



Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana
425 N Park Ave
Helena, MT 59601

THE LEVEL

March 2011

NO. 460

2010 Annual Returns and Work Packages

The 2010 Annual Returns must be received by Grand Lodge on or before the 15th of March. Remember to include the lodge financial disclosure worksheet as it is part of the Annual Return. Lodges must also complete the IRS 990n if their gross receipts are less than \$50,000.00, and a copy of the IRS receipt must be submitted to Grand Lodge. Other lodges may be required to submit a 990EZ or 990. Lodges shall pay \$3.00 per day late fine for each day after March 15th, and shall not be allowed to sit or participate in Grand Lodge until it has complied.

Here be Dragons

Or more correctly the Latin phrase *hic sunt dracones* is the chilling warning written by early mapmakers at the edges of their known world. Venturing into these regions could have been a terrifying prospect for early explorers as tales of monsters and evil magic fired their imaginations.

It seems that Masonry also abounds with such thoughts but, fear not we shall banish this from the land and dispel these misconceptions!

How often do you hear someone criticize something before they ask questions and try to understand why and how often do you hear someone offer up their opinion as fact when in reality it is just an assumption. Very often there are those who promote their preconceived ideas as the only view that is possible.

We can see this in many applications within our Fraternity. There are those who would insist that the title for a Grand Master is always "Most Worshipful" and within our jurisdiction this is true but, within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania the Grand Master is "Right Worshipful". There are those who would insist that a Lodge is "Tyled" by the Tyler to keep out cowens and eavesdroppers; yet within many jurisdiction a lodge is "Tiled" by the "Tiler." Yet another example is that in some jurisdictions a member might be issued a Demit, while in our jurisdiction as well as many others members are issued a Dimit.

Sometimes it's just a matter of understanding the traditions and protocol of a specific organization and or its local nuances and colloquialisms. Or perhaps a word or term needs to be understood as it is used or when applied as a "standard" or "hallmark".

Recently someone commented that they thought that the term "possible or probable match" was absurd and that they felt it being used as inconclusive. However the term "possible match", when viewed as it is used within that specific industry is actually a "standard" industry term meaning 99.99% probable or confidence in, or stated another way that there is less than 1% of inaccuracy.

Frequently we find those who get themselves and other caught up in the "Chicken Little" syndrome rather than find out the meaning or truth they want to convince others to run with them and tell everyone that the sky is falling. As Masons in the second degree we learn about the seven liberal arts and sciences and we should understand both logic and rhetoric. So yes "Here be Dragons" ... but don't be afraid of them or be consumed by them.

Lodge Officer Election Reports

The annual Lodge Officer Election Reports have been mailed to the Secretary or each lodge.

25020. ANNUAL ELECTION. Lodges shall hold their annual election of officers no earlier than the first regular meeting in April and no later than the first regular meeting in **May**. Elections held before or after the designated times are void.

All Lodges should have completed elections by the end of May and should be returned to the Grand Lodge Office by May 30th.

Lodge Officers can be updated in ROLLS but entries for the 2011-2012 year can not be made until they are installed.

A copy of the 2010-2011 Lodge Officer Election form is enclosed.

Lodge Installations

25030. INSTALLATION. Lodges shall hold their annual installation of officers after the annual communication of Grand Lodge, but no later than the first regular meeting in September, and hold their offices until their successors are elected and installed

2011 Tri Jurisdictional Outdoor Lodge

August 26 & 27, 2011



A joint event sponsored by the Grand Masters of the Grand Lodges of Montana, Alberta and Saskatchewan. To be held ** August 26 & 27, 2011 ** at Helena Montana, There will be joint outdoor meeting at the site of the Mullan Pass Historic Masonic Site.

All Master Masons of Grand Lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge of Montana are invited. If you wish to be on our email list for updates... Send your name and email address to: 2011trijurisdictional@gmail.com

EXHIBIT 28

Form30

Return to Grand Secretary NLT 30 May 2011



GRAND LODGE A. F. & A. M. OF MONTANA



**LODGE OFFICER ELECTION REPORT
2011 - 2012 MASONIC YEAR**

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

LODGE _____ NO. _____

STATED MEETINGS: [Day(s) of week] _____ at _____ a.m./pm.

during the month of _____ through the month of _____

If you have changed meeting dates and times have you amended your Lodge By-Laws ___Yes ___No

Physical address of Lodge _____

U.S. Mail address at Lodge _____

Instructions:

NOTE – IF you have entered this information into ROLLS by 30 May 2011 you do not have to submit this paper form.

