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Mt. Moriah Lodge #292 F. & A. M.  
Wayne Heimsoth, Secretary  
PO Box 33242  
Los Gatos, CA 95031-3242

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**  
December, 2013

Calendar  
[www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=mtmoriah292](http://www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=mtmoriah292)

- Dec 05 (Thursday)  
6:30 PM Dinner  
7:30 PM Stated Meeting  
Hiram Award
- Dec 07 (Saturday)  
11:00 AM Los Gatos Holiday Parade
- Dec 12 (Thursday)  
TBA
- Dec 14 (Saturday)  
6:00 PM Officer Installation
- Dec 19 (Thursday)  
7:30 PM TBA
- Dec 26 (Thursday)  
TBA



**Changes Happen!**  
Call the Lodge Hotline: (408) 450-8666



Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 292 F. & A. M.

# Trestleboard



Volume 18 Number 11

<http://www.mtmoriah292.org>

December, 2013

**Is your info current?**

- Notify Secretary Wayne Heimsoth of changes in address, email, or phone numbers

Send email to:  
[secretary@mtmoriah292.org](mailto:secretary@mtmoriah292.org)

• Send snail mail to:  
PO Box 33242, Los Gatos, CA 95031-3242

• Request email copy of trestleboard to:  
[secretary@mtmoriah292.org](mailto:secretary@mtmoriah292.org)

- Saves postage costs

**The Hiram Award**



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Every year Blue Lodges across the state of California bestow an honor known as the Hiram award upon a single member of their individual Lodge. The award is generally described as the 'highest honor' which can be presented by a Lodge. The first Hiram Award was presented to Andrew D. Miller, PM by San Pedro Lodge No. 332 in 1964. The award remained a local award until 1977, when Galt Lodge No. 267 presented a Hiram Award to Glen Ingram, PM. This presentation was attended by over 350 people, including county supervisors, the Shrine Band from San Francisco, and John Roberts, past Grand Master of Masons for California. This event was such a success that Grand Master Kermit Jacobson assembled a committee to create a statewide Hiram Award program to "try it out" for a year. The Hiram Award caught on, and has spread to virtually every Lodge throughout the state of California. It is now awarded in several other Grand Lodge jurisdictions across the United States as well. The Hiram Abiff of Masonic Legend was the son of a widow who was from the tribe of Naphtali and lived in Tyre. The tribe of Naphtali was one of the northern Israelite tribes, who joined with David, who was to become the ruler of a unified Kingdom of Israel. The successor to David was Solomon, the King of Israel. This year Mt Moriah 292 will recognize Mark McEuen with the 2013 Hiram Award

**From the East Brethren,** I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. With the holidays upon us it is time again to cherish the spirit and fellowship that is so abundant this time of year. We should never take for granted the time we get to spend together with loved ones during the Holidays The Los Gatos Christmas Parade is around the corner

Fraternally, Chris Rohrs, PM *Master*

Chris Rohrs, PM  
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### Relief for All Fraternal Families

One of the most enduring tenets of Freemasonry is a commitment to Masonic Relief: We take responsibility for the well-being of our brothers, our families, and the community as a whole through philanthropy, community involvement, and delivery of excellent care.

To address this aim, the Masonic Homes of California offers a variety of services to support members and their families at every phase of life, including:



**Masonic Homes for seniors:** Located in Union City and Covina, our continuing care retirement communities offer a vibrant lifestyle and provide multiple levels of care for residents. Dedicated professional staff provide quality care based on Masonic values.

**Masonic Senior Outreach:** Masonic Senior Outreach supports members of our fraternal family who choose to age at home or in their home communities. Services include information and referrals to community-based senior resources; ongoing care management; and financial assistance.

**Masonic Family Outreach:** Through statewide case management services, Masonic Family Outreach supports families who need help dealing with complex challenges, such as divorce, foreclosure, and caring for a special needs child.

**Masonic Center for Youth and Families:** Our industry-leading services provide comprehensive outpatient support to children who struggle with behavioral issues, as well as their families.

For more information about Masonic Assistance, email [intake@mhcuc.org](mailto:intake@mhcuc.org), call 888/466-3642, visit [masonichome.org](http://masonichome.org), and "like" us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/masonichome).

