

Montana Freemason

May/June 2023

Vol. 99 No. 2



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About The Cover

The Seal of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Montana

The Seal of the Grand Lodge shall be kept by the Grand Secretary and used to affix the Seal with his attestation to all instruments of writing issued by the Grand Lodge and also to all the written official acts of the Grand Master when required. The Grand Secretary shall also keep a Book of Lode Seals of each Lodge in the Jurisdiction. Documents bearing the Grand Lodge Seal shall include dues cards; Charters and amended Charters (consolidation, surrender, and revoked); certificates, diplomas, and awards.

Individual Lodge shall have and provide a suitable seal, bearing such devices as may be deemed proper. All documents or papers of every kind, issued by the lodge, or from the Master or Secretary in his official capacity, shall bear the impress of the Seal. The Lodge Secretary shall be responsible for the Lodge Seal.



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. 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.



Livingston District Welcomes New Master Masons



February 21. This past Saturday, Livingston District hosted their annual District Meeting at Gallatin Lodge #6. Following the District meeting, an Americanism program was presented. Followed the raising Bro. Russ D. (Gallatin #6) and Bro. Kekoa "Moose" C. (Bozeman #18) to the sublime degree of Master Mason! Thank you to RC Jensen Demolay Chapter for assisting us with the lunch and preparations.

Picture: from left to right starting with the first row.

WM Jay L., WM Hans D., Mark K., Kekoa "Moose" C., Russ D., WB Mark St.J., WB Dan M., WB Gib C., WB Michael W., WB Bryan K., Dimitri B., Mike S., Blake W., Brian C., David C., WB Joel D., Dan D., Tyler R., Jason P., WB Al D., Joe St.J.

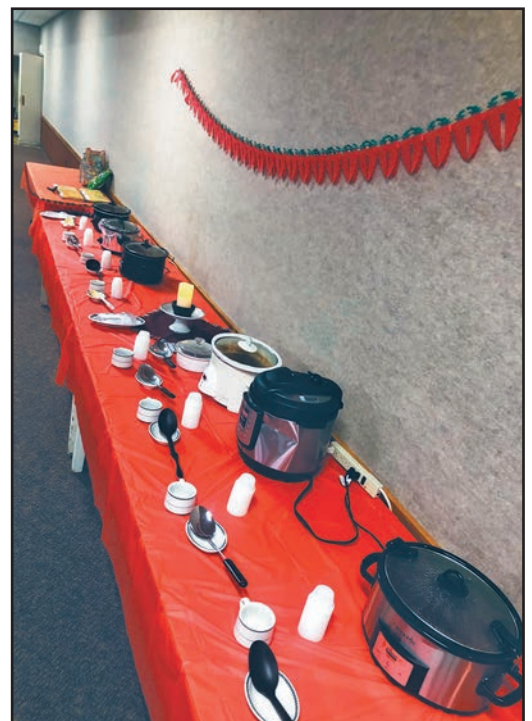
by: Hans Dierenfeldt

CHILI Cook Off

Helena No. 3
Americanism Night and Chili Cook-off



Helena No. 3 held is Americanism Night and Annual Chili Cook-off. Brothers from No.3, No. 41 and No.51 attended along with a number of guests and family members. The event speaker was Layla Eichler, who provided a presentation about Drug Court to American Values of accountability and compassion.



Celebrating the Cornerstone Centennial of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial



A spectacular view from the parade route as thousands of Masons marched up to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial to celebrate the Cornerstone Centennial on February 20, 2023. Photo by Danny McHale. #cornerstone2023



The Grand Lodge of California was just one of the dozens of Masonic groups marching in the parade that led to the Memorial's cornerstone centennial. #cornerstone2023 Photo by Shawn Eyer.



#cornerstone2023 Photo by Shawn Eyer.

The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia marches up King Street in Alexandria to participate in the centennial cornerstone rededication. #cornerstone2023



