

Montana Freemason

July/Aug 2022

Vol. 98 No. 4

It's amazing
how much
you get back
when you
give.



NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.™

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About The Cover

Developed by the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Scottish Rite, the "Not Just a Man. A Mason" campaign was launched to educate the public and inspire our Masonic brethren about who we are and what we stand for as Freemasons. To date, the campaign is being used in 47 states and in more than 10 countries internationally. The campaign has been translated into Spanish, French, Portuguese, and a Russian translation is underway.

The Supreme Council is sharing their entire "Not Just a Man. A Mason" campaign material with our Masonic family for their advertising and promotional programs, as long as they adhere to the rules in the campaign guidelines we have provided.



Reid Gardiner
Editor



Articles & Correspondence

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The Editorial Staff invites contributions in the form of informative articles, reports, news, and other timely information that broadly relate to general Masonry.

Article Submission. These points should be followed for articles submitted for publication.

Photographs & Artwork. Original pictures or pictures from digital camera work best, use the highest resolution. Newspaper pictures and Ink Jet prints will not reproduce satisfactorily. All photographs must indicate who took the photo and the name of the event or persons who may appear on it. Printed photographs will not be returned.

Text & Copy. Articles must be typewritten. Articles can be submitted to the editor by e-mail, fax, regular mail or dropped off at the Grand Lodge office. Articles must be spell checked, and are subject to peer review and evaluation. Compensation is not permitted for item, photo or other material submitted for publication. E-Mail all photos and articles to the address below.

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Behind This Door
Lies A Treasure Trove
Of Historic Montana Artifacts



The Montana Masonic Foundation
Invites You To Explore
Our All New Expanded Museum

425 N Park Avenue
Helena, Montana
(406) 442-7774



The Masonic Apron belonging to Meriwether Lewis, which he carried on the Corps of Discovery trek across the country, is on display along with two paintings depicting the first Masonic meeting in the Territory, now the State of Montana.

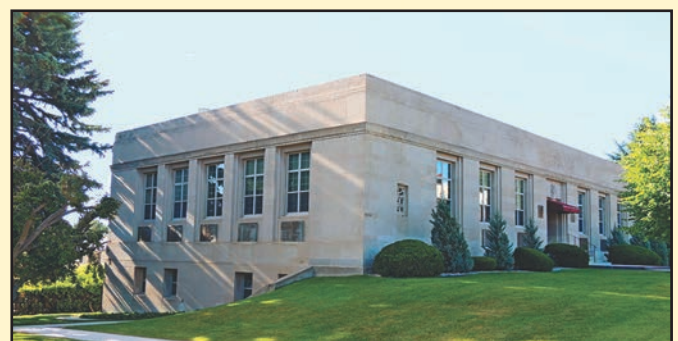


This British Army drum with its original drum sticks was taken from the British and later played during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

This Grand Masters' Lion Paw signet ring is made of gold mined at Alder Gulch, Virginia City, Montana Territory in 1887, by Samuel Word, who was one of the first lawyers admitted to practice law in the Montana, Territory on December 4, 1864.



These are but a few of the treasures waiting for you to discover at the site of one of Helena's first gold claims.



Trinity Lodge No. 152 School Grant Program



L-R: WB John Heston, recipient Drew Lowry and WM John Sonderegger.

Supporting Our Public Schools



GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2022-2023

GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF MONTANA



Front (L-R): Bruce Lahti (34) Grand Treasurer; Jason Smith (29/53) Jr. Gr. Warden; David Schantz (2) Deputy Grand Master; Johnathon Dahlquist (1/16/18) Most Worshipful Grand Master; Sam Whitehead (3/105) Sr. Gr. Warden; Daniel Gardiner (3) Grand Secretary.

Back (L-R): F. Lee Graves (16) Gr. Historian; Jeff Harada (90) Gr. Chaplain; Don Powell (18) Sr. Gr. Deacon; Martin Reiersen (52) Sr. Gr. Steward; Mark Bassett (1/32) Grand Sword Bearer; John Reid (1/73) Grand Tyler; Wade Riden (96) Jr. Gr. Deacon; David Sageser (50/55); Brice Liggett (20) Grand Pursuivant; John Heston (42/152) Grand Marshal; Tracy Bratcher (128) Jr. Gr. Steward; [not shown] David Dunbar (3/6) Grand Organist and Kyron Jenö (3) Assistant Grand Treasurer.

The Next Three Articles

The following three articles (Page 7-10) originate from the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and appropriately address issues that should concern us all, membership and Lodges. These articles may help our Jurisdiction to understand that not only the Great Lodge of Montana, but other Grand Jurisdictions are in search of answers to our declining members.

Change is here; are you ready for the revival?

Jonathan Underwood, Grand Secretary, North Carolina

No one can argue that things do not change. Sometimes the process is welcomed, sometimes it's dreaded. The mere thought of change is sometimes more difficult to comprehend than the actual change itself. It takes a certain amount of courage to embrace a new way of doing something.

I recall as a child sitting on the third pew, right-hand side of the church during a congregational meeting—probably one of the first I ever attended.

The church was in need of sprucing up inside and out. The HVAC system was shot. The windows needed caulking. The carpet was looking shabby. And the cemetery was overrun with gnarled tree roots and runaway ground cover.

As the elders and deacons discussed — and debated — these upgrades, the tone of their voices changed, growing louder at times, more harsh at others.

"My grandmother made those cushions," came one reply. "Granddad planted those trees!" came another. A cadre of elderly ladies objected to the repainting of the sanctuary, claiming, "Our fathers painted the walls this color when we were children, you can't change that!"

Our minister's weary eyebrow remained raised as he worked to moderate the chatter, but by the end of the session little was set for change or alteration.

As the talk subsided a gentleman looked about the room. He was relatively new to the church. His face was flustered, but he raised his hand to speak — one of the few following the rules of the meeting. The minister recognized him, and he stood and eloquently (but briefly) explained to the congregation that change was necessary and the improvements presented would benefit each of them.

When murmurs and some louder voices chided him for being a newcomer and ignorant of our traditions, he raised his hands and looked over the congregation. "Friends!" he said, "All I can say is that thank God I joined this church AFTER you all decided to use toilet paper!"

As we move into 2022, everyone is looking forward to a new beginning. The past two years of pandemic, social unrest, and economic shifts have forced us to rethink all aspects of our lives — and Freemasonry is no different.

But change, by and large, has proved beneficial.

More than ever, our brethren made efforts to reach out to each other to stay in contact. Younger generations taught older generations to use technology to stay in touch and even meet virtually online.

Because of social distancing, lodges became creative and moved outdoors (as we once met anciently) and conducted degree work and even business. Districts became "smaller" and lodges banded together to host fundraisers for local members and our charities.

Educational programs hosted online united men across continents and time zones. Our Annual Communication moved into new, larger quarters and mastered its technological hurdles to provide a remarkable meeting.

We are still realizing other changes and making sense of them. We know membership is declining and some lodges are closing, but declining membership and lodge closures are not indicative of poor institutional health.

Demographics change. Populations shift. We have opportunities before us to plant new lodges in growing cities geared toward giving back. We're definitely within a paradigm shift and our ability to pivot and address issues as they arise will serve us better than clinging to "the way we've always done it."

To quote Grand Master Thompson, we're ready for a revival — for new growth, new direction, and new opportunities.

Our brotherhood — our friendship — is the constant in our lives. Our ritual unites us on our path as brethren.

The rest is just details.

Are you ready for change? Are you ready for the revival?

Reprinted from The North Carolina Mason, January/February 2022, Volume 147, Number 1, Page 9.



Apathy can be a lodge killer!

Larry B. Thompson, Jr., Grand Master, North Carolina

Have you ever driven by an unfamiliar lodge building in your travels and based on outward appearances, find yourself questioning whether the lodge is still active?

Do you know of a lodge that consistently struggles with poor participation or has not performed a degree in years? Similarly, we all know lodges that have not held a fundraiser for our Masonic charities in years.

Why would a lodge neglect its building? Why does a lodge struggle to fill its chairs on meeting night? Why are we not fulfilling our obligations and supporting our charities?

In a word – apathy.

Regardless of the perceived problem (finances, membership numbers, participation, lodge culture, etc.), apathy is the cause ... and it can be a lodge killer if the source is not identified and addressed.

None of us want to see a lodge fail and yet we have 434 lodges that have gone inactive since our Grand Lodge was formed.

So, how do we identify the causes of apathy?

The first step in addressing this issue is to fully commit to making a change and believing that change is possible. Regardless of how we got there, our perception is our reality. Events in the past got us to this point but it is our current mindset that keeps us mired.

Knowing this, we must change our attitude and understand that this will require a significant amount of work. If we are fully committed there is no room for indifference, and we will begin to see involvement.

Change your attitude, and you are on your way to eliminating apathy in the lodge.

The next step is to perform a lodge self-assessment and discover the origin of the problem. We cannot ignore the past; the source of the problem must be identified and addressed. If ignored, the source can resurface and hinder progress.

A good starting point is to reflect to better days and make note of the things that were taking place that created excitement and motivated your members (lodge improvement projects, fundraisers, community involvement, etc.). You will also want to determine when things started to go wrong, and you will likely find the source of the problem – the reason why members became apathetic.

ap·a·thy
/'apəTHē/

noun

lack of interest, enthusiasm, or concern.

Again, this will require commitment and willpower to make necessary changes. There will be days when you just do not

feel motivated to do what it takes – you will have to force yourself to show up with the right attitude and help get things done. Convince yourself that you can battle apathy and overcome it!

Apathy can lock a lodge into a tailspin. The good news is that once you are motivated to pull out of the tailspin, it becomes easier to do so.

The question is: What is the first step we need to take?

Again, a lodge self-assessment is key. Take time to identify positive changes that can be made by writing down agreed upon action items. Pick an easy task to begin with. It does not have to be exceptional; it just has to get done.

The key is to find something that you can easily accomplish and motivate your membership. The first step may not get you where you want to be, but it will take you one step further from where you do not want to be!

As you work through your action plan, do not be afraid to mix in new ideas along the way. Subtle changes to your lodge meetings can have a profound impact, whether it be condensing business (consent agenda), inviting in guest speakers, adding music, candlelight, etc.

Lodge improvement projects are another opportunity to generate enthusiasm and improve your curb appeal. Creating an esoteric study group (our Grand Lecturer can help with that) is another great idea that has the potential to change the paradigm.

Just this week I received an encouraging email from a young Junior Deacon who is working to make a difference in his lodge. His lodge is in decline, but he is adamant that his lodge doors will not permanently close while he has his foot in the doorway. He has already willed himself to help effect positive change in his lodge and I know he will be successful.

One man can absolutely make a difference!

Brother Henry Ford provided us many inspirational quotes. Two of my favorites that I find apropos when pondering a path forward are:

“Whether you think you can, or you think you can’t, you’re right.”

“Obstacles are those frightful things that you see when you take your eyes off your goal.”

Commit to making positive changes in your lodge. Assess your needs, set goals, and work to accomplish them.

Doing this, you will get your lodge closer and closer to its full potential. You will enrich your community and the lives of your members.

You will experience the success that has carried us forward for centuries

Reprinted from The North Carolina Mason, January/February 2022, Volume 147, Number 1, Page 5.

Finding new paths toward Masonic revival

Willpower, alternative approaches could ensure the future of lodges

Beth Grace, Editor, North Carolina Mason magazine

It's not easy being a Freemason in North Carolina these days.

The chatter is everywhere: membership is down, lodges are merging or closing, brethren are aging out, and new blood is not flowing in as fast as it once did.

That sounds like bad news. But depending on how you crunch the numbers and your view of what will fuel the future of Masonry, there may be an entirely different interpretation.

First, some numbers. In the last 12 months, 10 lodges have merged or surrendered charters (one charter was arrested). That's a loss of 3 percent of lodges in a year. Currently, there are 365 lodges in North Carolina, although that number changes frequently. For example, two new lodges have sought dispensation or opened in that time.

The number of brethren is dropping, as it has for many years. North Carolina logged its highest number of lodges in the 1920s. That number rose significantly after World War I, dropped again during the great Depression and bumped upward post World War II.

The number of lodges in North Carolina has remained relatively constant since the 1980s, while the number of Freemasons last peaked in the 1980s and has never rebounded. The current membership in North Carolina – around 34,000 Masons – is now equal to the number of memberships recorded in the post WWI era.

In other words, says Grand Master Larry B. Thompson Jr., the numbers tell a bigger story.

"History tells us this is the natural ebb and flow of things," he said in a recent interview. "And I think, with some effort and care, history tells us we're going to be just fine."

"What we do and offer as Masons is a value that is never going anywhere but forward," he said.

That said, it's a sad day when a lodge closes or merges. Inevitably, some brothers won't attend the new lodge and are not likely to join a different lodge. They become lost to the Masonry they once loved.

"It's a hard thing," MW Thompson said. "Some lodges just get to the point where membership is down, or brothers are simply not coming to lodge, and they don't know what to do next. They may not know that it's OK to do something completely different.

"It's OK to close if you need to, but make sure you're good and ready and have tried a few alternatives first."

For example, try meeting fewer times a year and make those meetings BIG, a real event. Try changing your mission. Be an observant lodge.

One lodge – Royal White Hart #2 in Halifax – changed the playing field when membership dwindled so low it threatened the future of the historic lodge located just yards away from Joseph Montfort's burial site.

Grand Secretary Jonathan Underwood was among about 20 Masons who joined the lodge last year to ensure it would live on. None of the new members live in Halifax, but all of them care about preserving such a major site in Masonic history.

"Royal White Hart retooled how and when they met, and who its constituents are," he said. "They are reinventing who they are."

Some lodges in the course of life run out of steam. Brothers who once loved the lodge find they don't really get along as well, or don't do things they all enjoy. In some cases, MW Thompson said, those lodges are right to close.

"The ultimate goal of any lodge is to be close to one another and enjoy being in each other's company and doing the things that they do. We don't talk about lodge culture all that often, but maybe we should – sometimes lodge culture just changes over time. Too many lodges stick together because they have a charter. But they're not friends anymore."

Some suggest that capping membership in lodges is something to consider. For example, the United Grand Lodge of England hit 10,000 lodges as of the end of 2021. The culture there is to limit lodge numbers to a size that supports close friendships and fellowship.

Newer observant lodges are capping membership at 50, as a way to make lodge meetings more collegial and transformative.

Entering such a lodge, MW Thompson says, "you change the way you act. Like you would in a museum or a courthouse. You're entering a place of reflection."

A lodge shouldn't be a social club or just another man cave, they say.

So how does a lodge facing closure move forward?

MW Thompson suggests a true lodge self-assessment.

Find it here on the Grand Lodge web site: https://www.grandlodge-nc.org/storage/wysiwyg/the+master+touch_2_2.pdf

"Ask the hard questions, get a real handle," says Grand Secretary Underwood. "Follow a path of continuous improvement. Masonry should find ways to be modern. Lodges should create new lodges and harmony. Truly, the only reason to have a Masonic meeting is to make new Masons or to have a philosophical discussion."

