



THE LEVEL

Special Points of Interest:

Grand Master's Message

140th Communication Pin

Montana Masonic News

Bikes for Books

Masonic Tidbit

• *Master Builder Award*

From the Grand Secretary

50 Year Award

Membership Changes

Celestial Lodge

Officer Election Reports

MAY 2006

NO. 422

Greetings From The Grand East

I bring to you these Greetings,

The grass is green and the trees are popping their leaves, renewal has taken place! As this bulletin arrives, your Lodge should have had its elections for Officers per code 27020 for the 2006-2007 Masonic year. Please look into the proficiency of these officers and remember that our Code 27030 "Qualification" of Lodge officers has requirements of all officers to be proficient. If they are not, please work with them to achieve this mark among the Brothers of your Lodge and see that it is recorded with our Grand Secretary as soon as it is completed. If your Lodge was unable to complete your elections for whatever reason, please look at code sections 25020, 27020 and 1040 B. After your elections are complete, please see that your newly elected officers and the proposed Lodge Instructor are reported to our Grand Secretary on Form 30 as soon as possible. This will allow the Deputy Grand Master to select his Lodge Instructors for next year and the Directory of Montana Lodges and Lodge officers can be printed in a more timely manner.

Master Builder reports are due by June 1st to Chairman Paul Peterson. If you have not achieved the standards needed, keep working on this until you "get it done". Awards will be presented during the Master Masons Banquet June 23rd, to those who have completed the requirements. Send your Lodges "Fraternal Mother of the Year" name to Richard B. Haworth, PO Box 122 in

Fromberg, MT 59029 for your special Lady to be honored at Grand Lodge as well.

The Bikes for Books program was extremely successful and the Lodges that participated report all the fun and excitement associated with Bikes for Books. Get your request for matching funds in by June 1st to assure that your Lodge gets reimbursed from the Montana Masonic Foundation up to \$400.00.

The M.A.S.O.N. program or "Masonic Assistance Supporting Our Neighbors" is also helping Lodges perform acts of charity in their local community. It is not too late to apply, do so today! Both of these charitable vehicles of the Montana Masonic Foundation (M.M.F.) can be used to involve YOUR LODGE in YOUR COMMUNITY!

The Masonic Family license plate is available at your local courthouse. This year you must purchase new plates anyway for a cost of \$15.00 to the state when you renew. So please consider helping the Montana Masonic Foundation by buying a Masonic Family license plate and in doing so contributing an additional \$25.00 each year directly into the Foundation to be endowed forever. Another way to build the Foundation is to reply to the

THE LEVEL

Grand Master's pin appeal, with these monies deposited into this same endowed fund for charity. If you have been blessed with material wealth while here on earth, why not remember the Montana Masonic Foundation in your last requests, so that you can help others long after you are gone?

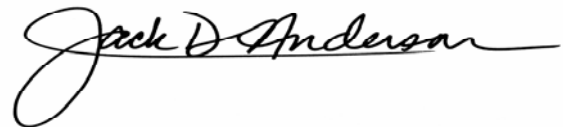
It is with trepidation that I must inform you of a disturbing fact. Co-Freemasonry has arrived in northwestern Montana and this organization is clandestine to us. I feel I must warn you of the danger that it supplies. This order of Masonry comes from France and has been around since 1893 and will open its doors to you to visit and/or affiliate with them by simply showing your current dues card. For those of you who are on the web the address to the frequently asked questions is http://www.comasonic.org/faq_text.html. It is obvious that we cannot have any "official" or unofficial contact with Le Droit Humain. I am asking that all Montana Lodges please conduct some Masonic education with your members and remind them of their third degree obligation, particularly the fifth I furthermore... "will not be present at.." and the sixth I furthermore... "will not visit.." Our brothers will thus be reminded that visiting them, affiliating with them or discussing Masonry with their members is prohibited by our obligation as well as the Code of Statutes Sections 46020 C 4, and 46020 E. We must not vouch for a member of that organization to allow him to visit one of our Lodges. Any brother doing any of these things would surely subject himself to a Masonic Trial and subsequent discipline of reprimand, suspension, or expulsion. In summary, we should inform our Brethren of this development, we should not make any public statements or give any sign of confrontation outside of the Lodge towards them. Legally, in these Great United States of ours, they have as much of a right to exist as we do. Our examination committees MUST be more vigilant to be ABSOLUTELY POSITIVE that any visitors to our Lodges are members of a Grand Lodge that is recognized by the Grand Lodge of Montana. Use the current "Lists of Lodges- Masonic 2006" booklet mailed to you this spring. Guard well the west gate my

Brethren!

As this may be the last chance I may have to communicate with you as your Grand Master through this forum, I want to once again thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve you and voting for as great a corps of Grand Lodge officers that any Grand Master could ever wish for! It has been my honor and an experience that has enriched my life forever! Thank you my Brothers!

