



MONTHLY REPORTS

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION

2007—2008

28090. SECRETARY. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:

- Make monthly reports to the Grand Secretary at the end of each month.
- Monthly Reports shall be reported on the provided forms or by computer programs approved by the Grand Secretary.
- All Monthly Reports will include the Lodge Name and number, and shall be signed by the Lodge Secretary.
- Monthly reports shall include changes in member status taking place during the month, including rejections, suspensions, expulsions, deaths, demits, reinstatements, members raised, affiliations, and Master Mason proficiencies.
- Address corrections shall be attached to and submitted with the Monthly Report.
- If there has been no membership activity for the month the report shall be submitted with the following statement: "No Membership Changes This Month".
- The lodge Secretary shall also maintain a copy of each Monthly Report to assist in the preparation of the Annual Return.

September 15	Northern Lights District (EA Degree) – Scobey Rocky Mountain District (EA Degree) – Deer Lodge
October 6	Livingston District EA Degree) – Manhattan
October 13	Missoula & Glacier District (FC Degree) – Polson
December 8	Sagebrush District (FC Degree) – Terry CMR District (FC Degree) – Fort Benton Headwaters District (FC Degree) – Pony
January 19	Missoula & Glacier District (MM Degree) – Plains
January 26	Rocky Mountain District (FC Degree) – Butte
February 2	Beartooth District (MM Degree) – Billings
February 23	Rocky Mountain District (MM Degree) – Helena
March 1	Great Falls District (MM Degree) – Great Falls

THE LEVEL

NAMES AND MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

When reporting any membership change to Grand Lodge; new Master Masons, Affiliations; Death or **reinstatement**, **please include their current U.S. Mailing address with your report.**

When reporting membership changes please **use their full given name**. If the brother also uses a nickname or his middle name add that in in quotation marks.

One address per person, if you have "snowbirds" they need to pick one address to use for Masonic Mailings.

HATS AND TIES

The following items are for sale for the year

1. Tie, blue with Grand Master's Logo (Buffalo Skull with Square and Compass). Price \$30.00 each, two sizes Regular and extra Long. (+shipping)

2. Hats, Price \$10.00 each. (+shipping)



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2007

- Sept 1 KCCH Scottish Rite –Helena
- Sept 3 Labor Day – Grand Lodge Office Closed
- Sept 5 Helena area lodges Installation, 6:30pm
- Sept 8 Annual Meeting Bannack Historic Lodge
- Sept 9 Hot Springs Lodge Fish Fry
- Sept 11 Victor No.42 Installation
- Sept 12 Huntley Project No. 144 Installation
- Sept 15 Northern Lights Dist Lodge of Instruction-Scobey
Rocky Mountain Dist Lodge of Instruction-Deer Lodge
- Sept 17 Sentinel No. 155 Installation
- Sept 20 Grand Lodge of Idaho (20-22)
- Sept 24 Sapphira Temple DON Supreme Queen Visit -Helena
- Sept 28 Al Bedoo Shrine Fall Ceremonial-Billings (28-29)
- Sept 29 Job's Daughters –Helena
- Sept 29 Grand Lodge of California (29-30)

October 2007

- Oct 5 Scottish Rite –Missoula
- Oct 6 Red Cross – Helena
- Oct 6 Livingston Dist Lodge of Instruction-Manhattan
- Oct 13 Missoula & Glacier Dist Lodge of Instruction-Polson
- Oct 26 Algeria Shrine Fall Ceremonial –Great Falls (26-27)

November 2007

- Nov 1 GM@ Lafayette Lodge –Seattle
- Nov 4 End Daylight Savings Time
- Nov 6 Election Day
- Nov 12 Veterans Day
- Nov 12 Grand Lodge of Nevada-Reno (12-13)
- Nov 14 GM Visit @ Huntley Project No. 144
- Nov 16 GM Visit @ Billings
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving





