

# Montana Freemason

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### **About The Cover**

The Grand Lodge of Montana office building, owned by the Montana Masonic Foundation also includes the Montana Masonic Museum and Library. Photo by Kevin League Photography, Helena, Montana.

## EDITOR NOTES



Reid Gardiner  
Editor



# Articles & Correspondence

The Montana Freemason Magazine is published by and is a product of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Inc. Unless otherwise noted; articles in the publication express only the private opinion or assertion of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Montana Masonic Foundation or the Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. of Montana.

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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. There are also 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.







## GRAND LODGE OF AF&AM OF MONTANA

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### SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF 157<sup>th</sup> COMMUNICATION – JUNE 23-24, 2023 in Helena, MT

#### Elected Grand Lodge Officers for 2023-2024

David A. Schantz (29, 52)	Grand Master
Samuel H. Whitehead (3/105)	Deputy Grand Master
Jason M. Smith (29/53)	Senior Grand Warden
Don M. Powell (18)	Junior Grand Warden
Bruce W. Lahti (34)	Grand Treasurer
Daniel J. Gardiner (3)	Grand Secretary

#### Appointed Grand Lodge Officers for 2023-2024

Wade H. Riden (96)	Senior Grand Deacon
John D. Heston (42/152)	Junior Grand Deacon
Martin “Marty” Reiersen (52, 120)	Grand Marshal
Tracy L. Bratcher (128)	Senior Grand Steward
David E. Sageser (50/55)	Junior Grand Steward
Mark J. Bassett (1/32)	Grand Standard Bearer
Brice E. Liggett (29)	Grand Sword Bearer
Ken M. Bates (14, 33)	Grand Pursuivant
Adam L. Johnson (29)	Grand Tyler
Tom V. Hornung (149)	Grand Chaplain
John L. Hugdahl (29, 101)	Grand Historian
Dylan D. Crouse (29)	Grand Organist
Kyron T. Jenö (3)	Assistant Grand Treasurer

#### Resolutions

R-2023-01	Reducing minimum proficiency to advance to FC or MM	Failed
R-2023-2A	Amending definition of electioneering to include legislation	Withdrawn
R-2023-2B	Allowing for electioneering elsewhere in the Code	Withdrawn
R-2023-03	Allowing electioneering for only two Grand Lodge offices	Withdrawn
R-2023-4A	Allowing for electioneering elsewhere in the Code	Failed
R-2023-4B	Allowing local Electioneering, and for two Grand Lodge offices	Out of Order
R-2023-05	Providing for Budgeted Surpluses	Failed
R-2023-06	Amending Warden Qualification to be Eligible for Master	Failed
R-2023-07	Deleting Proficiency line and page number to match ritual book	Passed
R-2023-08	Amending what uniforms allowed during conferring of degrees	Withdrawn

**HONORS:** Troy Kelley, (3); Leo Schuman, (3) – Meritorious (Bronze) Medal; Secretary of the Year: Truman Tolson, (13); Lodge Educator of the Year: Matt Schnittgen (55); Educational Lodge of the Year: Ashlar #29.

**REVOCATION:** Yellowstone #26 charter and Hot Springs #153 charter.

**BUDGET:** Passed – Per Capita \$57.00.



## David Schantz, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Montana 2023-2024



Brethren, meet our Grand Master, Bro. David Schantz.

David Schantz has spent his life in pursuit of service and community, beginning with the military at an early age. After graduating from Billings West High School in the spring of '84, he joined the Marine Corps Reserves that fall, requiring permission from his parents at the young age of 17. He aspired to a college education, but after attending for a year, he found the Marine Corps had a powerful draw that pulled him back into every operation and training opportunity the Corps could offer. David received training from various distinguished institutions including Army Airborne School, Army Jumpmaster School, Marine Corp Amphibious Reconnaissance Packages, Marine Corp Scout Sniper School, and Advanced Scout Sniper School. He excelled throughout in infantry and special operations, earning the distinction of "honor man" from both sniper schools. He also participated in NATO training around the world, including several months above the Arctic Circle in Norway. David's aptitude led him to selective assignments including JTF-6 counter narcotic operations and the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory, implementing counter-sniper operations around the globe.

His talent and ability to lead prompted the Marine Corps to request his return to the Marine Corps Scout Sniper School as an instructor on two separate occasions. As an instructor, he helped train not only military personnel but federal and local law enforcement for events such as the 1996 Summer Olympics. While pursuing his military endeavors, David met and married Sara, the love of his life and wife of twenty nine years. Soon after, they welcomed their amazing daughter, Alexis, who was very active in Job's Daughters as a youth.

In 1997, David left the Marine Reserves to focus on his family. They moved to Memphis, Tennessee for his new career in Information Systems, which he continues to this day as an Information Security Engineer, holding multiple certifications including Certified Ethical Hacker, Advanced Security Practitioner, Certified Penetration Tester, and several others. In 2000, David and his family were happy to have an opportunity to move back to Montana. Within a year, however, the attack on the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York began pulling David to serve once more. Five years later, he ultimately re-enlisted in the Marine Corps. David spent much of the following six years on active duty in the Marine Corps Reserves, deploying twice to Iraq and once to Afghanistan.

In 2012, David retired fully from the Marine Corps Reserves, and searched for other opportunities for service and camaraderie. David has worked diligently to support his fellow veterans. He has volunteered extensively through organizations such as Dog Tag Buddies, a Montana based non-profit helping veterans, serving previously in the positions of President of the Board of Directors and board secretary. Masonry was the next step in David's pursuits. Although his wife's family has been involved in Masonry for generations, it was while serving with a Mason, a Prince Hall Mason, in the Middle East that his interest finally peaked to seek out our great fraternity. To his knowledge he is the first Mason in his family of origin, at least for the last ten decades. David is currently a member of and past master of Ashlar Lodge #29 in Billings, MT and holds a plural membership in Hiram Lodge #52 in his birth town of Forsyth, MT. He is a member of Al Bedoo Shrine in Billings as well as the Scottish Rite Valley of Billings. David has served Montana Freemasonry and the Freemasons of Montana as a Grand Lodge Officer since 2014. David is focused on the development of current Masonic members as leaders and mentors to foster active participation and brotherhood beyond business meetings, which in turn will draw good men into the Fraternity. David's passion for Masonry is rivaled only by his gratefulness in finding a fraternity that provides opportunities for the same kind of service and camaraderie that he felt with his fellow Marines, and that will carry him through the future.



