

# TRESTLEBOARD



Amity Lodge #4 1863-2021  
Be sure to check out our new website @  
[amitylodge4nv.org](http://amitylodge4nv.org)



*February 2021*

## FROM THE EAST

Greetings to the Brethren of Amity Lodge #4,

I hope this Trestleboard finds the Brethren, their families and friends healthy, safe and warm.

Effective February 15th, Grand Master Graver issued Edict 4-2021 replacing Edicts 1 and 3 which had restricted Nevada Masonic gatherings. Also on that day, Governor Sisolak issued new Roadmap to Recovery Guidelines for Nevada meetings. Together, Edict 4-2021 and those new guidelines provide an opportunity and pathway to consider opening Amity Lodge for the March 4th Stated Communication.

This is a decision taken very seriously. Our main duty must be to protect our Brothers and to keep the Brethren, their families, friends and our community safe and distant from harms way.

After much thought, advice and counsel, I believe Amity can carefully and safely open for the March 4th Stated Communication. The physical size of our historic building does present a challenge. However, I feel we can safely accommodate the Brothers who regularly attend Amity meetings.

Adherence to the Nevada Guidelines require enforcing 6' social distancing and makes wearing of facial masks mandatory at all times. We will open on the EA Degree at 7:00 pm but will not have a meal or refreshments. Disinfectants and sanitizers will be available. We will check temperatures and blood oxygen levels as appropriate.

To any Brother that does not feel safe attending the March 4th Communication, or has other concerns, please do not feel obligated to be present, it is not necessary. Take care of yourselves, follow your instincts.

Regarding Amity Officers for the 2021 Masonic Year, due to COVID and associated restriction of Masonic gatherings, it was not possible to elect and install Officers during December 2020. Pursuant to the Grand Master's Edict 2021-1 and Section 5.010 (4) of the Nevada Masonic Code, Amity Lodge decided to keep the then current Officers in their Elected and Appointed offices throughout 2021 until our next election in December.

Recently, Brother Reid Ross PM had to spend some time at Carson Tahoe Medical Center and Rehab. It is good news to report that Reid has been released and is happy to be back at home.

### DATES TO REMEMBER (TENTATIVE)

- March 4th  
7 pm Stated Meeting
- April 8th  
7 pm Stated Meeting
- May 6th  
7 pm Stated Meeting
- June 3rd  
7 pm Stated Meeting

If you would like to attend any of our meetings or activities and need a ride please contact one of the officers.

## FROM THE EAST (continued)

It is my sad duty to inform you that the following Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Nevada and Amity Lodge #4 Brothers have laid down their working tools. As a tribute of respect, Amity Lodge will drape its Altar in mourning at the next Stated Communication.

Duane G. Laubach, PGM, 88, of Henderson, Nevada passed away on Saturday, October 17, 2020. He was born November 2, 1931. Duane served as Grand Master of the F & A. M. of Nevada in 1983. He was Master of Mt. Moriah Lodge #39 in 1969.

Gordon Franklin Wessell, PGM, 90, was born September 20, 1930 and passed peacefully in his sleep on December 16, 2020. Gordon served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nevada in 2001. He was Past Master of Pyramid Lodge #43, a member of Eureka Lodge #16 and Past Master of Research Lodge #1. Gordon served many roles in Nevada Masonry; Scottish and York Rites, Shrine, DeMolay, et al. He received the 33rd Scottish Rite degree in 1997.

David Howard Lowenthal, 85, was born on June 4, 1935 and passed away June 27, 2020. He was a member of the Shrine. Dave's degree dates were EA 1/18/74, FC 2/8/74 and MM 3/22/74.

Ray Peterson Jr., 93 of Fallon, Nevada passed away on November 18, 2020. He was born June 4, 1927. Ray lived with his daughter Karen Messner until he passed. He was a 70 plus year member of Amity. Ray's degree dates were EA 6/19/1949, FC 8/6/1949, MM 8/18/49. Yes, 12 days from FC to MM. God bless his soul.

James Jeffers, Jr., 87, was born August 1, 1933 and passed away on December 22, 2020. Jim's degree dates were EA 4/27/78, FC 9/20/79 and MM 4/9/81.

