

TO: WORSHIPFUL MICHAEL E. REINHARDT
 GRAND HISTORIAN
 GRAND LODGE OF NEVADA
 RENO, NEVADA

FROM: ERNEST H. ZEBAL, JR. P. M.
 HISTORIAN
 AMITY LODGE # 4
 SILVER CITY, NEVADA

This is the annual Historian's Report of Amity Lodge #4, F. & A. M. of Silver City, Nevada
For the period October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018



**Most Worshipful Mark Marsh
Grand Master of Masons in Nevada
2017-2018**

OCTOBER 2017

Amity Lodge #4 opened its' regular stated meeting on October 5, 2017, in the Third Degree at 7:00 p.m. As usual we were in Silver City, NV. At 6 p.m. Pedro Leon, PM, Jr. Warden with the help of his assistant served a meal of Tamales and salad. We had 9 members and 5 guests in attendance.

Before the meeting, the Master Counselor Brett Grimm of Valdo Sei Chapter #1 of the Order of DeMolay explained the Ceremony of Lights entirely from memory. He was accompanied by Chapter Dads Harry Parson and Nick Leiner. We had several Senior DeMolays present and Bro. Ernie Zebal of Woodland Chapter related how he attended a Conclave in Sacramento and was honored to be able to meet Frank S. Land who was the founder of DeMolay. He later served as Dad Advisor for that Chapter. A Conclave is like our Grand Lodge meeting.

WM Ely presented Bro. Nick Lazzarino to the East and installed him as our Sr. Steward.

We are still trying to contact Bro. Jess Arndell to present him with his 50 membership pin and certificate. Plans for Bro. Reid Ross, PM 50 year pin presentation were discussed and will be held at Carson #1 on November 7th starting at noon.

For Masonic education, WM Bob spoke on the youth groups, Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls and DeMolay. While Masonic youth is represented in Reno, W.M. Bob mentioned that in Cheyenne, WY, where he was a DeMolay there were 2 DeMolay Chapters and 4 Job's Bethels

WM Bob, along with Bros. Bob Jordan, Bob Behling, Tony Martinez and Nick Lazzarino attended Hope Lodge #22 on October 12th for their GMOV.

Our next stated meeting will be "step-up night." All who expect to advance to the next chair are expected to know their parts. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. in peace and harmony.

NOVEMBER 2017

At 6 p.m. dinner was served by our apprentice chef Tony Martinez and consisted of chicken, salad, bread and German Chocolate cake. All agreed that chef Tony's culinary talents should pave the way to being elected to Jr. Warden for next year. Lodge was then opened for its regular stated meeting at 7 p.m., November 2, 2017. We opened on the Third Degree, in due form with 19 Brothers present.

The first order of business was to drape the Altar in memory of Bro. Donald Parke, a life member, who lived in Washington. His nephew Cary Parke, P.M. shared some memories and a moment of silence was observed.

WM Ely and several members of Amity attended Bro. Reid Ross's 50 year pin presentation at Carson Lodge #1. Bro. Reid said he felt fine and wished he could attend Amity's meetings, but health doesn't permit it. He has been a member of Carson #1 for 50 years and of Amity for 30 years.

We discussed the two Grand Lodge Resolutions. One was found to not be in compliance with the Code of Rules and the other one from last year failed.

WM Bob approved remitting Bro. Art Abrott's dues for 2018. Bro. Art will be 100 years old in July, 2018.

We set 12/02/2017 at 9 a.m. as a Lodge clean-up day. This is to prepare for our 2018 Lodge Installation.

Visiting Bro. Raymond Bisel of CA & MO talked about when he was able to sit in Lodge with then Grand Master and President of the United States, Harry S. Truman. What an honor that was.

For Masonic Education we observed all Veterans in attendance. 11 Brothers served and we thank them for their service.

Finally, it was step-up night. All of our officers did an excellent job in spoken ritual and floor work. Looks like we are in good hands next year. Lodge was then closed in due form by acting Master Bob Jordan at 7:55 p.m.

