



The New Mexico FREEMASON

Volume 2023 Issue 1

May 1, 2023

Set the Craft to Work

NM Freemason back, and new tools and performers are in place!



Thomas L. Schenk
Grand Master of Masons
in New Mexico

Brethren All,

How good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity without Wind!

It has been an amazing, ongoing transition from winter to spring. We, too, are transitioning within our Grand Lodge. Although our rituals and principles are cemented and unchangeable, we can accept and adapt to the progressing world and its technology to better our craft, grow our membership and be seen in the new world of communication. We can be seen and communicate with the youth of today and increase the visibility for our craft.

One of the ways we can communicate is by bringing back the “New Mexico Freemason” publication. This publication was abandoned due to the high cost of distribution over the years. Now, with current technology and the Grandview Data System in place, we can, again, reinstate this publication that has been missed greatly by our brethren statewide. This is all made possible by the hard work and dedication of some of our fellow brethren. You asked, and we listened. This is just one of the many milestones we are committed to accomplishing this year.

Currently, we are moving full steam ahead with converting to the new data system and redistricting our state. All the feedback we are receiving from our secretaries and DDGMs has been positive. Please work with them in providing current and updated personal information so that this process can be successful. Updates will be given by those responsible for making this happen in this first addition of 2023 of the “New Mexico Freemason”.

I would like to sincerely thank Past Grand Master Bill Pogue and his Lady Dedee for a wonderful Grand Lodge Communication in Farmington, NM. PGM Ernie Shoup and his committee arranged and accomplished a beautiful event full of fellowship, delicious meals and many memories. A great time was had by all.

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GrandView On Track

Moving forward fast ... but not too fast.



Steve Almager
Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

I am pleased to announce that the roll out of GrandView has begun. The secretaries and DDGMs have received the test drive and have been working in GrandView for a few weeks. Feedback so far has been positive, but there is some clean-up we will have to do before we finally roll this out to the craft. The committee is working diligently with GrandView to get the kinks worked out and fine-tuned.

We will soon begin training, which will be held online and done multiple times a week. We have decided to do some training during the day and some in the evening, that way we can accommodate more Brothers. Please keep in mind, this will be a work in progress, meaning, we need everyone helping to get this system to

accommodate New Mexico's standards. GrandView is an outstanding system, but it takes the work of all the Brothers to make this our own. Every State has its own way of doing business and we are not the exception.

We will have growing pains with this system, but that would be with any new system. In the long run, the committee believes GrandView is the system that will take us to new heights. The education and calendar piece alone are top notch. The education piece will allow us to tap into 36 other States education and it will all be available at the push of a button. Our education committee will soon be adding its own education to GrandView and it will be available to all.

We are excited about this transition and look forward to working with each and every one to make this system our own. If you have any questions whatsoever, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Welcome Aboard

Committed to serve and preserve traditions.



James Bungard
Junior Grand Deacon

My name is James Bungard better known to many as “Master Chief” as I served almost 30 years in the USN and retired as a Command Master Chief. My Masonic tenure spans nearly 42 years. I am extremely humbled, blessed and honored to be afforded the opportunity and be appointed by Most Worshipful Grand Master Tom Schenk to serve the Grand Lodge of New Mexico as the Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico for the ensuing year 2023.

The principal duties of the Junior Deacon are to serve the Worshipful Master and to attend the Senior Warden and carry messages to the Junior Warden. In addition, he is also responsible for guarding the inside of the main door of the lodge and ensuring that the lodge is “duly tyled”.

I believe the progressive/traditional line both at the local constituent level and at the Grand Lodge level does serve a purpose: to train and prepare brethren for leadership positions in the lodge while giving the other members ample time to determine if a brother is, or will ever become, leadership material. Just as we have to be physically qualified to be made masons, so should brethren be mentally qualified to become leaders.

