

**WORSHIPFUL MASTER**  
MATT ALEXANDER

**SENIOR WARDEN**  
NEIL MACKEY

**JUNIOR WARDEN**  
SCOTT BRASHER

**TREASURER**  
JOHN PINCKNEY, PM

**SECRETARY**  
TERRY GRIFFITH

**SENIOR DEACON**  
JEREMY KLETKE

**JUNIOR DEACON**  
TRACE HARRIS

**SENIOR STEWARD**  
DAN JOHNSON

**JUNIOR STEWARD**  
DENVER LEE

**CHAPLAIN**  
DAVE JOHNSON, PM

**TYLER**  
STEVE KARPSTEIN, PM

**MARSHAL**  
WM. LEE RANSALL, PM

**HISTORIAN**  
DALE CLAYPOOL, PM

**FACILITIES MANAGER**  
JEAN STEVENS

**TRESTLEBOARD /  
WEBMASTER**  
NEIL MACKEY



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## From the East



### *B*rethren...

Greetings and welcome to the busy month of April. We are starting off with a "*Bring a friend to dinner*" night at the Bend Elks Lodge with the Central Oregon Shrine Club on **Tuesday, April 4th**.

Our Stated Meeting on **Thursday, April 12th** will be the official visit for our District Deputy! We will also be presenting 50-year jewels to two worthy brothers!

On **Tuesday, April 17th**, the Pilgrim Chapter of DeMolay will be having a fundraiser at Pappy's Pizza in Redmond starting a 6:30pm!

On **Thursday, April 26th**, I will be conferring the Master Mason Degree in Prineville and invite all Master Masons to attend! Not only is this the 4th Thursday which we would be practicing on but it is a great opportunity to watch the degree and help us get ready for our own upcoming MM degree!

In the month of March, we had a disruption in the harmony at Bend Lodge. At some point between 9:30pm on March 15th and 11:30am on March 19th, the Senior Warden's Chair was stolen. A police report has been filed. It is very difficult to place a value on one part of a unique set of furniture made more than 50 years ago. We are taking steps to prevent further theft.

I am planning on visiting the Redmond Lodge during their Stated meeting on **Monday, April 9th** which will be the official visit from our District Deputy!

I would like as many of our members to attend this meeting which is not only a chance to show our support for our brothers, but a great opportunity for us to watch another lodge receive the DD and help us better prepare for his official visit at Bend Lodge on **Thursday, April 12th**.

Please call or text me at (425) 923-0303, or reply via e-mail to let me know if you are able to attend so that I can get a total number to

their lodge to know how many to expect! On **Friday, April 6th at 7pm** there will be a practice for an upcoming Master Mason degree conferral to be held at the Prineville Lodge on **Thursday, April 26th**.

I invite all Master Masons who are interested in learning more about the degrees (and hopefully participating with our team in the future) to come to the practices, watch how the process goes and ask questions if you have any!

I am including the following schedule for degrees at the Prineville and Redmond Lodges for your information. If you are able to attend any practices or degrees, this is a great opportunity for you to improve your proficiency and start to learn that next part that you have been thinking about!

If you are coaching a Fellowcraft or an Entered Apprentice, invite them to the appropriate degree to help them along with their proficiency!

### **DEGREE SCHEDULE**

Prineville MM Degree Practice:

**Friday, 4/6/2018**

**REDMOND LODGE, 7PM**

Prineville MM Degree Practice:

**Friday, 4/20/2018**

**PRINEVILLE LODGE, 7PM**

Prineville MM Degree Practice:

**Monday, 4/23/2018**

**PRINEVILLE LODGE, 7PM**

Prineville MM Degree (actual):

**Thursday, 4/26/2018**

**PRINEVILLE LODGE, 7PM**

EA Degree Practice:

**Monday, 4/30/2018**

**REDMOND LODGE, 7PM**

EA Degree (actual):

**Saturday, 5/5/2018**

**REDMOND LODGE, 10AM**

FC Degree (double), Stated Meeting:

**Monday, 5/14/2018**

**REDMOND LODGE, 7PM**

Fraternally,

*Matt Alexander*

MASTER

## From the West



Greetings!