On a more upbeat note, the 140th Grand Lodge session will be held in Havre starting on Thursday June 22nd with Vespers service and the Masonic Fellowship dinner afterwards to which everyone is invited, so bring your family. Public Grand Opening will be at 9:00 am Friday morning June 23rd followed with the election of your Grand Lodge Officers and the Master Masons banquet with awards that evening. Saturday June 24th, we will vote on the legislation and finish this communication with the installation of the next Grand Lodge officer team for 2006-2007 with a fun reception to follow. Registration forms are available on the website or from our Grand Secretary, please do not delay and get your motel rooms and RV spots now, ask for the rooms held under the Grand Lodge of Montana! Bring your ladies as there will be things for them to do as well.

Always happy to meet and sorry to part,



Jack D. Anderson
Grand Master
2005-2006



SPECIAL 140TH COMMEMORATIVE PIN



This beautiful limited edition commemorative pin celebrating 140 Years of Montana Masonry will be presented to those Master Masons who register and attend the Annual Communications in Havre. The pin was designed in a collaborative effort between MWGM Jack D. Anderson and RW Grand Secretary Reid L. Gardiner. The pin will not be sold or available after session.

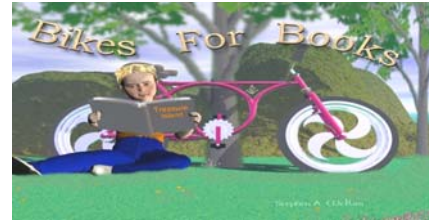
(shown approximate size)

MONTANA MASONIC NEWS EDITOR TO PRODUCE HIS LAST ISSUE

After 21 years and 82 issues, the June 2006 issue of Montana Masonic News will be the last for Editor Bill Brass. MWPGM Brass will be producing his last copy of the paper and it should be a wonderful reminder of what he has given to the fraternity. We wish to express our thanks to M.W. Bro. Bill for his time and commitment and join with the rest of the Craft in offering him a well deserved THANK YOU.



BIKES FOR BOOKS 2006



1 JUNE RECEIPTS ARE DUE

Completion date for the 2006 Bikes for Books program is 1 June 2006. Please make your Lodge, Secretary and Treasurer aware that the receipts must be received no later than June 1st in order to receive the match of funds from the Montana Masonic Foundation.

For the 2006 Bikes for Books Program 55 Lodges are promoting reading in Montana schools, this commitment has resulted in **464** Bikes being presented in **157** schools.

The following Lodges have committed to the Bikes of Books program for 2006: Virginia City No. 1, World Famous Helena Masonic Lodge No.3, Morning Star No. 5, Gallatin No. 6, Diamond City No. 7, Flint Creek No. 11, Missoula No. 13, Deer Lodge No. 14, Dillon No. 16, Bozeman No. 18, Sheridan No. 20, Valley No. 21, Butte No. 22, MT Moriah No. 24, Benton No. 25, Yellowstone No. 26, Ashlar No. 29, Glendive No. 31, Livingston No. 32, Monitor No. 35, Ionic No. 38, Star In The West No. 40, Choteau No. 44, Harmony No. 49, Hiram No. 52, Doric No. 53, Havre No. 55, MT Jefferson No. 56, Euclid No. 58, Wisdom No. 61, Ponemah No. 63, Whitefish No. 64, Carbon No. 65, Unity No. 71, Corinthian No. 72, Mission Valley No. 78, Cut Bank No. 82, Judith No. 86, Columbia Falls No. 89, Eureka No. 93, Kyle No. 96, Lavina Temple No. 101, Pilgrim No. 102, Western Star No. 104, Meridian No. 105, Mountain Lodge No. 110, Rapelje No. 122, Troy No. 126, Powder River No. 135, Park No. 140, Huntley Project No. 144, Rimrock No. 149, Bigfork No. 150, Pryor Mountain No. 151 and Hot Springs No. 153.

THE LEVEL



50 YEAR MEMBERS

George M. Holmes	Diamond City 7 & Ionic 38	5 May
Lawrence Leith	Dillon 16	15 May
Anees Kassis	Bozeman 18	31 May
John F. Currens	Yellowstone 26	9 May
Robert Hudnall, Jr	Yellowstone 26	9 May
Robert D. Howe	Ashlar 29	19 May
Theodore J. Wirth	Ashlar 29	7 May
Arthur Kuntz	Glendive 31	19 May
Steven Milkovich	Acacia 33	25 May
George M. Holmes	Ionic 38	5 May
Howard J. Bear	Kalispell 42	18 May
Dale I. Hursh	Ottawa 51	16 May
Millard M. Norman	Havre 55	22 May
Leonard A. Wall	Unity 71	9 May
Charles E. Pehl	Terry 74	14 May
Charles B. Taylor	Judith 86	21 May
Jack L. Colstad	Saints John 92	28 May
Charles O. Lundberg	Saints John 92	28 May
Raymond E. Gerringa	Billings 113	7 May
Richard Grieb	Delta 128	26 May
Delbert E. Brown	Bigfork 150	28 May
Joseph Reed, Jr	Pryor Mountain 151	1 May



