



Sandy Valley Lodge No.57
Free and Accepted Masons

TRESTLEBOARD

Most Worshipful Richard M. Graver, Jr
Grand Master of Masons in Nevada



Next Stated Communication

Saturday, April 3, 2021 @ 9am

Location: Pahrump Lodge No. 54, 281 Gemini Drive, Pahrump, Nevada 89048

MASKS REQUIRED

March 2021 A.D. / 6021 A.L.

www.sandyvalley57.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sandyvalleylodge57/>



From the East

Brethren,

First, I want to send a debt of gratitude and heart-felt thank you to Worshipful Chuck Barone and his installation team for leading our first-ever "Joint" Installation of Officers, it truly was precedent setting! I had the honor and pleasure of speaking to Most Worshipful Richard M. Graver Jr, Grand Master of Masons in Nevada, and conveyed how pleased we were for Worshipful Chuck and his team's performance, but how well it went and would recommend its use whenever practical...he concurred. Additionally, and it can never be said enough, thank you to our Brothers at Pahrump Lodge No. 54 for their hosting and hospitality.

I am deeply humbled as I assume the title of "Worshipful Master" and can't help but be reminded of the significance of my election to this position in the year 2021. Why?!

2021 is the 20th Anniversary of our origins as a Constituent Lodge in the State of Nevada. First under the authority of a dispensation from then-Grand Master of Masons in Nevada Most Worshipful Gordon F. Wessell (2001), with then-Worshipful Master Donald Daum (Under Dispensation 2001) at the controls. Then, in 2002 having exhibited to the Grand Lodge, and then-Grand Master of Masons in Nevada Most Worshipful W. Wayne Perkins (2002), satisfactory evidence of our Masonic capability, our humble "little" Lodge received its full and official Charter and elected our very own, very gracious host, then-Worshipful Master George W. Odell (2002)...Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F.&A.M. was born.

With our humble beginnings in the hands of such wise and capable leaders as Worshipful Brothers Daum & Odell, Sandy Valley Lodge continued to thrive with no less than 18 successive and stellar "pilots" at the yoke, some more than once! In our 20-year history, membership has experience both times of feast and famine, but we've persevered against the odds. Even when national Masonic membership numbers have faltered, Sandy Valley has managed to continue to grow!

During my year as Master, I vow to put the Lodge and its needs before everything within my cable-tow, excepting God and family. What I ask of you, my Brothers, is to participate as freely and often as your cable-tow allows. Our continued existence and growth rely entirely on your mutual efforts during communications, degrees, and events...YOU ARE THE LODGE! A Lodge IS ITS MEMBERSHIP, the brick-and-mortar building is simply a place to meet out of the weather.

As restrictions loosen and we are able, I will be planning events for the Lodge to engage our community more closely and enjoy our Brotherhood outside of the normal lodge environment. I am open to any and all suggestions. My ultimate goal at the end of my term as Master, is to transfer the gavel and Lodge with a better look to the next 20 years.

I thank my predecessors for the always sage advice along my Masonic journey and welcome their continued guidance throughout my tenure. I look forward to my term serving you, the Lodge! Thank you for your trust and confidence, I will do my very best to meet or exceed your standards!

"Stay safe, be responsible, consider others...be Masons!"

Fraternally from the West,

Al Navarro ||
Worshipful Master
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M.
702-218-5060 (Cell)
NavarroA@cox.net



From the West

Greetings,

March 2021 is here; the light is shining brightly at the end of the tunnel and this Saturday we can gather as a brotherhood again. The pandemic is coming under control. I am looking forward to seeing everyone. We have found some time over the past year to gather and enjoy our fraternal bonds.

As we start a new Masonic year, there is a lot to be done. For example, we must elect this year's leadership team, appoint key officers, and conduct an installation ceremony. Additionally, we have numerous candidates and members in varying stages of their paths to Master Mason. I want to take this opportunity to ask for our members to participate in upcoming degree ceremonies whether we are conducting or taking advantage of a courtesy degree from one of our sister lodges.

Key Masonic Historical Events-March

1753—George Washington received his Fellow Craft degree in Fredericksburg Lodge in Virginia

1775—several black men, including one named Prince Hall, were initiated into Freemasonry in Boston. This marked the beginning of what became a huge movement or organization in the United States known as Prince Hall Masonry, composed mainly of African Americans.

1902—The Tall Cedars of Lebanon was incorporated, in Trenton, New Jersey.

1902—Sir Winston Churchill received his 3rd degree in Studholme Lodge #1591, London.

