



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, May 11, 2023

Greetings Prophets;

Thanks to Sam Phipps for providing our April meal. I will provide the May meal. Thank you to all the prophets and their Ladies and friends of the Grotto who helped with the fish fries this year. The Ladies provided all the desserts for the takeout meals, and we served about 500 meals. That's a lot of brownies!

The proceeds from our March breakfast went to our local Special Olympics group, the Dubuque Packers. We were able to give them \$1500. There will not be a breakfast in April due to the closure of Hales Mill Road.

Some of the improvements to the Grotto this year will be new flooring in the bathrooms and painting the kitchen.

Respectfully;

Smokey McGovern

569-590-8841

Dubuque Lodge #3

A.F. & AM

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Dubuque Lodge #3 met on Thursday, April 20th, 2023 at 7:00PM. Five members were present, with one guest. Since we didn't have a quorum, we tabled some important business until our next meeting.

We have 28 members – six of whom are 50-year members. There are also several who are yet to pay their dues. Please get those in by our next meeting on May 18th.

We have two Entered Apprentice degrees - Dubuque #3 has one candidate, and Farley Lodge (Julien #551) has a candidate whom we will also initiate - coming up on May 8th, at 6:30PM; therefore, we welcome all the help we can get! Practice for those degrees will be on Monday, May 1st at 7:00PM in the Egyptian Room. Meanwhile, keep in your prayers Steve and Bonnie Sanders. (Not only did Steve recently have surgery, he's also trying to care for Bonnie at home.) Please remember, too, Gene Muntz's wife, Chris, whose sister, Sandy Klossner, passed away recently.

Jack Smeltzer announced that Mosaic Lodge #125 plans to have a scholarship dinner for several students in the area at Westminster Church on May 17th. All Masons and their spouses are welcome to this free meal. (Please, make reservations ahead of time.)

Dale Hefel also announced the closure of Hales Mills Road for several months due to a construction project. Largely, because of that, the Oxus Grotto will be putting off its month-end breakfasts until further notice.

Our next meeting for Dubuque #3 will be on May 18th at 7:00PM. Hope to see you there.

Respectfully;

David H. Patton - JW

Dubuque York Rite, Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

(still a'borning – ed.)

Metropolitan Lodge #49

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Our April meeting was canceled. Please keep Chris and Gene Muntz in your prayers. Chris's sister, Sandy Klossner, passed away on April 2nd.

Fraternally;

Dan Neuhaus, WM

Mosaic Lodge #125

**Regular Meeting Tuesday,
May 9, 2023**

Mosaic Lodge met for the April meeting on the 11th. Hales Mill Road is now closed. Some members had trouble finding a route to The Oxus Grotto building. For those who haven't tried it, I would suggest taking Springgreen Drive to Sun Valley Drive then west to Autumn Drive.

The scholarship committee is about to begin interviewing seven students who have applied for Mosaic scholarships. We are planning to hold the awards banquet at Westminster Church on University Avenue. The students receiving scholarships and their families will be honored. The dinner will be on Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 and will begin at 6:00PM. All members and spouses are invited to attend. The meal will be complementary. Please make your reservation by calling Brian Carroll at **(563) 585-0147**.

We still have some members who haven't paid their 2023 membership dues. For those who haven't paid, it's important that you do so as soon as possible.

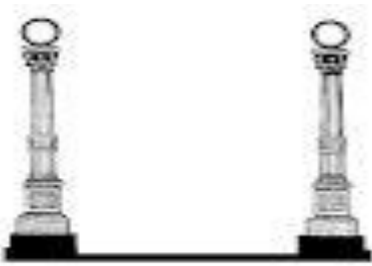
Our program for the April meeting was given by Brother Gerald Edgar. The topic of his presentation was "Safety". He had some very interesting facts. Did you know that a vast majority of accidents take place in the home? Please be careful.

Brother Edwin Blinks happily reported that Brother Randy Tolley has passed his Third Degree MI examination. He received our congratulations. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at the Oxus Grotto building at 7:00PM.

