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The Triple Links Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

January 2025
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Established 1987



Second Degree in Redwood City

Love triumphed once more as cast members made good the story that has become the example for the second degree on Wednesday, December 11, 2024.

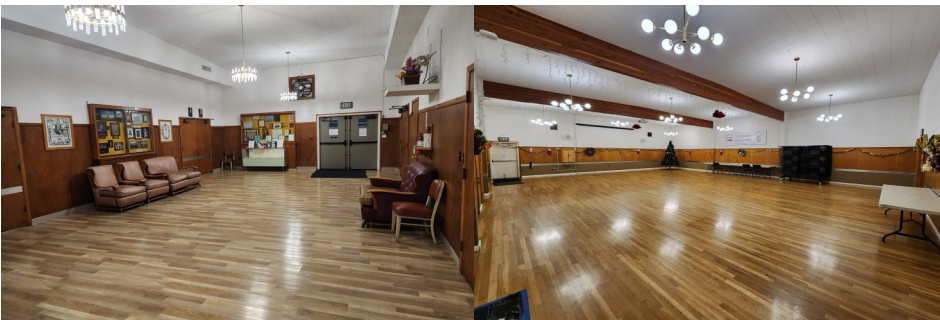
Bay View Lodge No. 109 in Redwood City hosted the most recent degree in District 107. With this occasion, Bay View rejoined the tradition of live degrees in their lodge for the first time in at least 15 years, according to their Noble Grand, **Mark Henry**. In addition, for the first time since before the pandemic (and likely much longer) every lodge in district 107 sent at least one candidate.

The candidates were: **Paul Colin** of Volcano 25 in Saratoga; **Katherine Powell** and **Liana Hidalgo** of True Fellowship 52 in San Jose; **Stephen Franke** of Cupertino 70; **Steve Koehler** of host lodge Bay View 109 in Redwood City; **Jesse Donaldson** and **Tatiana Kuvaldina** of Mountain View 244; and **Tiffany Blakney** of Saratoga 428.

Just a note; Volcano Lodge's members originally came to the retirement home in Saratoga from the village of Volcano California in the Sierra Mountain foothills. There is still a lodge in Volcano that runs on kerosene lamp chandeliers and meets once a year when the Grand Lodge visits to celebrate a meeting at the historical site.

In the beautifully remodeled Bay View Lodge, cast members performed with much drama under the chandelier lights and catchy music. We were, **Mason Wolf**, **Jane Beckman**, **Carol Fung**, **Reed Sutton**, **Steve Koury**, **Hannah Koury**, **Izzy Mahon**, **Debra LaVergne**, **Debbie Wolf**, **Tom Blackburn** and **Ron Myres**. Bay View's own Noble Grand, **Mark Henry**, opened and closed the lodge to complete the evening, with lots of fellowship and sharing of stories of past.

Pictured — (row 1) Ron Myres, Steve Koury, Hannah Koury, Mark Henry, Jim Reyner, Jane Beckman, Reed Sutton, Debra LaVergne, Debbie Wolf, Mason Wolf, Ivan Fawley, (row 2) Paul Colin, Steve Franke, Izzy Mahon, Steve Koehler, Liana Hidalgo, Jesse Donaldson, Tom Blackburn, (row 3) Randee Chin, Tiffany Blakney, Kat Powell, Tatiana Kuvaldina — 12/11/2024



New Lights for Lodge 70

Let there be....new lights! The next time you visit Lodge 70, you'll be welcomed by icicle chandeliers in the foyers and Sputnik bubble lights in the dining room. Renovation Committee members **Ron Myers**, **Jim Kabage**, **Randee Chin**, **Simona Benjamin**, & **Karen Sanico** were able to select, order, test, and install (with the

help of **Mark St. John**) the new lighting fixtures and switches in time for the last event of 2024: the Lodge New Year's Eve Kanikapila (music jam)! The ongoing goal of the Committee is to update our building to be a special place for Odd Fellows events and a desirable rental space for the public. Watch for more exciting changes in the coming year!

- By **Karen Sanico**

- By **Tom Blackburn**



Castro Street Window Display December 2024

Mountain View Lodge #244 is very fortunate to be located on Castro Street in downtown Mountain View. We are on the corner between Castro Street and Villa Street and can put on window displays in our Castro Street windows.

