



The Masonic News



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December 2020

Grand Master's Edict #6

Most Worshipful Grand Master Ronald D. Stites

To: All members of all subordinate Masonic Lodges in Nebraska

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Ronald D. Stites
Grand Master

Acting under my authority as Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska, I hereby decree that all 2021 subordinate lodge officer installations will be closed to the public. Only Masons will be allowed to attend the installation ceremony.

Instructions & Exceptions for Subordinate Lodge Officer Installations to the 2011 "Grand Lodge Ceremonies Manual"

Further, the following "Instructions & Exceptions for Subordinate Lodge Officer Installations to the 2011 Grand Lodge Ceremonies Manual" will be followed. Pre- and/or post installation meals, snacks, refreshments, and social time are discouraged, and left to the discretion of the Worshipful Master.

For health and safety reasons, as well as state and local restrictions, these instructions and exceptions are to be implemented for the 2021 subordinate lodge officer installations. Masks will be worn by all in the lodge. Six feet of distance should be maintained in seating arrangements as much as possible. The following exceptions are to be followed to comply with social distancing rules:

Further, the Phase II Guidance, Directives, Ritual Exceptions of Edict No. 5 will remain in effect.

This Edict will expire upon the installation of the Deputy Grand Master on February 6, 2021.

- Lodge will be opened in the Master Mason Degree prior to the Installation Ceremony with the appropriate declaration.
- The outgoing Master will make comments, introduce the installing officers and retire to the sideline.
- Upon introduction, the Installing Master, Chaplain, Marshal, and Secretary will proceed to their normal locations in the East, and at the Secretary's Table.
- The jewels of office will be worn by the officers to be installed for their new office, and the rods, sword, and baton will be pre-positioned at their respective places/stations.
- As the Installing Secretary announces the names of the officers

elected and appointed, they will enter from the Preparation Room and march to their place or station and remain standing. The Master-elect, however, will march to a location just West of and centered on the Altar facing East and remain standing there as the rest of the officers are introduced.

• To reduce congestion in the East, the Treasurer, Chaplain, Secretary, and Marshal should march to and sit near the East on the sidelines.

• The Installing Marshal will conduct all officers without touching them. He will ask them to accompany him at his right side, or following him in the case of the Deacons and Stewards.

• When directed, the Installing Marshal will conduct the Master-elect to the Altar.

• The Installing Marshal will conduct the Installing Chaplain to and from the Altar without touching him. After the prayer, the Marshal will escort the Installing Chaplain to the South sideline, leaving the Chaplain's chair open for the to-be installed Chaplain.

• The Installing Marshal will conduct the Master-elect to the East. The Installing Master will adopt his language to indicate that he has been invested with the jewel of his office.

• The Installing Marshal will display the furniture and implements of the lodge, but will not hand them to the Master-elect.

• The Installing Master will help the Master-elect to ascend the steps to the East, will hand him the gavel, and place the hat on his head. Then both will use hand sanitizer.

• The remaining officers to be installed will be

raised by two raps and will remain where they are to receive their charge, then will be seated with one rap.

• The Installing Marshal will conduct the remaining officers by going to their chair, conducting them to the East, and back to their chair. He will not invest them with jewels or hand them rods, sword, or baton. The Installing Master may elect to assist the Marshal by naming the next officer to be installed and instructing him to conduct him/them to the East. As the newly elected Secretary is being conducted to the East, the Installing Secretary will exit the Secretary's Table and move to the South sideline allowing the newly elected Secretary to take his seat at the Secretary's Table.

• The Marshal makes the Proclamation and takes a seat on the sidelines.

• The Master makes his remarks.

• A ritual closing will be performed.

• The newly installed officers will not march out.

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By The Masonic News Inc., 1635 L St. 68508

Adam Thayer, Editor
Sue Stroud, Business Manager
Reuben Rieke, Marketing Manager

Send all correspondence to:
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News/Editorial/Mailing List Attn: Adam Thayer
or via email to: editor@masonicnews.org
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Lincoln Lodge #19

Bruce Anderson

With COVID-19 in the news which seems to be on the rise, Lincoln Lodge No. 19 has been meeting with restrictions. Wearing a mask makes communication a little difficult, but we have managed. I really did not have much news last month, but I will update a few items.

Perhaps the best news is that we completed our Lodge Proficiency this year in November by exemplifying the Master Mason degree. WB Delmar Jones was our custodian and the Lodge performed very well. This now makes us proficient for 85 years. The Brothers should be very proud of this accomplishment.

Again, following the restrictions of COVID-19 we were able to have two brothers take the next step in their Masonic journey. Brothers Joshua Brown and Samuel Settle demonstrated proficiency in the Entered Apprentice degree and were then passed to the Fellowcraft degree. All brothers did very well in their respective parts. We were happy to have Brother Wade Kendle, Liberty Lodge No. 300 deliver the Middle Chamber lecture. WB J.L. Spray usually does this lecture but was unavailable this time. Both Brothers, Brown and Settle have been coming to our business meetings and taking part in the discussions. We look forward to them being raised to Master Masons soon.

