

# FROM THE GRAND EAST

**Brothers,**

A chill is in the air and snow is on the ground, Christmas is right around the corner. To the Masons of Montana a Merry Christmas greeting! I hope the Christmas Holidays provide a chance for you to join with your families and together celebrate this important holiday.

The Christmas Season provides a great time to reflect on the past year and evaluate our own progress in the unending labor of perfecting our characters by the virtues taught in our Work. I hope that all Masons can look upon the days between last year and this year and see some area in which they made even the smallest step towards being a better man, a better father, a better husband and a better friend and neighbor.

I have made the request that all lodges try to find a brother to deliver the Opening Charge. This Charge sets the tone for our behavior in and out of the lodge and I feel that by adhering to the virtues inculcated we will be doing the very best we can for membership. For by our actions, not our programs, we will attract men who in their hearts want a better world; not only for themselves and their families but for everyone. Let us all remember, especially during the Christmas Season, that Masonic Charity comes from the heart. All Masons can be charitable in their thoughts, words and actions. This charity is something that all brothers can afford for it requires only a taming of our rougher nature, something we should strive for at all times. With this in mind, let us take a few minutes to review our obligations and make a

concerted effort to live by what we have promised.

During my time as a Grand Lodge Officer I have always been amazed by the fact that Worshipful Masters, during their installation, promise to attend the Grand Lodge session and, then a good part of them fail to attend. I am sure that many have good reasons but it is my hope that all of you will attend and take part in the activities and governance of our fraternity. With that in mind, we have decided to offer, to those districts that have 100% of their lodges in attendance, a chance for the lodges of that district to put their name in a hat and some lucky lodge will win and have its Grand Lodge expenses (not rooms nor travel) picked up by the fraternity.

This year awards will also be given to all lodges that have a positive growth in membership when compared to last year, (increases due to consolidations and surrender of charters will not qualify). I encourage all lodges to get their candidates moving through the degrees and work hard to make meetings relevant and

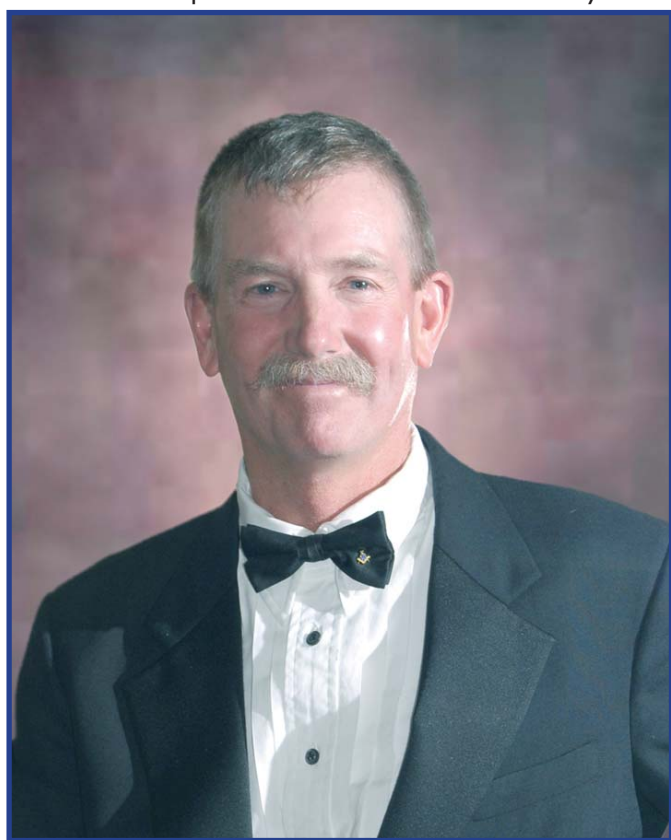
interesting, thereby, hopefully, lowering the NPD numbers.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial was constructed by the Masons of the United States with no outside financial help. The cornerstone was placed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, 1923 and work progressed through the depression. It is my feeling that Masons from across the country, (and many have done so already), need to step forward and support the efforts that are taking place to repair and maintain this monument. For this reason, I have asked the District Officers to mention to the lodges that there will be a silent auction to benefit the George Washington Masonic Monument, and that it would be nice if lodges supportive of the Monument provided

something for that auction. The auction will be open to ladies so items that would be of interest to them is something to keep in mind. Items do not have to be of a Masonic flavor; I like to say that anything that you would like to have is something that could generate interest. If you decide to provide something please make a commitment and let your District Officer know by the

1<sup>st</sup> of April. Either bring the items to the session in Billings or deliver them to your District Officer.

The last district meeting of 2011 will take place in Miles City on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December; additional district wide meetings will be held in 2012 in several areas across the state. Any brother is welcome to attend any of these meetings. All of these are events that your District Officer thinks will help lodges prosper. Some will focus on leadership, others membership retention and lodge management. Keep an eye on the Grand Lodge calendar for these



informative sessions. Most will be on a Saturday and run the usual time, starting at 10:00 AM until midafternoon, with a lunch being provided. The Grand Wardens will also be hosting workshops this spring, time and place to be announced.

Brothers, the 25<sup>th</sup> of December is not only an important date for Christianity but an important date for all the brothers who have been elevated to the station of Grand Master for the jurisdiction of Montana. I was installed close to the summer equinox and the winter equinox is soon to be here. And even after six months in this office I am still humbled when I am introduced as the Grand Master AF & AM of Montana. I look forward to meeting many of you in the second half of my tenure and have really enjoyed meeting many of you these past few months. Once again, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and may the Blessings of the Season be with you.

William L. Alexander, Grand Master



# SERVICE TO OTHERS IS SERVICE TO YOURSELF

I am deeply honored to serve Most Worshipful Brother William L. Alexander, II as his appointed Grand Pursuivant for the 2011 – 2012 Masonic Year. Furthermore, I am honored to serve the nine Lodges of the Great Falls District as their District Officer. Following Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Tom Duffy as the new District Officer is challenging and rewarding and I look forward to serving all the Masons in my District.

Notice I said serve. I believe the true meaning of my duty as a Grand Lodge Officer is to serve the Grand Master and the Masons of Montana to the best of my ability. Service to others is a fundamental concept of Masonry and is taught to us through those valuable tenants of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Charity. Every Mason is openly taught these principals as he progresses through our Degrees. But like many things in Masonry, what is openly taught is further enhanced by looking closer at the deeper meanings of the ritual.

The names of our three Grand Masters; Solomon King of Israel, Hiram King of Tyre, and Hiram Abif, are well known to the Master Mason. What some Masons may not know is that the legend of Hiram Abif as presented in our ritual is not supported by a biblical account. Rather, Masonry has created an extensive mythology about this master builder and it is easy for Masons to feel a bond with this tragic hero. In that regard, I have chosen to humanize Hiram Abif in order to extract a deeper meaning of his

actions, because I feel the legend of Hiram Abif presents a more esoteric concept; that service to others is service to yourself.

As the legend claims, Hiram Abif was not from Jerusalem but was from the port-city of Tyre far to the north in the country of Lebanon. He was not a Hebrew, but instead was a Phoenician who likely practiced a form of multiple-god worship common to his people at that time. King Solomon asked Hiram King of Tyre to assist in building a magnificent Temple and Hiram Abif was sent by his King to serve as its chief architect.

We can only suppose that Hiram Abif was a stranger in a strange land and that he would have had little in common with his foreign co-workers. We do not know what leadership or management training he had that qualified him to lead thousands of men in the Temple's construction. Given his fame as an incredibly-skilled builder, Hiram Abif was likely enjoying a comfortable life of success in his own country. But his duty to his King, his honor as a craftsman, and ultimately his staunch adherence to his personal morality has resulted in him being venerated as a Grand Master of our Fraternity.

For you see, Hiram Abif's service on the Temple is the perfect example for us that service to others is truly service

to ourselves. He fulfilled his responsibilities to his King and country and served the desires to complete another man's Temple, all of the while expanding and enhancing his own internal Temple. He served his profession by giving his best effort to the project, while bringing credit to his trade and to himself. Finally, he set a high standard of morality through his service to the other two Masters by keeping their secrets even in times of adversity, and ultimately, it is through his unwavering fidelity to his principles that he set the example in the hearts and minds of all Masons worldwide.

By contributing time, ability, and resources in service to our Fraternity, we are all emulating the path of our legendary Grand Master. Unlike the mythological actions of Hiram Abif, our actions are real and we must remember that every decision we make has real and lasting impacts on those around us.

Masonry is not a race to collect the most dues cards or grandiose titles, but rather, it is a life-long journey of enlightenment and personal enrichment. May your journey be challenging and rewarding and take you into foreign countries where your service will be of benefit to all.

