

White River Lodge #62
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White River Lodge #62 Trestleboard

December 2024 January 2025



FROM THE EAST

My Masonic Ramblings



I would first like to thank all my Brothers for supporting me over the last two years. I think we got some things done that needed to be done, and I am sure the next Master will run with the ball, and make great progress. I would also like to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

Making good men better is no easy task. One of our biggest catch-phrases in explaining the craft is that we make good men better. This is usually said with ease and brushed over like it just happens after you receive the Master Mason fairy dust. This, each of us know, is not the case, nor is it granted we will ever have the

secrets of the craft. We are told it is a giant task for one to receive all the craft has to offer. From our memory work to our obligations, Masonry is not for the faint of heart. While Masonry gives us many good times with good men, this is not the purpose of our craft. Masonry was designed to help us with our greatest responsibility, which is ourselves and actions. As bold and great as Masonry is, its teachings cannot help you if you are not ready to take hold of them. Masonry opens itself in levels, and what you may not see the first time comes back to you the second go-round. The Entered Apprentice cannot understand the teaching of the Master Mason without the experience of a Fellowcraft. It is important to understand we are all on different levels of life, trying to get to the next. Therefore, we must be ready to be often tried. This starts with our west gates. It is fair to say we make good men better, but not all good men are prepared to take all that Masonry has to offer.



When you see a new face joining us for dinner or a function, make sure to introduce yourself, and get an impression of who this man is that is wanting to join the craft. Admission into our craft is a privilege or reward for your character. Once admission is made, the Mason must become comfortable with being out of their comfort zone. Masonry has a way of finding this comfort zone and pushing you out of it to encourage self-growth. This is how you make a good man better. I would love every Mason to think with regularity about the divine tenants of brotherly love, relief, and truth. The regular thinking of these tenants will allow the tongue of wisdom to whisper good counsel, which will lead the Master Mason to a better and deeper understanding of himself and of life.

Continued on next page

FROM THE WEST

Greetings from the West

Brothers I just got back home after a week in Texas. I want to share with you some Masonic history with a Texas story.

At the battle of the Alamo on March 6, 1836, we know that among the fighters of Texas liberty were several Masons. Of

Texas fighters, at least 182 died in the losing battle. Among those heroes were at least five Master Masons. These masons included: James B. Bonham, Jim Bowie,



Davy Crockett, Almeron Dickinson, and William B. Travis.

You may already know that these five men were Masons. On the other side of the battle General Santa Anna was a Master Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite.

Six weeks after Santa Anna's victory, he was involved in another battle, the Battle of San Jacinto River. On April 21st, he lost the battle and was captured by General Sam Houston, who was also a Master Mason. It was reported that Santa Anna's life was spared when he gave General Houston Masonic signs and a Grip.

We are a Brotherhood.

Danny Keelin
Senior Warden

“Let us not let the light of Masonry dim in the least. Let the generations of today join together as has been done so many times in the past, for the efforts of building that house, not built by hands.”

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FROM THE EAST—CONTINUED

Correctly understanding and applying the craft is not only a duty we hold to ourselves and to each other, but one we hold to generations to come. Let us not let the light of Masonry dim in the least. Let the generations of today join together as has been done so many times in the past, for the efforts of building that house, not built by hands. Let us leave behind to those men and Masons to become something greater than we received. Our craft is the voice of wisdom from the reaches of antiquity, so let us add to this wisdom, so that Freemasonry may do what it has done since time and memorial, which is to lead men to better and brighter days.

And that's all I have to say about that. Thank you all for the brotherly love and support. I hope it continues to the next sucker in the east.

Fraternally,
Mike Gibbs
Master White River Lodge #2

MIZPAH CHAPTER #57 OES

Christmas poem

Christmas brings its sweetest thrill
Into the valleys and over the hill;
Whether a cottage or mansion fair,
You may be sure that Christmas is there.

Christmas is carols, giving, and love,
Peace and goodwill from our Saviour above;
The thought of Christmas has power to bless,
Warming each heart to happiness.

(From Star Dust and other poems)
The best gift to give. Is a kind word or a smile.

