

  
**Escorial Lodge No. 7 F. & A.M., 1864**  
"The Masons on the Mountain"  
Box 997, Virginia City, Nevada 89440

**Meeting First Saturday of every month**  
Masonic Breakfast 9:00AM                      Lodge Meeting 10:00 AM

Escorial Lodge No. 7  
(164 "C" Street)  
Box 997  
Virginia City, NV 89440



## Second Quarter, 2014

### Upcoming Events

May 3 – Stated meeting  
May 15 – Carson No. 1 GMOV  
May 24 – Carson Valley 33, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rededication

July 17 – 19 Rocky Mountain Masonic Conference, Atlantis, Reno

Oct. 13 – Escorial Lodge Grand Master's Official Visit, 150<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary  
Oct. 19 – Escorial Lodge 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gal & Re-dedication Celebration (open to the public)

### Recent Lodge Events

Installation of Shawn Mahan as Junior Warden took place at our April 5 Stated Meeting. He is already establishing himself as an exceptional chef. Shawn and his wife have also become members of our sister chapter of OES, Argenta number 7.

### Sickness & Distress

Our brother and honorary member of Escorial Lodge, Jim Conrad, is recovering in the hospital from a fall, resulting in a broken hip and broken back. Jim has contributed more time to more lodges in Northern Nevada than any person in memory. Please take time to contact him and wish him a speedy recovery.

### Lodge Membership

Escorial Lodge is pleased to welcome Brothers Gary Graves, Shawn Mahan and Lee Cross to its membership as Dual/Plural Masons.

In addition to petitions for dual/plural affiliation, Escorial Lodge is starting to see an increase in petitions for the degrees in Masonry. Congratulations to our latest Entered Apprentices, Jeremiah Hall and Scott Salter.

Degree practice and proficiency are one area where we always need to improve. Our new members working through the degrees need to receive personal attention and mentoring in their progress from more of our officers and members. We also need to be able to perform our own degrees, without having to ask for help from neighboring lodges. Too many of our members on the rolls seem to think that carrying a dues card and wearing a Masonic ring is all it takes to be a Mason. All of the symbols of this fraternity are representations of **work**. Please try to make time to take an active roll in this special, historic lodge and help us keep it going for future generations of Masons.

Congratulations to Brothers Leo Clewell and Joe Simoneau on 25 years as Masons. Also to Dennis Conly for 30 years and to Bob Johnson and Neal Starr for 45 years as Masons.

### **Lodge Finances**

Notices of the annual lodge dues of \$98 have been sent, contacts made with delinquent members. Dues have now been paid by all but 3 members. We have 48 members on our roster at this time. Of those, 25 are annual dues paying members, who carry the bulk of the annual lodge budget.

Per capita expense paid to Grand Lodge for 2013 was \$1164. The life membership program administered by Grand Lodge returned \$652 to the lodge from 43 of the 64 total life memberships.

The Treasurer's budget for the year was presented for discussion and approval. It should be noted that costs and revenue for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary observance are being kept in a separate accounting, so the normal annual operating figures for the lodge are not distorted.

### **Building Improvements**

The lodge trustees replaced the wooden stairway behind the building to "B" Street. Following this expenditure, the building investment account (April) still exceeds the original starting principal.

Assets, such as the parking lot continue to be used to raise revenue from the public for parking fees. The fees are used to help finance the scholarship program.

### **Parking Lot Rental**

Senior Warden Eric has raised enough fees from managing parking rentals to reduce our scholarship commitment for 2014 to what we can raise at one Table Lodge.

### **Scholarship Program**

Escorial Lodge received \$407 from Grand Lodge for the 2014 scholarship. Carryover from 2013 was \$295. This leaves a balance of about \$300 needed for meeting the \$1000 scholarship award target.

### **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Observance**

Planning is underway for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of Escorial Lodge. The Grand Lodge of California issued a charter on October 13, 1864, to Escorial Lodge 171 in the territory of Nevada. The occasion will be marked by the Grand Master's Official Visit on Monday, October 13, 2014. On Sunday, October 19, 2014, a special observance, open to the public, will take place at Piper's Opera House in Virginia City. This will include several well known speakers, and a re-dedication ceremony performed by the Grand Lodge of Nevada.

Date: Sunday, October 19, 2014 4 PM – 8 PM

Location: Piper's Opera House in Virginia City

Price: \$35 per person / \$65 per couple (prices increase in August)

More info and to buy tickets, check the Escorial Lodge website: <http://www.escorial7.com/>

### **Proposed By-laws and Code Changes**

At the May Stated Meeting, we will be discussing two proposed changes. A proposed change of our by-laws would place term limits of no more than 6 consecutive years on all elected officers.

A proposed change to the Nevada Masonic Code would permit members from lodges outside of Nevada to be eligible for Dual Membership in a Nevada lodge without having to meet Nevada residency requirements.

If you have an opinion on these changes, it is your duty to attend lodge and/or make your position known. Take due notice thereof and govern yourself accordingly.

*It is easier to fool people than it is to convince them that they have been fooled.*

Mark Twain