



# The New Mexico FREEMASON

Volume 2023 Issue 7

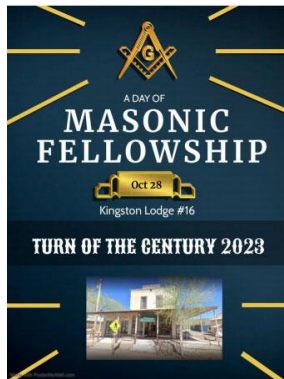
October 18, 2023

## Celebrate the Work in Our Gentle Craft



*The Grand Lodge*  
of  
NEW MEXICO

**Annual Budget Communication  
& Open Forum Long Range Planning  
November 18, 2023**



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## Well Begun AND Half Done

There is much that has been done, and much still to do.



Thomas L. Schenk  
Grand Master of Masons

Brethren,

It's hard to believe that it is already Fall and we are in the middle of October, the Holidays will be here before we know it!

October always marks the halfway point for each Grand Year, and I am happy to report that all your Grand Committees are hard at work and making great progress.

Accounts Ways and Means has prepared a balanced budget and all the Lodges should have already received a copy for review.

The Committee on the Annual Communication is busy working with the Inn of the Mountain Gods preparing for the 2024 Annual Communication which will be held in Ruidoso, New Mexico March 14th thru 16th. Details for registration and reservations will be out

during the holidays. Please take advantage and book early, there will be special room rates given by using a promo code attached to the announcement.

Foreign Correspondence has been working on the approval of recognition of various jurisdictions around the world and will make their presentation at the next Grand Lodge.

Investment Advisory, along with our Charles Schwab representative, have been working overtime keeping tabs on Grand Lodge investments, making sure that they are performing as best they can even during this time of market uncertainty.

New to our list of committees is the Real Properties / Legal Advisement Committee, their purpose is to review all gifts and bequests presented to the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and make sure that they are being handled properly in accordance with the giver's intentions. They also research the legalities of certain cases and advise the Board of Directors on various matters. It's important that the Grand Lodge of New Mexico has a means of understanding, receiving, investing and dispersing monetary gifts and properties that can have long lasting benefits for the future.

Juris Prudence has been receiving Lodge requests for bylaws changes and has been handling them with great care to ensure that they are following our Constitution.

The Committee on Membership is continually sending out the latest "Masonic Leads Sheet" to all Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens as well as the DDGM's so that they can contact individuals that express an interest in Freemasonry, all within our very own communities. I hope that each Lodge is taking advantage of this opportunity and following through with this list so these men can possibly join our ranks.

Now that we have officially made the change from Groupable/Mori to Grandview, both the Technology and Education Committees are going to do everything they can to make that transition as smooth as possible. There will be some difficulties, and even confusion at times, but in the end, we will be operating with a superior data system that is not only more user friendly but has so many other features that will allow us to communicate, educate and even plan events better than we have ever been able to do so in the past.

Our Masonic Youth Committee has done a fantastic job working with all the youth groups. DeMolay, Rainbow and Jobs Daughters have benefited greatly from their guidance as well as had a fun time along the way. There have been many planned fundraisers and activities which not only benefit these groups but have also attracted many new members and potential candidates thus creating growth and a more solid future. All the Masonic Youth Groups need our continued support, I would ask each of you to take the opportunity and attend at least one youth meeting, or event, I guarantee you will leave totally impressed and your presence will have an even greater impact.

And finally, in my opinion, probably one of the most important committees is the Long-Range Planning Committee, this year RWB Robin Justice, Senior Grand Warden, is chairman. Robin is taking a very proactive approach in addressing many of the issues we face as a Grand Lodge, many of these issues have always been a continuous problem, and its time to face and address them, and that's FINANCES. Your Grand Officers both elected and appointed have been working overtime to try and figure out what is the best approach to deal with matters such as the Annual Budget, Per-Capita and especially the Endowment Fund, and have them perform positively rather than negatively. Some simply by their design have become troublesome. Let's look at the Elephant in The Room squarely in the eye and address it!

This year's Annual Budget Meeting will be held November 18th, 2023. At 9:00 am we will meet at the UNM Continuing Education Building located next to our Grand Lodge office, 1638 University Blvd, Albuquerque, New Mexico to go over our proposed annual budget. Both during and especially after we approve the Annual Budget for the 2024-2025 year, together, we will be discussing our future and how we should proceed. This will also be a hybrid type meeting in which we will use Zoom for those who want to attend online.