Fraternally;
Jack Smeltzer, WM

Bellevue Chapter #359 OES Stated Meeting Tuesday, May 2, 2023

(we have, unfortunately not received a report from Bellevue. Perhaps next month – ed.)



Ye Olde Editor's Ramblings

In keeping with our recent spate of educational (all Masonic-related, thank you!) submissions from our Brother Gerald Edgar (have you applied to be permanent Masonic Historian with Grand Lodge sir? Or an itinerant teacher of Iowa Masonic History?) we present you gentle readers another installment! Thank you very much, Brother! Without further ado (we know that we tend to be verbose), we present you with the latest and apologize for the font change:

Finding the Root Cause is Elementary, My Dear Watson

March 16, 2010

[Gerald A. Edgar](#)

I haven't seen the current Sherlock Holmes movie. (As far as I'm concerned, Basil Rathbone IS Sherlock Holmes!) But the trailers for the current movie reminded me of the famous detective's wonderful logic, which is, to paraphrase, "after you eliminate all the possibilities, whatever is left, no matter how improbable, is the answer."

The Rathbone – I Mean Fishbone – Methodology

Sherlock Holmes' logic is very similar to an incident investigation approach I've embraced: The "fishbone" methodology. "Fishbone" is a cause-and-analysis methodology used to find the root cause(s) of any event, natural or otherwise. It's a brainstorming session where everyone involved – supervisors, department heads, vendors – puts in all their ideas. You get to the end of a bone or branch when there are no more 'whys' to answer. It might be tedious, but it's very revealing!

Why We Should Consider the Improbable

Let's be honest now. How often do we safety professionals spout the entire menu of potential hazards, but we're really just going through the motions? Sure, this or that might happen, but in our heart of hearts we're thinking, "no way!" Well, here are two examples of the improbable being the answer.

Case #1: Something Foul is Afoot

You know how H.R. often likes to give touchy issues to Safety to handle? A while ago, we had an employee with very strong body odor, so H.R. asked if I could take care of it. They said, "He claims he showers daily BUT..."

Well, I repeated the usual line: "Perhaps it's a health condition." But, of course, everyone was thinking it was hygiene (or lack of it).

However, I soon detected that the employee used company-supplied uniforms and appeared well-kempt otherwise. So I tactfully asked in a round-about way if he experienced any health problems. It turns out that, after a medical exam by his doctor, the employee learned he had an imbalance of some trace mineral in his system that created a strong body odor. A mineral additive soon eliminated the problem.

Case #2: A Curious Incident

Here's another similar case: An employee complained of a rash. He was sure it was caused by something at work, as it allegedly cleared up while he was on vacation. Yet all of his co-workers – many of whom had worked that line for far longer – were fine. The only chemical he came in contact with was an innocuous coolant (per the MSDS).

A check of air quality, as expected, was fine. Even chemicals used by maintenance and janitorial staff were found to be innocent. So what was left? Was this another case of an 'off the job' condition being made into a Work Comp issue?

It turns out that company-provided uniforms were once again in the mix. A check of the MSDS for the detergents used by the laundry service, with a follow-up to the employee's physician, solved the case. This employee was indeed one of those '1 in a 1,000,000' who was sensitive to an industrial detergent.

Ever since then, if my employer offers uniforms, I get the MSDS for the detergent. It seems that most employers do NOT obtain these. In fact, when I contacted a major national uniform service to ask for the

MSDS, I was told I was the first EH&S Manager to ever ask for them.

Conclusion

Can the culprit indeed be that one in a million rather than the obvious? Yes, it can! If you're trying to weed out the root cause of a workplace incident, remember the wise words of Sherlock Holmes: "It's elementary, my dear Watson. After you eliminate all the possibilities, whatever is left, no matter how improbable, is the answer."

Masonic Calendar: May, 2023

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

The Dubuque Trestleboard
1111 Rosedale Avenue
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4135
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