

Masonic Messenger

Freedom • Integrity • Tolerance Faith • Hope • Charity

Greetings from the West

As this Masonic year races toward the Annual Communication in June, I again want to thank each of you for this incredible opportunity to serve here in the West. I have truly enjoyed every minute that I have with each and every Brother as we have shared the bonds of the Fraternity on our individual paths of personal development. Together, despite the many challenges, we are strengthening Masonry in South Dakota every day.

One of the my joys has been the fun of researching our brethren who have come before us here in South Dakota and how they lived Masonry in such big and bold ways and used the lessons of Freemasonry to not only shape their own lives and lodges, but also their communities and ultimately the State of South Dakota. Each has made lasting contributions to a better society which all of us now enjoy. It is my hope that we too will live our Masonic lives in similar big and bold ways to shape the next chapter in our communities and this state through the lessons of Freemasonry we learn and practice. We too can contribute to building a better, more civil society.

At this year's Conference of Grand Masters in North America in Vancouver in February, I was privileged to attend a seminar detailing the latest work that Grand Lodges across North America are doing on the Civility Project that was started a year ago. Masonry has long shaped civil society, has been instrumental in developing the founding principles of the United States, and those Masons here in South Dakota continued that work by boldly shaping our state and even bringing law, order, and justice to an illegal mining camp called Deadwood. The Conference of Grand Masters Civility Project has a simple philosophy; it will take the principals of Freemasonry and Masonic leadership to stem the current slide toward incivility in today's society. The CGMNA have created a website, www.civilitycenter.org for you to get started on your own civility project. They have also created a civility toolkit page with twelve different categories of tools or resources for your use. I hope you will join me in using these resources to improve civility in our families, lodges, communities, and state. We owe it to those past generations of Masons to follow in their bold footsteps.



Fraternally,
Mike Rodman, Senior Grand Warden

Greetings from the Deputy

Brothers, the 141st Communication to the Grand Lodge of South Dakota AF&AM will open at 10:00 AM on Friday June 19, 2015 at Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, SD again this year. This facility has proven to be a great size for our gathering.

The schedule for this session is in this edition of the Messenger. I encourage you to read through this issue and become familiar with the individuals running for elected office and the proposed changes to the Code. Then go to your respective Lodge meeting in May and/or June for discussion on these individuals and changes. If you are not able to carry a vote to the Grand Lodge Communication, this is the time that your input counts. You can give your Lodges voting delegates your input on how they should vote.

For those of you who are members of the Scottish Rite, the term "Reunion" is used when they convene to bring in new members. Let us as members of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota AF&AM think of this communication as a South Dakota Masonic Family Reunion. We gather to conduct family business. We come together to renew acquaintances with our cousins (Masonic Brothers and Sisters), our uncles (Past Masters and Mentors) and leaders of the clan. We come

together to acknowledge the accomplishments of members of our Family. We come together to enjoy meals together, and we get together to have some fun.

We are saddened by the loss of three Past Grand Masters this year. Richard Decker, Charles Kaufman and Ronald Lockwood were all called from their earthly labors by the Grand Architect this year. We will all miss their contributions to the Masonic Fraternity.

I thank you for the opportunity to have served as your Deputy Grand Master this year. I have enjoyed many Masonic Functions this year throughout South Dakota, the surrounding states and Canada. My only regret was that there was not enough time to visit more Lodges. THANK YOU.

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK
AND SEE YOU IN OACOMA.

Fraternally,
Donald A. (Don) Gray
Deputy Grand Master – Grand Master Elect



Tidings from the East!

Where does the general public receive information about the Masonic Fraternity?

It appears that the public gets information about Masonry from many different sources. Some of it is legitimate and some of it is wrong, bigoted, and mean-spirited. I just did a quick Google Search for "Masonic Information" and found that the sites first listed were legitimate and useful. Illegitimate sites were much further down the list.

I began to think about this question recently when I visited with two different individuals outside the Craft on the same day. I visited with a good friend and colleague before a doctoral final exam on the campus. He knew I was active in the Masons and he asked me what I was doing in that regard. I am always pleased to talk about what Masonry is about, what we do, our history, and what I am doing with anyone who is interested.

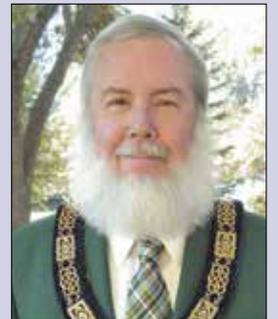
This friend is originally from China, so he had little or no exposure to Masonry previous to moving to the U.S. He had recently watched a television show about Freemasonry – one that gave a very negative view and was loaded with false information. But, he told me that the material portrayed about Masonry in the program had to be false because he and I have been good friends for many years and I was not anything like the so-called "Masons" depicted in the film. We have all heard about or seen these anti-Masonic shows. What motivates people to create them is beyond my understanding. Perhaps a lesson to be had from this experience with my friend was that as Masons, we are always representing the fraternity, and should keep this in mind with all our "transactions with mankind."

That same evening several members of my Lodge met with a young man who planned to petition for membership. As an ice-breaker we often ask the prospect why he is interested in Masonry and what he knows about the fraternity. Many are surprisingly well-versed in Masonry and have done their "homework." This curious prospective member became interested in Masonry through, what I thought, was a most unusual situation. He was visiting a friend in Montana and saw an odd symbol engraved on a stone of an old building. He had no idea what it was, but he realized that it must have some special meaning. He took a picture of it and went to the internet where he learned that the symbol was our beloved Square and Compasses. Then he began his investigation on-line and, being favorably impressed with what he read, wished to join our ranks.

An important lesson to be had from this experience is the very critical need to keep our Masonic web sites up to date, chocked full of useful information that explains what Masonry is about, including our principles and what we stand for, our link to the history of our country, and our charities. I have two brochures I carry with me that are published by the Masonic Information Center and I have passed them out to many individuals. They are entitled: "What has Masonry done for the World?" and "Who are the Masons and what do they do?" Both are excellent resources for both Masons who want to explain what the fraternity is about and to the non-Mason wishing to learn about Freemasonry.

This is my last missive to you as your Grand Master. It has been a wonderful year and I thoroughly enjoyed my time in the Grand East. I thank all of you for your support and trust in me to preside over the fraternity this past year. I assure you that you are in very capable hands with my successors.

With best fraternal regards,
Doug McFarland
Grand Master



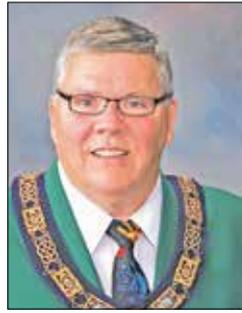
Greetings from the Grand Treasurer-Secretary

In various areas of this issue of The Masonic Messenger you will find the agenda and registration form for the 141st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge which will be held at Cedar Shores in Oacoma, SD Thursday through Saturday, June 18, 19 and 20, 2015. This information is also posted on www.MyGrandLodge.org.

When you call for rooms you may find space tight at Cedar Shores since there were some rooms blocked off for a wedding prior to our booking. Cedar Shores is providing additional rooms for us at the new cabins overlooking Cedar Shores and at the Oasis Inn just back up the hill. Of course there are numerous other motels just off the Oacoma exit so there are plenty of rooms available.

This is going to be a great session! Besides our necessary duties to vote on proposed legislation, we need to elect our officers and committee members as well as install our new Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers as well as the District Masters. There will be ample time to get reacquainted and have some fun. We are looking forward to having special presentations being given by members of the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction in Washington D.C. You will find their scheduled presentations in the agenda as well as their biographies and photos in this issue. We are particularly honored to have Admiral Bill Sizemore, Grand Executive Director of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, in Washington D.C. as one of our presenters. Brother Bill is a true American patriot and a great Mason. Don't miss his address at the Grand Master's Banquet Friday night, June 19.

