

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
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**CHAPTER 1**

**SHERIDAN MASONIC LODGE EARLY HISTORY 1875-1913**

Sheridan Lodge No. 64, A.F. & A.M was organized in Sheridan on June 18, 1875. The first meetings were held in a small two-story frame building one block north of the Opera House block. The building was on the east side of the street and a drug store owned and conducted by Alf Saylor was in the lower story. This building has been removed for several years.

The early membership of the lodge was composed largely of farmers living out of town, some of them living many miles out, as far as the upper Willamina, and Grand Ronde, but a more faithful lot of fellows to attend regularly was never banded together in any lodge. The older members of the lodge still belonging remark about this, and tell good stories of the good old times they used to have, of the oyster suppers, stews and mulligans that went to enliven the social times these fellow had.

After occupying this building for some years the lodge was next domiciled in a two story wooden building on the present site of Bewleys Livery Stable, the lower story being owned by Mrs. S.M. Waite of Salem, the lodge owning the upper story. There the lodge grew very rapidly and a number of influential members were taken into membership.

In 1887, while Henry Lamson was Master, this lodge was burned, totally destroying all the Masons property, and left the lodge in very bad circumstances. But as throughout all Masonic history, misfortune has seemed only to stimulate renewal of activity the Members began again. By the kindness of the Workmen=s Lodge the Masonic body met in their hall, upstairs in a building owned by Gus Anderson, immediately east of the present opera house, which building is now occupied by Hipple and Eskridges Hardware. After an unsettled period of some years here, the Masons next met in the present Methodist Church, upstairs, the lower story being used by the church. This was the regular Masonic Lodge Building and a rousing meeting of all the membership was held to consider ways and means. A vote was taken and a unanimous decision rendered deciding to build.

A subscription was taken up, the various members giving such sums as they pleased, subscriptions generally being twenty or twenty five dollars per man until such sum was raised as would justify a beginning. Brother P.M. Scroggin said he would give a lot to build on, which he did, being the south 33 feet of the ground at present owned by the lodge. The building was built, the lodge assuming and unpaid balance due above the subscription and this dept the lodge quickly paid, leaving it free from debt.

This lodge building served as the home of the Masonic Lodge from 1890, the year it was built until July 18, 1913 when it was destroyed by the great fire, together with almost everything owned by the lodge, including its most valued record books and all paraphernalia.

During the early years of the lodge a number of members were initiated into the lodge who were true pioneers of this section. Among the number, but not including all were the following:

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

C.G. Rowell, the first Master, P.M. Scrogging first Senior Warden, H.W. Lamson the first Junior Warden, Lee Rowell, H.P. Summerville, H.Z. Foster, Sam Buel, Wm. Kuykendall, A.L. Litchfield, J.B. Trullinger, W.R. (Del) Ellis, J.R. Mendenhall, Henry Graves, P.M. Churchman, J.W. Bones, H.C. Rowell, D.C. Coleman(deceased), W.L. Lemon, Henry Ellis(deceased), Wilson Milsap(deceased), Ben Donahue(deceased), Dr. Cox, and Robert Booth.

For many years the lodge has maintained a slow, steady growth and at the writing of this memorandum has a membership of 80 members. A lodge of the Eastern Star goes hand in hand with the Blue Lodge, both are prosperous.

After the great fire of July 18, 1913, the lodge resolved to build a bigger and a better temple and accordingly arranged for plans. The result is that at the writing of this memorandum December 19, 1913, a temple on the **(Left blank)** is that tomorrow, December 20, 1913 at 11:00 AM the cornerstone of a new temple to cost about thirteen thousand dollars will be laid by Senior G.W. Frank J. Miller. The building at this writing is up about eight feet above the street level and going up rapidly.

The City of Sheridan at this time has about 1250 population and is rapidly assuming the proportions of a first class country town.

In the fire of July 18, 1913, the lodge lost all of its belongings except the old Bible, one staff, and the square and compasses. Owing to the origin of the fire being so close to the lodge room it was impossible to save other property. The greatest loss was the old minute books all of which were lost. The charter was also lost.

At his time it is believed the lodge will take on renewed life, will grow rapidly and become an institution of great good in the community after the new temple is completed. Those who may read these lines at some future time alone may know how true this prophecy will come.