### December Birthdays

John T. Bannister	12/12
Raymond Bernheim	12/5
James S. Bettencourt	12/20
John P. Carolan	12/29
Alexander S.c. Cassimus	12/4
William J. Coops	12/25
Lewis P. Di Bona	12/27
Howard W. Dingman	12/9
John E. Dods	12/21
Robert C. Duncan	12/6
Frank C. Hibbits	12/28
Richard F. Irion	12/28
Rex E. Jeffers	12/14
Paul J. Knowles	12/19
Steven R. Marshall	12/17
Kim R. McEuen	12/7
Scott R. Mc Queen	12/26
Kevin J. Pinson	12/9
Wayne T. Price	12/25
Howard W Ramsey, Jr.	12/17
Bruce G. Rollin	12/17
Enrique Segovia-Ramirez	12/16
Ghassan J. Sekab	12/7
Thomas W. Shafer	12/4
Nicholas C. Siersema	12/6
Robert G. Taylor	12/9
Walker R. Terry	12/27
Arthur J. Ulam	12/8
Frederick J. Wach, Jr.	12/7
Robb S. Walker	12/12
Edwin E. Weal, Jr.	12/29
Robert A. Zeroun	12/24

### Get Changes & Updates

Subscribe to Mt. Moriah email list; send your request to [WHeimsoth@aol.com](mailto:WHeimsoth@aol.com)

#### TRESTLEBOARD

is published by

**Mt.Moriah Lodge No.292 F. & A. M.**  
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### In Memoriam



The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S., the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from home. The memorial opened to the public on April 29, 2004 and was dedicated one month later on May 29. It is located on 17th Street, between Constitution and Independence Avenues, and is flanked by the Washington Monument to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west.

*"Almighty Father, into Thy hands we commend the souls of our Beloved Brothers."*

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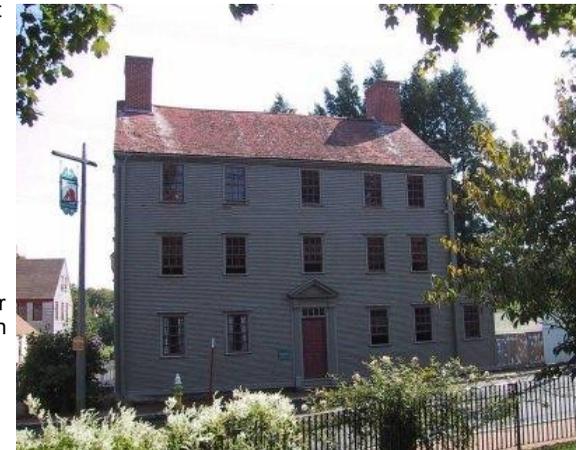
Brother Mark McEuen's First Degree 2008

## William Pitt Tavern

Portsmouth was an active seaport and trade center in the 18th Century, with taverns as the town's social centers. Taverns were popular center for news, gossip and meetings. John Stavers operated a successful tavern on Queen (State) Street named for the Earl of Halifax. Stavers and his brother William ran the weekly stage line to Boston, and the arrival of the stagecoach brought town people to the tavern to get mail and newspapers, and hopefully stay and discuss the latest news from Boston. This was so successful that he decided to build a larger one at the corner of Pitt (Court) and Atkinson Streets in 1766 and move the name to the new tavern. As he was starting construction, he was approached by the Masons of St John's Lodge and asked to construct a Lodge room in the building with the arrangement that he would have use of the room when the Masons were not meeting. He was a Lodge member and the Royal Governor John Wentworth was Master of the Lodge. He agreed and designed a 3½ story building. The new building was the tallest commercial property in the town and the first with chimneys and fireplaces on the ends instead of the center. The 1st floor was the traditional tavern where the public could purchase food and drink. The 2nd floor was for sleeping rooms and the family quarters. With four rooms on the 2nd floor and the ability to divide the 3rd floor into four chambers, there were 13 beds and bedsteads for the travelers. Travelers would share rooms and often beds. The 3rd floor was the largest public room in Portsmouth and was used for a variety of purposes. It was designed to be accessed by a back staircase without going through the rest of the building, and sound-proofed with grain chaff in the walls and fine gray sand under the floor. The room was used for readings, curios displays (an African Lion and an albino man), salesmen, musical groups, traveling ministers, specialists in animal health and sales and auctions, including slave auctions. Stavers was believed to be a Loyalist and his tavern became a favorite meeting place for people believed to be loyal to the King. But Stavers adapted to the political climate and signed the Loyalty Oath in January 1775. (Rebel advocates had a habit of burning Tory property.) Subsequently, he re-named his tavern for Wm. Pitt to honor the British statesman who was an advocate for the American cause in the British Parliament. This is somewhat ironic as Pitt had only been Prime Minister from 1766 to 1768 and while extremely popular with the public, he had almost no influence in Parliament by the time the Revolutionary War began and died in 1778. His stature as an advocate for the Common Man was a bit diminished when he took a seat in the House of Lords to start his ministry. Stavers died in a carriage accident in 1797 and left the tavern to his two daughters who briefly operated it. The Tavern closed in the early 19th Century. It managed to survive the Great Fires of 26 December 1802, 26 December 1806, and 22 December 1813 that destroyed almost everything between Market Square and the waterfront.