## Eastern Star Grand Chapter 2022-2023



Carol Shell Worthy Grand Matron 2022-2023  
& David Schantz-MWGM



David Schantz-MWGM & PGM Don Holland, WGP 2022-2023,  
& Wayne Butler.



Aldon Nason - SMC, Danilynn Massey - State Princess, Alyssa Nilsen, State Sweetheart, David Schantz-MWGM, Jaylin Hurd - Miss Montana Jobs Daughters, Emma Aasterud - Junior Miss Montana Jobs Daughters, Aaron Kuhr - State Ritual Director and Dan Massey- Executive Officer of Montana DeMolay.

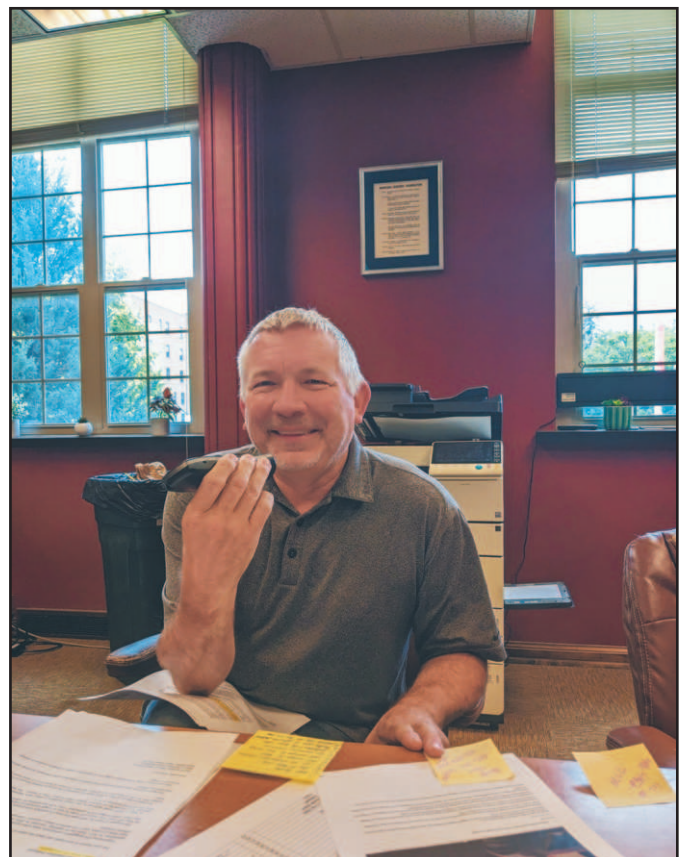


## Grand Master David Schantz working in the Grand Lodge Office

Grand Master David Schantz found himself put to work moving benches in the museum and signing Instructor's Certificates of commission. He also spent time visiting with secretaries, such as Bro. Dwight Crawford of Deer Lodge # 14.



Grand Master David Schantz was in the office today wishing a happy birthday to one of our brothers in this photo. We got in probably 30 or 40 calls for various things today - it was a busy afternoon!





## MWGM Schantz at the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite (SJ) Biennial Session

The following Brethren have been elected to receive the 33°, Inspector General Honorary, for the 2023 Biennium.

### MONTANA

Mark Bassett  
Llewellyn Claud Fletcher  
Stephen Glen Mandeville  
William Henry Morrison  
Charles Joseph Stein, Jr.  
Sandon Stinnett



During the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite (SJ) biennial communication in Washington, DC. Grand Master David Schantz is seen in a photo taken by Judy Nielsen, as he is being introduced. In the photo below, front right is Adam Kendall (CA) followed by MWPGM Lewie Fletcher, and halfway back in the other line, Sandy Stinnett, on their way to receive the 33°! Congratulations, brothers.





## MWGM Schantz visits with PHA Brothers during Scottish Rite Biennial Session



Montana has been well represented at the Scottish Rite biennial in Washington, DC. Our own Jason Smith (33°, Senior Grand Warden) shared this photo of our Grand Master David Schantz:

Marcel Desroches; X.L. Butler, Grand Minister of State, Scottish Rite SJ, PHA; David Schantz, Grand Master of Montana; Alonzo Haypes, Past Grand Master of South Carolina; Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Sovereign Grand Commander, Scottish Rite, SJ, PHA and Grand Master of Alabama, PHA; Ken Collins, Secretary General, Scottish Rite SJ, PHA; Walter Gulley, Jr., Junior Grand Auditor General, Scottish Rite SJ, PHA.





## Masonic Membership and Other Historic Records Support Annual Genealogy Fair



The genealogy fair discovers things about ancestors and extensive research on a person's roots. This isn't just DNA but also other fraternal research such as "Daughters of the American Revolution Society" and "Sons of the American Revolution Society."

They offer different classes, such as understanding public records, community cookbooks, Grave finding, and using card cataloging in family research. This fair is a helpful resource to attend, and the ladies and gentlemen who provide these presentations and classes are dedicated and care about the research that they do. If you are interested in finding records, photos, or graves of lost family members, this is a great resource I recommend to you. [Helenafamilyhistory.com](http://Helenafamilyhistory.com) is the site they manage, and it has all of their events and speakers at the genealogy fair.

