



**February - 2022**

# **The Trestleboard**

## **Salinas Lodge #204**

**Serving the greater Salinas area since 1869**

**48 East San Joaquin St. Salinas, CA 93901**

### **2022 Officers**

**Worshipful Master: Mike Chasen**

**Senior Warden: Lee Blankenship, PM**

**Junior Warden, Sam Mante, PM**

**Treasurer: John Williams, PM**

**Secretary, J. David Isaac, PM**

**Asst. Secretary: Thomas Crompton, PM**

**Chaplin, Mark Washburn, DDS**

**Marshal, Nelson Cargo**

**Junior Deacon: Brian Vanderpool**

**Senior Steward: Tom Folliard**

**Junior Steward: Jim Riley**

**Tiler: Ron Wilmoth, PM**

## From the East

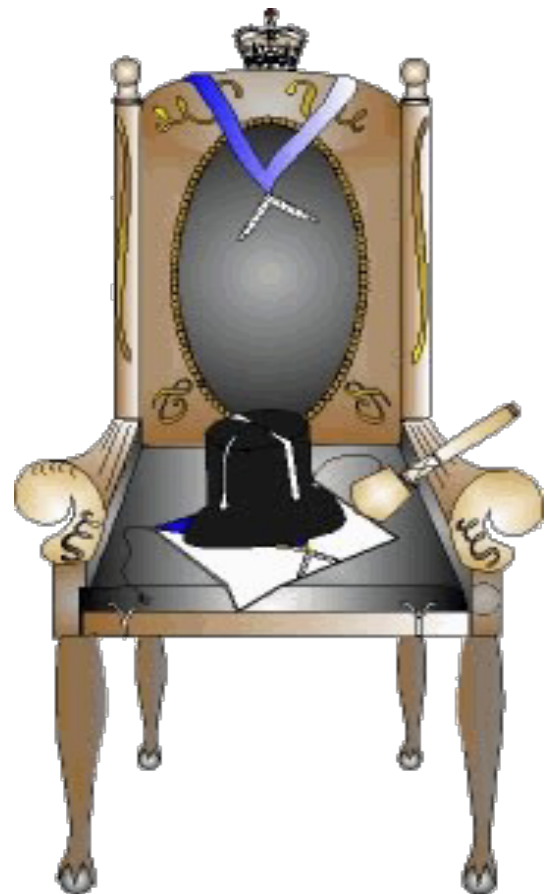


Happy February Everyone,

Congratulations to our newly installed lodge officers we had a fantastic installation and a great dinner / party to follow. For those who were not able to attend, we had the Most Worshipful Wilson Camagan from the Grand Lodge of Hawaii act as the installing officer, and he did a fantastic job! We greatly appreciate he and his wife Maria for taking their time and being with us for this special occasion. Worshipful Jon Wong PM was our master of ceremonies and as always, was flawless. A special shout out and thanks to Brother Art Lao, WB JR Salvador PM, and the newly installed Worshipful Ian Raras from the San Benito lodge for all your hard work and time spent to make this day so special. I am eternally grateful and will remember this day for the rest of my life.

As I take the helm as Master of the lodge, I am excited by all the possibilities which lie ahead and will work hard to help build and promote a strong and healthy line of officers and members. I encourage everyone to reach out and give me your thoughts and ideas of what you would like to see and together we can create a lodge which will thrive for generations to come. I enjoy our fellowship and I look forward to promoting more activities this upcoming year which will be new and fun and bring us together outside the lodge.

Covid is rearing its ugly head and I understand that some are hesitant to meet indoors. We will do our best to follow all safety protocols to keep our members safe and we are also thankful that our lodge is so big that socially distancing never seems to be a problem. We will keep practices to a minimum for the next month or so, but we



do have a couple candidates that are progressing nicely so expect a degree or two this upcoming month.

Our stated meeting is scheduled for 2/8 and I welcome everyone to come out early and enjoy some dinner then stay to watch me painfully flounder through running my first full meeting. Heckling will be expected but please do not throw food.... LOL.