50 YEAR MEMBERS

Thomas M. Battershell	Morning Star 5	09 June
Thomas Beaver	Mystic Tie- Riverside 17	14 June
Clyde P Peale, Jr	Mount Moriah 24	20 June
Thomas L. Larson	Stevensville 28	07 June
William O. Bradford	Ashlar 29	09 June
Stone E. Paulson, Jr	Cascade 34	13 June
Richard C. Thompson	Cascade 34	2 June
Jack B. Thompson	Cascade 34	2 June
George Neal	Ionic 38	14 June
Charles L. Conner	Victor 43	26 June
Irvine G. Milheim, Jr	Mission Valley 78	19 June
Vernon Christensen	Plentywood 91	28 June
Wilber L. Anderson	Ekalaka 120	4 June

OTTAWA LODGE NO. 51

We are pleased to welcome the new Secretary of Ottawa No. 51, Brother Ray Daigen. Mail to Ottawa Lodge No. 51 can be addressed to PO Box 5256, Helena, MT 59624-5256 or email Bro. Ray at rdaigen@hotmail.com

THE LEVEL**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES****MARCH 2006****Note: The following is based upon 40% of the 100 Lodges having submitted the required Monthly Report.****RAISED**

Lodge	Member	Date
Gary J. Long	Morning Star No. 5	04/19/2006
Cameron B. Marlow	Gallatin No. 6	04/26/2006
Anthony R. Gonzalo	Missoula No. 13	05/16/2006
Donald A. Hiser	Livingston No.32	03/21/2006
Dand Curtis Latsch	Livingston No. 32	03/21/2006
Kirby W. Peden	Doric No. 53	04/18/2006
Kirby W. Peden	Doric No. 53	05/10/1006
Jacob J. Wuest	Unity No. 71	05/17/2006
John A. Wuest	Unity No. 71	05/17/2006
Stephen W. McCollum	Billings No. 113	04/24/2006
Eldon E. Olson	Billings No. 113	04/24/2006
Bernard E. Irmen	Huntley Project No. 144	05/10/2006
Bruce E. Miller	Huntley Project No. 144	05/10/2006
Dorne W. Hatcher	Huntley Project No. 144	05/10/2006
Theodore W. Hash	Huntley Project No. 144	05/10/2006

Affiliations

Thomas E. Warden	From Dimit Livingston 32	To Bozeman No. 18	04/18/2006
------------------	--------------------------	-------------------	------------

Reinstatement

Keith O. Trang	Suspended 12/31/2004	Reinstated 04/24/2006
----------------	----------------------	-----------------------

Withdrawal of Dual Membership

Victor A. Burnett	Withdraw from Morning Star No. 5	retained with Boulder-Basin No. 41
-------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------

CELESTIAL LODGE



Raymond R. Hartz	Morning Star No.5	04/10/2006
Clifford D. Rossberg	Morning Star No. 5	04/15/2006
Joe Fowler Hansford	Gallatin No. 6	08/04/2006
James S. Caras, Jr.	Missoula No. 13	03/27/2006
Jack H. Silloway	Valley No. 21	03/08/2006
William Maxson	Mount Moriah No. 24	04/05/2006
Howard S. Moe	Ashlar No. 29	01/15/2006
Ernest E. Bahm	Ashlar NO. 29	01/20/2006
Walter E. Erickson	Ashlar No. 29	09/01/2001
Wade E. Sanderson	Ashlar No. 29	04/19/2006
Delbert Long	Star In The West No. 40	04/23/2006
Oilver Gustav Lundborg	Livingston No. 32	03/05/2006
Curtis O. Hanson	Cascade No. 34	02/14/2006
Constintine Billinis	Cascade No. 34	03/02/2006
Donald L. Kelly	Monitor No. 35	05/01/2006
Harold E. Hoffman	Ottawa No. 51	04/22/2006
Robert C. Blewett	Pondera No. 80	04/16/2006
Leslie A. Finkbeiner (103 yrs)	Captain Scott No. 98	04/24/2006
Alex Besel	Pryor Mountain No. 151	05/13/2006
William C. Cleaton	Butte No. 22	05/22/2006