Happy New Year
Worthy Matron,
Amber Thompson



FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope all who read this have a great holiday season.

Thank you for electing me to the office of Master of White River Lodge. I hope all of you are looking forward to a great year as I am. We need to improve our lodge in several ways:

- By improving the lodge's ritual proficiency.
- We need to improve the public image of the lodge by participating in community events such as parades.
- We need brothers to improve the lodge's appearance by organizing our paraphernalia room, the foyer, the dining room, and the shed out back. Before the brothers of this lodge consider spending money, we need to see what the brothers may do themselves.

My installation will be on 7 December at 6:30, I hope to see all elected and appointed officers along with as many brothers and their family members as possible.

Fraternally,
Santiago Limon
Senior Warden/Master elect.

CALENDAR

WHITE RIVER LODGE #62

Installation of Officers:
December 7 at 6:30 PM

: December 10 and January 14. Dinner at 6 PM,
Meeting at 7 PM

Fellowship hours are other Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM except for December 24 and 31.

MIZPAH CHAPTER #57

Stated Meeting: December 19 at 7:00 PM.

Mizpah Chapter is dark in January and February

WINSLOW YORK RITE

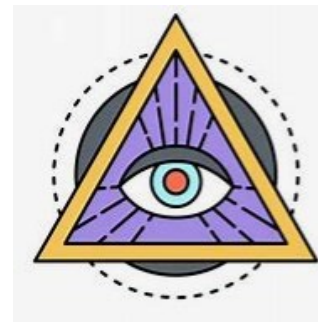
Christmas Observance:
December 8—Class A
Uniform with swords and chapeaus or a dark suit

- Beginning at 10:30 AM at the United Methodist Church (101 E Hillview St in Winslow).
- Lunch at 12:30 PM at the Turquoise Room in the La Posada (303 E Second St in Winslow).
- Knight Templar Observance at the Winslow Lodge after lunch about 2:30 PM (315 N Kinsley Ave. in Winslow)

Stated Meetings Tuesday
January 7 at 7:30 in
Winslow, the opening will be in the Council of Cryptic Masons.

THE ILLUMINATI

FRANK EDENS, PAST MASTER



The writing of John Locke who believed in life, liberty, and property rights influenced the writing of the American Constitution. Montesquieu's doctrine greatly influenced the division of government into the legislature, the executive, and juridical branches. Voltaire's advocacy promoted freedom of speech and religion; he believed reason and justice could reinforce freedom within the Constitution. Rousseau introduced the idea of popular sovereignty. The framers of the Constitution were also influenced by the Magna Carta which granted individual rights to all people. The framers of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence were also influenced by the Magna Carta. The Magna Carta taught them that there should be a higher law above other laws created by a government. For these reasons, all Masons should revere the American Constitution

Europeans were not influenced by the ideas that created the American Constitution. Let us turn to the Illuminati which was a complete antithesis of the American Constitution. Both were created in 1776.

Adam Weishaupt, professor of law at the University of Ingolstadt in Bavaria, started a student society called the Order of Perfectibles on May 1, 1776. It was just one of many such fraternities on college campuses at this time. In 1778, he changed the name of his order to the Order of Illuminati. In this Order, he gave students grades, and there were signs and passwords. He had synonyms for people and places. Bavaria was Greece, Munich was Athens, and Weishaupt was Spartacus.

In 1780, the Order received a recruit - Baron Adolf Franz von Knigge whose alias was Philo. He began to transform the order with his doctrine, such as political states were unnatural and perverse to be replaced by mutual respect and love. He thought everybody could just be happy.

In 1785, the Illuminati was suppressed by the Elector of Bavaria, this suppression only gave the Order credibility. There were spine-chilling tales that began to circulate about its occult aims such as its ultimate objective was to conquer the human spirit.

The Club des Jacobins was a French offshoot that rose out of the Illuminati. The Jacobins used their pursuit of knowledge and advancement of science to create more destruction, to attack religion and society, and to spread atheism, impiety, and vice. The word "monstrous" was used to describe them in the book. Later the Jacobins

started calling themselves "liberals." In the early 1800s when Napoleon wanted to conquer a country, he would call in these "liberals" to disrupt countries and governments to weaken the country. Does this sound like what is happening today to bring about a One-World-Order?. Need I remind you of the chaos occurring in large cities today?