One of the year's presentations was an extensive insight into the Orphan Train by John Shontz. "Exploring the general story of the orphan train saga in the United States while recognizing that this movement started in Great Britain. In just the United States, some 35,000 children were swept off the streets of New York City and Boston and sent west across North America over 80 years; it was the largest migration of children in the history of the world. In the United States, the New York State Legislature halted the program in 1929. The orphan train saga continued in Canada until the late 1950s."

The genealogy fair puts us in attendance every year because we have years of archives and Masonic member historic records in our building. Our files of deceased members are being scanned and loaded onto a genealogy server called Family Search. This will allow people interested in their families' masonic history and make it available for everyone to do their research. Over time, there will be more to be uploaded, like photos from events and fundraisers that family members can gather of their loved ones and the events they attended in their masonic career.

We let the public know that we are here by showing up at the event. We also invited them to hear what kinds of records are available, and they get to meet us. Fulfilling genealogy requests for non-Masons is one of the many great things the Montana Masonic Foundation does.

-Bailey Whitehead



## Livingston Lodge No. 32 Installation officers



Installation of Officers at Arch Park (North Entrance to Yellowstone). Grand Master David Schantz presiding. Livingston #32 has often been installed there in recent memory.



## Helena No. 3 EA Degree



Helena No. 3 had an Entered Apprentice degree. Another EA gave back an excellent "long form" proficiency. We had visitors from Lower Yellowstone No.90, Ottawa No. 51, and Deer No. 14. A social was held before the degree



The experience of becoming a member of a Masonic lodge is divided into three ceremonial stages known as "degrees." These three degrees are loosely based upon the journeyman system, which was used to educate Medieval craftsmen. At each educational stage, a craftsman was required to achieve proficiency before moving to the next stage. Symbolically, the degrees represent the three stages of human development: youth, manhood, and age.



## RWDGM Sam Whitehead at Meridian Lodge No. 105



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## Havre No. 55 Kindles for Kids





## Helena Lodge No. 3 Hawaiian Shirt Night



## Grand Master Dahlquist Visit to Havre Lodge No. 55





## First Degree Conducted by Northern Lights District



## MWGM Dahlquist Attends Bozeman No. 18 Degree





## Worship Masters of Gallatin No. 6 & Bozeman No. 18 Installed



Aug 19, 2023 Gallatin Lodge #6 and Bozeman Lodge #18 WM were installed by Mark St. John, PM.

During the installation of Officers of Constituent Lodges we are told: As an Officer, he should remember first of all, that he is an individual Mason, sharing in that respect a common lot with his brethren and therefore interested in the welfare of each and all. Be devoid of undue ostentation and haughty overbearing. Be accessible to all, cultivating the closest friendship and the most unlimited confidence with his associate officers. Be eager to take council with his brethren and ready to give it. Be ready to reward good. Be devoid of favoritism and wholly impartial.







## OMAR BRADLEY THE BEST OF LEADERS

Chuck Clampitt  
Mt Etna #333  
Huntington, Indiana

Judging military leadership from a military perspective becomes a daunting task as played upon by both biographers and historians. What makes a general great, competent, or failure? It often depends on whether the general was on the winning side, won or lost a famous battle, or if he gained the attention of the world of his era. Some leaders are blessed to have a charisma that draws attention across the ages. Men like Lee, Grant, or Rommel are revered even though they had shortfalls. Other generals, the "average Joes", often go without attention even though they proved to be great generals. To some extent General Omar N. Bradley falls into that latter category.

Omar Bradley was born on February 12, 1893 in Randolph County, Missouri. He spent most of his early years like any other boy growing up in rural America, hunting, fishing, and attending school. When his father died Bradley was 14. He and his mother moved to Moberly, MO where he attended high school. Bradley, always athletic, excelled in sports and looked ahead to attending college. With finances in short supply, Bradley applied and was admitted to West Point where he graduated in 1915 along with Dwight Eisenhower. The class of 1915 became known as "the class that stars fell on" as 59 of 164 graduates rose to the rank of general.

Even though World War I was raging in Europe, the United States had yet to become involved. In 1916 the U.S. Army forces were sent to Mexico to chase after the Mexican bandit Poncho Villa, who had raided Columbus, New Mexico in March of that year. U.S. forces, led by General "Black Jack" Pershing moved into northern Mexico, but Bradley was instead posted to a base in Yuma, Arizona. When American declared war against Germany in April, 1917, the size of the Army exploded. Troops were immediately needed in Europe to bolster the flagging strength of our new French and English allies. As might be expected, most all young career officers were anxious to be sent to France and directly involved in the action. Instead, Bradley was sent to Butte, Montana for the duration of the war to command a company guarding copper mines. Although, little known, the American government feared that certain critical resources needed to be protected from sabotage. While other officers experienced their first taste of war, Bradley instead never saw action. Even with his assignment stateside, Bradley was promoted to Major in August, 1918 just before

the end of the war in November of that same year. At the time Bradley thought that his lack of front-line experience would be detrimental to his career, but he would come to realize that trench warfare would be seen as an outdated strategy to be replaced by rapid mobility.

During World War I, 4 million men served in the U.S. Army and another 800,000 in other military branches. Following the war the Army and the other military branches were quickly downsized. Defense spending was slashed, the Senate voted against joining the League of Nations, and a mood of avoiding international involvement (isolationism) became the national consensus. By 1923 the Army had been reduced to 12,000 officers and 125,000 enlisted men (<https://history.army.mil>). As might be expected, opportunities for advancement in the 1920's and 30's for career officers slowed to a crawl.