CELESTIAL LODGE

Wally C. Haacke	Flint Creek No. 11	07/04/2007
Clancy M. Greene	Missoula No. 13	07/31/2007
Malcolm MacColman	Deer Lodge No. 14	06/04/2007
Richard Klockman	Bozeman No. 18, V.C. No. 1	07/10/2007
Charles L. Fisher	Butte No. 22	07/20/2007
Wallace E. McGee	Livingston No. 32	07/25/2007
Jack Yardley	Livingston No. 32	08/07/2007
Donald A.V. Anderson	Livingston No. 32	08/08/2007
Fenwick B. Warner, Jr.	Victor No. 43	07/05/2007
Ronald C. Kimmey	North Star No. 46	06/12/2006
Victor C. Maichel	Mount Jefferson No. 56	06/03/2007
Robert E. Fifer	Euclid No. 58	07/17/2007
Randolph B. Ingram	Mission Valley No. 78	07/18/2007
Charles O. Lundberg	Sts. John No. 92	05/21/2007
James S. Snively	Sts. John No. 92	07/07/2007
Ronald H. Loyning	Rimrock No. 149	05/13/2007
William P. Thompson	Rimrock No. 149	05/26/2007
Jan E. Hardesty	Rimrock No. 149	06/13/2007
Jerry R. Hearn	Ionic No. 38	08/09/2007
Dean M. Anderson	Livingston No. 32	Unk
James E. Jones	Virginia City No. 1	12/04/2003
Andrw J. Sullivan	Pryor Mountain No. 151	08/28/2007
Donald Coburn	Ottawa No. 51	08/10/2007
Elmer E. "Buzz" Emerson	Cascade No. 34	10/30/2006

My Brethren, the roll of the workmen has been called, and one more Master Mason has not answered to his name, He has laid down the working tools of the Craft and with them he has left that mortal part for which he no longer has use. His labors here below have taught him to divest his heart and conscience of the vices and superfluties of life, thereby fitting his mind as a living stone for that spiritual building—that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Strengthened in his labors here by faith in God, and, confident of expectation of immortality, he has sought admission to the Celestial Lodge above.

**THE LEVEL
MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

July/August

The following is based upon 33% of the 100 Lodges having submitted the required Monthly Report.

Note: All Lodges are required to submitted a report monthly even if there are no membership changes.

RAISED

Andrew John Busch	Livingston No. 32	06/12/2007
Ray E. Woods	Boulder-Basin No. 41	08/02/2007
Zeb J. Compton	Boulder-Basin No. 41	08/02/2007
James D. Fox	Corinthian No. 72	07/14/2007
Tim A. Marek	Corinthian No. 72	07/14/2007
Terrell D. Gates, II	Columbia Falls No. 89	05/16/2007
Justin E. Shad	Columbia Falls No. 89	05/30/2007
Sage Collins	Eureka No. 93	07/14/2007

REINSTATMENTS

Edward E. Thompson	Euclid No. 58	Suspended 1992 Fee Due 22.00 Reinstated 7/17/2007
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AFFILIATION (DUAL)

Dennis R. Simmons	Delta No. 128	With Concord No. 50, FL 03/05/2007
Lonnie "Mel" Tillis	Hiram No. 52 07/21/2007	Retaining Branson No. 587, MO

SUSPENDED IAW SECTION 35015

Michael Lee Newgard	Mission Valley No. 78	08/09/2007
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CONSTITUTION AND CODE OF STATUES

Two copies of the current Grand Lodge Constitution and Code of Statues have been mailed to every Lodge Secretary. Each Worshipful Master, Instructor, Secretary should be acquainted with the contents. Every Lodge Officer should take the open book test on the Code.

NEW IRS REQUIREMENTS

Brethren this year the Department of the Treasury (IRS) has directed that all organizations be required to file an electronic notice, Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ.

What this means is that all Lodges and Building Corporations must file the new 990-N, if they do not have gross receipts in excess of \$25,000.00. Both entities must file.

The new requirement goes into effect beginning in 2008 and more can be found on the IRS website at www.irs.gov/eo.

Remember, all Lodges will be required to file. Failure to file can jeopardize the status of a Lodge and potentially Grand Lodge.

