

**SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 A.F. & A.M.**

**JUNE  
6024  
A.L.**

# TRESTLEBOARD



## 2024 LODGE OFFICERS

### WORSHIPFUL MASTER

WM DAVIN B. TEAGUE

DTEAGUE505@GMAIL.COM

CALL OR TEXT: (505) 804-1234

### SENIOR WARDEN

BRO. BURX NORROD

BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM

CALL OR TEXT: (208) 571-9705

### JUNIOR WARDEN

BRO. JOHN P. KEEL

K\_JOHN87@YAHOO.COM

CALL OR TEXT: (505) 358-6224

### TREASURER

RWB TIM DONOVAN

TIM@TAXHELPRR.COM

### SECRETARY

WB EUGENE MORSE

EUGENEMORSE46@GMAIL.COM

CALL OR TEXT: (505) 527-7998



### SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76

MEETS IN REGULAR

COMMUNICATION ON THE 2ND  
AND 4TH MONDAY OF EACH  
MONTH

FESTIVEBOARD AT 6:00PM

LODGE OPENS AT 7:00PM

VISITORS: TO RSVP, EMAIL  
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM

## MAKING MEMORIAL DAY 'MEMORABLE'

THE SECOND STATED COMMUNICATIONS OF MAY WAS TRULY MEMORABLE, COINCIDING WITH MEMORIAL DAY. WE ENJOYED A DELIGHTFUL FESTIVEBOARD FEATURING HOTDOGS AND BURGERS GRILLED ON THE GENEROUS DONATION FROM WB LARRY MIKKELSEN.

OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FOR THE EVENING WERE THE **WIDOWS SONS - SONS OF LIGHT** CHAPTER THAT MEETS AT SANDOVAL LODGE. LED BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT WM NIC CORIZ, OUR OWN LODGE MEMBERS WM DAVIN TEAGUE AND WB LARRY MIKKELSEN, ALONG WITH BRO. CHRIS FROM MESA LODGE, JOINED IN. THIS CHAPTER, DEDICATED TO AIDING WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, REQUIRES MEMBERS TO BE MASTER MASONS WITH BIKES OF AT LEAST 500CC.

ADDING TO THE EXCITEMENT, WE WELCOMED **BROTHER ROBERT COWDER** AS A PLURAL MEMBER! HIS SUCCESSFUL VOTE INTO MEMBERSHIP MARKS THE BEGINNING OF AN ENRICHING JOURNEY WITH FREEMASONRY. BROTHER COWDER HAS ALREADY SHARED INSIGHTS FROM HIS NEARLY 16 YEARS AS A MASTER MASON, CONTRIBUTING TO OUR TRESTLEBOARD AND ILLUMINATING OUR PATH FORWARD.

A GREAT END TO THE MONTH OF MAY - HERE WE GO JUNE!!!



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## FROM THE EAST

*"MEN ARE NOTHING, PRINCIPLES ARE EVERYTHING."*  
BRO. BENITO JUAREZ

GREETINGS BRETHREN,

I HOPE THIS REACHES YOU IN GOOD SPIRITS AND HEALTH. WE HAVE BEEN BLAZING THROUGH THE YEAR AND ARE ALMOST AT THE HALFWAY POINT.

I AM VERY THANKFUL FOR EVERYONE'S CONTINUED CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR LODGE AND CRAFT. WE ARE MAKING STRIDES AND MOVING INTO A BUSY SUMMER AND FALL AND I LOOK FORWARD TO THE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS WE HAVE PLANNED.

AS I READ THE ABOVE QUOTE FROM OUR BROTHER JUAREZ IT MADE ME THINK HOW BLESSED WE ARE TO HAVE KNOCKED AT THE DOOR OF FREEMASONRY, AND BEEN ACCEPTED. IN MY OPINION THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEMASONRY ARE SOME OF THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL, MORAL, AND ENLIGHTENING THAT WE CAN EVER ENCOUNTER. BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH, TEMPERANCE, FORTITUDE, PRUDENCE, JUSTICE, AND THE MYRIAD OF OTHER PRECEPTS WE INTERNALIZE, ARE LIFE CHANGING.

OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED ON LEADERS WHO EMBODIED THESE PRINCIPLES, AND WE NEED THAT NOW MORE THAN EVER. BUT IT WASN'T JUST THE MEN THEMSELVES, IT WAS WHAT THEY STOOD FOR AND HOW THEY MANIFESTED THAT IN THE WORLD. WE AS FREEMASONS HAVE EMBARKED UPON A QUEST FOR LIGHT, AND AS WE GAIN MINUTE PARTICLES OF IT EACH AND EVERY DAY, WE ALSO ARE DUTY BOUND TO SPREAD AND SHARE THAT LIGHT WITH OTHERS. NOT JUST WITH OUR EGOS AND HOW MUCH WE FEEL WE KNOW AND CAN TALK ABOUT, BUT WITH OUR ACTIONS AND DEEDS IN OUR EVERYDAY ENCOUNTERS. MUCH LOVE AND LIGHT,

WM DAVIN



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## ***FROM THE WEST***

**I AM DULY & TRULY PLEASD AT HOW ACTIVE SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 IS AS WE EXPERIENCE FREEMASONRY AT IT'S FINEST! AS SENIOR WARDEN, NOT ONLY DO I ASSIST WM DAVIN WITH OPENING AND CLOSING THE LODGE, BUT ALSO SERVE AS THE BUILDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN. NO QUESTION THERE WAS MUCH WORK DONE THIS YEAR SO FAR WITH MAKING SURE THE ODDS AND ENDS OF THE LODGE ARE IN FULL FUNCTION.**

**THANKS TO BUILDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS WB LARRY MIKKELSEN, BRO. BILL WHELCHER & BRO. ROGER McDONALD, OUR LODGE IS IN TIP TOP SHAPE, MAKING IT A JOY FOR NOT JUST OUR BLUE LODGE ACTIVITIES, BUT FOR THE APPENDANT BODIES THAT MEET THERE AS WELL.**

**I DO ALSO WANT TO THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO'VE BEEN COMING OUT TO OUR LODGE DEGREE PRACTICES ON NON-STATED MONDAYS, AND THE OCCASIONAL SUNDAYS, HOWEVER UNLESS WE'RE HAVING A DEGREE ON THAT MONDAY, I'LL REFRAIN FROM ORGANIZING PRACTICES ON SUNDAYS. IT'S ONLY BY THE DEDICATION OF EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU THAT WE CAN PUT ON THE BEST DEGREE THE CANDIDATE WILL HAVE EVER SEEN!**

**WE HAVE 3 FELLOWCRAFTS WORKING DILIGENTLY ON THEIR FC PROFICIENCIES, SO WE'LL HAVE AT LEAST 3 MORE MASTER MASON DEGREES BEFORE THE YEAR IS OVER. ALL ARE NEEDED TO HELP MAKE THESE RAISINGS AS EFFECTIVE AS THEY CAN BE - PLEASE BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS THAT GET POSTED.**

**IF YOU NOTICED, WE ALSO HAVE NEW FACES SHOWING UP AT OUR DINNERS - ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CONSIDERING FREEMASONRY, AND SANDOVAL LODGE IN PARTICULAR. HAVING PROSPECTS SHOW UP FROM LAS CRUCES, FARMINGTON, SANTA FE, AND BELEN, NO QUESTION WE'RE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT - REPRESENTING FREEMASONRY IN THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT!**

**IT'S BEEN A REAL PLEASURE IN ASSISTING WM DAVIN WITH RUNNING THE LODGE, AS WELL AS KNOWING OUR FESTIVEBOARDS ARE ALWAYS ON POINT WITH OUR JUNIOR WARDEN BRO. JOHN KEEL ALWAYS MAKING THESE EVENTS UNFORGETTABLE, MORE ESPECIALLY WITH THE THE CELEBRATORY SPIRITS AT THE END OF OUR STATED COMMUNICATIONS. HAVING BEEN A JUNIOR WARDEN FOR 4 YEARS OUT OF MY 12 YEARS AS A MASON, I CAN TRULY APPRECIATE ALL THAT BRO. JOHN KEEL DOES, AND KNOW THAT THERE IS NONE BETTER!**

**AS ALWAYS - SHOULD ANY OF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT THE LODGE, OR HOW WE MAY MAKE YOUR JOURNEY IN FREEMASONRY A MORE ENLIGHTENING ONE - DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO ME AT [BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM)**