DECEMBER 2017

Amity opened its regular stated meeting on December 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. on the Third Degree, in due form. As usual we met in the hall at Silver City, NV, with 18 Brothers present. At 6:00 p.m. we dined on Chicken tamales and salad provided by Master Chef Pedro Leon and his special assistant.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited with the Flag "In Place" as per Edict #1-2018. That was the only time this happened in the Masonic Year of 2018 at Amity. Comments tended to be along the lines of "it didn't save that much time", to "the Flag was not in danger from the ceiling fan if presented in place."



Douglas R. Boyd, PM

The first order of business was to drape our Altar in Memory of Bro. Douglas R. Boyd, PM and Secretary Emeritus. He passed away in Reno on December 2, 2017 at 10:30 p.m. We shared a moment of silence and several Brothers reflected on fond memories of Brother Doug. He was a member of the Kerak Shrine and a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason, both for over 50 years. Per his request, there will be no funeral service and a celebration of life will follow at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Amity Lodge #4 Building Fund.

Installing Officer: M.W. Mark A. Marsh, Grand Master of Nevada
Installing Chaplain: Jim Conrad, Beach Cities Lodge # 753

Installing Secretary:
Installing Marshal:
Keeper of the Jewels:
Outgoing Master:

John Buffington, PGM Wadsworth Lodge #25
Mike Williams, PM Carson Lodge #1
George Armstrong, PM Amity #4
Robert Ely, PM Amity #4



The officers elected and appointed were installed, except the Senior Warden, Junior Deacon, Chaplain and DGL who will be installed at a later date.

See list from December stated of those elected and appointed.

We then enjoyed a very delicious dinner and fellowship at J's Bistro in Old Dayton. There were 35 Brothers and Friends in attendance.

JANUARY 2018

We held our regular stated meeting in Silver City on January 4th at 7:00 p.m. We opened on the 3rd degree in due form. There were 19 Brothers present.

Before the meeting, at 6:00 p.m. we enjoyed a dinner from Chef Tony Martinez of Hot Dogs, Chili, salad and German Chocolate Cake.

We had a visiting Master, Reiner Toumong from Guardian # 53 in Fallon, NV who was a Past Master of Japan #9.

WM Bob Jordan installed Brothers Nick Lazzarino as Junior Deacon and Charles Sewchok as Chaplain. Mike Williams, PM installed Bro Sewchok as our DGL.

A Trustees Meeting is set for January 11, 2018 in Silver City, at 6:00 p.m.

For Masonic Education, WM Bob read an excerpt from the Marine Corps Journal about the Tun Tavern in Pennsylvania where the Masons and Marines both met in the early 1700's.

The Secretary asked the Lodge if he could defer his salary to twice a year being paid \$600.00 in June and \$600.00 in December of the calendar year. It was voted upon and approved.

Lodge was closed in peace and harmony, even with Bro. Armstrong present at 8:20 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2018

Amity met in its regular stated meeting, in beautiful downtown Silver City at 7:00 p.m. following a 6:00 p.m. dinner, on February 1, 2018. The dinner was served by Chef Tony, JW and consisted of Lasagna (which sold out quickly), hot dogs, salad and homemade cake. We opened on the 3rd Degree.

While in the luxurious downstairs dining area, for our annual George Washington observance, we greeted Bro. Vince Travens of Carson Valley #33. He was introduced as Indiana Jones who then explained the lineage of Bro. George Washington's family and several other aspects of his life. The presentation was well received and appreciated by all.

Mr. Mike Swanson was welcomed and introduced as a guest to all in attendance. He is interested in petitioning a Lodge for membership and is visiting local Lodges to learn more about Masonry.

And a surprise visit from representatives of Valdo A. Sei Chapter of the order of DeMolay. Rebecca DiMaggio and DeMolay member Steven were there to inform the Lodge that they were having a Casino Royale night at the Kerak Shrine Temple on March 10th from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. This is their fund raiser.

After opening the meeting, WM Bob installed Bro. Pedro Leon-Rojas, PM into his office as Senior Warden. We received a petition from Bro. Ray Bedford for Dual membership. The Trustees had their annual meeting and reported that it was informational.

