## **TRESTLEBOARD**



# **JANUARY 6024 A.L.**

### 2024 LODGE OFFICERS

#### WORSHIPFUL MASTER

WM DAVIN TEAGUE
DTEAGUE505@GMAIL.COM

#### SENIOR WARDEN

BRO. BURX NORROD
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM

#### JUNIOR WARDEN

Bro. John P. KEEL K\_John87@yahoo.com

#### TREASURER

RWB TIM DONOVAN
TIM@TAXHELPRR.COM

#### SECRETARY

WB EUGENE MORSE
EUGENEMORSE46@GMAIL.COM

SANDOVAL LODGE NO. 76
MEETS IN REGULAR
COMMUNICATION ON THE 2ND
AND 4TH MONDAY
OF THE MONTH

**FESTIVEBOARD: 6PM** 

**LODGE OPENS: 7PM** 

VISITORS - PLEASE RSVP TO: BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM





THE CONCLUSION OF 6023 A.L. MARKED A FRESH START FOR THE LODGE, USHERING IN A NEW ERA WITH THE SUCCESSFUL INSTALLATION OF OUR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS FOR 6024 A.L. ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH. A HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ASSUMED THEIR ROLES FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR:

#### ELECTED:

MASTER: WM DAVIN TEAGUE
SENIOR WARDEN: BRO. BURX NORROD
JUNIOR WARDEN: BRO. JOHN P. KEEL
TREASURER: RWB TIM DONOVAN
SECRETARY: WB EUGENE MORSE

#### APPOINTED:

SENIOR DEACON: BRO. BILL WHELCHEL
JUNIOR DEACON: BRO. JONATHAN MUNIZ
SENIOR STEWARD: BRO. GABRIEL GONZALES
JUNIOR STEWARD: BRO. CESARIO ALVILLAR
CHAPLAIN: WB LEON ALDERETTE
MARSHALL: WB ERIC MOSES
TYLER: WB RICHARD CULLEN

A SPECIAL **THANK YOU** GOES OUT TO THE INSTALLING OFFICERS, WHOSE CRUCIAL ROLES MADE THIS ENTIRE CEREMONY POSSIBLE:

INSTALLING MASTER: WB LEON ALDERETTE
INSTALLING CHAPLAIN: MWB ADAM HATHAWAY
INSTALLING MARSHALL: MWB JEFF JOHNSON
INSTALLING MUSICIAN: WB BERT DALTON

# **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 





CONGRATULATIONS WM DAVIN, AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SELFLESS DEDICATION TO THE LODGE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO GREAT THINGS AHEAD FROM THE EAST!



# **TRESTLEBOARD**



# **JANUARY 6024 A.L.**



BRO. SW JOHN P. KEEL BEING CONGRATULATED BY MWB JEF JOHNSON



BRO. JONATHAN MUNIZ, WB ERIC MOSES & WB RICHARD CULLEN AWAITING TO BE INSTALLED



WB LEON ALDERETTE, WB RICHARD CULLEN, WB ERIC MOSTS, & BRO. JONATHAN MUNIZ BEING INSTALLED BY WB BERT DALTON



BRO. BURX NORROD, BRO. JOHN P. KEEL, RWB TIM DONVAN, & WB EUGENE MORSE BEING INSTALLED TO THEIR STATIONS BY WM DAVIN TEAGUE & WB LEON ALDERETTE

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



**ELECTED, APPOINTED, AND INSTALLING OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:** (LEFT TO RIGHT)

MWB ADAM HATHAWAY, MWB JEFF JOHNSON, RWB TIM DONOVAN, WB RICHARD CULLEN, BRO. BURX NORROD, BRO. JOHN P. KEEL, WM DAVIN TEAGUE, WB ERIC MOSES, BRO. JONATHAN MUNIZ, WB EUGENE MORSE, WB LEON ALDERETTE, WB BERT DALTON

THANK YOU ALL FOR CONTRIBUTING TO MAKE SANDOVAL MASONIC LODGE NO. 76 THE BEST THAT IT CAN BE AS WE MOVE AHEAD INTO 6024 A.L.!

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



JANUARY 6024 A.L.

### FROM THE EAST



"BE AT WAR WITH YOUR VICES, AT PEACE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS, AND LET EVERY NEW YEAR FIND YOU A BETTER MAN." BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

GREETINGS BRETHREN,

I HOPE THIS NEW YEAR FINDS YOU HEALTHY AND HAPPY. IT IS AN AMAZING HONOR TO BE YOUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF THE LODGE FOR THE GOLDEN 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING THIS YEAR AND BRINGING THE LIGHT OF FREEMASONRY TO THE WORLD WITH YOU ALL.

2023 WAS A YEAR OF CHALLENGES FOR ME PERSONALLY AND I COULD NOT HAVE MADE IT THROUGH WITHOUT THE HELP AND SUPPORT OF FAMILY AND THE BROTHERHOOD AND I AM THANKFUL TO YOU ALL.

AS WE TURN THE PAGE ON LAST YEAR AND WRITE UPON THE BLANK PARCHMENT OF THE NEW ONE, I WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR THE SUPPORT FROM FAMILY AND BROTHERHOOD TO MAKE THIS ONE A BETTER YEAR.

AS I STATED AT OUR INSTALLATION, WE HAVE SOME WORK TO DO TO GET SANDOVAL BACK TO THE STANDARD THAT OUR LEADERS BEFORE US WORKED SO HARD TO ATTAIN. THE BEAUTIFUL THING IS THAT ONE MAN CANNOT DESTROY THE FOUNDATION THAT HAS BEEN LAID, BUT ONE MAN CANNOT RAISE THE EDIFICE TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL IT CAN ATTAIN NEITHER.

