

# Temecula Catalina Island Lodge #524

January 2022



## Trestleboard

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### Master's Message

Happy New Year Brethren - Hopefully everyone stayed healthy and enjoyed time with loved ones. As Temecula Masons we had a very successful year with catching up on all our degrees from the pandemic and several more. We also finally completed the park adoption which began almost two years ago. I am so grateful for my Masonic family during this last year and good or bad I'm here to serve as your fearless leader for another Masonic year.

Some great Brothers have accepted the call to help lead the lodge next year. They are getting installed on January 22nd in conjunction with a Robbie Burns Dinner celebration. Kilts are welcome yet definitely not required. Rental information included on later pages.

Our Raising accompanied by our St. John's Feast was such a success it has already been marked for 2022 and many more to come. With about 30 Masters attending the degree and more than 20 stated for the feast, it was a great way to bring Brother Urea in as a full member of TemCat.

This month we will vote on reducing the number of Stated Meetings because the cost and planning is too much for such a small group of dedicated Brothers. We are also bringing back our SweetHearts Dinner although this year Brother Tuna and Sister Dawn will be hosting it at their home in Temecula. Dawn is a culinary teacher at Great Oak High School and makes some delicious food. That is the first of six home-hosted events on the agenda this year.

I look forward to this year being better than all others before. Our 100th year will be a very memorable one for all.

Fraternally yours

Tim Taggett

Worshipful Master

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## New Design

As many of you are aware I am changing the design of the Trestleboard. The goal is taking it away from MS Publisher and into something easier and accessible by the masses. It will therefore be managed inside of Google Docs which we have full access to with our Google Business Suite of software. I am looking for a better design instead of this basic one though. So if you'd like to assist, that would be great. If you would like to just create the template or take over as editor, both are welcomed. Talk, text or email me.

## CEC UPDATE REPORT

There are several types of events which the lodge actively provides services to the community; Then there are others we participate (revive and/or plan to provide in the near future) in providing recognition to outstanding individuals; And finally there are some we plan to initiate soon that are fun for lodge Brothers and guests that will help in raising funds for trophies, scholarships etc.

The Park Pickup Program is the most recent service project where we do a twice Monthly pickup of trash that has not been properly deposited in available trash containers, and a visual inspection that City Maintenance will need to follow up on. We started this fall and had from 3 to 14 Brothers participate each time. Ideally 6 to 8 Brothers (their family members, friends and others that are invited ) would spend 1+ to 2 hrs. and be more than adequate. We are currently planning ( all Saturdays )the first quarter for Jan. 8th & 29th, Feb.5th &26th, and Mar. 12th & 26th. We recognize that some Brothers cannot participate due to health reasons while others may only participate occasionally; due to work schedules, family special activities ( birthdays etc. ). Since several Brothers are able and willing to come out more often, if most could participate 2 to 3 times per year the city will recognize the lodge fully supports what they provide to the citizens and visitors. We will report the scheduled dates two/three months ahead in the CEC Monthly Update. When you decide when you can come please contact one of the committee members listed below.

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Next month's update report will have more information on the other activities the committee is reviewing. Teacher of the Year, Child ID, Scholarships, Bowling, etc.

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*Alan Waldbridge 909-241-5547*

*Edgar Tuna 951-595-9116*

*Jamie Jackson 760-682-5091*

*Fabian Montgomery videsigner@verison.net*

## 100th Year Installation of Officers & Robbie Burns Dinner

**Saturday, January 22nd, 2022**

We are encouraging traditional Scottish attire for this event. Special arrangements have been made with Kilt Rental USA to offer their complete Kilt Rental package ( Kilt, tie (matching tie available), Prince Charlie jacket, tuxedo shirt, Sporrans, kilt hose, matching hose flashes, Sgian Dubh, & Ghillie Brogues (kilt shoes) for only \$149.99. (normally \$189.99). To receive this special price you need to call Heather at 1-877-545-8746 and mention it is for Temecula Masonic lodges' Robbie Burns dinner. They have 30 rental tartans available, but some are in limited quantities, so reserve your rental as soon as possible. Heather said if the tartan you want is not on the official rental list, but they do have it in stock, they will rent it to you for the same price. (besides Scottish tartans, they also have Irish and Welsh tartans).

Their 28 Rental tartans are:

1. All Ireland Blue \*
2. Black Shadow \*
3. Black Watch (all military & retired can wear this)

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4. Campbell Clan
  5. Campbell of Argyle
  6. Dress Blue (Stewart)
  7. Douglas
  8. Grant Hunting
  9. Gordon
  10. Grey Granite \*
  11. Gunn Ancient
  12. Irish National \*
  13. MacDonald
  14. MacGregor Hunting
  15. Maclean of Duart
  16. MacLeod of Harris
  17. Pride of Wales \*
  18. Scotland Forever \*
  19. Scotland's National \*
  20. Stewart Black
  21. Stewart Royal
  22. Sutherland Hunting
  23. Titanium Tweed \*
  24. Wallace
  25. Celtic Pride \*
  26. Graham of Montrose
  27. MacPherson Red
  28. Buchanan Hunting Muted

Go to their website at [kiltrentalusa.com](http://kiltrentalusa.com) to view the different tartans (upper left hand corner, Our Collection, Tartans). All their tartans are authentic wool tartans made in Scotland. All tartans marked with a \* the above are not clan specific and can be worn by anyone. They also have a number of options available. Check out their website for details.

So Reserve the Date! Come to our 100 Year Officers Installation & Robbie Burns Dinner, and "Wear Your Kilt!"