The Secretary has decided to return the monies paid to him as Secretary of Amity Lodge for the years 2016 and 2017 to the Lodge. This amount is determined using the Secretary's reports for those years. Furthermore, he will not take a salary as Secretary of Amity for the foreseeable future.

WM Bob reported that we are working on the scholarship for 2018. Again it will be for a Dayton High School student.

The next stated meeting will be the Official Grand Master's Visitation. Sparks Assembly #3 of Rainbow Girls will be providing dinner and also give a presentation in observance of Masonic Youth month.

Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony at 8:10 p.m.

MARCH 2018

Our regular stated meeting was held in beautiful downtown Silver City on March 1st at 7:00 p.m., in the 3rd Degree. At 6:00 p.m. a dinner was prepared by a consortium of contracted and non-contracted chefs and served by WM Bob and Tony Martinez, JW. The faire consisted of deli sandwiches, chicken and Cake.

The GMOV was cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled. This also cancelled the Rainbow Girls serving dinner. We had 14 members and two guests present.

We voted and accepted a petition from Bro. Ray Kenneth Bedford for dual and plural membership. He lives in Dayton and is a member of Mt. Moriah Lodge in the State of Washington and a member of Escorial #7 in Virginia City. We also received a petition from Mr. Michael Swanson of Carson City, NV.

The official GMOV will be our stated on April 5, 2018.

Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 8:00 p.m.

APRIL 2018

Amity Lodge met for its stated meeting on April 5, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the hall at Silver City, NV. Before the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Sparks Assembly Rainbow Girls served our dinner and gave a presentation in observance of Masonic Youth and Public School month. The group then recited the Rainbow Prayer and sang Rainbow Dreams. It is one of the few times you could get 40 Brothers to hold hands.

Also prior to the meeting M.W. Grand Master Mark Marsh presented WM Bob Ely with his 50 year pin and certificate. Bro. Ely was raised in Wyoming and was active in his DeMolay Chapter.

After opening, the WM called for a recess to receive the M.W. Grand Master on his official visitation. When Lodge came back to order, the usual alarm was made at the outer door and Marshal Scott Mount, PM proclaimed that Grand Master Mark A. Marsh and his officers demanded admission. After the entrance of the G.L. officers WM Bob Jordan greeted the M.W.G.M. and escorted him to the East and gave him the gavel to Amity. The gavel was returned so the WM could proceed with the usual business.



Grand Lodge Officers Present: M.W. Mark A. Marsh, R.W. Steve Robison, D.G.M.R.W. Richard Graver, J.G.W. David J. Warren Grand Tyler and W. Grand Trustees Thomas Collins and Skip Hammagren.

Sitting Masters Present: Reiner Tumang #53, Richard Robie #19, David St. Onge #1 and Alex Wilson #35. Balloting was held for Mr. Michael Swanson and he was elected to receive the Three degrees. A petition was received and read for Mr. Jeremy Evan Parke and referred to Committee.

Bob Ely, PM reported on his Masonic Travels to Derby Lodge #365 A. F. & A. M. in Kansas.

Prior to the G.M. message, WM Bob presented M.W.G.M. Mark with a lump of coal that was at one time destined for the old stove in our Lodge. The lump was mounted on a hand-crafted piece of wood with a name plate attached.

The final word was from the M.W.G.M. He spoke on the necessity of a GL Assessment increase which will be brought up at the annual Communication. He also mentioned that innovation is coming in the form of an I-Pad Ritual and universal software for the Officers, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustees which included fillable forms. Soon credit cards will be accepted by the Grand Lodge.

Next he focused upon certain Brothers in Nevada Lodges who are trying to circumvent the Masonic Code and By-Laws by arbitrarily misinterpreting State and Federal Laws. He encouraged these Brothers to go through the proper channels beginning with the Master who will decide the next step. If the issue(s) cannot be resolved by the Master or his resources, or is beyond the scope of their powers, to then put the specific statutes or issue(s), not generalities through the pipeline at Grand Lodge. The GM said that he was happy with our floor work and that we should take pride in it.