Fraternally,  
signed by R. K. Montgomery  
Senior Deacon

**(Source: Location of the original written history is unknown, with only the typed account of the original available)**

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

The year 1913 has been an unusual year, in many particulars. For Sheridan Lodge No. 64 A.F. & A.M.

The officers for the present year 1913 began a systematic effort to follow the new Ritual work in the three degrees B this work having been adopted by the Grand Lodge recently. The writer having attended the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of Oregon in the years 1909-10-11-12 and 13, was sufficiently familiar with the revised work to cause it to be used for the first time in Sheridan Lodge during the year 1913.

The Lodge lost its charter, building, records, furniture, piano, etc... by fire on the evening of July 18, 1918, (*the actual date was July 18, 1913*) about 6 P.M. when practically all the business houses on the South side of the Yamhill River were destroyed. The large Lodge Bible used at the altar, the small bible used for examinations, one of the Warden=s columns and the Junior Deacons Staff were saved by Dr. Rosco C. Fields of Portland Lodge No 55 A.F. & A.M. The square and compass were saved by Bro. R.K. Montgomery(Montgomery) S.D. having taken them from the Lodge after the last meeting being on July 12, 1913. The Treasurer=s Cash Book was saved as Bro. Lee Rowell had it at his house. The small organ was saved by the Trustees having loaned it to the Congregational Church a few months previous. These articles, I believe, was all the Lodge had left after the fire, except the Masonic Cemetery, a few hundred dollars in cash, and the lot on which the former building had stood.

While the town was still burning, about 9 or 10 o=clock on the evening of July 18, 1913, the undersigned as Master requested Bro. W. Beck, Secretary, to notify the Grand Master Bro. S.S. Spencer of Eugene, Or. Of our loss requesting a reissue of our charter or a special dispensation so our lodge could convene.

On July 23, 1913 the Grand Master granted a Special Dispensation to AHold the Communication of Sheridan Lodge.... on account of the Charter having been lost in the late fire.@

On July 26, 1913 Sheridan lodge met in Stated Communication in the Commercial Club Rooms at the corner of N. Bridge and Main Streets, thus losing no stated communication on account of the fire. The lodge is still using the club rooms.

The Lodge took steps without delay to investigate the matter of rebuilding. A building committee consisting of L.C. Bennett S.W., R.K. Montgomery S.D., and R.V. Stockton J.W., was appointed. The writer, the Master was by the Lodge made an ex-officio member of the committee.

This committee arranged for the purchase from Bro A.J. Bewley of the lot adjoining the original Masonic lot on the North. Subscriptions were taken among the Masons with which to purchase the additional lot.

Later the Lodge made the above committee a permanent building committee and authorized the building of a two story brick building on its property.

Plans for the Masonic Temple were prepared by L.R. Bailey Co., of Portland, who also put in the concrete foundation.

The contract for the new Masonic Temple, (above the foundation) was let to Mr. Robert

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

Shelley of Portland No 55... who is also now building the Masonic Building at McMinnville, and Mr. S.T. Sanford a local carpenter. On November 22, 1913 new by - laws were adopted conforming to the uniform code as required by the Grand Lodge.

On Dec 13, 1913 the following committee was appointed for the laying of the corner stone: Bros R.K. Montgomery, W. Beck, and F.B. Sackett.

Today, December 20, 1913, R.W. Senior Grand Warden Frank J. Miller, acting as proxy for the Grand Master S.S. Spencer, opened the Grand Lodge,... of Oregon on the Entered Apprentice Degree and laid the corner stone during the noon hour, a copy of the minutes of this meeting being also deposited herewith.

Signed by  
Holt Stockton,  
Worshipful Master  
Some Masonic History for 1913  
(also in the 1914 cornerstone)

**(Source: Location of the original written history is unknown, with only the typed account of the original available)**

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

**CHAPTER 2**

**SHERIDAN #64 1914-2000**

There is not much to be said after the fire of 1913, mainly because there is nothing written of the history except what has been written in the minutes which it must be said are not very consistent from 1914 to present.



**1914 CORNERSTONE CEREMONY  
SHERIDAN OREGON**

The main things that should be documented here is the time capsule of 1914, and the cornerstone ceremony of 1963. The brothers of Sheridan were always active during this time period, many dinners and shared events with other lodges occurred, unfortunately there is not much written. I will share the re-typed 1963 cornerstone ceremony and the items of the Time Capsule which was placed in the cornerstone of the Lodge dedicated in 1914. What will follow is items taken from Lodge Communications and Lodge Minutes that have some historical significance or interest.

