



March Trestleboard Eagle Rock Lodge #19 AF&AM

From the East: It's been another good month. Attendance at the stated communications on the first and third Wednesdays has slightly improved. I continue to encourage those who have not been regularly attending to please attend. We need your help, your Masonic knowledge, and years of experience to help guide us all to become better Masons and men. If you need help getting to the lodge, please

let me or another officer know and we will do our best to help you attend.

This past month we had the honor of bestowing upon Brother Jack Buerkle and Brother Lee Jones their well deserved 50 year membership certificates. We also received two petitions for the Degrees of Freemasonry. Though it has been customary for the Past Master's Night to be a third degree initiation, the lodge will be hosting a Past Master's Night on Wednesday 3/26 in which the Past Masters will demonstrate their mastery of ritual and ceremony work from which we can all learn. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. All Past Masters are cordially invited to attend and enjoy dinner and attend the first degree initiation. Past Masters are not expected to pay for their dinner this evening. It is the pleasure and honor of the lodge. Another Past Master's Night will be scheduled for this coming fall which is intended to be a third degree.

Brother Don Taylor will kick-off our first Masonic Education presentation at the first stated communication on Wednesday 3/5. The topic pertains to the history of some of the Masonic concordant bodies such as the York and Scottish Rites. I have always found Brother Taylor's knowledge of Masonic history to be exemplary and I'm sure his presentation will be insightful. This is the first in a series of topics to be presented each quarter. Future topics and presentation dates will soon be finalized and communicated to provide you an opportunity to mark your calendars as a reminder to attend. If you have a topic which you would be willing to share with us, please contact the Senior Deacon, Brother Dave Jobe. If there is sufficient interest from our brothers to present a topic, then we will have a Masonic Education Night more often than once per quarter.

At the stated communication of 2/5, our Treasurer, Brother Bob Mohney presented the annual Treasurer's Report. The highlights from the report are that we had a net gain of \$20,585.15, a checking account balance of \$43,187.41, and a savings account balance of \$6,400.24. Brother Mohney proposed that \$25,000 from checking and \$5,000 from savings be used to purchase CDs at a higher interest rate than what is being earned from the checking and savings accounts. At the second stated communication on 2/20, the Treasurer's Report and his recommendations were accepted and approved. Brother Mohney has been authorized to purchase the CDs. Brother Mohney, thank you for your diligence and work preparing and presenting the report. Your recommendations should prove to be beneficial to the lodge finances.

It has also been proposed by our Junior Deacon Brother Dave Stonhill, that the lodge adopt a portion (2 miles) of an available highway and participate in the Highway Clean-up Program. I know you've all seen the signs posted along sections of highway throughout the state proclaiming that some organization is responsible for the clean-up of that highway section. If we decide to adopt a portion of highway, we would be responsible for highway clean-up of a 2 mile section twice a year. This is a community involvement opportunity and a way to be visible among the populace. Brother Stonhill will research available highway sections in the vicinity and will provide the lodge with three recommended portions from which to choose if we decide to adopt a highway.

One last topic from the stated communication on 2/20 concerns the stove/oven in the lodge kitchen. During the annual Temple Board Association meeting held in January, the purchase and installation of a new "like-for-like" replacement for the existing stove/oven was approved. Since the Temple Board does not have the funds (about \$5,400) to purchase and install a new stove/oven it was proposed that each Masonic body present to their members a proposal that each body commit a sum of \$1,000 towards the purchase and installation. This proposal was approved.

The above topics affect the welfare of our lodge and craft. I again encourage all to attend the stated communications so that your knowledge, experience, thoughts, and opinions, pro and con, can be communicated. Your voice needs to be heard.

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