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## Esoteric Ending

### HOW DID MASONIC RITUAL COME ABOUT?

Source - Golden State Chapter

Ironically, most of our early knowledge of Masonic ritual is from the early anti-Masonic literature (exposures) in England and France. The first ritual was probably a simple ceremony of admission, which developed into two degrees and, at about the time when the first Grand Lodge in England was formed in 1717, into a system of three degrees. These early ceremonies were mainly delivered in catechetical form and were evidently briefer and less well structured than the later ceremonies. Early ritual was also Christian in content - indeed the Premier Grand Lodge met on St. John's Day (24th June).

Because of the way that the Craft developed from very early times, there was considerable diversity of practice in England from one part of the country to another, and particularly between the Lodges under the two rival Grand Lodges, the Premier and the Ancient Grand Lodges. To pave the way for the union of these two Grand Lodges, a Lodge of Promulgation was formed in 1809 under the Premier Grand Lodge (or Moderns) to examine the ritual and make recommendations.

Following the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, a Lodge of Reconciliation was established to complete the rationalization of the ritual into a form acceptable to both parties forming the newly constituted United Grand Lodge of England. The work of the Lodge of Reconciliation between 1813 and 1816 included demonstrations of the opening and closing ceremonies, the obligations and the perambulations. It was probably also when most of the Christian references were removed. Its other main function was to demonstrate the unified ritual. Representatives of Lodges in London and the Provinces were invited to attend special demonstrations organized by the experts from the Lodge of Reconciliation, which completed its work in 1816.

It was forbidden to print the ritual or even produce written manuscripts, so the communication of the work to the various Lodges relied heavily on the ability, not to mention the memory, of those attending the demonstrations. Their task was then to instruct their own members in the approved practices. It was not until 1835 that the first regular ritual book was published in England by George Claret. This is somewhat surprising because at this time the printing of ritual was still strictly frowned upon by Grand Lodge, and several later authors were firmly admonished for such

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transgressions.

Towards the latter part of the 19th century, and into the 20th century, an increased number of rituals emerged. Today in England there are some 40 published rituals and several hundred smaller workings, some unique to particular Lodges. Emulation is the most widely used. Some rituals are practiced within certain Provinces, such as the Oxford Working and the Sussex Working, and many others are popular in particular geographic areas. Except for a few Lodges in Bristol and the North of England, which retains more of the earlier practices, the degree of variation is quite small. The UGLE has never officially recognized any particular ritual working.

Lodges are to this day, free to teach and practice whatever ritual they wish, provided the landmarks are not breached.

In the USA, there are several different Craft rituals in use, generally exhibiting only minor variations and, broadly speaking, they are very similar to England. Yet, in a very curious way, the visitor from England who knows his ritual will find that the American versions sound strangely old-fashioned, repetitive, and somehow older than used today in England. Surprisingly, this is true! America got their ritual from Britain, but it is, in fact, older.

American Masonic workings owe their origins, unquestionably, to England, Scotland, Ireland, but the stabilization of their ritual was done by an American, Thomas Smith Webb, who, in 1797 published a book under the title *Freemasons' Monitor or Illustrations of Freemasonry*. What happened in fact was, that Webb took the English Freemason William Preston's book *Illustrations of Masonry* (it was almost a bible to the English Craft), retained sixty-four pages of work intact, word for word, cut out a few minor items, and rearranged others. Although Webb wrote very little of it himself, he may well be described as the father of American ritual.

For that reason, it is fair to say that the ritual used in America, though it came from Great Britain, is actually far older than used today in England, and it is not merely 'old-fashioned,' but also more discursive, and by reason of their Lectures much more explanatory than what is used in England, especially of the symbolical meaning of their procedures. With the creation of the UGLE the ritual in England had been altered, curtailed and polished up, (some said, almost beyond recognition), but not so in the USA where they preserved it.

The American ritual material is essentially the same as in England and easily recognizable. The signs and secrets are virtually the same, except that America uses

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the Scottish sign for the Entered Apprentices. The second degree is more elaborate and the third is basically the same, but because lodges perform the drama as if it were a play, treating the Candidate as though he were really H.A., the result is occasionally rather rough and frightening, especially in those lodges that pride themselves on the realism of their performance.

The manner in which America safeguard their ritual is also interesting. In England, the Grand Lodge views the ritual as a 'domestic matter,' i.e., a majority of the Brethren in any lodge may decide what form of ritual shall be worked, and unless the Lodge was guilty of some serious breach, the Grand Lodge would not interfere. In the USA, the very reverse is the case. Each Grand Lodge prescribes the ritual that its Lodges shall work, and usually the Grand Lodge prints and publishes the "monitorial" or explanatory portions of the rituals too. Some Grand Lodges also publish the esoteric ritual, in code or cipher, but this is forbidden in others. Moreover, to prevent innovations, the Grand Lodges protect their forms of ritual working by the appointment of officers, called Grand Lecturers, whose duty is not to lecture, but to ensure that the groups of lodges under their care adhere to the official workings

## Upcoming Events

1/3/2022	Stated Meeting @ 7 PM		2/5/2022	Park Cleanup @ 8 AM
1/8/2022	Park Cleanup @ 8 AM		2/7/2022	Stated Meeting @ 7 PM
1/10/2022	Education		2/12/2022	Sweethearts Dinner
1/17/2022	Installation Practice		2/14/2022	Dark
1/22/2022	Officer Installation @ 4 PM		2/21/2022	Practice
1/24/2022	Grill a Steak		2/26/2022	Park Cleanup @ 8 AM
1/29/2022	Park Cleanup @ 8 AM		2/28/2022	Potential Degree
1/31/2022	Bowling for Charity			