



**Bay Cities Lodge No. 337**  
**Free & Accepted Mason of California**  
 Stated Meetings, First Tuesday 8:00 p.m.

Richmond Masonic Hall  
 5050 El Portal Drive  
 Richmond, CA 94803

**Lodge:** (510) 223-3995 / **FAX:** (510) 223-3996  
**Hall: Rental:** (510) 230-8740

**DAN G. LAYNES - Master**  
 Rodeo, CA. 94572  
 Cell: (510) 688-8145

**GARY DUNHAM, PM - Secretary**  
 Fairfield, CA. 94534  
 Cell: (510) 928-3211

**TRESTLEBOARD**

Website: <https://lodge337.freemason.org/>  
 e-mail: [baycitiessecretary@gmail.com](mailto:baycitiessecretary@gmail.com)

**Aug 2024**

### August Calendar

Tuesday,	6 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Stated Meeting Dinner
		8:00 pm	Stated Meeting
Thursday,	8 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Light Meal
		6:30 pm	3 <sup>o</sup> Practice
Tuesday,	13 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Light Meal
		6:30 pm	Hiram Award Practice
Wednesday,	14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	MHAR– Regular Meeting
Thursday,	15 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	DOSI - Orinda Lodge 122
Saturday,	17 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 pm	Socials/Hors d'oeuvres
		4: 00 pm	Hiram Award - WB Erwin Arceo
Tuesday,	27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Light Meal
		6:30 pm	Reception of GM/Meeting Practice
Saturday,	31 <sup>st</sup>	2:00 pm	Celebration of Life–WB Bill Hastings

### Hall Events

#### Mission Bell Chapter No. 205

#### Order of the Eastern Star

Friday,	9 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Meeting - Small Hall
Friday,	23 <sup>rd</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Meeting - Small Hall

### Bethel No. 15

#### Job's Daughters International

Saturday,	10 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 a.m.	Dark
Saturday,	24 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 a.m.	Dark

### 2024 Grand Master's Proclamations

March	Youth Orders Month
July	Support Our Veterans Month
August	First Responders Month
September	Public Schools Month

### From the East



As the heat of summer decreases, the month of August reminds us to enjoy the season's fleeting moments. It's a month that highlights the simple joys of summer while also labelling the transition towards autumn. In different places around the world, August is synonymous with holidays and family time, as many people savors the last stretch of summer break. Beaches are populated with numerous people in their colorful swimming attire coupled with the sounds of children's laughter blending with the rhythmic lapping of waves. It's a time for building memorable experiences that will warm us in the coming colder months.

For this month, our Lodge will be bestowing the Hiram Award, which is the highest award that can be conferred upon a member that has unselfishly given his time, talents and energy for the betterment of his Lodge and Freemasonry. This year's recipient is no other than WB Erwin Arceo, a Past Master of BCL 337 and presently serving as Candidate Coach and one of the Directors of the Masonic Hall Association of Richmond. The awarding will be on August 17, 2024 so please mark your calendar and don't forget to RSVP for your reservation. Congratulations Worshipful Erwin on your well-deserved award.

I am sad to announce that one of the beloved and very popular member of BCL 337, WB Bill Hastings, had dropped his working tools last July 13, 2024 at a Homecare Facility in Martinez, CA. For sure, his presence will be missed by the brethren. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Lodge on August 31, 2024 at 2pm. Funeral services will be performed by BCL 337, Order of Eastern Star and the Military. Refreshments will be served after the

services. Please come to show our support to the bereaved family of our departed brother.

In closing, August is a month that offers several things: relaxation, celebration, and reflection. It's a time to enjoy the warmth of the sun, the company of loved ones, and the anticipation of what's to come. As we transition from the hot days of summer to the cold weather in the coming months, let us not forget to enjoy the beauty and diversity of August and all it has to offer. Together brethren!

### August Birthday

Rommel	Abesamis		1
Marvin	Weissberger	PM	1
Severino	Gorospe	Jr. PM	3
Hector	Rubio		3
J. C.	Hamilton		5
Wilmer	Wade		6
William	Elberfeld	PM	8
David	Jacob		9
David	Hill	PM	10
Jason	Yason		11
Richard	Dixon		12
Philip	Emmanuele	PM	12
Noel	Santos		12
Steven	Spiro		12
Gary	Schmidt		13
Michael	Lingg	Jr.	16
Kenneth	Poteete		17
Timothy	Francis		18
Theodore	Gibson		18
John	Semas	PM	18
Richard	Skillman		18
Douglas	Watson		18
Norman	Tinkham	PM	19
Pompey	Festejo	Jr.	22
Luis	Cabuhad		25
Raymond	Mc Kinley		26
David	Balentine	PM	27
Bobby	Forto		30
Arthur	Johnson		30
Florencio	Mendoza	PM	31