**Alan Froberg, Grand Pursuivant**



## 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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Montana Masonic News

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

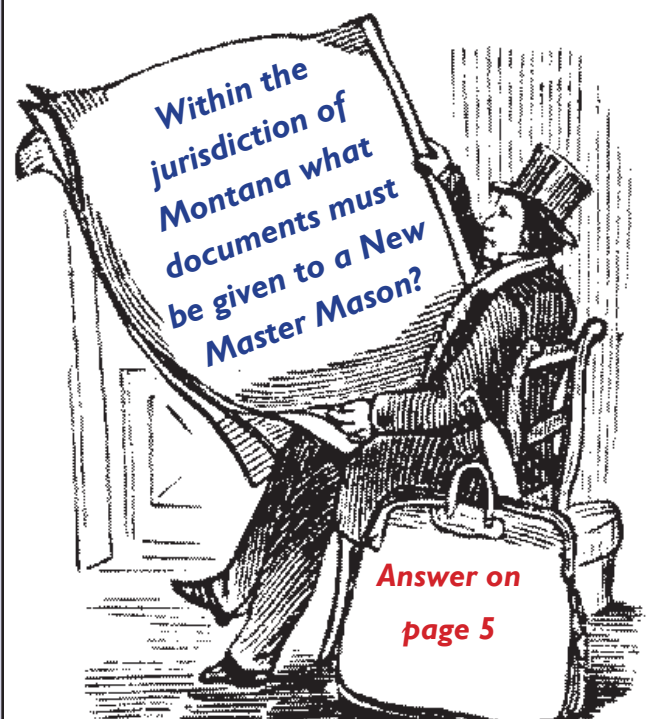
Please provide full given name, Lodge or affiliation and US Mailing address.

### 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.



## DUTIES OF A MASONIC LODGE

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

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

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

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

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

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

Joseph Fort Newton, a renowned Masonic writer, said:

***“There are those who thought the power of Masonry lay in her secrecy; some think so still, not knowing that its real power lies in the sanctity of its truth, the simplicity of its faith, the sweetness of its spirit, its service to mankind, and that if all the rites were made public today it would still hold the hearts of men.”***

From this we can determine that the mission of Freemasonry includes making friends, to make their lives, and ours, better, and to help and encourage masons to make their lives a quest for truth, righteousness and character. Freemasonry upholds every noble and redeeming ideal of humanity.

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

## MOUNT JEFFERSON #56 VETERANS DINNER

Holy Smokes! that little Lodge in Pony really knows how to put on a wonderful evening dinner.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, Mount Jefferson Lodge # 56 in Pony conducted their annual military Veterans dinner. The town of Pony has an estimated adult population of about 60 to 70 adults, not counting the adult deer and elk that live around Pony. The dining hall had about 60 adults. Where did all those people come from?

The food was plentiful and hmm, hmm good, and definitely that very good “Down Home Cookin.”

After dinner, their guest speaker went around the room asking every military veteran, what branch of the military and when they served. There were both men and women. One male Veteran, who was just past middle age (I want to be respectful), served in the Navy when the Navy still had real big battleships. Yep, that's right, he is 89 years young. The youngest Veteran was with the Army, and he was 23 years old. Every decade since 1940 to today was represented at this wonderful Veteran's dinner. What a pleasure it was to see all those Veterans stand up straight and were proud to have served America.

Their guest speaker was Sheila Gaub from Bozeman. Sheila is the Regional Coordinator with the “Quilts of Valor” National Foundation. The national organization was created in 2003 and the Montana chapter was created in 2008.

Since the Montana chapter started, they have created over 227 hand made quilts for the wounded warriors returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. This sewing group of women and men have mailed or personally delivered 227 quilts to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. In addition to these 227 quilts, they created and personally presented 12 quilts to Montana wounded Veterans.

These quilts are made in the “Gaub's Garage” in Bozeman, January through October for two days each

I am sure that with “Love” in their heart each quilt is specially made for an injured veteran. These quilters from Montana, with a few exceptions, will probably never meet any of the Veterans who are cherishing a hand made quilt from Montana.

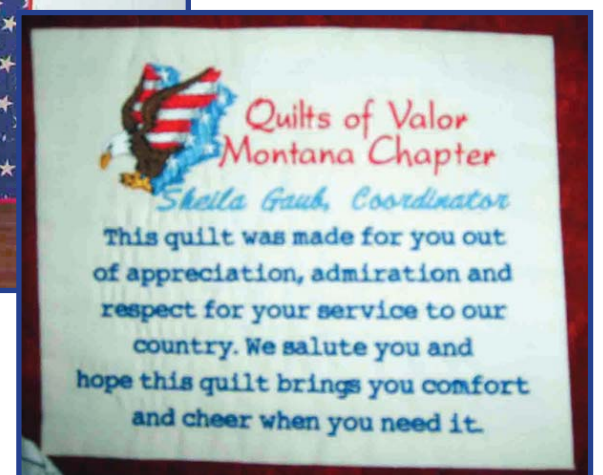
During November and December, I think Sheila's husband Lee, might get the garage back. Then come January, Lee and a couple of friends set up all the sewing tables, wire all the machines, and on and on. Then they'll start sewing or “Stand By” for the next set of instructions.

If you want to experience a great event, meet wonderful people, and just have an enjoyable evening, with great food, in a small town, in a small lodge, then I suggest that you keep your eyes and ears wide open around October 2012 so you can get your reservation in. After all, even the Pony lodge dining room has a capacity. Maybe they just stttttttretch, the building. Whatever they do, if you attend, you will have a memorable evening.

**John Thompson (5, 41, 51)**



month by volunteer quilters, that just keep hand stitching and humming along, creating with care, and attention to every detail.



## OBSERVATIONS AND SPECULATIONS

Open the door to Freemasonry. Observe the boxes of tools by which a person might improve his personal worth and speculate on how one might place them in use.

The purpose of this paper is to open up to view some of my thoughts and philosophies as I view the beauties and benefits of our gentle craft, to explore the importance of adhering to the commitments and responsibilities we assumed as we progressed through the several degrees. Of no less importance are the symbolic lessons and elements of the various charges delivered to us at the end of each degree, the charge to the candidate prior to his first entrance into a Lodge and the closing charge delivered as we prepare to depart into the world of the profane. The charges, obligations, admonitions and lessons portrayed by symbols and various illustrations are the vehicles, the tools, by which we are given the opportunity "To Improve Ourselves In Masonry".

I have heard it expressed that Freemasonry can, and should be, a means of self-evaluation; that by reflecting on the lessons portrayed by illustrations and symbols and, by striving to live in accord with the obligations and various charges that we have agreed to, one cannot help but improve his stature as a man, a brother, husband, father, citizen and neighbor.

Space will not allow a broad discussion of all the implements to be found in the toolbox of Freemasonry. In the interest of brevity, and to hopefully plant a seed of encouragement to review lessons taught in our rituals, I will express some thoughts on a few of them.

For now, let us review some of the elements of the first degree. The lessons brought forth in this degree form a design, a foundation from which to build our moral edifice as Masons.

Prior to the first entrance into a Lodge, the preparatory lecture is recited to us. We are informed that "Freemasonry consists of a course of moral and philosophical instructions, illustrated by hieroglyphics and taught, according to ancient usage by type, emblems and allegorical figures". This is intended to excite the imagination of the initiate and to open his mind to receive the important lessons that follow.

The Working Tools of an Entered Apprentice, the 24 inch gage, should make one stop to reflect on how to manage time each day of our lives, to not be wasteful of that which is not replaceable and to symbolically use the Gavel to cleanse our minds and hearts of any contaminated thoughts, words or deeds.

Lessons to be garnered from the three great tenets, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are important in how we conduct our relations with mankind. By Brotherly Love we are taught to treat all mankind equally and with respect. To sooth the unhappy, to compassionate their miseries and restore peace to the troubled mind should be our constant aim. Exercise an attentive ear, encourage and support those who may need comfort is a form of rendering Relief. And Truth, explained to be a divine attribute, is the foundation of every virtue. For a man to be other than truthful in our relationships breeds suspicion and leads to loss of respect and support from others.

Of equal, if not greater importance are the lessons explained by the Four Cardinal Virtues, Temperance, Fortitude Prudence and Justice. If we would strive to exercise these Virtues in our daily intercourse with

family, friends and our Brothers as well as the profane with which we have contact, everyone would benefit. I will attempt to explain these Virtues as I view them.

**Temperance:** To place a restraint on vicious thoughts and actions, those things we might do and say that could be harmful to others and might destroy reputations respect and personal relations.

**Fortitude:** To be steady and constant in productive thoughts, words and deeds. A person should be consistent in beliefs, obligations and commitments.

**Prudence:** Teaches us to regulate our private and personal actions as well as those we exercise in public.

**Justice:** Is the very cement of civil society. It is the practice which enables to render unto all individuals that kindness and consideration which every person is due.

**Point Within a Circle:** An ever present reminder to be cautious and prudent in our activities and behavior in order to prevent offense toward God and man. Remember that you represent Freemasonry and how you are viewed by the profane is the impressions formed of our Fraternity.

Of equal if not greater significance in outlining specifications for our actions is the symbolism represented by the Lambskin or White Leather Apron which is explained as being the Badge of a Mason and that its pure and spotless surface is to remind us of

a purity of life and a rectitude of conduct, inspiring us to nobler deeds, for higher thoughts and greater achievements. A practice of these elements is

essential to assure a rich and fruitful life of respect and honor.

These are but a few of the lessons from our ritual to follow if we are to present ourselves before god and man as respectable citizens, It is important that we use these lessons, as well as others, to pattern our actions

and that we might respond to our obligations in a positive manner. He vows and obligations we agree to as we pass through the degrees are serious commitments and not mere words to be discounted or forgotten once taken. A persons honor and reputation is measured by his adherence to his word.

Have you ever given pause to consider Freemasonry's place in the corporate world? Reflect for a moment on some similarities: As a member of the Society of Freemasons, we are stockholders in an entity that promotes the greatest product known to man, "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth"; to this we might add "Tolerance".

The Prospectus for the Corporation is to be found in the Volume of the Sacred Law and is reinforced through the rituals and ceremonies contained within the covers of the Washington Monitor and Freemasons Guide. (The Standard Work)

The number of shares credited to ones account us proportional to how a person lives his life in accordance with the tenets and principals of the Corporation.

Interest and dividends are paid in the form of selfrespect, satisfaction with ones deeds, a good name and lasting friendships.

A side benefit is that interest and dividends are not taxable.

So, consider increasing your holdings in the Corporation by exercising daily the art of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love with all whom you are privileged to engage. Remember, "Every Human Being Has a Claim Upon Your Kind Offices".

In conclusion, remember these admonitions from the closing Charge. "You have promised to relieve those who may need your assistance, to defend a Brothers character in his absence, to remind a Brother in the most friendly manner of his faults and endeavor to aid in his reformation". And above all "To do Good unto all".

To live a life as a Freemason is a simple and attainable goal, a goal we should each endeavor to achieve as we go about this business of living a responsible, respected life.

So mote it be.  
**James R. Vannice, MWPGM, Grand Lodge of Washington**

**Lessons to be garnered from the three great tenets, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are important in how we conduct our relations with mankind.**

### GEORGE O. BRAATZ NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION

The Masonic Service Association of North America (MSA) announced that George O. Braatz, Past Grand Master and Past Grand Secretary of Ohio, was selected out of a pool of twenty applicants to serve as the new Executive Secretary of the MSA.

The MSA began a search for a new Executive Secretary in the fall of 2010 after Brother Richard Fletcher submitted his resignation. Announcement was made to all member jurisdictions of MSA, and a deadline of June 1, 2011 was set for the acceptance of applications by the executive commissioners.

"The Executive Commissioners of the MSA are extremely excited by this

selection. They look forward to the continuing service of the MSA to all member jurisdictions and Masonry in general with the support of Brother Braatz as executive secretary," explained Chairman William G. Roberts, PGM of Nevada.

The MSA was formed in 1919 and is headquartered in Silver Spring, MD. It provides educational material, statistical reports, Disaster Relief and administers a Hospital Visitation Program across North America. For more information about the MSA visit: [www.msana.com](http://www.msana.com).



## INDEFATIGABLE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Often many of us feel the stress and pressures from financial limitations, and many end up working more than one job. Over the years, this has not changed, but we need only do the best we can.

Our Past Grand Master and Past Grand Secretary Cornelius Hedges, in order to provide adequately for his family, often engaged in economic pursuits other than his law profession and public offices, such as: Probate Judge, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and State Senator. Brother Hedges was never content when he had to limit his family. Yet, within the limits of the time and money that he had, our good brother was indefatigable in his quest to make the holidays joyful and meaningful for his family - can we do any more?

In the journals of Cornelius Hedges from Christmas Day, 1869, he wrote, "Christmas -Sunday school festival last evening - I was busy getting something for the children -Spent \$5.00 in presents -Times are too hard to do much."

December is a wonderful and festive month. It is filled with joy and excitement and wonder, and to many it is a month of peace and miracles. Among the world's great faiths, two will be holding major celebrations this month, those being Christmas and Hanukkah. In whatever way you celebrate your faith, may it be a wonderful time with your family, friends and sharing in Masonic fellowship. As Masons, we should respect and rejoice in whatever holidays or religious customs our Brothers and friends celebrate. We, as always, should be respectful of all faiths and religions. As Freemasons, we espouse the great Masonic Doctrine of universal Brotherhood. In that sense, our mystic circle knows no bounds; we espouse the virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Let each of us remember the lonely, the homeless, the infirm, the hungry, and the distressed among us. This month and this season also provide an opportunity for Masons to

reflect upon the world around us and provide us with a chance to stand tall, and as Masons demonstrate our concern of all mankind. During this month it seems that everyone is just a bit more charitable. During this time of joy and wonder, let us share in our own good fortune by being charitable to those less fortunate.

In closing I'd like to share the following quote with you:

"I wish for you our brothers of all faiths, that just a little light will drive away much darkness and you and I and all of us together can make a difference. We are Masons. We are the children of the Great Creator. We have a definite pattern to follow and that is the life and love of Freemasonry. At this time of the year, some of us observe Chanukah, others observe Christmas, and still others Kwanza. Whatever your faith, whatever your tradition, we wish you a happy holiday as brothers and as children of one Creator."

Melville H. Nahin, PGM (CA)

**Reid Gardiner, Grand Secretary**

### Trivia Answer:

**The Monitor (Section 2), the Montana Coach's Handbook (Section 4), and a copy of the Lodge's ByLaws.**

## HOLIDAY ORNAMENT

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

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

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

To order, please contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 7035499234 (Item 561, \$25.00) or visit the Memorial website at: [giftshop@gwmemorial.org](mailto:giftshop@gwmemorial.org)/shopping



## LIVE IT

Discussions in Lodge often turn to the issue of participation. Observation suggests that there are several reasons for having a desire to participate in Masonic activity. Perhaps it may be to extrapolate a particular philosophical point, or expound on some of the degree work's underlying meaning, or merely socialize with men of like mind. In general, camaraderie is increased and defined.

However, participation can be curtailed in a number of ways. Personality conflict perhaps being one of the more prevalent reasons. That is part of the human condition. It is the hope of Masonic teachings that these conflicts can be mitigated and resolved, although that is not always the case. The next logical step is to minimize the impact of inevitable conflict. Regardless of the flowery language to which we are subjected, in truth, it all comes back to individuals looking into themselves, recognizing shortcomings and making an attempt to improve. That should be the Masonic condition.

Hopefully, by our behavior in the world, other men will have a desire to affiliate with those of good moral character. That is not to say that all Masons behave as such. While we read Masonic essays that rhetorically elaborate in such a way as to suggest that Masons only think about "purity of soul, rectitude of conduct and searching for light upon more light", reality suggests otherwise.

There is an old story about a King who had a beautiful ring and three sons. Each son wanted the ring. When he died, he left three identical rings for his sons with this note, that said, "My dear sons, one of these rings is real and two are fake. The way you will know who has the

real ring is that the son with the real ring will be kind and generous to all people."

Each of the three sons spent the rest of his life being good to prove that he had the real ring. It is the same with life, philosophy and religion. The way to show it is not to scream about it, but to live it.

**John N. Love, PM (38, 61)**

[Editor's Note: To enhance the "Live It" article the notes below are of value to the reader. The following can be found in the Montana Monitor, in the section "Charges Approved in 1722" "Therefore, no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations, or State policy."

In the Master Mason degree "...which unites us into on sacred band, or society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist..."

In the Installation we ""You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess."

Even more we see in the Charge At Opening "...Let us ever remember that the great objects of our association are, the restraint of improper desires and passions, the cultivation of an active benevolence, and the promotion of a correct knowledge of the duties we owe to God, our neighbor, and ourselves. Let us be united, and practice with assiduity the sacred tenets of our Order. Let all private animosities, if any unhappily exist, give place to affection and brotherly love. It is useless parade to talk of the subjection of irregular passions within the

walls of the Lodge, if we permit them to triumph in our intercourse with each other. Uniting in the grand design, let us be happy ourselves, and endeavor to promote the happiness of others..."

The following is Not part of the work used by the Grand Lodge of Montana. It is worth noting that in many English Constitution Lodges, there exists a Charge regarding the Apron following the usual notation that it is an emblem of innocence and badge of a Mason, more ancient than... etc. This is from the "Oxford" ritual working:

"I must add to the observations of my Brother the Senior Warden, that you are never to put on that Badge should you be about to enter a Lodge where there is a Brother with whom you are at variance, or against whom you entertain any feelings of animosity. In such cases, it is expected that you may settle your differences amicably; which being happily effected, you may then clothe yourselves, enter the Lodge, and work with that love and harmony which should at all times characterize Masons.

But if, unfortunately, your differences should be of such a nature as not to be so easily adjusted, it were better that one, or both of you, should retire, rather than the harmony of the Lodge should be disturbed by your presence."

As simple reminder, some men however, do not consider themselves to be the straw breaking the back of another man's camel, and it may be necessary to whisper good counsel in his ear, to inform him that his attitude may be disrupting the peace and good harmony which should prevail among the workmen.]

## DON S. HOLLAND A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

A bit of Masonic history was made in Butte on June 3, 2011 when Don S. Holland was installed as the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Montana. His installation into this office made him only the second man in the 145 year history of Montana Masonry to have been elected as the Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Montana Order of the Eastern Star, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, The Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, The Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Montana.

