

The Trestle-Board



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



2014 Officers

WM Noah Shapiro

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SW Jed Noble

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(575) 770-5589

JW Scot Loomis

juniorwarden@bentlodge42.org
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Treasurer Greg Smith

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Secretary Scott Thayer

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SD Dan Stouffer

seniordeacon@bentlodge42.org

JD Wayne Rutherford

juniordeacon@bentlodge42.org

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,

Since our last meeting in March, WB Noble and I attended the Grand Lodge of New Mexico's 137th Annual Communication in Las Cruces. Unfortunately, Bro. Loomis was unable to attend.

Compared to years past, this was a relatively quiet meeting, even with about two hundred lodge representatives in attendance. The two main items on the agenda —the Grand Master's Recommendation 1, and a constitutional amendment, both of which were previously read in Bent Lodge—were each defeated by majority vote.

New officers in the progressive line, elected and appointed, were installed. They are as follows:

Grand Master – Most Worshipful Kevin Schwebel

Deputy Grand Master – Right Worshipful Jefferson Jordan

Grand Senior Warden – Right Worshipful Dennis Anderson

Grand Junior Warden – Right Worshipful Ernie Shoup

Grand Senior Deacon – Right Worshipful Adam Hathaway

Grand Junior Deacon – Right Worshipful Ralph Easley

Among other appointments, MW Schwebel honored me with the chairmanship of the Masonic Publications Committee.

The Monday after the Grand Lodge annual meeting saw the regular meeting of the Lodge of perfection, Valley of Santa Fe, which was anything but quiet with the largest number of members in attendance that anyone could remember for many years past. If you are a Scottish Rite Mason, or are just interested in what's going on with the proposed sale of our historic building, I'd be glad to meet with you and fill you in on the meeting. It would take far too much space to report on that meeting here.

The Bent Lodge By-Laws Revision Committee has met several times and has exchanged numerous emails discussing and revising the proposed new document. After a lot of hard work during the past four months or so, your committee members have drawn up a set of by-laws which should serve our lodge for many years to come. In the next two or three weeks, a copy will be sent to every member, for review. In compliance with Code 129 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, a vote on the new by-laws is tentatively scheduled for our May 19th meeting.

Fraternally,

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



A story is told about two friends who daily commuted to work together by train. One day, Harry said to Jim, "Have you ever noticed that the conductor never takes a ticket from that guy wearing the funny ring. I've seen those rings in the pawn shops, and I think I'll get me one and see what happens."

The next day Harry was flashing his new ring when the conductor came by. Noticing the ring, the conductor asked him, "Will you be off or from?"

Harry thought for a moment, and then replied, "I'll be off."

The conductor told him he was right, and put him off at the next station.

Code 308.

SELECTIVE INVITATION

Any Master Mason in good standing may invite a man he knows to be of good character and morals to join the fraternity if he qualifies under Codes 301, 302 and 303.

Grand Lodge Board of Directors

Kevin K. Schwebel

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Jefferson H. Jordan, Jr

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Dennis D. Anderson

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E. Alan Wadlinger

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From the West

Dear Brethren,

We just had a pancake breakfast for the Taos Optimist Club on April 12th. Scott Loomis who has been a regular volunteer at the breakfasts, was not able to make it due to family obligations. WB Dave Cordova almost missed this breakfast, but thankfully Dave was able to rearrange his schedule and helped for the whole morning. Brothers Angus Macdonald, Keva Levin, Keith McIntosh, Smith Clark and Peter Kunkel all came out to help.

Thank you, Brothers!

Grand Lodge was another interesting and exciting session of the state of New Mexico Masonic Legislature. No changes were made to any of our ruling documents but that's not to say that nothing was accomplished. MWB Childers expressed his idea for the embodiment of Masonry, that we express out of Lodge what we have learned in Lodge. I agree. As Masons, we are charged to live within a moral compass and in order to do this one must first define the line not to cross. Then we are given strictly in charge to ever act as such. It's an internal battle, and yes we should be there for our brethren to gently remind and aid but we should be careful to respect that being a just and upright Mason can only come from our own hearts, not from another brother. It is great that Masons are being challenged to break off the rough edges, so let us all work the hardest on our own discordant passions.

I would like to thank the Worshipful Master for practicing for all of the degrees that we have to look forward to and thanks to Bro. Loomis for his work on Lodge Usage.

Thanks to everyone whom I missed in my thanks to the craft.

WB Jed Noble 32°

Senior Warden, Bent Lodge No. 42

A Masonic End - Gallows Humor

As a man was standing on the gallows, his executioner asked if he had any last words.