John Alexander Flangas, PM, 92, was born August 9, 1928, and passed surrounded by family at home, on January 14, 2021. John was an active member of Amity Lodge. He was Master of Amity Lodge in 1982. John's degree dates were 11/27/69, FC 2/26/70 and MM 4/9/70.

*And God's finger touched them and they slept...*

Links to obituaries for these deceased Brethren are available from Amity Secretary Bob Behling, PM. Masonic ceremonies are pending for some of these Brothers. Additional information will be provided when available.

Thank you to all the Brethren who contributed extra funds with your 2021 dues. With the COVID-19 restrictions, we did not have our annual Fun Night fellowship barbeque and raffle. So those contributions were very beneficial.

As we did not meet in February, in accord with The Grand Master's Proclamation No. 1, Observance of George Washington's Birthday, please review the attached information about MWGM and our 1st President's prowess on the dance floor.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

WM Scott Mount PM  
scottmount@sbcglobal.net  
(775) 762-3424

## George Washington on the Dance Floor

Excerpts from an article written by Phillip G. Smucker's - George Washington on the Dance Floor.

As did their English cousins, Virginians preferred the playful steps of a French minuet set to Handel over, say, a battle in the woods with the natives. Many would have chuckled knowingly at Shakespeare's lines in King Henry VI, when Burgundy says, "I see our wars will turn unto peaceful comic sport when ladies crave to be encountered with. "Most gentlemen of George Washington's era, while aspiring to glory on the battlefield, still preferred love over war, or at least a chance to dance with a lovely lady.

### Dancing Teen:

George Washington likely first acquired his dancing skills at his half brother Lawrence's Mount Vernon estate, as well as with the Fairfax family at Belvoir Manor. By the age of 19, it appears that George was dancing regularly.

### Mastery of the Minuet:

Dexterity on the dance floor maintained social status and also allowed for proper courtship. Dance represented an elaborate world of nonverbal signs, a system of gestures, starting with curtsy and bow, which derived from an ancient sometimes forgotten European court life. For George Washington and others, dance was refined flirtation -- a means for Virginia's men to express their adoration and interest in ornately attired women - the loveliest of Southern Belles. As a young officer, George Washington gained a reputation as a skillful and polished dancer, sometimes taking the floor at the start of a ball to begin the evening with a minuet. If he hadn't excelled at dance, George Washington might have been known merely as an accomplished dodger of musket balls. Like everything, though, he took his performance on the dance floor serious, once referring warmly to dance as "the gentler conflict."

### Dancing Through the American Revolution:

General Washington danced through the evening on several occasions during the American Revolution. After the victory over British forces at Yorktown, General Washington wooed an audience in his old hometown of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Some of the most ornate and fanciful balls a President Washington would attend took place in Philadelphia, starting in 1791, often in the upper floor of the City Tavern. The main dining room and dance floor was magnificent and sprawling for the day with showy fireplaces on either end, ornate wooden mirrors on the walls, and an elaborate chandelier overhead.

### Founding Hater, Thomas Jefferson:

At one particular ball in Philadelphia, Thomas Jefferson expressed disdain for the alleged regal behavior of his old friend George Washington. For George Washington, however, such occasional displays of pomp came naturally. Despite Jefferson's conspiratorial view that the new nation might soon slip into authoritarian rule, President Washington never harbored royal aspirations, even in private. For his admired public, his chivalry, sportsmanship and good manners were something to hail and admire. For them, the hero of the Revolution was beyond reproach.