Conference of Grand Secretaries in North America 2023

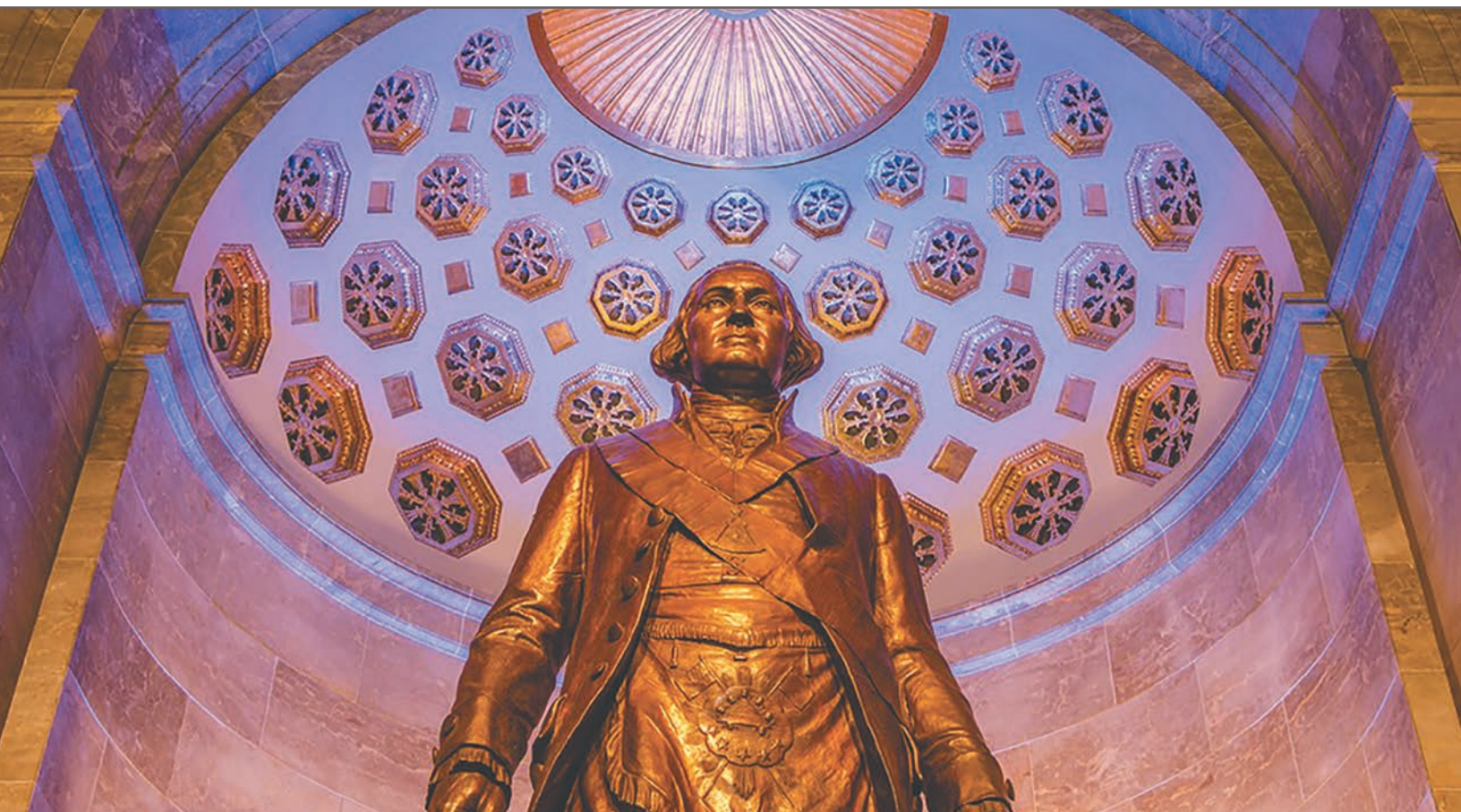


**Montana representation at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial
for the Centennial Cornerstone Celebration**

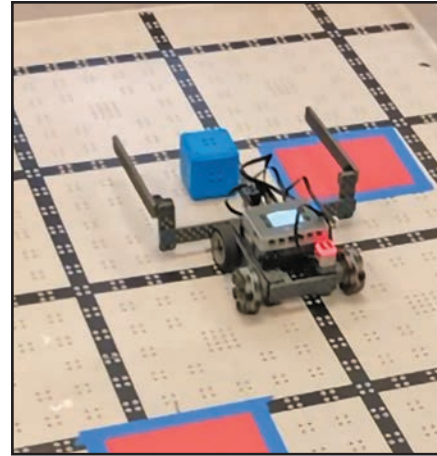
L-R: Sam Whitehead, RW Senior Grand Warden; Johnathon Dhalquist, MW Grand Master;
David Schantz, RW Deputy RW Grand Master; and Dan Gardiner, RW Grand Secretary



Conference of Grand Masters of North America



Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program



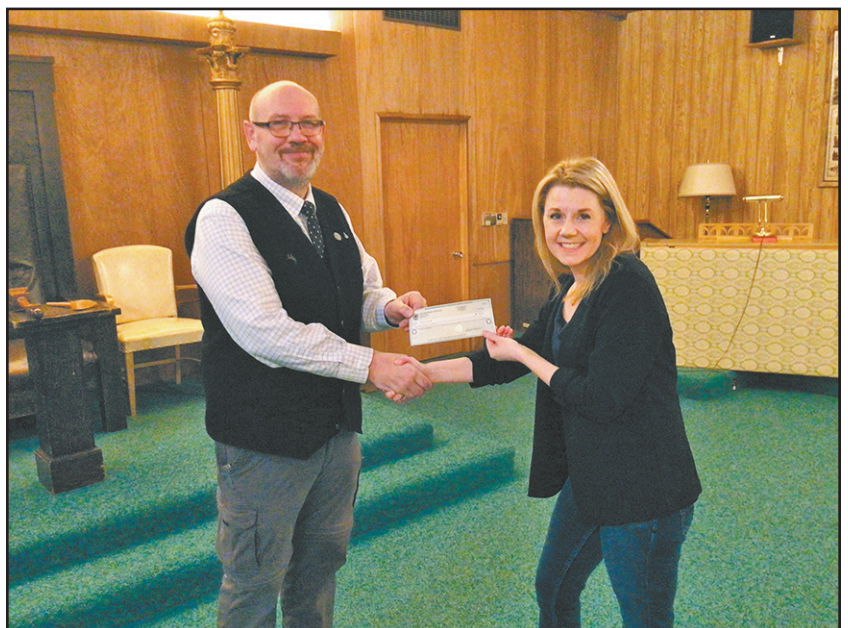
MMF Educational Grant Awarded to Bluecreek School

Fri, Feb 17

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Brice Liggett presented a Grant Check to Amanda Bechtold, 5th Grade teacher, at Bluecreek School in Laurel. Also shown a picture of one of the kits from last years Grant.

MMF Educational Grant Awarded to Chinook Public Schools

Fri. February 17th Bro. David Sageser, Grand Standard Bearer, presented Mrs. Jill Paulson, of Chinook Public Schools, with a Grant check from the Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program. The grant will to the acquisition of classroom novels.



MMF Educational Grant Awarded to Laurel High School



Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Brice Liggett presented Brenna Beckett of Laurel High School a Grant for \$1500 for DNA lab equipment for use in the science program.

MMF Educational Grant Awarded to West Elementary School-Great Falls

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Tracy Bratcher, Jr Gr. Stewart presented Amber Pedersen School Librarian a Grant for the Library at West Elementary School in Great Falls.



MW Grand Master Dahlquist Official Visit to Helena Lodge No. 3



Official visitation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Johnathon Dahlquist, to Helena Masonic Lodge No. 3 AF & AM. He was announced at the altar by 99 year old Bro. Everett Lynn.



Bro. Evan Reba-Jones gave back his long-form full Master Mason proficiency with Bro. Leo Schuman.
Montana Freemason



Bruce Lahti, Grand Treasurer and Dan Gardiner, Grand Secretary.



Most Worshipful Grand Master, Johnathon Dahlquist,
to Helena Masonic Lodge No. 3

Montana Masonic Foundation Reading Achievement Program



Kindles for Kids at West Elementary School in Great Falls.

By Bruce Lahti.

Montana Masonic Foundation Supporting Masonic Youth



Montana Youth Groups convention March 17-18. Sam Whitehead shown presenting checks from the Montana Masonic Foundation to the Job's Daughters, Order of DeMolay, and Rainbow for Girls.

HANDS OF THE WORKMAN

Ralph M. Hattersley, Grand Master 1941-1942

M.W. Brother Ralph Marshall Hattersley was born August 11, 1883, in Cincinnati, Ohio, the first son and third child of Mary Susan and Charles Marshall Hattersley.

In 1903, 21-year-old Hattersley joined the staff of the Indian affairs division of the Department of the Interior as a payroll clerk at Washington, D.C.

After years with the Department; he enrolled at George Washington University in a full-time course offered during night school hours. Among his law school teachers was James Brown Scott, later to go with President Woodrow Wilson to Versailles as secretary of the Carnegie Peace fund; William Vance, later dean of the Yale law school; two U.S. Supreme court justices and the chief justice of the U.S. Court of Claims.

He graduated from George Washington University with an L.L.B. in 1907 and an L.L.M. in 1908. Late in 1908, he was admitted to the Montana bar in Helena and was a special agent for the Interior Department. In this capacity, he came to Helena, Montana, where his work took him throughout the state. He often traveled by team and buckboard with his bedroll in the back, his day's journey ending with a bed beneath the star-decked canopy of the clear Montana sky.

