



Chartered  
January 21, 1904

# Montgomery Trestle Board

September  
2025

## 2025-2026 OFFICERS

**Worshipful Master**  
**Lawrence Grufman -PM**  
(612) 868-3949  
larry.grufman@gmail.com

**Senior Warden**  
**David Bergman -PM**  
(651) 297-8140  
mr2sca@comcast.net

**Junior Warden**  
**Christopher Alexander**  
(503) 840-2572  
chrisalexanderpdx@gmail.com

**Senior Deacon**  
**Kurt Dornfeld -PM**

**Secretary**  
**Thomas Hoemke - PM**  
(651) 323-1904

**Treasurer**  
**David Hansen - PM**  
(651) 357-0912

**Chaplain**  
**David Seitz -PM**

**Lodge Education Officer**  
**Matthew Hanchek - PM**

**Trustee 2024-2027**  
**Andrew Rappath -PM**

**Trustee 2023-2026**  
**David Seitz -PM**

**Trustee 2025-2028**  
**Mike Nehm -PM**

## Masters Message



– Larry Grufman Master

Brethren,

As we resume our labors after a season of rest and refreshment, I want to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make our summer picnic at Phalen a wonderful success.

WB Andrew Rappath not only manned the spatula but also set up and organized the food service. The burgers and brats were hot, juicy, wholesome, and—best of all—plentiful, fresh off the grill. Thanks also go to his knife-and-cutting-board helper, our Entered Apprentice Mike Savage, who chopped everything but his fingers—earning a promotion to Booya Sous Chef with flying colors!

Our gratitude extends as well to WB Tom, our Secretary, for arranging the space, preparing the awards and pins, and coordinating the event.

## Honoring Our Brothers

This year's picnic featured the presentation of milestone service awards. Congratulations to: WB Dan Skoog – 60 years; Terry Brindley – 65 years; Van Kellogg – 60 years.

## Congratulations!

As you know, there are appendant bodies, and the Blue Lodge is just the start.

Scottish Rite is just one of the many bodies. In Scottish Rite, there are 29 additional degrees, making the degree total to be 32 degrees received, and the hat you receive would be "Black".

The 33rd degree refers to the highest honorary degree awarded in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry to members who have made significant contributions to the Rite or society. It is an honor bestowed by the Supreme Council, not a degree that can be earned through campaigning or application. Elected members become honorary members of the Supreme Council and are recognized for their outstanding leadership and exemplary conduct.

With that said, Congratulations RWB Shawn Carrick on this rare, but well-deserved accomplishment on being elected for the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MONTGOMERY:

Stated Dinner	Sept 4	6:00PM
Stated Meeting	Sept 4	7:00PM
Stated Dinner	Sept 18	6:00PM
Stated Meeting	Sept 18	7:00PM
Boouya Prep	Sept 19	
Boouya	Sept 20	10:00 AM
Table Lodge	April 10	

### AROUND MINNESOTA LODGES:

One Day to Masonry	Jan 17 2026	All Day
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### OSMAN SHRINE:

Halloween Ceremonial	Oct 25
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### SCOTISH RITE:

**Interested? We can help you join!**

### SAVE THE DATE:

Grand Lodge	April 17-18, 2026
Park Event Center Waite Park, MN	

## Senior Warden's Update

-David Bergman PM

Greetings, Brothers!

I can hardly believe August is already here, and in September, we resume our Masonic labors. Time moves so quickly that it's challenging to accomplish all we wish to in life.

With this in mind, I believe more than ever that spending quality time with true friends is essential, especially as we age. For many, the pursuit of wealth becomes an obsession, often their primary goal in life. As the saying goes, "He who dies with the most toys wins." But what have you truly won? In the end, material wealth fades, and we are often forgotten.

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– Tom Hoemke, Past Master

# Secretary's Update

This is a September newsletter, meaning summer is done! September also is a reminder to get your dues paid if you still have a balance for this year, and/or to get your plan together for next year's dues.

What do I mean by getting a plan together? Grandview allows YOU to make a payment plan to pay your dues. You can set this up to automatically bill your card every month, quarterly, bi-yearly or yearly. In order to set this up you first need to be current on dues. Second: you need to sign up by October First. This is a huge plus to you, because who wants to pay dues at Christmas time in full? However frequently you select your payments, the Lodge does receive this money as your payments are automatically charged. This is a win for both the Lodge and you if you sign up for this plan. I personally signed up for this, and it works great, and I'll be very excited to see that my dues will be paid in December without having to feel the expense in my checkbook. I have included directions in this newsletter on how to sign up.