IT IS THE COLLECTIVE BROTHERHOOD, AND OUR FAMILIES THAT WILL BRING THE STANDARD BACK TO WHERE IT WAS AND I AM CHALLENGING MYSELF, AND EVERY ONE OF OUR SANDOVAL FAMILY TO RAISE OURSELVES UP AND BE BETTER IN ALL THAT WE CAN. WE CLAIM THAT FREEMASONRY MAKES US BETTER AND I FEEL LIKE NOW MORE THAN EVER THE WORLD NEEDS WHAT WE TEACH AND OFFER, AND IT STARTS WITH HOW WE ACT AND INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER AND ALL WHO WE ENCOUNTER.

OUR MAIN GOALS THIS YEAR ARE TO RAISE MASTER MASONS, GET OUT AND GET OUR NAME KNOWN IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND GROW AND FILL THE LODGE WITH NEW AND PAST MEMBERS.

OUR MAIN EVENT WILL BE OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER AND GATHERING. WE ALSO WILL HAVE A LOT OF OTHER BROTHERLY AND FAMILY EVENTS AND EDUCATION FOR THE LODGE.

2024 LOOKS TO BE A GOOD YEAR, AND WITH THE INPUT AND ENERGY OF THE BRETHREN IT WILL BE A GREAT ONE.

PEACE AND BLESSINGS

WM DAVIN B. TEAGUE

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



### FROM THE WEST

HAPPY NEW YEAR, BRETHREN! AS WE STAND AT THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW YEAR, MAY THE PRINCIPLES OF BROTHERHOOD, WISDOM, AND STRENGTH GUIDE YOU ON A PATH ILLUMINATED BY THE LIGHT OF KNOWLEDGE. MAY THE SQUARE AND COMPASS CONTINUE TO SHAPE YOUR ENDEAVORS, AND MAY THE BONDS OF FELLOWSHIP STRENGTHEN WITH EACH PASSING DAY.

THE LEVEL HAS BEEN MY FAVORITE MASONIC SYMBOL EVER SINCE I HEARD THE WORDS AS A MASON IN VIRGINIA:

"....AND BY THE LEVEL A KING IS REMINDED THAT ALTHOUGH A CROWN MAY ADORN THE HEAD AND A SCEPTER THE HAND, YET THE BLOOD IN HIS VEINS IS DERIVED FROM THE SAME ALMIGHTY PARENT, AND IS NO BETTER THAN THAT OF THE HUMBLEST CITIZEN - AND TEACHES US ALL THAT WE'RE TRAVELING ON THAT BROAD LEVEL OF TIME TO THAT UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY FROM WHOSE BOURNE NO TRAVELER RETURNS."

As your newly installed Senior Warden, I thank you for your trust bestowed upon me to assist WM Davin with opening and closing of the Lodge and handling business in his absence. The icing on the cake is that I now get to wear the Jewel and Apron of my favorite Symbol!! With these new responsibilities comes having to learn new ritual work. As such, I'm duly & truly looking forward to conferring my first FC Degree later this month here in New Mexico.

RITUAL WORK AND EDUCATION HAS BEEN MY FOCUS POINT WITH THE CRAFT, I LOOK FORWARD TO HELPING BRING MORE OF THIS TO OUR LODGE, KEEPING IT AS EFFICIENT AS EVER.

INDEED BRETHREN, IT'S GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR AHEAD!!!





BURX NORROD
SENIOR WARDEN



## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 

### FROM THE SOUTH



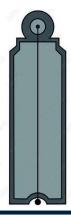
HAPPY NEW YEAR BRETHREN, AND I HOPE YOU ALL HAD A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON. I ENJOYED SPENDING TIME WITH YOU ALL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND I LOOK FORWARD TO ALL OF THE FUN AND AMAZING THINGS WE CAN DO THIS YEAR.

I KNOW LAST YEAR WAS A YEAR OF CONTENTION AND DISHARMONY BUT, IT IS WITHIN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US TO BE THE CHANGE WE NEED. AS I WRITE THIS, I THINK OF SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HAVE GONE ON IN OUR LODGE AND IN MASONRY IN GENERAL AND I SEE SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR US TO CONTINUE HONING OUR ROUGH ASHLARS. I KNOW EVERY ORGANIZATION WILL HAVE ITS OWN LEVEL OF POLITICS BUT, IT IS UP TO US TO MAKE THIS FRATERNITY BETTER THROUGH HOW WELL WE TREAT EACH OTHER AND WORK TOGETHER TO SORT OUT DIFFERENCES.

IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH SOMEONE, BE THE MAN THAT CAN TALK TO THEM DIRECTLY AND DON'T BE THE MAN WHO TRIES TO DROWN OUT OTHER OPINIONS. GOOD IDEAS ARE ALWAYS WORTH A LOOK AND DISCUSSION WHETHER WE DISAGREE ON THEM OR NOT. LETS NOT STEP ON EACH OTHER FOR TRYING TO MAKE THINGS BETTER. OKAY, I'LL HOP OFF THE PULPIT AND END WITH HOW MUCH I APPRECIATE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU IN OUR LODGE.

I LOVE YOU GUYS AND LOOK FORWARD TO THIS FANTASTIC YEAR AHEAD. I LL BRING THE FOOD AND DRINK AND YOU GUYS BRING YOURSELVES. WE'LL DO GREAT THINGS!





