

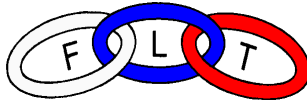
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The Triple Links Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

August 2022
Don Lang - Editor
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Established 1987

Ukrainian Sunflower Festival & Fundraiser Event



The Cupertino Odd Fellows Lodge co-sponsored the Ukrainian Sunflower Festival & Fundraiser Event with NorCal Peace Corps Association on July 30, 2022.

The event was very successful, and a total of 107 people signed up online, some for dinner others with donations. 126 people attended the event in total. Donations are still coming in and the total as of the end of the dinner service was \$7250.

Guests enjoyed the company and entertainment of the following musicians and artist:

Ola Herasymenko Oliynyk - famous Ukrainian musician, renowned performer on bandura, a traditional Ukrainian string instrument. She performed several songs and instrumental pieces.

Folk Duet **Oksana** and **Svyatoslav Stus** performed traditional Ukrainian folk and patriotic songs. **Oleksandra Bobrychenko** - folk and contemporary dancer, choreographer and dance teacher. She shared her dancing compositions based on classical Ukrainian dances.

Daniela Dovganych - performed popular songs in the vocal and guitar collaboration.

Bohdan Andrukh - Ukrainian musician and songwriter, performed his own compositions as well as popular Ukrainian melodies.

Dinner service was traditional Ukrainian food prepared and served on site. We had no leftovers!!

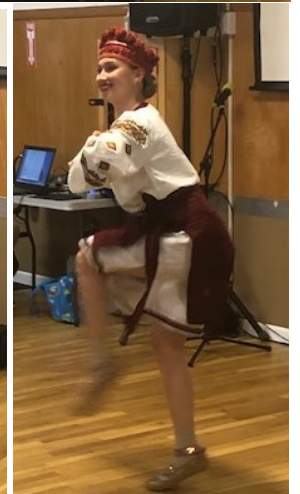
You can still donate online with a credit/debit card, the link will be open until August 31, 2022. Go to <http://www.cupertinooddfellows.org> and click on the Ukrainian Sunflower Fundraiser to get to the Peace Corps link to donate.

NorCal PCA is working with other groups to raise money and to donate all the funds to the NGO Ukrainian charity ЦЕХ ДОБРОТИ, which in Ukrainian means THE GOODNESS SHOP. **Toni Gale**, our Peace Corps event manager worked with this charity during her PCV service. She personally knows the director and many of the staff. Before the invasion the Goodness Shop's activities were in support of seriously ill children and adults in the fight against cancer. Now its staff and their many volunteers work tirelessly to support the army and give aid to the many internally displaced refugees that have flocked to the city of Drohobych. The town's 80,000 citizens are struggling to host approximately 25,000 internally displaced refugees.

The Cupertino Odd Fellows worked hard to make this event a success. I am personally proud of the Lodge membership participation. I was told that this was by far the most successful event that the Lodge has hosted and co-sponsored.

Thank you all ODD Fellows, Friends & Spouses and I hope to work with you again on future charitable endeavors.

By Simona Benjamin, VG



Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

Friendship and Membership

Recently **Redgie Fleeman's Grand Master** letter urged us to bring every friend we have to become lodge members. He asked, "If all of your friends are not members of the Odd Fellows then you have a reason for not inviting them to join your lodge". With that statement, Redgie handed it over to you to see your reason. So, what will you find when you look for your reason?

Membership in anything does not mean you have to have a friendship. You just need a desire which could be to have fun, be accepted, play music, do charitable works, educate and learn from your students, or, to just get what you want out of an organization. Friendship goes a step further to helping your fellow human. Very few of us have close friends. Many of us are friendly with groups we are members of. But being friendly does not make you a friend.

To be friendly you must be courteous and kind. To be a friend you must be trustworthy, loyal and helpful. How many of you are merely friendly and not a real friend?

So, Redgie may have a point about why your friends are not all lodge members. Perhaps we don't really have a bunch of friends. Otherwise, we would want them to enjoy what we enjoy as lodge members.

Dale Carnegie talks about "winning friends" in his book, "How to Win Friends and Influence People." There's a lot of worthwhile tenets in his book that can start you off with to becoming a better friend. There's also a lot in that book about how people can manipulate others. Like most guidelines, they can be a double-edged sword and hurt or help. Try using Mr. Carnegie's ideas. You can find them listed on the web these days. But if you want to enjoy real friendship, try being trustworthy, helpful and loyal; especially with people's feelings and how you say things.

Perhaps the most important tenet Mr. Carnegie condones us to emulate is, "to listen". Not just hear, but to be genuinely interested in who you are listening to. And, to ask questions on their topic. Too often we wait for a break so we can say what we want. Is anyone really listening when that happens? Best wishes for making friends and keeping them.

by **Tom Blackburn**



Initiation August 29

Last months Initiation had to be called off when the candidate, **Bob Souza**, had to cancel the last minute. It was re-scheduled for the next 5th Monday month, which is August. So we are planning accordingly for that date. Hopefully, COVID will not get worse and will allow us to have it then.