A program of ideas will be presented and discussed in an open forum so that everyone has a better understanding of the financial goals we all strive for. The Long-Range planning Committee hopes that all the Lodge delegates or their representatives will take part in these discussions and help plan for a brighter and financially better future.

A complete schedule for the Annual Budget Meeting will be sent out to the Lodges and the Craft prior. All the Masonic Youth Groups will be on hand providing refreshments as well as having a brief program. Lunch is currently being planned. Bro. Nic Coriz will be catering the event and will be on site with his ever-famous food truck.

Brethren, I hope that this update meets with your satisfaction, there is so much more that goes on in executing a successful masonic year, and I would like to thank each one of you for your dedication to our Fraternity.

## Grand View is Operational

Training and resources are available so it works hard for the Craft.



Steve Almager  
Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

I am pleased to say the rollout of Grand View is underway and going smoothly. We have had several trainings sessions. This training sessions has been recorded and are available to everyone and I am adding the links below. I am a little disappointed in the attendance of these trainings and would hope to see more Brothers in future trainings. Brethren I cannot stress to you enough, that Grand View is not going away, and everyone will need to know how to access and work in it. Every Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, should be attending these trainings and get to learn the ins and outs of the system. As you already know, it is NOT the duty of the Grand Secretary to perform Lodge Secretary duties, but we will ALL need to work together to accomplish our goals.

Speaking of Grand Secretary's, RWB Tony has been regular in the discharge of his duties, taken the bull by the horns and is leading the charge when it comes to Grand View. If you have any issues, questions, or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to RWB Tony or myself. We are always available to help. There is still a way to go, but the future of New Mexico Freemasonry is looking Bright and Clear.

Links to Grand View Training:

### ACCOUNTING:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88391996371?pwd=Wm5Tamp5ems5L2RZSszNNVEw5Nnc4Zz09>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83365079379?pwd=THpyc1VGQ1BadDU3THE5ZDQ2YkExQT09>

### SECRETARYS:

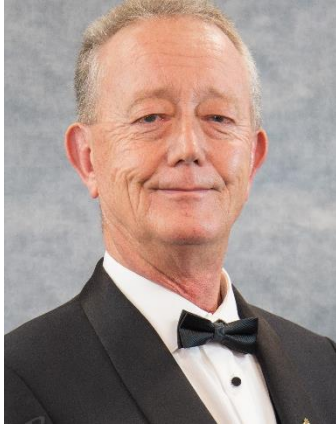
[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/HsM5i2ctV9gnDFj3u58huTLJOYOMhw90KY\\_MBU5wluz6B5-UgKw0aFLCb3HE121d.ttX7WSvQmumllIo2](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/HsM5i2ctV9gnDFj3u58huTLJOYOMhw90KY_MBU5wluz6B5-UgKw0aFLCb3HE121d.ttX7WSvQmumllIo2)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86401293654?pwd=R01FM0Y3SGd3Y21USFpYdzFCRGRTQT09>



## Endowed Membership Funds

Exemplifying the Plumb.



Robin Justice  
Senior Grand Warden

For the second year in a row, the investment returns on the Grand Lodge of New Mexico Endowed Membership Fund have fallen short of what is needed in order to provide a full payout to the Lodges as set forth in our Constitution and Bylaws. This means that unless the market really changes in the foreseeable future, we may not have a payout in the upcoming year.

The stock market today is not the same market as when the Endowed Membership program was created. The market is much more volatile, and as a result, the returns on the investments sometimes do not provide adequate revenue as intended when the program was inaugurated.

In order for the fund to make a full payout, the principal of the fund needs to be \$1.6 million dollars at the current rate of return. The fund as of September 12th has \$1,517,125 dollars.

Period			Annualized Growth Rates		
Range	From	To	DJIA	S&P500	NASDAQ
1	September 1, 2021	September 1, 2022	-10.36%	-12.33%	-23.03%
2	September 1, 2022	September 1, 2023	10.06%	13.85%	19.08%

Source: [https://www.measuringworth.com/calculators/DJIA\\_SP\\_NASDAQ/](https://www.measuringworth.com/calculators/DJIA_SP_NASDAQ/)

Code 62. GRAND LODGE FUNDS states

(d) The Endowed Membership Fund shall consist of all funds collected as principal by the constituent Lodges for Prepaid Memberships as prescribed and all monies, bonds and securities accruing thereto from investments.

