

The Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M.
GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

Volume 123 Number 3

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

September 2021

“Because I Am A Mason”



2020-2021 Grand Lodge Officers



Please join us for the 177th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa
at the River Center in Davenport

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GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

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THE GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

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2021 Regional Schools

Monday, September 6, 2021 Ottumwa Lodge No. 16,
611 E Pennsylvania Ave.....9:00 A.M.
Thursday, September 16, 2021 Grand Lodge School,
Davenport.....8:00 A.M.
Thursday, October 14, 2021 Warren Lodge No. 53,
1606 W. 2nd St, Indianola.....5:30 P.M.
Friday, October 15, 2021 Paul Revere Lodge No.
638, 303 Front St., Lucas.....9:00 A.M.
Thursday, November 18, 2021 Trial Lodge No. 532,
884 Glen Dr., Moville.....5:30 P.M.
Friday, November 19, 2021 Signet Lodge No. 264,
2002 N. Highway 71,Carroll.....9:00 A.M.
Thursday, March 24, 2022 Grove Lodge No. 492,
Washington St., Marne.....5:30 P.M.
Friday, March 25, 2022 South Gate Lodge No. 657,
1111 Randolph St., Des Moines.....9:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 14, 2022 Rhodes Lodge No. 303,
505 W Mulberry, Ogden.....5:30 P.M.
Friday, April 15, 2022 Osceola Lodge No. 77,
100 S. Park St., Osceola.....9:00 A.M.
Thursday, May 19, 2022 West Union Lodge No. 69,
132 S. Vine St., West Union.....5:30 P.M.
Friday, May 20, 2022 Mizpah Lodge No. 639,
616 A Ave. NE., Cedar Rapids.....9:00 A.M.
Thursday, June 16, 2022 Star Lodge No. 115,
233 S State St., Madrid.....5:30 P.M.
Friday, July 15, 2022 Mount Pleasant Lodge No. 8,
206 N Main St., Mount Pleasant.....9:00 A.M.
Saturday, August 27, 2022 Adel Lodge No. 80,
411 S 12th St., Adel.....9:00 A.M.
Monday September 5, 2022 Ottumwa Lodge No. 16,
611 E. Pennsylvania Ave, Ottumwa9:00 A.M.



Abraham Lincoln Impersonator

Lee Williams from Atlantic, Iowa will present
"A man of character, honesty and compassion".

Thursday, September 16, 2021

3:00 P.M. at the Grand Lodge of Iowa

Annual Communication

Davenport River Center, 136 E 3rd Street

Davenport, Iowa 52801

Grand Lodge Room

Grand Master's Message "Because I am a Mason"

Greetings Brothers,

It has truly been an honor to serve you this year as Grand Master of Iowa Masons. The 177th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa will be held in Davenport September 16-18, 2021 at the Radisson Quad City Plaza Hotel and River Center. If you have not done so, please make your hotel reservation and order your meal tickets for the planned events. No tickets will be sold at the door. On Thursday morning, the Custodians will conduct a Ritual School of Instruction for those who want to learn or improve their Ritual. At approximately 3:00 Thursday afternoon Lee Williams, an Abe Lincoln impersonator will provide a live presentation for both the men and ladies on the life of President Abraham Lincoln. The Grand Master's Fellowship Banquet will be held in the evening, including introductions, presentation of the Teacher of the Year Award and T.S. Parvin Award recipients, and capped off with the singing duo "Girls Night Out".



Grand Lodge will follow the traditional agenda as in the past beginning Friday morning. As Masters and Wardens, you promised to attend the Grand Lodge Communication during your terms. I ask you to please make every effort to attend and participate in the election of the 2021-2022 Grand Lodge Officers and any other business which may come before this Communication. The All-Masonic Banquet will be held in the evening followed by the public installation of the incoming Grand Lodge Officers.

Grand Lodge will conclude Saturday morning with the exchange of the jewels with next year's Grand Lodge Officers.

Again, I want to thank all the Masons and Lodges in Iowa for supporting the 2020-2021 Grand Lodge Family and we look forward to being able to personally thank each of you at Grand Lodge. My Lady Linda and I will BCNU' in Davenport.

Fraternally,



Dennis R. Heflin
Grand Master of Masons in Iowa



Hello Ladies,

I would like to invite all of you to the 177th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa in Davenport September 16-18, 2021.

My program for the year was to raise money through lapel pin sales for the Puppy Jake Foundation to support disabled Veterans and has been successful due to your support and contributions. We will be making a presentation to the Puppy Jake Foundation Thursday morning during Grand Lodge.

I will continue the silent auction this year with proceeds going to the Puppy Jake Foundation. Please bring items you may wish to donate on Wednesday or Thursday morning as the bidding will begin on Thursday.

I also want to thank everyone for making the 2020-2021 Grand Lodge family feel so welcome during the year. Denny and I look forward to greeting all of you in Davenport and thank you so much for your continued support and hospitality throughout the year.

Linda Heflin
Grand Master's Lady



**Grand Lodge of Iowa
177th Annual Communication**



September 16-18, 2021

Radisson Quad City Plaza Hotel

Headquarters Hotel: 111 East 2nd Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801

Standard King – \$112.00/nightly plus tax

Two Queen Beds – \$112.00/nightly plus tax

To make your reservation: call: 1-563-322-2200 (Please reference Grand Lodge of Iowa when calling).