Now for some specific information for the Worshipful Masters and Secretaries of our Lodges



– you will find the Condition of Lodge report in your book of pre-printed reports. This year you will see we have a net loss in membership albeit is very small. After reviewing the reports I can see there are some Lodges that I personally know who raised more new Master Masons than the report shows. We can only report what the MORI report reflects and it is imperative that the information on MORI remains a current as possible.

There also appears to be a larger amount of NPDs than in past years. If those numbers had been lower and all the new brothers had been entered in the MORI program, I feel confident our report may have shown a net increase in membership. If there is any way that these brothers that are reported as NPD and can be located and their status changed, it certainly would have been reflected in this report. Again, the MORI program is our membership data program and it reflects only what is entered from the Lodges.

These numbers are your numbers as reflected as of January 1st. We cannot correct or change these numbers in MORI at the Grand Lodge office after the cutoff date or especially this late and without it appearing that we are cooking the books, so to speak. That would only mess us up long term which creates a whole host of new issues for us in the office. Again, only the Lodges create these numbers.

If any of you have any MORI questions I have asked Gwen to be available at the Grand Lodge Session to work with you on a one-on-one basis. The bottom line is if it is not accurate at the cutoff date of January 1st the report that runs will reflect the same inaccurate information. Please, use this system. We are here to help in any way we can. Thank you.

Denny Robinson, PGM
Grand Treasurer-Secretary

Most Worshipful Brother Solomon (Sol) Star *Founding signer on the Deadwood Valley Scottish Rite Charter*

A 1901 publication, The Great Northwest and its Men of Progress, described Sol Star thusly:

“Some men have a genius for popularity. With no effort on their part they become a sort of social or political center from which there seems to radiate an aroma of good fellowship, permeating the entire community. Frank and generous; genial in disposition; ever ready with a helping hand for a fellow in distress; jovial and social, yet, in serious matters keen and penetrating; sound in judgment; full of resources in emergency; energy unbounded, and a public spirit ready for war in the interests of his town, country, or state. These are some of the characteristics of a naturally popular man.”

Sol Star was born in Bavaria, Germany on December 20, 1840. Star and his family immigrated to the US in 1850 and settled in Ohio. In 1865, Star arrived in Montana by way of Missouri. He was appointed by President Grant as Registrar of the US Land Office in Helena in 1872. In 1874, he served as Territorial Auditor of the Commonwealth of Montana. He also served as personal secretary to the Governor. Star partnered with the first sheriff of Lewis and Clark County, and fellow Mason, Seth Bullock in the mercantile business. Together they followed the gold rush to Deadwood, Dakota Territory in 1876.

MWB Star was raised in what was to become Virginia City Lodge #1 in Montana (Vir-

ginia City Lodge #43, Kansas until the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana was formed in 1866). He served as the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge in 1868. He was the first Worshipful Master of King Solomon's #9 in Helena, Montana in 1867, and served again as WM in 1868, 1869, 1870 and again in 1873 and 1874. Star also served as Montana's Grand Secretary in 1868 and 1869, was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1871 and was elected as the seventh Grand Master of Masons in Montana in 1873. In South Dakota, Sol Star is a founding signer on the Deadwood Valley Scottish Rite Charter.

When Star and Bullock arrived in Deadwood with their wagons filled with hardware goods and mining equipment on August 1st, 1876 – just one day before the famous shooting of Wild Bill Hickok, they set up their store in a tent. Soon the pair was able to buy a lot on the corner of Main and Wall Streets and built their hardware store. They both quickly got involved in Deadwood politics, both serving as city councilmen, Bullock becoming Lawrence County's first Sheriff and Star becoming the city's postmaster. The pair invested in local mining ventures, bought several individual homesteads and created the SB Ranch, planting the first alfalfa crop in Deadwood Territory. They teamed up with Franklin Harris to start the Deadwood Flouring Mill, with Star taking on the role of general manager. The pair gave the Freemont Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad 40 acres of free right-of-way

through their ranch and the railway built a station three miles from the county seat of Minnesela, creating the new town of Belle Fourche. The pair then offered free lots to anyone willing to move from Minnesela to Belle Fourche effectively stealing away the county seat.

Star was one of the first Jewish merchants in Deadwood, whose ranks quickly grew to over 30%. A Synagogue was never built in Deadwood as the Deadwood Masonic Lodge was often used for Jewish services.

Star and Bullock's hardware store burned down in 1894. Rather than rebuilding it, the pair built Deadwood's first hotel on the site, a three story, 64 room luxury hotel with steam heat and indoor bathrooms on each floor at a cost of \$ 40,000.

The Bullock Hotel still operates on that site today. Continuing with his political service, Star was elected Mayor in 1884 and held that position for 14 years. Star was a member of the State Legislature for four years, first serving two years in the House and then two years in the Senate, where he also served as President Pro Tempore.

He also served as the first president of the Republican state convention. Additionally he was the Clerk of Courts when Lawrence County was established and held that position until his death in 1917.

Mike Rodman
Senior Grand Warden

CHIP program reports increase

Hello All,

Grand Lodge time is nearly upon us and I am very pleased to say that we had an increase of around 200 kids that went through the CHIP program this year.

I've had the pleasure of traveling to several Lodges this year that haven't had a CHIP event for a few years and some that were doing it for the first time. I had a great time at all of them and am looking forward to seeing you all again very soon for your next event.

We are working on the event at the Sioux Empire Fair and are looking forward to seeing a lot of help from the Sioux Falls Lodges. Keep an eye on the calendar at www.sd-chip.org for the times we will be there.

If there is any way that I can help you contact me through the sd-chip website or at lgclark@knology.net.

Always remember it's not what we do, it's who we do it for.

Larry Clark,
SD-CHIP Chairman



Brothers honored in Wessington

On March 27, 2015 the Masonic Lodge #107 of Wessington hosted an Oyster Stew/Chili supper at the Legion Hall in Wessington. Fifty-plus Masons, family and friends gathered to honor two Brothers by presenting 50 and 60 year pins in recognition of their years of service.

The pins were presented to Brothers Stanley Martens, 60 years, and Terry Sievers, 50 years, by District Master Brother Jack Ferguson. A musical program was presented by SuAnne Meyer and an evening of good food and visiting was enjoyed by all.

Pictured are: Stanley Martens and his two sons Steve and Bob; Terry Sievers with his daughter Lynn Watts, her family and Peggy McInnis.

Greetings from the South

I can hardly believe another Masonic year is almost over. They say time flies when you're having fun, and it certainly has been true the past months.

In less than two months, we will again meet for the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. If you have been to a Grand Lodge in recent years, you know what a great opportunity Grand Lodge is to see old friends, make new ones, and have a part in shaping the future of Masonry in South Dakota. If you haven't been to Grand Lodge recently, or have never been, there is no better time than now to start coming. There are exciting things happening in Masonry, and we want you to be a part of it. Information on Grand Lodge is included elsewhere in this Messenger.

Membership continues to be a hot topic in Masonry today. As I am writing this, I do not have yet any information on membership in South Dakota for 2014. While we all hope to have another gain in membership like we did in 2013, what matters more than quantity is quality.

We work hard to get a new Brother through the Petitioning and Degree process, and then what? Most of the men I see joining the Fraternity lately, especially those under 40, are full of excitement for Masonry; an excitement to be part of SOMETHING that actually matters. They are joining, not because of our charitable works or to find out the so-called secrets of Masonry, which are certainly a part of who we are, but because

they have a deep desire to associate with other men of good character who are striving to make the world a better place. They have heard that "We take good men and make them better", but do we? Do we provide quality Masonic instruction through education and explanation as a part of our meetings? In my opinion if your Lodge is not, it should be.