- Lodge elections are required by Code Section 25020 to be **held between the first regular meeting in April and the first regular meeting in May.**
- In accordance with Code Section 27030, service as Warden in any Jurisdiction renders the member eligible to election as Master. All the officers, except the Tyler, must be chosen from among the members of the Lodge. **No one shall be eligible to office who is not in good standing and who has not passed a satisfactory examination of the Montana proficiency in all three Degrees.**
- Complete this Form as soon as possible after the election and **return this form No later than 30 May to the Grand Secretary.** The MONTANA MASONIC LODGE DIRECTORY is scheduled for printing in early July so your prompt response is appreciated. A late response can significantly delay printing and distribution.
- Type or print the mailing address to which the officer wants to have Grand Lodge mail sent. **Verify with the officer the U.S. Mailing address that he wants used.**
- Type or **print the full name** (include Jr., Sr., III, etc., if applicable, but **no nicknames, please.**)

CERTIFICATION:

I certify that this is a true and correct list of officers elected to serve this Lodge for the year 2011-2012.

(Lodge seal)

Signed _____ Date _____
(Secretary)**Send name of recommended Lodge Instructor to District Officer prior to May 30th**

EXHIBIT 28

Form30

Return to Grand Secretary NLT 30 May 2011



Please Print or Type all Information

PART II – ELECTED OFFICERS
2011 - 2012 MASONIC YEAR

WORSHIPFUL MASTER: _____

PREFERRED ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____ MM Prof: Date _____

SENIOR WARDEN: _____

PREFERRED ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____ MM Prof: date _____

JUNIOR WARDEN: _____

PREFERRED ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____ MM Prof: Date _____

TREASURER: _____

PREFERRED ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____ MM Prof: Date _____

SECRETARY (OR SEC/TREAS): _____

PREFERRED ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____ MM Prof: Date _____

LODGE INSTRUCTOR (RECOMMENDED): _____

PREFERRED ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____ MM Prof: Date _____

Appointed Officer Information is not required for this Report

Session will be at the
OMNI Center
2300 Plaza Blvd (off Valley Drive East), Miles City, Montana

Hotels available in the immediate area include:

Comfort Inn, 1615 S. Haynes Ave, 406-234-3141
Block Name— MLC
Room Rate: \$99.00

**Super 8, 2006 S. Haynes Ave. 406-234-5261*
Block Name: Masons
Room Rate: \$58.63 (double)
\$52.85 (single)

**Econo Lodge, 1209 Haynes Ave. 406-232-8880*
Block Name—Masons
Room Rate: \$65.00

Holiday Inn, 1720 S. Haynes Ave 406-234-1000
Block Name: MLC
Room Rate: \$104.00

**allows pets and smoking*

Tentative Agenda

(Full agenda will be available in the Session Program)

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2011

5:00 p.m. Vespers – OMNI Center

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011

8:30 a.m. Public Grand Opening (Ladies welcome)– OMNI Center
10:00 a.m. Formal Opening of Grand Lodge
10:00 a.m. Election of Grand Officers
1:15 p.m. Grand Lodge Refreshment to Labor
1:45 p.m. Call to Order
Committee Reports
Reception of Montana Past Grand Masters & 50 Masons
Reception of Visiting Grand Lodge Officers
4:30 p.m. Grand Lodge call from Labor to Refreshment
6:00 p.m. No Host Fellowship - Park Place
7:00 p.m. Master Masons Banquet - Park Place
Guest Speaker - Arturo de Hoyos, AASR

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2011

9:00 a.m. Call to Labor– OMNI Center
Guest Speaker - Ron Triggs, PGM
Legislation
11:55 a.m. Grand Lodge call from Labor to Refreshment
1:15 p.m. Grand Lodge Refreshment to Labor
Finance Final Report with Budget
3:00 p.m. Formal Closing of 145th Annual Communication
5:00 p.m. Installation of Grand Lodge Officers for 2011 - 2012
OMNI Center - Masons, ladies, families and friends are invited.

Reception for new Grand Master and Grand Officers Public Installation will follow immediately following the closing of Grand Lodge. All Masons, Ladies, families and friends are invited. Reception at Park Place, 20 N 8th St..

