

## FROM THE GRAND EAST

### Greetings Brothers

Since this will be the last article I write for the Masonic News as your Grand Master I would like to thank all of my Masonic brothers for the opportunity to serve this great fraternity. The honor and respect given to me as Grand Master by almost everyone has been overwhelming. The travel required for this office has taken me farther from the cows grazing north of Broadus than I ever dreamed. The people we have met and the friends we have made have truly made this an opportunity of a life time. I feel now is the time to mention to the Masons of Montana how thankful I am that you trusted me with this honorable position.

### Thanks Brothers.

Thanks also go out to my predecessor Tom Lund for all the work, advice and leadership he has displayed and made my transition into the office of Grand Master so easy. Tom and Betty have become very close to our family and I'm so lucky to have followed him through the Grand Lodge line. **Thanks Tom.**

Grand Secretary Brother Reid Gardner and I have worked very closely this year and he has always been there for me. The Grand Master would be very ineffective without a Grand Secretary on his side. We might not always agree, but that's a good thing because I always know how the Grand Secretary stands on an issue. If any of the Montana Masons have not visited the Grand Lodge office and Museum in Helena I suggest they do so. Brother Reid has converted the Masonic Museum into a real show place that is well worth visiting. **Thanks Reid.**

Brother Bruce Lahti, Grand Treasure has worked tirelessly to help with organizing the budget, reworking

the financial statements and planning ahead for the new I.R.S. laws. His knowledge of the finances of Grand Lodge has been invaluable. Bruce is enjoyable to work with as he always has a welcome smile that's infectious. **Thanks Bruce.**

In the last 11 years Deputy Grand Master Will has become one of my closest friends. I have found him to be very intelligent, humorous, conservative, honorable, and an expert on Masonry. It's comforting to know such a qualified brother will take over in June. Brother Will and I have logged thousands of miles together and probably had conversations on almost every topic possible. Both Will and Carla have a special spot in my heart. I have truly been blessed to have such a Deputy. **Thanks Will.**

The Grand Lodge officers also deserve a word of thanks for all their efforts, hours of travel and commitment to Masonry. These men have given of their time, money and talent to improve the Masonic Lodges

in their respective districts around the state of Montana. Their assistance in representing the Grand Master is really appreciated. **Thanks Grand Lodge Officers.**

In closing I would like to thank the brothers in advance for attending Grand Lodge in Miles City. I am looking forward to seeing everyone and closing this chapter of my tenure in Grand Lodge. I really believe that Masonry is gaining a new positive perception from the general public and that has come from the wholesome actions and attitudes of our craft. **Thanks again Brothers of Montana.**

Last and most importantly I would like to thank God for his guiding hand in my life and all the blessings he has bestowed upon me. In no small part his divine guidance has been an influence in my life and my Masonry. Masons should ever remember that when the strength and wisdom of man fail, there is an inexhaustible supply above. **Thanks God.**



*John J. Mangen*

**John J. Mangen,  
Grand Master**

## GUEST SPEAKERS FOR SESSION

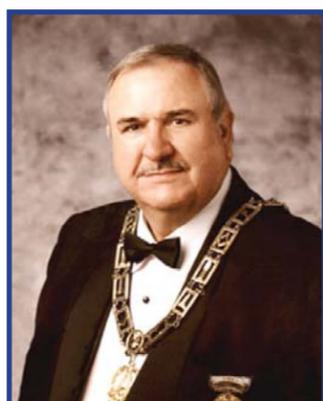
This year we will enjoy two very interesting speakers, MWPGM Neil Neddermeyer and MWPGM Ron Triggs. Due to a schedule conflict W. Brother Arturo de Hoyos will not be able to attend.

("Masonic" spelled backwards), which usually includes a poem and a bit of Masonic trivia. All are welcome to sign up. It's free, just send a request. MW Bro Neil frequently speaks on "Being Relevant".

of arts in public administration from the University of Wyoming and a juris doctorate in law from George Mason University. M.W. Brother Triggs has been in private practice of law in Cheyenne for nearly a quarter century. Active in the Scottish Rite, the Grand Master

### Neil Neddermeyer

M.W. Brother Neil Neddermeyer is P.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota (2001-2002) and Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota (2007-2008). He is a retired Deputy Sheriff, Detective and Private Investigator. Neil is also the editor of an excellent monthly Masonic e-zine, "Cinosam"



### Ron Triggs

M.W. Brother Ron Triggs is a career Army Reservist and served as a Colonel of Infantry in the United States Army Reserve. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science, attending both the University of Wyoming, and the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. He also holds a master



was coroneted as an Inspector General Honorary of the Thirty-Third Degree in Charleston, South Carolina, in October of 2001. M.W. Brother Triggs was Grand Master of Wyoming in 2005-2006. He frequently speaks on "Quality of Membership".

## Summons To Attend The 145th Annual Communication

All Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Secretaries, and Past Masters of Constituent Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, who are presently in good standing, are hereby summoned to attend the 145th Annual Communication to be held on June 23, 24 and 25, 2011 at the OMNI Center in Miles City, Montana.

Every Brother entitled to vote at the Annual Communication shall “due answer make” by attendance, with illness or other just reason which puts attendance beyond the length of his cabletow alone excusing him. Worshipful Masters and Wardens unable to attend will appoint qualified Proxies to attend and vote in their stead.

Each chartered and duly constituted lodge shall be represented in Grand Lodge. All Master Masons in good standing of recognized Lodges are cordially invited to attend.

  
 John J. Mangen, Grand Master

## BECOMING A “BETTER MAN”

The notion that man can truly become more than he had been, in both a spiritual and temporal sense, resulted in the concept of the higher man. This idea originated during the Enlightenment Age. It is manifest in the Freemasonry of today as being a “better man.”

Everything one does in a Lodge should become a pursuit of excellence. Thus seeking a state of being better should distinguish the Masonic world. By Masonic education, study and discipline, one engages in an

exercise of personal advancement, for the benefit of self and of society.

It should be every Freemason’s endeavor to avoid taking the path of least resistance i.e. not reaching for the light through study and actions. The risk, if not avoided, is to result in there being no difference between Masonic Lodges and any social club. To abandon what has made Freemasonry attractive for centuries to good men, in all stations of life, is tantamount to wanting the

benefits without living up to the legacy of the Fraternity.

To become a better man one must engage and challenge one’s mind in the study of Freemasonry’s teachings to understand the principles of Freemasonry, maximize one’s potential in all things good and seek a higher understanding of the Supreme Being. Then it becomes necessary to utilize this newfound awareness by manifesting it outwardly through actions.

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

### Montana Masonic News General Information and Submissions

The Montana Masonic News is an official publication of the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana and the Montana Masonic Foundation Corporation. Unless otherwise noted, articles appearing in this publication express only the private opinion or assertions of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Grand Lodge. The jurisdiction speaks only through the Grand Master and the Executive Board, when attested to as official, in writing, by the Grand Secretary.

The editorial staff invites contributions in the form of informative articles, reports, news and other timely information (of about 500 to 1000 words in length) that broadly relate to Montana Masonry, Masonic law, lore, customs, history, symbolism, philosophy, responsibility of membership, etiquette, current events, and/or general public interest. When possible, photographs that illustrate these informative articles should accompany the submission. Pieces submitted should be typed, double-spaced and preferably accompanied by a computer disk in neutral PC format (MSWord preferred with formatting off) or via email to: [mtglsec@grandlodgemontana.org](mailto:mtglsec@grandlodgemontana.org).

While we often state when articles are due for the next issue, in order to insure there is space available for your article please submit it well before the due date. We don’t send out reminders or solicitations for articles.

Articles are subject to editing and, when published, become the property of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana. No compensation is allowed for any articles, photographs, or other materials submitted for publication. Permission to reprint articles will be granted upon written request; to the Editor from recognized Masonic Publications and others. When reprinted the articles should note: “Reprinted with permission of the Montana Masonic News.” Please direct all correspondence and changes of address to:

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or email to [mtglsec@grandlodgemontana.org](mailto:mtglsec@grandlodgemontana.org)

Please provide full given name, Lodge or affiliation and US Mailing address.

**Article and Photo submissions:**  
**Articles:** pieces submitted should be typed, double-spaced and preferably accompanied by a computer disk in neutral PC format (MSWord preferred with formatting off.)  
**Photo:** Black and White or color; preferably accompanied by a computer disk with photo image in .jpg, .bmp, or .tif. Include who took the photo, when and where. Include a note with permission to print the photo.  
**Sponsors:** Anyone interested in sponsoring in the paper will need to contact the Editor.

### Our Vision

**The Masons of Montana will be recognized as a relevant and respected Fraternity, committed to attracting, developing and retaining all men of high quality who strive for self improvement and the opportunity to make a positive difference in their community, and in the lives of those around them.**

### Our Mission

**Freemasonry in Montana strives to satisfy our members as we teach moral standards, and support a way of life that promotes fellowship, brotherhood, and selfimprovement through excellence in leadership, education, family, charity, and community involvement.**

# PROPOSED LEGISLATION

## 145TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

### JUNE 23-25, 2011

#### Grand Master's Recommendation-2011-01

**Recommending that every candidate for the degrees of Masonry be required to have a nationwide criminal background check by adding Section 37075 and Amending Section 37080 and 37090, Code of Statutes.**

**Be it resolved that: Section 37075 of the Code and Statutes be amended and adding the following:**

37075. Criminal Background Investigation of Petitioners for the Degrees of Masonry. All candidates shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal background investigation to be obtained by the individual Lodges through the Grand Lodge Office at the expense of the candidate or the Lodge, from a vendor selected by the Grand Master. (37080;37090)

**Be It Further Resolved, that Section 37080. C., be amended as follows:**

**37080. FEES FOR DEGREES.** A lodge shall not:  
A. Confer a degree without charge or donate a fee back to an applicant under any pretext whatever;  
B. Confer the three degrees for a fee less than \$50.00; or  
C. Confer a degree without the fee therefore being paid in advance.

If the applicant has received the Entered Apprentice degree, or the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees in another lodge, the fee for the remaining degrees or degree shall be that portion of the fee for the three degrees as the by-laws of the lodge shall prescribe. If the applicant is elected to membership in another lodge in this or another jurisdiction, under a waiver of jurisdiction or dimit issued by his lodge, or dies before receiving a degree, or is rejected, the lodge shall return to the applicant or to the legal representative of the applicant the sum fixed in the by-laws for the degree or degrees not conferred. The fee received for the nationwide criminal background investigative report shall be retained.

