

Anchor Lodge No. 7 A.F. & A.M.

Trestle Board

Chartered December 8, 1886

Buffalo Wyoming



Proud To Be A Mason

As I searched my mind, books and the ethers of the Internet for a topic to fill this space, it occurred to me that I should just say what was on my mind...

I am proud to be a Mason. Webster's Dictionary defines pride as "a sense of personal dignity; a feeling of delight or elation arising from some act, possession, or relationship." We all feel pride in various aspects of our lives. Some of us feel pride in our children, our educational, personal or professional accomplishments. Some, in our homes, family heritage, amassed wealth or military service. Most of us feel pride at a local football game as we place our hands over our hearts, remove our caps and watch as the flag of our country is raised in the brisk Wyoming wind. As a Mason I am proud of what our fraternity stands for. I am proud to be associated with the men who stand on the level, shoulder to shoulder with me in the Lodge.

It would be easy to jump to the conclusion that I am proud of the concept that Masonry "makes good men better." While I can't deny a sense of pride in having been considered a good enough man as to be worth being made better, there is a difference between being proud and being prideful. That difference is best left for each of our hearts to decide. However, that which I... we, are proud of should not be left in the Lodge or as a waning thought as we pay our dues each year.

I recently heard a 33° Past Master say "*as Masons we should be careful not to appear like a clique.*" He immediately went on to say, "*However, as a Mason I find myself associating primarily with Brother Masons due in part to our similar beliefs, moral values and common interests.*"

Yes, we may, and should associate with Brother Masons but should we not also associate ourselves through community and humanitarian pro-

jects as a man or group of men to be proud of? As an individual we can show that we are proud to be Masons by living our lives in a manner which positively influences all those we come in contact with. As Brothers should we not rededicate ourselves to the principles of Masonry? The time is right to have a positive influence on our community, our Brothers and those who will become our new Brothers. Whether you sit in Lodge every meeting, haven't been to Lodge recently or if you haven't been to Lodge in years think about what makes you proud to be a Mason.

Then, join us at one of our upcoming meetings and we can all work together to make a difference in our community, amongst ourselves, our friends, neighbors and this state. Let's demonstrate our Masonic pride...our Masonic light in Lodge and out.

- M.J. Ramey

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Items of Special Note

Fifty Year Members:
Wally Ramsbottom
Dugal Dickerson
Ray Clark

About Anchor Lodge No. 7

At 120 years old, Anchor Lodge No. 7 has met in Buffalo Wyoming since it was issued dispensation on November 8, 1885. Just over a year later on December 8, 1886 the lodge was granted its charter.

Anchor Lodge No. 7 currently meets in the Odd Fellows Hall on Cedar Street.

Our regular communications are held at 7:30 pm on the first and third Mondays of each month.

Special Communications

Saturday Dec 30th

Regular Communications

Monday Jan. 1 (Canceled)

Monday Jan. 15th

Monday Feb. 5th & 19th

Monday Mar. 5th & 19th

From The East



Charcoal illustration by Lee Woodward Zeigler.

These are what are termed the Masonic Virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Brethren, I am sure we all recall the negative publicity placed upon us by the Southern Baptists over the past number of years, and most likely this is an on going thing. However, there is now a more positive view of us Freemasons, brought on very possibly by Hollywood and the media. Most any given day we can see on television an unbiased program concerning past and present Masonry.

If Freemasonry is to prosper into the future we, as members of this great and glorious work need to revive our individual interests in our lodges, and be in attendance when we can without disrupting the family structure. Everything we do is

done under the democratic process.

The more of us there in lodge to decide the issues, and voice our opinions, the more prosperous we will be. The only reward we can offer is corn, wine and oil, and most always a cup of coffee, homemade cake or pie and sometimes cookies. Good fellowship is always on hand.

There are many things in Masonry which help us be square and on the level with each other. Communications between and among the brethren and most especially the officers of a lodge is very important, if not the most important part in keeping the lodge functioning for the

betterment of us all. Therein lies the importance of the trestle board.

I would welcome your ideas for activities in the lodge as well as in the community. So please come when you can and let us know what you think of what we are doing.

Please make note of the schedule laid out in this and future trestle boards, and again I look forward to seeing all of you.

Fraternally,

Dale Sain,
Worshipful Master
Anchor Lodge No. 7

“The program is setup to give the initiate an understanding of Masonry prior to the degrees”

Masonic Education From The West

Brethren, I think we are doing great so far this year. We have another applicant for initiation and the possibility of a couple more.

On that note, the Worshipful Master has set December 30th as a special communication so that we can perform an Entered Apprentice Degree.

This is a great way to bring in the New Year. There will be

four of us doing the Grand Lodge Education Program with the new initiate.

The program is set up to give the initiate an understanding of Masonry prior to the degrees. As well it will continue after each degree.

By presenting the degree information after each degree, he will better understand what he has just been through.

The Worshipful Master has scheduled some activities so please keep checking the schedule here in the trestle board. If there is something you would like to see happen please let us know or come present it in lodge.