Thank you for your confidence in me and I will work hard to become the best Master I can be for this lodge. Worshipful Tom's shoes are going to be hard to fill, but I am thankful to him and all the past masters for your support and encouragement going forward.

See you soon and thank you.

Mike Chasen  
Master, Salinas Lodge #204

**CALENDAR**  
**February 2022**

**8<sup>th</sup> – Lodge Stated Meeting**  
**Dinner at 6PM and**  
**Meeting at 7:30 PM**

## From the West



Brethren,

It has been thirty-six years since I last sat in the West, and I would like to thank the brethren for their trust and confidence in my rusty work. Some things that I've noticed as I return to more active service in the Lodge: many of my contemporaries have passed to the Celestial



Lodge above and have been replaced by younger, vibrant, and enthusiastic new members; the Lodge is more diverse and many of its activities are focused on the community; dinners have continued to be a cause for celebration.

Congratulations to all the elected and appointed officers as we embark on this new Masonic year, especially Worshipful Master Mike Chasen as he leads us. The Installation Dinner and celebration were beyond spectacular!

Lee Blankenship  
Junior Warden

## From the South



Brethren,

### Educational Center - UNFAVORABLE REPORT

Should the Committee of Investigation on the character of a petitioner for initiation make an unfavorable report, the frequent usage, although some Grand Lodges have decided otherwise, is to consider the candidate rejected by such report, without proceeding to the formality of a ballot, which is therefore dispensed with.

This usage was, in Doctor Mackey's opinion, established on the principles of commonsense; for, as by the ancient Constitutions one black ball suffices to reject an application, the unfavorable report of a committee must necessarily, and by consequence, include two unfavorable votes at least. It is therefore unnecessary to go into a ballot after Such a report, as it is to be taken for granted that the brethren who reported unfavorably would, on a resort to the ballot, cast their negative votes. Their report is indeed virtually considered as the casting of such votes, and the applicant is therefore at once rejected without a further and unnecessary ballot.



- SOURCE: MACKEY'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FREEMASONRY

Best,  
Sam Mante, PM  
Junior Warden



Do you have something to include in the March Trestleboard or on our webpage (<https://salinasmasoniclodge204.org>)? Please submit an article. Something about our Masonic Youth/Family, Masonic history, cartoon, a joke, whatever to lighten or enlighten your brother's month.  
([george.lange2@gmail.com](mailto:george.lange2@gmail.com))

## FROM OUR SECRETARY – J. DAVID ISAAC



Grand Lodge is keeping \$5 of your dues to make the payment by credit card. If possible, please send your dues in a check, like in the past to:

Salinas Lodge #204

PO Box 1432

Salinas, CA 93902

I'm no longer able to print a traditional dues card as your card is now online at the iMember site. You can download it to your phone or print it on your printer, if you want a hard copy. If you don't have the means to print your card and want a hard copy to let me know and I'll print and mail it to you. Grand Lodge will be sending reminders in Jan. and Feb. to pay your dues. If there is a hardship which makes it not possible to make the payment, please contact either myself or the Master for consideration of dues remittance for the year.



## FROM OUR MASONIC INSPECTOR



Brothers of Salinas Lodge,

We head into February with our newly installed officers at the helm! Congratulations to all the officers who have stepped up to support their Lodge and brothers; and to all the departing officers who helped navigate us through the impacts of the COVID pandemic in 2021. Keeping everything running is not an easy task and these brother masons have voluntarily taken on these additional responsibilities so that we can continue to maintain all the rights and benefits of freemasonry here on the Central Coast of California.

Kudos to the entire Installation team and special thanks to the Most Worshipful Wilson S. Camagan, Past Grand Master of Masons in the State of Hawaii who acted as Installing Officer and to Worshipful Jon Wong, Inspector-At-Large, for conducting everything so smoothly as the Master of Ceremonies. Both the Installation and the celebration afterward were first-rate and an excellent beginning to our Masonic year!