It is ultimately the responsibility of the Worshipful Master and his officers to provide this instruction and provide Lodge meetings and other events the Brethren want to attend. Oftentimes, however, the Master is not adequately prepared to assume this high station. To help remedy this, the Grand Lodge elected officers are working to develop Leadership training for the Masters and Wardens of the constituent Lodges and would welcome any input you may have. We hope to have more information for you soon.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Junior Grand Warden this year. I sincerely look forward to seeing you in Oacoma in June.

Fraternally,
Yancey Smith, JGW



Mini Bios of People of Scots Descent *James 'Scotty' Philip Biography*

This biography appears on pages 444-448 in "History of Dakota Territory" by George W. Kingsbury, Vol. IV (1915)

The history of South Dakota is still in the making, but there are those who wrote its early chapters whose names deserve to be honored and their memory perpetuated throughout all the years to come while this commonwealth endures. They are those who penetrated into the frontier regions, met the hardships, difficulties and privations of pioneer life and aided in planting the seeds of civilization which are now coming into rich fruition.

Among this number was James Philip, usually known as Scotty Philip. There was a time when almost every stockman, from the owner of large herds down to the humblest cowboy of the northwest, knew him, and he went through every experience of life on the plains from the period of early settlement here to the present age of advanced civilization. At all times his efforts and his influence counted for progress and the capability and resourcefulness which he manifested in business brought to him substantial success.

Mr. Philip was born in Morayshire, Scotland, in March, 1858, a son of George and Catherine Philip. The father was a farmer, living at Auchness, Dallas, Morayshire, and it was upon the home farm that James Philip spent his youth and received the initial training that enabled him to become a successful agriculturist and stock-raiser in later life. He acquired his education in the common schools of his native village of Dallas and in 1875, when 17 years of age, he came to the United States, wishing to enjoy the benefits and opportunities offered by the great and growing western country.

He made his way to Wyoming and to western Nebraska and, going to Cheyenne, in the former state, there entered upon an engagement to act as cattle herder. After a year he went to the Black Hills, where he spent a winter among the pioneer prospectors and miners, meeting the usual difficulties and hardships of life in the mining camps. Subsequently he returned to Fort Laramie, Wyoming, where he

secured employment as a teamster in the government service, being thus engaged until 1877.

He next went to Fort Robinson, where he became an army scout, acting in that capacity during the Indian troubles of that period. In the meantime he had been employed as a cowboy with the first cattle outfit that utilized the range on Running Water, remaining there until the fall of 1878-9. Subsequently he freighted with a bull team from Chadron, Nebraska, to the Black Hills and from Fort Pierre to Deadwood over the old Black Hills trail, being thus engaged until 1882.

About that time he located on Bad river, near where the town of Philip now stands, and turned his attention to the cattle business, in which he was always afterward extensively engaged until the time of his death on the 23rd of July, 1911.

In 1896 he effected the organization of the Minnesota & Dakota Cattle Company, with headquarters at Fort Pierre, and was made general manager, so continuing until January, 1900, when he disposed of his interests. He afterward engaged in cattle raising on his own account and the business was conducted most successfully. He was widely recognized as one of the leading stockmen of the northwest. The Capital Journal of July 24, 1911, said of him: "He was known from Mexico to Canada and in all the stock yards of the country as Scotty Philip. His herds of cattle at times numbered many thousands and no roundup from the Black Hills to the Missouri river for more than a quarter of a century was complete without the presence of this cattle king, and at every shipping season his business was eagerly sought by the railroad companies. Mr. Philip a few years ago purchased the famous Du Pree buffalo herd and by an act of congress he fenced in about 20,000 acres of land on the Missouri river above Fort Pierre, where this famous herd is kept."

The buffaloes on the Philip ranch now number about 425 and are valued at \$250 each, although the hide with the head attached frequently sells at from \$600 to \$800, while specimens of the head mounted bring all the way up to \$500.

Continued on page 9

141st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of South Dakota

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Set up Grand Lodge Room. Help is greatly appreciated!

- 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. GL Officers Appreciation Dinner
(Breakwater-Wetlands – Tropical or casual attire)
- 8:00 p.m. Opening and Closing Ceremony Practice

Thursday, June 18, 2015

- 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Trustees Breakfast with Meeting to follow
(Missouri Winds)
- 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration and Credentials
(Pre-function Space)
- 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Jurisprudence – Room TBA
- 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. South Dakota Masonic Foundation Meeting
- 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own
- 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Open meeting: W. Bro. Dean Alban 33°
Director of Membership Services of the
Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction,
Washington, D.C., will talk on recruiting
new Masons
- 3:00 to 3:45 p.m. Commission on Masonic Education
- 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. SD Lodge of Masonic Research
Guest Speaker: W. Bro. Sean Graystone,
Superintendent of the House of the Temple
Supreme Council Scottish Rite Southern
Jurisdiction, Washington, D.C.
- 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Awards & Recognition Dinner & Social
(Tickets Required – Casual Dress: Hawaiian
Theme; No Host Bar (Tiki Lounge and Deck)
Tiki Lounge will open at 6:00 p.m.
- 9:00 p.m. to Midnight Shrine Hospitality Room (Room 233)
- 9:00 p.m. to ? High Rollers Degree (Tiki Lounge & Deck)
Fundraiser – All are welcome – Fee charged at
the door

Friday, June 19, 2015

- 6:30 a.m. Past Grand Masters Breakfast (PGMs only)
(Breakwater Room)
- 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration and Credentials
(Pre-function Space)
- 7:30 a.m. Dignitaries and Guests Assemble
to be introduced;
Attire: GL Officers – Green Coat, Tie, Jewels and
Aprons; Others – Suit, Tie, Jewel & Apron
(as appropriate); Ladies – to compliment

- 8:00 a.m. Public Opening
Introductions
Presentation of Flags
Welcome by Representative of Cedar Shore Resort
Response by DGM-GME Don Gray
Remarks by Representatives of
Concordant Bodies
Necrology Service
Remarks – W. B. Scot Mannschreck,
Grand Orator
Closing Remarks
MWGM Douglas C. McFarland
- 9:30 a.m. Break
- 9:45 a.m. Tyler and assistants at Grand Lodge Door(s)
- 10:00 a.m. Formal Opening of Grand Lodge (Tiled)
- 11:30 a.m. Combined Ladies and Mens' Luncheon
(Breakwater-Wetlands – Ticket Required)
Ladies Program following Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m. Call from Refreshment to Labor
- 2:00 p.m. Election of Grand Lodge Officers
and Committee Members
Presentation and Balloting on
Proposals and Resolutions
- 3:30 p.m. Call from Labor to Refreshment
- 4:00 p.m. Installation of 2015-2016 Grand Lodge Officers
- 6:00 p.m. Social – No Host Bar (Pre-function Space)
- 7:00 p.m. Grand Master's Banquet; Formal
(Tux or Black Suit & Tie, Jewel)
Ladies to compliment
Keynote Address: Admiral William Sizemore (ret.)
Grand Executive Director of the
Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction
Presentations
Benediction
- 8:30 p.m. 2015-2016 Grand Lodge Officer Reception
and Dessert
- 9:00 p.m. to Midnight Shrine Hosted Hospitality Room (Room 233)

Saturday, June 20, 2015

- 6:30 a.m. SD Masonic Veteran's Breakfast (Missouri Winds)
- 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. Registration and Credentials (Pre-function Space)
- 8:30 a.m. Call from Refreshment to Labor
- 12:00 Noon Closing of the 141st Annual Communication
by the 2015-2016 incoming Grand Lodge Officers

Make your mark on HISTORY.SM

GENERAL REGISTRATION FORM

141ST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
JUNE 18, 19, & 20, 2015

All events will be held at the Cedar Shore Resort and Conference Center, Oacoma, SD. For room reservations, call (605) 734-6376.