Brethren we can not afford to ignore this requirement. To ensure our success asked the Grand Master will direct that all Lodges file a copy of either their Form 990, 990 EZ, or 990-N (electronic verification) with the Grand Lodge office as part of their Annual Return.

A letter will go out in September announcing this requirement.

AUDIT OF LODGE BOOKS

On another topic dealing with Lodge business, the Constitution and Code of the Grand Lodge of Montana requires that an annual audit be performed.

The return shall show that the books of the lodge have been duly audited for the year covered by the return and shall be attested by the Master and Secretary under the seal of the lodge.

Do not take this requirement lightly; you have an obligation to the Brethren of your Lodge.

Several years back legislation was passed to allow Lodges to elect a Secretary/ Treasurer, due primarily to not having enough Brethren to serve as elected officers.

This does create somewhat of a dilemma for accountability. If a Lodge operates with a Secretary and a Treasurer there exists some limited internal control for accountability. If your Lodge has a Secretary/Treasurer it is recommended that you perform quarterly reviews with your Lodge Finance Committee.

You will need to pay increased attention in the preparation of the 2007 Annual Return as it will require including more detailed financial information and require demonstration that the lodge has filed all required information with the IRS.

Remember besides the fraternal aspects of being Masons and operating a Lodge we have the responsibility of the various business aspects to comply with.

MASTER BUILDER AWARD

Contact W. Bro. Paul Peterson for questions on the Master Builder program. Or call Bro. Paul at 585-7430.

Changes for the 2007—2008 Masonic Year
To qualify for the Builder or Master Builder, the following requirements must be met:

- a. The lodge instructor must be certified.
- b. The lodge must conduct either conferral of degree or Masonic education at every meeting, including and especially the Feast of Sts. John.
- c. At least three of the top five officers must attend a lodge of instruction

SOMEBODY ...ANYBODY

There was an important job to be done and everybody was sure somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry with that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Everybody could have done!

THE LEVEL

GRAND MASTER'S BLUE PRINT FOR THE 2007—2008 MASONIC YEAR

GOALS

- 1) Teach and instruct lodges and their officers and instructors in ritual proficiency and excellence, especially in conferral of degrees.
- 2) Provide education resources to lodges to continuing making Masons, both newly initiated and the established.
- 3) Provide opportunities for conferral of degrees for lodges that need assistance.

Blue Print - The plan to accomplish the three goals set forth above emphasizes proficiency in ritual and education in the lodge.

The following elements of the blue print are as follows:

1. Use of district meetings: The district meetings will be district-sponsored lodges of instruction and are scheduled throughout the year rather in just the fall. Each district meeting as a lodge of instruction will instruct lodge officers and members in the ritual for opening and closing and conferral of a degree. If any lodge has a candidate in need of degree work, the degree can be conferred at the district lodge of instruction. At the conclusion of the degree conferral the new brother with his mentor will go to a separate room and start learning his proficiency. While proficiency instruction is ongoing, the other brothers would attend a lodge of instruction on other aspects of the ritual. If time permits the district officer may also present other matters to the brethren of the district. The district meetings must be prepared for the complete conferral of one of the three degrees.

2. Instructors: Each lodge will have an instructor appointed. However, there will be a higher recognition of instructor—the “certified instructor.” For a lodge instructor to be certified, the instructor must meet the following criteria:

- a. Attend a lodge of instruction at one of the district meetings during 2007-2008;
- b. Complete and pass the Grand Lodge's open book test on the Constitution and Code within the previous five (5) years; and
- c. Conduct a lodge of instruction.

Instructors must be Masons who exemplify the virtues of Masonry and are knowledgeable in the ritual and our Constitution and Code. During their appointment instructors must ensure their lodges do proper degree work. Instructors of course may not bring discredit on themselves, their lodges, the Grand Lodge or Masonry in general.

