

March, 2014

TRESTLEBOARD



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By the time you receive this month's Trestleboard, by either postal mail or email, our new Bend Masonic Lodge website should be up and operational.

We've included A LOT of information on the new site, for not only experienced Masons and members of Bend Lodge but also for those who might be simply curious about the Fraternity.

We're hoping to provide a bit of a "one stop shopping" experience for those who visit the site. Besides high-lighting Bend Lodge itself, and providing factual information on what we do in our community, those with a possible interest in petitioning our lodge are provided with information right on our own site, instead of having to research elsewhere on the Web.

We greatly appreciate all of the hard work that Brother Preston Callicott provided for the old site, including hosting it through his own company. He'll be the first to agree that the overall maintenance of Bend Lodge's website should rest with the current

Secretary, which it now will. That way, if there is a change in office, continuity can be maintained.

The old site at www.bendlodge.org will have a "redirect" in place; this means if you have the old site bookmarked in your browser, or type in that web address, when you go to it, you will automatically be directed to the new site.

The new site has a lot of possibilities for customizing. For example, on the "Library" link, there is a page for current and past Trestleboards and one for a photo gallery. This allows Lodge members and the general public alike to actually see and read about who we are and what we do. We have the option of adding additional pages or sections for other items of interest.

Let us know what you think...tell us what YOU would like to see on the new website. If you have photos of Lodge events that you think should be part of the photo gallery, please forward them to your Secretary so they can be posted accordingly.

From the West

Becoming part of the Masonic family at the young age of 14 by joining the Order of

DeMolay, I quickly discovered the rich history of the order and the members that had been part of the chapter before my time. After becoming part of Bend Lodge a few years ago, I wanted to learn more about the early days of the lodge. Many Lodges have lost their precious histories due to fire, disbandment, or other dark times.

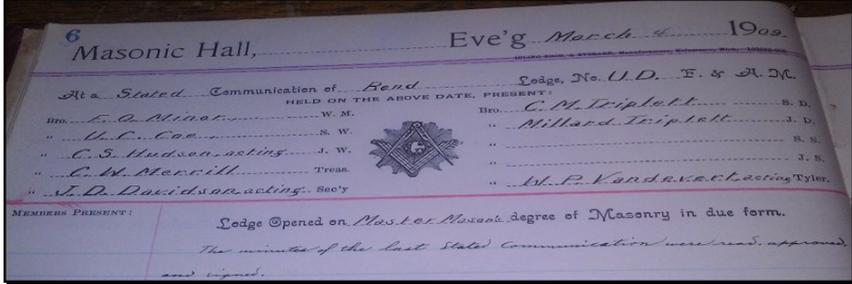
Bend Lodge is fortunate enough to have access to our early historical records in detailed written form. Recently, much has been done to highlight the history of the Masonic organizations in the area. I encourage you visit the library in the Bend Masonic Lodge building as a great deal of effort has been made to represent the entire Masonic family through an impressive collection of photos, documents, and memorabilia. In an effort to visit the past, I will be presenting details and facts in the Trestleboard each month from the past.

The first stated meeting of the yet-to-be-numbered Bend Masonic Lodge took place on the evening of March 4th, 1909 and was opened by WM F.O. Minar on the Master Mason Degree. Included in the business covered was the reading of six applications for membership as well as three petitions for affiliation by members of other lodges. A committee was also formed to write the first draft of the Bend Lodge Code of Bylaws. In addition to the Stated Meeting that month, on March 11th, Bend Lodge performed the Fellow Craft degree, bringing a Brother from the first to the second of three steps to become a Master Mason. A communication was also received and read in open lodge from Prineville Lodge # 76 requesting assistance from Bend Lodge to perform degrees for one of their members. A motion was made, seconded and passed by the members present to work together with local Brothers.



In 1909, the trip from Prineville to Bend was a full day's journey; making the effort to travel showed great commitment to fellow Brothers and well as to the Craft. The cost for the conferral of the Fellow Craft Degree was \$10.00 in 1909.

Senior Warden Zach Richard



From the East

Brethren,

As March approaches ,we are in an enviable position at Bend Lodge...nearly a dozen petitions for the Degrees of Masonry, a few for Advancement and three for affiliation. We have performed the altar draping ceremony for many a fallen Brother, more times than I like to see. We have had sojourners and visitations, humor and fellowship. We were happy to see members of the Central Oregon Shrine Club come to Lodge last month and hope to see more of them in the future.