The Masons of St John's Lodge met at the Tavern from 1768 to 1792, with relocations during the Revolutions as Tories and Rebels held forth. Representatives of 4 of the 6 New Hampshire Lodges met on 8 July 1789 and agreed to form a Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. Grand Lodge continued to meet at the tavern until 1792. The high point of the Tavern's life was the visit of Pres. George Washington to Portsmouth 31 October to 3 November 1789. The first President did a tour of all (13) State capitals when the first Congress ended its first session. He came to Portsmouth to speak at the State House (then in Market Square) and attended a reception with the leading citizens at the Tavern on 2 November. We have no record of his attending a Lodge meeting although he was himself Master of a Lodge in Virginia, now Alexandria-Washington Lodge. Washington did not record any Masonic functions in his diary. He took time before that reception to pose for the Gulligert portrait shown here. The original hangs in Faneuil Hall, Boston MA. Several leading figures of the day were Masons. Gen William Whipple who signed the Declaration of Independence. Gen John Sullivan who led the American army at the Battle of Brooklyn in 1776 and later destroyed native power in NY that threatened the colonists on behalf of the British at the battle of Chemung. He also destroyed the native settlement at the Genebee Falls, making the settling of Rochester NY possible. Gen John Stark who fought at Bennington VT and later contributed the NH motto. Benjamin Thompson, scientist, who may have been a Tory spy (he left quickly) and became a founder of the science of thermodynamics. He is often credited with inventing baking powder. He designed the Rumford stove, a rival to the Franklin design. His fireplace design became a world

<http://www.mtwashingtonlodge.com/williampitttavern.html>



**Bennington Battle Monument**

The Bennington Battle Monument is a 301 or 306 ft (93 m) stone obelisk located at 15 Monument Circle, in Bennington, Vermont. The monument commemorates the Battle of Bennington during the Revolutionary War. In that battle, on August 17, 1777, Brigadier General John Stark and 1,400 New Hampshire men, aided by Colonels Warner and Herrick of Vermont, Simonds of Massachusetts, and Moses Nichols of New Hampshire, defeated two detachments of General Burgoyne's British army, who were apparently seeking to capture a store of weapons and food maintained where the monument now stands. While the battle is termed the Battle of Bennington, it actually occurred about 10 miles (16 km) away, in New York; the Bennington Battlefield, a U.S. National Historic Landmark is entirely within New York State. In 1877 a local historical society began to plan a monument for the battle's centenary, and considered many designs. One which called for a slender stone column only 100 feet (30 m) tall was showcased during the battle's centennial celebration, which was attended by President Rutherford B. Hayes. The committee eventually accepted J. Phillip Rinn's design with some changes. The monument's cornerstone was laid in 1887, and it was completed in November 1889 at a total cost of \$112,000 (including the site). It is constructed of Sandy Hill Dolomite from present day Hudson Falls, New York, a blue-gray magnesian limestone containing numerous fossils. Dedication ceremonies were delayed until 1891, when President Benjamin Harrison attended the ceremonies and held a reception at the nearby Walloomsac Inn. Today the Bennington Battle Monument is a Vermont State Historic Site. From its observatory level at 200 feet (61 m), which can be reached by elevator (but not the stairs, which are closed), one can see Vermont, New York, and Massachusetts. A kettle captured from General Burgoyne's camp at Saratoga is visible in the monument along with a diorama of the second engagement, and information on how the monument was built. Statues of John Stark ("Live free or die"), Seth Warner, and other notables ornament the grounds. The monument, while 10 miles (16 km) from the relevant battlefield, is located very close to what was once the site of the Catamount Tavern, where Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys planned their attack on Fort Ticonderoga in 1775. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bennington\\_Battle\\_Monument](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bennington_Battle_Monument)