Brother Ralph moved to Conrad in 1909 and served two terms as county attorney and ten years as clerk of the Conrad school board.

He was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. In civil affairs, he guided many of the local organizations in welfare and youth work.

In 1923, he was elected County Attorney of Pondera County and served in this capacity while maintaining his private practice until 1928. In 1929 he became Judge of the Ninth Judicial District of Montana (comprised of the counties of Teton, Pondera, Toole, and Glacier) and served in that capacity until he died in 1957.

Brother Hattersley was raised as a Master Mason in Valier Lodge No. 76 at Valier, Montana, on January 19, 1911, and served as Worshipful Master of Conrad Lodge No. 80 in 1919. He was appointed Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge in August 1932 and served through the chairs, being elected as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Montana in August 1941.



He was a member of Pondera Chapter 21 Royal Arch Masons; Helena Algeria Shrine Temple; Great Falls Consistory; Victory Chapter 86, O.F.S., and Valier Lodge 97, IOOF. He was a member of Victory Chapter No. 86 of the Order of the Eastern Star at Conrad. In 1949 he served as Grand Worthy Patron of the Montana O.E.S.; and Grand Patron in 1942. He was a 32 Mason of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite member of the Valley of Great Falls.

In 1942 there were 17,803 members with 136 Lodges. Today, there are 3,371 members and 77 Lodges.

It was said that he served Freemasonry in Montana diligently and faithfully. His keen mind and wise judgment, coupled with an enthusiastic sincerity, brought to his brethren an interpretation and example of the purpose and reputation which he believed were demanded of the members of the Craft. He maintained the dignity of the office he was filling in whatever station, yet was tolerant and enjoyed his association with his friends, never leaving that level of respect with which he endowed all men as their right. He possessed sound thinking, a lovable character, and an ever-readiness to serve, which earned him the respect and honors conferred upon him.

MWPGM Hattersley died on November 28, 1958, in Conrad, Montana. We are secure in our faith that he has received his reward in that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns. Funeral services were held at the Conrad Presbyterian Church, and special Masonic graveside rites were conducted at Hillside Cemetery at Conrad by the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana.





Montana Masonic Foundation Reading Achievement Program

Hiram Lodge No. 52 and the Montana Masonic Foundation, in support of reading achievement in local public schools, worked with Highland Park Elementary School in Miles City with their I Love to Read Contest.

On March 8, 2023, an award assembly was held to present the bikes and kindles. Robert Engle and Sig Hellickson from Hiram Lodge #52 came to present the bike and kindle awards. In addition to students and staff, several parents and a representative from the Miles City Star attended. Erin Landrum, the Principal, went live on Facebook to show this fantastic event! Hiram Lodge No. 52 presented the bikes, and Glendive Lodge No. 32 provided helmets.

MWGM Johnathon L. Dahlquist Visits Deer Lodge No. 14



Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program



West Side Elementary

Lance Averett of Lower Yellowstone Lodge and Sandy Stinnett of Glendive Lodge 31 and Montana Masonic Foundation Board presented a Grant Check to Mrs Young of the West Side Elementary School in Sidney MT This will help fund future Family Science Nights. Mrs Vandall accepted on behalf of Mrs. Young.



Fairview Schools District

Lance Averett of Lower Yellowstone Lodge and Sandy Stinnett of Glendive Lodge 31 and Montana Masonic Foundation Board presented a Grant Check to Mrs. Rylie Olson and was chosen to receive \$850 for our summer reading packets.

Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program



Moore School

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, David Sageser presented a Grant Check to Moore School.
Photograph by: David Sageser



SmithSchool

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Board Director Sam Whitehead presents a Grant Check to Ms. Skogley at Smith Elementary School for Musical instruments and movement prompts.

Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program



Lincoln School, Miles City

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Marty Reiersen presented a grant check to Lincoln School for \$4800 to begin a STEM lab on campus to allow students to utilize hands-on learning of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



Saco Public Schools

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Wade Riden presented a School Grant Award to Bro. Chris Pippin, Music Instructor at Saco Public Schools while student Nathan Salveson plays one of the acoustic guitars purchased for students to learn to play the guitar.

Montana Masonic Foundation Reading Achievement Program Stevensville Elementary School



April 13th was the first of three distributions of the 2023 Kindles for Kids and happened in the Stevensville Elementary Gymnasium, home of the mighty Yellowjackets. This assembly was held just for the presentation of the Kindles to the winners. The Teachers determined who would receive the Kindles. Kindergarten and 1st-grade teachers were challenged with the arduous task of selecting students who put forth the most effort in learning. These students stand out by working extra hard on their reading skills. 2nd through 5th-grade champions earned their Kindles by reading and taking Accelerated Reader quizzes. This competition was decided by the points accumulated during February and March. The winner's total points spread from 40 to 803! Worshipful Master Jack Anderson and Past Master Russ McCormick represented the Lodge.



Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program



Helmville School K-8

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Board Director Sam Whitehead presents a Grant Check to 8th grader Natalie Graveley at Helmville Elementary (K-8) School for thier exotic animal program.



M.W. Grand Master Dahlquist Visiting Rimrock Lodge No. 149



MWGM Johnathon Dahlquist visiting
Rimrock Lodge No. 149.



Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program

Bainville Public Schools

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, Wade Riden presented a School Grant to librarian Stacy Hyatt of Bainville Public Schools. Bainville Principal Rhianna Beery is also present. The grant was to fund a new computer for the school library.

Brockton Public Schools

Wade Riden presenting a MMF Public School Grant on behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, to librarian Leona Calvin. The grant was to purchase new books for the elementary library.



Hinsdale Public Schools

On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation Wade Riden presented a School Grant was award to Hinsdale Public Schools Superintendent Adam Zopp assisted by while Jim Tollefson, Kyle Lodge #96. The grant was submitted by music instructor Heidi Johnson to repair the programs drums.

Montana Masonic Foundation Educational Grant Program Creston Elementary School



On behalf of the Montana Masonic Foundation, John Heston presented Grant check to First Grade Librarian Teresa Mumm (in the center) behind her is her husband Ben Mumm and to her left is John Heston. Surrounded by members of Bigfork Lodge #15

East Helena High School



April 9. Sam Whitehead a Director of the MMF, presented grant checks awarded to East Helena High School .The grants will be used for purchasing more microscopes for science classes and bookcases for the library to display books donated by the community.