The year 2020 is quickly coming to an end and we thank WB Will Folsom for his leadership the last two years as Worshipful Master. The Lodge has become better in degree work and it shows when we have new candidates. With that said the new officers have been elected to lead our Lodge in 2021.

Worshipful Master Wesley Bottorf
Senior Warden Beau Ballard Jr.
Warden David Nolte

Secretary/Treasurer WB Bruce Anderson

Incoming Master Wes is working on his appointments for 2021 and he should have a FULL slate of officers soon. We will have a closed installation as soon as we have all appointees named. The Grand Master has suggested with the COVID-19 restrictions that we have our installations closed to reduce the possibility of spreading the disease. All meetings should have all brothers wearing face masks. With that said you need to speak up in meetings so that everyone can hear. Even in our small lodge room sometimes it is hard to hear what is being said.

The year 2021 also brings the time of dues. We have not had to raise dues this year and they remain \$110.00. This brings up a point of finances. We have relied on sale of the parking lot for a large share of our budget. This year with the University of Nebraska restricting attendance we will not have that income of money. The lodge will be looking at another way of raising funds to help us promote our tenants. If you have any ideas contact any brother, Worshipful Master or me with your idea.

Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a safe and healthy New Year.

I always like to leave you with a little education. The following article was taken from the Mississippi Grand Lodge publication.

What of the Circle?

One of the simplest, but probably least-explored symbols of Freemasonry is that of the circumpunct, or as we refer to it in Mississippi's ritual, "a certain point within a circle, embroidered by two perpendicular parallel lines, representing St. John the Baptist and St John the

Evangelist, and upon the top rests the Holy Scriptures. The point represents an individual brother; the circle is the boundary line beyond which he is never to suffer his passions or prejudices to betray him. In going around this circle we necessarily touch these two lines, as well as the Holy Scriptures; and while a Mason keeps himself circumscribed within their precepts, it is impossible that he should materially err."

A particular Brother and I constantly remind each other that there are days we need to trace out "little circles" to keep our passions within due bounds, usually when we find ourselves angry for whatever reason.

As Masons, we know that true circles are traced out by the Compasses. Masonry's most recognizable symbol is that of the Square AND the Compasses together. So then, how might this lesser-known circumspect help us square our actions? Let's look at a little geometry.

If we choose a point anywhere on the circle, then connect that point to any two other points from a line denoting the diameter of the circle, the angle formed at the chosen point will always be 90 degrees - a perfect square. Masonically speaking, if our passions

and prejudices do not exceed the bounds of the circle, our actions will necessarily always be "on the Square".

What if our passions and prejudices do go beyond our intended bounds? Consider a tangent that lies just outside of the circle, but crosses the parallel lines can still prove a square. A line drawn from the center to that tangent line will intersect at 90 degrees. We may then deduce that if our passions exceed our circumscription, we may lean to our Brethren on the left and the right and their rectitude of conduct to keep us "on the Square".

But what of the negative space? That area contained within the circle; what exists there? Our work describes the circle as that boundary which we should never permit our passions to betray us. Passions may be anger, but they may also include things which bring us pleasure - even Masonry itself.

If we never exceed our due bounds, are we truly acting "on the Square"? I submit that in staying in the "safe space" inside the circle, we may find that our actions are not truly squared. Picking any point inside the circle, then extending lines to points crossing the diameter,

we find that we are incapable of creating a figure that equals 90 degrees - we are unable to prove a square.

If we play it safe and don't speak up for the weak and downtrodden, or if we fail to take action when doing the right thing is needed, we're staying inside the circle and therefore not "on the Square".

Mississippi's ritual states that we have a duty to relieve the distressed, to soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries and to restore peace to their troubled minds. If we choose to look the other way, if we choose not to get involved when others do the same, if we do not push our passions to their edge, are we truly practicing "on the Square"? Simple geometry suggests we may not. Walk on that circle, then your actions will always be on the Square.

Sincerely, and Fraternally,
Jim Whitfield
Indianola Lodge No. 450



Electa Chapter #8

Mike Lagueux

Cabin fever, "I just wish this year would end," enough is enough! How many times have you heard these sentiments during 2020? How many times have you thought to yourself, "if only I could..." I'll give you that this year has been frustrating, like someone is tap dancing on your last nerve with a set of golf shoes on. We could watch the news, but is the news really the news anymore or conjecture that sells airtime and column space? By the way Brother Editor, how are we doing on column space?! (EDITOR'S NOTE: *We're doing well, and always welcome more articles to be submitted!*) While I think we are living in some strange times my friends, I cannot help but think that some of this has to just be comedic relief in some strange form.

One evening not so very long ago, November 13th to be exact, a group of veterans, and patriots gathered in Lincoln, not to protest, but to honor the men and women who served, and currently serve our country in uniform. Not all of them were veterans, not all of them mourn the loss of a loved one during a conflict on foreign fields, but all of them care enough to pay homage to the flag we labor under for freedom. We gathered, with appropriate social

distancing of course, and celebrated the life we have in a free society. We enjoyed a fine meal and some good company capped off with a few very deserving awards. Long story short, we celebrated life...and it does exist even in the middle of a pandemic.

