



The New Mexico FREEMASON

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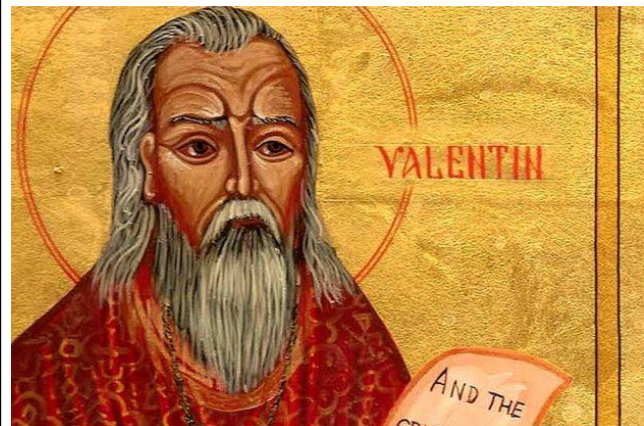
SAVE THE DATE

Grand Lodge of New Mexico Annual Communication

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

In This Issue:

- 02 ... 2024 is Active and Started!
- 04 ... Pleyel's Hymn Lyrics
- 07 ... Just a Month Away!
- 08 ... Dona Ana Bringing Light and Fraternity
- 09 ... Happy Year of the Dragon!
- 10 ... Brother Across Time and Jurisdiction
- 12 ... Bethel No. 4 is Active!
- 13 ... Continuing the Lodge Journey
- 14 ... Gavel Visits Back in Style?
- 14 ... The Chapel January 2024
- 15 ... Traditions Prevailing
- Grand Lodge Invitation/Schedule/Registration



Happy St. Valentine's Day - [Here is an interesting article that provides some theories of the holiday's origin.](#)

2024 Is Active and Started!

Fun and Community to Start a Great Year.



Thomas L. Schenk
Grand Master of Masons

What a busy month January has been, I have had the great opportunity to visit many Lodges, Youth Group functions, Shrine events and even attend the Grand Lodge of Texas.

I can honestly say that at each event I experienced the fellowship of Freemasonry. One of which was the 2024 Annual MLK Remembrance March. Brothers from PHA Freemasonry, the Grand Lodge of New Mexico and the Ballut Abyad Shrine and their families all came together for the celebration. Lucky for us the March was all downhill, it wasn't until we finished, we realized we had to walk all the way back! Thank you to Bro. and Noble Robert Gough for thinking ahead and having transportation at the bottom of MLK Blvd. It's amazing how many Masons and Shriners fit into a minivan, probably looked like a circus when we all climbed out!

January also took us to the Grand Lodge of Texas, RWB Steve Almager, RWB Jim Bungard and his wife Francis, RWB Glenn Connolly and RWB Chuck Bass had a great time, and were received with tremendous hospitality and friendship. Their Annual Communication was an amazing event. Over 4,000 Masons were in attendance, and in the end, peace and harmony prevailed after dealing with some very tough issues.



Brothers at the Martin Luther King Remembrance Parade.

On our journey back to New Mexico, we all stopped at a small café in Hico, Texas for breakfast. Inside were several men, all enjoying their morning coffee and conversations, one by one we took turns talking to each of them. It wasn't very long before we figured out that we were all Masons. One of our Brothers was the Pastor of his church, while the other was the sitting Master of his Lodge. We finished our breakfast and upon checking out we were informed that our meal had been taken care of by our Texas Brothers. Thank you to the Masons of Hico, Texas and Erath & Hamilton Counties.

If you did not know this already, there is a connection between New Mexico and Hico, Texas. Old West history claims that William Henry Roberts, aka Brush Bill Roberts, aka William Antrim, aka William Bonney, aka Billy the Kid ended up in Hico, Texas, after the long and bitter Lincoln County War held here in our very own Lincoln County, New Mexico. The same place where Carrizozo Lodge No. 41 holds its Annual Lincoln Lodge. Ironically, there is a Billy the Kid Museum in Hico, Texas as well.



It truly is amazing what a cup of coffee and good company will do. Through these conversations all the world's problems can be solved. This past month I also had the opportunity to attend two Daylight Lodges. It's funny, we had greater fellowship and conducted more work just sitting around the table, than we did in the Lodge!

While sitting at those tables I realized that there are great advantages of attending a Daylight Lodge. One, I was always under the impression that Daylight Lodges were for our older Masons, those Masons who have trouble driving at night, or who need transportation to Lodge.