50 Year Member - Jack Anderson, PGM



50 year pin and patent presentation

Brother Jack Douglas Anderson received his degrees in Havre Lodge No. 55; Initiated on February 2, 1973; Passed on March 15, 1973 and Raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on March 29, 1973. He served as Worshipful Master of Havre Lodge in 1992 and 1993. Brother Anderson was elected as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Montana for the 2003-2006 Masonic year. He later affiliated with Stevensville Lodge No. 28 in 2015 and served as Worshipful Master of Stevensville Lodge in 2022.

MWPGM Anderson, you stood before the altar of Freemasonry. It is emblematic 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.



Johnathon L. Dahlquist, Grand Master

Demonstrates Servant Leadership

MW Brother Dahlquist visited the Grand Lodge office in Helena on several occasions. He is often found repairing carpets, answering the telephone, auditing Annual Returns, or conducting tours of the Museum. For some of our lodges, this type of leadership is demonstrated by their Lodge Officers. Servant leadership should be exercised in all our lodges; we would be better for it.

We are fortunate to have a Grand Master who can not only lead by example in the office of Grand Master of Masons in Montana but can also get down and dirty to accomplish tasks demonstrating that he is also a good steward of the resources of the Craft and Grand Lodge.



DECLINING MEMBERSHIP

Johnathon Dahlquist
Most Worshipful Grand Master

Declining membership describes the situation where the number of members in an organization or group is steadily decreasing over time. Declining membership is a massive concern for Freemasonry as it leads to a loss of resources, decreased influence, and difficulty in achieving goals. Freemasonry needs to acknowledge this is happening and take steps to address its declining membership.

Membership declines in Freemasonry are happening for various reasons, including but not limited to the following:

1. Lack of interest: Members lose interest in Freemasonry's activities or mission.
2. Aging membership: If Freemasonry's membership is primarily composed of older individuals, there may be a natural decline in membership as members age and pass away.
3. Changes in Freemasonry's mission or values: If Freemasonry changes, no longer applies, or cannot effectively communicate its mission or values, it may no longer appeal to its existing members.
4. Competition from other organizations: If other organizations offer similar or perceived close facsimiles to our programs or services, members may join those organizations instead.
5. Lack of resources: If Freemasonry is unable to identify, explain, and provide the resources or benefits that members are looking for, they may choose to leave the organization.
6. Poor leadership: If Freemasonry has poor leadership or is not effectively communicating with its members, it will lead to a decline in membership as members become disengaged or frustrated.

What can we change, and how?

We can change - Lack of interest in Freemasonry:

1. Promote your fraternity: Use social media, email newsletters, and other marketing channels (bea.freemason.org) to promote the fraternity and its activities. Highlight membership benefits and how Freemasonry can help members achieve their goals.
2. Offer valuable programs and services: Develop, understand, and be able to articulate programs and services that are valuable to new and existing members that align with Freemasonry's mission and goals. This should include educational workshops, understanding and articulating who we are and what we do, and access to resources and tools.
3. Engage with the public and potential members: Attend events and conferences where potential members may be present. Interact with them and share information about Freemasonry and its activities.
4. Collaborate with other lodges or jurisdictions: Partner with other jurisdictions or lodges that share similar goals and values. This can help expand Freemasonry's reach and attract new members.
5. Provide a positive and rewarding member experience: It is critical that we ensure members have a positive experience with the fraternity. This includes providing an amazing experience during degrees, being receptive to member feedback, and creating an accepting, welcoming, and inclusive environment.
6. Leverage existing members: The craft should always encourage existing members to invite their friends and colleagues to join Freemasonry if they believe it would be of mutual benefit. "Word-of-mouth" referrals are always a powerful way to attract new members.

We can change - our Mission and values not being understood:

1. Be clear and concise: Understand and be able to express precisely what Freemasonry's mission and values are. Always use clear and concise language to describe Freemasonry's mission and values. Avoid using jargon or technical terms that are confusing to potential members.
2. Use storytelling or allegory: Use stories or allegories to illustrate how Freemasonry's mission and values have made a difference in people's lives. This helps potential members connect with Freemasonry on an emotional level.
3. Use visuals: The use of visuals such as images, videos, and infographics helps communicate Freemasonry's mission and values. This can help make the message more engaging and memorable.
4. Be consistent: Ensure that Freemasonry's mission and values are articulated verbally and visually consistently across all channels, including in person, on websites, social media, and marketing materials.
5. Engage members: Engage members in the mission and values of Freemasonry by involving them in developing programs and services that align with Freemasonry's mission and values.
6. Lead by example: Ensure that Freemasonry's membership and leadership embody the organization's mission and values. This will help build trust and credibility with potential members.
7. Measure impact: Measure and effectively articulate the impact of Freemasonry's programs and services. This will help demonstrate how Freemasonry's mission and values are being implemented and making a difference in people's lives. Asking questions like "Why did you join freemasonry?", "Why did you stay?", "What has freemasonry given you?", "What have you given freemasonry?" will help to demonstrate if and how Freemasonry's mission and values are truly making a difference.

We can change - how we use our Resources and benefits:

1. Access to information and research about Freemasonry.
2. Networking opportunities with other lodges or jurisdictions.
3. Making products or services available to the craft.
4. Educational workshops and training programs.
5. Lodge development resources like trestle boards or mentorship/leadership programs.
6. Advocacy efforts by and for our members.
7. Recognition and awards programs.
8. Opportunities to volunteer and give back to the community.
9. Access to exclusive events or conferences.

By providing these resources and benefits, Freemasonry can attract and retain members, build a sense of community, create a positive culture, and help members achieve their goals.

We can change - our Poor leadership:

1. Effective leadership is applied by setting a clear vision and goals for your lodge.
2. Define and accurately articulate the vision and goals to your lodge members.
3. Ensure everyone fully understands their role in achieving their vision and goals.
4. Always encourage open/honest communication and collaboration among lodge members.

5. Empower the brothers to make decisions and take ownership of their labors.
6. Provide regular feedback and recognition to lodge members.
7. Prioritize growth through training and development opportunities.
8. Be adaptable and willing to make changes to ensure your lodge can achieve its goals.
9. Acquire the ability to inspire and guide others towards a common goal or vision.

Effective leadership will result in a high-performing lodge that can achieve its goals and positively impact the fraternity and society.

Brothers, staying positive and optimistic is important while accepting that our membership is declining. Always remember that this is an opportunity to focus on engaging and serving our current members more effectively.

By providing valuable benefits and creating a culture that masons are proud to be a part of, we will attract new members while increasing retention among current members. This is also a chance to re-visit and re-apply our fraternity's mission and values and remember who we are and what we do. This will help us ensure that we are fulfilling our purpose and meeting the needs of our fraternity.

Our fraternity will overcome this challenge with hard work, dedication, and a positive outlook and emerge even more robust.

