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Volume VI Number 7 July 2025
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YORK RITE BODIES CALENDAR

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CHAPTER NO. 163 OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS			SAT 15			SAT 21			SAT 20			SAT 13
COUNCIL No. 65 OF CRYPTIC MASONS			SAT 15			SAT 21			SAT 20			SAT 13
COMMANDERY No. 80 OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR			SAT 15			SAT 21			SAT 20			SAT 13
COUNCIL NO. 485 OF ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES			SUN 30			SUN 22			SUN 21			SUN 14
COUNCIL No. 58 OF KNIGHT MASONS			SUN 30			SUN 22			SUN 21			SUN 14

M = March, J = June, S = September, D = December

EVENTS TO ATTEND

July

Morris Siminoff Commandery No. 80
Lunch at Noon in the Masonic Home Dining Room
then Ritual Practice at 12:30 pm
in the Siminoff Center Lodge Room

Saturday 19 Ritual and Sword Practice

August

East Bay York Rite Grand York Rite Reception
Social Time - 3:00 pm,
Dinner 3:30 pm
at Alameda Masonic Hall

Saturday 2 Open to All

September

Union City York Rite Bodies Quarterly Meetings
in Siminoff Center Lodge Room

Saturday 20 Siminoff Saylight Chapter No. 163 - 9:00 am
Sword and Trowel Council No. 65 - 10:00 am

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Sunday 21 Clanna Ruid Ruide Council No. 58 - 2:00 pm

Sunday 21 Siminoff Council CouncilNo. 485 - 3:30 pm

October

Morris Siminoff Commandery No. 80

Lunch at Noon in the Masonic Home Dining Room

then Ritual Practice at 12:30 pm

in Siminoff Center Lodge Room

Saturday 18 TBA

December

Union City York Rite Bodies Annual Meetings

and Installations

in the Siminoff Center Lodge Room

Saturday 13 Siminoff Saylight Chapter No. 163 - 9:00 am

Sword and Trowel Council No. 65 - 10:00 am

Morris Siminoff Cmdry No. 80 - 11:00 am

Knights Templar Christmas Observance

- 12:30 pm

All-welcome Pot Luck Get-together - 1:00 pm

Sunday 14 Clanna Ruid Ruide Council No. 58 - 2:00 pm

Sunday 14 Siminoff Council CouncilNo. 485 - 3:30 pm

SEE THE FLYERS FOR 2025

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East Bay York Rite

Grand York Rite Reception

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, David G. Rathgeber, KYGCH

Most Illustrious Grand Master, Andrew B. Pippin, KYGCH

Rt. Eminent Grand Commander, SK Joseph K. Dongo, KYGCH

Date:

August 2, 2025

Time:

3:00 P.M. Social 3:30 P.M. Dinner

Location:

Alameda Masonic Hall
2312 Alameda Avenue
Alameda, California

R.S.V.P. with a Check to "East Bay York Rite"

Send to: Tim May

1584 Shirley Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
tmay2000@gmail.com

Cost \$30.00 per Person

Attire Business Casual

PLEASE R.S.V.P. before July 26, 2025

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East Bay York Rite Association

Presents the 56th Annual Pilgrimage into the York Rite

2025 David M. Shull Memorial Honoree:

Enrico B. Garcia

**Location: Alameda Masonic Hall
2312 Alameda Avenue
Alameda, California**

← Final Revised Date!

Chapter Degrees, Saturday, September 27, 2025

Registration 7:30 a.m. Degrees to begin 8:30 a.m.

Cost per Candidate \$30 - To be paid by sponsoring Chapter

Council Degrees, Saturday, October 4, 2025

Registration 8:00 a.m. Degrees to begin 9:00 a.m.

Cost per Candidate \$30 - To be paid by sponsoring Council

Commandery Orders, Saturday, October 18, 2025

Registration 7:30 a.m. Orders to begin 8:30 a.m.

Cost per Candidate \$30 - To be paid by sponsoring Commandery

Lunch @ \$10

(Lunch: No charge for Candidates - \$10 for all others)

We request that sideliners who want lunch please RSVP.