Name: _____ Lady's Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____ email: _____
 Lodge Name: _____ Lodge No.: _____ Title: _____

Event	Number	Price Each	Amount
Grand Lodge Registration Fee (SD Masons only)	X	\$20.00	=
GL Reception & Awards Dinner Thursday, June 18 th at 6:30 p.m. No host bar; BBQ pulled pork, buns, baked beans, potato salad, chips and dip, fruit tray, and sherbet	X	\$26.00	=
Past Grand Masters' Breakfast (PGM's Only) Friday, June 19 th at 6:30 a.m.	X	\$18.00	=
Combined Master Mason's & Ladies Luncheon Friday, June 19 th at Noon	X	\$18.00	=
Ladies Program to follow Lunch Friday, June 19 th .	X	FREE	FREE
Grand Master's Banquet Friday, June 19 th at 7:00 p.m. No host bar; Stuffed Chicken Breast; an 8 oz. oven baked chicken breast with seasoned bread stuffing served with a light cream sauce, wild rice blend, house salad with peppercorn dressing	X	\$30.00	=
SD Masonic Veterans Association Breakfast Saturday, June 20 th at 6:30 a.m.	X	\$18.00	=
Total:			

Make checks payable to **"The Grand Lodge of South Dakota"** at the address below.
Please, no later than **May 18, 2015**



A rich history. A bright future. A waiting opportunity.SM

Denny Robinson ~ Grand Treas./Sec. ~ Grand Lodge of South Dakota ~ 520 S. First Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6902 ~ Phone: 605.332.2051 ~ E-Mail: office@mygrandlodge.org

Ladies Program

Thursday, June 18, 2015

12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Lunch on your own
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Ladies Hospitality Room Open
(Missouri Winds)
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Awards & Recognition
Dinner & Social
(Tickets Required – Casual Dress:
Hawaiian Theme; No Host Bar
(Tiki Lounge and Deck)
Tiki Lounge will open at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, June 19, 2015

8:00 a.m.
Public Opening
11:30 a.m.
Combined Ladies and
Mens' Luncheon
(Breakwater-Wetlands)
Ticket Required
Ladies Program Following Luncheon
1:00 to 3.00 p.m.
Ladies Hospitality Room Open
(Missouri Winds)
4:00 p.m.
Installation of 2015-2016
Grand Lodge Officers
7:00 p.m.
Grand Master's Banquet; Formal
(Tux or Black Suit & Tie, Jewel)
Ladies to compliment
8:30 p.m.
2015-2016 Grand Lodge
Officer Reception and Dessert

Saturday, June 20, 2015

8:00 a.m.
Past Grand Masters Ladies
Breakfast in the dining room
(Open to all PGM Ladies and visiting
GM and PGM Ladies)

NOMINATIONS

Junior Grand Warden DaNiel D. Wood

Worshipful Brother DaNiel Wood was born in Madison, SD on August 6, 1967. On August 16, 1967 he was adopted to a loving family in Sioux Falls, SD where he grew up, graduating from Washington Senior High School in 1985. He attended the University Of South Dakota where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science, and attended graduate school at the University Of Southern California Spatial Sciences Institute. He has also completed the three year 'Emerging Leaders' program sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States.



While attending college, he met his future wife Stephanie Spillum of Huron, SD and they were married on July 13, 1991. Stephanie is currently a Credit Risk Analytics Consultant and Programmer for Wells Fargo and DaNiel is a Technologist with Beal Distributing. They have two boys; Caden, 17, and Devin, 15.

Worshipful Brother DaNiel received the three degrees of Masonry from Unity Lodge #130, where he served as Worshipful Master in 2013-2014, and holds a plural membership with Incense Lodge #2 in Vermillion, SD. He currently serves as the Tyler for Unity #130 and is a member of both the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees for 2014-2017. He has served the Grand Lodge as the Grand Marshal for two terms from 2012-2014, is the current Grand Pursuivant for 2014-2015, and is the District 3 and 4 Masonic Education Officer.

Both Worshipful Brother DaNiel and his wife Stephanie are active in many of the affiliated/associated Masonic bodies. He and Stephanie are members of Jasper Chapter #8 OES, where she serves as Conductress and he serves as Warden. Stephanie is Princess Badoura with Ashrama Temple #97 Daughters of the Nile, and DaNiel is a member of the Gentlemen of the Creeks.

Worshipful Brother DaNiel is a member of #91 Gavelers High Twelve International, a Noble of El Riad Shrine Temple and member of the Provost and Legion of Honor Units. He is a Past High Priest of Sioux Falls Chapter #2 Royal Arch Masons, Past Illustrious Master of Alpha Council #1 Cryptic Masons, and Past Eminent Commander of Cyrene Commandery #2 Knights Templar. He has served the Grand York Rite for the past four years, and currently holds an office in all three Grand bodies. He is the Grand Representative for the Royal Arch Research Assistance, and Jurisprudence Committee member

for the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Grand Representative for Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation for the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, and State Representative for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar. He is also a member of Pasque du Prairie #182 York Rite SOV College. Worshipful Brother DaNiel is an active 32° Scottish Rite Mason, member of the Sioux Falls Valley Executive Council, and Senior Warden 2015-2016 of the Lodge of Perfection. Additionally, he is the Secretary and life member of the South Dakota Lodge of Masonic Research.

Worshipful Brother DaNiel is a Sioux Empire United Way Heart Club Member 2004-current, has led numerous bicycling fundraiser rides for the South Dakota Lung Association, and represented the United States on a cycling team competing in several European countries. He is a member of the National Association for Search & Rescue (NASAR), North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA), and is a founding member of South Dakota Search & Rescue (SoDakSAR). Worshipful Brother DaNiel is nominated for Junior Grand Warden by his home Lodges of Unity #130 and Incense #2, and several others throughout the state.

Junior Grand Warden Reid P. Jensen

Worshipful Brother Reid Jensen was born in Sioux Falls, SD in December 1974. As a life-long resident of Sioux Falls, WB Reid attended Roosevelt High School and was active in many extra-curricular activities. WB Reid attended and excelled at South



Dakota State University. While at State, WB Reid held many campus, state-wide and regional leadership positions within Air Force ROTC and other student groups. It was at this time WB Reid met his wife to be - Misty. They were married in May 1999 and live in Sioux Falls with their three children. WB Reid is a Director at the South Dakota State University Foundation and Misty is a Pharmacist at Avera McKennan Hospital.

WB Reid is the third generation of his family to enter Freemasonry through Unity Lodge #130 in Sioux Falls. He was initiated in July 1998, passed in August 1998 and raised in September 1998 all within Unity Lodge. WB Reid sequentially held all positions in Unity Lodge from Junior Steward through Master of the Lodge from 1999 to 2005. WB Reid further served Unity Lodge from 2005 - 2008 as a member of Unity's Board of

Trustees. WB Reid served the Grand Lodge when appointed as Grand Sword Bearer in 2008 - 2009 and Senior Grand Deacon in 2010 - 2011. Additionally, WB Reid served two terms as District Master for District 3 in 2008 - 2014. WB Reid is currently the Chairman of the Life Membership Committee, a position he has held since 2011.

WB Reid was elected to a three year term on the Board of Directors of the South Dakota Masonic Foundation in June 2010 and again in June 2012. In 2011 WB Reid was elected to the position of President of the South Dakota Masonic Foundation and continued to serve for 3 consecutive years until being term limited in June of 2014.

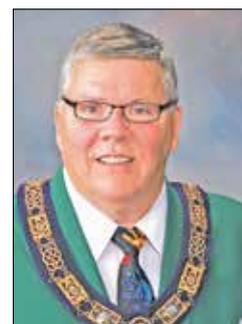
WB Reid was initiated into the Scottish Rite, Valley of Sioux Falls in 1999.

