

The Trestleboard



Laying the cornerstone of Chapman Lodge No.2,
Las Vegas, NM, Year 1884 colorized



Original B&W photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Newsletter Issue No. 09 October , 2021

Congratulations



*Sandoval Lodge No. 76
Entered Apprentice Degree
Bro. Bill Byrd
September 13th, 2021*

Brother Bill Byrd



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ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE PHOTO FOR BRO. BILL BYRD

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C.1907

RETHINKING MASONRY - SQUARE MAGAZINE

UNION LODGE NO. 4 AND SANDOVAL NO. 76

WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

Sandoval Lodge
NO. 76
1420 Barbara Loop,
Rio Rancho, NM
87114

FACEBOOK.COM/
SANDOVAL76AFAM/



rioranchofreemasons.org



(505) 892-1975



NEWSLETTER ENTRIES

NEWSLETTER ENTRIES ARE DUE
ON THE 25TH OF
EVERY MONTH.
PLEASE EMAIL ENTRIES TO

SL76trestleboard@gmail.com

Carte Postale

**EVERYONE
NEEDS A GOOD
LAUGH ONCE IN A WHILE,
OR AT LEAST A
LITTLE SMILE.**



MASTER'S CORNER

Hello brethren,

The month of September was quite an eventful month. First off we had the state fair in which Sandoval Lodge had many brothers in attendance. I'd like to thank Bro. Gabe for driving our trailer through the parade. A few days later we held an Entered Apprentice degree for Bro. Bill Byrd. We had an amazing degree team and thank you all for dedication and commitment to the craft.

WB Leon traveled to Chama Lodge to obtain the Vulcan Traveling Gavel. There is an article later on in the newsletter with more details on that. I'd like to congratulate WB Dave Bachman who was installed as Worthy Patron of Turquoise Chapter No. 71 OES on the 25th of September. The lodge wishes you well and success as worthy patron.

Brethren, let's keep the work flowing in the coming months as the holidays approach and straight into the new year.

Eric Moses WM Sandoval Lodge No. 76

MSCLD UPDATE!

The fall school schedule has now started. Our school is back in full operation with six students being instructed in the Take Flight Program from the Scottish Rite. We have two students that should complete their studies in December when we can add two new students to the roster. Feedback from the parents of our students has been super positive. Real progress is being made with measureable results such as increases in reading skill level testing and in improved attitudes of the student. Thanks to Marci Easterbrook for her good work in helping our students be better equipped to meet their full potential in life.

Our first fund raising dinner was poorly attended. We hope to do better with our next one on the fourth Wednesday of October. Please come and help us raise the funds needed to keep the program going. If you would like to make a cash donation that can be matched by the Grand Lodge Masonic Charities, the donation is made to Union Lodge No. 4 or to Sandoval Lodge No. 76 who have the ability to apply for the matching funds under the Grand Lodge program. These donations are tax deductible.



State Fair Parade 2021



The Vulcan Traveling Gavel making it way to Sandoval Lodge No. 76

Fall 2021 Valley of Santa Fe Reunion October 15th - 17th



Scottish Rite Members: refer to your emails as there may have been updates sent from Santa Fe or your degree directors.

Prospective Members: get a hold of a Scottish Rite member in your lodge or contact the Valley of Santa Fe at (505) 982-4414 and speak with José M. Montaña, 33° IGH.

WANTED

MESA DEMOLAY INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

OCTOBER 9TH, 2021

1PM

TEMPLE LODGE #6

THERE WILL BE BBQ
FOLLOWING THE

Hello brethren, Here are a few advertisements for events going on in October

SANDOVAL LODGE NO. 76 PRESENTS

1ST ANNUAL SCOTCH AND CIGAR NIGHT

A NIGHT OF FUN, FRIENDS, AND FELLOWSHIP
TO SUPPORT OUR MASONIC CHARITY
BIKES FOR BOOKS PROGRAM!



FRIDAY OCT 29TH

FROM 5:00 TO 9:00PM

ADMISSION \$40

INCLUDES 3 SCOTCH TASTINGS, HIRAM
& SOLOMON CIGAR, AND FOOD
PROVIDED BY ROYAL EMPIRE CATERING

RAFFLES AND PRIZES!