Only one other man, Lew L. Calloway, had ever accomplished this feat before. He began his Masonic journey through the grand lines in 1902 and finished in 1945.

Brother Holland began his journey in 1977 when he was appointed the Grand Tyler by then Grand Master Robert N. Perkins. His dates of service to our Craft, (not necessarily in chronological order are): in 2001 he was the Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Montana Order of the Eastern Star, in 2005 he was the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons, in 2011 he was the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand

Council of Cryptic Masons, in 1999 he was the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, and in 1988 he was the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana.

In his spare time: He has been Worthy Patron in Bethlehem Chapter, OES seven times. He has served three times as the Master of Hiram #52 in Forsyth; he has been the Lodge Treasurer for more than thirty years, the Lodge instructor for more than twenty years and Secretary/Treasurer of building corporation for more than thirty years. He has headed all three of our local York Rite Bodies, some more than once. He holds many honorary degrees and memberships



in York Rite related Bodies, including the Order of the Purple Cross, Knight Commander of the Temple, Knight York Cross of Honor, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, just to name a few. He is presently serving as the Intendant General of the Montana division of the

Red Cross of Constantine, and he is the President of the Past Grand Masters Association. He holds a plural membership in Saints John Lodge #92 at Hardin and is a member of Al Bedoo Temple and the Scottish Rite.

In April of 2011 he was presented his 50 year Masonic pin by then Grand Master John Mangen.

The members of Hiram #52 are very, very proud of our Brother Don Holland and of his accomplishments in Masonry. Those Brothers who have served in grand lines can readily appreciate the dedication and commitment that Brother Holland has shown to our Craft. Those miles and miles - motel room after motel room.

He deserves all of our thanks and congratulations for a job well done.

**Billy Millhollin, PGM**

### FROM THE GRAND ORGANIST'S BENCH

For the Lodge Organist, the following book is a great music manual for most ceremonies. It was first published in 1907, but has been republished in March of 2011. I found it on Amazon.com, but a book store would send for it too. It cost me around \$12.00.



**New Masonic Music Manual  
By William H. Hanes  
ISBN 0766101738**

A CD that goes well with the book and can be played in place of an organist or singers is one that the Grand Lodge of Colorado has printed. It would be very useful in learning the songs. The CD has 31 selections that can be used from incidental music, to all degree work, the funeral processional and even the Star Spangle Banner in a low key for men.

**CD Degree Music  
Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Colorado  
Brother Ernie Pyle Grand Secretary  
1130 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, Co 809041798**

Brother Pyle will send a copy of it for \$13.05, including postage.

To match the music in the book with the numbers on the CD you can use the following chart. There is a song list that comes with the CD.

CD track	Music Book page number
9	13 Brothers, Now Behold
10	12
12	4
13	28
14	31
15	28
16	16
18	3
24	82
25	22
26	54

**John O. Baber, W. Grand Organist**

## DOING IT RIGHT COURTESY 50 YEAR PRESENTATION

*Many of our members reside out of state and often we need to request a courtesy presentation of a 50 Year Member Award. Such is the case of Brother Robert Wilhelm a member of Butte Lodge No. 22, who resides in San Francisco.*

### Prometheus Lodge Presents 50 Year Award to Brother Robert Wilhelm

On November 30, 2011, Brother Robert Wilhelm joined members of Prometheus No. 851 and his wife Irene, at the University Club for a celebration of his 50 years of Masonic service. After prayer and a brief reminder of the importance of more than half a century membership in the Fraternity, the Masonic history of Bro. Wilhelm was completed. Then the letter from W. Brother Lyle Cusson, Master of Butte No. 22 was read and the Certificate presented in a nice rosewood frame.

His wife, Irene, attached the 50 Year lapel pin to her husband's jacket and Brother Wilhelm was saluted by a battery of 3 times 3 by the brethren present. W. Brother Jordan Yelinek, Master of Prometheus Lodge gave a welcome and congratulatory speech to the recipient, Bro. Wilhelm remembered the when he joined Masonry.

The ceremony concluded at about 7 p.m., and was followed by a fraternal drink at the University Club restaurant where the brethren and Bro. Wilhelm talked about the United Grand Lodge of England and the difference between AF&AM and F&AM.

**Sebastien Taveau, Inspector-39<sup>th</sup> District, Grand Lodge of California**

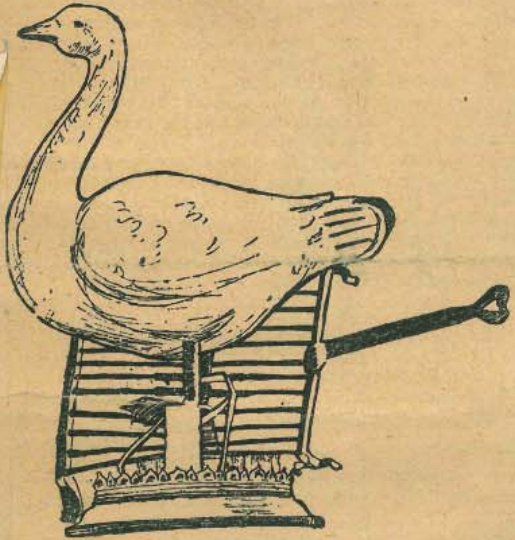


**VANISHING LONDON.**

**THE "GOOSE AND GRIDIRON."**

Trade, that great "improver" of the metropolis, is about to swallow up another of those old London landmarks so dear to antiquaries, so interesting even to the general public which runs and reads. Ere long the "Goose and Gridiron" will probably disappear down the capacious maw, so to speak, of a well-known firm in St. Paul's Churchyard, for whose premises the site of the old hostelry is, or will be, wanted.

There is nothing remarkable now about the outside of the old house. Its present exterior is of the usual sedate and uninteresting style of the latter part of the last century, and an escutcheon, bearing the date 1786, surmounted by a mitre and the letters "T. F.," undoubtedly marks the period of the present front. Not long ago, however, there was also to be seen over the large lamp which hung over the door one of the most curious of the inn signs of London, the sign of the house, the "Goose and Gridiron." This, how-



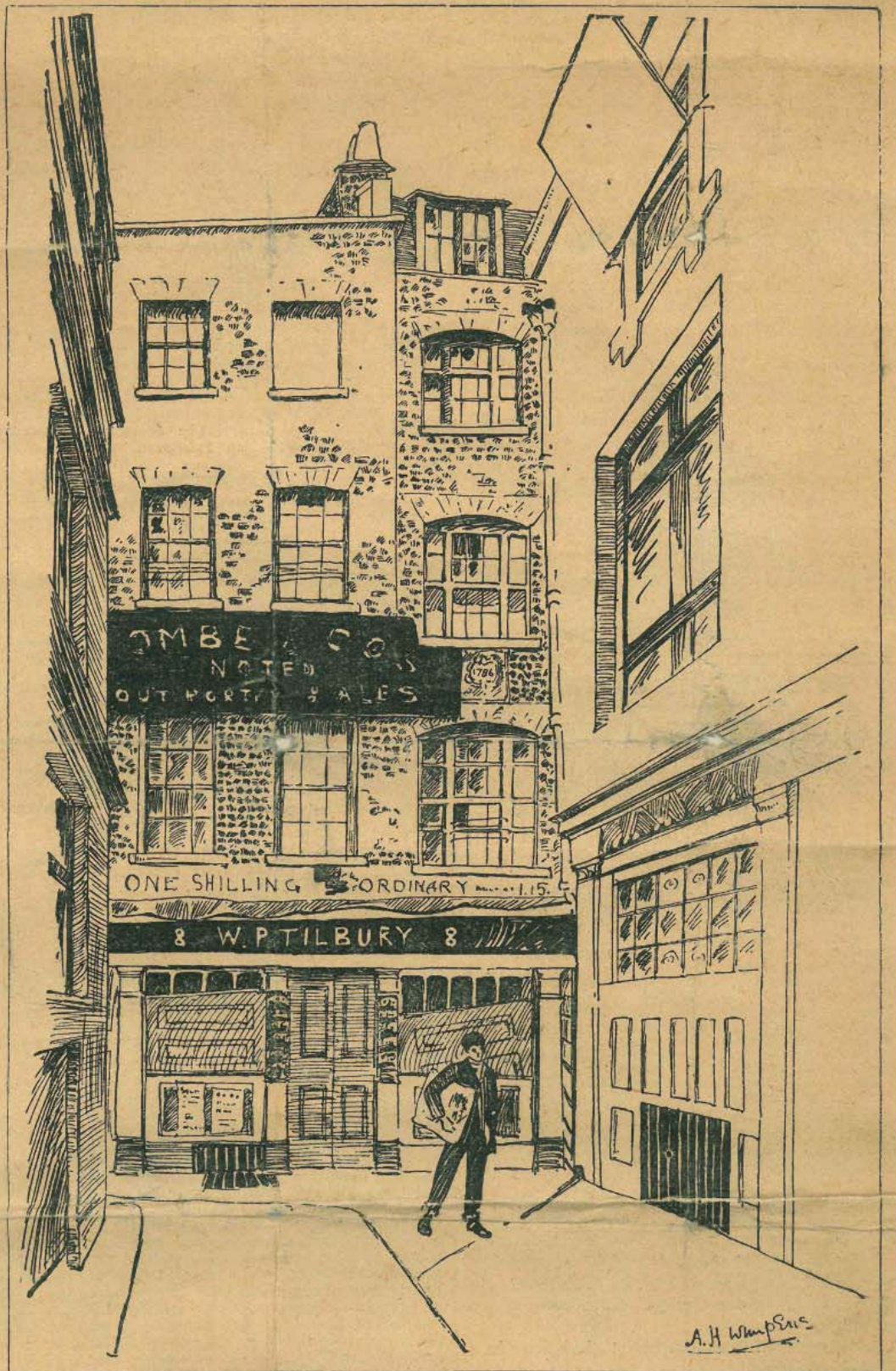
The Sign of the "Goose and Gridiron."

ever, is no longer to be seen in its old place, and the aspect of the house, its doors locked, its curtainless windows staring blankly down the yard towards St. Paul's, its front placarded with an auctioneer's notice to "publicans, wine merchants, and fixture dealers," and with the announcement of a temperance meeting at the Crystal Palace, is forlorn enough.