BRO. JOHN P. KEEL
JUNIOR WARDEN

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 

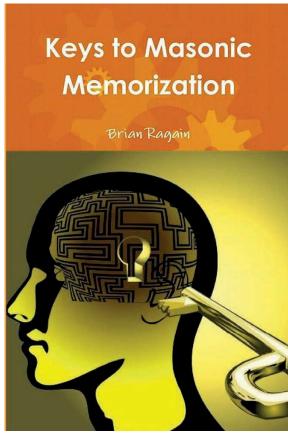
COME ON OUT TO SUPPORT THE JOBIES IN YOUR STAR WARS ATTIRE!!



## **TRESTLEBOARD**



### JANUARY 6024 A.L.



IF SOMEONE WERE TO ASK YOU, WHAT MAKES FREEMASONRY DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT PREACH BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH - AND HAVE A FOCUS ON CHARITABLE WORKS TO THE TUNE OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS A YEAR?

ON THE NON-ESOTERIC SURFACE, WE CERTAINLY LOOK THE SAME AS THOSE GROUPS THAT DRESS LIKE US, SOCIALIZE BETTER THAN US, CONTRIBUTE MORE TO CHARITY THAN US, AND EVEN ADORN FEZZES AND APRONS LIKE US. SO WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

OUR RITUAL WORK, WHERE THE LESSONS OF THE CRAFT ARE CONTAINED.

MEMORIZING RITUAL CAN BE A DIFFICULT TASK, AS IT NOT ONLY REQUIRES ONE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS BEING SAID, BUT ALSO A SACRIFICE OF VICES AS LEISURE TIME IS REQUIRED TO INVEST IN THE PROCESS.

WHETHER OR NOT YOU'D LIKE TO BE ABLE TO CONFER A DEGREE, DELIVER A LECTURE, OR RECITE A CHARGE, THE EVENT COMING UP THIS MONTH IS AN INVALUABLE ONE TO ATTEND. THE WAY TO REGISTER/RSVP TO IT WAS PUT OUT BY THE GRAND LODGE BY RW STEVE BALKE, BUT IF YOU'RE UNSURE ON HOW TO DO SO, SIMPLY EMAIL ME BY JANUARY 7TH AND I'LL ADD YOU TO MY GUEST LIST. FCS & MMS ONLY.

#### WHAT:

GREAT ITALIAN FOOD DINNER WITH VEGETARIAN ENTREES AVAILABLE.

A FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION BY SOME OF OUR BEST RITUALISTS
WORSHIPFUL BROTHER BRIAN RAGAIN OF OKLAHOMA PRESENTING ON HIS BOOK
"KEYS TO MASONIC MEMORIZATION"

WHERE: TEMPLE LODGE No. 6

WHEN: JANUARY 11 AT 6:00PM
Cost: \$20 - IT INCLUDES THE BOOK AS WELL AS DINNER!

FOR MORE INFO OR TO RSVP, EMAIL BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 

#### WHO'S THIS BROTHER? WHY IT'S WB BEN FRATACCIA!

IF YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE HIM, IT'S BECAUSE ALTHOUGH HE AFFILIATED WITH SANDOVAL LODGE BACK IN 2014, HE'S SINCE MOVED TO NORTH CAROLINA. RAISED IN 1984 IN GULFPORT LODGE No. 422 IN MISSISSIPPI, HE SERVED HIS LODGE AS MASTER JUST 4 SHORT YEARS LATER IN 1988.

WB BEN SUPPORTS SANDOVAL LODGE FROM AFAR, WITH HIS CONTRIBUTION TO OUR MOSAIC PAVEMENT, AS WELL AS THOSE NEW PM APRONS FOR VISITORS WE RECEIVED RECENTLY. THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO, WB BEN!!

### WB BEN, NAVY VETERAN, ENJOYING HIS 77TH BIRTHDAY



## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



## A TRAVELING MAN'S REPORT By Bro. John P. Keel

FRATERNAL GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF OUR BRETHREN READING THIS. I AM EXCITED TO WRITE THIS ARTICLE SINCE THE LATEST IN THIS SERIES COVERS A RECENT TRIP TO BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS FOR THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOSTON TEA PARTY AND ALL OF THE EVENTS OF THAT WEEKEND BOTH WITHIN AS WELL AS EXTERNAL TO THE MASONIC BODIES THERE. THE TEA PARTY WAS A SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN AMERICAN HISTORY AND FOR A BIT OF BACKSTORY, I INCLUDED AN EXCERPT

FROM WB ROBERT HUKE, COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FOR THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS:

"The Boston Tea Party was a political protest organized and executed by the Sons of Liberty. The Sons of Liberty, as well as Boston Committee of Correspondence and the Boston Caucus, often met in the basement of the Green Dragon Tavern on Union Street (then known as Green Dragon Lane) in the North End. The Boston Tea Party was planned at the Green Dragon Tavern. Daniel Webster, the statesman and U.S. Secretary of State, claimed it was "the Headquarters of the Revolution".

THE GREEN DRAGON TAVERN WAS PURCHASED BY THE FREEMASONS OF THE LODGE OF SAINT ANDREW IN 1764. AMONG THE SONS OF LIBERTY S NOTABLE MEMBERS WHO BELONGED TO THE LODGE OF SAINT ANDREW WERE JOHN HANCOCK, PAUL REVERE, AND JOSEPH WARREN. WHEN THE BOSTON TEA PARTY OCCURRED, WARREN WAS THE GRAND MASTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GRAND LODGE. REVERE SERVED AS GRAND MASTER BETWEEN 1795 AND 1797.

ON DECEMBER 16, 1773, THE LODGE OF SAINT ANDREW WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET. THE LODGE S SECRETARY MADE A NOTATION IN THEIR RECORDS THAT READS:

LODGE CLOSED (ON ACCOUNT OF THE FEW MEMBERS PRESENT) UNTIL TOMORROW EVENING.

