

SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

JULY

TRESTLEBOARD



A:L:

6025

2025 ELECTED LODGE OFFICERS

MASTER

BURX NORROD

**CALL OR TEXT: (208) 571-9705
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM**

SENIOR WARDEN

JOHN KEEL

**CALL OR TEXT: (505) 358-6224
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JUNIOR WARDEN

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SECRETARY

EUGENE MORSE, PM

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TREASURER

TIM DONOVAN, RWB

TIM@TAXHELPRR.COM



SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76

**1420 BARBARA LOOP SE
RIO RANCHO, NM 87124**

**MEETS ON THE 2ND & 4TH
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
LODGE OPENS AT 7:00 PM
FESTIVEBOARD AT 6:00PM
(\$10 CASH OR \$11 CARD)**

**VISITORS: To RSVP EMAIL
BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM**



**SANDOVAL LODGE CELEBRATES 51 YEARS OF
LIGHT AND BROTHERHOOD**

ON THE EVENING OF JUNE 23RD, 2025, SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 HOSTED ITS 51ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, BRINGING TOGETHER MEMBERS, FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS TO HONOR OVER HALF A CENTURY OF MASONIC FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE IN THE HEART OF RIO RANCHO.

THE EVENING BEGAN WITH A WARM AND WELCOMING POTLUCK DINNER, WHERE A VARIETY OF HOMEMADE DISHES WERE SHARED – EACH ONE A REFLECTION OF THE LOVE AND EFFORT OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES BRING TO THE TABLE. THE MEAL SET A FITTING TONE FOR THE CELEBRATION: ONE OF GRATITUDE, UNITY, AND GOOD CHEER.

FOLLOWING THE MEAL, THE PROGRAM FOCUSED ON THE HISTORICAL JOURNEY OF SANDOVAL LODGE, BEGINNING WITH THE MOMENTOUS DAY IT RECEIVED ITS CHARTER ON MARCH 18, 1974. ATTENDEES LEARNED ABOUT THE VISION AND COMMITMENT OF OUR FOUNDING BRETHERN, WHO LAID NOT ONLY THE FOUNDATION OF THE LODGE'S WORK BUT ALSO, A FEW YEARS LATER, OVERSAW THE COMPLETION OF THE LODGE TEMPLE IN 1979 – THE SAME BUILDING THAT CONTINUES TO SERVE AS OUR HOME AND MEETING PLACE TODAY.

THIS MILESTONE EVENT WAS NOT ONLY SUPPORTED BY THE LODGE MEMBERSHIP BUT WAS WELL-ATTENDED BY DIGNITARIES FROM THE GREATER COMMUNITY, UNDERSCORING THE POSITIVE ROLE FREEMASONRY PLAYS IN CIVIC LIFE. AMONG THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

**MAYOR GREGG HULL OF RIO RANCHO
STATE REPRESENTATIVE CATHERINE CULLEN
CITY COUNCILMAN BOB TYLER – WHO IS ALSO A PROUD FELLOW OF THE CRAFT**

THEIR PRESENCE AND KIND REMARKS SERVED AS A POWERFUL REMINDER OF HOW THE TENETS OF FREEMASONRY RESONATE BEYOND THE LODGE WALLS AND INTO THE BROADER COMMUNITY.

AS WE CELEBRATED 51 YEARS OF MASONIC LIGHT, WE ALSO LOOKED FORWARD – RENEWED IN OUR COMMITMENT TO BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH, AND TO CONTINUING OUR MISSION OF BUILDING BETTER MEN, STRONGER BONDS, AND A MORE COMPASSIONATE WORLD.

TO ALL WHO MADE THE EVENING POSSIBLE – THANK YOU. HERE'S TO THE NEXT 51 YEARS OF FREEMASONRY AT SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 /G\

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FROM THE EAST - W:M: BURX NORROD



BRETHREN,

WELL, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WE'VE MADE IT TO THE HALFWAY MARK OF THE YEAR. OUR JUNE STATED COMMUNICATION WAS THE OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT—AND SOMEHOW, I'M STILL UPRIGHT AND WEARING THE HAT (NOT ALWAYS STRAIGHT, BUT IT'S ON).

WHEN I FIRST BECAME A MASON OVER 12 YEARS AGO, I FIGURED THAT BY THE TIME I REACHED THE EAST, I'D HAVE IT ALL FIGURED OUT. I MEAN, HOW HARD COULD IT BE, RIGHT? SPOILER ALERT: PRETTY HARD. TURNS OUT, NOTHING TRULY PREPARES YOU FOR BEING MASTER OF THE LODGE—NOT EVEN TWELVE YEARS OF DEGREE WORK, PANCAKE BREAKFASTS, AND DECIPHERING STRANGE MASONIC ACRONYMS. BUT I'M GRATEFUL FOR EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

THIS YEAR, I'VE FOCUSED EVERY STATED COMMUNICATION ON EITHER EDUCATION OR DEGREE WORK, AND I'M PROUD TO REPORT THAT WE'VE MANAGED TO DO SO WITHOUT ENDING AT MIDNIGHT (AS SOME MAY HAVE FEARED). WITH A FEW TWEAKS TO THE

SCHEDULE, WE'VE WRAPPED UP MOST MEETINGS AROUND 9 P.M. UNLESS, OF COURSE, WE HAD PROFICIENCY RETURNS AND A DEGREE PACKED INTO ONE NIGHT—THEN, YES, WE STRETCHED A BIT. BUT NO ONE TURNED INTO A PUMPKIN.

SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THERE HASN'T BEEN MUCH BUSINESS CHATTER DURING OUR MEETINGS—AND NO, THAT'S NOT BECAUSE I FORGOT IT EXISTED. WE'VE BEEN HANDLING THE BULK OF THAT DURING OUR MONTHLY OFFICER ZOOM CALLS. ONLY ITEMS REQUIRING A VOTE MAKE IT TO THE LODGE FLOOR. THIS WAY, WE CAN KEEP THE STATEDS FOCUSED ON WHY WE'RE REALLY HERE—TO GROW, TO LEARN, AND TO CONFUSE OURSELVES WITH RITUAL VOCABULARY.

