



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

THE LEVEL

November 2011

NO. 463

2011 Annual Returns

The 2011 Annual Return instruction and work package will be mailed to each Lodge Secretary during the Month of November, a .pdf version is also available at the Grand Lodge website.

ROLLS users can produce the Annual Return direct from ROLLS if you have keeping membership data current. Remember "Monthly Report" is used to report the membership changes not the Annual Return. The Annual Return is a recapitulation of the activity through the year and should not be used to report something for the first time. Returns should be completed as soon as possible but prior to 15 March.

Bikes for Books

It's time to start thinking about the Bikes for Books program. Program information and matching funds are the same as last year. Applications for matching funds will be mailed to the Secretary during the month of November and are posted at the Grand Lodge website. The lodge share of the match must be provide to the Foundation prior to purchase of bikes. A combined check will be provided with the lodge and Foundation match combined written in the name of the Vendor from whom the bikes will be purchased.

Remember the process for receiving matched funds from the Montana Masonic Foundation: you will need to provide the lodge portion of the cost first. Purchases should not be made prior to receiving the matched check by from the Foundation. Do Not have the store invoice or send the invoice to Grand Lodge or the Montana Masonic Foundation. The lodge must submit the form requesting the match of funds. The Foundation will not provide a match if you do not follow the instructions and process. The program start date is 1 Feb.

For the 2011-2012 Masonic year the Montana Masonic Foundation will award a matching grant not to exceed \$750.00 per lodge. Matching grant funds must be spent on eligible expenses i.e., Bikes and Safety Helmets. You cannot match the Montana Masonic Foundation funds with money from other grants, e.g. Wal-Mart Community Grant. All checks must be provided to the vendor or deposited within 90 days of issue.

As in the past, if you wish to request the Grand Lodge provided Bikes for Books posters, Bookmarkers or serialized bike tags you will need to provide the following information: number of students participating, number of bikes to be awarded, number of schools and number of classes within each school. Please have this information when you request the materials or it will delay receiving the materials. Please plan ahead and request the materials in advance of when you will need them. Our printing and stock of posters, bookmarkers and tags is based upon the information from the lodges.



MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

September, October and November 2011

September

Dillon Lodge - 16 / 4

4245- R. Neil Strozzi Dimitted From - 09/07/2011

Doric Lodge - 53 / 5

501 - Lewie Fletcher Affiliated - 09/06/2011

Eureka Lodge - 93 / 2

1557 - Stanley Johnson Deceased - 09/28/2011

Rapelje Lodge - 122 / 1

5966 - Norman T. Campbell Dimitted - 09/30/2011

Delta Lodge - 128 / 3

6633 - George M. Lee Dimitted - 09/14/2011

Bigfork Lodge - 150 / 2

5489 - John R. Beam Deceased - 09/21/2011

October

Virginia City Lodge - 1 / 4

2045 - Walter R. Lewis Reinstated - 10/04/2011

2376 - Melvin W. McCarver Reinstated - 10/05/2011

Montana Lodge - 2 / 4

7252 - Jon C. Goodman Raised - 10/15/2011

7266 - David J. Cope Raised - 10/15/2011

Gallatin Lodge - 6 / 5

6204 - Richard F. Conner Deceased - 10/18/2011

Diamond City Lodge - 7 / 5

6046 - Earl W. Chamberlain Deceased - 10/07/2011

Missoula Lodge - 13 / 6

1414 - LeRoy D. Iverson Deceased - 10/08/2011

Bozeman Lodge - 18 / 5

2376 - Melvin W. McCarver Reinstated To -
10/05/2011

111 - Frank DeHaan Deceased - 10/09/2011

Yellowstone Lodge - 26 / 10

2068 - James E. Linderman Dimitted - 10/24/2011

Ashlar Lodge - 29 / 1

7284 - Sean D. Ballou Raised - 10/25/2011

7285 - Kirk W. Ligget Raised - 10/25/2011

7184- Spencer D. Scala Failure to Advance - 10/26/2011

Livingston Lodge - 32 / 5

7226 - Dean V. Moore Raised - 10/04/2011

7290 - Justin S. Brown Raised - 10/04/2011

Cascade Lodge - 34 / 3

5890 - Lee M. Bullington Deceased - 10/23/2011

Ionic Lodge - 38 / 6

7242 - Dennis S. Anderson Raised - 10/11/2011

North Star Lodge - 46 / 7

7007 - William L. Millerick

Failure to Advance - 10/21/2011

Ottawa Lodge - 51 / 8

1889 - Lloyd E. Lamb Sr. Deceased - 10/18/2011

Hiram Lodge - 52 / 10

7279 - Clifford L. Locke Raised - 10/04/2011

Euclid Lodge - 58 / 3

1499 - Albin H. Johnson Deceased - 10/08/2011

Golden Eagle Lodge - 66 / 1

7289 - Thomas E. Rieger Reinstated - 10/03/2011

5560 - Elmer R. Bent Deceased - 10/28/2011

Musselshell Lodge - 69 / 5

6046 - Earl W. Chamberlain Deceased - 10/07/2011

Unity Lodge - 71 / 9

6482 - Ihian D. Fluet

Failure to Advance - 10/20/2011

6483 - Bert L. Holmes

Failure to Advance - 10/20/2011

Meridian Lodge - 105 / 3

3254 - Donald C. Pollack Deceased - 10/28/2011

Delta Lodge - 128 / 3

751 - Harry C. Goodell Jr. Deceased - 10/02/2011

Shelby Lodge - 143 / 3

3344 - David E. Ratzburg Deceased - 10/14/2011

Rimrock Lodge - 149 / 1

1513 - Dwight W. Johnson Affiliated - 10/26/2011

7146 - Nathan L. Church Raised - 10/26/2011

November

Montana Lodge - 2 / 4		
7274	- Andrew J. Dickinson	Affiliated - 11/03/2011
Helena Lodge - 3 / 8		
3435	- Thomas E. Rice	Deceased - 11/10/2011
135	- John M. DenHerder	Deceased - 11/12/2011
7167	- Shawn T. Ratchford	Affiliated - 11/21/2011
Missoula Lodge - 13 / 6		
7167	- Shawn T. Ratchford	Dimitted - 11/21/2011
Acacia Lodge - 33 / 8		
7299	- Robert M. Webster	Affiliated - 11/01/2011
Ottawa Lodge - 51 / 8		
7293	- Scott E. Kirko	Affiliated - 11/04/2011
135	- John M. DenHerder	Deceased - 11/12/2011
Hiram Lodge - 52 / 10		
501	- Lewie Fletcher	Affiliated - 11/15/2011
7298	- Cornelius H. Trout	Affiliated - 11/15/2011
Euclid Lodge - 58 / 3		
1583	- John R. Jones	Deceased - 11/19/2011
Terry Lodge - 74 / 10		
5821	- Bruce A. Brown	Deceased - 11/13/2011
Mission Valley Lodge - 78 / 6		
3835	- Harry H. Sharples	Deceased - 11/13/2011
Pondera Lodge - 80 / 3		
673	- William C. Gernaat	Deceased - 11/10/2011
Lavina/Temple Lodge - 101 / 1		
1284	- Larry W. Hopkins	Affiliated - 11/09/2011
Rimrock Lodge - 149 / 1		
7069	- Jason R. Dean	Failure to Advance - 11/11/2011
Bigfork Lodge - 150 / 2		
6472	- Richard L. Zugliani	Deceased - 11/12/2011
2434	- Floyd E. McHenry	Deceased - 11/13/2011



Freemasonry and its Mission

Study and contemplate and make life a quest for truth, righteousness and character.

Joseph Fort Newton, a renown Masonic writer, said – “There are those who thought the power of Masonry lay in her secrecy; some think so still, not knowing that its real power lies in the sanctity of its truth, the simplicity of its faith, the sweetness of its spirit, its service to mankind, and that if all the rites were made public today it would still hold the hearts of men.” From this we can determine that the mission of Freemasonry includes making friends, to make their lives, and ours, better, and to help and encourage masons to make their lives a quest for truth, righteousness and character. Freemasonry upholds every noble and redeeming ideal of humanity and is one of the forms of heaven on earth.

Upcoming Events

November

Wed 30th GM official Visit to Billings Area Lodges

December

Sat 3rd GLO meeting — Helena

Sat 10th Sagebrush District Meeting - Miles City

Tue 20th GM official Visit to Star In The West Lodge No. 40

Book—List of Lodges Masonic

Every other year a copy of the book List of Lodges Masonic is sent the Secretary of every lodge for the Lodge. This book should be kept close to the Tyler's Log book for ready use as may be needed. The most current copy is the 2011 version that has a gray cover. Please check to see that a copy of this book is available for use in the Lodge or ask your lodge Secretary to bring the book into the lodge. **The List of Lodges Masonic should be kept in each lodge for reference in receiving visitors and for applications for affiliation.** The book contains a listing of the Grand Lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge of Montana. The book also contains information on requirements by jurisdiction for dual and plural membership, annual dues by jurisdiction, dimits, jurisdiction on rejected applicants, waiting periods between degrees, courtesy work, balloting, proficiencies, and other helpful information.

2012 Dues Cards

The 2012 Dues Cards have been mailed to the Secretary of every Lodge. Dues notices should have been sent to the members or should be sent very soon. Dues for 2012 are due to the lodge by the end of December. Once you have received payment from your dues paying members, remember to send their dues card to them right away. Secretaries should review the dues cards and report any concerns or issues to the Grand Lodge Office as soon as possible.

Grand Lodge and Grand Secretary Mailing Address

When sending U.S. Mail to the Grand Lodge Office or to the Grand Secretary please use the following address.

Grand Secretary
PO Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158



District Meetings

Sagebrush District

Saturday, December 10, 10am-2pm, Miles City

Support the George Washington Masonic Memorial this Christmas

The George Washington Masonic Memorial is pleased to announce that The Three Great Lights in Masonry is the 2011 Holiday Ornament.

The Holy Bible, Square and Compasses were selected by the Fraternity in its formative period as the first and most important symbols presented to a new Mason, and are called the Three Great Lights in Masonry.