**Be It Further Resolved, that Section 37090 be amended as follows:**

**37090. INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.** All petitioners for the degrees shall be referred to a committee of three appointed by the Master, unless dispensation has been granted by the Grand Master to receive them without reference to a committee. The Master shall not delegate the appointment of such committees to any other person. Notices of appointment should show the names of each of the three members appointed. The members of the investigating committee shall be known only to the Master, the Secretary, and the other members of the committee. It shall be the duty of the committee to make strict examination into the standing, moral, mental, physical and other proper qualifications of the applicant. They are guilty of a serious neglect of duty if they report favorably on an application without reliable information as to all the matters on which the lodge requires advice. The committee shall report, orally in person in open lodge or in writing, at the stated

meeting next held two weeks or more from the time of the appointment of the committee, unless further time is granted by the Master, or if the Grand Master by dispensation fixes a shorter period. No ballot can be taken on the petition until after the committee has reported. If any member of the committee refuses to act, to report or to recommend on a petition, the Master shall discharge the committee and appoint a new one which shall proceed as though originally appointed. If the report shows that an applicant is not qualified as provided for elsewhere in this Code (37010, 37020), no ballot shall be had but the Master shall declare the applicant rejected. A Lodge may not ballot on a petition until the Investigation Committee has reviewed a nationwide criminal background investigative report.

**Be It Further Resolved, that the Petition for Initiation shall be amended as follows:**

See attached Form

#### **Grand Master's Rationale:**

In today's society, there exists the necessity to maintain the integrity of our Fraternity for future generations; and, due to the transient nature of our society, it has become increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to possess more than a casual knowledge of a Candidate's background, and due to the increasing number of petitions being received as a result of the renewed interest in our Fraternity, the character and quality of candidates is paramount to our future existence and reputation; and a standardized approach to an in-depth investigation of prospective candidates is required not only to ensure the character and quality of candidates, but to assist the individual Lodges with the process of investigations.

#### **Jurisprudence Comments:**

This recommendation seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive a 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

#### Grand Master's Recommendation GMR-2011-02

**Recommending that the Masonic Home of Montana exercise the management of its corporation in their own best interest and separate from the management and control of Grand Lodge.**

The Board of Directors of the Montana Masonic Home are much better informed as to the wants and needs of the Masonic Home than the Grand Lodge of Montana, and it would be to the benefit of all concerned if the Board of Directors could choose men or women, not necessarily Masons, who have expertise in the assisted living industry to sit on the Board and not be required to have them elected from Grand Lodge, and The Board of Directors of the Montana Masonic Home would be better enabled to make decisions that directly affect the Masonic Home and make long range plans for the future of the Masonic Home if they were independent from the direction and control of the Grand Lodge of Montana.

**Now therefore be it resolved: that the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons**

**of Montana authorize the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Montana to sign such document(s) as necessary that on or about July 1, 2011 making the Masonic Home independent of the Grand Lodge of Montana.. And that the Grand Lodge of Montana cedes any and all interests it might have in the assets and liabilities of the Masonic Home to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home. And further; that any involvement, direction, or control of the Masonic Home by the Grand Lodge of Montana is ended, including the election of the Board of Directors by the Grand Lodge at its annual communication.**

#### **Grand Master's Rationale:**

In discussion with the Masonic Home Board Trustees it is obvious that by allowing a separation between the two entities it will allow the Masonic Home of Montana Corporation to employ the most efficient and effective means of operating the Masonic Home. The intent is to facilitate the best environment for Masonic Home to manage and operate the Masonic Home and they support this concept.

At present, our code calls for the selection of the Masonic Home Board of Trustees from the floor of Grand Lodge during its annual communication. This practice creates an anomaly within the leadership of the Masonic Home due to the fact that one entity is determining the leadership of another entity, and severely limits the selection process for Trustees.

This is NOT an attempt to close the Masonic Home. It is quite the opposite; the intent is to provide the means for better management and leadership of the Masonic Home facilities.

There are concerns of financial and legal liabilities by having two entities bound to one another. The current political and social environment does not support the original designs of the intent of the code. The Craft by an affirmative vote on this action will allow the Grand Lodge of Montana and the Montana Masonic Home to initiate an agreement for the separation and security of each corporate identity.

#### **Masonic Home Comment:**

The Trustees ( Ed Stede, Paul Martello, Marshall Gingery, David Nielsen PGM, Marc McCormick) of the Board of the Masonic Home of Montana endorse and agree with the Grand Master's recommendation GMR-2011-02 "recommending that the Masonic Home of Montana exercise the management of its cooperation in their own best interest and separate from the management and control of the Grand Lodge

#### **Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this recommendation would authorize the Grand Master to take necessary administrative actions to cede control of the Masonic Home and all of its assets to the Masonic Home Board of Trustees.

This recommendation has no effect on the Grand Lodge Constitution or Code of Statutes. A simple majority vote is required for passage.

**Legislation cont'd from previous page****Grand Master's Recommendation GMR-2011-03**

**Recommending that the Grand Lodge and Masonic Home of Montana enact action to allow the Masonic Home of Montana to operate as its own corporate entity, amending Section 4020.B.**

**Be it resolved that:**

1. **Section 4020. B., of the Code and Statutes be amended and adding the following:**

**4020. SPECIAL COMMITTEES.** The following committees shall be appointed at each annual communication of Grand Lodge, as soon as practicable after its organization, by the Grand Master when needed:

**B. To consist of five members each:**

1. Examination and Nomination of Masonic Home Trustees, whose duty it shall be to:
  - a. Examine and report on the annual report of the Masonic Home Board of Trustees prior to the close the annual communication; and
  - b. Present the names of the necessary nominees to fill the vacancies of members whose terms have expired and the name of the member to serve for the remainder of the term of the member he replaced because of resignation or death to be elected; further nominations may be made from the floor, although no member of the Masonic Home Board of Trustees shall serve for more than two full consecutive terms. The committee shall include the Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden.

**Grand Master's Rationale:**

With the idea of the most efficient and effective means of operating the Masonic Home it is obvious that there needs to be a degree of separation between the two entities. The intent of this is to facilitate the best environment for Grand Lodge and the Masonic Home.

At present, our code calls for the selection of the Masonic Home Board of Trustees from the floor of Grand Lodge during its annual communication. This practice creates an anomaly within the leadership of the Masonic Home due to the fact that one entity is determining the leadership of another entity. The recommendation, put forth by the Grand Master on advice for legal counsel, is to sever the tie that creates this anomaly. Simply put, a code change needs to take place that allows the Montana Masonic Home to determine its own trustees. The following provides rationale for this recommendation:

This is **NOT** an attempt to close the Masonic Home. It is quite the opposite; the intent is to provide the means for better management and leadership of the Masonic Home facilities.

At present, the Grand Master could remove all the trustees at his discretion. This is not a suitable operating environment for the leadership of the Masonic Home. This will not diminish Grand Lodge's ability to commit or provide support to the Masonic Home of Montana. It is ill-logical, in this case, that one entity should determine the best leadership for another entity. There are concerns of financial and legal liabilities by having two entities bound to one another.

The current political and social environment does not support the original designs of the intent of the code.

Trustees for the Masonic Home of Montana should be those who have the greatest knowledge and understanding of the facility to best lead it into the future. The Masonic Home of Montana has made great strides and improvements in recent years and this recommendation promotes the continuation of positive development. This recommendation is a good faith effort by Grand Lodge to take the first step in a concerted effort to provide the best leadership for the Masonic Home of Montana.

With the above rationale in mind for the most effective leadership of the Masonic Home of Montana, it will be necessary for the Craft to change the code to make this come to fruition. By supporting this recommendation to change the code, Montana Masons will be creating a "win-win" situation for both Masonry and the Masonic Home of Montana. It is not often that the members of the Craft have the opportunity to influence Masonry in such a positive manner. All Masons in Montana should be encouraged to educate and enlighten themselves on this issue and the benefits of this action.

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this recommendation would eliminate the Masonic Home Committee as a standing committee of Grand Lodge.

This recommendation seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive a 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

**Grand Master's Recommendation-2011-04**

**Recommending that the Code be amended to ensure that the not-for-profit status of our Lodges not be placed in jeopardy by improper actions of lodges and its members and to prevent transfers of finances and assets that do not meet the specific not-for-profit purpose of the organization, that of fraternal benevolence, amending Section 24080.**

**Be it resolved that:**

**Section 24080 of the Code and Statutes be amended and adding the following:**

**24080. FINANCE AND ASSETS.**

- A. **FINANCING A MASONIC BUILDING.** *No lodge shall invest any of its funds or obligate itself to acquire or construct a Masonic building for the occupancy of a Masonic lodge until after approval by a special committee consisting of the Grand Treasurer, the chairman of the Committee on Finance and a member appointed by the Grand Master.*
- B. **MEMBERS NOT TO BENEFIT INDIVIDUALLY FROM LODGE ASSETS.**
  - a. *Except as provided in Section 26010, no lodge shall expend, invest, pay, or transfer any of its funds, other assets, or the proceeds thereof, to or for the individual benefit of any of its members, including, but not limited to, purchasing life memberships for, or paying dues or assessments on behalf of, any member.*
  - b. *No lodge shall transfer any of its assets, monetary or otherwise, in any manner which may jeopardize the tax status of the lodge or of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Masons of Montana.*

- c. *Nothing in this Section shall prevent a lodge from paying wages or reasonable expenses to a member when such wages or expenses are necessary for the regular operation of the lodge.*

**Grand Master's Rationale:**

During the 2010 Annual Communication this was presented as emergent legislation because it is viewed as vital to the best interest of the Craft. By way of explanation, this issue was considered so urgent that it needed our immediate attention, that concern is still vital to our Lodges. The current climate for not-for-profit organizations requires attention to transactions that put the not-for-profit status of our Lodges at jeopardy.

It is a cardinal tenet of not-for profit organizations that the assets may not inure to the benefit of its members. This does not prevent transfers that meet the specific not-for-profit purpose of the organization, that of fraternal benevolence. Further, this does not prevent the reimbursement of expenses related to the pursuit of our fraternal purpose. However, transfers that benefit members but do not advance our fraternal purpose subject our fraternity to critical review.

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this recommendation would prohibit lodges from using their assets, monetary or otherwise, to benefit individual members, exempting fraternal charity and wages paid for necessary operations.

This recommendation seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive a 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

**HOLDOVER FROM 144TH SESSION****R - 2010 - 02**

**A Resolution Amending Section 620 to add Treasurers to the list of those elected officers entitled to vote.**

**Be it resolved that:**

**Article II-Jurisdiction and Composition, Section 230-Officers and Members, of the Constitution be amended as follows:**

**230. OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.** Grand Lodge shall consist of:

- A. Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Marshal, Senior Grand Steward, Junior Grand Steward, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Tyler, Grand Chaplain, Grand Historian, Grand Organist, and Assistant Grand Secretary;
- B. Such officers as it may from time to time create;
- C. The Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters of this jurisdiction;
- D. The Masters and Wardens or their proxies duly constituted, and the Treasurer and Secretary, without right of proxy, of the chartered lodges under its jurisdiction; and
- E. Such Past Masters who qualify as Past Masters of this jurisdiction as provided for elsewhere in this Code (28060).

**Legislation cont'd next page**

**Legislation cont'd from previous page**

**Be it further resolved that Article VI – Voting and Representation, Section 620-Votes, of the Constitution be amended as follows:**

**620. VOTES.** The following shall each be entitled to one vote:

- A. Elective and appointive Grand Lodge Officers;
- B. Past Grand Officers;
- C. Masters, Wardens, Treasurers and Secretaries of chartered lodges; and
- D. Past Masters of chartered lodges

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this resolution would add Lodge Treasurers to membership in Grand Lodge and give them a vote at its annual communication.