RV Parking is available at
Meadows RV Park – 3204 Comstock, Miles City, MT, Ph.# 406 234-3014



The 145th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Montana will be conducted June 23, 24 & 25, 2011 in Miles City. The Session will be held at the OMNI Center. Hotels and room rates are provided below. Banquets and reception after Installation will be at the Park Place banquet facility.



OMNI Center, 2300 Plaza Blvd (off E Valle Road)

Park Place Banquet Facility, 20 N 8th St

Grand Lodge Officers, PGM's and Visiting Grand Lodge Officers from other Jurisdictions please make your reservations through the Grand Secretary only.

Session Hotels

Members of the Craft please make your reservations as soon as possible by calling direct to the Hotel of your Choice.



Comfort Inn, 1615 S Haynes Ave, 406 2234-3141
Room Block name: MLC. Room Rate: \$99.00 + Tax



*Econo Lodge, 109 Haynes Ave, 404 232-8800
Room Block name: Masons. Rate: \$65.00 +tax



*Super 8, 2600 S Haynes Ave. 406 234-5261
Room Block name: Masons.
Rate (double): \$58.63 +tax
Rate (single): \$52.85 +tax



Holiday Inn, 1720 S Haynes Ave. 406 234-1000
Room Block name: MLC. Rate: \$144.00 +tax

*Pets and Smoking

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Jan 2011 - March 2011

Virginia City Lodge - 1

[151](#)- Barry A. Deschamps Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[308](#)- Francis A. Eckerle Jr. Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[2045](#)- Walter R. Lewis Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[2376](#)- Melvin W. McCarver Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[3576](#)- Andrew D. Rossiter Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[3706](#)- Daniel D. Schindler Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[3918](#)- Ronald A. Simpson Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[4363](#)- Andrew Thomas Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[4575](#)- Michael J. Verdon Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[4693](#)- Richard R. Weaver Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[6154](#)- Christopher H. Cochran Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010

Morning Star Lodge - 5

[7090](#)- John T. Brothis Affiliated - 02/09/2011
[7103](#)- Kevin B. Sawyer Raised - 02/09/2011

Gallatin Lodge – 6

[3051](#) – Harvey N. Parker Deceased – 12/12/2010

Missoula Lodge – 13

[151](#)- Barry A. Deschamps Suspended NPD (Plural VC1) - 12/31/2010
[2843](#)- Jack W. Newell Affiliated - 01/01/2011
[596](#)- Clifford A. Frey Dimitted - 02/10/2011
[7167](#)- Shawn T. Ratchford Reinstated - 02/16/2011

Deer Lodge – 14

[5277](#)- George L. Appelgate Deceased – 12/04/2010

Bozeman Lodge – 18

[2376](#)- Melvin W. McCarver Suspended (Plural VC1)- 12/31/2010
[2626](#)- Robert Monroe Deceased-12/31/2010
[65](#)- John R. Davis Affiliated - 01/06/2011

Valley Lodge – 21

[5967](#)- Thomas Campbell Deceased - 02/15/2011

Benton Lodge – 25

[4334](#)- Ricky D. Teeters Suspended NPD-12/31/2010
[5703](#)- Warren A. Bowen Deceased - 01/05/2011

Stevesville Lodge – 28

[1014](#) –Tereance P. Harkins Suspended NPD-12/31/2010
[1811](#)-Conrad W. Koener Suspended NPD-12/31/2010
[3523](#)- Stephan Rodda Suspended NPD-12/31/2010
[6197](#)-Laurence J. Conklin Suspended NPD-12/31/2010

Ashlar Lodge – 29

[7087](#)- Steven S. Russell Raised - 01/25/2011
[6571](#)- Richard J. Hurlocker Reinstated - 01/25/2011
[3945](#)- Robert D. Slayton Deceased - 02/03/2011
[6569](#)- Gregg S. Barrigan Reinstated - 02/15/2011
[5481](#)- Douglas A. Bayne Deceased - 03/10/2011

Glendive Lodge -31

[6076](#)- Thomas Christensen Suspended NPD-12/31/2010

Livingston Lodge – 32

[7154](#)- William H. Buniger Raised - 01/18/2011

Acacia Lodge – 33

[5058](#)- Robert E. Sokolich Suspended NPD-12/31/2010
[7173](#)- Edward A. Amberg Raised - 02/01/2011
[92](#)- Marvin N. Day Deceased - 02/22/2011