**DECEMBER**

T. Baird 12-06  
D. Thompson 12-16

**JANUARY**

David Hill 01-28  
D. Moore 01-24  
C. Parke 01-29  
D. Person 01-10

**FEBRUARY**

B. Behling 02-19  
L. Higley 02-24  
N. Lazzarino 02-28



**Living Past Masters**

1962.....George J. Armstrong  
1972.....Ernest H. Zebal, Jr.  
1973.....Eldredge T. Porch  
1975.....Kenneth Hemphill  
1976.....Duane Moore  
1980.....George D. Wilkerson  
1988.....Pat Bacon  
1989.....Gary Njirich  
1990.....W. Reid Ross  
1991.....Cary Parke  
1993.....David L. Thompson  
1994.....Daniel T. Lee  
1996.....David R. Hill  
1997.....Robert Behling  
1999.....Harold J. Ward  
2000.....David W. Terry  
2002.....Robert Behling  
2005.....George J. Armstrong  
2006.....Robert Behling  
2009.....Leland W. Cross  
2010.....J.D. Weiss  
2011.....Leland W. Cross  
2012.....John Angleson  
2013.....Scott Mount  
2014.....William E. Dillwith  
2015.....Pedro Leon-Rojas  
2016.....Michael Cushing  
2017.....Robert Ely  
2018.....Robert Jordan  
2019.....Pedro Leon-Rojas



**OFFICERS 2021**

SCOTT MOUNT, P.M. (Karen)..... MASTER  
1705 Vineyard Way, Carson City 89703...762-3424  
TONY MARTINEZ (Phyllis).....SR. WARDEN  
1430 Walker River Way, Fernley 89408...575-5325  
NICK LAZZARINO (Michael Ann) .....JR. WARDEN  
404 Channel Dr., Dayton 89403 .....450-4223  
ROBERT BEHLING, P.M. ....SECRETARY  
7180 San Antonio Ranch Rd., Washoe Valley 89704  
843-2523  
ERNEST ZEBAL, P.M. (JoAnn).....TREASURER  
P.O. Box 7312, Reno 89510.....972-7500  
MICHAEL SWANSON (Stephanie)..SR. DEACON  
104 Mountain St., Carson City 89703.....720-9508  
RAYMOND BEDFORD .....JR. DEACON  
P.O. Box 2192, Dayton 89403 .....241-2460  
GEORGE ARMSTRONG, P.M. ....SR. STEWARD  
P.O. Box 555, Silver City 89428.....233-0216  
VACANT .....JR. STEWARD  
CHARLES SEWCHOK (Sandy).....CHAPLAIN  
422 Dog Leg Dr., Fernley 89408.....575-0796  
ROBERT ELY, P.M. (Verl-Lee) .....MARSHAL  
555 Wedge Way, Fernley 89408.....575-2933  
MICHAEL LOGUE (Elayne) .....TYLER  
4124 Sweetwater Dr., CC 89701.....575-4534  
ERNEST ZEBAL, P.M. (JoAnn).....HISTORIAN  
P.O. Box 7312, Reno 89510.....972-7500  
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555 Wedge Way, Fernley 89408.....575-2933  
ROBERT JORDAN, P.M. (Jeanine).....TRUSTEE  
1958 Pinenut Rd., Gardnerville 89410.....782-4614  
PEDRO LEON-ROJAS, P.M. (Carla) .....TRUSTEE  
P.O. Box 1154, Minden 89460.....783-0811

**DEPUTY GRAND LECTURER**  
CHARLES F. SEWCHOK

**COGNIZANCE COMMITTEE**  
GEORGE J. ARMSTRONG, P.M.  
ROBERT BEHLING, P.M.  
ERNEST H. ZEBAL, JR. P.M.

**DELINQUENCY COMMITTEE**  
ROBERT JORDAN, P.M.  
MICHAEL CUSHING, P.M.  
TONY R. MARTINEZ

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
ROBERT ELY, P.M.  
NICHOLAS V. LAZZARINO II  
CHARLES F. SEWCHOK

**EDITOR**  
DAWN BIBBEY  
ERNEST H. ZEBAL, P.M.

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**WEBSITE**  
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**OUR MASONIC NEIGHBORS**

Ben Franklin	No. 45	First Wednesday
Carson	No. 1	Third Thursday
Carson Valley	No. 33	Third Tuesday
Douglas	No. 12	Second Wednesday
Escurial	No. 7	First Saturday
Fernley	No. 34	Second Thursday
Golden	No. 50	Second Monday
Hope	No. 22	Second Thursday
Lander	No. 8	Third Saturday
Mount Rose	No. 40	First Wednesday
Pyramid	No. 43	Second Thursday
Reno	No. 13	First Tuesday
Wadsworth	No. 25	First Friday
Washoe	No. 35	First Wednesday
Kerak Shrine		Fourth Wednesday
Chaman Grotto		Third Wednesday
Scottish Rite		Second Wednesday