Two, Daylight Lodges can be for everyone, they provide a great opportunity for Masons who work at night, work differing shifts, attend school or even have a young family. These Lodges can even provide that extra Masonic experience that some Masons only get once per month.

New Mexico has three Daylight Lodges, Four Corners Daylight No. 80 in Aztec, Zia Daylight No.77 in Albuquerque, and Dona Ana Daylight No.78 in Las Cruces all of which meet on various Saturdays of each month. We even have a Regular Lodge in the southeast corner of the State that meets on Saturday, that being Eunice No. 67. Four Lodges, one in almost every corner of our State providing that Saturday Masonic experience.

I know that many Lodges share coffee during the week, some even on Saturday morning, even my home Lodge, Ruidoso No. 73 has Saturday morning coffee, there are times we have more in attendance on Saturday than we have at our monthly Stated Meeting. Perhaps this may become the wave of the future.

Brethren, in support of these Daylight Lodges, attend them whenever possible, but better yet, refer them to those Brothers within your own Lodges who might possibly receive greater Masonic benefits by attending a Daylight Lodge, rather than attending a traditional one.

Thank you for all the support that each of you give to Freemasonry.



With RWB Glenn Connolly - "Bigun" - at the Shrine Circus.



Pleyel's Hymn Lyrics

The Only Prescribed Music in Our Ritual.



Bert Dalton
Grand Musician

The Lyrics of "Solemn Strikes the Funeral Chime" were written by Bro. David Vinton, 1774-1883, a silversmith, merchant, and itinerant Masonic lecturer. He was born in Bedford, Massachusetts, apprenticed in Boston, and moved to Providence, Rhode Island, where he opened a shop selling his own silverwork alongside bonnets, wigs, butter, sheet music and miscellaneous musical instruments. He was a colleague in the silversmith trade of Bro. Paul Revere. Here are some images of his work. Unfortunately, no portrait or likeness of him has been found.



Bro. Vinton was appointed by Mt. Vernon Lodge to compile a Masonic songbook for the use of that

lodge. His research was obviously exhaustive, for he compiled hundreds of songs, but rejected many "want of merit, either in the poetry, the musick, or the sentiment." He composed dozens of lyrics, choral arrangements, poems, essays, a short historical account of Masonry, and even added an appendix listing all the North American Lodges known in 1816. The resulting volume ran 465 pages and was entitled "The Masonic Minstrel - a Selection of Masonic, Sentimental, and Amorous Songs, Duets, Glees, Canons, Rounds and Canzonets, Respectfully Dedicated to the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons." The book sold 12,000 copies and included the first appearance of "Solemn Strikes the Funeral Chime."

In his later years, he travelled throughout the states as a Masonic lecturer, particularly in York Rite ritual. There were many who made their living as itinerant lecturers, such as Thomas Webb and Jeremy Ladd Cross who were also from Providence, R.I. They would found consistories, chapters, and councils, and grant degrees. As they travelled far from their home base, it is possible that Brother Vinton may have encroached on someone else's territory.

While the details are somewhat sketchy, he was brought up on charges by Franklin Lodge No. 4 of Royal Arch Masons, of which he was a member, for "highly improper and unmasonic conduct." Bro. Vinton did not respond to the summons and therefore lost his privileges as a Mason in that Grand Chapter and "throughout the world." It was publicly claimed within the Craft that Vinton had made Mark Masters and Past Masters without a dispensation or a warrant. However, it seems the real reason for the charges was that he was furnishing cipher notes of the degrees, something that wouldn't raise an eyebrow in light of what Pike and Mackey were publishing by the 1860s.





The Grand Lodge of North Carolina jumped on board condemning Bro. Vinton, but the Grand Lodge of Georgia disagreed and defended his good name. In fact, they revealed that Vinton's lecture ciphers had been approved by "upwards of 200 lodges and chapters in the United States, and by some of the brightest luminaries in the galaxy of Masonry."

In 1833, after he had fallen seriously ill while travelling through Kentucky, the brethren of Lodge #73 at Bowling Green inquired of the Grand Lodge if he was in good standing as they were "willing to give him funeral honors if his character were cleared up." The answer returned was that he was not. He was buried without Masonic honors or any Masonic emblems on his grave in Shakertown, Kentucky, in 1833.

The Dirge

Here are the commonly used lyrics. There are a total of six verses, however New Mexico lodges use only verses 1,2,4, & 6. From a purely practical standpoint, that is sufficient time to make the circumambulations in the third degree.