FRIENDS AND POTENTIAL CANDIDATES
WELCOME!

**180 RIVERA
LANE
CORRALES,
NM 87048**



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP CONTACT

**WB LEON ALDERETTE 505-818-3847 OR
BRO. DAVIN TEAGUE 505-804-1234**



Albuquerque Scottish Rite Club Meeting

Monday October
4th, 2021
Master Craftsman
Classes 6:00PM
Presentation
7:00PM

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

"Keeping the Light Shining
in the Lodge - How To
Improve Ritual Work"
Presented by Bro. Burx
Norrod 2 VP ASRITE



From the South

Dinner Menu

For October 13th, 2021

Enchiladas



Dinner starts at
6pm

October Birthdays



Steve Kronstedt 10/1
John Lackey - 10/3
Nill Escobar- 10/5
Charles Stafford 10/26

October Masonic Birthdays



Charles Stafford - 10/20/2012
Dave Bachman - 10/15/2012
Mathew Taibbi - 10/11/2008
Stewart Miles - 10/29/2012



The Masonic Lodge Junior Warden

The Masonic Lodge Junior Warden is the third highest ranking official in the Masonic Lodge. He helps to ensure that the Lodge is operating smoothly. He performs the following functions:

Assistant officer: The Junior Warden is an elected officer in the Lodge. He acts like a Vice-President.

Jewel of office: The jewel of office of a Junior Warden is the Plumb. The Plumb is an instrument used by Stonemasons to determine how well aligned a vertical surface is. The Jewel is a symbol of upright behavior among Freemasons.

Refreshment: The Junior Warden sits in the South which represents the sun lies at midday. The Junior Warden is responsible for the affairs of the Masonic Lodge when the Lodge is at refreshment or at ease. The Junior Warden has to arrange meals for the Lodge. He has two stewards that are his assistants. The Junior Warden ensures that refreshments are in moderation and there is no excess. But this may not be necessary these days as alcohol is barred from most Masonic jurisdictions.

Opening of the Lodge: The Junior Warden can open the Lodge along with the Senior Warden, the Master, and the Past Master if any ranking officer is unable to attend the meeting.

Warden comes from the Middle English word called 'Wardein,' and the Anglo-French word called 'gardein.' In those days, the word means a guard. Today, the Warden means someone in charge or someone that is in care. It means someone that is in charge of something with supervisory duties. He deals with the enforcement of laws and regulations.

Here are the specific duties of a Junior Warden today:

- *The Junior Warden assists the Worshipful Master in performing his duties.
- *The Junior Warden assists the Senior Warden in executing his duties.
- *When the Senior Warden and the Worshipful Master are not around, the Junior Warden must take charge and be entrusted with the duties and powers of the Worshipful Master.
- *The Junior Warden carries out the duties that are required of a Junior Warden as specified by the ancient duties.
- *The Junior Warden serves as the Committee Chairman for the Refreshment and Entertainment Committee along with the Junior and Senior Stewards.
- *The Junior Warden is responsible for all refreshments that are served at the Masonic Lodge.
- *The Junior Warden is responsible for keeping an attendance record for all Lodge functions that involve the serving of refreshments. This attendance record is necessary to plan for all future events adequately so there will be enough food and drinks.
- *The Junior Warden serves as a Member or even Committee Chairman for other committees that may be required by the Worshipful Master.
- *The Junior Warden attends all Lodge functions

The Junior Warden attends the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

*The Junior Warden can also prefer charges against a Mason that has not behaved in a way that a Mason should behave. The Junior Warden can present these charges to the Master of the Lodge.

The Junior Warden must perform his duties well in a way that promotes peace in the Lodge and promote the Brotherhood. In several Lodges, the Junior Warden becomes the Worshipful Master in two years. The Junior Warden need to pay attention to the roles of the Senior Warden and pay attention to the ritual work of the Senior Warden as he will soon become a Senior Warden.

<https://bricksmasons.com/blogs/masonic-education/the-masonic-lodge-junior-warden>

A Glimpse Into the Past - "60 years of Freemasonry in Territory of New Mexico" - Santa Fe New Mexican archives c.1907

The



Eagle.

VOL. 1, NO. 46.

SILVER CITY, N. M., WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1895.

PRICE 5 CENTS

MASONIC HISTORY.