Johnathon Dahlquist. Grand Master

Bearthooth District Welcomes New FellowCrafts



Fellowcraft are from Star in the West No. 40 2nd degree night. Ashlar Lodge No. 29 brought three candidates. Will Alexander sat as WM, Ronnie Aasterud as SW, Loyal Kessler as JW. Gerald Geibink from Ashlar gave the stairway lecture. Q&A was handled by James Brown and Cody Thormahlen.

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome new Entered Apprentices Initiated by Helena Lodge No. 3



March 20th. Helena No. 3 initiated a new Entered Apprentice Luke Hronek, as well as one by courtesy for Boulder-Basin No. 41, Zachery Portnoy. Excellent delivery of ritual from all during the degree.



March 27th. Two Entered Apprentices - one for Helena #3 and one for Ottawa #51. Congratulations to Bro. Sterland and Bro. Hassett on their entrance to the fraternity! Bro. Bert Bouma last sat as Worshipful Master conferring an EA degree in #3 in 1982. He didn't miss a word!



All Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, other Past Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Secretaries, Treasurers and Past Masters of constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, who are in good standing, are hereby summoned to attend the 157th Annual Communication to be held on June 22-24, 2023 at the Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel in Helena, Montana.

Every Brother entitled to vote at the Annual Communication shall "due answer make" by attendance with illness or other reason which puts attendance beyond the length of his cabletow alone excusing him. Worshipful Masters and Wardens unable to attend will appoint qualified Proxies to vote in their stead. You will be required to present the current year Dues Card.

Each Chartered and duly constituted lodge shall be represented in Grand Lodge. All Master Masons in good standing of recognized Lodges are cordially invited to attend.

Johnathon L. Dahlquist
Grand Master

Attest:
Daniel Gardiner
Grand Secretary

Session Information

Duty to Attend Session

Every year, Worshipful Masters and Wardens promise to submit to the “ancient charges and regulations of Masonry” during their installation. These charges point out the duties of the Master of a Lodge and are deemed so important that they are read to ensure accuracy.

In these charges, you promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge upon having received proper notice and pay attention to all the duties of Masonry. A Lodge is a constituent of the Grand Lodge when in session. In order for a lodge to be a component of Grand Lodge, it must be represented. Thus, its presence is mandatory, either personally or by proxy. Additionally, our Code requires each Lodge be represented by the attendance of their Master and Wardens.

Representation in Grand Lodge

Section 25050 states that “Each chartered and duly constituted lodge shall be represented in Grand Lodge at every non-ceremonial communication by one or more of its Master and Wardens, or by an elected representative. Where a Master or Warden is unable to attend, the lodge Instructor shall be given the preferential representation.

Proxies

Whenever the Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden cannot attend the annual communication, he may grant a proxy (using the Proxy Card provided by the Grand Secretary,) to some member of his lodge to act in his stead. The proxy must be issued and signed by him at least two days prior to the annual communication, and he must notify the other officers of the granting of the proxy. The proxy must be presented when checking in and registering at the annual communication.

If either the Master, Senior or Junior Warden has died during his term of office or has permanently moved from this jurisdiction, the lodge may, at a regular meeting held at least two days prior to the annual communication, elect a proxy for such officer. If the member designated as a proxy does not use it, the credential cannot be used by anyone else. If a proxy is being given, it should be given to a member of the other than a Past Master, as they have a vote. If attending as a Proxy, the member must present his current Montana Dues Card and the Proxy Card to the registration committee.

Dues Cards Must Be Presented

The Current Dues Card will need to be presented at Check-In and Registration at Session. The current dues card will show an expiration date of December 31, 2023. Failure to present your 2023 Dues Card will result in you not being able to participate in Session.

Tie Vote

The Grand Master shall have a regular vote in all matters before Grand Lodge. In case of a tie vote, he may also cast the deciding vote.

Balloting & Other Matters Before Grand Lodge

There shall be no appeal from the rulings of the Grand Master as the presiding officer.

Notice for Balloting on Grand Lodge Officers for 2022 -2023

During the Annual Communication, the voting delegates will be voting for the following officers.

Deputy Grand Master (Grand Master-elect)
Senior Grand Warden
Junior Grand Warden
Grand Secretary
Grand Treasurer

The various duties of these officers are specified within the Constitution and Code of Statues.

Presentation of Lodge Banners

Again, this year, Lodges are encouraged to bring their Lodge Banner for display during the Annual Communication. The Banners will be able to be posted in a designed area.

Apron at Session

All Mason and Lodge Officers are encouraged to bring and wear the apron appropriate to their office or station within the Lodge. All Past Masters are encouraged to wear their Past Master Apron. There will be a limited number of plain paper aprons available for use.

The lambskin apron is the prized possession of every Mason. It is customary to wear a substitute, a white cloth apron. Some Lodges provide special aprons for their officers, and most Grand Lodges have more elaborate aprons for their Grand Officers and past Grand Officers. To be “properly clothed,” a Mason must wear the apron in Lodge unless, as an officer, he wears the appropriate apron supplied him by the Lodge of Grand Lodge. Within the Grand Jurisdiction of Montana, Masons always wear their aprons outside of clothing, not under a coat or jacket.

Concerning Balloting

In Anderson’s Constitutions and in Mackey’s Jurisprudence, we find that the “immemorial usages” concerning balloting and electing that it be independent and secret. The secrecy of the ballot is as essential to its perfection as its unanimity and its independence.

Frequently we hear those who would propose that we change our procedures to match that of political parties or other organizations in the name of transparency but doing so would throw out secrecy and would be un-masonic.

On legislation M.W.P.G.M.-Hon Dean Lindal (#5), Grand Secretary 1982-2001 frequently stated “The only good legislation is legislation that will do something for the Mason in his Lodge that he can see and makes the Lodge better.”

Proposed Legislation

Proposed legislation has been reviewed and approved by your Committee on Jurisprudence for presentation and that such legislation is in proper format for presentation to the Craft. Presentation of the proposed legislation in the Montana Freemason Magazine is for informational purposes only. Please read the preliminary Jurisprudence Report and the Advance Proceedings for complete detailed legislation.

5070. Jurisprudence. The Committee on Jurisprudence shall:

A. Examine and report on all:

1. Questions, documents and papers requiring investigation; and
2. Decisions upon all points of Masonic law.

B. Review proposed resolutions and recommendations to be considered at the next annual communication, upon receipt of them from the Grand Secretary, and recommendations or decisions of the Grand Master, or standing committees of Grand Lodge and;

1. Prepare legislation as may be required, together with a brief statement of the purpose and effect of them on Grand Lodge, and which will carry out the intent of the proponents; and

2. Transmit, within 40 days of receipt of the proposed resolutions and recommendations, and copy of them, together with the brief statement of purpose and effect of each, to the Grand Secretary;

C. Report to Grand Lodge;

1. Its recommendations as to the legality of decisions and dispensations issued by the Grand Master; and

2. The legal effect of any proposed amendments; and

D. When appropriate, prepare supplementary legislation to proposed amendments and prepare legislation to accomplish recommendations of the Grand Master, or standing committees of Grand Lodge, and report to Grand Lodge thereon its recommendations.