The two pictures with this article are of three veterans who served as an honor/color guard for the evening and of two other veterans who brought forth a wreath in remembrance of not only those who have been lost in conflicts, but of those who have been lost to our latest indiscriminate killer, the pandemic now raging worldwide. A special word of thanks to the two men, who during the Lancaster Lodge #54's Tribute to American Veterans, CPO Don Frank (USN ret.) & CPL Jairo Cabeles (USMC ret.) placed the OES floral tribute. Brother Don serves as Worthy Patron of Electa Chapter #8. Brother Jairo serves as Worthy Patron of Capitol Chapter #320 Photo by Brenda Frank-Collins.

I think sometimes we see the television and hear the radio reports of this pandemic and begin believing that there is nothing we can do but hide in our basement and wait it out. Some of which is true.

Precautions can be taken; use the antibacterial soaps available, use the hand sanitizer available, and for all of our sake, wear a mask when you go out. By doing these simple things you may save the life of someone you love. But go out. Watch a beautiful sunrise, if only from your back yard, deck or patio. Watch that same sun set, watch a bird in flight, or a squirrel going about his daily routine. Wave at a neighbor, send a card or letter to a friend you have not talked with in a long time, even simpler send a text and just say, "hi, you have been in my thoughts." Can't hurt, right?

During the fall especially I have allergies...the teary eyes, sniffles, and sneezing that goes with it. While it is miserable, I have never really seen it as anything but annoying. Not long ago I went to the store to get something for supper and while I was in there I developed a sneezing jag that seemed like it would go on forever! I soon realized that people were literally running into each other for two isles around me to get away from the infectious Cretan who was infecting the entire store. Sheepishly I muttered, "It's just allergies" under my breath while I tried to make a quick escape by way of the fruits and vegetables under

the relentless stares of the other shoppers. I could feel my face redden under my mask until I realized I really had nothing to feel ashamed about, it was the season we were in!

Friends, never feel like you want some expanse of time to go quickly by...it already goes too fast. Look around, see the good. It is out there, you just have to look more closely in these times of difficulty we are currently in. Our Creator would not have put you here on this earth at this time if He thought you would waste what has been given you.

I guess I could close with the line, "due to the current state of the pandemic and following CDC guidelines at the local, state, and federal level meetings of the Eastern Star, Masonic Fraternity...you pick the organization, have been canceled until further

notice." We already know this unless you don't get any outside communication in your basement!

I urge you to improvise, use your computer to search out what makes you laugh, seek out friends on social media, send a post card or letter (the USPS needs the business), or just call a friend and talk for a few minutes. Be proactive about your life, not reactive to the bad news we are assailed with each day now.

Wow, have I gotten long winded or what? Until next month I wish you good health and some semblance of peace in your lives. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and God bless you one and all.



North Star Lodge #227

Bob Tooker

WM Bruce Watkins called a Special Meeting November 30th. The purpose was our Lodge examination for proficiency in the Masters Degree. The attendance was sparse, and several had to double up but I think we pulled it off. Thanks to the patience of our Deputy Grand Custodian, WB Carl Plants. If my cyphering is correct, we have been proficient for 89 continuous years. A few lodges have more years, but not many.

Business Meeting December 2nd was rather uneventful, which is good. Bills were paid of ought be due and warrants were drawn. A donation was made to the Omaha Masters and Wardens Club to purchase Christmas gifts for the

residents the of Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, the Masonic Eastern Star Home in Fremont and the Omaha Home for Boys. The roof of the canopy on the west side of our building was repaired. One less thing to worry about.

With Covid interrupting our work it is tough to enjoy the things we always took for granted, such as the meals we shared before the business meeting, Table Lodge on the week before Christmas and other such activities. Even a simple hand shake. Hopefully partisan politics won't interfere with the approval and distribution of the "cure." Let's not forget to keep the Christ in Christmas. It easy to do. Don't eat too much Christmas ham, figgy

pudding or have an excessive amount of wassail. Tom and Jerrys are also good. The thing I miss most from my childhood Christmases was the suet pudding my mom made. I hate fruit cake and suet pudding is similar but the pudding was accompanied with a lemon sauce and a hard (butter creme) sauce. I think she and I were the only ones that liked it. When I was in the service, I didn't get to come home for Christmas but a suet pudding would always come via the mail at Christmas time. It was always dry but mom always sent extra lemon sauce in a big jelly jar. Those were the days when they would boil you in oil if they caught you with food in the barracks. It was a

small price to pay.

MASONIC RECORD OF DALE E. CHESNUT

Brother Dale E. Chesnut was born August 7, 1943 at Falls City, Nebraska and departed this life November 28, 2020 at French Settlement, LA.

Brother Chesnut petitioned North Star Lodge No. 227 Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons for membership on February 4, 1981. He was elected to membership on March 4, 1981. Brother Chesnut received his Entered Apprentice degree on March 18, 1981, was passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft Mason on July 22, 1981 and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on August

26, 1981 in North Star Lodge No. 227 Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Brother Chesnut served as Chaplain in 1985.