3. Unauthorized Copies of the Work: District officers and instructors must ensure that lodges do not use unauthorized rituals or materials in the lodges. The only materials that lodge officers may use in delivering ritual are the Mnemonics and Monitor. The instructor and district officer may have his copy of the written Secret Work in the Big Book. It is illegal to copy pages from the Big Book and thus machine or handwritten copies of the Big Book Secret Work may not be used by any person in lodge. Other written-out versions of the Secret Work regardless of the form are not allowed in lodge for use. When such materials are discovered the district officer or instructor after notification to the Master of the lodge shall request that the unauthorized materials be surrendered to that officer or instructor. Lodges failing to voluntarily turn over such materials must be reported to Grand Master for possible disciplinary action against the lodge, including suspension of charter.

For explanatory lectures, extraneous written materials and copies are allowed for use by the lecturer or for prompting. The Montana ritual is the work that is to be used. Though not encouraged, explanatory lectures from other recognized jurisdictions are permitted if consistent with the Montana lectures. Unauthorized copies or materials are to be destroyed after confiscation.

4. Education: Each lodge is encouraged to either do conferral of degrees or presentation of Masonic education at every meeting. The Committee on Masonic Education and Research will produce at least 18 educational lessons for use by the lodges during the year. The lessons should be short (less than a page, double spaced) and include questions that presenter could ask to start a discussion. The Committee is encouraged to use existing materials and may adapt these materials for discussion purposes. The lessons are not intended to be just read as a lecture but to stimulate thought and discussion. So the lesson should utilize questions as catalyst to encourage group participation and discussion. The former alternative proficiency is an example of a fine source for lessons. Preferably the lodge should have a qualified brother other than the Master present the lesson and discussion. Since the lodge secretary is usually heavily involved in presenting administrative matters to the lodge, lodge secretaries should not be expected to present the lesson.

5. Specific Job Description for Committees:

- a. Committee on Work will prepare content and presentation of lodges of instructions. The district officer will coordinate with Committee on finding qualified brothers to do the instruction.
- b. Research and Education Committee will prepare at least 18 short educational lessons for lodge use. At least six (6) must be prepared and completed and distributed to lodges by July, 2007.

6. Master Builder: To qualify for the Builder or Master Builder, the following requirements must be met:

- a. The lodge instructor must be certified.
- b. The lodge must conduct either conferral of degree or Masonic education at every meeting, including and especially the Feast of Sts. John.
- c. At least three of the top five officers must attend a lodge of instruction.

If you have any questions about the Grand Master's Blueprint of the year contact your District Officer with questions and comments.

MONTHLY REPORTS DUE THE END OF EACH MONTH

IAW Section 28090 It shall be the duty of the Secretary to make monthly reports to the Grand Secretary at the end of each month.

AFFILIATIONS

37060. AFFILIATION. ..." if the applicant be a member in good standing in this jurisdiction..."**..If elected, the Secretary of the lodge electing him shall send notice of election and request for certificate of transfer signed by the applicant to the lodge or lodges in which he holds membership. Upon receipt of such certificate of transfer, the Secretary or Secretaries of the lodge or lodges involved shall include the transfer on their next monthly report to the Grand Secretary**

When reporting an affiliation all "Montana" lodges to which the member belongs must report the membership action on the Monthly Report. The affiliation is not final and not reported by the newly affiliated lodge until they have received a Certificate of Good Standing from the members lodge(s).

Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana
425 N Park Ave
PO Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158

US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 197
HELENA,
MONTANA
Non-Profit
Organization

Don't Throw Away Your Tax-Exempt Status

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations will have a new filing requirement. It's short, easy and electronic – it's the new e-Postcard.

Montana Lodges are now included, if your Lodge normally has annual gross receipts of \$25,000 or less and does not have to file Form 990 or 990-EZ, you must file the e-Postcard. The e-Postcard is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year. So if your organization operates on a calendar year, the e-Postcard is due by May 15 of the following year.

What happens if you don't file? You risk losing your tax-exempt status! And you risk Grand Lodge of losing its tax-exempt status! Go to www.irs.gov/eo for complete details and while you're there sign up for Exempt Organization's free email newsletter, EO Update, to receive up-to-date information posted on the charity pages of irs.gov.

The Grand Treasurer will be providing more information for distribution to each Lodge. If you have immediate questions please contact. R.W. Bro. Bruce Lahti.