

JANESVILLE MASONIC CENTER TRESTLE BOARD

E-MAIL: jvlmactr@gmail.com Website: JVLMASONS.COM

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAYS, 9 AM TO 11:00 AM EXCEPT HOLIDAYS CLOSED

JANESVILLE-WESTERN STAR #55

Sven Ahlstrom (608-314-6964)

Larry Preston - Sec. /Teas. (608-201-2991)

See us on Facebook: "Masonic Lodge Janesville" and "Janesville Western Star 55 Members"

JAN 8 6:00PM DINNER

7:00PM OPEN INSTALLATION OF 2024 OFFICERS – ALL ARE WELCOME

JAN 12 - 14 STRATEGIC RETREAT IN MADISON

JAN 22 6:00PM DINNER

7:00PM STATED MEETING

Hello Brothers, Happy New Year to you all!

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Years!

I am looking forward to this new year and all events that it will bring. We had a great year in 2023 and with your help we're going to make this lodge stronger in 2024 and the future. I am proud of all the new Brothers that have joined us in 2023, we were very busy and couldn't have accomplished it without the help from other Lodges. This month we will have our Installation of Officers, Deacons and Trustee's on January 8th, dinner at 6pm and an open Installation at 7pm. This is an open installation so everyone is welcome, please bring your family and friends.

On January 12 - 14 we will have our annual Strategic Retreat in the Madison Wi, Brothers of all degrees are welcome. Please RSVP Brother Alex Petropoulos (alexpetropoulos@outlook.co) for details if you plan on attending. The purpose of this retreat is to build fellowship among the Brothers and to plan and discuss what we want to accomplish for the upcoming year as well as future years.

We should all look forward to many exciting new accomplishments we'll achieve this coming year.

Stay well, Stay Warm Brothers,

Bro. Sven P. Ahlstrom

Cell: 608-314-6964

2024 Dues notices have been mailed and also emailed to those that have shared their email addresses with the lodge. REMEMBER THAT THE DUES FOR 2024 YEAR ARE DUE DECEMBER 31,2023. If for some reason you have not received your 2024 dues notices please contact Secretary Larry.

We are updating the records with Grand Lodge. We are looking for Veterans, (time in service and conflicts that were serve in), Wives/Significant Others Names and Month and Day of her Birthday, first responders and a picture of you. These can all be emailed to the Lodge email, jvlmactr@gmail.com.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESSED: If you know of a member that is suffering from an illness or other distress, Please let the Lodge know.

PROJECT 16:49 is one of the current projects of the Lodge. Project 16:49 is an organization supporting homeless youth with houses in Beloit and Janesville. 16:49 represents the time a student is dismissed from school until the next day school begins. Donations of Gift cards: Woodman's, Wal-Mart, Target, Shopko, Walgreens, Staples, Kwik Trip (fuel only cards), Subway, McDonalds, Burger King, Culvers, Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, etc... Personal hygiene items (men's and women's): body wash, shampoo, conditioner, razors, deodorant, facial cleanser, tampons. Cleaning supplies: toilet bowl cleaner, Swiffer-type mop pads (wet or dry), paper towels, trash bags, kitchen sponges, dish soap. Office, school & group activity supplies: copy paper, notepads, ink pens, 3 ring binders, HP 950/951 ink cartridges, easel pads. 18-gallon plastic storage bin. Donations can be dropped off at the Lodge in the Men's Lounge. New wish list for Project 16:49. Web site <https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2BZF8OD46F100>

December, 2023

Dear Masonic Brothers,

Freemasonry and the Order of the Eastern Star have a lot in common. Both organizations hold similar values, a shared purpose, and want to enjoy their lodges and chapters. The distinguishing feature that appeals to members is that in the Order of the Eastern Star, men may interact with their wives, mothers, daughters, sisters and other female relatives thereby helping to strengthen the family and promote the fraternal life.

OES invites and welcomes Master Masons and a family member to join the Order of the Eastern Star and participate in the synergy of fraternalism.

Our Chapter meets twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesday at 7:00PM except for July, November and December where we meet on the 2nd Wednesday only. We recess in the months of January and February. We have 18 officers. We would not expect our new members to jump into an office but be a "sideliner" until when if ever you feel like taking an office. Our Chapter year starts July 1 and ends June 31, our yearly dues are \$34, 24 of that which goes to our Wisconsin Grand Chapter and the remaining \$10 stays with the Chapter. We are a Charitable Organization and have a specific State Charity each year. This year it is "Memory Fountain for Three Pillars and Vest a Dog". We also support Cancer, Heart, Youth, Cheer Fund for residents at Three Pillars and Religious Scholarships. Locally we have supported Rock Co. SS, ECHO, Salvation Army and Project 1649 just to name a few. We also have an Eastern Star foundation that members who are having financial difficulties can confidentially apply for assistance.