The other candidate, **Mark Flider**, from Mountain View Lodge, who was also wanting to be initiated, received the short form of the degree by his own lodge in the mean time. But we do believe there are 3 more candidates from True Fellowship lodge that are need of the degree.

By **Don Lang, Editor**

August BBQ

Yes, Cupertino Lodge will have their summer BBQ this month on the third Monday, August 15. Doors open at 5 pm, dinner is served from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. For members that are not able to attend we will prepare TO GO meals. Please look out for the invitation that is coming in the email soon and make sure to sign up, so we have a headcount for food. The Menu will be proposed at the next Lodge meeting

Ron Myers & Simona Benjamin will manage the kitchen for this BBQ

By **Simona Benjamin,**

Cupertino's Roll Call Dinner

Cupertino Lodge is planning to hold their annual Roll Call Dinner. This year it is a little late, and instead of being held in April it will be held in September, Monday September 19. The planning for this has just started, but I believe we are leaning on it being catered. Doors will open at 5:00.

By **Don Lang, editor**

Lodge 70's Kanikapila "Let's Make Music!"

Member **Les Wong** wanted a place that people could learn and play Hawaiian songs together. He had started in a small Hawaiian restaurant in Sunnyvale called Da Kine in 2011, with 8 people sitting around a table taking turns choosing songs for the group to play. When Da Kine changed locations, Les moved the event to Cupertino's New Port Restaurant, then a Falafel Restaurant, Queensborough Pool House, and finally to Lodge 70. Today, Lodge 70 hosts a monthly event called Kanikapila, which is Hawaiian for a gathering to make music. Kanikapila helps showcase the Lodge and attract potential members. A Zoom option is open to those who prefer to join in virtually, including some out-of-state music-lovers. Pre-Covid participants numbered up to 70. Currently, close to 25 in-person and 25 Zoom participants happily strum 'ukuleles or guitars and other instruments, dance hula, or just sing along to songs projected on a large screen. Les welcomes all who wish to participate in Kanikapila, which occurs every 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in-person and 6:45 in Zoom. Contact Les at les.maverick@gmail.com to join in the fun!

By **Karen Sanico**

Rebekah Craft Sale

Mountain View's Hermenia Rebekah Lodge #49 is having a craft sale at the Odd Fellows building in Mountain View at 600 Castro Street from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. September 9 through September 18. We have been granted permission from the Odd Fellows to use the whole week to offer the items this year. Do your Christmas shopping early and visit our offerings. Profits benefit the Lodge and this year we are again supplying Castro/Mistrel School first graders with school supplies in addition to donations to the Rebekah Children's Services. Hope to see you there.

By *Jackie Brown*



Charity Pop-Up Art Galleries Continue to Support Our Mission

Since July 2019 the Mountain View Odd Fellows Lodge has hosted 21 Charity Pop-Up Art Galleries, putting \$17,504 into the pockets of local artists and raising \$4,622 for local charities and those serving local issues (see benefiting groups here: <https://mountainviewoddfellows.org/our-community>). In our lodge, we call these "triple bottom line" events. The first bottom line is that local artists have a free place to share their art; we've served as an incubator for dozens of local artists as they learn how to sell their work to the community. The second bottom line is that artists donate a minimum of 10% to a charity that fits the IOOF mission; on average, artists donate double that. The third bottom line is that these charity pop-up art galleries give our lodge a reason to open our doors, give tours of the lodge, and talk about the value of Odd Fellowship with the broader community. In the past 2 months, we have had 2 new members apply and one finish the initiatory who came to us initially through our pop-up art galleries.

If you're a local artist interested in selling your work in our space, please reach out to me, our Outreach Chair, at jessica.dickinson.goodman@gmail.com or fill out this form on our website: <https://mountainviewoddfellows.org/use-our-space/>

If you would like to come and support one of our galleries, you can find a full calendar of them here: <https://bit.ly/MVIOOFCalendar>

We're grateful to all of the volunteers, local artists, and lodge members who make these events possible!

By *Jessica Dickinson Goodman*

Free Furniture

There are 2 possibility for free furniture this month.

First, there is the foyer room chairs in the Cupertino Lodge. **Jim Kabage** was able to obtain to get new very attractive office style furniture at a San Francisco business firm no longer requiring them and is giving them away free to Jim. The lodge is in the process of going to SF one of the next weekends with members trucks and vans to move them. They were delayed when one of the key members came down with COVID. So all the Lodges cushion chairs and coaches must go.

Second, a member of Cupertino lodge, **Betty Fahy**, is moving to Ohio, to live with her daughter and her husband and decided to give away all her apartment furniture for free if someone could use it. Some of the items include a kitchen table and chairs, a bed and bedroom set, living room items and much more. She will be moving in mid August so there isn't much time.

If you could use any of these things, give **Don** a call (408-835-7261) or send him an email don-lang@sbcglobal.net

By *Don Lang, Editor*