And yet this "Goose and Gridiron" is one of the most interesting old houses in London. As a correspondent has already pointed out in the *Daily Graphic*, this old hostelry is historically connected with the Freemasons, for in it, in 1717, Masonry was revived, and the very first Grand Lodge of the world founded. Of the taverns in which the four lodges then in England worked—the pioneers of English Freemasonry—the "Goose and Gridiron" is the last, and soon it also will disappear.

The pedigree of the strange sign of the house is somewhat involved, but can be fairly elucidated with a little patience.

Before the Great Fire of 1666, there was a house here, perhaps on this very site, with the sign of the Mitre. It might be supposed that the sculptured mitre, still to be seen in the wall of the house, was the actual sign. This, however, is not so; the mitre means merely that this property was attached to the See of London, and when the house was refronted or rebuilt, in the last century, the sculptured tablet was inserted to testify to that fact, the fact that the house itself



VANISHING LONDON: THE "GOOSE AND GRIDIRON," IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, WHERE THE FIRST GRAND LODGE OF FREEMASONS WAS FOUNDED.

was once known as the Mitre being merely a coincidence.

This Mitre was the first music-house in London. Its master was Robert Hubert, alias Farges. Like many of his brother publicans, he was a collector of curios. In 1642 the collection comprised:—"A choice Egyptian with hieroglyphicks," a "Remora," and "the Huge Thighbone of a Giant." To these Robert Hubert added other rarities, which he catalogued as having been collected by him "with great industrie and thirty years' travel into foreign countries," and that they were "daily to be seen at the place called the Music-house at the Mitre, near the west end of St. Paul's Church, 1664." Some of the collection passed into the possession of Sir Hans Sloane, and is presumably still in existence in Lincoln's Inn Fields, at the museum known by his name.

And so the Mitre—tavern, museum, and Music-house—flourished until the Great Fire destroyed it, and the Goose and Gridiron rose, phoenix like, from the ashes. But why Goose and Gridiron? Let us hear what the archaeologists who have made our old inns and their signs a specialty have to say about it. According to the *Taller*, when the house ceased to be a music house the succeeding landlord, to ridicule its former destiny, chose for his sign a goose striking the bars of a gridiron with its foot, thus making fun of the Swan and Harp, which was a common sign of the early music houses. Hotten and Larwood, in their history of signboards, say that it was a homely rendering of a charge in the coat of arms of the Company of Musicians, namely, a swan with his wings expanded within a double tressure counter flory, and that the double tressure suggested a gridiron to the passers-by. From Chambers' "Book of Days" it would appear that the house was the headquarters of a musical society, whose arms were the lyre of Apollo, with a swan as the crest, that this device was appropriated as the new sign when the house was rebuilt after the fire, and that it was nicknamed by vulgar and unsophisticated persons the Goose and Gridiron, the nickname sticking fast as nicknames will.

Be this as it may, as the Goose and Gridiron this house was known, and as the Goose and Gridiron it will be known for all time in the annals of Freemasonry in England. At this house Sir Christopher Wren, during the rebuilding of St. Paul's Cathedral, presided zealously for eighteen years over the St. Paul's Lodge of Freemasons. He presented the lodge with three handsomely-carved mahogany candlesticks, and the trowel and mallet which had been used in laying the first stone of the Cathedral, in 1675. In 1688 Wren was elected Grand Master of the Order, and he nominated his fellow workers at St. Paul's, Cibber, the sculptor, and Strong, the master mason, Grand Wardens. In 1716 the four leading lodges considering themselves neglected by Sir Christopher, met and chose a Grand Master *pro tem.* until they should be able to place a noble brother

at the head, which they did in the year following, electing the Duke of Montagu. The meeting was held at the Apple Tree Tavern, in Charles Street, Covent Garden, and the other three lodges were the Crown, Parke's Lane; the Rummer and Grapes, Westminster; and our Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard.

In or about 1713 one Ned Ward, who had kept a public-house in Moorfield, published a book, now extremely scarce, entitled "A Vade Mecum for Malt Worms, or a Guide to Good Fellows, being a description of the Manners and Customs of the most Eminent Drinking Houses in and about the Cities of London and Westminster, with a Hint on the Props or Principal Customers of each House in a Method so plain that any Thirty Yearson (of the meanest capacity) may easily find the nearest Way from one House to Another. Dedicated to the Brewers." The attractions of the "Goose and Gridiron" are celebrated in verse, some of which is quite unquotable, and its "Props" are mentioned, among them—

Dutch carvers from St. Paul's adjacent dome,  
Hither to wet their whistles daily come.

And further on it is stated that the "rarities of the Goose and Gridiron are—1. The odd sign; 2. The pillar which supports the chimney; 3. The skittle-ground upon the top of the house; 4. The watercourse running through the chimney; 5. The handsome maid, Hannah."

It were interesting to trace these rarities (except, of course, poor "Hannah, the handsome maid"—where does *her* dust lie, we wonder?) within the house; but, alas! there is no admittance even on business. The Goose and Gridiron, as we have said, fell on evil days; there was a "man in possession" within the walls which once resounded with melody and the rap of Sir Christopher's hammer and last May the entire contents were sold off under a distress warrant. The very sign was sold for a few shillings, and now does duty as a curio in the conservatory of a private house at Dulwich. *Ichabod!*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY GRAPHIC.

SIR,—It may perhaps interest your readers to know the derivation of the above peculiar tavern sign, alluded to by your correspondent in to-day's issue, who draws attention to the old home of Grand Lodge. From Chambers' "Book of Days" it would appear that previously to the Great Fire of 1666 this house was known as The Mitre, and was at that time the headquarters of a musical society, whose arms, the lyre of Apollo, with a swan as the crest, were appropriated as the new sign when the house was rebuilt after the fire. This classical symbol was soon converted by the vulgar into the Goose and Gridiron, by which name the house was afterwards known.—  
Yours faithfully,  
E. C.  
Chadlington, August 21st.

**The Birth Place of the First Grand Lodge  
Dan Gardiner (3)**

This is a reproduction of an original news clipping presented by Bro. E.E. Murray, of Billings, to the Grand Lodge of Montana. The occasion of the article was the impending demolition of the building pictured, at the address of 8 London House Yard, home of the Goose and Gridiron tavern.

In 1716, a "Grand Lodge pro Tempore" met and they agreed to formally organize on the following St John's Day (June 24), 1717 at the Goose and Gridiron tavern - home to a lodge meeting in the shadow of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. The "Revival of 1717" birthed the world's first Masonic Grand Lodge, and Speculative Freemasonry as we now know it began.

The number of Masons formerly meeting at 8 London House Yard still exists today (in another location) as the "Lodge of Antiquity."