### BCL 337 Calendar of Activities for 2024

#### August

17 – Hiram Award Presentation

31 – Celebration of Life – WB Bill Hastings

#### September

15 – El Sobrante Stroll

21 – Feeding Program (GRIP @ Richmond)

#### October

12 – 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball (Formal)

26 – Halloween Party

#### November

5 – Election of Officers

16- Feeding Program (GRIP @ Richmond)

22 – Master's Appreciation Night

#### December

15 – Annual Installation of Officers

20 – Christmas Party

\* Schedules are subject to change

\* Degree Practices & Conferrals will be scheduled as necessary

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Notice is hereby given to all the Members of Bay Cities Lodge No. 337 that a possible amendment in our Lodge By-Laws (**change of Date & Time of Stated Meeting & change in the Annual Dues**) will be voted upon on our October 1, 2024 Stated Meeting. Details will be presented and discussed during the August and September stated meetings.

Please be guided accordingly!

**BAY CITIES LODGE NO. 337**

## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball

**With MW G. SEAN METROKA, Guest of Honor**

**October 12, 2024, 2pm - 10pm**

**Venue: Crowne Plaza Concord,**

**45 John Glenn Dr, Concord, CA 94520**

**Attire: Gatsby**

**Ticket: \$80.00**

No. \_\_\_\_\_

### **BCL No. 337 confers double 3rd Degree**

Bay Cities Lodge No. 337 conferred the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree of Masonry upon two candidates last June 29, 2024. The first candidate was Bro Vernon Morales, who was initiated as EAM on January 16, 2024 and passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on April 9 2024. The conferral team for Bro Morales were the following: **1<sup>st</sup> Section:** WM-Bro Jachin Brown; SW-Bro Sam Bayle; JW-Bro Charles Kimbrell; Treas-WB Ming Chu; Sec-WB Dean Dagdagan; Chaplain-WB Edgar De Castro; SD-Bro Abner Lumabas; JD-Bro Nar Honrada; Marshall-Bro Gino Tianero; SStd-Bro Mark Valencia; JStd-Bro Jonee Asilum and Tiler-Bro Jun Aquino. **2<sup>nd</sup> Section:** KS-WB Arnold Abaya; HT-Bro Sam Bayle; JW-Bro Charles Kimbrell; Sec-WB Dean Dagdagan; SD-WB Eric Salonga; 1C-Bro Ely Ramolete; 2C- WB Erwin Arceo; JD-Bro Nar Honrada; JA-Bro Jonee Asilum; JO-Bro Gino Tianero; JM-Bro Mark Valencia; and SM/WM-WB Ming Chu.

The second candidate was Bro Frederick Ramolete, who was initiated as EAM on January 25, 2024 and passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on June 11, 2024. The conferral team for Bro Ramolete were the following: **1<sup>st</sup> Section:** WM-WB Dan Laynes; SW-Bro Sam Bayle; JW-Bro Charles Kimbrell; Treas-WB Ming Chu; Sec-WB Dean Dagdagan; Chaplain-WB Edgar De Castro; SD-Bro Abner Lumabas; JD-Bro Nar Honrada; Marshall-Bro Gino Tianero; SStd-Bro Mark Valencia; JStd-Bro Jonee Asilum and Tiler-Bro Jun Aquino. **2<sup>nd</sup> Section:** KS-WB Dan Laynes; HT-Bro Sam Bayle; JW-Bro Charles Kimbrell; Sec-WB Dean Dagdagan; SD-Bro Abner Lumabas; 1C-Bro Ely Ramolete; 2C- WB Erwin Arceo; JD-Bro Nar Honrada; JA-Bro Jonee Asilum; JO-Bro Gino Tianero; JM-Bro Mark Valencia; and SM/WM-WB Ming Chu. The 3<sup>o</sup> lecture was delivered by WB Dan Laynes and the Charge was given by Bro Jonee Asilum, the Jr Steward.

The double 3rd degree conferral was well-attended with more than 80 persons in attendance consisting of Masons from different Lodges and family members of the candidates. Aside from the brethren and ladies of our lodge, we had visiting brethren from Suisun Lodge 55, San Leandro Lodge 113, American Canyon Lodge 875, a brother from Grand Lodge of Texas, and two brothers from the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. The conferral started at 10:00 in the morning and sumptuous lunch was served in the Large Dining Hall at high twelve. The foods were brought by the two candidates and by the generous members and ladies of the Lodge. Fellowship followed after the conferral with live music provided by the BCL 337 Band. As always, BCL Ladies were again present and were busy serving food during the event. My sincerest thanks to the BCL Ladies for always actively participating in our activities.