Bend Lodge also hosted PGM Harvey for a Royal Arch function in February. We are very pleased that in several short months, we are well on our way to being a Masonic Center again, one that encompasses ALL of the Masonic Family. We hope this uptick in attendance continues, though I won't go too deep into that subject, instead leaving it to the article this month from our Lodge Secretary. The building and the grounds are being painstakingly cared through the tireless efforts of our JW, Brother Brian Canady.

As we look to the coming months, and the degree work we will be doing, I would just like to ask that if you haven't been to lodge in a while, think of the candidates coming in to the fraternity. When each of us was initiated, passed and raised, we had the pleasure of doing so with our friends and brothers there at the time. While we may not be "required" to do so, I do feel we owe it to those joining our ranks to be there for them. If you can attend, please do.

Thank you...I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

*Worshipful Master
Derek Stevens*

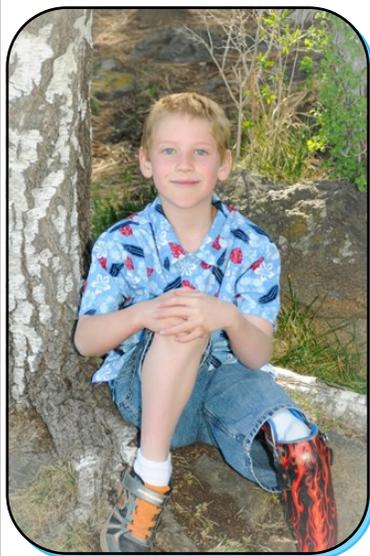
CENTRAL OREGON SHRINERS

Brother Terry Griffith

The Shriners, although a body of the Masonic Family, is structured differently. It was originally created as a social club for Masons and then quickly developed into one of the greatest philanthropic organizations in the world. Known for their “funny” go-carts, bands and motorcycle units, the Shriners are a great deal more... our passion is to help our “Shriners Kids”.

In June 1922, our first Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children opened, for the purpose of treating children with orthopedic injuries, diseases and birth defects. Care was (and still is) provided without financial obligation to the patient or their family. Shriners Hospital for Children now has 22 hospitals throughout North America and Hawaii, treating children (under the age of 18, traditionally) for orthopedic and spinal diseases /injuries, cleft palates, and burns. Our hospitals are state-of-the art, staffed with top surgeons and rehabilitation experts. All children are welcome.

This is what provides our “drive” and why we become, and remain, Shriners...to help children in need. In the last two years, 232 children in Central Oregon have become “Shriner Kids”, receiving the care and treatment that they would not have been otherwise able to receive without the help of the Shriners Hospital for Children-Portland.



Let me introduce you to one of these kids. Zachary is a nine-year-old Bend resident and has been a “Shriners Kid” since he was four months old. Born with one leg significantly shorter than the other, he has undergone multiple surgeries and been fitted with a prosthetic leg. He has been to the Shriners Hospital for Children-Portland countless times and as he continues to grow, receives a new prosthesis annually. His zeal for life is evident in his smile and displayed by his exuberance. He is so appreciative of what the Shriners has done for him, he offered up his piggy bank for the Shriners Run for a Child. It was a very powerful statement from this young man.

Zachary was the honorary Co-Captain for the 2013 Shriners East/West All-Star football game in Baker City last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. He will again be the honorary Co-Captain this year. He was also the first Shriners Run for a Child run Marshal, held in Bend last August and he did a tremendous job. He will share that responsibility as 2014 run Marshall with another “Shriners Kid” from Bend. It is important to be able to put a face with a cause and that is all the motivation a Shriner needs.

The 2014 Run for a Child will be held on August 10th at Riverbend Park in the Old Mill district. It is open to all and registration begins March 1st on our website: centraloregonshriners.org. **CHECK IT OUT!**

Bend’s first home, built by A.M. Drake in 1901, overlooked Mirror Pond on the Deschutes River. Originally a log house, it was later expanded and became the home of the Bend Masonic Bodies from June, 1924 to June 1956, when it moved to its present location.



The Red Cross of Constantine is officially The Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and St. John the Evangelist, the latter two of which are called the Appendant Orders. There are also two chair degrees conferred on the Viceroy and Sovereign of a Conclave, and two honorary orders: Knight Commander of Constantine and Knight Grand Cross. The governing body of the Order for the United States of America, the Republic of Mexico and the Republic of the Philippines and their territories is known as The United Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States of America, Mexico and the Philippines.



The purpose of the Constantinian Orders are to commemorate the first elevation of Christianity from the position of a despised and proscribed heresy to that of a legally recognized and honored religion, to cultivate the social virtues, appeal to the intellectual and moral qualities, preserve as far as possible the customs of the fraternity and bring about good fellowship and understanding between all branches of Masonry.