MW Thompson has one word for lodges that want to survive hard times: Willpower.

"That's what it takes. Be willing to do the work. Be prepared for change. Make your lodge look great and inviting, especially from the outside. Spaghetti suppers are great – but they just don't work anymore. People today, especially younger men, want an experience, not just something to do. They want to invest their time instead of just spending it," he said.

Welcome the new, he advises. Give younger brothers a chance to shine in lodge, like others once did for you.

And finally, remember that numbers don't matter in a lodge. Quality does

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Montana Masonic Foundation Public School Grant

Rapelje Public Schools



We're proud to share that Rapelje public schools received a grant from the Montana Masonic Foundation for a new non-fiction book section for library books. Pictured are 1st and 2nd grade students and Mrs. Stevens, with MMF Director Schantz.



MONTANA MASONIC FOUNDATION AT WORK IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

MONTANA MASONIC FOUNDATION

STEVENSVILLE NO. 28

KINDLES FOR KIDS



Stevensville Lodge #28 presented kindles to three local schools, all to well behaved and enthusiastic young readers!! Kindles for Kids is a Reading Enhancement Program sponsored by the Montana Masonic Foundation. One young man, seen in the photo not holding a kindle, gave his to the next participant who did not have the highest number of books read. Kindness and unselfishness exemplified!!

This photo is from the presentation at the Stevensville Elementary school on Friday May 13, 2022. Shown in the photo from the left Charles Olmsted, Joel Foster, Mark Dunville, Jack Anderson and the Stevensville mascot, the Yellow Jacket!



Hands of the Workman

Oscar A. Johnson, Grand Master 1938-1939



M. W. Past Grand Master Johnson was born of Swedish parents who emigrated to this country, arriving in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Oscar Adolph Johnson was born on June 5th 1873, in Salt Lake City, the youngest of twelve children. He received his education in the city of his birth, working as a janitor at the school to help pay for

is tuition. Shortly after the death of his father, he located with his mother to Butte, Montana in 1890. He became employed in clerical and executive management of the railroads of Butte, Great Falls and Anaconda, from which he retired in 1939.

Brother Oscar married Mary Brunnell of Anaconda on June 17th, 1908. He was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, serving on various boards and committees for many years. His love for this country and public schools gave him the opportunity to be a leader and serve on the school board for many years.

Brother Johnson received the degrees in Masonry by Silver Bow Lodge No. 48, of Butte, he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in June 1898, and was Secretary of that Lodge until 1903.

He moved to Anaconda and affiliated with Acacia Lodge No. 33 in 1906, and served as Worshipful Master in 1920. In 1928, he was elected to the office of Secretary of Acacia Lodge and his recorded showed that he was very efficient and capable of his office. In 1944, he was elected as President of the Montana Masonic Secretaries Association.

MWPGM Johnson started in the Grand Lodge line having been appointed Grand Sword Bearer in 1930. In 1938 he was elected as Grand Master of Masons in Montana.

Brother Johnson was also a member of the York Rite, and was High Priest of Anaconda Chapter No. 16, R.A.M. and received the Order of High Priesthood in 1928. Thrice Illustrious Master of Zabud Council No. 2, Royal and Select Masters of Butte in 1939. He served as Commander of Montana Commandery No. 3, Knights Templar, Butte in 1942.

He was a member of Bagdad Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. and elected as Chief Rabban in 1942. And he was a patron of Eureka Chapter No. 16 of O.E.S.

In 1939 there were 17,807 members of the 135 Chartered Lodges.

In 2022 there are 3,526 members of the 78 Chartered Lodges.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Oscar Johnson presided over the 75th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana, at the Rainbow Theater in Great Falls, August 16-17, 1939.

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Oscar A. Johnson died on October 8th 1949 in Anaconda, Montana. He was buried at Mount Moriah Cemetery, Butte, Montana.



Brother James R. Horsfall in his memorial to Brother Johnson, said "In this memorial I especially want to emphasize the spirit of loyalty and devotion Brother Johnson possessed to the Masonic bodies, who as a young man struggled upward to attain the higher things, the beauties of this and the life to come. Masonry has lost a wonderful friend.

Fading away like Stars in the morning
Losing their light in the glorious sun,
So do we pass from earth and its toiling,
Only remembered by what we have done."

50 Year Member

Marion Lee Patten



50 year pin and patent presentation in Stevensville Lodge #28

Thursday, June 2nd, 2022, the Lodge presented Brother Marion Lee Patten his 50 year member his Pin and Patent. Brother Patten affiliated with us several years ago from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. He was escorted about the Lodge by the Senior Deacon Mark Dunville while Acting Master of Ceremonies Jack Anderson directed him about the Lodge in remembrance of his journey in the degrees and celebrating his attaining this milestone. Brother Patten was afforded to speak about his membership and all in attendance congratulated him with fellowship.

Brother Patten, you stood before the altar of Freemasonry. It is emblematical of that special place where some fifty years ago you stood as the youngest Entered Apprentice and were first instructed in the ancient mysteries of our Craft. You were presented with a lambskin apron and informed that it was the emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason. You labored among us as an Entered Apprentice, were passed on to the ranks of Fellowcraft, where you received further instruction. Here you were first taught how to read and later draw our designs upon your trestle board and in due time were raised to the sublime degree and have served the Craft for many years as a Master Mason.

70 Year Member

Edgar Lewis



Lavina-Temple Lodge #101 had the distinct honor last night of presenting Brother Edgar Lewis with his 70th Year Masonic Anniversary pin, and W Bro. Fred Stiers the Rusty Nail Award for his impressive leadership on the Lavina State Bank Historic Repair Project. Freemasonry at its finest. Congratulations on your outstanding achievements, brothers!

Brethren, On this happy and important occasion, we gather here for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to Brother Edgar Lewis who has served in the ranks of the Masonic Fraternity for a period of 70 years of devotion to the Masonic Fraternity, we may seriously reflect upon those years fraught with kindly reminders of diligence in duty, liberal benevolence and diffuse charity, but, above all, 70 years of constancy and fidelity to the ideals of our ancient and honorable Fraternity.

The Supreme Architect of the Universe has seen fit to grant us this time in which to pay special tribute to Brother Edgar Lewis, who has been a member for 70 years, and we are most pleased to present this award to our Brother as material evidence of our admiration and warm Fraternal love.

Alan D. Harkins

1940 - 2022

Most Worshipful Grand Master 2003-2004

Alan Decker Harkins was born in Los Angeles, California, on December 13, 1940. Alan was a boy when his family moved to Colorado in 1949. In 1976 he moved to Kalispell, Montana.

As a young man, Brother Alan was a member of DeMolay for Boys and received the degree of Chevalier in 1957. He later served as Chapter DAD for the A. A. MacDonald Chapter of Montana DeMolay in Kalispell, Montana.

In 1958 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served until 1961. Working in missile silo facilities, his favorite post was in Alaska. Brother Harkins attended Metropolitan State College in Denver and pursued Surgical Technician and Law Enforcement. While in college he worked as an Ambulance Attendant and Volunteer Sheriff's Jeep Patrol/Search and Rescue Unit in Jefferson County, Colorado. In 1970 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff in Colorado and worked patrol, communications and Motor Officer. In 1975 he transferred to the Flathead County Sheriff's Office and worked as an undercover narcotics deputy, after concluding a Detective and served until his retirement in 2002. He retired after almost three decades of service as Detention Commander. He had also served as an Instructor at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy and the Kalispell Police Commissioner.