### **The Real Americans by Sis Sally Gavieres**

Who are considered real Americans in the United States of America? Through observations of those around me, I realize that everyone possesses their own unique idea of what criterion one must meet to be classified as an American. In my opinion, an American is anyone who is born in the US or is a legal citizen. I do not believe there is a physical list of characteristics that classify someone as American. The United States is like a huge melting pot, various nationalities and ethnicities mix together, and that creates an American.

Although I believe in this idea, many people do not. A friend of mine opposes my definition. To her, American means someone being "white." She informed me that, when someone doesn't speak English or has an accent or even just looks foreign, she has a really hard time thinking of them as American. I do not agree with this definition because if it is true, then not one person in the US should be considered American.

Although the Native-Americans originated here, they did not originally speak English nor are they white, so according to her criteria, they would not be considered American. Everyone else residing in the US has immigrant ancestors, who came here with accents and who did not speak English. Therefore, in my opinion, my friend's logic of what it means to be an American contradicts itself. Sadly, many people think of the term American as meaning a certain type of skin color and I believe a lot of it has to do with the words we use to describe ethnically different Americans.

When America is represented on Olympic Games or in any international event, they are simply called Americans representing the flag of United States Of America, not based on appearance or skin color as Blacks, Whites, Browns, Reds, Yellows, etc....they are Americans, classified not on ethnicity. When these Americans of different skin colors go to war and served their country or died defending this nation, are they then being considered as Americans or their skin color is that important here in the US of A? Can non-whites ever be considered "true" Americans?" Clearly Native-Americans are not white and we all know they were here before the whites came over and set-up shop, thus making Native-Americans the "true Americans." My opinions of what it means to be an American and the majority of the United States are obviously different for various reasons. One reason is the existence of an American stereotype. I do not believe an American can be classified by skin color or appearance. Another difference in opinion exists because of ethnic categorizing. Unlike many other countries, the United States has an identity that does not depend on ethnic continuity, but rather on the mixture or blending in the melting pot....the true American race that contributed and inspired the formation and development of this great nation. God Bless America!









## LODGE OFFICERS

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Officers Coach	Dean S. Dagdagan PM (Baby) Vallejo, CA 94591 <a href="mailto:wenjoylife@comcast.net">wenjoylife@comcast.net</a>	(707) 334-4279
Candidates Coach	Erwin Arceo PM (Mimi) Bay Point, CA 94565 <a href="mailto:erwinp.arceo@gmail.com">erwinp.arceo@gmail.com</a>	(707) 712-3233

## COMMITTEES

### Executive Committee

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Charles Kimbrell (510) 499-4007  
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Jonee Asilum (510) 833-3607  
Vernon Morales (510) 468-7424

### Scholarship

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Junjun Gorospe (707) 803-0452

### Finance & Budget

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Abner Lumabas (510) 332-6826

### Charity

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Samuel Bayle (707) 529-6508  
Charles Kimbrell (510) 499-4007

### Trestleboard Editor

Dan Laynes (510) 688-8145  
Gary Dunham PM (510) 928-3211

### Widows Committee

John Forcum (510) 882-0705

### Membership Retention

Erwin Arceo (707) 712-3233  
Rommel Abesamis (510) 200-3997

### Sunshine

Charles Kimbrell (510) 499-4007

### Youth Groups

Junjun Gorospe (707) 803-0452  
Joe Collignon (510) 847-1388

### Property Manager

Edgar De Castro 510 230-8740

### Hall Board

#### 2022 through 2024

Rick Arqueza PM (707) 246-4717  
John Forcum PM (510) 882-0705  
Abner Lumabas (510) 322-1800

#### 2023 through 2025

Arnold Abaya PM (707) 770-4615  
Leo Bautista (510) 332-6826  
Kristopher Johnson (925) 580-1897

#### 2024 through 2026

Erwin Arceo PM (707) 712-3233  
Ming Chu (510) 367-8209  
Ken Messer (510) 418-9690

### Sports & Outdoor

Lloyd Espiritu (707) 373-2643  
Emil Miranda (510) 367-9047  
Rod Martin (707) 688-8854  
Virgil Cabading (707) 805-6256  
Narciso Honrada (510) 981-9386

### Trustees

#### 2022 through 2024

Bill Elberfield (925) 570-1408

#### 2023 through 2025

Luis Cabuhat (415) 706-8968  
John Caldwell (510) 691-6475

THE REAL SECRET OF  
**FREEMASONRY**  
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER