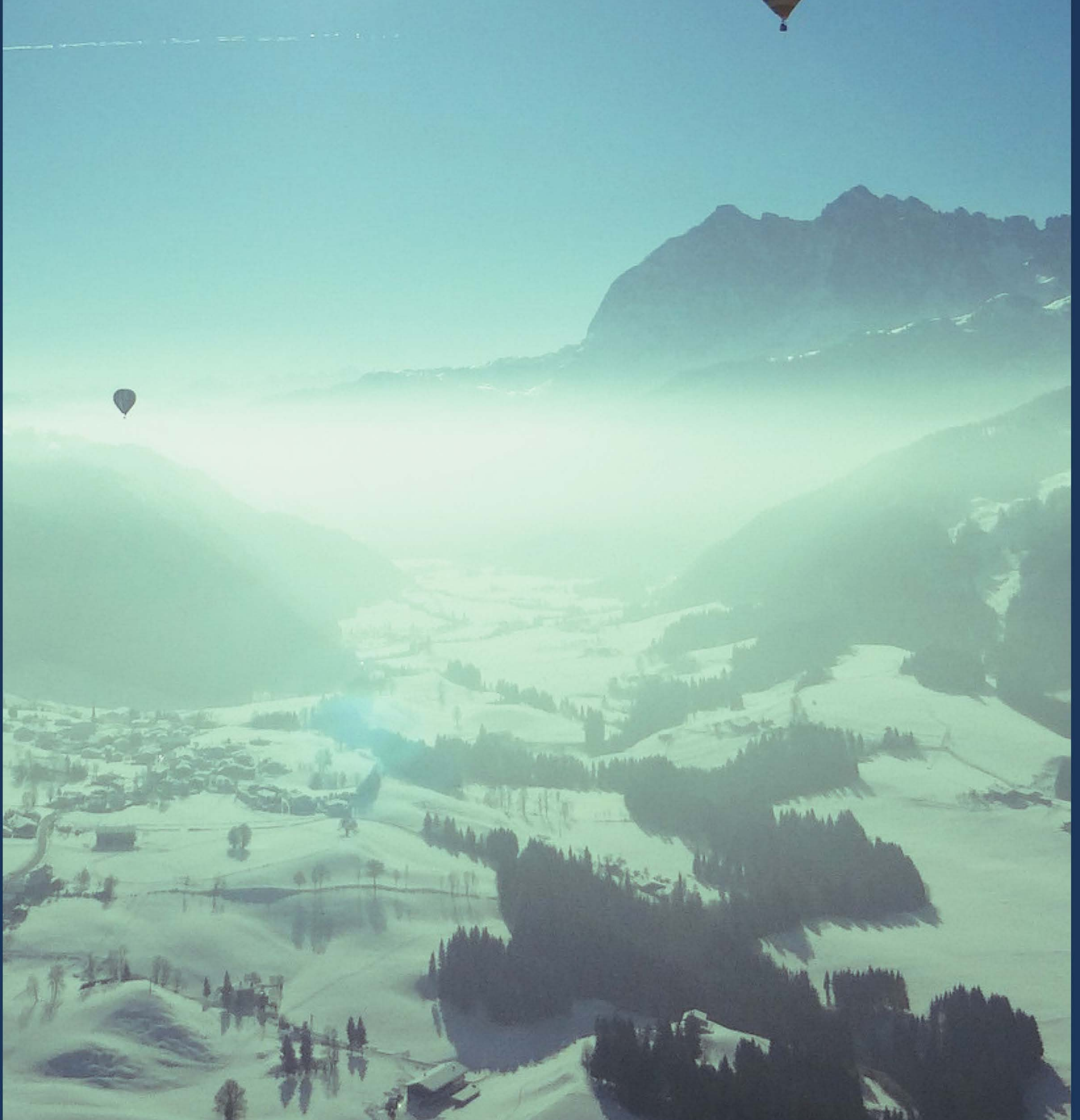


THE TRESTLEBOARD

NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 11 DECEMBER, 2021



In This Issue

Master's Corner - Farewell from the East

From the West - Calendar Events for December

From the South - "Farewell from the South"

Get to know a Brother - RWB James Grick

Spirit of Freemasonry Pt. 1 of 2 - By. F Bailey

A Thankful November

The Ancient Landmarks of the Order - By Burx Norrod

Enter for your chance to win a \$50 gift card to the restaurant of your choice! (Quiz on the last page)

Master's Corner

Brothers,

It seems like just yesterday (and yet long ago) that you extended your trust and elected and installed me as Master. It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as Master of Sandoval Lodge for this past year.

