

EAST #103

WEST #103

SOUTH #103

The 168 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon in Salem is fast approaching. This year all three principle officers, Junior Warden RWB John Lohrfink, Senior Warden WB Roberts Stark and I will be in attendance. Our Lodge will be well represented. If you have never attended Grand Lodge please consider joining us.

As happens every year our June Communication conflicts with Grand Lodge and will be rescheduled. This year our June meeting will be held on the 14th.

Medford Lodge and Belt Lodge have coordinated their June schedule adjustments to allow for an official visitation. We will be traveling to Kerby, Oregon on Thursday May 31. For those who would prefer to car pool please be ready to leave the lodge parking lot at 4:30. The Brothers of Belt Lodge will serve dinner at 6:00 with the meeting to follow.

In the recent issue of the Scottish Rite magazine a quote by General Norman Schwarzkof caught my attention. "Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without strategy." A powerful reminder that character matters! Building a man's character is the fundamental goal of the Masonic process. We strive for moral character in ourselves and we learn to appreciate it in others. As Freemasons we have a sacred duty to expect and even demand that the men and women we chose to serve in government be of exemplary character. Moral rectitude is the first and most important threshold all candidates must be expected to pass before consideration for public office. All other concerns, party affiliation, policy, and religion pale in comparison. When we fail in this duty we slander the legacy and sacrifice of the leaders who have honorably served. The names of Washington, Lincoln, Truman, Carter, Reagan, and McCain come to mind. Several of which were themselves Freemasons. Brothers, superior moral character does matter. When we willingly accept anything less we wound the soul of our nation.

Fraternally,
Kent Clinkinbead

WEST #103

"A NEW MEMBER - THE SECOND TIME"

One of the most neglected features of the Lodge's membership service is that of reclaiming non-participants. Often a Brother who has not been attending meetings and other Lodge functions will re-enter the active corps of Masons if he is visited, listened to, and encouraged.

There are numbers of reasons why Brothers -- new and old - fail to participate. Some have entered with a misconception of the Order and were disappointed that it was different from their expectations.

Still others have become busy with their professions, family activities, or community involvement. And saddest of all -- for them and us -- are the former active members who have been "turned off" by some aspect of Masonry or an unfortunate misunderstanding.

It is important for us to remember these inactive members are still our Brothers, and we must always consider and treat them as such. They must never be ignored. So often a visit to their homes, accompanied with an enthusiastic explanation of the Lodge's current activities and a sincere and sympathetic inquiry into their reasons for abstaining from participation will result in a fresh start for them in Masonry and a "new" Brother for our Lodge.

At some time in the past these Brothers were sold on Masonry or they would not have petitioned for initiation and membership. It is an inherent duty of Masonic Brotherhood that we rekindle this spirit of acceptance and enthusiasm among our Brothers by service after the sale.

Our membership service team and active members of the Lodge are doing only half our job unless we search for those inactive Brethren, do all we can to reclaim them for Masonry, and encourage them to reap the dividends from their initial investment in themselves and the Fraternity. It's clear we must all work in this field of membership if our Order and our Lodge are to be truly representative of the brotherhood we espouse.

TO OUR INACTIVE BROTHERS: WE ARE INTERESTED IN YOUR COMMENTS AND EXPERIENCE. IF YOU HAVE A NEED WE CAN FULFILL, PLEASE LET US KNOW. DO YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION? ARE YOUR HEALTH PROBLEMS OR OTHER CONCERNS AN IMPEDIMENT TO YOUR PARTICIPATION? IF SO, WE WANT TO BE OF FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE TO YOU. HELP US SERVE YOU AS BROTHERS.

Robert F. Stark
Senior Warden

SOUTH #103

Greetings from the South,
As we approach the mid-year mark, I encourage all Brothers to set a new Masonic goal. This new goal can be anything from attending more Stated Communication meetings to learning a new Degree part. I wrote about "time" in the last Trestle Board as time is something we all wish we had more of. Freemasonry is what one makes of it, and if one allows it... it makes good men better. Maybe you can't make every Stated Communication, but quite possibly you can help coach a new Brother or travel to see a new Lodge. There are plenty of ways to get involved and keep that Masonic "spark" alive.

This past month Kathy and I traveled to Washington D.C.

with the Oregon Grand Lodge and visited the George Washington Masonic Memorial. There the Oregon Grand Lodge opened an occasional communication and then toured the building. I highly recommend a visit to the George Washington Masonic Memorial if you have never been there. During our travels we also visited Mount Vernon and laid a wreath at the tomb of our Worshipful Brother George Washington. This was quite the honor and the memory that will last forever. Therefore, I challenge you to set a new Masonic goal. Create a Masonic memory that will last forever in your life or someone else's. As our Brother Albert Pike said, "What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal."