Friendship Lodge -37

[4506](#) – John D. Turner Suspended NPD-12/31/2010

Ionic Lodge – 38

[982](#)- Robert C. Hansen Deceased - 02/22/2011

Kalispell Lodge - 42

[769](#)- Michael W. Grachek Deceased - 02/13/2011

North Star Lodge – 46

[7028](#)- John B. Johnson Rejected - 02/18/2011

Ottawa Lodge – 51

[94](#)- David L. Dean Suspended NPD-12/31/2010
[305](#) - Eric N. Eck Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[477](#) - Daniel R. Fisher Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[480](#) - Joseph A. Fisher Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[486](#) - Theodore R. Fisher Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[821](#) - Larry L. Griffin Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[2066](#) - Charles E. Lindell Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[2343](#) - William C. Matross Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[2830](#) - Myron E. Ness Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[3157](#) - Jeffrey M. Petek Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[4489](#) - James M. Troglia Jr. Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010
[4587](#) - Richard G. Vick Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010

Hiram Lodge – 52

[5801](#)- Jim H. Brock Deceased - 02/22/2011

Mount Jefferson Lodge – 56

[2955](#) - Eric K. Ohs Reinstated - 03/01/2011

Manhattan Lodge – 59

[943](#) - Mel A. Hamilton Affiliated - 01/26/2011

Ponemah Lodge – 63

[353](#)- Shawn J. Emmett Suspended NPD-12/31/2010

Wisdom Lodge - 61

[4693](#)- Richard R. Weaver Suspended (Plural VC1) - 12/31/2010

Belgrade Lodge – 68

[3029](#) - Mark D. Paddock Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010

[3821](#) - Monte W. Severson Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010

[4828](#) - Daniel A. Wilson Suspended NPD - 12/31/2010

[3918](#) - Ronald A. Simpson Suspended Plural NPD (VC1)-
12/31/2010

Unity Lodge - 71

[5155](#) - Clifford G. Adolph Deceased - 01/13/2011

Corinthian Lodge - 72

[5082](#) - Michael L. Andrews Reinstated - 03/07/2011

Pondera Lodge – 80

[5305](#) - Robert C. Arnot Deceased - 03/01/2011

Judith Lodge - 86

[4986](#)- Ronnie D. Brewington Reinstated - 02/14/2011

Meridian Lodge – 105

[2725](#)- Donald G. Munroe Deceased-12/13/2010

Mountain Lodge – 110

[6047](#)- Glen R. Chamberlain Deceased - 02/18/2011

Loyalty Lodge – 121

[3887](#)- Richard K. Shrader Dimitted - 02/03/2011

[4433](#)- Kermit J. Tjon Deceased - 02/04/2011

Shelby Lodge - 143

[1755](#)- Manley H. Kirkeby Deceased - 01/27/2011

[5393](#)- Homer E. Baldwin Deceased - 03/04/2011

Rimrock Lodge - 149

[7100](#)- Wayne C. Conn Deceased - 02/01/2011

Trinity Lodge - 152

[7159](#)- Edward M. Leonetti Raised - 01/27/2011

Sentinel Lodge - 155

[1001](#)- James K. Harbison Dimitted - 01/01/2011

[7155](#)- Patrick G. Ellison Raised - 01/06/2011

[7156](#)- Robert I. Hlynosky Raised - 01/06/2011

[7157](#)- Brandon D. Williams Raised - 01/06/2011

[5383](#)- Herbert A. Baker Deceased - 02/02/2011

KING SOLOMON'S YACHT CLUB

By: Pete Normand, College Station, Tx

This is the story of a young man who, not unlike many young men today, being fairly new in town and having settled into his new job, was told by a friend about a club, The King Solomon's Yacht Club, and decided to join. He had owned a sailboat as a boy and had always enjoyed sailing. Being the gregarious sort and feeling a need to fill his free hours with worthwhile endeavors, he decided to join. On the first meeting night he attended, the members assembled with their wives and had a wonderful meal followed by a business meeting. The business got a bit tedious at times, long recitation of minutes, arguing over bills and expenses, etc. But at length it came time to announce the new members, and he was brought before the assembly and introduced. The "Skipper" of the club rose to his feet and asked him the customary test question. "What do you most desire?" Taken somewhat by surprise, the young man thought for a moment and then answered, "To sail the sea!"