All candidates must be pre-registered

Tim May (tmay2000@gmail.com)

(Please include "pilgrimage" in subject line)

Mail Reservation and check payable to EBYRA

To: Tim May - Registrar

1584 Shirley Drive

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Sharing What We're Doing

This newsletter is to keep the brothers, families and friends of Union City York Rite Bodies in Union City California, up to date on the interesting and informative events of our extended Masonic family. Contact us at the Union City York Rite Bodies Secretary's office: 34400 Mission Blvd Union City CA, 94587-3604 Telephone (Cell) (510) 593-8218 or email cbrickner@gmail.com

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"Rest" is the theme for our July issue is "Friendship". Our cover shows that all of our Masonic bodies value a time of rest from labor.

Our contributors have given us their views on how they see rest as a respite on their own Masonic journey.

Our June meetings of all of our Chapter, Commandery, and Councils were well attended on both Saturday and Sunday.

Check the revised dates for different events updated in this month's issue.

**Fraternally,
Bruce Rick, Editor and Publisher**



Our "Grand" Brothers

**Grand Lodge of California
Jordan Yelinek Assistant Grand Secretary**

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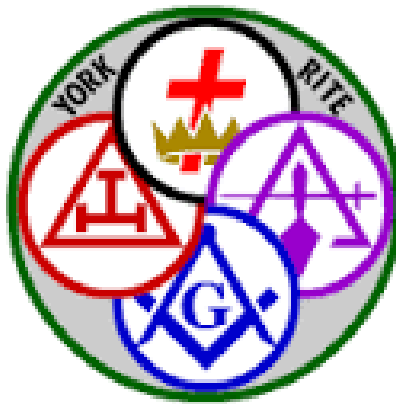
Dick Bullard, Grand Secretary
Jonathan Prestage, Grand Scribe

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons
of California

Phil Hardiman, Grand Recorder
Mark Harris, Grand Director of Ritual
Carl Brickner, Grand Conductor of the Council

Grand Commandery Knights Templar
of California

Marty Cusing, Grand Junior Warden
Department IV Commander
Gregg Hall, Assistant Grand Recorder
Dinesh Chhabra, Grand Warder



Our Inspectors

Grand Chapter - Department 1, District 16
Siminoff Daylight Chapter No.163
Bruce A. Rick PHP

Grand Council - Department 2, Cryptic Arch 3
Oakland No. 12, Sword and Trowel No.65
Ramon I. Manlaplaz PM

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Dinesh Chabbra KYCH



Austin Ashmore	07/07
Eric Salonga	07/09
Jeffrey Dillon	07/11
Fenton Mereness	07/17
Mark Harris	07/18

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UNION CITY YORK RITE

ALA 163 CM 65 KT 89 AMD 100 KM 65



The York Rite is the oldest and best known of all Masonic Rites and is a series of progressive Degrees or Orders conferred by various Masonic Organizations or Bodies, that a Master Mason can join to further his knowledge of Freemasonry.
[Click here to go to the Grand York Rite of CA](#)


Siminoff Center

Our Meeting Location in Union City California
 34400 Mission Blvd.
 Union City 94587-3604
[See the Map](#)



[View larger map](#)

Click on a logo to visit the
 Chapter, Council or
 Commandery



Siminoff Daylight Chapter No. 163


Royal Arch Masons

Union City, California

**No Rite of Freemasonry covers the world
 so much as does Royal Arch Masonry**

MEETINGS: 3rd Saturday of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec at 9:00 AM

Secretary Carl J. Brickner KYCH
1063 Jost Ln Alameda CA, 94502-7065, USA
Telephone (Cell) (510) 593-8218
or email cbrickner@gmail.com



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Siminoff Daylight Chapter No. 163