NOW, HERE'S THE REAL TALK: WE NEED MORE BRETHREN LEARNING RITUAL. NOT JUST RETURNING YOUR MM PROFICIENCY (THOUGH YES, PLEASE DO THAT), BUT STEPPING UP TO LEARN A CHARGE, A LECTURE, OR MAYBE EVEN SOMETHING WITH MORE THAN TWO LINES AND DRAMATIC ARM GESTURES.

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING: "BUT WORSHIPFUL, I DON'T HAVE TIME!" AND TO THAT I SAY, WELCOME TO THE CLUB. NONE OF US DO. WE ALL HAVE THE SAME 24 HOURS IN A DAY—UNLESS YOU'RE SECRETLY A TIME TRAVELER, IN WHICH CASE, PLEASE TEACH ME YOUR WAYS.

ALL I'M ASKING IS FOR 30 MINUTES A DAY. THAT'S IT. 30 MINUTES TO STUDY RITUAL OR KEEP THE PARTS YOU KNOW FRESH. THEN TAKE ANOTHER 30 MINUTES TO READ SOMETHING THAT FEEDS YOUR SOUL. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A MASONIC TOME THAT SMELLS LIKE AN OLD LIBRARY. IT COULD BE MEDITATIONS BY MARCUS AURELIUS, YOUR BOOK OF SACRED LAW, OR SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T START WITH "ANCIENT" AND END WITH "LANDMARKS."

SPEAKING OF THE HOLY BIBLE—DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE THREE SPECIFIC VERSES IT'S OPENED TO DURING DEGREES, AND THAT EACH HAS A DEEPLY ESOTERIC MEANING HEARD DURING THE CIRCUMAMBULATION? DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY BOOKS ARE IN THE BIBLE? OR WHAT VERSION IS ON OUR LODGE ALTAR? (IF YOU'RE ROMAN CATHOLIC, THE ANSWER MIGHT MAKE YOU DO A DOUBLE TAKE.) I QUESTION EVERYTHING—IT'S HOW I LEARN—AND THAT HABIT HAS LED ME DOWN MORE RABBIT HOLES THAN ALICE. BUT IT KEEPS THE WHEELS TURNING AND KEEPS ME COMING BACK TO THE CRAFT.

IF YOU WANT TO START LEARNING A NEW PART, I'M HAPPY TO HELP. EVERY MASTER MASON IS ENTITLED TO A PDF COPY OF THE FULL CIPHER, AND I'LL GLADLY SEND IT YOUR WAY. I'LL EVEN STUDY WITH YOU IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO LAUGH WHEN I MESS UP THE LINE I'VE DONE A HUNDRED TIMES.

BRO. LOGAN IS READY TO RETURN HIS MM PROFICIENCY AND IS JUMPING INTO THE CHAPLAIN ROLE IN THE MASTER MASON DEGREE FOR THE FIRST TIME. BRO. KENNETH IS ALMOST DONE WITH HIS PROFICIENCY AND WILL BE TAKING ON ADDITIONAL RITUAL SOON AS WELL. HE'S ALSO BEEN MENTORING AN EA BROTHER FROM ANOTHER LODGE—PROOF THAT DEDICATION TO THE CRAFT IS ALIVE AND WELL.

IF YOU'VE DONE YOUR MM PROFICIENCY AND YOU'RE READY FOR MORE—COME GET YOUR RITUAL STRIPES. LET'S KEEP THIS LODGE THRIVING AND MAKE SURE THE WORK IS ALWAYS IN GOOD HANDS /G\

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A SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM VISION CHAPTER OES

DURING SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76's 51st ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, WE WERE HONORED TO RECEIVE A HEARTFELT GESTURE OF APPRECIATION FROM OUR SISTERS IN THE VISION CHAPTER No. 17, PRINCE HALL AFFILIATED, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.

WORTHY MATRON VANESSA RAGSDALE AND ASSOCIATE MATRON JACQUE COBBS PRESENTED THE LODGE WITH A BEAUTIFUL PLAQUE IN RECOGNITION OF OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THEIR CHAPTER. THEIR KIND WORDS AND PRESENCE WERE A MEANINGFUL REMINDER OF THE STRONG BONDS OF FELLOWSHIP THAT UNITE OUR MASONIC FAMILY.

MOMENTS LIKE THESE HIGHLIGHT THE SHARED COMMITMENT WE HAVE TO OUR COMMUNITIES AND TO EACH OTHER—AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT FROM OUR OES SISTERS.

SANDOVAL LODGE PROUDLY DISPLAYS THIS TOKEN OF APPRECIATION AS A SYMBOL OF UNITY, MUTUAL RESPECT, AND THE LIGHT WE SHARE IN OUR COMMON WORK.



SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

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SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FROM THE NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AT OUR 51ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 WAS HONORED TO RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO. THE CERTIFICATE WAS PRESENTED IN PERSON BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE CATHERINE CULLEN, WHO JOINED US TO CELEBRATE THIS IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN OUR LODGE'S HISTORY.

THE CERTIFICATE COMMENDED THE LODGE FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, HIGHLIGHTING OUR COMMITMENT TO CHARITY, EDUCATION, AND BROTHERHOOD. IT ALSO RECOGNIZED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MASONIC SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES, A LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN NEED.

WE THANK REPRESENTATIVE CULLEN FOR TAKING THE TIME TO HONOR OUR LODGE AND FOR HER CONTINUED SUPPORT OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK TO BETTER THE COMMUNITY. THIS RECOGNITION IS A TESTAMENT TO THE POSITIVE IMPACT FREEMASONRY CONTINUES TO HAVE IN SANDOVAL COUNTY AND BEYOND.



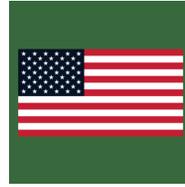
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SONS OF LIGHT CHAPTER – WIDOWS SONS MAY & JUNE 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

BY BROTHER STUART "SASQUATCH" MILES

THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE WERE FILLED WITH ACTIVITY, BROTHERHOOD, AND SERVICE FOR THE SONS OF LIGHT CHAPTER OF THE WIDOWS SONS.

