

The Trestle-Board



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



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From the East

2014 — A year of renewed dedication Freemasonry!

Brethren all,

As many of you know, I spent a few days last week at the VA Medical Center in Albuquerque. The poking, prodding, scanning, and other indignities ended around noon on Thursday. The rest of the day was great! RWB Jefferson Jordan, Deputy Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico, took me to lunch, and I was fortunate enough to spend the rest of the day with him. He invited me to attend that evening's Past Masters' dinner and regular communication at Temple Lodge No. 6 and, of course, I accepted. The fellowship and brotherly love extended to me was extraordinary, as was the experience in the tyled lodge. My thanks to WM Peter Duettra for his warm welcome —and for the pocketful of goodies I received as a first-time visitor!

In a recent email to me, WB Cordova commented that the work undertaken by the By Laws Revision Committee, and the draft proposal it produced, were very ambitious. He also mentioned that the extent of this work was usually only to be found at the creation of a new organization. He is absolutely correct, but that had not occurred to me until I read his email. With that in mind, the task of the Committee has been simplified, as has the entire process. I will tell you more about this at our September 15 meeting.

Our good Brother LeMoine is doing outstanding work organizing our BBQ and Social, scheduled for Sunday, October 5. Whatever help he needs, please lend a hand. A flyer advertising the event has been published in the New Mexico Freemason, which you should receive in the next few days. If you are not regularly receiving this quarterly Grand Lodge publication let me know, and also let me know your email address, and I will make sure you get a copy.

Fraternally,

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



BENT LODGE "BBQ SOCIAL"

Sunday, October 5th, 2014 - 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

SCOTTISH BAGPIPE MUSIC

Bro. Angus McDonald
and Dr. Robert Knudson

MARK TWAIN AT BENT LODGE

RWB Jefferson Jordan portrays
the famous author & humorist

GENERAL JAMES H. CARLTON

Bro. Rick Thompson portrays
Kit Carson's commanding officer

*Lots of great food: BBQ Chicken, Smoked Sausage, Hot Dogs,
Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Garlic Bread, Chocolate
Chip Cookies and Other Desserts, Iced Tea, Bottled Water, Coffee*

R.S.V.P. BY SEPTEMBER 28TH

Wit & Wisdom from Brother Mark Twain

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing you can do is keep your mind young.

* * *

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.

* * *

Education: that which reveals to the wise, and conceals from the stupid, the vast limits of their knowledge.

* * *

Humor is the great thing, the saving thing. The minute it crops up, all our irritations and resentments slip away and a sunny spirit takes their place.

* * *

I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying that I approved of it.

* * *

I don't like to commit myself about heaven and hell-you see, I have friends in both places.

* * *

I would rather have my ignorance than another man's knowledge, because I have got so much more of it.

* * *

It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt.

* * *

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.

* * *

The worst loneliness is not to be comfortable with yourself.

* * *

When I was younger, I could remember anything, whether it had happened or not.

* * *

From the West

Dear Brethren,

The light is changing very quickly now as Fall approaches and the leaves will be falling on frosted windshields before we know it. I don't Have much to report, since this month has been very quiet around the Lodge and I have been very busy with my family and work. Please come out and help Brother LeMoine with all he is doing especially the upcoming BBQ Social.

I am proud to report that my daughter Isis Noble will is pledging Rainbow Girls on Sunday September 14th, 2014. The ceremony will be held at Temple Lodge No. 6 in Albuquerque and is a beautiful story with wonderful morals.

Thanks Bro. Loomis for your hard work for and improvements to the pancake breakfast. Thanks Brother LeMoine for all your hard work at the Lodge. One more thanks to Brother Verheyden whom has worked very hard on his proficiency and will be ready to present it in Lodge this month. Looking forward to seeing all of you all at Lodge.

WB Jed Noble 32°

Senior Warden, Bent Lodge No. 42

Two Bagpipers Piping...



Folks arriving early for our BBQ Social will be "seranaded" by the bagpipe styling of Bro. Angus MacDonald and Dr. Robert Knudson. Maybe seranaded is a bit meek since bagpipe music gives one an urge to march. Then again, "Amazing Grace" is not a march, and intended to be heard in clearly somber times. You listen, you decide.

Come and listen to MacDonald and Knudson on Sunday, October 5th.

What is R.S.V.P. and Why Should I Reply

Having been involved in numerous organizations, I have had many occasions where events were planned that involved the serving of meals. Because it is a good idea to gauge attendance so as to not over or under prepare to serve your guests, a reply is requested: R.S.V.P., which stands for "*Repondez Sil Vous Plait*," which means "Please Respond."

In formal events, an R.S.V.P. is useful not only to assess attendance, but also to count those that will not be attending. For informal events, such as the upcoming BBQ Social, it is very important to come as close as possible to the number of attendees to not only to minimize the left-overs, but to minimize the embarrassment of not having enough food to feed everyone.

So that the next time you see that an event requests for guests to R.S.V.P., please do so by the due date. If you are not completely sure you will attend, but feel it is likely... reply that you will attend. If you are sure that you will not be able to make it... reply that you will not attend.

One more thing. Please include how many in your party are attending.