Fraternally from the South,

R. Montana Williams
Senior Warden
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M.
702-743-7143 (Cell)
Montana.Williams@gmail.com



From the South

Greetings Brethren,

This month marks my first writing for our Masonic Trestle Board, and I am both honored and humbled to be elected the new Junior Warden for Sandy Valley.

A special thank you goes out to Worshipful Chuck Barone for leading our historic *DUEL* lodge officer installation, as well as to the Master, officers, and brethren of Pahrump Lodge 54 for hosting us during this pandemic. While meeting virtually was nice and welcoming, nothing can replace the intimacy and comradeship we all share when we can meet together.

All Lodges are supported by three great pillars. They are called, Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. Beauty is an odd ideal for a fraternity. Yet beauty is seen as the resolution of a life that is brimming with wisdom and strength. Men who exhibit wisdom and strength create harmony. Harmony is itself a characteristic of beauty in social settings as it is in aesthetics.

We continue to grow as a Lodge and have a number of candidates in waiting to join our brotherhood, and every effort should be made to continue this trend. If you know of a good man who would make a great candidate for Freemasonry, we should be talking to them.

I look forward to an exciting year and we will face the challenges that lie ahead together as a lodge.

Fraternally from the South,

Brian Boles
Junior Warden
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M.
702-743-7143 (Cell)
Brian@switch.com



From the Treasurer's Desk

Brothers,

Congratulations to all newly installed officers and thank you to all Lodge members for supporting and believing in our Lodge.

It is an honor for me to serve as a Treasurer and together we will bring out the best of what's left of 2021. Looking forward to an excellent year!

Fraternally,

Cristian Gliga

Treasurer

Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M.

626-354-9670 (Cell)

Lodge@CristianGliga.com



From the Secretary's Desk

Brothers,

Freemasonry is that system of morality veiled in symbol and allegory that takes good men and makes them better. We are a group of men seeking self-improvement. We joined the Fraternity to be better. Becoming Master Masons, however, does not mean that we become perfect. This means that in our efforts to help good men become better, we must remember that we are still improving ourselves in Masonry as we help others in their Masonic journey - from the poor, blind candidate to the grumpiest Past Master. It is through this lens that I ask

for your patience as we continue to improve our Lodge and our administrative efforts.

Dues Cards: Dues cards will be available at our April Stated meeting. I will be sending out any undistributed Dues Cards after the meeting.

Dues: We still have many unpaid dues. Please send your dues so that you do not have to be referred to the delinquency committee. We understand that 2020 was a difficult year. If you need assistance with dues, please do not hesitate to reach out to a Brother.

Please send all dues to:

Sandy Valley Lodge #57
1420 Duluth Dr
Las Vegas NV 89117

Rituals: TO ALL OFFICERS - PAST AND PRESENT. If you have a little black ritual book, PLEASE TURN IT IN. These do not belong to the Lodge. We are given an allotment from Grand Lodge and each needs to be accounted for and signed out to each officer. We need to recount and re-assign these books. They can be purchased if you would like to buy one.

*"The safest way to make laws respected is to make them respectable."
— Frédéric Bastiat*

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Michael J. Kurcab, P.M.

Secretary

Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57, F. & A.M.

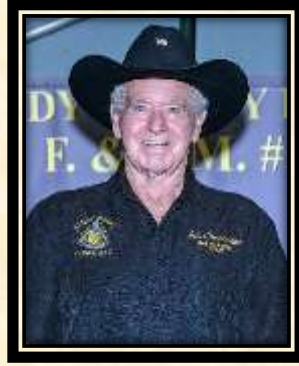
702.613.2832 (Cell)

MKurcab357@gmail.com

From Your Board of Trustees



Kenneth L O'Neill Jr
Past Master 2019



John Pennington Jr
Past Master 2009 & 2014



Dave Sims
Past Master 2020

PHOTO NOT
AVAILABLE

From the Lodge Social Media Manager & Webmason

It is my honor and pleasure in taking over the duties as your WebMason and Social Media Manager. My responsibilities include keeping our website and social media up to date, posting announcements from the Worshipful Master and the officers of the lodge, assuring the lodge members have the ability to communicate via the lodge's social media platforms, and posting pictures and videos from our various events.

Click the links below and become a part of our digital Brotherhood through our Social Media platforms and Website at:

Lodge Website

www.sandyvalley57.com

Social Media

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sandyvalleylodge57/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/sandyvalley57/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sandyvalley57>

Fraternally,

Carl Agbayani

Lodge Social Media Manager & Webmason

Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M.