During the course of the next several years, Bradley was frequently engaged in some sort of training, either as an instructor or as a student. In 1920 he was assigned as an instructor at West Point. In 1924 he was sent to Fort Benning, Georgia for one year at a senior officer course. The following year he was stationed in Hawaii with the 27th Infantry and two years later placed in charge of National Guard affairs for the Hawaiian Department. In 1928 he chose to become an instructor at Fort Benning, Georgia. "This turned out to be one of the most fortunate decisions of his professional life, because it was there that he was introduced to George C. Marshall. Marshall's influence would forever change Bradley's life and the trajectory of his career." (The Private Life of General Omar N. Bradley by Jeffrey D. Lavoie)

Marshall was a military thinker and planner who was able to visualize the tactical changes that would be employed in the next global war. When given command of the Army's Infantry training school at Fort Benning, Marshall made great strides in improving the tactics and the quality of personnel. Marshall was demanding of his subordinates but at the same time delegated authority. Perhaps his greatest attribute was the ability to identify high quality junior officers with outstanding leadership skills. It was from this group that many of the senior generals of World War II came. Among these were Omar Bradley, Bedell Smith, Matthew Ridgeway, and Joseph Stilwell.



In April, 1939 General Marshall was appointed Army Chief of Staff. Marshall requested Bradley be assigned to him and made him his assistant. This was a great opportunity for Bradley as he was able to see and learn how to run an army. In February 1941 he was ordered to Fort Benning as Commandant of the Infantry School and promoted to Brigadier General having skipped the rank of Colonel. By then the biggest challenge was creating and training an army in anticipation of war. (In 1936 the Army numbered 165,000. In September 1940 the first peace time draft was initiated and would see the Army increase to 2.2 million by the end of 1941. With the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 America went to war.)

In the spring of 1942 Bradley was promoted to Major General and became commander of the 82nd Division and later the 28th Division. In March, 1943 he was sent to North Africa to take command of the II Corp from General George Patton. The final battle of Tunisia took place in May, 1943 and resulted in the surrender of 250,000 Axis forces. Bradley won praise for his part in this last battle and was promoted to Lieutenant General and shortly after was sent to Sicily. While other generals such as Patton, MacArthur, and Eisenhower drew the attention of reporters and the press, Bradley was often overlooked. Much of that would change when the noted war correspondent Ernie Pyle spent three days with Bradley and wrote a six-part series that characterized both his military as well as his personal characteristics. Following the battle for Sicily, Bradley was given command of the 73,000 strong 1st Division. In addition, he was made the commanding officer of the D-Day invasion. He served as the field commander of U.S. forces from D-Day until the German surrender in May, 1945. In March of that year, he was promoted to 4 star general.

Following Germany's surrender Bradley wanted to be sent to the Pacific Theatre in the war against the Japanese, but instead was placed in charge of Veterans Affairs. This proved to be both a demanding and rewarding assignment. With the end of the war approaching, a system had to be created to take care of the health care needs of returning veterans. (Congress passed the GI Bill of Rights in June, 1944 which provided for health care as well as other benefits.) It fell to Bradley to virtually build the Department of Veteran Affairs from the ground up during his tenure of office from August, 1945 to November, 1947.

Promotions thereafter came in rapid succession. In 1948 he was appointed Army Chief of Staff and in August, 1949 became the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In September, 1950 he was promoted to the rank of General of the Army or 5 Star General. He was only the fifth U.S. Army general to attain this rank along with George C. Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Henry "Hap" Arnold. "The five-star rank was retired in 1981 on the death of General of the Army Omar Bradley". (Wikipedia)



"Bradley was not as well known, but he was also a formidable military leader. He was the field commander of American soldiers on D-Day. His forces were the first to invade Germany, and controlled much of that country when the war ended. Bradley had something else going for him. Like Truman, he was from Missouri, and he liked his new commander in chief, judging the president as "direct, unpretentious, clear-thinking and forceful." (Countdown 1945 by Chris Wallace). What Bradley admired in Truman were many of the same attributes that he too possessed. By all evidence, Bradley was indeed a general who commanded both respect and devotion. Bradley led, and the troops under his command willingly followed.

To be both unassuming yet capable are character traits that are admirable. Omar Bradley was also a Mason having been raised a member of West Point Lodge #877, Highland Falls, New York in 1923.

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#### Editors Note:

From January until September 1918, Capt. Omar Bradley was in charge of the troops in Butte. The need for military troops around the mines in Butte may not be as apparent today as it was in the 1900s. During the First World War, there was concern that the mines could be the target of sabotage from unfriendly nations or production delays because of anti-war protests and internal issues with labor uprisings.

"When war came in 1914, copper was one of the most strategic materials. The world was already in a copper boom due to the need for electrical wire. The supply was tight, and new production was slow to come online due to the high capital costs of new mines. In 1914, the U.S. mines contributed 77 percent of the world's copper, and 31 percent of U.S. production was from Butte, Montana, which sat atop an ore body that was 50 to 80 percent copper, the richest in the world and also containing important amounts of zinc, lead, manganese, and molybdenum." - On the Home Front: The Butte Montana Copper Mines, Jim Patton.



**Virginia City Lodge No. 1 , August 3rd  
Installation of Officers for 2023-2034**



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**Montana Lodge No. 2 , August 3rd  
Installation of Officers for 2023-2034**

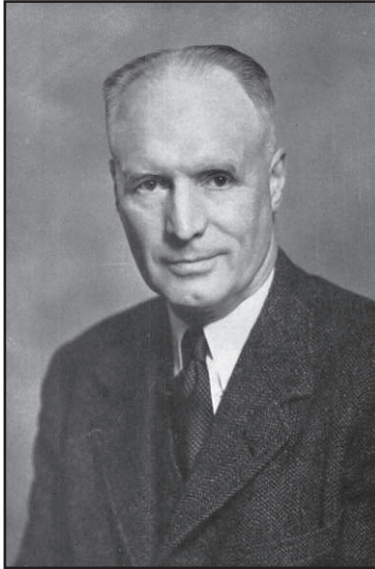




# HANDS OF THE WORKMAN

## Charles Davidson, Grand Master 1942-1943

Charles Davidson, Grand Master of Montana 1942-1943, was born in Dundee, Scotland, on April 12, 1892. He came to America and directly to Great Falls, Montana, with his parents when he was about eight years of age. He graduated from Great Falls High School and then from Law School of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and started law practice in Great Falls. He was a member of the Congregational Church, serving many years as a Trustee.