Interesting Information Concerning
this Organization in New Mexico.

Fifty Years' Growth Detailed by a Former
Grand Master of the Grand
Lodge.

Free Masonry came to New Mexico with the American occupation. As elsewhere in the United States during the past 100 years, wherever the stars and stripes were planted, closely followed the institution of a Masonic lodge.

On August 18th, 1846, General Kearney took possession of the city of Santa Fe, then the capital of the Mexican territory of New Mexico, extending north to the Nepests or Arkansas river, east to the 100th meridian, west to the Mogolon mountains, the Moqui Pueblo and the head waters of the Rio Grande and south to the state of Chihuahua and in a little more than a year thereafter, Free Masonry planted its banner of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly love in the city of the Holy Faith, and the natives beheld for the first time the square and compasses and the white lambskin aprons, indicating that a new era had arisen and that the mystic craft had been firmly established in their midst.

On October 18th, 1847, Hardin lodge No 87, a military traveling lodge with the first regiment of Illinois volunteers, was instituted at Santa Fe, by Colonel John Ralls, grand master of the grand lodge of Missouri. This lodge started with a membership of forty, mostly army officers, and worked Santa Fe during the years 1847, 1848, 1849 and 1850 and was succeeded by Montezuma lodge, No. 109, to which a charter was granted by the grand lodge of Missouri, May 8th, 1851.

For several years, these were the only lodges in all the vast Territory, now contained in western Kansas, western Nebraska, the two Dakotas, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Montana, Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, Idaho, western Texas, California, Arizona, the Indian Territory and Oklahoma.

Many of the foremost citizens and pioneers of New Mexico were members of Montezuma lodge. A few of these will be named: Supreme Court Justices Joab Houghton, Merrill Ashburst, Kirby

Benedict, S. B. Axtell and Henry L. Waldo; Kit Carson, famous scout and Indian fighter, and brigadier general U. S. volunteers, whose trusted rifle was left as an heirloom at the time of his death in 1883, to that lodge, and is still in its possession; ex-lieutenant governor, Lafayette Head, of Colorado, who was made a Mason, in 1851, and is now a resident of that state; Brigadier General J. H. Carleton, U. S. A., who was made in 1856, and commanded the military department of New Mexico, during and after the late war, between the states; Delegates Milguel A. Otero, C. P. Clever, Stephen B. Elkins, Antonio Joseph, and T. B. Catron, Col. Ceran St. Vrain, who commanded federal troops, to put down the Pueblo Indian insurrection in 1847, during which Governor Charles Bent, also a Mason, was assassinated; Wm. W. Griffin, president of the first national bank organized in New Mexico, Solomon Jacob Spiegelberg, Levi Spiegelberg, Gustave Elsborg and Zadoc Staab, who organized wholesale trading establishments in Santa Fe, way back in the early '50s, and many others whose names are well and favorably known to the people of New Mexico, who were prominent and important factors in New Mexico politics and business and are closely identified with its history, development and advancement.

Chapman lodge at Las Vegas has the honor of being the next oldest; it was instituted under charter granted by the grand lodge of Missouri, June 2nd 1862, and is now number 2 on the New Mexico registry. It is in a flourishing condition and to it belongs the credit of possessing the finest temple in western Kansas, southern Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, Indian Territory, western Texas and southern California.

June 4th, 1866, Aztec lodge No. 3 at Las Cruces was instituted under charter granted by the grand lodge of Missouri.

October 17th, 1873, Silver City lodge was instituted, also under charter from the grand lodge of Missouri.

Union Lodge at Fort Union was instituted also under charter from the grand lodge of Missouri, May 30th, 1874.

From 1865 to 1875, there existed also in the territory three lodges under charters from the grand lodge of Missouri. Bent lodge No. 205 at Taos, Kit Carson lodge 346 Elizabethtown and Cimarron lodge No. 348 at Cimarron.

On August 8th, 1877, a Masonic con-

vention, consisting of the masters and wardens of Montezuma, Chapman, Aztec and Union lodges, was called to order by the then governor, S. B. Axtell, and the grand lodge of New Mexico was formally organized at Santa Fe, by the election of grand officers and the adoption of a constitution and by-laws. The first grand officers were: W. W. Griffin, grand master; W. L. Rynerson, deputy grand master; S. B. Newcomb, grand senior warden; G. W. Stebbins, grand junior warden; Willi Spiegelberg, grand treasurer, and David J. Miller, grand secretary. The membership of the four lodges numbered 165 Master Masons. The Silver City lodge declined to join the organization.

