



The Plumbline

December
2024

Hobbs Masonic Lodge #63 AF & AM

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

DECEMBER 6TH

11 am to 7 pm

Bethany Chapter #56 OES

will be having their ANNUAL
CHILI DAY AND BAKE SALE

DECEMBER 10TH

**HOBBS MASONIC LODGE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

Hobbs Lodge Regular
Business Meeting starting at
7:30 pm. Christmas-themed
potluck dinner starting at
6:30. Bring the family!

DECEMBER 21ST

**2:00 pm HOBBS MASONIC
LODGE INSTALLATION OF
OFFICERS 2024-25**

Installation will begin at 2:00
pm. Lodge will open at 1:30
pm. Finger foods will be
provided after.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

CAMERON LANDRUM 12/3

TOM DUNFORD 12/3

ALVIS HASCHKE 12/3

JAMES WILMETH 12/7

MARC FIELDS 12/12

MICHAEL WALKER 12/21

MARTIN CHAMBLESS

12/28

JOSHUA DOUGLESS 12/29



Figure 1: The George Washington Masonic National Memorial

From the East:

Hello Brethren, as I prepare to close out my year as Master of Hobbs Lodge, I want to reiterate what I have said so much in Lodge this year, and that is how thankful I am to all of you, from those of you who can come to those of you that cannot. All of us are Brothers, near and far. Even if we have never met, let me take this opportunity even if you cannot come to our Lodge due to the distance. Find some Brothers nearby, shake a hand, and enjoy the Fellowship.

As I prepare to regain my role as secretary of the Lodge, I want to let you all know that while it has been a little trying, it has been my GREAT JOY to offer you 'The Plumbline' once again. While it has become a more quarterly newsletter, I promise to do my best to keep you updated on all things related to New Mexico Masonry and this Lodge in particular. I will also try to highlight important dates for our appendant bodies.

If you feel you would like to add or contribute, please do not hesitate to call the lodge and leave your name, number, or email where I can reach you. Let us know if this is beneficial to you as well. Remember, this is *YOUR LODGE and YOUR PLUMBLINE*.

Brethren, have a Merry Christmas, and remember the reason for the season. Have a happy and safe New Year. Say a prayer for our incoming officers, the years ahead look Bright and Clear.

-RW. Bobby Clark

A Lodge is not held together with steel bands but by the silken ties of brotherhood, woven of interest, friendliness, good times, wholesome fraternal intercourse.

-Unknown

From the West:

At the end of 2022, I was elected Junior Warden. Learning ritual work and other responsibilities seemed to be happening at every meeting. At every meeting, there seemed to be a new responsibility. Yet, added to those many responsibilities, we made it through 2023.

Being elected to Senior Warden at the end of 2023 was the start of another learning experience. Senior Warden wasn't as labor intensive. It was a lot more learning and planning. The Move-Up nights were completely nerve-racking at first, but I think I really learned from them. The first Move-Up night was more embarrassing than I could have ever imagined. They got better, though. I found more respect to be given to the Brethren of the Lodge for their help

and consideration given to me by them. Upon my being elected to S.W., I started planning, asking questions, and listening. As the year came closer to its end, I got more concerned.

I was elected this year to Worshipful Master and started rethinking my plans. The trust the Brethren put in me by being elected to this position scared me. Then I was reminded that the Great Architect of the Universe will lead and guide me through this year as I plan on some changes. We are going to have a wonderful year and I look forward to seeing all of you in lodge.

-Bro Jimmy Dendy (WM elect)



Appendant Body Meeting Times:

Order of Eastern Star: 1st and 3rd Thursday @ 7:30 pm. Dark June & July

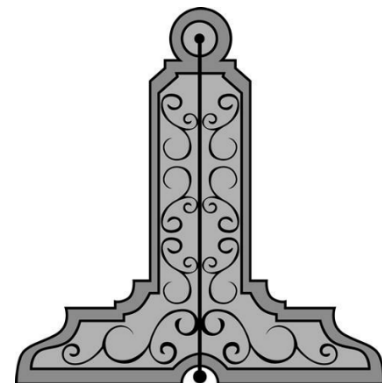
York Rite: 3rd Monday 7:30 pm Dark June & July