This resolution seeks to amend the Grand Lodge Constitution, it was passed by a majority vote during the 144<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication in June 2010, and was held over for one year. It must receive ¾ favorable ballot for final passage.

**Proposed Resolution R-2011-01**

**A Proposed Resolution adding Section 37075 to the Constitution and Code of Statutes of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Montana regarding background checks and applicant investigations, adding Section 37075.**

**Be it resolved that Section 37075 be added to the Code of Statutes as follows:**

**SECTION 37075. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION FOR PETITIONERS FOR THE DEGREES OF MASONRY.** The option to do a background check through the Grand Lodge of Montana may be done at the investigating committee and lodges discretion. Any and all applicable fees for back ground checks are to be paid by the lodge requesting the background check.

**Proponents Rationale:**

Huntley Project Lodge No. 144 has discussed the Grand Masters edict of July 26 2010 and feels that making background checks mandatory is not a good idea, that being said we do see how the background checks can be a useful tool for investigating committees to use. Mandatory back ground checks could be an impediment to drawing in new members especially asking for a social security number in this age of identity theft. Investigating committees are charged with checking out a potential new brother to see if he is suitable to be a mason even if a back ground check comes back with something on it, that person can still potentially become a mason at the recommendation of the committee, so the mandatory check serves no purpose.

The Grand Masters Edict as created some apprehension among the brothers at the changes in rules that are happening and wording in application paperwork, instead of the one set way of making new masons it seems to be changing every other month. The way it was done before works and has worked for a long time, somebody might have slipped in under the radar but there are steps that can be taken to fix that. Larger lodges that come from big communities where everybody doesn't know everybody else should be able to use the background checks at their own discretion, lodges in smaller towns should have the same option for a new comer in the communities. Use background

checks as a tool for investigating committees on a case by case basis rather than a barrier that shows a possible lack of trust to a man that wants to be a mason

**Submitted by: Huntley Project No. 144**

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this resolution would permit, but not require a Lodge to conduct a criminal background investigation for its candidates, to be paid for by the Lodge.

This resolution seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive a 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

**Proposed Resolution R-2011-02**

**A Resolution Amending Article V - Committees Defining Jurisprudence membership makeup and defining removal.**

**Be it resolved that Article V – Committees, Section 5020 Standing Subsection B 1 of the Constitution and Code to be amended as follows:**

**5020 Standing.**

B To Consist of five members:

- I Jurisprudence;
  - a. A Master Mason in good standing is recommended by the incoming Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon (recommender) to the incoming Most Worshipful Grand Master. Once installed, the new Grand Master appoints the Master Mason (member) to the Jurisprudence Committee.
  - b. The term on the committee is 5 years (unless re-selected). The senior committeeman member in terms of service on the committee will be the Chair of the Jurisprudence Committee.
  - c. A member of Jurisprudence may be removed from the committee by the Most Worshipful Grand Master after conferring with the member's recommender and the other members of the Jurisprudence Committee, for making decisions that go against the intent of the Constitution or Code of Statutes or for conduct that is Un-Masonic in nature.

**Proponents rationale:**

This section defines the "tradition" of Jurisprudence selection into Code. Due to the sensitive nature of Jurisprudence, a system of checks and balances needs to be instituted to alleviate any Grand Master from "stacking" the committee with individuals that would not question the Grand Masters decisions and ratify decisions that in fact "could" go against the intent of the Constitution and Code. This further stops a Grand Master from removing a member from Jurisprudence for not agreeing with an edict or decision of the Grand Master. This resolution is in the best interest of the constituent lodges that make up the Grand Lodge of Montana.

**Approved by Euclid Lodge #58 on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this resolution would change the procedure for appointment of members to the Jurisprudence Committee by adding the requirement for a recommendation by the Senior Grand Deacon, setting the term of appointment to five years, and requiring consultation prior to removing a member from the committee.

Item B.1.b., should be a separate constitutional amendment because it is creating an office that does not exist for a term of five years.

Item B.1.c., should be ruled out of order because no member of the Jurisprudence Committee make decisions. The members only examine and report, review and prepare..

**Resolution R - 2011 - 03**

**A resolution amending Section 5020 of the Code of Statutes to change the method of selection of the members of the Committee on Jurisprudence and restricting their removal.**

**Be it resolved that Section 5020 be amended to read:**

**5020. STANDING.** The members of standing committees shall be appointed by the newly installed Grand Master at each annual communication before the close thereof. The following are standing committees:

**Be it further resolved that Subsection B of Section 5020 be amended as follows:**

- B. To consist of five members:
  - I. Jurisprudence;
    - a. One member shall be appointed by the Grand Master.
    - b. Two members shall be appointed by a committee composed of the five most junior living Past Grand Masters who are in good standing in their Montana lodges.
    - c. Two members shall be elected by the Grand Lodge after receiving nominations from the floor.
    - d. A member of the committee who remains in good standing in his lodge shall not be removed from the committee unless he is convicted of unasonic conduct by a Masonic Trial.
    - e. Vacancies on the committee shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Master.

**Proponent's Rationale:**

This resolution is submitted so the opinions of the members of the Committee on Jurisprudence shall not be silenced by any one person or group.

**Submitted by: Manhattan Lodge No. 59**

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this resolution would change the procedure for selection of members of the Jurisprudence Committee and would prohibit removal of a member of the committee unless the member is convicted in a Masonic trial or fails to remain in good standing in his lodge. If this resolution passes, one committee member shall be appointed by the Grand Master; two members shall be appointed by a committee of five most junior past Grand Masters who are in good standing in their lodges, and two members shall be elected by the Grand Lodge.

This resolution seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

**Legislation cont'd from previous page****Proposed Resolution R-2011-04**

**A resolution amending Section 41020 to correctly identify the name and function by changing the term Life Membership to Lodge Endowment Membership (and 41040, 20020, 22070.**

**Be it resolved that Section 41020 be amended to read:**

**41020. LIFE LODGE ENDOWMENT**

**MEMBERSHIP.** A lodge may adopt a standing resolution providing for a system of life lodge endowment membership which shall forever exempt a member from the payment of dues therein. It must provide that:

- A. Life Lodge Endowment membership shall be granted upon payment of a sum of money named therein; and
- B. The sum shall not be less than twelve and one-half times the annual dues, plus one year's dues, nor not less than \$360.00 and one year's dues, whichever is greater.

In the event of the dissolution of a lodge having a system of life lodge endowment membership, or if a life lodge endowment member transfers his membership to another lodge in this jurisdiction by way of affiliation and so requests, a member's portion of the assets of its life lodge endowment membership fund shall be credited to the lodge to which the membership is being transferred, if that lodge has a contract with its members for life lodge endowment membership. The original amounts paid for life lodge endowment membership shall be forever kept and maintained as a permanent life lodge endowment membership fund under the following conditions:

- A. Only interest or dividends paid in cash on bank deposits or from authorized investments in securities shall be available for general use;
- B. The funds shall be kept in a trust fund administered by Grand Lodge; and
- C. Each year in January Grand Lodge shall send to each lodge their portion for each life Lodge endowment member therein, even though the life member has died.

A life lodge endowment member suspended or expelled and thereafter restored and again elected to membership in the same lodge is also restored as a life lodge endowment member. Each year the Secretary, shall send by first class mail to his last known address, or deliver in person, a membership card to each life lodge endowment member in good standing. If the card is returned by the post office for three consecutive years as unclaimed or the addressee unknown, the Secretary shall send the card by registered mail to the last known address of the life lodge endowment member. If such registered mail is returned by the post office, the Secretary shall:

- A. Note it in the minutes;
- B. Report the fact to the lodge;
- C. Remove the member from the roll book of the lodge; and
- D. Transmit to the Grand Secretary, with his annual report, a notice that such life lodge endowment member has been removed from the lodge roll and the reason therefore.

If such life lodge endowment member be found he shall be restored to the roll book of the lodge and that fact certified to the Grand Secretary with the next annual report. Amounts may be voluntarily added

to a life lodge endowment membership at any time in amounts not less than \$25.00 by the member or as a memorial but may not be returned for any reason.

[2002 Proc.72, 141 (R-2002-8)] [2003 Proc. 53, (Committee Rpt. Rec.)]

**Be it resolved that Section 41040 be amended to read:**

**41040. ASSESSMENTS.** A lodge may levy assessments on its members for payment of lodge indebtedness by majority vote if provided for in its by-laws, which is collected and the non-payment thereof enforced the same as dues. Assessments must be paid by all members, except that the lodge may exclude from payment of the assessment:

- A. Life Lodge Endowment members;
- B. Members who have received the Montana 50 year certificate and pin; and
- C. Members who do not have the ability to pay.

**Be it resolved that Section 20070 be amended to read:**

**20070. HISTORIC LODGES.**

- J. They shall be exempt from:
  1. The contributions levied on lodges and the payment of any per capita assessment;
  2. The minimum annual dues and life lodge endowment membership charge imposed by this code;

and

**Be it resolved that Section 22070 be amended to read:**

**22070. PROPERTY RIGHTS.** The surrender or revocation of the charter of a lodge, when declared by Grand Lodge, shall be conclusive upon the lodge and its members; and all its funds, jewels, furniture, dues, and property of every kind including its life lodge endowment membership fund, shall be transmitted, within three months of the surrender or revocation, to the Grand Secretary.

**Proponents Rationale:**

Re-title "Life Membership" system to "Lodge Endowment Membership" to clarify the actual function of this system. There are no changes to the system beyond the re-title. A "Paid Life Member" title seems to indicate there will be no additional membership fees or assessments due by the member when that is not the way this system functions.

Members of this system will be classified as a Lodge Endowment Member (LEM). This is to establish that the member has secured an endowment for his lodge for its future.

**Submitted by Ashlar No. 29 and Butte No. 22**

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this resolution would change the name of the Life Membership program and all its parts to the Lodge Endowment program.

This resolution seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive a 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

**Proposed Resolution R-2011-05**

**A resolution amending Section 360 to correctly identify the name and function by changing the term Life Membership to Lodge Endowment Membership.**

**Be it resolved that Section 360 of the Constitution be amended to read:**

**Be it resolved that Section 360 be amended to read:**

**360. REVENUE.** The revenue of Grand Lodge, which can be required from constituent lodges, may be derived only from the following sources:

- A. Fees charged for dispensations, charters, certificates, diplomas, and other documents issued under its authority;
- B. Assessments levied upon lodges, which shall always be equal and uniform, in proportion to their membership and degrees conferred;
- C. Funds, dues, and proceeds of all property of dissolved lodges in its jurisdiction; and
- D. That part of the Life Lodge Endowment Membership Fund of a dissolved lodge that may be allocated to it.

**Proponents Rationale:**

Re-title "Life Membership" system to "Lodge Endowment Membership" to clarify the actual function of this system. There are no changes to the system beyond the re-title. A "Paid Life Member" title seems to indicate there will be no additional membership fees or assessments due by the member when that is not the way this system functions.

Members of this system will be classified as a Lodge Endowment Member (LEM). This is to establish that the member has secured an endowment for his lodge for its future.

**Submitted by Ashlar No. 29 and Butte No. 22**

**Jurisprudence Committee Comments:**

Passage of this resolution would change the name of the Life Membership program and all its parts to the Lodge Endowment program.

Since the resolution seeks to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, it will require a majority vote of the members present, and if so approved, the resolution shall be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence who will report thereon at the next annual communication. It will take a 3/4 vote of the members present at the next annual communication to approve the amendment to the Constitution.

**Resolution R-2011-06**

**A resolution adding a new Code Section 28065 to allow Lodges the ability to recognize eligible Master Masons by bestowing upon them the title of "Honorary Past Master".**

**Be it resolved that: New section of the Code be enacted as follows:**

**28065 TITLE OF HONORARY PAST**

**MASTER.** The title of Honorary Past Master applies to one whom:

- A. Is a Master Mason in good standing;
- B. Is elected in his lodge by a majority vote at a stated communication;

**Legislation cont'd next page**

**Legislation cont'd from previous page**

- C. Must have demonstrated outstanding service to his lodge and Masonry in general; and
- D. Remains a member in good standing in a constituent lodge in this jurisdiction.
- E. A member bestowed with the title of Honorary Past Master by authority of this section shall not become a member of this Grand Lodge as provided in the Constitution (230 E.). Nor does this title allow to the member one vote as provided in the Constitution (620). This restriction does not exclude one from becoming a member of Grand Lodge should that member otherwise qualify based on recognized titles or positions set forth in the Constitution (230).

**Proponents Rationale:**

Proponent's Explanation of the Resolution for adding a new Code Section to allow Lodges the ability to recognize eligible Master Masons by bestowing upon them the title of "Honorary Past Master."

This resolution will allow Lodges the ability to recognize a Brother Master Mason for their service to Masonry. Not all Brothers have the opportunity to advance to the position of Worshipful Master. This resolution was initiated because of the situation in our Lodge when a Brother was made a Worshipful Master on his death bed. He never had the opportunity to finish his term nor was he able to conduct a meeting. Over the years, several men have contributed to the leadership of our Lodge but could not be recognized by an honorary title. This resolution would allow Lodges the opportunity

to bestow upon those Brothers an honorary title worthy of their efforts.

**Approved by Stillwater Lodge #62 A.F. & A.M. Columbus, MT on February 10, 2011**

**Jurisprudence Committee Comment:**

Passage of this resolution would allow individual Lodges to bestow the title of "Honorary Past Master" upon their members.

This resolution seeks to amend the Code of Statutes and must receive a 2/3 favorable ballot for passage.

**There were no Committee Reports submitted that recommend amendments to the Constitution and Code of Statutes.**

**The General Registration Form for Montana Master Masons is provided below. Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters and Visiting Grand Lodge Officers please contact the Grand Lodge office registration.**



**GRAND LODGE AF & AM of MONTANA**  
**John J. Mangen, Most Worshipful Grand Master**



**PRE-REGISTRATION**  
 145th Annual Communication  
 June 23, 24, & 25, 2011      Miles City, Montana

Mail this Form to :  
**145th Grand Communication**  
**PO Box 1158**  
**Helena, MT 59624-1158**

Registration must be POSTMARKED prior to June 1, 2011

*PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT (Name Badge Will Be Completed From This Information)*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (Full Given Name)  
 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Accompanied by (Ladies name): \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete the top section and mail it in even if you do not plan to purchase any meals*

**Reservation requested prior to 1 June 2011**  
 Ticket availability is not guaranteed after June 1st

**Friday June 24, 2011**

Men's Luncheon (Pizza Bar)	No. _____ @ \$12.00 = \$ _____
Ladies Luncheon/Tour (Lunch Buffet, Range Riders Museum)	No. _____ @ \$15.00 = \$ _____
Master Masons (& Ladies) Banquet (Prime Rib)	No. _____ @ \$35.00 = \$ _____

**Saturday June 25, 2011**

Men's & PGM's Luncheon (Hamburgers)	No. _____ @ \$12.00 = \$ _____
Reception for New Grand Master & Grand Lodge Officers (Light Western buffet)	No. _____ @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

Total Activity Amount: \$: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment for Activities:**

Check Enclosed # \_\_\_\_\_ Please make checks payable to: 145th Annual Communication

Credit Card (Master Card or Visa Only): \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration and Credentials will be at the OMNI Center**

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## Representation At Grand Lodge

Each chartered and duly constituted lodge shall be represented in Grand Lodge at every non-ceremonial communication by one or more of its Master and Wardens, or by an elected representative. Where a Master or Warden is unable to attend, the lodge Instructor shall be given the preferential representation.

## Proxies

Whenever the Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden cannot attend the annual communication he may grant a proxy in writing to some member of his lodge to act in his stead. The proxy must be issued by him at least two days prior to the annual communication and he must notify the other officers of granting the proxy. If either the Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden has died during his term of office or has permanently moved from this jurisdiction the lodge may, at a regular meeting held at least two days prior to the annual communication, elect a proxy for such officer. If the member designated as proxy does not use it, the credential cannot be used by anyone else. Proxy Cards have been mailed to the Secretary of each Lodge and must be carried by the Proxy to Session and presented to the Registration Committee. Replacement Proxy Cards will not be available at Session. There is no need to give a proxy to a Past Master as he already has a vote.

## Who Is Grand Lodge

Have you ever been at a lodge meeting or function and heard some brother comment that Grand Lodge did this or did that and have ever wondered just who is Grand Lodge? Who is it that makes decisions? Well the answer is, the voting delegates present at each annual communication vote to enact or amend legislation. This consists of the elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Officers, from each lodge in good standing the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Secretary and, all Past Masters of chartered lodges. To help put that into perspective, currently there are over 1,700 voting members of Grand Lodge.

The following is taken from the Constitution and Code of Statutes of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana. By Code the following shall each be entitled to one vote:

- **Elective and appointive Grand Lodge Officers;**
- **Past Grand Officers;**
- **Masters, Wardens and Secretaries of chartered lodges; and**
- **Past Masters of chartered lodges.**

Cumulative voting is prohibited. No member or delegate shall have more than one vote. Tie Vote. The Grand Master shall have a regular vote in all matters before Grand Lodge. In case of a tie vote, he may also cast the deciding vote.

## Transaction of Business

Grand Lodge shall hold an annual communication for the transaction of its regular business commencing on the fourth Friday in June each year.

The annual communication of Grand Lodge shall not be opened, nor shall any business be transacted therein, unless a majority of the chartered lodges of the jurisdiction be represented. A smaller number may meet and adjourn from day to day until a constitutional quorum shall be in attendance.

Any Master Mason who is a member of a constituent lodge (in Good Standing) in this Grand Lodge or other grand lodge recognized by this Grand Lodge may be present during an annual, special or ceremonial communication. Transaction of business in Grand Lodge at its annual communication shall be upon written resolutions sponsored and submitted by a constituent lodge of this jurisdiction and reports and Grand Master's recommendations and decisions.

## INSTALLATION AND RECEPTION

**Grand Master-elect Will Alexander and his Lady Carla Lawrence cordially invite all of our brethren, visitors and friends to the Installation and Reception of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers. The Reception will take place at 5:00 p.m. at the Park Avenue banquet facility located at 20 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, on Saturday, June 25th.**

**Tickets are required to ensure enough food is available.**



## APRONS FOR SESSION

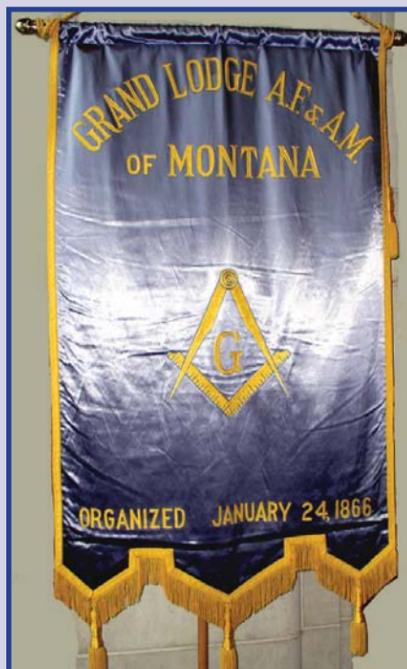
Again this year all officers are encouraged to bring and wear the apron appropriate to their office or station within the lodge. Also, all Past Masters are encouraged wear their Past Master's Apron. There will be a limited number of plain paper aprons available for use.



The lambskin apron is the prized possession of every Mason. In order to protect it from the deterioration of frequent use, it is customary to wear as a substitute a white cloth apron supplied by the lodge. Some lodges provide special aprons with blue trim and appropriate emblems for their officers, and most grand lodges have more elaborate aprons for their officers. To be "properly clothed." A Mason must wear the white apron in lodge unless, as an officer, he wears the appropriate apron supplied him by the lodge or grand lodge. Within the Grand Jurisdiction of Montana Masons always wear their aprons outside of clothing; not under the coat or jacket.

## PRESENTATION OF LODGE BANNERS

Continuing with the long standing tradition Lodges are again requested to bring their Lodge Banner for presentation during the Annual Communication. The Banners will be posted about the Lodge room. Please make arrangements to ensure that your Lodge is Represented with your banner.



**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 pm Vespers – OMNI Center

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011**

8:30 am Public Grand Opening (Ladies welcome)– OMNI Center

10:00 am Formal Opening of Grand Lodge

10:00 am Election of Grand Officers

1:15 pm Grand Lodge Refreshment to Labor

1:45 pm Call to Order Committee Reports Reception of Montana

Past Grand Masters & 50 Masons Reception of Visiting

Grand Lodge Officers

4:30 pm Grand Lodge call from Labor to Refreshment

6:00 pm No Host Fellowship - Park Place

7:00 pm Master Masons Banquet - Park Place

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2011**

9:00 am Call to Labor– OMNI Center Legislation

11:55 am Grand Lodge call from Labor to Refreshment

1:15 pm Grand Lodge Refreshment to Labor Finance Final Report with Budget

3:00 pm Formal Closing of 145th Annual Communication

5:00 pm Installation of Grand Lodge Officers for 2011 - 2012 OMNI Center

Masons, ladies, families and friends are invited.

Guest Speakers - Neil Neddermeyer, MWPGM, Minnesota

Ronald Triggs, MWPGM, Wyoming

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**

Hello I'm Mary Alice Mangen, Grand Master John Mangen's wife and I would like to invite all of you Masonic wives to attend the 145 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana. This year they are meeting in Miles City Mt. The theme this year is geared toward the country life, as you might guess being that is how we make our living.

The Ladies program will start on Friday with the Ladies luncheon. This year the luncheon will be held in the back room at the Range Riders Museum. After lunch the Museum will be open for the ladies the wonder through at the leisure. You won't want to miss this because the museum is unbelievable.

The Master Masons Banquet held on Friday night will be a Black Tie and Blue Jean Affair. This is something

quite common in Southeastern Montana but from what I am hearing it is kind of foreign to most. It is really quite simple. The men wear tuxedo's and ties, or a suit coat and tie with blue jeans and the women can get as fancy with their dresses as they wish. I feel this gives the ladies a chance to dress-up but yet the guys can be comfortable in their jeans. Hope this clears up and questions you might have.