To be able to continue to support our charities we try to have one or two fund raisers a year. We have had bake sales and bakeless bake sales, worked the Brat Stand at Festival Foods, participated at local restaurant fund raisers, candy bars and pie sales.

The Masonic Family is very dear to all of us and we as Eastern Star Members are proud to be members of one of the finest fraternal families available.

We would like to invite you ,your wife and other female relatives to join the Order of the Eastern Star. Try us for a year, you are under no obligation to continue your membership. Eastern Star is a Masonic affiliated organization and is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which both men and women may belong, so this is an activity that can be shared. It is also open to other female relatives with proper Masonic relationship.

Our members are warm and friendly and we would welcome the opportunity to visit with you and your wife about Eastern Star. More information and petitions for membership can be obtained from our Secretary, or myself, check out our Grand Chapter webpage at <http://www.wioes.org/>

Fraternally,

Rosie Fiscus, Past Grand Matron & Secretary of Janesville Chapter

oesrosebud@charter.net

608 835-7808 608 692-0530

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Our Chapter is dark during January and February with no formal meetings, however we are getting together at Red Robin in Janesville on January 31 at 6:00 for dinner and fellowship. We will be having a fundraiser that night and 20% of meals who provide a flyer will be collected for our Chapter. Please let us know if you need a flyer, we will gladly email one to you. Pass them out to your neighbors and friends.

Our Chapter lost 2 members in December Sister Irene Messer and Brother Ted Symons. Also Sister Tee Gavin's husband passed away.

Christmas cards and 4 stamps were sent to all of our life members. We appreciate their continued support of our Chapter. We have 17 life members. We still have members who have not paid their dues. If you are one of them, please remit ASAP. If you no longer wish to be a member please let us know. To be issued a demit a member must be current on their dues. Otherwise we would have to suspend you.

We have been helping to clean the ladies lounge and the kitchen. Blinds have been ordered and installed for the window in the Ladies Lounge. They look great. If anyone would like to make a donation to help offset the cost of the blinds it would be appreciated. Send a check to the Secretary. Only one corner of the kitchen shelving is left to do. All dishes are being ran through the dishwasher and cupboards being cleaned.

We sold cookie jar mixes at the Jobie Fall craft sale. We made 36 jars, we sold 11 that day and more along the way, we now have 11 jars left. Please let me know if you are interested in buying one to support the Chapter.

Our Secretary talked to the Masons about joining our Chapter on 12/11. Remember all female relatives of a Mason are eligible to join. Our Chapter would love to initiate a new member and we would also love to see our members we have not seen in awhile when we meet in March. Hope your winter is healthy and warm. Let us know if we can assist you in any way.

PGM Rosie Fiscus Secretary
oesrosebud@charter.net

Let us know if you know of anyone needing Sunshine.

Remember OES members are "Good People, doing good things for a good reason"

**** Sunshine person for Janesville is: Beth Ratzburg (920-691-6985) ****

**** Sunshine person for Beloit is: Jane Sholes (608-295-2000) ****

Please call them if you know of anyone who needs Sunshine or a "Thinking of You" card.

JOB'S DAUGHTERS BETHEL #21 VALERIE BRINKMAN-KAMPMANN, BETHEL GUARDIAN (608)201-5049

JAN 14 2:00PM INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

JAN 21 2:00PM STATED MEETING

All Masonic family members are welcome to attend any of our Bethel meetings or events. If you know young ladies ages 7-19, who would benefit from Job's Daughters, we would love to meet them. The daughters of the Bethel would love to help with any event the organizations in the building are having, please reach out!



Red Robin® will give

**20% OF FOOD SALES*
BACK TO**

ORDER OF EASTERN STAR -JANESVILLE #69

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to
your server to have your sales counted.

FUNDRAISER DETAILS

2430 Humes Rd, Janesville, WI 53546

January 31, 2024*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at order.redrobin.com and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)*" and click on that item.
- 3 Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4 Add your meal items and check out.
- 5 Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit redrobin.com and find this location to view hours. Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.

Red Robin.





JANESVILLE'S TRESTLE-BOARD DESIGNS

E-mail: JVLMACTR@GMAIL.COM

Website: jvlmasons.com



JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NEW YEARS DAY	2	3	4	5	6 MEET, STUDY, FELLOWSHIP, AND BREAKFAST 9:00 AM
7 IMAGINEERS USING DINING HALL	8 JANESVILLE- WESTERN STAR OPEN INSTALLATION 7:00PM MEETING	9 STUDY GROUP AND PRACTICE	10 CHAPTER 69 OES 7:00PM NO MEETING	11	12	13 RETREAT IN MADISON
14 JOB'S DAUGHTERS 5:00PM MEETING	15 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 9:30AM-2:30PM	16 STUDY GROUP AND PRACTICE	17	18	19	20 MEET, STUDY, FELLOWSHIP, AND BREAKFAST 9:00 AM
21 JOB'S DAUGHTERS 2:00PM MEETING	22 JANESVILLE- WESTERN STAR #55 7:00PM MEETING	23 STUDY GROUP AND PRACTICE	24 CHAPTER 69 OES NO STATED MEETING	25	26	27 MEET, STUDY, FELLOWSHIP, AND BREAKFAST 9:00 AM
28	29	30 STUDY GROUP AND PRACTICE	31 OES OUTING RED ROBIN			