Brother Chesnut will be greatly missed by his friends and brothers of North Star Lodge No. 227 Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons.

Brother Dale was the father of one of our Past Masters, WB Dan Chesnut. Our condolences go out to his family.

Enough ranting for now! Stay safe!

Martha Washington Chapter #153

Betty Kirby

Because of the continuing rise in cases of COVID 19 here in our community, we did not have our December meeting. However, we still have some news to share with our readers.

First of all, thank you to all who attended our Drive-Up Roast Beef Dinner on November 8. We had an excellent turnout and we hope that everyone had a delicious dinner. We certainly had fun hosting the event. It was very different from our traditional format,

but it did seem to work out well with social distancing being observed. Thanks to all our members who worked that day and helped make it a successful day.

We are proud to announce our new Imhoff award winner, Marolyn Robson. Although we could not present her the award in person, we are so proud of this achievement and hope to celebrate with her after the COVID threat passes. Besides the Imhoff award, we were

able to also send Marolyn her 70-year membership pin. What an achievement! Marolyn resides at the Masonic Home in Plattsmouth now and we miss seeing her smiling face, however we know that she is being well taken care of at the home. If you would like to send her your well-wishes, her apartment number is #315. The Home's address is 1300 Avenue D, Plattsmouth, NE 68048.

This is also a chance to announce that the Temple Board has decided to try to do Drive-Up Dinners for the months of February, March and April. We will be serving our traditional creamed chicken with homemade biscuits or a hot roast beef sandwich. Both meals include mashed potatoes, green beans and relishes. So, when you put your new calendar up, be sure to mark the second Saturday of February, March and April. Your chapter secretary will be reading an announcement at your meeting also.

Our shut-ins are generally remembered during the holiday season with a plate of Christmas goodies delivered by one of our faithful members. Again, because of COVID, we were unable to do that, however cards were sent to all and a mug rug was included as a remembrance for those special members.

We want to extend December birthday wishes to Phyllis McGill (11), Ardelle Boardman (16), Earl Robinett (20), George Harrison (21) and Andy Martin (28).

We wish all of our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Even though many of us won't be celebrating in the usual way, we can still celebrate the real reason for our Christmas. I would like to offer the following prayer for all the readers:
"We thank Thee, Lord, for treasures that abide:
The simple things that bless our fireside,
The peace and joy we shared, the love sublime,
The heritage of home at Christmastime!

How swift the years of time have marched away,
Compressing all our thoughts of yesterday;
Each echo wakened by the bells that chime
The heritage of home at Christmastime!

Enshrine within our hearts these precious things:
Help us to feel the brush of angel wings,
And may love's tender ties our heart's entwine,
With the heritage of home at Christmastime."

Written by E. Sherman Smith



Starcraft Chapter #307

Terri Sherman

Hello friends. Due to the high Covid numbers in Lincoln, Starcraft chapter decided not to meet in December. We didn't want to take the chance of any virus transmissions. Hoping the start of the new year will allow us to start meeting again including holding a low key installation.

Elections were held and we thank all the officers that agreed to stay in their same positions for the 2021 year. So Worthy Matron Bridgett will continue with Dennis Brydl as our Worthy Patron.

We voted to give a nice size annual gift to the Children's home and Plattsmouth home.

Good and Welfare: For our members who had December birthdays we hope they had a special day. And we want to send our members with January birthdays special

wishes.

January birthdays
1 Jerrold Copley
11 Caroline Tuel
15 Mary Diane Stout
21 LuEtta Anderson
25 Alma Wilson
27 Art Atkinson, Kristen Swisher
28 Larry Shafer

29 Patricia Gormley

Let me close with a short poem.
"We pray a Merry Christmas,
Made bright by Christmas cheer,
With peace, and hope, and gladness
And all they may hold dear."
L.A. France

Columbia Chapter #275

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The current officers have consented to remain in their offices for 2021. Since the Covid-19 has taken up most of 2020 Columbia Chapter has not been meeting. Not knowing what 2021 will bring we will be taking it month by month. We want to keep our members safe as many are older and have health issues.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We have participated in this project for several years and were able to assist Sisters Janice Janssen and Eleanor Miller by contributing many items to be distributed to children around the world.

Kaylene Martin

FIFTY YEAR PINS
This year we presented four fifty year pins. Sadly we were unable to do this in person. We would like to recognize them.

PP Brother Frank Dougherty initiated 3/17/1970 passed away 7/8/2020
PM Sister Betty Paxton initiated 5/15/1970
Sister Patricia Zinc initiated 9/15/1970
PP Brother John Quinn

initiated 6/16/1970

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Lancaster Lodge #54

Adam Thayer

My how time flies when we're having fun in quarantine! Most of the time, I can't even tell you what day it is, and am only able to mark the passing of time with pending deadlines (note to self, your article for the December issue of The Masonic News is now due!)

That's not to say that we haven't accomplished anything; far from it! Lancaster Lodge #54 has been very busy, cleaning up all of our projects for the end of 2020, and preparing things for 2021!