Grand Lodge 2021 Ladies Schedule of Events

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Ladies Hospitality room will be open to receive delivery of baked goods for the Bake Sale and Silent Auction items. We will need volunteers to help get items ready. We will also be getting gift bags ready for Masons Thursday morning registration.

Thursday, September 16, 2021

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - coffee, tea and cookies, breakfast on your own. The Ladies Hospitality room will be open, registration and bake sale items will be arriving most of the day.

10:00 a.m. - Puppy Jake Program and presentation. These special dogs are raised and trained from puppyhood to travel by planes, trains, and other vehicles, and how to properly act in restaurants and other public facilities. They can even attend Grand Lodge!

12:00 p.m. - Ladies on their own for lunch.

3:30 p.m. - Joint program for Masons and Ladies featuring Lee Williams, an Abe Lincoln impersonator, in the lodge room at the River Center. We hope you can attend.

5:00 p.m. - Social Hour at the Event Center.

6:00 p.m. - Grand Masters Banquet (Formal attire for Grand Lodge officers and ladies), Entertainment: Girls Nite Out.

Friday September 17, 2021

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Hospitality room open with coffee, tea and cookies.

11:00 a.m. - Necrology Service (Public Memorial Service). Women are encouraged to attend.

12:00 p.m. - Ladies luncheon, cost is \$22.00, pre-paid ticket required. No meal tickets available at the Grand Lodge Session.

2:00 p.m. - Program "Spices and Lavendar"

5:00 p.m. - Social Hour at the event center.

6:00 p.m. - All Masonic Banquet and announcement of the Silent Auction winners, followed by the public Installation of the 2021-2022 Grand Lodge officers in the Grand Lodge room. Reception will be after the installation outside of the Grand Lodge room. Winners of Silent Auction items may pick up their winnings in the Hospitality room at the hotel.

Saturday September 18, 2021

8:30a.m. to 10:00a.m. - Casual Continental Breakfast hosted by 2020-2021 Grand Lodge ladies in the Hospitality room. Complimentary with a ticket required.

As this year's Grand Lodge draws to a close, we wish all of you have a safe trip home and a healthy and happy year. Best wishes to the incoming Grand Lodge officers and their ladies.

Architects of Peace
Freemasons in the Age of Change and Chaos
Worshipful Brother, Raymond Liongson, Past Master

(Delivered during the 2018 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, Free and Accepted Mason, on April 21, 2018 at the Honolulu Scottish Rite Cathedral, Honolulu, Hawaii.)

Brothers all, good morning,

In 2005, the year I was raised as a Master Mason, I received a Grand Master's pin from the MW Raymond Wieckowicz, Jr. On that pin was a simple yet profound and timeless dictum. Embossed with the Square and Compass, it boldly stated: CORNERSTONE TO PEACE.

Note that it says "Cornerstone to Peace" not "of peace".

I have reflected on this pin for some time. It suggests a solid foundation and a continuing journey to a noble goal. It is an acknowledgement of a demanding task and an assertion of a promising capacity. It reflects the yin and the yang of our contemporary time -- that of difficulties and opportunities.



Change and Chaos

We all agree that the only permanent thing in the world is constant change. Our demography has changed, technology has advanced, thoughts have evolved, relationships have morphed. Consequently, how we do a lot of things have likewise changed. We have also learned that while change can sometimes result in chaos, chaos also has the potential to stimulate and bring about change. Both change and chaos have the capacity of dismantling something beneficial. But they also have the power of creating an opportunity for growth and advancement. It is in the latter creative and constructive capacity that we strive for.

Global Situationer

Let us step back for a moment and look into what is happening in our current global system. Many of the so-called "development initiatives" have actually created serious human concerns. Our planet is gasping for clean air, its waters choked with waste, its face mutilated and ravaged. There is poverty and disparity in every corner of the world -- from the glittering cities to the parched countryside. While rich throw-away societies discard to waste up to over a quarter of their food, many impoverished nations are constantly faced by famine and starvation. Human rights violations continue to rob the life and dignity of millions of people. We hear of xenophobia and genocide, torture and extrajudicial killings, human trafficking and enslavement. The world is assaulted by corruption and arrogance, greed and selfishness, falsehoods and ignorance. Even families escape not the sharp jab of disconnectedness and domestic violence. And all the victims share one essential experience: the debasement of human dignity.

These crises are man-made, mostly rooted from the erosion of moral principles and the decadence of human compassion -- all requiring systemic solutions going beyond band-aid fixes.

Masonic Framework

The 21st century is an age of perplexing global change, a fact that is daunting even to the more seasoned leaders. How do we navigate through these challenges? What is our role in bringing about constructive change? How do Masonic ideals and principles fit into this enormous task?

It is casual to say that there is nothing we can do to address these global issues and simply walk away. Resignation has always been a convenient excuse. But the true test of our ritual proficiency is the application of the principles of our Fraternity, not only for our individual progress, but, for societal advancement as well. This is where the relevance of Freemasonry is put to test -- our participation, if not leadership, in the effort to redeem humanity.