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

TIME CAPSULE 1913

MEASUREMENT OF TIME CAPSULE

10'=X8'= WIDE

5 3/4'= HIGH

1. OREGONIAN 1913, DEC 21. CONDITION POOR.
2. FRONT PAGE WEEKLY INTER DREAM AND FARMER DEC 5, 1913. CHICAGO ILLINOIS. CONDITION FAIR.
3. BUSINESS CARDS
  1. W. IRVING LATIMER
  2. FRANK J. MILLER
  3. ROBERT SHELLEY
  4. R.V. STOCKTON
4. REPORT OF CONDITION OF A THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SHERIDAN OR. OCT. 1913
5. MAGAZINE A THE GAVEL @. HOLT STOCKTON SIGNED DEC. 1913
6. ENVELOPE E.W. HAAS DRUG CO. A THE REXALL STORE SHERIDAN OR. @ LETTER ENCLOSED FROM HASS DRUGGIST OF HIS LIFE AND HISTORY.
7. CHRISTMAS GREETING CARD 1914. FIRST NATIONAL BANK
8. MASONIC DIRECTORY 1913. SHERIDAN OR.
9. MINUTES JULY 26, 1913 SHERIDAN LODGE #64
10. ENVELOPE TITLED, A OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF OREGON AND SOME MASONIC HISTORY FOR 1913". HOLT STOCKTON, W. MASTER SHERIDAN LODGE #64. ENCLOSED: MINUTES CORNER STONE CEREMONY, DEC. 1913. GRAND LODGE OF OREGON GRAND LODGE OFFICERS 1913.
11. MASONIC APRON: NAME ON APRON LAWRENCE L. **LAST NAME NOT LEGIBLE**
12. 4 EMPTY ENVELOPES
  1. HALL OF SHERIDAN LODGE NO 64 AFAM SHERIDAN OREGON
  2. SAME AS A., WITH CORNERSTONE WRITTEN ON FACE
  3. SCHOOL NOTES WRITTEN ON FROM
  4. MRS. GG SCROGGIN CHURCH CLERK UPPER LEFT, COPY OF THE ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH FROM AUGUST 13, 1853 TO DECEMBER 20, 1913 AT SHERIDAN YAMHILL COUNTY OREGON.

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004



**CONTENTS OF THE 1914 TIMECAPSULE**

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

CORNERSTONE MAY 25, 1963

**OCCASIONAL COMMUNICATION**  
**LAYING THE CORNERSTONE OF THE SHERIDAN HIGH SCHOOL**

SHERIDAN, OREGON  
MAY 25, 1963

An Occasional Communication of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Oregon, convened in the Lodge hall of Sheridan Lodge No. 64, at Sheridan, Oregon at 1:30 P.M. on Saturday, May 25, 1963, for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of the new high school building at Sheridan.

PRESENT

|  |        |                          |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| LYMAN C. PALMER  |        | M.W. GRAND MASTER        |
| WM. D.E. SHARPE  |        | R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER |
| WILBUR A. WELLBORN (32)  | ACTING | R.W. SR. GRAND WARDEN    |
| ALFRED B. HOLMES (156-198) DDGM 32   | ACTING | R.W. JR. GRAND WARDEN    |
| FRANKLIN C. HOWELL PGM   |        | R.W. GRAND TREASURER     |
| H.D. PROUDFOOT PGM   |        | R.W. GRAND SECRETARY     |
| J.J. SECHRIST (64)   | ACTING | R.R. GRAND CHAPLAIN      |
| WILBUR A. WELLBORN   |        | W. SR. GRAND DEACON      |
| CARL J. MORRESEN (30) DDGM #25   | ACTING | W. JR. GRAND DEACON      |
| FRANK E. LAWSON (160)  | ACTING | W. GRAND MARSHAL         |
| DR. ROBERT E. DODGE  |        | W. GRAND ORATOR          |
| EUGENE MCKINLEY (64)   | ACTING | W. SR. GRAND STEWARD     |
| GUY W. BURGESS (43)  | ACTING | W. JR. GRAND STEWARD     |
| STEPHEN N. STIVERS (64)  | ACTING | W. GRAND STANDARD BEARER |
| DOT DOSON (11) DDGM #11  | ACTING | W. GRAND SWORD BEARER    |
| CHARLES WRIGHT (64)  | ACTING | W. GRAND PURSUIVANT      |
| EDWARD B. BEATY PGM (14)   | ACTING | W. GRAND TYLER           |
| EDWARD B. BEATY PGM, FRANKLIN C. HOWELL PGM, HOWARD C. BELTON PGM, H.D. PROUDFOOT PGM. |        |                          |

Also the follow DDGMS 4-5-9-25-30-32.