In Howard Giles Unger s 2011 book, American Tempest: How the Boston Tea Party Sparked a Revolution, he identified 21 Freemasons who participated, or who were believed to have participated, in the Boston Tea Party. Hancock and Warren are generally acknowledged as not having participated however, the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum have designated them as "Architects of the Boston Tea Party" as part of their Grave Marker Commemoration program."

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE** 

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



# **JANUARY 6024 A.L.**



AT THE GREEN DRAGON TAVERN



**ORIGINAL GREEN DRAGON TAVERN SIGN!** 

HOWARD GILES UNGER'S 2011 воок, AMERICAN TEMPEST: HOW THE BOSTON TEA PARTY SPARKED A REVOLUTION, HE IDENTIFIED 21 FREEMASONS WHO PARTICIPATED, OR WHO WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE PARTICIPATED, IN THE BOSTON TEA PARTY. HANCOCK AND WARREN ARE GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED AS NOT HAVING PARTICIPATED HOWEVER, THE BOSTON TEA PARTY SHIPS & MUSEUM HAVE DESIGNATED THEM AS "ARCHITECTS OF THE BOSTON TEA PARTY" AS PART OF **THEIR GRAVE MARKER COMMEMORATION PROGRAM."** 

BY THE TIME THE BOSTON TEA PARTY HAPPENED IN 1773, FREEMASONRY IN MASSACHUSETTS WAS WELL ESTABLISHED. THE GRAND LODGE AND OLDEST LODGES HAD ALREADY BEEN AROUND FOR DECADES. AMONG THESE MASONS WERE MANY OF THE MEN WHO WOULD INSTRUMENTAL IN THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO AND THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. I PLAN TO GIVE A MUCH MORE IN-DEPTH PRESENTATION ON THIS AT MASONICON THIS YEAR SO, STAY TUNED FOR MORE BROTHERS.

FOR THE TEA PARTY WEEKEND, THERE WERE LOTS OF EVENTS GOING ON AND UNFORTUNATELY, I WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND EVERYTHING BUT, I MANAGED TO USE MY TIME WISELY. ON FRIDAY, I WAS ABLE TO TOUR THE GRAND LODGE WITH BRO. KRISTOPHER J. CROSSE WHO SHARED THE STORY OF HIS MASONIC JOURNEY WITH ME AS WE WALKED. THE GRAND LODGE BUILDING ITSELF IS A HUGE BUILDING AND FOR DECADES WAS THE TALLEST BUILDING IN BOSTON AFTER ITS FINAL RECONSTRUCTION IN 1899. THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS STARTED AS ST. JOHN'S GRAND LODGE IN 1733 AND THE MEMBERS MET AT THE BUNCH OF GRAPES TAVERN INITIALLY, THE ORIGINAL SIGN OF WHICH IS STILL IN THE POSSESSION OF ST.JOHN'S LODGE.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



# **JANUARY 6024 A.L.**



**ORIGINAL BUNCH OF GRAPES!** 



VISITING WITH BRO. KRISTOPHER J. CROSSE



**TEA PARTY SHIPS AND REENACTMENTS** 

THE GRAND LODGE GOT ITS OWN HOME WHEN THE FIRST OFFICIAL GRAND LODGE BUILDING WAS BUILT IN 1830. IT WAS REBUILT AGAIN TWICE IN 1867 AND 1899 AFTER FIRES DESTROYED THE BUILDINGS. THE CURRENT STRUCTURE HOUSES MANY LODGES AND HAS SOME OF THE MOST EXQUISITE LODGE ROOMS I'VE EVER SEEN.

AFTER THE TOUR OF THE GRAND LODGE, I WENT TO COPP'S HILL BURIAL GROUND TO PAY MY RESPECTS TO MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL, THE FOUNDER OF PRINCE HALL MASONRY. THERE IS A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL PLACED AT HIS GRAVESITE. FROM THE BURIAL GROUND, I WENT DOWN THE STREET TO OLD NORTH CHURCH, WHERE THE FAMED LANTERNS WERE HUNG AT MW PAUL REVERE'S ORDERS, WARNING THE MINUTEMEN THAT THE REDCOATS WERE COMING BY SEA.

IN THE EVENING ON FRIDAY, THE MASONS AND SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION TEAMED UP FOR A TAVERN TOUR WHICH WAS A WONDERFUL WAY TO GET TO MEET MANY OF THE BRETHREN FROM AROUND MASSACHUSETTS AND BEYOND. SOME MASONS EVEN CAME FROM THE UK TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVITIES OF THE WEEKEND. I WAS WELCOMED BY MANY BROTHERS AND QUICKLY BECAME FRIENDS WITH SOME BROTHERS FROM THE WAMPATUCK MASONS IN SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS WHO BECAME MY PUB BUDDIES AS WE ENJOYED THE FELLOWSHIP AT THE HISTORIC TAVERNS ON THE TOUR. AFTER THE FIRST COUPLE OF TAVERNS, I HAD TO BREAK AWAY FROM THE GROUP TO ATTEND THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR ST. JOHN'S LODGE.

MANY OF OUR BROTHERS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY WERE IN ATTENDANCE AT ST. JOHN'S LODGE TO INSTALL OFFICERS. IT WAS A REAL TREAT TO SEE THE RITUAL WORK AS THE OLDEST LODGE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE OPENED FOR BUSINESS AND WENT TO RECESS TO RECEIVE THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS, MOST WORSHIPFUL GEORGE HAMILTON. I FOUND IT FASCINATING THAT THE GRAND MASTER IS RECEIVED IN AN ENGLISHSTYLE PROCESSION OF THE GRAND LODGE OFFICERS, FLANKED ON BOTH SIDES BY THE OFFICERS OF THE LODGE.

