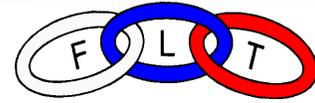


Established 1987



### Initiation Held on April 29th

The district Initiated 14 Odd Fellow candidates into the Order on Monday, April 29 at the Cupertino #70 Lodge. There were 45 Odd Fellows who attended the Ritual with lots of help from all the lodges attending. There were brothers and sisters from Saratoga, Mountain View, True Fellowship, Watsonville, Boulder Creek and of course Cupertino. The new Initiates are **Dan Yore** from Saratoga; **Vanessa & David O'Connor** and **Sally Calpo** from Mountain View; **Mason Wolf** and **Jeremy Satterfield** from True Fellowship; **Becky Ybarra** from Watsonville; **Kay Blackwolf** from Boulder Creek; **Marvin Carter**, **Richard Bartholomew**, **Kellen Wertz**, **Norma** & **Fred Floresca** from Cupertino. The candidates were very impressed with both the degree presentations and it's teachings. After it was over, all went into the dining room for refreshments. Everyone enjoyed the evening.



### !!! Important Notice !!!

If you are one of those people who still are getting your issue of the Triple Links via the US mail, this will soon stop, unless it is absolutely necessary for you to continue. Other organizations are phasing them out or stopping them altogether, and only sending their newsletters by e-mail. The US mail service, not only cost money, which is increasing all the time, but it also cost lots of work in all the different areas, to put the newsletter out. First it has to be printed and picked up at the printers. We use Maple Press because they give us a good deal, but they are located by San Jose State College in San Jose. Then the paper needs to be folded, address labels printed and put on, 2 seals put on the sides of the folded paper, a stamp added and the complete package brought to the post office. Plus if you get the e-mail version, it is in color and you can enlarge the pictures and actually see who the people are who are in them. So, if you absolutely need the paper version and you can't print it yourself, you need to let us know, either by e-mail or snail mail. 11220 Monterey Ct, Cupertino, CA 95014, and also give us your e-mail address. Thank you for your support. From your Triple Links Committee.

By **Don Lang**, editor

### Random thoughts on Significance of Rituals

On Saturday, I had attended the funeral ritual for Charlotte Chastain. As I participated with The Rebekah ritual and afterward listened to all the accomplishments and life journeys that she had celebrated with her family. The choices she made to contribute to greater course of ordinary lives by giving back to their communities. It made me feel so blessed that I have the support by the community of IOOF. As I contemplate these significances in our lives, and what process that enable us to compromising our value toward a higher selves. To make decisions that can and will impact our self as well as our community.

It made me think deeply about the significant of rituals in IOOF and why we should encourage the initiatory rituals to be a dramatic event.

The need for ritual is a basic human instinct, as real, as our need for food, shelter and love. We come together to celebrate births, graduations, weddings, and deaths. A compelling ritual reminds us of a larger, archetypal reality and invokes in us a visceral understanding of such universal paradigms as unity, continuity, connectivity, reverence, and awe. Special shared Ceremony, afford us a sense of belonging. Ceremonial observance adds layers of depth, dimension, drama, and distinction to our lives, making the ordinary seem special, and the special, extraordinary.

Today there are many people from all backgrounds who feel somewhat estranged from the social structures in which we were raised. The traditionally instituted ritual forms and encoded liturgies that we have inherited no longer serve all of the complex contemporary circumstances of our modern lives. They do not always satisfy our longing for meaning, our craving for communion with others, nor our yearning for truth. Nor do they necessarily speak to our deepest felt needs. The absence of significant ceremony in our lives has left us feeling disconnected, confused, alone and bereft. Insulated and isolated in extremely intense times, we often stranded in an enormously complex world without connections to our society.

When we set aside the quality time and claim this space for ceremony, when we assume the authority to do so, we are able to transform our perceptions, our perspectives, our experiences, and in the process, our reality.

Rituals provide us with a sense of renewal. They offer us a timed out from our everyday routine, habitual existence. They help us to reevaluate our journey thus far and to reaffirm that the path we are traveling is the right one for us.

