



PIERRE MASONIC MESSENGER



Volume 2006-01

Cost is \$2.50 per year

January 1, 2006

DISTRICT MASTER'S REPORT

Time is fast approaching the "One-Day Conferral" scheduled for Pierre. We have an opportunity to make new Master Masons and show the rest of South Dakota District #15 is active and interested in furthering the tenets of Freemasonry. Hopefully, we will have candidates from throughout the State.

I will see that notice is posted on our web site and that the schedule is sent to Lodges throughout the State.

I have been receiving emails from Ed Halpaus, Minnesota Grand Lodge Education Officer through Charles Walker. They are thought provoking. (This is copied from Brother Halpaus. It is not my intent to propose South Dakota Masonic policy.) QUOTE:

Hard questions are not necessarily controversial; they're just questions people would rather ignore. What may seem like a hard question to me may not be considered a hard question by you. Well I have a couple of questions, and I hope they're not hard questions; but I'm wondering how many Masons in Minnesota know the position of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota on Religion? Have the officers of your Lodge ever talked about this in a Lodge Communication for educational purposes, or had something about it in the Lodge Newsletter?

I do believe all Masons know that Freemasonry is not a religion or a substitute for a man's religion, but knowing what our Grand Lodge's stance is on this question is very helpful to know why we advocate that Freemasonry is not a religion.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota's official position on this question can be viewed, read and printed from our Grand Lodge Web Site at <http://www.mn-masons.org> under the topic of Brethren Resources.

MASONRY AND RELIGION

Masonry does not profess to be a religion, although it is obviously religious in character. It also does not pretend to take the place of religion, nor serve as a substitute for the religious beliefs of its members.

Freemasonry will open its doors to all men regardless of their religious conviction, the essential requirements in this regard being an avowed belief in God and expected punishment for vice and reward for virtue. (That belief in the Supreme Being, "The Great Architect of the Universe," who will punish vice and reward virtue, is an indispensable prerequisite to admission to Masonry.)

MINNESOTA'S OFFICIAL POSITION

The National Masonic Information Center proposes the following statement concerning Freemasonry and religion and is encouraging Grand Lodges throughout the United States to adopt this statement so that they will have a common position regarding this religious issue.

The Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota adopted the following statement as a standing resolution at its 1996 Annual Communication:

Basic Principles Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. Freemasonry requires of its members belief in God as part of the obligation of every responsible adult, but advocates no sectarian faith or practice. Masonic ceremonies include prayers, both traditional and extempore, to reaffirm each individual's dependence on God and to seek divine guidance. Freemasonry is open to men of any faith, but religion may not be discussed at Masonic meetings.

The Supreme Being: Masons believe that there is one God and that people employ many different ways to seek and to express what they know of God. Masons primarily use the appellation, "Grand Architect of the Universe," and other non-sectarian titles, to address Deity. In this way, persons of different faiths may join together in prayer, concentrating on God rather than on differences among themselves. Masonry believes in religious freedom

and that the relationship between the individual and God is personal, private, and sacred.

Volume of the Sacred Law: An open volume of the Sacred Law, "the rule and guide of life," is an essential part of every Masonic meeting. The Volume of the Sacred Law to a Christian is the Bible; to Freemasons of other faiths, it is the book held holy by them.

The Oath of Freemasonry: The obligations taken by Freemasons are sworn on the Volume of the Sacred Law. They are undertakings to follow the principles of Freemasonry and to keep confidential a Freemason's means of recognition. The much-discussed penalties are judicial remnants from an earlier era and are symbolic, not literal. They refer only to the pain any honest man should feel at the thought of violating his word.

Freemasonry Compared with Religion: Freemasonry lacks the basic elements of religion: (a) It has no dogma or theology, no wish or means to enforce religious orthodoxy. (b) It offers no sacraments. (c) It does not claim to lead to salvation by works, by secret knowledge, or by any other means. The secrets of Freemasonry are concerned with modes of recognition, not with the means of salvation.

Freemasonry Supports Religion: Freemasonry is far from indifferent toward religion. Without interfering in religious practice, it expects each member to follow his own faith and to place his Duty to God above all other duties. Its moral teachings are acceptable to all religions.

Lawrence R. Madsen, Home: (605)765-2746
District #15 Master Cell: (605)769-1764
906 E Commercial
Gettysburg, SD 57442-1623
Larry_madsen@hotmail.com

PIERRE LODGE #27

LILY LODGE #62

We had our regular communication December 5th, 2005 with a good turn out. Brother Delbert Ripley, past Grand Master, was present also Brother Dean Ritter from the Board of Custodians. We were also pleased to have a couple Brothers from Blunt and one from Ft. Pierre.