# SERVICE AWARDS

AUGUST, 2011 DECEMBER, 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

<b>Morning Star Lodge - 5</b> <b>Dick R. Rogers</b> 11/09	<b>Three Forks Lodge - 73</b> <b>William A. Fairhurst</b> 08/07 <b>Lawrence B. Laird</b> 09/20	<b>Ekalaka Lodge - 120</b> <b>Ernest E Tooke</b> 09/01 <b>Franklin D. Dague</b> 09/03 <b>Keith A. Larson</b> 10/01
<b>Cascade Lodge - 34</b> <b>Daren J. Vick</b> 11/19	<b>Mission Valley Lodge - 78</b> <b>Richard A. Menke</b> 11/02 <b>Alvin G. Merritt</b> 12/12	<b>Delta Lodge - 128</b> <b>Robert D. Rowe</b> 10/22
<b>Ionic Lodge - 38</b> <b>Lawrence A. Hale</b> 11/07	<b>Saints John Lodge - 92</b> <b>Fred J. Weibert</b> 11/10	<i>The listed Brothers are due or have been presented the Montana 50 Year Member Award. If not already requested the Lodge Secretary should do so and make arrangements to present these Awards. There are another eighty-six (86), 50 Year Awards that have been mailed to Lodge Secretaries that are still pending presentation or have not been reported as having been presented.</i>
<b>Kalispell Lodge - 42</b> <b>Larry W. Bain</b> 11/17	<b>Eureka Lodge - 93</b> <b>Jerry L. Agen</b> 10/20	
<b>North Star Lodge - 46</b> <b>Marvin O. Barstad</b> 12/07	<b>Scobey Lodge - 109</b> <b>Kurtis A. Ueland</b> 10/24 <b>Hans J. Larsen</b> 11/15 <b>Larry W. Bain</b> 11/17	
<b>Doric Lodge - 53</b> <b>Fred Olness</b> 10/14	<b>Powder River Lodge - 135</b> <b>Ronald Talcott</b> 10/11	
<b>Stillwater Lodge - 62</b> <b>Bernard J. VanEvery</b> 12/08		

## NEW CRAFTSMAN WELCOMED TO THE QUARRIES

<b>Montana Lodge 2 / 4</b> 7252 <b>Jon C. Goodman</b> 10/15/2011 7266 <b>David J. Cope</b> 10/15/2011	<b>Hiram Lodge 52 / 10</b> 7279 <b>Clifford L. Locke</b> 10/04/2011	7284 <b>Sean D. Ballou</b> 10/25/2011 7285 <b>Kirk W. Ligget</b> 10/25/2011
<b>Yellowstone Lodge 26 / 10</b> 7304 <b>Aaron T. Nelson</b> 09/13/2011 7305 <b>Michael W. Cummins</b> 11/01/2011	<b>Corinthian Lodge 72 / 1</b> 7152 <b>Heston R. Schessler</b> 07/09/2011	<b>North Star Lodge 46/7</b> 6751 <b>Stephen M. Nigh</b> 12/07/2011
<b>Livingston Lodge 32 / 5</b> 7226 <b>Dean V. Moore</b> 10/04/2011 7290 <b>Justin S. Brown</b> 10/04/2011	<b>Rimrock Lodge 149 / 1</b> 7146 <b>Nathan L. Church</b> 10/26/2011	<b>Euclid Lodge - 58 / 3</b> 7027 <b>Jeremy D. Wilson</b> 12/06/2011 7029 <b>Kris J. Cron</b> 12/06/2011
<b>Ionic Lodge 38 / 6</b> 7242 <b>Dennis S. Anderson</b> 10/11/2011	<b>Ashlar Lodge 29 / 1</b> 7256 <b>Trevor T. Biondich</b> 07/09/2011 7257 <b>Lindy S. Graves</b> 07/09/2011 7284 <b>Sean D. Ballou</b> 10/25/2011 7285 <b>Kirk W. Ligget</b> 10/25/2011	

## LIBBY MASONS SUPPORTING LIBBY NORDICFEST

Members of Libby Lodge No. 85 again this year supported Nordicfest with their PorkChop John sandwiches. Following Brothers working selling Porkchop John's in food booth.

D. Nelson Bland, Master; Grant Martin, SW; Eldon Phillips PM; Tom Jenkins PM; Carl Martin PM; Bruce Carrier PM and David Stephenson PM.



### 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 self improvement through excellence in leadership, education, family, charity, and community involvement.



## 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*

<b>Stewart K. Chessmore</b>	07/18/2011	Deer Lodge 14	<b>John R. Beam</b>	09/21/2011	Bigfork Lodge – 150
<b>Phillip W. Morgan</b>	07/31/2011	Deer Lodge 14	<b>Stanley Johnson</b>	09/28/2011	Eureka Lodge 93
<b>Clyde R. Miller</b>	07/28/2011	North Star Lodge 46	<b>John R. Beam</b>	09/21/2011	Bigfork Lodge 150
<b>Arthur D. Lawrence Jr.</b>	07/30/2011	North Star Lodge 46	<b>Richard F. Conner</b>	10/18/2011	Gallatin Lodge 6
<b>Herbert C. Barker</b>	07/11/2011	Ponemah Lodge 63	<b>Earl W. Chamberlain</b>	10/07/2011	Diamond City – 7, Musselshell 69
<b>Jeffrey E. Roberts</b>	07/29/2011	Saints John Lodge 92	<b>Herman L. Hauck</b>	10/09/2011	Flint Creek Lodge 11
<b>Bruce W. Griffith</b>	07/26/2011	Captain Scott Lodge 98	<b>LeRoy D. Iverson</b>	10/08/2011	Missoula Lodge 13
<b>James H. LaRue</b>	07/22/2011	Hot Springs Lodge 153	<b>Frank DeHaan</b>	10/09/2011	Bozeman Lodge 18
<b>George A. Weldon</b>	08/26/2011	Missoula Lodge 13	<b>Lee M. Bullington</b>	10/23/2011	Cascade Lodge 34
<b>Sylvan Donegan Jr.</b>	08/03/2011	West Gate Lodge 27	<b>Lloyd E. Lamb Sr.</b>	10/18/2011	Ottawa Lodge 51
<b>Thomas L. Larson</b>	08/26/2011	Stevensville Lodge 28	<b>Albin H. Johnson</b>	10/08/2011	Euclid Lodge 58
<b>Mark H. Annin</b>	08/10/2011	Ionic Lodge 38	<b>Everett L. Hager</b>	10/27/2011	Saints John Lodge 92
<b>Leslie L. Linn</b>	08/25/2011	Star in the West Lodge 40	<b>Frank DeHaan</b>	10/09/2011	Bozeman Lodge 18
<b>Larry W. Scholz</b>	08/22/2011	Doric Lodge 53	<b>Elmer R. Bent</b>	10/28/2011	Golden Eagle Lodge 66
<b>Lyle W. Baxter</b>	08/05/2011	Mission Valley Lodge 78	<b>Ronald C. Pollack</b>	10/28/2011	Meridian Lodge 105
<b>Jay L. Castle</b>	08/03/2011	Pondera Lodge 80	<b>Harry C. Goodell Jr.</b>	10/02/2011	Delta Lodge 128
<b>Lester Neal</b>	08/18/2011	Lavina/Temple Lodge 101	<b>David E. Ratzburg</b>	10/14/2011	Shelby Lodge 143
<b>Timothy W. King</b>	08/27/2011	Lavina/Temple Lodge 101	<b>Thomas E. Rice</b>	11/10/2011	Helena Lodge 3
<b>Medric E. Bruneau</b>	08/25/2011	Meridian Lodge 105	<b>John M. DenHerder</b>	11/12/2011	Ottawa Lodge – 51 and Helena 3
<b>Harold W. Goble</b>	09/29/2011	Gallatin Lodge 6	<b>John R. Jones</b>	11/19/2011	Euclid Lodge 58
<b>John V. Potter Jr.</b>	09/16/2011	Diamond City Lodge 7	<b>Bruce A. Brown</b>	11/13/2011	Terry Lodge 74
<b>Arthur E. Morrow</b>	09/13/2011	Bozeman Lodge 18	<b>Harry H. Sharples</b>	11/13/2011	Mission Valley Lodge 78
<b>Robert J. Thomas</b>	09/21/2011	Stevensville Lodge 28	<b>William C. Gernaat</b>	11/10/2011	Pondera Lodge 80
<b>Lorrie A. Peterson, PGM</b>	09/11/2011	Livingston 32 - Park Lodge 140	<b>Richard L. Zugliani</b>	11/12/2011	Bigfork Lodge 150
<b>Arthur M. Halpin</b>	09/25/2011	Star in the West Lodge 40	<b>Floyd E. McHenry</b>	11/13/2011	Bigfork Lodge 150
<b>John C. Cronk III</b>	09/08/2011	Chinook Lodge – 50	<b>Frank J. Stolle</b>	11/02/2011	Capt Scott - 98
<b>Frank C. Thompson</b>	09/06/2011	Augusta Lodge 54	<b>Ellis C. Donaldson</b>	11/05/2011	Butte -22
<b>John D. Dunagan</b>	09/16/2011	Whitefish Lodge 64	<b>Marlyn G. Cornett</b>	11/12/2011	Treasure - 95
<b>Stanley Johnson</b>	09/28/2011	Eureka Lodge 93	<b>Alfred D. MacDonald</b>	11/14/2011	Livingston - 32
<b>William A. Janes</b>	09/03/2011	Scobey Lodge 109	<b>Joseph L. Kochis</b>	12/03/2011	Levina-Temple - 101
<b>Howard H. McFerrin Jr.</b>	09/11/2011	Delta Lodge 128	<b>Claude H. Utterback</b>	12/07/2011	Ionic - 38
<b>John W. Cleveland</b>	09/28/2011	Huntley Project Lodge 144			
<b>Arthur L. Brandvold</b>	09/18/2011	Huntley Project Lodge 144			