Speaking at a Masonic Lodge in Madrid in 1883, Dr. Jose Rizal -- a Filipino intellectual, polymath, martyr and Freemason -- said:

"The duty of modern man . . . is to work for the redemption of humanity. (And) humanity cannot be redeemed so long as there are oppressed peoples, so long as there are some men who live on the tears of many, so long as there are emasculated minds and blinded eyes that enable others to live like (rulers) who alone may enjoy beauty. Humanity cannot be redeemed while reason is not free, while faith would want to impose itself on facts, while whims are laws, and while there are nations who subjugate others." (La Solidaridad Lodge No. 53)

These were words spoken 135 years ago but they still remain true today. And as we take pride in the work and achievements of great men and Masons in the past, let us likewise take a bite of the burden to continue their work and preserve the value of their achievements.

Responding to the challenges of today's changes and chaos inescapably invokes the fundamental Masonic principles and cardinal virtues -- those of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; those of temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice; and those of morality, equality and rectitude. Indeed, it is inevitable that we frame our diagnosis of and prescriptions to most societal ills within a Masonic thinking.

This is why Masonry is a cornerstone to peace. Much of what it takes to attain and preserve peace are ingrained in the teachings of Masonry. The molding of human character -- that compassion for others, the fortitude and courage to stand and fight for what is right and just, the unwavering commitment to truth -- is a part of our Masonic journey and certainly an element in the broad process of achieving and preserving peace.

An Ultimate Human Aspiration

Peace is among the ultimate human aspirations. Ironically, it appears that this is becoming a more elusive dream to achieve. Many fail to recognize "the whole human species as one family" and are divided by the walls of hatred and indifference because of their varying races, countries, sect, and opinions. Others have dismissed truth as the "foundation of every virtue" and have resorted to lies, propaganda, and disinformation. Justice itself has become a casualty, or one that can only be accessed by those who have the resources to obtain it. Wealth and power have become the currency of the time.

These conditions are anathema to peace and we need to restore and propagate brotherly love, compassion, and justice without which peace is not possible.

As Freemasons, we share the burden of laying the cornerstone for a peaceful world -- much like how those who came before us used the Masonic tools to lay the foundation of a free, just and peaceful society. As an individual, we are obligated to live according to the Masonic principles and model them for others. For those who have some leverage in certain institutions, you have the distinct and unique opportunity to weave into the social fabric the Masonic ideals and influence larger systems. As leaders, we have the capacity to create or recreate environments that are more accepting, humane, and rational. If we take pride in being the oldest and largest Fraternity in the world, we should not dodge the challenge of becoming a part of the solution to many of our global woes.

In the process, as we remain faithful to the landmarks and principles of our Fraternity, we will need to be open to new, creative, and more efficient ways of achieving our goals, tapping available and appropriate technologies, new knowledge, and enriched social network.

In any case, let us be instruments of change, antidotes to chaos and destructiveness, and vehicles of peace. And let us begin with ourselves and in our families, in our lodges and in our neighborhoods, in our communities and in every social space within our reach.

May peace be with us all. I wish you all a good day.

Panora Lodge No. 121
By Richard Ellis, Secretary

As Masons we are dedicated to improvement and public service. One of our paths to that goal is through our scholarship program. As everyone knows the global pandemic has had a negative impact on our lodges and our ability to maintain our goals in this year and last. Covid 19 has denied us the opportunity to conduct our scholarship fund raising breakfast in 2020 and 2021. While we are usually able to sponsor two or three scholarships, but without the benefit of our fundraising event our lodge still does not want to totally abandon its goals in the community. As a result, it was proposed in lodge that those brethren among us who felt able to donate from their own pockets enough funds that we were then able to support at least one scholarship this year. While we are a small but ancient lodge (chartered and signed by T.S. Parvin on June 2, 1858) we remain dedicated to our Masonic goals of public service and improvement. We still have faith that the future will bring an end to these difficult days and replenish our abilities to serve our community. This article was written to help encourage small lodges like ours to continue in their goals and scholarship programs with a CAN-DO attitude.

Acanthus Lodge No. 632 Celebrates 100 Years



The Brothers of Acanthus Lodge No. 632 in Des Moines held a Rededication Ceremony, Dinner and Program to celebrate 100 Years of Masonry at their lodge. The day started with a "Welcome" by Worshipful Master Eric J. Sorbo. The Worshipful Master invited Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin and the Grand Lodge Officers to rededicate Acanthus Lodge No. 632 in Due and Ancient Form. Junior Grand Steward Gary W. Shaulis gave the Schoolbook Tribute and Senior Grand Deacon Ian T. Decker gave an emotional Flag Tribute. Grand Musician Antonio B. Collins lead everyone through the National Anthem and kept everyone entertained during the ceremony. After the ceremony, everyone traveled to the Des Moines Scottish Rite Center for a Social Hour, Dinner, and Program. Eric Sorbo served as the Master of Ceremonies. Lodge Chaplain Benjamin A. Sheeler gave the prayer before dinner.



The steak dinner was prepared by Sam G. Wise, Lee J. Leonard, Robert E. Koss, and Rick A. Hubbell and served by the Brother's of Acanthus Lodge. The program and oration was given by Brother Richard O. Bergez. Acanthus Lodge has been from the very beginning one of the largest lodges in the state of Iowa and is currently the largest. Grand Master Heflin was introduced and gave remarks. The Grand Master and Sonia Decker also lead a chorus of "Happy Birthday" to Deputy Grand Master John D. Lloyd on his 72nd Birthday. Right Worshipful Brother Donald A. Drennan gave the Benediction.