Proposed Legislation for the 157th Annual Communication

Presentation of the proposed legislation in the Montana Freemason Magazine is for informational purposes only. For complete detailed legislation, and preliminary Jurisprudence Report Please read the Advance Proceedings. A copy of the Advance Proceedings has been mailed to each lodge.

Proposed Resolutions (In Brief)

	RESOLUTIONS	Pass	Fail
R-2023-01	Reducing Minimum Proficiency to Advance to FC or MM		
R-2023-2A	Amending Definition of Electioneering to include Legislation		
R-2023-2B	Allowing local Electioneering and two Grand Lodge officers		
R-2023-03	Allowing local Electioneering and two Grand Lodge officers		
R-2023-4A	Amending Definition of Electioneering		
R-2023-4B	Deleting the Prohibition of Electioneering		
R-2023-05	Submitting Applications for Grand Secretary & G. Treas.		
R-2023-06	Deleting the Definition of Electioneering		
R-2023-07	Deleting the Prohibition of Electioneering		
R-2023-08	Submitting Applications for Grand Secretary & G. Treas.		

Preliminary Jurisprudence Committee Report

Preliminary report April 11, 2023

Clifford Brophy, Chair (62, 53)

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, Distinguished guest and Brothers all,

Section 5070 of the Constitution and Code of Statutes states that the duties of the Committee on Jurisprudence shall: Examine and report on all questions, documents and papers requiring investigation; and decisions upon all points of Masonic law. Review proposed resolutions and recommendations to be considered at the next annual communication, upon receipt of them from the Grand Secretary, and recommendations or decisions of the Grand Master, or standing committees of Grand Lodge. Prepare legislation as may be required, together with a brief statement of the purpose and effect of them on Grand Lodge, and which will carry out the intent of the proponents. Transmit, within 40 days of receipt of the proposed resolutions and recommendations, a copy of them, together with the brief statement of purpose and effect of each, to the Grand Secretary. Report to Grand Lodge its recommendations as to the legality of decisions and dispensations issued by the Grand Master. When appropriate, prepare supplementary legislation to proposed amendments and prepare legislation to accomplish recommendations of the Grand Master, or standing committees of Grand Lodge. Report to Grand Lodge thereon its recommendations.

The Committee on Jurisprudence received 8 resolutions and the certification by the Grand Secretary that those resolutions were received in his office in a timely order. Among those, a resolution from Deer Lodge No. 14 and a resolution from Friendship Lodge No. 37 each proposed a change to the Constitution and to the Code of Statutes. Because of different voting requirements, those were each divided into 2 separate resolutions. This resulted in a total of 10 resolutions. They are as follows:

R-2023-1: A resolution to amend section 39070 to reduce minimum examination for proficiency of EA's and FC's (Submitted by Mount Moriah Lodge No. 24).

R-2023-2A: A resolution to amend the definition of electioneering in Section 40 of the Constitution (Submitted by Deer Lodge No. 14).

R-2023-2B: A resolution to amend Section 46020 of the Code to allow certain electioneering for the election of some Officers (Submitted by Deer Lodge No. 14).

R-2023-3: A resolution to amend Part I of the Code to insert new sections and language allowing electioneering for the election of Local Lodge Officers and two Grand Lodge Officers (Submitted by Deer Lodge No. 14).

R-2023-4A: A resolution to amend the definition of electioneering in Section 40 of the Constitution (Submitted by Friendship Lodge No. 37).

R-2023-4B: A resolution to amend the prohibition of and penalties of electioneering in Sections 23090 and 46020 of the Code by allowing electioneering and nominations (Submitted by Friendship Lodge No. 37).

R-2023-5: A resolution to amend sections 5080, 6020 and 6040 to allow for the decrease of Per Capita (Submitted by Friendship Lodge No. 37).

R-2023-6: A resolution to amend Section 27030 adding the definition of service as Warden (Submitted by Havre Lodge No. 55).

R-2023-7: A resolution to amend Section 39070 to change references to the former mnemonics over to the Montana Standard Work (Submitted by Havre Lodge No. 55).

R-2023-8: A resolution to amend Section 33030 to include uniforms of those in law enforcement during the conferring of degrees (Submitted by Havre Lodge No. 55).

The Committee reviewed these 10 resolutions and formatted them in accordance with the "Resolution Formatting Drafting Instructions" adopted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master in 2003. The Committee's comments were inserted at the end of each resolution as required.

Resolutions R-2023-2A and R-2023-4A propose an amendment to the Constitution and require different voting procedures. Resolutions R-2023-2B, R-2023-3 and R-2023-4B are dependent on the outcome of the related resolutions

R-2023-2A and R-2023-4A and must be held over for one year. The resolutions submitted by Deer Lodge No. 14 and Friendship Lodge No. 37 will conflict with one another if each resolution passes. Additionally, the Committee on Jurisprudence has pointed out certain issues with each of those resolutions that will cause conflicts in the Constitution and in the Code if passed as is. Part of our duties is to point out these issues for Grand Lodge to consider with these points in mind in order that the appropriate action may be taken. The entire list of issues may be found at the end of each Resolution. The most significant issues are the conflicts between existing language in the Constitution / Code of Statutes and that of the proposed amendments. Specifically, the proposed amendments set forth different criteria for the election of Grand Officers than in Sections 510. ELECTED AND APPOINTED. and 520. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS.

The following resolutions: R-2023-1, R-2023-5, R-2023-6, R-2023-7 and R-2023-8 are in order and are resolutions proposing amendments to the Code of Statutes and may be presented as appropriate.

Our recommendation is to allow these resolutions to proceed as a business item at the Annual Communication as required by Section 470. Subsection C. which states in part “Any resolution, report, or recommendation timely received is automatically considered as business at the annual communication unless withdrawn.” at which point, the appropriate action may be taken.