The Lodge was then closed in Ample Form by the GM at 8:35 p.m. and a good time was had by all.

On April 6, 2108, at 4:00 p.m., Brothers Bob Jordan, W.M.; Bob Behling, P.M.; Ernie Zebal, P.M.; and J.D. Nick Lazzarino met at Gold Ranch for dinner before driving in heavy rain to Illinoistown Lodge #51 / Clay Lodge #101 at Colfax, CA for a visitation. We were welcomed and our Secretary, Bob Behling even filled in as Chaplain for their monthly stated meeting. A great time was had by all as we met with many old and new friends. We were back in Reno by 10 p.m.

Amity met in a called communication on April 19th in the hall in Silver City at 7 p.m. Before the meeting we enjoyed a meal of Hot Dogs, Spinach Salad, baked beans and chocolate cake.

The meeting was called for the purpose of conferring the Entered Apprentice Degree of Masonry upon Mr. Michael Swanson. Acting WM Bob Behling, PM obligated Mr. Swanson an EA with the assistance of the Officers and Brethren. The Bible Lecture was by Chuck Sewchok, Apron Lecture – George Armstrong, PM, Working Tools – Tony Martinez; EA Lecture – Lee Cross, PM; Charge – Bob Jordan PM and Walk-about Talk by Chuck Sewchok. After the Degree concluded PM Ely led the Lodge in the EA song from England.

Lodge was then closed at 9:20 p.m. There were 17 Brothers in attendance.

MAY 2018

On May 3, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. Amity Lodge #4 opened its regular stated meeting on the EA Degree with 25 Brothers present. Dinner was served in our lower dining room at 6 p.m. It consisted of Hot Dogs, Pizza, salad and chocolate cake, served by J.W. Tony and the gang.

Our first order of business was to ballot on Mr. Jeremy Evan Parke and he was elected to receive the three degrees of Masonry. The date set is May 23th at 6 p.m. for dinner and 7 p.m. degree.

This is the event of our annual Roll Call and Past Masters Night. Roll call was taken and 14 were present, 16 were answered for and 35 were absent for a total of 65, as of this meeting.

Our scholarship winner from Dayton High School is Bryan Arroyo. He wants to be a Dentist or Ophthalmologist.

On May 12th, Bros. Bob Behling, PM, Scott Mount, PM and W.M. Bob Jordan visited Guardian Lodge #53 at their stated meeting in Fallon.

On May 19th, W.M. Bob attended the Armed Forces Day celebration in Hawthorne where members of Fernley #34, Guardian #53 and Churchill #26 decorated their Masonic Float and participated in the parade. They invited Amity to join their float, next year.

The Trustees voted to approve turning in our CD and taking some of the cash to finish paying the building painter. The balance to be put in the checking account for future investment by the Trustees.

WM Bob presented early Masonic History that started in the British Isles. He noted that the first recorded EA Degree occurred in 1646. Masons at that time were beginning to form the operative and speculative faction of the Craft. Signs and words were being developed in those times with the Grand Lodge of England being organized on June 24, 1717.

Lodge closed in peace and harmony at 8:30 p.m.

On May 23rd Amity Lodge was in a Called Communication for the purpose of conferring the First degree on Mr. Jeremy Evan Parke, son of Past Master Cary Parke, Grandson of Jack E. Park, PM and Great Grandson of Jim Parke, PM all of our Lodge. At 6 p.m. a Lodge of EA was opened in due form with 19 Brothers present. Bro. Bob Behling, PM sat in the East with the assistance of the regular Lodge officers. Bro. Armstrong, PM presented the apron and Bro. Chuck Sewchok, the Bible Lecture. Bro. Nick Lazzarino presented the working tools. Bro. Cross, PM did an outstanding job on the EA Lecture and likewise W.M. Jordan presented the charge.

Lodge was closed in due form at 8:15 p.m.

JUNE 2018

At 6:00 p.m. we enjoyed a dinner in our lower dining room. It consisted of sub sandwiches and chips. It was served by W.M. Bob Jordan as our J.W. Tony Martinez was under the weather. After a meal we opened Lodge on the First Degree, in due form, on June 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the hall of Silver City, NV.