"Yes," the man replied, "I hate Masons."

The executioner was surprised by this and asked, "Why do you hate Masons? They do much good in our world."

The condemned man said, not hiding his anger, "They are killing me. The man who turned me in is a Mason; the cop that arrested me is a Mason; the prosecuting attorney that tried me is a Mason; the jury that convicted me were all Masons; and the judge that sentenced me to hang is a Mason. That is why I hate Masons!"

"I see," said the executioner. "Are you ready to proceed?"

"Yes," said the man with sadness in his voice.

"O.K. Then you will advance one regular step with the left foot...."

A man was checking into a small hotel on the outskirts of town when he saw a sign on the wall which read, "HIRAM LODGE, Meetings every Wednesday at 7PM."

The man said to the lady at the front desk, "I wonder what they do in there. Do you think they'd ever let me join?"

"I don't think so."

"Well why not?"

"I don't know. That guy there," she said pointing at the man sitting outside the door, "has been knocking on the door for weeks and they won't let him in."

From the South

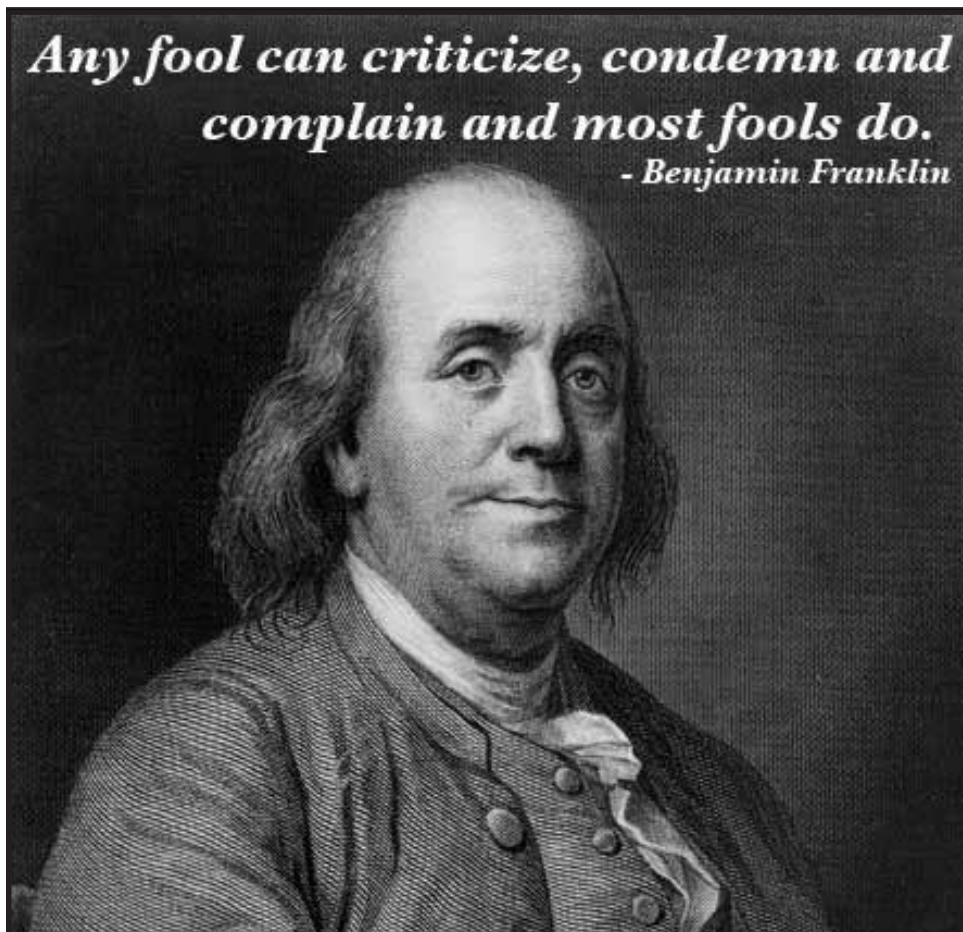
First, I would like to apologize to my Brothers who were treated to burnt Spaghetti sauce at our last communication. I did not realize how burned the sauce had been until we tried to clean the pan. It wasn't so bad for the first ones served, but I suspect it got much worse towards the middle and bottom of the pan. At any rate, my sincere apologies.

I also regret that I have been somewhat distracted from any Masonic focus for the last month. Moving toward the placement of the 3 children that will soon "bless" our home and attending my Mother's Life celebration this last weekend, left little room for much else. My Mom's sendoff was a heart-warming affair, tears and laughter in equal measure. The kids will be with us before the end of the month.