On his return to Great Falls from Law School, he became intensely interested in assisting with citizenship to those immigrants who felt backward in studying for the examination for citizenship. He conducted classes teaching the Constitution and the principles of American citizenship without charge to any of those who desired to attend. This work covered twenty-five years, during which time he assisted over three thousand people in procuring citizenship papers. In 1964, he was appointed to the Downtown Citizens Council to study the planned renewal of the downtown area.

He was made a Master Mason in Euclid Lodge No. 58 at Great Falls on May 1, 1917, acted as Secretary, and was one of the prime movers among veterans in the formation of Delta Lodge No. 128 of Great Falls, of which he served as Worshipful Master in 1921. He was a past President of the Secretaries Association. He received his 50-year membership award on May 1, 1967.

During the 1943 Masonic year, there was a net gain of 251 members. The Jurisdiction had 135 Chartered Lodges with 18,054 members. Also in 1943, Montana Lodge No. 2 consolidated with Madison Lodge No. 87 as Montana Lodge No. 2. In 2023, the Jurisdiction has 77 Lodges with 3,272 members.

He was highly active in Blue Lodge activities and was most helpful in all of its better undertakings. Like all busy men, he found time to be of any Masonic assistance. Always courteous, willing, and efficient,

his services were always in demand and much appreciated. As Grand Master, he gave the work unlimited time and continued his courtesy, willingness, and efficiency in his duties as Grand Master. He served on the Jurisprudence Committee from 1943 to 1969.

His energies were also spent in time devoted to his community and Masonry. He was Great Falls City Attorney in 1921-1923, 1933-1935, and Deputy County Attorney 1929-1933 of Cascade County. He was a member of The Veterans Welfare Commission of Montana starting in 1921 and served as Chairman of that Commission in 1924. He was Supervisor of the United States Census in 1930 in Cascade County. In the First World War, he served in the United States Army as Regimental Sergeant Major in the 39th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion of the 13th Division, 1917-1919.

MW Past Grand Master Charles Davidson died on April 30, 1970, at the age of 77 years, in Great Falls, Montana. Funeral services were held at the Congregational Church on Monday, May 4, and the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana conducted Graveside committal services. The mortal remains of our Past Grand Master were borne to the Highland Cemetery, Great Falls, where they were deposited following the usages and customs of the Craft.





# MOZART, MASONRY AND THE MAGIC FLUTE

Bro. Jay Bahny, Helena #3.

In the history of the Masons there have been many great musicians. Among our fellow American Masons were Brother Benjamin Franklin, who not only wrote music, but also invented the glass harmonica. We also can claim as our Brother the legendary "Singing Cowboy" Roy Rogers and the great "March King" John Phillip Sousa.

Famous European brethren who were also great musicians and composers included Felix Mendelsohn, Franz Joseph Haydn, Gioachino Rossini and innumerable others.

Among them the composer most closely associated with the Craft, and perhaps history's greatest composer, was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Brother Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria on January 27, 1756. He was initiated into Zur Wohltatigkeit (Beneficence) Lodge on December 14, 1784. On December 24th of the same year, he was passed to the 2nd Degree and on April 22, 1785, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. His father, composer Leopold Mozart, was also raised in the same ceremony.

There is no doubt that Mozart had truly accepted the Masonic view of the life, especially the teaching of the 3rd Degree. Here, as an example, is a quotation from a letter to his father when Leopold was gravely ill: "Death is (to be exact) the ultimate purpose of life. I can only thank God for having afforded me the opportunity (you will understand what I mean) to see in death the key to true happiness."

If this quotation gives you the impression that our Brother Mozart was a somber man, nothing could be further from the truth. If one has seen the movie "Amadeus", one can see him portrayed quite accurately as an extremely fun-loving man. He enjoyed boisterous parties, strong spirits, good food, and the company of good friends and lovely ladies. He was the quintessential complete man, one capable of indulging his appetites, as well as one of profound knowledge and deep philosophical thought. In short, he was the very essence of a Mason of the Enlightenment.

Even before his initiation into our Brotherhood, he demonstrates in his work the heart of a true Mason. In one of his earliest operas, "Die Entführung aus dem Serail", (in English, "The Abduction from the Harem"), two Englishmen have come to Turkey (the location of the opera) to rescue their imprisoned sweethearts. There, they are captured by the Pasha and their collective fates are in his hands and rather than follow the suggestion of his servant, Osmin ("first behead them, then hang them, then split them in half, then roast them on a spit"), the

benevolent Pasha forgives them and allows them to go back to Merry Olde England.

Thus Mozart shows the Masonic accentuation on the virtue of forgiveness as early as 1782, two years before his initiation.

This particular Masonic virtue appears to be a favorite of Brother Mozart. The Countess forgives the Count Almaviva in The Marriage of Figaro, Masetto forgives Zerlina in Don Giovanni, and Guglielmo and Ferrando forgive Dorabella and Fiordiligi in Così Fan Tutte. In all of these cases, the forgiveness is for romantic dalliances. Perhaps Brother Mozart is attempting to soften the wrath of his wife Constanza over his own various indiscretions.

The most well-known of his Masonic-oriented works was Die Zauberflöte, which, in English, is known as "The Magic Flute".

Although the librettist of the story wanted it to be a simple fairy tale (with him as the comic star of the show), our sly Brother Mozart managed to incorporate many references to the Craft's history, philosophy, and symbols without being too direct at actually revealing anything.

The opera begins with three sonorous blasts from the brass section. This reveals the Masonic theme of triples, which will pervade the entire opera. The brass instruments, particularly the trombones, have been used to represent the mystical and supernatural since the beginning of recorded musical history.