Tyrrell Lodge No. 116 Awards Scholarships By Mike Schmitz

The Brothers of Tyrrell Lodge No. 116 in Waverly have awarded eleven scholarships for the 2021-2022 year. Tyrrell Lodge No.116 awards several scholarships plus the Harry Enders Memorial Scholarship to the students at Waverly Shell Rock, Nashua-Plainfield, and Clarksville school systems. Since its founding on September 10, 1857, Tyrrell Lodge No. 116 has supported local school systems and worthy causes in Waverly and the surrounding communities.

The award recipients for 2021-2022 are: Cheyenne Behrends (Clarksville), Luke Ragsdale (Waverly), Lucas Pierce (Nashua), Jonathan Carl Wessel (Waverly), Jennifer Zeng (Waverly), Samuel Barber (Waverly), Donovan Wessel (Waverly), Katie Stirling (Clarksville), Carly Steiert (Waverly), Austin Bienemann (Plainfield), Conner Lee (Nashua – Harry Enders Scholarship).

Masons have optimism of the future and our ability to help shape that future by acts we perform to help our communities. Our hope is that the students use these scholarships to build a better future for themselves and the people they know and meet as they grow into the best people they can be.

Tyrrell Lodge No. 116 regular communications are on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. As a non-profit charitable organization, we are always accepting applications for membership from men who would like to support their community through fellowship and charitable activities.

Scholarship Thank You's

Natalie Kehrli – I would like to personally thank you for all that you do. Your contributions to education and society are a large part of what makes our world so great. I had such a pleasure interviewing and meeting everyone involved in the process.

Alex Bray – I will be graduating from West Des Moines Valley High School next month. In August I will start working towards a degree in Microbiology at Iowa State University. I will use the scholarship to help pay for my books and living expenses during my fall semester.

Ethan Smothers - I've been dreaming of becoming an engineer since I was in 6th grade and I will soon be able to start my journey of making my dream a reality. I'm hoping to become an Aerospace Engineer and contribute my part to accelerating space exploration and developing technologies that might not exist yet, like space tethers for quicker planet to planet travel, dyson spheres to supply power to the entire civilization, and stellar engines for inter-solar system travel. Thank you again for your generosity and support. I promise you I will work hard and do my best to really make a difference in the world.

Quinn Clair - I just wanted to reach out to extend my gratitude on being selected as a scholarship recipient. I am thankful for your commitment to higher education, and I appreciated the opportunity to meet with all of you.

Rachel Currant – It was completely my pleasure to visit with the committee and to be supported by this amazing organization! Next year, I'm excited to be studying genetics at Iowa State.

Justine Buman – I am honored to be a recipient of this award. I will be attending the University of Iowa this fall and intend on obtaining my B.S. in Nursing.

Rachel Rosonke – Thanks to you and this scholarship, I will be able to focus on my studies without needing to worry about multiple student loans. I am planning on pursuing a career in medicine and I want you to know that this is an influential investment in my future.

Brantly Palmer – Thank you for your generous scholarship. It is going to help me more than you realize.

Kristina Goth – Thank you for your generosity which will allow me to achieve my goals for the future. I'm excited to begin my first year as a Cyclone at Iowa State University to study accounting with a minor in ag business.

Anna Miller – I am honored to receive this award and will be using it this fall as I attend Drake University, where I will be studying Graphic Design.

Luke Ragsdale – I appreciate that your organization chooses to support young people like me every year. This scholarship is going to help me pursue my educational goals and make a better future for myself.

Hannah Hentzel – I am sincerely honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Masonic Scholarship. Thank you for the generosity and the investment into my future.

Emma Rosonke – It means the world to me to have been recognized and rewarded for my efforts during my high school years!

Molly Higgins – Thank you so much for providing scholarship opportunities to students in our state. I learned more about the Masons and the values that unite them, and grew to appreciate and admire your dedication to character and service.



Council Bluffs recipients: Molly Higgins, Bailey Christensen, Zoe Lutz, and Daniel Fitch



Madelyn Swigart from Fort Madison



Genevieve Martinez from Atlantic

Grand Lodge of Iowa Golf Outing 2021

The 2021 Grand Lodge of Iowa Golf Outing was held at Atlantic Golf and Country Club in Atlantic Iowa on May 21, 2021. The Golf Committee was led by Chairman Donald Drennan and assisted by: Craig Hummel, Ron Mullenger, Bill Dayton, Tom Nash, they did a wonderful job in preparing and hosting the outing. I would also like to thank the Volunteers that helped out during the event. They are: John Bricker, Randy Aggen, Mike Blevins from Pymosa Lodge, John and Kathy Kelly, Linda and Denny Heflin from Parian Lodge, Craig and Nancy Davis, Darrell Fremont, and Aaron and Becky Kinser from the Grand Lodge Office, Ian Decker, Randy Crampton Grand Lodge Officers, Burt Conn from Cass Lodge.