I attended the Master's Charge at Grand Lodge on Saturday, March

31st. This one -day class is designed to educate sitting Senior Wardens so that they have better expectations...and plans...for when / if they stand for Master the following year. In attendance were a number of other Senior Wardens and other line officers from lodges around Oregon.

While the morning involved sessions taught by various Grand Lodge officers, there was also a "round robin" group session. During that, it became evident to me that, based on my "membership topics" in our Trestleboard the last few months, Bend Lodge is not the only lodge in Oregon suffering the effects of declining member participation. There were a number of reasons that we talked about, but one of the key aspects seemed to revolve around what we ended up calling, as a group, the "sameo, sameo" effect.

A number of lodges have polled past members who simply stopped coming to lodge meetings and events. One of the more common comments made by some of these absentee brothers was that lodge just become "too routine...it's the SAME, exact thing at each and every meeting! Open the meeting...read the minutes...talk about what we as a lodge have done (or NOT done, in more than a few cases!) in our local community... adjourn, visit refreshment...and go home". The "fun factor" seemed to be missing and more than a few hinted that coming to lodge had, simply, "Become a chore instead of something to look forward to".

Some older brothers were hesitant to drive after dark, when many lodges have their meetings. Still others commented about what with monthly Stated Meetings, degree work, whatever charitable work their lodge was doing in the community, or participation in other aspects of Masonry other than the local blue lodge, Masonry had become almost like a full-time job!

Other members had a change in employment or family obligations...totally understandable that folks sometimes have to reprioritize their lives based on work and family issues. Others indicated that their personal philosophies had changed... that perhaps what drew them to Masonry in the first place no longer met their needs or expectations or were relevant in their current lives.

Finally, some of those brothers who might have been absent for any length of time were actually ...**embarrassed**...about possibly returning! "What if I can't remember what to do?! I can't remember the penal sign or the order of things or some other aspect of attending lodge..."

I think we all agreed that most of these types of things are fixable! What it comes down to is finding out what the issues are...not from the officers' line guessing at them...but by going direct to the source...**the missing members!**

To that end, we're going to try something. By the end of this month, by either email (or by "snail mail" for those brothers who don't "do tech"), you, the members of Bend Lodge, will be receiving a survey. We ask that you take a few minutes, look it over, fill it out and send it back. There will be some suggested issues that you can check off, but also room for you to personalize your answers, and tell us what YOU think.

## From the South



Well brethren, March was a GREAT month!

We had two fellowcraft degrees for Brothers Budd Collings and Tanner Wilhite on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The great part is that both brothers have indicated they will be ready to do their FC proficiencies at our next stated communication on April 12<sup>th</sup>. It is great to see brothers advancing in Masonry!

If you haven't heard yet, we will be celebrating two amazing milestones at our Stated Meeting on **Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. We will be presenting 50-year jewels to two amazing masons, Worshipful Brothers Dave Johnson and Bob Elliott. I am honored to be part of this milestone and am also honored to follow in the footsteps of such great Masons.

I will be cooking pork loins and I am trying to get an exact number on who will be there since your family is invited as well to support these two brothers. Please let me know no later than **Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** by dropping me an email at [brashersm82@gmail.com](mailto:brashersm82@gmail.com) or calling / sending me a text at (541) 550-9963.

We all strive to be better men in life and that is why we became Masons. Remember that this is a brotherhood of great men and also remember what we do. Follow your obligations and always remember FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY.

Fraternally,

*Scott Brasher*  
JUNIOR WARDEN

You can remain totally anonymous or be proud to put your name on it...but we need some input on how to make Bend Lodge a place that brothers look forward to congregating at again. Your participation is totally voluntary...but, if you're given an opportunity to shed some light on things, and chose not to participate, then you've become a part of the bigger problem.

Is Bend Lodge...or Masonry in general...broken? I, personally, don't believe that's the case...but until we know what issues exist...and try and come up with fixes for them...we'll fall back into a "sameo, sameo" mentality of our own. Please...help us...help you...

I'll end with a couple of common sayings that may be relevant to the issue at hand...

- "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"...
- "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again...and expecting a different result", and
- "You can lead a horse to water...but you cannot make him drink".

Thanks for your time...and participation! Hope to see YOU at lodge soon...

