

MEDFORD #103

Greetings from the East,

Here are your announcements and reminders:

1. This is your last chance to get your Mid-Year surveys completed and turned into Secretary Leachman if you have not done so already. If you do not have a survey you can pick one up from the Secretary. These surveys provide important feedback to the officers and we want to travel in a direction that is supported by the membership.
2. At the August 6, 2015 Stated Communication the membership voted to receive and accept the life membership resolution to amend our by-laws. This will require a two-thirds vote at our September 3, 2015 Stated Communication. The current life membership for ages 18 to 35 is \$450, 36 to 50 is \$250 and 51 and over is \$150. Currently the annual dues is \$80, so the goal is to adjust our life membership to be more in alignment with what the true value of Freemasonry is in comparison. It is proposed to raise the life membership to \$800 for ages 18 to 35, \$650 for 36 to 50 and \$500 for 51 and over. The memorial life membership will remain \$100. This proposed resolution is a reduction in cost from the previous resolution that narrowly failed for lack of having two-thirds vote at the June 11, 2015 Stated Communication.
3. At the September 3, 2015 Stated Communication Medford Lodge #103 will welcome RWB Roland L. Kari, District Deputy of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon for District #17. Please join us for his official visit.
4. The next Officers and Building Board meeting will be held on August 26, 2015 at 6:30PM at Medford Lodge #103. Lots to discuss... all are welcome.
5. August 29, 2015 will be the District #17 annual Horseshoe Tournament at Culver Park in Phoenix at 11AM.
6. Medford Lodge #103 will resume Ritual Practice on Wednesday September 2, 2015 at 6:30PM.
7. Medford Lodge #103 will be hosting a HUGE rummage sale on Saturday September 12, 2015 at 7AM. Volunteers are needed, please contact WB Robert Stark or Secretary Leachman for details. Please get involved and pick up flyers at the Lodge!
8. Sunday September 20, 2015 will be the District Picnic at the Reinhart Volunteer All Sports Park in Grants Pass at 1:00PM. Contact RWB Kari or Secretary Leachman for details.
9. Medford Lodge #103 Monday Morning Coffee group will sponsor a Master Mason Dinner on Saturday September 26, 2015. Time to be announced. Please contact Secretary Leachman for further details and RSVP.

Masonic Profile

I could not get away without discussing our Illustrious Brother Albert Pike. Pike was born in Massachusetts in 1809. Pike attended

Harvard University for the first two years and then left to complete self-study because he could not afford the tuition. Pike moved west and lived in Missouri, Santa Fe and later settled in Arkansas. In 1837 he completed law studies and was admitted to the Arkansas bar. Pike, who worked for a newspaper company, became a legal journalist and wrote about Arkansas Supreme Court decisions along with being a poet. Pike was said to be a genius and could read and write 16 different languages.

Pike became a Freemason at 41 years of age in 1850 at Western Star Lodge #2 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Pike was active in the York Rite and later joined the Scottish Rite in Charleston, South Carolina. Pike received his 32° in 1853 and in 1857 he received his 33° and was elected Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for the Scottish Rite in 1859, a position he held until his death (a total of thirty-two years). In 1859 Pike received an honorary Masters of Arts degree from Harvard, which was ironic based on the fact that he did not complete his undergraduate studies there.

During the Civil War period, Pike was commissioned as a Brigadier General for the Confederacy. Pike being a scholar, publisher, explorer, philosopher and master of languages was also appointed by Jefferson Davis to be the "Commissioner of the Indians" and led Indian troops against Union soldiers. Pike also negotiated a number of settlements and treaties with various Native American tribes such as the Creek and Cherokee. Pike was arrested towards the end of the Civil War for allegations that his Native American troops scalped Union soldiers and that he mishandled money. After the Civil War, Pike was issued a full pardon and invited to the White House by President Andrew Johnson, who was another Freemason. Pike is the only Confederate General with a statue on federal property in Washington D.C. Pike's statue is located on a pedestal at the foot of Capital Hill between the Department of Labor and the Municipal Building.

Pike's greatest accomplishment in Freemasonry was said to be his authoring of the book *Morals and Dogma* which was published in 1871. Pike's work connected a system of moral, religious and philosophical instruction through 32 essays related to the Scottish Rite degrees of Freemasonry. It should be mentioned that some of Pike's work also led to anti-Masonic views and conspiracy theories during this time period. Along with these view and conspiracy theories, some called Pike a Satanist, member of the KKK and mastermind of the Knights of the Golden Circle (KGC). The KGC was a secret society of southern sympathizers who were alleged to be involved in hiding large stashes of Confederate gold and the assignation of President Lincoln.

All conspiracy theories aside, Pike was impoverished after the Civil War and had a law office in Washington D.C. Pike argued a number of cases before the United States Supreme Court and died at 81 years-old. Pike's remains are buried today at the Scottish Rite House of the Temple in Washington D.C. Pike has numerous famous quotes, but my favorite is, "What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal."

