

July, 2014

MONTANA MASONIC RENEWAL
PRESENTS

To: Worshipful Masters
Senior/Junior Wardens
Lodge Secretaries
Lodge Instructors
Grand Lodge Officers

AWARDS 2014/2015
MASTER BUILDER AWARD PROGRAM
BUILDER AWARD PROGRAM

Brethern: Please Share This With Your Officers & Members

The Master Builder Award Program; started in 1996/1997, was continued successfully for for many years. Masonry in Montana, as in the past faces challenges and our very future requires the involvement of every Mason and Lodge in Montana.

As the Worshipful Master of your Lodge, you have the responsibility to see that your Lodge members are desirous of being involved in the Lodge and that they are involved. As the Senior and Junior Warden of your Lodge, you will have the responsibility for the future of your Lodge. Make the decision to see that the Worshipful Master of your Lodge receives the support that he deserves. If you do, you will be assured that the year you sit in the EAST your Lodge will be sound in numbers and that Masonry in your Community will have a future.

At the direction of Most Worshipful Brother Donald S. Cerovski, Grand Master of A.F.& A.M. of Montana the Master Builders Program is once again a Grand Lodge Program for Lodges and the Brethern of Masonry in Montana to use!

It is my privilege to enclose this years' program for each Montana lodge to review and participate in. Please make copies for those in your lodge who want copies and by June 1st of 2015 the completed application needs to be mailed to me so I can have the awards in place for presentation at Grand Lodge in Bozeman. I hope you find the program to be challenging and that your lodge will be rewarded by your participation.

Review the MASTER BUILDER AWARD/BUILDER AWARD PROGRAM material and make the commitment now that you and your Lodge are going to participate and receive the Master Builder Award at Grand Lodge. Call, write or e-mail me at anytime if I can be of assistance to you. An active Lodge is a happy Lodge, but more importantly, an active Lodge has a future in Montana both today and tomorrow.

Please sign and return the letter of commitment by the end of October to confirm that you and your Lodge are planning to be involved in the Master Builder Award Program.

Fraternally,

Membership Enrichment Committee
R. W. Bro. Lewis K. Smith – Chairman
State Director of Master Builder Award Program
E-mail address: lewissmith@grandlodgemontana.org
Ph. # 406-560-1602

PLEASE MAIL THIS LETTER OF COMMITMENT BY END OF OCTOBER

October ____, 2014

To: Membership Enrichment Committee
Attn. - R. W. Bro. Lewis K. Smith - Chairman
State Director of Master Builder Award Program
P. O. Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158
Ph. # 406-560-1602
Email: lewissmith@grandlodgemontana.org

Dear Brother Chairman,

Our Lodge is committed to Masonry in Montana and becoming more active and involved in our community. We are excited about and hereby acknowledge our commitment to being part of the-----

GRAND LODGE OF MONTANA
MASTER BUILDER AWARD PROGRAM
BUILDER AWARD PROGRAM

As Worshipful Master of _____ Lodge # _____
in _____, Montana, I have appointed Brother _____ (may
be the W.M.) to serve our Lodge as our Master Builder Awards Program Director and have asked
him to be your contact for the 2014/2015 Masonic year.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone No: _____
E-mail Address: _____

Fraternally,

Worshipful Master Program Director

MASTER BUILDER AWARD
BUILDER AWARD
2014 / 2015
APPLICATION AND LODGE CERTIFICATION

Date of Application: _____

Name of Participating Lodge: _____

Award Being Applied For:

- a) Master Builder Award _____
- b) Builder Award _____

I hereby certify that _____ Lodge No. _____,
_____, Montana has completed the requirements of the Master Builder Award
or Builder Award Program as above applied for.

