

Grace Dee May Museum & Library • 665 W Jefferson Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007 • www.gracedeemay.org

ILLUMINATING THE LEGACY OF THE WEST

Grace Dee May MUSEUM & LIBRARY

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023 ILLUMINATIONS

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Grace Dee May Museum

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In 2004, Audrey Marie Stein established the Grace Dee May Museum. Audrey believed that she had been richly blessed by the Grace of God.



nickname was *Dee* and she had been born in the month of *May*. So, as Director of the Foundation, she named the Museum the *Grace Dee May*.



"The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it."

 William Howard Taft, 27th U.S. President and member of Kilwinning Masonic Lodge No. 356, Ohio

In this issue of Illuminations, we're sharing just a few of the memories from the recent Communication of California Masons.
For those of you who could not attend the

three-day gathering in San Francisco, I can assure you that it was an uplifting experience.

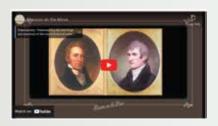
In recent years due to the COVID lock downs and post-pandemic fears, the attendance at Grand Lodge had naturally been limited. However, this year there were larger crowds of Masons than we've seen in decades!

The Grace Dee May Museum's booth on the Exhibition Floor was "Masons on the Move" – and certainly we welcomed hundreds more Masons and guests who thoroughly enjoyed the exciting stories of Freemasons who made their mark in fields of transportation. Our video and exhibits beginning with the courageous expedition of two Masons, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, who explored uncharted territory in 1803 to the bravery of astronaut, Buzz Aldrin who was the first Mason to walk on the Moon.

"Masons on the Move" is a 5-minute lighthearted zoom through history and I urge you to visit the Grace Dee May Museum YouTube Channel to view this fun video history lesson. If you'd like to receive a copy of the video to show to your Masonic organization or to use as part of a membership campaign, please email your request to: info@gracedeemay.org.

As a museum dedicated to illuminating the contributions of Freemasonry in the West, it is our privilege to serve as a resource to the Family of Freemasonry.

Sean Foran
Curator & Board President



Click this link to view "Masons on the Move" video

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"Finding Your Masonic Roots" at Grand Lodge 2023

Finding Masonic Roots at Grand Lodge 2023

On October 28th which was the second day of this year's Annual Communication, Jason Temple, a newly raised member of Saddleback Laguna Lodge No. 672 in Lake Forest, CA, stopped at the Grace Dee May Museum booth and pointed to one of the images on our banners and exclaimed, "That's my ancestor!"

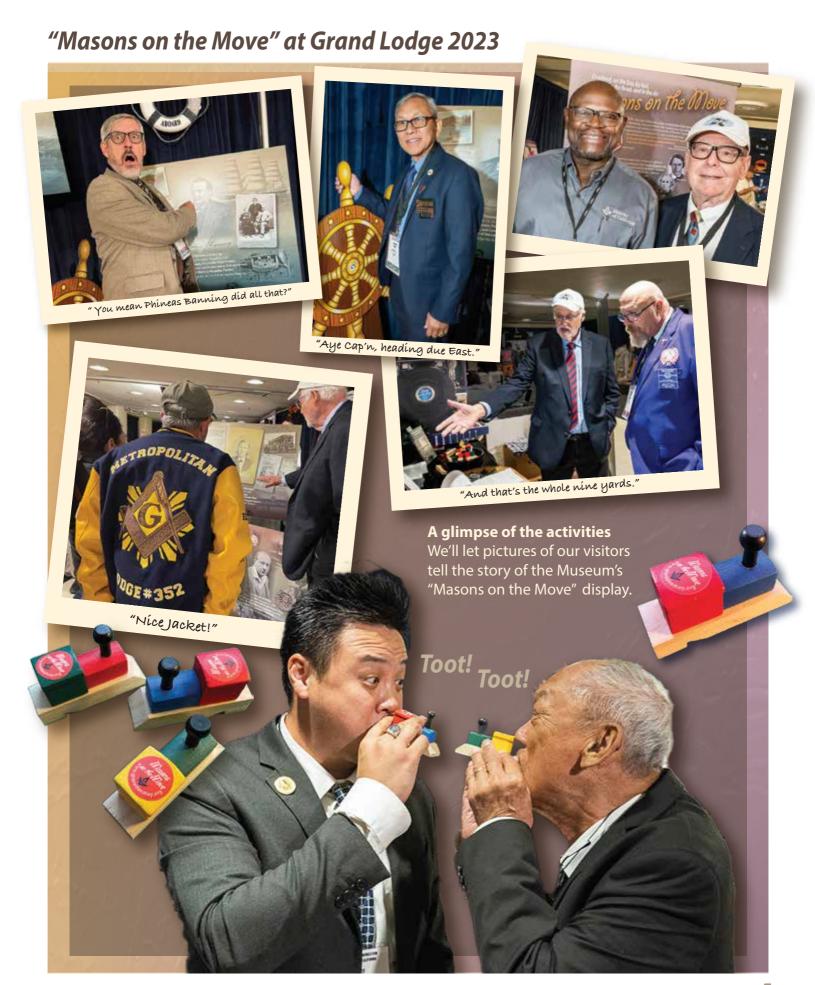
Jason recognized one of our "Masons on the Move", Freemason William Workman.