This years proceeds are going to support the Grand Master's Lighting Project and the Puppy Jake Program. Funds were also collected to support Shelby Raymond, who received serious injuries in a car accident early this year. Shelby is the goddaughter of Past Grand Treasurer Lane H. Shaver.

Longest Putt – Richard Humphrey
Closest to the Pin – John Kemkel
Straightest Drive – Richard Humphrey
Putting Contest – J Alan Fink
Driver – Jake Dayton

Top Three in each Flight

First Flight

1st Place – Richard Bergez, Bob Buising, Jon Augustus, Tom Cox
2nd Place – Nancy Davis, Craig Davis, Eric Fraser, Jerry Hanrahan
3rd Place – Joe Rose, Bryce McIlravy, Orin McMillen, Paul Dudley

Second Flight

1st Place – Chuck Yates, Randy Wurster, Bryce Hildreth, Eric Rozeboom
2nd Place – Ben Drescher, Kristen Newell, Brandon Newell, Derek Niklasen
3rd Place – Scott Ford, Bob Colin, Steve Brandl, Rick Hackett

Third Flight

1st Place – Rick Doran, Tom Schumacher, Dan Schumacher, Ted Johnson
2nd Place – Ron Mullenger, Donnie Drennan, John Bricker, Tom Nash
3rd Place – Allan Tedrow, Fred Erickson, John Lloyd, Ken Schmidt

Special Thank you to our Sponsors!

Pleasant Lodge No. 128
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Dave Wright Trucking

Logic Lodge No. 636
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2009-2010 G.L. Family
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Veritas Lodge No. 392
Daylight Lodge No. 660
Golden Leaf Lodge No. 595
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2014-2015 G.L. Family
2020-2021 G.L. Family
Cass County Abstract
Pymosa Lodge No. 271
Dave Passehl Memorial
Tom Nash

Grand Lodge Reception Des Moines

Golden Leaf Lodge No. 595 (Manilla), Nodaway Lodge No. 140 (Clarinda), Star Lodge No. 115 (Madrid), and Adel Lodge No. 80 (Adel) hosted a reception in Des Moines at the Scottish Rite Building on May 1, 2021 to Honor Past Junior Grand Warden, A. Lyle Miller, Past Senior Grand Warden, Richard L. Humphrey, Junior Grand Warden, Fred L. Erickson, and Senior Grand Warden Kimberly E. Jones.



The Masons moved to the lodge room where Adel Lodge No. 80 was opened by Worshipful Master Gene Meacham. The Grand and Past Grand Lodge Officers were received and introduced with Brothers Anthony L. Oxley and Larry Smith as committeemen.

Brothers William R. Crawford, Past Grand Master and Charles A. Rodrigues were committeemen for Grand Master Heflin. Brothers William R. Crawford and Charles A. Rodrigues were committeemen for Past Junior Grand Warden A. Lyle Miller. Brothers William R. Crawford Past Grand Master and Eric A. Rozeboom Past Grand Master were committeemen for Past Senior Grand Warden, Richard L. Humphrey. Brothers David K. Aves and Charles A. Rodrigues were committeemen for Junior Grand Warden Fred L. Erickson. Brothers Michael W. Fletcher and Charles A. Rodrigues were committeemen for Senior Grand Warden, Kimberly E. Jones. Kimberly E. Jones was Worshipful Master, Richard L. Humphrey was the Senior Warden, A. Lyle Miller was Junior Warden and Fred L. Erickson was Chaplain as they proceeded to close Adel Lodge No. 80.

The Masons joined their ladies in the dining room for the banquet and program. Brother Wade E. Sheeler, Past Senior Grand Warden from Newton Lodge No. 59 was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Grand Chaplain Donald A. Drennan gave the invocation prior to dinner. During dinner Kim Jones presented the Grand Lodge Officers with drink tumblers.

Everyone then moved back to the auditorium for the program. Past Grand Master William R. Crawford introduced his officers and recognized A. Lyle Miller and Richard L. Humphrey. Grand Secretary introduced Past Grand Masters and Past Grand Lodge Officers. Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin introduced the present Grand Lodge Officers and their ladies and recognized Fred Erickson and Kim Jones. Each of the honored Brother made remarks. The entertainment for the evening was Opera Singer Aaron Stegemoller of Operative Lodge No. 308 at Polk City and our Grand Musician Antonio B. Collins. Grand Chaplain Donald Drennan gave the Benediction.



Welfare Lodge No. 628 contributes to Norwalk Community School District

In May, Welfare Lodge No. 628 of Norwalk presented a \$1,000 donation to the Norwalk Community School District Nutrition Department. This contribution was used to pay off students' negative meal account balances.

Also in May, Welfare Lodge No. 628 presented \$1,000 scholarships to three Norwalk High School graduating seniors to assist with their post-secondary education or vocational training.

Since support of education is a fundamental principle of the Masonic Fraternity, Welfare Lodge aspires to assist our local students. We are indeed fortunate to have such a high-quality education system in Norwalk. We are pleased to be able to do our part in supporting our public schools.



Worshipful Master Mark Durham presents a check to DeeAnna Serres, NCSD Nutrition Director.

Brother Mason Mc Manus Raised



Camanche Lodge No. 60 held a Third Degree and Reception on May 26, 2021 at their temple. It was perfect spring day as Masons from across the state gathered together for Friendship, Fellowship, Food, Family, and Fun.