1. Solemn strikes the funeral chime. Notes of our departing time, As we journey here below Through a pilgrimage of woe.
2. Mortals now indulge a tear; For mortality is here! See how wide her trophies wave O'er the slumbers of the grave.
3. Calm, the good man meets his fate; Guards celestial 'round him wait. See! he bursts these mortal chains, And o'er Death the vict'ry gains.
4. Here another guest we bring; Seraph of Celestial wing, To our funeral altar come, Waft this friend and brother home.
5. There enlarged, thy soul shall see, What was veiled in mystery; Heavenly glories of the place Show his maker face to face.
6. Lord of all! below - above- Fill our hearts with truth and love; When dissolves our earthly tie, Take us to Thy Lodge on High.

David Vinton penned four additional verses for the dirge which he included in the "Masonick Minstrel:"

Far, beyond the grave, there lie - Brighter mansions in the sky. Where, enthron'd, the DIETY, Gives man immortality.

There, enlarg'd, his soul will see What was veiled in mystery; Heav'nly glories of the place, Shew his Maker 'face to face.'





God of life's Eternal Day! Guide us – lest from Thee we stray, By a false, delusive light,
To the shades of endless night!

Calm, the good man meets his fate, Guards celestial 'round him wait! See! He bursts
these mortal chains, And, o'er Death, the Vict'ry gains!

This hymn is used in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Michigan, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, South Dakota, and parts of Alabama and Tennessee.

However, another hymn is used in Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, and parts of Alabama. It is sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne."

1. Hark! From the tombs a doleful sound, my ears attend the cry; "Ye living men, come view the ground where you must shortly lie.
2. Princes, this clay must be your bed, in spite of all your towers; The tall, the wise, the revered head shall lie as low as ours."
3. Great God! Is this our certain doom, and are we still secure? Still walking downwards to the tomb, and yet prepared no more.
4. Grant us the power of quickening grace to fit our souls to fly; Then, when we drop this dying flesh, we'll rise above the sky.



So this uncomplicated song we have heard and sung so many times has survived the Reign of Terror and charges of un-masonic conduct to be woven deeply into the fabric of our New Mexico ritual. SMIB.



Just a Month Away!

All the details regarding the 2024 Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico have been released!

Please check your emails, NM Freemasons Facebook page, Grand Lodge of New Mexico webpage and each edition of the New Mexico Freemason for information and links to register and make reservations.

This year's event will be held in beautiful Ruidoso. March 14th, 15th and 16th, at the:

**Inn of The Mountain Gods
Resort and Casino**

287 Carrizo Canyon Road

Mescalero, New Mexico 88340 (located in Ruidoso, New Mexico)



- **Registration** is available online through our [“Eventbrite” link \(Click Here\)](#) or by mail by contacting the office of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico. (and, see attached at end of NM Freemason)
- **Room reservations** (MUST) be made directly with the Inn of The Mountain Gods by calling: (**NO ONLINE RESERVATIONS**)
- Local: 575-464-7777 Toll Free: 800-545-9011

Identify yourself as attending the “Grand Lodge of New Mexico, EVENT CODE 1377”, to receive the discounted room rate of \$ 139.00 per night, plus tax & fees.

Room rates are available from Wednesday night, March 13th, 2024, through Saturday night, March 16th, 2024. There will be an “After Party” Saturday night, in the Cochise Presidential Suite to celebrate the incoming 2024-2025 Grand Officers!

- ALL ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 2024 TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTS.
- RV RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE AS WELL BY CALLING 575-464-9770 (NO DISCOUNTS OFFERED)

Lodges, please remember to bring your Banners and Bases, there will be a “Parade of Banners” during the public opening ceremony!

For further information, and or questions please contact:

RWB Chuck Bass
575-808-0706
cbass60@gmail.com

RWB Jim Bungard
575-635-5606
jbungard@zianet.com

Dona Ana Bringing Light and Fraternity

Leadership Education Opportunity in Las Cruces.



Joseph L. Beckham
Worshipful Master
Dona Ana Daylight
Lodge

Join us in practicing three fundamental aspects of leadership.

Dona Ana Daylight Lodge is hosting Executive Training for Volunteer Organizations that has been taught nationwide (and internationally online) for over 10 years! The York Rite Leadership Program started in 2009 and provides fundamental tools for creating an inclusive and positive environment for growth within your Masonic Family organization.