In November 1999 WB Reid became a Noble of Shriners International and joined El Riad Shrine in Sioux Falls. WB Reid is a member of the Fife and Drum Corps, Horse Corps, Culinary and Classie Auto Units. Additionally, WB Reid has been a member of the El Riad Membership Committee since 2005 and served as the committee's Chairman from 2012 - 2014 carrying on the observance of 11 consecutive years of positive membership growth. WB Reid was El Riad's Masonic Relations Chairman 2009 - 2011 and Midwest Shrine Association Parade Co-Chairman in 2014. WB Reid is also a member of the El Riad Circus Committee from 2004 - present.

WB Reid is nominated for Junior Grand Warden by Harmony Lodge #110, Unity Lodge #130 and Mt. View Lodge #161.

Grand Treasurer-Secretary Denny Robinson

Most Worshipful Brother Denny was born in Valparaiso, IN, and moved to Sioux Falls with his family at an early age. He graduated from Washington Sr. High School in 1970 and graduated from Sioux Falls College in 1974.



During college Denny worked as a deputy sheriff in Sioux Falls and after that spent a few years working with the South Dakota Highway Patrol as a trooper. Following his law enforcement service he was a claims examiner for a large insurance company for nearly 30 years. After retiring from the insurance industry he started a career in the real estate industry and was the managing broker for Century 21 Fischer Rounds & Associates in Mitchell until his retire-

ment from that position in January 2014. Denny and his wife Elaine have two daughters and three grandchildren.

He is a Past State Master Councilor of the Order of DeMolay (1970) and a recipient of the Chevalier and Legion of Honor Degrees.

Denny is a Past Master of Fortitude Lodge in Salem, SD, and a life member of Resurgam Lodge #31 in Mitchell where he has served as Master. He is a 33° Scottish Rite member in the Yankton Valley. Additionally he is a member of El Riad Shrine, the Corn Palace Shrine Club, York Rite and the Order of the Eastern Star. Denny has always been very active on the local level through the years, serving as the Corn Palace Shrine Club President and Circus Chairman numerous times. In 1994 Denny was named "Shriner of the Year" by the Corn Palace Shrine Club and was named El Riad Shrine Noble of the Year in 1998. In 2009 he was honored by being named "Mr. Mason" by Resurgam Lodge #31.

Denny's early service in the Grand Lodge consisted of being a District Master in two different districts for six years, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Membership Committee, Grand Sr. Deacon and Grand Tyler. Denny was installed as the Grand Master of Masons for South Dakota in June 2007. It was his honor and privilege to preside over the cornerstone ceremony that rededicated the State Capitol Building in Pierre upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary in June 2008. Denny is past president of the Masonic Veterans group, and has received the Grand Lodge Outstanding Service Award.

During his time in the Grand Lodge line Denny was instrumental in starting the SD Chip program in South Dakota. He also became active in the national child identification program, Masonichip International, where he currently services on the executive board and is a past president. He has received numerous awards and recognition from the Conference of Grand Masters of North America and also the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for his work on behalf of Masonichip and the NCMEC Take 25 program.

Denny currently serves the Grand Lodge as its Grand Treasurer-Secretary and is also serving on the Public Relations and Organizational Review Committees. He served one term on the Jurisprudence Committee and also the George Washington National Masonic Memorial Committee.

Denny is nominated for a third term as the Grand Treasurer-Secretary by Resurgam Lodge #31 in Mitchell.



NOMINATIONS

Grand Trustee James D. Taylor

W.B. James D. Taylor was born at Sioux Falls, SD, April 27, 1954. He grew up in Sioux Falls; graduated from old Washington High School at Main Avenue and 11th Street; obtained his B.A., majoring in Economics, at Saint Olaf College, Northfield, MN; and obtained his J.D. at the University of South Dakota School of Law.



He has been engaged in the general practice of law in Mitchell for the last 32 years and plans to carry on, like most of his colleagues, until he drops in the traces.

Jim was initiated, passed, and raised in Resurgam Lodge #31, Mitchell. His initiation as an EA was May 24; he passed as a FC on May 30; and was raised a MM on September 19, all in 1989.

He served through several chairs and was elected, and served, as Master of Resurgam Lodge for the 1993-1994 Masonic year. Jim was Grand Orator in 1996 and again in 2001. He is a member of several appendent bodies, and has held various offices in many of them. His appendent memberships include the York Rite [Mitchell York Rite Bodies, Pasque du Prairie York Rite College, St. Simon Conclave - Red Cross of Constantine]; Scottish Rite [Valley of Yankton and the Sigmund F. Schirmer Scottish Rite Club, also a Trustee of the Scottish Rite Foundation of South Dakota]; Starlight Chapter #41, Order of the Eastern Star; El Riad Shrine; and the Corn Palace Shrine Club & Hillbilly Clan #161.

He currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, having been recently appointed to fill out the term of retiring Trustee MWB Les Spies. Jim seeks election as a Trustee in his own right for a full term. Jim also currently serves on the Grand Lodge Public Awareness Committee and on the Commission on Masonic Education.

W.B. Taylor was nominated by the Brothers of Resurgam Lodge #31, Mitchell, SD.

Board of Trustees William Coffield

Most Worshipful Brother Bill Coffield was born October 7, 1936, in Hot Springs, SD. He was raised a Master Mason July 1, 1958, in Harmony Lodge No. 110, Hot Springs. He served two years as Worshipful Master of that Lodge in 1975 and 1976. He is a life member of Harmony Lodge No. 110.



He is a member of the Black Hills Scottish Rite in Deadwood. He received the 33rd Degree in 1987 and was awarded the Grand Cross in 2011. Brother Coffield is a member of the York Rite and a past Sovereign of the Black Hills Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine.

In 1980 and 1981 Brother Coffield served as Worthy Patron of Martha Chapter No. 22 Order of the Eastern Star. He is a member of the

Ritualistic Divan of Naja Shrine. Brother Coffield served as Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota in 2004-2005. He is currently completing a term on the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge. Brother Coffield was nominated by Harmony Lodge No 110.

Jurisprudence Committee Gerald Johnson

Most Worshipful Brother Gerald A. Johnson was born March 22, 1931 at Highmore, SD. He was raised a Master Mason on April 4, 1955 in Lily lodge #62 in Harrold, SD. He is a life member in that lodge and he



served as Junior Warden in 1963, 1986, 1994-1995; Senior Warden 1964, 1987, 1995-1996, 2003-2004, and Worshipful Master 1965, 1988, 1996-1997, 2005-2006, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. He affiliated with Blunt Lodge #72 as a plural member on June 10, 2002.

Most Worshipful Brother Johnson served as District Master in 1985, 1986 and again in 2009, 2010. He was appointed Senior Grand Deacon in 1987, elected to the line and served as Grand Master of Mason in the Grand Lodge AF & AM of South Dakota in 1991-1992. He served again as Deputy Grand Master most of the year in 1994-1995 having accepted a pro-tem appointment in September 1994.

Most Worshipful Brother Johnson served two five-year terms on Jurisprudence Committee 1992-2002 and again a five-year term 2010-2015. He and his wife are life members of the Order of Eastern Star, Rising Chapter #86 of which he is a Past Worthy Patron. He is also a life member and 33 Degree in the Yankton Consistory.

Most Worshipful Brother Johnson is a life member in all of the York Rite Bodies and is Past Grand High Priest of Royal Arch, Past Grand Illustrious Master of the Council and Past Grand Commander Knights Templar of the Grand York Rite of South Dakota. He is a life member of the Yelduz Shrine Temple and Past Potentate.

Most Worshipful Brother Johnson is active in the Masonic Veterans Association and he has been Secretary/Treasurer for the past five years. Brother Johnson received the Jurisprudence Emeritus in 2002 and has been nominated by Lily Lodge #62 Harrold-Blunt for a five-year term on the Jurisprudence Committee.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Section 2.42: South Dakota Child Identification Program – CHIP

1. Appointments: The South Dakota Child Identification Program (CHIP) shall consist of six members who shall serve terms of three years each. The Grand Master elected in 2006 shall appoint two members for a term of one year, two members for a term of two years, and two members for a term of three years.