So ladies please come and join the fun. If any of you might have questions feel free to call me at 406-436-2263 and I will help you out.

Don't forget that the hospitality room will be in the Guest House Inn and will be open all weekend except during the luncheon and the Master Masons Banquet. Come by and have a cup of coffee and get to know some of the other ladies from all over.

**Thank You  
Mary Alice Mangen**

**Attire for Session**

**Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Grand Lodge Officers – Black Tuxedos  
Visiting Dignitaries – Black Tuxedos  
Other Masons – Suit or Coat & Tie  
Ladies – complimentary to the men

**Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Session**

Grand Lodge Officers –White Tuxedo jacket with Black Tuxedo pants  
Visiting dignitaries - Suit or Coat & Tie  
Masons – Suit or Coat & Tie  
Master Masons Banquet (Black tie & Blue Jean Affair)  
All Masons – Black Tie and Blue jeans  
Ladies – formal or nice dress

**Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Session**

Grand Lodge Officers–Black Tuxedo/Black Bow Tie  
Visiting dignitaries and all other Masons – Suit or Coat & Tie

**Installation for new Grand Master & Grand Lodge Officers**

Grand Lodge Officers – Black Tuxedo/Black Bow Tie  
Visiting dignitaries and all other Masons – Suit or Coat & Tie  
Ladies – complimentary to the men

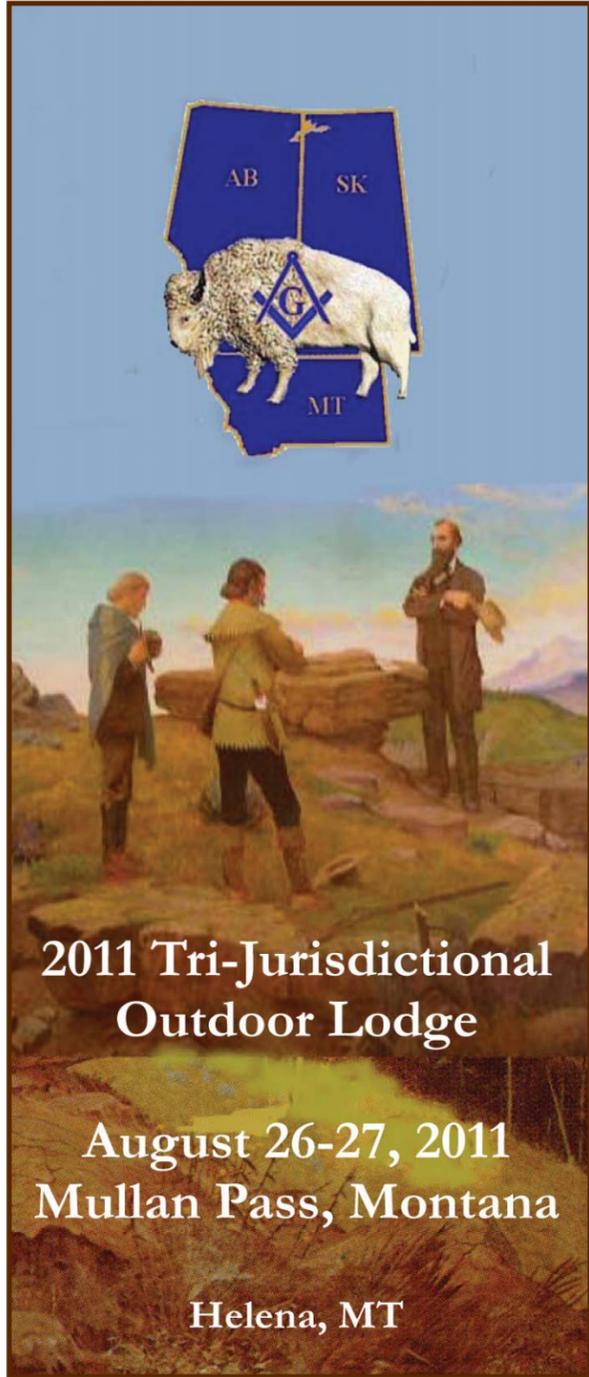
**Reception for new Grand Master and Officers**

All Masons – Suit and Tie  
Ladies – complimentary to the men

**TRIVIA QUESTION:**

*What was the first book published in Montana?*

**Answer: Page 15**



**2011 Tri-Jurisdictional Outdoor Lodge**

**August 26-27, 2011**

**Mullan Pass, Montana**

**Helena, MT**

**Brothers,**

The 2011 Tri-Jurisdictional Outdoor Lodge will be held August 26-27, 2011. The host city will be Helena, Montana the outdoor meeting and degree exemplification will take place at the Mullan Pass Historic Masonic Site. This is a joint fraternal event held by the Grand Lodges of Montana, Alberta and Saskatchewan. We invite all Master Masons, in good standing from Jurisdictions recognized by these three Grand Lodges, to attend. The weekend will include:

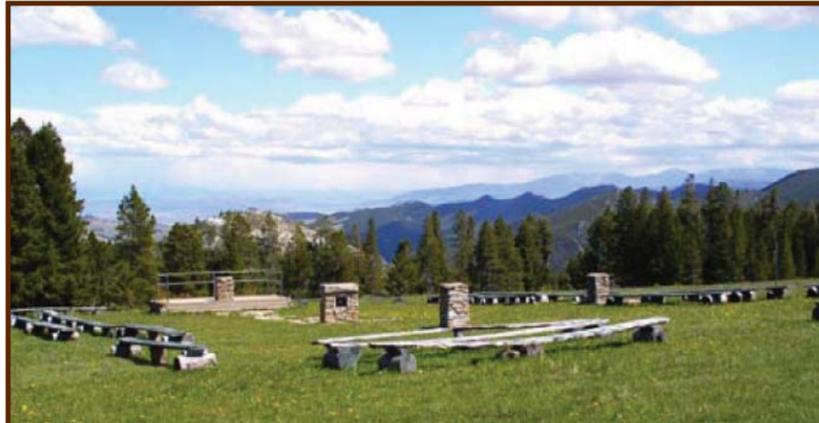


- An outdoor meeting and exemplification of the Second Degree using Montana work.
- Masonic Education on the differences and similarities among the jurisdictions.
- A special Ladies Program
- Great food and entertainment
- Performance by the Sapphira Nile Drum Unit
- An outdoor meeting at the location of the first recorded meeting held in what is now Montana. at the summit of the Continental Divide.

**Mullan Pass Site 46°39'14.47"N 112°19'01.62"W**

In keeping with the theme of the prior year just as the buffalo roamed our three jurisdictions, we envision that the Outdoor Roaming Lodge will continue to roam. Next to Saskatchewan, and returning to Alberta. Thus providing an opportunity to strengthen relations between our three Grand Lodges for years to come. The Chairmen for this event are W. Brothers Gary Long and Blake Gardiner, who will be assisted by members of the Mullan Pass Historic Lodge No. 1862 and a host of Brothers from around Montana. This will be a casual event allowing blue jeans and cowboy shirts and hats. Don't miss this opportunity to join with us August 26 & 27 at the first meeting place of Masons in Montana "Where it all began!"

**Will Alexander**  
**Grand Master of Montana 2011-2012**



**MULLEN PASS, WHERE IT ALL BEGAN! FIRST RECORDED MEETING PLACE IN MONTANA**

The first recorded meeting of Masons in what is now Montana occurred on September 23, 1862, when three brethren with the first Fisk Expedition, then camped on the Mullan Road at the summit of the Rocky Mountains, went through the ritual opening and closing of a lodge. Located about 50 minutes North West from Helena in the Helena National Forest at an elevation 6012 feet, this is a remote area and has rough road access. We need to limit the number of vehicles and carpooling will be required, cars and low clearance vehicle are not recommended.

**FRIDAY AUGUST 26, 2011**

Registration will be at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel, 2301 Colonial Drive, Helena. The Friday evening **Meet & Greet**, 6 pm at the historic Kleffner Ranch, 305 MT Hwy 518, East Helena. The evening will include a Prime Rib Barbecue. See <http://kleffnerranch.com>

**SATURDAY AUGUST 27, 2011**

For those with tickets breakfast will be at the Red Lion Hotel from 6am-8am. Masons will need to be ready to leave from the Red Lion Hotel by 8:45am for Mullan Pass. Once at the Mullan Pass Masonic Site we will open lodge, have abbreviated introductions, and an exemplification of the FellowCraft Degree using Montana Ritual. Lunch will be provided at the Pass. We will be back in Helena in time to meet up with the ladies and reach the Saturday evening Pig Roast at 6pm at the Montana Masonic Home, 2010 Masonic Home Drive, Helena.

**ACCOMODATIONS**

Helena Red Lion Colonial Hotel -special room rate of \$80.00 (+tax) at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel Helena 2301 Colonial Drive Helena, MT 59601, (406) 443-2100. You can call for reservations and give the conference name of "Masons" for the special block of rooms for this event. Reservations must be made by July 27th, room block is named Masons Tri-Jurisdictional. There are many other hotels in Helena but if you are going to call for reservations be sure to call early. Arrangements have also been made for those bringing their RV's at -Lincoln Road RV Park, 850 Lincoln Road West, Helena, (406) 458-3725. With full hookups (electricity, water, and sewer) for RV's. Lincoln Road RV Park can accommodate almost any size RV. The year-round park has horseshoes, a playground, and free wireless Internet service. Amenities include showers, restrooms, a laundry and a gift shop. Rates: \$42.80 or discount rate of \$38.52 for Good Sam, AAA or senior citizen. You must reserve by July 25th. Your Site Host will be R.W. Bro Bruce Lahti and Lady Kathie.

**NOTES**

Dinner substitutions: Chicken, salmon or vegetarian meals. Available by paid preregistration only. You must include this information at time of registration. Ticket prices are for paid preregistration received by August 1, 2011. Prices after August 1 (subject to availability) - add \$5.00 for each ticket. Camp Cups - For Master Masons: included with first 150 paid tickets to lunch on the Pass. Must be present to receive cup.\*\* Camp Chairs are

limited, and are free to the first 100 Master Masons who register and pay for both dinners.\* If available, and with the purchase of one dinner a chair can be bought for \$25.00. Must be present to receive chair. More information will be available at check in!

**SPECIAL SOUVENIRS**

The first 150 Master Masons who register, attend and purchase lunch on the Pass will receive a traditional tin camp cup with the 2011 Tri-Jurisdictional lodge on it.



The first 100 Master Masons who register, attend and purchase tickets for both Friday and Saturday dinners will receive a camp chair with the 2011 Tri-Jurisdictional logo on the back. Sit back in comfort at this and future outdoor meetings!



**LADIES PROGRAM**

The scheduled program for the Ladies requires a minimum of 40 registered to attend and is limited to 40. Those attending will be taken by bus to the **Gates of the Mountains** marina for a two hour boat tour on the Missouri River. For nearly two centuries travelers have ventured down this stretch of the Missouri to marvel at its natural wonders. Named by Lewis & Clark in 1805 tours began in 1886. Ladies will depart from the Red Lion at 9am. The tour hours are 9am-3pm. See <http://www.gatesofthemountains.com>.