- (1) Funds received by constituent Lodges for the purchase of an Endowed Membership shall be immediately transferred to the Grand Secretary for deposit. All of the amount required for purchase of an Endowed Membership as defined under Code 395, shall be deposited as principal in the Endowed Membership Fund.
- (2) The principal of this fund shall never be transferred to any other fund nor expended.

- (3) From the earnings of this fund each year the following distribution shall be made:
- a. There shall be returned to an Endowed Member's constituent Lodge a sum equal to the dues effective in his Lodge on the first day of January of the year he initially became an Endowed Member.
  - b. There shall be returned to Grand Lodge a sum equal to the Per Capita charge effective in his lodge on the first day of January of the year he initially became an endowed member.
  - c. The balance of excess earnings, if any, shall be retained in the endowed fund and credited to the member's Lodge account in direct proportion which the total of this Lodge's principal bears to the sum total of all invested principal.
- (4) Should the average rate of earnings fall for one year such that there are insufficient funds to meet the distribution needs, the matter shall be reported to the Board of Directors by 31 December so that corrective action can be taken.

Last year, it was decided by the board of directors to borrow from the building reserve fund and the Ray Carpenter Retirement Fund to enable a full payout to the Lodges to be made. The Grand Lodge Officers took a voluntary cut in their travel budgets to provide the Per Capita payout to the Grand Lodge.

We cannot continue to "rob Peter to pay Paul". If the Endowed Membership fund cannot perform as intended, then it needs to be modified to reduce the likelihood of this situation arising again.

There are other ramifications in the way the fund is implemented. Code 62 3(a) and 3(b) state that the returns to the Lodges and Grand Lodge are based on the Lodge dues and Grand Lodge Per Capita at the time the membership was purchased. As operating costs for the Lodges and Grand Lodge have increased, income from the Endowed Membership has not kept up (nor will it ever, as the program works now). Since the payout is frozen at the time the endowed membership is purchased, when the Lodges raise their dues and the Grand Lodge raises Per Capita, it places the burden for keeping the Lodge solvent on those who do not have endowed memberships.

We need to address the elephant in the room. As long as we kick the can down the road, we are liable to see this situation repeat itself. We also need to address repaying the funds borrowed from the building reserve fund and the Carpenter retirement fund.

This is your fund, and we need to have your involvement in coming up with ways to reduce the likelihood of this situation recurring. Kicking the can down the road will not work. We are going to have an Endowed Fund meeting immediately following the Grand Lodge Budget meeting in November. We need your ideas and buy in for whatever decisions are made. Take care Brethren, and I hope to see you in Lodge.

## The Grand Lodge Building...

A quick tour in case you haven't visited yet.



Tony Christophersen  
Grand Secretary



The Grand Lodge of New Mexico is located at 1638 University Blvd. NE in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The current building was built in 1968 after the Temple Lodge No. 6 building at 7th & Central in downtown Albuquerque burned down where the Grand Lodge had its offices.



The entrance to the building is on the South side of the building because it is directly across from the doors of the UNM Continuing Education building which was originally the "New" Temple Lodge No. 6 and the Ballut Abyad Shrine center.

The foyer has a magazine rack with information about Masonry, and some items and posters for various bodies are hung as well on your way in.

Once in the lobby you're greeted by the photo of the Grand Master accompanied by photos of the Living PGMs. As a PGM you definitely want your picture to stay in the lobby.





Off the lobby is the Library which is the domain of WB Tyler Anderson, the Grand Historian. Also pictures of our other PGMs.



The Library may look familiar to you if you tuned into the Zoom Installation during COVID.

A couple more bailiwicks of the Grand Historian... the museum and the upper vault (we have two to hold "the records of Freemasonry to protect them "as well from inundation as conflagration" I'm still exploring these area as you never know just what you might find. Lots of history here.







The Grand Masters Office and Conference/ Board Room occupies the Northwest corner of the building.

