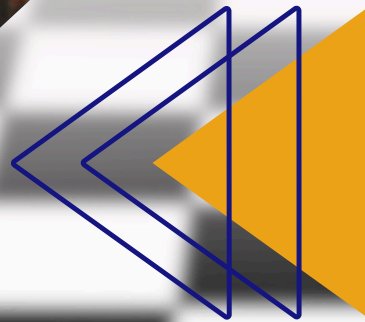


# Sunset #369

## TRESTLEBOARD

October 2026



[www.sunset369.com](http://www.sunset369.com)



# FROM THE EAST

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Brethren,

As October begins, I am pleased to report that Sunset Lodge No. 369 continues to move forward with purpose, and this month brings several matters that deserve your attention and participation.

Stated Meeting, October 6th. At our Stated Meeting, we will take up two items of real consequence. First, we will discuss the cost of the proposed interior renovations and ask the Lodge to vote on approval. This is an investment in the home we share and the generations of Masons who will follow us, so I encourage every Brother to come to be informed and ready to speak. Second, we will review the legislation proposed for the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California later this month. Our voice in the Grand Lodge is only as strong as our preparation, and I want us to arrive at a considered position on each measure. Please make every effort to attend.

Congratulations to Brother Claudie Jones. It is my great pleasure to congratulate Brother Claudie Jones on being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Brother Jones has taken a step that carries both privilege and obligation. On behalf of the officers and members of the Lodge, I welcome Brother Claudie to the fellowship of Master Masons. We look forward to his continued growth and his contributions to the work ahead.



# FROM THE EAST

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Beach Cleanup, Saturday, October 17th, 9:00 a.m. Masonry is measured by what we do outside the Lodge room as much as within it. Join us for our beach cleanup as we give back to the community we call home. Bring family and friends, wear clothes you don't mind getting sandy, and come ready to work alongside your Brothers. Many hands make light work, and the best Masonic lessons are often learned with a trash grabber in hand.

Double Initiation. We will also confer a double initiation this month. The date is still to be determined, and I will notify the membership as soon as it is set. Watch your email and the Lodge's communications for the announcement. When the date is confirmed, I ask that as many Brothers as possible be present to welcome these candidates and support the degree team.

Thank you, Brethren, for the energy and commitment you bring to this Lodge. I look forward to seeing you on the sixth.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*Rouman  
Ebrahim*