ON MAY 16TH, MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER PARTICIPATED IN THE MOOSE LODGE 2447 CAR & BIKE SHOW, A CHARITABLE EVENT BENEFITING LOCKER 505 STUDENT CLOTHING BANK. THE EVENT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS WITH STRONG COMMUNITY TURNOUT. A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS GOES TO WS STOGIE, WHO PROUDLY TOOK HOME 3RD PLACE IN THE BIKE SHOW COMPETITION.

OVER MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, BROTHERS STOGIE, CHANGO, AND SASQUATCH REPRESENTED THE CHAPTER AT THE RED RIVER REVIVE THE RIDE RALLY. THE WEEKEND WAS ONE OF

FELLOWSHIP, SCENIC RIDING, AND HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED, WITH TIME FOR BOTH REMEMBRANCE AND REST.

THE MONTHLY MEETING FOR MAY WAS HELD AT THE LIGHTHOUSE, FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AND CONTINUED FELLOWSHIP AT BOW & ARROW BREWING, KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF UNITY ALIVE WITHIN THE CHAPTER.

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH, THE CHAPTER BEGAN THE DAY WITH A BEAUTIFUL RIDE THROUGH THE JEMEZ MOUNTAINS, ULTIMATELY ARRIVING AT SANDOVAL LODGE, WHERE THE SONS OF LIGHT HAD THE HONOR OF PATCHING IN A NEW MEMBER. WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME BROTHER COOP INTO THE FOLD AND LOOK FORWARD TO RIDING ALONGSIDE HIM.

IN AN INTERNATIONAL SHOW OF FRATERNAL BONDS, SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER ALSO TRAVELED TO MEXICO TO PARTICIPATE IN A WIDOWS SONS GATHERING. ONE OF OUR OWN, BROTHER ADRIAN, TOOK PART IN A POWERFUL MOMENT OF BROTHERHOOD BY BEING BRANDED INTO THE GROUP—CONGRATULATIONS, ADRIAN!

AS ALWAYS, THE SONS OF LIGHT CONTINUE TO RIDE WITH PURPOSE, HONOR THE CRAFT, AND SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES WHEREVER THE ROAD TAKES US.

TO VIEW AN ALBUM OF PICTURES OF WIDOWS SONS EVENTS, VISIT [FACEBOOK.COM/SANDOVALLODGE76](https://www.facebook.com/SandovalLodge76). FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE WIDOWS SONS SONS OF LIGHT CHAPTER AND HOW YOU CAN BECOME A PART OF THE BROTHERHOOD, CONTACT BRO. STUART "SASQUATCH" MILES AT STUARTMILES8@GMAIL.COM.



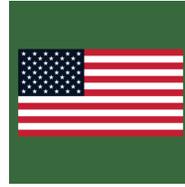
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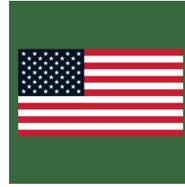
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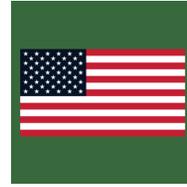
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IN MEMORIAM: WB BENJAMIN FRATACCIA

IT IS WITH HEAVY HEARTS THAT WE ANNOUNCE THE PASSING OF WORSHIPFUL BROTHER BENJAMIN FRATACCIA, WHO WAS ADMITTED TO THE CELESTIAL LODGE ABOVE IN JUNE AFTER A BATTLE WITH PANCREATIC CANCER.

WB FRATACCIA WAS A VALUED MEMBER OF SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76, AND ALTHOUGH HE HAD MOVED TO NORTH CAROLINA SEVERAL YEARS AGO, HE REMAINED IN TOUCH WITH THE LODGE AND CONTINUED TO EXEMPLIFY THE VIRTUES OF A TRUE MASON. HE WAS A PROUD NAVY VETERAN WHO SERVED AS A SEABEE, EMBODYING THE SPIRIT OF DEDICATION, DISCIPLINE, AND PATRIOTISM THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE.

WORSHIPFUL BROTHER FRATACCIA WAS A PROUD AMERICAN AND A STEADFAST BROTHER WHO WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM. WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY AND LOVED ONES, AND WE HONOR HIS MEMORY WITH GRATITUDE FOR HIS SERVICE – BOTH TO OUR COUNTRY AND TO THE CRAFT.

REST IN PEACE, BROTHER. YOU WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.



