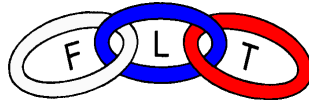


Established 1987



Festival of Trees

The Rebekah Children Services in Gilroy, is having their yearly big fundraiser, the Festival of Trees, on Saturday, November 19. RCS is one of the Order charities that Cupertino Lodge 70 supports. We have been donating to them and have been getting a table at their Festival of Trees for many years now. This year we will have a total of 14 members and their spouses there. The occasion is a big fancy event with most men wear tuxedos and the women wear fine dresses and their best jewelry. The tickets are \$150 a person, which really does not cover all the things you get for that price. Of course the dinner itself is excellent and you are served Champaign and nice wine with it. The place will be beautifully decorated for the season and this year it will be held in Morgan Hill at the Willow Heights Mansion, at 1978 Willow Springs Rd. They also have some nice entertainment. Besides having a live auction of Christmas Trees and all the things under or besides the tree, there will be many raffles to choose from, as well as a silent auction. The auctions of the Christmas Trees goes for multiple thousands of dollars. Some trees include TVs, or bikes, motorcycles, sports tickets and anything else that someone might think of. The trees are usually big and could be used in an entrance to some big company building. They also ask for donations from the attendance, starting in the thousands dollars and going down to the hundreds. They expect most people to donate something. Each person gets a paddle with a number on it, so they can raise it up and be identified easily. The cause is well worth it. They usually give a little update on what is happening currently at the Children's Home. RCS just acquired another Home in Hollister. We will have more information in next months newsletter.

By **Don Lang, editor**



Veterans Day Parade

Plans are being finalized for our section of the San Jose Veterans Day Parade, which will be held on Friday, November 11, 2022. We will meet at True Fellowship's lodge at 1035 Emery Street in San Jose at 10:00 AM. We will gather there and then car pool to central San Jose, near the train station, where we will assemble for the parade. The parade will start at 12:00 but it usually takes another hour before it gets down to us, but I do not know where in the parade we will be. Usually we are towards the middle to end of the parade. We will have 2 cars, **Andrew Crockett's** antique car and my Honda Odyssey for carrying members that are not able to walk the distance.

We would like as many Odd Fellows and Rebekahs who are able, to take part, and join us in the parade. We would like to have a great showing. The walk is only about one mile and the weather is usually a nice beautiful day. Please email me and let me know you plan on attending. If you are a canton member, make sure you wear your canton uniform, if you are an encampment member, please wear your fess and your purple encampment shirt if you have one. If you belong to AMOS wear your AMOS shirt and fess and if you are an Odd Fellow or Rebekah wear your lodge shirt. You also can wear a cap that has some Odd Fellow or Patriarchic advertisement on it.

I plan to send an email to the people who were in the parade before or said they plan to come this year. I would like to plan on who will carry the different flags and the order of how we will march.

By **Don Lang, editor**

Degrees Planned

January has 5 Mondays, so we are thinking about holding an Initiation on Monday, January 30, 2023. **Annie Cronin**, our District Deputy Grand Master, is in charge so contact her if you would like to help or your lodge has some candidates. January will be a very busy month, with all the lodges having their Installations then. We are also trying to schedule a first degree at Cupertino Lodge, since we have 5 candidates who needs the degree. True Fellowship also has a member that needs First Degree. So please stay tuned.

By **Don Lang, editor**



Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

Interesting Contact

An interesting thing happened to me the other day. I received a phone call from a person who I thought was interested in renting the hall. He wanted to meet with me that I could show him the hall. So I set up a meeting at the lodge. Well it worked out that he was a Mason from India, who was over here visiting with family and was leaving the next day for Houston, TX to visit other family members. He wanted to see what our Odd Fellows Lodge looked like. So I showed him. We must have spent the next hour talking about Odd Fellows and Masons. His name was **Joseph Fernanceez**, from Mason Lodge Secunderabad 211, India. He was very interested in how we were the same as the Masons in India. He even showed me their secret handshake which was very close to what ours is, but of course I did show him ours. The chairs in the meeting room were very similar to what Odd Fellows are but they all have different names. He took a lot of pictures and I gave him a lot of the pamphlets that we had and even a copy of last months Triple Links. I gave him my business card and told him to contact me the next time he comes back over here. He said he would and he expects to come back in a couple of years. I finally had to go and we shook hands like old friends and said until we meet again. He reminded me of brother **Leif Landin**, from Malmo, Sweden, who we met at our lodge many years ago. We became very close friends and so did our lodges, where several members of our lodge went over there and visited them several times, as did Leif and one of his lodge brothers visited us. These are some of the hidden benefit's that can be available to you, for being an Odd Fellow.