**BURX NORROD, SENIOR WARDEN**



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*FROM THE SOUTH*

**GREETINGS BROTHERS,**

**IT'S GREAT TO SEE OUR LODGE DOING SO WELL. EVEN WITH SOME OF THE HURDLES WE'VE HAD TO DEAL WITH THIS YEAR, I'VE STILL BEEN ENJOYING ALL THE TIME I'VE HAD TO SPEND WITH YOU AND LOOK FORWARD TO ALL THE FUN WE HAVE YET TO COME.**

**BRO. JOHN KEEL  
JUNIOR WARDEN**





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**BRO. ROBERT COWDER**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO SANDOVAL LODGE'S NEWEST MEMBER, BROTHER ROBERT COWDER, WHO COMES TO US AS A PLURAL MEMBER FROM VALLEY LODGE No. 69.**

**BRO. ROBERT WAS INITIATED, PASSED, AND RAISED IN VALLEY LODGE No. 69 IN 2008, AND HAS SERVED AS JUNIOR STEWARD, SENIOR STEWARD, JUNIOR DEACON, TILER, AND IS CURRENTLY THE SENIOR DEACON OF VALLEY LODGE No. 69, BRINGING A WEALTH OF MASONIC EXPERIENCES TO SANDOVAL LODGE.**

**BRO. ROBERT WAS ALSO FEATURED IN OUR MAY EDITION OF THE TRESTLEBOARD WITH HIS ARTICLE SUBMISSION 'THE PATH WE WALK'. CHECK IT OUT IN THE TRESTLEBOARD ARCHIVES AT [WWW.RIORANCHOOFREEMASONS.ORG](http://WWW.RIORANCHOOFREEMASONS.ORG)!**



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## **THE WIDOWS SONS (AKA WIDOWS SONS MASONIC RIDERS ASSOCIATION)**

**THE WIDOWS SONS WAS FOUNDED IN 1999 IN WITH THE INTENTION TO OFFER AID AND ASSISTANCE TO MASONIC WIDOWS AND ORPHANS. STILL HOLDING STRONG TO THAT COMMITMENT, THE WIDOWS SONS OFFERS REGULAR CHARITABLE DONATIONS TO MASONIC AND OTHER CHARITIES TO HELP BENEFIT MANY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.**

**THEIR FOCUS IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE RELIEF OF WIDOWS & ORPHANS, INTRODUCE THE SPORT OF MOTORCYCLING TO OUR MASONIC BROTHERS, RAISE MASONIC AWARENESS IN THE WORLD OF SPORT MOTORCYCLING, SUPPORT THE BLUE LODGE THROUGH REGULAR ATTENDANCE AND ASSISTING WITH LODGE EVENTS. AND REPRESENT THE FRATERNITY IN A POSITIVE LIGHT AT ALL TIMES.**

**A COUPLE OF PRE-REQUISITES ARE MEMBERS HAVE TO BE MASTER MASONS, AND HAVE A BIKE THAT'S AT LEAST 500CC.**

**THE SONS OF LIGHT CHAPTER MEETS AT SANDOVAL LODGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, REACH OUT TO CHAPTER PRESIDENT 'NICO SAVAGE' AT 505-900-4636**





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**SANDOVAL LODGE'S ANNUAL SPRING CLEANING WAS A SUCCESS, THANKS TO ALL WHO SHOWED UP TO HELP SPRUCE UP THE LODGE BUILDING AND IT'S SURROUNDINGS, HELPING TO MAKE OUR LODGE AN ENJOYABLE PLACE TO VISIT!**

**THANKS TO BETHEL No. 4 HONOR QUEEN PEACE MCKENZIE FOR REPRESENTING JOBS DAUGHTERS, AND TO BRO. ROBERT COWDER FOR TAKING THE TIME TO HELP OUT PRIOR TO HIS SON'S 5TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!**



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## ARE YOU A MASTER CRAFTSMAN?

ON JUNE 17, THE 3RD MONDAY OF JUNE AND A NON-STATED MONDAY, WE WILL BE HAVING A STUDY GROUP ON THE BOOK *ESOTERIKA* BY ALBERT PIKE IN THE LODGE AT 6PM - 7:30PM. DUE TO CONTENT, THIS WILL BE OPEN TO MASTER MASONS ONLY. JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE THE DEVELOPMENT OF BLUE LODGE FREEMASONRY AND EXPLORE IT'S DEVELOPING SYMBOLISM.

TO ORDER THE BOOK *ESOTERIKA* (NOT REQUIRED) OR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY GROUP, EMAIL [BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM)



Albert Pike's  
**ESOTERIKA**

*The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry*

Transcribed and Annotated by Arturo de Hoyos



# MASONICON



## MASONICon Table Lodge

Friday, June 21 – Social from 5:00 – 6:00 PM Dinner at 6:00 PM

Ballute Abyad Shrine 6600 Zuni Rd. SE Albuquerque NM 87108

\$10 cost, payable at the door Cash or Check only

BBQ Dinner with all the fixings

Cash Bar will be open

Please register at: <https://www.shopeasycart.com/store.php?store=nm-shriners>

**Keynote Speaker:** Jim Cole, Sovern Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite



## MASONICon

Saturday, June 22 – 8:30 AM

Ballute Abyad Shrine 6600 Zuni Rd. SE Albuquerque NM 87108

Opening by MWB Steve Almager, Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico

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**GRAND MASTER'S CHIT CHAT ON JUNE 2 AT 6PM!**

**GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND REGARDING THE STATE OF FREEMASONRY IN THE  
LAND OF ENCHANTMENT?**

**JOIN GRAND MASTER, MW STEVE ALMAGER, FOR HIS MONTHLY CHIT CHAT ON ZOOM!**

**THE NEXT ONE IS HAPPENING ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2, AT 6PM. AN EMAIL LINK TO THE  
ZOOM CALL WAS SENT OUT ON MAY 28, IF YOU'D LIKE TO PARTICIPATE BUT HAVEN'T  
RECEIVED THE EMAIL - REACH OUT TO SENIOR WARDEN BURX AT  
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM FOR THE LINK.**

**EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON YOUR MIND YOU THINK YOU MAY WANT TO ASK  
ON THE CALL, MANY ATTEND IT TO HEAR WHAT MW STEVE HAS TO SAY, OR LISTEN TO  
THE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS THAT ROLL IN.**



**zoom**

# EVENTS **2024** SCHEDULE

**MASONIC  
YOUTH**

**JUNE  
8**

## **WATER WARS: SUMMER KICKOFF**

Paradise Hills Park and Community Center

## **CORRALES 4TH OF JULY PARADE**

Corrales

**JULY  
4**

**AUG  
17**

## **WATER WARS: GOODBYE SUMMER**

Paradise Hills Park and Community Center

## **TRUNK OR TREAT & BBQ COMPETITION**

Temple 6: 3801 Osuna

**OCT  
12**

Possible event:



December Holiday Party



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**THE 2ND WATER WARS IS COMING!!! SATURDAY JUNE 8TH!!!**

**AFTER LAST YEARS AMAZING SUCCESS, THE MASONIC YOUTH COMMITTEE HAS PLANNED 2 WATER WARS THIS YEAR. ONE FOR THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER CELEBRATION, AND ONE FOR BACK TO SCHOOL. THOUSANDS OF BALLONS, WATER RIFLES, FOOD, POOL AND MASINIC YOUTH T-SHIRTS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE. THIS IS THE PERFECT WAY TO INTRODUCE YOUR PROSPECTS TO OUR MASONIC YOUTH.**

**SO EVERYONE, BRING ONE NEW FRIEND AND LET'S DO SOME COOL THINGS TOGETHER!!! EVERYTHING IS FREE!!! JUST BRING A SIDE OR DESSERT. BBQ WILL BE PROVIDED BY DAD GLASS AND DAD LEON 5901 PARADISE BLVD NW 2PM-5PM PARK FUN AND FOOD 5PM-7PM POOL AND SLIDES. LETS MAKE THIS YEAR'S WATER WARS BETTER THAN EVER!!!**

**YOUR MASONIC YOUTH COMMITTEE**





We're seeking 10 talented chili chefs to join the competition! If you'd like to showcase your special chili, please reserve your spot by contacting Peace McKenzie HQ at 505-410-8050.  
Hurry, spots are filling up fast!