**Optional Tours:**

The "Tour Train" departs hourly from next to Montana Historical Society, 225 N Roberts, and provides an informational overview of historic Last Change Gulch and downtown Helena.

The **Montana Masonic Museum**, 425 N Park Ave, will be open on Saturday from 8am to 4pm.

**Registration Tickets (Per Person), Special Souvenirs, & Ladies Program for information:**

**Contact W. Bro Blake Gardiner at (406) 202-3194 Or W. Bro. Gary Long at (406) 461-1996**  
**Email contact: 2011trijurisdictional@gmail.com**  
**Facebook: 2011-Trijurisdictional-Outdoor-Lodge**

**REGISTRATION FORM ON NEXT PAGE**

## ADAH CHAPTER #8, OES

On Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, R.W. Brother Reid Gardiner, attended the open installation of Adah Chapter #8, Order of the Eastern Star in Boise, Idaho. Brother Gardiner was in attendance to see his daughter Leah Gardiner installed as Martha which is one of the star point offices. The newly installed as Worthy Matron is Jennifer Marshall and Worthy Patron, Jesse Laduke. The second floor lodge room was filled to capacity for this installation.



## THE OLD MASTER'S WAGES NEIL NEDDERMEYER

I meet a dear old man today  
Who wore a Masonic pin,  
It was old and faded like the man,  
Its edges were worn quite thin.

I approached the park bench where he sat  
To give the old brother his due.  
I said, "I see you've traveled east"  
He said, "I have, have you?"

I said, I have and in my day  
Before the all-seeing sun  
I played in the rubble with Jubala,  
Jubilo, and Jubalum.

He scolded, "Don't laugh at the work my boy,  
It's good and it's sweet and it's true;  
And if you've traveled as you said  
You should give these things a due.  
"The word, the sign, the token,  
The sweet Masonic prayer,  
The vow that all have taken  
Who have climbed the inner stair.  
"The wages of a Mason  
are never paid in gold,  
but the gain comes from contentment  
When you're weak and growing old.

"You see I've carried my obligations  
For almost fifty years.  
It has helped me through the hardships,  
and the failures full of tears.

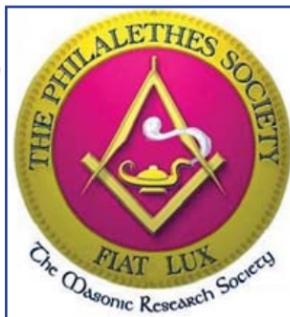
"I'm now losing my mind and my body  
Death is near, but I don't despair.  
I've lived my life upon the level,  
And I'll die upon the square."

Sometimes the greatest lessons  
Are those that are learned anew.  
And the old man in the park today  
Has changed my point of view.

To all Masonic brothers  
The only secret is to care.  
May you live upon the level.  
May you part upon the square.

## LOOKING FOR MORE LIGHT

If you are looking for more light in masonry, if you are looking for source material or something to share within your Lodge, if you are looking for a solid foundation of Masonic information this is for you. Take a look and enjoy the Philaethes magazine and on-line forum. [https://secure.freemasonry.org/join\\_subscribe.php](https://secure.freemasonry.org/join_subscribe.php)



### 2011 TRI-JURISDICTIONAL OUTDOOR LODGE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title/Office: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member Grand Lodge of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Significant Other Attending: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Night Meet & Greet \$30.00* (Prime Rib, 6pm)	Total _____
Saturday Breakfast \$15.00 (Red Lion Hotel, 6-8am)	Total _____
Ladies Tour & Lunch \$40.00 (Gate of the Mountains & Box lunch)	Total _____
Men's Lunch \$10.00**	Total _____
Saturday Night \$30.00* (Pig Roast-Masonic Home, 6pm)	Total _____
Grand Total _____	

Mail Registration to: 2011 Outdoor Lodge  
804 Phoenix Ave #2E  
Helena, Montana 59601  
USA

In order to have an equal distribution of information No Registrations will be accepted prior to 15 May 2011

**Submission Deadline for  
August 2011  
Montana Masonic News  
is PRIOR to  
July 15, 2011  
(see page 2 for details)**

## IS YOUR LODGE PREPARED?

Throughout the Masonic lectures are numerous references to the one certainty in life. Yet, many Lodges seem so surprised when that comes to pass and that person who has always been there is called to the Celestial Lodge. I am speaking in particular about the Lodge Secretary, that man who can leap small buildings in a single bound, stop bullets and converse with the Grand Secretary about things most of us just don't understand. I have had the unpleasant experience of seeing what can happen in those situations on a couple of occasions. One secretary had been in office only a few years, but the other had been office for over twenty years. Both situations raised peculiar problems. In the first situation, the young Master was unsure how to deal with the progressing illness of the secretary and didn't want to offend him by taking the duties over or moving them to someone else. Consequently when the secretary passed away the Lodge was behind in its reporting and had lots of reports to catch up. Further, many things like budgeting, planning the year and communication with Grand Lodge were weak because of the lack of input from the secretary. Fortunately the Lodge Instructor stepped in to help out the young master and the Lodge survived the year, but, not without a lot of difficulty and unnecessary worries both for the dying secretary and the Lodge.

In the second scenario, the black camel snuck up on the Brother and his Lodge and stole him away with little or no warning. This presented other issues, such as how do we contact the family to obtain the Masonic materials for the Lodge that he kept at home? Is there a proper waiting time before contacting the family, who should contact the family, who should be contacted and what should you say? It is not easy for anyone to answer these questions and near impossible for some. When the family delivered the Masonic materials was everything included or was there more in another briefcase or box or storage? It isn't a pleasant situation for anyone involved.

So how can we as Lodge's and more importantly Lodge Secretaries prepare for such situations, without being invited to put the minute book in a bad place? I believe the first thing to do is to have a discussion between the Lodge Master, Instructor, Secretary and Treasurer at the beginning of the year to talk about this subject. Do the leaders have a plan in place should any of you become sick and indisposed or die during the year. By discussing the matter among the three officers, you are not just singling out the secretary and telling him you are concerned about whether or not he will make it through the year. Secondly, you should discuss whether or not the secretary should be training

a back up for his position to handle vacations, kids or grandkids events, etc. An assistant secretary to assist the secretary when they have to be gone is a good idea and will allow you to have someone in the Lodge who is trained to take the minutes, update Rolls, submit the various reports and converse in the proper terms with the Grand Secretary. Hopefully the Assistant Secretary or another brother also will be invited by the secretary to visit his home and see what and where the paperwork is kept and what things should go to the Lodge in the event of an emergency for the Secretary. Meeting the family member who will be making decisions at that time is also a good idea and the familiarity will make the transition go easier. Working with complete strangers under times of stress isn't always a good thing.

I have talked about the Lodge Secretary in this article, but the same situation would apply to the Treasurer (especially with their added reporting duties under the new IRS rules), Master and Instructor. In each of these positions we are entrusted with items or information which would be detrimental to the Lodge if it were lost or were unable to be located in a timely fashion. It all goes back to planning and setting yourself up for success at the beginning of the year.

**Lewis K. Smith (14),  
2010-2011 Grand Marshall**

## THE TRUE DISABILITY OF MASONRY

Throughout my travels as a Mason I have had the pleasure to visit many of the lodges in Montana. I have visited with brothers from areas within and without this great state, and been active in the appendant bodies. There is one subject that always seems to arise throughout my travels, and that is membership. Membership, whether overall lodge membership or attendance is always a subject for discussion, although usually not a good one. The brothers of our great fraternity and the members of the appendant bodies have discussed this topic until they are blue in the face, and usually beyond that. There have been many ideas proposed with some effort to try and address this issue, with little or no positive long-term effect. Why is it that a group with so many great minds and such varied experiences cannot seem to solve this problem? The basic answer is easy; we have tried to treat a symptom without treating the underlying problem.

At almost every meeting I have been at, whether Blue Lodge, OES, Scottish Rite, Shrine or otherwise there is always an elephant in the room nobody seems to see. This elephant is the underlying cause and also the solution to many of the problems our fraternity faces, and its name is attitude. Attitudes have historically been the biggest aid and the biggest problem we have faced. Most, if not all, of our past downswings in membership and the following upswings have been because of attitude. Sometimes it is the attitudes of society, sometimes that of the brothers, and other times both combined. The current slump we have been facing is without a doubt caused by attitude, both society's and the fraternity's. Over the past few decades membership in most fraternal and social organizations has seen a slump. I myself have seen it in Masons and other groups, and have heard that it is an issue in many more. Did almost all organizations suddenly become pointless and of no positive effect? Did people quit joining or did people start to question the reasons for joining these groups and not find satisfactory reasons to belong? I believe it is both. These groups

did not necessarily lose their core values and teachings that made them worthwhile and good; they lost the focus on them. This loss of focus caused many groups, ours included, to not offer what men wanted in an organization or what the organization claimed they offered. Without this good cause people quit joining, attending and caring about such groups.

The news is not all bad. Today there is a strong group of men and their families who believe in what Masonry and the Masonic Family could offer. We need to correct our attitude toward society and our fraternity if we are to attract these men. A good attitude, like a bad one, is contagious. If we have the attitude of "it can be done," then it will be. My own lodge was on the brink of closure just a few years ago and now it is one of the most active in the state. All it took to bring this lodge back was hard work, a return to basics, and a "can do" attitude. We need to quit having the attitude of "Grand Lodge needs to fix this for us," or "we need to make it cheaper and easier." These attitudes won't help the fraternity, and are a failed approach. We will never, and should never appeal to the majority of men as many don't share our core values. We need to get back to the basics and focus on being what we claim to be; a fraternity of good men aimed at bettering themselves, their families, and the community at large. This will attract the caliber of men we want and in good numbers. We must look in the mirror and ask, "Are we the men and organization we claim to be and could be?" The answer might surprise some of us, but if we accept the need to correct our attitudes and get back to the basics, then the hardest part on the road to recovery is complete. If we attack this with a positive, "can do" attitude, then the future of Masonry is indeed bright. The future of Masonry lies within each individual Mason and his attitude toward the fraternity.

**Chris Rubich (29), PM**

## FREEMASON NETWORK

meeting on the level

The Freemason Network is hosted by the Supreme Council, 33°, A.&A.S.R., S.J. It is not only fun to use the site and participate in its activities, but also it can be an invaluable tool in retaining new members and getting inactive ones involved again. Unlike other social networks, the Freemason Network is only for Freemasons in good standing. Hence, the topics are of Masonic interest, and there is no spam or annoying applications. Once a brother joins the Freemason Network and his Masonic credentials are verified, he is immediately empowered with the ability to exchange ideas and information with almost 9,000 Masons worldwide—and the numbers keep growing!

Go to: <http://www.freemasonnetwork.net> and be sure to go to the Grand Lodge section tab and join the Grand Lodge of Montana group, here you can interact, collaborate, and share with other members of your Grand Lodge. The Freemason network was created to provide our members with the opportunity to network with one another, share their experiences, and aggregate media and news into one easy to use portal.