702-375-8709 (Cell)

Carl.Agbayani@gmail.com

Annual Masonic Education



Sandy Valley #57 Monthly Masonic Education Lesson Plan

<i>January 2021</i>	A Brief History of Freemasonry
<i>February 2021</i>	George Washington
<i>March 2021</i>	The Qualifications of a Mason & Organization and Operation of a Lodge
<i>April 2021</i>	Powers & Functions of the Worshipful Master & Duties of Members
<i>May 2021</i>	Get Involve—Youth are the Future of The Craft
<i>June 2021</i>	Entered Apprentice Overview & Ritual
<i>July 2021</i>	DARK
<i>August 2021</i>	DARK
<i>September 2021</i>	The Tenants of Freemasonry
<i>October 2021</i>	The Symbols of the First Degree
<i>November 2021</i>	The Duties, Privileges and Limitation of and Entered Apprentice
<i>December 2021</i>	Masonic Protocol

Scope of the Program: The education committee members will prepare the lectures for delivery. It is recommended that the recently raised master masons (e.g., last five years), participate in the program, to deliver the 5-10 min lecture during each monthly meeting. Lectures are encouraged to research the lesson and provide additive content or subjective personal meaning or interest in the lecture topic.

Approved By:

Albert A. Navarro II
Worshipful Master, 2021

Monthly Education Lecture—January 2021

Provided by Sandy Valley #57 Masonic Education & Leadership Committee

A BRIEF HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY

In the book of human history, Freemasonry has a chapter all its own.

When you become a member of a Lodge, it is a chapter you will wish to read, as much for your own fascination as for the light it will throw upon your path as a Mason. A portion of that history will enable you to better understand the three steps of initiation which lie before you.

Through all ages and in all lands, men have formed secret societies, made use of ceremonies of initiation, and employed the use of symbols, emblems, and means of recognition. When Freemasonry came into existence (no one knows for sure how many centuries ago) it inherited much from such societies. Along your path of initiation, you will encounter many ancient rites and symbols; their unspeakable antiquity makes them more holy in our eyes.

The oldest existing written record of our Craft is known as the Regis Manuscript. It was written by some unknown brother in England, around 1390, just over six centuries ago. However, the contents of that document shows that Freemasonry was even at that time incredibly old.

During the time when that document was written, all Freemasons were operatives; in other words, they were workers engaged on buildings. There were many kinds of Masons, but the evidence indicates that “Freemasons” were those builders of a superior type who designed, supervised, and erected the great cathedrals along with other marvelous structures in the Gothic style of architecture.

Operative Freemasons designed the buildings, dressed the stone from the quarries, laid it in the walls, set up arches, pillars, columns and buttresses, laid the floors and built the roofs, carved out the decorations, made and fitted the stained-glass windows, and produced the sculptures. Their work was difficult, called for a high degree of skill and genius, and required a great degree of knowledge in mechanics and geometry as well as of stonemasonry. They were the great artists of the Middle Ages.

When several Freemasons worked together on a building over a period of years, they organized a Lodge which might meet in a temporary building or in one of the rooms of the uncompleted structure. Such a Lodge was governed by a Master assisted by Wardens. It had a Secretary to keep its books, and a Treasurer to dispense its funds, a charity chest from which to dispense relief to its members in case of an accident, sickness, or distress, and to the widows and orphans of Master Masons. It met in regular communication, divided its membership into grades, and admitted members through initiation. In short, it was essentially what a Masonic Lodge is today.

Completing their work in one community, the Freemasons would move to another, setting up their Lodges wherever they went. Other types of Masons were compelled by law to live and work in the same community year in and year out, under local restrictions. Several Masonic scholars believe that it may have been because they were free from these restrictions that the Gothic builders were called “Freemasons”.

Such was the fraternity in its Operative period, and as such, it flourished for generations. Then came a great change in its fortunes, Euclid’s geometry was rediscovered and published, thereby giving to the public many of the Mason’s trade secrets. The Reformation came, and the Gothic style of architecture began to die out. Social conditions underwent a revolution, laws were changed; these and many other factors brought about a decline in the Craft. During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Freemasons became so few that only a small Lodge here and there clung to a precarious existence.

Prior to the Reformation, only an Operative Mason in the literal sense could become a member of a Lodge. To increase their number, Freemasons adopted a new practice; they began to accept non-Operative members. During the two centuries of the transition period, gentlemen with no intention of becoming builders, out of curiosity, for social reasons, or from an interest in the Craft’s ancient customs, were received as “Accepted Masons”. At first, there were few of these,

but as time passed, their number increased, until by the early part of the eighteenth century they were more numerous and more influential than the Operative Masons.