Three Courses Over Six Weekends

This in-person instructor-led training, walks participants through the application of skills in three bodies of knowledge:

Application of Personal Effectiveness

Application of Group Dynamics

Application of Influential Communication

First Course: 102 Application of Personal Effectiveness

Two four-hour learning segments, each with an opportunity for breaking bread with Masonic Family Members:

- Part 1 - April 20, 2024
- Part 2 - May 25, 2024

\$80 registration fee includes coffee/donuts breakfast and lunch for both sessions

- Register by March 20, 2024 for Early Bird Discount (\$60 registration)

First step in the program

- Courses MUST be taken in order; you must complete this course to progress through the program

Dinner Celebrations

Each event day will conclude with a separate and optional dinner celebration (additional \$30/person).

- April 20, 2024 - Table Lodge Open to Guests
- May 25, 2024 - TBA

For more information and registration:

<https://nmfreemason.org/events/dona-ana-daylight-leadership-series/>

<https://yorkriteleadership.org>



Happy Year of the Dragon!

Symbols of Masonry in the World



Burx Norrod
Senior Warden
Sandoval Lodge

In honor of the Lunar New Year 2024, the Year of the Dragon, widely celebrated in China and various Asian countries, I want to highlight the oldest symbols of Freemasonry that I've come across. These symbols are depicted in a painting featuring Fuxi and Nuwa, where Fuxi holds the Square, and Nuwa holds the Compasses. While I initially associated the origins of these familiar Masonic tools with the Hermetic Rebis, my perspective shifted during a visit to China in 2013. There, I unexpectedly discovered these tools and the painting while learning about the creation story.



The painting of Fuxi and Nuwa bears striking similarities to the Hermetic Rebis, both serving as representations of unity and cosmic balance. They signify the convergence of opposing forces, reconciling earthly and spiritual realms, and embodying sexual unity. The dual heads, each adorned with the Sun and Moon, along with astrological signs, further emphasize these parallels.

One notable difference is the antiquity of the Fuxi & Nuwa story, dating back thousands of years, contrasting with the 15th-century origin of the Rebis, associated with the alchemical 'Magnum Opus' or 'Great Work.' Similar to Freemasonry, the Fuxi & Nuwa narrative seems to have existed since 'time immemorial.'

Another intriguing aspect of the Rebis is its connection to the Lunar New Year of the Dragon, where the dual opposites stand upon a fire-breathing Dragon. In alchemy, the dragon represents prime matter and the third alchemical element, sulfur. The winged dragon suggests ascension, symbolizing the merging of material and spiritual realms, with fire as a potent symbol of transformation.



Wishing you a joyful Year of the Dragon!

Brother Across Time and Jurisdiction

A Traveling Man's Report Volume III



John Keel
Junior Warden
Sandoval Lodge

Fraternal greetings! This latest volume is more about a newly made brother than the trip I made to go see him initiated into Freemasonry. I have known Ramiro “Ray” Rendon for many years and he has been a good friend, colleague and brother veteran of mine long before knocking at the door of our fraternity. His journey as a mason began formally on January 23rd at Lebanon Lodge 837 in Frisco, TX with his initiation but, as we all know, it began much further back, in his heart, and when he asked me at breakfast in April last year while I was visiting Dallas. I was out there for a concert and, as is our tradition, we will often grab breakfast or dinner while I’m there. On this particular occasion however he asked about Freemasonry and sparked a great conversation that led to him asking how he could join.

He had some doubts about how local lodges might work so I let him know that I would be happy to introduce him to a lodge on my next trip or when he was ready. Unfortunately, we have heard too often about rumors of racism or actual instances of it in our fraternity. Being a Hispanic man, its understandable that he would have these concerns even today. I reassured him that racism is contrary to the principles of our order and though the fraternity has had those issues in the past, I would hope to never come across a lodge like that in my lifetime though I’m sure they still exist somewhere in some parts of our country and in the world. Not to be preachy but, the fact that we still hear this should reinvigorate our passion to build ourselves organizationally into that perfect ashlar by eliminating discrimination when we see it.

The opportunity to introduce Ray to a lodge didn’t come to pass until October, when I was at a conference in Dallas. As I usually do, I reached out to local brothers, in this case through the Texas Freemason’s Facebook group, to see who was meeting. As it turned out, Lebanon Lodge was conducting an EA degree one of the nights I was there. I was sold instantly since I had not been able to see a degree in Texas yet. I let them know that I would be attending and that I would be bringing a friend with me. They were very welcoming to my visit and I made plans to skip the social events of the conference that night so we could attend. Ray and I went from the conference to the lodge and both of us almost immediately felt at home.



