



June Trestleboard Eagle Rock Lodge #19 AF&AM

From the East: Well, Brothers, we are getting close to going dark for the summer. Or are we. We have a lot of work to do, it may be that we will have to call a communication or two to keep the candidates progressing and keeping their interest and momentum up. I had a thought, do we want to do a full Saturday and do all work that needs done or do we want to call one or more evening communications. Let me know your thoughts, we want to interfere as little as possible with your enjoyment of the summer,

but we thankfully have work to do.

Brother Dave Ceci's hard work on the Bikes for Books program paid off on the 23rd when 14 bikes were presented to star readers whose names were drawn at Hawthorne Elementary. Brother Dave had important work to do at his employment and was unable to attend (does he set the schedule himself?) and receive wages for his accomplishment. The wages paid were high, the happy faces on the winners and the others with the "Wait till next year" looks on theirs. It was a real kick when the Principal, Mrs. Seifert, asked who had read books due to the Bike drawing. I believe that all present raised their hands. Mrs. Seifert also commented how much their reading scores had improved and did give some of the credit to our program. Those attending were Jr. Warden Perez, Sr Deacon Nipper, Marshall Drefs, Br Gary Black and quite to his surprise since he only came to watch his daughter, Br Carroll. We hope that this program will more than replace the breakfasts with the services performed for the community. My belief is that it is far more effective and accomplishes more of the intents of Masonic Charity.

Bannack is coming up. We really are not that far away. It is probably a good time to start letting me know who is coming, we know that we will never have a complete list but it does help to make sure we don't run out of food, we can always pour another cup of water in the soup, but would rather feed you well. We are most likely going to eat at 2:30 or 3 and then do the degree after the Park closes at 5 or 6. That way we will have minimum impact on the other guests.

We had a unique experience; our newest Master Mason is also a brand new Citizen of the United States. What a pair of honors to receive one day after the other. Welcome to you on both counts, Brother Jeremy.

Remember that Grand Lodge will be close, Sun Valley this year. Start trying to plan it in to your calendar, the 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd of September.

I believe that the annual meeting of Bannack will be 16 September. Remember, Brother Don Taylor and I do have petitions available on request.

The 31st is the 5th Monday of the month, Masonic Family Potluck. Dutch Oven meats will be provided, bring covered dish, salad or desert. We have done well bringing in new Brothers so far this year. Wouldn't it be great to have a year of net gain. Let's aim for starting up in the fall going as hard as we are ending the spring. There are still good men out there who aren't Masons, yet.

Senior Deacon - David Nipper. I was born in Chicago in 1946, but brought up in San Diego, California. My mother re-married when I was 4, and my adopted Dad was a police patrolman, which explains my attitude towards the law and my enjoyment of guns. I graduated from Hoover High School in San Diego in 1963. During this time, I became a student of history and philosophy, and was an avid cyclist. After graduating from San Diego State as a Chemist, I was hired as a computer systems analyst. I dodged the draft by Joining the USAF in 1969 as a pilot-type, but got shuffled back into the computer and communications business when the war started to slow down in '70. I was stationed in Shreveport, LA, when Marsha Dutky decided to get serious and drive over from San Diego to marry me. I hung around in the Air Force for a bit doing cryptographic and signals things and picked up some engineering skills while setting up communications systems in various sandy, cold, or swampy places around the world. After 18 years of marriage, our only child, Rivka, was born while we were stationed in Tucson AZ, and I decided it was time to settle down. I wanted to keep doing odd jobs for the government while actually getting decent pay, so I retired from the service as a Major (1989) and signed on at the INEL {INEEL/INL}. During this time working at the Lab and living in Idaho Falls, I met two co-religionists, Saul Mandel and Dov Kawamoto. I got talked into attending an installation, and ended up a Mason. The INL job was occasionally very interesting, but became increasingly frustrating, so I retired from there in 2001 and set up a computer lab in my basement to earn enough "extra" cash to pay for my toys. I now spend 1/2 my time raising our daughter, 1/2 doing volunteer work, 1/2 playing with computers (sometimes for money), 1/2 being politically active, 1/2 keeping the house fixed up, 1/2 reading and studying, 1/2 doing photography, and 1/2 on things Masonic.