The grand lodges throughout the globe then recognized the new grand lodge promptly, except Missouri, which stood for a time by Silver City lodge, but the right and justice and Masonic equity being with New Mexico, Missouri accorded finally full recognition and the Silver City lodge acknowledged the grand lodge of New Mexico, as its lawful superior and the supreme Masonic authority in New Mexico. Since then, peace and harmony have prevailed in the jurisdiction and the growth of the grand lodge while it has not been rapid has been steady and sure and the craft is in a very prosperous condition.

Upon the register, today, there are counted twenty lodges, located as follows: Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Albuquerque, Watrous, Raton, Socorro, San Marcial, Las Cruces, Deming, Silver City, Chloride, Georgetown, Eddy, Roswell, White Oaks, Chama, Farmington, Cerrillos, Gallup and Clayton. The membership of these aggregates over 1,000 at this writing.

Of the grand officers in 1877, all but Judge S. B. Newcomb, of Las Cruces, and Hon. Willi Spiegelberg, now of New York, have joined the silent majority.

For the present year, the following are the grand officers: J. J. Kelley, of Silver City, grand master; Dr. J. H. Wroth, of Albuquerque, deputy grand master; Geo. L. Wyllys, of Cerrillos, grand senior warden; Chester D. Stevens, of Raton, grand junior warden, F. H. Kent, of Albuquerque, grand treasurer and A. A. Keen, of Albuquerque, grand secretary.

The past grand masters of the grand lodge are the following well known citizens of New Mexico: S. B. Newcomb,

Grant Co

Upon researching historic newspapers, I stumbled across this little gem. An article about the start of freemasonry in New Mexico. I hope you enjoy this as much as I did.
- Alicia McKenzie



Rethinking Freemasonry Part I

There are many challenges within Freemasonry today, one of the least spoken challenges happens to be the modern-day translation of specific words and phrases used within our Society.

What does it all mean and where do I go from here?

There have been many viewpoints registered through print, blogs, social media, and podcasts, discussing the so-called esoteric meanings behind the words and symbols of the fraternity's rituals, as well as the misuse, abuse and mischaracterization of these same words and phrases.

This also applies to words to describe our fraternity. It is no wonder that we often have a confused newly raised brother asking, "What does it all mean and where do I go from here?"

Therein lies perhaps the biggest problem; if one has to ask the question, we have failed to inculcate not only the lessons, but the meaning and purpose of our rituals to these brothers when they were candidates.

We focus on a candidate's ability to memorize and regurgitate the words, and virtually no time on what those words mean and why.

If we do, it is usually some contrived, simplified definition of the symbols, the words, and rituals.

These are the symptoms of a disease, and that disease is named Apathy.

We throw around words like "esoteric", "mysteries", and "secrets" as if they (the candidate) should already understand what those words mean to Masons, and not what society says they mean.

For other Masons, these words are things to avoid or argue against the opposite of what their intended meaning is or should be.

One can see examples of these challenges everywhere within Freemasonry.

Not very long ago there was a national Masonic writing competition which begged the question of Masonic Renewal and what it should mean to a brother. The top three essays provided some valuable insight into what challenges the fraternity faces today.

They are not what one would assume, not the declining membership, or educational issues (directly), but something much deeper.

One of the most striking options suggested by one essay was a complete overhaul of ritual by simplifying the language used to make it understandable (modernized) for new, younger Masons (it took second place).

Considering that the essay winners were chosen by Masonic leaders, reaffirmed what Bro. Thomas W. Jackson stated in a recent

essay, "American Freemasons were the most ignorant Freemasons in the world", and then further clarifying, "that ignorance does not mean stupidity; it means a lack of knowledge" (Jackson, *Journal of the Masonic Society*, 2020).

So, where does one begin to rectify this problem?

How many of our brothers read and studied the written words of our forebears of the Craft?