For starters, have I mentioned yet that we finished our 2020 proficiency? As we have held continual proficiency since the year before proficiency became a thing (long story short, we were part of the pilot program), this is something we hold in high regard, and congratulations are in order to all of the 2020 officers.

Of course, now that it's almost 2021, we're looking to next year's proficiency, and have jump started it by being examined for both the EA and the FC degrees in one

evening! Even with having many modifications due to Grand Master edicts, and some last minute substitutions due to Covid-related absences, we were able to give adequate performances, and now only need to perform the MM degree again to finish our 2021 proficiency!



WM Matt was joined by WB Mike Lagueux to present the principal of Norwood Park Elementary School with our first donation to help fund their library renovation; this is a project that the lodge feels will have a lasting impact for many years to come, and we're very excited to be able to assist!



In November, we combined our annual Veteran's Day ceremony with our

annual awards dinner. We had a fantastic time, and were pleased to be able to honor both our Veterans and our members! A huge thank you to our military members who were able to come and assist us in making this evening special.



With that, we've begun looking to 2021 events. Due to Covid restrictions (see the Grand Masters Edict #6 for more information), this year's installation ceremony will be limited to officers only. While this is regrettable, it is the only way we can hold installation and stay within the guidelines provided by both the Grand Master and the Mayor of Lincoln. I will endeavor to capture a large number of photographs from the ceremony, for those who are unable to be in attendance.

Finally, as the secretary, it's my duty to remind you that dues for 2021 are currently due. If you

haven't yet paid dues, please be sure to send them in! As always, if dues will cause any form of hardship for you, please contact me ASAP and let me know; we have funds specifically available to assist for this purpose, and anything you share will be kept strictly confidential. I know that asking for help isn't something we necessarily enjoy doing (I'll wander around a store for an hour before I'll ask where an item is), but please know that it's our pleasure to be able to help our brothers!

With the year winding down, and my deadlines looming ever closer, I'll close out now by simply wishing you and your family the best of what the rest of the year has to offer.



Grand Order of the Eastern Star

Karan Birdsall

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to each and every one! As we savor the days of December, prayers continue to abound for your health and well being. It is our privilege as members of Eastern Star and our Masonic family to reach out and serve and to care for each other. We pray that the presence of the spreading COVID virus will decline and we can begin to build a new normal in our events, engagements, and fellowship. Stay safe! Stay strong! Hang on! Stay connected! And then "do it s'more"! Together we will be blessed and serve to be a blessing.

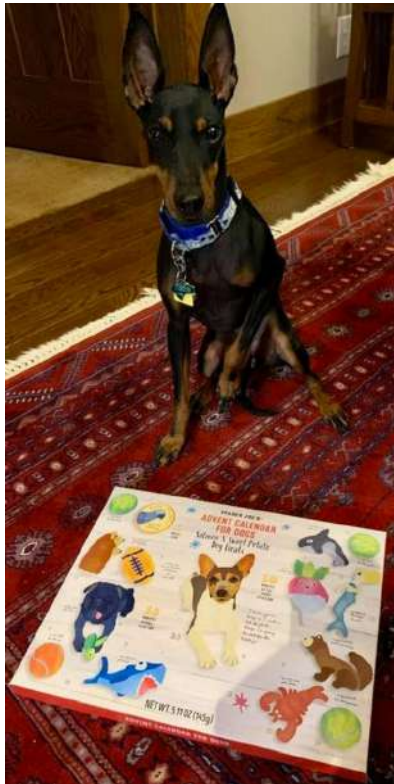
Came across these words from Syndey Smith a 19th century writer and preacher from Yorkshire, England. "Resolve to make at least one person happy every day, and then in ten years you may have made three thousand, six hundred and fifty persons happy, or brightened a small town by your contribution to the fund of general enjoyment."

If we commit to this habit, we can make a difference in our world. How do you make someone happy? First you must listen and consider where they are coming from. Consider their situation and condition. Then respond from a perspective of kindness. Sometimes listening is the greatest gift we can give.

As our Chapters determine when it is safe to meet together, prayers abound for the processes of consideration for all members needs and

concerns. Together we can love and care for each other. 2020 has not been like any other year and we are at our best when we accept this reality, embrace it and serve as the conditions and needs dictate.

May all we do be done in love. Thank you to each of you for your loving care and dedication!



Star Dog Tilly, while spending a lot of time at home has found great joy of the season. She daily enjoys her Advent Calendar. She is also sporting her new collar which comes with a matching leash. The custom designed "Stars" design is available in all sizes for all dogs and is available through the Grand Chapter Service and Therapy Dog Committee. Treat your favorite pet to a new outfit for the holidays. CONTACT LORRIE BRYANT: lebryant714@gmail.com and she will share the order form directly with you! Great way to treat your pet and support the philanthropy of our Order!