Bro Ramiro Rendon and Bro John Keel



Brother Ramiro Rendon and his degree team.

The brothers of Lebanon lodge were so welcoming and friendly that I felt like I had been there many times before. We had a wonderful dinner and Ray was able to chat with one of the Past Masters while we were inside for the degree. After the ceremony, we all went across the street to an old homestyle restaurant which has a very well stocked bar to enjoy some fellowship. On the way home, Ray and I chatted about how amazing the lodge was as well as how the process works. As we talked, he was already making plans to visit other lodges locally.

After a couple of months getting to know the brothers, Ray petitioned the lodge and the brethren voted him in at the beginning of January. As I promised him, I flew out to Dallas on the 23rd of January to be there as he was brought to light in Masonry. We had a great dinner again and enjoyed the pre-ceremony fellowship. Several other local lodges also had members in attendance. The ceremony was fantastic and the degree team did a phenomenal job of performing the ritual. Ray even surprised all of us at the Secretary's desk. For those of you that know Texas ritual, you'll know what I'm referring to. For the rest of you, I highly recommend going to Texas and checking it out yourself! After the meeting we all went to the restaurant across the street and had a great time there. We even held an impromptu turtle degree!

This trip was an amazing one and one of my favorites so far. I can't wait to be there for Ray's Fellowcraft and the Lodge has already confirmed I will be the one to Raise him. I look forward to it!



Brothers (and Turtles) from 4 different lodges enjoy fellowship.

Jobs' is on the Job!

Rio Rancho Bethel Invitation.



Peace McKenzie
Honored Queen
Bethel No. 4

Greetings, everyone!

I am Peace McKenzie, the recently appointed Honored Queen of Sandoval Lodge No. 76 in Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to my fellow officers as they embark on their upcoming term, and also commend Sandoval Lodge No. 76 for their recent officer installations. I extend an open invitation to all of you to join our meetings, which take place on the 1st, 3rd, and any 5th Friday of the month at 6:30 PM. Our gatherings are filled with delicious food and exciting fun!

If there are any needs or suggestions for your Lodge, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to assist and eager to collaborate.



Continuing Your Lodge Journey

Why should I join the York Rite?



James Lamb
Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of
Knights Templar

The symbolic Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, as conferred in the United States, are degrees of the York Rite.

York Masonry is the oldest and best known of all Masonic Rites. It takes its name from York, England, where the earliest known record of Masonry exists, dating from about A.D. 923. Masonry's first written record is centered around York, the seat of the Ancient York Grand Lodge. In 1813, this Grand Lodge merged with another group called the Modern Grand Lodge, to form the United Grand Lodge of England. This is the basis upon which our present system of Masonic Lodge Masonry is built.

You, as a Master Mason, have received the first three degrees of the York Rite. Having begun your Masonic work in the York Rite, it is natural that you should want to continue with it.

According to Masonic legend, every man raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason received "substitute secrets", as the "true secrets" were lost. It may prove a surprise to the average man, believing his work is completed, to be told that the secrets pertaining to the ceremony will not be given to him! This is unfortunate, but the veil is lifted in the degree of the Royal Arch, and in that degree only. Hence, no man actually becomes a Master Mason until he is exalted to that holy order.

Some would have the newly raised Master Mason believe that he can receive the secrets and word in a degree other than the Royal Arch. This is not true, historically or otherwise. The mother Grand Lodge of England was so emphatic regarding the necessity of the Royal Arch degree that many years ago, it set forth this as Paragraph One (1) of its Laws and Regulations.

"By the solemn act of the union between the two Grand Lodges of Freemasons in England in December, 1813, it was declared and pronounced that Pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz; those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellowcraft, and the Master Mason, INCLUDING THE SUPREME ORDER OF THE HOLY ROYAL ARCH". These same words can be found in our New Mexico Monitor and Ceremonial for the Grand Lodge under Landmark Second (page 122, Sixteenth Edition, 2019).

On the North American Continent, there are additional degrees in the system, supplementing the work of the Lodge, Chapter and Council, and the Orders conferred in the Commandery have been arranged into a system or Rite referred to as the American, Canadian, or York Rite of Freemasonry. It is American in structure, as it is a democratic organization in which every member has a voice and a right to be heard.

Are you ready to continue your journey?



Gavel Visits Back in Style?