By the Square,

John Lohrfink, Worshipful Master
Medford Lodge #103

REAMES CHAPTER #66

Hello,

Greetings from the newly, soon to be, installed Worthy Matron and Patron of Reames Chapter #66 Order of Eastern Star.

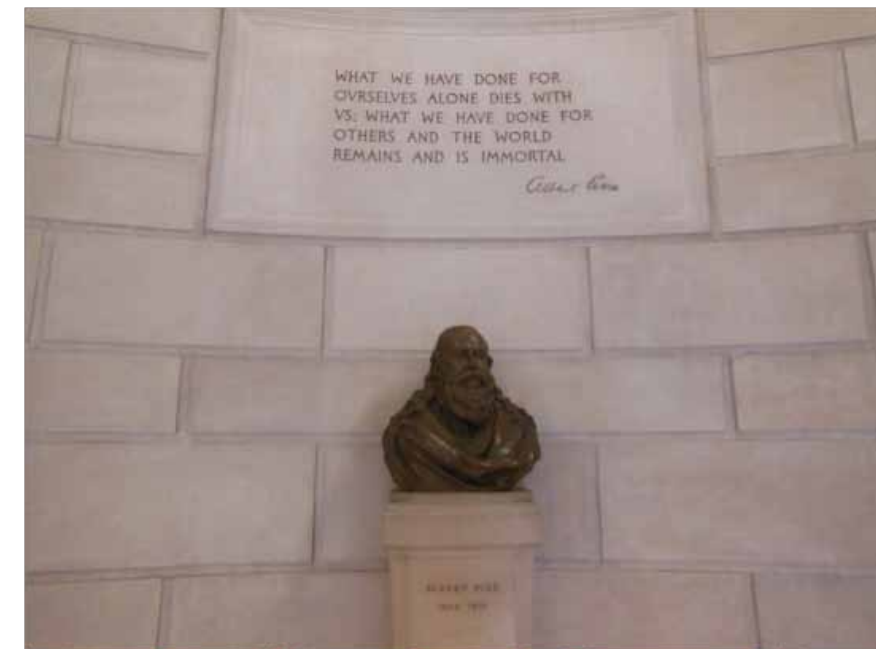
Grand Chapter was a wonderful experience. Congratulations on a job beautifully done, by our own Cindi Thompson, as Grand Marshal for the session. Congratulations are also in order for the newly elected Associate Grand Conductress, Lyn France. We are excited and honored to support you on your adventure up the Grand Line. We are all proud of you.

We are so excited for the New Year to begin in September 9th 2015. During the summer we will be visiting other Chapters for their installations, and hope to see many of you, continuing to, supporting our other local chapters. Together we are stronger.

We would like to remind all the memberships of the; All Masonic Picnic on Saturday, July 25th 2015, in Cottage Grove. It is always a great time. It is also an opportunity to see friends, catch up, and complete our proficiencies, in a beautiful setting. The Smiling Hearts are hoping to see many smiling faces.

Ralph and I would like to take this time to thank all the Officers for agreeing to your positions. We look forward to this adventure.

Jamie Knecht, Worthy Matron elect
Ralph Conklin, Worthy Patron elect



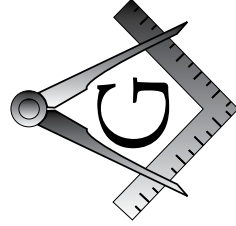
EVENT CALENDAR

September 2015

- 01
- 02 Ritual Practice 6:30 pm
- 03 Ashland Coffee 8 am / OATC 8 AM / Medford Stated Dinner 6pm DD Official Visit 7:30 pm
- 04
- 05 Bahari 10 - 4 pm
- 06 Morning Star Baptist Church 9 - 9 pm
- 07 Medford Coffee Group 8 - 10 am
- 08 Morning Star Baptist Church 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- 09 Reames 7:30pm / Warren Stated 7:30pm @ Jville
- 10 Ashland Coffee 8 am / Ashland Stated 7:30pm @ Ashland
- 11
- 12 Rummage Sale 7:00am
- 13 Morning Star Baptist Church 9 - 9 pm
- 14 Medford Coffee Group 8 - 10 am
- 15 Morning Star Baptist Church 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- 16 Reames Soc Club 12noon
- 17 Ashland Coffee 8 am / Family Dinner 6:30pm
- 18
- 19 Breakfast 7:30 - 10:00am
- 20 Morning Star Baptist Church 9 - 9 pm / District 17 Picnic @ Grant Pass
- 21 Medford Coffee Group 8 - 10 am
- 22 Morning Star Baptist Church 6:30 - 8:30 pm / Cascade Stated 7:30 pm @ Shady Cove
- 23
- 24 Ashland Coffee 8 am
- 25
- 26
- 27 Morning Star / Aderal 10am to 5pm 135th Anniversary Dinning Room
- 28 Medford Coffee Group 8 - 10 am
- 29 Morning Star Baptist Church 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Additions or Corrections to Howard 541-890-5625 or Joshua 541-621-3426

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