The smaller window is dedicated to Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. Our larger window has a changing monthly display. Displays are attractive, informative, entertaining, non-sectarian, multicultural and hopefully make passing foot traffic stop and look at them.

The theme for December was Happy Holidays, However You Celebrate.

In the month of December, we have Las Posadas, Winter Solstice, Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanzaa, New Year's Eve. Our window display included all these important cultural events. The window was lit up with an L.E.D. snow family which drew passersby to the windows.

Our Grand Warden, **Carlos Juarez** visited our lodge and commented on how good the window looked, our lodge members approved, a Jewish friend visiting from Marin County liked our multicultural approach. Overall our December Display was a success!

- By *Ria Toolis*

Next Degree Days:

- **January 20: Cupertino 70 @7pm**
- **January 22: True Fellowship 52 @7pm**

The initiatory degree will be offered at 7PM at Cupertino 70 on Monday, January 20th. A light meal will be served at 6pm. Candidates should arrive no later than 6:45. Ceremony at 7 with refreshments to follow.

The third degree will be offered at 7PM at True Fellowship 52 Lodge in San Jose. Candidates should arrive no later than 6:45. Ceremony at 7 with refreshments to follow.

Cupertino 70 New Initiatory Schedule and Procedure for 2025

To better organize our initiatory degree ceremonies and participation, in 2025 Cupertino 70 will institute some new procedures to help make sure fellow lodges are aware of all our degree dates as well make the process and event go more smoothly.

Initiatory Registration Procedure

1) Registration Deadline. We request that all lodges send their registration details, such as candidate and participant lists, ONE WEEK PRIOR to any degree date.

2) Registrations can be submitted at:

<https://www.CupertinoOddFellows.org/initiatory>

(This is an informal request so we can get head count for food, candidate and participant lists.)

3) We CANNOT confer the degree without a letter from the candidate's home lodge. You may *either* send an email, a sealed physical letter, or both. Official Lodge Candidate participation requests should be emailed 24 HOURS PRIOR to any degree date to: degreeteam@CupertinoOddFellows.org

Emails should be sent by the lodge's secretary or noble grand. If you mail the letter, please send it to:

Cupertino Odd Fellows Lodge 70,
Attn: Initiatory Degree Team,
20589 Homestead Road,
Cupertino, CA 95014

4) There will be a minimum requirement of 3 candidates (from all lodges) for an initiatory to proceed.

5) There will be a maximum limit of 14 candidates per initiatory.

6) If there are lodge meetings the last week prior to the initiatory, we ask that any additions to the candidate lists are submitted through the registration form in #2, so we can be properly prepared.

General Initiatory Schedule

6 pm: Light Meal served

6:30 pm: Members of degree team should arrive

6:45 pm: Candidates should arrive and Meet with Outside Guardian at the table in the dining room for preparation. Odd Fellows members joining as spectators should arrive and enter the Meeting Room

7:00 pm: Lodge Meeting begins, followed by Ceremony

Refreshments to be offered afterward in the dining hall

2025 Initiatory Degree dates:

1/20, 3/31, 6/30, 9/29, 12/15

These simple changes will help us to continue our beloved tradition of welcoming new members to our fraternal family.

- By *Jim Kabage*

Grand Warden Visit to Bay View 109

On December 4th, True Fellowship Lodge #52 dispensed with their regularly scheduled meeting and traveled with eleven members in three cars north to Bay View Lodge 109, to join them in greeting our Grand Warden, Brother **Carlos Juarez** on his official visit.

As DDGM, Brother **Mason Wolf** was expected to be present to act as Marshal. But when he (semi-seriously) suggested that True Fellowship 52 arrange to join him, rather than have their usual business meeting at the same time, they surprised him by enthusiastically embracing the idea.

Bay View's members greeted all of us warmly with food and fellowship. It was a pleasure to attend their meeting, though a little bit confusing. Both the Grand Warden and True Fellowship "visiting as a body" had to retire in form and be formally re-admitted to the meeting. With no clear guidance from the ritual, we made things up as we went along (we decided to do True Fellowship first, Grand Warden second, because he receives the honors of the order). Inside Guardian **Amy Zerges** did her best to relay information between the Noble Grand **Mark Henry** and whichever person happened to be announcing themselves.