"To sail the sea!" the members echoed as they rose to their feet and raised their glasses in a toast to their newest member. "To sail the deep blue sea!" And they all joined in a rousing chorus of "Anchors Aweigh." He was instructed to come on Saturday ready to work, and this he did. As he boarded the old vessel that the club kept in dry dock, he was handed a bucket and brush and a handful of rags and was set to work polishing the brightwork from stem to stern. He worked hard from sunup to sundown polishing every bit of brass no matter how small. Some of the fixtures no longer served any purpose and might have been better preserved in a nautical museum, leaving the boat more streamlined for sailing, but he didn't complain nor shirk his duty but appeared for work on time every Saturday for a month until the work was finished. On the fifth Saturday he came early. "Surely today we will go sailing," he thought.

The boat was now completely seaworthy and ready for the water. "Sailing?" the skipper asked in surprise. "Sailing? This is no time for play, my boy! There's work to be done." And he was handed the same bucket and brush and was put back to work on the same familiar pieces of brightwork that he had laboured over for the past month. Well, I don't need to tell you this boat hadn't been on the water for many years, and with the current members probably would not again for many more. Our young friend soon became disenchanted with a yacht club that did not sail, and he dropped his membership.

But it wasn't too long until another friend told him about another club, the "Blue Skies Flying Club." He had always been fascinated with airplanes and had thought that one day he might earn his pilot's license, and so this seemed to be the perfect opportunity. He accompanied his new friend to the next meeting of the club where the members assembled with their wives and had a wonderful meal followed by a business meeting. The business got a bit tedious at times, long recitation of minutes, arguing over bills and expenses, etc. But a length it came time to announce the new members, and he was brought before the assembly and introduced. The "Commander" of the Club rose to his feet and asked the customary test question, "What do you most desire?" Taken somewhat by surprise, the young man thought for a moment and then answered, "To fly!"

"To fly!" the members echoed and rose to their feet, raising their glasses in a toast to the new member. "To fly the wild blue yonder!" To his surprise he wasn't given any work to do, but was encouraged and reminded to attend all the meetings of the club which he did faithfully. Soon he began to ask around and was surprised to learn that the club had no airplane. Many of the members were old Air Forces pilots but no one had a current pilot's license. He made a few suggestions to the older members. He suggested they find an old warhorse and fix it up, or take classes and renew their licenses. At the very least they could have some programs at their monthly meetings and have speakers come and talk about airplanes.

Continued next page

KING SOLOMON'S YACHT CLUB continued from page 10

The topics would be interesting and informative, airplanes of World War I, the Lafayette Escadrille, airplanes of World War II, the Battle of Britain, The Flying Tigers, The Black Sheep Squadron, etc, etc. Finally the older members tired of his suggestions and took him aside and explained they were not interested in flying or airplanes, that he was just making trouble. They were perfectly happy meeting once a month, eating spaghetti, arguing over bills and playing dominoes. If he was interested in flying he should go somewhere else besides the "Blue Skies Flying Club."

Well, I don't need to tell you that our young friend soon became disenchanted with a flying club that cared nothing about flying or airplanes and he dropped his membership.

But it wasn't too long until he met another new friend who was a very active Mason. The young man was not unfamiliar with the Fraternity. His father, grandfathers and uncles had all been Masons, and he had always been intrigued by what Masonic philosophy and symbolism he had heard and seen. He thought one day he might become a Mason and better himself by gaining Masonic enlightenment. He asked the right questions, returned his petition and was elected to membership. On the night of his initiation he presented himself at the lodge and was brought before the membership. At one point of the ceremony the Worshipful Master of the lodge asked him the customary question, "What do you most desire?" Not the least bit surprised, the young man forthrightly answered without any prompting, "Light, Masonic Light!"

Now if you have been following along you surely know this is not the end of the story. Either the young man did or did not receive what he came looking for. Who is the young man? He is every member of your lodge, and of my lodge, and of every lodge in the country. Does he receive Masonic Light at your lodge, interesting programs at your monthly stated meetings, or does he receive a plate of spaghetti, a long recitation of minutes and an argument about the utility bill?

Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana
PO Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158



**NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
HELENA, MT
PERMIT NO. 197**

Calendar of Events

Mar 15 Annual Returns due to Grand Lodge on or before

Mar 31 Hall of Fame nominations Due

Lodge Elections*** No Earlier than April 1; No Later than 1st regular meeting in May

April 1-2 GLO Qtly Meeting - Miles City - Miles City

June 1-3 Grand Lodge of Oregon

June 2-4 Grand Lodge of Arizona

June 9-11 Grand Lodge of Alberta

June 9-11 Grand Lodge of Washington

June 16-18 Grand Lodge of North Dakota

June 16-18 Grand Lodge of South Dakota

June 23-25 Grand Lodge of Montana