Officers

High Priest	Eric Salonga
King	Ken McMillen
Scribe	Jeff Wilkins
Treasurer	Dinesh Chhabra KYCH
Secretary	Carl Brickner KYCH
Chaplain	Evan Brewer
Captain of the Host	Sam Weseloh
Principal Sojourner	Bruce Rick
Royal Arch Captain	Fariborz Amirdelfan
Master 3rd Veil	Bob Pinkerton
Master 2nd Veil	Chris Van Gundy
Master 1st Veil	Gary Stephens
Sentinel	Mike Sanders
Inspector	Bruce Rick PHP
Department No. 1	Jonathan Prestage KYGCH
Grand Officer	
Grand High Priest	David Rathgeber KYGCH

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Contact Information

SIMINOFF DAYLIGHT CHAPTER NO. 163 ROYAL ARCH MASONS
H. P.: Eric Salonga 209-480-3099 eric.salonga@gmail.com



High Priest
Eric Solonga

Dear Companions,

Hope to see you at our next communication.

Fraternally,

**Eric Salonga
High Priest**



Peace and Quiet

Companions All:

Are you waking up tired? Do the days seem to be getting shorter? Does the list of news headlines seem to get longer? Is your time of take personal inventory through rest seem to escape you?

So many of us are experiencing stress in some form. It lingers in our bodies and minds. It leads to exhaustion. I know, because I've just finished two days of a retreat where we delved into financial and growth initiatives that left me totally drained. It was time to get some physical and mental REST.

I came home from that conference, looked at what needed to be accomplished in the next two days, and decided to do nothing. I turned off the TV, put down the book I was going to read, didn't look at emails or answer the phone. All I did was close my eyes, take a few deep breaths, and relax. After about twenty minutes, it was amazing how refreshed I felt. I decided that rest needs to be more of a habit than something I do at the spur of the moment.

So, stop and smell the roses or the coffee. Take time to enjoy just "being" rather than having to do anything. Slow down. Plan ahead. Breathe. What you were going to do will eventually get done – and probably with better results than if you tried when you were exhausted. To paraphrase the words of a song, "Relax, and let the rest of the world go by."

R – E – S – T

It's the best thing you can do for yourself RIGHT NOW!

Holiness to the Lord

Ken McMillen
King

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District Inspector's Apron

Note from the Inspector of Royal Arch District 16

Companions,

The June meeting was well attended and conducted a lot of ritual, business, and completed the Annual Inspection of the District Inspector.

Much was accomplished in the time allotted for the Chapter and closed on time for the Council to set up for their meeting. Well done.

Holiness to the Lord

**Bruce Rick, PHP
District 16 Inspector**



Sword and Trowel Council No. 65
Cryptic Arch Masons
Union City, California

**Councils of Cryptic Masons form the center
body of the York Rite of Freemasonry**

MEETINGS: 3rd Saturday of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec at 10:30 am

Recorder Carl J. Brickner KYCH
1063 Jost Ln Alameda CA, 94502-7065, USA
Telephone (Cell) (510) 593-8218
or email cbrickner@gmail.com



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Sword and Trowel No. 65

Officers

Illustrious Master	Evan Brewer
Deputy Master	Jeff Wilkins
Principal Conductor of the Work	Ernesto Moya
Treasurer	Dinesh Chhabra KYCH
Recorder	Carl Brickner KYCH
Chaplain	Ken McMillen
Captain of the Guard	Gary Stephens
Conductor of the Council	Bruce Rick
Steward	Eric Salonga
Sentinel	Mike Sanders
Inspector	Ramon Manlapaz PIP
Department No. 2	Richard Fonseca KYGCH
Grand Officer	
Grand Master	Andy Pippin KYGCH

SWORD AND TROWEL CHAPTER NO. 65 CRYPTIC MASONS
I. M.: Evan Brewer (925-708-4075) evan@brewer.llc



**Illustrious Master
Evan Brewer**

The Purpose of Rest

Fellow Companions,

The theme for this month's article is "**Rest.**" According to Webster's Dictionary, rest is defined as: "*A period of refreshing ease or inactivity after exertion or labor; a pause to recover strength and composure.*"

In the Craft, we often speak of labor, of building, learning, traveling, and growing. But rest, too, has its rightful and sacred place. As Masons, we are taught to divide our time wisely: a portion to God and service, a portion to our usual vocations, and a portion to rest and refreshment. This balance is not accidental, it is essential.