The days are drawing near for the arrival of our New Year. Sisters,

Brothers, and friends.... we invite you to a virtual celebration. It will be a great way to welcome something new and exciting into our Masonic Family..... JUST RSVP to receive the ZOOM ACCESS CODE and your special gift for attending. You may RSVP to Lorrie Bryant at lebryant714@gmail.com or directly to me (kmtbirdsall@windstream.net) and be among those celebrating and the first to know the great news of 2021! Deliveries of the special gifts will begin this week! Hurry and get on board! Let's celebrate the New Year and GREAT NEWS!

YOU ARE INVITED!

1/1/21

Doggone ... We need to CELEBRATE

Let's make tracks to join together for a Virtual-Social CELEBRATION!

WINE 'n DINE WITH A PURPOSE

and a HUGE SURPRISE REVEAL

FRI, JAN 1, 2021
6pm Social Hour

Dinner, Entertainment and Auction

Even COVID can't prevent us from being together!

Small gatherings are being planned all across Nebraska and we hope we can be together in those small groups....and

You can ZOOM from your own private location to join and be a part of this event!

*Our 2020 holiday gatherings and celebrations won't look like those we have enjoyed in previous years. We need to think outside of the box.... and celebrate, fellowship and be together in **2020 style.***

Please join us **virtually** or in a **small group** of your choice near you on **Friday, January 1, 2021** as we make tracks to celebrate the arrival of 2021 with some virtual fellowship and

A SURPRISE REVEAL!

Included in this communication are **MORE DETAILS** and a list of those to whom you can **RSVP**. Your RSVP will then allow you to receive the ZOOM ACCESS CODE so you can participate....

AND a special gift for the moment of REVEAL!
DELIVERY OF SPECIAL GIFTS WILL BEGIN the 15th...GET ON BOARD:)

TRESTLE BOARD

Please send all changes on a post card or file card to The Masonic News, 1635 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508 or email them to editor@masonicnews.org
All phone numbers begin with (402) unless otherwise noted.

Grand Lodge of Nebraska
 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

Ronald Stites

Grand Master

301 N. Cotner Blvd.
 Lincoln, NE 68508-2315

Masonic Lodges

Lincoln Lodge 19

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 William Folsom, WM 420-2141
 wwfolson15@wabash.edu
 Bruce Anderson, Sec. 435-0974
 job60@ix.netcom.com
 1st Tues. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

Lancaster Lodge 54

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 Matt Zier, W.M. 531-800-4650
 matthew.zier@gmail.com
 Adam Thayer, Sec. 314-6310
 adam.thayer@gmail.com
 1st Fri. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

East Lincoln Lodge 210

2700 S St. 68503 476-2412
 Jeff Buhrman, W.M. 703-732-4765
 jeff.buhrman@hotmail.com
 Thomas Michaelson, Sec., 423-1984
 901 Starview Lane 68512
 1st Thur. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

North Star Lodge 227

2610 N. 48th St. 68504 466-2236
 Bruce Watkins, W.M.
 Steve Wetzel, Sec. 488-8198
 swetzel849@aol.com
 1518 Skyline Drive 68506
 1st Wed. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

George Washington Lodge 250

4430 N. 70th St. 68507
 Roger Warnke, W.M. 465-8486
 3037 San Agustin Dr., 68516
 Dan Brunsen, Sec.-Treas. 432-2099
 1st Tue. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

Hickman Lodge 256

4641 Cooper Ave., 68506
 1st Thur. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

Cotner Lodge 297

1542 No. 65th St. 68505 413-1332
 1st Mon. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

Liberty Lodge 300

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 Dennis Hecht, W.M.
 dlnk@windstream.net
 Brent Myers, Sec. 580-5400
 brent@legacystrings.com
 1st Thur. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

Craftsmen Lodge 314

2645 B St. 68502 475-2820
 1st Tues. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

College View Lodge 320

4641 Cooper Ave. 68506
 1st Wed. Reg. Communication 7:30 p.m.

Tabula Rasa Lodge 332

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 3rd Tue. Reg. Communication 6:00 p.m.

Lebanon Lodge 3

Prince Hall Affiliation 430-7003
 1630 N. 24th St. 68503-1117
 2nd Tue. Reg. Communication 7:00 p.m.

York Rite

Grand York Rite of Nebraska

Michael E. Jones 367-3342
 Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter
 Walter Johnson 308-532-6314
 Most Ill. Grand Master, Grand Council
 LaVern Work II 296-5321
 Rite Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery
 Dennis Newman 490-1381
 Grand Secretary

Lincoln Chapter 6 R.A.M.

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 Adam Thayer, High Priest 314-6310
 333 S. 44th St, 68510
 Tom Michaelson, Sec. 423-1984
 901 Starview Ln, 68512
 1st Wed.
 Covered-dish dinner 6:15 p.m.
 Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Lincoln Council 4 Cryptic Masons

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 Don Gray, Ill. Master ???-????8
 Tom Michaelson, Recorder 423-1984
 1st Wed.
 Covered-dish dinner 6:15 p.m.
 Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Mount Moriah Commandery 4

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 Carl Plants, Cmdr. 477-9464
 6124 NW 6th St, 68521
 Tom Michaelson, Recorder 423-1984
 1st Mon.
 Covered-dish dinner 6:15 p.m.
 Business meeting 7:00 p.m.

