

THE M. W. GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF KANSAS

JESSE E. BEAN

District Deputy Grand Master, 22nd District
P. O. Box 192, Overbrook, Kansas 66524

RIDGEWAY LODGE NO. 62

SEPT. 23, 1974

TO THE NORTHWEST OF OVERBROOK, IN A PIONEER SETTLEMENT KNOWN AS RIDGEWAY KANSAS, IN THE YEAR OF 1873, LIVED ELEVEN MASTER MASONS, MEMBERS OF VARIOUS LODGES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.

THESE ELEVEN MASONS PETITIONED FOR, AND RECEIVED A DISPENSATION TO FORM A NEW MASONIC LODGE.

THE DISPENSATION WAS GRANTED ON JUNE 28, 1873, and from then until their charter was granted, on OCT. 22, 1874, THE NEW LODGE HAD RAISED 8 MEN TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER MASON.

THE FIRST OFFICERS OF THE LODGE WERE:

CLYDE J. MCDIVITT	MASTER
GEORGE W. WATSON	S.W.
CLARK H. EASTON	J.W.
J. BARTLETT	TREAS.
JOSEPH LAW	SECY.
ROBERT ALLEN	S.D.
JOHN L. REILLY	J.D.
HIRAM K. REILLY	TYLER

THESE, ALONG WITH BROS. J.S. BARBOUR, GEORGE R. EMERY AND AARON COBERLY COMPOSED THE CHARTER MEMBERS OF RIDGEWAY LODGE NO. 62. MEETINGS WERE HELD IN THE RIDGEWAY SCHOOL HOUSE ON THE FIRST AND THIRD SAT.

IN 1893 FIRE DESTROYED THE HOME OF BRO. CLARK EASTON ALONG WITH ALL THE RECORDS OF THE YOUNG LODGE.

Remitted dues of all members.

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81 YEARS AGO, ON SEPT. 23, 1893, A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO REMOVE THE LODGE TO THE TOWN OF OVERBROOK, MOTION CARRIED.

ON FEB. 15, 1894, THE GRAND MASTER ISSUED AN EDICT, REMOVING THE LODGE TO OVERBROOK.

THE FIRST MEETING IN OVERBROOK WAS HELD IN THE MILLER BUILDING ON MARCH 31, 1894.

THEY MEET IN THE MILLER HALL UNTIL 1898, WHEN THEY MOVED INTO THEIR PRESENT TEMPLE, BUILT ABOVE THE NEW K.S. BANK, AT A COST OF \$2,800.00 THERE WERE FORTY TWO MEMBERS IN THE LODGE AT THIS TIME.

ON FEB. 16, 1937, THE RECORDS WERE AGAIN LOST IN THE FIRE AT THE F.U. STORE, HENRY COLEMAN, SECY.

IN MARCH, 1971, THE HALL WAS REDORATED, THE CEILING WAS LOWERED, WALLS PANNELED AND NEW LIGHTING INSTALLED.

ON JUNE 25, 1971, RIDGEWAY LODGE HOSTED THE FIRST TABLE LODGE IN THE AREA, THE MEETING WAS HELD IN THE RANCH HOUSE CAFE AT THE FOUR CORNERS, WITH 58 BRETHERN FROM EIGHT LODGES ATTENDING.

M:W: WILLIAM E. BRADFORD, P.G.M. WAS THE SPEAKER.

ON DEC. 26, 1972, THEEVES BROKE INTO THE LODGE HALL, TORE UP THE CARPET AND FLOOR TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE BANK VAULT BELOW

ON JUNE 16, 1973 THE ROOF WAS BLOWN OFF IN A WIND STORM, AND THE THE CEILING AND CARPET WAS DESTROYED.

A NEW ROOF AND CEILING WAS INSTALLED, AND NEW WALL TO WALL CARPET WAS LAID IN TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING IN DEC. 473.