

**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



**Upcoming Events**

Jan. 4 **Escurial Lodge** stated meeting  
Jan. 16 – Carson Lodge 1 stated meeting

Feb 1 - **Escurial Lodge** stated meeting  
Feb. 8 – Grand Master's Ladies Appreciation Dinner & Dance, Kerak Shrine  
Feb. 15 – Sweetheart brunch at **Escurial Lodge**  
Feb. 20 – Carson 1 stated  
Feb 21 – 23, Masonic Leadership Conference, Reno

March 1 - **Escurial Lodge** stated meeting  
March 20 – Carson 1 stated meeting

April 5 - **Escurial Lodge** stated meeting  
April 17 – Carson 1 stated meeting

July 17 – 19 Rocky Mountain Masonic Conference, Atlantis, Reno

Oct. 13 – **Escurial Lodge** Grand Master's Official Visit, 150<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary  
Oct. 19 – **Escurial Lodge** 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary re-dedication public celebration

**Recent Lodge Events**

The lodge held the annual Frank Fisher memorial spaghetti dinner on October 12. Approximately 21 Masons and their family members attended. Brother Bob Del Carlo provided the traditional meal.

**Escurial Lodge** participated with Argental Chapter 7 in the annual Christmas angel tree program, directed by sister Ann Buchanan.

Installation of officers took place on December 21. Approximately 50 people attended, including 26 Masons.

**Passings**

The Lodge is sad to report the loss of Doug Puskar and Clinton Green during 2013.

## Lodge Membership

**Escurial Lodge** is pleased to welcome brothers Keith Alfieri and Shawn Mahan to its membership. The lodge was pleased to award 60 year pins and certificates to Walter Richards and Joseph Gandolfo.

**Escurial Lodge** is starting to see an increase in interest for plural and dual membership in our lodge by Masons in this vicinity. We anticipate reading a number of petitions for dual/plural affiliation in the coming months. It also appears we will be reading a number of petitions for the degrees in Masonry in the coming months. Apparently we aren't so big that we overlook our visiting members, or so formal that we have lost the friendly, fraternal atmosphere we've developed. Or perhaps it's the special character of our small mining town lodge and the 150 years of Masonic history that sets us apart from the others. Whatever the reason, the first Saturday of every month continues to be a gratifying event for the members of our special lodge, with an average of 15 to 20 Masons attending.

Degree practice and proficiency are one area where we always need to improve. Our new members working through the degrees need to receive personal attention and mentoring in their progress from more of our officers and members. We also need to be able to perform our own degrees, without having to ask for help from neighboring lodges. Too many of our members on the rolls seem to think that carrying a dues card and exhibiting a Masonic ring is all it takes to be a Mason. All of the symbols of this fraternity are representations of **work**. Step up. We can use your help.

## Lodge Finances

The annual lodge dues of \$98 are now due. We have 45 members on our roster at this time. Of those, 24 are annual dues paying members, who carry the bulk of the annual lodge budget. Per capita expense paid to Grand Lodge for 2013 was \$1164. The life membership program administered by Grand Lodge returned \$652 to the lodge from 43 of the 64 total life memberships.

The treasurer reported (Dec) a balance of \$2228. in the lodge account.

## Building Finances

The lodge trustees building investment account (Dec) was \$44,705. Trustee's checking account had \$700. The investments have been re-allocated, shifting money out of bonds into equities.

Assets such as the parking lot are being used to raise revenue from the public for parking fees, to be used for property maintenance and to help finance the scholarship program.

## Parking Lot Rental

Senior Warden Eric has raised enough fees from managing parking rentals to cover the initial cost of sealing the asphalt that now covers the lot.

The profit sharing with the middle school boosters has raised \$250 to be used for the 2014 scholarship.

## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Observance

Planning is underway for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of **Escurial Lodge**. The Grand Lodge of California issued a charter on October 13, 1864, to **Escurial Lodge** 171 in Nevada Territory. The occasion will be marked by the Grand Master's Official Visit on Monday, October 13, 2014. A special observance, open to the public, will take place at Piper's Opera House in Virginia City on Sunday, October 19, 2014. This will include several well known speakers, and a re-dedication ceremony performed by the Grand Lodge of Nevada.

Notices and invitations will be sent out as details are finalized.

## Elected and Appointed Officers for 2014

W. Master Jim Clark  
Jr. Ward. (open)  
Jr. Deac. Dennis Conly  
Sec/Hist.. David Miller  
Chap. John Hall

Sen. Ward Eric Madison  
Sen. Deac Bryan McCurdy  
Tyl. Guy Outland  
Treas. Jim Phelps  
Marsh. Dick Young

Trustees  
Dennis Conly  
Bryan McCurdy  
Percy Handley

DGL Jim Phelps

*Always acknowledge a fault. This will throw those in authority off their guard and give you an opportunity to commit more.*

Mark Twain