On St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24, 1717, the Craft took a step destined to revolutionize it and set it on a new path of power and magnitude. Four or more old Lodges of London and Westminster met in London and organized a Grand Lodge, and on that same day selected their first Grand Master, M.W. Anthony Sayer.

Within a few years of that date, the Craft had completed the transformation from an Operative Body into a Speculative Fraternity. (By "Speculative", we mean Masonry in a moral and symbolic sense.) The two old degrees were reorganized into the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason. The old Masonic manuscripts were collected and collated and the first book of constitutions was produced. Shortly after its formation, the Mother Grand Lodge began chartering Lodges in many countries, including our own, to take care of the Fraternity's rapidly increasing membership. In 1751, a second grand Lodge was organized in England; prior to that, Grand Lodges had been set up in Scotland and Ireland.

In our country during colonial times, Lodges were under the charge of Provincial Grand Lodges, which were ruled by Provincial Grand Masters who were appointed by the Grand Lodges' of England, Ireland, or Scotland

As a result of the American Revolution, one after another American Grand Lodges became sovereign and independent. The question arose at that time whether there should be one Grand Lodge for the whole of the United States; however, the wisdom of the Craft prevailed, and the idea was abandoned.

As years passed, one Grand Lodge was organized in each state, it was sovereign within the limits of its own borders, no other Grand Lodge having any right to control Masonic affairs under its jurisdiction. Today in the United States there are fifty-one Grand Lodges, one for each state, one for the District of Columbia. On their rolls are more than 165,000 lodges with nearly two million members. As Masonry moved westward with the pioneers', one after another Grand Lodge was formed in the several States.

The Grand Lodge of California was organized at Sacramento in 1850 and began chartering Lodges in California and contiguous Masonically unoccupied territory. Between 1861 and 1865, eight Lodges were chartered in Nevada by the Grand Lodge of California.

In January of 1865, delegates from seven of these Lodges met in convention in Virginia City. At that convention, the following Lodges were represented: Carson Lodge, Washoe Lodge, Virginia Lodge, Silver City Lodge (now Amity), Silver Star Lodge, Esmeralda Lodge, and Escurial Lodge. Lander Lodge was not represented, probably on account of distance, but readily endorsed the work of the convention. All these Lodges were holding California registry charters. On the first day, the convention adopted a constitution, elected, and installed a full corps of Grand Lodge Officers, and adjourned sine die, or indefinitely.

The Grand Lodge of Nevada was opened in ample form for the first time on Tuesday morning, January 17, 1865. The first annual Grand Communication was held October 10, 1865. Since that time, numbers to and including No. 58 have been assigned. Currently (2021), there are 38 active constituent Lodges, one in dispensation, and one active Research Lodges working within our Jurisdiction. As the need arises, other Lodges may be chartered by the Grand Lodge. In brief, this is our heritage; as you enter it, you will discover it to be inexhaustible in its interest, lifelong in its appeal, a power in your life to enrich, to ennoble, and to inspire.

Monthly Education Lecture—February 2021

Provided by Sandy Valley #57 Masonic Education & Leadership Committee

GEORGE WASHINGTON

The Man, the Freemason, the American Hero

As Freemasons, indeed, as Americans, we are enormously proud of Worshipful Brother Washington. But as biographer James Thomas Flexner noted in his book, *Washington the Indispensable Man*, to really know Washington, we need to rescue him from the layers and layers of obscuring legend that have accreted around his memory during some two hundred years.

So, in this talk let us look at Washington, the man. George Washington lived sixty-seven years, from 1732 to 1799. During his last twenty-four years, he was the foremost man in America, the man on whom the fate of his, of our country, depended.

1775 through 1783, the years of the American War of Independence, were of particular significance, and the mythmaking about George Washington began in the depths of despair during the Revolutionary War, when he played a pivotal role in building an army, keeping it together, and slowly moving toward victory. The time after the War of Independence was not much less challenging, and during this period, George Washington was the Champion of the Union. Perhaps more than anyone else during the Revolutionary period, he advanced the concept of binding the Colonies together. While he left many of the details to others, he brought a needed mindset to the movement for unity.

It should be remembered that others had different views. For example, in 1760 Benjamin Franklin acknowledged his belief that the American “fragmentation” was a permanent condition and that the Crown’s fourteen separate governments promised to be the default architecture of the new nation. He believed that boundary problems, taxation issues, defense, and other matters would keep them apart. These thoughts were still alive after the Revolution, and many believed that sooner or later Britain would have to come in and pick up the pieces.

Washington, however, never looked away from his goal of a national union. He reaffirmed his deep concern for national unity on numerous occasions and even in his Farewell Address near the end of his second term as President, and before his retirement to his home at Mount Vernon. There he stated: “The unity of government which constitutes you one people... is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquility at home, your peace abroad; of your safety; of your prosperity; of that very liberty which you so highly prize.”