This concludes the preliminary report at this time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Committee on Jurisprudence
Clifford Brophy (62)(53), Chair
Bryan Kirkland
Dustin Timmons
James Manning

(Signature of members pending)
Cody Thormahlen

Report of the Finance Committee

March 4, 2023 @ 10:00AM

The Finance Committee held a meeting on March 4, 2023 at 10:00AM as regularly called and scheduled by the Deputy Grand Master. The stated purpose of the meeting was to consider the proposed budget and per capita for the Masonic year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

The committee members discussed potential sources of revenue available to offset projected expenses. The Grand Treasurer noted that the note receivable from the IOOF was paid in full last summer and therefore there would be no further interest income from that note. He also noted that with the increase in interest precipitated by the Federal Open Market Committee (the Fed) that it was anticipated that Grand Lodge should see more interest from its investments. As a result, projected income from investments was increased by \$10,000. Although the amount of the staff services agreement was not confirmed with the Montana Masonic Foundation trustees, it was reasonable to assume the staff reimbursement would remain the same at \$48,000. In addition, it was anticipated that Grand Lodge would continue to get \$10,000 to offset the cost of meals at Grand Lodge. Total anticipated revenue, excluding per capita was \$101,900.

The committee then reviewed and analyzed projected expenses. Committee members noted that the cost of travel had increased significantly since the start of the pandemic and that those costs needed to be increased. After consideration, the committee increased travel reimbursement by \$5,000. The costs of the Grand Secretary's office were increased \$1,500 to accommodate increases in compensation for staff.

A significant increase in projected costs were those associated with general office and operating expenses. One cost that increased significantly was insurance. In the current year it was budgeted at \$16,100, however the current year costs came in over \$24,000. The committee had no reason to expect it to be lower in the upcoming year. This insurance covers Masonic activities at all of the Lodges in Montana, as well as Grand Lodge activities. In all, the cost of operation was projected to increase \$9,100.

In reviewing the cost of the Grand Lodge session and the receipts of funds to offset meals, together with a review of funded Grand Lodge activities, the projected expenses in those areas were projected to be reduced by \$10,500.

This budget represents a greater emphasis on Grand Lodge Officer travel and less on Grand Lodge programs that are historically not very well utilized.

In summary, income (excluding per capita) was projected to increase by \$5,970. At the same time, expenses were expected to increase by \$5,100.

The summary of the various income and expenses are as follows:

INCOME	2023-2024	2022-2023
Investment Income	40,000	30,000
Staff Services Agreement	48,000	48,000
Other projected Income	13,900	17,930
Per Capita	<u>136,100</u>	<u>136,970</u>
TOTAL PROJECTED INCOME	<u><u>238,000</u></u>	<u><u>232,900</u></u>
EXPENSES	2023-2024	2022-2023
Grand Lodge Officer Travel & Expenses	42,150	37,150
Grand Secretary's Office	106,500	105,000
Grand Lodge General and Operating Expenses	79,250	70,150
Grand Lode Session	5,500	8,500
Grand Lodge Programs and Activities	<u>4,600</u>	<u>12,100</u>
TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES	<u><u>238,000</u></u>	<u><u>232,900</u></u>

2022-2023 required per capita Is \$136,970 divided by 2440 per capita paying members = \$56.15
2023-2024 required per capita is \$136,100 divided by 2140 per capita paying members = \$63.60

After discussion of the projected budget for the 2023-2024 Masonic year, the budget was adopted by the committee. It was then noted that per capita would initially projected to be \$63.60 for the 2023-2024 Masonic year.

The Grand Treasurer reminded the committee that the projected per capita number was subject to change based on the final calculation of per capita paying members. The number would be revisited prior to the Grand Lodge session.

Respectfully submitted,

David Schantz, Chairman (29)
Sam Whitehead (3)
Bruce Lahti (34)
Daniel Gardiner (3)
Brice Ligget (29)
Kyron Jen0 (3)

Pre-Registration

(if you are **not** a Montana Mason **or** are a guest, use "Non"-Cost)

157th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of AF&AM of Montana

June 22, 23, and 24, 2023

Return this form to the following address prior to June 10, 2023

157th Annual Communication

PO Box 1158

Helena, MT 59624-1158

registration@grandlodgemontana.org

***NOTE: Please Register even if you will be having no meals.** This helps us set up the number of seats, etc.

Name: _____
(First and Last Name)

Title: _____
(Senior Warden, etc)

Lodge Name & Number: _____
Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Accompanied by: _____

THURSDAY – June 22, 2023 Food Truck (6:00 pm)

Location: Grand Lodge Office

Ribs, pork belly burnt ends, coleslaw, mac & cheese

Montana Mason

Non-Cost

\$ Free

\$ Free

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

FRIDAY – June 23, 2023 Lunch (12 to 1:15 pm)

Location: Great Northern Best Western Hotel

Chicken cordon bleu, smoked gouda au gratin potatoes, seasonal salad

or

Pasta primavera, smoked gouda au gratin potatoes, seasonal salad

\$13.00

\$25.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

\$13.00

\$25.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

FRIDAY – June 23, 2023 Banquet (6:30 pm)

Location: Northern Best Western Hotel

Baseball cut top sirloin, baked potatoes, seasonal salad, NY cheesecake

or

Lemon Herb Salmon, baked potatoes, seasonal salad, NY cheesecake

or

Bacon wrap Bison Meatloaf, baked potatoes, seasonal salad, cheesecake

\$22.00

\$45.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

\$20.00

\$40.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

\$20.00

\$40.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

SATURDAY – June 24, 2023 Lunch (12 to 1:15 pm)

Location: Great Northern Best Western Hotel

Grinder buffet: hickory turkey, bacon, dill havarti, aioli, shredded lettuce, huckleberry sauce, tomatoes, Caesar salad on wheat bread

Or

Grinder buffet: honey ham & cheese, provolone, onion, shredded lettuce, thin tomatoes, shallot vinaigrette on a ciabatta roll

\$11.00

\$22.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

\$11.00

\$22.00

x _____ = _____

x _____ = _____

FRIDAY GARAGE PARKING (Can enter & exit the garage TWICE with it)

\$8.00 x _____ = _____

FRIDAY WOMEN'S PROGRAM 10am – 2pm boards at hotel

Gates of the Mountains Boat tour (incl. bus & sack lunch) bus @ 9:45am

\$50.00 x _____ = _____

SATURDAY WOMEN'S PROGRAM 10 am – 2pm boards at hotel

Broadwater Hot Springs (swimming – food on you) bus @ 9:45am

\$20.00 x _____ = _____

Payments by check #: _____ Total: _____

Payments by Credit Card done over phone (406) 442-7774, sign here: _____

The Current Dues Card with expiration date of December 31, 2023
will need to be presented at Check-In and Registration at Session.

