

Brethren

## **Good tidings from the East.**

Spring is here and Lodges are really gearing up to get to work. I see Spring as a time for renewal. We had a Masters and Wardens meeting and District Deputy John Lohrfink spearheaded the meeting. Each Lodge gave a State of the Lodge address to share obstacles they were facing and programs they were involved in. Ashland Lodge is fortunate to have a core group of men that are keeping this Lodge alive. Several others are facing dire membership issues. I've said this before and I will say it again.. "Why did you join Masonry?" and "Why are you still a Mason?"

There are a number of Brothers that fail to support the organization, even though they have the time, but not the inclination. So it is now time for some straight talk. If you are not paying your dues, you will be dropped from the rolls. I have begged, cajoled and pleaded, but I will no longer do so. If you have lost your desire to be a member, then so be it. When you have a member that is 93 years old and manages to still come to Lodge, what is your excuse for not coming?

I understand if you live a distance away and your only connection to the Lodge is through the Trestleboard. We want you to feel connected. But to ask a Brother to give us 2 hours of his time once a month for 10 months, or 20 hours a year, doesn't seem like a lot to ask. Out of the 8,736 hours in a year, you couldn't carve out 20 hours for an organization you are willing to claim as yours?

We are seriously looking at the roster and will be contacting a number of Brothers regarding non- payment of dues. It is difficult for us to pay per capita fees when members fail in their responsibility to monetarily support the Lodge. We are moving in the direction of quality, not quantity. It truly saddens me to look at names of Brothers that I have known for years, yet their faces never grace the confines of our Lodge. And yet we flourish with the core group of Brothers that are willing to promote our organization with zeal and fervor. For them, I am truly thankful.

Look well to the East.

Fraternally  
WM Bob Smith

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## **Senior Warden April**

### ***Bi-Monthly Masonic Health and Welfare service for Child I.D. and Blood Pressure checking***

Dear Brethren,

This has been on my mind for some time now and I believe I have a pretty good idea on how we can promote and initiate this program. It occurred to me that meeting our needs and goals as Masons we could provide a service to the public and promote our Masonic Brotherhood to the public by providing a service for them.

With that in mind I am putting a program together that will be provided at local Asante hospitals, twice per month on Visitors Day Saturdays. One day for each hospital per month. This program will offer the Child I.D. program and Blood Pressure testing.

I contacted Grand Lodge and found out that they will reimburse our expenses for 50% of our costs to set up. I am donating a computer that will work with the software that they will provide us. We need a printer, camera and thumbprint copier.

The Blood Pressure machine is under \$20.00

Camera TBD

Printer @ new purchase around < \$50.00

Paper <\$8.00 per 500 sheets Costco

Thumbprint copier TBD

New Software is \$50.00 billed to us from Grand Lodge

I plan on presenting this at April's Stated Meeting. Please give this your consideration and hopefully we can vote on this at our next Stated meeting. This double pronged application for the visiting public I believe will not only be very helpful to the public but bring good light on our organization and quite possibly some new candidates.

Along with myself I will ask for a volunteer once per month to assist in a 4 hr. commitment at each site from **Ashland #23** and **Medford #103**. These volunteers can rotate each month so that no one is over taxed in providing this service. Because we will be presenting this to the general public I would ask that we put our best foot forward and wear proper attire such as slacks and jacket with membership badges. Ties are optional.

Fraternally

Norm Rossignol Sr. Warden

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AF & AM

### **Greeting from the South,**

At our next stated communication, an oven roasted chicken dinner is being planned. This will be the first attempt of W.B. Skip in the use of our new gas convection air oven. I was informed that it cooks by blowing hot air on the victim being cooked. Again, all brothers, wives, family members, and guest are invited to join us at the April stated meeting for dinner, 12 April 2018 .

\* Important meeting date: 26 March 2018, Monday @ Medford Lodge all Masons are invited to attend. A reminder, if transportation is an issue to attend lodge functions please call any of us, Master, Senior Warden, Junior warden, Secretary, or any other member, and we will do our best to get you to the meeting` and dinner`.````

Fraternally Chuck Vanderbilt Jr. Warden