

The Trestle-Board



Bent Lodge No. 42 - AF&AM
Taos, NM
March 2014 - 6014 A.L.



2014 Officers

WM Noah Shapiro

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JD Wayne Rutherford

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SS - - -

JS Smith Clark

Marshal Keva Levin

Chaplain Bruce Burling

Tyler Chris Pieper

From the East

2014 — A year of renewed dedication Freemasonry!

Brethren all,

Time moves so quickly that sometimes it's difficult to keep up with the changes, so I hope everyone remembered to set their clocks forward an hour on the second Sunday of this month and didn't miss any important appointments. It's also hard to believe that we are already a quarter of the way through the year.

Congratulations to Bro. MacDonald on presenting a very good EA proficiency and for having been passed to Fellowcraft. Congratulations also to the degree team for a job well done. Thanks to Bro. Don Carlson (JW at Pajarito Lodge No. 66, Los Alamos) for taking on the Senior Deacon role in that degree, and huge thanks to WB Jagers and WB Cordova without whom, had they not attended and filled in empty places, we would not have been able to confer the degree at all.

We are now practicing for an EA degree to be conferred sometime after the 138th Grand Lodge Annual Communication (March 20-22, 2014) which, this year, will be in Las Cruces. WB Noble, Bro. Loomis, and I will be attending that communication as your voting representatives. Our hard-working Secretary, WB Thayer, has read in Lodge the Grand Master's recommendation as well as the change to the Constitution and Bylaws proposed at last year's communication.

Voting delegates to the Annual Communication are sent 'uninstructed' by their respective lodges as there is no provision in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico that it should be otherwise. Your input, suggestions, or recommendations, however, will be very helpful to your representatives, and very welcome by them, as an indication of the collective thinking of Bent Lodge.

With the 138th Annual Communication my tenure as Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico comes to an end. During the past year I have had the pleasure of visiting and being made welcome at many lodges throughout our state. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve Most Worshipful Grand Master Bill Childers and the Freemasons of New Mexico.

In the January edition of the Trestleboard I posted a plan for the year, a very ambitious plan as I said then. This plan, for which several items were included in the budget approved by the Craft of Bent Lodge, has not received much enthusiasm, or support so far. I am sorry that this is so because I truly thought that it reflected our established and growing enthusiasm for Masonry. Throughout our country and our state the membership rolls of our Fraternity are shrinking and unless we all take a proactive stance this trend will continue. I ask you, once again, to come together, to work together, to help ensure a future for Freemasonry.

Fraternally,

Noah Shapiro 32°
Master (2014)
Bent Lodge No. 42



How many Masons does it take to change a light bulb?

Well, it takes a minimum of 48.

The Worshipful Master must bring the possibility of changing the bulb before the Lodge. The Senior and Junior Wardens need to discuss the matter heatedly with the Treasurer. The Chaplain needs to consult Scripture for guidance. The Secretary needs to check all by-laws and minutes for the past fifty years for references to light bulbs.

The Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, and Stewards need to find references in Ritual to changing anything, and get into a rod fight off in the northwest corner over their findings.

The Chaplain needs to pray for all present, and for guidance in the way light bulbs affect the work of the Lodge.

The Tiler needs to guard against all fluorescent encroachments.

Then the Worshipful Master needs to consult the Grand Master, who repeats the exercise by making a conference call to all the other nineteen Grand Lodge Officers.

Meanwhile, the 15 other Masons present at the Lodge meeting need to raise a debate about who installed the light fixture in the first place, and why. Then they argue for the obligatory ninety minutes about whether to call a plumber or a diesel mechanic.

Finally the newest Master Mason shakes his head and leaves the sidelines to change the bulb.

Now. All who think this a really lame joke, vote by the usual sign of a Master Mason.

Yup. Me too.



From the West

Dear Brethren,

We are about a quarter of the way through 2014 and things are looking up at the Lodge. I think that we are all finding our places in the Lodge this year. We did a great second degree and are practicing for a first while looking forward to a third degree. Thanks to all the Brothers that have been helping our new Brother McDonald and friend John along their journey. I am sure that these two men will be a great part of our little community.

The pancake breakfast for TISA-PTA was a great success and I would like to thank everybody that came out for the event and the lodge for voting matching funds. I have recently joined the TISA-PTA. I believe that as Masons we need to act for the community out of Lodge - as well as in Lodge.