By *Don Lang, editor*

Thanksgiving

It is that time of year when we celebrate Thanksgiving. We usually think of sitting down at a big special dinner, with a Turkey celebrating it with some special friends. I would like to bring that thought to thinking about our Cupertino lodge. Think about how wonderful it is that we have 56 members and we think of each others as brothers and sisters. Yes it is true that we may never have seen or talked to some of us, but that is usually because they live so far away and can't come to meetings or other social events. Some may also be very old or sick with a bad disease like cancer. But they are remembered at our meetings.

Our Lodge is lucky when you think about it, we have enough money to pay the monthly bills and also for the usual building repairs and even some extra money for building upgrades. This is because we are able to rent the hall and we live in an area where there are people interested in renting it. We thank the members in the past who worked so hard to bring us to this point and we thank the members now for continuing in their footsteps. If we are one of the newer members who may feel left out because you aren't taking part in the care of the lodge, just ask the Noble Grand, or some other member of the lodge and tell them you would like to get more involved. After all, if that was happening in your family, wouldn't you do that and mention it to them. You would not let your other family members do all the work. You would find ways to help him or her as a brother or sister. That is the way it should be in the lodge. So we have a lot to be thankful for and we can even make it better. But it takes all of us trying to work together and take part.

By *Don Lang, editor*



Cupertino Christmas Dinner

We voted at our last meeting, to combine our November Kani Ka Pila and the Lodge Christmas Party together on November 30th, so this month we will have a Christmas music theme. The Kani Ka Pila (*Let's Play Music*), which includes about 10 Cupertino Lodge members, gets together once a month, usually on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The November event was moved to the end of the month as to not to conflict with Thanksgiving. Many who participate, play their ukuleles or guitars, sing songs (mostly Hawaiian music), tap their toe, dance hula, eat a pot luck dinner and have fun. the only requirement is to have fun. It's a great time to meet new people and attract new members. COVID has had it's affect on this event as it's evolved into a hybrid live and zoom event. Sometimes, participants from Hawaii, Las Vegas or the Mid-West can be found. So if you're not yet ready to join in person, please watch out for the Zoom link so you can still enjoy the event.

The lodge will provide some main dishes in addition to the pot luck. Members are not required to share a dish, but may if they wish. Non-members are encouraged to donate \$5 and share a dish.. A lodge email will be sent out, as soon as we know the final plans. So come join in the holiday cheer, in person or online, and kick off your holiday season!

By *Jim Kabage & Don Lang*



Cyber Security Awareness Series, Part 2 – FaceBook Privacy Settings

In Part 1 in October, we discussed the difference between social media hacking and impersonation, how the terms are misused and how to secure your accounts with strong passwords.

In Part 2, we'll focus on how to configure your FaceBook privacy settings make it more difficult for those to impersonate you.

All of the steps to make these changes are well outlined in the YouTube video linked below. Josh, from the All Things Secured channel on YouTube, does a nice job in taking a user through the privacy settings of FaceBook. The video was recorded in 2020, so there are a few minor differences in how to find the settings. I added extra notes below to cover those differences.

The video starts out with a parody of an excellent point. When you see your friends post a message stating how they want their privacy preserved, or for that matter, a cry out to any company for any benefits or rewards, it's likely just bogus chain letter type messaging.

We'll step through each option and add more context to each privacy feature, so you can decide which you'd like to use or how you'd like to use it.

View as, as discussed in the video, can also be found in the dot dot dot menu (...) to the right of the FaceBook menu when viewing your profile. This allows you to see what your profile looks like for the general public. Things you don't want available would include your photos, friend's list, posts, etc. If someone impersonates your account and can see your friend's list, then they can invite your friends to the impersonated profile. That's what happens most of the time when people think they have been hacked. It's good to take notes of what can be seen so when we go through the options below, you'll know which options you'll want to restrict. When you're done with this view, click on the EXIT VIEW AS button on the top right of the screen.

Settings and Privacy. Click on your photo/name in the top right hand corner of the FaceBook window and select Settings and Privacy and you'll see sub menu items. Start with Privacy Checkup and follow the video. Default Audience is the new name for the Future Posts item seen in the video. In this section, you want to make sure only you or your friends can see the information.

One way your information can be exposed outside of your friends circle, is if any one of your friends fall for the Impersonated Profile scam. What usually happens, is that someone who doesn't protect their friend's list or photos can be more easily impersonated. Then, if one of your friends falls for it and don't realize they are already friends with that person, they can be inadvertently giving scammers closer access to your information. Any information you make available to others, you'll want to either be private to you, or just to friends. If you give access to friends of friends, then you are opening up yourself to these scammers. If you just give access to your friends, then only access given by you to a scammer profile, will expose your information.

Block List. You can review who you've blocked in the past. This is really used if someone is annoying and won't leave you alone. It will prevent them from sending a friend request or messaging you.