Scottish Rite

Scottish Rite Temple

332 S. Centennial Mall 435-2144
 P.O. Box 95013 68509-5013
 Bruce Wood, Gen. Sec.
 Edward Boone, Venerable Master
 Micah Evans, Wise Master
 Don Albrecht, Commander
 James Batten, Master of Kadosh
 3rd Wed. Bus. Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Shrine

Sesostris Temple

1050 Saltillo Rd 474-6890
 Roca, Ne 68430
 Dan Johnson, Potentate 450-4461
 105 E. 6th St. 68372

Daughters of the Nile

Naphis Temple No. 6
 Jennifer Olsen, Queen 840-3173
 5930 Meadowbrook Ln 68510

Eastern Star

Eastern Star Grand Chapter of Nebraska

Karan Birdsall
 Worthy Grand Matron
 Bruce A Baker
 Worthy Grand Patron
 Jan Thoman
 Grand Secretary
 301 N. Cotner Blvd, Suite 200
 Lincoln NE 68505-2315
 nebraskaoes@msn.com
 402-937-7056
 1-844-309-6855

Electa Chapter 8

1635 L St. 68508 476-3453
 Denise Lagueux, W.M.
 Don Frank, W.P.
 Elizabeth Benson, Sec. 310-0416
 2019 Harwood St. 68502
 1st Sat. Meeting 2:00 or 7:30 p.m.

Electa Chapter Kensington

Susie Dunn, Sec. 890-6733
 4000 Garfield St. 68506
 2nd Thurs. 11:00 AM

Past Matrons Club

Ilah Anderson, Courtesy Chair
 Dona Y. Hurst, Sec.-Treas. 421-1108

Myrtle Chapter 94

2610 No. 48th St. 68504 466-2236
 Dehnia Bullerdiek, W.M.
 dehnia.bullerdiek@gmail.com
 Greg Mason, W.P.
 gregemason@gmail.com
 Deb Kendle, Sec. 617-3991
 dmkendle@gmail.com
 2nd and 4th Tues. 7:30 p.m.

Myrtle Club

Connie Weir, Pres. 488-9040
 cdweir01@gmail.com
 Deb Kendle, V.P. 617-3991
 dmkendle@gmail.com
 Jeanne Bonnett, Sec 465-4817
 fjbbonnett@twc.com
 Robyn Mason, Courtesy 484-5756
 robynkt@gmail.com

Martha Washington Chapter 153

4430 N. 70th St. 68507
 Susan Hedges, W.M. 672-8603
 suehedgesoes@yahoo.com
 Andy Martin, W.P. 416-9961
 amartin6@outlook.com
 Betty Kirby, Sec. 450-9137
 4501 Eagle Ridge Rd. 68516
 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m.

Temple Chapter 271

332 S. Centennial Mall 68508 435-2144
 Cindy Kehling, W.M. 430-6101
 4031 S. 80th St., 68506
 Andy Seachord, W.P. 309-9336
 3160 S. 72nd St. Apt 205, 68506
 Melinda Brage, Sec. 488-0837
 620 Leavitt Ln 68510-2530
 1st Mon. Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Past Matrons Club

Marilyn Jepson, President 423-6049

Columbia Chapter 275

1542 No. 65th St. 68505
 Trudi Thornburg, W.M. 430-9393
 2730 S. 154th St., Walton 68461
 tthornburg60@gmail.com
 John Quinn, W.P.
 10901 O St., 68520
 Kaylene Martin, Sec. 488-6388
 1st Tues. Stated Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Columbia Chapter Kensington

Kaylene Martin, Pres. 488-6388
 401 S. 84th St. 68510 4th Tues.

Past Matrons & Past Patrons Club

Trudy Thornburg, Pres. 430-2165
 Nancy Weers, Vice-Pres. 466-3750

Starcraft Chapter 307

2645 B St. 68502 475-2820
 Bridget Anderson, W.M. 440-3434
 PO Box 83966, 68501
 Dennis Brydl, WP, 423-6982
 2510 Kessler Blvd. 68502
 Cora Redwine, Sec. 438-9447
 4101 N.12th St., 68521
 1st Wed. Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Capitol Chapter 320

4641 Cooper Ave., 68506
 Martha Cabieles, W.M.
 Jairo Cabieles, W.P. 875-1711
 Douglas B. Johnson, Sec. 421-7006
 4600 Birch Hollow Dr. 68516-5107
 1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.