Some of the tools available include uploading pictures and videos, joining forums and groups, scheduling events, reading news, classifieds, and Grand Lodge forums, reading or creating blogs, making new friends, and staying in touch with old ones. In short, anything you can do in a commercial social network with the added benefit of a Freemason-only, private, and fraternal environment.

In terms of Masonic education, the Freemason Network can be an extremely useful tool when you're conducting preliminary research into a subject of Masonic interest, particularly when inquiring into the history and practices of Freemasons in other countries. In short, the Freemason Network is more than a social network. It is a valuable tool for students and researchers of Masonic history and philosophy while also providing an opportunity to connect with others interested in the same subjects worldwide. When are you going to register and become a member of the Network?

# W. BROTHER WALTER BREUNING

## (WORLD'S OLDEST MAN)

### CALLED TO THE CELESTIAL LODGE

It is with great sadness that we must report that at the age of 114 Years, 205 Days our Brother Walter Breuning was called to the Celestial Lodge on Thursday, April 14, 2011.

Brother Walter had been a Master Mason for 85 Years, 333 Days. He was also a proud member of the Scottish Rite and Shrine. Brother Walter received his degrees in Great Falls Lodge No. 118, Great Falls, Montana. He was Initiated on March 7, 1925, Passed on April 4, 1925 and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on May 16, 1925. He affiliated with Cascade Lodge No. 34, Great Falls, Montana on January 1, 1992. He had served as Secretary of Great Falls Lodge NO. 118 from January 1, 1946 through December 31, 1968. W. Brother Breuning received the Meritorious Service Medal on June 24, 1993.

On September 21, 2010, the plainspoken Breuning turned 114 years old, remaining the oldest man in the world, according to the Gerontology Research Group. Brother Breuning

was also verified as the fourth oldest person in the world.

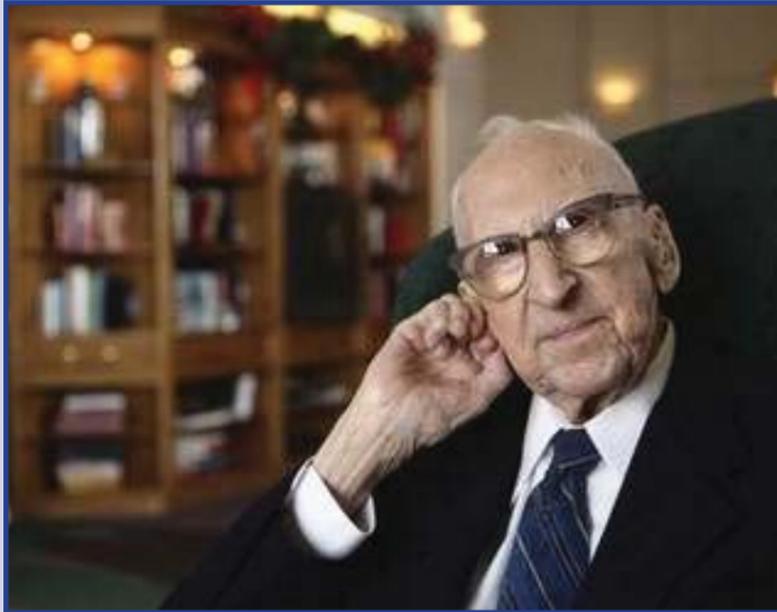
W. Brother Breuning was born in the rural Minnesota town of Melrose and moved in 1918 to Great Falls,

where he worked for the Great Northern Railway. His wife, a railroad telegraph operator from Butte named Agnes, Died in 1957. She was a good cook, according to Breuning. The couple had no children.

Brother Walter said his secret to a long life is:

- ♦ Embrace change, even when the change slaps you in the face. ("Every change is good.")
- ♦ Eat two meals a day ("That's all you need.")
- ♦ Work as long as you can ("That money's going to come in handy.")
- ♦ Help others ("The more you do for others, the better shape you're in.")
- ♦ Accept death. It's a lesson Breuning said he learned from his grandfather: "We're going to die. Some people are scared of dying. Never be afraid to die. Because you're born to die,"

Brother Breuning had requested no funeral services, retirement home officials said. He asked that donations to the Shriner's Children's Travel Fund and the Scottish Rite Language disorder Center be made in lieu of flowers and cards.



## SERVICE AWARDS

### DECEMBER, 2010 - APRIL, 2011

*Please note that recent deaths and dimits from membership may not be reflected in this listing. Any brother with a question about his membership status should contact his lodge secretary.*

#### 50 YEAR MEMBERS

<p><b>Helena Lodge 3</b>  <b>Harold E. Adams</b> 12/15/2010</p> <p><b>Friendship Lodge 37</b>  <b>Larry A. Yaeger</b> 12/06/2010</p> <p><b>Victor Lodge 43</b>  <b>John L. Adams</b> 01/25/2011</p> <p><b>North Star Lodge 46</b>  <b>John H. Demko</b> 02/26/2011</p> <p><b>Havre Lodge 55</b>  <b>Martin E. Mutch</b> 12/10/2010</p>	<p><b>Wisdom Lodge 61</b>  <b>Stanley S. Rasmussen</b> 01/03/2011  <b>Donald G. Peterson</b> 01/03/2011</p> <p><b>Pondera Lodge 80</b>  <b>W. Reid Stuart</b> 12/15/2010</p> <p><b>Cut Bank Lodge 82</b>  <b>Robert J. Kraft</b> 01/03/2011</p> <p><b>Lavina/Temple Lodge 101</b>  <b>Charles L. Wrzesinski</b> 02/03/2011</p>	<p><b>Scobey Lodge 109</b>  <b>Chester D. Juel</b> 01/18/2011</p> <p><b>Circle Lodge 136</b>  <b>Lee Witte</b> 03/03/2011</p> <p><b>Bigfork Lodge 150</b>  <b>Donald H. Micken</b> 01/12/2011</p> <p><b>Sentinel Lodge 155</b>  <b>Carl R. Flood</b> 01/03/2011</p>
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*MW Grand Master John Mangen assisted by his cousin Brother Mike Mangen presented the Montana 50 Year Member Award to Pierre Mangen on April 12, 2011 in Miles City.*



*Imperial First Lady visits Helena*  
*Imperial First Lady, Deanna Mitchell accompanied her husband, Imperial Potentate George A. Mitchell to Helena for the Winter PNSA meeting. Algeria's First Lady, Sharon Nielsen, entertained Deanna during her stay, showing her the highlights of Helena. The Ladies joined ladies from Sapphira Temple for lunch at the historic Montana Club. The Imperial First Lady shared information regarding her fundraising program "Membership-The Heartbeat of Shrine" with the group.*

## BATH ZABBIA TEMPLE #21

Greetings from Bath Zabbia Temple #21, Daughters of the Nile. We are excited to report that the 88th installation of officers was held on Sunday, March 26, 2011. Past Queen Judy Frank was the Installation Chairman and Mistress of Ceremony, and the 2011 officers installed at the beautiful open ceremony are:

- Queen - Timmie-Lynn Poglajen**
- Jr. Past Queen – Marge Vietmeier**
- Princess Royal – Sandra McIntosh**
- Princess Tirzah – Judy Tipton**
- Princess Badoura – Robin Sparboe**
- Princess Banker – Fern Thompson**
- Princess Marshal - Deborah Legget**
- Princess Chaplain - Cathy Culbertson**
- Lady of the Keys - Norma Lechner**
- Lady of the Gates – Carol Moritz**
- Princess Musician - Carol Schell**
- Princess Nydia - Sara Schantz**
- Princess Zulieka – Patsy Phillips**
- Princess Zenobia – Brenda Lindsay**
- Princess Zora – Becky Shay**
- Princess Zuliema – Patty Branstetter**

**Attendants – Edna Stauber and Nina Rehard**  
**Past Queen Marlene Pfaff is the Ceremonial Assistant for the year, with Past Queen Judy Frank assisting.**

The Installing Officers for the afternoon were Past Queen Marlene Pfaff as Installing Queen; Past Queen Gretchen Schubert as Installing Marshal; Past Queen Marge Vietmeier as Installing Chaplain; Past Queen Char Brinkel as Installing Recorder; Princess Katie Rehberg as Installing Musician; and Past Queens Wesleta Shaules and Kathleen Butler as Installing Attendants. The Bible Bearer was Past Queen Judy Frank, with Past Queen Beverly Ellingson



The Daughters of the Nile are fully committed in supporting the Shriner's Hospital for Children. We all are amazed at the work of the hospitals, and feel proud to be helping the best philanthropy on earth.

Ladies of the Household, if you were unable to attend the awesome and uplifting installation, we sincerely missed seeing you. Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m. for dinner, with the session beginning at 7:15 p.m. Hope to see you there.

**Judy Tipton, Princess Tirzah**

## DEMOLAY NEWS

The weekend for the 2011 Sweet Retreat went off without a hitch. During the weekend of Feb 26th, almost all the DeMolays around the state including both the Rainbow and the Jobs Daughters attended.

The day began with registration and check-in into the hotel. As usual, the rooms are not ready. As everyone waits for their room, the State Officers decided to do a ritual workshop for about an hour while everyone else went swimming. Candidates running for the State Sweet Heart position were interviewed shortly thereafter. With a couple of hours of swimming and socializing out of the way, it was time to get ready for the banquet. Ethan, the state activates director, was the Master of Ceremonies for the night and introduced the State Officers, Sweet Heart Candidates, the Executive Officer Staff, and the dignitaries: Miss. Molly Hopkins, Ms. Carol Huston, and Mr. James Linderman. Then, Jacob McDonald delivered the Flower Talk to everyone during the dinner including the DeMolays who have not received the ceremony.

After the dinner, the annual dance was held. About 9 pm, the DeMolay Nine-o'clock interpolation was

observed and the announcement for the Sweet Heart position was shortly held after.

This year, there were four candidates who ran for the position and Miss Alexis Schantz was crowned as the new Montana State Sweet Heart. Then right after the crowing ceremony, the State Master Councilor and the State Sweet Heart had their first dance. The dance went until about 10:30pm. Shortly after the dance, everyone quickly changed and went swimming in the hot



springs outside in the negative degree weather. Overall, it was a great weekend and everyone safely headed back

to their hometowns the day after.

Again, Congratulations to Alexis on becoming the Montana DeMolay State Sweet Heart and hope to see everyone again next year.

Please remember: Conclave – July 21-24th in Billings, Montana. Please check out

[mtdemolay.org](http://mtdemolay.org) for more information.

**Trever Howard, Montana DeMolay Events and Scribe Advisor**

## RAINBOW NEWS

**“Always Have Hope”** is Grand Worthy Advisor Molly Hopkins' theme for her term as the leader of the Montana Grand Assembly. This year's GWA project is “Warriors and Quiet Waters, Inc”, a non-profit organization begun in her hometown of Bozeman to bring solace and relief to traumatically wounded soldiers from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is achieved through fly-fishing on Montana's blue ribbon trout streams. Rainbow members have tied flies and made pillowcases to contribute to the groups of soldiers that will arrive beginning in May.