Liberty Lodge Visit to Edgewood Lodge

On February 6, Members of Liberty Lodge from Santa Rosa visited Edgewood Lodge. Worshipful Master Eleazar Romon LaPalma Lisboa, accompanied by WB Don Sulzemeier, WB Travis McKenzie, and Brother Dusty Leonard, EA.



Photo Courtesy of Bro. Cameron Colfack.

Being a “new addition” to District 5, and coming in a group, they qualified for acquiring the District 5 Gavel. Worshipful Master Ron Betts presented the Gavel to the Travelers after welcoming them to the Lodge.

If you know of a traveling gavel that is currently at a Lodge, please let us know so that we can let everyone know! Visitations – the 14th Landmark – are a great part of our traditions.

The Chapel – January 2024

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 him who sitteth as Judge Supreme ...

“Well done thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter now into the joys of thy Lord.”



Brother

George Ray Culp
Paul W. Gettinger
George Parnell Kellum

Lodge

Bethlehem Lodge
Sacramento Lodge
Eunice Lodge

Deceased

1/14/2024
1/17/2024
1/31/2024

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.

Traditions Prevailing

Our Ritual Provides Distinction and SO Much More.



Stephen Balke
Editor

Worshipful Brother Bruce Baily first informed me of the phrase “Traditions Prevailing” just after he started working actively with our Youth in New Mexico. His history of it was from Texas, and here it has been used quite a bit to speak of an officer’s planned ascendance through a line – but it can easily be used to describe a far greater impact.

When you review academic research on Freemasonry, you will find many articles that describe that Lodges were places of learning. Members not only studied concepts, skills, and philosophy as a part of every meeting – much like it is still done in Masonic bodies in Mexico – but when you study our ritual, you may find that it teaches us *how* to learn.

In a society where people like Edward Bernays have steered the fundamental aspects of advertising, media, and journalism to be influential through the use of symbols, colors, and emotion – much as Freemasonry is designed to do – to direct people to follow an agenda; our gentle Craft gives us the tools to think and act independently so that we may work cooperatively. When we follow the prescribed “curriculum,” we are exposed to the skills and methods to intentionally relate our experience to new information. and develop the habit of being in the moment. We practice changing sensory input and controlling the application of emotion so that we can more effectively and intentionally remember things that we believe will create a positive impact on our lives.

Everyone I know feels GREAT when they perform our ritual well. The journey to that moment requires investment of time, overcoming self-imposed obstacles, and learning new skills. This road should be guarded! Ensure that your journey, as well as that of others you influence, is consistently positively reinforced and has planned incremental wins – every opportunity for a celebration being celebrated provides the mortar that helps us best work and best agree.

If our traditions are truly to prevail, we should all be helping our Brethren to experience confidence and accomplishment in that which truly differentiates us – the degrees of Masonry.

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 share all the things you’re doing to help Masonry and your Lodge or group grow!

sbalke@nmmasons.org

NM Freemason
Grand Lodge of New Mexico
PO Box 25004
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-0004

Grand Lodge of New Mexico A.F. & A.M.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Thomas Lee Schenk

Invites You To Ruidoso, New Mexico
for the

147th Annual Communication

March 14 - 16, 2024



All Events Held At
Inn of the Mountain Gods
Resort & Casino
287 Carrizo Canyon Rd.
Mescalero, NM

NO ONLINE ROOM RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED: Lodging is your responsibility. Those attending need to make your own room reservations by calling the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino **575-464-7777** or **800-545-9011**. Reduced room rates are available if booked by February 16, 2024. Basic room rate is \$139.00 per night plus tax, etc.

You must identify yourself with the following: The Grand Lodge of New Mexico, Event code 1377

RESERVATIONS FOR RV SPOTS CALL: 575-464-9779

THURSDAY MARCH 14th — Grand Master's Reception for all attendees in Exhibition Halls B, D and F

No Host Happy Hour 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Grand Master's Reception 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

FRIDAY MARCH 15th - Ladies Lunch in the Cochise Presidential Suite 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Men's Lunch in the Exhibition Pre-Function Area 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Grand Master's Banquet - 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm No Host Happy Hour from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Exhibition Halls B, D, and F

Eventbrite On-line Registration for Annual Communication

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-lodge-of-new-mexico-af-am-147th-annual-communication-tickets-768655187357>

For Grand Masters/Grand Secretaries or Designated Representatives:

www.eventbrite.com/e/768655187357/?discount=GM%2FGS2024

For mail registration please fill out and mail the attached registration form with your check to;

