



Terra-cotta bust of George Washington
by Jean-Antoine Houdon, 1785

Trestle Board

Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 F. & A.M.

FROM THE EAST

The Rainbow Installation on January 8th was very well attended. The Crowning Team: John Freeman PM, David White PM, Leif Andersson, Daniel McDermott, Ron Ellis, John McCamant PM, and Tom Hatch from Pyramid 43. Thank you Brothers, the girls really appreciate all our efforts.

Our visit to Pyramid Lodge #43, in the Odd Fellow's building, was very nice. Thank you Worshipful Paul Armstrong for the invite, your officers performed well for their first meeting. We had six Brothers in attendance: John Freeman PM, David White PM, Leif Andersson, Daniel McDermott, Brad McKaechnie PM, and of course Paul Armstrong PM.

Our Planning meeting on January 16th was very well attended and the dialogue was very productive. I think the key takeaways are: Increase membership, Become relevant to the community, and Degree ritual proficiency. Although no resolution was made in these areas, it did allow an open forum to discuss what was most important for our lodge going forward. I am hopeful that we can address these issues in the coming months.

The Make-A-Wish presentation, by Cynthia R. Freeman, Ph.D, Regional Director, was very informative and well received. I have heard that the Rainbow Girls, who were also in attendance for the presentation, will be doing a service project with them. We have been invited to host a table of ten at their upcoming event, "Waffles for Wishes". The event is on Tuesday March 27th at 7:30am to 9:30am and will include a nice breakfast and presentation. This is their big fundraising event of the year and will have hundreds of people from around the community in attendance. This could be a great opportunity for our Lodge and Masonry to meet and greet people outside of our Masonic family. I think it would be great if we could have a full table present.

Jim Stanley of Pyramid #43 could use a few volunteers with their Child ID program on Saturday, February 4th at 5:30pm, at the Reno Events Center for the Big Horns game. I will be going and I hope that one or two others will be able to volunteer as well.

We have a Fellow Craft degree on Monday, February 20th at 7:00pm. Brother Paul Armstrong will be conferring the degree. We will have a practice on Monday the 6th at 6:30pm.

We will be opening Lodge on the Entered Apprentice degree.

Upon the Square,
John W. Freeman, WM

FROM THE WEST

The end of January already. Still. Closer to my birthday which is the fourth. Another year with good health which is a good omen for the coming year. Doc says I need to have more fish oil and get my sorry body to the gym. Yes mam! She's correct. Benjamin Franklin Lodge has likewise arrived here in good health.

Several Officers and members made a visit to Pyramid Lodge on the twelfth. A very pleasant evening with Paul Armstrong in the chair. They have a pleasant room to meet in at the Odd Fellows Hall. With the visitors there were over twenty in the Temple. I'm pleased we are most often able to reach that number with our own members.

February brings a Fellow Craft Degree on the 20th. I sincerely hope none of our members were affected by the Washoe fire. To see the flames over the southern hills approaching Galena High School was frightening. A firefighter some years ago told me, "be afraid of fire". I am.

On the Level,
David L. White, SW

FROM THE SOUTH

Many thanks for the positive response to January's meal, and special thanks to the Rainbow Ladies and Girls and to my wife Samette for helping out. And of course to Brother Paul whom saved the day by picking up items for me.

February's meal will be Lasagna, hot bread, salad and ice-cream, with chocolate syrup if you would like. Coffee and tea will also be served. Meal is served at 6:30. As always menu suggestions are welcome. As January's meal, the wife is 1/2 price, so invite them please.

I will make a short (I promise) presentation on George Washington's mill at Mt Vernon farms.

By the Plumb
Leif Y. Andersson, JW

February Calendar

- Wed, 1st 6:30 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Stated Meeting
George Washington Observance
Sat, 4th 5:30 PM Child ID with Pyramid 43
Big Horns at Reno Events Center
Mon, 6th 6:30 PM Work and Instruction
Mon, 20th 7:00 PM Fellow Craft degree
Tue, 28th 7:00 PM Rainbow Board

March Calendar

- Sat, 3rd 7:00 PM Fellowship
UNR vs. La Tech Basketball
Wed, 7th 6:30 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Stated Meeting
Youth Observance - Rainbow Presentation
Mon, 5th 6:30 PM Work and Instruction
Mon, 19th 7:00 PM Work and Instruction
Tue, 20th 7:00 PM Lodge to visit
Rainbow Assembly #21
Tue, 27th 7:30 - 9:30 AM Make-A-Wish
Waffles for Wishes
Tue, 27th 7:00 PM Rainbow Board

February Birthdays

- 4th David L. White, PM
5th Kenneth G. McCabe
14th Rebel W. Hooper
15th Ronald S. Ellis
16th Robert L. Ammerman
21st Stephen V. Robison, PM
22nd Kory D. Kreug
22nd Paul J. Hoffman, PM



Trestleboard Comments

Comments, corrections and new content is most welcome. If you have any suggestions or contributions, please email me at jfreeman@e-quantum.com

Receive your Trestleboard early

To receive an email copy of the "Trestleboard" at the same time it is printed, e-mail your request to John Freeman, at jfreeman@e-quantum.com

Sunshine Committee

Should you know of members or spouses who are not well and or need assistance, please contact David L. White, SW.

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