Additionally, we'll host a dessert auction. If you have a delectable dessert to contribute, please inform Peace McKenzie at the same number. All proceeds will benefit the Bethel, supporting its various initiatives with Jobs Daughters.



**Saturday  
June 15<sup>th</sup>  
12:00PM**

# Bethel 4 CHILI COOK - OFF & Dessert Auction

Sandoval Lodge No. 76  
1420 Barbara Loop Road SE  
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

What comes with your purchase:

Chili samples from contestants

3 tickets for 3 categories to vote:

1. Kid Friendly
2. Hottest
3. Best Overall

There will be lots of tasty desserts for the auction.



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## *2 NEW MASTERS OF THE ROYAL SECRET FROM SANDOVAL LODGE!*

BY. BRO. DANIEL CHICO

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE SOME EXCITING NEWS FROM OUR LODGE. TWO OF OUR ESTEEMED OFFICERS, **JOHN KEEL** AND **JONATHAN MUNIZ**, HAVE ACHIEVED A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE IN THEIR MASONIC JOURNEY. DURING THE SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION, BOTH BROTHERS WERE AWARDED THE 32ND DEGREE, A PRESTIGIOUS HONOR WITHIN THE SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY.

JOHN KEEL, WHO SERVES AS OUR JUNIOR WARDEN, AND JONATHAN MUNIZ, OUR JUNIOR DEACON, HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXCEPTIONAL DEDICATION, COMMITMENT, AND PASSION FOR FREEMASONRY. THEIR JOURNEY TO ATTAINING THE 32ND DEGREE REFLECTS THEIR HARD WORK, PERSEVERANCE, AND UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO THE PRINCIPLES THAT OUR FRATERNITY CHERISHES.

THE 2024 SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION WAS A MEMORABLE EVENT, MARKED BY CAMARADERIE AND MASONIC EXCELLENCE. DESPITE BEING HEAVILY SHORT-HANDED, THE EVENT WAS A SUCCESS, THANKS TO THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF ALL PARTICIPANTS AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES. THE DEDICATION OF THE ORGANIZERS AND VOLUNTEERS ENSURED THAT EACH DEGREE WAS CONFERRED WITH THE DIGNITY AND SOLEMNITY IT DESERVES, PROVIDING AN ENRICHING EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED INCLUDING OUR TWO NEWLY MADE MASTERS OF THE ROYAL SECRET.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN KEEL AND JONATHAN MUNIZ ON THIS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT. WE ARE PROUD OF THEM AND LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR CONTINUED CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR LODGE AND THE CRAFT IN GENERAL /G\



***BRO. JOHN KEEL***



***BRO. JONATHAN MUNIZ***



# TRESTLEBOARD



AN ARTICLE BY MILITARY VETERAN (USMC & AIR FORCE) WB EUGENE MORSE WRITTEN 37 YEARS AGO, RELEVANT THEN, AND EVEN MORE SO IN THIS DAY AND AGE!

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## Teamwork works only when leaders lead

by TSgt. Eugene Morse  
1946th Communications Squadron

As a Marine in Vietnam in 1969, I was on a search and destroy operation in the mountains near An Hoa. Two men in front of me was a new arrival to the company. He struggled with the load on his back, half of that of a veteran troop. He fell to his knees and broke into tears saying, "I can't go on!"

A friend of mine, Corporal Rodriguez, ran to him. The corporal bent down, listened for a few moments, then whispered something in his ear. Suddenly the young troop jumped up and ran like there was a fire under him. I asked Rodriguez, "What did you tell that kid?" The corporal said, "I asked him to look at the bayonet on my rifle and told him if he did that again I would poke him."

Corporal Rodriguez, like leaders who successfully maintain team spirit, understood the three motivation principles: no one can motivate another person — motivation must come from within; all normal people have enormous reservoirs of motivation; and people do things for their own reasons, not yours.

Today many leaders who advocate team management believe they need to take a vote on every issue. This is not leading. Leadership is creating goal-oriented energy where it did not exist before. The goal must be attainable. If you expect the impossible, you won't get it. The troop's attainable goal was to avoid the business end of the bayonet. His motivation came from within; essentially, he met a mental threshold or barrier and Corporal Rodriguez gave him the incentive to pass. By the end of the day, the young troop was a part of the team.

According to an increasing number of management consultants, America's love affair with rugged individualism, at least in today's workplace, is nearing an end. America is replacing outdated "macho" management with teamwork. The teamwork concept is like being a Boy Scout around the campfire — you can't be in it for personal gain, it has to be for the team. Team — that word brings to mind many warm thoughts: sharing something



TSgt. Eugene Morse

with people who worked with me to achieve a common goal, and being with others who are giving their all. Teamwork works only when leaders lead.

You have probably heard that there are three basic types of leaders: those who make things happen; those who watch things happen; and those who wonder what happened. Successful leaders make things happen by enabling people to agree that they want things to happen. The goals of organizations are most effectively achieved when their leaders know how to create and lead work teams through the use of ownership, trust and individuality.

Ownership is very personal when people participate in planning an activity. Through participation, they invest in the activity. Without sufficient input, they often feel resentment that can give way to an "I told you so" attitude. Have you ever seen anyone wax a rental car? People feel ownership when leaders incorporate consensus decision-making as an important part of their leadership style. But consensus decisions are not practical for most everyday decisions a team leader must make. However, if a spirit of worker ownership is to exist, it is vital the group be involved in major decisions which will

affect the group over a long period of time.

The art of having team members participate in meaningful decision-making is often a delicate balancing act, because a leader cannot disown his or her ultimate accountability for the final decisions and outcomes. The leader who can walk the tightrope of fostering team ownership while maintaining ultimate responsibility does this through reason, not power, and respecting the opinions of fellow team members. He or she does it by maintaining the team's trust, the second American value.

Trust, not organizational charts, is the glue that keeps a team together. Leaders create trust through the personal example of telling the truth, disclosing all pertinent information to all the appropriate team members and keeping commitments. Trust is the bond that keeps people looking forward to their collective goals, not backward in the direction of old wounds and petty disputes.

The third American value which achieves teamwork is individuality. A most interesting paradox regarding the team concept comes from workers who hold on to their turf as if it were a life line to their own identity. The paradox is that those people who accept the team concept feel a stronger sense of identity, freedom and control in their professional lives. They feel rewarded for their individual contributions to the team effort.

Emotionally well-balanced leaders don't stay awake worrying whether someone else is getting ahead faster. They concentrate on doing the best job they possibly can, and letting the chips and rewards fall where they may. Being ambitious for the organization is the best way for leaders to show their talents.

The team concept embodies bold American virtues. Excellent teams consist of people willing to give beyond the call of duty, to give out of a common expression of excellence, pride and purpose. For such energy to exist requires a leader who gives people a sense of purpose, mission and vision through the principles of ownership, trust and individuality. Make it happen!!!

# TRESTLEBOARD



**BRO. DANIEL CHICO**

## **UNVEILING THE DIVINE GEOMETRY OF "G": THE TRIANGULAR PATH TO ALPHABETICAL REVELATION BY BRO. DANIEL CHICO**

**IN THE GRAND TAPESTRY OF LINGUISTIC EVOLUTION, THE LETTER "G" STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO THE INTRICATE DANCE BETWEEN ANCIENT ALPHABETS AND DIVINE SYMBOLISM. WHILE MODERN CONVENTION MAY PLACE "G" AS THE SEVENTH LETTER IN THE ENGLISH ALPHABET, ITS TRUE ESSENCE TRANSCENDS MERE ALPHABETICAL ORDER. JOURNEYING THROUGH THE CORRIDORS OF LINGUISTIC HISTORY, WE UNCOVER A PROFOUND REVELATION: "G" IS NOT JUST THE THIRD LETTER TECHNICALLY; IT EMBODIES THE VERY ESSENCE OF THE DIVINE.**

**IN THE HALLOWED SCRIPTS OF ANCIENT HEBREW AND GREEK, "G" EMERGES AS THE THIRD LETTER, A POSITION IMBUED WITH SIGNIFICANCE AND REVERENCE. IN HEBREW, "GIMMEL" SYMBOLIZES DIVINE GRACE AND GENEROSITY, WHILE IN GREEK, "GAMMA" SERVES AS THE CORNERSTONE OF MATHEMATICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL DISCOURSE. THE PRESENCE OF "GIMMEL" AND "GAMMA" AS THE THIRD LETTERS IN THESE ANCIENT ALPHABETS LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR UNDERSTANDING THE PRIMORDIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF "G."**