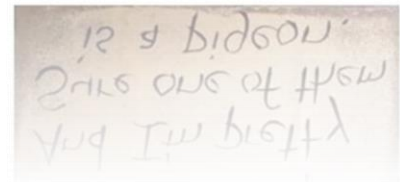
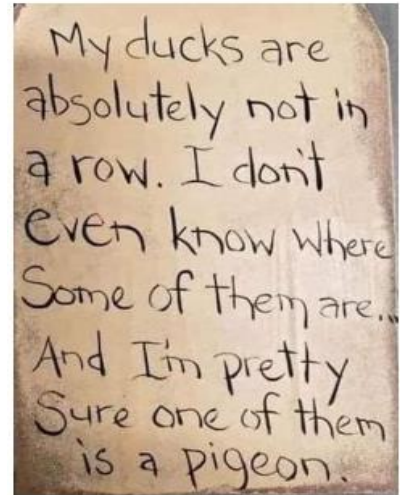
The Grand Masters Apartment offers a home away from home for the Grand Master as well as other Grand Officers when traveling around the state.



The building also houses the Offices of the Grand York Rite and the Masonic Charities Foundation.



The hub of the operation (and center of confusion) The Grand Secretary's Office. Never know what your going to find going on here.



Want a better look? Give a call and we'll setup some time to see more and experience some of our Grand Lodge's great history!

## Annual Budget Meeting for 2024-2025

A credentialed opportunity to help shape the future of our Grand Lodge.

Code 61. Annual Budget

At each Annual Budget Meeting of the Grand Lodge, held no later than November 30 in Albuquerque, the Committee on Accounts, Ways and Means shall present a budget to the Grand Lodge for consideration and approval. Any budget so adopted shall take effect on April 1 of the following year and remain in effect until the following March 31.

Greetings,

This years Annual Budget Meeting will be held on **Saturday November 18th, 2023**, at the University of New Mexico Continuing Education Center located next to The Grand Lodge of New Mexico's business office.

Refreshments will be on hand provided by the Masonic Youth Groups of New Mexico.

(Times are approximate and will be adjusted as needed.)

- 09:00 am – Registration begins.
- 10:00 am – Presentation of Colors followed by the National Anthem sung by the Masonic Youth Groups and a short presentation.
- 10:15 am – Opening of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico Annual Budget Meeting
- 11:45 am – Lunch
- 12:30 pm – Resume Annual Budget Meeting until approved.

Immediately begin Long Range Planning Committee meeting and have a presentation and discussion on the following items:

- Code 60. Revenue
- Code 62. Grand Lodge Funds
- The Following funds are hereby created:
- General Funds
- Administration Building Reserve Fund
- Investment Fund
- Endowment Fund
- Misc.
- Annual Per Capita and Individual Lodge Dues

All the above topics will be discussed in an open forum and have a great financial impact on both the present and future wellbeing of our Fraternity.

Your continued attention and cooperation are earnestly requested during this part of our meeting. Each of you is a vital part of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico and your opinion matters.



## Gallup Masonry Calendar

New Schedule in case you head West on I-40.

Lebanon Lodge #22 will now be meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 PM. This is a change from meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays.

The Gallup York Rite Bodies will now be meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 PM. This is a change from our past meeting date of the 1st Monday.

Our mailing address has also changed. We will no longer have P. O. Box 1266, Gallup, NM 87305. The NEW ADDRESS will be Robert Keene, 511 Julie Drive, Gallup, NM 87301.

Upcoming events:

- November 5th - Veteran's Day Observance - 4 PM - open to Masons and community members
- December 4 - Knights Templar Christmas Observance, official visit of Grand Commander - 7 PM - open to Masons and community members
- January 22 - Royal Arch Meeting - official visit of Grand High Priest - 7 PM - will be a community type of event, as well.

## Installations, Please!

'Tis the Season... Let us all know!

December is packed with the installations of offices for Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite and more! Sharing your planned dates helps others to attend, and lets everyone know when the transition of authority is happening in your organization. Please consider emailing your date and time for installation to the Grand Secretary at your earliest opportunity so that he can post it and share it!

Lodge/Organization	Date	Time	Notes
Lodge of Research	12/08/2023	6:00 PM	Open 5:30, Reception to follow.
Temple Lodge No. 6	12/27/2023	6:00 PM	Reception to follow.
Hiram Lodge No. 13	12/16/2023	3:00 PM	Open 2:30, Reception follows.
Animas Lodge No. 15	12/16/2023	7:30 PM	Dinner at 6:00 PM
San Juan Lodge No. 25	12/19/2023	TBD	
Hobbs Lodge No. 63	12/16/2023	TBD	
Mesa Lodge No. 68	12/02/2023	10:00 AM	Open 9:30, Reception follows.
Bethesda Lodge No. 64	12/14/2023	7:00 PM	

Note - If you want a sword detail for installation please contact your local York Rite bodies, if in the Albuquerque area, please contact Harry Jenkins.