Worshipful Master's Name: _____

Signature

Attest: Lodge Secretary: _____
Signature

LODGE SEAL

TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED BY JUNE 1ST ALONG WITH THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Membership Enrichment Committee
Attn. - R. W. Bro. Lewis K. Smith - Chairman
State Director of Master Builder Award Program
P. O. Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158

Questions maybe e-mailed
Email : lewissmith@grandlodgemontana.org
or telephoned to Lewis at
Ph. # 406-560-1602

“WHAT YOU DO CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”
“WHAT YOU DO NOT DO MAY MAKE AN EVEN BIGGER DIFFERENCE”

The Master Builder Award /Builder Award Program

The primary purpose of the Master Builder Award Program and the Builder Award Program is to encourage Masonic Lodge activity and involvement in their community. It is desirable that lodges and its members become visible in their communities to let the community know who and what we are, and as responsible members of both our lodge and our community to get behind and support worthwhile lodge and community activities and projects.

There are a total of thirty two (32) standards in this program of which eleven (11) are MAJOR STANDARDS and twenty one (21) are OPTIONAL STANDARDS.

To qualify for the Master Builder Award the individual lodge must fulfill fourteen (14) standards. (Seven (7) of the Major Standards and seven (7) of the Optional Standards). To qualify for the Builder Award the individual lodge must fulfill twelve (12) standards. (Six (6) of the Major Standards and six (6) of the Optional Standards). The Worshipful Master of his lodge will be recognized at Grand Lodge and receive the award for his lodge. Of the Grand Master's programs, the Montana Masonic Renewal Program can bring the most immediate reward to the local lodges. The Master Builder Award Program should be used in conjunction with the Friend to Friend Program and the Trestle Board as each program is designed to build upon the other programs.

MASTER BUILDER AWARD/BUILDER AWARD STANDARDS

Major Standards:

1.) At least four (4) lodge members, including at least two (2) elected officers must visit a tiled meeting of another lodge.

Date: _____
Lodge Visited: _____
No. of Members: _____
Elected Officers: _____ / _____

2.) Establish a yearly operating budget and have it presented and approved by the membership prior to November 1st of this Masonic year.

Date Budget Completed: _____
Date Budget Approved: _____

3.) The Lodge must distribute at least three (3) communications such as newsletters, trestleboards, e-mails and telephone trees to its entire membership reporting on Lodge activities and upcoming Lodge events.

Date: _____ Type of Comm: _____
Date: _____ Type of Comm: _____
Date: _____ Type of Comm: _____

4.) Hold a social event to which the member's ladies and deceased member's widows and families are invited. Such event may include Ladies Night, Wives and Widows Night, family nights, dinners, picnics, etc.

Date: _____
Type of Social Event: _____
No. Invited Guests: _____
No. Host Members: _____
Program: _____

5.) Conduct at least eight (8) Masonic education programs during the year. At the Worshipful Master's discretion, these programs may be part of either a stated or special meeting.

Date: _____ Program: _____
1. _____ / _____
2. _____ / _____
3. _____ / _____
4. _____ / _____
5. _____ / _____
6. _____ / _____
7. _____ / _____
8. _____ / _____
9. _____ / _____

6.) At least five (5) lodge members, including at least two (2) elected officers must participate in a Wardens Workshop (DBA - Masonic College) or District Meeting to qualify for the Master Builder Award. Three (3) lodge members, including (2) elected officers must participate for the Builder Award. NOTE: Participating members must be different members if more than one of the above are attended.

Total No. Attending: _____
Elected Officer: _____
Elected Officer: _____
_____ / _____ / _____

7.) The lodge under the direction of the appointed Lodge Instructor must hold a ritual workshop in at least two (2) of the three (3) degrees of Masonry with minimum of six (6) of degree participants in attendance at each workshop.

NOTE: Participants at workshops must include floor work from the First Section of the Degree or the Second Section of the Third Degree.