Brother Harkins was raised by his father, at Liberty Lodge No. 134, Denver, Colorado. He was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on November 21, 1972, Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on January 2, 1973, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on March 3, 1973. On May 12, 1973, he affiliated by Dimit with Trinity Lodge No. 152 in Kalispell, Montana. He withdrew his dual membership with Liberty Lodge No. 134 on November 18, 1986. For the Masonic year of 1993-1994, Brother Harkins served as Worshipful Master of Trinity Lodge No. 152. He was elected as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Montana for the 2003-2004 Masonic year. He affiliated with Cranbrook Lodge No. 34 of Cranbrook, British Columbia, on May 15, 2008. On September 15, 2010, he affiliated by dimit with Mission Valley Lodge No. 78 in Polson, Montana. Brother Alan was present at the installation of his son Brian as Worshipful Master of Noah Lodge No. 357, Florida.

He was also a member of the York Rite; he served in several positions.: Past High Priest of Kalispell Chapter No. 13, Royal Arch Masons of Montana; Past Illustrious Master of Flathead Council of Cryptic Masons; Past Commander, Cyrene Commaamdery No. 10 Knights Templar; St Peter's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Helena, Montana. Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest, Helena, Montana; York Rite Sovereign College of North America; Past Officer's Association.

Brother Harkins was an active member of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction as a 33rd Degree member of the Missoula Valley Scottish Rite and Royal Order of Scotland. He was also a member of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

He found time to assist with the Order of Jobs Daughters, serving as Associate Guardian of Bethel No. 14 in Kalispell for over fifteen years; Associate Grand Guardian 1992-1993 and 1996-1997; Associate Grand Bethel Guardian from 1993-1994 and 1997-1998; Member of the Honor Grand Bethel of Montana and Bethel No. 14; Supreme Senior Custodian in 1993.

Brother Harkins was also active in the community and served as Board Member of the Flathead County Gambling Commission; Chairman of the Board of the Flathead Food Bank; Board of Directors of Neighbors in Need; Board of Directors of the Flathead Valley Chemical Dependency Center; and a member of the Kalispell City Police Commission.

With his family at his side, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Alan D. Harkins laid down his working tools and passed to the Celestial Lodge Above on May 19, 2022, at the age of 81. Brother Harkins was visiting family in Florida at the time of his death. Graveside Memorial Service for PGM Harkins held at Fairview Cemetery on Saturday, July 23, at 11 am. Masonic Funeral Rites given graveside, conducted by Brother George Cowan with assistance from the Kalispell area Lodges.



Funeral arrangement under the care of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home
Condolences can be directed to Brian Harkins at harkins.b@icloud.com

Treasure Lodge No. 95 Annual Picnic



On Sun. June 5th, always the first Sunday in June, Treasure Lodge #95 hosted its 19th annual picnic at the Glen & Linda Ophus ranch south of Big Sandy for the Brothers and their families from Chinook Lodge #50, Havre Lodge #55 and any Masonic members in the area. Also included in the event are members of OES. As usual the meat was provided by the Ophus' and cooked by Alan Bitz. The salads and sides were provided by the attendees. Good fellowship and conversations were in abundance. Even the four legged friends has a delicious time.



Bozeman York Rite Sponsors Annual 1717 Banquet

Mark Killip, Junior Warden Bozeman Lodge #18.

Last May, the Bozeman York Rite bodies hosted their third annual Masonic 1717 event in Bozeman, and what an event it was. The food was outstanding, and the period, micro-brewed beer was second to none. Providing the main course of whole hog complete with apple in mouth was Worshipful Brother Brian Engle from Big Timber's Doric Lodge #53, owner of Pioneer Meats, which was devoured in its entirety. Topping that off was superb craft beer brewed by our very own Brothers Colin Rue and Will Thompson from Bozeman Lodge No. 18. Orchestrating this event was Worshipful Brother Mark St. John, who worked tirelessly at putting this together and making it happen once again. Behind the scenes cooking up the root vegetables was Worshipful Brother Gib Curtis. Master of Ceremonies was Worshipful Brother Matt Sonnichsen who led the gathering in several rounds of toasts. Brother Matt also opened the lodge recreating ancient Masonic symbols drawn in the dirt floor of a large rectangular box (as was the tradition back then) under the glow of candles illuminating the entire dining room.



Bryan Kirkland

The 1717 event serves as Bozeman's York Rite fundraiser with the proceeds going to support the activities of the chapter.



Bro's. Jay & Troy

In attendance were Masons from all parts of Montana for a total of over 80. It was a great time for refreshment and camaraderie, and just great getting to know some really outstanding people. If you missed it, don't worry. We have already scheduled the fourth one for May of 2023. This banquet is open to all Masons from the youngest Entered Apprentice up to the Grand Master.

The year 1717 is a date that lives in infamy for Masons around the globe. That was the year Masons began to organize, and that organization started in England. There was much less standardization and uniformity in presentation.

Such is the picture we must keep before our eyes when we think of Masonry as it was in the beginning of the eighteenth century. Here and there, scattered about over the Kingdom, were isolated lodges; in some cases the membership was wholly Operative, so that every member was engaged in the building trade; in other cases non-Operative (Speculative) members made up a portion of the membership, and in a very few cases all of it. The general unity of the Craft was somewhat maintained by adherence to the old customs and by use of the Old Charges, which, in many cases one may suppose, functioned much as charters do now.

It was in the midst of such circumstances that the first Grand Lodge was organized in London, 1717. So, on St. John the Baptist's Day, in the 3d Year of King George I, A.D. 1717, the Assembly and Feast of the Free and Accepted Masons was held at the Goose and Gridiron Ale-house in London. It was here at the Goose and Gridiron that the very first Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England was held on the 24th of June, 1717.

Almost the only source of knowledge we possess of the formation of the first Grand Lodge are the pages of Anderson's Constitutions, the 1738 edition. After all, it was 1738 and these poor souls had no access to computers or the internet.

There were doubtless numerous lodges in or about London, but only four were invited to participate in the formation of Grand Lodge, or else for some reason the names of other participating lodges were omitted from the records. According to the Engraved List of 1729 the lodge which met at the Goose and Gridiron was constituted in 1691. 1691. That was awhile ago.

It was an interesting time in Masonry as we shifted from the Operative model to what we are today.



**Jack R. Levitt
1925 - 2022**

**Most Worshipful Grand Master
California & Hawaii
1967-1968**

Jack Robert Levitt was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. After he graduated from Washington High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1946 and served on the USS Sawfish (SS-276), a Gato-class submarine. The Sawfish was heading toward Hawaii on August 15, 1945, when hostilities ended. She reached Pearl Harbor on August 22 but returned to the west coast for duty as a training ship for the West Coast Fleet Sound School. He also served on the USS Springer (SS-414), a Balao-class submarine of the United States Navy.

He attended George Pepperdine College, where he received his B.A. in degree in 1949. While attending Pepperdine College, Jack met and fell in love with Kay Daubenberger; they were married in 1954. He then attended law school at the University of Southern California, where he served as Associate Editor of the U.S. C. Law Review. He graduated 10th in his class in 1952 with a Bachelor's Degree in Law. Jack worked his way through college as a movie projectionist in the Los Angeles area.