Shrine: 2nd Monday 7:30 pm (Contact a Shriner for location)

From the South:

With this being the month of being thankful and appreciative. There are many different things to be grateful for. Some have said they are grateful for God and family. While others have said they are grateful for being alive and, as an old friend would state, "I am vertical!" With this year coming to an end and a new one beginning. I am grateful for having had the opportunity to be a part of so many individuals being initiated into the fraternity. Being passed to the degree of Fellowcraft and eventually being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The strong sense of brotherhood and camaraderie that is felt every night the doors open and long before the gavel drops is truly a feeling like no other. Especially that sense of trust that comes with being in the fraternity. That trust where you can have an extremely bad day and turn to a fellow brother and pour your heart out, and they don't judge you, nor will they go and talk about it to others. But instead, lend an ear and whisper good counsel. Giving a helping hand to guide you through. Being able to feel at ease and comfortable in an already chaotic world. In the year that has come and now gone, so many things have changed. Some for the good and some for the bad. However, the one thing that stands out and shows is when it hits the fan, the fellow brothers come together and help out where they can. From giving blankets, water and food to the victims of the fires and flooding in Ruidoso. To allowing a congregation to use the dining room every Sunday until their church is rebuilt. For these actions, I am truly grateful for what this fraternity has done for the communities around the United States and am looking forward to many more years to come. Thank you for allowing me to be your Junior Warden, and I am looking forward to seeing what Brother Austin brings to the table this ensuing year.

-Bro. Joshua Fike



Famous Freemason: SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL



Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill was a British politician who was Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955.

Widely regarded as one of the greatest wartime leaders of the 20th century, Churchill was also an officer in the British Army, a historian, a writer and an artist. Since its inception in 1901, Churchill is the only British Prime Minister to have won the Nobel Prize in Literature and was the first person to be made an honorary citizen of the United States. Churchill was initiated into Studholme Lodge No. 1591 (now United Studholme Alliance Lodge) on 24 May 1901. Churchill completed his Second Degree nearly two months later, on 19 July, and was then made a Master Mason on 25 March 1902. Something you may not know: Churchill's apron and apron pouch are on display in the Museum's North Gallery at Freemasons' Hall.

Interesting Facts:

- He won a Nobel Prize for Literature
- His mother was American.
- He was extremely accident-prone.
- He smoked between 8-10 cigars per day.
- His favorite brand was Romeo y Julieta (while still Cuban)

Chaplains Corner (Senior Warden Elect)

2024 – what a year.

A new beginning of Bethany Chapter #56 was installing a brother as Secretary for 2024. Help was needed in my Chapter, and I did so by volunteering as Secretary in 2024 & 2025. At first, I did not know what I was getting into when I first replaced Babara Miller as Secretary, which she made the job look so, so easy. WRONG!!! I now have a new respect for all those secretaries because it is a full-time job. I am now starting my second term as Secretary, and I didn't think I could put any more on my plate, but then came a new surprise.

The election of 2025 officers of Hobbs Lodge #63 was very interesting, at the least. Looking back, I was Master of Hobbs Lodge in 1999 and surprisingly was elected Senior Warden for 2025. SURPRISE! Surprise! I did not see that coming! (Talking about cramming for a test at the last minute) I have lost much of the memory work needed for that station, and it's going to be a challenge.

Masonry has a way of pulling out the best in you. That is, if you don't turn down the challenges. Facing challenges and searching for solutions is nothing new to Freemasonry. Challenges to our integrity have been part of Masonic history even before we were formally structured in 1717. Masons have searched for solutions for centuries, and yet, challenges remain. Every challenge, large or small, became temporary because our philosophical purpose never wavered, and the leadership of the Craft never lost its vision. The very fact that it continues to thrive throughout time is undeniable evidence that its purpose is undying. Freemasonry did not survive by bowing to the wishes or the demands of a Society so lacking in many ethical & moral values that are foundation stones of our Craft. Freemasonry did not thrive by suppressing the Craft to dictatorial regimes or to oppressive religious powers. Freemasonry did not become the greatest organization conceived by the mind of man by lowering our standards and sacrificing our principles in order to receive greater numbers or acceptance from the profane world that makes no attempt to understand us. No, my Brothers, Freemasonry became what it has become due to our commitment to retain those qualities which made it great and made it a benefit to civil society.

