



The Trestleboard



Masonic Temple, 1155 Locust St., Dubuque, IA 52001-4751

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!

Dubuque Lodge #3

A.F. & AM

Thursday, June 18, 2020, 7:00 PM

Greetings, All;

In lieu of a column about Dubuque Lodge #3's exploits this past month of May (of which there weren't many other than communications with our fantastic Secretary, Jack Smeltzer - don't blush, Jack; you deserve many kudos!) we were sent a letter from the Grand Lodge Office, that, for those of you who haven't seen it or don't receive it, explains why our Masonic organizations did not meet in May (and potentially, not meeting in June, yet).

The email letter is in two parts, and I'll post those two parts separately, one as my normal submission for this month. The other is an explanation of what a (our) Grand Lodge is and who it includes. I figured a nice refresher can't hurt, and it can help bind more closely as Brothers and Sisters of Masonry here in Iowa.

Anyway, enough of my blathering. What follows in the Grand Lodge directions in

these COVID-19 times (emphases are mine).

Fraternally and respectfully;
Wes Struebing – WM

May 15, 2020

Greetings Brethren,

The Grand Secretary's office has received a number of inquiries as to whether a lodge may hold a Stated Communication or confer degrees. **The short answer is NO, not at this time.**

Yes, some of the restrictions have been relaxed. But according to Governor Reynolds and the Iowa Department of Health, there are to be no gatherings of 10 members or more. How does that apply to a Masonic lodge? **It is based on the number of members who are entitled to be there, not on the usual attendance.** We only have two lodges that have fewer than 10 members, so all others are not to meet.

When the Governor announced some of the relaxations earlier this week, the list included groups such as the American Legion. But when you look a little deeper, it is those fraternal groups that sell food and they are to follow those restrictions.

No one knows when the Governor will allow larger gatherings. For example, if the limit is increased to 25 members, it will allow more lodges to meet but still excludes a majority of our lodges.

However, even if there is a relaxing of restrictions and more lodges are allowed to meet, there are problems such

as how can lodges be opened when there cannot be contact between brothers, and how can the 6 feet social distancing be implemented. The Grand Secretary's office is working on protocols to assist lodges whenever that time comes.

As always, members can connect via phone, facetime, skype to talk, check on needs. There are also video conferencing using computers, cell phones, and tablets such as Zoom so that brothers can socialize by screen.

Stay safe.

Fraternally and sincerely,
William R. Crawford, Grand Master

Metropolitan Lodge #49

Next Meeting

TBD

I have been holding off due to not knowing what or when restrictions will be lifted.

Fraternal groups are still not to meet - no groups exceeding 10 people, etc, etc.

So, at this time Metropolitan lodge #49 will NOT hold a meeting in June.

I personally feel it is too early to jump the gun and put ourselves at risk.

It will be interesting to see if the numbers of infected increase with things starting to open.

Small business has taken a big hit. Support them as best as you can.

Continue to carry-out from your favorite restaurant, and shop locally owned businesses.

We will get through this if we work together!

Respectfully and Fraternaly;
Dan Neuhaus - WM

Mosaic Lodge #125
Regular Meeting Tuesday,
June 9, 2020 (*fingers crossed*)

Greetings masonic family:

This was what I published one year ago in the *Trestleboard* as WM:

"The dining room was filled for our annual scholarship dinner on May 22, where we presented checks for \$2000 to seven graduating seniors. We received many positive comments and everyone seemed to enjoy the night's event. Thank you to everyone who helped and took part in this."

Unfortunately, with the current circumstances, this year the dining room sat empty along with the rest of the lodge rooms. However, the good works of masons continue to serve others. Mosaic Lodge is fortunate, thanks to brother Warren Schenck who went before us, to still be able to award \$2000 scholarships this year to five graduating seniors. Here are the names of this year's recipients: Anna Fassbinder, Natalie Harbin, and Sameer Faruquee, all from Hempstead High School, along with Ava Bradley and Trevor Sippel, both from Senior High School. We congratulate these outstanding students on their many achievements.

Mosaic Lodge received a gracious contribution from Keith Robertson's memorial. We miss our brother Keith and are thankful for his continued generosity and spirit of giving even after his passing into "the place not made by hands, eternal in the heavens". In case you missed it, we also lost a 50-year member Donald Kolsrud on April 9th. Once we are able to reconvene, we will need to act on our WM Greg Stechman's application for demit and to also fill the Treasurer position, from which brother Zach Spurgeon resigned. Now is the time we really need some good brothers to step forward and help fill these important leadership positions to keep the lodge properly functioning and viable. If anyone is interested in the Treasurer position, especially, please let me or one of the officers know.

The first round of late dues notices were sent out a couple weeks ago to 15 brothers. By code, the Secretary is

required to read the names in June of those who have not paid their dues yet this year and are in danger of being dropped. Dues must be paid by July or your membership will be lost. If you received the late dues notice, please pay promptly.

We patiently and eagerly await our next opportunity to dwell together in unity as brothers. Hopefully we will see you in June. Please take care everyone and pray for those in sickness or dealing with difficulties.

Fraternally submitted;
Brian Carroll - Secretary #125

"Freemasonry is not only the most ancient, but the most moral science known to man; every character, emblem, and figure depicted in a Lodge has a moral and useful meaning and forcibly inculcates the practice of virtue." --from the Knights Templar magazine



Ye Olde Editor's Ramblings

In addition to the letter (posted above) from GM Crawford, he sent along a definition, of sorts, explaining the Grand Lodge. We decided it would be useful to publish here what he said:

May 14, 2020

Greetings Brethren,

Occasionally there is a question about either who the Grand Lodge is or what the Grand Lodge is. Some wonder if it is the beautiful building in Cedar Rapids that the home of the Iowa Masonic Library and Museums is what Grand Lodge is.

From the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, Article II. Supreme Masonic Power: "This Grand Lodge is the supreme Masonic power, legislative, executive, and judicial over its chartered lodges in the State of Iowa, limited only by the Ancient Landmarks of the Order and by the provisions of the Code."

Article III, Membership: "The members of the Grand Lodge are and shall be:

Each of its officers

Each past elective office while a member of one of its subordinate lodges.

Each member of each of its boards and standing committees.

The Master and the Wardens of each of its chartered lodges."

As you can see, each chartered lodge is an important member of Grand Lodge. That is why in the installation of the Worshipful Master, he is charged to attend the regular communications of the Grand Lodge. The Master of the lodge has just as many votes as does the Grand Master (each has one).

With the exception of 1945 due to restrictions because of World War II, the Annual Communication has been held. This year, it will be in Sioux City from September 17 to 19. Please plan to have your lodge represented. One of the important things done is the election of officers for the ensuing year. Those to be elected are:

Article IV, Officers: "Section 1, Names.

The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be:

Elective. A Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary, and three Custodians of the Work."

Note: Custodians of the Work serve six-year staggered terms, so there is not always an election for that position.

Continue to stay safe.

Fraternally and sincerely,

William R. Crawford, Grand Master

Masonic Calendar: June, 2020 (we hope!)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 York Rite (DARK)	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 High Twelve	13
14	15	16 Julien OES #125 7:00PM	17 Shrine Club (DARK)	18 Dubuque Lodge #3 7:00PM	19 Trestleboard Deadline 4:00PM	20
21	22	23 MTA Board	24	25 Trowel Fellowship 7:30PM	26	27
28	29	30				

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