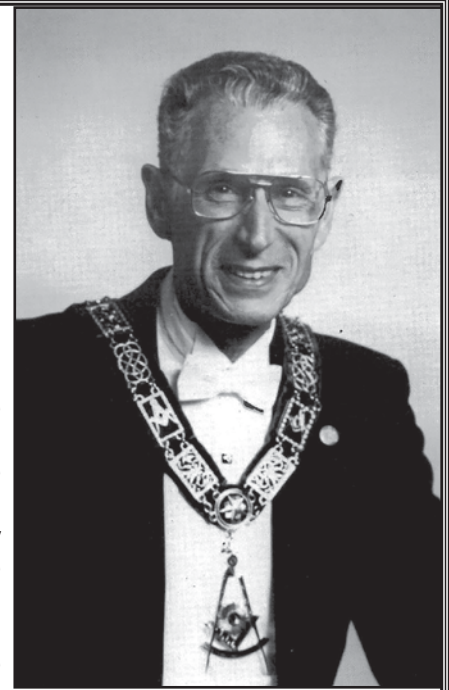
After being admitted to the California Bar in 1953, he entered into private law practice and accepted an appointment in 1954 as a Deputy District Attorney in San Diego County, where he served until December 1956. He served briefly as Assistant City Attorney in La Mesa and re-entered private law practice from 1957 until 1972, handling primarily plaintiff's personal injury work. He also was the President of the First San Diego Courthouse, Inc. After moving to Montana, he served as an Attorney in Bozeman.

In March 1972, then-Governor Ronald Reagan appointed him to the Superior Court Bench in the County of San Diego. He was subsequently elected and re-elected as a Court Judge and served in this position for several years. Judge Levitt was active in the legal community in California, serving with great distinction as a lecturer, panelist, author, and instructor in a great many subjects in the practice of civil and criminal law as well as procedures and administrative matters in the court system. He held membership in various professional and community organizations. He is one of the two judges instrumental in implementing the "FAST TRACK" plan in the San Diego County Superior Courts. A system of expediting the processing of cases through the court system, thus significantly improving the administration of justice. Brother Jack served as President of the First San Diego Courthouse, Inc., San Diego Lodge No. 35, held its first meetings in the courthouse in 1852-53.

Brother Levitt received his degrees in Silver Trowel Lodge No. 415: Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on December 10, 1952, Passed as a Fellowcraft on February 18, 1953, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on April 22, 1953. In 1960 he transferred his membership to San Diego Lodge No. 35, where he served as Master in 1979. He was a Charter Member of Joseph L. Shell Daylight Lodge No. 837. He held membership in the York Rite Bodies and served for two years as Venerable Master of the San Diego Bodies of the Scottish Rite. He was Coroneted a 33rd Degree Inspector General (Honorary) in 1971. He served as Chairman of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General's Advisory Conference in San Diego and Vice-President of the California Scottish Rite Foundation. In 1986 he was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of F&AM of California & Hawaii.

In 1987, Most Worshipful Jack R. Levitt was motivated to take action to implement the Grand Lodge of Hawaii. He knew many Hawaii Freemasons wanted to establish a Grand Lodge of Hawaii. At the 1988 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California, a resolution for the Grand Lodge of Hawaii was approved. The Grand Lodge of Hawaii was Instituted On May 20, 1989.

Brother Levitt was a member of Al Bahr Temple, AAONMS, where he served on the Ritual Divan, often taking the part of Potentate. He was Past Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine. Other Masonic affiliations include Royal Order of Jesters, Quetta Grotto, Hi-Twelve, DeMolay Preceptory (is Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor), National Sojourners and Heroes of '76 (Honorary), and Southern California Research Lodge.



His Grand Lodge activities included service on the Lodge Resources and Development Committee, Laymen's Night Speakers Panel, Masters and Wardens Workshop, and Jurisprudence Committee. He served as Chairman for several years.

Because of his speaking abilities, deep understanding, and knowledge of Masonic philosophy and teachings, he was in great demand as a speaker on Masonic subjects. His expertise in conducting cornerstone ceremonies entirely from memory has become legendary (20 ceremonies during his year as Grand Master). Despite the many problems which required his attention as Grand Master, Jack administered all matters with firmness and fairness, always keeping uppermost in his mind his duty to uphold our Constitution and Ordinances.

During his term as Grand Master of California, his theme was to "Accentuate the Positive." Regarding the issue of resolving membership decline, he often left the following thought

"If you think you are beaten... You are.
"If you think you dare not... You don't.
"If you'd like to win, but think you
can't... It's almost a cinch you won't.
"If you think you'll lose... You're lost.
"Life's battles don't always go to
the stronger or faster man;
"But sooner or later the man who wins
is the one who think's he can..."

After moving to Montana on May 14, 1989, he affiliated with Gallatin No. 6, Bozeman No. 18 on October 14, 1990, and Virginia City No. 1 on April 24, 1996. MW Brother Levitt was honored with the Montana Meritorious Service Medal in 1991 and the Distinguished Service Award in 1995. He received his 50-year membership on August 12, 2009. Brother Jack served as Worshipful Master of Bozeman No. 18 in 2012. He served as Lodge Instructor for Gallatin No. 6 and Bozeman No. 18 for several years. He was a member and Chairman of the Education and Research Committee in 2018, 2019, and 2020. He served as the Grand Lodge Jurisprudence Committee member in 2006 and Chairman in 2006. He also traveled the state teaching leadership to our Lodge officers and informed us that "The Standards You Set are the Standards You Get."

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Jack Levitt, having lived a life respected and died regretted, passed to the Celestial Lodge Above on July 2, 2022, at the age of 96. He has laid aside the working tools of life, and having wrought well and conscientiously; he will surely hear from Him who reviews each human life, no condemnation, no censure, no reproach, but those life-giving, soul-strengthening words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

His was the glory of the midday sun, belonging to no section, limited by no jurisdiction, but like the universality of Masonry spreading and diffusing Masonic knowledge throughout the length and breadth of the land. He raised the standard of Masonry within Lodges and Jurisdictions. A wise Providence has permitted him to live out his allotted time, and now his work is finished, his column broken, and his brethren mourn. The honor so justly his due can never be fully paid him. He will be missed.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family would prefer a personalized card, note, or email with your fond remembrances or other feelings about Jack to be recorded and read at his private interment memorial next to his beloved wife Kay. We are in the process of arranging his Masonic funeral sometime in early September. Please send mail to Jack Levitt, 712 South 10th Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715, or email Jack's son Steve at steven.levitt@utsa.edu.

HOW HEAVY THE HAT

By Geo. D. Cowan PM, Kalispell #42

A mountain town had an eccentric inventor named Zeke. He tinkered with this and dabbled with that. One day a mighty machine appeared on the hillside, and the people gathered in wonderment as Zeke ran over here, turning a knob, and trotted over there to twist a bolt. And the lovely machine jumped and bounced and belched great clouds of smoke and fumes while grinding and burping on its way. Finally, one of the townspeople was overcome and approached Zeke to congratulate him on his latest creation and inquired, "Just what does it do?" And Zeke answered, "I don't know what it's supposed to do, I'm working all the time just to keep the damn thing running."

'Tis that time of year installations have taken place, or will, and all officers will make oaths and receive charges as to what they will do, how they will act, and one week later few can tell anyone to what they agreed. If any of the officers is vital to a lodge it is the incoming Master, and therein lies the annual creation of Zeke. The Master wears a hat, and he's the only one, because he has the backbone to hold his head up with all that weight on it. Previous masters know what I mean. There's more to a Master than sitting in a certain chair for one or two hours every so often in a building not visited except when scheduled.

