

## May 2021 Trestle Board

# Enterprise Lodge #70 F & AM

501 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Yuba City, CA 95991

Website: [www.enterprise70.org](http://www.enterprise70.org) T: 530-673-6940

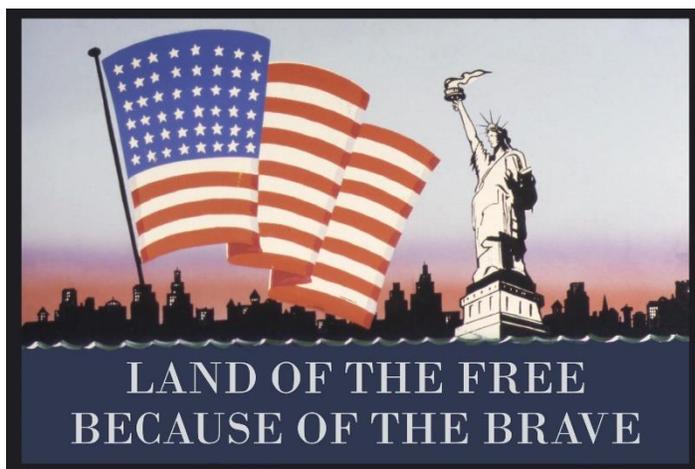


## 2021 Lodge Officers

- Master: Charles Aucoin  
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2021 Officers



## Stated Meeting

Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

7:30 pm

Via Zoom

[Zoom Link](#)

## From the East

Brethren, there is LIGHT as we approach the 14th month without contact with each other in lodge. The Grand Master, in his “town hall meeting,” went over the restrictions and requirements on what is necessary to re-open our lodges to make them within the state and county guidelines.

The Master and the Hall Board will be working on the Site Prevention Plan to set guidelines to reopen the lodge for all organizations that operate within the building. The Master is to exercise his options regarding state/county health officials in re-opening for gatherings and meetings. At this time, it is required by the state/county to be vaccinated and wear a mask when meeting, these requirements may change in the near future.



With that said, we will have our May meeting via Zoom on the 4th @ 7:30pm. We are working on having a dinner and stated meeting on June 1st. I hope to see you at our next Zoom meeting and in person at our June meeting.

Our District Inspector has asked us to work on our ritual as we quickly approach re-opening as there are several degrees in the wings and it will take the officers of the District to fill all the positions. At our stated meeting in May, we will set a date to have a cleanup day at the lodge, so that we might have a chance to knock down some cobwebs, dust, vacuum, clean our kitchen and floors. It has been over a year and it is my hope that by June things will be back to normal.

Fraternally,

Charles Aucoin  
Master

## From the West

Hope all is well with you.

Good news coming regarding lodge operations, Grand Lodge has lifted a great deal of the restrictions imposed by COVID -19. I have no desire to reveal what we can or cannot do, this will be addressed by the Master in his from The East.



I will however share a bit of information on Attitude,

### ATTITUDE IS A PROBLEM

Too often we say, “Something must be done,” rather than, “I can do something.”

Too often we say, “There’s a problem that needs solving, rather than, “I can help solve that problem.”

Jerry W. Spillers  
Senior Warden



GRAND LODGE  
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GRAND MASTER  
ARTHUR H. WEISS

GRAND MASTER'S PROCLAMATION  
MAY 2021 IS **PUBLIC AWARENESS MONTH**  
*Embracing the Next Evolution*

**Whereas** California Masons perform untold hours of service to improve their communities, and raise important funds to support the most vulnerable members of our communities; and

**Whereas** the next evolution of Freemasonry is predicated on the growth and vitality of our fraternity; and

**Whereas** misconceptions about Freemasonry endure in popular culture, which hamper the positive change we hope to make in our communities;

**As grand master, I therefore proclaim May 2021 is Public Awareness Month in California.**

An important aim of the 2025 Fraternity Plan includes increasing awareness in our communities of the fraternity and the work that Masons all over California do in their towns. Raising awareness of the fraternity means countering negative assumptions about Masonry; talking openly with friends, family, and colleagues about what membership in Masonry means; and showing the world why our organization is and remains relevant today. I encourage all members and lodges to consider ways that they can raise awareness of Freemasonry in their community—through open houses, tabling opportunities, and simple conversations with friends and family. California Masons have much to be proud of. It's time we share that pride with more of the outside world.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Attest:

Grand Master Arthur H. Weiss

Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou



# AN ABSOLUTE CORKER

MEET YE ANTIENT ORDER OF NOBLE CORKS, THE SCREWIEST MASONIC CLUB AROUND.  
*By Michael J. Ramos*

Shrouded in equal parts mystery and merriment, Ye Antient Order of Noble Corks is a bit of an outlier even within the sometimes bewildering world of Freemasonry. Whereas the dozens of supplemental degrees available to Masons tend to stress or expand on the moral teachings of the craft, the Corks exist for one reason and one reason only: to have a good time for a good cause. “The only thing we take seriously is how unserious we take the degree and ourselves,” says Donald McAndrews, a 50-year Mason in Virginia and the “grand bung” of the Americas, the equivalent of the order’s grand master.



