

# MONTANA SUPPLEMENT



Editor: Daniel E Koch Jr. REPGC  
dkoch911@yahoo.com, 406-861-9946

This is a re-run, but I think it is fitting!

As we get into the swing of things for this Masonic year, I want to encourage all my Brothers to step up your game this year.

If you are already an active member of you Blue Lodge and York Rite bodies, that is great, is there more you can be doing? Are there committees you can volunteer for or maybe you can start a committee for a project you feel strongly about and want to see your lodge or chapters get involved with? Is there a cause or purpose you want to see made into an annual observance or event? Perhaps you have an idea to start a tradition within your lodge or chapter. You know, nothing can start or become a tradition unless someone try's it for the first time!

If you are currently a member by occasional attendance alone, keep in mind that what you get out of something is proportionate to what you put in. Only attending a meeting returns only a meeting night. Since you are attending already, why not speak up about some ideas you may have about things to do within the Lodge or Chapter to make it interesting for everyone. Partner up with a fellow member and start learning degree parts so you can play an active role in bringing new members in and creating memories for them, I guarantee that we all remember who was on our degree teams as we traveled on our Masonic journey. As stated before, start up or volunteer for a committee on something.

If you are only a dues paying member and do not participate in any part of our Masonic family, Why is that? Have we done something to cause your lack of continued interest?

Is there something we can do to get you active again? As stated before, you get out what is put in so if you are only a dues paying member than the only thing you will get back is membership and we can help change that.

I have mentioned this several times before, but I will say it again, I know there are hundreds of reasons why someone becomes disenchanted with Masonry. If someone is not attending due to health reasons ie; in assisted living or cannot drive at night, no problem, we will come and get you and take you home. If someone thinks they are of no use because they cannot do any of the degree work anymore, No problem, they have forgotten more than most of us will ever know, we need them so we can learn from them while there is still time and who else is going to pass on the stories of the members who we have already lost?

A few of the things I have thought about to increase interest and activity thus far include:

1. More committees, committees for meals and refreshment, membership, sick & distressed, ritual proficiency, degree teams, audio/video improvements, publicity, observances, anything, give someone a job and they will come.....

2. In lodge we have an instructor who oversees education, we do not have that in our other orders, why not? There is a bunch to learn and we can assign someone to teach us or facilitate our educational sessions.

3. A store and/or lending library. I personally have kicked around the idea of having a small area set aside in our hall stocked with Masonic items for our members to purchase. A lot of us see something cool we would like to have but often the effort spent to find it, order it and wait for it makes it not worth having it. This store could be stocked with pertinent items for your order.

Again, I say give them a job and they will come!!!

Respectfully submitted: Daniel Koch Jr. PM, REPGC