For sometime now, my daughter Isis and I have been traveling down to Aslar Assemble in Albuquerque twice a month to attend their pledge group and both of us have really enjoyed it. Let me give you a little history first. The order came into existence in 1922, when the Reverend W. Mark Sexson, a Freemason, was asked to make an address before South McAlester Chapter #149, Order of the Eastern Star, in McAlester, Oklahoma. As the Order of DeMolay had come under his close study during his Masonic activities, he suggested that a similar order for girls would be beneficial. The first Initiation consisted of a class of 171 girls on April 6, 1922, in the auditorium of the Scottish Rite Temple in McAlester. The original name was "Order of the Rainbow for Girls". These girls are doing wonderful things with the inspired help of Adriana and Susan Collins. This mother and daughter team are helping many children gain confidence and learn the importance of service. I have seen Isis learn important lessons through visiting retirement homes and being in the spotlight at meetings. I'll write more about the Rainbows in the coming months.

I would like to take the time to pay wages. Thanks to WM Shapiro for doing a good job on the first degree. Thanks WB Burling for helping with the planning for the upcoming degree.

Thanks to WB Cordova for all the work on the maintenance committee, the pictures of the Past Masters have never looked so good. Thanks to Bro. Loomis for all his help with dinner and for studying the working tools lecture. Thanks to PM Thayer for all the work that he has done to organise the contra dance. Thanks PMS Wagner and Yule for their help and guidance with the degrees.

WB Jed Noble

Senior Warden, Bent Lodge No. 42

The Kit Carson Home and Museum

by WB Marty Jagers, President of the KCHM Board

The New Year is underway at the Kit Carson Home and Museum. Executive Director, Karen Douglas, has moved into the new office space at the Carson House Shops. Please stop by and say hello when you are in the area. Karen has been busy submitting a grant to the New Mexico Humanities Council to fund the 2014 Summer Lecture Series. Also, Taos artist Thom Wheeler and his wife Lavinia have graciously offered to host a summer fundraiser for the KCHM at their gallery/home on Kit Carson Road (to be announced).

The KCHM Board of Directors welcomes new members; MWB Dan Irick (Grand Master of NM 1998) and current WM of Union Lodge No 4 in Wagon Mound; WB John Smedly (Past Master of Bent Lodge #42 1993,97); and WB Carl Wagner (Past Master of Bent Lodge No 42 2001,07) serving a one year term as middle Trustee from the Lodge.

Lots of work to be done in preparation for the busy Spring and Summer months. Please stop by and visit the museum shop for that special gift.

From the South

Time flies when you're having fun. This year seems to be going by at light speed with a great deal going on. In Bent Lodge No. 42 and elsewhere in Masonry in New Mexico. We have two now Masons coming through the degrees with practices and the degrees themselves, the work continues. As a new Mason, I am being blessed to see the degrees for the first time as a participant other than a Candidate. It amazes me how much I missed when I went through my own Initiation, Passing and Raising.

In addition to the degree work, the committees have been busy looking for ways to improve on this great Lodge.

Also, WB Noble, WB Cordova and I are working through the York rite Degrees, with a trip to Santa Fe once or twice per month to participate in this ancillary body. We are doing one degree per month up through June. I can say that it has been a great experience and continues to expand out understanding of Masonry and, for me, my goal and role in the Lodge and the community of Taos and New Mexico. You, my brothers, have given me the strength to move on towards becoming a Foster Parent (along with my wonderful wife) and we may soon be having three pre-teens in our home. I would never have had the courage to embark on this adventure without the inspiration of Masonry. For the first time in my 67 years, I feel like I can help guide God's kids along a better path.

In Fellowship
Scot Loomis, JW

Brethren,

There is always lots of busy work in any organization. So you will not be surprised to learn that there is plenty of work to do for Bent Lodge 42.

The committees appointed by the Master are well into the performance of their commitments. As always, wages to the Brethren who unselfishly step up for the well-being of our Lodge.

A look at the agenda for our next Communication listing the committee chairs, and while space limits the listing of all the committee members, they are certainly just as important. WB Noble is taking on the building committee to plot a course of action to maintain the Lodge; WB Burling continues his work on the grounds; Bro. Loomis brings his talents to the investment committee; again WB Wagner continues his work with the scholarship committee; WB Randall heads the audit committee; and WB Thayer continues his work with the Masonic Education. There is double-duty for a few. WB Noble heads the pancake breakfast committee; Bro. Loomis heads the Lodge use committee; and of course the Master heading the Relief committee.