The curtain rises and we see young Prince Tamino, a tenor of course, running, terrified, from a deadly serpent. The serpent symbolizes fear of death, spiritual anguish, confusion and existential terror. It is slain by the Three Ladies, who then proceed to fight over the handsome Prince, who is now lying in a faint. Each lady insists on claiming him as hers alone. It is quite probable that they are symbolic of the three major religions, Christianity, Judaism and Islam, and each wants his sole allegiance to their particular credos. It soon becomes clear that they are all servants of the Queen of the Night. She dramatically appears in fantastic apparel, singing highly spectacular music of the dramatic Coloratura variety. She pleads with Tamino to rescue her beautiful daughter Pamina from the clutches of the evil sorcerer, King Sarastro, who had her daughter carried away and imprisoned. Despite her histrionics and flashy display of maternal love and sorrow, the Queen symbolizes religious hypocrisy, superstition, fear of damnation, religious persecution, the enslaving of the human mind and all the negative aspects of organized religion. She also represents murder.



On his way to rescue the princess, Tamino meets the mysterious "Speaker", who engages him in a Socratic Dialogue and convinces him that all is not as it seems. He must approach the situation with a clear mind if he wants to learn the truth. Finally, Prince Tamino meets Sarastro and it becomes apparent that he, in truth, is a benevolent secular priest and a worldly-wise ruler. He had taken Pamina from her mother so that she would be free from the Queen's malevolent influence. The Queen orders Pamina to kill King Sarastro. If she refuses, she will be disowned and abandoned forever. Pamina refuses to do her mother's bidding. She entreats Sarastro to forgive her mother, which he does. This convinces Pamina to join Prince Tamino in undertaking the trials of initiation, and to join Sarastro's Temple of Wisdom.

There are many ways in which Brother Mozart brought Masonic symbolism into his music. For music concerning initiation, Masonic or otherwise, he used the key of F Major. This key has only one flat, a reference to the first degree, that of Entered Apprentice. The second level, that of Fellow Craft, is indicated by the use of B Flat Major, which has two flats. E Flat Major stands for the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

In addition, Mozart introduced the key of A Major (with its three sharps) into Masonic canon: the Clarinet Concerto and the Clarinet Quintet. The keys of G Major and G minor also appear in his Masonic works, probably because the letter "G", of course, has a symbolic meaning.

That Freemasonry played a major role in Brother Mozart's greatness as a composer and musical philosopher for all his life is indisputable.

The philosophies and mysteries of the Craft were a major part of his art and his life. He began writing his music for Masonic events as far back as 1772. At the age of 16 he wrote a Masonic Hymn of praise entitled "O Sacred Bond of Friendship". This was over ten years before his initiation.

I will end this article by paraphrasing the words of the great man of letters, George Bernard Shaw:

*"The arias Mozart wrote for Sarastro in The Magic Flute were the only music ever composed suitable to have emanated from the mouth of God".*

We do  
everything  
we can to  
be present.  
And still  
be part of  
history.



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GRAND LODGE OF AF&AM OF MONTANA



## Joint Installation of Officers for Lower Yellowstone Lodge No.90 (Sidney) and Glendive Lodge No. 31



Lower Yellowstone Lodge No.90 Installation





Glendive Lodge No. 31 installation

## Butte Lodge No. 22 Installation





# Sapphira Temple No. 79 Happenings

Hosted by the New England Temples, the 107 th Annual Supreme Session Supreme Temple Daughters of the Nile was held in Mashantucket, Connecticut June 11-15, 2023 at the beautiful Foxwoods Resort and Casino with over 1000 attendees. Attending "The Four Season Experience" from Sapphira Temple No. 79 were Queen Laurie Brown, Princess Royal Terrie Volkman, JPO Shelly Taylor, PQ Sharon Nielsen, PQ Pam Jackson, PQ Vickie Rauser, Lady of the Household Delegates Princess Kathy Brook, Princess Amber Lott and Princess Karen Tobel. The Sapphira Egyptian Oriental Band was our featured performing unit and did a sensational performance both at Supreme and the Northwest Regional Meeting!!!

We are very pleased to announce this year's (2023-2024) Supreme Temple Appointees from Sapphira Temple No.79!  
Congratulations ladies!!

Supreme Goodwill Ambassador Northwest Area - Carynn LeMieux PQ  
Supreme Temple Canadian Flag Escort – Linda Hiltabrand PQ  
Supreme Temple Banner Escort – Sharon Nielsen PQ  
Charitable Giving Subordinate Temple Liaison – Pr. Nancy Fuller  
Supreme Red Rose – Pr. Karen Tobel

Sapphira Temple No. 79 also received special recognition for Legacy members, membership recruitment and reinstatement DID YOU KNOW Sapphira Temple No. 79 rates in the top ten temples with the most members!???

Congratulations to Supreme Queen Patricia "Patty" Larimore, Supreme Princess Royal Jackie Holloway, Supreme Princess Tirezah Kathy Walliker and Supreme Princess Badoura Elect PQ Kathy Rafter! We wish SQ Patty a very successful year as she begins her temple and hospital visits!

2023 Shriners Childrens® donations from the US Daughters of the Nile Foundation were \$2.1 million and the Canadian DON Foundation \$282, 000. Brazil raised \$7,401.70 in donations. We are the highest donor with over \$72 million in donations to Shriners Children® since adoption of this philanthropy!! Current Daughters of the Nile membership includes 14,356 American, 1,600 Canadian and 76 Brazilian for a total of 15, 932 members.

Sapphira Temple No. 79 meets September-May on the third Saturday at 10:30A. Stated Sessions are followed by a luncheon hosted by the various Performing Units and Past Queens. If you are in need of a ride in order to attend a stated session, please feel free to call Queen Laurie Brown at 406-439-5033, Princess Royal Terrie Volkman 406-581- 4345 or JPO Shelly Taylor 406-871-7299 to make arrangements. Daughters of the Nile – It's Worth Your While!

