

Papillion Masonic Family Trestleboard

April 2016



Geoffrey Talmon
Worshipful Master



Glenn Lewis
Senior Warden



Bob Lewis
Junior Warden



Carl Highman
Secretary



Jonathan Paz
Treasurer



Daniel Marr
Senior Deacon



Adam Cejka
Junior Deacon



Nathan Rolofson
Senior Steward



Scott Marsh
Junior Steward



Ken Kolodzie
Chaplain



Paul Kenyon
Tyler



Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Geoffrey Talmon	402.672.2010	gtalmon@unmc.edu
A. Carl Highman	402.339.3205	papio39@gmail.com
Daniel Marr	402.517.1861	papio39.trestleboard@gmail.com

Meetings on Tuesdays at 7pm
 Stated meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month
 105 W Centennial Road
 Papillion, NE 68046

Find us on the web!
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/papio39/
 Lodge website: www.papillion39.com

Words from the East

As Masons, we are admonished to be general lovers of the arts and sciences, as it is through cultivation of our knowledge in these topics that we gain a greater understanding of the Grand Artificer's plan. Several fields of study are specifically solicited for our attention and reflection, an example of which is astronomy. This direction, combined with a long time personal interest, has rekindled my interest in the topic, has rekindled my desire to study the topic. The difference at this point in my life is that I have a different lens through which to view astronomy: a means to discover the power, intelligence, and beneficence of the Supreme Being, along with the intricacies that connect the vast machine that is the universe.

The more one steps oneself in astronomy and cosmology (its subordinate discipline), it becomes apparent that the fields are more than simply looking at constellations with a telescope. Very quickly, the astute observer begins to understand (or more accurately discover their lack of ability to grasp) the sheer dimensions of the cosmos in which we live.

To illustrate this, I present a few examples. Let us look at our planet. If one were to shrink our home galaxy the Milky Way to be the size of the continental United States, at that scale Earth would be the size of a single virus. The sun would equate to the maximal dimension of a bacterium. Our solar system would occupy the radius of a dinner plate. Another layer on this analogy: if the

center of the galaxy was positioned in Kansas, the dinner plate that is our solar system would be located somewhere in Virginia. One could see that contemplating a journey to another galaxy would be the equivalent of a virus considering a trip from Omaha to Hong Kong.

Let's reframe the analogy. If the Milky Way was the size of a quarter. Almost all of the stars visible with the naked eye on a clear night would fit within the radius of the "O" in "In God We Trust" on the face of the coin. At this same scale, the universe itself would be the size of the island of Manhattan.

I could continue with such comparisons, but the main question is: what does this mean to me as an individual Mason? To say that viewing the night in this context fills me with wonder is a monumental understatement, but what I do understand is that our estimation of our intelligence and talent as a species, culture, and time in history are is nothing compared what we actually represent in the truly "grand scheme of things." However proud I am of my accomplishments or large I believe my problems are, when viewed from these perspectives they are quite literally nothing. I also am reminded of how much awe a Mason should have in their mind and heart when applying to the Grand Architect that oversees the vast machine and the actual size of my stone in the Architect's building.



Geoffrey Talmon
Worshipful Master

From the Desk of the Secretary

One month before suspension letters for lodge, membership committee will have 30 to call, to find out how folks are doing, not just to collect money. Be proactive, call them, or the Master, or me if you need relief for this year, lost your job, had surgery, not coming doesn't count, we have a minimum of five meetings including one in the day time and will provide rides or find one for you...if you live too far away, we will help you find a lodge that's closer...remember the main advantage as a visitor...you can't be elected to anything.

April has many things going on, the 2nd will be Council degrees and Commandery orders for those that went through the RAM degrees earlier. If you would like a one day, RAM, CM & KT in one day, there will be one in North Platte on the 9th, the degree team from here is going, I'm

sure they would take you with them, you'd need to get your information (and your initiation fee) to me before the 4th. Why the 4th, because I'm taking off to Springfield, MO for Grand Court of Amaranth, MO, which is the 6th - 9th.

