



From the Trestleboard

To the Secretaries, Members and others receiving the Trestleboard. The Trestleboard would like any address changes, new members, deaths or members temporarily away to turn in these changes to

dubuquetrestleboard@gmail.com, send them to The Trestleboard, 1155 Locust ST, DUBUQUE, IA 52001, or leave them in the Trestleboard mailbox at the Dubuque Masonic Temple.

Wes Struebing

In trying times, try!

OXUS Grotto #137

Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 12, 2023

Regular Meeting

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Thanks to all who came out to support our November breakfast. Even with the ever-increasing price of groceries, we made \$950. Thanks to all who worked and our friends who helped us out on a holiday weekend. Our next breakfast will be in February, and it will benefit St. Luke's Youth annual mission trip. Hope everyone comes out to support them. We will be initiating Leon (Leo) Sonksen into the Order of Veiled Prophet. Our officers stayed the same as they were in 2022.

Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Respectfully

Smokey McGovern

Dubuque Lodge #3

A.F. & AM

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Dubuque #3 met at 7:00PM on Thursday, December 15th, with five members present. Minutes were read and

approved. The main order of business was installation of newly-elected officers by Jack Smeltzer. (The officers who were not present will be installed in January.) Wayne Stanfley was unable to attend since he fell shoveling snow. Likewise, Wes Struebing couldn't make it since he injured his back and is now using a walker. I also received word before the meeting that Leona Hibben passed away. She was in church on Sunday the eleventh, but suffered a massive stroke that afternoon. Her wake and funeral service will be on Monday, December 19th at Westminster Presbyterian Church. (More details found on the obituary page of the TH.) At the same time, keep Russ in your prayers, since he is at Mercy Hospital. Fellowship followed the meeting in the dining room. Our next regular meeting will be on Thursday, January 19th. Peace and harmony to all.

Reported for Dubuque #3;

David H. Patton

Key City Shrine Club

January 18, 2023

At the time of this writing, December 14th, the Key City Shrine Club has not yet met. We are scheduled for that on Wednesday, December 21st. As I've been hinting for several months, it will more than likely not only be the last meeting for the year, but probably for a long time, since we don't have the interest, energy or manpower to continue this group into the future.

Yes, it's been a long run, and during that time, we've aided many children with their health concerns, popped thousands of bags of popcorn, and took part in many parades. However, all good things must come to an end. (Or maybe we just need to take a hiatus for awhile.) Don't worry; if children need some kind of assistance for their orthopedic or burn

concerns, Shriners will be there well into the future!

Fraternally;

David H Patton

Dubuque York Rite, Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

(still gestating, at this time – ed.)

Metropolitan Lodge #49

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 5, 2023

Metropolitan #49 held its stated meeting on December 1st, 2022.

We have purchased a Projector that can connect to a computer to show the slides for each degree. The pull-down screen will be mounted shortly and check out how it works.

As this is the end of the year, the Lodge chairs need to be designated. No one is willing to take over as Master, and everyone wants to stay as they were:

WM - Dan Neuhaus

SW - James McGovern

JW - Steve Sanders

Sec/Treas - Sam Phipps

Chap - Arvid Saele

SD - Mike Engling

JD - Randy Tolley

Tyler - Gene Muntz

We are scheduling a 3rd Degree practice for all interested on Monday, Jan 16th at 6:30PM. Let's get this going again!

There will be a dinner for the NICC scholarship grant recipients on Feb 2nd.

Poor Man's Catering will handle the dinner. Please RSVP to Sam Phipps by Phone 563-556-8105 or email him at:

hsamphipps@gmail.com

Brotherly and Fraternally;

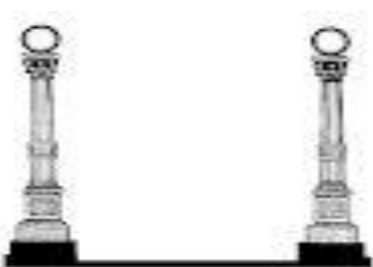
Dan Neuhaus - WM (again!)