We made a few mistakes. No one minded. Everyone maintained a proper spirit of friendship and good humor throughout, and Brother Carlos gave an excellent presentation at the end during Good of the Order.

As always, we learn from others and find something eye-opening from fellow Odd Fellows. For example, the True Fellowship members were inspired by the dimmed lighting, centered spotlight, and memorized prayer by Chaplain (and incoming Noble Grand) **Gerald Williams** that we experienced during the meeting, and will be amending our own opening and closing ritual to match.

Thank you, Bay View 109, for being such excellent hosts!

- By **Debbie Wolf and Mason Wolf**



Cupertino 70 Ringing in the New Year!

Cupertino 70 and friends rang in 2025 with their annual New Year Potluck and Kanikapila (Music Jam). There were more than 70 people in attendance in person and in zoom. The food was awesome, and the lodge provided New York pizza was inhaled! This annual event acts not only as a welcome to the new year, but also as a thank you to all our loyal supporters who, without them, we wouldn't be able to increase our charitable efforts. The lodge usually provides a main dish or two and then the guests provide their flavorful dishes. The menu never disappoints!

Cupertino 70 hosts a monthly Kanikapila on the 4th Wednesday of each month, where Cupertino's own Laule'a Hawaiian band takes requests from the attendees, and we all play and sing together. Hula dancers and music enthusiasts are all welcome to join in for the great time. Laule'a consists of Cupertino 70 members **Les Wong, Ron Myres, Randee Chin, John Hogle and Jim Kabage**. This event is always simulcast on Zoom for those who cannot make it in person.

-By **Karen Sanico**

San Jose Toys for Tots Fundraiser at Cupertino 70

Cupertino 70 would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who made our Toys for Tots holiday fundraiser such a success. We were able to raise nearly \$1900! In all, we hosted about 36 people who enjoyed a lodge cooked prime rib dinner, live holiday music and 50/50 raffle. To show even more generosity, some who could not make it in person made contributions online. The true meaning of Odd Fellows comes through when we can help those in need.

-By **Jim Kabage**



Bay View 109 and True Fellowship 52 welcomed Grand Warden Carlos Juarez on his swing through District 107 on 12/4/2024.

District 107 Essay Contest Winner

The District 107 Youth Pilgrimage Scholarship Committee received several essays for its contest. The winning essay was written by **Bao Nguyen**, a student of Oak Grove High School in San Jose. He'll spend 2 weeks in the Eastern US with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Pilgrimage, and is very excited for the upcoming opportunity.

With his permission, I am sharing the essay he wrote. The prompt was to write an essay about the importance of citizenship in building a better world.—*Mason Wolf*

Citizenship: A Key to Bring Humanity Together

“We must unite because the world is fractured.”

My history teacher answered my question when I asked him about the importance of global citizenship. Perhaps since this is 2024, we witness the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict or the Russo-Ukrainian war, dividing us from our shared humanity. Moreover, these wars not only caused human suffering but also consumed vast resources that could have been used to address global challenges like poverty or climate change, further fragmenting the efforts to build a more just and sustainable world.

The solution to this problem should be the value that my history teacher believes in: unity. Everyone must not divide each other, but unite to make a huge impact. In order to achieve global unity, active citizenship plays a significant role in empowering all individuals to together challenge the status quo and advocate for a brighter future through small, consistent actions.

Citizenship allows us to contribute and collaborate for a positive impact, persuading our government to make decisions based on our common hope for positive change. In 2005, a big worldwide movement called the Make Poverty History launched. It brought millions of people together who wanted to end poverty and hunger. They joined in marches and rallies, signed online petitions, and spread awareness on social media. These actions put constant pressure on world leaders, which led them to double investment into global health and development—an additional 6.2\$ billion dollars. By using active citizenship, the Make Poverty History campaign successfully gathered many citizens to push the leaders to follow their common voice for

equality. Therefore, citizenship is everyone's mission because only our leaders can decide to bring a widespread impact. And we can shape their decisions by together taking action to amplify our voice for positive change. Be-

cause global challenges demand more than just an individual action, they require the collective power of citizenship to seek the best solutions. Humans become united to advocate for the same ideals that enhance our society as global change comes from unified action at a global scale. But how does this translate to individual experience and the development of future citizens?