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



### JANUARY 6024 A.L.

IT MADE FOR A BRILLIANT SHOW AND WAS FUN TO OBSERVE. I WAS FASCINATED TO HEAR THAT THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS WAS THE 290TH IN THE LODGE'S HISTORY AND THAT THEY WILL BE CELEBRATING THEIR 300TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2033. I HOPE TO GO BACK AND ATTEND THAT INCREDIBLY HISTORIC OCCASION. FOR THE INSTALLATION, THE LODGE EVEN BRINGS OUT THE ORIGINAL CARVED WOODEN BUNCH OF GRAPES THAT HUNG OUTSIDE THE TAVERN OF THE SAME NAME.

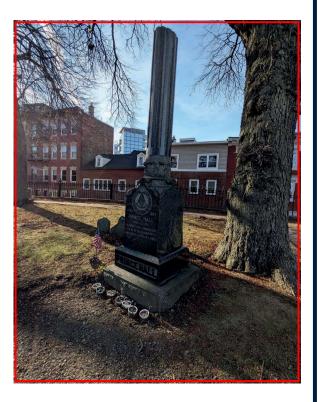
AFTER THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY, I WENT BACK TO CATCH UP WITH THE WAMPATUCK MASONS WHO HAD MADE IT TO THE FAMED GREEN DRAGON TAVERN WHERE MANY OF OUR FOREFATHERS AND FELLOW MASONS HAD PLANNED THE TEA PARTY AND EVENTS SUBSEQUENT. THE CARVED WOODEN GREEN DRAGON FROM THE ORIGINAL SIGN IS STILL IN THE POSSESSION OF THE GRAND LODGE AND WAS ON DISPLAY THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND.

THE NEXT MORNING AND FOR MOST OF SATURDAY, THE GRAND LODGE HOSTED PRESENTATIONS FROM HISTORIANS WHO HAVE BECOME SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS ON THE EVENTS OF 1773 AND THE REVOLUTION. I WAS INTRIGUED TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH DR. JAMES FICHTER, WHO HAS TAUGHT AT HARVARD AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITIES. WHEN I ASKED ABOUT THE MASONS INVOLVED IN THE TEA PARTY AND NOTED THE LACK OF DAMAGE TO THE BOATS OR THE CREW, HE SAID THAT IT WAS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT THE ONLY REASON THE MOB STAYED UNDER CONTROL AS THEY DID, WAS BECAUSE THEY WERE MOSTLY MASONS AND WOULD HAVE KEPT THE OTHER NON-MASONS IN LINE THROUGHOUT THE EVENT. THE MEN THERE THAT NIGHT WERE THERE TO MAKE A POLITICAL STATEMENT AND NOT TO BE RUFFIANS.

THE EVENING OF SATURDAY WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEKEND AND INVOLVED AN ESTIMATED 2000+ MASONS MEETING AT THE GRAND LODGE BEFORE MARCHING DOWN TO THE OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE, IN APRONS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR THE HISTORIC EVENT.



MW GEORGE HAMILTON WITH WB MARK DAVIS



PRINCE HALL GRAVESITE MEMORIAL WITH ITS BROKEN COLUMN AT COPP'S HILL BURYING GROUND

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



# **JANUARY 6024 A.L.**

AT THE OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE, WHERE SAMUEL ADAMS SPOKE OUT AGAINST THE TAXES BEING LEVIED AGAINST THE COLONISTS AND THE PROBLEM OF THE TEA ON BOARD THE SHIPS IN THE HARBOR, WE MET AN ESTIMATED 8000++ADDITIONAL PEOPLE WHO EAGERLY AWAITED THE ROLLING RALLY TO THE HARBOR. THOUGH WE COULDN'T HEAR IT OUTSIDE THE OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE, REENACTORS RECITED THE SPEECH GIVEN BY SAMUEL ADAMS ON THE NIGHT OF 1773 WHICH PRECEDED THE MARCH TO THE HARBOR. AFTERWARDS, THE CROWD OF 10,000+ PEOPLE MARCHED DOWN TO THE HARBOR CHANTING PHRASES THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN HEARD 250 YEARS BEFORE. THE AIR WAS COLD BUT ELECTRIFIED WITH THE PRIDE OF EVERYONE THERE PARTICIPATING IN SUCH A HISTORICAL CELEBRATION.

As we reached the harbor, the crowd quickly filled in all the space available, so many of us had to watch the dignitary speeches and reenactment on large screens that had been put out for the event. The Mayor of Boston, the Governor of Massachusetts, the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, and even a representative from the British Consulate all gave speeches to commemorate the event, with the latter even jokingly threatening to invoice the City of Boston for the tea destroyed in 1773. With the speeches over, the reenactment commenced, with over 2000 pounds of tea being dumped into the harbor from the ships. One amazing fact is that the tea dumped was sent from numerous countries around the world and from states all across the US as well as from every Mason Lodge in Massachusetts. Even the Rainbow Girls gave each of us a bit of tea to dump in the harbor! It was a lot of fun and I got to spend a wonderful evening with our Brethren.