The Grand Lodge of New Mexico - PO Box 25004, Albuquerque, NM 87125-0004

147th Annual Communication

Of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Of New Mexico AF & AM

Inn of The Mountain Gods Resort & Casino - Ruidoso, New Mexico

March 14th, 15th & 16th, 2024

Schedule of Events

All Activities to be held on main casino floor level

Hospitality / Presidential Suite to be open thought event for Snacks & Beverages

Daytime Host – Sierra Blanca Court No. 5 - Order of Amaranth

Evening Host – RWB Harry Jenkins / District Deputy Grand Master – District 4

Thursday – March 14th, 2024

(Breakfast & Lunch on your own)

10:00am – 4:00pm Registration & Credentials / Exhibition Hall Lobby

12:00pm – 12:30pm Treasurers Meeting / Mescalero B

12:30pm – 1:30pm Secretaries Meeting / Mescalero B

1:30pm – 3:00pm GL Officers, DDGMs & DDGLs Meeting / Mescalero B

3:00pm – 5:00pm Masonic Charities Foundation Annual Meeting / Mescalero B

(Open to all members, only 2024 Worshipful Masters may vote.)

6:00pm – 7:00pm No Host Happy Hour / Exhibition Pre-Function Area

7:00pm – 9:00pm Grand Masters Reception / Exhibition B, D, F & Pre-Function Area

(Business Casual Attire)

Introduction of Appendant Bodies

9:00pm – 11:00pm Hospitality / Cochise Presidential Suite – Main Level

Friday – March 15th, 2024

(Breakfast on your own)

7:00am – 4:00pm Registration & Credentials / Exhibition Hall Lobby

**8:30am Public Opening Ceremony of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico /
Exhibition Hall**

(Grand Lodge Officers – Tuxedo or dark suit)

(Attendees – Business Attire)

United States and New Mexico Flag Presentation / New Mexico Knights Templar

Parade of Lodge Banners / Constituent Lodge Representatives

White Mountain Territorial Lodge No. 5 Banner to be carried by MWB Bill Pogue / Junior Past
Grand Master

Playing of the Star-Spangled Banner / Audio Presentation

**Welcome to the 147th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New
Mexico AF & AM / MWB Thomas L. Schenk / Grand Master**

Host Greetings: Mescalero Apache Tribal Representative

Response: RWB Robin Justice / Senior Grand Warden

Introductions

By RWB Patrick Moroney / Grand Marshall

Escorted by RWB Alex Cosby / Senior Grand Deacon

Line up by RWB Jim Bungard / Junior Grand Deacon

Heads of Appendant Bodies and visiting Dignitaries / Grand Masters or their Representatives

2024 Worshipful Masters

2023-2024 District Deputy Grand Masters & Lecturers

Past Grand Masters of New Mexico

Final Remarks / MWB Thomas L. Schenk / Grand Master

**9:30am Closing of the 147th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of
New Mexico Public Opening Ceremony**

Call for Constitutional Number of Lodges Present

10:00am Formal Opening of the 147th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico AF & AM

Call for preliminary Credentials Report by RWB James Overfelt / Chairman Credentials Committee

Introduction of 2023-2024 Juris Prudence Committee

RWB Patrick Moroney – Chairman, WB Peter Hackett, RWB Alex Cosby-Senior Grand Deacon, RWB Jim Bungard-Junior Grand Deacon, RWB Michael Freitas

Grand Masters Address – MWB Thomas L. Schenk / Grand Master

Call on Committee on Reference Chairman / PGM Adam Hathaway

Assignment of Grand Masters Address to appropriate Committees for review

11:00am Masonic Charities Foundation of New Mexico Charity Walk

Call To Refreshment

12:00pm – 1:00pm Men's Lunch / Exhibition Pre-Function Area

11:00pm – 1:00pm Ladies Lunch & Program / Cochise Presidential Suite – Main Level

(Ladies please bring a current photo of your Mason on your cell phone)

Call to Labor

1:30pm Resumption of Work

Call on Credentials Report by RWB James Overfelt / Chairman Credentials Committee

Election of 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Officers & Open Board of Directors Position

2023-2024 DDGMs to act as tellers - distribute, collect and tally ballots and report results.