Mosaic Lodge #125 Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mosaic Lodge #125 met on December 13 2022 for the last regular meeting of the year. A dinner of Beef stew was enjoyed by all. It was prepared by Brother Les Sonksen. The year is almost gone. It doesn't seem possible. The officers for 2023 were installed by Brother Edwin Blinks, PGM. Those officers who weren't able to attend will be installed at a later date.

A letter was sent to all members asking for input concerning the lack of meeting attendance. A letter was also sent asking members to consider including an additional amount with their dues to cover the Grand Lodge increase. The response has been favorable. The Technology committee has been working on systems to allow the members to pay the annual dues electronically. We're living in a different world now.

*I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.
Jack Smeltzer, Worshipful Master*



Ye Olde Editor's Ramblings

There is a program on the History Channel, called, "The Curse of Oak Island". The Knights Templar AND Masonry are featured very heavily in the island's history. Brother Dave Patton has done some research on the Masonic/Templar connection (if, indeed, there truly is one), and he has submitted a report on his research. Part 1 was posted last month; the report concludes this month. Enjoy!

PART 2...(remember; King Philip was broke...):

That's when his devilish side quickly jumped into high gear! (*Since I'm unable to repay my debt, I'll simply eliminate those who loaned me the money in the first place!*)

Then it really got down and dirty! Though the Templars were highly respected, he needed to discredit and tarnish their reputation. He started a smear campaign – to spread as much juicy gossip and falsehoods about them as possible.

With that in mind, he wrote up a decree in early September of 1307, which was sent by way of couriers to all the surrounding villages which stipulated it was NOT to be opened until Friday, October 13th.

In the decree, he demanded his appointees round up and arrest all the Templars in the area, then bring them to him. He then forced them to sign a letter where they admitted to fictitious charges like: devil worship, heresy, treason, homosexuality, defaming and slandering the Church, etc.

If they then refused to do so, he'd place them on the rack until they did, or into burning oil until they capitulated. (And, in so doing, he ended up betraying the Templars, by literally, and figuratively, stabbing them in the back!)

Not surprisingly, he did this because he greatly coveted all that the Templars seemed to possess: wealth, respect, power, and prestige which he desperately felt he needed to have! Since he couldn't accomplish that legally, he would do whatever was necessary to wrestle those attributes from them – no matter how low and despicable he had to get.

These signed confessions were then sent to Pope Clement, who was appalled by all the blasphemy! (Along with the confessions, King Philip demanded that the Templars be burned at the stake for their sins against the Church!)

The Pope just couldn't believe all the irreverent allegations that were being leveled! (Remember, the Templars were some of his most trusted and loyal friends! Then again, since King Philip insisted, he felt a need to somehow honor his wishes.)

After careful consideration, he then "chose" to order the Templars to disband. (That, however, wasn't good enough for King Phillip – that's because, he wanted the Templars to be wiped off the face of this earth!)

Realizing their lives were now in jeopardy, in the dead of night, stealth-like, they secretly set sail into the darkness – heading northward to the safety of the Scottish shores! (Which also meant, since King Philip no longer had to deal with debt collectors, he could get away with just about anything he wanted – including confiscating all the Templars' properties and possessions!)

To this day, largely because of the devious, underhanded tactics of King Philip, Masonry, and all of its affiliations have **not** been viewed in a very favorably light by the Roman Catholic Church. (You can, therefore, understand why they use secret signs and symbols to keep unwanted individuals from infiltrating their ranks!)

[Food for thought: is it more important being a member of this or that particular church, or is it more important for me to put into practice my beliefs, as I minister to others?!!]

Thank you, Brother David, for an enlightening report. As an aside, 13th of October, 1307, is where we get our Friday the 13th is bad luck meme.

Ye Olde Editor

Masonic Calendar: January, 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy New Year!	2	3 Bellevue OES York Rite	4	5 Metropolitan Lodge #49 7:00PM, eat at 6:00PM	6	7
8	9	10 Mosaic Lodge #125 7:00PM	11	12 Oxus Grotto 6:00PM Eat 7:00PM Meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18 Shrine Club 6:00PM Eat 7:00PM Meeting	19 Dubuque Lodge #3 7:00PM Trestleboard Deadline 4:00PM	20	21
22	23	24 MTA Board	25	26 Trowel Fellowship 7:30PM	27	28
29	30	31				

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