Rest in Masonry and in Life

We are builders. But even the strongest builders must take time to sharpen their tools, recover their strength, and renew their focus. Without rest, effort becomes strain. Without pause, purpose becomes blurry.

Just as the Great Architect of the Universe rested on the seventh day, so must we. Rest does not mean idleness, it means allowing the body, mind, and spirit to be renewed so that we may return to our work with clarity and strength.

In our Masonic journey, rest can take many forms:

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- A quiet reflection after a well-delivered degree.
- A heartfelt conversation with a Brother that reminds us why we serve.
- A moment of stillness in the Lodge room, before the gavel sounds.

These moments matter. They ground us. They replenish us. They remind us that our value is not measured by busyness, but by presence.

Why Rest Is So Vital

We live in a world that praises constant productivity—but Masonry teaches us that wisdom lies in moderation. Rest is not withdrawal—it is preparation.

A rested Mason:

- Serves with more patience.
- Speaks with more thoughtfulness.
- Leads with more clarity.
- Connects with others more genuinely.

A Word of Encouragement

As we enjoy the warmth of summer, many of us will take vacations, spend time with loved ones, or enjoy a slower pace. I encourage you to embrace that rest, not with guilt, but with gratitude. Let it serve as a reset, a renewal of spirit, and a return to what matters most.

Final Thoughts

We are builders, yes, but we are also human. Let us never forget that even stone must be set with care and that even the most dedicated craftsman must stop, breathe, and take in the view.

So rest well, Companions. Then return to the quarry with renewed energy, ready to labor once more in Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

**In Humble Service of Our Council,
Evan Brewer**

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Morris Siminoff Commandery No. 80
Knights Templar
Union City, California



This body exhibits a paramilitary structure and outlook on Masonry, being the only branch of Masonry in the world that is a uniformed body.

MEETINGS: 3rd Saturday of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec at 10:30 am

Recorder Carl J. Brickner KYCH
1063 Jost Ln Alameda CA, 94502-7065, USA
Telephone (Cell) (510) 593-8218
or email cbrickner@gmail.com



Morris Siminoff Commandery No. 80

Officers

Eminent Commander	Jeff Wilkins
Generalissimo	Ernesto Moya
Captain General	Gary Stephens
Senior Warden	Eric Salonga
Junior Warden	Bruce Rick
Treasurer	Marty Cusing KYCH

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Standard Bearer	Mike Sanders
Sword Bearer	Ken McMillen
Warder	Bob Pinkerton
Sentinel	Dinesh Chhabra
KYCH	
Division 4C	Dinesh Chhabra KYCH
Inspector	
Adjutant	Brandon Dueñas KCT
Department IV	Marty Cusing KTCH
Commander	
Grand Commander	Joseph Dongo KYGCH



Eminent Commander
Jeff Wilkins

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope that you are all well and in good health as we get into the full swing of summer. It is the season for time off from work for well deserved vacation, time for the kids to be away from school, or time to spend in the great outdoors. If we are staying around the house, we have the opportunities for time by a pool, sitting on a bench with a book, or a BBQ with friends and family. Whatever we choose to do while enjoying the summer weather, we have the opportunity to rest and relax. It is critical for our wellbeing.

With our lives feeling so busy most of the time, we should be reminded of our first night of being a Mason. We were taught about the 24” Gauge and what that means in dividing the time that our

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vocations, and a part for refreshment and repose. That last part, the part for our rest, is so important in maintaining our balance and equilibrium. The concept of time management is so important to us as Knights Templar and as Masons, that we learn all about it on the very first day.

We have time set aside as a Commandery on 19 July for fellowship and to enjoy lunch together. We will also take some time to practice our ritual and tactics to brush up on our opening and closing. Please remember to bring your sling, sword, gloves and cap for the practice. The intent is to have fun with our ritual and most of all, enjoy each other's company.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and some time outside and remember that third portion of our 24" Gauge! I look forward to seeing you this month!