What a year it has been! This was not the year I had hoped for when I first stepped into the line, but it was a good year. With all the restrictions and difficulties, we have been able to accomplish much.

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of too many of you to mention the Lodge looks better than it has in years. We upgraded the lighting, repaired, and repainted the walls in the Lodge room, secured the Lodge room seating and completed the exterior painting. I know this is not a complete list of the efforts that have been made, but I am grateful to everyone for all that you have done and what you continue to do.

We were able to stretch in the work of making Masons. Thanks to the efforts of many, but especially of Leon, we not only raised two Master Masons and Initiated several into our brotherhood. We worked both here at Sandoval, but we went out and assisted other Lodges in their work.

Sandoval Lodge has come a long way when it comes to performing the work of the Craft.

Finally, as we say charity lays at the foundation of who we are as Masons. We have been able to continue to provide help and assistance to others in need. Our Bikes for Books program has gone on and will go on into the future. Our MSCLD school found a way to not only survive but thrive under very trying times. Also, even when we could not serve directly, we have found ways to contribute to food banks and shelters.

I am proud of what we have done! Thank you for all that you do.

Eric Moses

WM Sandoval Lodge #76

From the West



**Turquoise Chapter
No. 71**

**Christmas
Celebration**

**2:00 pm – 5:00
pm**

**Sunday, December
12, 2021**

**Sandoval Lodge
1420 Barbara
Loop SE Rio
Rancho, NM
87124**

**Christmas Music
and Singing**

**Lite Hors d'oeuvres
Ornament Exchange
(Bring an ornament
and take home
an ornament)**

**RSVP by December
9, 2021 Carolyn
Dobbs, Worth
Matron Email:**

**carolyn_dobbs@msn.com
Phone: 505-250-5562
(Call/Text)**

Sandoval Lodge No. 76

A. F. & A. M.

Cordially invite you to our

Installation of Officers

On Saturday December 4th

11:00 AM

*Worshipful Brother Elect Larry Mikkelsen
will be installed for the ensuing
year of 2022*

1420 Barbara Loop SE, 87124

of Rio Rancho New Mexico

You're cordially Invited...

Albuquerque Scottish Rite Club Meeting

We will be holding an in person meeting at the Ballut Abyad Shrine Ball Room.
6600 Zuni Rd SE, Alb. NM 87108,
A Zoom Meeting Link is provided in the description above



Presentation of the Evening -
"Time is not Your Enemy"
Presented by WB Harry Jenkins

Master Craftsman Classes 6:00PM
Presentation 7:00PM



Farewell from the South

Hello brethren,

What a wonderful year shared with brethren. So many active brethren after such a hard time in our history. We all have come together well and we are a stronger lodge because of it. This is humbling & wonderful to see as an officer moving up through the line. Seeing how we all came back to lodge head strong, open minded, trying to bring in new members, moving up in the line, taking new parts, raising food and money for less fortunate, we became more visible in the social media world.

We all need to be proud of all the accomplishments we have made this year. The large and the small. So I myself would like to say good job brethren on our 2020-21 year. I hope to see you all at installation.

Thank you WM Moses for your guidance this year and for all your tracings on the trestle board for our craft to work. This was a great year.

Bro. Tyler McKenzie JW (SW elect)

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Remember every Monday is Masonday.





Get to know a Brother

RWB James Irick

Written by: Bro. Tyler McKenzie

Our Brother James Irick was born in April of 1972 in Phoenix Arizona to Dan & Jody Irick. James is the oldest and has two sisters Julie and Louisa.