Past Grand Masters to adjourn for PGM meeting after elections / Mescalero B

Committee Reports

Account Ways and Means – RWB Charles Bass

Appeals and Grievances – MWB Bobby Arther PGM
Audit – Casper Brown
Foreign Correspondence – WB Jay Williams
Insurance – MWB David Baker PGM
Investment Advisory – WB Bob McNiel
Juris Prudence – RWB Patrick Moroney
Long Range Planning – RWB Robin Justice – Senior Grand Warden
Masonic Education – WB Davin Teague
Membership – RWB Steve Almager – Deputy Grand Master
Masonic Youth – WB Leon Alderete
Ritual – MWB Jonathan Andrews – PGM
Technology – WB Len Roughgarden
Kit Carson Award – MWB Bill Pogue – PGM
Legal Advisement – WB Tom King

3:00pm Call to Refreshment

4:00pm Public Installation of 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Officers / Exhibition Hall

Installing Master – MWB Ralph Easley PGM

Installing Marshal – MWB Bobby Arther PGM

Installing Chaplain – MWB David Baker PGM

(Grand Lodge Officers - Tuxedo or Dark Suit)

(Attendees - Business Attire)

6:00pm – 7:00pm No Host Happy Hour / Exhibition Pre-Function Area

7:00pm – 9:00pm Grand Masters Banquet & Awards / Exhibition B, D, F & Pre-function Area

(Business Attire)

9:00pm -11:00pm Hospitality/Cochise Presidential Suite – Main Level

Saturday – March 16th, 2024

(Breakfast on your own)

7:00am - 9:00am Registration & Credentials / Exhibition Hall Lobby

8:00am – 8:45am Memorial Service

9:00am Introduction of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico Masonic Youth Leaders

9:30am Call to Labor / Resumption of Work

Call on Final Credentials Report by RWB James Overfelt / Credentials Committee Chairman

Oration by Grand Orator MWB Ralph Easley PGM

Juris Prudence Committee – Grand Masters Recommendations and Resolutions by RWB Patrick Moroney / Chairman Juris Prudence Committee

(All Legislation to be displayed on screen as well as paper copies to be provided)

Committee Report on the Grand Masters Address / MWB Adam Hathaway PGM

Vote to be held on the 148th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico AF & AM

March 20th, 21st & 22nd, 2025

Hobbs, New Mexico

Closing of the 147th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico AF & AM

(MWB Steve Almager / Grand Master to call on RWB Matt Stevenson / Grand Marshal to Declare Officers Duly Installed*

*****Saturday Evening After Party in the Cochise Presidential Suite*****

.:SMIB:.



147th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION GRAND LODGE OF NEW MEXICO AF & AM 14 – 16 March 2024



REGISTRATION

Each Mason attending MUST REGISTER (this form or online)

(Please print your NAMES and TITLES)

Name: _____ Lady's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: h / c _____
Circle One Number

Service to Masonry Grand Lodge of _____ Past Grand Master: _____
Yes / No

Current Grand Lodge Office: _____ Past Grand Lodge Office: _____
If Current DDGM/DDGL – List Office If Past DDGM/DDGL – List Office

Designated Representative YES/NO (Circle One)

Lodge: _____ No: _____ Office: _____ Past Master: _____
Primary Lodge If a Current Lodge Officer Yes / No

Registration and Meals

Meal selections for registrations received after March 1, 2024, CANNOT be guaranteed.

ALL Breakfast is on your own.

	<u>Brother</u>	<u>Lady or Guest</u>	<u>2nd Guest</u>	<u>Each</u>	<u>Total</u>
Registration Fee Masons – on or before March 1, 2024					\$40.00
					G.M. Reception included with paid Registration fee – please list total for meal count.
Grand Master's Reception Dinner	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
No-host Bar and Grand Master's Reception	_____	_____	_____	FREE	\$0.00
Friday – March 15, 2024					
Mason's Lunch Cider Bourbon Pork Tenderloin	_____	_____	_____	\$28.00	_____
Ladies Lunch Mescalero Chicken Marsala	_____	_____	_____	\$28.00	_____
Grand Master's Banquet and No Host Bar (Pick One)					
Slow Roasted Prime Rib	_____	_____	_____	\$48.00	_____
Corn meal & Parmesan Crusted Chicken	_____	_____	_____	\$48.00	_____

Advise of Dietary Concerns: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE _____

<p style="text-align: center;">Registration and Payment Options</p> <p>Mail this form and check to: New Mexico Grand Lodge <i>Check Memo: 2024 Grand Lodge</i> P.O. Box 25004 Albuquerque, NM 87125</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please contact us with any further questions:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">RWB Chuck Bass 575-808-0706 Cbass60.cb@gmail.com RWB Jim Bungard 575-635-5606 jbungard@zianet.com</p>
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