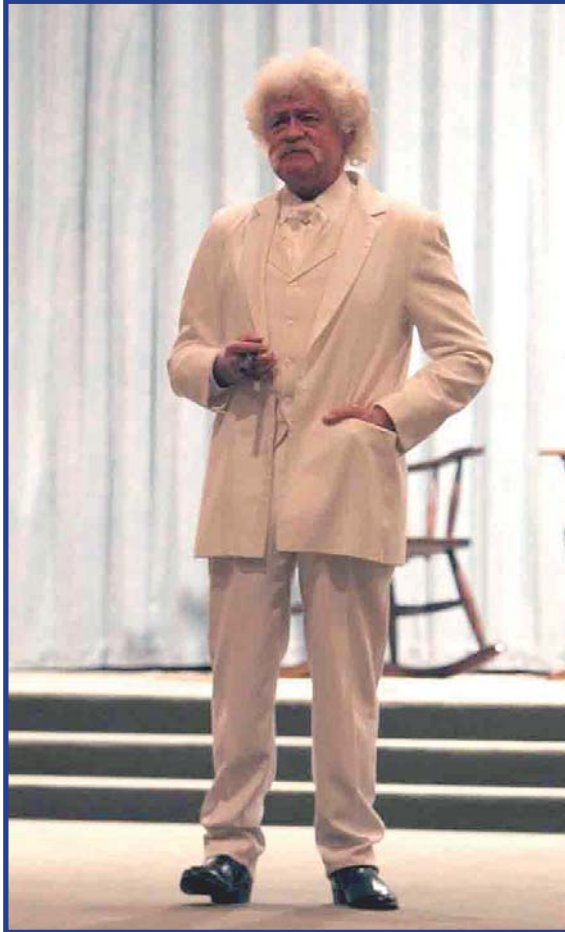


**Submission Deadline for  
March 2012  
Montana Masonic News  
is PRIOR to  
February 15, 2012  
(see page 2 for details)**

# TWAIN IN MONTANA

In Mark Twain's day, the public lecture was a most popular form of entertainment, and Twain was arguably the most popular practitioner of the art.

In 1895, at the age of 59, Mark Twain began a world tour in which he performed in more Montana cities (five) than in any other state. The tour train crossed North Dakota into Montana with his first performance in Great Falls at the Opera House. The next morning the family boarded the train to Butte where he performed that evening at Maguire's Grand Opera House. The tour's next stop was Anaconda where Twain rested overnight at Marcus Daly's sumptuous Montana Hotel and the following day performed at the then nearby Evans Opera House. The tour reached Helena where Twain was the guest of honor at the Montana Club. He spoke at the Ming Opera House on Jackson Street. Portions of the Ming auditorium still exist as

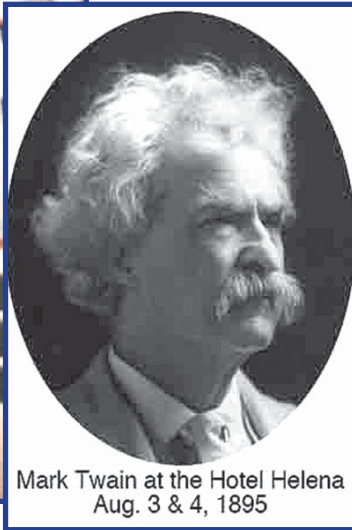


part of the Consistory Shrine Temple. Twain's next stop was Missoula where he rested at the original Florence Hotel and lectured at Missoula's Bennett Opera House.

The next day Twain visited Fort Missoula and its 25th U.S. Colored Regiment. On Aug. 6, 1895, Twain left Montana. The tour would eventually take him to the Fiji Islands, Australia, New Zealand, India, Sri Lanka, and South America. His journey lasted one year and

one day. Leaving Cape Town, South Africa, for his return to America, Twain said, "I seem to have been lecturing for a thousand years."

Saturday, November 12, 2011, Bozeman Lodge #18 hosted the Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau



Mark Twain at the Hotel Helena Aug. 3 & 4, 1895

program "Mark Twain in Montana" with Michael Delaney. The presentation was open to the public and

free with the donation of a non-perishable food item. In a thought-provoking and entertaining chautauqua, Delaney presented Mark Twain as Twain presented himself on tour, recounting a visit to Montana in the early 1860s, when, en route from St. Joseph, Missouri to Carson City, Nevada, Mark Twain met and had breakfast with the notorious Virginia City desperado Bad Jack Slade. Fortunately, Slade was sober at the time, and Twain survived the interview. Delaney presented a most amusing account of those historical events from Mark Twain's unique perspective.

Held in Bozeman 18's Lodge room, over seventy people (the majority of whom were not Masonically affiliated) enjoyed Delaney's performance followed by questions from the audience. To complete the evening a delightful reception was held in the dining hall. The next day, Bozeman Lodge #18 was pleased to present the Gallatin Valley Food Bank with almost 200 pounds of food for its pantry!

Of course, throughout the event, it could not be overemphasized that Samuel L. Clemens (Twain) was a Brother Freemason. He petitioned Polar Star Lodge No. 79 in St. Louis on December 26, 1860. He was initiated May 22nd, 1861; passed to the degree of Fellowcraft June 12, 1861; and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason July 10, 1861.

*For information about holding a similar event on behalf of your Lodge, visit [www.humanitiesmontana.org](http://www.humanitiesmontana.org). Living history presentations, demonstrations of Native American crafts and cultures, history lectures, and current public affairs discussions are just a few of over 100 programs available to not-for-profit groups across the state. Grants are available.*

**Brian Murphy, (1,6,136), Senior Grand Deacon**

# TRAVEL IN SEARCH OF...

From the very beginning, we Masons are taught that the journey we take is in search of light. The educational light is without a doubt the most precious of wages we will ever earn. Throughout our life we search for that which is always just out of reach--fulfillment. Some of us are most fortunate to have actually traveled in foreign countries, worked and received wages. Travel is one of the greatest teachers we will ever have the opportunity to study under. Travel enlightens and excites all our senses, the sights, the sounds, the touch, the smell, the feeling of motion all work together to imprint a memory that in and of itself is pure light.

When my journey started I like most of us had no idea where my circumambulations would take me. The journey thus far has been one of unparalleled enjoyment and wonder. During a recent trip to Europe, I was able to attend four different lodge in England, Roslyn Chapel, and York Chapel, these memories are in a most enjoyable form, travel light. To stand in lodges, chapels and buildings that are older than our country or were built over a thousand years ago and still in use, is a truly humbling experience.

I had the privilege in November 2011, to represent our MWGM Will Alexander at the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma's Grand Communication in Guthrie, Oklahoma. It was a trip home for me. My parents moved to Guthrie in 1970 and for over four decades I've been coming back to visit family and friends. However,

this is not about my visiting my parents' hometown or family reunion, but about visiting the Scottish Rite Building in Guthrie, Oklahoma, where the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma held its Stated Communication. It is a building that is a parallel to some of those I visited in Europe. It sets on a ten acre piece of land and is one of



the three most notable masonic buildings in America. It was combined with the original legislative building to make a masonic building of over 400,000 sq. ft. At one time Guthrie was the capital of Oklahoma, but the Great Seal of Oklahoma was "taken" and ended up in Oklahoma City, the present day capital of Oklahoma.

In addition to visiting this beautiful building, the visiting Brothers in attendance, each and every one is an enlightenment in and of himself. I sat with the Grand East with visiting dignitaries from England and Grand Officers from several states. To hear of what Masonry is doing

in their respective jurisdictions is a learning curve in that what works in one area, doesn't in another, and there isn't an answer that covers all the problems of growth and retention. If there is a comfort in knowing that what we are in search of is the same in all areas of this great Brotherhood, our brethren outside of Montana have the concerns as we do. We all travel in search of . . .

**Lewie Fletcher, Grand Historian**



## THE RITE CORNER

In August, Most Worshipful Brother Will Alexander, Grand Master of Masons in Montana, and his wife Carla attended the Biennial Session of The Supreme Council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., in Washington, D.C. with David Nielsen and his wife Judy. Several sessions ago, the Sovereign Grand Commander started inviting the Grand Masters of jurisdictions in the Southern Jurisdiction of Scottish Rite Freemasonry to be guests of the Supreme Council at the Biennial Session. The Grand Masters and their ladies enjoy an exclusive dinner with the Grand Commander, his wife and visiting Scottish Rite dignitaries from other counties. At the Session the Grand Masters are all formally introduced and welcomed. This year 32 Grand Masters accepted the invitation to attend.

At the Session, the Orient of Montana had its nominations approved for four Montana brethren to be coroneted as Honorary Inspector Generals, the 33rd Degree, and 18 brethren to receive the distinction as Knights Commander Court of Honour. The new 33rd Degree recipients are **Bert Bouma** of Helena Valley, **David Bergeson** of Billings Valley, **John Eidel** of Great Falls Valley and **Jim Trowbridge** of Western Montana Valley. The new Knights Commander Court of Honour recipients are **William Lewis, Bill Murphy and Pat Moran of Billings Valley, John Metcalf, Bob Quenemoen, Brad Huffman, Bob Jorgensen, Jesse Callender, and Chester Rogers of Great Falls Valley, Lynn Koch, Tom Bearden, Mike Sass, and Paul Martello of Helena Valley, Brian Murphy, Pat Danahy, and Bob Olson of Livingston Valley, and Geoffrey Bayliss and Gary Sparr of Western Montana Valley.** We are proud of these brethren and the honors they have received.