Fraternally,

*Neil Mackey*  
SENIOR WARDEN

## Secretary's Desk

### A WAKE UP CALL

By now, you (may) have all heard the disturbing news that our Lodge has been violated. The Senior Warden's chair has been removed from the Lodge. Although this is valuable in dollars, it is more valuable because it is one of the officer's chairs from the original Lodge. For a fraternity that is built on tradition, this chair is irreplaceable. What is even more disturbing is that there were no signs of a forced entry.

The chair is replaceable and thankfully the crime was only theft, this time! Over the next few weeks, you will be seeing a "hardening" of our Masonic Center in two ways. First, to create a structurally-sound defense against person(s) attempting to unlawfully gain entry. This will be in the form of increased security for the doors and windows. Secondly, to increase our personal security while in Lodge. We live in a society that has changed over the past decades and we as a fraternity need to take steps to address the safety of our members.

I have spoken with our Grand Senior Warden, Ron Eggers, who attended the Conference of Grand Masters in February. One of their breakout sessions dealt with Lodge Security and keeping our Lodges and our brothers safe. Although there have been no occurrences of personal injury, the largest concern has been with graffiti. We live in unsettling and changing times and it is unfortunate but that is our current situation.

We were fortunate, this time, and will take steps to increase your safety and the safety of your Lodge for the future.

### MEMBER SERVICES

#### TRANSFER:

WB James McNamara was elected to membership in the Bend Lodge at our Stated Communication in March. WB McNamara transferred his membership from the Redmond Lodge. Welcome WB Mac!

#### EA PROFICIENCY:

Bro. Tanner Willhite was examined, and found proficient on the EA degree lecture in open Lodge on March 12.

#### FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES:

Bros. Budd Collings and Tanner Willhite were passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on March 12.

Fraternally,

*Jerry Griffith*  
SECRETARY



### **CENTRAL OREGON SHRINE CLUB**

#### *Shriners Night at Red Robin*

Join the Central Oregon Shrine Club for Shriners Night at the Red Robin in Bend in the Old Mill District.

20% of the proceeds from all meals served between **5:30p-7:30pm on Monday night, May 7th** will be given to the Shriners Run For A Child with all net proceeds given to the Shriners Hospital for Children –Portland.

Come and enjoy a great burger for a great cause!

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### **THANK YOU!**

The Central Oregon Shrine Club would like to thank WM Alexander and the brothers of Bend Lodge for extending the courtesy of allowing the Club to hold their first annual Spaghetti Dinner in the Lodge dining room. The dinner was very successful and it would not have been possible without the support of the Bend Masonic Lodge.

*-Central Oregon Shriners*

### **DATE AND TIME SET FOR RESCHEDULED BASIC SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION**

I have rescheduled the Basic School of Instruction for **May 12<sup>th</sup>, 10am at Prineville Lodge**. Lunch will be provided by the ladies of the Eastern Star for a nominal donation. We should finish up by 3pm or a little after. The course will be taught by MWB John Turner, assisted by WB's Ransdall and Bryan, and RWB Ferguson. Attendance at a BSI is one of the requirements of the "Lodge of Excellence" program.

**John F Ferguson, PM**  
District Deputy #19

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(541) 280-0847



## **MONTHLY EVENTS AT BEND LODGE**

1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
**OFFICER'S MEETING**, 7pm

2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH:  
**STATED MEETING**, 7pm

4<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH:  
**LODGE TRAINING**, 7pm  
(Topic varies from month-to-month)

## **APRIL, 2018 EVENTS**

TUESDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>: 7pm:

- OFFICER'S MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>:

- STATED MEETING:
  - Dinner @ 6pm;
    - Meeting follows @ 7pm:
      - Come join us in celebrating 50 years of Masonry for WB's Dave Johnson and Bob Elliott!
- PLEASE RSVP to Junior Warden Scott Brasher at [brashersm82@gmail.com](mailto:brashersm82@gmail.com) or at (541) 550-9963 no later than Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>!

VARIOUS DATES / TIMES / LOCATIONS IN  
APRIL / MAY:

Please refer to the schedule in "*From the East*" in this month's Trestleboard for opportunities at Redmond and /or Prineville lodges for degree practices or actual conferral of degrees

***PLEASE WATCH THE 'TICKER' ON THE WEBSITE  
FOR ANY LAST-MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENTS  
AND/OR INFORMATION!***