Knights Companions of the Order meet in Conclaves of the Red Cross of Constantine and a member must be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing and subscribe to a belief in the Christian religion as revealed in the New Testament. Membership is by invitation and each Conclave has a prescribed membership limit.

There are two Conclaves of the Red Cross of Constantine in Oregon: Saint Lawrence, based in Portland and Saint Janus, based in Medford. These Conclaves have four meetings per year and can hold meetings anywhere in the state. The meeting in Bend was a quarterly meeting of the Saint Janus Conclave. None of the degrees were conferred in Bend as the candidate was unable to attend.

We thank Bend Lodge for allowing us to hold our meeting in Bend and for their hospitality while we were there.

Worshipful Brother Bob Elliott

A LESSON IN FREEMASONRY

A young man passed a pawnbroker's shop. The money lender was standing in front of his shop, and the young man noted that he was wearing a large and beautiful Masonic emblem. After going on a whole block, apparently lost in thought, the young man turned back, stepped up to the pawnbroker, and addressed him. *"I see you're wearing a Masonic emblem. I'm a Freemason too. It happens that I'm desperately in need of \$25 just now. I shall be able to repay it within ten days. You don't know me, but I wonder whether the fact that you are a Freemason and that I am a Freemason is sufficient to induce you to lend me the money on my personal note?"*

The pawnbroker mentally appraised the young man, who was clean-cut, neat and well-dressed. After a moment's thought, he agreed to make the loan on the strength of the young man being a Freemason. Within a few days the young man repaid the loan as agreed and that ended the transaction.

About four months later, the young man was in a Lodge receiving the Entered Apprentice Degree; he had not really been a Mason when he borrowed the \$25. After he had been admitted for the second section of the degree, the young man looked across the Lodge room and saw the pawnbroker from whom he had borrowed the \$25. His face turned crimson and he became nervous and jittery. He wondered whether he had been recognized by the pawnbroker. Apparently not, so he planned at the first opportunity to leave the Lodge room and avoid his benefactor. As soon as the Lodge was closed, he moved quickly for the door, but the pawnbroker had recognized the young man, headed him off and, to the young man's astonishment, approached him and greeted him with a smile and outstretched hand.

(continued on next page)

March, 2014 Bend Lodge Events

- ⇒ **Thursday, March 6th:**
 - * **Amaranth, 6pm**
- ⇒ **Monday, March 10th:**
 - * **Officer's Meeting, 7pm**
- ⇒ **Thursday, March 13th:**
 - * **Dinner at 6pm**
 - * **Stated Meeting at 7pm**
- ⇒ **Thursday, March 27th:**
 - * **Degree Practice, 7pm**

Note that the Masonic Garage Sale that HAD been scheduled for Saturday, March 15th has been canceled.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Robert	Wells	94
Fred	Whitney	89
Sydney	Andrews	88
Harvey	Watt	87
Fred	Newton	77
David	Johnson	76
Jeffery	Talbert	75
Gary	Nelson	62
Robert	Scott	58
James	Michaelis	58
Neil	Mackey	56
Charles	Booth	51
Brian	Denison	39
David	Thiel	38

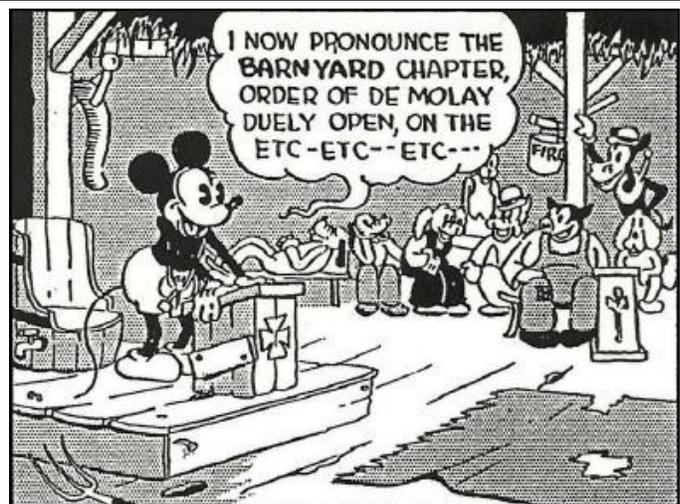
**Walt Disney was DeMolay.
His brother, Roy, however, WAS a Freemason.**

A LESSON IN FREEMASONRY *(continued)*

"Well, I see you weren't a Freemason after all when you borrowed that \$25", the pawnbroker commented.