#### WITH SONS OF LIBERTY BROTHERS AND WAMPATUCK MASONS



## **TRESTLEBOARD**



# **JANUARY 6024 A.L.**



2,000 + MASON PROCESSIONAL TO OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE

ON SUNDAY, THE MORNING EVENTS STARTED WITH AN ECUMENICAL SERVICE HOSTED AT THE GRAND LODGE BY THE GRAND MASTER AND THE GRAND CHAPLAIN. IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL SERVICE, WITH A BROTHER RABBI AND THE GRAND CHAPLAIN SHARING STORIES FROM THE SACRED TEXTS RELATING TO THE ACTIONS OF OUR FOREFATHERS WHICH STILL RING TRUE TODAY. WE MUST DO WHAT S RIGHT FOR OUR FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITIES EVEN IF IT MAY NOT BE THE POPULAR CHOICE. KEEP IN MIND THAT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEA IN BOSTON WAS NOT POPULAR INITIALLY, EVEN AMONG BRETHREN SUCH AS BEN FRANKLIN AND GEORGE WASHINGTON.

AFTER THE SERVICE, WE ALL WENT TO BREAKFAST. WE ENJOYED FELLOWSHIP WITH THE GRAND LODGE OFFICERS, THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, AND EVEN A DIRECT DESCENDANT OF MW PAUL REVERE. I ENJOYED THE CHANCE TO SPEAK WITH MORE BRETHREN AND EVEN LEARNED ABOUT SOME OF THE TRADITIONS HELD IN MASSACHUSETTS FREEMASONRY.

ON MONDAY, MY FLIGHT OUT OF BOSTON WAS CANCELED DUE TO A SEVERE STORM AND I WASN'T ABLE TO GET ANOTHER FLIGHT UNTIL THURSDAY SO, I WAS PROVIDED SOME ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO TOUR BOSTON AND HANG OUT WITH SOME BRETHREN. THIS LED TO ATTENDING LODGE WITH AZURE LODGE IN WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS WHERE I HAD A GREAT TIME.! THIS LODGE HAD MANY BROTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AND WELCOMED ME WITH OPEN ARMS. ON THIS NIGHT IN PARTICULAR, THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THOMAS MCCLINTOCK WAS MAKING AN OFFICIAL VISIT AND INVITED ME TO BE HIS GUEST. I SOON LEARNED THAT THE DISTRICT LODGES RECEIVE THEIR DDGMS MUCH LIKE THE GRAND MASTER WAS RECEIVED IN ST. JOHN'S LODGE SO, I WAS A PART OF THE PROCESSION AND WAS CALLED UPON TO ANNOUNCE THE DDGM. I WAS THROWN UNDER THE BUS AND IT WAS FANTASTIC! THE BUSINESS MEETING FOR THE LODGE INVOLVED MANY OF THE MILITARY VETERAN MEMBERS OF AZURE LODGE BEING AWARDED A MEDAL FROM THE GRAND MASTER COMMEMORATING THEIR MILITARY SERVICE. AFTER THE MEETING, WE HAD DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP TO CAP OFF THE AMAZING EVENING.

THIS TRIP WAS AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE AND I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IT WITHOUT OUR FRATERNITY. I MET SO MANY BROTHERS AND HAD A WONDERFUL TIME EXPERIENCING THE ANNIVERSARY OF ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN OUR COUNTRY'S HISTORY. FELLOWSHIP, TRAVEL, AND HISTORY ALL ROLLED INTO ONE TRIP? WHY WOULD I NOT GO AS A TRAVELING MAN? THANK YOU FOR READING BROTHERS AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE. - BRO. JOHN

# **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 

A FEW PICTURES FROM BRO. JOHN KEEL'S TRAVELING ADVENTURES IN BOSTON



WITH THE BRETHREN OF AZURE LODGE

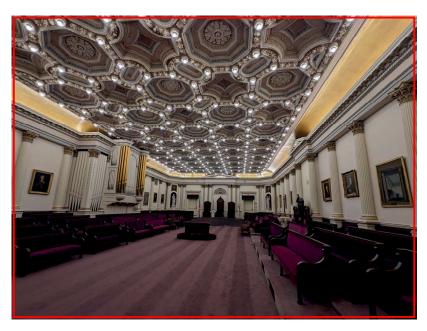


MW GEORGE HAMILTON WITH GRAND LODGE OFFICERS AND NEWLY INSTALLED ST. JOHN'S LODGE OFFICERS

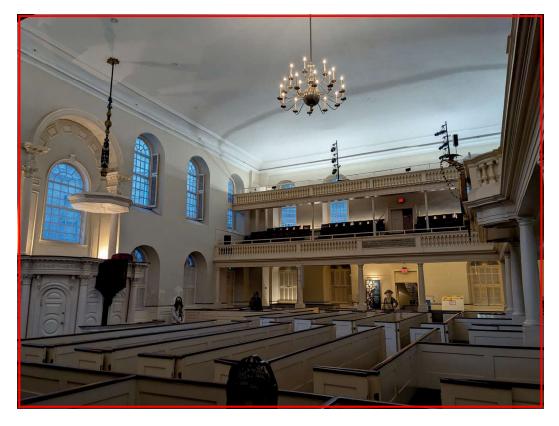
# **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



**CORINTHIAN LODGE ROOM** 

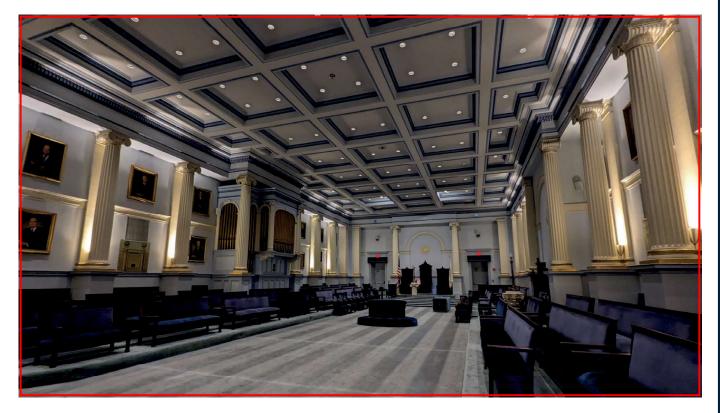


**INSIDE OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE** 

# **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



**IONIC LODGE ROOM** 



WB MARK T. DAVIS, WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF ST. JOHN'S LODGE