Lodge Instructor: _____
1.) Date: _____
Section/Degree: _____
Officers Present: _____ Members Present: _____
2.) Date: _____
Section/Degree: _____
Officers Present: _____ Members Present: _____

8.) Participate in the three required Masonic Observances. (Holy Saints John, Americanism and Public Schools)

1.) Holy Saints John

Date: _____ No. Members Att.: _____

2.) Americanism

Date: _____ No. Members Att.: _____

3.) Public Schools

Date: _____ No. Members Att.: _____

9.) Three (3) lodge voting delegates must attend the current year GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATION. Voting delegates are: Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden or their proxies, Past Masters, Lodge Treasurer and the Lodge Secretary (who is without proxy.)

NOTE: Two (2) voting delegates will qualify for the Builder Award.

NOTE: BE PREPARED TO VERIFY AT GRAND LODGE

Worshipful Master: _____

Senior Warden: _____

Junior Warden: _____

Lodge Treasurer: _____

Lodge Secretary: _____

Proxies: _____

Total Lodge Members Attending: _____

10.) Have a Membership By Design, Not By Accident Program in place to attract New Members and retain Current Members. A Membership Chairman must be appointed and in charge of such program to provide for programs as outlined in the Trestleboard Book, such as Friend to Friend, Friendship Nights and Friends Night, etc.

Name of Membership Chairman: _____

Programs: _____ / _____

Dates: _____ / _____

No. Members Attending: _____ / _____

No. Non-members Attending: _____ / _____

11.) Encourage kids to read books by participating in Grand Master's "Bikes for Books/Kindles for Kids Public Charity Program" as outlined by Grand Lodge.

Number of Schools Involved: _____

Number of Bikes Given: _____

Number of Kindles Given: _____

Age Groups Involved: _____ / _____ / _____

_____ / _____ / _____

Optional Standards:

1.) Invite and host a meeting within your Lodge for at least one other Lodge.

NOTE: Co-hosting more than two (2) Lodges for multiple Lodge events do not count. This could include stated meetings, workshops, seminars, Masonic discussion groups, etc.

Date: _____
Name of Lodge: _____
No. Invited Members: _____
No. Host Members: _____
Program: _____

2.) Hold an appreciation or recognition night/day for public servants (may be Masons or non-Masons) such a law enforcement, educators, government, medicine, science, religion, youth work, etc. Family and friends of such honorees should be invited and encouraged to attend.

NOTE: This is separate from Optional Standards No. 5 and 9.

Date: _____
Type of Event: _____
No. Invited Guests: _____
No. Host Members: _____
Program: _____

3.) At least four (4) lodge members, including at least two (2) elected officers, visit a youth group meeting such as Job’s Daughters, Rainbow Girls, DeMolay, Boy/Girl Scouts, 4-H, FFA, scholastic clubs, sports clubs.

Date: _____
Youth Group: _____
Program: _____
No. Members Attend: _____
Elected Officer: _____
Elected Officer: _____

4.) At least six (6) members for the Builder Award and eight (8) members for the Master Builder Award, including three (3) elected officers must be in attendance at an “Official Visitation” to the Lodge by the Grand Master or the Grand Master’s Official Representative.

Date: _____
Official Officer: _____
No. Members Attend: _____
Elected Officer: _____
Elected Officer: _____
Elected Officer: _____

5.) Recognize Masons such as Past Masters, Fifty Year members, Hall of Fame, Mason of the Year or others exhibiting exceptional service to the Lodge.

Dates: _____/_____
Recognized: _____/
No. Recognized: _____/
No. Members Attend: _____/_____

6.) Participate in and promote a scholarship program making students and the general public aware of the scholarships available from the Lodge and present such scholarships personally.

Date: _____
Scholarship Program: _____
Location of Program: _____
No. In Attendance: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

7.) Participate as a Lodge in an observance such as President's Day, Memorial Day, Veteran's Day or similar observances.

Date: _____
Name of Observance: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

8.) Participate in Public Charity/Awareness Programs such as Military Telephone Cards, Masonic Care Bears, etc.

