

Anchor Lodge No. 7 A. F. & A. M. of Wyoming

Trestle Board



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Soldier Adoption Program...

Anchor Lodge No. 7 has embarked on a new venture... the adoption of an American Serviceman.

The 2009 adoption is Lance Corporal Josh Wagner of the United States Marine Corps. Brother Ronald Wagner of Anchor Lodge is Josh's father, and Brother Dr. Bob Wagner of the Lodge is his grandfather. Josh's ties to Buffalo run deep.

His great grandparents, Joe and Dorothy McCaulley, lived in Buffalo for many years. Incidentally Brother Joe was also a member of Anchor Lodge No. 7. Josh made frequent visits to Buffalo over the years.

He has always shown leadership ability. As a youngster he had a bevy of admiring young ladies at the swimming pool during the summer with high dive being his forte. He never could get in enough fishing.

He was a leader in school, being elected as captain of his high school

football and hockey teams. Josh made two runs at college but couldn't find his niche or the enthusiasm to pursue studies at that time.

Instead, he joined the Marine Corps in 2008 and made the adjustment to service life quickly. Following boot camp at Camp Pendleton and 29 Palms, he was promoted to Lance Corporal.

His proficiency in driving and car mechanical skills led him to the transportation arena and he is adept at operating large military equipment. His combat battalion was deployed to Afghanistan in September of 2009, and his brief but welcome notes and phone calls confirm he is doing well.

Anchor Lodge has forwarded a big box of goodies and useful necessities and it arrived in good shape.

Josh notified his father that his 11 tent mates and he thank the Lodge gratefully. A second package is about to be shipped, and apparently by mid March no further shipments



are recommended, as planning begins for their redeployment (specific times unknown and not announced) back to the United States.

We all look forward to his safe return and to the day when sending care packages to overseas service men is no longer necessary. Until then we are looking at a future adoption of service personnel and already have one in mind!

Items of Special Note

Master's Breakfast will be held the first Saturday of the month. There is not a better breakfast in town!

About Anchor Lodge No. 7

At 123 years old, Anchor Lodge No. 7 has met in Buffalo Wyoming since it was issued dispensation on November 8, 1885. Just over a year later on December 8, 1886 the lodge was granted its charter.

Anchor Lodge No. 7 currently meets in

the Odd Fellows Hall on Cedar Street.

Our regular communications are held at 7:30 pm on the first and third Mondays of each month.

Degree Work

6:00 P.M.

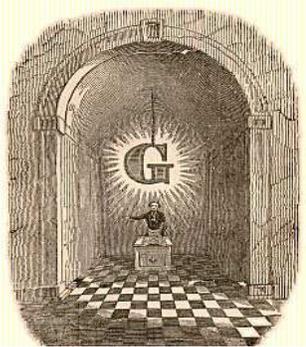
FC - Monday Feb. 15th

MM - Monday April 19th

10:00 A.M.

EA , FC, MM - Sat. Mar 6th

From The East



The Middle Chamber:
Reprinted from Illustrated History and Cyclopedia of Freemasonry Robert Macoy. Masonic Publishing Co., New York: 1896. Illust. On p. 585

*“We ARE Masons
Awareness
Renewal
Education”*



Illustrated History and Cycloped-
ia of Freemasonry Robert Ma-
cocy . Masonic Publishing Co.

Brethren:

Where has the time gone?

It seems like just last week I was putting together the first Trestle Board of the year. Here it is, already February.

While time has flown by, we certainly have accomplished several important goals so far this year. First, let me revisit the fact that I based this years planning on the following concept... that we are Masons.... we **ARE** Masons.

Awareness
Renewal
Education

A few of the highlights of the year to date...

Let's start with a look at the membership committee's work so far this year...

We raised one new Master Mason, Brother Dakota Ramey at the last meeting of the year.

We currently have two newly initiated Brothers in the queue. Brothers Jason Fish and Allen Samondi are both eagerly awaiting the second degree.

We currently have an application for dual membership from a long standing member of the community who has maintained his affiliation with his mother Lodge. We are looking forward to welcoming Brother Charlie Elis into our mist.