From our perspective as Masons, we are proud to claim George Washington as one of our own, and to note that from the very beginnings of our nation, Freemasonry was there. We recall, for example, that in 1788 when, wearing a Masonic apron which had been presented to him by General Lafayette and embroidered by Madame Lafayette, Washington, in a Masonic ceremony, laid the cornerstone of the United States Capitol at Washington, D.C.

But more than the outward trappings of Freemasonry, we are proud that the moral and philosophical underpinnings of George Washington’s character and actions are thoroughly intertwined with those of Freemasonry. George Washington was a very visible Mason in both word and deed. He made his position clear in a letter to the King David Lodge of Newport, Rhode Island on August 17, 1790, when he wrote:

“Being persuaded that a just application of the principles, on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the society and to be considered by them as a deserving Brother.”

He was proud of his lifelong membership in the Fraternity and fond of exclaiming, “The object of Freemasonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.” Given his Masonic roots, it is no surprise that George Washington’s concept of friendship was broad and very deep.

He was not an elitist and thought of himself always as an ordinary citizen. These strong feelings regarding friendship permeated his core beliefs and influenced his concerns about harsh political rhetoric and opinions – something we have concern about in our current environment.

In a letter to Thomas Jefferson, he wrote: “My earnest wish, and my fondest hope, therefore is that instead of wounding suspicions and irritable charges, there may be a liberal allowance-mutual forbearance-and temporizing yieldings on all sides.”

His letter to Alexander Hamilton was stronger: “Differences in political opinions are...unavoidable ... but it is to be regretted, exceedingly, that subjects cannot be discussed with temper on the one hand, or decisions submitted to without having the motives which led to them, improperly implicated on the other ...”

Regarding Washington’s apparent lack of partisanship, biographer Richard Hofstadter wrote: “the President wished only to restore that spirit of happy unanimity which had been manifested in his own (unanimous) election.”

The degree to which George Washington’s character, and accomplishments, his virtue and honor, were recognized was demonstrated in the genuine sorrow of the nation at his passing.

James Madison and Henry (Light Horse Harry) Lee, the father of General Robert E. Lee, drafted the following words after the death of America’s first president in December of 1799.

“Our Washington is no more! The hero, the patriot, and the sage of America, the man on whom, in times of danger, every eye was turned, and all hopes were placed, lives now only in his own great actions, and in the hearts of an affectionate and afflicted people.”

And, together with John Marshall, they offered resolutions for a period of national mourning.

President John Adams led the country in prayer, stating:

“Let his countrymen consecrate the memory of the heroic General Washington, the patriotic statesman and the virtuous sage. Let them teach their children never to forget that the fruit of his labors and his example are their inheritance.”

As Masons, we too continue to remember his memory, not the myths but the realities of his life’s true greatness. It was truly said that George Washington was “first in war, first in peace and, first in the hearts of his countrymen.” We should go back and read his speeches and especially his Farewell Address, we should remember his legacy, and we should live up to his ideals.

I would conclude by praying that God bless the sacred memory of George Washington, our founding father; and may God bless America.

Monthly Education Lecture—March 2021

Provided by Sandy Valley #57 Masonic Education & Leadership Committee

QUALIFICATIONS OF A MASON

Inasmuch as the ballot box decided that you possessed the qualifications required for a petitioner, you may question the need of giving any further heed to the subject. However, qualifications are not merely a test of a petitioner's fitness to become a Mason, in a larger and more important sense, they determine a man's fitness to remain a Mason. They always remain in force; therefore, we do not outgrow them when we pass the ordeal of the ballot.

The word "qualification" is derived from a Latin term meaning "value". The Anglo-Saxon term for the same idea was "worth", from which we derive "worthy" and "Worshipful". Consequently, a man's qualifications may be defined as; the values or worth he may possess to fit him for a place in the fellowship of Masons. The values are of two kinds: internal and external. One of the internal qualifications is that a petitioner must come of "his own free will and accord". He must come unsolicited and uninfluenced by any pressure due to ulterior motives. The normal result of this (and here already we observe how the qualifications remain in effect throughout a Mason's career) is that no Mason shall solicit a man to petition for membership.

Another internal qualification is that a petitioner shall come uninfluenced by mercenary motives. He is not to expect that within Freemasonry he will find business, professional, or financial gain for himself; at the same time, no Mason has any right to solicit such favors from members of the Fraternity. Both qualifications just described are said to be "internal" because they have to do with motives; only a man himself can know what his own motives are. The external qualifications may be divided into several headings, four of which should, at this time, be explained further, Physical, Mental, Political, Moral.