The blood rushed to the young man's face as he stammered, "No, I wasn't, but I wish you'd let me explain. I had always heard that Freemasons were charitable and ready to aid a Brother in distress. When I passed your shop that day I didn't need that \$25. I had plenty of money in my wallet, but when I saw the Masonic emblem you were wearing, I decided to find out whether the things I'd heard about Freemasonry were true. You let me have the money on the strength of my being a Freemason, so I concluded that what I had heard about Masons was true, that they are charitable, that they do aid Brethren in distress. That made such a deep impression on me that I presented my petition to this Lodge and here I am. I trust that with this explanation you will forgive me for having lied to you".

The pawnbroker responded, "Don't let that worry you too much. I wasn't a Freemason when I let you have the money. I had no business wearing the Masonic emblem you saw. Another man had just borrowed some money on it, and it was so pretty that I put it on my lapel for a few minutes. I took it off the moment you left. I didn't want anyone else borrowing money on the strength of my being a Freemason. When you asked for that \$25, I remembered what I had heard about Masons, that they were honest, upright, and cared for their obligations promptly. It seemed to me that \$25 wouldn't be too much to lose to learn if what I'd heard was really true, so I lent you the money and you repaid it exactly as you said you would. That convinced me that what I'd heard about Masons was true, so I presented my petition to this Lodge...I was the candidate just ahead of you".



Secretary's Desk

Without gloating about it (or patting

ourselves so hard on our backs that we risk breaking our arms!), my wife and I are quite proud of our daughters. We have three between us and a fourth who is everything but legally adopted. They're optimistic, charismatic, hard-working, law-abiding citizens.

While we'll be the first to admit that the girls themselves have done the majority of the hard work to get to this point, we'd like to think that we, as their parents, perhaps had a LITTLE to do with it. Besides trying to model to them the value of honesty, generosity and hard work, one of the main tenets we raised the girls with was... "Your life is equal to what you put in to it...put nothing in...get nothing out".

WHAT, you may be asking, does this have to do with being a Mason? Try substituting "*your Lodge*" for "*Your life*"... "*Your Lodge is equal to what you put in to it...put nothing in...get nothing out*".

When you joined the Fraternity, and went through your degrees, you made a commitment...of your time, your individual talents, your energy. Many brothers felt strongly enough that they purchased a Life membership to show their dedication to not only the Craft but to Bend Lodge itself.

We all know that "life" sometimes gets in the way. Family and work obligations...a change in finances... perhaps even devoting TOO much to your Lodge at some point and experiencing "burn out". Sadly, perhaps "politics", a disagreement with another brother or disharmony within the Lodge might have been a factor.

We fully understand those issues, and further, would be the first to tell you when it comes to family, they HAVE to come first. There is a growing perception, however, from not just the officers of Bend Lodge, but from other more active members, that some brothers seem to be content to just "sit on the sidelines", happy to receive their members card each year, without (seemingly) being willing to give anything back for that privilege.

Any organized group, including a Masonic Lodge, is the sum of its parts...it lives... or dies... based on

the dedication and participation of ALL of its individual members, not just a "select" few.

Based on the many positive comments we've received about the new Trestleboard, and face-to-face conversations that we've had over the past several months, it's clearly obvious that there IS renewed interest in Bend Lodge. We're just wondering why that interest level doesn't seem to be translating itself into additional brothers attending Stated meetings and other Lodge events.

We're not asking anyone to commit themselves to "x" number of hours per month, or volunteer to be on a committee. We are, however, wondering what we can do to get some of the "sideliners" off the bench and "back in the game".

We're starting to see an uptick, a renewed interest in Masonry from not only those outside the Craft, judging not only by the number of requests we're receiving for Petitions for Degrees, but also from those who, having been initiated a number of years ago, are now expressing an interest in returning and continuing their Masonic journey. Those potential new members, as well as those wishing to continue their journey, need mentors and coaches...they need role models...they need the wisdom of those who have been Masons for many a year.

One of the potential benefits to you, Brothers, is that by associating with some of these "blank slates", by experiencing Masonry through the eyes of a wide-eyed "newbie", perhaps each of you will be renewed in spirit and a sense of obligation to not only the Craft but to Bend Lodge itself.

Trite as may seem, we'll close with a modified version of a very famous statement...

"And so, my brothers, ask not what your Lodge can do for you...ask what YOU can do for your Lodge".

Secretary Neil Mackey