Freemason Brigadier General John Stark (August 28, 1728 – May 8, 1822) was a New Hampshire native who served as a major general in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. He became widely known as the "Hero of Bennington" for his exemplary service at the Battle of Bennington in 1777. Stark's action contributed to the surrender of Burgoyne's northern army after the Battles of Saratoga by raising American morale, by keeping the British from getting supplies, and by subtracting several hundred men from the enemy order of battle. Stark reported 14 killed and 42 wounded. Of Baum's 374 professional soldiers, only nine men escaped. For this feat Stark won his coveted promotion to brigadier general in the Continental Army on October 4, 1777. Saratoga is seen as the turning point in the Revolutionary War, as it was the first major defeat of a British general and it convinced the French that the Americans were worthy of military aid. After the Battle of Freeman's Farm Gen. Stark's brigade moved into a position at Stark's Knob cutting off Burgoyne's retreat to Lake George and Lake Champlain. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Stark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Stark)

**From the Secretary's Table** Dues for 2014 are due by December 31st 2013. If you have not received your dues notice by December 10th, please contact the Secretary. I wish you and your families a Very Happy Holiday and New Year.

Fraternally, Wayne Heimsoth *Secretary*

Wayne Heimsoth  
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**From the West Brethren**, I hope everyone is enjoying the Holiday season. Please come to the Officer Installation on December 14 (Saturday) at 6pm.

Fraternally, Dennis Parle

*Senior Warden*

Dennis Parle  
Phone: (831) 338-6212  
Email: [dparle@earthlink.net](mailto:dparle@earthlink.net)

**From the South** Brethren, For dinner, lasagna (we'll make sure to have both vegetable and meat varieties), salad, and garlic bread \$10. Please RSVP to me at (408) 476-8476 or by e-mail to [jeff@jeffpowell.com](mailto:jeff@jeffpowell.com). After the dinner, we will be presenting the Hiram Award to Bro. Mark McEuen. I hope everyone can make it.

Fraternally, Jeff Powell

*Junior Warden*

Jeff Powell  
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Email: [jeff@jeffpowell.com](mailto:jeff@jeffpowell.com)

**Joel Roberts Poinsett**

Joel Roberts Poinsett (March 2, 1779 – December 12, 1851) was an American physician, botanist and statesman. He was a member of the United States House of Representatives, the first United States Minister to Mexico (the United States did not appoint ambassadors until 1896), a U.S. Secretary of War under Martin Van Buren, and a cofounder of the National Institute for the Promotion of Science and the Useful Arts (a predecessor of the Smithsonian Institution), as well as the eponym of Poinsett County, Arkansas; Poinsett Highway, Poinsett Bridge, and Poinsett State Park in South Carolina; Lake Poinsett in South Dakota; and the poinsettia, a popular Christmas flower. It is unknown when Poinsett became a Master Mason, but it is known that he was a Past Master of Recovery Lodge #31, Greenville, and Solomons Lodge #1, Charleston (Reference: Thompson, Edward N., "Joel Robert Poinsett: The Man Behind the Flower", Short Talk Bulletin, Masonic Service Association of the United States, December 1984). [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel\\_Roberts\\_Poinsett#Freemasonry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel_Roberts_Poinsett#Freemasonry)



Statue of Poinsett in Greenville, SC