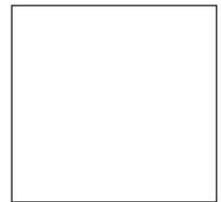


**Escurial Lodge No. 7**  **F. & A.M., 1864**  
"The Masons on the Mountain"  
Box 997, Virginia City, Nevada 89440

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

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



## Summer Quarter, 2014

### Upcoming Events

July 17 – 19 Rocky Mountain Masonic Conference, Atlantis, Reno  
July 26 – 2<sup>nd</sup> degree  
August 2 – Stated meeting  
September 6 – Stated meeting

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

### Recent Lodge Events

Congratulations to Tim Treffinger on an excellent 3<sup>rd</sup> degree proficiency. Congratulations to Jeremiah Hall on receiving the Fellowcraft degree. Welcome home to Major Keith Alfieri, US Army, now retired! Many thanks to Brother Lee Cross for superb delivery of the Fellowcraft lecture and charge in June.

### Sickness & Distress

Our brother and honorary member of Escurial Lodge, Jim Conrad, is still recovering in the hospital from a fall. Tyler Guy Outland is fighting bone cancer, but still attending lodge.

### Lodge Membership

Escurial Lodge is slowly increasing its membership, both by Dual/Plural Masons and petitions for the degrees by new members. We are now up to 50 from a low of 45.

### Lodge Finances

The lodge account for July continues to be healthy as we move into the second half of the year. We should be able to continue in the black and finish with a surplus over our average operating expense of \$2500 to \$3000 per year.

### **Building Improvements**

The building investment account (July) still exceeds the original starting principal, even after major expenditures for recent building improvements. Lot cleanup and cosmetic improvements before the 150<sup>th</sup> event will be made with a minimum of expenditure of the trustees' operating funds, to allow regeneration of a surplus from the initial investments.

Assets, such as the parking lot, continue to be used to raise revenue from the public for parking fees. The lot produced \$65 from parking fees and water sales for the July 4 parade in Virginia City.

### **Scholarship Program**

The Escorial Lodge scholarship for this year has been awarded to a very impressive young scholar, Jennifer Burns.

### **Table Lodge**

The Table Lodge tentatively planned for July has been postponed to a later date, to avoid conflicts with Grand Lodge events, and allow for a hopefully better attendance. Timely notice will be given.

### **Fund Raising**

Our present dues are in line with the average of lodges in Nevada, and should not need to be increased for some time. The current fund raising activities, while positive, are not very substantial in changing our slowly improving financial condition. We need input and ideas from our younger members on methods to raise more significant amounts of money from participation in community or regional events. Members who have contacts with organizations such as the Reno Rodeo, Air Races, ball park, or other events can help us to find methods to raise more substantial funds.

There are already enough crab feeds and cook-outs by lodges competing for members' support. Outright solicitation for contributions by numerous charities and Masonic groups tends to exhaust member's patience and will. There is no shortage of worthy groups looking for contributions. We need to initiate social events that can create memories, provide enjoyment, and include families, and at the same time raise income for the lodge. We need to provide the same fellowship and pleasure that a family could purchase by going to a restaurant or theater. Voice your opinion; share your ideas for the long term benefit of Escorial Lodge.

One of the sad realities in Freemasonry is the decline and closure of rural lodges. When these lodges surrender their charters, they also surrender their furniture and other properties. Brother Rick Capellino has provided some very nice chairs and also has available a large set of dishes, suitable for furnishing an organization such as a church or upgrading a lodge. Please take note of these items on display in the dining room and mention them to any contacts you have who might be interested in supplying their own organization. All revenue from the sale of these items will go to Escorial Lodge.

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

Planning continues 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 Chris Hodapp, Ron James, WM John Buffington 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>

*"Be good and you will be lonesome"*

Mark Twain