Some of the Stated Objectives of the Illuminati were:

1. The abolition of all private property and inheritances.
2. An end to patriotism and nationalism.
3. The abolition of family life and marriage, together with a commitment to ensure children are educated in a communal manner.
4. An end to all organized religion.

They believed the ends justify the means. The Illuminati wanted to undermine equality and liberty to return man to primitive rights.

Although The Order of Illuminati did not last as an organization much after the death of Weishaupt in 1830, the Illuminati's ideas continue to persist today, particularly in the writings of Karl Marks, in communist governments, in universities, and in many today who call themselves liberal or progressive

References;

- Auricchio, Laura, 3/12/2015, Paranoia Strikes Deep, Book Review of Phantom Terror by Wall Street Journal, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/book-review-phantom-terror-by-adam-zamoyski-1425249375>, retrieved 11/29/2023
- Top Influences on the Constitution, June 24, 2024, <https://www.usconstitution.net/top-influences-on-the-constitution/> retrieved 11/25/2024.
- Zamoyski, Adam. Phantom Terror: Political Paranoia and the Creation of the Modern State, 1789-1848 . Basic Books. Kindle Edition. Copyright © 2015 by Adam Zamoyski Published by Basic Books, A Member of the

PAST MASTERS

FRANK EDENS, PAST MASTER

Words used in Freemasonry originated from the 15th century. Today some of these words at first appear to be archaic to masons until they read and understand the meanings of the words in the context of bygone centuries. Today a Master Mason is a brother who has gone through the Third Degree. In the 15th century, a Master Mason was a craftsman who was qualified in the building arts and who was qualified to teach younger and inexperienced workers into the building arts.

The term Worshipful Master is a presiding officer of a Masonic Lodge. In the 15th century, the term Worshipful meant honorable and reputable. By the 1700's, worshipful was an honorific and many times a temporary designation given to men of distinguished rank or importance. When the term worshipful was added to master, it designated a person of great importance such as a justice of the peace, an elected person of a municipal council, a mayor, a governor, etcetera. In the 16th century, a passed master (or past master) was highly qualified in his trade, guild, society, or corporation.

Although Past Masters in lodges have no obligation to any duties, they can sit back and not take any responsibilities. Past Masters should not allow their ritual abilities to lapse, they should continually be improving their ritual knowledge, and they should be able to assist officers with degrees by being able to take significant parts. Past Masters need to observe the shortcomings in a lodge to fill in the gaps in management and be able to back up the secretary or treasurer when necessary. Past Masters should understand the workings of the Grand Lodge, they should attend Grand Lodge each year. Past Masters should be willing to attend Secretaries and Treasurer's conferences at Grand Lodge when the secretary or treasurer cannot attend. It is a sad day when a Past Master decides to drop out of a lodge or not participate in any significant manner; it represents a great brain drain, it is the same as losing a Past Master to death or illness.

Over the years White River Lodge has lost many of its Past Masters, we have no backups for lectures, King Solomon, the first fellowcraft, the third ruffian or Hiram King of Tyre. White River Lodge does not have the problem of Past Masters meddling in lodge affairs by undermining the efforts of current officers to create new directions. "In my day this is the way we did things" is the complaint not heard in White River Lodge by Past Masters.

Some of the shortcomings of White River Lodge are:

- We cannot have any special events to raise money for the lodge such as a yard sale or rent the lodge to community organizations. We have few members who could supervise such an event.
- Participation in schools – for example at one time we had a couple of members visit one of the lower grades of the elementary school to read to students that the teacher appreciated.
- We have difficulty organizing the paraphernalia room or the foyer. We have lots of old stuff on the walls of the foyer that members no longer relate to.
- No one can back up either the secretary or treasurer. The secretary generally does many of the duties of the treasurer.
- Only one member of the lodge knows all three lectures. One other member knows the Staircase Lecture.

