTRIBUTION	Jacob Borillo, PM

(excerpt from Masonic Laws and Customs)  
**Once a Mason, Always a Mason?**

The oft-heard claim "Once a Mason always a Mason" is not only not true but is misleading. It means merely that a Mason always remains bound by his obligation not to disclose secrets. To be a Mason is a serious thing and a man is a true Mason only when he accepts the responsibilities which go with his membership. It implies work, service and obligations. There are many who are only barnacles on the ship of Masonry, refusing to accept committee work, whose conception of Masonic duty consists in keeping their dues paid and attending an occasional meeting when there is something to eat.

A man who has been suspended or expelled has no rights or privileges and is no longer a Mason. A man who takes a limit also has no privileges after it is one year old, except that he may apply for affiliation at any time. He is, however, still bound by his Masonic obligations.

As no man has the right to demand to be made a Mason, so he should not be allowed the privilege of remaining one after he refuses to live in conformity with its requirements. "Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost his savior, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

**CALIFORNIA MASONIC CODE**

CONSTITUTION of the GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA  
Adopted October 11, 2006

**§401.030. JUDICIAL POWERS.**

The judicial powers of Grand Lodge are:

- A. The interpretation, construction and application of its law in this jurisdiction;
- B. The decision of all controversies under its law among those subject to its jurisdiction;
- C. The review and adjudication of the enforcement of its laws upon Masons, Lodges, Masonic Organizations, their members, Masonic Youth Orders, their members and advisors under its jurisdiction; and
- D. The review and adjudication of all matters of controversy or discipline under its law, which may have arisen in any of the Lodges under its jurisdiction, and over which it has not retained original jurisdiction.

*[Source: Section 340 of the 1991 California Masonic Code.]*

**CHAPTER 2  
RITUAL**

**§402.010. RITUAL.**

All work in this Jurisdiction, including each degree conferred and all lectures, must be in conformity with the Ritual, and such must be adhered to by all Lodges and Masons in this Jurisdiction, except as otherwise provided in this Code. Upon request by a Constituent Lodge, the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer may consent to a Constituent Lodge's use of an alternative ritual that departs from the Ritual provided that such alternative ritual (a) includes the same obligations as those contained in the Ritual, (b) includes the same signs, words and modes of recognition as those contained in the Ritual, and (c) is consistent in all material respects with the culture, integrity and ideals of our Fraternity, as determined by the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer. The language of the obligations in the alternative ritual need not be exactly identical to the language used in the Ritual. Unless otherwise determined by the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer, Constituent Lodges who have used an alternative ritual since at least January 1, 2024 that was not disapproved by the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer may continue their use of such alternative ritual without the affirmative consent of the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer required by this Section.

*[Amended: 2010; 2023; 2025.] [Source: Section 26290 of the 1991 California Masonic Code.]*

**CALIFORNIA MASONIC CODE**

CONSTITUTION of the GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA  
Adopted October 11, 2006

**§402.020. CHANGE OF RITUAL.**

Grand Lodge alone has power to authorize any changes in the Ritual. No change may be made to the Ritual which is inconsistent with those provisions of the General Regulations of Masonry that by their nature may not be modified by specific action of this Grand Lodge. Proposed amendments to the Ritual must be adopted at an Annual or Special Communication of Grand Lodge by five-sixths of the votes cast. If so adopted, they shall become a part of the Ritual at the close of the Communication. If the vote in favor of a proposed amendment is less than five-sixths but there is a majority, it shall lie over until the next succeeding Annual Communication and shall be published with the Proceedings. If, at the next succeeding Annual Communication, it receives two-thirds of the votes cast, it shall be adopted. At the close of that Communication, it shall become a part of the Ritual.  
*[Amended: 2010.] [Source: Section 26310 of the 1991 California Masonic Code.]*

**§402.030. CIPHER RITUALS.**

Grand Lodge shall cause to be prepared, published and sold to Constituent Lodges and Master Masons, for use and possession by Master Masons only, a cipher of the esoteric or secret portion of the Ritual, in any medium capable of being rendered into clearly legible tangible form, as shall be approved from time to time by the Grand Lecturer with the approval of the Grand Master. The cipher may include such attached or separate supplements as shall be approved from time to time by the Grand Lecturer with the approval of the Grand Master. The foregoing notwithstanding, a Master Mason who is an authorized Candidate's Coach may reproduce that portion of the approved cipher ritual that pertains to the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft proficiency examinations for use and possession by an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to prepare for his proficiency examination.

In no event shall any cipher ritual, or portion thereof, be used during a tiled meeting, except as follows:

- A. A cipher ritual may be used at any tiled meeting by the duly appointed Officers' Coach of the Lodge, or in his absence, a qualified Past Master selected by the Master; and
- B. A cipher ritual may also be used at any tiled meeting called for the purpose of practicing the Ritual, by any Mason who is not participating in the presentation of the Ritual.

*[Amended: 2010; 2014.] [Source: Section 26300 of the 1991 California Masonic Code.]*

South West Lodge No.283  
P.O. Box 283  
National City, CA 91951-0283  
Tel: (619) 477-4488  
Website: lodge283.freemason.org

**Francis Ryan T. Onate**  
Worshipful Master

## APRIL 2026

### MONTHLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	730PM- Demolay Meeting		<b>1</b> 630PM-Temple Board Meeting 630PM- Stated meeting Prep Fellowship	<b>2</b> 600PM- Stated Meeting Dinner 730PM- Stated Meeting - 935 <sup>TH</sup> Masonic District Inspector Official Visit	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 730PM – Jobs Daughters Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6300pm- 1 <sup>st</sup> degree practice -	<b>9</b> 630pm- 1st Degree Conferral - Mr. John Navalta	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Lodge Clean up
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 730PM- Demolay Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 630pm-TBD	<b>16</b> 630pm-TBA	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 730PM – Jobs Daughters Meeting	<b>21</b> 630pm-	<b>22</b> 630PM- Audit Prep	<b>23</b> 630PM- SWL Audit	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 630pm- DOSI at Coronado Lodge	<b>29</b> 700pm- Practice 3rd Degree	<b>30</b> 700pm- 3rd Degree Conferral - Kurt Sarne		