

January 2017

Stated Communication
2nd Thursday
of the Month

WM Andrew Evenson



2nd & McCartney
Rathdrum ID

PO Box 326
Hayden ID
83835

Rathdrum Lodge #41, A.F.A.M. of Idaho

Chartered
September 14th, 1904

From the East

By: WM Andrew Evenson

How much does Masonry mean to you? Like many things in life, we get out of them what we put into them. We can invest our time, our talents, and our treasures. Each of us can be 'active' in our Lodge by giving in these ways.

By giving of our time, we can serve on committees, help with fundraisers, mentor our new Masons, or serve on investigations. With our talents, we can be active on degree teams, share knowledge of the craft, prepare meals for Lodge meetings, or help with maintenance of our building. With our treasures, we can donate items needed or help our Lodge financially.

Our expenses go beyond what our current dues cover. Last year, we again provided \$1,500 in scholarships to 3 area high school graduates. We made improvements to the Lodge needed to improve safety as required by fire inspector. And, as with all organizations, our expenses seem to slowly increase each year. Our last dues increase was in 2009 and we are again looking at having to raise them again. Grand Lodge has increased the assessment on each member to \$60.00, which is our current dues. As your Worshipful Master, I humbly ask you all to consider making a small financial contribution to your Lodge. Donations of any amount, \$15, \$25, \$50, can be given to or mailed to our Lodge Secretary. Any amount can help our Lodge to thrive.

Above all, I encourage each of you to attend Lodge. See where you can give of your time, talents, or treasures. In return, I hope you gain so much more in Masonry!

From the South

From SW Richard Kellogg, courtesy of Harry Burt, Master, Acalanes-Fellowship No. 480

We now pitch in to a New Year full of significance for our gentle craft. Three hundred years of good men developing themselves to better repair the world that will be enjoyed by their children and grandchildren. And so it is a time to reflect on what we are as people, as Freemasons, and members of our Lodge.

The New Year resolutions we all make and most likely break pale into insignificance against the obligations we take as Masons: obligations that bind us to improve ourselves; obligations to our brothers, our families, to society and to God; obligations that force us to dig deep into ourselves and ask whether we are doing the best we can. By these obligations we form a society in which we can all feel "at home" whether we are the high or the low, the rich or the poor, remembering that Masonry unites us all no matter our country, sect, or opinion and causes true friendship to exist among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. Our Lodge fully reflects these ideals.

And so I challenge all of you who can, to attend the upcoming degrees, and renew with the candidates those obligations you once took kneeling at the altar, and recognize again the seriousness of those promises made perhaps so long ago. Promises that you kept and which have made our lodge such a strong bastion of all that is best in Freemasonry.

From the Secretary's Desk

By: Neil Uhrig

At the close of 2016, the annual report of Rathdrum 41 was filed with the Grand Lodge. This is an opportunity for all of us to review the state of our lodge. Our present lodge membership is 42 Master Masons, a number that has virtually stayed the same since 2013. Three of our members passed into the Celestial Lodge, including our Worshipful Master. We raised two Master Masons and affiliated one Mason from another Grand Jurisdiction. We recently installed a full officer line during our first open installation in a very long time.

As part of the annual return, the lodge submits a check for the Grand Lodge assessment, which is \$60.00 a Mason. At present, ten of our brothers have failed to pay their dues, forcing the lodge to front \$600.00 to cover the costs of those unpaid dues. If you are one of those ten, please consider paying your dues as soon as possible. If you are financially struggling at this time, please contact me directly, as we have options to help cover your dues.

As with any organization, there are financial costs that must be paid to keep the doors open and the heat on. In 2016, we ran a deficit of \$1,434.18, requiring the lodge to dip into savings. Thankfully, we were in a position to do this, but we certainly do not want to make it a habit. A number of options are being looked at to prevent a repeat of this in 2017. Please attend lodge and join this important conversation.

While this all may seem depressing, I am not worried. We must remember that our lodge is moving forward and is extremely strong. Our membership is active, our events are well attended, and our ritual work receives high marks from visitors. We are generous in our community; through our scholarship program, our youth soccer sponsorship, food bank donations, and membership in the Chamber of Commerce.

A number of our members labored in 2016 for our lodge, most behind the scenes and always without complaint. I want to point out two of our brothers that have impressed me. Brother Dave Fenton (the British guy) served twelve years as our lodge secretary. That is a long time to do the job and keep the paperwork flowing. Brother Chad Williams volunteered his skills in electrical work to bring our very old lodge building up to fire code. His labor saved us thousands of dollars and protects our building for years to come. These two brothers remind me of the importance of selfless humble service in the Craft. They are model brothers.

Dues 2017

Dues were payable by December 31st 2016 in the amount of \$60.00. If you have not paid your dues yet, you will receive a second dues notices with this mailing. If you are a candidate-in-waiting, EA, or FC, you will not receive a dues notice at this time.

Please send your dues check made out to *Rathdrum #41* to Neil Uhrig, Secretary, PO Box 326, Hayden ID 83835. If your dues are in arrears for two years, you will be dropped from the rolls. Please also provide updated contact information including your phone number and email address when submitting your dues.

Lodge Officers Contacts

Lodge Mailing Address: PO Box 326, Hayden ID 83835

Worshipful Master:	Andrew Evenson	andrewtevenson@gmail.com	208-691-2495
Senior Warden:	Dennis Bork	dennisbork@gmail.com	208-964-6877
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Treasurer:	Chad Williams	chadmwilli@gmail.com	208-661-1060
Secretary:	Neil Uhrig	nuhrig@gmail.com	208-449-6457
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Marshal:	Bob Green	cnwbob@juno.com	208-773-3274
Tiler:	Larry Van Ray	larryvanray@gmail.com	208-277-7099

Upcoming Lodge Events

Stated Communication:	Thursday February 9 th , 2017	Thursday March 9 th , 2017
	Dinner 6:00PM	Dinner 6:00PM
	Lodge 7:00PM	Lodge 7:00PM
Lodge Visitation:	Spirit Lake	Lakeside (Sandpoint)
	01/26/2017 7PM	02/06/2017 7PM