One of the summer projects is in the works and coming along. Montgomery is in the process of getting a website that is current. Once a few technical issues get worked out, you can see events, RSVP, pay for events, make donations and more importantly get your prospects to visit so they can let us know they want to join!

[www.montgomerylodge.com](http://www.montgomerylodge.com) or <https://lodgelocator.com/montgomery-258/>

Lastly, it is very important that I receive all petitions you may have to turn in ASAP. This will help speed up the process of being able to send the petition to investigation. As it is still new to all, there is now one extra step needed to verify a petition, which is basically a background check. Until that background check is cleared, the petition cannot go to the 3 investigators.

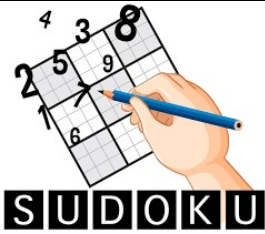
I look forward to seeing you in Lodge!



## Birthday Shoutouts for September!

W Bro Larry Grufman

Bro William G. V Cunningham



The goal of sudoku is to identify the single unique solution where all 81 of the cells are filled out such that:

1. Every row will have each of the numbers 1 through 9, exactly once in it.
2. Every column will have each of the numbers 1 through 9, exactly once in it.
3. Each of the 9, 3x3 blocks will have each of the numbers 1 through 9, exactly once in it

			9	2	3			7
	1	9	4	7				
								9
		4		3		6	9	
				1				
	5	7		8		2		
6								
				4	2	7	3	
3			1	9	6			

# MONTGOMERY LODGE TENTH-ANNUAL

## BOOYAH



**\$10**

PINT

**\$20**

QUART

**\$68**

GALLON

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20th 2025  
10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM OR UNTIL GONE**



**SHERWOOD LOUNGE  
1418 WHITE BEAR AVE  
SAINT PAUL, MN 55106**



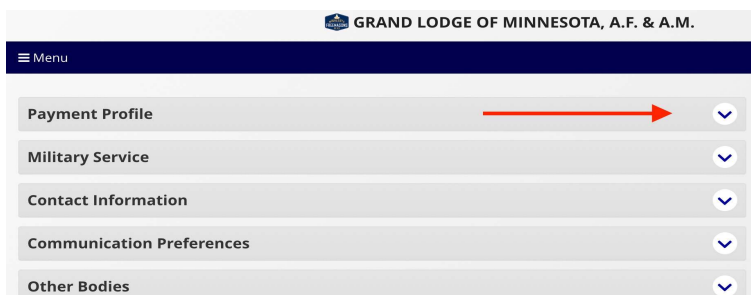
# Average Monthly Dues

Grand Lodge has officially launched the average monthly dues feature in Grand View. This new feature allows any member who is current in his dues to switch over and begin making monthly payments for dues in the future. Like Netflix, or any other subscription service, this feature breaks up dues into smaller, more manageable payments rather than one large payment at the end of the year.

To register for this feature, log into your Grand View portal, click on 'my profile'



then click the down arrow next to 'payment profile'



Add your payment information into the payment method section. [note – your payment details are not stored by the Grand Lodge or Grand View, they are tokenized and stored securely through our merchant gateway at NMI Worldpay]

A screenshot of the 'Payment Profile' form in the Grand View portal. The form includes a 'View Disclaimer' link, a 'Current Payment Method' section with 'Update' and 'Card Last 4 Digits' and 'Billing Details' fields, and an 'Auto-pay Options' section with a 'Configure' button highlighted by a red box and a red number 5. Below the 'Auto-pay Options' section, there are two rows of data: 'Hector No. 158' with 'No Auto-pay' and 'Ancient Landmark No. 5' with 'Auto-pay interval: Monthly'.

Once your payment profile is created, you will be able to configure your auto-pay options. You can select to auto-pay for each lodge on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. When your credit card is due to expire, you will receive a reminder email. You will also receive a reminder email each month (or quarter) before your card is charged. If, at any time, you wish to cancel the auto- pay, you can adjust your settings by clicking configure next to auto-pay options.