**BUT THE MYSTICAL ALLURE OF "G" EXTENDS BEYOND ITS LINGUISTIC ORIGINS, INTERTWINING WITH SACRED GEOMETRY TO UNVEIL A DEEPER TRUTH. WHEN THE DIVINE TAKES SHAPE, IT OFTEN MANIFESTS THROUGH SYMBOLS AND ARCHETYPES. IN THE REALM OF GEOMETRY, THE TRIANGLE REIGNS SUPREME AS A SYMBOL OF STABILITY, BALANCE, AND DIVINE UNITY. IT IS WITHIN THIS SACRED SHAPE THAT THE CONCEPT OF GOD FINDS EXPRESSION, TRANSCENDING LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TO CONVEY A UNIVERSAL TRUTH.**

**AS WE EXPLORE THE SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRIANGLE, WE UNCOVER A STRIKING PARALLEL: THE LETTER "G" EMBODIES THE TRIANGULAR ESSENCE OF THE DIVINE. WHEN GOD TAKES GEOMETRICAL FORM, IT IS OFTEN DEPICTED AS A TRIANGLE, REPRESENTING THE HARMONIOUS UNION OF THREE DIVINE ASPECTS: THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. IN THIS LIGHT, "G" ASSUMES A TRANSCENDENT IDENTITY, EQUATING TO GOD IN BOTH FORM AND SYMBOLISM.**

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**



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(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

FROM THE MYSTICAL TEACHINGS OF ANCIENT MYSTICS TO THE ESOTERIC TRADITIONS OF SECRET SOCIETIES, THE DIVINE SIGNIFICANCE OF "G" REVERBERATES THROUGH THE AGES. IN FREEMASONRY, FOR INSTANCE, "G" ADORNS THE CENTER OF THE MASONIC EMBLEM, SYMBOLIZING THE GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE AND THE GUIDING FORCE OF CREATION. HERE, "G" SERVES AS A FOCAL POINT FOR SPIRITUAL CONTEMPLATION, INVOKING THE DIVINE PRESENCE THROUGH ITS SACRED GEOMETRY.

IN THE LABYRINTH OF LANGUAGE AND SYMBOLISM, "G" EMERGES NOT MERELY AS A LETTER BUT AS A VESSEL FOR DIVINE REVELATION. ITS TRIANGULAR FORM ECHOES THE TIMELESS TRUTHS OF SACRED GEOMETRY, UNITING THE EARTHLY REALM WITH THE DIVINE COSMOS. WHETHER AS THE THIRD LETTER IN ANCIENT ALPHABETS, REPRESENTED BY "𐤂" AND "𐤄", OR THE EMBODIMENT OF GOD IN GEOMETRIC FORM, "G", INVITES US TO CONTEMPLATE THE MYSTERIES OF EXISTENCE AND EMBRACE THE TRANSCENDENT POWER OF LANGUAGE AND SYMBOLISM.

IN CONCLUSION, THE LETTER "G" TRANSCENDS ITS HUMBLE POSITION IN THE ALPHABET TO EMBODY THE DIVINE ESSENCE OF SACRED GEOMETRY. FROM ITS ORIGINS IN ANCIENT SCRIPTS TO ITS SYMBOLISM IN MYSTICAL TRADITIONS, "G" INVITES US TO PONDER THE INFINITE MYSTERIES OF THE COSMOS AND RECOGNIZE THE DIVINE PRESENCE THAT DWELLS WITHIN THE FABRIC OF LANGUAGE AND SYMBOLISM /G\

**BROTHER DANIEL CHICO**



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## ***RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTES OF THE OFFICERS IN FREEMASONRY***

**BY WB TYLER MCKENZIE**

**FREEMASONRY AS WE KNOW IT IS NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION IN THE FACT THAT IT HAS ITS OWN TYPE OF STRUCTURE OR OFFICER RANKING SYSTEM. THIS DOES NOT MEAN WE AS OFFICERS HAVE SUPREME RULE OVER ONE ANOTHER NOR THE WORLD AT LARGE BUT RATHER WE SERVE OUR FELLOW MEMBERS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES WITH BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF AND TRUTH.**

**EACH GRAND LODGE AS WE KNOW HAS CODES, RULES AND BYLAWS FOR WHAT AN OFFICER'S DUTIES ARE IN THE LODGES OF THAT JURISDICTION. THEIR OFFICE TITLES AND DUTIES MAY ALSO VARY FROM**

**FROM JURISDICTION TO JURISDICTION ESPECIALLY OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES.**

**IN THIS PRESENTATION OF THE OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES, WE WILL BE FOCUSING MORE ON JUST THE CRAFT LODGE'S SET OF OFFICER POSITIONS WHICHN ALSO CAN BE CALLED RANKS.**

**SO WHAT DOES THE OFFICERS OF A MASONIC LODGE DO?**

**THE MAIN DUTY OF ANY OFFICER IN A LODGE IS TO MAKE SURE THAT MEETINGS AND OTHER EVENTS RUN SMOOTHLY AND THAT ALL ASPECTS OF THOSE SAID EVENTS AND MEETINGS ARE TAKEN CARE OF BY A MEMBER THAT THE LODGE CAN TRUST AND RELY ON.**

**FOR MORE DETAILS ON EACH POSITION LET'S FIRST START WITH A LIST OF THE OFFICERS THAT WE WILL BE COVERING IN THIS PRESENTATION. THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF POSITIONS IN A LODGE. APPOINTED AND ELECTED. LET'S LOOK OVER THAT LIST NOW:**

### **ELECTED POSITIONS:**

- THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER
- THE SENIOR WARDEN
- THE JUNIOR WARDEN
- THE TREASURER
- THE SECRETARY
- THE TRUSTEES/THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **APPOINTED POSITIONS:**

- THE MASTER/DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES
- THE HISTORIAN
- THE CHAPLAIN
- THE DEACONS
- THE STEWARDS
- THE MARSHAL
- THE ORGANIST/MUSICIAN
- THE TYLER
- THE RITUAL COACH/DIRECTOR
- COMMITTEES

# TRESTLEBOARD



(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

BEFORE WE GO ANY FURTHER, LET'S REMEMBER THAT THESE OFFICE POSITIONS MAY NOT BE IN EVERY JURISDICTION. ALSO EVEN IF A JURISDICTION SHARES THE SAME OFFICE NAMES THEY MAY NOT SHARE THE SAME OFFICE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

BEFORE I CONTINUE, I'D LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT I AM ONLY SPEAKING FROM MY OWN PERSONAL EXPERIENCES THROUGH MY TRAVELS, TALKING WITH BRETHREN BOTH LOCALLY AND FROM DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS, FROM MY OWN RESEARCH AND AS WELL FROM KNOWLEDGE I HAVE GATHERED FROM OUR OWN LODGE AND OUR OWN JURISDICTION.

REMEMBER THIS AS WE GO THROUGH THE POSITIONS THAT NEITHER RANK OF OFFICE NOR TITLE MEANS MORE THAN THE IDEA THAT WE ARE ALL BRETHREN STRIVING UNDER THE GREAT ARCHITECT TO TRY AND FIND THE BEST WAY TO WORK AND AGREE ON MAKING THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

WE SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES, FREEMASONRY AND OUR OWN LODGES WITH BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF AND TRUTH.

ALRIGHT NOW THAT, THAT WAS COVERED, LET'S GET STARTED.

## **THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER**



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER IS LIKE THE PRESIDENT OF THE LODGE AND HE IS THE PRESIDING OFFICER OVER HIS LODGE AND ONLY HIS LODGE.

HE IS ELECTED BY HIS LODGE TO SERVE FOR TYPICALLY ONE YEAR BUT HE CAN ALSO BE VOTED IN MANY TIMES OVER IF IT IS THE WILL OF THE LODGE.

HE GOVERNS OVER ONLY HIS LODGE. HE IS TO SET THE CRAFT TO WORK AND TRACE OUT ON THE SYMBOLIC TRESTLE BOARD THE PLANS AND AGENDA FOR HIS TERM AND FOR EACH MEETING AND EVENT DURING HIS TERM.

HE PRESERVES AND PROTECTS THE LODGE'S CHARTER, WARRANT OR DISPENSATION. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE FROM THE GRAND LODGE THAT GIVES THE LODGE PERMISSION TO MEET AND WORK.