But the new master doesn't know that. He knows he should open a lodge. To do this he must address certain people in a certain order with certain expected responses. He may, in time, memorize or accept the ingraining of the opening. He may just open his mnemonics and read his opening from below the sight line of the members of the lodge. It's his choice and no one can charge him with not fulfilling his duty because he defines his own duty, and that's as it should be.

But perhaps he needs cues and helps during his first meetings, and perhaps other concerns draw his thoughts away from those "less than important if I get it done anyway" items. All masters define success within their own universe and step down at the end of the year with the thought that what was accomplished, or started, or conceived, will continue on. It rarely continues on as first invented.

And many, if not most, immediate past masters stop attending for a portion of time, and the advancing officers wonder why. Some Masters return, and some don't. I would venture a guess that knowing how smoothly HIS meetings ran, and what was accomplished with such agreement, angst arises because the "new" master is just learning, not sure of much more than his duty of open (and how) and the incoming master doesn't seem to ascribe to the importance of certain items or events HE worked so hard to make permanent.

Once past masters have time to sit back and view the past and present a new understanding of the hat comes into play. (As most past masters understand their own revelation once out of office, I would not presume to bore them, and as new entering Worshipful Masters have not the experience, it would be ridiculous of me to predict the future.) It is hard to manage a craft without knowing each workman and his talents, and directing an erection of a building means the master must know, must be concerned, and must care for all his workers and how they interact with each other. Sometimes it takes all year to accomplish this. Until that time, projects will stumble or drag and frustration may grow and derail some good ideas.

All this reveals a plan, or suggestion, for more regularity in Lodges, meetings and events. If you will bear with me.

Premise: A new WM learns and grows into a mature master through his term.

Premise: A man becomes a master and wishes to make his lodge a better, more attended, more active group of fraternal men.

Premise: A retiring WM knows he only had at most one half his reign to actually realize what he wanted and how to get it done.

Premise: An experienced WM would use more of his year for work and actualize more of his vision.

Opinion: A WM must spend some time out of office to see all the issues objectively.

Thus, the most logical solution and chance at lodge growth is to have those men voted into Worshipful Master positions to lead the lodge for two years, BUT NOT SUCCESSIVE YEARS. Successive Masters tend to get tired and irritable, either boring the brethren or chancing alienating some of those with potential. Most members, when asked, can voice an opinion and have a definite name in mind when the subject of adequate and good WMs arises. If an admirable Master returns to a chair, some might return with him. If Masters are known to have a history, a predictable future can be surmised and this might draw those who would participate in a past activity rather than just attend, as in the past.

If these premises are accepted, and the hypothesis seems logical, then training and expectations of two terms might be an answer to building Masonry in Montana. Of course elections would have to be held, as normal, but if the fraternity knew the "old guy" who was nominated actually expected and accepted it, rather than received it thrust upon him, the votes might be of

confidence and not merely advancement. The Master himself might approach a new year differently knowing those who voted him in support what plans he continues to tout. When everyone starts a book on the same page we have a better chance of agreeing on the ending.

"But what of the advancing line? " might be asked. And to that end there are numerous answers. If WMs are expected to take a year off before serving again, every other year could be a new advance. Or if a lodge has the population, the leadership might be set for a number of years while new officers advance and become comfortable seeing experienced leaders. Each Lodge could design its own future!

Any number of items might change. A WM being installed might understand what all those clauses about his obligations REALLY mean. The members might calculate how their suggestions might be accepted given observation of past presentations. Those who enjoy a certain type of emphasis in meetings might attend expecting an experienced WM to continue with his own philosophy of Masonry. And maybe lodge members would leave a last meeting of the year looking forward to the first of the next year knowing who would run it and how it would be run, rather than whether a new WM will learn from his mentors or strike out in some unknown direction with demands of acceptance.

Some might find such a plan as the beginning of a full blown "electioneering" program, probably approaching a situation to split or even kill lodges of men sworn to work together on a common platform. That debate might be exciting, if it was even allowed. But our present situation sees men placed in chairs without sitting in previous chairs, with the main thrust being the memorization of the opening and closing and if the ancient brethren found a logical advancement from one seat to the next then there "probably" was some reason, some iota of understanding one duty before moving on, or leading better by knowing all the levels and uses of offices.

Most incoming WMs have as a part of their agenda how to grow the lodge or increase attendance. This suggested program might, maybe, give those ideas a better chance at fruition. It can only be realized by bringing in the past WMs and organizing a solid future, letting them talk and attract those they know agreed with them and growing a strong base of members who support and spread that version of Masonry promised during the coming year.

Wouldn't it be nice?

Montana Masonic Foundation & Dillon Lodge No. 16 KINDLES FOR KIDS



Raelynn Tash of Polaris School was the winner of the Kindles for Kids Reading Achievement Program, sponsored by the Montana Masonic Foundation and Dillon Lodge No. 16. The Kindle was presented by her grandfather Mike Gordon the Senior Warden of Dillon Lodge.

Raelynn is a 5th grader at Polaris School, Beaverhead County, Polaris, Montana. She has been trying to win a Kindle since she was in the 1st grade. Polaris School is a rural, public school that serves students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The historic one-room schoolhouse sits alone at the base the Pioneer Mountains in rural southwest Montana on a windy, scenic byway with a few mailboxes and even fewer buildings dotting the road. There's no cellphone service, and there's no town. Yet the small ranching community produces enough children for the school to educate. Enrollment typically ranges from 3 to 8 students.

Raelynn's Teacher Kristi Borge was chosen as the 2020 Montana Rural Teacher of the year and in 2021 was chosen Montana Teacher of the Year.

Supporting Our Public Schools



D. J. Olson, Bradyn Peck, Joe St. John, Dan Massey.

THE ROAD BEGINS HERE



Congratulations to brother Joe St. John on presiding over the Newberry luncheon as the Master of Ceremonies!

**101st Annual DeMolay International
Supreme Council Session**

&

**55th Annual International DeMolay
Congress Session**

MASONIC TRAVELERS: LEWIS AND CLARK

By Brother Chuck Clampitt
Etana Lodge 333, Mt. Etna, Indiana

When Thomas Jefferson became the 3rd President in 1801, the United States consisted of everything east of the Mississippi River, with the exception of Florida. While most of the area west of the Appalachian Mountains was unsettled, two "western" states, Kentucky and Tennessee, had been admitted into the union.

Jefferson, a farmer, plantation owner, and idealist, thought as the population of the United States increased, the purest form of republicanism occupationally was the farmer. In Jefferson's opinion, the farmer was hard-working, independent, loyal to defend his country, and a believer in a small Federal Government. As such, land and cheap land would be necessary in order for this agrarian society to continue and prosper. As luck would

have it, providence knocked at Jefferson's door. France and England had been engaged in a series of wars going back to the French and Indian War which began in 1754. By the time Jefferson was inaugurated, Napoleon Bonaparte controlled France, and it had become obvious to him that developing the large section of North America that France owned west of the Mississippi River was impossible. Therefore, it was decided to offer what would become known as the Louisiana Purchase to the United States for the sum of 15 million dollars. The area comprised all of the Mississippi watershed west of the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains and consisted of 828,000 square miles, all for the price of three cents per acre.



Following the purchase, Jefferson was anxious to find out exactly what it was that he had purchased since most of the area had never been explored by white men. Jefferson directed his personal secretary, young Army Captain Meriwether Lewis, to assemble an expedition to find a route to the Pacific Ocean, map the course of its travels, establish a presence with the Native Americans they encountered, determine economic potential and gather scientific information. While the Louisiana Purchase did not stretch all the way to the Pacific Ocean, Jefferson saw an opportunity to investigate the area and lay claim to the Pacific Northwest in advance of the British.