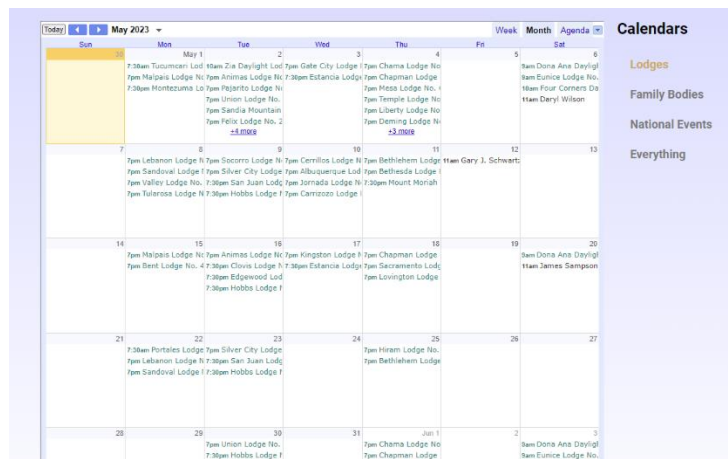
As I embark on this new endeavor/opportunity. I am committed to serving and executing my duties as Junior Grand Deacon to the absolute best of my abilities and to represent each of my brethren on this new journey.

Keep It On Your Calendar

Check out the calendar on
<https://nmfreemason.org>

Submissions should go to the Grand Secretary for inclusion.

We’re testing it now and hope that it will help to avoid those Masonic Calendar overlaps that happen – not prevent, just help out a little.



Today	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Calendars
		May 1	2	3	4	5	6	Lodges
		7:30am Tucuman Lod; 8am Zion Daylight Lod; 7am Gale City Lodge; 7am Chama Lodge No. 1; 7am Malpais Lodge No. 7; 7am Animas Lodge No. 7; 7:30am Estancia Lodge; 7am Chapman Lodge			7am Mesa Lodge No. 1; 7am Temple Lodge No. 7; 7am Liberty Lodge No. 7; 7am Deming Lodge No. 7; 7:30am		8am Dona Ana Daylight; 8am Eunice Lodge No. 7; 8am Four Corners Da; 8am Deryl Wilson	Family Bodies
		7:30am Montezuma La; 7am Pajarito Lodge No. 7; 7am Union Lodge No. 7; 7am Santa Mountain; 7am Felix Lodge No. 2; 7:30am						National Events
		7am Lebanon Lodge No. 7; 7am Socorro Lodge No. 7; 7am Carrillos Lodge No. 7; 7am Bethlehem Lodge; 8am Gary J. Schwartz						Everything
		7am Sandoval Lodge No. 7; 7am Silver City Lodge; 7am Albuquerque Lod; 7am Bethesda Lodge; 7am Valley Lodge No. 7; 7:30am San Juan Lodge; 7am Jornada Lodge No. 7; 7:30am Mount Moriah; 7am Valerica Lodge No. 7; 7:30am Hobbs Lodge; 7am Carrasco Lodge						
		14	15	16	17	18	19	
		7am Malpais Lodge No. 7; 7am Animas Lodge No. 7; 7am Kingston Lodge No. 7; 7am Chapman Lodge; 7am Bent Lodge No. 4; 7:30am Clovis Lodge No. 7; 7:30am Estancia Lodge; 7am Sacramento Lodge; 7:30am Edgewood Lod; 7:30am Hobbs Lodge; 7am Lovington Lodge					8am Dona Ana Daylight; 8am James Sampson	
		21	22	23	24	25	26	
		7:30am Portales Lodge; 7am Silver City Lodge; 7am Lebanon Lodge No. 7; 7:30am San Juan Lodge; 7am Sandoval Lodge No. 7; 7:30am Hobbs Lodge; 7am			7am Hiram Lodge No. 7; 7am Bethlehem Lodge			
		28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2	
		7am Union Lodge No. 7; 7:30am Hobbs Lodge; 7am			7am Chama Lodge No. 7; 7am Chapman Lodge		8am Dona Ana Daylight; 8am Eunice Lodge No. 7	

... Worth A Thousand Words

Introducing the Grand Secretary.