TRESTLEBOARD



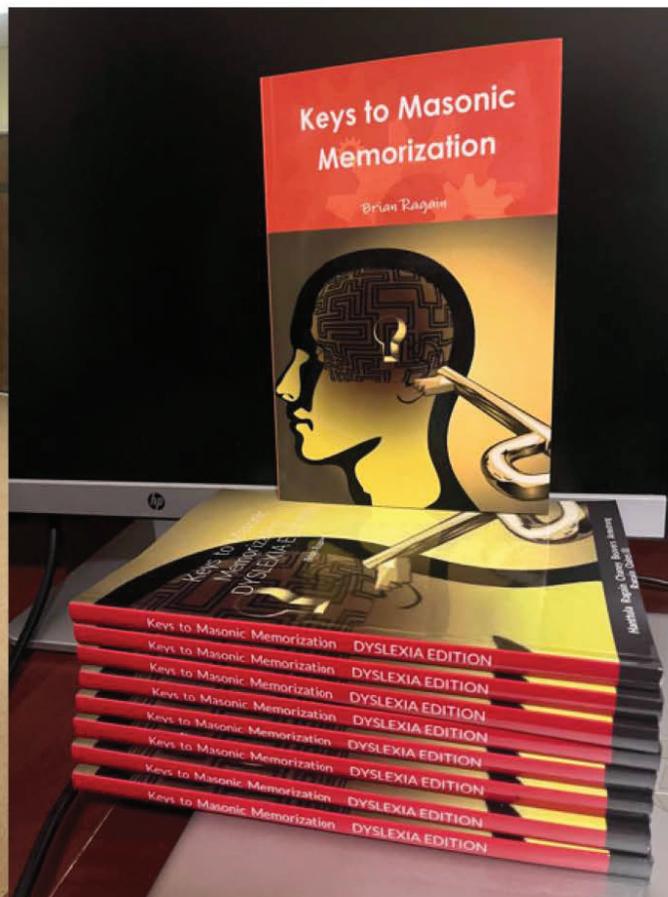
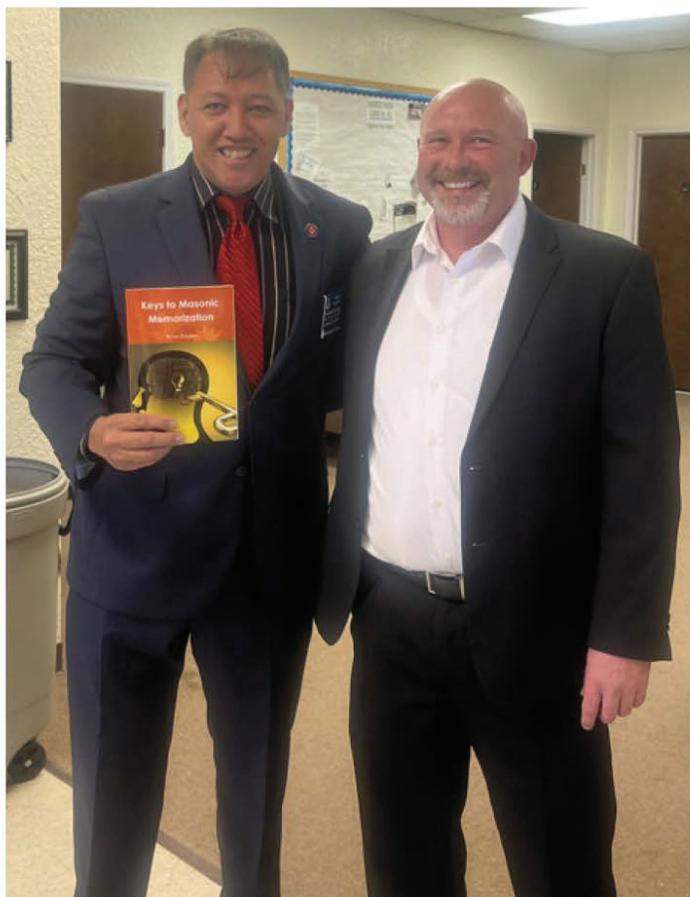
STRENGTHENING OUR RITUAL WORK THROUGH THE POWER OF MEMORIZATION

ONE OF THE FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS OF FREEMASONRY IS OUR RITUAL WORK. IT NOT ONLY PRESERVES OUR TRADITIONS BUT ALSO CONVEYS THE MORAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL LESSONS OF THE CRAFT IN A SYMBOLIC AND IMPACTFUL WAY. FOR THIS REASON, THE ABILITY TO MEMORIZE AND DELIVER RITUAL EFFECTIVELY IS ESSENTIAL FOR EVERY MASON.

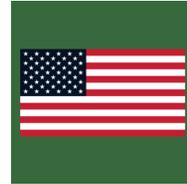
THANKFULLY, WE HAVE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT US IN THIS ENDEAVOR. ONE SUCH RESOURCE IS THE BOOK KEYS TO MASONIC MEMORIZATION, AUTHORED BY WORSHIPFUL BROTHER BRIAN RAGAIN. THIS INSIGHTFUL GUIDE OFFERS PRACTICAL TECHNIQUES FOR LEARNING AND RETAINING RITUAL WORK—MAKING IT AN INVALUABLE TOOL, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE JUST BEGINNING THEIR MASONIC JOURNEY. EVEN MORE MEANINGFUL IS THAT KEYS TO MASONIC MEMORIZATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN A DYSLEXIA EDITION. THIS VERSION USES SPECIALIZED FONTS AND FORMATTING DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THOSE WITH DYSLEXIA, MAKING THE CONTENT MORE ACCESSIBLE AND EASIER TO READ.

WHEN WB RAGAIN VISITED NEW MEXICO THIS PAST JUNE THANKS TO INVITE OF RW STEVE BALKE, MASTER OF EDGEWOOD LODGE, I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO ACQUIRE THE LAST OF THE BOOKS HE BROUGHT WITH HIM. THESE COPIES ARE NOW BEING GIFTED TO OUR NEW ENTERED APPRENTICES TO HELP THEM BEGIN THEIR JOURNEY WITH THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR SUCCESS.

INVESTING IN THE RITUAL—AND IN OURSELVES—IS HOW WE KEEP THE CRAFT ALIVE AND MEANINGFUL. LET US EACH COMMIT TO CONTINUAL LEARNING, REFLECTION, AND THE PRESERVATION OF OUR CHERISHED TRADITIONS.



TRESTLEBOARD



THE VALUE OF VISITING OTHER LODGES

ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING ASPECTS OF BEING A FREEMASON IS THE ABILITY TO VISIT OTHER LODGES. WHETHER IT'S A NEIGHBORING LODGE OR ONE IN A DIFFERENT JURISDICTION, ATTENDING ANOTHER LODGE'S STATED COMMUNICATION OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BROADEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CRAFT, EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT CUSTOMS AND STYLES OF RITUAL, AND CONNECT WITH BROTHERS YOU MAY HAVE NEVER MET OTHERWISE.

VISITING IS MORE THAN JUST A COURTESY —IT'S A PRACTICE THAT STRENGTHENS THE FRATERNITY AS A WHOLE. IT ALLOWS US TO SHARE IDEAS, CELEBRATE EACH OTHER'S WORK, AND DEEPEN THE BONDS THAT UNITE US. IT IS ALSO A POWERFUL REMINDER THAT WE ARE PART OF SOMETHING FAR LARGER THAN OUR HOME LODGE.

WHEN YOU DO GET THE CHANCE TO VISIT, CONSIDER KINDLY REQUESTING THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER TO TAKE A GROUP PHOTO AT THE END OF THE MEETING. NOT EVERY LODGE MAY HAVE THIS TRADITION, BUT CAPTURING THAT MOMENT HELPS PRESERVE THE MEMORY OF YOUR VISIT— AND MAY EVEN INSPIRE OTHERS TO DO THE SAME. THESE PHOTOS SERVE AS A VISUAL RECORD OF OUR MASONIC JOURNEY AND THE FRIENDSHIPS WE FORGE ALONG THE WAY.