## The Transformative Tools of Freemasonry

A personal journey through the Entered Apprentice Degree.



Cesario Alvillar EA  
Sandoval Lodge No. 76

I stand before you today to share my personal insights into the tools of Freemasonry, particularly within the context of the Entered Apprentice Degree. These tools, both symbolic and practical, have played a pivotal role in shaping my journey within the Craft and have left an indelible mark on my life.

The Working Tools:

The Entered Apprentice Degree introduces us to three fundamental working tools: the Twenty-Four Inch Gauge, the Common Gavel, and the Chisel. Each of these tools embodies a distinct lesson that extends far beyond the confines of the lodge room.

- 1) **Twenty-Four Inch Gauge:** This tool reminds us of the importance of managing our time wisely. By dividing the day into equal parts for rest, work, and refreshment, we learn the value of balance in our lives. This principle has significantly improved my efficiency and productivity, enabling me to fulfill my Masonic duties while maintaining harmony with my personal commitments.
- 2) **Common Gavel:** The Common Gavel represents the act of breaking off the rough and superfluous edges of our character, just as a stonemason chips away the excess stone to reveal the perfect ashlar. Applying this lesson to my own life, I've learned the significance of self-improvement and the ongoing process of shaping my character to align with Masonic principles.
- 3) **Chisel:** The chisel, an instrument used to further refine the rough stone, signifies the need for education and self-cultivation. Through the pursuit of knowledge and personal growth, I have found myself better equipped to contribute positively to my community, the people I love, and to the Craft itself. Even though the Chisel is not included in the American EA degree; its symbolic meaning can be adapted to any pursuit, in or outside masonry. I understand that the omission of the chisel in the Entered Apprentice degree is a deliberate choice to ensure that candidates are introduced to the core concepts of Freemasonry gradually and systematically.

Improvement in My Life:

Embracing these tools has led to several profound improvements in my life:

- 1) **Self-Awareness:** The working tools of the Entered Apprentice Degree have fostered a heightened self-awareness. By continually evaluating my thoughts, actions, and motives, I have become more mindful of the impact I have on those around me.

- 2) Discipline: The Twenty-Four Inch Gauge has taught me to allocate my time thoughtfully. This practice has instilled discipline in my daily routine, enhancing my ability to efficiently manage responsibilities both within the lodge and in my personal endeavors.
- 3) Personal Growth: The Common Gavel and Chisel remind me that self-improvement is a lifelong endeavor. By embracing education, self-reflection, and moral introspection, I've witnessed remarkable personal growth and a deeper alignment with the tenets of Freemasonry.
- 4) Contributions: Armed with these tools, I've been empowered to contribute more meaningfully to my community and the Craft. Whether through charity, mentorship, or simply embodying Masonic values, I've been able to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

#### Point Within a Circle:

Allow me to share with you a brief but profound reflection on the symbolism of the Point Within a Circle and its transformative impact on my life. This emblem, woven intricately into the fabric of Freemasonry, has become a guiding light on my journey of self-improvement and self-mastery.

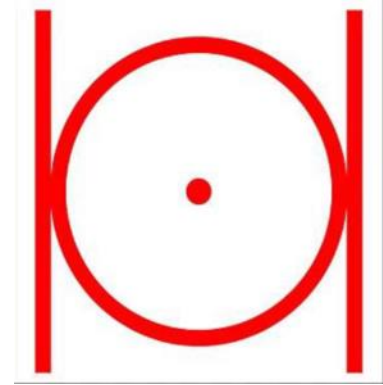
The Point Within a Circle is a symbol rich with layers of meaning, each offering valuable insights into our personal growth. At its essence, the point signifies our individuality—the core of our being, our values, and our integrity. Encircled by the larger circle, it reminds us of our connection to the world around us, the unity that underpins our existence, and the profound interdependence that we share as members of the human family.