Act by the Plumb
RWB John Lohrfink



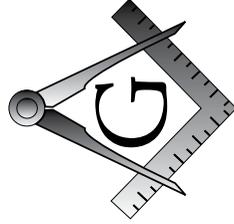
EVENT CALENDAR

JUNE 2018

- 01
- 02 Bahari 10-4pm
- 03
- 04 Monday Morning Coffee 7:30 - 10 am
- 05 Grants Pass State 7:30 pm @ GP
- 06
- 07 Grand Lodge @ Salem, Parkinson Resource 12 - 1pm
- 08 Grand Lodge @ Salem
- 09
- 10
- 11 Monday Morning Coffee 7:30 - 10 am
- 12 Warren Lodge Stated 7:30 pm @ Jville
- 13 Reames Stated 7:30 pm
- 14 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8am, Parkinson Resource 12 - 1pm
 Rogue River Lodge Stated 1 pm @ GP, Medford Lodge Dinner
 &
 Stated 6pm & 7:30 pm, Ashland Dinner & Stated 6 pm & 7:30
 pm @ Ashland
- 15
- 16 Community Breakfast 7:30 - 10 am Cascade Lodge Open
 House 11:00 am
- 17 Father's Day
- 18 Monday Morning Coffee 7:30 - 10 am
- 19
- 20 Reames Soc Club
- 21 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8am, Parkinson Resource 12 - 1pm
 Family Dinner 6:30pm
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25 Monday Morning Coffee 7:30 - 10 am
- 26 Cascade Lodge Stated 7:30pm
- 27
- 28 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8am, Parkinson Resource 12 - 1pm
- 29
- 30

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 of Oregon

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TRESTLEBOARD

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MAY, 2018

REAMES CHAPTER #66

Summer is here? Sounds like a broken record. Well we will see. I hope this month finds you all well and happy. Reames Chapter has prayers for all that is ill, or just cannot make Chapter. If you need a ride call us.

Our 50-year Tea was a great success. We had 12 over 50+ year members, there and all total of 26 for lunch. One of our special guest, which was a big Surprise was our Worthy Grand Matron, Gloria Varner and another was our Junior past Grand Matron Michelle Combs, who dropped by for lunch. We had the honor of having Sharon Baker, General Grand Chapter Committee member for Shrine Charities and a Past Grand Matron of Oregon, and Harry Baker Past Grand Patron of Oregon and the Bakers both are members of Reames Chapter was also at lunch. Our 50+ members were well served with great Finger sandwiches, Potato Salad, drinks and great conversations with desert. What a pleasure to sit and listen to the stories of the way it used to be. Well a lot has not changed except for the numbers of members and Chapters, then verses now. But what a great time they had. I thank them for their service and dedication to our wonderful Order.

This month of May is our elections of new Officers. We will Drape the Altar for those Sisters and Brothers we have lost. They all will be missed.

We will read a new Petition from a Brother of Medford Lodge #103. So exciting to see our Chapter grow. Friendship and Sisterly and Brotherly Love is so rewarding for our Masonic Family. The more we work together the less chance either of us will fail.

I would like to thank our Worshipful Master Kent, for the opportunities to work with the Lodge on some of their Family dinners and Stated meeting dinners. I must thank our members for their help and dedication.

Our year is coming to a close in June and we will return in September with all new Officers. I will list them next month. I thank all our Officers this year for saying yes and being such pleasant and a faithful member of this Order. We are so proud to have 27 Masons in our Chapter and 11 that is always here and willing to help when needed. We could not do it without you, so thank you.

Our 2nd and 4th dinners and going to be going on during the summer. Our Social Club will be dark in June, July and August. So, we can talk at our dinners. Don't forget about Grand Lodge June 7, 8 9 in Salem, and Grand Chapter June 16 thru the 21 in Pendleton. Rainbow June 21 thru 24 in Pendleton.

Check the dates for sure on their web sites.

To all our Members far away we miss you. Drop a line and let us know how you're doing.

Until next time,

Cindi Thompson
Worthy Matron

Billy Thompson
Worthy Patron

Order of Eastern Star

Who we are...

The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which both men and women may belong. Worldwide, there are approximately 1 million members under the General Grand Chapter.

Eastern Star is a social order comprised of persons with spiritual values but it is not a religion. Its appeal rests in the true beauty of the refreshing and character-building lessons that are so sincerely portrayed in its ritualistic work.

A deep fraternal bond exists between its members. It is the wholesome relationship of sisterly and brotherly love brought about through high principles exemplified in our lives which make us near and dear to each other.

The Order is proud and happy to sponsor and support the youth through the Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters, and the Order of DeMolay for young men.

Concrete evidence of the charitable nature of the organization as it affects others is the millions of dollars which have been raised within the membership to support our philanthropic projects; Oregon raised almost a quarter of a million dollars in 2005 – 2006 for our projects – Cancer Research, Heart Fund, ESTARL (Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Training), Home Endowment, etc.

Brief History

The Order was created by Rob Morris in 1850 when, while confined by illness, he set down the principles of the order in his Rosary of the Eastern Star. By 1855, he had organized a "Supreme Constellation" in New York, which chartered chapters throughout the United States.

In 1866, Dr. Morris started working with Robert Macoy, and handed the Order over to him while Morris was traveling in the Holy Land. Macoy organized the current system of Chapters, and modified Dr. Morris' Rosary into a Ritual.

On December 1, 1874, Queen Esther Chapter No. 1 became the first Prince Hall Affiliate chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star when it was established in Washington, D.C. by Thornton Andrew Jackson.

The "General Grand Chapter" was formed in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 6, 1876. Committees formed at that time created the Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star in more or less its current form.