SO MAKE THE EFFORT WHEN YOU CAN. ATTEND, LEARN, SUPPORT, AND TAKE A PICTURE. THESE SHARED EXPERIENCES AND CAPTURED MEMORIES ARE A VITAL PART OF WHAT MAKES FREEMASONRY SO ENRICHING.

*RECENT VISITATIONS MADE TO
EDGEWOOD LODGE, AND TO
BETHELEHEM LODGE IN BELEN
(SW BRO. JOHN EVEN CONFERRED
THEIR EA DEGREE!)*

TRESTLEBOARD



CELEBRATING MASONIC CHARITY ON THE 4TH OF JULY

BY BURX NORROD

THIS PAST 4TH OF JULY, AMID THE FIREWORKS, FOOD, AND FESTIVITIES, I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF SPENDING SOME TIME WITH BROTHER DAN IRICK AND HIS WIFE, JODIE. DAN CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE MASONIC SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES (MSCLD), A CAUSE THAT EXEMPLIFIES THE TRUE SPIRIT OF MASONIC CHARITY AND COMPASSION. WHILE MOST OF US WERE FOCUSED ON CELEBRATING AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE, OUR CONVERSATION TURNED TO THE FREEDOMS WE OFTEN TAKE FOR GRANTED—LIKE THE ABILITY TO READ, WRITE, AND LEARN WITH CONFIDENCE. FOR MANY CHILDREN WITH DYSLEXIA, THOSE FREEDOMS DON'T COME EASILY. BUT THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE MSCLD, HOPE IS RESTORED AND FUTURES ARE REWRITTEN.

FOUNDED WITH THE MISSION OF HELPING CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES—PARTICULARLY DYSLEXIA—THE MSCLD PROVIDES DIRECT SUPPORT TO STUDENTS AND

FAMILIES WHO OFTEN FIND THEMSELVES WITH NOWHERE ELSE TO TURN. WHAT MAKES THIS SCHOOL REMARKABLE IS NOT JUST THE SPECIALIZED EDUCATIONAL TOOLS AND STRATEGIES USED, BUT THE HEART AND INTENT BEHIND ITS FOUNDING: TO FULFILL A MASONIC OBLIGATION TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS. UNDER DAN'S LEADERSHIP, THE SCHOOL HAS CONTINUED TO GROW AND EVOLVE, REACHING MORE CHILDREN ACROSS NEW MEXICO AND HELPING THEM SUCCEED IN SCHOOL, AT HOME, AND IN LIFE.

DAN IRICK HAS ALSO PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL AND ITS INITIATIVES, BOTH ADMINISTRATIVELY AND AS A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES. DAN HAS HELPED STEER MSCLD TO BECOME NOT JUST A RESOURCE, BUT A LIFELINE FOR MANY FAMILIES NAVIGATING THE CHALLENGES OF LEARNING DISABILITIES. THEIR DEDICATION IS A TESTAMENT TO WHAT IT TRULY MEANS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN THE MASONIC TRADITION.

OUR TIME TOGETHER ON THE 4TH REMINDED ME THAT WHILE FREEMASONRY MAY BE RICH IN SYMBOLISM, RITUAL, AND HERITAGE, IT MUST ALSO BE DEEPLY ROOTED IN ACTION. INSTITUTIONS LIKE THE MSCLD ARE NOT ABSTRACT IDEALS—THEY ARE LIVING EXAMPLES OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MASONS PUT THEIR PRINCIPLES TO WORK IN THE WORLD.

FOR ANY BROTHER—OR MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC—INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOL, SUPPORTING ITS MISSION, OR REFERRING A CHILD IN NEED OF HELP, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO VISIT WWW.MSCLD.ORG.

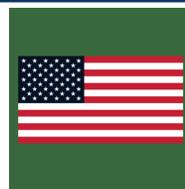
AS FIREWORKS LIT UP THE SKY THAT EVENING, I COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL A RENEWED SENSE OF PRIDE—NOT JUST IN OUR COUNTRY, BUT IN OUR FRATERNITY AND ITS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHERE IT MATTERS MOST: IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS.



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BREAKING BREAD AND BUILDING BRIDGES: A FELLOWSHIP WITH WM JERMAINE WASHINGTON OF VISION LODGE PHA

BY BURX NORROD

LAST MONTH, I HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING UP WITH WORSHIPFUL MASTER JERMAINE WASHINGTON, THE SITTING MASTER OF VISION LODGE, PRINCE HALL AFFILIATED (PHA), RIGHT HERE IN RIO RANCHO. IN ADDITION TO LEADING HIS LODGE, WBRO. JERMAINE ALSO SERVES AS THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN (GJW) FOR THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF NEW MEXICO—A BROTHER WITH DEEP COMMITMENT, INSIGHT, AND VISION, BOTH LITERALLY AND SYMBOLICALLY.

WE CHOSE TO MEET AT THE NEWLY OPENED HAWAIIAN RESTAURANT IN RIO RANCHO, L&M BBQ—A COZY, LAID-BACK SPOT WITH FLAVORS THAT TRANSPORTED US STRAIGHT TO THE ISLANDS. WHILE THE KALUA PORK AND MAC SALAD WERE MEMORABLE, IT WAS THE CONVERSATION THAT LEFT A LASTING IMPRESSION.

WHAT BEGAN AS TWO MASTERS OF SEPARATE LODGES SIMPLY ENJOYING A MEAL TOGETHER QUICKLY EVOLVED INTO A MEANINGFUL DISCUSSION ABOUT THE STATE OF FREEMASONRY IN NEW MEXICO, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY, THE OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE TO FOSTER UNITY AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN PRINCE HALL AFFILIATED (PHA) MASONRY AND MAINSTREAM MASONRY.