-WB. Isaac Huskey

MASONIC HISTORY:

During the American civil war, enemy soldiers who **recognized each other as Freemasons** helped each other and saved each other's lives. Even during war, these Freemasons' loyalty to the craft did not fade away.

The Role and Responsibility of Being Senior Deacon at Hobbs Lodge No. 63

Being the Senior Deacon of Hobbs Lodge No. 63 is both an honor and a responsibility, a position that carries significant meaning within the lodge and the broader Masonic community. The role of Senior Deacon is a vital part of the lodge's leadership team, responsible for assisting with the smooth operation of meetings, providing guidance to members, and ensuring that Masonic traditions and rituals are upheld with precision and respect. It is a role that embodies both service and leadership, requiring a deep commitment to the values of Freemasonry.

At its core, the Senior Deacon is a ceremonial officer who plays an essential part in the ritual work of the lodge. In Hobbs Lodge No. 63, this role includes overseeing the proper conduct of candidates during initiation and advancement ceremonies. The Senior Deacon escorts candidates into the lodge room, ensuring they are correctly prepared and instructed in the ritual process. It is a position that demands great attention to detail, as each step of the ceremony is steeped in symbolism and tradition. The Senior Deacon must be knowledgeable of these rituals, not only to perform them with accuracy but also to convey their deeper meanings to candidates and members alike.

The Senior Deacon also serves as a liaison between the Worshipful Master and the members. This includes communicating important messages, instructions, and decisions to the lodge members and ensuring everyone is aware of their responsibilities during meetings. Being a bridge between the Worshipful Master and the lodge members requires diplomatic skills and the ability to inspire trust. The Senior Deacon's position gives them the chance to mentor new members, guiding them through their journey in Freemasonry and encouraging them to embrace the core principles of brotherhood, charity, and truth.

In addition to ceremonial duties, the Senior Deacon plays a crucial role in ensuring that the lodge operates efficiently and effectively. The Senior Deacon often helps with the organization of lodge events, such as dinners, fundraisers, and community outreach programs. These activities are important not only for the social aspect of the lodge but also for strengthening the bonds of brotherhood and fulfilling the Masonic obligation to contribute positively to society. Whether it's helping to raise funds for charity or organizing events that bring members together, the Senior Deacon's leadership and initiative are vital in promoting the lodge's mission.

Moreover, the Senior Deacon represents a role of personal growth and development. Serving in this capacity provides opportunities to enhance leadership, communication, and organizational skills, which are invaluable both within the lodge and in one's personal life. It is a position that encourages continuous learning, as one must always strive to improve their knowledge of the rituals, customs, and governance of the lodge.

In conclusion, being the Senior Deacon of Hobbs Lodge No. 63 is an esteemed position

-Bro. Austin Musgrave (Junior Warden Elect)

Elected Officers for 2024-25

Worshipful Master:

Bro. Jimmy Dendy

Senior Warden:

WB. Isaac Huskey

Junior Warden:

Bro. Austin Musgrave

Treasurer:

MWB. Bobby Arther

Secretary:

RWB. Bob Clark

Senior Deacon:

Bro. Michael Walker

Junior Deacon:

Bro. Guillermo Garcia

Chaplain:

WB. Robert Jackson

Marshal:

Bro. Joshua Fike

Senior Steward:

Bro. Lorenzo Velasquez

Junior Steward:

Bro. Dyllan Yarbrough

Tyler:

WB. Gene Gunderson

Assistant Secretary:

WB. Dan Dodson

Investment Advisory:

WB. Terry Jones

Bro. Nate Coudding

From the Secretaries Desk:

***DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN PAY YOUR DUES
ONLINE?!?***

Go to **<https://nm.grandview.systems>** then click on the member portal link in the upper right corner. There you can register. There is also a video that tells you how to do it. The system will let you register with or without the “M” in your member number.

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