HE IS TO ENSURE THAT THE LODGE IS PERFORMING ITS RITUALS AND DUTIES IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH ITS BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THEIR JURISDICTION.

# TRESTLEBOARD



(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

I'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS MOMENT TO POINT OUT THAT THE WORD "WORSHIPFUL" IS USED IN RELATIONS TO THE WORDS LIKE "RESPECTFUL" OR EVEN "HONORABLE." THOSE NOT FAMILIAR WITH HOW WE OPERATE GET THIS WORD MIXED UP WITH THE NOTION THAT THE MASTER OF THE LODGE RESPECTFULLY DESERVES TO BE WORSHIPED OR PEOPLE THINK MEMBERS ACTUALLY DO WORSHIP THE "WORSHIPFUL MASTER." THIS MISCONCEPTION IS FAR FROM THE TRUTH AS WE ALL KNOW.

IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES "WORSHIPFUL" IS USED IN REPLACEMENT OF "HONORABLE." SO WHEN TALKING TO A JUDGE YOU MAY NOT CALL THEM "HONORABLE" IN ANOTHER COUNTRY BUT INSTEAD YOU'D ADDRESS THEM BY "WORSHIPFUL." FOR EXAMPLE: THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LORD MAYOR OF [INSERT LOCATION HERE.] THIS IS HOW IT HAS BEEN SINCE AT LEAST THE LATE 1700'S IN GREAT BRITAIN.

ALSO "MASTER" IS NOT USED AS DEFINING THAT HE HAS SUPREME CONTROL OVER THE PERSONAL LIVES OF HIS MEMBERS LIKE A CULT WOULD AND AS MANY NONMEMBERS THINK WE OPERATE.

"MASTER" JUST MEANS THAT HE IS WELL TRUSTED TO GET THE JOB DONE AND HE IS TRUSTED ABOVE ALL TO BRING HARMONY AND PROSPERITY TO HIS LODGE. IT CAN SIMPLY JUST MEAN 'REALLY GOOD AT.'

THE MASTER ONLY HAS SUPREME AUTHORITY OVER THE LODGE ITSELF AND THE MEETINGS AND EVENTS HELD BY HIS LODGE. EACH MEMBER IS A VOLUNTEER AND ARE AT LODGE OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL AND ACCORD; SO MASTER DOESN'T MEAN OWNER OF OR SUPREME RULER IN MASONRY AS MANY OUTSIDERS BELIEVE A WORSHIPFUL MASTER IS A SLAVE OWNER OR CULT LEADER.

## THE SENIOR WARDEN



THE SENIOR WARDEN IS LIKE THE VICE PRESIDENT OF HIS LODGE.

HIS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE TO HELP THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER IN GOVERNING THE LODGE AND OTHER EVENTS DEALING WITH THE LODGE; IF THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER IS ABSENT FROM A LODGE MEETING, THE SENIOR WARDEN WILL SIT AS MASTER FOR THAT MEETING IN PARTICULAR SO THAT THE LODGE CAN STILL MEET AND WORK WITHOUT THE MASTER BEING THERE. SOMETIMES ANOTHER MEMBER USUALLY A PAST MASTER WILL BE PICKED BY THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER TO SIT FOR THAT PARTICULAR MEETING INSTEAD. IF THE SENIOR WARDEN ALSO IS ABSENT THE JUNIOR WARDEN OR A PAST MASTER WILL THEN ASSUME THE POSITION.

IN DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS THE SENIOR WARDEN CAN ALSO BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LODGE'S GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, HE CAN ALSO BE HEAD OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE, HE CAN ALSO BE A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE. (TRADITIONALLY IN MANY STATES HE MAY BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THESE COMMITTEES OR JUST BE A MEMBER IN THEM TO HELP THEM WITH THEIR VARIOUS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. BUT THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY REQUIRED WORLDWIDE AS FAR AS I AM AWARE OF.



# TRESTLEBOARD



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## THE JUNIOR WARDEN



THE JUNIOR WARDEN IS THE EQUIVALENT OF SAYING JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT. HE SUPERVISES THE LODGE DURING HOURS OF REFRESHMENT (UNTYLED MEETINGS) OR WHEN A LODGE MEETING IS AT RECESS.

HIS DUTIES ARE TO MAKE SURE NO MEMBER IS TO GO INTO EXCESS WITH HIS FOOD OR DRINKS SO HARMONY WITH HIMSELF AND OTHERS DOESN'T GET BROKEN. ALSO TO HIS DUTIES ARE TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS WELL FED AND REFRESHED. IN MANY JURISDICTIONS THE JUNIOR WARDEN AND THE STEWARDS ARE TO PREPARE AND SERVE FOOD TO THE LODGE MEMBERS AND VISITORS.

HE ALSO HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF COINCIDING HIS BRETHREN WHEN ISSUES MAY ARISE AND IF NEEDED HE IS THE ONE THAT GETS THE PAPERWORK READY AND SETS UP THE CHARGES AND TRIAL IF THE ISSUES NEED TO GO THAT FAR.

HE MAY BE HEAD OF OTHER COMMITTEES AND ALSO HAVE VARIOUS OTHER DUTIES DEPENDING ON THE LODGE AND JURISDICTION.

## THE TREASURER



THE TREASURER RECEIVES ALL MONEY THAT IS OWED TO THE LODGE FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES AND REASONS FROM THE SECRETARY. HE KEEPS A RECORD OF ALL THE INCOME, AND THEN HE PAYS THEM OUT TOWARDS THE BILLS THAT ARE DUE, FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OR HE MAY JUST DEPOSIT IT INTO THE BANK ACCOUNT OF THE LODGE. HE DOES THESE THINGS AS ORDERED BY THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER AND WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MEMBERS.

HE MAY ALSO HAVE OTHER VARIOUS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES DEPENDING ON JURISDICTION AND HIS LODGE.

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# **TRESTLEBOARD**



## **THE SECRETARY**



**THE SECRETARY KEEPS ALL RECORDS OF THE LODGE MEETINGS.**

**HE ALSO COLLECTS ALL MONEY PAID OUT OR DONATED TO THE LODGE AND DISTRIBUTES THEM TO THE TREASURER. THE SECRETARY MAY EVEN SEND OUT OR HAND OUT DUES CARDS TO THE MEMBERS AFTER THEY HAVE PAID FOR THEIR DUES.**

**WITHIN THE UNITED STATES A TREASURER MAY EVEN HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO DISTRIBUTE DUES CARDS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LODGE AFTER COLLECTING THEIR DUES PAYMENT FROM THE SECRETARY.**

**FOR THOSE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE TERM DUES CARDS, THE DUES CARD MAY BE A PHYSICAL OR DIGITAL CARD CONTAINING LODGE AFFILIATION THAT WOULD ALLOW THE MEMBER AND OTHER MEMBERS TO KNOW YOU ARE IN GOOD STANDING AND A MEMBER OF A LODGE IN AN ACCEPTED JURISDICTION AND THAT YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR THAT YEAR. DIGITAL DUES CARDS GENERALLY CAN BE VIEWED ON APPS AND WEBSITES LIKE GRANDVIEW OR AMITY.**

**ALSO IF A MEMBER OF HIS LODGE IS IN GOOD STANDING AND WANTS TO VISIT ANOTHER LODGE, IT IS ALSO THE SECRETARY'S DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO:**

- 1. CALL THE GRAND LODGE SECRETARY TO MAKE SURE THAT THE OTHER LODGE HE IS VISITING IS IN A RECOGNIZED GRAND LODGE JURISDICTION AND MAKE SURE THAT VISITATION IS PERMITTED BY BOTH GRAND LODGE JURISDICTIONS.**
- 2. TO PRESENT THE VISITING BROTHER WITH A LETTER OF GOOD STANDING OR A LETTER OF RECOGNITION SO THAT HE CAN PRESENT IT TO THE LODGE SECRETARY OF THE LODGE HE IS VISITING. OR SINCE WE ARE IN MODERN TIMES THE SECRETARY MAY EVEN JUST EMAIL IT OVER TO THE SECRETARY OF THE LODGE BEING VISITED.**

**IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SECRETARY IS OFTEN THE BACKBONE OR THE MAIN GEARS THAT KEEPS THE LODGE TOGETHER AND PROGRESSING FORWARD EVEN WHEN THE LODGE IS NOT MEETING.**