FOR FAR TOO LONG, OUR JURISDICTIONS HAVE WORKED IN PARALLEL, BUT NOT ALWAYS IN PARTNERSHIP. WHILE OUR RITUALS, LANDMARKS, AND OBLIGATIONS ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL, THE HISTORICAL DIVIDES—MANY OF WHICH NO LONGER HOLD WEIGHT IN TODAY'S WORLD—HAVE SOMETIMES KEPT OUR PATHS FROM CROSSING AS FREQUENTLY AS THEY SHOULD. WHAT WM JERMAINE AND I AGREED ON WHOLEHEARTEDLY IS THAT IT'S TIME FOR THAT TO CHANGE.

WE DISCUSSED THE POTENTIAL FOR JOINT EVENTS, SHARED MASONIC EDUCATION NIGHTS, AND EVEN PUBLIC-FACING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS WHERE BOTH MAINSTREAM AND PHA LODGES CAN WORK SIDE BY SIDE. THESE EFFORTS WOULDN'T JUST SERVE THE CRAFT—THEY'D SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES AND HELP RESTORE A MORE UNITED PUBLIC IMAGE OF WHAT FREEMASONRY IS ALL ABOUT: UNITY, BROTHERLY LOVE, AND MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER, REGARDLESS OF JURISDICTION.

THERE WAS A REFRESHING OPENNESS IN OUR DISCUSSION—A WILLINGNESS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE PAST, BUT NOT BE BOUND BY IT. WE TALKED ABOUT HOW YOUNGER MASONS ACROSS BOTH GRAND LODGES ARE INCREASINGLY EAGER TO WORK TOGETHER AND LEARN FROM EACH OTHER. THEY WANT TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, NOT WALLS. AND AS CURRENT LODGE LEADERS, IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP PAVE THAT PATH FORWARD.

WM JERMAINE'S CALM LEADERSHIP AND VISION WERE EVIDENT THROUGHOUT OUR CONVERSATION. HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPES TO CREATE MORE POINTS OF CONTACT AND COOPERATION BETWEEN PHA AND MAINSTREAM LODGES—NOT JUST AT THE LEADERSHIP LEVEL, BUT THROUGHOUT THE RANK AND FILE. AS FOR MYSELF, I LEFT THE MEETING BOTH INSPIRED AND ENERGIZED. THIS IS PRECISELY THE KIND OF DIALOGUE THAT ADVANCES THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CRAFT AND REINFORCES THE TENETS OF BROTHERLY LOVE AND TRUTH.

THIS LUNCH WASN'T A FORMAL SUMMIT OR COMMITTEE MEETING. IT WAS TWO BROTHERS, FROM TWO GRAND LODGES, LIVING THE PRINCIPLES WE'RE TAUGHT IN OUR DEGREES. IT WAS A HANDSHAKE ACROSS JURISDICTIONS AND AN AFFIRMATION THAT WE ARE ALL PART OF THE SAME ANCIENT BROTHERHOOD.

I LOOK FORWARD TO MANY MORE MEALS, MEETINGS, AND JOINT ENDEAVORS WITH WM JERMAINE WASHINGTON AND THE BROTHERS OF VISION LODGE. LET THIS MOMENT SERVE AS A SMALL BUT SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD—A SYMBOL OF WHAT'S POSSIBLE WHEN MASONS UNITE UNDER THE COMMON BANNER OF LIGHT, TRUTH, AND FRATERNITY.

THE WORK IS JUST BEGINNING—BUT THE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN LAID.

SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

**JULY
A.:L.:
6025**

TRESTLEBOARD



UNION LODGE No. 4 IN WAGON MOUND: A STRONG RETURN TO LIGHT

UNION LODGE No. 4, ONE OF NEW MEXICO'S HISTORIC MOON LODGES, HAS MADE A REMARKABLE RETURN SINCE REOPENING ITS DOORS EARLIER THIS YEAR. WITH RENEWED ENERGY, A DEDICATED GROUP OF BROTHERS, AND A COMMITMENT TO REVIVING MASONIC LIGHT IN WAGON MOUND, THE LODGE HAS ALREADY HELD TWO SUCCESSFUL STATED COMMUNICATIONS.

THE FIRST COMMUNICATION WAS MARKED BY A DISTINGUISHED VISIT FROM MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER ROBIN JUSTICE AND RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN MICHAEL FREITAS, UNDERSCORING THE IMPORTANCE AND SUPPORT OF UNION LODGE'S REACTIVATION WITHIN THE JURISDICTION. THE PRESENCE OF THESE GRAND LODGE OFFICERS SERVED AS A SYMBOLIC AND LITERAL AFFIRMATION THAT UNION LODGE No. 4 IS BACK ON THE MASONIC MAP.

THE SECOND STATED COMMUNICATION BROUGHT EVEN MORE EXCITING NEWS: TWO NEW PLURAL MEMBERS WERE ELECTED INTO THE LODGE—WORSHIPFUL MASTER BURX NORROD AND RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LARRY MIKKELSEN—BOTH BRINGING EXPERIENCE, LEADERSHIP, AND VISION TO HELP GUIDE UNION LODGE IN ITS REBUILDING EFFORTS.

IN ADDITION TO RENEWED MEMBERSHIP AND RITUAL ACTIVITY, UNION LODGE No. 4 HAS ALSO STEPPED INTO THE DIGITAL AGE WITH A BRAND-NEW ONLINE PRESENCE:

WEBSITE: WWW.UNIONLODGE4.ORG

FACEBOOK PAGE: FACEBOOK.COM/UNIONLODGE4

GOOGLE LISTING: NOW LIVE FOR SEARCHES AND DIRECTIONS

UNION LODGE No. 4 IS LOCATED AT 600 CALHOUN ST., WAGON MOUND, NM, AND HOLDS ITS STATED COMMUNICATIONS ON THE TUESDAY BEFORE THE FULL MOON, A TRADITION PRESERVED FROM ITS ORIGINS AS ONE OF NEW MEXICO'S ORIGINAL MOON LODGES. THIS UNIQUE SCHEDULE HARKENS BACK TO A TIME WHEN LODGES MET BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON TO GUIDE TRAVELING MASONS SAFELY TO AND FROM THEIR MEETINGS.