The lessons embedded within this symbol have manifested in my life in remarkable ways:

- Self-Reflection and Improvement: The Point Within a Circle has encouraged me to embark on a journey of self-discovery and improvement. By recognizing the point as my inner essence, I have become more conscious of my strengths and shortcomings. This self-awareness empowers me to continually refine myself, chiseling away at negative traits and nurturing positive ones.
- Subduing Passions: One of the most transformative aspects of this symbol has been its teaching about the subduing of passions. Just as the circle encircles the point, I've come to understand the importance of tempering my passions and desires, channeling them in constructive directions rather than letting them control me. This practice of self-mastery has led to greater emotional balance and resilience.
- Harmony with Others: The Point Within a Circle has profoundly impacted my relationships. By recognizing my individuality while acknowledging the unity of humanity, I've learned to appreciate the diversity of perspectives around me. This awareness fosters empathy and understanding, contributing to more harmonious interactions with others.
- Spiritual Growth: This symbol has also encouraged me to delve into matters of spirituality. Just as the circle symbolizes eternity and unity, I've discovered a deeper connection to the divine and a broader understanding of my place in the cosmos.

- Continuous Journey: The symbolism of the Point Within a Circle reminds me that growth is an ongoing process. It's not about reaching a destination but about constantly striving for personal betterment and deeper connections.

The profound lessons encapsulated in the Point Within a Circle have ignited a transformation within me. This emblem has guided me to value my individuality while fostering a sense of unity with others. It has taught me the significance of self-mastery, of taming passions, and of continual self-improvement. As I continue along this Masonic journey, I am deeply grateful for the wisdom contained within this symbol, which has illuminated my path towards a more balanced, purposeful, and enlightened life.



In conclusion, the tools of Freemasonry, as presented in the Entered Apprentice Degree, are not just symbolic instruments but profound guides to living a balanced, enlightened, and purposeful life. They have enriched my journey by nurturing my self-awareness, discipline, personal growth, and contributions to the greater good.

As I continue my Masonic journey, I am filled with gratitude for the wisdom encapsulated in these tools, and I eagerly look forward to the ongoing refinement of my character as I progress through the Craft.

Thank you for allowing me to share these reflections with you today /G\.

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## Jaques' Closet Opens for DeMolay

A resource for our next generation.

The Grand Lodge of New Mexico is currently seeking donations of men's Small to Medium suits, as well as Boys suits for the "Jaques' Closet" program.

This is a program where the young men of our New Mexico DeMolay Chapters can exchange suits as needed while they continue to grow into becoming men.

It also affords the opportunity to provide formal wear to those who might not otherwise have the means to annually buy a larger suit.

We will be collecting suits at the Annual Budget Meeting and from constituent Lodges, or they can also be dropped off at the Grand Lodge Office.

A place will be provided throughout the year for Try Ons and Exchanges.

Thank you for supporting this great cause.





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## 58<sup>th</sup> Four Corner's Royal Arch Festival

Hosted by New Mexico Companions at the Farmington Shrine Park.



E. Hans Schmidt  
Grand King  
Grand Chapter of Royal  
Arch Masons of NM

The 58th annual Four Corners Royal Arch festival was a memorable and successful event that brought together York rite masons from different states. The festival, which took place on October 7th, 2023, in Farmington, NM, was an opportunity to initiate candidates into the Chapter degrees of York Rite masonry and to celebrate the fraternity and fellowship of the order.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico, Tom Schenk, and the Grand High Priests from Colorado - M.:E.: Craig Fabec, Utah - M.:E.: Reed B. Fanning and Arizona - M.:E.: Steve Powlesland made the occasion complete with their presence and shared their wisdom and experience with the attendees. As Grand King, I had the honor of representing our Grand High Priest, Jeff A. Lee, here in New Mexico and of welcoming the guests and candidates to the festival. We had 88 Royal Arch Masons in attendance and 19 additional guests for the banquet dinner that evening. For a total of 107 attendees.

The degrees were conferred at the Shrine Park on the San Juan River, a scenic and serene location that added to the beauty and solemnity of the ceremony. The candidates showed great enthusiasm and dedication as they received the degrees and became part of the Royal Arch family. We had a total of 10 candidates from across the four states and 5 of them were from New Mexico. The newly made Companions from New Mexico were Jose Ulibarri, Patrick Graham, Richard Blecha, Ron Betts, Jr. and Greg Stihel, which shows the growth and vitality of our jurisdiction.

The festival was also a time of fun and enjoyment, as we had a delicious lunch, a dinner of Dennis Herman's famous ribs and deep friend Cornish game hens. The atmosphere was warm and friendly, and everyone had a chance to mingle and network with their fellow masons. It was truly a wonderful day that I will cherish for a long time.

