



My Brothers,

It's hard to believe that we are in early June and about to go "dark" for the next two months. The last six months have been a whirlwind, exactly what many Past Masters had warned me would happen.

We were treated to a presentation by Worshipful Brother David Walker, our Chaplain and Past Master of Victory Lodge No. 1160, San Antonio, TX on how lodge is opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree according to Texas Ritual. I personally always enjoy seeing how ritual differs between jurisdictions and feel lucky to have seen lodge being opened in San Antonio. On a side note, I have enjoyed listening to WB Walker's prayers each Stated Communication, where he tailors the prayer to match the evening. If you haven't had a chance, make sure you listen during lodge opening or closing.

On May 11th, we held a Special Communication to confer the Entered Apprentice Degree for two



new Entered Apprentices, Brother Eric Barboza and Brother Logan McNamara. Brother Logan is WB Ron Mattson's grandson and a member of DeMolay. We were treated to the "ancient" ritual version of the long form "Apron Lecture" from Brother Patrick Changon, from Washington No. 70. I was

also able to present Brother and Reverend Justin Daviault his Traveling Apron that he earned for completing the travel challenge.



After the EA degree, Brother Carlos Marques, our Junior Steward, shared his talent and time as a professional photographer and took portraits of this year's officer line and each officer individual. I cannot thank Brother Marques enough; these photos came out amazing.

On our second Stated Communication for the month, we held which I hope is the first of many “Lady’s Night,” where we opened lodge early at 6:30 PM briefly conducted business, closed lodge, and reconvened at Fratelli’s Restaurant for dinner. The response to the evening was amazing as we overfilled the dining room and had people in the bar area. Lady’s Night gave us time to come together with each other over a nice meal bringing the lodge closer together.



The Lodge Travel Night for May was to Somerset-St. James, Lodge Number 34 in Preston where I received all three of the degrees of Masonry. Several made the hour-long journey with me to witness them confer the Fellow Craft Degree for a candidate from Purity Lodge 150 which was excellent. Those Brothers who visited Somerset-St. James were “paid there wages” by the Senior Warden who presented them with a “Challenge Coin” which is common in the Military which a majority of the members are either active or prior military.

RWB Rudy Cabata represented Friendship Lodge in the Blue Lodge Council’s Annual Chili Competition held at the Annual Picnic. RWB Rudy’s chili however wasn’t the favorite that night as Sequin-Level’s MWB Chip Stamm’s chili was the winner. The Traveling Ladel is now being held captive for the next year in Newington, to which I hope it returns to it’s home in Southington the next go around.



June 1st was Award’s Night where we recognized those for years of service, distinguished service, and service to the lodge. We presented Washington Concrete with a plaque in honor of them donating a flatbed truck each year for the Apple Harvest Parade. Two Brothers, Brother Richard Donovan and Brother Andrew Stribling were presented the first “Worshipful Master’s



Meritorious Service Award,” which honors their service to the lodge and Masonry. We had a little fun where I was able to hand out some “Water Buffalo Awards” to several Brothers in the lodge with, I would say “Unique” achievements. Thank you all for your time and dedication to Friendship Lodge and Masonry, we are a strong lodge filled with many excellent men.



As we near our summer break, I want to remind you we always need assistance on Wednesday nights at the “Music on the Green.” If you can help, please join us in front of the lodge each Wednesday as we raise funds by selling beverages to the crowd. I want to thank each one of you that have supported me this year as Worshipful Master as I have asked and challenge you to try some new things. We’ve had some success and fun and I am proud to be the Master and a member of Friendship.



Fraternally,


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