Fraternally,

Jeff

Jeff Wilkins
P.O. Box 445
Vineburg, CA 95487-0445
(M) (925) 315-1728
teamwilkins@att.net



Generalissimo
Ernesto Moya

Sir Knights,

Rest: The Silent Builder

productivity, rest often seems like a forgotten virtue. Yet for the thoughtful Mason, rest is not idleness, but sacred restoration — a vital element in the Temple of Self.

As Freemasons, we are builders — of character, of communities, of inner strength. But even the most diligent architect knows that a structure under constant strain must, eventually, yield. Just as the operative Mason paused to sharpen his tools and survey his work, so too must the speculative Mason learn to honor rest not as weakness, but as wisdom.

The compasses remind us to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds — not only toward others, but toward ourselves. In rest, we find space for reflection, renewal, and the clarity to align our lives once again with the Plumb Line of virtue. It is in those moments of quietude that we recognize the still small voice — that inner guide which whispers truths obscured by the noise of our daily labor.

Rest is not merely physical repose, but spiritual recalibration. It is a conscious turning inward, a retreat into the sacred silence wherein patience is nourished, gratitude deepens, and a proper attitude is rekindled. Without rest, our labors grow aimless; with it, they become purposeful and measured.

Let us, then, reclaim rest as part of our Masonic journey — not a lapse from the Work, but a vital part of it. For just as the rough ashlar is patiently refined into the perfect, so too must we allow time for the refining stillness that molds the soul.

May we labor diligently, and rest with equal purpose — that we may rise each day more fit to serve, more ready to build, and more worthy of the Light.

Fraternally,

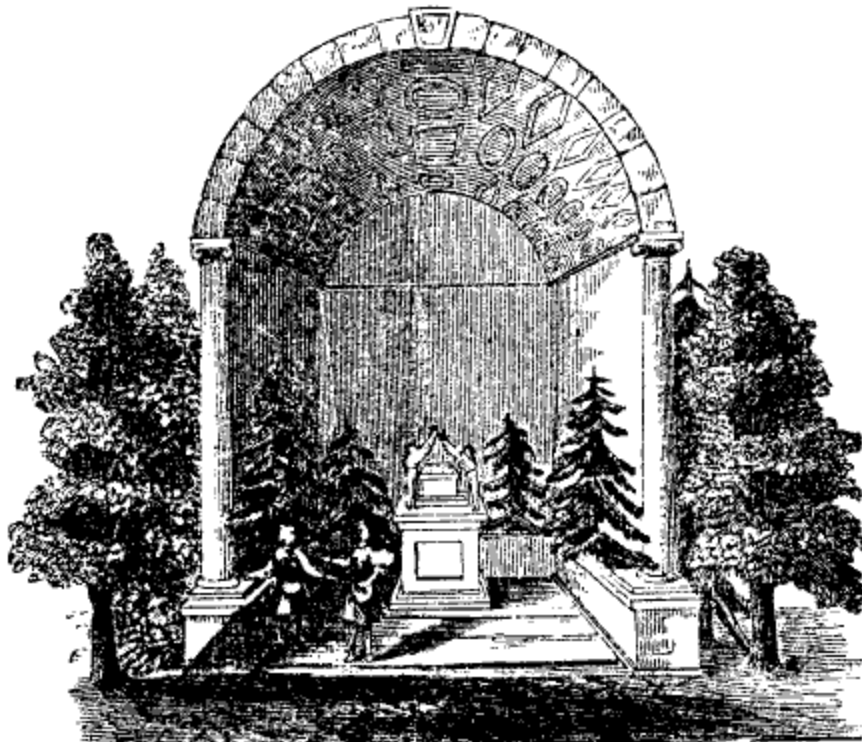
Ernesto

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MORRIS SIMINOFF COMANDERY NO. 80 KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

EC.: Jeff Wilkins (925) 315-1728 teamwilkins@att.net

More Stops On Your Masonic Journey...



GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH OF THE HOLY ROYAL ARCH

Our Golden State Chapter of Research is dedicated to the study of Capitular degrees of Freemasonry. Our Chapter promotes excellence in Masonic scholarship by holding quarterly meetings with the sharing of papers and reminding Companions of the wealth of informative papers on our website at www.goldenstatechapter.org.