**IT IS SAID A SECRETARY WILL PUT IN AT LEAST ONE HOUR A DAY TO AT LEAST ONE HOUR A WEEK OUTSIDE OF THE LODGE MEETINGS TO MAKE SURE BILLS ARE PAID OR TO PERFORM OTHER TASKS FOR THE LODGE.**

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**IN MOST CASES, THE SECRETARY WILL BE A PAST MASTER WHICH IS SOMEONE WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF A MASONIC LODGE.**

**IF THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER HAS ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR NEEDS ADVICE OR HELP ON LODGE AFFAIRS, HE WILL USUALLY GO TO THE SECRETARY FIRST.**

**AND ON TOP OF ALL OF THIS HE MAY EVEN HAVE MORE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES DEPENDING ON HIS JURISDICTION AND LODGE.**

## **THE TRUSTEES OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**A TRUSTEE OR BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBER IS USUALLY VOTED INTO THEIR POSITIONS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE LODGE. ALTHOUGH SOME LODGES AND JURISDICTIONS MAY APPOINT THEM AT THE WILL OF THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.**

**THE DUTIES OF A TRUSTEE OR MEMBER OF THE BOARD ARE DONE USUALLY OUTSIDE OF THE LODGE. USUALLY 3-5 LODGE MEMBERS HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF HOLDING OR TAKING PROPERTY TITLES OR OTHER ASSETS THAT WOULD HAVE A TITLE. THEY CAN ALSO INVEST THE LODGE'S FUNDS INTO VARIOUS INVESTMENTS, PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES. THIS CAN BE DONE BY VOTE OF THE LODGE OR BY THE TRUSTEE OR DIRECTOR MEMBERS. THIS DEPENDS ON HOW THE LODGE AND JURISDICTION OPERATE.**

**IT'S LIKE VIEWING THE MEMBERS OF A LODGE AS STOCKHOLDERS WHO ELECT OR APPOINT THESE MEMBERS TO ESTABLISH POLICIES OR HELP MAKE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS.**

**THE IDEA IS TO HAVE THIS GROUP GOVERN THESE AFFAIRS SO THAT THE LODGE MEMBERS CAN FOCUS ON OTHER WORKINGS OF THE LODGE. WE ARE LIKE A MACHINE WITH MANY GEARS AND PIECES; EACH OF THE MEMBERS ARE DOING MANY DIFFERENT THINGS TO KEEP THE WHOLE LODGE WORKING TOGETHER.**

**A TRUSTEE OR BOARD MEMBER IS AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THAT SUPERVISES THE ACTIVITIES OF A LODGE AND THESE MEMBERS SHOULD BE HIGHLY TRUSTED, RESPECTED AND RESPONSIBLE. THE LODGE SHOULD HAVE THE MOST CONFIDENCE AND HIGH REGARD FOR THESE MEMBERS AS THEY PLAY A HUGE ROLE IN THE LODGE'S STRUCTURE AND FUTURE.**

**THE POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A BOARD OF DIRECTOR OR TRUSTEE IS DETERMINED BY THE REGULATIONS, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THAT LODGE AND GRAND LODGE. THESE AUTHORITIES MAY SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THE BOARD, HOW THEY ARE TO BE CHOSEN, AND HOW OFTEN THEY ARE TO MEET.**

**IN AN ORGANIZATION WITH VOTING MEMBERS, THE BOARD IS ACCOUNTABLE TO, AND MAY BE SUBORDINATE TO, THE ORGANIZATION'S FULL MEMBERSHIP WHICH USUALLY ELECT THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.**

**IN SOME JURISDICTIONS THE BOARD OR TRUSTEES IS THE SUPREME GOVERNING BODY OF THE LODGE ON PARTICULAR MATTERS.**

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## **MASTER OR DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES**

THE MASTER OR DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES IS ESSENTIALLY GROUPING THE STEWARDS, DEACONS AND MARSHAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ALL INTO ONE OFFICE POSITION. WE WILL BE GOING OVER THOSE FURTHER IN THIS PRESENTATION. ALSO THEIR DUTIES MAY VARY FROM JURISDICTION TO JURISDICTION.

## **THE HISTORIAN**

IN MY OPINION THIS IS ONE OF BUT NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT POSITIONS OF THE LODGE. HIS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE TO KNOW THE HISTORY OF HIS LODGE AND THE MEMBERS OF THAT LODGE IN PARTICULAR.

HIS RECORDS ARE THE PHYSICAL LIVING SPIRIT OF THE LODGE HE KEEPS RECORDS FOR.

THIS OFFICE POSITION IS USUALLY A PAST MASTER OR A MEMBER OF THE LODGE WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN AND WITH THE LODGE FOR A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF YEARS; HE IS USUALLY A SENIOR MEMBER WHO HOLDS A STRONG INTEREST IN THE LODGE'S HISTORY.

THE HISTORIAN ACTIVELY COLLECTS AND ARCHIVES DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PUBLISHING AND UPDATING OF HISTORICAL INFORMATION.

HE MAY EVEN MAINTAIN A SMALL LIBRARY WHERE BOOKS AND MAGAZINES MAY BE BORROWED AND USED TO KEEP THE MASONIC HISTORY ALIVE IN THE LODGE.

## **THE CHAPLAIN**



THE CHAPLAIN LEADS THE LODGE IN PRAYER DURING ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS THAT THEY CAN ATTEND AND THE PRAYER IS ALWAYS RELIGIOUSLY NEUTRAL.

IN MANY LODGES, HE ALSO HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK IN ON THE WELL-BEING OF THOSE MASONS WHO ARE TOO OLD OR SICK TO ATTEND MEETINGS; AS WELL HIS OTHER DUTIES MAY ENTAIL HIM TO CHECK UP ON ALL THE WIDOWS AND/OR ORPHANS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LODGE.

THE CHAPLAIN SHOULD ALWAYS REMIND HIS BRETHREN TO LOOK UPWARDS TO THE HEAVENS, TO THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE AND ALWAYS TO GIVE REVERENCE TO THE SUPREME BEING WHOM EVER THAT MAY BE TO EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OUTSIDE OF THE LODGE.

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## THE DEACONS

THE DEACONS ARE THE ASSISTANTS TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER AND ALSO TO THE WARDENS.

DEACONS HELP THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER AND WARDENS IN THE ACTIVE DUTIES OF THE LODGE AS NECESSARY.

## THE SENIOR DEACON



THE SENIOR DEACON'S DUTIES ARE ALSO TO PASS MESSAGES BETWEEN THE SENIOR WARDEN AND WORSHIPFUL MASTER AND ELSE WHERE ABOUT THE LODGE THEY MAY NEED TO DISTRIBUTE THE MESSAGE AS ORDERED. HE WILL ALSO ATTEND TO ALL ALARMS AT THE INNER DOOR. HE USUALLY WILL HELP PREPARE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES, AND HAVE MANY PARTS TO PERFORM IN THE DEGREES OF HIS LODGE.

THE SENIOR DEACON USUALLY ATTENDS AT THE ALTER WHERE THE HOLY BIBLE RESTS.

IN SOME JURISDICTIONS HE INTRODUCES VISITING BRETHREN BUT IN SOME JURISDICTIONS THAT IS THE DUTY OF THE MARSHAL. IN THOSE JURISDICTIONS IF THE MARSHAL IS NOT PRESENT THAN THE SENIOR DEACON WILL TAKE THE ROLE OF MARSHAL AND WILL BE THE ONE TO INTRODUCE VISITING MASONS FROM OTHER LODGES.

IN SOME AMERICAN LODGES AND IN THE ABSENCE OF A MARSHAL, THE SENIOR DEACON MAY ALSO CONDUCT THE AMERICAN FLAG WEST OF THE ALTAR AND LEAD THE LODGE IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AS DIRECTED BY THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF THAT LODGE IF IT PERFORMS THIS PARTICULAR RITUAL.

## THE JUNIOR DEACON



THE JUNIOR DEACON'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE TO TAKE MESSAGES FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN TO THE JUNIOR WARDEN, AND ELSEWHERE ABOUT THE LODGE AS REQUESTED. HE ALSO ATTENDS TO ANY ALARMS AT THE OUTER DOOR AND SEES THAT THE LODGE IS DUALY TYPED

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TRADITIONALLY THE DEACONS MAY HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO REVIEW THE CREDENTIALS OF ANY VISITING MASON WHO HAS NOT BEEN VOUCHERED FOR AND TEST THAT VISITOR TO ENSURE THAT HE TRULY IS A MASON AND CAN SIT IN LODGE. THIS CAN ALSO BE THE DUTY OF THE TYLER OF THE LODGE OR THE TYLER WILL CHOOSE TWO OTHER BRETHREN TO HELP HIM TEST THE VISITOR IF THE DEACONS ARE BUSY AT THAT TIME.