The Orient of Montana is producing its own "Montana Scottish Rite" pin. The pin is a buffalo skull with the 14th degree emblem on the forehead. Anyone can have one of these pins by either being a new

candidate for the Scottish Rite Degrees, being first line signer for a candidate who petitions for the Scottish Rite Degrees, or by contributing at least \$10 to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Montana. The Scottish Rite Foundation provides annual money to Montana's three RiteCare Clinics. The Clinics are located in Great Falls, Missoula and Billings. They provide speech and language pathology to children. The Clinics all have waiting lists for eligible children to be treated. The Scottish Rite is proud of its ability to reach out and provide this treatment to children so that they can read and communicate on par with their peers. If you are a Mason seeking more in Masonic knowledge join with us in this great philanthropy. If you are a Scottish Rite brother who knows Masons that should be Scottish Rite Masons, ask them to petition. If you are interested in helping with a great cause for treatment of speech and language disorders in children, send a donation of \$10 or more to Everett Snortland, 207 S. Colorado St., Conrad, Montana 594251920. By doing any one of these achievements, we will recognize you by presenting you with a Montana Scottish Rite pin.

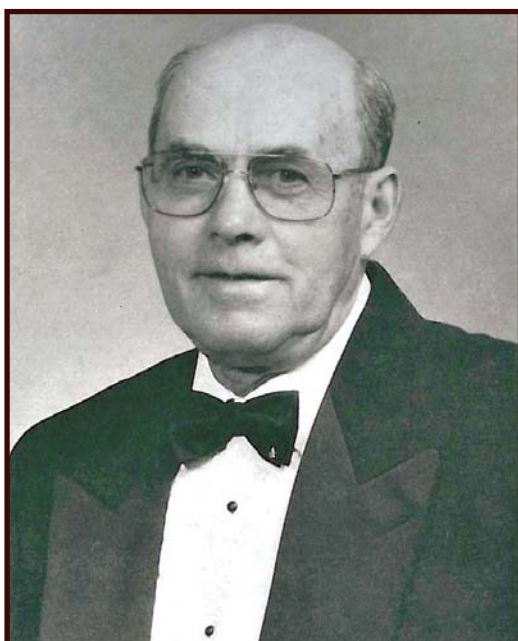
**David L. Nielsen, PGM, Deputy in Montana Supreme Council, A&ASR Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.**



## LORRIE A. PETERSON

**MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER 1996-1997  
DECEMBER 22, 1928 – SEPTEMBER 11, 2011**

Most Worshipful Lorrie A. Peterson was born December 22, 1928, in Great Falls, Montana, to Alvin and Ruth E. Smail Peterson. Most Worshipful Brother Peterson was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Livingston Lodge No. 32 on April 25, 1964. He served as Worshipful Master in 1972. Brother Peterson was appointed W. Grand Pursuivant by Most Worshipful Byron L. Robb, Grand Master during the 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana in Helena. He was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Montana during the 130<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication on June 28, 1996, in Butte. MW Brother Peterson was an active member of the York Rite, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite received the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH);



and in November 1995, he received the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree by being coroneted as a Inspector General Honorary. In

May of 1967, he received the degree of the Order of the Eastern Star in Orient Chapter No. 6, Livingston; and served as Worthy Patron in 1993-1994. He was a Noble in the Ancient and Accepted Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and a member of Al Bedoo Shrine Center in Billings.

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Lorrie Peterson was called to the Celestial Lodge on September 11, 2011. He will be missed. Services were held on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Holbrook United Methodist Church, Livingston, MT).

Masonic Rites will be conducted in the Church.

## A MASONIC REFLECTION RON MARTIN, PM

### THE WRITER Who am I?

*I am just a man  
A mere mortal to this world*

*As all men must do  
I suffered birth  
And I must suffer death  
But meanwhile I write*

*My book was opened  
And I began to write*

*One day my book will be closed  
But meanwhile I write*

*I write characters in  
I write characters out*

*I develop the story lines  
The plots and subplots*

*I think  
And I write*

*It all happens within a cables length  
A point within a circle  
Conjoined by two pillars  
With a circumscribed desire  
To write that which is right*

*As with all other men  
No one writes for me  
I must write alone*

*My pen and my paper  
They meet on the level*

*They part their work  
On the square*

*Meanwhile my compass  
Guides this entire creative affair*

*I use my ink wisely  
As I don't know how much remains*

*And as the final chapter comes to a close  
It is my desire to have written a story  
worth reading  
A story that touched the lives of those  
that read*

*For not too long after  
The ink will fade  
The paper turn brittle  
Until one day  
Only the dust will remain*

*Thus, I tell myself each day  
Write well my brother*

*And as such  
Since all of our stories are still being  
written  
I tell you...  
Write well my Brothers*

*For until I am in possession of that which  
was Lost*

*I remain...*

*The Writer*

# CUT BANK MASONIC LODGE CELEBRATES 100 YEARS 1911-2011

One hundred years ago Cut Bank officially became an incorporated town with Halvor Halvorson elected as its first mayor and also the first Worshipful Master of Cut Bank Lodge #82 that same year. Halvor was busy along with William H. Bannister (First Senior Warden), John W. Colburn (First Junior Warden) and 13 other Master Masons who petitioned The Grand Lodge of Montana to charter a lodge in Cut Bank. Cut Bank was part of Teton County at the time.

Some other towns petitioning at this time with records and reports for consideration of Lodges were, Kotana Lodge of Mondak, Conrad Lodge at Conrad, Wibaux Lodge at Wibaux, Sandstone Lodge at Baker and Harmony Lodge at Missoula. The Grand Lodge of Montana recommended that Charters be granted to Mondak, Conrad, Wibaux and Cut Bank. On September 21, 1911 Cut Bank Lodge #82 AF & AM was officially chartered.

The first Masonic Hall was built by F. C. Chase of Alberta, Canada to house the fraternity on the second floor and on the first floor was a harness shop. The rent for the building was \$30.00 per month for the Lodge. The building later became Murph's Tavern and after that the A & A Bar.

The second home for the Lodge, which was between 1914 and 1940, was the top floor of the Halvorson merchant building in the center of Cut Bank. The Lodge shared expenses with the I.O.O.F. and was a home for the Eastern Star. This same building is still used today by many businesses and houses the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1940 the community saw the laying of the cornerstone of the new 8000 sq. ft. Masonic Temple in accordance with the ancient customs of the fraternity. After completion in 1941, the Lodge was officially opened for meetings and degree work. The Lodge had two rooms, so they were asked to house the USO during WWII. The Lodge was honored to agree.

At this time the Cut Bank Airport was a major training base for B-17 bomber pilots and crew. The Lodge basement became a social activity center for the USO and other community functions. The basement room was called the Wolf's Den after the Cut Bank High School Mascot.

The Lodge had a very active membership during the years of the Eastern Star, which is now combined with Conrad. The Lodge was also home for the York Rite,

showing how our Lodge has support for the community. The local Tri County Shrine joined in our fun, and performed in the parade with their Corvette Patrol.

There are many building and locations in our community that reflect the influence that Masonry has had over the years and have contributed to the growth and success of Cut Bank, Montana.

**Chris Robinson, WM #82**



*Left: Our Lodge as it stands today.*

*Below: Ernie Stomvik is Cut Bank's oldest person and our oldest member at 102 yrs. and is an over 60 yr. lodge member.*

Rainbow Girls and Demolay. Cut Bank Lodge was honored to have one of its members serve as Grand Master of Montana from 1959 to 1960. Frank E. Van Demark of the Glacier Lodge #147 of Browning (which consolidated with Cut Bank Lodge #82 in 1991) had this honor.

The Cut Bank Airmen's Memorial Museum board put up a display in the basement of the Lodge which honored the pilots and flight crew of WWII. The Air Museum also erected a replica of the USO sign that was attached to the Lodge in the 1940's. The Lodge played a great part in contributing to the servicemen and history of Cut Bank.

Each year Cut Bank puts on their Lewis and Clark festival, the last weekend in July. Cut Bank along with the Masonic Lodge both celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in grand style in 2011, with the Lodge hosting a free pancake breakfast at the Lodge. The Lodge served nearly 250 people and had great success



## MISSION VALLEY LODGE No. 78 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

On August 27, 2011, Mission Valley Lodge No. 78 and Mystic Chapter No. 53 (OES) celebrated their 100 year Anniversary. There were nearly 100 people from around the State that attended. Past Grand Master Alan Harkins, having been authorized by MWGM Will Alexander, officiated at the rededication of the Lodge in Polson.

*Left to Right: Bill Schreiber, PM; Corey Badgley, PM; Martin Olsson, PM; Alan Harkins, PGM; Thomas Jordan, PGM; Les Cyr, PM; Leroy Lmach, PM and Mike McCloud, PM.*



*Left to Right: L. Kaye Stam, Worthy Marton, Mystic #53; Eleanor Tesch, and Worthy Grand Patron William Stenerson.*