Successors shall be appointed for a term of three years provided that when a vacancy occurs, the appointment shall be for an unexpired term. The Chairman of this committee shall be appointed by the Grand Master. The elected Grand Lodge Officers shall be ex officio members.

2. Duties: It shall be the duty of this Committee to help implement, coordinate, facilitate, and promote a child identification program with the Grand Jurisdiction of South Dakota utilizing the Constituent Lodges within the state for assistance.

3. Funding: Funding for this program

will be through the efforts of local Lodges and their fund raising activities, private donations, corporate sponsorship, gifts and grants, and bequests. The local lodge CHIP fund is considered part of the local lodge funds controlled by the local lodge and must comply with Section 4.26. All Grand Lodge CHIP funds received will be administered through the Grand Lodge office in a special account earmarked for South Dakota CHIP.

Rationale:

Changing the code to reflect current practices whereby local lodges raise and administer their local funds for SDCHIP events.

Sponsors:

Mikal Lewis, PM; Gerald Johnson, PGM;
Denny Robinson, PGM

Section 4.26: Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

1. To receive and safely keep all moneys or property of every kind which shall be placed in his hands by the Secretary, or

by order of the Lodge, and to give proper receipt therefore.

2. To disburse or transfer the same, or any part thereof, upon the order of the Master, with the consent of the Lodge, duly attested by the Secretary.

3. To keep a book or books which shall contain the current statement of his receipts and disbursements on account of the Lodge.

4. To make to the Lodge, as its By-Laws may require, annual or semi-annual reports of its receipts, disbursements and financial condition.

5. To perform such other duties appertaining to his office as the By-Laws may require or the Lodge may at any time direct.

6. To file a bond, when required to do so by a vote of the Lodge, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge the duties of his office and will deliver, on demand of the Master of the Lodge, or his successor in office, all moneys remaining on hand with all books, papers, vouchers, securities, etc., in

Continued on page 8

Please send in articles to the Grand Lodge for this summer's Messenger edition.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Continued from page 7

his possession and belonging to the Lodge. Said bond may be furnished by some surety company, the cost of which shall be paid out of the funds of the Lodge.

7. To give an accounting of all Lodge charity funds received by the Lodge on a quarterly basis at a regular lodge business meeting.

Rationale:

To insure that all lodge members are aware of the lodge charity funds and to comply with IRS regulations on charity funds.

Sponsors:

Mikal Lewis, PM; Gerald Johnson, PGM; Denny Robinson, PGM

Section 4.135: Financial Appeals

1. No Lodge, individual or organization shall make or circulate within this Grand

Jurisdiction any Masonic appeal for financial aid for any purpose other than recognized Masonic charities unless such appeal be authorized by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

2. No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, or officer or member thereof, shall give any Certificate or recommendation to enable a Mason in an itinerant manner to apply to Lodges for relief.

Replace appeal with solicitation.

Rationale:

Changing the code to reflect current local lodge practices and to clarify when Grand Lodge approval is necessary for local lodge solicitations.

Sponsors:

Mikal Lewis, PM; Gerald Johnson, PGM; Denny Robinson, PGM

AWARDS

Myrtle Lodge #91

WBr Robert B. Frieberg was presented his 50 year pin on November 27, 2014. Lodge secretary WB Merle Nelson made the presentation.

Unity Lodge #130

A 70 year pin was mailed to Bro Joseph Burch to his home in California. The Lodge also included his Bible, Apron and birthday card for 99th birthday.

Olive Branch Lodge #47

Bro Bert C. Corwin received his 60 year pin on February 18, 2015. WM Dan Johnson present the pin to Bro Corwin.

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE DUE TO RECEIVE A 50, 60, OR 70 YEAR AWARD, PLEASE CHECK WITH THE SECRETARY OF YOUR LODGE SO HE CAN HAVE THE AWARD PREPARED BY THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE.



Officers attend MN Communication

Several officers of the Grand Lodge attended the Grand Lodge Communication of Minnesota on March 26 - 28, 2015 in Duluth, Minnesota. The Grand Master's welcoming dinner was held on March 26 at the Duluth Railroad Depot and Museum. We were treated to excellent food and tours through the many different locomotives in the basement area where the trains would come through, many carrying iron ore. It was a wonderful event. Pictured from the left are Senior Grand Warden Mike Rodman, Deputy Grand Master-Grand Master Elect Don Gray, and Grand Master, Doug McFarland. We are standing in front of "Engine No. 1" which brought the materials for the construction of the railroad in this part of the country.

Cornerstone rededication ceremony to be held May 16 in Watertown

A cornerstone rededication ceremony will be held at the Concord Lodge #13 in honor of their centennial celebration.

The ceremony will be held May 16, 2015 at 10 a.m. at the lodge, located at 215 N. Broadway in Watertown.

The cornerstone will be rededicated by the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. The building will be open for tours and lunch will be served to the public until the CHIP program starts at 1 p.m.

This event will go until registration closes at 3:30 p.m. and the process concludes.

Supper will be served at 5 p.m., followed by an open Eastern Star program. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING SD Grand Chapter of the Widows Sons



**The Annual Meeting will be held on
Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 12:00 Noon in the
restaurant at the Cedar Shores Resort
immediately following the conclusion of the
Grand Lodge Session.**

'Scotty' Philip biography

Continued from page 3

Mr. Philip was not alone deeply and extensively interested in the stock business, for after the building of railroads west of the Missouri river he became unusually active in support of the commercial and industrial development of that section and cooperated in every movement for the upbuilding of the business interests of Fort Pierre. For many years he made his home in that city and was interested in everything of a financial nature throughout the entire community. He was not only associated with the Minnesota & Dakota Cattle Company but was for many years a director in the Stock Growers Bank at Fort Pierre, in the Missouri River Transportation Company and various similar concerns. He had extensive landed interests in Stanley county as well as many business investments and he was among the leaders of his section of the state who believed in the efficacy of irrigation as the means of developing central and western South Dakota. He had the confidence of thousands of business men as well as plainmen and nowhere that he went was he without friends and acquaintances. Physically he was a man large of stature and in any gathering of people he was a conspicuous and prominent figure.

Aside from business connections for profit or for the benefit of the town Mr. Philip was active in public affairs and was chairman of the first board of county commissioners in Stanley county following its organization in 1890. Nine years later he was elected a member of the state senate from the district comprising Stanley and Lyman counties, but his ambition was not in the line of office holding and, while he did not hesitate to support the principles in which he believed, he was willing that others should fill the offices. He ever voted with the Democratic party and did all in his power to further its interests and promote its success.

In 1879, at Pine Ridge Agency, South Dakota, Mr. Philip was married to Sarah Larvie, daughter of Joseph Larvie, who was a French Canadian voyager and came to what afterward was the territory of Dakota in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Fur Company. Her mother was a Cheyenne Indian, who was afterward with the Sioux and became adopted as one of them. Ten children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Philip, five of whom are living: Olive, now the wife of Hugh M. Schultz, of

Fort Pierre, South Dakota; and Hazel, Clara, Stanley and Roderick, all of whom live at Fort Pierre, as does his widow. Their home is on the Buffalo ranch, about six miles north of the city, and they are widely and favorably known in this section of the state. Aside from his immediate family Mr. Philip had but one relative in South Dakota, this being George Philip, a well known attorney of Fort Pierre.

Mr. Philip was a prominent Mason, hold-

ing membership in the various branches of that fraternity. He attained the Knight Templar degree of the York Rite, the 32nd degree of the Scottish Rite and was a member of El Riad Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Sioux Falls. He became a charter member of Capital City Commandery, K. T. In the gallery of the Historical Society in the state capitol at Pierre hangs an oil painting of Scotty Philip.