IT MAY BE GOOD TO POINT OUT HERE THAT THE WORD "DEACON" USED AS A TITLE ORIGINALLY MEANT SERVANT OR AS A MESSENGER. IT IS NOT BEING USED FOR ANY RELIGIOUS MEANINGS OR PURPOSES.

## **THE STEWARDS**



THE STEWARDS ASSIST ALL OTHER OFFICERS OF THE LODGE, SPECIFICALLY THE DEACONS AND JUNIOR WARDEN IN EVERY OFFICIAL DUTY AS NECESSARY.

IN SOME STATES THE STEWARDS ALSO ASSIST THE JUNIOR WARDEN IN PREPARING AND SERVING FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS TO ALL MEMBERS, THEIR VISITING FAMILY, FRIENDS AND EVEN INVITING THE VISITING BRETHREN TO PARTAKE IN ALL THE GOOD FOOD AND DRINKS.

THE STEWARDS ALSO PREPARE THE CANDIDATES PRIOR TO THE DEGREE CEREMONIES.

IN SOME LODGES THE STEWARDS ASSIST IN READINGY THE LODGE ROOM PRIOR TO EVERY REGULARLY STATED AND SPECIAL MEETING.

IN SOME STATES THEY MAY CHOOSE A DIFFERENT OFFICER TO DO THIS AS THEIR DUTIES OR IN SOME LODGES IT'S ON WHOM EVER ACCOMPLISHED THE TASK FIRST AT THAT MEETING GOT TO DO IT.

IN MANY JURISDICTIONS THEY DO NOT HAVE STEWARDS AS AN OFFICE POSITION.

## **THE MARSHAL**



THE MARSHAL FORMS AND CONDUCTS PROCESSIONS OF THE BRETHREN OF THE LODGE ON ALL PUBLIC OCCASIONS IN MOST JURISDICTIONS.

IN SOME JURISDICTIONS HE ALSO INTRODUCES VISITING BRETHREN AND CONDUCTS MEMBERS OF THE LODGE AND VISITORS WEST OF THE ALTAR OR TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER AS SO ORDERED BY THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.



# TRESTLEBOARD



IN SOME AMERICAN JURISDICTIONS, HE ALSO CONDUCTS THE AMERICAN FLAG WEST OF THE ALTAR AND LEADS THE LODGE IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WHEN HE IS ORDERED BY THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER TO DO SO AND AS SAID PREVIOUSLY IF HE IS ABSENT THIS IS FOR THE SENIOR DEACON TO PERFORM.

ALSO IN SOME JURISDICTIONS HE CAN ACT AS A GREAT REPRESENTATIVE BETWEEN HIS LODGE AND THE GRAND LODGE OF HIS JURISDICTION. HE SHOULD HAVE GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF HOW JURISPRUDENCE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LODGE AND ITS JURISDICTION FUNCTION.

IN MANY LODGES, HE MAY BE UTILIZED AS THE GO TO MEMBER ON MATTERS OF LODGE FUNCTIONS BY ACTING AS A LIAISON BETWEEN THE GRAND LODGE AND HIS LODGE AND WILL DO THIS (BACK AND FORTH IF NEEDED) UNTIL THE LODGE IS SATISFIED ON UNDERSTANDING HOW SOMETHING FUNCTIONS WITHIN THE LODGE.

## THE MUSICIAN



IF YOUR LODGE IS LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE A MUSICIAN, THEN YOU KNOW THAT THE MUSICIAN OR ORGANIST CONDUCTS THE MUSICAL SERVICES OF THE LODGE.

DURING CERTAIN MOMENTS OR FOR PARTICULAR EVENTS HE MAY PLAY SOMETHING FUN AND ENTERTAINING AND FOR SOME OTHER MOMENTS HE MAY JUST BRING THAT SPECIAL ATMOSPHERE AND VIBE TO THE OCCASION.

IF YOU CAN HAVE A LODGE MUSICIAN OR ORGANIST TREAT YOURSELVES TO AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE.

## THE TYLER



THE TYLER GUARDS THE LODGE'S MEETINGS FROM UNRECOGNIZED MASONS WHO MAY BE SEEKING ENTRY AND ALSO GUARDS AGAINST ANY COWANS OR EAVESDROPPERS; HE MAKES SURE NOBODY PASSES OR REPASSES UNLESS THEY ARE DULY QUALIFIED AND HAVE PERMISSION TO ENTER THE LODGE.

HE MAY CHECK DUES CARDS OR ASK FOR A LETTER OF RECOGNITION AND MAY EVEN HAVE THE VISITOR TESTED OR VETTED WITH THE TYLER'S OATH AS THESE ARE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TYLER'S OFFICE.

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THE TYLER'S POSITION IS A VERY IMPORTANT POSITION, IF NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT. HE IS TO ALARM THE MEMBERS OF APPROACHING DANGER. AT CERTAIN TIMES IN HISTORY WHEN A LODGE COULD MEET BUT HAD NO MEMBER TO STAND GUARD (BECAUSE OF WAR OR JUST A LACK OF MEMBERS BEING ABLE TO TRAVEL TO LODGE BY HORSE OR ON FOOT IN THE YEARS BEFORE AUTOMOBILES) THEY WOULD TRAIN A DOG TO ALERT TO THE MEMBERS INSIDE OF A POSSIBLE APPROACHING DANGER.

DID I MENTION HE GUARDS THE DOOR WITH A DRAWN SWORD?

A BIT OF HISTORY ON THE TYLER'S SWORD. HIS FIRST JEWEL OF OFFICE WAS NOT A SWORD BUT RATHER A TROWEL.

THIS WAS USED TO PROTECT THE LODGE AGAINST COWANS AND EAVESDROPPERS AND IT WAS TO APPEAR TO BE JUST A SIMPLE WORKING TOOL BUT IT WAS ALSO SHARP ENOUGH THAT THE TYLER COULD USE IT TO PROTECT AND CEMENT THE LODGE FROM OUTSIDERS.

BUT AT ONE POINT IN HISTORY THE TROWEL WAS ADOPTED AS THE TOOL OF THE MASTER MASON AND THE MEMBERS DIDN'T WANT THE TROWEL TO BE SEEN AS A POSSIBLE WEAPON ANYMORE. SO THE JEWEL AND IMPLEMENT OF HIS OFFICE WAS CHANGED TO THE SWORD.

NOW THE TYLER'S SWORD WAS NOT JUST ANY PARTICULAR SWORD, IT WAS A DRAWN SWORD. THIS SWORD HAS ALWAYS BEEN DRAWN AS IT RESEMBLES THE FLAMING SWORD THAT PROTECTED THE GARDEN OF EDEN WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN SHEATHED BECAUSE IT'S ABLAZE.

THIS IDEA HAS CAUSED A LOT OF DISCUSSION WITH MANY MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNITY WITH SOME NOT AGREEING WITH THE IDEA AND SOME WHO WOULD SAY THAT IT IS FACT; BUT IN THE END IT IS A BEAUTIFUL IDEA TO SHARE ABOUT HOW WE AS MASONS GUARD THE WEST GATE AS THOUGH IT WAS JUST AS SACRED AS THE GARDEN OF EDEN.

SO THE SWORD THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE USED NOW A DAYS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A WAVY SWORD OR THE SWORD OF FIRE AND HAS NO SCABBARD OR SHEATH AS THE BLADE SYMBOLIZES FIRE AND CANNOT BE SHEATHED.

IT IS HARD TO MASS PRODUCE THESE WAVY SWORDS SO LIKE OUR APRONS BECOMING SQUARE AND TRIANGULAR SHAPED, THEY STARTED TO PRODUCE A PARTICULAR SWORD THAT WAS MASONIC IN NATURE AND IS THE MAIN SWORD USED IN MANY LODGES AND JURISDICTIONS IN THE WORLD.

