



December Trestleboard Eagle Rock Lodge #19 AF&AM

From the East: Happy Day to those who survived Thanksgiving, and a speedy recovery to those who went out 0 dark thirty to take part in the annual blood letting and self mutilation, the opening of the shopping season. We went out for a bit, thought we would try it, but 60 to 70 in each line. We just came home and said never again.

The first item for your attention is a resolution offered to change our by laws to more or less define "labor" and prohibit any labor, including dedications or funerals on Sunday by the Lodge. It is authored By MWPGM Hoffman and PM Taylor. It is scheduled for third reading and vote at the 2nd stated, December 13th.

The Resolution is as follows:

Whereas the 2nd Degree of Freemasonry indicates that no labor is done on the 7th day, And Building Dedication or Rededication either by Grand Lodge or a subordinate Lodge is considered as the Lodge "open" for said dedications, and Funerals are held under and open Lodge of Tribute.

Be it resolved that Article III, Meetings of the Lodge be amended to read as follows:
Article III, (Add) Section 4, This Lodge will not be opened on Sunday for labor.

Authors, R Dix Hoffman, PM Donald Taylor PM

1st reading 10-10-006, 2nd reading 11-1-06 3rd reading 11-15-06

Voting will occur 2nd stated, 12-20-06. Opportunity for discussion will be provided before vote.

This is traditionally the time when the Trestleboard would be recognitions by the retiring Master for all the work done by the Lodge in the last year. We had a lot of fun. We also started what may become "the" project for the Lodge. SW Ceci ran the "Bikes for Books" project and at first blush, it appears to have brought attention to the Lodge doing good works. It did not hurt a thing when testing revealed that Hawthorne School has shown a dramatic increase in reading test results. JW Perez has suffered from the Steward Blight. It appears to be a disease that affects everyone who is appointed as a Steward and results in them disappearing. This resulted in Brother Josh doing too much without help. Hopefully next year will be different. SW Nipper landed in his job with both feet. All we have to do is ask for a team to be put together and his threats and coercion result in the job being accomplished. The trip to Bannack was well attended and we had the pleasure of Raising a Brother in the Old Lodge again. Brother Albert Brett was the honored recipient this year and as last, MWPGM Dave Prewett of Montana did the 3rd degree lecture. No one falls asleep. His delivery is one we can all look to for inspiration. The Lodge did get the Lodge of Excellence award this year at Grand Lodge. The Lodge made a visitation at Saber Lodge in Mountain Home, that has to be one of the longer vistis around. Those who attended enjoyed seeing the different work and the excellence of the work. My greatest thanks go to all of you that have had to step up and absorb duties that I have been unable to attend to. My personal life has been so disrupted this year that I have been unable to do things that I needed/wanted to do. My Brothers have stepped up and the Lodge operated well, indicating the quality, not only of the Officers, but the Brothers that it just goes on without problems.

At election time, we did have a situation arise. The natural progression was halted in its tracks by situations in Brother Dave Ceci's life that made him unable to take the Master's Chair. It being his desire to do the job only once and do it well, he feels he could better do the job next year when he could give it the time and attention he feels it deserves.

Elections were held, I was re-elected Master, Dave Ceci, SW, Josh Perez JW, Jack Buerkle, Treas, Don Taylor Sec'y. The appointive positions are filled, Dave Nipper SD, Dave Jobe, JD, Albert Brett, SS, Dave Stonhill, JS, Dan Drefs, Marshall, Vince Esparza Chaplain, and Neil DePue as Tyler. I got up and thanked them for the vote of confidence in electing me Master again, was told to sit down and pipe down, that they were just giving me another chance to do it right.

Installation will be at 2 PM Saturday December 16. DDGM Nicklas will install, Marshall will be PDDGM Mohny and Neil DePue, PDDGM will act as Chaplain.

Brothers, we are about to start another year. Attrition of our older Brothers goes on and we lose all that experience. We need to continue to work on bringing in new Brothers whose enthusiasm, youth and vigor will help counter those losses. In coming years, they will become the "Graybacks" whose help and advice we will seek out. We have the financial ability to maintain the physical lodge for the next hundred years, but it is not a Lodge without Brothers filling it.