Worshipful Master Robert J. Edens opened lodge at 5:00 pm assisted by the officers as shown in the registry. Past Master Brett G. McCausland assumed the East and conferred the First Section of the Third Degree on Brother Mason C. McManus. Albert R. McManus (Mason's Father) served as Senior Deacon. Brother Bruce A. Lutz gave the Extended Trowel Lecture. After a wonderful conferral of the First Section, everyone enjoyed smoked ribs and chicken for dinner. Brother Robert A. Hundley prepared the meal. No one left the table hungry. Past Senior Grand Deacon Guy J. McCausland surprised his lady Shelley with roses in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

After dinner the Past and Present Grand Lodge Officer's were received and introduced with Brothers Lee A. Hawkins and Tracy A. Anson serving as Senior and Junior Committeemen. Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin was received and introduced with Brothers Dennis M. Zahrt, Past Grand Master and Tracy A. Anson as Senior and Junior Committeemen. Past Senior Grand Deacon Guy J. McCausland was received and introduced with Brothers Brett G. McCausland and Tracy A. Anson as Senior and Junior Committeemen. Brother McCausland was recognized for his service as a Grand Lodge Officer in 2019-2020. Grand Secretary Craig L. Davis made a presentation to Guy on behalf of Past Grand Master Donald E. Stamy. Deputy Grand Secretary Darrell G. Fremont and Past Junior Grand Steward Lynn A. Broughton made a presentation to Guy, by inducting him into the "Miles Inn" Charlie Boy Hall of Fame. It is our understanding that he has consumed quite a few Charlie Boys over the years.



Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin assumed the East and conferred the Second Section of the Third Degree. Senior Grand Steward, Christopher P. Soebbing served as Senior Deacon and Deputy Grand Master, John D. Lloyd gave the charge. Brother Howard C. Neese II gave the Bible Lecture and presented the Bible to Brother Mason. Brother Tracy A. Anson presented Brother Mason with his White Leather Apron. Junior Grand Deacon Allan L. Tedrow presented Brother Mason with a "Box" and explained the significance of it. Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin presented Brother Mason with the book "Freemasonry for Dummies", and several other items. Brother Mason thanked everyone for taking a part of his Third Degree. Brother Guy J. McCausland was given the honor of closing Camanche Lodge No. 60.

Brother Jarod Kirby Raised

Malta Lodge No. 318 in Burlington hosted a Third Degree Reception on May 11, 2021, where Brother Jarod Kirby was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Dillion D. Holtkamp was in the East for the conferral of the First Section, Senior Grand Deacon Ian T. Decker was Senior Deacon.

Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin was conducted to the East and accorded the Grand Honors. Grand Master Heflin was in the East for the Second Section and Deputy Grand Secretary Darrell G. Fremont gave the Charge. The Grand Master presented Brother Kirby with his lapel pin and several other items. Brother Kirby thanked everyone for being there and being part of his degree work. Grand Master Heflin then introduced the Grand Lodge Officers. The Grand Lodge Officers closed the Lodge with Grand Marshal Jason W. Delzell in the East.



The Patient Eight **Taken from the Emessay Notes July 2021**

The pandemic put a hold on our gatherings and connections, resorting to virtual communication and a cessation of normal in-person Fraternal interaction. This problem has been particularly evident in the lessening in degree advancement and welcoming new members.

No doubt, many Lodges have men interested in becoming Masons but the usual elections, investigations, and especially, initiations have been interrupted.

On December 3, 2019, eight men petitioned our Lodge, and after successful investigations, were elected on March 3, 2020, to receive the first three degrees of Masonry. An exciting multiple-candidate Entered Apprentice degree conferral was planned for April.

We all know what didn't happen. For more than eight months, these Masons-to-be waited patiently to take that first step. But that time was filled with their personal connections, as they built a bond among themselves that would sustain their enthusiasm during those anxious months.

After receiving a dispensation from our Grand Master for the multi-candidate degree in our Lodge, our daunting task was made all the more challenging because of the statewide Covid-19 restrictions and meeting restrictions established by the Grand Master in June, 2020.

Furthermore, Montgomery County, Maryland, had stalled its recovery at Phase Two, with its limitations on any gatherings. This meant the Lodge could have no more than 15 persons in the Lodge room at one time, and the EA Degree opening would require a minimum of seven officers itself.

After two rehearsals, the event was planned for August 29. Two groups of four candidates each, using four (socially-distant) altars (card tables), received the Entered Apprentice Degree.

All eight of these patient, enthusiastic, determined men - now a band of brothers whose support of and reliance upon one another - have created a "class" of Masons who's bond is the strongest I have seen in a group moving through the degrees in recent memory. In the ways they interact socially and express their mutual excitement for Masonry, they demonstrate that many of us search for, but seldom find, in our Masonic journeys.

The precision of the floor work of the officers that day was impressive and inspiring. Although not unexpected, I marveled at their flexibility to adjust to situations and their adherence to the integrity and solemnity of this ritual. It was a morning to remember!

As Past Master, I'm always concerned about the future of our Lodge, I left that day convinced that our future was bright and in the capable hands of new, younger men who will carry on the values, traditions, and enthusiasm for our Fraternity to encourage and mentor others who follow in their footsteps.

