



FriendshipMasonicLodge<sup>160</sup>

November2021

# Trestleboard

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon

from  
the **East**

Hail Brothers and Fellowes Well-Met!

I've been sitting in the East since December 27th, 2019. I know I'm not the first F160 WMaster to "retread", and I'm sure I won't be the last. I am (fairly) sure, however, that this will be the last time in the East for me - for a LONG time!

It's a curious particularity of Masonry that we - at least in our jurisdiction / tradition - give the Master of the Lodge so much apparent power, and yet so little time to put that power to use. We certainly see lodges that put a new man in the East each year as ... stronger ... than lodges that "retread" their principal officers. We assume, perhaps, that "retreading" is an act of **necessity** and not of **choice**? If so, I must point out that this assumption contains a premise: that it is BETTER for a lodge to have a new brother at the helm each year.

Why?

Do Masons believe that Power tends to corrupt and that Absolute Power corrupts absolutely? That would explain our tradition. Do Masons believe that the Officers' Line is a 5- to 7-year year training regime for young men, and the East is just the capstone year? But how far back could either tradition go? What would these traditions mean for a lodge of **operative** masons engaged in building a massive public edifice? What if each lodge of operative masons elected a new Master each December? What if each new Master decided (as is his right, in our tradition) to redo his Trestleboard entirely? Imagine him, perhaps, wiping away the plans of all prior Masters, giving no thought to the

plans of his successor - who himself may also wipe the plans clean and start over!

I doubt buildings resulting from such arrangements would end up code-compliant (no pun).

Clearly, such an arrangement would not be sustainable for a community trying to build an actual Cathedral. Yet it IS true that operative lodges did see several Masters preside over single projects that took generations to complete: Colosseum in Rome - 10 years. Parthenon in Athens - 17 years. The Great Pyramid at Giza - 20 years. St Peter's in Rome - 144 years. And York Cathedral - the town where many believe Freemasonry has its real first roots - took a whopping 252 years to complete!

There is NO WAY York Cathedral could have been built without a generations-long consistency and unity of vision on the part of the entire community of masons, under each successive Master. Thus, the changing of the guard in bodies such as ours - even if we make such changes partially to avoid the pitfalls of corruption, or as a means to "train up" men - requires overlapping intentions and actions - that is, Masonry and sitting in the East both rest on Teamwork.

Where lodges AREN'T teams, and yet change Masters each year, the annual change of leadership might see the brother at the helm swing the ship in wild new directions - annually. No speculative lodge can thrive when each successive Master takes his lodge on wholly new adventures. He must act in part as a steady hand at the helm, providing continuity, and upholding a **shared** vision.

At F160, we've long known that our core business is the making of Masons. We've also known that

## from the **South**

Masonic work is intensely personal (you must smooth your own ashlar) and yet wholly communal (your finished block must fit chink and nook with mine in the larger building).

At F160, we work on ourselves together. And each Master works hard in the East to see us carry out that work within a framework of continuity AND innovation, without swinging the ship wildly about on new courses annually. After all, such inconstancy would just stop our boat from getting ANYWHERE worthwhile - don't you agree?

In Fraternity,

WM K R Smith  
Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 160 A.F. & A.M.  
AL 2020-21

**WB Bob Casey, Worshipful Master 2016**



Fraternal Greetings from the South Brethren,

Well Brothers, how quickly things continue to change. Covid number have continued to fall (hopefully from their final peak), and hopefully we are inching ever towards opening back up again fully. We are still currently observing distancing restrictions as we have been and will continue until the Governor, and thereby the Grand Lodge, advise otherwise. Hopefully this will be soon, but until then we stay the course. This will include a distanced dinner with our stated meeting, as we have been doing, next Wednesday evening. I hope to see everyone there!

Hopefully everyone has been reading information about booster shots. There is a webpage here: <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-booster-covid-19-vaccine> where you can track the status of who is eligible. We are encouraging al eligible members to receive their booster.

With things changing it can be hard to keep up with all of the up to date information on restrictions, so I'll once again link you all to the Oregon Health Authority's website here: <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19> Hopefully all restrictions will be removed before too long, but until then it's a good idea to keep an eye on them.

Stay safe and healthy,

Brother Kevin Miller-Conley, Junior Warden

From the West Greetings Brethren,

Your lodge formally received RWB Adam Bayer at October Stated. RWB Bayer is the District Deputy of the Grand Master for District number 3 of the GL of Oregon. That's our new district number, by the way!

Our annual Officers' Retreat will be Nov 12-13-14. We rented some digs at Rockaway Beach. At this annual gathering we expect at least 11 brothers, which is quite a few more than one might expect. We'll plan out major goals for next year, and allow our new principals to begin their work (Election is at November Stated - be there!)

We'll start doing degrees again shortly. Let me know if you can help! I'll have specific roles to fill once we get our degree roles spreadsheet all up to date.

In fraternity

Bro SW Jimmie Jaimes  
(ghost written by WBro Smith)

## October Treasurer Report:

The Budget and Checking/Saving Account monthly activity was posted in Slack and at the Tyler's Registrar. No unusual expenses. The Edward Jones statement has been reviewed by Investment Committee and shows a small decrease in net worth over previous month of \$14,000. We are still up over 10% for the year. Tracking our budget so far this year shows a surplus. No unusual or large expenses in September. We sit at 52% of our annual spending with 3/4 year gone.



Worshipful Master Kent Smith on occasion of the District Deputy of the Grand Lodge for District 3, Adam Bayer's Official Visit representing the Grand Master occurred during our October Stated Meeting. His wisdom and calm demeanor were of great value as multiple matters of importance were discussed.



## November

### MasonicBirthdays

*Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason*

01 Brooks Thompson (18)  
14 Curtis Cude (20)  
16 Duane Cartwright (49)  
18 James Loennig (24)  
21 Richard Pate (23)  
21 Eric Wiskoff (23)  
23 Norm Rosenbloom (38)  
26 Joseph Smith (63)  
26 William Korte (52)  
28 John Trueb (59)

## November

### NaturalBirthdays

16 Matt Truex  
23 Brooks Thompson  
24 Rick Schleining  
25 Howard Charleboix  
28 Richard Bristow



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Friendship 160 Dinner: 6:30 pm Stated: 7:30 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Friendship 160 Game/Movie Night 7:30 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Friendship 160 Ritual Practice 7:00 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Friendship Lodge Officers Meeting 7:00pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

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*To the Brother who stands plumb to his principles, yet is level to his Brethren.*

# FriendshipMasonicLodge<sup>160</sup>

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Address Correction Requested