Citizenship fosters a sense of purpose and belonging that empowers all individuals to realize their potential and influence their communities. After my sophomore year, I joined SMASH, a summer program dedicated to bridging the representation gap for underrepresented students in STEM. The experience was transformative, largely due to the incredibly strong community SMASH developed. This community demonstrates the very unity needed to address global challenges, gathering students from diverse backgrounds with a shared passion for STEM and a commitment to positive change. Crucially, SMASH recognized that STEM advancement is intertwined with active citizenship, empowering us to become future leaders, address social inequities, and promote civic engagement. Their mission of global impact shapes their supportive community by encouraging the students not to only benefit from the program but also to contribute back to their communities. Its communal bond develops a sense of purpose and belonging that provide students with clearer direction in life and a stronger connection to their communities. More than just training future scientists and engineers, SMASH supports developing engaged global citizens who understand the importance of collaboration and social responsibility to address complex global issues. Therefore, this highlights how active citizenship, through giving back, allows us to recognize our own potential and inspires us to further influence with positive change.

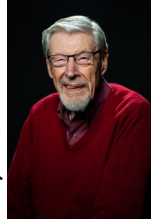
Citizenship is not a passive status but an active movement that everyone should be a part of. As the world faces its current challenges, we need active citizens more than ever. It motivates us to take action and build stronger, more vibrant communities. By embracing our roles as active citizens, we not only contribute to building a better world but also enrich our lives and the lives of those around us. Ultimately, citizenship is the driving force of unity that my history teacher believes in—a collective commitment to shaping a better future through consistent efforts of all individuals.

—By **Bao Nguyen**, junior at Oak Grove High, San Jose

“Going Through the Chairs” Incoming Noble Grands and Vice Grands of District 107

Volcano 25: Ivan and Paul

Ivan Fawley will be remaining as our yeoman Noble Grand another year as we try to build up our membership. **Jim Reyner** will remain as our Secretary. Our newest member, **Paul Colin**, will assume the role of Vice Grand. In July, Paul took over for Jim as the retirement community’s “Voting Member” on the Odd Fellows Homes of California Board of Directors, a position originally held by Ivan and Jim. All three have visited several of the lodges in our district, and each vies for the honor of being the first to visit all and gain the recognition of Mason’s newly designed pin to recognize members who visit each lodge in our district. **June Middleton**, a member for over 50 years of both the Odd Fellows and Rebekah’s, serves as Past Grand. **Emily Holton** remains as Volcano’s Warden. **Patricia Aanenson** is our Chaplain. Two members, who are also employees of the retirement community, hold the following positions: **Karla Brown**, Director of Resident Services, is Right Scene Supporter and **Erin Farrell**, Director of Marketing, is Conductor.



True Fellowship 52: Andrew and Zandria

Greetings, I am **Andrew M. Crockett**, CPA and am excited to serve as Noble Grand of True Fellowship Lodge no.52, IOOF for 2025! I am at heart a philosopher driven to have our civil society thrive, and I know that doing so requires building community. I come to this calling rightfully, for on my father’s side there are Freemasons and community organizers, on my mother’s side there are Odd Fellows and trade unionists, and all sides of my family are abundant with teachers, musicians, thespians, and artists. I am all of these, and am exuberantly looking forward to continuing connecting communities with Odd Fellowship during my term, serving the worthy cause of having Friendship, Love, and Truth alive in the world we call Lodge.



Hi, I’m **Zandria Elbert**, and I am honored to serve as the Vice Grand for the True 52 IOOF Lodge in San Jose, CA, for the 2025 year. Growing up in San Jose and grounded by my Louisiana roots, I’ve always embraced the beauty of community and tradition. In 2023, I proudly created our lodge’s first-ever Mardi Gras event, blending vibrant Southern culture with the fellowship of the IOOF. I’m passionate about building connections and creating spaces where people feel valued and empowered. Whether organizing events or welcoming new members, I thrive on fostering camaraderie and growth. Outside of IOOF, I enjoy writing poetry, mixology, and furthering my leadership skills, always guided by a belief in the transformative power of shared experiences.