**Worshipful Master  
Sunset #369 F&AM**

# CONGRATULATIONS



Claudie *Jones*  
**MASTER MASON**



# Beach Clean Up

Saturday,  
October 17th,  
9 AM



**STATED MEETING**

**ALERT!**

**October 6th Dinner 6:30**  
**Meeting 7:30**



# CALENDAR

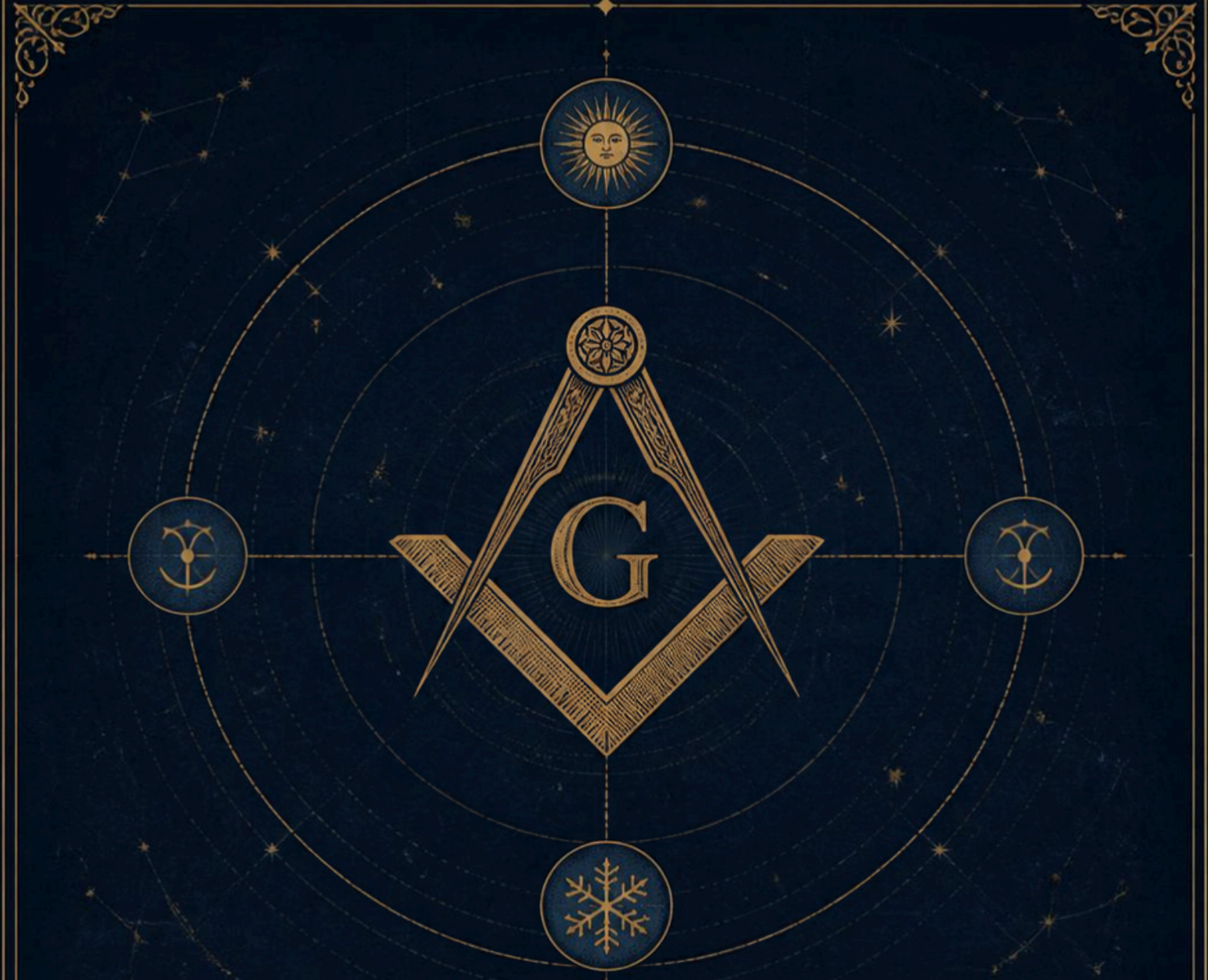
**October 6th - Stated Meeting**

**October 13th: First Degree  
Practice**

**October 17th - Beach Clean Up**

**October 20th - Tentative date for  
double First Degree**

For more up-to-date event info, please visit  
[www.sunset369.com](http://www.sunset369.com) and click “Events”



# Freemasonry and the Equinoxes and Solstices

BY R. STEPHEN DOAN

Early speculative Freemasons in England held quarterly meetings around the times of the equinoxes and solstices, a practice that reveals how the fraternity blended the practical traditions of the medieval craft guilds with Christian liturgy and older cosmological symbolism. What began as pragmatic assemblies of working masons gradually became highly ritualized occasions of speculative Masonry.

In the Middle Ages, operative masons held assemblies to regulate their trade, admit apprentices and settle disputes. These gatherings usually occurred on the “quarter days” of the English civil calendar, which were tied to both the rhythms of the Church year and the economic cycle. Lady Day on March 25, near the spring equinox, marked the beginning of the new year and the renewal of contracts. (Lady Day in the Christian calendar celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, when the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would conceive Jesus.) Midsummer Day on June 24, the feast of St. John the Baptist, corresponded to the summer solstice. Michaelmas on September 29, near the autumn equinox, closed out the harvest season. (Michaelmas honored St. Michael the Archangel, the leader of the heavenly host, protector against the powers of evil and champion of justice). Christmas on December 25, later associated with St. John the Evangelist, stood just after the winter solstice. These days were practical points of reckoning: rents came due, labor was hired and accounts were settled. Lady Day, Midsummer, Michaelmas and Christmas were also the dates around which medieval fairs were held. These fairs were some of the most important economic, social and even cultural events of the Middle Ages, which could last from a few days to several weeks.

As the stonemasons’ guilds transformed into a speculative and philosophical fraternity in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the quarterly gatherings persisted but gained symbolic meaning. The equinoxes and solstices were natural markers of the balance and extremes of light and darkness, fitting allegories for Masonic ideals of harmony, moderation and progress. Christian tradition reinforced this symbolism, especially through the solstitial feasts of the two Saints John. The Baptist, honored in June, and the Evangelist, honored in December, became emblematic pillars of Masonry, representing both continuity with Christian piety and the dual balance of zeal and contemplation. To early speculative Masons, trained to see geometry and astronomy as divine sciences, aligning their assemblies with the turning points of the heavens underscored their fraternity’s claim to reflect cosmic and moral order.

When the Premier Grand Lodge of England was founded in 1717, it codified this tradition by establishing quarterly communications, usually at or near the solstices and equinoxes. This mirrored older craft practice but also proclaimed Masonry’s dedication to regularity, order and universality. Just as the heavens turn in perfect measure, so too should the fraternity conduct its affairs with balance and proportion.

The choice of the equinoxes and solstices was therefore both practical and profound. Practically, these were the traditional quarter days when people gathered, debts were paid and new work began. Symbolically, they marked the balance of light and darkness, the rhythms of nature and the spiritual journey of humanity. Esoterically, they resonated with Hermetic, Rosicrucian and Cabalistic traditions, all of which associated cosmic cycles with renewal and transformation. For the early speculative Freemasons, the heavens themselves offered a model of order, harmony and eternal return, and their quarterly meetings echoed that divine rhythm.

# Want to contribute?

DO YOU HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT,  
ARTICLE, OR OTHER CONTRIBUTION TO  
ADD TO OUR MONTHLY TRESTLEBOARD?

EMAIL

[SECRETARYSUNSET369@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SECRETARYSUNSET369@GMAIL.COM)

BEFORE THE 20TH OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH

