



THE TRESTLE BOARD

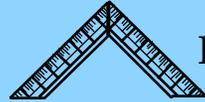
ST. JOHN LODGE # 18, F.&A.M.

PIOCHE, NEVADA

Chartered 20 November 1873

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From The Oriental Chair

Like other organizations, Masonry must be prepared to adapt to the times. This does not mean changing our basic tenets, which have remained constant over the years and must continue to do so. However, we must be open to the social changes and the introduction of new technologies which are natural to our civilization. Their acceptance results in a blend of old and new, which has the effect of revitalizing us and continuing the value of Masonry to our members and its attractiveness to those who may be interested in becoming members.

The recent class in which over 60 Entered Apprentices were passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft and raised to the Degree of Master Mason on one day is an example. As a result, we now have two new Master Masons in the Lodge, one of whom is already taking an active role by having been installed as Junior Steward. Of course, there has been controversy of the appropriateness of the class. However, we must be prepared to accept that the Lodge is not the center of social activity that it once was in Pioche, and elsewhere, for that matter. Many brothers now have a range of responsibilities and demands on their time much greater than their brethren of the past. We have seen how difficult it is for our Lodge to arrange degree work, particularly as so many brothers and candidates come from so far away to attend. Thus, it is fitting that we adapt to these conditions and ensure that all brethren have the opportunity to experience Masonry to the fullest extent.

From a close reading of the Second Degree lecture, it is apparent that it has been modified to reduce its length. The lecture still goes significantly beyond what is necessary to impart the knowledge essential to a Fellowcraft. This is a reflection of the growing level of education within the community, particularly over the past two centuries. There is no longer the same need to attempt to inculcate a liberal education through the lecture.

The Internet has provided a means of raising issues and sharing views far more quickly than was possible in the past. The discussions and the exchanges of views are stimulating. But it provides more than that. Adoption of this new technology also facilitates retaining the real essence of Masonry. As an example, a brother from another state recently fell ill while in Las Vegas and was taken to the hospital. He mentioned to a nurse that he was a Mason and would appreciate a visit from other Masons. The nurse found the Nevada Masons web site and the message was spread. As a result, the brother received several visits and a card signed by over 70 brothers. Our Senior Warden, Ron Orr, was one of those instrumental in contacting other brothers through the Internet and in sending a message to the nurse thanking her for her concern. All of this was done within the space of a few hours, an achievement inconceivable only a few years ago.

These three examples show how it is possible for Masonry to retain its fundamental principles, but adapt to changing times. The certainty of change over the next century will provide further opportunities and challenges.

Richard Sidford
Master

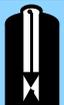




A View from the West

It has taken a long time for me to learn that there is such a thing as the “Lodge System of Masonic Instruction”. I hope that we can now make it a regular part of Saint John Lodge practices. This document, often referred to as the “Red Book” was written by Most Worshipful Laurence E. Gafney, Grand Master of the State of Nevada, in 1979. The Grand Lodge adopted it and directed that it be used in every Lodge that same year. As a series of 26 papers, on a wide range of Masonic topics, they are intended for reading and discussion between a group of five senior Master Masons and each and every new candidate for the degrees. We will start immediately with our newly made members and with June stated, begin reading one each month. I hope you will enjoy them as much as I have.

Ron Orr
Senior Warden



From the South

With the cornerstone about to be placed, I think it's appropriate to once again thank all those who made the new Lodge room possible. Thank you, in particular, to Jerry and Nancy. They will be honored for their efforts by being named the “Master Architects” of the addition during the ceremony next month. Once again, they traveled to Pioche a day early this month to provide the Junior Warden's station with a larger step. We should all be proud of this wonderful new addition. (The Lodge room, not the step--although I think the step is pretty wonderful too!) Few Lodges in any jurisdiction have accomplished such a feat (in recent years) and it speaks well of the dedication and drive of our members. Next month it will be on display to Masons and Eastern Star members from all over the state, and from further afield.

On a different note, congratulations to Ron Hibble, who completed his Master Mason proficiency at our April meeting, and was subsequently installed as Junior Steward.

Robert C. Sidford
Junior Warden



In the Record...

Four honored by Fraternity



50 YEAR MEMBER
Brother John Names

A 50 year pin was presented to Brother **John P. Names**, P.M. at his home by the W.M. Richard Sidford, and Bros. Richard VanLandingham, James Kelley, and Ron Orr. It is an honor to this Lodge to have such men serve our fraternity for so long a time. He and his Wife (a long-time member of Mizpah Chapter), commented at length on how important their association with the members of the Lodge and Chapter has been to them.