Union Lodge No. 2 and Sandoval Lodge No. 76



- M.W.B. Dan Irick

There is a long history between Union Lodge No. 4 and members of Sandoval Lodge No. 76. It began when M.W.B. Dan Irick and his traveling companion Bro. Ken Coan made an official visit to Union Lodge in Wagon Mound, New Mexico in 1998. Five members of Union Lodge were there. That made the seven members needed to open lodge. However, one of the members was not feeling well and left. Since we could not open the meeting, we set around and talked for several hours about the history of Union Lodge and the fact that it was one of the original lodges that created the Grand Lodge of New Mexico in 1878. We were sitting in the lodge room built in 1933 with its unique feel of a small country lodge. Dan and Ken decided that Union Lodge needed to be kept alive and they filled out petitions to join the lodge.

In the following years members of Sandoval Lodge joined Dan and Ken in making the 150 mile one way trip to Wagon Mound each month. Leaving Rio Rancho about 3:00, stopping for dinner in Las Vegas, meeting at 7:00 in Wagon Mound, they are back home by midnight. Over the years, many Sandoval masons joined Union Lodge and have served as Master and officers. They include M.W.B. Dan Irick (Master 7 times), R.W.B. Jim Coberley (Master), W.B. Bill Lewis (Master), W.B. Harry Kantz (Secretary), Nick Crease (Senior Warden), W.B. Martin Meldonado (Senior Deacon), W.B. Charles Stafford, Larry Mikkelsen, and many others have taken the time to experience a visit to Union Lodge. Union Lodge has supported the MSCLD at Sandoval Lodge by providing matching funds for money raised at the monthly dinners and other donations. The members of Union Lodge are very proud of the success of the school and are happy to be a part of it.



What is Freemasonry?

By: Bro. Burx Norrod

There are quite a few Fraternities that exist with an initiatory entrance ... to include that of the Odd Fellows, The Elks, The Eagles, The Moose, The Knights of Columbus, The Ordo Templi Orientis (OTO), The Freemasons, to name a few. In nearly every town 's entrance - you'll see the symbols of these organizations (well, maybe not the OTO), but also that of the Rotary Club, the VFW, Kiwanis, Lions, heck, maybe even the Boy Scouts .

All are fantastic organizations - and all serve various purposes . As such - being able to define our venerable institution of Freemasonry - the oldest of these all, becomes more important than ever in order to distinguish Masonry from the rest of them .

I've asked many a Mason "what is Freemasonry" ... and I'll get varied responses, something similar to that of "we're an organization that does good for the world" ... "we make good men better" ... something along these lines.

If, however, this is the definition - how is it different from the Elks who look like the Shriners, who also do noble things with their own Rehabilitation Hospitals, or those other civic organizations whose mission is to also do great things for the world, to help out their fellow man? Even the Catholic group, the Knights of Columbus, look like the Knights Templar body of Freemasonry.

Merely stating Freemasonry serves to make good men better, or some organization that does good for the world does not distinguish us from any of these fantastic Fraternities that exist. I remember visiting a Elks Lodge some years ago - and was taken back by how similar the regalia of the members looked like with Freemasonry. Even the jewels that adorned their shoulders looked similar ... with the Master of the Lodge also holding a gavel. I felt like I was in a clandestine Masonic Lodge due to many of their members being women!

I have heard, some years ago, from watching a youtube video by SGIG Henry Clausen, who said, "Freemasonry is a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegories, and illustrated by symbols." This has become the most logically common explanation I've heard of what Freemasonry is. I came to find out years later this statement was written by William Preston in the 18th Century ... after the UGLE came together in 1717.

This sentence is short, sweet, and to the point. Maybe even enough to draw the curiosity of men who want to know more about what these allegories & symbols entail. Some are drawn by these words due to the historical elements of our Craft ... others, by its controversies ... and others, to continue a family tradition of sorts.

Whatever the reason - it's become more important than ever to understand this definition of our Craft ... else sound no different than pitching the Elks. My personal definition stems from the words from my first Masonic mentor in 2012, who told me what his definition of Freemasonry is. He said;

"What is Freemasonry? We're a group of men who meet on the level, act upon the square, and walk uprightly in life. We take good men and make them better by the teachings of Masonry, and work towards brotherly love, relief, and truth."

Personally, I don't think there's any better explanation to our Craft than this. How will YOU define Freemasonry the next time someone asks you?

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
Burx