Brother Secretary also had the pleasure of reading a petition for degrees in Masonry. A few reports were given. After the close of the lodge, an oyster feed served by Brother Florin Hemminger and Brother Gerald Johnson was enjoyed by all. Jerry and Arnold Webb will be serving in January.

Arnold L. Webb, Secretary

BLUNT LODGE #72

Blunt lodge met in regular communication on December 12th WM Brian Schultz officiating. He gave a report on the Blunt grade school Christmas party held on December 1st. He said the children and teachers really appreciated the treats donated by the Lodge every year.

A report was given on a visitation to Brother A.J. Williams in the Hot Springs soldiers home by Brother Delbert Ripley, Clyde Colson, and Dale July. It was reported that he is doing fairly well and was very pleased to see them.

Education officer, Delbert Ripley gave a report on Masonry in Nazi and Communist countries.

The lodge received an invitation to a turkey dinner at the Senior Center to be held at 5:30PM Sunday the 18th of December in appreciation for cooking Sunday morning breakfasts.

Blunt lodge annual oyster feed will be held at the next regular meeting on January 9th.

There being no further business the lodge was closed in due form.

Roland Kleinschmidt, Secretary

IONIC LODGE #83

I am writing this early because Janet and I will be in Arkansas on the due date for the PMM.

Ionic Lodge met on the 8th. We enjoyed Oyster Stew and Chili prepared by Donn Quiett and crew.

We are still in the process of cleaning up and restoring our building after damage received from the June 9th storm. Water backed up under our new roof and ruined our east wall and carpet in the dining area.

We will be scheduling practices for the Fellow Craft degree, which we will confer at the "One-Day Conferral to be held in Pierre Lodge on January 28th, 2006.

Gettysburg will again host a New Year's Eve supper and entertainment for area Masons, Shriners and wives or widows of Masons. We ask Shriners to wear their Fez's.

There is a \$15.00 charge per plate, which includes meal, sales tax, Hors d'oeuvres and gratuity. The Social will start at 6:15PM and meal at 7:00PM. Entertainment and a short business meeting will follow the meal. We are usually done by 9:00PM.

Larry Madsen, Secretary

Home: (605)765-2746

906 E Commercial

Cell: (605)769-1764

Gettysburg, SD 57442-1623

Larry_Madsen@hotmail.com

HIRAM LODGE #123

Greetings from Hiram Lodge,

We are busy getting ready for the one day all the way on the 28th of January, we the members of Hiram lodge will be doing the 3rd degree. More information will be coming in the weeks to come. If you haven't paid your dues please get them paid. And also don't forget about life memberships as it helps the lodge, for more information contact the secretary for more information. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Doug Runge, Secretary

MOBRIDGE LODGE NO. 164

Dear Brothers,

First of all, I hope you have a Joyful and Blessed Christmas Season.

My Christmas letter was to make up for missing the December PMM deadline. Speaking of PMMs, MANY THANKS to that Pierre area crew who puts them together each month. One member said that it was the main way he gets his Masonic News. Remember, it does have cost and members may send contributions direct to PMM or through Lodge Secretaries. To save on cost, if you have an E-Mail address send it to Brother Eugene T. Collett III at ECollettSD@pie.midco.net. The PMM can be E-mailed.

Our Annual Lodge Scholarship/Library Fund Raiser is on Sunday, January 15th, 10:00AM to 1:30PM here at the Lodge. Last year we netted \$900.00 (\$500.00 Library / \$400.00 Scholarships). Wow!

Cooks, details at our January 9th regular meeting. Lodge Marshall Brother Mickey Schultz and crew have already made up 180 pounds of Mickey's Super Sausage for the Pancake Breakfast! SAVE THE DATE!

Point of explanation: the \$25.00 2006 dues also needed when the \$375.00 is paid for Life Membership during the current year is because Grand Lodge always takes their per capita from the "PREVIOUS" calendar year while lodges collect for the upcoming term.

Have a SUPER/GREAT 2006!!!

Brer Bob

EAGLE BUTTE LODGE NO. 172

ONIDA LODGE NO. 173

YORK RITE NEWS

To start with the York Rite Masons wish for each of you a very Happy New Year and we all hope that it will not pass as swiftly as 2005 did. It came, it got hot and it was gone.