After moving to New Mexico in 1979 and growing up here, he graduated from Cibola High School in Albuquerque in May of 1990. Our Bro. James had aspirations to become an Aeronautical Engineer because of his massive fascination into aircrafts and how they worked.

At a young age Bro. James looked up to mainly Al Klassen who was his best friends' father because he was an A&P Mechanic for Continental Airlines and this just fit in with his dreams he wanted to pursue.

Bro. James is married to his wonderful wife Heather Irick who he had met at church. She was born in Piscataway, NJ and their first date was at Santa Fe Scottish Rite Temple in the summer of 1999. After two years of courtship they tied the knot on December 2001 in Saint Paul's UCC, Rio Rancho NM. For their Honeymoon they went to Walt Disney World, FL.

Bro. Irick obtained his Associates Degree in Applied Science dealing with Aviation Maintenance. Starting college in 1990, he attended Arizona State University for one year where he did one semester as an Air Force ROTC, then transferred to NMSU in Las Cruces. He obtained his Associates at Eastern NM University, Roswell in 1998. This hard work led to many things such as a Contractor for the GWOT in 2007 and 2011; but notably his job at NM Air National Guard as a Contractor for the RC-26 and he has been there for the past 22 years. He is not yet ready to retire.

Bro James has 4 Parakeets named Chloe, Chipper, Lilly and Bebe. They are very beautiful birds. James also likes to travel and has traveled to most of the continental US, AK, Mexico, Canada, Caribbean, Colombia, Greenland, Iceland, UK, Italy, Crete, Turkey, Iraq, Germany, Dubai & Afghanistan. But his favorite place he ever visited was Scotland and he enjoyed it so much because of the culture and because it is the homeland of his wife and because he also has ancestry to the Scots.

His favorite hobby is Classic Car Restoration (favorite car is a BMW), cycling & hiking. He enjoys doing these hobbies while listening to Classic Rock, New Wave; a little bit of Rush, Jimmy Buffet and The Cure. He doesn't watch a lot of television but does love to watch Dame Helen Mirren and The Big Lebowski.

Bro. James loves to eat Italian food and having a Scotch or a Guinness; as a Guinness always goes well with a game of football, soccer or golf.

When Bro. James was younger he was in track and field, soccer, cross country running, mountain bike racing, wind surfing & snowboarding. Some of these sports he still enjoys doing.

RWB James was introduced to freemasonry because it is strong in his family history as he also was a Senior Demolay and his father a Master Mason. He also grew up basically at Sandoval Lodge and was active in Demolay and his parents highly active in Lodge and with the Eastern Star.

After RWB Irick joined Masonry as an EA in March, passed in April and raised in June of 1995 he has been active in Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine: Scottish Rite-33 Degree IGH, Stage Manager Santa Fe Consistory; York Rite- Member of bodies; Shrine- Member, former Secretary of Clown Unit; He was Master of Sandoval Lodge in 2004, DDGL of District 6 GL of NM in 2005 and DDGM of district 6 GL of NM in 2006.

SPIRIT OF MASONRY - By F. Bailey

Outside of the home and the House of God there is nothing in this world more beautiful than the Spirit of Masonry. Gentle, gracious, and wise; its mission is to form mankind into a great redemptive brotherhood, a league of noble and free men enlisted in the radiant enterprise of working out in time the love and will of the Eternal. Who is sufficient to describe a spirit so benign? With what words may one ever hope to capture and detain that which belongs of right to the genius of poetry and song, by whose magic those elusive and impalpable realities find embodiment and voice?

With picture, parable, and stately drama; Masonry appeals to lovers of beauty bringing poetry and symbol to the aid of philosophy and are to the service of character. Broad and tolerant in its teachings it appeals to men of intellect, equally by the depths of its faith and its pleas for liberty of thought - helping them to think things through to a more satisfying and hopeful vision of the meaning of life and the mystery of the world. But its profoundest appeal, more eloquent than all others, is to the deep heart of man out of which are the issues of life and destiny. When all is said, it is as a man thinketh in his heart whether life be worthwhile or not, and whether he is a help or a curse to his race.