The Holy Bible represents the rule and guide of a Mason's faith, the Square symbolizes virtue, and the Compasses allude to the importance of self-mastery in moral and intellectual progress.

To order, please contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 703-549-9234 (Item 561, \$25.00) or visit the Memorial website at:

giftshop@gwmemorial.org/shopping



Duties Of A Masonic Lodge

Two of the most important duties of a Masonic lodge are member satisfaction and retention, which requires delivering to them an understanding of Freemasonry, and providing them what they came into Freemasonry to receive.

From the beginning of the ritual of the First Degree the candidate is made aware that Freemasonry is a course of philosophical and moral instruction. As he stands for the first time in front of the Altar and the Three Great Lights of Masonry, he is told that one of the designs of Freemasonry is to make its votaries wiser.

He is told in the charge of the First Degree that he should converse with well-informed brethren to improve in Masonic knowledge. In the Second Degree he is informed that our duties increase as we advance in knowledge. And, in the Third Degree charge he is congratulated for his progress in the mystery, indicating his acquisition of knowledge. After obtaining knowledge he is then to contemplate in order that he may be wise about what to do with that knowledge.

What is this knowledge? In part it is information to cope with the challenges of life, improve one's self, contribute to society and prepare for immortality. An example is found in the explanation of the working tools. They are presented for us to work on ourselves; to be good men who strive to become better by progressing in the science of Freemasonry. The allegory of the Third Degree is designed to make him aware that he must strive to bring wisdom, strength and harmony together in his life so that he can be raised to a living perpendicular.

Although knowledge is attained by degrees, to acquire knowledge involves more than receiving the three degrees. Study and contemplation following each degree should be encouraged and the lectures should be supplemented by presentations of Masonic education during tiled meetings.

Jack R. Levitt PGM(CA) #6 & #18

Introducing the new Grand Lodge of Montana custom Visa® Platinum Rewards Card.

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VISA

The Grand Lodge of Montana Visa card program is operated by UMB Bank, N.A. All applications for Grand Lodge of Montana Visa credit card accounts will be subject to UMB Bank N.A.'s approval, at its absolute discretion. Please visit www.cardpartner.com for further details of terms and conditions which apply to the Grand Lodge of Montana Visa card program. * Donation made when card is used once within 90 days of issuance. After this period a low variable APR will apply.

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From UMB

You can also visit the Grand Lodge website www.grandlodgemontana.org and follow the link to the credit card online application.

You are able to choose from the following designs: Mullan Pass, Bannack, Grand Lodge Museum and Library, Gallatin Lodge Carpet or the Grand Lodge blue Montana logo.

Daughters of the Nile Holiday Cards for 2011

Hand-drawn cards by children receiving care at Shriners Hospitals for Children®. All cards have a picture of the child artist on the back with a short biography, a statement about Shriners Hospitals for Children® and an explanation of the Daughters of the Nile.



Hope your holidays are filled with merry moments.



CELEBRATE ALL THE JOYS OF THE SEASON!



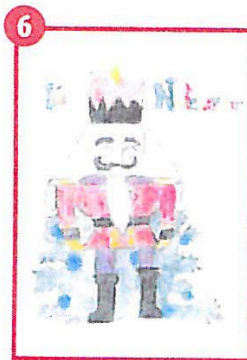
May the Holidays be happy days for you and yours!



May your Holidays be wrapped in beautiful blessings and may the spirit of Christmas linger long in your heart.



Count down to new days as bright
 As festive as our memories
 may your message be warm
 Bring the joy, wonder and hope
 of the holiday season to with
 you throughout the year



With love and joy
 let us celebrate

**20 cards
 & envelopes
 for just
 \$18⁰⁰**

*Thank You
 for Supporting
 Daughters of the Nile!*

Fill out order form and mail to:
 DON Foundation
 3550 Triplett Lane
 Boise, ID 83716

Shipping & Handling Charges:
 1-2 Packages - \$5 • 3-5 Packages - \$10
 Add \$4 for every additional 5 packages.
*Get together with others in your area
 to make one order and save on shipping!*

TOTAL NUMBER OF PACKAGES
 _____ x \$18 = \$ _____
 Shipping (see left for charges): \$ _____
 I would like to make a difference! My tax deductible gift of: \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

- Card Design 1 Package of 20 cards and envelopes _____
- Card Design 2 Package of 20 cards and envelopes _____
- Card Design 3 Package of 20 cards and envelopes _____
- Card Design 4 Package of 20 cards and envelopes _____
- Card Design 5 Package of 20 cards and envelopes _____
- Card Design 6 Package of 20 cards and envelopes _____
- Mixed Set 5 each of Designs 1, 3, 4, 6 & envs. _____

SHIP TO:
 Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Temple Name & Number: _____
 Payment: Check (payable to DON Foundation) Money Order
 (For credit card orders, please go to www.donfdn.org)

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



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Montana Masonic License Plates Support the Montana Masonic Foundation

Montana Masonic license plates are still available. We need to sell a few more license plates so please consider this plate when you renew or license your vehicle. Proceeds from this license plate go to support the Montana Masonic Foundation.