Our last meeting found us in midst of a family style served dinner that was rather festive and enjoyed by a large crowd. We were honored to have the Illustrious Grand Master, Dr. Douglas McFarland make his official visit. He is truly a delightful person with so much stored up wisdom. It was a joy to host him. It is obvious that the constituent Councils are under good supervision.

For the Commandry, we had the Eminent Grand Commander, Gerald Johnson make his official visit. It soon became obvious that with so powerful a Mason at the helm, much will get done during his term. I am willing to bet that the proceedings of the last few grand sessions will soon be printed and distributed.

On February 3rd and 4th we are having a York Rite Festival, where you can take all the York Rite Degrees in one day at Sioux Falls. Anyone interested, please call our local Commander, Richard Decker at 380-6650 and he will make all the arrangements. You can also contact our Recorder, Florin Hemminger at 224-5552

Our next state meeting will take place on January 11th and the meeting will be preceded with a dinner at 6:15PM. Everyone is welcome and especially the ladies.

May the New Year place you in the midst of very choice blessings.

By Matt Schatz for York Rite.

YELDUZ, OAH SHRINE CLUB

The December monthly meeting was held at the Ramkota River Center on the 15th with short numbers due to horrible weather and members out of town.

Routine business was conducted, and plans made for the Club's annual visit to area nursing homes on Sunday December 18th.

It should be noted that the January monthly meeting is being changed from Thursday to Friday January 20th at the Ramkota River Center due to reservation arrangements at the Center. Come out and help the Club start the new year.

The January Ladies' Nite Dinner will be at the Chateau in Ft. Pierre on January 19th at 6:00PM. Club 2006 officers will be installed in a brief ceremony following dinner.

Jim Allan, Secretary

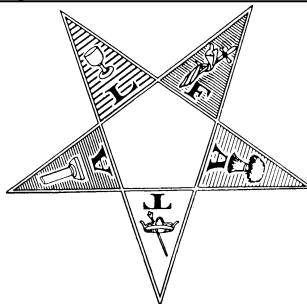
PIERRE MASONIC BLDG BOARD

Each Masonic Body is hereby notified of the annual meeting of the Pierre Masonic Building Association. The By-laws state the "annual meeting shall take place each year on the 4th Monday of January and that will be on January 23rd at 7:00PM. It is requested that the head of each body inform all the members and it would mean that each Masonic Member is part of the Building Association that is the body that controls the Temple.

It is also very important that we be conservative on the heating. Be sure that the doors are closed and when any Body meets, they should designate an adult to be the last to leave the temple to make certain that all doors are locked. Recently the lights were left on and that should not happen. To have meetings in the building should be a great experience and it will be if everyone makes an effort to keep the building safe and clean.

The Chairman of the Building Board, Eugene T. Collett III wants all Masonic members at the annual meeting.

By. Matt Schatz, Board Secretary



CAPITAL CITY OES

Stardust

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY: – What will 2006 have in store for us? We will have our own stories to tell by the end of the year. We have the opportunity to recognize the following who will be celebrating birthdays in January: Leona Buhler will be the 9th, Deanna Hanson on the 11th, Evalin Wall on the 13th, Page Epple on the 14th, Lori Ann Gibson and Noreen Leao on the 27th. Happy Birthday. Best wishes to you for a wonderful day and year.

The chapter held its election of officers in November, these and the appointed officers by Sandra Vanneman Worthy Matron, for the ensuing year were installed on Tuesday evening December 13th at the Pierre Masonic Temple. She invited close Eastern Star associates to serve as her installing officers: Mary Carey and Dub Vanneman from Rapid City, assisted by Joyce & Max

Jones from Hayes and Karen Willis from Presho. The following elected and appointed officers were installed:

- Worthy Matron – Sandra Vanneman
- Worthy Patron – Uncle Matt
- Associate Matron – Cindy Paul
- Associate Patron – Perry Anderson
- Secretary – Hertha Gross
- Treasurer – LaDonna Wagner
- Conductress – Dolores Anderson
- Associate Conductress – Georgene Bjerke
- Chaplain – Florin Hemminger
- Marshal – Marian Hemminger
- Organist – Carol Logan
- Adah – Mary Ann Nielsen
Donna Newman
- Martha – Velma Becker
- Electa – Peg Henson
- Warder – Lillian Magnusson
- Sentinel – Clinton Nielsen

A Christmas party lunch was served with gifts for the officers to close out the evening.

