



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, April 13, 2023

Because of the weather, Oxus Grotto didn't meet on March 9th.

We have had two "take out only" fish fries this month on March 3rd and 10th. We will have our last one on March 17th. They have been very successful, and we sold out both nights. Thanks to all the prophets and their spouses and our friends who helped us out. And, thanks to all who came out and supported us. March 26th will be our next breakfast. This is a big one, as our proceeds will go to the local Special Olympics group. Please come out to support this worthy cause. We serve from 8AM to 12:30PM. We are planning another night out for all who worked these meals. It takes many hands to pull these events together. We are always looking for more Grotto members.

Respectfully;
Smokey McGovern
563.590.8841

Dubuque Lodge #3
A.F. & AM

Thursday, April 20, 2023

They say that there are a couple things that are inevitable – death and taxes. They also need to add to that list, succumbing to the forces of nature. Back in February, Dubuque #3 tried to meet on its regularly scheduled night – the third Thursday at 7:00, which was February 16th. However, we didn't anticipate that we'd run into a snowstorm, which ended up meaning that we had to cancel our meeting! Since we had several important pieces of business that needed to be addressed – getting various papers signed, scheduling degree work, plus possibly getting a young man started on his Masonic journey, we re-scheduled the meeting for one week later, on Thursday, February 23rd. Once again, we had to cancel it because of bad weather! (We sincerely hope that, with winter basically behind us, we won't run into anymore inclement conditions!)

We finally met on Thursday, March 16th, and got caught up on all our business. Minutes were read and approved (with one correction) for the two January Communication.

The report on potential initiate Quentin Scott was approved, and Secretary will send him a welcome letter, asking him for availability dates.

Treasurer Brother Jack Smeltzer read his report, and the bills for the past two months were approved to be paid.

Since we again had no quorum (for our Lodge, we require at least 7 Brothers), the two resolutions that require such a quorum were tabled again.

Lodge was closed in form at 7:58PM, peace and harmony prevailed. Our next Communication will be on Thursday, April 20th, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully;
David Patton – JW/
Bob Young – JD

Dubuque York Rite, Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

(still in progress – ed.)

Metropolitan Lodge #49

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 6, 2023

Metropolitan Lodge #49 met on March 1st with 5 members present. As the members present were also members of the Grotto, we used the time to prepare for the first Fish Fry of the season. We work as a great team, getting much done in a reasonable period of time. Smokey McGovern supplied a lasagna dinner for those present. Sam, you're next in line for dinner in April.

Respectfully;
Dan Neuhaus - WM

Mosaic Lodge #125

Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Mosaic Lodge #125 met for the March meeting at the Oxus Grotto building on the 14th. Meeting attendance has improved somewhat. Brother Taylor Merfeld was welcomed after affiliating with Mosaic Lodge. We still have a few members who have not paid their 2023 membership dues. Please pay them as soon as you can.

The charity committee has been hard at work evaluating the nine applications for college scholarships. They will soon meet to rank the applicants. The next step will be to interview the applicants. Those receiving the scholarships will be honored at a banquet in May.

Treasurer Randy Tolley presented his annual finance report to the lodge. It's not surprising that the 2022 market fluctuations had a negative impact on

our bottom line. Perhaps 2023 will bring us some good news.

Let us all stay safe and healthy as we enjoy the warm spring days ahead.

Fraternally;

Jack Smeltzer - WM

Bellevue Chapter #359 OES Stated Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2023

(there was no report for Bellevue this month> stay tuned for April's meeting. – ed.)



Ye Olde Editor's Ramblings

Once again, our peripatetic correspondent, Brother Gerald Edgar, graces us with some more Iowa Masonic biographical information. Thank you, Brother!

Bro. Stephen Hempstead, namesake of our Hempstead H.S., was born 1 Oct 1812 in New London, Ct. At age 13, his parents moved the family to Illinois where he attended Illinois College in Jacksonville. Becoming a lawyer in 1836, he moved to Dubuque becoming **the city's first attorney**. He served in the Iowa National Guard during the Black Hawk War. In 1838 he served on the three member Legislative Council for the then "Iowa Territory" and after statehood he became our second **Governor from 1850-1854**. He was the principal author of our initial State legal code. Losing in an effort to become a U.S. Representative in 1854, he served as a Dubuque County Judge from 1855-1867 and then served as Dubuque's City Auditor from 1869-1873 and then a Justice of the Peace from 1882 until his death on Feb 16, 1883 at age 70. He is buried in Linwood Cemetery. Married to a Lavinia Lackland of Baltimore in 1837, they had 3 sons & 3 daughters. He was

responsible for the design and construction of City Hall, purposely making the ground floor as a 'farmer's market'. Think of that next time you are the Saturday morning market! He was a member of Dubuque Lodge #3 and has quite a Masonic biography.

Bro. Francis J. Herron was born in Pittsburgh, PA on February 17, 1837-New York, Jan. 8, 1902). Herron briefly attended the Western University of Pennsylvania, but left to become a bank clerk with Herron and Brothers Bank in Pittsburgh. In 1855, he moved to Dubuque, Iowa, where he opened a bank with two of his brothers.

In 1859, Herron formed a militia group called the "**Governor's Greys**" (pre-Civil War and "Confederate grey" & offered the services of his unit to President-elect Abraham Lincoln. Although they were turned down, Herron and his men had the distinction of being the first troops to volunteer for the Civil War. In April 1861, the Governor's Greys became part of the 1st Iowa Volunteer Infantry; Herron was appointed its captain. The regiment saw service in Missouri, fighting with General Nathaniel Lyon's troops in the battles of Boonville and Wilson's Creek. Herron, **one of two Dubuquers to receive the Medal of Honor**, received his commendation for action on May 7, 1862, during the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas. He was cited leading his men in battle into hostile fire until he disabled when his horse was killed and he was captured. Herron was later exchanged for a Confederate officer and was promoted from Lieutenant Colonel to Brigadier General. He continued his service to the Union for the remainder of the Civil War. Herron was made commander of the 2nd and 3rd Divisions of the Army of the Frontier in Missouri, and in December of 1862, he further distinguished himself by coming to the aid of General James G. Blunt's forces at the Battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas. Herron and his men made a forced march of over 100 miles in three days to attack

Confederate General Thomas C. Hindman's troops and force them into a retreat. For his quick and decisive actions, Herron was promoted to Major General, becoming the youngest man to hold that rank on either side at that time in the war.

By June of 1863, the Army of the Frontier was dismantled, and Herron led his division to join General Ulysses S. Grant in the siege of Vicksburg. Herron served with distinction commanding "Herron's Division." As the war ended, he commanded the District of Northern Louisiana. After the fall of Vicksburg, Herron was one of three generals chosen to accept the formal surrender on July 4, 1863. In 1864 he was appointed to the command of the District of the Frontier along the Rio Grande, River.

In the early 1890s Dubuque residents were angered when plans for the Soldiers and Sailors monument on the Statehouse grounds in Des Moines did not include his likeness. Following the war, Herron practiced law in New Orleans serving as a U.S. Marshal from 1867-69 and Secretary of State for Louisiana in 1872-73 before moving to New York City, where he practiced law until his death January 8, 1902. He had been married to Adelaide Wilbray. He is buried in Calvary Cemetery, Long Island, NY. A bronze bust of Herron has stood at Vicksburg National Military Park since 1914. Gen. Herron was a member of Mosaic #125.

(next issue will have at least one notable Metro #49 alumni!)

Gerald (your out & about Iowa correspondent

Masonic Calendar: April, 2023

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

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