## Sapphira Temple No. 79 Upcoming Events

Aug 10-12	Northwest Daze—Tacoma, WA
Sept 5	Queen's Visit Great Falls Nile Club No. 3 and Cascade—Ulm Club No. 19 Luncheon —Great Falls
Sept 7	Queen's Visit Sapphira Nile Club No. 8—Livingston
Sept 7	Queen's Visit Gallatin Nile Club No. 8—Belgrade
Sept 11	Queen's Visit Clark Fork Nile Club No. 21—Hot Springs
Sept 16	Algeria Shrine Potentate Fall Ceremonial - Havre
Sept 23*	Stated Session 10:30 am—Lunch—Past Queens; Practice for Supreme Queen's Official Visit/ Ceremonial following lunch.
Sept 20	Queen's Visit Toole Co. Nile Club No. 13 Dinner - Shelby
Oct 7	Bath Zabbia No. 21 Supreme Queen Official Visit
Oct 8	Tirezah Temple No. 3 Supreme Queen Official Visit
Oct 9	Supreme Queen's Official Visit Social 5pm Banquet 5:30pm Ceremonial 7pm
Oct 21	Queen&#39;s Visit Sapphira Club No. 5 Luncheon – Missoula

\*Denotes a change in the regular Stated Session date





## Deputy Grand Master Visitation to Ottawa Lodge No. 51



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## Boulder-Basin Lodge No. 41 Lets Eat





## DGM and JGW install Flint Creek No. 11 & Ruby No. 36



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## Havre Lodge No. 55 & Treasure Lodge No. 95 Raise New Master Mason



Congratulations to Brother Justin. Havre Lodge #55 raised him today to the sublime degree of Master Mason at the Hall of Treasure Lodge No. 95. Spread that cement, Brother; your journey doesn't stop here.



## Unity Lodge 71 Installation



Unity Lodge 71 was honored by having Fred Siers and Lodge Officers installed on 08 September 2023 by Montana Grand Lodge Officers Worshipful Marty Reiersen installing Officer and assisted by Robert Engle as Marshal.

Pictured L to R: Visiting Brothers from Forsyth, Robert Eagle and Marty Reiersen, WM Fred Stiers, SW Richard Mihalovich, Tyler Scott Greensfelder, Chaplin Jon Funk, JW/Treasurer Barry Lee, and Michael Welton as Secretary.

To the Brethren: And you, Brethren of this Worshipful Lodge, learn to follow the advice and instruction of your Officers, submitting cheerfully to their amicable decisions; throwing by all resentments and prejudices toward each other; let your chief care be to the advancement of the Society you have the honor to be members of, Let there be a modest and friendly emulation among you in doing good to each other, Let complacency and benevolence flourish among you, Let the rules of Masonry square your actions, Let friendship be cherished, and all advantages of that title by which we distinguish each other; that we may be brothers, not only in name but in the full import, extent, and latitude of so glorious an appellation.

Finally, my brethren, as this association has been carried on with so much unanimity and concord (in which we greatly rejoice), so may it continue to the latest ages. May your love be reciprocal and harmonious. While these principles are uniformly supported, this Lodge will be an honor to Masonry, an example to the world, and, therefore, a blessing to mankind.



## Montana Masonic Youth Groups at Annual Session



### Mark St. John received the Theodore Williams Youth Leadership Award

The Theodore Williams Youth Leadership Award was started in 2014 at the 148th Communication of the Grand Lodge AF & AM of Montana. Each year, it is given to an adult or adults who have shown tremendous leadership in DeMolay. Going above and beyond for the organization. It is the highest honor given out for DeMolay leadership service by the Grand Lodge of Montana.





Congratulations to Dad Russ Dorsey and Dad David Carter on receiving the Legion of Honor for service to the Order of DeMolay and accomplishing amazing things in your lives. The Legion of Honor is the highest Honor/ Award conferred by DeMolay International, and both deserve this prestigious title. Thank you for being so dedicated to our young men and building a bright future for all.

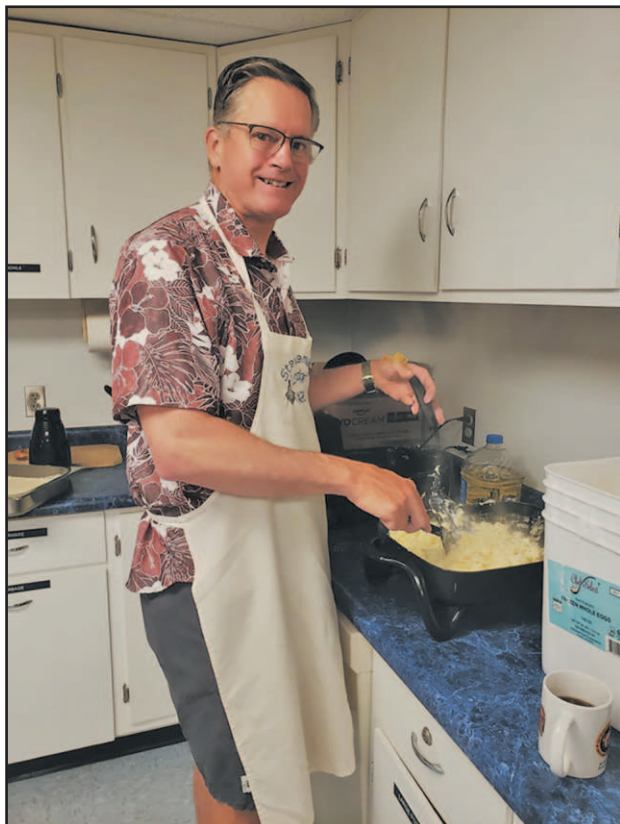
**THE ROAD  
BEGINS HERE**



## Stevensville Creamery Picnic Celebration With Stevensville Lodge No. 28



Stevensville Lodge #28 recently participated in the Stevensville Creamery Picnic celebration. This has been an annual event, and the Lodge has been the place to meet and eat Breakfast on the Saturday of the festivities. This year was exceptional, with diners and Brothers working together to feed the sometimes overwhelming crowds. We added some advertising this year, a banner for the Lodge entryway and sandwich boards, and poke-in-the-ground signs. The weather was a little drizzly, which, after the scorching month, perhaps brought a few more out to the fun. Our funds are used to distribute Kindles for Kids, which this past year we gave out 33 to local elementary school children. Two of our new neighbors, sojourners, met with us, and both seem to want to affiliate, so it was a super day, exhausting but fruitful! It was a fun endeavor that the Lodge enjoyed being a part of.