THE LEVEL

RAISED
GRAND MASTER'S CLASS 22 April 2006
Bozeman, Montana

Member	Lodge
Steven R. Steinbacher	Mt Jefferson No. 56
Joe Phillips	Mt. Jefferson No. 56
Cody D. Anderson	Judtih No. 86
Phillip A. McNeil	Ashlar No. 29
Richard C. Huffsmith	Flint Creek No. 11
William G. Thomas	Cascade No.34
John M. Hayes, Jr	Cascade No. 34
Albert J. Bourgeois, III	Valley No. 21
Paul J. Morup	Ashlar No. 29
Randy J. Rodoni	Mt. Moriah No. 24
Jason L. Parish	Mt. Moriah No. 24
James M. Leyden	Mt. Moriah No. 24
Ronald G. Stenson	Dillon No. 16
Bradley S. Johnson	Belgrade No. 68
Mark H. Roemer	Belgrade No. 68
James F. Jacks	Belgrade No. 68
James P. Benedict	Sandstone No. 84
William W. Mackin	Gallatin No. 6
John M. Wallace	Bozeman No. 18
Gary T. Petrovich	Acacia No. 33
Kenneth J. Wheat	World Famous Helena No. 3
John L. Goettle	World Famous Helena No. 3
William L. Stedman	Cascade No. 43
Jason M. Johns	Deer Lodge No. 14
Tyler J. Anderson	Deer Lodge No. 14
Rocky L. Hayes	Gallatin No. 6

MASONIC TIDBIT ~ WHAT IS A CUBIT

Cubits are mentioned in the Fellowcraft degree during the stair lecture. The pillars on the porch of King Solomon's temple were explained to us with these words. "They were cast hollow, the better to serve as a safe depository for the archives of Masonry against all conflagrations and inundations. (infernos and floods) They were each thirty five cubits in height, and were adorned with chapiters of five cubits making in all, forty cubits in height." There is a discrepancy in the Bible on the height of these two marvelous columns. In I Kings v 15: "For he cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high apiece" and II Chronicles v 15: "Also he made before the house two pillars of thirty and five cubits high, and the chapiter that was on the top of each of them was five cubits". Our ritual is quoted above and many feel that it is demonstrative of how huge these pillars that adorned King Solomon's porch were and yet they served no structural purpose. (See the coach's handbook on pages 35 & 36.)

Forty total cubits in height, what distance is that?

A cubit as explained in the coach's handbook on page 46 states "The ancient cubit was roughly the length of the forearm, from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger. It varied from one and one fifth to one and one half foot. Where translated to feet in this booklet it is given the value of one and one half feet for the sake of uniformity."

Using this measurement the pillars or columns were sixty feet tall, forty cubits times one and one half feet.

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND SECRETARY



Pre-registration dead line for the 140th Annual Communications is 1 June. Rooms are getting scarce with only a few rooms left at the Great Northern Hotel.

The Masonic Fellowship Banquet on Friday night is for everyone, so plan to bring your lady or friends and sent in your reservations.

A copy of all proposed resolutions and recommendations was placed in the U.S. Mail to each Lodge Secretary on 17 April. Included with the copy of the proposed legislation was a Proxy Card for the WM, SW and JW and a copy of the Rules of Order for the Annual Communication.

Masonic Fellowship Banquet open to all

As you will recall beginning with the 139th Session, "Credential Cards" are no longer issued. However, you MUST present your current Dues/Membership Card and have a photo ID when you sign in for session. Proxy Cards are included for the WM, SW and JW.

OFFICER ELECTION REPORT, FORM 30 IS DUE TO GRAND LODGE 31 MAY

Lodge Officer Elections Reports, Form 30 are due to Grand Lodge by 31 May. Please verify and complete all the Officer information, addresses, phone and email contact and MM Proficiency date. Remember to check over the information on the front page for you meeting date and time and physical address of the Lodge.

Pre-registration forms for the 140th Annual Communication can be obtained from your Lodge Secretary, or by calling the Grand Lodge Office at 442-774 or, on-line at www.grandlodgemontana.org

GRAND LODGE AF&AM OF MONTANA
425 N PARK AVE
PO BOX 1158
HELENA, MONTANA 59601-1158



140 YEARS
MONTANA
MASONRY
1866 - 2006

US POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT NO. 197

HELENA,
MONTANA

Non-Profit
Organization

Montana
MASONIC
Museum

Open Mon-Fri 9am to 4pm

Featuring Early Montana & Masonic History

406-442-7774

425 N. Park Ave. • Helena, MT 59624

www.grandlodgemontana.org



Montana Masonic License Plate

The Masonic Family license plate is available at your local courthouse. This year you must purchase new plates anyway for a cost of \$15.00 to the state when you renew. So please consider helping the Montana Masonic Foundation by buying a Masonic Family license plate and in doing so contributing an additional \$25.00 each year directly into the Foundation to be endowed forever.