Here Lies the tragedy of our race: Not that men are poor; All men know something of poverty. Not that men are wicked; Who can claim to be good? Not that all men are ignorant; Who can boast that he is wise? But that men are strangers!

Masonry is Friendship - friendship, first, with the great Companion, of whom our own hearts tell us, who is always nearer to us than we are to ourselves, and whose inspiration and help is the greatest fact of human experience. To be in harmony with his purposes, to be open to His suggestions, to be conscious of fellowship with Him - this is Masonry on its God-ward side. Then, turning man-ward, friendship sums it all up. To be friends with all men, however they may differ from us in creed, color, or condition; to fill every human relation with the spirit of friendship; is there anything more or better than this that the wisest and best men can hope to do? Such is the Spirit of Masonry; such is its ideal, and if to realize it all at once is denied us, surely it means much to see it, love it, and labor to make it come true.

Nor is the spirit of friendship a mere sentiment held by a sympathetic, and therefore unstable, fraternity, which would dissolve the concrete features of humanity into a vague blur of misty emotion. No; it has its roots in a profound philosophy which sees that the universe is friendly, and that men must learn to be friends if they would live as befits the world in which they live, as well as their own origin and destiny. For, since God is the life of all that was, is, and is to be; and since we are all born into the world by one high wisdom and one vast love, we are brothers to the last man of us, forever! For better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, and even after death us do part, all men are held together by ties of spiritual kinship, sons of one eternal friend. Upon this fact human fraternity rests, and it is the basis of the plea of Masonry, not only for freedom, but for friendship among men.

Thus friendship, so far from being a mush of concessions, is in fact the constructive genius of the universe. Love is ever the Builder, and those who have done most to establish the City of God on earth have been the men who loved their fellow men. Once you let this spirit prevail, the wrangling sects will be lost in the great league of those who love in the service of those who suffer. No man will then revile the faith in which his neighbor finds help for today and hope for the morrow; pity will smite him mute, and love will teach him that God is found in many ways, by those who seek him with honest hearts. Once you let this spirit rule in the realm of trade the law of the jungle will cease, and men will strive to build a social order in which all men may have the opportunity "To Live, and to Live Well," as Aristotle defined the purpose of society. Here is the basis of that magical stability aimed at by the earliest artists when they sought to build for eternity, by imitating on earth the House of God.

Continued on the next page...

SPIRIT OF MASONRY - By F. Bailey

Continued from the previous page...

Our human history, saturated with blood and blistered with tears, is the story of man making friends with man. Society has evolved from a feud into a friendship by the slow growth of love and the welding of man, first to his kin, and then to his kind. The first man who walked in the red dawn of time lived every man for himself, his heart a sanctuary of suspicions, every man feeling that every other man was his foe, and therefore his prey. So there was war, strife and bloodshed. Slowly there came to the savage a gleam of the truth that it is better to help than to hurt, and he organized clans and tribes. But the tribes were divided by rivers and mountains, and the men on one side of the river felt that the men on the other side were their enemies. Again there was war, pillage, and sorrow. Great empires arose and met in the shock of conflict, leaving trails of skeletons across the earth. Then came the great roads, reaching out with their stony clutch and bringing the ends of the earth together. Men met, mingled, passed and repassed; and learned that human nature is much the same everywhere, with hopes and fears in common. Still there were many things to divide and estrange men from each other, and the earth was full of bitterness. Not satisfied with natural barriers, men erected high walls of sect and caste, to exclude their fellows, and the men of one sect were sure that the men of all other sects were wrong - and doomed to be lost. Thus, when real mountains no longer separated man from man, mountains were made out of molehills - mountains of immemorial misunderstanding not yet moved into the sea!