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



## MASONIC MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS By Bro. Burx Norrod

(SOURCE: MSANA.COM)

THE MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA IS A FANTASTIC SOURCE OF MASONIC INFORMATION APPERTAINING TO FINDING OUT THE TREND OF MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. NOT SOMETHING EVERYONE WILL CARE ABOUT - BUT UPON JOINING FREEMASONRY, I WANTED TO KNOW WHAT OUR NUMBERS LOOKED LIKE AND WHAT THE AVERAGE AGE OF A MASON WAS, THINKING AT 36, I WAS COMING IN AT AN OLD AGE, AND WHY IT HAD TAKEN SOMEONE LIKE MYSELF SUCH A LONG TIME TO KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

LITTLE DID I REALIZE, THAT THE AVERAGE AGE OF A MASON PETITIONING FREEMASONRY WAS 37 YEARS OLD. SO, AT 36, I WAS RIGHT THERE, AS I WAS TURNING 37 LATER THAT YEAR ANYWAY. I THEN FOUND OUT THAT FREEMASONRY'S MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AT IT'S PEAK WAS 4,103,161 BACK IN 1959, GIVE OR TAKE A FEW DUE TO GRAND LODGES WHO MAY NOT HAVE REPORTED CORRECTLY.

SINCE 1959, MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS HAVE DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY, DOWN TO 874,548 MASTER MASONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AS OF 2023.

IN NEW MEXICO, WE HAVE A MASTER MASON MEMBERSHIP OF 2,754 AS OF 2023 (GIVE OR TAKE A FEW), DOWN 6,167 OVER 30 YEARS. WHILE IT SOUNDS ROUGH - IT'S NOT AS ROUGH AS SOME JURISDICTIONS LIKE OHIO, WHO'S NUMBERS DROPPED BY 108,4544 OVER THE SAME TIME PERIOD. I PRESUME IT'S IN PART BECAUSE OF THEIR ONE-DAY CLASSES, TAKING A MAN, AND MAKING HIM A MASTER MASON IN A SINGLE DAY. THEY'VE HAD APPROX 7,700 RAISED IN A SINGLE DAY BACK IN 2002, AND HAVE NUMEROUS ONE-DAY CLASSES SINCE THEN.

QUESTION BECOMES, DO WE WANT MEMBERS, OR DO WE WANT MASONS? I PREFER THE LATTER, AND AS A RESULT, AM NOT AS BUGGED WITH THE DECLINING MEMBERSHIP AS I ONCE WAS AS IT'S NOT A TRUE REFLECTION OF THE BASIS OF THE CRAFT. I ENDED AN ARTICLE BACK IN 2013 WITH THESE WORDS:

"THE LODGE ROOM WILL ALWAYS BE FILLED TO ITS' CAPACITIES WHEN IT CONTAINS THOSE WHO ARE BEING OBSERVANT OF ITS PHILOSOPHIES AND ILLUMINATIONS - NOT WITH WARM BODIES, BUT WITH WARM HEARTS HEATED BY THE BURNING FIRE OF MASONIC LIGHT."

ALTHOUGH MY THOUGHTS ON MASONIC EDUCATION AND SUCH HAS EVOLVED OVER TIME AS I COME ACROSS NEW INFORMATION, ONE THING REMAINS: I AM IMPROVED BY FREEMASONRY /G\

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 

## AF &AM OR F&AM - WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? BY BRO. BURX NORROD

IF YOU NOTICED, I ADDED THE 'AF&AM' TO SANDOVAL LODGE NO. 76. IT MAY SOUND TRIVIAL IF YOU'VE NOT VENTURED OUTSIDE OF NEW MEXICO MASONRY, BUT IF YOU SHOULD VISIT ANOTHER GRAND LODGE JURISDICTION, YOU MAY GET ASKED IF YOU'RE AF&AM OR F&AM (UNLESS YOU VISIT WASHINGTON D.C. WHERE IT'S FAAM.

HERE'S AN EXCELLENT BREAKDOWN I FOUND ON WWW.MASONIC-LODGE-OF-EDUCATION.COM

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AF AND AM VS F AND AM STATES?

AF AND AM STANDS FOR ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

F AND AM STANDS FOR FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

IN ACTUALITY, IT DOES NOT MATTER WHETHER YOU JOIN AN AF & AM LODGE OR AN F & AM LODGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN THE U.S., EVERY REGULAR LODGE IS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ITS STATE GRAND LODGE. DUE TO THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO GRAND LODGE HEADQUARTERS FOR EACH STATE'S SEPARATE GRAND LODGE, EACH STATE'S GRAND LODGE IS, THEREFORE, ITS OWN "HEADQUARTERS" WITHIN THAT STATE'S JURISDICTION.

ALL FREEMASONS, BOTH AF & AM (WHICH MEANS ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, AS WELL AS F & AM, WHICH MEANS FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, TRACE THEIR ALLEGORICAL HISTORY BACK TO THE BUILDING OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.

FREEMASONRY WAS EXPORTED TO THE BRITISH COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA IN THE 1730S—WITH BOTH THE "ANCIENTS" (SOMETIMES ALSO REFERRED TO AS "ANTIENTS") AND THE "MODERNS" (AS WELL AS THE GRAND LODGES OF IRELAND AND SCOTLAND) WHICH CHARTERED OFFSPRING ("DAUGHTER") LODGES, AND ORGANIZED VARIOUS PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGES.