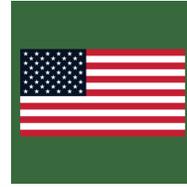
WITH STRONG COMMUNITY SUPPORT, DEDICATED LEADERSHIP, AND THE BACKING OF THE GRAND LODGE, UNION LODGE No. 4 IS ONCE AGAIN SHINING BRIGHT IN THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF NEW MEXICO. IF YOU'RE A MASON TRAVELING THROUGH OR A BROTHER LOOKING TO RECONNECT, MAKE PLANS TO VISIT—UNION LODGE No. 4 WELCOMES YOU!



SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

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TRESTLEBOARD



A FULFILLING JUNE 1ST STATED COMMUNICATION

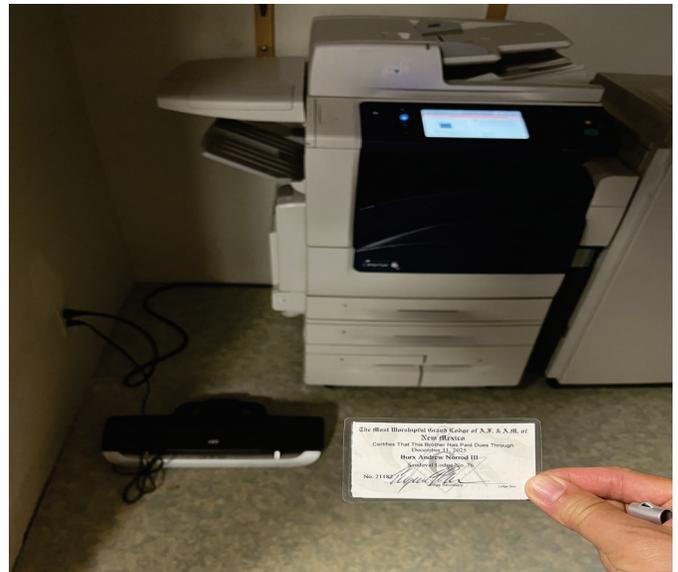
OUR JUNE 1ST STATED COMMUNICATION WAS BOTH ENRICHING AND ENJOYABLE—AN EVENING THAT REFLECTED THE SPIRIT OF FELLOWSHIP, EDUCATION, AND GENEROSITY THAT DEFINES OUR LODGE.

THE EVENING BEGAN WITH A FANTASTIC MEAL PREPARED BY BRO. KENNETH FREEMAN AND BRO. BENJAMIN COTE, WHOSE CULINARY EFFORTS WERE MET WITH ENTHUSIASTIC APPRECIATION FROM ALL IN ATTENDANCE. THEIR DEDICATION TO SERVING THE LODGE—BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE KITCHEN—IS ALWAYS A WELCOME HIGHLIGHT OF OUR GATHERINGS.

FOLLOWING DINNER, WE WERE TREATED TO AN ENGAGING AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING PRESENTATION ON THE ORIGINS OF THE MASONIC SQUARE & COMPASSES. THIS EXPLORATION INTO THE SYMBOLIC FOUNDATIONS OF OUR CRAFT OFFERED VALUABLE INSIGHTS AND SPARKED MEANINGFUL DISCUSSION AMONG THE BRETHREN.

IN A FURTHER ACT OF GENEROSITY, BRO. KENNETH FREEMAN DONATED A LAMINATING MACHINE TO THE LODGE—AN EXTREMELY PRACTICAL GIFT! WE CAN NOW PROTECT OUR DUES CARDS FOR LONG-TERM DURABILITY IN OUR WALLETS, PRESERVING THEM FROM THE WEAR AND TEAR OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

IT WAS AN EVENING THAT NOURISHED THE BODY, MIND, AND SPIRIT—PROVING ONCE AGAIN THAT WHEN BRETHREN COME TOGETHER IN UNITY, GREAT THINGS HAPPEN.



SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

JULY
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TRESTLEBOARD



INVEST IN YOURSELF – MASONIC COURSES NOW 50% OFF!

LOOKING TO GROW IN YOUR MASONIC JOURNEY? THESE COURSES ARE A GREAT WAY TO DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVE YOURSELF IN FREEMASONRY. WHETHER YOU'RE JUST STARTING OUT OR A SEASONED BROTHER, THERE'S ALWAYS MORE TO LEARN.

EVEN BETTER—THEY'RE 50% OFF FOR THE MONTH OF JULY!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN YOUR PERSONAL AND MASONIC DEVELOPMENT.

NOW'S THE PERFECT TIME TO SHARPEN YOUR TOOLS!



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mastercraftsmancollege.org

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SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

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TRESTLEBOARD



JUNE LODGE FIELD DAY – A SUCCESSFUL EFFORT IN PREPARATION FOR OUR 51ST ANNIVERSARY

WITH OUR 51ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION QUICKLY APPROACHING, THE BRETHREN OF SANDOVAL LODGE CAME TOGETHER IN JUNE FOR A LODGE FIELD DAY—AND IT PROVED TO BE A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS.

THIS WAS MORE THAN JUST TIDYING UP. BROTHERS ROLLED UP THEIR SLEEVES AND GOT TO WORK—DEEP CLEANING THE TEMPLE, REORGANIZING STORAGE SPACES, SPRUCING UP THE DINING HALL, AND MAKING SURE EVERY CORNER OF THE LODGE REFLECTED THE PRIDE WE HAVE IN OUR HOME. FROM SWEEPING AND

MOPPING TO DUSTING, VACUUMING, AND REARRANGING FURNITURE, EVERY TASK WAS TACKLED WITH CARE, ENERGY, AND BROTHERHOOD.

WHAT MADE THE DAY EVEN MORE SPECIAL WAS THE PRESENCE OF OUR ENTERED APPRENTICE PROSPECT, WHO JOINED IN TO LEND A HAND. HIS WILLINGNESS TO SHOW UP AND HELP—BEFORE EVEN TAKING HIS DEGREE—SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT HIS CHARACTER AND COMMITMENT. IT WAS A POWERFUL REMINDER THAT THE SPIRIT OF FREEMASONRY STARTS BEFORE ONE EVER CROSSES THE THRESHOLD OF THE LODGE ROOM.