Lewis realized he would need assistance to accomplish all these tasks and lead the overall expedition. As a result, Lewis contacted a military friend William Clark to join him. Jefferson concurred, and Clark joined the expedition as a co-commander.

Much preparation had to be done to organize the expedition and choose the personnel who would accompany them on their trip west. By late fall of 1803, men and material were transported down the Ohio River, and a winter camp was built across the river from St Louis. In May 1804, the expedition, consisting of the two officers, 38 enlisted men, and several French boatmen, called the "Corps of Discovery" started up the Missouri River by boat. Although seven tons of foodstuffs were taken with them, civilian hunters were included in the roster to provide fresh meat and other edibles along the route. When available, the men consumed nine pounds of fresh meat daily. In 1805, Clark wrote, "We eat an immensity of meat, and it requires four deer, or an elk and a deer, or one buffalo to supply us 24 hours." Tons of other supplies were also required, including scientific instruments, medicine, guns, trade goods, tools, clothing, writing material, etc.

As the fall of 1804 approached, the "Corps of Discovery" settled into winter quarters they built near what was called the Mandan Indian Village, 30 miles north of present-day Bismarck, North Dakota. The Mandan Indians were friendly to the expedition and traded foods they raised for trade goods that Lewis and Clark had brought along for that purpose. Lewis and Clark spent much time that winter with the Mandan discussing what lay further up the Missouri River and what could be expected in crossing the continental divide in the Rocky Mountains. The Mandan information was reliable to the base of the Rockies, since they often traveled west to hunt and raid other tribes, they had no familiarity beyond that.

At the Mandan village, Lewis and Clark hired Toussaint Charbonneau, a French-Canadian trapper, as an interpreter. Charbonneau's wife, Sacagawea, was a Shoshone Indian, and Lewis and Clark realized they would be traveling through a wide area of the Rockies populated by that tribe. In April 1805, the "Corps of

Discovery" continued up the Missouri River as far as what is called the Great Falls while the balance of the crew returned to St Louis. Wheels and axles were built to carry some of their boats past the falls, while other boats were hidden to be used on the return journey. When the river was no longer navigable, the expedition traveled by foot until they made contact with the Shoshone and were able to trade for horses.

After seven months of terribly difficult travel, the "Corps of Discovery" finally reached the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River on November 15, 1805. A small wood fort was built to spend the winter, and effort was made to hunt and gather adequate food to sustain the group. After two years of travel, supplies of all sorts had run terribly short, and survival became a constant struggle.

In the spring of 1806, the expedition headed east other supplies were also required, including scientific instruments, medicine, guns, trade goods, tools, clothing, writing material, etc.

In the spring of 1806, the expedition headed east took a different route in order to shorten the time and the distance. Once successfully over the Rockies, they located their stored boats and traveled quickly down the Missouri River, arriving back in St Louis on September 23, 1806.

Galas, celebrations, and parties were held to celebrate the successful expedition, and word was immediately sent to President Jefferson of their return. Following their return to St Louis, Lewis was appointed the Governor of the Louisiana Territory in 1807, while Clark was appointed the Governor of the Missouri Territory from 1813 to 1820. Clark was also placed in charge of Indian affairs west of the Mississippi River from 1813 to 1838.

During the expedition, detailed geographic readings and mappings were made, and both men kept journals. Lewis's records were especially detailed and included weather readings, drawing of plants and animals, language of the various Indian tribes they encountered, and a variety of other information. Jefferson was anxious for Lewis to return east to share the many artifacts that had been collected and see that Lewis's journal was published before the end of Jefferson's second presidential term in 1808.

Lewis frequently had conflict with others as Territorial Governor, he started drinking heavily, and he apparently suffered from "melancholia" or depression. Efforts by Jefferson to get Lewis to forward the expedition's huge collection only resulted in excuses from Lewis reason for delay. Lewis's main reason for the delay was that he was editing his own journals, a task he would never complete.

Finally, in the fall of 1809, Lewis decided to return east. His initial plan was to travel down the Mississippi River

to New Orleans and thus by water to Washington, D.C. Instead, he disembarked in Tennessee while traveling down the Mississippi and started overland. On the evening of October 10, 1809, Lewis stopped at an inn on the Natchez Trace south of Nashville. That night gunfire was heard from his cabin, and servants found him severely wounded in the chest and head. He died the next morning. Argument still exists as to whether Lewis was murdered or committed suicide. One way or the other, apparently, everything that Lewis was carrying with him was not disturbed.

History records the great accomplishments of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and would rate it as being one of the most outstanding overland explorations of all time. The records, journals, and observations of both Lewis and Clark provided a vivid picture of the route they traveled and would serve as a road map for later immigrants to follow.

As you might guess, both Lewis and Clark were Masons. Lewis was raised in Door of Virtue Lodge in 1797 in Virginia. He also was a member of Royal Arch Masons and helped establish the first Masonic Lodge in St Louis. He was a member of St Louis Lodge 111. Clark was also a member of the St Louis Lodge 111 and was buried with military and Masonic honors in 1838 in St Louis. Lewis is buried at the site of his death on the Natchez Trace southwest of Nashville.

YOU GIVE
AND GIVE.
AND, IF
YOU COULD,
YOU'D GIVE
SOME MORE.



JOURNEY ON

Visit ScottishRiteNMJ.org

Do Better Dare

It's not so easy....

Anyone can spot others' flaws.
It's easy, like a blink of the eyes.
Doing better is noting ours because
That's where the challenge lies.

Anyone can share what they got right,
For that will flow like a song.
To do better is to try being forthright
About the things we got wrong.

Everyone enjoys praise and acclaim;
It surely is a piece of cake.
But doing better is not shifting blame
When it's really ours to take.

Anyone can be cheerful and bright;
That's after a win of course.
To do better is to be nice and polite,
Even after suffering a loss.

While the usual is easy to find,
Noble things are sometimes hard to do.
Like being honest, humble and kind,
But are due in me and you.

By: Abimbola T. Alabi, 2018

The Wheel

The wheel is turning and you can't slow down
You can't let go and you can't hold on
You can't go back and you can't stand still
If the thunder don't get you then the lightning will

Won't you try just a little bit harder?
Couldn't you try just a little bit more?
Won't you try just a little bit harder?
Couldn't you try just a little bit more?

Round, round robin run round
Got to get back to where you belong
Little bit harder, just a little bit more
A little bit further than you gone before

The wheel is turning and you can't slow down
You can't let go and you can't hold on,
You can't go back and you can't stand still
If the thunder don't get you then the lightning will

Small wheel turn by the fire and rod
Big wheel turn by the grace of God
Every time that wheel turn 'round
Bound to cover just a little more ground

The wheel is turning and you can't slow down
You can't let go and you can't hold on
You can't go back and you can't stand still
If the thunder don't get you then the lightning will

Won't you try just a little bit harder?
Couldn't you try just a little bit more?
Won't you try just a little bit harder?
Couldn't you try just a little bit more?

By: Robert C. Hunter, Jerome J. Garcia and
William Kreutzmann, 1972.