Barriers of race, of creed, of caste, of training and interest separate men today, as if some malign genius were bent on keeping man from his fellows; begetting suspicion, uncharitableness, and hate. Still there is war, waste, and woe! Yet all the while men have been unfriendly, and, therefore unjust and cruel, only because they are unacquainted. Amidst feud, faction, and folly; Masonry, the oldest and most widely spread order, toils in behalf of friendship; uniting men upon the only basis upon which they can ever meet with dignity. Each lodge is an oasis of equality and goodwill in a desert of strife, working to weld mankind into a great league of sympathy and service, which, by the terms of our definition seeks to exhibit even now on a small scale. At its Altar men meet as man to man, without vanity and without pretense, without fear and without reproach; as tourists crossing the Alps tie themselves together so that if one slips, all may hold him up. No tongue can tell the meaning of such a ministry, no pen can trace the influence in melting the hardness of the world into pity and gladness.

The Spirit of Masonry! He who would describe that spirit must be a poet, a musician, and a seer - a master of melodies, echoes, and long far-sounding cadences. Now, as always, it toils to make man better, to refine his thought and purify his sympathy, to broaden his outlook, to lift his altitude, to establish in amplitude and resoluteness his life in all its relations. All its great history, its vast accumulations of tradition, its simple faith and its solemn rites, its freedom and its friendship are dedicated to the high moral ideal, seeking to tame the tiger in man, and bring his wild passions into obedience to the will of God. It has no other mission than to exalt and ennoble humanity, to bring light out of darkness, beauty out of angularity; to make every hard-won inheritance more secure, every sanctuary more sacred, every hope more radiant! The Spirit of Masonry! Aye, when that spirit has its way upon earth, as at last it surely will, society will be a vast communion of kindness and justice, business a system of human service, law a rule of beneficence; home will be more holy, the laughter of childhood more joyous, and the temple of prayer mortised and tendoned in a simple faith. Evil, injustice, bigotry, greed, and every vile and slimy thing that defiles and defames humanity will skulk into the dark, unable to bear the light of a just, wiser, more merciful order. Industry will be upright, education prophetic, and religion not a shadow, but a real Presence, when man has become acquainted with man and has learned to worship God by serving his fellows. When Masonry is victorious every tyranny will fall, every bastille crumble, and man will be not only unfettered in mind and hand, but free of heart to walk erect in the light and liberty of the truth.

Toward a great friendship, long foreseen by Masonic faith, the world is slowly moving, amid difficulties and delays, reactions and reconstructions. Though long deferred, of the day, which will surely arrive, when nations will be reverent in the use of freedom, just in the exercise of power, humane in the practice of wisdom; when no man will ride over the rights of his fellows; when no woman will be made forlorn, no little child wretched by bigotry or greed, Masonry has ever been a prophet. Nor will she ever be content until all the threads of human fellowship are woven into one mystic cord of friendship, encircling the earth and holding the race in unity of spirit and the bonds of peace; as in the will of God it is one in the origin and end.

Story continues in next month's issue...

Congratulations to everyone who received an award for outstanding work and participation in making this year as successful as it was.



Greetings Brethren, I'd like to thank Worshipful Master Eric Moses and everyone who contributed to our Drive Thru Food Drive, Sandoval Lodge No. 76 was able to donate almost 400 pounds of food and \$230 to Storehouse West Food Bank in Rio Rancho just in time for the Holidays! Thank you to everyone who donated, and thanks to Ann Conrad and all of the staff and volunteers at Storehouse West for all that they do. Happy Holidays!



The Ancient Landmarks of the Order By Burx Norrod

“The Ancient Landmarks you are carefully to preserve, and not to suffer them on any pretense to be infringed, or countenance a deviation from our established customs.” ... while every Mason will have heard these words (or a variation of it depending upon Grand Lodge jurisdiction), I’ve found that not many actually know what these ancient ‘landmarks’ are. As such - I felt compelled to write this short article on what these are, and more importantly - why it’s important to gain an understanding of these.