AFTER THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, INDEPENDENT U.S. GRAND LODGES FORMED WITHIN EACH STATE.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE** 

## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

## ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS VS FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

FROM 1751 TO 1813, THERE WERE ACTUALLY 2 GRAND LODGES IN ENGLAND. THE DIFFERENCE IN AF AND AM VS F AND AM STATES GOES BACK TO A DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THESE 2 GRAND LODGES IN LONDON AT THAT TIME. (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

ONE GROUP WAS CALLED THE "MODERNS", BUT WAS ACTUALLY THE OLDER OF THE 2 ENGLISH GRAND LODGES. THE OTHER GROUP WAS CALLED THE "ANTIENTS", WHICH BECAME THE "ANCIENTS" IN AF AND AM.

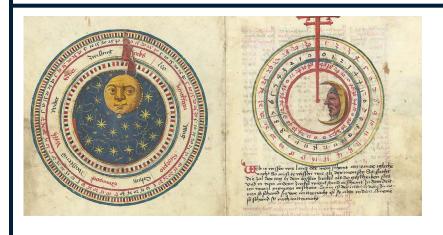
DUE TO THIS DISAGREEMENT, THE 2 GROUPS BROKE INTO SEPARATE GRAND LODGES. THE DISAGREEMENT WAS LATER HEALED AROUND 1880, BUT BY THAT TIME, THERE WERE LODGES AND GRAND LODGES ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES THAT WERE DESCENDED FROM ONE GROUP OR THE OTHER, AND SO EACH GROUP KEPT THEIR CORRESPONDING INITIALS WITH WHICH THEY WERE FORMED, (WHICH IS THE REASON FOR WHICH THERE ARE SMALL DIFFERENCES WITHIN DIFFERENT STATES' RITUAL WORDING AND GRAND LODGE BY-LAWS AND PROCEDURES).



## **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 



What is with the 6024 A.L. DATE ON THIS TRESTLEBOARD?

By Bro. Burx Norrod

"Anno Lucis" is a Latin phrase that translates to "In the Year of Light." In Freemasonry, it is used to denote the chronological system used in the Craft. The Masonic calendar is often calculated by adding 4,000 years to the current Gregorian calendar year. This adjustment is symbolic, representing the traditional Masonic belief that the world was created 4,000 years before the building of King Solomon's Temple.

FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE CURRENT GREGORIAN YEAR IS 2024 AD, IN THE MASONIC CALENDAR, IT WOULD BE 6024 ANNO LUCIS (A.L.). This system is not meant to be a historical or scientific calculation but is rather a symbolic method used within the context of Masonic Ritual and Tradition.

THE CONCEPT OF "LIGHT" IS SIGNIFICANT IN FREEMASONRY, REPRESENTING KNOWLEDGE, ENLIGHTENMENT, AND SPIRITUAL ILLUMINATION. THE USE OF "ANNO LUCIS" REINFORCES THE MASONIC EMPHASIS ON SEEKING LIGHT AND KNOWLEDGE THROUGHOUT ONE'S MASONIC JOURNEY /G\

# **TRESTLEBOARD**



**JANUARY 6024 A.L.** 





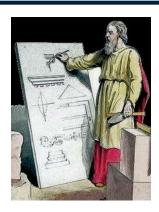
NEWLY MINTED JUNIOR WARDEN BRO. JOHN P. KEEL PREPARING HIS FIRST FESTIVEBOARD, WITH BRO. JUAN SAIENNI & BRO. BENJAMIN COTE EAGERLY AWAITING CHOW TIME!



## **TRESTLEBOARD**



JANUARY 6024 A.L.





## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TRESTLEBOARD, OUR MONTHLY PUBLICATION THAT IMPARTS THE CULTURE AND PHILOSOPHY OF SANDOVAL LODGE TO ITS READERS. THIS RESOURCE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN AIDING THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS FOR BOTH PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS AND CURRENT AFFILIATES. IN TODAY'S LANDSCAPE, INDIVIDUALS SEEKING A LODGE ARE INCLINED TO JOIN AN ACTIVE ONE, STEERING CLEAR OF THE NUMEROUS DISTRACTIONS AND TEMPTATIONS PREVALENT ELSEWHERE.

THE KEY TO A THRIVING TRESTLEBOARD LIES IN ITS CONTENT, AND I AM CONTINUALLY SEEKING ENGAGING SUBMISSIONS. IF YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE IDEA, WISH TO RECOUNT A MASONICALLY SIGNIFICANT JOURNEY, OR SIMPLY DESIRE TO SHARE HOW FREEMASONRY HAS POSITIVELY IMPACTED YOUR LIFE'S JOURNEY, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO REACH OUT. IF YOU LACK THE TIME OR FEEL UNCERTAIN ABOUT WRITING, PROVIDE ME WITH THE BASIC DETAILS OF YOUR CONCEPT, ALONG WITH A FEW PICTURES IF POSSIBLE, AND I'LL LEVERAGE THE ASSISTANCE OF CHATGPT TO CRAFT YOUR ARTICLE.

We've had Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts submit articles that also got published in the Grand Lodge's Trestleboard, so it doesn't matter how long you've been a Mason, or how short, let's hear your thoughts! Submit your article or idea for one to BurxNorrod@gmail.com

THE TRESTLEBOARD COMMITTEE
IS NOW 'HIRING'! SHOULD YOU
HAVE AN INTEREST IN HELPING
TO PUT THIS PUBLICATION
TOGETHER, YOUR WAGE OF A
BEER IS ON ME.



BURX NORROD, SW
TRESTLEBOARD COMMITTEE CHAIR