I would like to encourage everyone pick a committee in which to participate in and lend their support and talents. It is very gratifying to see what can be accomplished when we work together for a successful Bent Lodge 42.

Together we succeed or fail... so let's make the commitment to work 'Together' to succeed.

Fraternally,
WB Dave Cordova

Order of Business for

March 17, 2014

Lodge will open on

The 3rd Degree in Masonry

1. Sickness and Distress
2. Reading of unapproved minutes.

Suspend Order of Business

3. Presentation of Bro. Angus MacDonald's Fellowcraft proficiency examination and vote thereon.

Return to Order of Business

5. Unfinished business.
6. Reports of Standing Committees.
 - a) Building (WB Noble)
 - b) Grounds (WB Bruce Burling)
 - c) Treasurer (WB Greg Smith)
 - d) Flag (Bro. Wayne Rutherford)
 - e) Investment (Bro. Scot Loomis)
 - f) Masonic Education (WB Scott Thayer)
 - g) Scholarship (WB Carl Wagner)
 - h) Outreach (Report contacts, joint-events discussed, recommendations) Unfilled (Volunteers?)
 - i) Pancake Breakfast (WB Jed Noble)
 - j) Publications/Web Site (WB Dave Cordova)
 - k) Public Relations (Bro. Chris Pieper)
 - l) Relief (WB Noah Shapiro)
7. Reports of Special Committees.
 - a) Audit Committee (WB Charles Randall)
 - b) Lodge Use Policy (Bro. Scot Loomis)
 - c) Bylaws Revision (WB Noah Shapiro)
8. Presentation of petitions for Degrees, and for Affiliation.
9. Report of Committees on Petitions and balloting thereon.
10. Communications and presentation of bills.
11. Motions and resolutions in writing.
12. Educational Presentation.
13. Motions from the Floor and miscellaneous business. (See page 2)
14. Closing remarks by WM.

Close Lodge

A Message from The Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico

Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren of the Lodge,

I hope that this finds everyone in the best of health and spirit. As you know the 137th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of New Mexico is rapidly approaching. Please accept this correspondence as my personal invitation for you and your loved one to attend this most prestigious event. The “*event*” will take place at the beautiful Hotel Encanto Resort in Las Cruces, New Mexico and is organized to be both informative and fun. Lady Liz has put together an interesting and competitive program for the ladies to be followed by a luncheon at Aztec Lodge #3, catered by the Texas Road House Restaurant.

Registration forms are available on the Grand Lodge web site and have been made available to each of the lodges.

To make this event beneficial to the Masonic charities, we are hosting a raffle. The planning committee for the 137th Annual Communication recently prepared and distributed a letter which provides an overview of the scheduled events and clarifies the established purpose and intent of the raffle. I wish to reiterate to you that no portion of the proceeds from the raffle will go into the Grand Lodge operating funds. The proceeds will be distributed as stated in the referenced correspondence. The lodges, the concordant and appended Masonic bodies, youth groups and individual Brothers stand to benefit from the proceeds.

I respectfully request the earliest possible registration so that we may better prepare to accommodate those in attendance. I look forward to visiting with you at the “*event*.”

Fraternally and sincerely,

William R.L. Childers

Grand Master 20 13

In other news...

The 137th Annual Communication will be held in Las Cruces this coming weekend, March 20-22. WM Noah Shapiro and SW Jed Noble will travel to Southern New Mexico to represent Bent Lodge 42 at the State Communication. Safe travels Brothers!

The second pancake breakfast of the year is scheduled for April 12th, 2014. WB Jed Noble and his breakfast team will come together to raise funds for the Taos Optimist Club's Scholarship Fund. Please come out for the fellowship and help your Brethren with the breakfast.

WB Dave Cordova has finished digitizing the photos of all but two Past Masters of Bent Lodge 42. The only two photos missing are that of WB Paul Whiting from 1933 and WB Marcus Bell from 2000. From WB Isaac Wesley Dwire in 1909 to WB Dave Cordova in 2013, all Past Masters are represented. Several Past Masters served twice, and only WB Ben Fallin has served three times. Please go to: www.bentlodge42.org/PastMasters.html to view the photos. We hope to gather short biographies of each of the Past Masters to add to the photos. If anyone can contribute anything, please submit your information for publication.

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