Bros. Bob Ely, PM and Chuck Sewchok went to Dayton High School, while we were having our Stated meeting to present our check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Mr. Bryan Arroyo. He is an exceptional student and well deserving of this scholarship. His plans are to attend Western Nevada College for two years and then enroll in the Truckee Meadows Dental School. Bryan, his Mother Amelia and Brother Christian attended our June 28th meeting for dinner and congratulations.



We had 14 members and 1 guest in attendance. Lodge outside painting is scheduled for June 20th, weather permitting. This will make our Lodge look very presentable for the 2nd Degree to be held on June 28th.

Our W.M. visited Douglas #12 in Genoa on June 15th and Escorial #7 on June 24th. They conferred a First Degree and our W.M. administered the Charge.

Bro. Mike Swanson proved his proficiency in the EA Degree with Bro. Bob Behling, P.M asking the questions. Mike was given a raucous applause and was declared proficient by The Master and wardens.

Lodge was closed at 8:15 p.m. in due form.

Our annual "Fun Night" was held on June 16th with prizes, a raffle and an auction.



A great time was had by all and since this is our only annual fundraiser and several Brothers contributed by preparing and serving the food, it was a considerable savings from having the food catered. We had BBQ ribs, chicken, sausage, salads, desserts, BBQ pineapple and had food left over to take home.

Amity Lodge met in a Called communication at 6 p.m. on June 28th for the purpose of conferring a Fellowcraft Degree on Bro. Mike Swanson. Officers for the degree were: Scott Mount, PM serving as Master; SW Pedro Leon, PM; JW Tony Martinez; Sr. Deacon Bob Behling, PM; JD Nick Lazzarino; SS Bob Ely, PM; JS George Armstrong, PM and Chuck Sewchok, Chaplain. Bro. Lee Cross, PM delivered the Middle Chamber Lecture and WM Bob Jordan the Charge. JD Nick Lazzarino presented the working tools and the 3 precious Jewels.

14 Brothers were present and the Lodge closed in due form.

JULY 2018

The Lodge was dark for the month of July, 2018.

AUGUST 2018



William A. Young, PM

On August 30, 2018 Amity Lodge met in a "Lodge of Sorrow." For our Brother William A. Young, PM (1986) and Ardell Young, at 2 p.m. at the Hidden Valley Country Club. A ceremony was conducted by Argenta Chapter OES and our Masonic Service followed. The funeral ritual was performed by the Amity Officers. Bob Jordan gave the Apron talk, Tony Martinez, the acacia and Charles Sewchok the Red, White and Blue Flowers. After the Brethren deposited their greens near Bill's ashes, W.M. PT Behling delivered the 3 flowers to Georgia Loy and the ceremony concluded.

Officers for the service were:

Bob Behling, PM - PT Master

Bob Jordan, WM - PT Senior Warden

Tony Martinez, JW
Charles Sewchok, Chaplain
PGM's present: David J. Morgan and H. Wayne Kingsley.

PM's present: Ernie Zebal, Scott Mount, Dick Young (Escorial #7), Lee Cross, Bob Behling, Carl Rueckl #40, Mike Williams #1 and Bob Ely. Other members and visitors per Tyler's Register. There was a turnout of approximately 25 Master Masons and over 200 other family and friends.

Immediate family included Bill's Sister Bobbi, daughter Georgia Loy, granddaughter Samantha Loy and Son-in-Law Brian Loy. Memories were shared by family and friends and a sumptuous light dinner and adult beverages were served to all present, compliments of the family.

SEPTEMBER 2018

Amity #4 opened its regular stated meeting on September 6, 2018 in the FellowCraft Degree, at 7 p.m. Before the meeting at 6 p.m. we enjoyed a delicious meal of hot dogs, meatballs, salad and homemade cake. All of which was prepared by our Master Chef Tony Martinez, J.W.