From the South

This month has been somewhat slow, with the postponement of the York Rite breakfast, but I think we will make up for it in October with the long awaited BBQ and 2 Charity Breakfasts! York Rite Breakfast has been rescheduled for January 2015. We will have tickets printed and ready for distribution at our upcoming communication. As the idea of this breakfast will be a bit different, the Brothers of the York Rite will be coming to Bent Lodge from Santa Fe, Albuquerque and elsewhere about the state, we have been asked to sell the tickets for them. My thought with to approach the local Christian clergy to see who might be interested in applying for the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land (which is what the proceeds for this Breakfast will be used to fund). They in turn can offer the tickets fo their congregations. Getting the tickets out early will help ensure a good turn out.

We already have 8 Breakfasts scheduled for next year and one or two more groups who have expressed interest. So, our charitable service is moving along.

Scot Loomis, JW
Bent Lodge No. 42



It has been said that our object should not so much be to get more men into Masonry as to get more Masonry into men.

There is a wealth of information available for the Mason who wishes to study the Craft. The genuine Mason never stops his learning process. Learning is a lifetime.

Information and knowledge is available from around the world – in written, audio and video. Should you wish to continue your Masonic learning I would suggest you consider some of the following:

Masonic scholars and researchers should keep in mind that there are many points of view about various subjects. Just because it is printed does not mean it is absolutely true. It may be one man's opinion.

What Masonic Penalties Are Enforced?

The only penalties known to Freemasonry are reprimand; definite suspension from membership; indefinite suspension from membership; and expulsion from the Fraternity. To these must be added that intangible penalty which comes to any one who loses all or part of his reputation. Other penalties suggested in the ritual are wholly symbolic are not now and never have been enforced. They were legal punishments in the middle ages, designed with special reference to the religious beliefs of the time that an incomplete body could not “rise from the dead”; that a body buried in unconsecrated ground (as between high and low water mark) could not ascend into heaven. Some Grand Lodges offer an interpretation of the ritualistic penalties, in order to be sure the initiate understands the symbolic character of these otherwise difficult phrases.

Order of Business for

September 15, 2014

Lodge will open on

The 1st Degree in Masonry

Drape the Charter in honor of

MWB John Grainger

1. Sickness and Distress
2. Reading of unapproved minutes.
3. Unfinished business.
4. 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) Pancake Breakfast
(WB Scot Loomis)
 - i) Publications/Web Site
(WB Dave Cordova)
 - j) Outreach/Public Relations
(Bro. Michael LeMoine)
 - k) Relief
(WB Noah Shapiro)
5. Reports of Special Committees.
 - a) Lodge Use Policy
(Bro. Scot Loomis)
 - b) Bylaws Revision
(WB Noah Shapiro)
6. Presentation of petitions for Degrees, and for Affiliation.
7. Report of Committees on Petitions and balloting thereon.
8. Communications and presentation of bills.
9. Educational Presentation.
11. Motions and resolutions in writing.
12. Motions from the Floor and miscellaneous business.
13. Closing remarks by WM.

Close Lodge

MARK TWAIN AT BENT LODGE



RWB Jefferson Jordan returns to Bent Lodge (Sunday, October 5th) in the guise of his alter ego, Samuel Clemens, better known as the great American author and humorist, Mark Twain.

Bro. Mark Twain, himself, had many indirect ties to the southwest in general, and Taos in particular. He was a member of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Brotherhood of Masons, having received the Degrees during the Spring and Summer of 1861 at Polar Star Lodge Number 79 in St. Louise, Missouri. This brings up one of those indirect connections to Taos, since the Grand Lodge of Missouri first granted a Charter to Bent Lodge Number 204 in 1860. During his life, Bro. Twain became a great friend and traveling companion of Henry Huddleston Rogers, founder of Standard Oil. Mr. Rogers was the grandfather of Millicent Rogers, famous heiress and art patroness who made her home in Taos, and whose son still lives at Turtle Walk on Ranchitos Road.

RWB Jordan has studied everything about Mark Twain, who was a personal hero, and takes center stage in the person of the famous humorist, so convincingly, that most come away feeling like they have actually met the great man himself. Bro. Jeff, dressed in period clothing and sporting a Panama

hat and puffing on a comforting stogie, tells stories, praises the famous and criticized the infamous, all the while peppering his monologue with those witty and profound quotations. Quotations that although were penned over a hundred years ago, have as much meaning today as they did then.

RWB Jordan is the current Deputy Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico and makes his home in Albuquerque.

GEN. JAMES H. CARLETON, KIT CARSON'S COMMANDING OFFICER

Bro. Richard Thompson is a very capable historian, with emphasis in the Southwest around the mid-19th Century. Bro. Rick is well known for his portrayal of several historical figures, most notably, Brother James Henry Carleton, who as General of the American Army, ordered Bro. Kit Carson to subdue the Navajo and march the tribe to Bosque Redondo. Bro. Rick has performed his portayal twice at the Kit Carson Home and Museum with great audience appeal and interaction.



Bro. Thompson makes his appearance dressed in a wool American Army uniform, of his own construction, and displays weapons that folks in the Southwest would have used.

Bro. Rick Thompson is a Veteran of the Vietnam War, professional actor and writer. He makes his home in Edgewood, NM and is a member of Cerrillos Lodge 19 in Santa Fe.

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