The Odd Fellows Rituals give us a way to connect to past and present. Their creation and performance helps us to understand where we came from. As a bridge between past and future, they enable us to access, honor, and strengthen our own identity. They give meaning to our journeys and a sense of purpose to our lives. While the ongoing creation and performance of rituals prepares us for the next stages of life, the successive and cumulative practice of rituals over time has the power to ultimately transform us.

With these random thoughts that I realized important of our Initiatory Ritual. With great responsibility and understanding of their significance. Our lodge must perform the initiatory degree, preparing the candidates with the transformation of them self toward higher elevation and connection to humanity.

With upmost respect and humility,

Your Noble Grand of Cupertino Lodge #70, by **Annie Cronin**

# Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

## Management Portal training

**Jim Kabage**, will give a class on management portal training, which includes going over all our Cupertino 70 committees and what their Missions are. It is important that we understand what each committee does and what it is responsible for, so that we can work with each other like a well tuned machine. The session will be given by Jim using his laptop, which will be displayed on the lodge's big screen. This is scheduled to take place on Monday, May 6th, 7:00 PM, at the Cupertino lodge.

## May BBQ

Cupertino Lodge joins the technology age by using Eventbrite for the 1st BBQ of Spring, on May 20th, at 6:00. It not only personally invites you to the event, but supplies you with all the facts, including the menu, time and place. They also have a colored picture, which is very professional, attractive and appetizing picture of the meal. Your response gives the committee a count of how many will attend. Please check it out and use it. The menu is, Pulled Beef or a Pork Sandwich, Veggie burgers, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Corn on the Cob and watermelon. And it is all free to both members and their guests. Brother **Ted Wong** is the chef. If you do not have a computer call Ted at **650 245-6513**

## Charlotte Chastain Passes

We were all surprised to hear that **Charlotte Chastain** died on Saturday, April 22, only five days after attending our Roll Call Dinner. Charlotte was not only a Philotesian Rebekah, but was also a widow of Cupertino #70 Lodge. Her husband **Ray**, was a member for many years, joining on 12/2/96 and passing 4/1/13. Charlotte's service was held at the Oak Hill Cemetery on Saturday, 5/4/19 with a reception at her home afterwards. Philotesian performed a Rebekah service with **Mary Lou Lang** as Noble Grand, **Gayle Joslin** as Chaplain and **Don Lang** as Vice Grand. Everyone was given an evergreen which after the Rebekah Service, they all laid upon the table by Charlotte and Ray's picture. To the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, the evergreens represents ever lasting life. Charlotte will be missed. After Charlotte's service, many went to Charlotte's home for a brunch. The Rebekahs provided a ham and beans which is their custom.



## Roll Call Dinner

Cupertino #70's Roll Call Dinner was a great success with 57 members, widows and guests attending. Everyone had a good time and the food was great and plentiful. **John Nguyen**, the Golden Harvest owner and cook, out did himself again. Many of us took some food home with take home boxes he supplied. We provided the cheese cakes, carrot cake and tuxedo cake with vanilla ice cream for dessert. **Noble Grand Annie Cronin** welcomed everyone and continued to give a very nice motivating talk. Brother **Michael Greenzeiger** provided the short program, which was around 10 questions on the history of Odd Fellowship. **Steven Grundy** read the questions because he has a deep voice and could be heard by everyone. We had fun trying to answer the questions. During the dinner and other parts of the evening, we were provided with musical entertainment from members **Jim Kabage**, **Ron Myres**, **Les Wong**, **Fred Floresca** and non member **Rose Mallari**. Then **Tom Blackburn** introduced the Roll Call which **Don Lang** then proceeded to read the names of the members starting with the longest member, which was **Don Moody**, 69 years, down to the most recent member, **Ted Guerrero**, who only joined less than 2 months ago.

## Grand Lodge Session

The Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Sessions will take place this month with an opening banquet on Wednesday evening, May 15 and continuing through to Sunday morning, on May 19th, in Visalia, CA. This is when the new state officers are elected, new legislation is brought forward to change our Order's rules, new State budget is voted on and the current year's Per Capita dues is assigned. Only Past Grands of Odd Fellows and Past Noble Grands of Rebekahs can vote on these changes.