1. **Physical.** A petitioner must be a man in the full sense of the word. He must be of lawful age, in this state eighteen (18) years old, because no person can undertake any of the Masonic obligations unless he has reached years of discretion and is legally responsible for his actions. This rules out a young man under age; it also rules out a man in his dotage who has lost the powers by which a man recognizes and discharges his responsibilities.
2. **Mental.** The mental qualifications are not expressly defined, although, since our meetings are held in English and our forms are in English, it is necessary that a petitioner be able to read and write English. Much is taught a Mason; much is demanded of him; it is impossible for him to understand such teachings or meet the demands unless he possesses at least average intellectual abilities.
3. **Political.** By political we mean all that has to do with citizenship and a man's life as a neighbor and as a member of his community. It is required that he be a freeman, in no sense a slave, a bondman, or one who has lost his rights of citizenship; his own master, free to discharge his Masonic duties without interference from outside. He must be "under the tongue of good report"; meaning he must possess a sound reputation among those who know him best. He must be a good citizen, one who is obedient, as expressed in the Old Charges, "to the Civil Magistrate", and he keeps himself from embroilment in rebellion and mobs in defiance of the tranquility of public order.
4. **Moral.** A Mason should be a "true and good man", a man "of honor and honesty", who governs himself by the Compasses, tries himself by the Square, and tests himself by the Plumb. So domineering are Freemasonry's moral requirements that to think of a Mason as a man who is not devoted to his integrity and rectitude of character is a contradiction in terms.

It is required of a petitioner that he believes in a Supreme Being. It is required that all Masons practice tolerance and that no petitioner be questioned as to the peculiar form or mode of his faith, and he must not question his brethren.

Other external qualifications governing residence of petitioners and requiring a member to pay his fair share of the dues and taxes that are lawfully levied upon him also exist. However, it is the internal and not the external which gives us the true sense of the word, "worthy", this is demanded of every petitioner and member. In the following list of qualifications is a portrait of a Mason drawn by Freemasonry. That portrait is official. How necessary it is for you to grasp this fact in your endeavor to arrive at a true understanding of Freemasonry is difficult to exaggerate!

A Mason must be a man of such bodily equipment as will enable him to satisfy the demands of the work; of mental competency; of years of responsibility and discretion; of sound character and reputation; a good citizen; a man of well-founded religious faith; his own master, free from external control; devoted to the claims of brotherhood; acceptable to the members of his Lodge.

The qualifications stand at the center of the Craft, expressing its standards describing who may be Masons, and setting before us the goal of all Masonic endeavors. It is not sufficient that a man shall possess such qualifications for the mere purpose of petitioning for membership. They are required of us all, all the time, so long as we remain in the Craft.

The following questions may have been raised in your mind at some point; we are sure you will have others as you progress in Freemasonry.

However, these few questions and answers should give you a better understanding of what Freemasonry is and why the qualifications of a Mason are so important to the Craft.

Who may be Masons?

- **Those men who satisfy these requirements.**

What is Freemasonry?

- **A fellowship of such men devoted to ideals of such manhood.**

What are the ideals and teachings of Freemasonry?

- **All such truths, ideals, and realities that describe, interpret, uphold, satisfy, and foster such manhood.**

What is the purpose of Freemasonry?

- **To find such men, to develop such men, and to bring them together in a Fraternity.**

THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF A LODGE

You have been elected to receive the degrees of Masonry. In due course, you will become a member of this Lodge. Before you become a member, you will appear a minimum of three times in the Lodge to receive the degrees and give your proficiencies for each of them. It will be of great assistance to you to learn at this time how a Lodge is organized and what its machinery is. Much about a Lodge is secret, to be learned only through the ceremony of the degrees. What we are about to explain to you is written in the Book of Constitutions of our Grand Lodge, also in our Manuals and Monitors, all of which is available to the public.

A Lodge is an organization of seven or more Master Masons empowered by a Grand Lodge to confer the three degrees of Masonry and to do such work and carry on such activities as pertain thereto.

Authority is conferred by a Charter issued by a Grand Lodge. You will later be shown the Charter of this Lodge. It was issued by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Nevada. A Lodge may retain its Charter only if it abides by the laws, rules, and edicts of the Grand Lodge and works according to the traditions, ancient usages, and customs of the Fraternity.

A Lodge can make Masons of only those elected petitioners as reside within its jurisdiction. If there is only one Lodge within a city, all persons residing nearer to it by an airline than to any other Lodge must petition the nearer Lodge for the

degrees. In cases where there is more than one Lodge in a city, each Lodge has what is termed concurrent jurisdiction; the petitioner may then make his own choice as to which Lodge to petition.