I would like to thank all the organizers, officers, members, candidates, guests, and sponsors who made this festival possible and successful. I would like to thank the main event organizers for New Mexico and that would be Robert Hauptert and Dennis Herman the co-chairs of New Mexico for this festival. I would also like to thank Dennis Detrow and all the cast that were involved in Royal Arch degree as this was the degree New Mexico had the honor of performing this year. Kevin Fitzwater did an excellent job as the principal sojourner. Adam Hathaway also came in at the last minute to help pull it all off. I would also like to extend a special thanks to High Priest David Lawson and all the officers of Basin Chapter #19. They did a great job of opening and helping coordinate and work the event. I hope to see you all again next year for the 59th Annual Four Corners Royal Arch Festival to be held in Holbrook AZ.



Mark Master Mason  
Conferred by Colorado  
Companions



Past Master Mason  
Conferred by Utah  
Companions



Most Excellent Master  
Mason  
Conferred by Arizona  
Companions



Royal Arch Mason  
Conferred by New  
Mexico Companions



## A Century of Albuquerque 60

Join us for our Centennial Gala Celebration!



Please join Albuquerque Lodge No. 60 in celebrating our 100-Year Anniversary. Chartered February 21, 1923 by the Grand Lodge of New Mexico - we are hosting a Centennial Gala. This black-tie affair will feature good food, drinks, and music - for a good cause. We will be raising money to support a local non-profit that is helping young entrepreneurs get their feet off the ground by giving them a kitchen to practice their cooking skills, as well as teaching classes on how to operate and manage their businesses.

The event is on November 11, 2023, hosted by Brother John Sisneros at his local business Por Vida Tattoo located downtown at 500 Fourth St SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102. Cocktail hour will be from 5 pm - 6 pm, Dinner from 6 pm - 7 pm, and Dance from 7 pm - Midnight. All Masons, Friends, and Family are welcome to attend!

Tickets are \$120 each and are limited to 200. We will be raffling off a custom Damascus steel knife forged by WB Jerry Duran, Art by Brothers Andrew Montoya and John Sisneros, and many more items.

Please contact us to purchase tickets by email [abqmasons@gmail.com](mailto:abqmasons@gmail.com) or by call/text: Brothers Tristian Ortiz (505-515-9106), Matt Rader (505-400-0092), Andrew Montoya (505-681-4105), or John Sisneros (505-377-2369).





# Turn of the Century 2023

Fellowship, Masonry, and Great Food in the "Wild West"



## *Turn of the Century*

*28 Oct 23*

### *Agenda*

- 0900 – Kickoff, Coffee & Donuts*
- 1000 – Open Lodge ..... Kingston #16*
- 1030 – Memorial Service ..... Jim Bungard*
- 1100 – Presentation on Cemetery ... Bill Smith*
- 1130 – Lunch*
- 1300 – Presentation on Hillsboro ... Charlie Ford*
- 1330 – Musical Interlude ..... Gary Stendel*
- 1400 – Awards and Auction*
- 1430 – G.M. address ..... MW Tom Schenk*
- 1445 – Close Lodge ..... Kingston #16*

## Solar Darity at Edgewood

Members and friends gather for a social eclipse.



On October 14, 2023, over 20 members and guests from Edgewood, Temple Lodge, and even Arizona gathered to watch the Annular Eclipse. Worshipful Master Greg Stihel brought his Celestron telescope and camera rig out to the Lodge and provided some impromptu education and an opportunity to view the eclipse to all in attendance on the chilly morning. This is the last time we'll have this view in this area of the country until 2041. Here are some of the pictures captured during the eclipse for your enjoyment. Pictures provided by Greg Stihel.





## A Memorable Experience

Fellows of the Craft – Ritual, Breaking Bread, and a Guest Author.

### SAVE THE DATE

On Thursday, January 11, 2023 Temple Lodge will host an event open to all Fellow Craft Masons.

- 5:30 PM – Lodge preparations will commence.
- 6:00 PM – Dinner will be served.
- 7:00 PM – Program will start.