William Workman left England in 1820 and five years later settled in Santa Fe, Nuevo Mexico, where he worked as a fur trapper before opening a business with John Rowland. The two men left Taos in 1841 – the first pioneers from the East to travel the Old Spanish Trail into California. Both men became prominent leaders in Los Angeles. Workman was a member of Los Angeles Lodge No. 42, Lexington Lodge No 104, and LA Chapter 33 of Royal Arch Masons, William Workman's daughter Antonia married a Freemason, Francis Pliny Fisk Temple in 1845. Their marriage united two prominent families in early Los Angeles – Workmans and Temples that included civic leaders, land developers and businessmen who helped transform the Pueblo of Los Angeles into a thriving city. Frances Pliny Fisk Temple was a member of Lexington Lodge No. 104, Los Angeles Chapter No. 33 Royal Arch Masons, and LA Commandery No. 9, Knights Templar.

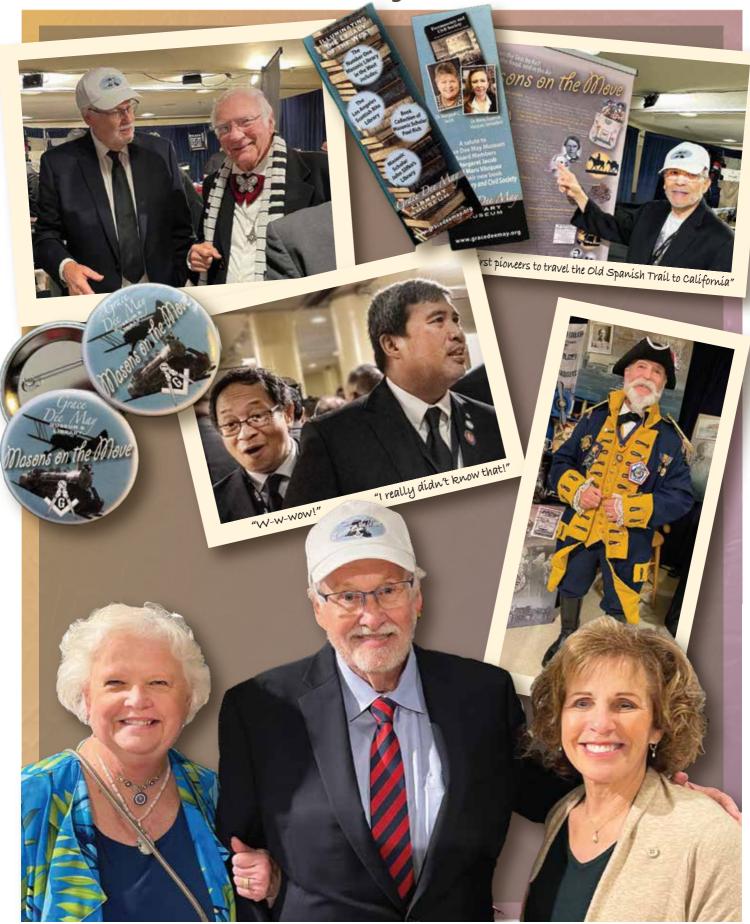


"Masons on the Move" at Grand Lodge 2023





"Masons on the Move" at Grand Lodge 2023



www.gracedeemay.org



ILLUMINATIONS

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023

Free Videos, Power Point Presentations, Historic plays with live cast, Educational Materials, Give-aways, and Display materials

lasons on the Move

Programs and videos include:



"Mason on the Move" A light-hearted history of Masons and Transportation.



"Mason in the Movies" A fast-paced overview of famous on-screen Masons.



"Raise a Glass to Masonry" A brief introduction to the development of winemakina in California and the Freemasons who made it possible.

Many of the visitors to our exhibit booth at Grand Lodge were surprised what great resources the Museum provides for Masonic Family groups.

Entertaining short videos, fun history quizzes, power points on early Masonic history that you can use at your Masonic meetings and events or as part of a membership drive.

We also perform a variety of live theatrical events for table lodges, Masonic dinners and gatherings. These include our live "radio broadcasts" which brings history to life by sharing historical details of famous Masons like George Washington.

Please visit our website to learn more or email: info@gracedeemay.org to learn how the Grace Dee May Museum can enhance the experience of your Masonic presentations and events.



"Knights of Early Los Angeles"

An award-winning portrayal of early Los Angeles and the Freemasons who changed a sleepy pueblo into a booming metropolis.

Our Vision:

The Grace Dee May Museum will seek to present a thematic look at the American West by utilizing its extensive collection of Western Art, and incorporate California history to broaden and deepen the public knowledge and appreciation of the men and women that settled the western part of the United States.

Our Mission:

The Grace Dee May Museum is committed to advancing the public knowledge and understanding of the American West and the contributions that Freemasonry has played in its development.

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Sean Foran, BOARD PRESIDENT AND CURATOR 818-620-2058 / info@gracedeemay.org www.gracedeemay.org





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