Their excitement and gratitude are all I needed to know how much this Entered Apprentice degree meant to our "Patient Eight." They are the manifestation of our reasons to exist as a Fraternity. The torch is being passed.

George Washington Dinner and Pie Auction



The Davenport Scottish Rite held their Annual Dinner and Pie Auction. Deputy Grand Secretary Darrell G. Fremont was the speaker for the night and gave a fine talk on George Washington. Like many events in 2020 the celebration was canceled and this year's event was scheduled in February. The "better late than never" event occurred on May 14, 2021 and the proceeds from the pie auction will augment the Davenport Valley grants from the Iowa Scottish Rite Foundation.



What, a Sprig of Acacia? Wade Sheeler

The sprig of acacia is one of the most important and beautiful symbols of Freemasonry. Acacia was a symbol long before Freemasonry existed.

The beginning of the association of acacia and immortality goes back to ancient Egypt and the legend of Osiris and Isis. According to the legend, Osiris who was King and God of the Egyptians was tricked by his brother Typhon at a feast provided for the King-God's pleasure. Typhon brought a beautiful chest made of wood to a banquet and offered it as a gift to whoever possessed a body which best fitted the chest. When Osiris entered the box, Typhon caused the lid to be shut and locked; after which the box was thrown into the Nile. Currents carried the box to Byblos, Phoenicia and cast it ashore at the foot of an acacia tree. The tree grew rapidly encasing the box holding the body of Osiris. Isis, faithful queen to Osiris set out in search of the body. The Phoenician king admiring the beauty of the tree which contained the box, had it cut down and had the trunk made into a column. Learning of this, Isis became a nurse to the kings' children and was given the column as her pay.

The Jews have always considered acacia (the Hebrew word is "shittah") to be a sacred wood. Moses was ordered to construct the tabernacle, the ark of covenant, the table of shewbread, and other sacred furniture from it. Isaiah, in recounting the promises of God to the Israelites on their return from captivity, promised to plant for their relief and refreshment, trees of cedar, fir, and acacia. The Jews have always held the acacia to be more sacred than ordinary trees.

Acacia is a genus of approximately 160 species of trees and shrubs in the pea family (Fabaceae). It grows in tropical and subtropical regions of the world. Depending on the species, acacia can either grow as a bush or as a tree. It usually has flowers that are either yellow or white. The fruit of the acacia is a dry pod with five or six seeds. With the extended varieties of acacia, many uses may be found for it.

Symbolically the acacia has three primary meanings to examine. To Freemasons, it is a symbol of immortality. We are reminded of the flower that cometh forth and is cut down, which reminds us of the transitory nature of human life. The continual renovation of the evergreen reminds us of the spiritual life where the soul which is freed from the body, shall enjoy an eternal spring and immortal youth. Frederick Dalcho wrote that the Hebrews always planted a sprig of acacia at the head of the grave of a departed friend.

The acacia is also a symbol of innocence. The Greek word for acacia (anania) symbolizes both the plant and innocence or purity of life. The symbol refers to him over who's grave the acacia was planted and whose conduct, integrity and fidelity should be emulated by those of the Craft.

Lastly the acacia may be considered as a symbol of initiation. In many of the ancient initiations or religious mysteries, there was some plant that was consecrated for its own esoteric meaning. The lotus was the sacred plant of the Brahmanian rites of India and was considered the symbol of their trinity – earth, water, and air. The Egyptians used the erica (or heath) as a sacred plant. The mistletoe was used by Druids. The Greeks used the myrtle to crown their initiates because it was sacred to Proserpine, the goddess of the future life.

We therefore find in the sprig of acacia a symbol of immortality, innocence, and initiation. We are taught that in the initiation of life, which the Third Degree is emblematic, that innocence must for a time lie in the grave, however to be called by the word of the Grand Architect of the Universe to a blissful immortality.

Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 Celebrates 150 Years



Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin and the Grand Lodge Officers were invited to Cedar Rapids to conduct a Temple Rededication Ceremony in Celebration of the 150th Anniversary for Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263.

Grand Secretary Craig L. Davis and Grand Marshal Jason W. Delzell led a practice for the Ceremony at 10:00 A.M. Worshipful Brother Michael W. McMeins gave the invitation to Grand Master Heflin to rededicate the Lodge. Grand Master Heflin and the Grand Lodge Officers conducted the Temple Rededication Ceremony in Due and Ancient form. Junior Grand Deacon Allan L. Tedrow gave the tribute to public education "School Book Lecture". Senior Grand Steward Christopher P. Soebbing gave the Flag Tribute.

Brother Carl J. Jones served as the Orator and spoke about the History of the Lodge. Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 was chartered on June 6, 1870 by the Grand Lodge of Iowa with 21 members. In 1875 the Masons laid the cornerstone for the "Little Brick Church" later known as the "Peoples Church." Membership grew to over 150 by the year 1900. At the end of the 1920's membership had climbed to 1,000 members. On April 20, 1946, a special meeting was held to honor World War II Veteran's. On October 10, 1953 the Cornerstone of the Grand Lodge Library and Museums was laid using the working tools of Mount Hermon Lodge. On April 21, 1956, Most Worshipful Brother Corlini, Grand Master of Masons in Italy addressed 670 brothers representing 137 Lodges in Iowa. The lodge has continued to be active in the community by supporting local businesses and the Cedar Rapids Fire and Police departments. In 2020 Grand Master William R. Crawford presented Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 with the Grand Master's Award. Since its beginning in 1870, Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 has enriched the lives of many brothers, families, and the community while creating lifelong friendships.