SO IN MOST LODGES AROUND THE WORLD YOU WILL FIND THIS PARTICULAR MASS PRODUCED SWORD IN THEIR LODGES. IN SOME LODGES THEY HAVE ANOTHER SWORD THAT HAS EITHER HISTORICAL OR SENTIMENTAL VALUE TO THE LODGE AND TO THE MEMBERS THAT THEY MAY NOT HAVE THIS NEWER SWORD BEING USED. EVERY LODGE AND JURISDICTION HAS THEIR OWN WAYS OF DOING PARTICULAR THINGS.

BUT GO LOOK AT THE SQUARE AND COMPASSES AND SEE WHAT YOU NOTICE. IS YOURS IN THE POSITION OF A FELLOW CRAFT? WHY IS THAT? BUT THAT'S FOR ANOTHER PRESENTATION AND OR ARTICLE.

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## **THE RITUAL COACH**

A RITUAL COACH OR IN SOME JURISDICTIONS THE RITUAL DIRECTOR CAN PLAY TWO PARTS OR HAVE TWO DEFINING DUTIES OR RESPONSIBILITIES. ONE MAY BE THAT HE MAKES SURE ALL NEW MEMBERS LEARN THEIR CATECHISM OR WHAT CAN BE CALLED A PROFICIENCY FOR THEIR DEGREES AND MAY HELP FURTHER WITH OTHER RITUAL WORK WITH THOSE MEMBERS.

IN SOME JURISDICTIONS THEY DO NOT HAVE PROFICIENCIES. THEY MAY HAVE NO TESTING AT ALL OR HAVE A DIFFERENT WAY OF TESTING THEIR MEMBERS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE READY TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT DEGREE. EX: IT MAY BE A SMALL SET OF QUESTIONS OR JUST HAVING THEM RECITE THEIR OBLIGATIONS ONLY. SO THE RITUAL COACH MAY HAVE DIFFERENT RESPONSIBILITIES DEPENDING ON JURISDICTION OR LODGE.

THE OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MAY BE TO TEACH THE ENTIRE LODGE HOW TO DO RITUAL WORK AND FLOOR WORK AND HE IS TO BE HIGHLY EDUCATED ON HOW THIS PROCESS IS TO BE DONE RIGHT, SO HE CAN EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY PREPARE THE LODGE FOR DEGREES, MEETINGS AND OTHER EVENTS.

## **LODGE COMMITTEES**

A LODGE IS LIKELY TO HAVE MANY VARIOUS COMMITTEES; SOME SUCH COMMITTEES ARE REQUIRED BY THE GRAND LODGE'S REGULATIONS AND SOME REQUIREMENTS MAY BE FOUND EVEN IN THE BY-LAWS OF THE LODGE ITSELF.

THESE COMMITTEES USUALLY FOCUS ON INVESTIGATIONS, ON EDUCATION, TOWARDS GRIEVANCES, ON CHARITY, ETC ETC.

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER CAN ALSO CREATE ANY OTHER COMMITTEE THAT HE SEES FIT AS LONG AS IT IS WITHIN THE DUE BOUNDS OF THE LODGE'S BY-LAWS AND THE GRAND LODGE'S REGULATIONS.

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER ALSO APPOINTS ALL MEMBERS OF EACH COMMITTEE BEFORE HIS TERM IS FULLY STARTED BUT AFTER HE IS ELECTED TO ENSURE THEY WISH TO SERVE FOR THE TERM AND TO MAKE SURE THOSE POSITIONS ARE FILLED AND THAT THE MEMBERS WILL SERVE THE COMMITTEE WELL.

## **IN CONCLUSION**

THE DUTIES AND OFFICERS VARY GREATLY JUST FROM ONE LODGE TO ANOTHER; LET ALONE THE DIFFERENCES FROM ONE JURISDICTION TO ANOTHER.

HOWEVER, WE CAN SEE FROM ALL THIS INFORMATION THAT EACH OFFICER AND MEMBER HAS HIS PLACE AND CONTRIBUTES WHAT HE CAN TO THE GOVERNANCE OF THE LODGE AND JURISDICTION.

IT WOULD BE OK TO EMPHASIZE THAT A STRONG LODGE HAS SO MANY MEMBERS WITH LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS AND DIVERSITY THAT NO OUTSIDE ONLOOKER WOULD KNOW WHO THE MASTER IS WHILE THE LODGE IS AT RECESS.

AT THIS POINT AGAIN I'D JUST LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT THESE OFFICE POSITIONS MAY NOT BE IN EVERY JURISDICTION WORLD WIDE. EVEN IF A JURISDICTION SHARES THE SAME OFFICE NAMES THEY MAY NOT SHARE THE SAME OFFICE DUTIES.

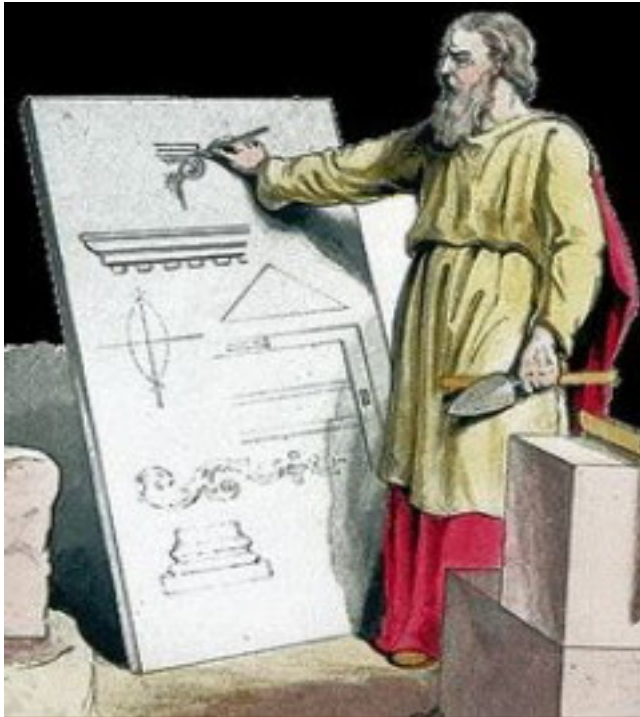




**SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 A.F&A.M.**

**JUNE  
6024  
A.L.**

# TRESTLEBOARD



**Trestle Board**

## *LETTER FROM THE EDITOR*

**IF YOU MADE IT TO THE END OF THIS ISSUE OF THE TRESTLEBOARD (AKA NEWSLETTER), I CONGRATULATE YOU ON DOING YOUR PART TO BE IN THE KNOW OF SANDOVAL LODGE'S HAPPENINGS!**

**AS WE PROGRESS IN THE YEAR AHEAD, THERE WILL BE MORE ACTIVITY TO REPORT ON, MORE NEWS TO SHARE. I ALSO DULY & TRULY APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU WHO CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS TRESTLEBOARD A SUCCESS AS WE CONTINUE TO A TON OF CONTENT.**

**SOME HAVE SENT IN THEIR MESSAGE BY TEXTING PICTURES AND NOTES TO ME TO INCLUDE IN THIS. WHAT I ALSO DO, IS POST THEM TO OUR LODGE FACEBOOK PAGE - AS PICTURES AND ONLINE ACTIVITY HELP TO**

**BOOST OUR DIGITAL PRESENCE, MAKING SANDOVAL LODGE THE MOST ACTIVE LODGE IN THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT!**

**WE HAVE 10 COMMITTEES IN THE LODGE, ALL BUSY BEES WORKING TO MAKE THE HIVE STRONGER. IF YOU'RE NOT YET A MEMBER OF A COMMITTEE, CONSIDER JOINING ONE TO MAKE YOUR OWN VOICE HEARD, AND TO LIGHTEN THE WEIGHT OFF THE SHOULDERS OF SOME, AS MANY COMMITTEE MEMBERS SERVE ON SEVERAL!**

**WHILE I DO SEND OUT EMAILS TO SOLICIT ARTICLE CONTRIBUTIONS, IF YOU WOULD PREFER, SIMPLY TEXT ME YOUR THOUGHT(S), AS WELL AS A PICTURE OR TWO THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IN UPCOMING ISSUES. AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, I ALSO SUBMIT THESE ARTICLES TO THE GRAND LODGE TRESTLEBOARD FOR PUBLICATION, REASON WHY YOU SEE SANDOVAL LODGE BRETHERN FEATURED IN IT EVERY SINGLE MONTH.**

**BURX NORROD  
TRESTLEBOARD EDITOR**