Our next Chapter meeting (Quarterly) is a Zoom meeting. Our meeting is tentatively scheduled for October.

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welcome to apply for affiliation with the Chapter as a full member.

For membership, complete the petition (below), sign it, send it and a one time \$20.00 fee to the Grand Secretary (check payable to Grand Chapter RAM of CA):

Grand Chapter RAM of CA

Attn: GSCR

PO Box 710160

Santee CA 92072

Fraternally,

EC Bruce Rick, GSCR Secretary

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Petition for Affiliation

Golden State Chapter of Research, Royal Arch Masons

To the Excellent High Priest, Officers and Members of Golden State Chapter of Research, Royal Arch Masons of California:

I, _____, respectfully represent that

- I am / not a resident of the State of California but resident in _____
- I am a Master Mason in good standing of _____ Lodge No. _____, F. & A.M.,
under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of _____;
- I am a Royal Arch Mason in good standing of _____ Chapter No. _____, R.A.M.,
under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of _____;
- I desire to be affiliate with Golden State Chapter as a dual / plural member of your Chapter, and
- If elected to membership, I promise cheerful compliance with the Bylaws of Golden State Chapter
and Constitution of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of
California.

In connection with this petition, I provide the following additional information about myself:

Residence Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Residence Telephone _____ Mobile Phone _____ Email: _____

Business Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Telephone: _____

Date of Petition _____, 20____

Signature of Petitioner _____

Recommendations:

The undersigned, member of Golden State Chapter, recommend the Chapter grant this petition:

1. Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Click here to visit the Golden State Chapter for Research Website!

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THE WORKMAN



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Workman Issue**

SWORD & TROWEL



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Sword and Trowel Issue**

THE CROSS & CROWN



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Cross and Crown Issue**

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**Allied Masonic Degrees Masons
Union City, California**



**An Honorary and Invitational Body Dedicated to
Masonic Research and Requires Membership in the Royal Arch**

**MEETINGS: Second Sunday of March, June, September
and December at 12:00 pm**

Contact Information

SIMINOFF COUNCIL NO. 465

Sec.: Bruce Rick (805) 861-3620 bar972@outlook.com



Clanna Ruid Ruide No. 58

**Knight Masons
Union City, California**



**The Order of Knight Masons is an Invitational and
Honorary Body**

MEETINGS: As called by the Excellent Chief

Contact Information

CLANNA RUID RUIDE COUNCIL NO. 58

Sec.: Carl Brickner (510) 593-8218 cbrickner@gmail.com

Independence Day!
July 4th

Did you know...

**The Fourth of July commemorates the adoption of the
Declaration of Independence by delegates from
the 13 colonies in 1776.**

upon which the nation's founding principles were established.

The Second Continental Congress actually made its decree for freedom on July 2, 1776, signing the Lee Resolution. Two days later, on July 4, Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence and the alarm for freedom was sounded at Independence Hall with the Liberty Bell.

It was on August 4, 1776, after delegates of the Continental Congress had signed the document, that The Declaration of Independence was made official.



National Pecan Day!
July 12th

Did you know...

origins are highly debatable.

Following the Civil War, commercial developers brought in a few varieties of pecans to grow in Georgia, which is now the main commercial grower of pecans in the U.S.

The name of the nut itself is derived from the French word ‘pacane,’ which is taken from the Algonquian word for ‘nut.’

The first printed pecan pie recipe appeared in an 1886 edition of “Harper’s Bazaar” magazine.

In the early 1900s, Karo corn syrup was invented and is now well-known in recipes.

In 1930, the wife of a Karo company executive shared her recipe using Karo syrup as the ingredient of choice instead of maple syrup, honey, or molasses.

Whether her claim is true, Karo corn syrup helped raise the popularity of pecan pie when the company published the recipe on their product cans and bottles.

How do you pronounce pecan? Select one (capital letters denote emphasis): pah-KAHN, puh-CAN, PEE-kaun, PEE-can, pee-KAUN, pee-CAN.

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