April 6th will be a concert of the Masonic Eastern Star Home Band here at the lodge, some of the kids have been only playing for 3 months, but they sound like they've been playing together for years. April 28-30 will be Grand York Rite in Kearney, many of your lodge officers will be missing for that weekend, they are either serving as Grand Officers or are on committees, such as credentials that have to be there. Maybe Spring will be firmly here by then.



A. Carl Highman
Secretary

Words from the South

In March we conferred one Master Mason Degree. Brother Curtis Marr, a Fellow Craft, was duly prepared, brought forward, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on Tuesday March 1, 2016.

At the March 5th Coffee on the Square event, Brother Ken Kolodize presented his research of the history of Papillion Lodge #39. His research into the lodge real estate and financial dealings was enlightening and shows how diligent and mindful our leadership has been devoted to the preservation of our lodge for over 100 years. Please congratulate Ken for all of his remarkable labors on this project. It is difficult to emphasize how important his research is to our lodge. We will be forever grateful.

Brethren, I must say The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children puts on one of the best Chili Feeds I've ever attended. The chili was positively delectable. There was a large turnout. The organization of the event was unlike anything I've seen at our lodge in the last seven years. Someone was at every turn to assist you from parking to what was the quickest que to get to that great chili deliciousness. No guilt trips for seconds or thirds here my

friend, It's like they understood. By the way the chili was scrumptious. The children of the home provided quick and friendly service and was always available to help. A clean and friendly environment to enjoy fellowship was enjoyed by all. The chili was very delicious. So next year make sure you get your tickets early to help the Eastern Star Masonic Home. Did I mention the chili?

We had a very good turnout for the Grand Lodge School of Instruction. Our lodge leadership was attentive, instructive, and welcoming to all visiting brethren. Special thanks to WB Jonathan Paz, WB Ed Nolte, WB Paul Kenyon, WB Chip Avant, WM Geoffrey A Talmon, and Brother Dan Marr for participating in the instruction, and WB Nathan Rolofson and Brother Scott March for providing lunch.



Robert Lewis
Junior Warden

Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous.

-- Confucius

Ride to Lodge

If any brother needs a ride to lodge on a given Tuesday night, please feel free to contact the secretary Carl Highman at the lodge phone number (402) 339-3205 and leave a message. The membership committee and the line officers can set you up with someone who will be willing to give you a ride back and forth to your home. Our desire is to help our brethren share in our masonic activities if they wish to do so, but don't have a good means to get to the lodge at night. We would be glad to hear from you and help you out.

The American Red Cross

Please donate and/or help us spread the word

Papillion Community Blood Drive
Papillion Masonic Center
April 13th 11:30 am-5:30 pm
Call 800-RedCross or go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule your appointment
Walk-ins are welcome!

Odd Jobs Team

The Odd Jobs Team is a group of Brothers who have volunteered to assist Masons and their spouses with simple Odd Jobs or tasks around the house that they cannot do on their own.

- Basic tasks around the yard such as mending a fence, repair a deck railing, or cleaning out the gutters.
- Simple household tasks such as fixing a loose stairway rail, changing a hard-to reach light bulb, or fixing a cabinet door.
- Other manual labor tasks that don't take extremely specialized knowledge or tools.

Unfortunately at this time we cannot offer assistance with reoccurring tasks, such as mowing or snow removal.

If you have a request, please contact the team at OddJobsTeam@outlook.com or call the Lodge.

A member of the team will contact you to discuss the task and once we are sure that it's something that we can safely and properly do for you, we'll schedule a time to get things started!



From the Building Committee

This has been talked about with the Temple Craft and is the responsibility of the leadership, but the membership needs to be aware and responsible as well.

This past month, where I've been unable to do a lot of the things just when I've seen them need to be done, and have to ask someone to take care of it for me...shouldn't have been on me in the first place.

OK, lights...usually restrooms, but I've had to turn off the preparation room and the dimmables in dining hall as well...If you know or think that you're the last one to leave or use a room turn off the lights.