This year's McClure party held last Saturday at the Pierre Discovery Center attracted a nice crowd of young people for a busy time working the many exhibits. Most had long lists for Santa Claus when he arrived, and a couple hundred youngsters found his attention. As he was seated his red suit was hidden by the little bodies who wanted to be heard. The Eastern Star hosted this annual event by renting the facility, providing treats, volunteering their time to visit and assist with the children's activities.

Communications from members enclosed with their dues payments are always welcome: Linda Dimmick, Arizona, sends greetings to her friends here. Eleanor & Don Armstrong, Oregon, are in good health, having a great life. Lucille Board, Arizona, is able to get along fine in her home. Millie Miller, Sioux Falls, travels to visit family and attends their special events. Pat Greer, Kansas, has family members in all parts of the U.S. to visit and keep in touch with their lives. Tippy Myers, Florida, will have her family visit and she now does noon meals with friends instead of evening to be home by dark. Good plan. Page Epele, Iowa, sends greetings to all. Judy Ove, California, had suffered with cancer, says she is now cured. Good news. The Worthy Matron announced the chapter is invited to host the first official visit on January 26th. A noon no-host lunch is planned at Jakes, afternoon meeting at 2:00PM, a dinner at the Temple at six and the evening meeting at 7:30. This function is open to all who hold current receipts for dues. We invite and welcome other chapters to participate. We expect many of you to attend for a good time. Happy Holiday Season All.

Waneta Chapter #47

Waneta Chapter installed officers and enjoyed a Christmas gift exchange. Elected officers are:

- Marsha Osier – Worthy Matron,
- Larry Madsen – Worthy Patron,
- Sarah Wuttke – Associate Matron,
- Bill Wuttke – Associate Patron,
- Oletha Rausch – Treasurer,
- Lucy Van Bockel – Secretary,
- Shirley Stroup – Conductress, and
- Janet Madsen – Associate Conductress.

Our Official visit is scheduled for February. We have to decide on morning and afternoon "school of instruction". Merry Christmas and enjoy a safe and healthy New Year.

Marsha Osier 713 E Custer
Worthy Matron Gettysburg, SD 57442



JOB'S DAUGHTERS BETHEL #10

Hello!

Bethel 10 of Pierre has their regular meeting on December 18th at 3:00PM. We ask new girls to come at 1:30 to get fitted for their robes, and to bring their purple pack-

ets. Our Christmas party will be after the meeting. This is also the time to turn in wreath sale money. December 31st is our practice for our Installation at 3:00. January 1st we are having practice for Installation at 2:30 and Installation is at 4:00 with a meal and reception following. The following girls are elected top Five: Linden Barber- Honored Queen, Senior Pr.- Krista Olson, Junior Pr.- Alicyn Even, Guide- Lindsey Thompson, Marshal- Katrina Brown.

We have moved our annual King of Hearts dance up a month. It will now be on January 15th at the Ramkota. Doors open at 8:00PM and the DJ starts at 9:00PM and goes till midnight. The King will also be crowned at midnight. If you would like to help out or be a chaperone contact Dallas Thompson at 224-5409.

Junior Princess Krista Olson



ASHLEY CHAPTER OF DEMOLAY

(Nothing was received.)

Derek Runge - MC

GENERAL COMMENTS

Receipts: in last name order within lodge number.

Member of Pierre Lodge #27:

1. \$10.00 – Williams, A. J.

Member of Lilly Lodge #62 in Harrold:

2. \$60.00 – Lodge members

Member of Ionic Lodge #83:

3. \$20.00 – Sieler, Ephriam\$

Member of Moberg Lodge #164:

4. \$10.00 – Klein, Robert

Member from Onida Lodge #173:

5. \$20.00 – La Fave, Dennis

6. \$10.00 – Lomheim, Manford

Members of Oahe Shrine Club or Commandary:

7. \$20.00 – Allen, Charles B.

8. \$ 5.00 – Barnes, Pierre

9. \$20.00 – Bloom, Maynard

10. \$20.00 – Bolyard, Harold

11. \$25.00 – Epele, Page M. (Commandry)

12. \$10.00 – Mayer, Eugene

13. \$20.00 – Nutsch, Clyde

14. \$10.00 – Olson, Marvin

15. \$ 4.00 – Simon, Richard

16. \$10.00 – Sharpe, Harold

17. \$ 5.00 – Wright, Bill J.

Members of Capital City OES:

18. \$10.00 – Doty, Eva

\$289.00 was received this month. Expense list:

1. \$150.00 for U.S. Postal Permit #12

2. \$129.16 for addressing and mailing the PMM

3. \$ 43.76 for copier lease

\$ 269.47 spent for November's PMM

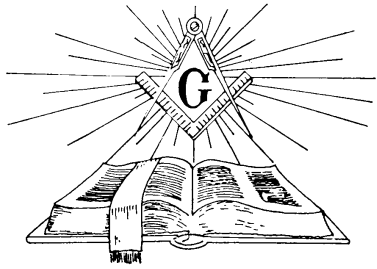
If you enjoy the PMM, please thank the people who pay for it and consider making your own donation. **I thank you too!**

The PMM is \$61.56 in the good since August 1st, 2002 excluding January's PMM expenses (approximately \$175.00 leaving an approximate balance of \$-113.44).

I would like to thank the brother and sisters that made the PMM possible: Florin Hemminger, Don Sandal, and Larry Kirkpatrick printed the PMM. Jim Allan, Florin Hemminger, Larry Kirkpatrick, Don Sandal, Eldon LaFave, Hertha Gross, and Keith Miller did the folding and taping. Thank you to the authors that write the articles, printers, and folders of the December's PMM.

Please send address corrections and financial support to your secretary or directly to me. Thank you.

Eugene T. Collett III
1304 W CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE, SD 57501-1344
ECollettSD@PIE.MIDCO.NET



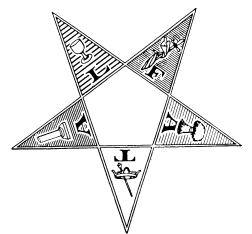
**PIERRE LODGE #27 A.F.& A.M.
PO BOX 1171
PIERRE, SD 57501-1171**

**NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 12**

VOLUME 2006-01 PMM January 1, 2006



MASONIC TRESTLE BOARD January 2006



Sunday	1	3:00pm	Pierre Job's Daughters Bethel #10
Monday	2	7:00pm	Eagle Butte Lodge #172, regular meeting & lunch
	2	7:30pm	Ft. Pierre Chapter #90 OES
	2	8:00pm	Lily Lodge #62 Harrold, SD, regular meeting & lunch
Wednesday	4	8:00pm	Onida Lodge #173, regular meeting & lunch
Thursday	5	6:00pm	Yelduz Shrine Annual Meeting at center in Aberdeen.
	5	7:00pm	Ashley Chapter of DeMolay, Pierre.
	5	7:30pm	Rising Sun Chapter #86 OES, Blunt, regular meeting & lunch
	5	8:00pm	Ionic Lodge #83 Gettysburg, SD, regular meeting & lunch
Monday	9	7:00pm	Pierre Lodge #27, regular meeting and lunch
	9	7:30pm	Mobridge Lodge #164, Mobridge, SD, regular meeting & lunch
	9	8:00pm	Blunt Lodge #72, Blunt, SD, regular meeting and lunch
Tuesday	10	7:00pm	Capital City Chapter #39, O.E.S. regular meeting and lunch
Wednesday	11	6:15pm	York Rite, dinner and 7:00pm meeting
	11	8:00pm	Waneta Chapter #47 OES Gettysburg, regular meeting and lunch
Sunday	15	3:00pm	Pierre Job's Daughters Bethel #10
Monday	16	7:00pm	Eagle Butte Lodge #172, Eagle Butte regular meeting and lunch
	16	8:00pm	Hiram Lodge #123, Ft. Pierre, regular meeting and lunch
Thursday	19	6:00pm	Oahe Shrine Club Ladies' Nite at Chateau in Ft. Pierre
	19	7:00pm	Ashley Chapter of DeMolay, Pierre.
	19	7:00pm	Onida Chapter #138 OES, Onida, SD regular meeting and lunch
Thursday	20	12:00pm	Oahe Shrine Club monthly meeting at Ramkota Center
Monday	23	7:00pm	Pierre Masonic Building Association Annual meeting followed by the regular meeting
	23	7:30pm	Mobridge Lodge #164, Mobridge, SD, regular meeting and lunch
	23	8:00pm	Ree Valley Lodge #70, Highmore, SD, regular meeting and lunch
	23	7:30pm	Ft. Pierre Chapter #90 OES
Thursday	26	Noon	Capital City Chapter #39, O.E.S. official visit no-host lunch at Jakes
		2:00PM	Afternoon meeting
		6:00PM	Evening meeting
Saturday	31	6:15pm	Gettysburg Shriners New Year's Eve supper and entertainment