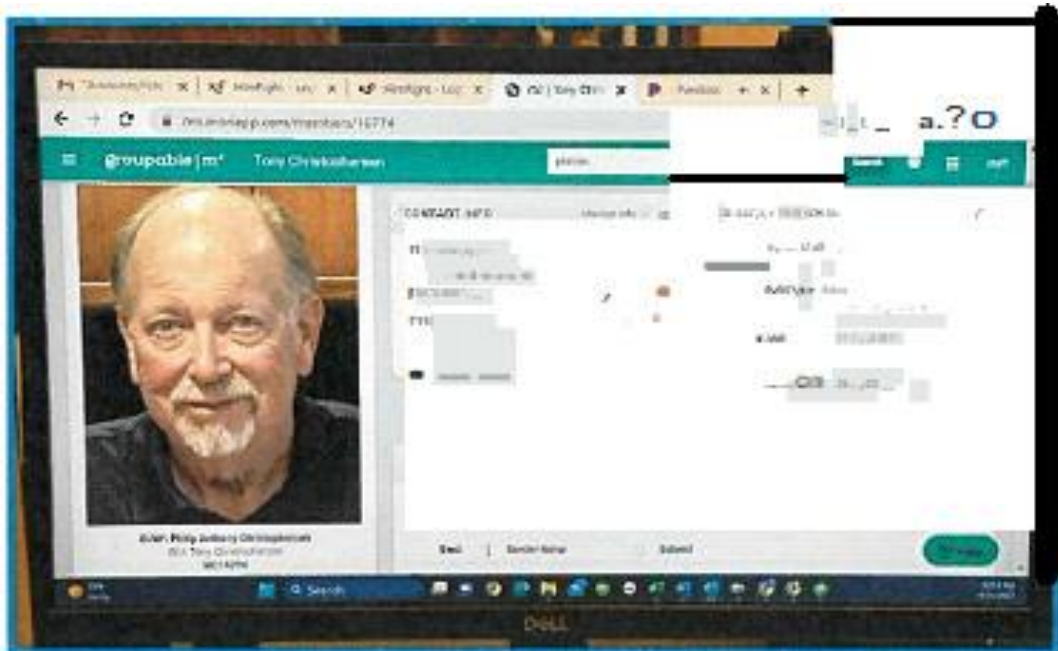
Tony Christophersen
Grand Secretary

Greetings,

Let me introduce myself. I'm Tony Christophersen, the new Grand Secretary and the replacement for RWB Dion Newhouse. I'm sure that there are many exciting new things that we can look forward to in the coming year but one that I'll be very involved with is the switchover to the new data-base system, GrandView. From everything I've seen and heard about it I think it will be a very good thing ... let's say I'm very optimistic.

One of my personal goals is to get as many pictures of our Brothers into the database as possible. It's very easy to do and after dealing with the names of our membership for so long, I think it's important to know what they look like. I'm available to try and help any of the Masters, Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, or other officers tasked with collecting these photos. Most of us have phones with cameras in them and that's all it takes is a quick snapshot and download and we're off and running.

I look forward to meeting and working with the Brethren where ever dispersed throughout the state ... and beyond. If I can be of assistance, please contact me. On another note, but in the same vein, I'd like to get current pictures of your lodges, inside and out for our records. This might even inspire some of us to organize a "work day" or two to spruce up our lodges. So, grab your phones and start taking pictures ... They are worth a thousand words.





Masonicon 2023

Save the Date! This is going to be a GREAT Education Experience!

June 23rd and 24th, 2023 at The Ballut Abyad Shrine, 6600 Zuni Rd.,
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Davin Teague Grand Sword Bearer Education Committee Chairman

Lots of fun and fellowship, all the appendant bodies will be in attendance showcasing their organizations!

GRANDVIEW will be on hand having in person one on one, and group training for our new Data Storage System!

Friday Night Table Lodge or Rusty Nail Degree with Dinner!

Saturday hourly classroom blocks with exciting topics and breaks in between, followed by a great lunch, please sign up if you wish to give a presentation!

Updates will be announced as the event gets closer.

Budget Requests DUE

We have systems and timelines working for us!

Accounts Ways and Means Committee, is a Committee to which shall be referred to the accounts of all officers and all matters pertaining to the finances of the Grand Lodge including the budget submitted by the Grand Secretary, as per Code 50 (a).