Each Lodge in Nevada is governed according to the Nevada Masonic Code. That code defines the area within which the Lodge governs itself. A certain portion of the rules of self-government particular to each lodge are contained within the Lodge's By-laws, a copy of which you will be required to sign when you become a Master Mason.

The Grand Lodge of Nevada is presided over by the Grand Master whose salutation is Most Worshipful. All other Grand Lodge Officers have salutations which you will learn at a later time. Lodges within this state have at least twelve officers, the first five of whom are elected by ballot,

the other seven are appointed by the Worshipful Master. The elected officers hold their office for a term of twelve months, and the appointed officers hold theirs at the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master, during his term of office.

The five elected officers are the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary. The appointed officers are the Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, two Stewards, a Marshal, and the Tyler.

- The Worshipful Master governs the Lodge and is responsible to the Grand Lodge for all that takes place in it.
- The Senior and Junior Wardens are the second and third ranking officers, respectively; they assume the powers and prerogatives of the Master in turn in case of his absence or inability to preside at a meeting.
- One of the three principal officers must be present for a Lodge to be opened for business or ceremony. Only the Master or one of the Wardens may open the Lodge, close the Lodge, or preside at a stated communication.
- The only exception to this is that the Most Worshipful Grand Master may open, close, or preside over any Lodge in his jurisdiction. Neither of the three principal officers of the Lodge may resign his office after having been installed.
- The Treasurer receives all money from the Secretary and pays it out on the order of the Lodge after it is certified to by the Master and Secretary.
- The Secretary receives all monies due the Lodge and pays it to the Treasurer, keeps a fair record of all that is proper to be written, and performs such other duties as are required by the constitution of the Grand Lodge. He also prepares and attests all diplomas, demits, and certificates, conducts the correspondence, has charge of the Lodge seal, and files all documents pertaining to Lodge business.
- The Senior and Junior Deacons render a distinctive service in their capacities as proxies for the Master and Wardens in the conferring of degrees and other active duties in the Lodge. The Tyler guards the outer door to see that none pass or re-pass except those who are duly qualified to do so. The other officers have certain prescribed duties to perform that provide for the smooth operation of the Lodge. In addition to the regular officers, there are three Trustees who are considered the business agents of the Lodge. They may be appointed by the Master; however, in most Lodges they are elected and hold office for a term of three years. When a Lodge meets, it is called a "Communication" of which there are two different kinds, a Stated Communication and a Special or Called Communication. Stated Communications are held on regular monthly intervals and are for the transaction of regular business. Special or Called Communications are held at the discretion of the Worshipful Master for some particular purpose or to meet some emergency.

It is recommended, in the suggested by-laws, that no meeting to perform Masonic Labor except the Funeral of a deceased Brother should be called on a Sunday. Each of the three degrees in Masonry is conferred within the Lodge, opened on the appropriate degree.

An Entered Apprentice may only be present in a Lodge opened on that degree. A Fellowcraft may be present in a Lodge opened on one of the first two degrees, while a Master Mason may, of course, be present at any communication of the Lodge and exercise his right to vote, but he may only vote in a Lodge in which he is a member.

Petitions for the degrees and applications for membership are received and read at one Stated Communication, an investigating committee consisting of three members is appointed, and a written report at the next Stated Communication is returned; the report is then received, the petitioner is then balloted upon, the ballot is secret.

To be elected, the petitioner must receive a unanimous consent of the members present. In Nevada, we ballot for all three degrees at one time, but some Grand Jurisdictions require a separate ballot for each degree.

There is a certain initiation fee charged by each Lodge and annual dues for all Master Masons. Each Lodge pays a per capita fee to the Grand Lodge and a fee for the conferring of each degree. This is but a brief outline of the machinery and form of organization of a Masonic Lodge. It conveys only a hint of the rich life and manifold activities of a Lodge as a member knows them. In due course, you will enjoy the privileges of membership in this Lodge and find it exceeds all your expectations

Announcement & Events

Joint Grand Master's Official Visitation

Hosted by Pahrump Lodge No. 54 & Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57

DATE: Saturday, May 1st @ 9am (*during our Stated Communication*)

LOCATION: Pahrump Lodge, 281 Gemini Drive, Pahrump, NV 89060

Click link for directions: <https://goo.gl/maps/AduER9jn8X4i8LbTz>

ATTIRE: Officers - Dark Suit & Tie;

All Others: Dark Suit & Tie preferred, Lodge Shirt and Slacks or Jeans acceptable