The pilot light(s) on the stove...doesn't happen very often any more, but it still happens...if you used the kitchen for your vent, even if you didn't use the stove, check it.

Coffee pots, twice this past month I've found the pots cooked dry... come on, this isn't rocket science, again, if

you used the kitchen, whether or not you had coffee, the coffee makers should be unplugged... if you didn't use them and have to unplug them, tell the temple craft at the next meeting. 5 seconds extra work prevents a fire. Garbage, needs to be emptied after each meeting if there is anything in them, not just if there is food stuffs. And yes, that includes my weekly shredding and monthly mailing where I generate multiple cans.

Be respectful of the other groups...I know, the Beauceant relies on the Commandery and I rely on the Stewards, but if they are not going to be coming in that evening. Who am I looking to take responsibility?: Lodge= Stewards, OES= Worthy Patron, Royal Arch= High Priest, Commandery/Beauceant= Commander, Jobs= Associate Bethel Guardian, DeMolay= Master Councilor...it doesn't hurt to delegate, but you need to follow up and see that they did it.



Carl Highman,
Secretary & Building Committee

PAPILLION CHAPTER #114 O.E.S.

Fantastic experiences do not happen every day. Maybe not even every year. But our PGM Jerrie Wilcox says she certainly had one in 2014 and 2015 when she had the opportunity to be a candidate for Right Worthy Grand Trustee in The Order of the Eastern Star's General Grand Chapter.

As most of you know, General Grand Chapter meets every 3 years. There are 3 Right Worthy Grand Trustees and one is elected each time General Grand Chapter meets. They are elected for a 9 year term (3 General Grand Chapter sessions). The primary duty of this group is to oversee the finances of General Grand Chapter. They meet 4 times a year in Washington D.C. at the International Temple. The only requirement necessary to be a candidate for this office is that you be a Past Grand Matron or Patron. At this last session there were 4 candidates and we'll let you know right now that Sister Jerrie was not the one elected. That honor went to a PGM from Georgia.

But Sister Jerrie says she had a fantastic experience being a candidate and traveling about the country getting acquainted and making new friends throughout the Eastern Star world. She visited approximately 25

Grand Chapter sessions. Geographically these were located from coast to coast and from Canada to Texas. Part of the time she drove – she says a total of 20,000 miles over the two years. The longest single trip covered 3 Grand Chapters – from here to Missouri to New Mexico to Oklahoma and back home. And she has plenty of airline stories to tell. Some of the trips went smoothly, but there was the time in Pennsylvania when her transportation to another city for Grand Chapter just didn't show up. And things go wrong with airplanes – she waited in Seattle 8 hours for a replacement for a broken down airplane.

But when destinations were reached there were many wonderful Eastern Star people to meet and get acquainted with and she made a lot of new friends.

Looking back, she says the whole thing was a fantastic experience and something she will recall with pleasure the rest of her life. I'm sure she has a lot of stories to tell if you get a chance to talk to her about it.



Phyllis Cain, Reporter

Questions or Comments:
phylliscain27@gmail.com

Social Order of the Beauceant

It starts slowly and then all of a sudden you see a patch of green here, a patch of green there, the leaves begin to change and a flower begins to bloom. Before you know it, Spring is here and in full force. And, of course, April showers will bring even more May flowers.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, April 1st; this is not an April Fool's joke. We are planning for an initiation at our May stated meeting on May 6th. Some have told me that the best time for a practice will be before our Social on Friday, April 15th so we will plan for that: 9:00 a.m. for Marshals, Standard and Color Bearer; 10:00 a.m. for all officers. Hopefully everyone will have their taxes

done by that time and we can concentrate on our practice and then having a good time at our Social. It would be wonderful to have several of our members in attendance to welcome our new sister in to the Social Order of the Beauceant on May 6th.

I am looking forward to attending Grand York Rite, which will be held on April 28-30 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. I have the honor of bringing greetings from Omaha Assembly #91 and the Social Order of the Beauceant.