Fraternally,

Jim Sturdevant
Senior Warden
Anchor Lodge No. 7



Image used in Richardson's Monitor of Freemasonry, New York; Lawrence Fitzgerald 1860

Life Membership

Did you know that you can become a life member of Anchor Lodge No. 7? Life memberships are just \$600. To learn more about life

membership contact Ron McPhee at 684-5373 or rmcphee@vcn.com.

Would you like to write an article for the Trestleboard? Have a particular topic you would like discussed?

E-mail: mramey@sheridan.edu or call 307-684-8932

Calendar: Meetings and Events

December 2006: (SPECIAL COMMUNICATION)

Saturday December 30th: 1:00 pm

- Entered Apprentice Degree

January 2007:

Monday 1st: Regular Communication (**Canceled**)

Monday 15th: Regular Communication

- 50 Year Pinning Ceremony
Ray Clark, Dugal Dickerson and Wally Ramsbottom

February 2007:

Monday 5th: Regular Communication

- Business Meeting
- 2nd Degree

Monday 19th: Regular Communication

- Business Meeting
- George Washington Talk
- 3rd Degree

March 2007:

Monday 5th: Regular Communication

- St. Patrick's Day Dinner - Corn Beef & Cabbage
- Ladies Night (Family & Friends Welcome)
- Trestle Board & Review

March 10th: (SPECIAL EVENT)

- Johnson County Health Fair: Pass out DNA kits

Monday 19th: Regular Communication

- Business Meeting

State Calendar of Events

January 2007:

Friday 12th & Saturday 13th: Grand Master's Winter Reunion

- Casper

March 2007:

Sat. 3rd: York Rite Festival

- Sheridan

Fri. 30th - Sat. 31st: Scottish Rite Spring Reunion:

- Sheridan Valley

Masonic Trivia

It is claimed that the first registered livestock brand in Montana was the Square and Compasses dating back to before May 25, 1872 when brands were first registered. It is still in use today.

What Makes A Man A Mason?

By: George M. Fee

What makes a man a Mason, O brother of mine?

It isn't the due guard, nor is it the sign,
It isn't the jewel which hangs on your breast
It isn't the apron in which you are dressed

It isn't the step, nor the token, nor the grip,
Nor lectures that fluently flow from the lip,
Nor yet the possession of that mystic word
On five points of fellowship duly conferred.

Though these are essential, desirable, fine,
They don't make a Mason, O brother of mine.
That you to your sworn obligation are true
'Tis that, brother mine, makes a Mason of you.

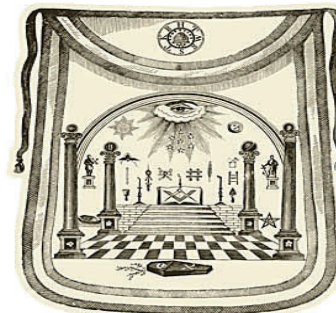
Secure in your heart you must safeguard and trust,
With lodge and with brother be honest and just,
Assist the deserving who cry in their need,
Be chaste in your thought, in your word and your deed.

Support he who falters, with hope banish fear,
And whisper advice in an erring one's ear.
Then will the Great Lights on your path brightly shine,
And you'll be a Mason, O brother of mine.

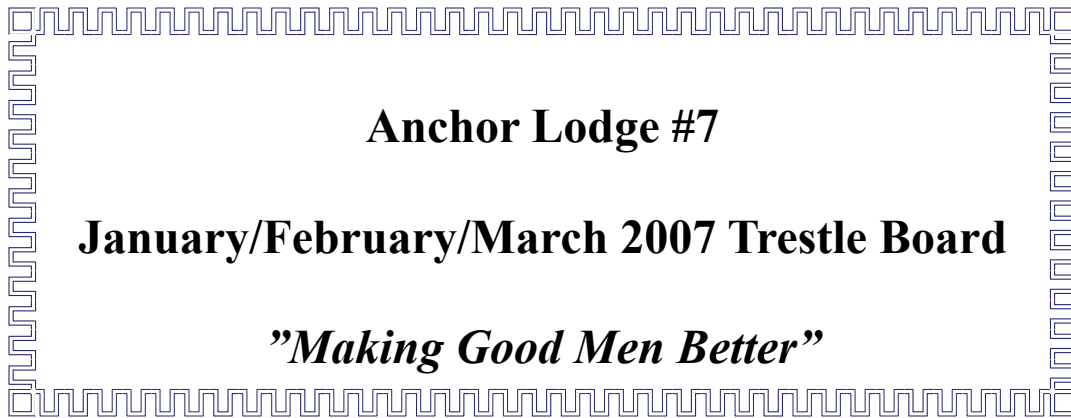
Your use of life's hours by the gauge you must try,
The gavel of vices with courage apply;
Your walk must be upright, as shown by the plumb,
On the level, to bourn whence no travelers come,

The Book of your faith be the rule and the guide,
The compass your passions shut safely inside;
The stone which the Architect placed in your care
Must pass the strict test of His unerring square.

And then you will meet
with approval divine,
And you'll be a Mason,
O brother of mine.



- Illustration of the Masonic apron made by Madame la Marquise de Lafayette and claimed to have been presented to Bro. George Washington of Fredericksburg Lodge, Virginia by General Lafayette in 1784



Anchor Lodge No. 7 AF&AM
PO Box 26
Buffalo WY, 82834

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