



Meridian Lodge # 47

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Idaho

Trestleboard



September 2016

Volume 2016-09

2016 Officers

Worshipful Master	Shawn V. Gibbons, PM
Senior Warden	Roger Muzzy, Jr.
Junior Warden	Albert Miller, PM
Treasurer	Michael Long
Secretary	Mark H. Smith, PM
Senior Deacon	Chris Burgess
Junior Deacon	Randall Vanek, PM
Senior Steward	Hal Allerton
Marshal	Nason Hoyt
Chaplain	Mark Isserman
Tyler	Robert Fisher
Member-at-Large	Joby Hyman

Pay dues, donate on line

Meridian 47 has initiated something new, having established a PayPal account which enables us to accept credit cards at our events, and even for dues. This enhancement to our financial system will also allow us to accept dues payments on a subscription basis, which may be more convenient for many of our brothers. If you still owe your dues, log in to <http://www.meridianlodge47.org/> and click on "Membership Dues." There will be a small convenience fee.

Rusty on the work? No problem!

Sometimes brothers don't come to lodge because it's been a long time since they attended, they don't quite remember the work, and are embarrassed. Don't let that stop you! Come a little early, pull a member aside and get a little coaching. We want to see you at lodge as a full and active member.

Grand Lodge Budget and Resolutions

Budget and resolutions to be considered at the 149 Annual Communication accompany the electronic distribution of this *Trestleboard*. Please read, consider, and be prepared to discuss at our September 13 meeting.

Upcoming Meridian Temple Schedule

Sep 2016

Meridian Lodge #47

10 Temple Bd/Finance 9 am
13 Stated Communication 7:30
14 Idaho GL Officers training
20 (no practice; OES initiation)
27 Degree or practice 7:00 pm

OES Chapter #66

6 Stated Communication
20 Initiation

Job's Daughters Bethel 6

7 & 21 Regular meeting 7:00

Meridian Gems Rainbow

12 & 26 Regular Meeting 7:00

Treasure Valley DeMolay

8 & 22 Stated Communication 7:00

Meridian Shrine Club

15 Regular meeting

Oct 2016

Meridian Lodge #47

8 Temple Bd/Finance 9 am
11 Stated Communication 7:30
18 Practice/Cmte/Coaching 7:00
25 Degree or practice 7:00 pm

OES Chapter #66

4 Stated Communication

Job's Daughters Bethel 6

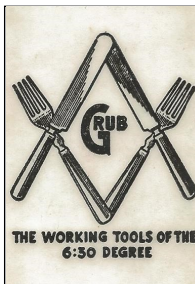
5 & 19 Regular meeting 7:00

Meridian Gems Rainbow

10 & 24 Regular Meeting 7:00

Treasure Valley DeMolay

13 & 27 Stated Communication 7:00



Meridian 47 Social Hour

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

6:30 pm prior to stated communication on September 13. Come on out for a good time.

Win a Golden Boy or Marlin Commemorative Rifle

The Grand Lodge of Idaho is raising funds for its sesquicentennial celebration in 2016 by raffling a couple of collectable rifles. Raffle tickets may be obtained from the Lodge Secretary. See details on page 4.

Support the Monger Scholarship with your Fred Meyer Card

Meridian Lodge is now registered with the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program. Connect your loyalty card to the Lodge, and we will earn a portion of Fred Meyers' charity distributions. See details on page 3.

Meridian Masonic Lodge Trestleboard
meridian.id.afam@gmail.com
Mark Smith, PM, editor

PO Box 484, Meridian ID 83680-0484
Published monthly by Meridian Lodge #47
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Idaho

Masonic Myths

by Trevor W. McKeown

http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/texts/masonic_myths.html

There are two kinds of myths about Freemasonry: those told about us by others and those we tell about ourselves. And make no mistake about it, we've been making up stories about ourselves since day one.