Supreme Assembly was held in Omaha, Nebraska over the past summer. GWA Molly and JrPGWA Amanda Nielsen represented Montana: Molly in the cavalcade of flags and Amanda as acting Supreme Patriotism. The Supreme session also marked a change in the adult leadership in Montana Rainbow. Mrs. Nancy Hopkins was installed as Supreme Deputy, replacing Mrs. Diane Sherick who had served in that position since 2004. Molly and



Nancy are the first daughter/mother combination to serve simultaneously as Grand Worthy Advisor and Supreme Deputy in Montana's 83 year Rainbow history.

Our seven assemblies are working throughout Montana to provide service to their Masonic family, local communities, state, and nation. Each Assembly is working to meet the Supreme Deputy Challenge

at Grand in Bozeman, June 18-21, 2011. This year's activities include instituting a Rainbow Dad for each assembly, setting up and maintaining a recycling station in the Masonic Temple where the girls hold their meetings, supporting their local Food Banks & Pantries – in honor of Worthy Grand Patron Rich Ransdell (a member of the State Executive Committee), connecting with groups in their local Masonic Family, along with many more options. We encourage you to support the girls in their efforts; whether it be attending their regular meetings and special events, sponsorship for “Relay for Life”, buying Butter Braids to sustain their fundraisers, or recruiting them for projects where their help could make a difference for you or your Masonic group.

We are looking forward to expanding Rainbow into the North. We are working to institute a new assembly in Calgary, Alberta, CANADA, and re-instituting the assembly in Havre, Montana. Feel free to join in the events in your area in an effort to show your support of the young women of Montana's Rainbow community.



## CELESTIAL LODGE



*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 labours here below have taught him to divest his heart and conscience of the vices and superfluities 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 labours hereby faith in God, and, confident of expectation of immortality, he has sought admission to the Celestial Lodge above. Author unknown*

1290	Samuel E. Hopwood (35)	04/17/2011	4081	Joseph L. Spiroff (3)	01/25/2011	3945	Robert D. Slayton (29)	02/03/2011
2109	Victor H. Lohn (149)	04/14/2011	5962	Charles V. Campbell (18)	01/17/2011	2977	Gerald M. Olson (29)	01/30/2011
5770	Walter Breuning (34)	04/14/2011	5628	Marvin W. Black (80)	01/15/2011	5801	Jim H. Brock (52)	02/22/2011
112	John N. DeHaas Jr. (29)	04/07/2011	1832	Earl C. Kraft (18)	01/10/2011	2560	Donald A. Miller (25)	04/07/2011
4354	Laurence E. Thayer (6)	04/05/2011	770	Robert F. Graff (24)	01/03/2011	4491	James E. Trott (25)	02/11/2011
2302	Florn K. Martin (121)	03/31/2011	5444	John L. Barrett (105)	01/01/2011	5703	Warren A. Bowen (25)	01/05/2011
375	Larry C. Enloe (58)	03/29/2011	2367	Gordon C. McCann (66)	12/31/2010	769	Michael W. Grachek (42)	02/13/2011
2786	Herman W. Nebel (34)	03/27/2011	2626	Robert Monroe (18)	12/31/2010	5743	Robert E. Brandbo (16)	03/24/2011
4244	Gilbert H. Stroop ((34)	03/22/2011	5125	Paul Keith (66)	12/28/2010	4056	William E. Sorg (72)	01/17/2011
1593	Vernon L. Jones (3)	03/21/2011	418	Donald E. Fallang (7)	12/26/2010	3775	Fred R. Schwin (40)	03/22/2011
1956	George R. Lauolo (25)	03/14/2011	4601	William H. Violet Jr.(128)	12/21/2010	3090	Clayton O. Paulson (21)	01/07/2011
1904	George S. Lane (14)	03/07/2011	5670	William J. Bogie (37)	12/21/2010	5828	Frank M. Brown (16)	01/02/2011
2731	Gerald E. Murphy (136)	03/04/2011	4830	Everett E. Wilson (63)	12/17/2010	5305	Robert C. Arnot (80)	03/01/2011
5393	Homer E. Baldwin (146)	03/04/2011	4806	Richard H. Williams (13)	12/14/2010	5155	Clifford G. Adolph (71)	01/13/2011
5154	Walter L. Adler (36)	03/03/2011	2273	Edward G. Markin (78)	12/13/2010	5277	George L. Applegate (14)	12/04/2010
92	Marvin N. Day (33)	02/22/2011	2725	Donald G. Munroe (105)	12/13/2010	5481	Douglas A. Bayne (29)	03/10/2011
982	Robert C. Hansen (38)	02/22/2011	3051	Harvey N. Parker (6)	12/12/2010	3279	Harold A. Pressman (29)	02/08/2011
3287	Thomas Price (109)	02/19/2011	40	Sherman T. Darland (109)	12/10/2010	5947	James T. Cadigan (22)	12/01/2010
6047	Glen R. Chamberlain (110)	02/18/2011	3472	Marvin G. Riley (55)	12/10/2010	5967	Thomas Campbell (21)	02/15/2011
489	Francis T. Flanigan Jr. (135)	02/13/2011	2508	Francis J. Mellor (135,46)	12/09/2010	1303	Carlton N. Hotvedt (22)	04/12/2011
4359	Lewis E. Thiel (40)	02/11/2011	4399	Richard C. Thompson (34)	12/02/2010	4978	William W. Zintek Jr. (13)	03/11/2011
401	William Evans (21)	02/09/2011	3741	Donald O. Schott (26)	12/01/2010	833	Sidney L. Groff (43)	01/17/2011
6103	James R. Clark (122)	02/09/2011	3749	Ronald A. Schrunk (144)	04/19/2011	2667	G. Mitchell Morris (29)	01/31/2011
1206	James L. Hines (46)	02/08/2011	1407	Morris W. Irion (29/101)	01/13/2011	5625	Erick H. Bjorum (22)	12/13/2010
4433	Kermit J. Tjon (121)	02/04/2011	315	James D. Eden (101)	12/10/2010	4409	John M. Thornton (29)	01/13/2011
5383	Herbert A. Baker (155)	02/02/2011	1289	Jon Hopwood (35)	03/30/2011			
7100	Wayne C. Conn (149)	02/01/2011	5953	Thomas M. Caldwell (73)	12/14/2010			
506	Russell T. Flint (56)	01/29/2011						
4193	Harry Stith (18)	01/28/2011						
1755	Manley H. Kirkeby (143)	01/27/2011						

*If you are aware of a fellow brother who has passed away, please email the information to [rgardiner@grandlodgemontana.org](mailto:rgardiner@grandlodgemontana.org) or complete this form and mail to: Montana Grand Lodge PO Box 1158 Helena, MT 59624.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_

## SAPPHIRA TEMPLE

As I write my final Queen's message, I am experiencing a wide array of emotions. My year as Queen is quickly winding down.... it has gone quickly as I was told it would. My officers and I worked hard to increase Temple membership this year. We initiated twelve new Princesses into Sapphira Temple during three ceremonials, two in Helena and one in Missoula. Our Temple trip to tour the Spokane Hospital was another highlight of the year. Actually seeing the hospital and the results of our donations re-energized my commitment to our philanthropy and our organization. The crown jewel of my



year was the opportunity I had to meet many of you, the Princesses of Sapphira Temple.

At our last session, elections were held and Diane Boley is our new Queen elect, Pam Jackson is our Princess Royal elect, Vickie Rauser is our Princess Tirzah elect, and Judy Nielson is our new Princess Badoura elect. We

*Queen Carol Huston*

congratulate all of our ladies and wish them the best and look forward to supporting them in their endeavors and during the coming year of "Precious Moments." Congratulations ladies.

**Trivia Answer:**  
*The Vigilantes of Montana by Bro. Thomas J. Dimsdale, 1866, Virginia City, M.T.*

## ELBOW CREEK RENDEZVOUS

Come one, come all to the 2011 Elbow Creek Rendezvous on July 9, 2011. Location about eight miles west of Bridger Montana, follow the sign in Bridger or from the Red Lodge side the sign is just before



the rest stop (head east). Work will be at approximately 11:00 AM with lunch following at around 1:00 PM. Please come a little early, bring a chair, water bottle, hat. Cost for lunch will be \$10.00. Please RSVP to Dan Koch Sr. at PO Box 536 by July 5th so we can plan enough food.



## OUR DAD ALWAYS SUPPORTED THE MASONIC WAY OF LIFE

Our Dad always supported the Masonic way of life and so did our mother. Most of us can relate to people in our lifetime that caused us to believe a certain way and take a certain pathway through life. My brother and I chose Masonry not because we were educated in its high ideals and principles but because both our parents held it in such high esteem. Both Granddads were Masons which made it easy for my father to choose the Masonic pathway. He not only chose to become a Mason but was so engrossed with its teachings and the quality of the men that belonged to the fraternity that it was a daily subject in our home.

Frequently my parents would speak of the trust and admiration that they had for individuals belonging to the Masonic Fraternity. As we passed through childhood our parents had instilled in us that only the finest of men were Masons. There was never a doubt that at some point in our lives we would be Masons and would hopefully be deserving of that same trust from others.

As we advanced to young adults it became obvious to each of us that we knew nothing of what happened in the lodge. We were only aware of the bonds of friendship and trust that existed among its members. When I became an Entered Apprentice I swore on the Holy Bible that I would also be deserving of that trust and I was keenly aware of the penalty if I violated that obligation. As I progressed through the Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees my father continued to

*There was never a doubt that at some point in our lives we would be Masons ....*

remind me of my Masonic obligation reasoning that the trust and respect among our members resulted from the obligation that each of us took at the altar.

Serving as Grand Master during the year 2009-2010 I felt that educating the Craft on Masonic principles was extremely important. The Education Committee for the Masonic year did a great job to make sure that the lodges had educational information to pass on to their members. Some lodges excelled in providing education to its members and others fell short. I expect that some members took it upon themselves to be better informed by studying Masonic principles. And of course I believe that each of us should continue to commit ourselves to educating the Craft not only for their benefit but also for our own gratification.

When learning and memorizing our obligation most of us remember the words but lose their meaning. With all of the educational material available to us in this age of communication I still believe that taking time to explain to each other the meaning of the various parts of our obligation is of vital importance. I want the brothers of my lodge, as well as each of you, to understand my commitment of trust and respect for you. Because you took the same obligation as I did, I automatically place you in a special group of men. I cannot say that each of you is my friend

because I believe that friendship is developed through association with one another. But the chances of friendship developing between Masonic brothers are greater because trust and respect is already present. Our standards of ethical and moral conduct place us in the most respected fraternity in the world not because we are the largest or raise the most money for our philanthropies but because we all took the same obligation and believe in high moral and ethical standards.

From the above comments you might believe that I am proud to be a Mason. Yes, I am proud that I can rely upon each of you for your high standard of conduct, trust and respect. I am thankful that my parents placed Masonry in such high esteem and made me aware of its qualities. And I am confident that when I talk to my two sons and my grandson regarding the Masons who I know in my community I am giving them a fair evaluation of the kind of men who are most respected for their ethics, morals and high standards of conduct. I promised myself many years ago that I would never be too busy to share my Masonic experiences with my family and I ask each of you to do the same.

**Thomas L. Lund, (38), PGM**