Cupertino 70: Jim and Richard

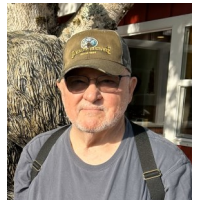
Jim Kabage, incoming 2025 Noble Grand, joined Cupertino Lodge 70 in January 2018. A Trustee for the last 5 years, Jim has led the modernization of the Lodge ranging from building upgrades to online improvements for email communication, document storage, rental and electronic payments. He will continue to dedicate his efforts to develop the Lodge into a financially self-sustaining and recognized part of Cupertino and the Odd Fellows organization.



Richard Sanico, incoming 2025 Vice Grand, has been a member of Lodge 70 since 2018. He is very organized and will be essential in building more structure in our lodge to help guide and direct our members.

Bay View 109: Gerald and Ray

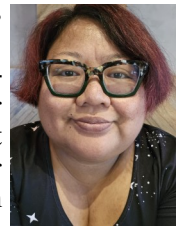
Gerald Williams—I became involved with Odd Fellows when I was about ten and then joined when I was about twelve. Went to Junior Grand Lodge at Russian River twice. Since then I’ve been involved with Bayview Lodge #109 in various capacities. I was the youngest noble grand in Redwood City. And now I am noble grand again for about the fifth time. Have been a member for 69 years.



Raymond Fellers, incoming Vice Grand—no statement provided at time of publication

Mountain View 244: Sally and Katy

Sally Calpo is a Bay Area native whose parents immigrated from the Philippines in the 1970s. They studied to be a software engineer, graduating from SJSU in 2012 with a B.A. in Computer Science, but chronic and mental health issues cut their professional career short. Besides their work with the Odd Fellows, Sally devotes much of their time and energy to running Oddizens, a group they founded in 2015 for LGBTQ and neurodiverse adults to enjoy fun activities with peers who accept them as they are and sympathize with the challenges they face.



Katy Dickinson, incoming Vice Grand, is the Founder of Mentoring Standard, an award-winning Process Architect, and was the Process Architect for the first class of the U.S. State Department’s TechWomen mentoring program. Since 2015, Katy Dickinson has been a jail chaplain for the Correctional Institutions Chaplaincy (CIC) in Santa Clara County while continuing graduate studies, and recently completed her Doctor of Ministry degree. *(continued page 6)*

Going Through the Chairs

(continued from page 5)

Saratoga 428: Mike and Terry

Michael Bever joined IOOF in 2019 after retiring from working for the City of San Jose. Michael has worked in many areas including the USAF, underwater construction, high tech hardware and software, and self employment. Currently living in West San Jose with wife Nancy, he enjoys gardening, small building projects, and bible study.



Terry Neff, incoming vice grand—He is retired.



Holidays at True Fellowship

It's been a festive month for us in the Bay area with the tone set by an excellent showing of Odd Fellows at Dicken's Fair for a Happy Christmas. True Fellowship's first meeting of December was a visit to Bay View's Lodge, the next Wednesday was a social potluck, and the third Wednesday was our Holiday Party (with live music, thanks to Cupertino 70s *Laule'a!*). We missed those who were sick and missing but loved sharing a feast with our families.

-By **Debbie Wolf**



A.M.O.S. members **Mason Wolf**, **Andrew Crockett**, and **Randy Richmond** at the True Fellowship 52 holiday party.—12/18/2024

A Year in Review—Reflections on 2024

In preparing for a new year, the editors of the Triple Links also invited the Noble Grands of our district to share their thoughts on the past year—challenges faced, lessons learned, and ultimately wisdom to pass along. Two of them, **Michael Bever** of Saratoga 428, and **Debbie Wolf** of True Fellowship 52, agreed, and sent us the following:

I joined Saratoga #428 in 2019 after retiring from working as a civilian employee at the San Jose Police Department. My wife Nancy had joined some years prior, so while not an official member I was able to participate in some of the activities and meetings on my days off.