Anita Sohm
Worthy President

Florence Chapter #61 Royal Arch Masons

The last couple of Festivals have been good for the Omaha area York Rite bodies. At our most recent Festival, in March, we brought in about 12 new Royal Arch Masons. About half of those were for the two Omaha Royal Arch Chapters, and the remainder were from Plattsmouth, Council Bluffs, and other nearby Chapters.

As you'll notice as you continue browsing through the newsletter, our Chapter is hosting a Steak Fry on Sunday May 15th at 5:00 PM. This event is open to all masons, their family, and friends. If you are a carnivore and enjoy eating tasty cows cooked over an open flame, then you should plan to join us at the Steak Fry! If your children

are carnivores, but they're not quite ready for a big juicy steak, they can order from the kid's menu and get a burger and fries. It'll be a good time with friendly Royal Arch Masons and some tasty cows. What could be better than that? See any York Rite mason for some tickets!

April brings April showers, thunder storms, and the York Rite Grand Session. I can't wait for all three. The showers and storms will arrive on mother nature's schedule, but York Rite Grand will be held on April 28th – 30th in Kearney. I'm looking forward to it. Stay tuned for more details in the next Trestleboard.



Daniel Marr
King – Florence Chapter #61



Mount Calvary Commandery #1

The minister that we sent on the Holy Land Pilgrimage really enjoyed her trip and learned a lot that will help her in her Ministry. At our Grand Commandery session, she will give a 15 minute talk regarding her experience. There will also probably be pictures that everyone can look at.

I would like to thank everyone who came to our March Conclave. It was a great turnout. Our April Conclave will be on April 1st, yes I know it is April Fool's day. I hope everyone will be able to attend. We will practice opening for the Grand Commandery Session.

There is a Festival on Saturday, April 2nd starting at 8:00am. This will be for the Council Degrees and Commandery Orders. Please plan on being there. Also, a lot of us will be going to North Platte and putting on a One Day Festival, Chapter, Council and Commandery, to help the Western Nebraska Chapters, Councils and Commanderies. I plan on putting in some photos in the next May Trestleboard.



Dennis Newman
Commander

Florence Chapter #61, Royal Arch Masons
Papillion Masonic Center

STEAK FRY

(Steak, Baked Potato, vegetable, dessert)

Sunday, May 15, 2016

5:00pm – 7:00pm



Tickets - \$12.00

Children under 12

Hamburger or Cheeseburger w/ Fries

\$5.00

Crusade Chapter DeMolay

Sad to say it is "second verse, the same as the first." We need boys. While the other advisors are looking at other groups to provide their members with the advantages and benefits of DeMolay as a supplemental activity, I am trying to contact those Fathers, Grandfathers and Uncles that have wanted to have their sons, grandsons and nephews in DeMolay as a primary group.

First, the messages trickled in so they are not filed in a batch, I'm calling as I find the scape of paper the notes were written, of course you can call me again, I'll let you. Second, no one seems to want to be the first. I think when we finally get the faucet going we will need a larger bucket. If you have ideas that you think are new or that we are ignoring, come on by on the 4th Monday at 7 PM, our meetings aren't closed, at least not right now, we listen to almost anything.



Carl Highman
Chairman, Crusade Chapter Advisory Board



Our Masonic Provenance

If you were made a mason in Papillion Lodge #39, and are a member in good standing, then you are a "Regular Mason". You are considered a "Regular" mason because you were elected to membership and initiated by the three degrees in a "Regular" lodge. But how do you know that Papillion Lodge #39 is a "Regular Lodge"? Beyond good-faith and confidence of convention, that requires a bit of research.

Papillion Lodge #39 in Papillion Nebraska was chartered on June 18, 1873. The lodge's charter was granted by the Grand Lodge Of Nebraska. Hence, we are as "Regular" as our grand lodge, but what is its provenance? On the grand lodge web site we find:

"The Grand Lodge Of Nebraska was chartered in 1857 when Nebraska Lodge No. 184 (chartered from the Grand Lodge of Illinois), Giddings Lodge No. 156 (chartered from the Grand Lodge of Missouri) and Capitol Lodge No. 101 (chartered from the Grand Lodge of Iowa) came together to form the Grand Lodge Of Nebraska."