The above record of an eventful, useful,

and busy life will in a degree perpetuate his memory, which is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him. He was one of the typical pioneers of the northwest – resolute, determined and purposeful meeting uncomplainingly the hardships of frontier life and contributing in substantial measure to the work of general improvement and development, so that his name is inseparably interwoven with the history of the northwest.



Masonic One Day Festival held March 14 in Sioux Falls

The three Sioux Falls Lodges worked together on Saturday, March 14, 2015 to present the three Degrees of Masonry to 33 excited and extremely interested candidates.

The day started off with coffee and doughnuts while registration was completed. The candidates then went into the small Lodge room for a short orientation and overview of what the day would hold for them.

When they were ready for us, the class proceeded to the large Lodge room to enjoy the degree work that was presented by the Brothers of Trinity Lodge #200. Brother Nolan Webb presided in the East for the degree.

The lectures were as followed:
Door WB Ron Ingalls
Apron WB Ron Ingalls
Historical WB Stan Cadwell
Illustrated WB Ron Hammer
Charge WB Steve Butterfield

After the Lodge was closed in due form the new Brothers returned to the small Lodge room for some instruction and prove-up.

Next up was the Brothers from Unity Lodge #130 who presented the Fellow Craft Degree. Brother Kyle Orth presided in the East for the degree.

The lectures were as followed:
Stair WM Kendig Bergstresser II
"G": Richard Hagler, Jr.
Charge Dane Bloch

As before when the Lodge was closed the new Brothers returned to the small Lodge room and received further instruction and proved-up for that degree.

The Culinary Unit of El Riad Shrine served a wonderful lunch to all those that were present that day. After lunch, the candidates once again returned to the small Lodge room and did a short review of the first two degrees.

The day closed with the Brothers of Minnehaha Lodge #5 presenting the Master Mason Degree with MWB Virgil Andersen sitting in the East.

For the second section that cast was:
King Solomon WB Richard Costain
Hiram, King of Tyre WB Phil Sehr

Senior Deacon WM Kenny Jacobs
Jubala Russ Olson
Jubalo WB Stan Cadwell
Jubalum WB Ron Ingalls
Sea faring MWB Virgil Andersen
Way faring Robert Litz
1st Craftsmen WB James Hoy
2nd Craftsmen WM John Archer
Chaplain WB Del Kroon

Once all 33 of the brothers were raised they received the last few lectures from the following:
Historical WM Kendig Bergstresser II
Illustrated WB Ron Hammer
Charge WB Phil Sehr

The Master Mason degree closed in due form and the new brothers returned to the small Lodge room and received their last bit of instruction and prove-up for the day. When final prove-ups were completed the newly raised Brothers signed the by-laws of the Lodge they were entering and we called it a day.

Glendon E. Rice, Jr.
District 3 Custodian

CONCORDANT BODY NEWS

York Rite Light in Masonry – lighting some new areas

...and so the opportunities continue.

We all have heard the stories which abound with education of people. As a former teacher, I was privileged to hear many from the young men and women with whom I associated for over 20 years in the schools and communities of this great state. Given a little time I am able to recount the poignant details that gave them life and meaning and import to the young person recounting it and caused wonder and, usually admiration for her or him in my heart and mind.

Some of you know that I taught speech and debate to high school students. It is the laboratory in which I learned about people and dreams and hopes and anger and disappointment and even ... suicide. It was my experience to interact with high school students of all interests and abilities. From the student who struggled mightily to mas-

ter oral expression to the young men and women who could, at a moment's notice profoundly influence listeners with expressive and impressive rhetoric ... I was blessed to serve them all.

After a life of educating your children and grandchildren, I moved to other endeavors. Finally, I was able to retire and return to my solid, but long neglected Masonic roots. The roots which I hope have made me a better person throughout my life. With that return came the ongoing quest of a teacher to learn and apply and grow. I remember the tragedy of the Third Degree. But what went on before and during and after? As it was in the "Beginning", there was darkness and void and seemingly nothing? Into that void I found some ritual in the York Rite (later in the Scottish Rite) which answered, no, created new uncertainties, posed new dimensions, raised additional questions. Somewhere in

that "great somewhere" a candle glowed and I was drawn to ... light.

To this day I ask newly Exalted and Greeted York Rite Masons the questions I asked. "Why was 'IT' lost?" "How could the 'LOSS' really have occurred?" "Why did "that loss" really matter? I asked those questions after the tragedy.

Most of my Brothers either asked or certainly thought those and similar questions. However, as a 21 year old Master Mason, I didn't really make the connection between "more light" and being more knowledgeable. Not until I was given a key. The first key was to a classroom in Riggs High School in Pierre, SD. The next key was the time for reflection. The last key was the "course of ancient hieroglyphic moral instruction" taught in every Masonic organization including York Rite. And then, while pondering (I do that more than most of you can imagine) one day ... the blinding

light of how the several pieces of the Blue Lodge and the York Rite "fit together with such exact nicety" finally permeated my thoughts.

Our time to learn is limited and sometimes our self-perception of the importance of learning is so sublimated in our busy lives that it is almost like being too "busy" to smell the roses. The season of the calendar that is upon us is referenced as the coming alive and awakening from slumber. It is my invitation, maybe even challenge, to you to awaken from the slumber of the winter, ask a Brother who is also a "Yorkie" for a key to more light. More knowledge, greater understanding of Masonic teachings ... and fuller utilization of ideas for your tomorrow.

Do you wonder "what" it was? Do you wonder "why" it's lost? Do you question the significance of any of this? Ask a "Yorkie" for a key. I did.

George Bauder

Naja Shriners reach out

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" This should sound familiar to you as it is Psalms 133:1 but also it is a familiar quote from the work you took to become a Master Mason.

Illustrious Sir Mike Stirling, Potentate of Naja Shriners and the members of Naja are exemplifying this with the activities this year. Two protocol and shrine orientation meetings were held in March with one in the Masonic Center in Hermosa and the other in Bison. A part of the program dealt with working with Masonic Lodges to assist the lodge in attendance and membership growth. Adding to this was the Shrine/Mason night at the Naja Shrine Center on April 11 where current Mason and candidates for Masonry were invited as guest of the Shriners.

To continue in this effort to work together, the Naja Shriners held their annual spring ceremonial on April 17 and 18 when all Shriners and Masons were invited to play golf on Friday and then the various Masonic organizations were invited to

have a float or other display item to form a unit after the end of the Shrine parade in an effort to make it a community awareness display.

Each time that a non-mason or a Master Mason is invited to a function, the Shriners pay for the dinner of the individual and spouse. All of these items have one thing in common, they are each involved in joining forces to show the public who we are as a philanthropic family of organizations.

To assist in forming a stronger bond and understanding, Illustrious Sir Stirling has asked the members of the Naja Divan and all shriners to attend their Masonic Lodge and appendant bodies whenever they can. By all uniting together, it is a win-win situation for all organizations to bond together in unity and very positive things can happen when Master Masons and Shriners work together for a common cause.

Maurice Peterson, PGM
Naja Chief of Staff

Everyone is invited!

Everyone Invited to an All Star Picnic at the Mitchell Masonic Temple

June 7, 2015

Worship service at 11 AM – Picnic at Noon

Bring a dish to pass

Come share the fellowship – Bring your families, friends

Not limited to OES members – Held inside, no bus, no elements

Smile!

ACTS helps kids in need of orthodontic care

Among their many charities supported by Order of the Eastern Star members and chapters, ACTS reaches children. ACTS is an acronym for Assisting Children to Smile. ACTS started in 2004 and has served 41 children with financial help in orthodontic care who would not have otherwise been able to afford it. Children are now able to smile without being self conscious, chew their food properly, and are pain free.