Due to covid I attended the degree ceremonies through the video training tapes. In 2022, I was asked to fill the Vice Grand seat for 2023. God had laid on my heart a desire to not say "No" to any opportunity to serve my fellow man unless there was a major conflict with my schedule or a negative signal from the Holy Spirit.

During my tenure as VG, I participated in a number of degree ceremonies and found them to be both enjoyable and worthy of the effort to put them on. At the end of 2023, the NG asked if I was willing to take his place. Having no reason to refuse, I accepted the position.

I have enjoyed both leading and participating in the various activities I am able to attend and look forward to a second term as NG. As NG I would recommend everyone participate in the degree ceremonies in person, rather than by video. The experience of being part of the event is much greater than watching it remotely. Very similar to attending a game, concert, or play in person, as an individual you react and participate in the emotional response of the group much more intensely versus watching something alone without the subliminal input from the rest of a group.

God bless you, your family, and the IOOF.

—**Michael Bever**, Saratoga lodge #428

Thank you to the members of True Fellowship Lodge #52 who inspired me into this role as Noble Grand. I wasn't ready, but I *was* supported and that made for a great year. Under my mostly impartial oversight, we greenlit a lot of endeavors that I wouldn't have thought of on my own, and could not do on my own, and I had faith that my Odd Family would make it work. Time and again, for events inside and outside our lodge, people showed up and shared their ideas, their energy, their food, their games, their stories, their service and that irreplaceable gift; their time.

—**Debbie Wolf**, True Fellowship #52

Mountain View 244 Holiday Party

On December 5, Lodge 244 celebrated the Holiday Season with a potluck dinner. Friends and family were invited. **Lawrence Byrd** was our Emcee. We were very honored to have the Grand Warden,



Carlos Juarez at our party. Carlos was so great; he helped with set up and clear up, he was a sport after each course, he moved to a different table so that all members could spend time with him. He will be a great Grand Master.

It was a special night for our Lodge as **Dr. Katy Dickson** passed the last test, defending her thesis, for her PhD. Congratulations, Sister Katy. I am into tablescapes and decided on a red and black theme. I was happy with the results. Please ignore the blue plastic gloves in the picture!

Members signed up on a google doc., indicating what they would bring. Google docs. Is a great tool for sign-ups. One member of our lodge, Sister **Tatiana Kuvaldina**, brought several delicious Russian dishes. During the social hour, Brother **Jesse Cupp** demonstrated their excellent juggling skills. It was delightful to watch.



After dinner, the entertainment began, the lodge were introduced to the British tradition of Christmas crackers. We had hand bells, which went surprisingly well given it was the lodge's first introduction to them, handbells were followed by singing Christmas and Hannukah songs. We also had stories, poems, jokes and games. During the party, we had a short ceremony upstairs where Sister Tatiana Kuvaldina and Brother **Jesse Donaldson** were welcomed as second-degree members of our lodge. Later that month, they went through the second-degree ceremony in Redwood City. A great big thanks to all our members who helped with set up, attended the party participated in the entertainment and helped with clean up. It takes a Lodge to throw a party. It was a fun night.

- By *Ria Toolis*

A Badge For Our Esteemed Visitors

Do you know which lodge in District 107 has the best venue for live music? The best wine collection? Which lodge do you think has the best kitchen and dining area, or the best outdoor restaurant options in walking distance?

Actually, these aren't all easy questions to answer (except the wine collection - it's Saratoga by a country mile). But the point I want to make is that different lodges have different strengths, and it's good to know both the buildings and the neighborhoods, as well as the people that make it up. By becoming more familiar with the other lodges besides our own, we also discover new friends happy to meet us, and new resources that might be available to assist us.

As DDGM, it's in my job description to visit every lodge in the district. But personally, I think all of our members should do the same, if they can. And I want to reward those who do.

To that end, I've created a special pin, available to everyone who visits all six lodges in District 107. They cost \$5 each, and I'd ask lodges to purchase them on behalf of their members who've qualified to wear them.



You can visit a lodge at one of their regular meetings, a degree ceremony, or a social event.