In short - Landmarks are supposed to be principles on which all Masons would agree, and are core beliefs that define us and cannot be altered, repealed, or removed without doing major damage to the fraternity. While there have been numerous lists of Masonic Landmarks, the most well known of these is by Albert Mackey - prepared in 1858 ... and have either been adopted, or at the very least, recognized by many Grand Lodge jurisdictions. Bro. Albert Mackey’s list consists of 25 Landmarks - and while all are at least recognized by the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, as noted starting with page 122 in the Official Monitor (available on pdf), not all Grand Lodges have adopted or recognized them. No matter - as topics of discussion within Freemasonry tends to be a bit conflicting, depending upon which Grand Lodge jurisdiction you’re hearing things from. But - because we’re New Mexico Freemasons ... I’ll stick to these 25. And - they are the following:

- The first is the modes of recognition.
- The second is the division of symbolic Masonry into three Degrees.
- The third is the legend of the third Degree.
- The fourth is the government of the Fraternity by a presiding officer called a Grand Master.
- The fifth is the prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every assembly of the Craft.
- The sixth is the prerogative of the Grand Master to grant Dispensations for conferring degrees at irregular times.
- The seventh is the prerogative of the Grand Master to give dispensations for opening and holding Lodges.
- The eighth is the prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight.
- Nine is the necessity of Masons to congregate in Lodges.
- Ten is the government of the Craft, when so congregated in a Lodge by a Master and two Wardens.
- Eleven is the necessity that every Lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled.
- Twelve is the right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft and to instruct his representatives.

Continued on the next page...

...Continued from the previous page.

The Ancient Landmarks of the Order By Burx Norrod

- Thirteen is the right of every Mason to appeal from the decision of his Brethren in Lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons.
 - Fourteen is the right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular Lodge.
 - Fifteen is that no visitor, unknown as a Mason, can enter a Lodge without first passing an examination according to ancient usage.
 - Sixteen is that no Lodge can interfere in the business of another Lodge, nor give degrees to Brethren who are members of other Lodges.
 - Seventeen is that every Freemason is amenable to the Laws and Regulations of the Masonic jurisdiction in which he resides.
 - Eighteen is that the qualifications of a candidate are that he shall be a man, un-mutilated, free born, and of mature age.
 - Nineteen is a belief in the existence of God.
 - Twenty is that, subsidiary to this belief in God, is the belief in a resurrection to a future life.
 - Twenty One is that a "Book of the Law," for example, the Holy Bible, shall constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every Lodge.
 - Twenty Two is the equality of all Masons.
 - Twenty Three is the secrecy of the institution.
 - Twenty Four is the foundation of a Speculative Science, for purposes of religious or moral teaching.
 - And Twenty Five is that these Landmarks can never be changed.
- There you have it. A list of landmarks as recognized by the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, it would serve the individual Mason best by downloading the Monitor and reading what these landmarks are as explained in further detail (an entire paragraph per landmark is used). I've said before that its our Ritual is what makes Freemasonry so much different than the other do-good organizations that abound, but I have to add further that these 25 'landmarks' are to further distinguish us from those other clubs or societies, and what makes Freemasonry so special - and a noted force of good in the world. To receive this download, email me at BurxNorrod@gmail.com with your request. Take due notice thereof, and govern yourselves accordingly.
- Sincerely & Fraternaly,
BURX NORROD Sandoval Lodge No. 76

Entered Apprentice Quiz - 20 Questions

Email your completed crossword puzzle to BurxNorrod@gmail.com ... a drawing will be held at Sandoval Lodge's November 22nd Stated Communications for a \$50 gift card to your restaurant of choice.

1. How many Master Mason members of a Lodge must be present to "open" a Lodge of Entered Apprentices?
 - a. 3
 - b. 5
 - c. 7
 - d. 9
2. Where does the Worshipful Master sit?
 - a. In the North
 - b. In the South
 - c. In the East
 - d. In the West
3. Where does the Senior Warden sit in the Lodge?
 - a. In the North
 - b. In the South
 - c. In the East
 - d. In the West
4. Where does the Junior Warden sit in the Lodge?
 - a. In the North
 - b. In the South
 - c. In the East
 - d. In the West
5. What are the "Three Great Lights" of the Lodge?
 - a. The light over the Masters Seat, the Gavel, the Holy Scriptures
 - b. The Holy Scriptures, Square and Compass
 - c. The Square, Altar and Holy Scriptures
 - d. The Square, Compass and Worshipful Master