February is Masonic Widows Month so, in addition to remembering your own special Valentine, it is a good time to reach out and contact our widows to let them know we are thinking of them and that they are an important part of our Lodges. This month there are several officer retreats scheduled by Grand Lodge which I encourage all appropriate officers to attend. Things do change so attending these annual retreats to find out what's new is important even if you've been in an office for a long time.

I will also be scheduling my Official Visit to the Lodge soon and look forward to working with all the new officers to make 2022 a great year for our Masonic work!

With fraternal affection,  
Mark S. Breckenridge, PM  
Inspector, 353<sup>rd</sup> District





## **William Byron Rumford was an American politician.**

Rumford was born in Courtland, Arizona a now defunct mining town on February 2nd, 1908. Rumford's father left the family when Rumford was young, leaving his mother and brother in Arizona.

Rumford's maternal side of the family were some of the first American settlers in Arizona. His maternal grandmother ran a boarding house in Tombstone. When talk started the schools in Arizona needed to be segregated, Rumford's grandmother led the fight for desegregation. She lost the fight and schools started to be segregated.



She moved part of the family to Los Angeles stating, "she was not going to bring those kids up in a segregated environment."

Rumford stayed in Arizona with his mother where she remarried. By then they were living in Phoenix.

In 1926 Rumford graduated from a segregated school in Phoenix. He was inspired by his high school teachers to attend the University of California, Berkley. One of those teachers was Ellis Knox, the first African American to receive his PhD from a west coast school.

After graduation he headed to San Francisco where he attended Junior College and worked for about a year before being accepted to the school of Pharmacy at the University of California, San Francisco. He paid his way through school by working two-night jobs. He graduated in 1931.

In 1933, Rumford passed the test to become a state of California employee. He attempted several times to take the oral exams to become certified, the written exam he passed every time. Of his attempts to get certified, Rumford declared he felt the board was just trying to get rid of blacks. During his last exam irrelevant questions like his opinion of Joe Louis were asked by board members. Rumford reached out to one of the board members, with his help and going to the courts, Rumford overturned the board's decision, and he became certified.

In 1942, while still working as a VD investigator (his job was to track down individuals who were spreading STD's), Rumford purchased a pharmacy. For a short time, he tried to run the business and work for the state. Doing both required too much of his energy though and he decided to focus on his business.

Also, in 1942 he was appointed to Berkley Emergency Housing Committee. In 1944 was appointed to the Rent Control Board. With both appointments Rumford worked to integrate housing. He helped organize the Berkley Interracial Committee.

In 1948 Rumford ran for the California Assembly. Initially he lost the election. He took it to court though and the court overturned the election results. Rumford was declared the winner.

In his first year Rumford successfully got a bill desegregating the state National Guard. The bill was thought to be DOA in the Senate. Rumford personally lobbied members of the senate and was able to get the bill passed. The desegregation though did not happen. This was due to African Americans who already held rank and position in the segregated units not wanting to give up their rank. No new segregated units formed and eventually the California National Guard became fully integrated.

Throughout Rumford's political career he either spearheaded legislation or was actively involved in the research for new legislation. Two of his bigger bills were the 1959 Fair Employment Act which outlawed employment discrimination in California and Rumford Fair Housing Bill. The Rumford Fair Housing Bill started its way through the legislative process in 1963 after several amendments it finally passed and was signed by Governor Pat Brown.

Opponents to the Rumford Fair Housing Bill instead of trying to amend the bill out of existence, they tried to change the California Constitution to make housing discrimination legal. This was overturned by the California Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court.

Rumford also traveled to Detroit to work on clean air standards for California. He also traveled to Germany to review public transportation to bring back ideas to the United States

Rumford passed away June 12th, 1986. He was a member of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California.



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!**

**FEBRUARY**

**William R. Panos 2<sup>nd</sup> (91 Years!)**

**Robert Anthony 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Charles R. Mills 6<sup>th</sup> (95 Years!)**

**Bonifacio Fernando 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Michael Clark 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Earl G. Fiscalini 21<sup>st</sup>**