THESE EFFORTS WERE NOT JUST ABOUT CLEANLINESS—THEY WERE ABOUT HONORING THE SPACE WHERE WE WORK, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER. THANKS TO THE HARD WORK OF ALL WHO PARTICIPATED, THE LODGE LOOKED FANTASTIC AND WAS WELL-PREPARED TO WELCOME MEMBERS, GUESTS, AND DIGNITARIES FOR OUR 51ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

TO ALL THE BROTHERS (AND OUR EA PROSPECT!) WHO SHOWED UP, THANK YOU. YOUR TIME, LABOR, AND SHARED COMMITMENT ENSURED THAT THE EVENT WAS NOT ONLY MEMORABLE, BUT A REFLECTION OF THE CARE AND UNITY THAT DEFINE OUR LODGE.

HERE'S TO CONTINUING THAT SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND DEDICATION AS WE MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER.



SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

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TRESTLEBOARD



MONDAY, JULY 14 – 1ST STATED COMMUNICATION

WE KICK OFF THE MONTH WITH A BUSY EVENING OF RITUAL AND FELLOWSHIP:

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE CONFERRAL

MASTER MASON PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION

DINNER AT 6:00 PM – TACOS PREPARED BY BRO. KENNETH FREEMAN

STATED COMMUNICATION BEGINS AT 7:00 PM

MONDAY, JULY 28 – 2ND STATED COMMUNICATION

SW BRO. JOHN KEEL WILL SERVE AS MASTER FOR THE EVENING. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION AND AGENDA TO BE ANNOUNCED.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 - LODGE PLANNING MEETING ON ZOOM (OPEN TO ALL)

STAY TUNED FOR ZOOM LINK ON EMAIL

MONDAY, AUGUST 4 – MM DEGREE PRACTICE

MASTER MASONS: PLEASE ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE AS WE PREPARE FOR THE UPCOMING CONFERRAL.

PRACTICE BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10 – MM DEGREE PRACTICE (FINAL RUN-THROUGH)

A FINAL REHEARSAL TO ENSURE EXCELLENCE IN THE DEGREE.

PRACTICE BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

MONDAY, AUGUST 11 – 1ST STATED COMMUNICATION

MASTER MASON DEGREE CONFERRAL

DINNER AT 6:00 PM, STATED COMMUNICATION AT 7:00 PM

MONDAY, AUGUST 25 – 2ND STATED COMMUNICATION

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE CONFERRAL (PENDING SUCCESSFUL BALLOTING)

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS ON THE CAST AND PRACTICE SCHEDULE.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 – 1ST STATED COMMUNICATION

DINNER AT 6:00 PM PREPARED BY THE TURQUOISE CHAPTER OF THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

PUBLIC MASONIC EDUCATION PRESENTATION BY MEMBERS OF TURQUOISE CHAPTER, HELD DURING LODGE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ALLIED MASONIC BODIES

WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US IN THESE EVENTS AND LEND YOUR SUPPORT—WHETHER IN THE CONFERRAL OF DEGREES, MENTORSHIP OF NEW BROTHERS, OR SIMPLY SHARING IN FELLOWSHIP. LET US CONTINUE TO LABOR TOGETHER IN UNITY, AS WE GROW IN LIGHT AND STRENGTHEN THE CRAFT.

SANDOVAL LODGE No. 76 AF & AM

**JULY
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TRESTLEBOARD



WHY THE TRESTLEBOARD MATTERS – AND HOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF IT

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT TOOLS WE HAVE FOR KEEPING THE CRAFT CONNECTED AND INFORMED IS OUR MONTHLY TRESTLEBOARD. IT'S MORE THAN JUST A NEWSLETTER—IT'S THE WORKING BLUEPRINT OF OUR LODGE LIFE, HELPING TO COMMUNICATE OUR VISION, CELEBRATE OUR MILESTONES, AND SHARE THE EVENTS AND TEACHINGS THAT DEFINE WHO WE ARE AS MASONS.

FOR MEMBERS OF SANDOVAL LODGE, THE TRESTLEBOARD PROVIDES REGULAR UPDATES ON UPCOMING MEETINGS, DEGREE WORK, EDUCATIONAL TOPICS, COMMUNITY OUTREACH, ANNIVERSARIES, AND MORE. BUT IT ALSO SERVES A DEEPER PURPOSE: IT REINFORCES OUR UNITY, REMINDS US OF OUR SHARED VALUES, AND KEEPS US ENGAGED—EVEN WHEN WE CAN'T BE THERE IN PERSON.

JUST AS IMPORTANTLY, THE TRESTLEBOARD IS OFTEN ONE OF THE FIRST IMPRESSIONS A PROSPECTIVE MEMBER MAY HAVE OF OUR LODGE. IT REFLECTS OUR ACTIVITY, OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CRAFT, AND THE VIBRANCY OF OUR BROTHERHOOD. A CONSISTENT, THOUGHTFUL, AND CONTENT-RICH PUBLICATION SENDS A CLEAR MESSAGE—SANDOVAL LODGE IS ALIVE, ACTIVE, AND THRIVING.

BUT TO KEEP THAT MOMENTUM GOING, WE NEED YOUR VOICE.

WHETHER YOU'RE INVOLVED IN AN APPENDANT BODY, ORGANIZING A COMMUNITY EVENT, STUDYING A PIECE OF RITUAL, OR REFLECTING ON YOUR MASONIC JOURNEY—YOUR EXPERIENCE HAS VALUE. SHARING YOUR INSIGHTS, STORIES, AND PHOTOS HELPS INSPIRE OTHERS, STRENGTHEN CONNECTIONS, AND BROADEN THE PERSPECTIVES OF EVERYONE WHO READS THE TRESTLEBOARD.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE UPCOMING AUGUST EDITION, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE AND ANY ACCOMPANYING PICTURES TO THE TRESTLEBOARD EDITOR:

BURXNORROD@GMAIL.COM

TOGETHER, WE CAN CONTINUE BUILDING A TRESTLEBOARD THAT INFORMS, EDUCATES, AND UPLIFTS NOT ONLY OUR OWN BRETHREN—BUT ALL THOSE WHO ARE WATCHING AND WONDERING WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A FREEMASON TODAY.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE—SHARE YOUR VOICE.