GREAT NORTHERN BEST WESTERN HOTEL
835 Great Northern Boulevard, Helena MT 59602
406-451-5500

GRAND LODGE OFFICES
425 N. Park Ave, Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406) 442-7774

Tentative Agenda

(Full Session Agenda will be available in the Session Program)

Thursday - June 22, 2023

6:00 pm Backyard barbecue - EVERYONE
INVITED, **No dress code!!**

Friday - June 23, 2023

9:00 am Public Grand Opening
9:15 am Youth Groups & Appendant Orders welcome
9:45 am Formal Opening of 157th Annual Communication
10:00 am Election of Grand Lodge Officers
10:15 am Grand Lodge Called from Labor to Refreshment
10:30 am Call to Order
Refreshment to Labor
Committee Reports
Reception of Montana Past Grand Masters
Reception of Montana 50 Year Members
Reception of Visiting Grand Lodge Officers
Grand Lodge Called from Labor to Refreshment
12:00 pm Lunch
1:15 pm Presentation
6:30 pm Banquet (Awards, Honors, Recognition)

Saturday - June 24, 2023

9:00 am Call to Order
9:15 am Recognition Report
9:45 am Call to Refreshment
10:00 am Resolutions
12:00 pm Lunch
1:15 pm Call to Order
Refreshment to Labor
Final Finance and Budget Report
2:15 pm Formal Closing of 157th Annual Communication
Time TBD Photo of 2023-2024 Grand Lodge Officers
TBD Installation for 2023-2024 Grand Lodge Officers
TBD Farewell Reception

Session Dress Code: Tuxedos for GLO's, Suits for rest.

**Garage Parking is FREE After 5pm Thursday ONLY.
\$1hr (first free) 8-5pm on Friday. Saturday parking is Free.**



PREMIER | **BEST WESTERN.**

Helena Great Northern Hotel

Great Northern Convention Center

Parking Options

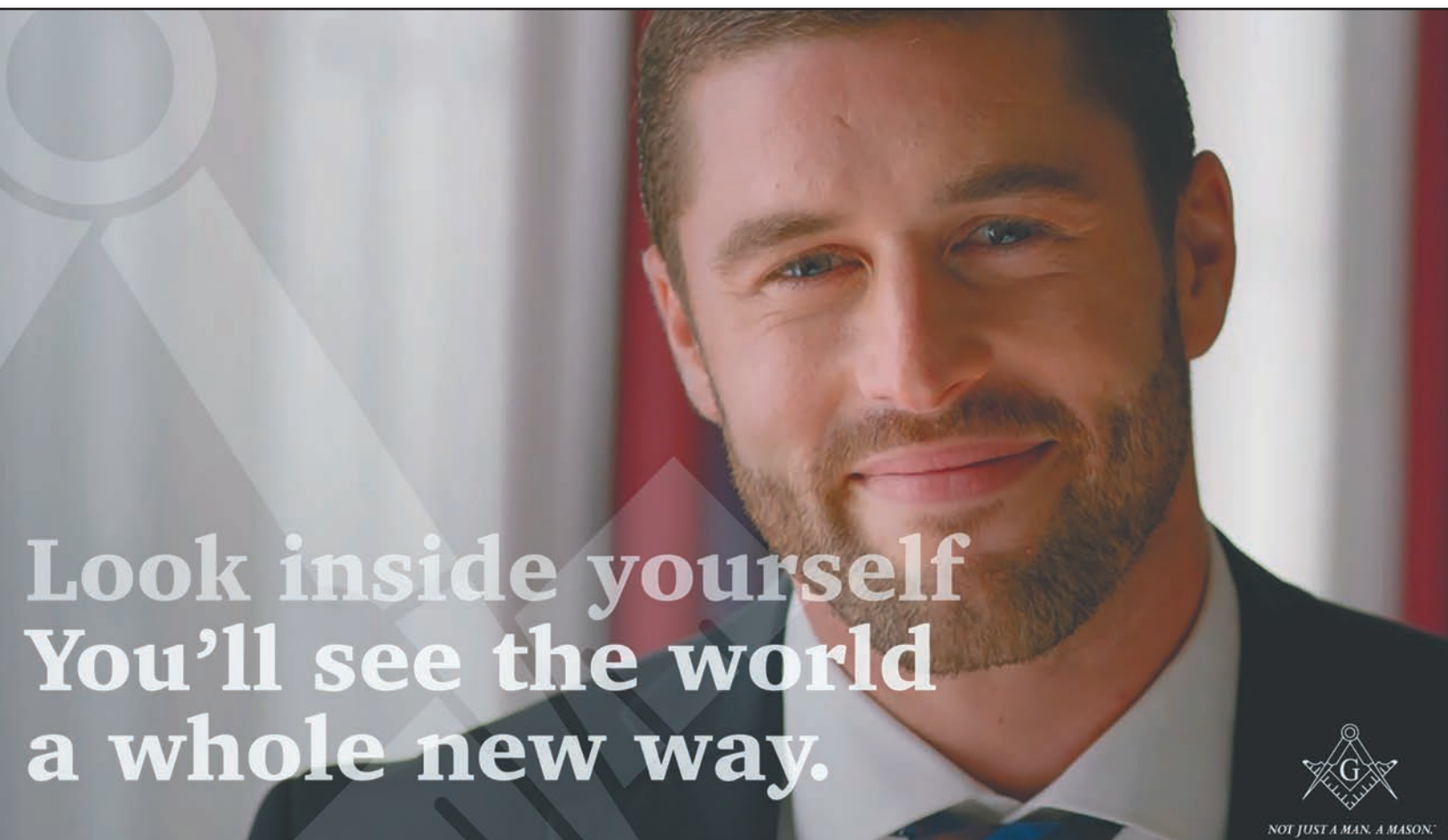
Please share this information with your group before meeting/event begins.

- **OVERNIGHT GUESTS ONLY – Parking lot across from the front entrance of the Hotel** (Between CDM Smith and the Carousel)
Overnight permit provided at check-in.
- **Convention Parking Lot behind Hotel** (Entrance on Front Street)
Free Parking
Available on a first come, first served basis. No permit required.
- **Parking in Lot 15 across the street from the rear entrance of the Hotel** (Entrance on Front Street)
At the entrance of Lot 15 on Front Street, get a parking permit out of the box located on the sign, (Permits are either full day or half day) complete the permit information and place it on the dash of your vehicle. **Parking is available on a first come, first served basis.**
- **Getchell Street Parking Garage** (Entrance is at the corner of Getchell and 14th Street). Parking is available in this parking garage, if the Hotel Lot and Lot 15 are full. The cost is \$0.75 per hour (maximum of \$11.25 per day). Monday thru Friday 5:00 AM to 8:00 PM Weekends and Holidays are free.
Guests are responsible for the cost of parking in this parking garage. The Hotel will not validate parking in this location.

The BEST WESTERN PREMIER Helena Great Northern Hotel is **not** responsible for tickets issued by the City of Helena.

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

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Look inside yourself
You'll see the world
a whole new way.



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