GRAND LODGE OF AF&AM OF MONTANA

PO Box 1158 Helena, MT 59624 (406) 442-7774 gs@grandlodgemontana.org

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF 156th COMMUNICATION – JUNE 24-25, 2020 in Lewistown, MT

Elected Grand Lodge Officers for 2022-2023

Johnathon L. Dahlquist (1/16/68)	Grand Master
David A. Schantz (29)	Deputy Grand Master
Samuel H. Whitehead (3/105)	Senior Grand Warden
Jason M. Smith (29/53)	Junior Grand Warden
Bruce W. Lahti (34)	Grand Treasurer
Daniel J. Gardiner (3)	Grand Secretary

Appointed Grand Lodge Officers for 2020-2021

Don M/ Powell (18)	Senior Grand Deacon
Wade H. Riden (96)	Junior Grand Deacon
John D. Heston (42/152)	Grand Marshal
Martin “Marty” Reiersen (52)	Senior Grand Steward
Tracy L. Bratcher (128)	Junior Grand Steward
David E. Sageser (50/55)	Grand Standard Bearer
Mark J. Bassett (1/32)	Grand Sword Bearer
Brice E. Liggett (29)	Grand Pursuivant
John M. Reid (1/73)	Grand Tyler
Jeff D. Harada (90)	Grand Chaplain
F. Lee Graves (16)	Grand Historian
David R. Dunbar (3/6)	Grand Organist
Kyron T. Jenö (3)	Assistant Grand Treasurer

LODGE RESOLUTIONS

R-2019-1A	Deleting the Definition of Electioneering	Failed
R-2019-1B	Deleting the Prohibition of Electioneering	Withdrawn
R-2019-02	Submitting Applications for G. Sec & G. Trs.	Out of Order
R-2022-01	Changing term morally wrong in itself to Felony	Failed

HONORS: James W. Salisbury, III (29) – Distinguished Service (Silver) Medal; Robert G. Engle (52) – Meritorious (Bronze) Medal; George M. Hays (29) and Joseph M. Magone (110) – Montana Masonic Hall of Fame

CONSOLIDATION: Morning Star #5 as Ottawa #51; Golden Eagle #66 as Carbon #65; Ponemah #63 as Thompson Falls #70

BUDGET: Passed – Per Capita \$56.15

156th Annual



Thursday before the annual communication of Grand Lodge - this was the outdoor hamburgers and dogs at the fish hatchery. Guy Maberry seen supervising the grilling.



Communication



Lunch





Brad McGann looks on while Illustrious Grand Commander Jim Cole says hello.



John Hugdahl (29/101), Educator of the Year.



MWGM Bill Murphy presenting
Jim Salsbury, III (29)- Distinguished Service (silver Lion's Paw).



MWGM Bill Murphy presenting
Robert Engle (52), Meritorious Service award (bronze Lion's Paw)



Robert Pare (29), Master Builder Award winner.



Johnathon Dahlquist
Most Worshipful Grand Master 2022-2023





GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 2022-2023
GRAND LODGE OF
ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF MONTANA



Dylan Crouse (29), Grand Organist, 2021-2022



Marty Reiersen (5)
Sr. Gr Steward



Tracy Bratcher (128)
Jr. Gr. Steward



John Reid (1/73)
Grand Tyler



Brice Liggett (29)
Grand Pursuivant



John Heston (42/152)
Grand Marshal



David Sageser (50/55)
Gr. Standard Bearer
escorted by PGM Alan Frohberg



F. Lee Graves (16)
Grand Historian



David Dunbar (3/6)
Grand Organist



Mark Bassett (1/32)
Grand Sword Bearer
escorted by PGM Alan Frohberg



Some of the people who helped make Grand Lodge happen in Lewistown: in blue is Bro. Scott Dubbs - who, before retirement, was in charge of the school that our session happened in! At the table are Terry Davis and William Morrison from Butte #22 who handled sound, between them is Bro. Jim Manning (#22) and behind them is now past Grand Organist Dylan Crouse, who provided music during the event!

Montana Masonic Foundation Stevensville No. 28 **Lone Rock School** Kindles for Kids



Kindles for Kids is Reading Achievement Program sponsored by the Montana Masonic Foundation. Working in conjunction with Local Masonic Lodges, such as Stevensville No. 28.

Front Roll: Students from Lone Rock School, Stevensville, Montana.
Back Roll: Members of Stevensville No. 28. L-R: Mark Dunville, Russ McCormick, Jack Anderson, Branden Williams, and Joel Foster.



Supporting Our Public Schools

Lodging

A Block of rooms has been set aside under

Tri-Jurisdictional at the

Best Western Plus Great Northern Inn

1345 First Street

Havre, MT 59501

406.265.4200

Double Queen \$115 plus tax per night

King \$110 plus tax per night

Check-inn 9/16/2022

Check-out 9/18/2022

Alternate Lodging

Best Western Plus Havre Inn and Suites

1425 US Highway 2

Havre, MT 59501

406.265.2888

Americinn by Wyndham

2520 US Highway 2 West

Havre, MT 59501

406.395.5000

Quality Inn

601 1st Street

Havre, MT 59501

406.564.1145

Super 8 by Wyndham

1901 US Highway 2 West

Havre, MT 59501

406.265.1411



Tri-Jurisdictional
Registration Form
September 16, 17, 18



2022 Tri-Jurisdictional

Grand Master's
Outdoor Roaming Lodge
Havre Montana
September 16-18

- This will be a weekend full of events. This years Tri-Jurisdictional will be taking place in coincidence with Havre Festival Days. Many community events will be taking place, Quilt Show, Craft Fair, Farmers Market, Saturday morning parade, and many more.
- The Friday evening dinner will include a speaker with some of the historical beginnings of Havre.
- Saturday morning has been arranged for a group tour of the Wahkpa Chugn Buffalo Jump or the Havre Beneath the Streets. Each of these include a bit of walking that have stairs or hills and take about an hour, some limited mobility accommodations are available.
- Saturday afternoon will be a Table Lodge with Toasts and some education. This table lodge will take place in Beaver Creek Park, South of Havre. A limited quantity of toasting cannons is available. There will be a lunch for the Ladies at the Vineyard Room in Havre.
- Saturday Evening there will be a no host mixer at the Havre Elk's.
- Sunday Morning, departure blessing Church in the Park.

Note: There are a limited quantity of camp sites available at the Park, please contact the Secretary for information.

Return this form to the following address prior to August 30th

Tri-Jurisdictional

C/O: Havre Lodge 55

P.O. Box 2533

Havre, MT 59501-2533

406.262.4831



Registration

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____

Friday

Evening Dinner
Buffet Roast Beef, Panko Shrimp, Chicken,
Potato, Vegetable, Salad Bar, and Desert.

\$35 X _____ = _____

Saturday

Buffalo Jump Tour

\$10 X _____ = _____

Havre Beneath the Streets Tour

\$12 X _____ = _____

Table Lodge in the Park

Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Cowboy Beans, Chips, Cookies,

Water

\$30 X _____ = _____

Event Toasting Cannon (Limited Quantity)

\$25 X _____ = _____

Ladies Lunch

Chicken Caesar Salad, or Petite Hamburger Steak with Mashed
Potatoes, or Cheeseburger with Fries, or Fish and Chips

\$15 X _____ = _____

Evening Mixer

Hors d'oeuvre

\$10 X _____ = _____

Payment by Check #: _____ Total: _____

For Alternate Payment please contact Havre Lodge Secretary

mt5safam@gmail.com

406.262.4831

Montana Masonic Foundation Victor Lodge #43 Reading Enhancement Program



**Montana Masonic
Foundation
Supporting Our
Public Schools.**

**Local Masonic
Lodges Supporting
our Public Schools**



Bikes for Books and Kindles for Kids. Victor Lodge #43 participating with the Montana Masonic Foundation's Reading Achievement Program.

THE MONTANA FREEMASON
PO Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158

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**Not Just a Man.
A Mason.**



NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.