Dates: _____ / _____
Programs: _____ / _____

9.) Hold a fellowship night to which Masons representing concordant Masonic Bodies are invited.

Date: _____
Type of Program: _____
Masonic Bodies: _____

No. Masons Attend: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

10.) Hold a fellowship night, open house or friendship night to which non-Masons are invited.

Date: _____
Type of Program: _____
Non-Masons Attend: _____
No. Masons Attend: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

11.) Perform as a Lodge a public service or charitable activity such as Red Cross Blood drawing, refreshments at highway rest stops, care for home or elderly/disabled persons, collecting food or clothes for the needy, hospital services, Easter egg hunt for kids, Halloween party for kids of all ages, assist Salvation Army with ringing bells for Christmas, playing Santa Claus, etc.

Date: _____
Type of Activity: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

12.) Participate in a Cleanup Program such as highways, parks, alleys, etc.

Date: _____
Type of Activity: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

13.) At least four (4) Masonic couples or members, including children, as a group attend a church service of their choice.

Date: _____
Number Involved: _____
No. of Masons: _____

14.) As a Masonic body at least four (4) members including at least two (2) elected officers attend a County Commission, City or Town Council meeting or a meeting of any other governmental organization such as School Board, Library Board, Planning Board, etc.

Date: _____
Organization Attend: _____
Size of Mtg. Attend: _____
No. Members Attend: _____
Elected Officer: _____
Elected Officer: _____

15.) At least five (5) Masonic couples, including children, as a group go to a social event or outing, such as a restaurant, ballgame, picnic, etc. Masonic couples may include other Masonic bodies. (Must be totally social in nature)

Date: _____
Event Attended: _____
No. Masonic Couples: _____
Total No. Attending: _____

16.) Conduct a "Rusty Trowel Night" to better inform inactive Brothers.

Date: _____
No. Rusty Attend: _____
No. Members Attend: _____

17.) Assist five (5) shut-ins or widows during the Masonic year with such things as lawn mowing, house painting, shopping, medical needs, etc. (May be Masonic or non-Masonic)

1.) Date: _____
Name: _____
2.) Date: _____
Name: _____
3.) Date: _____
Name: _____
4.) Date: _____
Name: _____
5.) Date: _____
Name: _____

18.) Conduct a fund raising activity, whereby all proceeds go to a fund within your Lodge to help Masonic Families needing financial assistance.

NOTE: Further assistance may be obtained by applying to the Grand Lodge Vigilante Memorial Fund.

1.) Date: _____
2.) Activity: _____
3.) No. Attend: _____
4.) Dollars Raised Lodge: _____
5.) Dollars Memorial Fund: _____

19.) Participation of Lodge in a community function or Lodge sponsored event with at least three (3) members of the Lodge in attendance such as Founders Day, Summer Picnic, Rodeo, County Fair or as a Lodge participate in local parades by building a special float, etc. which may show the public who and what we are.

- 1.) Date: _____
- 2.) Function: _____
- 3.) Location of event: _____
- 4.) No. in Attendance: _____

20.) Conduct a dinner to honor Master Masons who have been raised or have affiliated with your Lodge within the last five (5) years.

- 1.) Date of Dinner: _____
- 2.) No. of Members Honored Attend: _____
- 3.) Total Masons in Attendance: _____

21.) You name it! Submit an outstanding activity that your Lodge has done this Masonic year that is not included in the within named Major or Optional Standards that your Lodge thinks was important and perhaps should be included in future Master Builder Award Programs.

- Date: _____
- You Name It Event: _____
- _____
- Purpose of Event: _____
- _____
- Total No. Attending: _____
- No. of Masons Attend: _____

Remember:

If only one brother knows
What is happening . . .
Only one person will be involved
“communication is the key to success !”
“masonry works through you”
“if you think you can, you can!”
If you think you can’t,---- your right!”
“the future of masonry is in your hands”
“attitudes are contagious”
Is yours worth catching?