
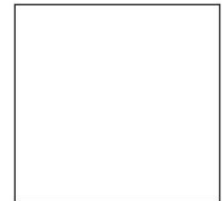


Escurial Lodge No. 7  **F. & A.M., 1864**
"The Masons on the Mountain"
 Box 997, Virginia City, Nevada 89440

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

Escurial Lodge No. 7
 Box 997
 Virginia City, NV 89440



2013 Officers of Escurial Lodge

Worshipful Master Percy Handley, PM
Senior Warden James Clark
Junior Warden Eric Madison
Treasurer James Phelps, PM
Secretary David Miller, PM
Senior Deacon Bryan McCurdy, PM
Junior Deacon Dennis Conly, PM
Tyler Guy Outland
Chaplain John Hall, PM
Marshall Dick Young, PM

DGL Jim Phelps, PM

Cognizance Committee
 Dick Young, PM
 Jim Phelps, PM
 Dave Miller, PM

Property Trustees
 Bryan McCurdy, PM
 Chuck Saulisberry
 Dennis Conly, PM

Delinquency Committee
 David Miller, PM
 Jim Clark
 Percy Handley, PM

Recent Lodge Events

The Frank Fisher memorial spaghetti feed was held late this year in November. Brother Bob Del Carlo sent a lot of satisfied people home after the event. Approximately 30 attended and donations of \$157 were received. Next year the event will be held earlier in the year, in less inclement weather. Many thanks Brother Bob.

Passings

Darryl Cauch, a member of Carson Lodge #1, and long time friend and supporter of Escurial 7, succumbed to illness in October and began his journey into light. He leaves behind many good stories and memories in Virginia City.

Upcoming Events

February 10 – Sweetheart Breakfast at the lodge, 10:00 AM
 March 23 – Table Lodge, Saturday 10:00 AM
 April 13 or 14 – Fireman's Appreciation BBQ with Argenta Chapter, 5:00 PM
 May 4 – Grand Master's Official Visit
 May 15 – Amity Lodge #4 – 150th Anniversary Celebration

October 13, 2014 – 150th Anniversary Celebration of Escurial 7 as a Nevada lodge
 September 2015 – Meeting on the Mountain event

Scholarship Program

A Table Lodge will take place at 4:00 PM at the Fisher Lodge Building on Saturday, March 10. Success of the lodge scholarship program will depend on turnout and donations at this event. More details will be sent out soon.

Lodge Membership

By now, all members should have received the 2013 roster. Note that the contact information for two members is unknown, and life membership cards for Earl A. Everett and Joseph D. Puskar cannot be mailed out. If any brother knows how to contact these two, please notify them or the lodge. Make sure you keep us informed of any changes in your information.

We presently have 47 members, with one FC in progress. Attendance at our meetings is now typically 16 to 20, with 10 to 12 being our own members.

Lodge Finances

It is with great pleasure and satisfaction that Escorial Lodge can report that at the end of 2012, the lodge operated in the black for the first time in years. With effort and determination, the members reversed the downward financial spiral, and adopted measures to preserve Frank Fisher's legacy for future generations of Masons in Virginia City.

At the close of 2012, the building investment trust account (\$40 K invested 6/12) has accrued \$2091. Once the account is restored to a reasonable level of principal, the yield will be used to operate/maintain the building.

The trustee's operating cash account had operating/maintenance expenses of \$5948. Revenue from parking lot rental was \$690. With a transfer of \$3K from the lodge, it closed with a surplus of \$697.

The Escorial Lodge operating account had a beginning balance of \$5054. Revenues and interest totaled \$6807.

In December, the lodge received \$594 as the 2012 distribution from the life membership fund. Expenses totaled \$8512, including the \$3K transfer to the trustees. The lodge account closed the year with \$236.

These results show that when the lodge is operated as a Mason would his own household or business, and not like the federal government, positive outcomes result.

New membership rosters and dues notices were mailed in December before the holidays. Mail congestion may have lost some letters; if you failed to receive your copy, notify the secretary. The dues were raised to \$98 both to support the lodge and to bring dues into line with inflation. When dues are kept abnormally low, they fail to support lodge operating in the black, new participations in the life membership program, and outflows to Grand Lodge.

Escorial Lodge is especially grateful for generous donations from Bob Romer, Jim Phelps, Leo Clewell, Dean Borges, Walt Richards, Dennis Conly, Paul DelCarlo, Jeff Taylor, Robert Schmidt and Bryan McCurdy.

Escorial History

The lodge records and files have not been re-organized for some time. As a result of going through the file drawers, three old historic officer's jewels have come to light. They are the organist', tyler' and master's jewels and are all made of silver. The organist jewel with collar was cleaned and framed, and now resides over the antique organ in the lodge room. The square and sword (sharp instrument) will now be used to receive candidates in performing degree work. As more of the history and tradition of this lodge emerges, it will be put on display so that other lodges and Masons can see the special significance of Escorial Lodge in Nevada Masonic history.

Argenta Chapter, OES

The members of Argenta were especially active this Christmas. They collected food items, collected and wrapped gifts for needy Virginia City families, and made donations to the VC Community Chest. Escorial Lodge is proud to be associated with our sister organization and the good work they do in the community.

Masonic Cemetery

The new fence surrounding the Masonic Cemetery was completed by the Comstock Cemetery Foundation. Painting was interrupted by the onset of winter weather and should be completed in early spring 2013.

Work Parties

The Lodge thanks the trustees for addressing the roof leak, fixing the leak in the men's room, and replacing the broken faucet in the kitchen. A spring work party will be arranged to repair and reinforce the wood stairway to B street, seal the parking lot and stripe the lot for parking, and repair the B street fence damaged by wind.

Out of State members

Brethren of Escorial Lodge who intend visiting Virginia City should contact the Secretary, Senior Warden or Treasurer and arrange to have one of them meet you and open the lodge building for your inspection. If you visit on the first Saturday of the month, remember, we never go dark.

Breakfast Menu (first quarter)*

*all with orange juice & coffee

February – French toast, fruit topping and sausage

March - cheesy ham & hash brown casserole, and mixed fruit

April – omelets, biscuits & gravy

(The lodge invites participants to donate \$5 for breakfast)

May tomorrow find you with good health and a half hour lead on the posse.