Myths of our origins

Our first chronicler was Dr. James Anderson who composed, or at least compiled our first Book of Constitutions in 1723. Included as a preface was a history of Freemasonry—a gloss of all the manuscript Charges then available. A rather fantastic interpretation by Anderson, it was not reprinted in the next edition in 1734. It claimed as fact the lineal descent of modern Freemasonry through King Athelstan, King Solomon, and Adam. Thus was our first myth born. To varying degrees, over the following almost two hundred years many freemasons accepted that history and many non-masons assumed that this was in fact Freemasonry's teachings.

Today most freemasons are unsure who Athelstan was and recognize that the Solomon link is legendary. But we've created another myth: our Templar heritage. I hesitate to broach the subject as it is controversial with many freemasons convinced that the Templars took refuge in Scotland and either created or entered Freemasonry to hide their own practices and beliefs. John Robinson's *Born in Blood* was one of the first to popularize this notion to a modern audience.

Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas, who brought us *The Hiram Key*, and others, have demonstrated themselves to be excellent self-promoters but woefully deficient as historians and I shan't refer to them again, but Michael Baigent, who co-authored *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail*, among others, is noteworthy in having drawn back from his earlier promotion of the Templar myth.

I will only say that Robert Cooper, current curator of the museum of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, who has spent many years researching the subject—studying primary source documents, roaming forgotten graveyards and the like—wrote what I believe to be the definitive debunking of this myth in the 2002 edition of *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*. He has also published a book on the topic. It's not as exciting as *Holy Blood* but it's much better history.

More recently, the adoption of the blue forget-me-not by Nazi-era freemasons is another myth. The Grand Lodge zur Sonne (Bayreuth) used to have a pin made for delegates to wear to their annual meetings. One particular pin, in 1926, depicted a forget-me-not. Later, in 1934, the Nazis instituted the Winterhilfswerk, which involved youths collecting money on the streets for rearmament. To encourage donations, different pins and badges were given to contributors for them to wear during that collection period. The badge used by the Nazis for the collection made in March 1938 coincidentally was the same forget-me-not pin chosen by the freemasons in 1926. There is absolutely no record of the pin, or the flower, ever having been worn during the war anywhere in Germany much less in concentration camps, as the legend would have it.

The Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Germany, Dr. Theodor Vogel distributed the same pin as a token of friendship whenever he made official visits abroad after 1948; most notably at a Conference of Grand Masters in Washington, DC in February 1953, where he recounted the 1938 history.

This explains how the blue forget-me-not became a German masonic emblem after the war and why, when American freemasons later founded military lodges in Germany, at least one chose that flower as the lodge name. Many lodges in Germany, at least up until recently, present a forget-me-not to newly raised brethren or Master Masons.



Where shopping & giving unite

**You Can Contribute to the CHARLES
MONGER MEMORIAL MASONIC
SCHOLARSHIP Fund Just By Shopping With
Your Fred Meyer Rewards Card!**

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Meridian Masonic Lodge at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number (82263).
- Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping the Meridian Masonic Lodge earn a donation! All proceeds will be applied to the scholarship fund.
- **You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates,** just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- For more information, please visit

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

GRAND LODGE AF & AM OF IDAHO SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE **GUN RAFFLE**

all proceeds to offset the cost of the
Sesquicentennial Activities

RAFFLE ITEMS

TICKETS \$20

Winners takes choice of the two
2nd place will receive other rifle



**Henry Golden Boy .22
Masonic Commemorative Rifle
Serial #GLID18672017**



Marlin 45-70

**Masonic Commemorative Rifle
Serial #150 (1 of 1000)**

Sesquicentennial Coins embedded in the backside of butt stock



September 22, 2017

at the

**150th Annual Communication of
Grand Lodge General Membership Banquet**



Ticket information:

**any Grand Lodge Officer or Monte Bollar (208) 343-4562
Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Idaho Office
219 N. 17th Street Boise, Idaho, 83702
gs@idahomasons.org**