GMOV & EA Degree Team Practices

TBD

Location: Masonic Memorial Temple (MMT)

2200 W. Mesquite Avenue

Las Vegas, NV 89106

(More information to follow)

SANDY VALLEY LODGE F. & A.M. # 57						
April 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
						9am: SV57 Stated Communication
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				6:30pm: Pahrump Lodge No. 54 Stated Communication		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SV57 Call for TB Announcements & Messages						8:30am: Pahrump Lodge No. 54 - Breakfast
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Clark County / Southern Nevada Pandemic Information

COVID-19 VACCINE LINKS

Clark County: https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/top_services/covid19/vaccine_information.php
Southern Nevada: <https://covid.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/vaccine/>
VA: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>

COVID-19 LINKS

Clark County: https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/top_services/covid19/all_about_covid-19.php
Southern Nevada: <https://covid.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/facts/>
VA: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp>

COVID-19 TESTING LINKS

Clark County: https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/top_services/covid19/testing_locations.php
Southern Nevada: <https://covid.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/testing/>
VA: <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/ss20201214-covid-19-test-basics>

MENTAL HEALTH LINKS

Clark County: https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/top_services/covid19/mental_health_.php



GENERAL HEALTH LINKS

Clark County: https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/top_services/covid19/health_safety.php
Southern Nevada: <https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/>
VA: https://www.va.gov/find-locations/facility/vha_593GG

ADDITIONAL COVID-19 LINKS

LOCAL:

<https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/coronavirus>
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/news-resources/press-releases/>

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/>

From the Editor's Desk

#VEGASSTRONGER

LODGE MAILING & PHYSICAL ADDRESS

PHYSICAL LOCATION: 808 Saratoga Avenue
Sandy Valley, Nevada 89019

MAIL: Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F.&A.M.
WB Michael Kurcab
1420 Duluth Drive
Las Vegas Nv 89117

TO OUR FELLOW LODGE'S THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN NEVADA:

If you would prefer NOT receiving our monthly Trestle Board electronically, please notify me at the email below and you will be removed from our monthly TB mailing. Barring any requests to unsubscribe, enjoy our TB.

navarro@cox.net

Fraternally,

Al Navarro II

TB Editor,

Sandy Valley Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M.

702-218-5060 (Cell)

NavarroA@cox.net

"Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
-- Isaiah 6:8

2020 LODGE OFFICERS		PAST MASTERS	
Albert A Navarro II	Worshipful Master 702-218-5060	Donald Daum	UD 2001
R. Montana Williams	Senior Warden 702-743-7143	George W. Odell	2002
Brian Boles	Junior Warden 702-296-8653	Ted Johnson	2003
Cristian Gliga	Treasurer 626-354-9670	Bill Katz (Unfinished Term)	2004
Michael Kurcab, P.M.	Secretary 818-259-6124	Swannie Swenson (2004)	2005
Cyril Bradshaw	Chaplain 702-610-2507	Al Oppegard	2006
Charles Mallard	Senior Deacon 702-430-0962	Troy Schneiderman	2007
Michael Bronowitz	Junior Deacon 718-749-8128	Michael L. Rodgers	2008
Michael Kearns	Marshall 702-425-6330	John Pennington	2009
Dennis Williams	Senior Steward 702-596-3104	Mike Barry	2010
Brett Williams	Junior Steward 206-939-7767	Wade Schneiderman	2011
Russell Gray	Tyler 303-901-7044	Fred Horne	2012
Buzz Ingram	Historian 702-800-1388	Mark Tavarez	2013
John Pennington, P.M.	Deputy Grand Lecturer 702-355-0154	John Pennington	2014
Carl Agbayani	Lodge Social Media Manager & Webmason 702-375-8709	Michael Kurcab	2015
		Dwain Rittenhouse	2016
		Mathew McCarthy	2017
		Kenneth L. O'Neill Jr.	2018
		Steven Benjamin	2019
		Dave Sims	2020
TRUSTEES		AFFILIATED PAST MASTERS	
3-Year	Dave Sims, P.M.	David Owens	
2-Year	John Pennington, P.M.	Fred Horne	
1-Year	Kenneth L. O'Neill Jr., P.M.	*George Gilbert	
		Terry Baker	
HONORARY MEMBERS		Fred Robinson	
	*Jim Cook, P.M.	Harold Scalzo	
	Harry Christopher, P.M.	Richard Hunker	
	Frank Merica, P.M.	Clifford Wiltse	
		Dave White	
HONORARY PAST MASTERS		Greg Curtain	
*Parke Potter	2007		*Deceased