Yes, it’s that kind of affair. With titles like rather worshipful admiral, barely worshipful cook, and particularly worthy shipmate, the order is a decidedly screwy cousin to Freemasonry—fitting, given that its insignia is a corkscrew piercing a wine cork. During so-called cork lodges, the claret jug tends to be passed around liberally.

More common in Great Britain, Australia, and parts of Europe, the Cork degree is seldom practiced on our shores. It is governed here, insofar as its governed at all, by the Grand Council of the [Allied Masonic Degrees](#). By and large, a degree conferral is held only once a year, during Masonic Week, typically in Virginia or Washington, D.C. And while it’s still a mystery to most American Freemasons, the degree has a long and proud, if not exactly distinguished, history. Cork lodges, sometimes known as cellars, have always existed to raise money for charity by taking donations around the festive board, where (ideally) good and (definitely) plentiful drink are par for the course.

For the uninitiated, the cork lodge's degree ceremony includes many allusions to Noah's Ark—hence the nautical theme evident in the officer's titles. But the real highlight of a cork lodge is the "board of corks." Revelers raise funds for the charity of their choice through the frequent and boisterous levelling of fines against fellow members for breaches of Cork protocol. (Among them, I'm told, is the requirement to keep a cork and corkscrew on one's person at all times, like a challenge coin.) "Overall, even where local customs may take over, we universally agree that we come to eat and drink and for the opportunity to raise funds for charity," McAndrews says.

Edgar Fentum, a resident of the Masonic Homes in Union City and a member of [Los Altos No. 712](#), is among the lucky few California Masons who've taken the degree. And while he's mostly tightlipped about its customs, he does recall it fondly. "I can't give away the secrets, but I can tell you it was a wonderful time, with corks being waved about in the air everywhere you looked," he says.

It's not impossible for California Masons to receive the degree, McAndrews says; once we are able to safely travel again, he or another grand cork officer would be open to bringing a Cork degree out west, if travel and accommodations are provided. For more information about bringing the Cork degree to your lodge, email [michaelramos@freemason.org](mailto:michaelramos@freemason.org).

# QUICK LINKS

## Grand Master's Directive

Grand Master Arthur H. Weiss has [issued a new directive](#) allowing in-person events and meetings to take place.

## Prepare Your Site-Specific Prevention Plan

Halls must [prepare a site-specific prevention plan](#) prior to resuming in-person meetings.

## Reopening Guidance for Lodges and Halls

Before lodges can resume meeting in person, they need to [take necessary steps to ensure](#) the continued health of all members.

## Visit State Re-Opening Guidelines

Learn more about [California's reopening plan](#), or [look up your county's](#) department of public health for more local guidelines.

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## From the Secretary

With the good news of soon reopening, I look forward to seeing you all. Due to a few wrinkles yet to be ironed out by Grand Lodge in time for our May 4<sup>th</sup> stated meeting, until that time, we will be meeting in May via Zoom. So far, June looks very promising to meet in person!

If you have not yet paid your dues, do not hesitate and take the moment to button up that detail now! I am happy to process your payment myself. Simply mail a check to:

Enterprise #70 F&A.M. 501 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Yuba City, CA 95991

I will post your payment and return to you your dues card for 2021.

You may also access your own account via Grand Lodge and make payment immediately through your user portal and print your own dues card instantly.

Best wishes, and I look forward to meeting again!

Bro. Harry Swinney

Secretary

Enterprise #70 F. & A.M.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86451004075?pwd=b0dpTFlaZkFCMEZMV3RzYnY0YmhCZz09>

Meeting ID: 864 5100 4075

Passcode: 828743

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,86451004075#,,,,\*828743# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,86451004075#,,,,\*828743# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 864 5100 4075

Passcode: 828743

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86451004075?pwd=b0dpTFlaZkFCMEZMV3RzYnY0YmhCZz09>