How Can People Find Your Profile. Who can send friend requests? If you want to be found by people you've lost touch with, then you may want to keep this on everyone. If set to everyone, it just means that you need to work a little harder to validate that the friend request is coming from the actual person you know. If you set it to Friends of Friends, then you'd need to hope your friend is making sure their friend's are legit. If you have a lot of friends on FaceBook, that may be an unrealistic expectation, unless you get them all to read this article! Lol

How do you validate friend requests? First, you need to make sure you don't already have a friend connection with them. You'll want to search your friends list for their name and see what comes up. The easiest way to find that one of your friend's profiles have been impersonated, is that you'll get a request from a profile that looks like them, but when you search your friend's list, you'll see you're already friends. Second, the profile you're already friends with will likely have more friends and posts than the one that is requesting friendship now. Third, once you see the existing profile and see those differences, you can reach out to your friend, either through FaceBook messenger, email, text or phone and see if they created a new account. In most cases, the answer will be no. If that's the case, then you can report the friend request as an impersonation to FaceBook and select your friend's real profile from your friend's list and they will shut down the imposter account.

Phone, email and Search Engines. These settings are based more on your needs. I keep my phone and email information only available to friends only. As far as search engines are concerned, there could still be random people I've known that I've lost touch with, so I don't mind if my profile is pulled up in search engines. Especially, after I secured the profile information so limited amounts of it is available to anyone. Essentially, they can see my name and my location. That should be enough to reach out.

Face Recognition. This feature has been discontinued.

Off FaceBook Activity. Allows you to see what advertisers can see. Look under Settings > Privacy > Your FaceBook Information and click View on the right.

Ad Preferences. Let's you review the information that can be used for ad tracking. You can adjust the settings here.

Location Services. This feature has been discontinued. If there is more interest in FaceBook or other ad tracking prevention, then we can explore options for dealing with those later parts.

The Privacy settings are demonstrated in the following YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBdFF2Bm5jg>

In **Part 3**, we will look at how to deal with Phone and Email scamming and how to deal with them. Here is a sneak peak....Microsoft will Never call you if you have a virus on your computer. They don't really care. Lol

By *Jim Kabage*

Laule'a Performs at Saratoga Retirement Home



Photo Credits: **Maybell Serrano** and **Sue Myres**. From Left to Right: **Phil**, **John Hogle**, **Les Wong**, **Maybell Serrano**, **Jim Kabage**, **Margaret Hironaka**, **Ron Myres** and **Randee Chin**.

Cupertino Odd Fellows' own, Laule'a Hawaiian Band, performed again at the Odd Fellows Saratoga Retirement home on Oct 28th. The retirement home was having a Hawaiian themed Happy Hour and invited the band to play. Joining in on the fun, resident Phil and his ukulele group, played along within the audience. Laule'a has performed several times at Saratoga including another Happy Hour this past July in their Friendship Hall as well as a recorded video concert in November 2020 during the pandemic.

The Laule'a Hawaiian band has been performing together since 2014. Most of the members have been Odd Fellows members for the last 5 years. Laule'a Hawaiian Band includes Cupertino Members **Ron Myres** (Noble Grand), **Les Wong** (Building and Rental Committees) and **Jim Kabage** (Trustee). Other members include **John Hogle**, **Randee Chin** and **Joe Ho**. Laule'a performs for retirement homes, private parties and Odd Fellows events. Laule'a also leads the Cupertino Odd Fellows monthly Kani Ka Pila (*Let's Play Music*).

By **Jim Kabage**

Cupertino DeAnza Lions Club Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Cupertino DeAnza Lions Club is holding their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive the weekend before Thanksgiving. They will be standing in front of 3 Lucky Food Stores on Saturday and Sunday, asking shoppers to support the drive by purchasing Turkeys and other selected foods that would be included with the thanksgiving dinner, or by donating money to buy what food is still needed. The food for 139 families fits into two large cardboard boxes per family. The Cupertino Lodge dining room is used for this occasion. All of our dinning room tables are set up in the dining room and the empty boxes are put on the tables. The food that is collected at the stores are collected and dropped off at the lodge many times during the day on Saturday and Sunday, where they are put into the selected boxes. However, the food that needs to be refrigerated needs to be stored in a refrigerator truck until when they are taken out Monday morning and put into the boxes lined up at the lodge. A pair of winter gloves is recommended to save your fingers from freezing when unloading the truck. After that the boxes are loaded onto the different cars or trucks which are then taken to the different drop off points. This year the Cupertino Odd Fellows will like to led a hand in helping the Lions out. They can do that by either asking for food at the stores for 3 hour shifts, or carry food out of the Refrigerator Truck on Monday morning, (8:00 to 10:00) or help with lending your truck or car and driving food to a drop off spot. If you would like to help out, contact **Don Lang**, he will help you with what you need to know or who to contact. **408 835-7261** By **Do Lang**, editor