One Masonic highlight for me is the continuing progress through the degrees of the York Rite. Most Excellent Master Mason was the March treat for Worshipful Brothers Noble and Cordova as well as for me. We look forward to the Royal Arch degree the 4th Tuesday of April.

Also, working with the team for Mr. Verhaden's (sp?) EA degree has been fun and informative. It amazes me how much I missed when I went through the degrees myself. I look forward to his initiation later this month, possible at our regular communication. Next we will be working towards the raising of Brother MacDonald. Yea, I won't be the newest Master Mason at Bent Lodge.

In Fellowship
Scot Loomis, JW



Order of Business for

April 21, 2014

Lodge will open on

The 3rd Degree in Masonry

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) Outreach
(Report contacts, proposed joint-events, 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)
5. Reports of Special Committees.
 - a) Lodge Use Policy
(Bro. Scot Loomis)
 - b) 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.
- 14: Closing remarks by WM.

Close Lodge

S:.M:.I:.B:.

With a third of the year behind us, the next trimester promises to be the busiest. The KCHM launches its always busy summer season by participating in "Give iGRANDE! New Mexico" on May 6th; followed the start of the Summer Lecture Series, which continues through the summer; and a Fund Raising Barbeque hosted by Thom & Lavinia Wheeler. Bent Lodge 42 will also be very active with the business of the Lodge.

"Give iGRANDE! New Mexico" is a state vehicle to solicit donations for deserving not-for-profits organizations around the state. The way it works is: on Tuesday, May 6th, anyone can log on to "www.givegrandenm.org" and make donations to an state organization of their choosing. The amount and recipient is the donor's choice, and I understand that any amount can be sub-divided amongst your chosen organizations.

The KCHM Summer Lecture Series kicks-off on Saturday, July 5th at 6:00 with an encore performance by Bro. Rick Thompson reprising his portrayal of General James Carlton. Bro. Thompson's show-and-tell performance was a highlight of last year's lecture series, using numerous rifles, guns, knives and swords to bring his character to life. I can tell you, I am looking forward to his performance.

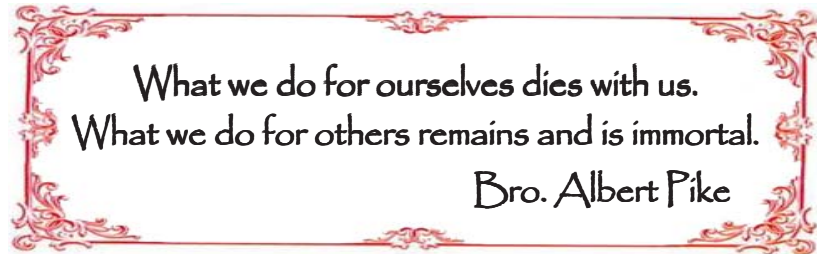
The next day, on Sunday, July 6th from 3 to 7 PM, artist Thom Wheeler and his wife Lavinia will host "The KCHM Summer Fundraiser Barbeque" at the Wheeler Estate on Kit Carson Road. There will be food, drinks, music, costumes, auctions and live action artists. Tickets are \$60 per person. Please call the museum at 758-4945 to reserve your tickets.

The Summer Lecture Series continues with Virginia Scharff discussing the centuries-long history of women in New Mexico; Ronald K. Wetherington, author of *Ceran St. Vrain: American Frontier Entrepreneur* speaks about a Kit Carson contemporary; and *Kit's Compadre* Stephen Zimmer, author of numerous books about Kit Carson, Taos and the Moreno Valley. Schedules have not been announced yet, but we will keep you posted.

Bent Lodge 42 will hopefully confer an EA Degree for Mr. Verhaden, and Raise Brother MacDonald, in the coming months. It would be most welcoming to have as many of the BL42 Brethren assist or attend these Degrees.

I want to extend congratulations and well wishes to the Grand Lodge officers for 2014: MWB Kevin Shwebel, RWB Jeff Jordan, RWB Dennis Anderson, RWB Ernie Shoup, RWB Adam Hathaway, RWB Ralph Easley and all appointed officers.

Fraternally,
WB Dave Cordova



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5660 NDCBU • Taos, NM 87571

I AM A FREEMASON



I am a member of one of the oldest and largest fraternities for men in the world. The square and compasses I wear on my lapel has for centuries been recognized throughout the world as a symbol of truth, morality and brotherly love; and are the virtues that we strive to exemplify throughout our lives.