Knight Commander Court of Honor

On 26 October 1999, **Brother Jack T. Lee**, P.M. was invested with the Rank and Emblem of **Knight Commander Court of Honor**. This is not a Degree but an investiture of the Scottish Rite bestowed upon members deserving recognition for faithful services to the Rite. The Red Cap of the K.:C.:C.:H.:, with its dark red band trimmed in gold looks great on Brother Jack. Raised in Oak Hill Lodge #553 in Magee, Mississippi in September 1958, he joined Saint John in where he served as Master in 1998 and Patron of Mizpah Chapter #19, O.E.S. Jack became a 32° Scottish Rite Mason and joined Zelzah Shrine in 1985 and is a Past Watchman of the Shepherds of the White Shrine and Starlight Shrine #7 in Las Vegas.

Each year, from the ranks of all 32° Scottish Rite and Knight Templar York Rite Masons, the members of the Royal Order of Scotland select those they determine worthy of honor and membership as a reward for services performed for the Craft, their Church, and their fellow-man. On 4 March, 2000 the Provincial Grand Master of United States, of the Royal Order of Scotland, Conferred the degrees of **Heredom of Kilwinning (H.R.M. of K.L.W.N.G)** and **Knighthood of the Rosy Cross (R.S.Y.-C.S.)** on two of Saint John Lodges members:

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3]

Knighted by
The Royal Order of Scotland
are:



Sir Knight William M. Holland: a member of Saint John Lodge since 1996. Raised in Nellis #46, in January of 1991 and was made a Master of the Royal Secret of the 32° of the Scottish Rite, then entered the Shrine in 1992.

Sir Knight Ronald R. Orr Sr.: a member of Saint John Lodge since 1968. Took the degrees of the York Rite in 1975, and was made a Master of the Royal Secret of the 32° of the Scottish Rite in 1985. He then entered the Shrine in 1986. Serving in the Army for over 20 years gave him the opportunity to affiliate and work with and visit many Masonic bodies, jurisdictions and lands. He has returned to his home Lodge and is pleased to be serving as our Senior Warden.

We know you will congratulate them on bringing such honors and recognition home to this humble Lodge.



Saint John Lodge Day

We hope you will join us in a day dedicated to the celebration of Saint John Lodge #19 as we lay a cornerstone for our new Lodge Room Building.

13 May 2000

- 10:00 Grand Lodge Opens
- 11:00 Corner Stone Ceremony
- 12:00 Light Refreshments
- 1:00 Grand Lodge Official Visit to Saint John Lodge
- 2:00 Grand Masters Remarks (Open Lodge)
- 3:00 Dinner at the Overland Hotel
- 4:30 Grand Chapter Official Visit to Mizpah Chapter
- 5:30 Worthy Grand Matrons Remarks (Open Chapter)



In Seeking More Light

KEEPING FREEMASONRY ALIVE

Ten Master Masons, happy, doing fine; one listened to a rumor, then there were nine.

Nine Master Masons, faithful, never late, one didn't like the Master, then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, on their way to heaven; one joined to many clubs, then there were seven.

Seven Master Masons, life dealt some hard licks; one grew discouraged, then there were six.

Six Master Masons, all very much alive; one lost his interest, then there were five.

Five Master Masons, wishing there were more; got into a great dispute, then there were four.

Four Master Masons, was one of them you? One grew tired of all the work, then there were two.

Two Master Masons with so much to be done; one said "what's the use", then there were two.

One Master Mason found a brother -True! Brought him to the Lodge then there were two.

Two Master Masons didn't find work a bore; each brought another, then there were four.

Four Master Masons saved their lodges fate; by showing others kindness, then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, loving their lodges bright shewn; talked so much about it, they soon counted sixteen.

Sixteen Master Masons, to their obligations true; were pleased when their number went to thirty-two.

So we can't put our troubles at the lodges door; it's our fault for harming the very lodge we adore.

Don't fuss about the programs or the Master in the East; keep your obligation by serving even the very least.

Michael Lester
ninrodml@vegas.quick.com

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St. John Lodge #18 F.&A.M.
 P.O. Box 356
 Pioche, Nevada 89043
 E-Mail: stjoh18@intermind.net
 Web: http://intermind.net/~stjoh18

Saint John Activities

All Masons may attend



- Installation of Officers 10:00am - 08 Jan 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 08 Jan 2000
- hington Memorial & Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 12 Feb 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 11 Mar 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 08 Apr 2000
- Laying of Cornerstone 10:00am - 13 May2000
- G.M. Official Visit/Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 10 Jun 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 08 Jul 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 12 Aug 2000
- Dinner for Mizpah Chapter O.E.S. 3:00pm - 12 Aug 2000
- Labor Day Pancake Breakfast 7:00am - 02 Sep 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 09 Sep 2000
- Gilbert Interstate Visit (St George, Utah) - 22 Sep 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 14 Oct 2000
- Stated Meeting 1:00pm - 11 Nov 2000
- Nevada Grand Lodge (Reserve Hotel, Henderson) - 13-14 Nov 2000
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- Santa's Visit 1:00pm - 14 Oct 2000
- Stated Meeting & Election 1:00pm - 08 Dec 2000
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Dates

Mizpah Activities

All OES may attend



- 10:00am Installation Masonic Officers
- 4:30pm Honor Officers/Members & Stated
- 4:30pm Honor Grand Representatives & Stated
- 4:30pm Honor Grand Officers & Stated Meeting
- 4:30pm Chapter Birthday & Stated Meeting
- 10:00am Laying of Cornerstone
- 4:30pm Homecomming, Official Visit, & Stated Meeting
- 4:30pm Honor Fathers & Stated Meeting
- 4:30pm Short Stated Meeting & Friendship Picnic
- 3:00pm Dinner for Mizpah Chapter O.E.S.
- 4:30pm Honor Star Points & Stated Meeting
- 7:00am Labor Day Pancake Breakfast
- 4:30pm Honor P.M./P.P. & Stated Meeting
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- 4:30pm Election, Farewell Dinner, & Stated Meeting
- 4:30pm Installation of Officers
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- Nevada Grand Chapter (LV ShowBoat)
- 1:00pm Santa's Visit
- 4:30pm Stated Meeting/Cookie Exchange

Lodge Officers

MASTER:	RICHARD L. SIDFORD
SENIOR WARDEN:	RONALD R. ORR SR.
JUNIOR WARDEN:	ROBERT C. SIDFORD
TREASURER:	JACK T. LEE, PM
SECRETARY:	RICHARD L. VANLANDINGHAM SR., PM
SENIOR DEACON:	PAUL SEYLER
JUNIOR DEACON:	LAWRENCE DAGENAIS
CHAPLAIN:	C. STEVE HILBURN
MARSHAL:	JERRY B. EVANS, PM
SENIOR STEWARD:	JAMES G. KELLEY, PM
JUNIOR STEWARD:	RONALD L. HIBBLE
TYLER:	JACK LEE, PM
HISTORIAN:	JACK CAMBURN, PM
TRUSTEE (1):	JOHN D. CLIFTON, PM, PGM
TRUSTEE (2):	JAMES E. DENNY
TRUSTEE (3):	C. STEVE HILBURN
DEPUTY GRAND LECTURER	JERRY B. EVANS, PM
TRESTLE BOARD/WEB MASTER	RONALD R. ORR SR.

Chapter Officers

WORTHY MATRON:	LYNN BERZINS
WORTHY PATRON:	JAMES G. KELLEY
ASSOCIATE MATRON:	MARTY DUFOUR, PM
ASSOCIATE PATRON:	JACK LEE, PP
SECRETARY:	MARION BENDER, PM
TREASURER:	MARIAN GRIFFIN, PM
CONDUCTRESS:	CAMILLE SHAVER, PM
ASSOC. CONDUCTRESS:	SHARON DUFFIN, PM
CHAPLAIN:	RICHARD SIDFORD, WM
MARSHAL:	C. STEVE HILBURN, P.P.
ORGANIST:	JEAN ORR, PM
ADAH:	JEAN TILLEY, PM
RUTH:	GERALDINE STEINBACH
ESTER:	DIANE BERGEMEYER, PM
MARTHA:	LIA SIDFORD
ELECTRA:	KAREN KELLEY
WARDER:	LUCILLE HILBURN
SENTINEL:	JERRY B. EVANS, P.P.
TRUSTEE (1):	JAMES E. DENNY, P.P.
TRUSTEE (2):	JEAN TILLEY, PM
TRUSTEE (3):	JEAN ORR, PM

There are NEW things on our web site at:

<http://intermind.net/~stjohn18>.