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: The Trustees are providing our building to the American Red Cross as a courtesy to the community and the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross will be holding a monthly Blood Drive every third Monday of the month from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Please help support them. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are best. Appointments can be made through the jvlmasons.com website and clicking on the Red Cross icon or by going to redcrossblood.org. The next Blood Drives will be **JANUARY 15, 2024 AND FEBRUARY 19**. These drives have been well attended with the appointment schedule filled but walk-ins accepted when schedule permits.

NOTES FROM JANESVILLE-WESTERN STAR 55 TRUSTEES CENTER COMMITTEE

The elevator failed on Friday November 17, prior to Job's Daughters Craft and Vendors Fair. The elevator service company was called but failed to come until a second call was placed Friday evening. The repair person was unable to repair the elevator and stated the control valve needed to be replaced. The repair company quoted a cost of \$23,000 plus to replace the valve. Other companies were contacted to compare the cost of the replacement of the valve. One company responded and wanted to look at the valve prior to replacement. Upon checking the valve and

contacting a valve rebuilder, it was found that the adjustments were found to be way out of specifications and were reset to a desired adjustment. The adjustments were set to the correct settings and with some fine tuning, the elevator was working properly. The contract with the original service company was terminated due to the lengthy 6 plus months and cost to replace the elevator controller power supply the previous year and this years valve replacement quote and a contract with the company that was able to properly adjust the valve established starting in January 2024.

A BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND has been established for future major repairs and updates. Examples include; roof replacement, Lodge room walls repaired and repainted, and Lodge room carpet replaced. In the future these will be prioritized and ordered such as the Lodge room walls repair and repainted, etc. We want to keep our facility looking and performing at its best, to preserve the building for the future members and maintain the building as good stewards of the craft. The City of Janesville required that a grease trap be installed in the kitchen on the dish washer. This project has been in the works for several years with the city demanding that the work be performed. The total cost for this requirement was \$12,100. The 32-year-old Air Conditioner for the Main Lodge room had developed a leak that could not be found and/or fixed. The refrigerant for this unit was no longer being made and if found would be very costly. The unit was replaced in October 2022 and when the air handler is running is very much quieter than the old unit. The cost of the replacement was \$20,000. Recently good used Dishwasher for the kitchen was obtained to replace the 57-year-old Dishwasher unit that could not be repaired. The fire suppression system in the kitchen stove area was outdated and not up to code. This was updated to the latest system. The Kitchen Fire Suppression unit has been replaced with the updated system. The elevator power supply had failed requiring a replacement be modified to work with our elevator system. Donations to help offset the cost of these items would be greatly appreciated as the Masonic Center has taken a loan of \$108,000. Your help to pay for these projects would be greatly appreciated.

DON'T FORGET! KITCHEN AND DINING HALL USERS. - A general cleanup of the kitchen and wiping off of the tables (with the disinfectant premix IN THE SPRAY BOTTLES) must be done BEFORE AND AFTER each meeting's refreshments. We all need to police the area after our meetings to insure we are up to the requirements of the Health Department at all times. We are responsible for the cleaning of the Dining and Kitchen Area. Remember there is an individual using the kitchen to make gluten free baked goods. **NOTE! PLEASE TAKE YOUR TRASH OUT WITH YOU AFTER YOUR EVENT. LADIES, PLEASE NO PURSES IN THE KITCHEN OR ON THE COUNTER TOPS OR TABLES WHERE FOOD MAY BE PREPARED OR SERVED. SEE THE KITCHEN RULES BOOK IN THE KITCHEN AND PLEASE OBSERVE.**

Building Usage –The following rental rates for the building usage of the Dining area by individual members, April 1 to November 15 the rate is \$100/day and November 15 to April 1 the rate is \$130/day. Usage of the kitchen will be extra. The rental for outside organizations will remain the same depending on what areas are to be used. Talk it up with your groups that might look at our building for holding meetings or dinners. We work with various caterers dining area. If the meeting only needs coffee and carbs, we can work out an agreement to satisfy those needs. Please contact Trustee Secretary Larry for more information.

SPECIAL NOTE – if your group needs to reserve a special date during the year – the Presiding Officer *must contact Larry Preston (Building Manager) at 608-754-2475 OR 608-201-2991* as soon as possible – for authorization. The calendar has been moved to the office for better control but I also keep another calendar at home for those calls received and later transferred to the lodge calendar. If Larry is not contacted, the date might be already spoken for resulting in someone else interrupting your event. In addition, the building heating and cooling system is computer controlled and advanced notification is necessary to program in the usage dates so the desired room temperatures can be maintained.