Upon formation, these three Masonic Lodges who first comprised the Grand Lodge would go onto become "Nebraska Lodge No. 1," "Western Star Lodge No. 2," and "Capitol Lodge No. 3," respectively.

This process of subordinate lodges forming a grand lodge in a newly established state had been recognized long before the founding of the grand lodge. So assuming these lodges were each chartered and operated in keeping with their grand-lodge laws and bylaws. We can find ourselves as regular as we can find those three grand lodges.

Of the three, Iowa is the newest and its creation had only one predecessor grand lodge. The Grand Lodge of Iowa was created in 1844 by lodges who were all chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri whose permission was requested and granted.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri in turn was chartered in 1821 by subordinate lodges created by the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Indiana.

This list of antecedent grand lodges becomes sizable, so we will continue working in reverse chronological order.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana was chartered in 1818 by

lodges from Kentucky and Ohio.

The Grand Lodge of Tennessee was chartered in 1813 by lodges from North Carolina

The Grand Lodge of Ohio was chartered in 1808. Ohio had become a melting pot. Its grand lodge was chartered by lodges working under the authority of the "Provincial Grand Lodge of New England (Moderns)" in Massachusetts, as well as the grand lodges of Kentucky, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois was chartered in 1806 by subordinate lodges created by the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky was chartered in 1800 by subordinate lodges created by the Grand Lodges of Virginia.

Pause for a moment and look at this list of our ancestor grand lodges chartered in the 19th century and you see a quick summary of the western expansion of our country. Between 1794 (Vermont) and 1906 (Oklahoma) a total of 34 of the current U.S. grand lodges were chartered.

Now for the original American colonies, in the years during and just after the American Revolution the original provincial grand lodges were closed and the subordinate lodges in the colonies formed new grand lodges in each newly created state. Continuing in our reverse chronological order and looking at our ancestor grand lodges, we find: The Grand Lodge of Connecticut was founded in 1789. The Grand Lodge of North Carolina was founded in 1787. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was founded in 1786. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was founded in 1782. The Grand Lodge of Virginia was founded in 1778.

We will leave it for future reading to unwind the history of the colonial grand lodges and the handful of lodges referenced above that were chartered from abroad.

To summarize, each of is tied by a long, braided, and insoluble connection to the first lodges formed on this continent. By understanding this past we might better be able to face our collective future.



Submitted by
W.B. Paul H. Kenyon

from "Laughter on the Level" by Martin Faulks

Lodge Humour: The Structure of the Lodge

The Right Worshipful Master,
Leaps tall buildings in a single bound,
Is more powerful than an express train,
Is faster than a speeding bullet,
Walks on water and gives policy to God.

The Worshipful Senior Warden,
Leaps short buildings with a single bound,
Is more powerful than a goods train,
Is just as fast as a speeding bullet,
Walks on the water if the sea is calm and talks with God.

The Worshipful Junior Warden,
Leaps short buildings with a running start and a favorable wind,
Is almost as powerful as a goods train,
is faster than a speeding air gun pellet,
Walks on water of a paddling pool and talks with God is special dispensation is given.

The Senior Deacon,
Barely clears a garden hut,
Loses a tug-of-war with a train,

Can fire a speeding bullet,
Swims well and is occasionally addressed by God.

The Junior Deacon,
Makes splat marks on the wall when trying to leap buildings,
Is run over by trains,
Can sometimes handle a gun without inflicting self-injury,
Doggie paddles and talks with animals.

The Inner Guard,
Runs headlong into buildings,
Recognizes trains two out of three times, Is not issued ammunition,
Can stay afloat with a life jacket and talks to walls.