Worshipful Brother Gary W. Shaulis gave the prayer and everyone moved to the dining room for hors d' oeuvres and lunch.

Cobia Lodge No. 631 Celebrates 100 Years



Grand Master Dennis R. Heflin and the Grand Lodge Officers were invited to Council Bluffs to conduct a Temple Rededication Ceremony in Celebration of the 100th Anniversary for Cobia Lodge No. 631.

Deputy Grand Secretary Darrell G. Fremont and Grand Marshal Jason W. Delzell led a practice for the Ceremony at 5:00 P.M. After a wonderful dinner all assembled retired to the lodge room. Worshipful Master Brian P. Manning then gave the invitation to Grand



Master Heflin to rededicate the lodge. Grand Master Heflin and the Grand Lodge Officers conducted the Temple Rededication Ceremony in Due and Ancient form. Junior Grand Deacon Allan L. Tedrow gave the tribute to public education "School Book Lecture". Senior Grand Steward Christopher P. Soebbing gave the Flag Tribute. Brother Wade A. Rideout served as the Orator and spoke about the history of the lodge. Many civic leaders of Council Bluffs have been members of Cobia Lodge. Brother George B. Sparks (1886 -1957) began his long association with the Masonic Order in Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1919 and continued until his death in 1957. Sparks was Past Master of Excelsior Lodge 259, chartered in 1869, and he served as the first Master of Cobia Lodge 631 after its Charter in 1921. He belonged to the Scottish Rite, the Royal Arch Masons and was a Past Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. Brother George was elected Mayor of Council Bluffs for the 1948-1950 term. In his obituary notice in 1957, the Council Bluffs Nonpareil newspaper referred to Brother Sparks as "the last of the old-line political mayors in Council Bluffs".



Peter Rushton Maverick, Masonic Medal By Bill Krueger

There are many unique artifacts and materials in the collection of the Iowa Masonic Library and Museums. One of the more outstanding pieces is a Masonic medallion that was owned, and most likely made by, Peter Rushton Maverick of New York City in 1789. Maverick was born in April 1755 in New York City, the son of Andrew Maverick. Peter Maverick became a silversmith and engraver and advertised his trade in newspapers in New York and New Jersey. According to a book we have in our library collection, *The Mavericks: American Engravers*, Maverick may have apprenticed with one of several active silversmiths and engravers in New York. By 1784, he had his own advertisement, which appeared in the *New York Packet* and the *American Advertiser*; "... gentlemen may have their coats of arms, crests or cyphers done in the neatest manner. Ladies may have their tea-table plate ornamented in the newest fashion."

Maverick became a Mason and was a member of Holland Lodge in New York City. According to the Scottish Rite Museum and Library in Lexington, Massachusetts, which also owns a Maverick medallion, Peter Maverick may have been the "in house" engraver for the lodge; he probably did many of the Mark Mason medallions for members. He also engraved a copperplate for the membership certificate of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 in 1789. Maverick's sons, Peter and Samuel Maverick also became engravers, and we have some of Samuel Maverick's work present in our Masonic collection.



The Maverick medallion we have is Peter Maverick's own Mark Mason medal. He did not sign the medal, but his name appears prominently on the obverse, along with the Lodge name and date. On the reverse is Maverick's own Mark which is centered on this side. The medal is probably a silver coin that was planed down and engraved. There may be a ribbon style decoration at the top of the medal that has been broken off. It may be one of only two personal Peter Maverick medallions that are known. There is one in the Fraternal collection of the Smithsonian Institution.

You can see this medallion in our new exhibit, "The York Rite of Freemasonry: The Story Continues." The exhibit will continue through December 2021; the Library and Museums are open for tours Monday through Thursday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please contact us at 319-365-1438 for more information, or to schedule a tour.



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50 - Year Certificates Issued Since The June 2021 "Bulletin"
 Congratulations to the following Brothers who earned their Certificates.
 Brothers are shown by Lodge No.

No.	Town	Lodge	Name	No.	Town	Lodge	Name
6	Marion		Shaw, Delbert E.	264	Carroll		Starek, Leslie L.
65	Cedar Falls		Thompson, Robert D.	329	Spirit Lake		Osdoba, Frank C.
67	Colesburg		Wessel, George M.	329	Spirit Lake		Jorgensen, Wallace D.
69	West Union		Whitver, Loren K.	406	Rock Rapids		Cuttell, Charles S.
72	Elkader		McIntyre, Robert C.	538	Renwick		Paper, Wayne A.
80	Adel		Herrick, Paul E.	548	Hiawatha		Henderson, James E.
110	Des Moines		Roberts, Guy L.	615	Sioux City		Leggett, Jerry E.
145	Mason City		Eide, Jerrold A.	624	Cedar Falls		Pritchard, Eddie D.
200	Olin		Tallman, James R.	631	Council Bluffs		Simmons, Donald R.