

From the East in Ashland: Howdy Brethren, I'm writing this article in October, but you may not read it till November. That makes my task more difficult and much harder to be timely. I just got out of our monthly business meeting, of which all Ashland members are invited. We discussed items from yesterday to clear into the future next year. We are a Lodge that is looking forward with great anticipation and brotherly love. All of us care deeply about our Lodge and it's future. Now for old news, we did wonderfully at the Talent Harvest Festival with the Cotton-Candy & Popcorn Booth. We took in over \$600.00, but of course there are certain expenses that need to be paid. The Lodge needs to be paid back for the booth rental fee (\$45) and we need to replenish the stock, but that still leaves us with a tidy sum for the day's work. John Halverson stated that he had never made so much popcorn. Tom took care of the customers and made them happy. My hands were way too sticky to take money. We did manage to go through 2-3 pots of coffee and eat some fine sandwiches that Tom provided. So, we had a little time to talk with other members that came to help during the day. I should mention the crew that helped set up the booth on the day before and the help from Jerry Simmons from Medford Lodge in providing the Child ID. Good Job everybody!

New old news (at least for this writing) is our Stated Dinner of meatloaf and the visitation by our District Deputy, Right Worshipful Roland Kari. I will be very glad to see him that evening after cooking all day, for it is he that gets to close the Lodge. Of course I will be glad to see him; he has been a very hard working District Deputy, championing many battles and causes in our behalf. Remember, he is a volunteer just as all of us are.

Tonight we decided to have our Installation on December 10th at 10:00 A.M.; we had to move the date because of the School of Instruction happening on the 3rd of December. Mark your calendars for both of these dates. It is my hope that we will fund two brothers, Bob Smith and Norm Rossignol, to attend the School of Instruction to be held at the Scottish Rite building in Medford.

We have been very fortunate to have two people step forward to work on the Trestleboard; they are Jeff Levin and Carol Levi. Darrell Maple has done it for 2-3 years and deserves much kudos. Thank you Darrell! We all need to make a concerted effort to get our articles in on time.

We discussed the outside lighting of our sign in front of the Lodge. We are looking for good ideas that will light the building and flagpole without shining light into the hotel windows across the street. The building committee has some ideas, but we are open to more and better. Please put them in the suggestion box outside the office door. Remember many hands make light work and good suggestions make a successful project. You can put this to good work on several events coming up. Here is a short list: November and December stated dinners, the holiday party, pass the gavel breakfast on Thursday the 29th of December, rental of the annex and don't forget the elections in November and help with the installation. One last thing brethren, try to bring new men to our coffee. This a great place for them to meet us and be introduced to Masonry.

In the bond,

WB Skip Bessonette WM