We also have a new petition for membership which is under investigation as we speak. On Saturday March 6th during a

special communication, we will put on all three degrees for two Brothers who were initially introduced to Masonic life outside of Wyoming many years ago. One of which was during his military service during the Vietnam War. This Brother was raised at the Guantanamo Military base in Guantanamo Bay Cuba.

Finally, we have several other applications in the hands of potential brothers due to their interest in Masonry and Awareness of both our existence and labor in the quarries.

This section was started with the sentence "...at the work of the membership committee". Anyone who can tell me who the membership committee is for this and any Lodge will receive a Masonic pin at our next meeting.

We hosted the fourth annual Community Children's Christmas party back in December. We were once again visited by many children from around the community. As well, we met several men who are interested in the Lodge. From that event, we have the potential to see four new men become Masons. In fact, we have already received a petition from one of them.

Six members from Anchor Lodge visited Sheridan Lodge No. 8 on January 7th and was greeted with smiles, handshakes and respect.

We will be visiting Big Horn Mountain Lodge No. 43 on February 17th and Gillette Lodge No. 28 on March 23rd.

As you may have read on Page one of this Trestle Board, we adopted a solder and will continue this program throughout the year.

We held a Masonic Celebrations night in which we honored our widows, and our brothers who have achieved various years of service and various deeds along the way.

We presented Brother Dail Sain, Past Master with a clean white apron of the Knife & Fork Degree for being our official Lodge cook.

In April we will hold our regular communication in Kaycee in respect to our Brothers in the southern half of the County.

As spring creeps up on us, we will turn out attentions to a Masonic Education day. This will more than likely be on a Saturday. Our hope is to develop a quality education program designed for all members, new and experienced alike.

Check out the article on page 4 about our new website.

I would ask that each of you measure your lives with the 24 inch gauge and find time to join us in Lodge, at one of our Master's breakfasts or one of the many special events listed on the calendar or communicated to you through a special mailing. See you in Lodge!

Fraternally,

Matthew J. Ramey
Worshipful Master

Officers of the Lodge 2009-2010

Worshipful Master: Matthew J. Ramey
341 Trabing Rd.
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834
Phone: 307-684-8932
Cell: 307-217-0681

Senior Warden: Denny Hougard
240 S. Main St.
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834
Phone: 307-684-7545

Junior Warden: Dave Guyton
265 Klondike Rd.
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834
Phone: 307-684-5419

Secretary: Ron McPhee
145 Patch Rd.
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834
Phone: 307-684-5373
Fax: 307-684-0223

Treasurer: Wally Ramsbottom
1244 Greub Rd
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834
Phone: 307-684-2435

If you have comments, questions, or concerns please feel free to contact any member of the elected officers team. In future issues of the Trestle Board, we will post a complete listing of officers and trustees.

What's an E-Blurb?

This year, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Wyoming is attempting to communicate with the Brethren throughout the state on a regular basis. One of the ways he is doing this is by putting out an electronic communication to the regional education councilors and the Grand Lodge officers. We will include these E-Blurbs in both our lodge communication as well as in each Trestle Board.

Am I A Builder?

**I watched them tearing a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town.**

**With a heave and a ho and a lusty yell,
They swung a beam and the sides fell.**

**I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled
And the kind you would hire, if you had to build?"**

**And he gave me a laugh and said, "No indeed, Just
common labor is all I need.**

**I can easily wreck in a day or two,
What other builders have taken a year to do."**

**It was then that I noticed a crowd gather round,
Laughing and pointing, saying nothing profound.**

**They were neither builders nor destroyers,
Mere idle observers.**

**And I thought to myself as I went my way,
"Which of these roles have I tried to play?"**

**Am I a straggler content to observe others at work,
Going through life with a point and a smirk?**

**Perhaps I am a wrecker who walks the town,
Content with the labor of tearing down.**

**Or, Am I a builder that works with care,
Measuring life by the rule and square.**

**Am I shaping my deeds to a well made plan,
Patiently doing the best I can?**

Masonic Trivia:

What are the higher degrees in Freemasonry?

There are none, although there are additional degrees other than the three of Symbolic Masonry. The degrees of the Scottish and York Rites are dependent on the Three Degrees of the Symbolic Lodge.

Education for Members New and Old



Brethren,

After talking with some of the older members and new members alike, I think we have a starting place for some very useful education.

The biggest area we are lacking in is having someone sit down with a new member or even a member who hasn't attended lodge in a long time and explaining the ins and outs of Lodge.

We take the brothers through the degrees and make sure they get their proficiency complete and then seem to forget about everything else.

Recently we asked a new member what was it that he wanted to know when he came to lodge for the first

time. He didn't realize that there was no need to bring his presentation apron to lodge. No one explained that he needed to keep it in a safe place or that the lodge had "everyday" aprons for use.

Even though we tell them in the three degrees how to enter and leave the lodge, we forget that so much is going on during this time or for that matter someone who hasn't been to lodge in a long time that they probably don't remember without an older Brother telling them how to do things now that they are Master Masons.

Some are not sure who to ask for information or feel embarrassed to ask a regular attending Brother what to do. Therefore I ask that all new ma-

sons and anyone else who would like to learn more, contact Jim Sturdevant, PM, at 672-8391 or Matthew Ramey, WM, at 684-8932 and we will set up a time and get together for some instruction and education or do this after one of the Master's breakfasts.

We could even make it a pizza party or whatever. Please remember we are only a phone call away and willing to do this at any time. We want you to feel comfortable.

Fraternally,

James Sturdevant

Past Master

Anchor Lodge No. 7

"...we purchased the Internet domain anchor7.org"

Anchor Lodge Is Online!!!

It has finally happened!! This month we purchased the Internet domain anchor7.org This will be our permanent home on the Web.

As many of you may attest, today's society obtains much of its information from the Internet and its various news and information sources.

While our fraternity finds it's roots buried in antiquity, we find today's membership searching for easier ways to communicate with each other.

It is our hope that this new Lodge website will provide a continuous place for our members to find items like

current and archived Trestle Boards, Calendar of events, Officer contact information, etc.

At some future point, we may provide E-mail addresses for all of our members.

See you on the web!!

<http://anchor7.org>

Masonic Trivia...

What is lawful Masonic information when vouching for a Brother?

Lawful information that a person is a Brother Mason may be secured:

- (1) by sitting in a Symbolic Lodge with him,
- (2) by a known Mason vouching for him as such, and
- (3) by his passing the examination of a committee appointed by the Worshipful Master.



King Solomon, Hiram of Tyre and Hiram Abif

Education: The Distinguishing Badge of a Mason...

In the Entered Apprentice Degree, a newly initiated Brother is introduced to the Masonic Apron for the first time.

During this introduction, the Apron is compared to other, historical means of honoring men of noble deeds, highness of rank and societal status.

These are the Golden Fleece, The Roman Eagle, and the Star and Garter.

The Order of the Golden Fleece was founded by Duke Phillip of Burgundy in 1429. Who in 1422 declined the Order of the Garter so as not to offend the King of France. The badge of the Order, in the form of a sheepskin, was suspended from a jeweled collar of fire steels in the shape of the letter B, for Burgundy, linked by flints; with the motto "Pretium Laborum Non Vile" ("Not a bad reward for labor") engraved on the front. Philip's motto "Non Aliud" ("I will have no other") on the back as non-royal knights of the Golden Fleece were forbidden to belong to any other order of knighthood. The original number of allowable members being 24 made this a very exclusive order to be elected too.

The image of the golden fleece from which the order is founded extends far back in history to the time of ancient Greece and the mythology surrounding ancient gods and champions of old. In one such tale Jason and his band of Argonauts set out on a quest for a winged, golden fleeced ram in order to place Jason rightfully on the throne of Iolcus in Thessaly.

The Roman Eagle was a symbol of the might of Rome during the height of its power some two thousand years ago. It was carried before the Roman Legion often with the letters SPQR (Senatus Populus Romanus) engraved upon it, honoring the Senate and the People of Rome.

It is said that Julius Caesar would personally sanctified these emblems when a Legion was formed.