In 2013 it obtained 501(c)3 charitable status. ACTS is now seeking donations to be able to assist more children. Donations are tax deductible with the 501(c) status. All donations go directly to helping children.

ACTS partners with the South Dakota Dental Association and the South Dakota Dental Foundation in screening possible candidates and receives support from both to make this program possible. Families must pay a small part of the care to assist with services provided. Currently eleven children are receiving care through the ACTS program.

A website will be available to learn more about ACTS, with a Paypal option for donations. Go to assistingchildrentosmile.org.





Masonic One Day Festival held in Hermosa

A One Day Festival was hosted by Battle River Lodge #92 at Hermosa, SD on March 28. Degree work began at 8:00 a.m. and continued through the day, closing about 4:30 p.m. After each Degree was completed a Proficiency Test was performed before the Brothers could move forward into the next degree.

Lodges from as far away as Buffalo were in attendance as four Candidates were Initiated Entered Apprentices, seven were Passed to Fellow Craft, and 10 were Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Pictured with these New Master Masons are the two key folks from Battle River Lodge #92 who made this possible (WM Lee Sutton and WB Jake Smith).

A big thank you should go out to all the Lodges that supported this great event including Battle River Lodge #92 Hermosa, Cedar Branch Lodge #179 Buffalo, Custer City Lodge #66 Custer, Olive Branch Lodge #47 Sturgis, Mt. Rushmore Lodge #220 Rapid City, Rapid City Lodge #25, Tin City Lodge #112 Hill City, Crescent Lodge #210 Wall, as well the many members of the Shrine that assisted with the degree work. WB George Bauder served as Worshipful Master for the Entered Apprentice Degree, Bro Herbert Cook served as Worshipful Master for the Fellow Craft Degree, and WB Alan Bishop served as Worshipful Master for the Master Mason Degree.

Also assisting were members of the Grand Lodge to include: WB Dave Meltz, Senior Grand Steward; WB Jake Smith, Junior Grand Steward; Bro Herbert Cook, Grand Tyler; WB James Olson, Grand Sword Bearer; and WB Harold Ireland, District Master for District 16. Past Grand Masters supporting were MWB Maurice Peterson, MWB Lowell Holmgren, and MWB Jack Welker.

An excellent meal was served between the Fellow Craft Degree and the Master Mason Degree and was hosted by Battle River Lodge #92. At the conclusion of the One Day Festival, 10 New Master Masons had been Raised and we look forward to seeing them actively involved in their respective Lodges across western South Dakota.

WB Harold Ireland
District Master, District 16



Grand Lodge participates in NAJA Shrine parade

RWB Mike Rodman, Senior Grand Warden and RWB Yancey Smith, Junior Grand Warden represented MWB Douglas McFarland, Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota in the April 18th NAJA Shrine Spring Ceremonial Parade in Rapid City. The new Grand Lodge magnetic car signs were made possible by a generous donation from MWB Robert Morrow, Past Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota.

BOOK REVIEW:

The Craft Driven Lodge

Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply is excited to offer our newest book, *The Craft Driven Lodge* is a must have book for all Lodge officers.

There is a flurry of books today about “Best Practices” Lodges. *The Craft Driven Lodge* will delight you how easy it is to stimulate your brethren into action to create a vibrant, fun and fundamentally sound lodge. This book is about specific actions you can take today to see your lodge come alive.

If you want to:

1) Have fun and engaging meetings. Author Hrisko lays out a step by step process to get this done based on four simple core principals. Reading your lodge minutes will no longer be the highlight of your meetings.

2) Get brothers excited about coming to stated meetings again. Dan shows specific examples of how he and the brethren of his lodge got this done without harassing, cajoling, or persuading anyone.

3) Perform meaningful Rituals for your candidates. *The Craft Driven Lodge* breaks down preparation, execution and review of Ritual performance so each participating brother knows his exact role.

Dan Hrisko believes in four core principles: Every Mason has a Voice. Every Mason sees the Vision. Every Mason has a role.

The Lodge Leadership is “servant leadership.”

These core principles makes it easy for the Worshipful Master and all lodge officers to involve even the most “grumpy” Past Master without confrontation. You’ll be amazed how simple it can be to transform your lodge, with all its traditions, into a vibrant place of Freemason enlightenment, jovial fellowship and impactful charity.

This book is so powerful it caused Brother Terry Wayne Posey, Past Grand Master of The Grand Lodge of Ohio to say, “I have (had) confidence that this ... will (would) have profound impact on Freemasonry ... for years to come. Dan is a passionate craftsman in Freemasonry. He has placed his love and knowledge in this book.”

Take advantage of this love and knowledge and put the power of *The Craft Driven Lodge* at work for you today!

The Craft Driven Lodge

By Daniel D. Hrisko

The Craft Driven Lodge by Daniel D. Hrisko tells the story of the creation of a new Masonic Lodge in central Ohio. More importantly, it details the specific principles and practices molded into the fabric of this new Lodge – a direction which, the founders believe, is missing from most other Lodges. If successful, its leaders

say, the new Lodge will chart a slightly different course from the avenue Freemasonry has been traveling in recent years.

Brother Hrisko describes the process followed by a group of brothers who began meeting for refreshment and discussion in what they called the Goose and Gridiron Social Club, named for the famous tavern where the Grand Lodge of England was founded in 1717. Their discussions eventually led to seeking a charter for Arts & Sciences Lodge, under the Grand Lodge, F.&A.M., of Ohio.

The author and the other founders established a group of principles “essential to the long-term health and well being of an organization,” especially a Masonic Lodge. These approaches included meeting agendas, education, new member orientation, considering overall Lodge size, and the method for making decisions, among others.

I was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ohio during the initial efforts of the group and witnessed closely the cohesion that was built among a diverse group of brothers. Not all the early participants continued in the group, but those who did achieved some remarkable results.

Often, such discussions about Lodge operations and philosophy run directly into roadblocks from a Grand Lodge or “traditionalists.” The charter members of Arts & Sciences Lodge were very prudent and kept strict compliance with the Grand Lodge rules and regulations and were adept at winning favor of state officers, including the Grand Master.

In *The Craft Driven Lodge*, Brother Hrisko begins his discussion of numerous issues – such as leadership, decision-making, ritual, education, and so on – in the broadest possible way. How do the practices impact individuals and society, in general? Then each issue is narrowed in focus to its impact on the Masonic Fraternity, then on an individual Lodge, and finally on the individual brother in Arts & Sciences Lodge. This process demonstrates how each issue emerged as a factor and addressed in the creation of this new Lodge.

This book is, indeed, a guideline for Masons who desire to create a brand-new Lodge. It is also a valuable resource for brothers looking for ways to bring a new direction to an existing Lodge.

Arts & Sciences Lodge is operating successfully and adhering to its principles with the hope that it will remain pure to those tenets, even after several generations of members.

(Review by George O. Braatz, Past Grand Master and Past Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Ohio, and currently Executive Secretary of Masonic Service Association of North America.)



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

The 141st Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, A.F. & A.M. will be held Thursday, June 18 through Saturday, June 20, 2015 at the CEDAR SHORE RESORT, Oacoma, SD

Special Presentations will be given by these officials of the Supreme Council 33°, Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, Washington, DC



**Admiral William G. Sizemore, II,
Grand Executive Director
Keynote Speaker
at the Grand Master's
Banquet on
Friday evening**



**Dean Alban,
Director of
Membership Services
Membership
Seminar on Thursday
afternoon
1:30-3:00 p.m.**



**Sean Graystson,
Superintendent of the
House of the Temple
Program on the
history of the House of
the Temple at the Lodge
of Masonic Research on
Thursday afternoon at
3:00 p.m.**

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SIOUX FALLS, SD
PERMIT NO. 7527

Address Service Requested

GRAND LODGE OFFICE
Grand Secretary A F & A M
520 S. 1st Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6902