

Bend Lodge #139 Trestleboard - November 2015

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From the East- Zachary A. Richard, Worshipful Master

Greetings As I begin to reflect on this past year I can't help but think of the important Masonic teachings of faith, hope, and charity. Throughout the past year the term faith has meant so much more than spiritual or religious faith, it has been the faith that my brothers would come together for the good of Bend Lodge and be there to support each other and our work. The brothers of Bend Lodge certainly demonstrated this faith through the past year and I will forever be grateful.

My hope for Bend Lodge in the upcoming year is that we will continue to see growth and progress including education and more events that unite and support the Masonic family in central Oregon.

As we approach the holiday season I can't help but think of charity and the ever increasing needs our communities face. During this time please give what to can. It could be your time or a donation, the important thing is supporting those in need.

From the West - Brian Canady, Senior Warden

As the leaves fall and the mercury drops we begin to wind down the year that is and plan for the year to come. I believe there are many reasons to be upbeat as we look forward. As we reflect on the year that is quickly coming to a close I think that we will look back at this year as an important turning point for our Lodge. Much work has been done to set the stage for a new period of opportunity for Bend Lodge. As such, it is my heartfelt desire that any Brothers that may have drifted away from the Lodge in past years will again join us and take part in the continuing rejuvenation and growth of our Lodge going forward. Bend Lodge will be exactly what we make of it, so be heard and take part in the process of making our Lodge everything it can and should be. I would love to hear your ideas, big or small, that individually, can help strengthen the fabric of Freemasonry in Bend.

Our next Stated Communication on November 12th will be eventful. In addition to the election of officers to serve the Lodge in the coming year, the evening will also feature an Official Visit from our District Deputy RWB Ron Terry. We will also be voting on at least one petition and hearing at least one proficiency exam. Come join us for dinner at 6pm with Lodge opening at 7pm. If you or any Brothers you know would appreciate some assistance in getting to and from the Lodge please contact any of the officers and we will see that gets done.

Many thanks go out to WB Steve Karpstein who literally hit the deck once again to help prepare the stage for a final coat of spar urethane masterfully applied by WB Derek Stevens. We were assisted by candidate Trace Harris and RWB Gary Ross who was visiting Bend from Connecticut. It was an interesting, fun and productive day at the Lodge and I encourage you to take a moment to appreciate the finished product.

As mentioned in last month's Trestleboard, one goal for next year is to reestablish a Masonic function every fourth Thursday of the year. Some plans for these evenings are underway, but I would love to hear from you about ideas you may have for making and getting the most out of this opportunity - whether it be speakers, lectures, training, social or charitable in nature. Please feel free to call, email or pull me aside with your thoughts and ideas.

Looking forward to seeing you on November 12th!

Dates To Save

Dinner & Stated Meeting/Election - Thursday - November 12th

Installation of Officers - December 5th 10:30a.m.

Christmas Box Prep - Monday, December 21st at 6p.m. (tentative)

From the Secretary's Desk - Terry Griffith

The end of the year is fast approaching, which is evident from the mass mailing I just sent out announcing the vote in November and dues for 2016. The majority of our members are now Life Members of Bend Lodge. This not only saves the member dollars in the long run, but also provides a steady income for the Lodge each year. IF you have changed your address or contact information, please let me know so I can make those changes in my paperwork. I am still trying to put together a viable Lodge Directory for printing by the first of the year. With that, we will also be able to begin sending the Trestleboard to our Brothers who do not have email, just so we can keep everyone informed.

Lastly, I am formulating a new email list that will hopefully include everyone. The goal is to enhance our communications so that everyone is in the know and can participate.

If I can help, please call. Hope to see you at the Stated Communication in November. Remember we will have a dinner prior and will be voting for officers.

What Kind of Mason Are You?

A lot of Masons are like wheelbarrows - no good unless pushed.

Some are like trailers - they have to be pulled.

Some are like kites - if you don't keep a string on them, they fly away.

Some are like balloons - full of air and ready to blow up.

Some are like footballs - you can't tell which way they will bounce.

And then, some are like a fine watch - open faced, pure gold, quietly busy, and full of good works.