Youth Groups

DeMolay

Lincoln Chapter

Ryan Binge, Master Councilor
 Katie Warwick, Chapter Sweetheart
 Brent Warwick, Chapter Dad 770-0693
 Meetings 2nd and 4th Wed. 7:00 p.m.
 332 Centennial Mall South
 Please send correspondence to:
 Brent Warwick 770-0693
 bwarwick@inebraska.com

Dr. Frederick Eiche Chapter

No Master Councilor
 No Chapter Sweetheart
 No Chapter Dad
 No Meetings

Job's Daughters

Bethel 5

Please send all correspondence to:
 1635 L St. 68508-2510 476-3453
 Kristen Swisher, Guardian 202-7113
 416 N. 19th St., Beatrice, 68310
 LeRoy Rosenthal, ABG, 416-4825
 4702 W. Ramsey Rd.68524
 Heather Leuschen, Sec. 540-0179
 640 W. 6th St, Palmyra, 68418
 Gwen Leuschen, Honored Queen
 2nd and 4th Sat. 10:00 a.m. or 3:00 p.m.
 Dark July and August

Bethel 27

2610 N. 48th St.
 Please send all correspondence to:
 Becky Bleess, BG
 Bethel27lincoln@gmail.com
 Dan Chesnut, ABG
 Bethel27abg@gmail.com
 Marissa Roesler, Sec. 432-5184
 7542 South St, 68506
 roeslerms3@gmail.com
 Elena Watts, Honored Queen
 1st & 3rd Sun. 1:30 p.m.

Bethel 63

1542 No. 65th Street
 Kristi Thornburg, Guardian 430-4533
 8235 Northwoods Dr Apt 304 68505
 kristi1482@hotmail.com
 Eric Bahm, Assoc. Guardian 770-0693
 3710 LaSalle St, 68516
 ericdbahm@gmail.com
 Beth Jacobson, Sec. 770-9814
 220 West G St, Elmwood, 68349
 laurabethjacobson@hotmail.com
 1st and 3rd Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

Rainbow for Girls

Lincoln Assembly 6

332 S. Centennial Mall (Scottish Rite)
 Please send all correspondence to:
 Tiffany Westerholt, Mother Advisor
 618 W. Burt Dr. 68521 304-8238
 Laurie Sieg, Advisory Board Chair
 7600 Baldwin Ave 68507 464-2410
 lauriesieg@gmail.com
 Karli Young, Worthy Advisor
 1st and 3rd Tues. 7:00 p.m

Other Bodies

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 editor@masonicnews.org
 Reuben Rieke, Marketing 499-2023

New Masonic Temple Assoc.

1635 L Street, 68508 476-3453
 Joe Huskey, Pres. 730-1158
 Mike Lagueux, Sec-Treas.310-2118
 Please address all correspondence to Sec.-Treas., 1635 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
 2nd Tues. Board of Directors meeting
 Members welcome 5:00 p.m.

Masonic Temple Assoc. of Havelock, Inc.

4430 N. 70th Street 466-2482
 Michelle Smith, Pres.
 Please send all correspondence to:
 Michelle Smith, Pres.
 601 West B St., Lincoln, Ne 68522

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2255 Vine Street, 68503 436-6160
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All submissions may be edited for length and content. The Masonic News Board makes all final decisions.

COMING EVENTS IN MASONRY

EDITOR'S NOTE: As many bodies have yet to re-open and many have closed down again, no events have been reported yet. Please contact the appropriate Masonic body leadership prior to attending any event or meeting to verify any restrictions in place.

Open with restrictions: All lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, all York Rite chapters and councils, all chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Order Of The Eastern Star of Nebraska, Job's Daughters (Zoom meetings only)

Not yet open: All York Rite commanderies (closed until further notice).

Current status unknown: Scottish Rite, Shrine, all other youth groups.

Tales From The North (Dakota)

Tyler T. Hall

Greetings from Bismarck/ Mandan, North Dakota, from Brother Tyler, a perpetual member of North Star Lodge No. 227 in Lincoln, Nebraska, and dual member of Mandan Lodge No. 8 in Mandan, North Dakota. I bring you news and experiences from my travels from DeMolay to Masonry to other appendant bodies in Lincoln, Nebraska, to the Twin Cities of Minnesota, and finally to western North Dakota.

Hope you enjoy each month as we go on a trip together in search for that which may not have been too lost.

December 2020

A short, unplanned trip to Nebraska was taken the first weekend in December this year. Along with the Covid pandemic situation, we weren't obviously able to visit a lot of you or our old

stomping grounds. At least Runza, Valentino's, and Amigos are still around to satisfy the ole cravings for the ole taste buds!

It's not a home football weekend, but still feels really weird and off due to the pandemic again. Go Huskers; Go Big Red! I'm just saying, it's got to be an asterisk year... It was great to have a Husker win as we celebrated our Grandmother's life in Beatrice, as she was a big fan and season ticket holder for years. Something I've believed for decades is that one shouldn't wear a lapel pin unless you were a member of what the lapel pin represents (yes, reference on Masonic/ Eastern Star/DeMolay rings and lapel pins, as an example), so it was a pleasure to be able to wear Grandmother's Nebraska

Alumni Association Life Member pin for the Memorial Service.

It was fun at least to go and drive by some of the Masonic Temples in town including the Scottish Rite, as well as the new Masonic Grand Lodge and OES Grand Chapter building of Nebraska. If we weren't in a pandemic situation, I'd love to visit in-person with you all in my hometown, or take a visit of the Grand Lodge... But we will get back to that...

And yet, we will still have Zoom, and Teams, and Social Media, and phones, and this Newspaper, to keep the connection going...

Lots of stories in between, but more articles yet to come...Thanks for listening.



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