We had 19 members and guests present. After the opening, we draped the Altar in memory of Brother Bill Young, PM, (1986); Olin Henry Schenk of our Lodge and Bro. Jim Conrad who was a faithful attendee of our Lodge.

A petition for Dual Membership from Tony Stoik was received and accompanied by the proper fees and Certificate of good standing from his Lodge in Iowa.

Visitations to Brothers Bill Young, PM; Paul Keife, PM and Reid Ross, PM along with a phone conversation with Jan Boyd, widow of Bro. Doug Boyd, PM were reported.

Bro. Mike Cushing, PM gave a report on the Lodge painting job which is still pending with several problems. He is contacting the painter to meet at the Lodge to discuss the problems.

Bro. Mike Swanson coached by Bro. Bob Behling, PM gave an outstanding proficiency in the FellowCraft Degree. We set his Master Mason degree for Saturday, September 22nd at 10 a.m.

Lodge was adjourned in peace and Harmony.

Amity opened Lodge on the Master Mason Degree on September 22, 2018, at 10 a.m. in beautiful downtown Silver City to confer the M.M. degree upon Bro. Michael Swanson

We introduced Bro. Taylor Rudkin, PM of Tehama Lodge #3 from Sacramento, California. He is visiting and wished to join us in our Degree.

First Section:

Scott Mount, PM	Master
Pedro Leon, PM	Sr. warden
Tony Martinez	Jr. Warden
Mike Cushing, PM	Sr. Deacon
Nick Lazzarino	Jr. Deacon

Bob Ely, PM	Sr. Steward
George Armstrong, PM	Jr. Steward
Chuck Sewchok	Chaplain
Bob Behling, PM	Secretary
Ernest Zebal, PM	Treasurer
Mike Logue	Tyler
Nick Lazzarino	Working Tools

Second Section:

Lee Cross, PM	Worshipful Maser (K. S.)
Pedro Leon, PM	Sr. Warden
Mike Swanson	Jr. Warden (Pro Tem)
Bob Behling, PM	Sr. Deacon
Nick Lazzarino	Jr. Deacon
Bob Ely, PM	Sr. Deacon
George Armstrong, PM	Jr. Deacon
Charles Sewchok	Chaplain
George Armstrong, PM	Secretary (call of the workman)
Ernest Zebal, PM	Treasurer
Mike Logue	Tyler

1st Ruffian	Tony Martinez
2nd Ruffian	Bob Ely, PM
3rd Ruffian	Nick Lazzarino

1st FellowCraft	Bob Behling, PM
2nd FellowCraft	Mike Cushing, PM
3rd FellowCraft	Jim Ward

Sea Faring / Way Faring Man	Dick Young, PM
Soliloquy	George Armstrong, PM
Graveside Prayer	Charles Sewchok

Lecture	Lee Cross, PM
Charge	Bob Jordan, WM
Ballot Box	Bob Ely, PM
Bible Presentation	Charles Sewchok

Lunch was then provided which consisted of Deli Sandwiches, hot dogs and a Master Mason Cake. Tony Martinez provided the food and Bro. Ray Bedford provided the cake. There were 18 in attendance and we closed in Peace and Harmony at 1 p.m.

Regarding Edit #2-2018, the "short form closing" was never performed at Amity in the Masonic Year of 2018.

SUMMARY

Membership on September 30, 2017 was 67 Master Masons of which 20 are Life Members. This represents 29% of the Lodge Membership.

Initiated:	2	Michael Swanson, Jeremy Evan Parke
Passed:	1	Michael Swanson
Raised:	1	Michael Swanson
Reinstated:	0	
Affiliated:	1	Raymond D. Bedford
Deceased:	4	Douglas R. Boyd, PM; Donald R. Parke; Olin Henry Schenk; William A. Young, PM
Demitted:	0	
Suspended:	1	Michael Medvedy
Expelled:	0	
Voluntary Withdrawal:	1	Calvin E. Kinney, Jr.

We ended the year with 63 Master Masons. We have a total of 36 Life Members of which 16 are living Life Members. This represents 25% of the Lodge Membership.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ernest H. Zebal, Jr. PM
Historian and Treasurer