

EAST #103

Greetings from the East

We are progressing nicely through the year after a rough start due to weather -- we have had a couple VISITATIONS and a couple DEGREES which have gone very well -- THANK YOU to all who have helped make these events so successful !!!!!!!

We all -especially ME -- can use a little more PRACTICE in our RITUAL WORK -- PLEASE make every effort to ATTEND our OFFICER'S MEETINGS and PRACTICES and TRAINING SESSIONS !

Also , we are going to try to help our CANDIDATES who are struggling to prove up and move forward in their degree(s)by providing classes every Tuesday night from 7:00PM to 9:00PM at the Lodge (starting in APRIL) to assist them in learning the ciphered work and whatever else they may need help with -- THANK YOU to WB Robert Stark for getting this stated !! PLEASE try to ATTEND and HELP !!!! Who knows --- we all may just learn something ourselves !!!!!!!! And we hopefully can add other Lodge's candidates if they desire to participate --- nothing ventured/nothing gained !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am pleased that some of our Brothers have taken me up on my offer to provide a ride and hope that many others will take advantage of this in the future --- YOU may want to join me in this endeavor (just let me know) .

I am PROUD of all my OFFICERS this year and if you want to chat (in-person or by phone) I encourage you to do so .

It is not too early to start planning for GRAND LODGE in BEND , OR the first week in JUNE !! You would be surprised how much you can learn and how many BROTHERS you will have an opportunity to get to know - a GREAT EXPERIENCE with GREAT MASONS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please HELP with your Lodge's BREAKFASTS and DINNERS whenever you can --

Remember "many hands make light work for all" !!!!!!!!!!!

On The Level, Jim Pringle - WM

WEST #103

There will be a lodge visitation scheduled in April. The details will be announced during the April stated communication.

Kent Clinkinbeard SW

SOUTH #103

No Article Submitted

REAMES CHAPTER #66

Can you believe, it's already the 4th month of the year? We've had our rain and snow, but now we will be seeing the blossoms of spring! Reames initiated a new member, Sandra McCormick and we heartily welcome her to our Chapter.

Our dinners are continuing-The second Friday , every month, at the Iron Skillet, at 5 PM and the fourth Friday, every month, at El Molcajete, also at 5 PM. The members of Reames Chapter do invite members, wives, and friends of #103 to join us, for dinner and lots of talk and laughter.

Our April calendar is as follows:

April 6th - Grand Visitation at Adaral Chapter-dinner at 6 at the Odd Fellows Building, meeting at 7:30 at Jacksonville Masonic Center

April 12th will be our regular meeting

April 14th dinner at the Iron Skillet

April 19th is Social Club, lunch at noon followed by meeting at 12:30

April 28th dinner at El Molcajete - 5 PM

Happy Easter to all

Star love, Sharon Baker, Worthy Matron, Harry Baker, Worthy Patron

ASHLAND #23

Brethren, Good Tidings From The East.

I was sitting at coffee the other morning and Brother Bill Seymour said something that stopped me in my tracks. Before I proceed, I need to preface that Brother Bill had been away from the Lodge for a number of years, but returned on a regular basis a few months ago. Brother Bill stated he had noticed, and felt, there was a genuine love and camaraderie among this particular group of brothers that he had never seen in the past in this Lodge. It hit me like a bolt of lightning, because he had hit the nail right on the head. There is a spirit and l'amour de la vie (love of life) within this group that has been nurtured over the past three years.

I have spoken in the past how I came back to the Lodge after a long absence because the Lodge was moving in a direction that seemed to be motivated by self-interest and personal gain. The leadership was failing the organization and all the elements that brought us together were being stripped away.

The coffee hour and Lodge dinners were stopped. No real efforts were made to rent the annex. The Lodge was not connected to the community and membership participation was waning.

It was a phone call, one single phone call, that led me back to the Lodge. A single call that I believe helped changed the direction our Lodge had been going. A single call that also changed my life and brought me back to Masonry. I thought I had done my part by assuming the role as Master, twice. But I realized, there was much more work to be done, and I was needed by the Lodge.

Now back to the morning coffee. After Brother Bill shared his observation, I reflected as to how we got to this point. First, the leadership of Brothers Sam Lupini and Skip Bessonette over the last three years helped repair the damages done in previous years. Secondly, the making of Carl Levi a Master Mason. After watching him go through his battle with cancer and allegations designed to prevent him from becoming a member our fraternity, the bonds of friendship grew stronger and the negative elements faded away. And lastly, Brother Norm Rossignol affiliating with our Lodge. From the time Brother Norm started attending the Thursday coffee, he has been energetic in his participation and his ideas to make us closer and more engaged with our Brothers and Widows.

We are certainly a different Lodge than we were four years ago. We are a Lodge that is working hard to be friendly and welcoming, a Lodge that respects all opinions and points of view, a Lodge that works at bringing us closer together than tearing us apart, and a Lodge dedicated to advancing the principles of our Order.