Charles (Chuck) Bass District Deputy Grand Master - District 7 Accounts, Ways and Means Chair

The committee uses the revenue listed in Code 60 REVENUE, Code 62 Grand Lodge Funds, and builds the budget for the allowances listed in Code 61. Code 61 (h) states that any Grand Lodge committee requesting funds other than routinely budgeted amounts shall submit such requests to the office of the Grand Secretary on or before July 1 preceding the Budget Meeting. The purpose of this is so the Committee is able to have all expenditures in hand to allow time for the Committee to produce a proposed budget for the craft.

Recently the Grand Lodge has started tracking expenditures for each line item in the budget. This last year having these numbers helped to make a more realistic budget. Each year we get these numbers I believe the budget will become tighter and tighter. Lastly on another note when you request funds please give a breakdown of the amount you are requesting. It doesn't have to be super detailed just what the money is spent on, travel, supplies, presentations, etc. I want to thank the IT committee for doing this last year, it made the amount requested easy to explain when the question came up, all I did was read the list.

Thank you in advance for following these Codes and requests. It has been an honor to be asked to serve the Craft. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Juris Prudence

We have rules, and we are following them.



Patrick Moroney
Grand Marshal
Jurisprudence
Committee Chairman

Brethren,

As one Masonic year ends, another begins. However, our Constitution and Bylaws are constant.

It was an amazing experience this past year serving as the Jurisprudence Committee Chairman. Over the past few years, I have learned so much regarding our rules and regulations. I couldn't have done it without the help of RWB Kevin Fitzwater, he is a wealth of knowledge, and a credit to our Fraternity. I would also like to thank RWB Alex Cosby for his timely responses regarding legal matters and compliment him on his well-crafted opinions. It was also a great pleasure working with the rest of the committee, we all worked together weighing in on submittals received from the constituent Lodges.

Grand Lodge was awesome, and the committee reported their recommendations. Unfortunately, it was brought to our attention that several Lodges, five (5) to be exact, were not in attendance and have not represented themselves over the past few years. This is not good. So, at the request of the Grand Master please take note of the following:

Code 125. Forfeiture Of Charter.

When a Lodge fails to meet for twelve (12) consecutive months or fails to file the Annual Return on or before the 1st day of February for two (2) consecutive years or to pay per capita dues for two (2) consecutive years, or fails to have a voting member or proxy in attendance at three (3) consecutive Annual Communications, it shall there by forfeit its charter and it shall not thereafter resume labor except by the authority of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

Officers, please remember your obligations, and make every attempt to attend Grand Lodge and exercise your Lodges voting power. This is very important as decisions are being made that will determine our future, and your voice matters. Also, if you are unable to attend, please take advantage of assigning your voting privilege to an eligible proxy. It is important that each Lodge is properly represented.

From the Editor

Welcome to the New Mexico Freemason 2023!



Stephen Balke
Editor

Most Worshipful Grand Master Tom Schenk approached this committee in preparations for this year with a question – “Can we bring back the NM Freemason?” He anticipated a need and we hope this email, and the articles and presentation, answers that question to everyone’s satisfaction.

The web-based solution was approved due to its efficiency and cost optimization; with one caveat – the MWGM does not want it hard to access. E A S Y and useful, a benefit to the Craft. He also believes in security, because the wild wild web leaves the West in the rear-view when it comes to the many and various ways people are trying to use it for their gain at your expense.

What does this all mean to you? Well, many times, you’ll see less of a person’s name (Steve B. for instance), no email, phone numbers, etc. will be published except for the organization, and future items may not be as specific as those describing things that have already happened. These are precautions to mitigate people “mining” information about individuals or groups. If you run into questions, give the Grand Secretary a call, he will be able to answer or give you a direction to getting your questions answered.

Our goal is to bring you updated information, make it easy to access, and inspire more involvement in the Craft because people know more of what is going on. We hope you enjoy and earnestly solicit any suggestions for improvement!

Please send any submissions to the Grand Lodge:

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