The Order of the Garter which is sometimes referred to as the Star and Garter was created by King Edward III of England in 1348. It is the oldest and highest order of British Chivalry and is still in use today. Its membership is limited to the Monarch (King or Queen), the Prince of Wales and 24 knights. Members can only be appointed by the Monarch. The order's emblem, depicted on its insignia, is a garter with the motto *Honi soit qui mal y pense* "shame upon him who thinks evil upon it", or "evil to him who evil thinks" in gold lettering. During the seventeenth century an 8 sided star with St. George's cross in the middle was added to the regalia of the order along with the original blue garter.

The Order of the Star was founded by King John II of France in 1351. This new knightly order was created partly out of a general dissatisfaction with religious chivalric orders dating from the dissolution of the Knights Templar in 1311, and partly from a desire to gain political support. King John established the Order of the Star based on the English order of the Garter. The primary intent of this order was for honor, camaraderie, and the glorification of French knighthood. The badge of the order was a collar with a white star on red enamel; the motto *Monstrant regibus astra viam* "the stars show the way to kings" referring to the Three Kings led by the Star of Bethlehem.

While these honorable and chivalric orders extend far back in history, the use of the apron as a badge is actually much older than any of these distinguishing means of honoring the deeds, bravery and social status of men. Be proud of our history and of our emblem of purity.



The Roman Eagle depicted here is emblematic of the insignia presented to Roman soldiers so honored.



Philip III, Duke of Burgundy, with the collar of the Order

Five Points of Fellowship

The following article is a product of the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America.

From earliest times, Freemasonry has considered fellowship to be a fundamental duty of every Mason. The importance of this is illustrated by the fact that the five points of fellowship are demonstrated at the conclusion of the Master Mason degree. Recognition of this basic premise should be a constant reminder that we are encouraged to demonstrate, not only to our brothers, but by the practice of this admonition those who are not members of our gentle fraternity may become aware of the benefits of the Masonic organization.

The 28th president of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, is quoted as saying: *“We are not here to merely make a living. We are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with a greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. We are here to enrich the world, and we impoverish ourselves if we forget the errand”*. As we travel this life as Masons, let us never forget that we, both individually and as Lodges, can make a great and positive difference in the world around us, if we will but remember to practice these five points of fellowship. We should remember our duties as Masons include working to improve the lives of those around us, and to make our communities, state, and nation better places in which to live.

Specifically, the Five Points of Fellowship are:

- (1) **To serve** - Masons are taught to constantly serve those with whom they come in contact. This includes their family, their Masonic brothers, friends, and even strangers when a need is identified. Often, a man must put aside his own priorities to serve another. Service to others may take many forms, and opportunities for service can present themselves in numerous ways. Sometimes serving others can be nothing more than spending some quality time with a spouse, attending a ballgame or a piano recital with a child, helping a parent get to that doctor’s appointment, changing a light bulb for that elderly neighbor, or simply lending an attentive ear to that co-worker who is undergoing a difficult time.
- (2) **To pray** - for strength and peace, for both others and ourselves. Through our acknowledged belief in a Supreme Being and our recognition of our dependence on the Source of all wisdom and strength, Masons realize that prayer can be a powerful weapon. The word PRAYER as used in the largest sense includes all forms of communion with God; it embraces worship, praise, thanksgiving, supplication and intercession.

The importance of prayer can be accurately measured only by the prominence given it in the scriptures. There are over 33,000 promises in the Bible that we can claim only through prayer.

- (3) **To keep secrets** - The third point may be defined in at least two ways. First, we are admonished to keep the secrets of our Fraternity from those who criticize us and downgrade the organization. This group of detractors includes both those who demean the fraternity and its members out of ignorance, and those who suffer from obsession. Second, we are committed to maintaining the confidence of those who share sensitive information with us. One author has eloquently stated, *“A brother’s secret, delivered to me as such, I will keep as I would my own, because if I betray the trust which has been reposed in me, I might do him an irreparable injury; it would be like the villainy of an assassin, who lurks in darkness to stab his adversary when unarmed and least prepared to meet an enemy.”*
- (4) **To support** - those who work to make the lives of themselves and those around them better. Masons have long been recognized for providing verbal, active, and financial encouragement to individuals and organizations that focus on making the lives of those around us better. Support for community betterment, educational improvements, and improved access to health care services are but a few areas on which Masons have focused. Masons have actively supported those who serve in the legislative processes of our communities, states, and nation. They have openly encouraged those who serve to keep our communities safe. From an historical perspective, the Masonic fraternity, has actively supported the educational system and those who devote themselves to teaching.
- (5) **To counsel** - in other words, sharing knowledge and understanding. Masons may counsel others in many ways. To our newly-initiated Brothers in the Fraternity, we spend the necessary time and share our knowledge to teach them the esoteric work. And afterward, as they demonstrate their desire for more information, we willingly share other information, such as opening and closing the Lodge, certain lectures, etc. However, this can be considered only a narrow interpretation of this point of fellowship. Masons should stand willing to assist their brothers in other ways. A Mason should be always willing to share any special training, experience, or knowledge he may have to benefit another.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Wyoming

Po Box 646
Saratoga, Wyoming 82331

Independence Rock Commemorative Service

To all Freemasons wherever assembled:

The eleventh Masonic Commemorative Service on Independence Rock on the Sweetwater River between Rawlins and Casper Wyoming will be held on July third and July fourth, 2010.

On behalf of our Grand Master, MW Harry W.C. Oberg III, the Freemasons of the Jurisdiction of Wyoming are pleased to invite all regular masons and their families, to participate in this every ten year event honoring those brothers traveling west who held the first known Masonic communication in Wyoming on the crest of Independence Rock on July 4, 1862.

Join us for a wagon train, cowboy poetry, Oregon Trail history, a Masonic meeting on Top of the Rock, and brotherly fellowship. Camping will be available the night of July 3rd and motel accommodations are available in Rawlins and Casper.

Activities tentatively planned for Saturday July 3rd and Sunday July 4th, 2010 as follows:

Saturday July 3rd, 2010:

- Entrance to the Masonic area and camping available at 1 pm
- Wagon train arrival—mid afternoon
- Evening entertainment

Sunday July 4th, 2010:

- 10 am Church Service
- 12:30 Assemble on Rock
- 1 pm Open Tile meeting on the Rock
- 3 pm Public program in Masonic area base of the Rock

Pre-registration forms and additional information will be available at a later date, a registration fee will be charged at the site.

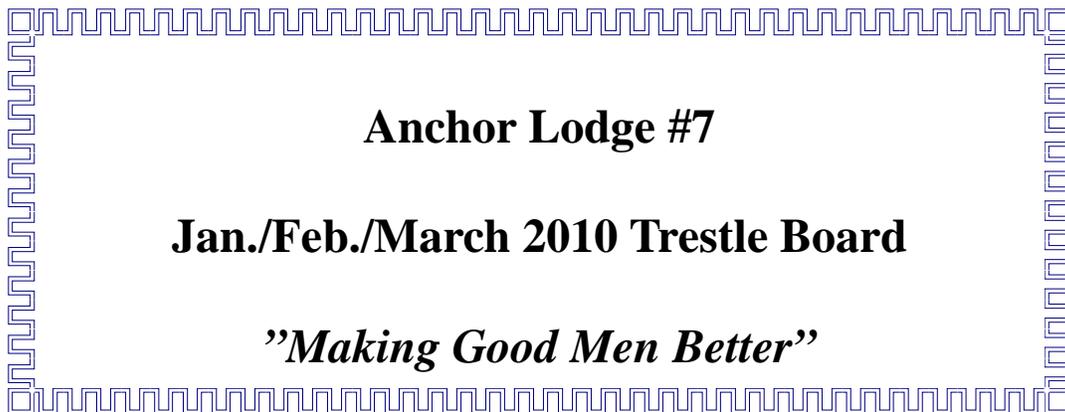
For further information please contact:

Clarence Darling, PGM, Chairman
7131 Sharrock Rd
Casper, WY 82604-9314
cowboylemm@aol.com

Don Porter, PGM
1014 S. 13th St.
Laramie, WY 82070
donporter1666@msn.com

Fraternally,

Philip G Buckholz, PGM
Grand Lodge Secretary
Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Wyoming



Anchor Lodge #7

Jan./Feb./March 2010 Trestle Board

”Making Good Men Better”

Anchor Lodge No. 7 AF&AM
PO Box 26
Buffalo WY, 82834

Place
Stamp
Here