Any of these count. Also, visiting the historic lodge in Volcano, CA counts as a visit to Volcano 25. The pins say "District 107 Esteemed Visitor", and are easily recognizable. At points around the pin are stars. Six blue stars represent the lodges in the district, and are positioned relative to their locations on a map. A single red star represents our Grand Lodge on Race St, also placed relative to its position on the map. If you've earned one of these badges, please inform your lodge so they can order it for you, and then wear it next time you visit a lodge.

In the coming year, there will hopefully be several opportunities to visit the district lodges. I've asked the lodges of our district to pick one or two events to highlight as ones they'd most like other members of the district to attend. These will be highlighted in upcoming editions of the Triple Links and on our district calendar.

In addition, I've asked each lodge to try to organize an event in concert with the district lodge closest to it. The pairings are:

- **Mountain View 244 and Bay View 109**
- **Cupertino 70 and True Fellowship 52**
- **Saratoga 428 and Volcano 25**

Finally, I'm excited to plan one event at Grand Lodge on Tuesday, April 15th. Our Grand Lodge contains a nice little collection, containing many of the most interesting objects for display from various lodges that have closed or consolidated over the years in California. I'll provide more details as organizing moves forward. And speaking of which, would anyone like to join a District 107 Good Fellowship committee? I could use some help!

-By *Mason Wolf*

In Memoriam, Nelson Caveness

Nelson Caveness grew up in Saratoga. His mom was from Central America (Guatemala) and his dad was Irish American.

His dad was 6'4" tall and quite lean, and could be seen around town in the 50's through the 70's in a big cowboy hat.

Nelson attended Saratoga High School for 3 years, but left SHS in his senior year and finished at Homestead High School in 1971.

Nelson had 3 older sisters who all died of cancer before he did.

One of our lodge members, started hanging out with Nelson when they were both about 12 years old, and took over his paper route in Saratoga, delivering the Mercury News.

Nelson studied guitar at a guitar workshop in Saratoga at the Caswell home.

He built a very basic home recording studio and did some studio recordings of Rich Olsen (a prominent local singer/songwriter) and he also wrote his own songs and recorded them.

Nelson had one daughter named Nicole who lived out of state.

He was a very gentle and kind guy who befriended and fed a growing number of cats around his north San Jose home and he had 2 small shaggy dogs (Sammy and Cooper) that went with him everywhere.

Growing up in Saratoga, Nelson had the respect and love from many folks that got to know him and he wished that he could have afforded to move back to Saratoga and buy a house, but that never happened. He owned an apartment duplex in Sacramento and he kept his rent on the low-side to help his tenants afford a place to live.

He was mostly self-employed and performed home repairs and maintenance.

He had a 12 year battle with prostate cancer and died Wednesday, May 29, 2024.

The Saratoga IOOF Lodge had a Celebration of Life event for Nelson, Saturday, June 22, 2024.

-By *Paul Milleson*



In Memoriam, Terry Hall

Terry Hall, a member of Saratoga Lodge, 428 passed away Oct. 28, 2024. She was 68 years old.

Terry was born in San Francisco, CA in 1956. She is survived by her sisters, Connie Hall and Marty Todd, brother Bill Hall, son Derek Johnson, and Grand-daughters Prue and Charlie Johnson. Her daughter, Kristi Johnson died in 2003.

Terry moved to Saratoga with her family when she was in the 6th grade.

She graduated from Saratoga HS in 1974.

She attended UC, Berkeley. Her former husband's career as a construction engineer took them all over the world including Isfahan, Iran and Trinidad, in the Caribbean.

Terry graduated with a BA Degree from Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Initially she worked for a publishing company in graphic design before switching fields to Project Management. She returned to the SF Bay area in 2002. She worked this last year, 2024 for Data Endure in Santa Clara as a Project Manager.

Terry joined Saratoga Lodge in 2012. She became the Treasurer of the Lodge for 2 years (2014-2016). She was very interested in ways to have more involvement in the community and to attract more members.

She chaired the annual "Saratoga Easter Egg Hunt" from 2013-2016. This was a fun event which brought about 200 people to Wildwood Park in Saratoga, annually, and increased community awareness of the

Saratoga Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

She was an active member of the Building and Grounds Committee from 2015-2024 and helped the Committee and the Lodge complete a major remodel of the Lodge building during 2019-2022.