The Steward,
Falls over doorsteps when trying to enter buildings,
Says, "Look at the choo choos"
Wets himself with a water pistol,
Plays in mud puddles and mumbles to himself.

The Secretary,
Lifts buildings and walks under them,
Kicks trains off the tracks,
Catches speeding bullets in his mouth and eats them,
Freezes water with a single glance.
He is God!

G.A.R. / Knights Templar Medal

A few weeks ago, Erin and I got the itch to do a road trip and see a museum or two. This is a fairly common thing for us, but this time we didn't have much time for a nice long trip. So, we decided to head down to Nebraska City to see what goodies we might find down there.

We made arrangements with a member of the historical society down there to open the G.A.R. museum for us. It turns out that this was a wonderful little museum, and it's not too far from home.

For those who don't know, the G.A.R. stands for the Grand Army of the Republic, it was an organization for Union veterans of the Civil War.

The museum has a variety of Civil War artifacts and memorabilia, and the gentlemen who opened the building for us and gave us the tour was extremely friendly and knowledgeable.



Mixed in with many other military medals and pins was an interesting medal labeled "Combination Badge Knights Templar & Grand Army of the Republic" and "1898 Nat'l GAR Enc". The medal had a Maltese Cross with a black and white ribbon, and then a GAR medallion on the bottom. Unfortunately the writing on the medal was not visible.

I asked the man about the medal, and he didn't know the details. However, I have a strong suspicion that the medal was issued by masonic Knights Templar, possibly the Grand Commandery of the US, to a GAR veteran. I thought it was an interesting bit of Masonic memorabilia popping up expectantly.

Daniel Marr
Trestleboard Editor



April 2016 Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event
 Friday	April 1st	Noon	Beauceant Luncheon
 Friday	April 1st	1:00 PM	Beauceant Meeting
 Friday	April 1st	6:30 PM	Mt. Calvary Commander #1 Dinner
 Friday	April 1st	7:30 PM	Mt. Calvary Commander #1 Meeting
 Saturday	April 2nd	8:00 AM	York Rite Festival - Council Degrees/Commandery Orders
PMF Saturday	April 2nd	8:00 AM	COTS
 Sunday	April 3rd	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
 Monday	April 4th	7:00 PM	DeMolay
PMF Monday	April 4th	7:00 PM	Templecraft
 Tuesday	April 5th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #39 - Business Meeting
PMF Wednesday	April 6th	6:00 PM	MEHC Band Concert
 Friday	April 8th	7:30 PM	Adah Chapter #52 OES Meeting
 Sunday	April 10th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
 Monday	April 11th	7:00 PM	DeMolay
 Tuesday	April 12th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #38 - P.P.D. (Practice, Proficiency, or Degree)
PMF Wednesday	April 13th	11:00 AM	Red Cross Blood Drive
 Wednesday	April 13th	6:45 PM	Florence Chapter #61 RAM Pot Luck Dinner
 Wednesday	April 13th	7:30 PM	Florence Chapter #61 RAM Meeting
 Thursday	April 14th	7:30 PM	Papillion Chapter #114 OES Meeting
 Friday	April 15th	9:00 AM	Beauceant Practice
PMF Saturday	April 16th	8:00 AM	Lodge Clean Up Day
PMF Saturday	April 16th	4:00 PM	HIKE Dinner
 Sunday	April 17th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
 Monday	April 18th	7:00 PM	DeMolay
 Tuesday	April 19th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #38 - P.P.D. (Practice, Proficiency, or Degree)
 Sunday	April 24th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
 Monday	April 25th	7:00 PM	DeMolay
 Tuesday	April 26th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #38 - Social Activity

Note: The information above is pulled from the Papillion Lodge Calendar, as well as information provided to me by the leaders of the various bodies. Please make sure that the Lodge has accurate information about your events, or email me directly, if you would like activities listed on this page.

To submit an article to the Trestleboard, send to papio39.trestleboard@gmail.com. Articles need to be submitted prior to the 19th of the month. Questions or comments contact Dan Marr (djm.papio39@outlook.com)