## 2023 GRAND MASTERS OUTDOOR ROAMING LODGE TRI-JURISDICTIONAL SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2023.



### Tri-Jurisdictional at Cypress Hills, Saskatchewan

The Annual Tri-Jurisdictional gathering of Masons from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Montana is an opportunity to rekindle old friendships and make new ones. The location rotates each year and is hosted by one of the three jurisdictions. The host jurisdiction will conduct a degree demonstrating the differences and similarities of our ritual work.



# Montana Masonic Youth Convention



August 2023

MMYC is just around the corner!! We hope you all will be joining us October 20-22, 2023 in Great Falls at the Holiday Inn Convention Center and Great Falls Scottish Rite.

The theme throughout the weekend will be Disney and Marvel. With that theme in mind, Friday night after the opening at the Scottish Rite Temple we will have a costume party with games. So, bring your favorite costume! Also, we are asking each group attending to bring table décor for 2 tables at our Grand Banquet on Saturday, October 21, 2023. We will have a contest for the most popular table décor!

We will be continuing our Basket Raffle this year! But where will the money raised be used? You get to decide during the weekend to be revealed at the Grand Banquet.

This year's registration for kids will be \$210.00 and for adults \$275.00. Registration link will be provided. Please register by September 20, 2023.

We look forward to seeing all of you this year!!

Dan Massey

David Carter

Jodi Lehman

Stacey Corcino

DeMolay Cochairs

Jobie Cochairs



# Grand Lodge of AF&AM of Montana

## Grand Lodge Officers for 2023-2024

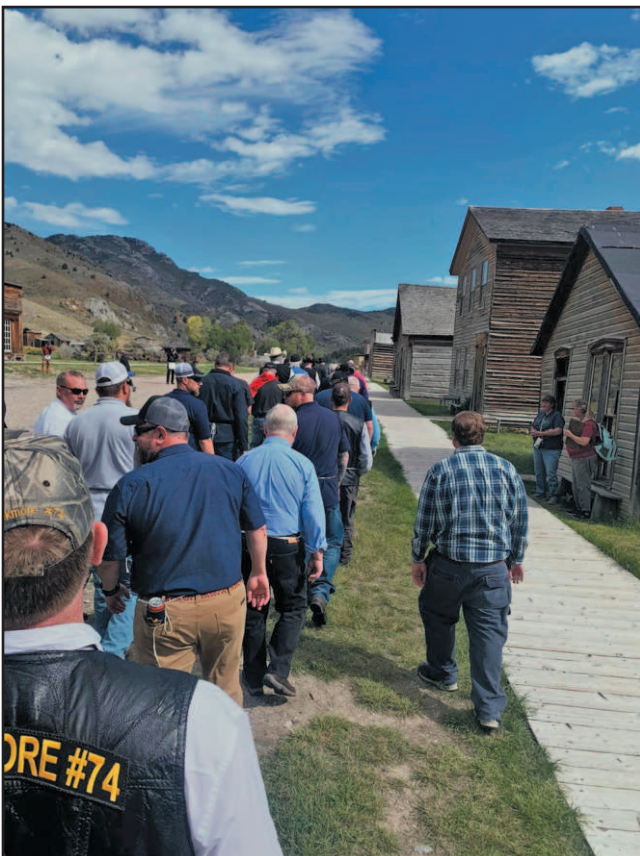


David A. Schantz (29, 52) Grand Master  
Samuel H. Whitehead (3/105) Deputy Grand Master  
Jason M. Smith (29/53) Senior Grand Warden  
Don M. Powell (18) Junior Grand Warden  
Bruce W. Lahti (34) Grand Treasurer  
Daniel J. Gardiner (3) Grand Secretary

Appointed Grand Lodge Officers for 2023-2024  
Wade H. Riden (96) Senior Grand Deacon  
John D. Heston (42/152) Junior Grand Deacon  
Martin "Marty" Reiersen (52, 120) Grand Marshal  
Tracy L. Bratcher (128) Senior Grand Steward  
David E. Sageser (50/55) Junior Grand Steward  
Mark J. Bassett (1/32) Grand Standard Bearer  
Brice E. Liggett (29) Grand Sword Bearer  
Ken M. Bates (14, 33) Grand Pursuivant  
Adam L. Johnson (29) Grand Tyler  
Tom V. Hornung (149) Grand Chaplain  
John L. Hugdahl (29, 101) Grand Historian  
Dylan D. Crouse (29) Grand Organist  
Kyron T. Jenö (3) Assistant Grand Treasurer



**Bannack Historic Lodge No.3777  
Annual Meeting, September 9th, 2023**









## Happy Birthday to Everett Lynn, a Centenarian

On September 24, 2023, Worshipful Brother Everett Lynn (3,51) was celebrated for his 100th birthday. Brother Everett has been a Mason for 74.5 years. Thank you for your years of loyal service and leadership you have provided to Masonry in Montana.

Brother Lynn was Initiated on December 15, 1948, Passed on February 16, 1949, and Raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on March 13, 1949. He received his 50-year member award in 1999, and 2015, he was inducted into the Montana Masonic Hall of Fame.



Happy 100th Birthday







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1866-2023

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a whole new way.



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