The graveside funeral service was held at Madronia cemetery in Saratoga on Dec 5th. There was a Reception following at Saratoga Lodge.

The family expresses our deep appreciation for all the help and support the IOOF members have been in so many ways during our time of loss.

-By *Connie Hall*



Upcoming Events:

January 3: - First Friday Game Night

Where: True Fellowship Lodge in San Jose
When: 6PM—10PM
Signup: <https://true52.org/game-night>

January 8: - True Fellowship Monthly Potluck

Where: True Fellowship Lodge in San Jose
When: 6PM—8PM
Price: Free, but Please Bring a Dish to Share
Signup: <https://true52.org/potluck>

January 15: - Nā Pua Nani Hula Class

Where: Cupertino 70 (20589 Homestead Rd, Cupertino)
When: 5:30PM—7PM
Price: \$5 (free for Cupertino 70 members)
Signup: cupertinooddfellows.org/calendar/

January 15: - 'Ukulele Strums & Songs

Where: Cupertino 70 (20589 Homestead Rd, Cupertino)
When: 7:15PM—8:30PM
Price: \$10 (free for Cupertino 70 members)
Signup: cupertinooddfellows.org/calendar/

January 19: - Installation in San Jose

Public installation for officers of True Fellowship #52 with Clara Rebekah #34, Barnes Encampment #77, and Santa Clara Canton #6. Schedule of activities:

- 12PM lunch
 - 1PM installation of Clara 34 and True Fellowship 52
 - 2PM installation of Barnes Encampment 77
 - 2:30PM installation of Santa Clara 6
- Price: \$10 Suggested Donation
Signup: true52.org/installation2025

January 20: - Initiatory Degree

Where: Cupertino 70 (20589 Homestead Rd, Cupertino)
When: 6PM—8:30PM
Signup: CupertinoOddFellows.org/initiatory

January 20: - Grand Warden Visit to Clara 34

Where: Clara Rebekah 34 (1035 Emory St, San Jose)
When: 6PM meal, followed by meeting at 7PM

January 22: - Third Degree at True Fellowship

Where: True Fellowship 52 (1035 Emory St, San Jose)
When: 6:30PM—8PM
Signup: Send candidate letters to secretary@true52.org

January 22: - Kani Ka Pila Hawaiian Music Jam

Where: Cupertino 70 (20589 Homestead Rd, Cupertino)
When: 6PM—9PM
Price: FREE, but donations appreciated
Signup: cupertinooddfellows.org/calendar/

On Saturday, February 1st

Barnes Encampment #77 Presents: Pancake Breakfast at True Fellowship



LOCATION:	1035 Emory St, San Jose
DATE:	FEBRUARY 1
TIME:	8am - 11am
PRICE:	\$10

Get to know your local encampment! Barnes Encampment #77 includes respected elders of Odd Fellowship from many different lodges in our area. Their combined experience as leaders within our order makes them a valuable and cherished resource for understanding what it takes to make a lodge function well.

Enjoy a delicious breakfast of pancakes, assorted toppings, and sides in the company of these encampment brothers and sisters.

To learn more, visit:
true52.org/pancakes



January 27: - Installation in Cupertino

Public Installation for officers of Cupertino 70, Saratoga 428, and Philotesian Rebekahs 145.
Where: Cupertino 70 (20589 Homestead Rd, Cupertino)
When: 7PM—9PM
Signup: cupertinooddfellows.org/calendar/

January 28: - Saratoga 428 Monthly Social

Where: Saratoga 428 (14414-A Oak Street, Saratoga)
When: 6PM—10PM

January 31: - Last Friday Game Night

Where: True Fellowship 52 (1035 Emory St, San Jose)
When: 6PM—10PM
Signup: <https://true52.org/game-night2>

February 1: - Encampment Pancake Breakfast

Where: Barnes Encamp. 77 (1035 Emory St, San Jose)
When: 8AM—11AM
Price: \$10
Signup: <https://true52.org/pancakes>

For the latest updates, visit our District Calendar:
<https://siliconvalleyoddfellows.org/district-calendar>