All about memory work and the Craft, the program will include:

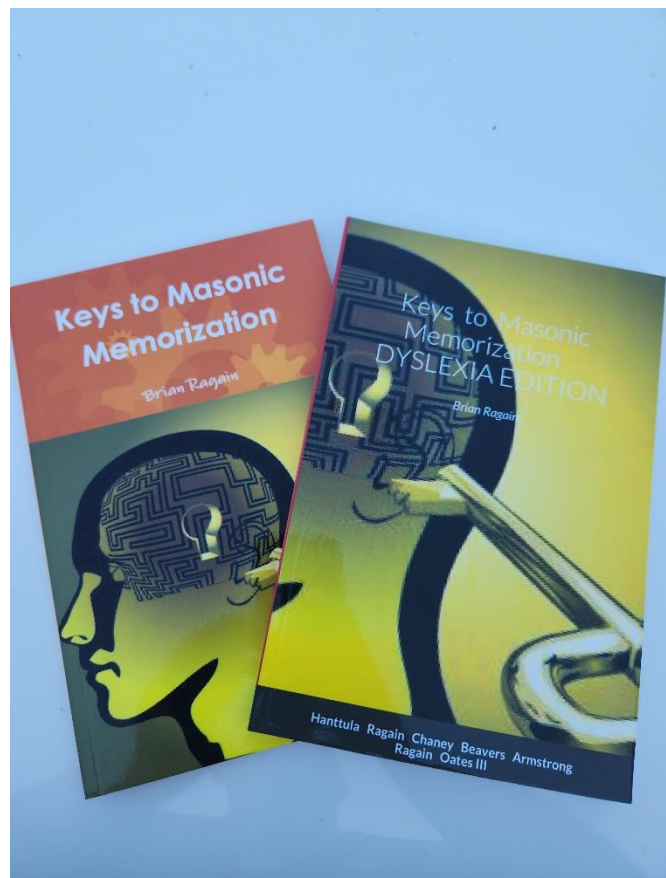
- An Exemplification of the Fellowcraft Degree.
- A presentation by Masonic Author Worshipful Brother Brian Ragain of Oklahoma.
- Discussion about the two versions of the book *Keys to Masonic Memorization*, both the regular version and the second edition dedicated to readability by those with Dyslexia.

A fee for attending will be charged, and registration for the event will open in November. We look forward to sharing this outstanding experience with you!

Save the date to start off 2024 with new tools and knowledge for your successful Masonic Journey!



Brian Ragain  
Oklahoma Mason and Author







## Grand Lodge 2024

Save the Date!



**SAVE THE DATE**

# Grand Lodge of New Mexico Annual Communication

**MARCH 14th, 15th, & 16th, 2024**

## Be A Part of Creating the Future History of Masonry in New Mexico!

Special room rates will be available Wednesday through Saturday Nights with event code.

Registration & Hotel Reservations will begin mid-November.



## The Chapel – September 2023

Good and Faithful Servants Called Home

Our Dear Brothers who have laid aside their working tools and have Passed To The Grand Lodge Above. May it be their portion to hear from the Judge Supreme ...



“Well done my good and faithful servant, enter now to your reward”

**Brother**

Anthony Leon Sanford  
George Derle Keith

**Lodge**

Temple Lodge 6  
Clovis Lodge 40

**Deceased**

09/01/2023  
09/03/2023

Please let us know if there are additions to the list above. We will add them in subsequent issues. Please keep these Brother’s families in your thoughts and prayers.

## A Brother’s Friendly Hand

By Brother George B. Staff

When you're feeling all downhearted,  
And life's hard to understand,  
Say, it's fine to feel the pressure  
Of a Brother's friendly hand.

Just to know he sympathizes,  
Though he doesn't say a word;  
How it starts your courage climbing,  
As your heart is touched and stirred.

With an arm across your shoulders,  
And a grip you love to find,  
How it makes you feel the bounding  
Of the hearts of humankind.

It is just a little token  
Of an ever growing band,  
For there's faith and hope and courage  
In a Brother's friendly hand!



## The Value of Perspective

Your's matters.



Working with so many people who care about our Craft and take the time to be in the moment is an honor and offers me many an opportunity to grow myself. And those that have shared in this issue - wow - THANK YOU!

We are getting a good mix of what is going to happen, and what has happened to share with everyone, and that is GREAT! My hope is that you are inspired by some, garner some ideas from others, and share all.

Please consider sharing what you do with all of us - it may inspire greater and more activity in Masonry in NM!

*We look forward to helping you to share all the things you're doing to help Masonry and your Lodge or group grow!*

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