## Montgomery Trestle Board

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### Master's Message Continued

A special highlight came just a few weeks later, when WB and Illustrious George Carlson received his 75-year award at his home on Saturday, August 23rd, in a ceremony that coincided with his 99th birthday. WB Mike Nehm organized a festive gathering of Shriners and Masons from other bodies who joined with Montgomery Brethren to sing and share cake. WB George was deeply appreciative that we could celebrate so many fond memories together over the years!

### Upcoming Events

- Stated Meeting: Thursday, September 4th
  - Dinner: 6:00 PM
  - Meeting: 7:00 PM
- Fall Booya: Saturday, September 20th, beginning at 10:00 AM at Colleen's Sherwood on White Bear Avenue—until we run out! Planning will be finalized at our next Stated.

My focus at our first Stated Meeting will be on scheduling degrees for several new members and prospects in various stages of their degree journeys; we will discuss plans to move them forward at our meeting. With inquiries coming from Grand Lodge, walk-ins at Plato, and online channels, it's important we respond to anyone interested in affiliation with a consistent, thoughtful message when asked what we are. As a guide, I share this reflection from an unknown source:

"Freemasonry has long been described as a foundational thread in the fabric of society because of its enduring emphasis on moral development, civic responsibility, and community service. At its core, Freemasonry promotes the cultivation of brotherly love, relief, and truth among its members, encouraging them to become better individuals and, by extension, more responsible and constructive citizens. This personal development, rooted in timeless ethical principles, radiates outward—shaping families, communities, and institutions in ways that often go unnoticed but are deeply impactful. Through its charitable efforts, educational initiatives, and quiet support for public welfare, Freemasonry helps uphold the ethical and philanthropic standards that hold civil society together. Overall, Freemasonry functions less as a visible institution and more as a quiet influence—a guiding compass that reinforces the social contracts and cultural norms underpinning civil order and human dignity."

### Senior Warden Continued

What endures is how people remember you. Will they recall the wealth you amassed?

Likely not. Instead, they will cherish the contributions you made to society and the care you showed for others' well-being. Helping others not only fosters a sense of humanity but also brings profound happiness—this is the heart of Masonry.

Our world needs the core principles of Masonry now more than ever. Unfortunately, various factors continue to challenge our fraternity's membership. As your Senior Warden, I feel privileged to have met so many remarkable individuals over the past 22 years. This journey has been a deeply rewarding endeavor for which I will always be grateful. Looking ahead, I am confident we will have an excellent year with Worshipful Master Larry Grufman leading the way. His steady guidance will ensure our lodge thrives.

See you in September!

## Junior Warden

-Christopher Alexander

### Greetings from the South

Dear Brothers,

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it’s the only thing that ever has”. This West Wing quote has always stuck with me, and I think it encapsulates the potential our lodge can have on our community. I feel that there is no more important time in history than now, for men of integrity to make an impact. Though it is an uphill battle.

I’m aware that I am the “youngster” of the lodge and have much to learn from my brethren. I am more than a little nervous about moving into the big chairs. I am grateful for any guidance and advice that I can get.

I have a couple of ideas I’d like to float: Recruitment dinners, and spousal appreciation. I just want to put them out there, and give the guys time to think about, before we open lodge in a few weeks.

As the Junior Warden it is my job to keep everyone informed of the health of the lodge. The problem I face is I don’t know everyone, so I’ll need help with keeping informed. I look forward to this year and I hope I can do a good job.

## We need Sponsors

Do you know a business that can help Montgomery Lodge out? Do you own a business that wants to advertise with us? We are looking for businesses to advertise in our monthly newsletter.

We can do an add the size of a business card to a full-page ad.

Advertising will help pay for publication costs for the newsletter and help our Lodge operations.

Please forward all advertising inquiries to WB Tom Hoemke, Secretary by Email or phone.

Email:  
secretary@montgomerylodge.com

Phone:  
(651) 323-1904

## Meal Alert

We serve a meal before every stated meeting.

To make sure we have enough food for everyone, we kindly ask that you RSVP your meal.



**Montgomery Lodge #258**  
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Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107  
(651) 323-1904  
[www.montgomerylodge.com](http://www.montgomerylodge.com)

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
Dark in July and August  
Dinner is at 6:00 PM  
Stated Meeting is at 7:00 PM  
All updates, correspondence and article submissions to be made by emailing: [secretary@montgomerylodge.com](mailto:secretary@montgomerylodge.com)