Now, to the Brothers that have drifted away from the Craft, we miss your camaraderie, we miss your ideas and we miss your participation. If you can't make the state meetings and if you can't make Thursday coffee,

we understand. But, I urge you to stay connected. Use our Facebook page. Post comments, articles, pictures or opinions. Again, we value all of you as Brothers, Widows, friends and colleagues. I hope you still value us.

Fraternally, WM Bob Smith

Masonry: A Global Fraternity

I imagine that anyone who has been a Mason for any stretch of time has a story or two about unexpected encounters with brothers in unexpected places. I'll wager that most, if not all, of those encounters were extremely pleasant and quite memorable in their own ways. I've been fortunate enough to have had several of these experiences and would like to share one a month with you for the next several months. The common thread running through these stories is the deep sense of unity and belonging that comes with our craft; a true fraternal bond.

About 20 years ago my wife's side of the family, all hailing from Southern California, came for what was probably their third or fourth Christmas with us. All the previous holiday gatherings at our home with them had been joyous affairs, with our mountain home decorated like Santa's workshop, a cheery fire going from dawn till dusk and the requisite snow falling outside. During those years my wife Candy and I hosted three generations of family under our roof; her mother, my father, siblings and their kids. The ambience was always one of pandemonium; free-wheeling and totally at ease with each other. However, this particular Christmas had a twist to it in the form of our sister-in-laws' father, a buttoned-down German on his first visit with us. When I say German I mean a guy born, raised and currently living in Germany. It was like he came out of central casting; an 80-something year-old by the name of Earhart. He had a full head of slicked back gray hair and the chiseled good looks of the actors you often see portrayed in WWII movies. Indeed, among being a retired international multi-lingual executive, he was an ex-Luftwaffe pilot. My dad, sitting next to him on the couch, was an ex-B17 crewman with 35 missions over Germany in his resume. After a few bourbons they were getting along swimmingly. It was fascinating. Meanwhile yours truly, THE HOST, was striking out with Earhart. He was polite enough, but very reserved around me. You would think that the small group of men hanging out in our garage sipping spirits and smoking Cuban cigars would bond, but not so with Earhart. That is until something amazing happened.

I mentioned that I was a Mason and was, in fact, the sitting Master of my lodge that year. The change in Earhart was incredible. You guessed it; he was also a Mason. Not only that, he had been a Mason for many years and had occupied the higher echelons of Masonry in Western Europe. Within seconds, this rather cold character became my buddy. Not only was he markedly more animated and chatty, I got the distinct impression that he trusted me. Earhart had found another brother in the darkness and in so doing revealed his true personality. Needless to say, the rest of the visit went exceedingly well and I had made a new and fascinating friend.

That would be the last Christmas that Earhart spent on this mortal plain. His wonderful daughter Ellen, our sister-in-law, still talks about how special that last holiday together was for her and her father. The sight of her dad and mine sitting side-by-side giving each other "the needle" and, for me, finding another brother from another generation and another country in my own garage was profound.

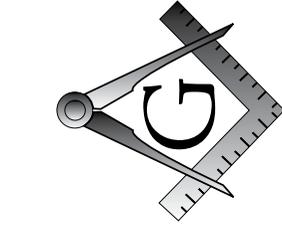
Ellen said that Earhart's funeral was attended by Masons from many countries in Western Europe. He bequeathed his crystal Knights Templar scotch glass to me. What else can I say?

WB Mitch Klaich

EVENT CALENDAR

April 2017

- 01 Bahari 10 - 4 PM
- 02
- 03 Medford Coffee 8 - 10 AM
- 04 Medford Bldg Board Mtg 6:30 PM, Grants Pass Stated 7:30 PM
- 05 Officers Mtg & Ritual Practice 6:30 PM
- 06 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8 AM, Parkinson Resource of OR 12 - 1 PM
Medford Stated Dinner 6:00 PM, Medford Stated 7:30 PM
- 07
- 08
- 09
- 10 Medford Coffee 8 - 10 AM
- 11
- 12 Reames Chapter #66 OES 7:30, Warren Lodge Stated 7:30PM @ Jville
- 13 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8 AM, Egg Coloring Cascade Lodge 8 AM
Parkinson Resource of OR 12 - 1 PM, Rogue River Lodge Stated 1PM @ GP, Ashland Lodge Stated 7:30PM
- 14
- 15 Community Breakfast 7:30 - 10 AM, Easter Egg Hunt Shady Cove 10:00 AM
- 16 Easter Sunday
- 17 Medford Coffee 8 - 10 AM
- 18
- 19 Reames Soc Club 12 Noon
- 20 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8 AM, Parkinson Resource of OR 12 - 1 PM
Family Dinner 6:30 PM
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24 Medford Coffee 8 - 10 AM
- 25 Cascade Lodge Stated 7:30 PM
- 26 Medford Officers Meeting 6:30
- 27 Ashland Lodge Coffee 8 AM, Parkinson Resource of OR 12 - 1 PM
- 28
- 29 Chapter CG PEO Sisterhood
- 30



Medford Lodge #103
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
of Oregon

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TRESTLEBOARD

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