Reference: Robert G. Davis, 33*, Grand Cross, December 11, 2015, Masters & Past Masters: The Real Role of These Worshipful Men, <https://www.thelaudablepursuit.com/articles/2015/12/10/masters-past-masters-the-real-role-of-these-worshipful-men>, Retrieved 9/13/2024



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE WINSLOW YORK RITE

BY FRANK EDENS, PAST MASTER

Christmas Message 2024

I welcome all of you to this Christmas service. Historically, members of the York Rite from several parts of the state enjoy attending this service. We consider this annual observance an opportunity to celebrate the glory of God and Jesus and to celebrate one another by breaking bread together at the La Posada.

I thank Pete for putting the music together for this celebration and thank all of you for your attendance. I thank Julia for editing this message.

We read in the Books of Matthew and Luke about the birth of Jesus. We have heard these stories many times. These beautiful stories are regularly delivered at Christmas time. They are important stories you may want to revisit this season.

I recently read the Book of Romans to find out what Paul said about Jesus. Paul was a person who learned about Jesus later in his life, after the death of Jesus. Paul had more books in the New Testament than any other author. Paul is a source who tells us about the greatness of Jesus..

Paul is someone we can relate to because he learned about Jesus after Jesus had died upon the cross and so did we. Paul wanted to create a Christian religion in the Roman Empire. One popular religion among Roman soldiers was Mithraism. As Romans were converted, they adopted December 25 as Jesus's birthday, which was the birthday of the ancient god Mithra of ancient Persia. Before Mithra, December 25 was also the birthday of Horus in 3100 BC in ancient Egypt who was the son of Isis and Osiris. Hence for many millennia December 25 has been considered a sacred day. We are following in the footsteps of many who have gone before us for over five thousand years.

The adoption of December 25th as Jesus' Birthday was similar to how when Christians converted Germanic Tribes of Northern Europe to Christianity, they observed how these people brought trees into their houses during the winter. The Christians adopted these trees as Christmas Trees. The newly converted Germans took the idea of the Christmas Tree to the English colonies of the New World. The concept of the Christmas Tree spread throughout the world.

Let us now focus on Jesus. Please read what Paul said about Jesus in the Book of Romans. These comments come from chapters 5 through 10.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE WINSLOW YORK RITE—CONTINUED

Some of the spiritual knowledge that Paul learned from Jesus included:

- We should not conform to the world and we should owe nothing to any man. We should love one another and transform ourselves through the perfect law of God and Jesus Christ.
- The gift of God is to free us from death and give us eternal life.
- That we may live as servants of righteousness.
- We who believe in God shall not be ashamed as our beliefs lead us, and we are the sons and daughters of God. We have faith through his grace and hope in the glory of God.

Let us remember these points from Paul as we lead our lives. We could say so much more about what Jesus taught us through the Sermon on the Mount, his Parables, and his discussions with his disciples in the various books of the New Testament.

In the Book of James, we read about the perfect law of God and Jesus, it has to do with the law of liberty. We read in the 25th verse of the first chapter of James:

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

We also read in the Book of Second Timothy:

“Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;” Second Timothy 1:8

At Christmas, we should celebrate the birth of Jesus and the many lessons we may learn from him by reading the Bible.

The Christmas season is a time to learn how to follow the lessons that bring us peace and share them.

Let us rejoice throughout the Christmas season, celebrating the birth and life of Jesus and our friendship with one another.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen

Frank Edens



• On Aug. 4, 1753, George Washington became a Master Mason, the highest basic rank in the secret fraternity of Freemasonry, in a ceremony held at Masonic Lodge No. 4 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was 21 years old and would soon command his first military operation as a major in the Virginia Colonial Militia.

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WEB PRESENCE

Lodge Website: whiteriver-lodge62.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WhiteRiver62>

Member Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WhiteRiver-Lodge62Mizpah57>
email: whiteriverlodge62@gmail.com



PICTURE OF PLACE
SETTING FOR FALLEN
SOLDIER AT DINNER

On November 12, 2024
Frank Jacks created a
great Cajun gumbo dinner.
The dinner was the day
after Day. To honor veter-
ans, A Fallen Soldier place
setting was in the dinning
room. Patriotic music was
played during dinner. We
hall enjoyed the dinner,

Mailing Label



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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE