



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

Trestleboard: First Quarter 2008

Chartered December 8th, 1886

Buffalo, Wyoming

ABOUT ANCHOR LODGE

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.

FRONT PAGE RAMBLINGS

Happy New Years! Well, its Trestleboard time again. We have a little different look this time around due to some technical difficulties. Never the less, I hope this communication piece is both helpful and important to you.

Anchor Lodge has once again been busy over the past several months. Some of which may be a recap, but good information none-the-less. This past quarter we raised one Master Mason, initiated and passed another brother who will be raised January 21st. We voted on yet two more membership applications. Those gentlemen will be initiated in February. Continuing on the membership front, we now have a new member who has been a Brother Master Mason for several years, but not a member of this lodge. Welcome Dave Kenik!

Anchor lodge held its second annual Children's Christmas party in December. We have also decided to take the party to the streets! Next year we will host our Santa Claus and children's celebration in downtown Buffalo on the day/evening of the Christmas parade. There is conversation about hosting a "float" as well.

Back on November 7th, a contingent of Brothers from Anchor Lodge traveled to Sheridan to put on the 17th degree at the Scottish Rite Reunion. Brothers Wally Ramsbottom, Will Ramsbottom, Bob Ross, Tracy Rhodes, Ron Hepker, Robert Wagoner, Ron McPhee, Dave Guyton, and Matthew Ramey all participated in the degree.

Do you have an article, topic or favorite Masonic story for the Trestleboard? Send it to Matthew Ramey at mjramey@gmail.com or call 307-684-8932 items can be mailed to: 341 Trabling Rd.
Buffalo, WY 82834

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Anchor Lodge is definitely continuing to grow. We have started degree work and have one new Mason almost ready to take his Master mason Degree. We have voted on two more petitions for membership and hope to start them in February.

We have a Mason who has requested a dual membership and voted to accept one who has demitted from another lodge. Yes we are doing well in deed!

We have started a Master's Breakfast that is held once a month at 8:00 am on a Saturday morning. This is not only some great food but excellent fellowship time between new masons, potential masons and "Old timers" alike!

At this time we also are doing Masonic education on new members as they progress through the degrees. I hope to see more of you show up. If you know of someone who might be interested bring them along.

I would like to thank especially Brother Dale for cooking. He has cooked several meals for me this year and all those that have had a chance to taste them, have enjoyed them as much as me. Thank you once again Past Master Dale.

You have been a great help in meal planning. I want to thank everyone for your help in making this a successful year so far. I can truly say Anchor Lodge No. 7 is what masonry is all about.

Thank you Brethren and I salute you.

Fraternally,
Jim Sturdevant
Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST

Brethren, I again, with friendship and brotherly love, seek your presence at lodge meetings, which are still on the first and third Mondays of each month. We have some new activities which I am sure you all would enjoy attending.

You will find the schedule for the next 3 months outlined here in the Trestle Board. One of our most enjoyable events is the Master's Breakfast, which is one Saturday each month at 8:00 am. I am sure you would find this to be an ideal occasion to renew old friendships as well as make new ones.

Many years ago, I had not attended lodge for a long time and was embarrassed to go. A thoughtful brother discovered my dilemma and e personally went along with me and tutored me on the pass and token of the pass as well as other things and I





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found that all my fears were for naught. I was welcome as if I had never missed a meeting.

I have personally found the fellowship in Anchor No. 7 is the Masonic craft I discovered when first introduced in a small lodge way back in 1969 in the small town of Matthews North Carolina and I treasure every moment with the brethren. If I can aid you in any way please contact me at 674-0494 or E-mail me at sain28@msn.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Fraternally,
Dale Sain
Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH

I would like to start off by challenging every member

The first challenge is to provide your E-mail address. The older I get, the more important I believe communication is. E-mail provides a means to quickly communicate with Lodge members about changes and last minute events. It also allows you to tell the officers of the lodge about items you want to participate in or ideas you have about the work of the Lodge. Please E-mail me mjramey@gmail.com. I promise not to fill your "inboxes" with a swarm of unnecessary "junk" mail.

The second challenge I have for you is this.... Do you have ideas, thoughts, or even passions about the work Anchor Lodge should undertake as either a one-time project or an ongoing program? I believe that each of us holds that one passion we would like to work on. Would you like to see the Lodge develop a scholarship program for local youth? Food for a needy family? What about a widows and orphans program?

Should we develop an official and formal "Building" program? A reading program for pre-school children? Is there that one thing that you could really get yourself committed too?

I challenge each of you to let us know your thoughts and ideas. Anchor Lodge has 137 members across the county and beyond. Imagine the great, and benevolent ideas you Brothers, ranging from a new Fellowcraft to one member who has been a Master Mason for 62 years can come up with. Even if you don't want to lead a project or program, the wisdom of our membership is invaluable.

Call, write, visit, E-mail, or send smoke signals. The important part of this challenge is to communicate your ideas and the items you would like to see the Lodge's sponsor.

Fraternally,
Matthew Ramey
Junior Warden

A COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER

By: M.J. Ramey

Today's Master Mason utilizes the simple, yet ancient tools found in the stone quarries of long ago. No longer do we use the square, compasses, plumb, level, or the trowel to build monolithic structures, cathedrals, or temples of a by-gone era. Today we use them as symbols to teach special lessons, lessons of truth, morality and dedication to character.

A Master Mason is bound by oath to build his life based on strength of character with the same care and precision that our ancient brethren used to construct the cathedrals and temples those many centuries ago. Dr. Albert Schweitzer wrote:

"It is not enough merely to exist... Every man has to seek in his own way to make his own self more noble and to realize his own true worth."

Those words illustrate the meaning of Freemasonry. As the world's oldest fraternity, our goal is to build a man's most valuable and only true possession, his character.

A Mason believes that the strength of his family, community and country rests with firm convictions, strong ethical and moral values and devotion to one's brother. As Masons, we help aid and assist each other in intensifying our devotion to these timeless values and concepts.

Masons are concerned with developing their minds, increasing their knowledge, and expanding their understanding of the world. In short, Masons are dedicated to becoming better men.

In both times of unrest and harmony alike, it is reassuring to know that there exists a group of men who are truly dedicated to rising to the top, in building the best of character through action, deed, and dedication to mankind. This group, this fraternity, these men called Masons.

Stand up and be counted among them, be proud of the ancient traditions, beliefs, and dedication to character contained within our fraternity. Be the man your oath binds you to be.