Due to the seasonal activities in the area there was a rather small attendance by the townspeople.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form on the Entered Apprentice Degree by M. W. Lyman C. Palmer, Grand Master. The Grand Marshal then instructed the brethren relative to their duties and formed them in procession with P.M. Melvin G. Agee (64) carrying the silver vessel containing the oil, P.M. Loyal Hamstreet (64) carrying the silver vessel containing the wine, P.M. Otto W. Herder (64) carrying the golden vessel containing the corn. The brethren then marched the distance of five blocks to the location of the new High School Building.

The assemblage was called to order by Brother Stephen N. Stivers, Superintendent of Schools. Following the salute to the Flag and the pledge of allegiance, the high school band rendered the following selection: AThe Footlifter@ and AFort Gay@.

Acting as Master of Ceremonies Brother Stivers introduced the Mayor of Sherwood, the Master of the Lodge, the architect, the principal of the school and the Board Chairman.

The chairman of the School Board then extended an invitation to the Grand Lodge to lay the cornerstone of the building.

The Ritual as found in the Manual was then performed in a highly creditable manner by the Grand Lodge Officers.

Following is the list of articles placed in the casket:

ITEM

- I.
  1. List of Grand Lodge Officers performing ceremony  
Lyman C. Palmer, Grand Master  
William D. E. Sharpe, Deputy Grand Master  
Franklin C. Howell, P.G.M. Grand Treasurer  
Harry D. Proudfoot P.G.M. Grand Secretary  
Wilber A. Wellborn, Senior Grand Deacon  
Lyman S. Coburn, Junior Grand Deacon  
Frank E. Lawson, Grand Marshal  
Dr. Robert E. Dodge, Grand Orator

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

- Jay Sechrist, P.M.,                      Substituting as Grand Chaplain  
Dr. Morton L. Booth
2. District Deputies present  
Guy Burgess, McMinnville Dist. No. 4  
Ernest McLaren, Nehalem, Dist. No. 5  
Dot Dotson, Eugen, Dist. No. 9  
Carl J. Mortenson, Forest Grove, Dist. No. 30  
Chester Stallard, Nelscott, Dist. No. 30  
Alfred B. Holmes, Portland, Dist. No. 32
3. Other Masonic Dignitaries present  
Howard Belton, P.G.M., Grand Committee Member
- II.
1. List of Local dignitaries present  
Eugene McKinley, Worshipful Master, Sheridan Lodge No.64  
Wilma Paulovich, Chairman, Board of Education, Dist. No. 48-14j  
Ernest E. Davenport, Principal, Sheridan High School  
Stephen N. Stivers, Superintendent, Sheridan Public Schools  
C. Melvin Agee, Mayor, City of Sheridan  
James Jamison, Architect, Hewlett & Jamison, Architect
- III.
1. One copy of the Sheridan Sun, Thursday, May 23, 1963
- IV.
1. A Roster of the Sheridan Board of Education and administration  
Wilma Paulovich, Chairman  
J. Arthur Hebert, Vice Chairman  
Lloyd R. Palmer, Member  
DeLores Gross, Member  
Fred A. Simonson, Member  
Edna M. Moore, District Clerk  
Stephen N. Stivers, Superintendent of Schools  
Ernest E. Davenport, Principal, Sheridan High School
- V.
1. One prospectus of the bond issue and subsequent bond election
- VI.
1. Description and dates of events of construction schedule
- VII.
1. Copy of AYamhill County School Directory, 1962-3"
- VIII.
1. Copy of AThe Oregon School Directory, 1962-3"
- IX.

**SHERIDAN - DAYTON #64**  
**LODGE HISTORY**  
(c) 2004

1. Roster of Sheridan Lodge No. 64 Officers

An excellent oration was delivered by the Acting Grand Chaplain, J. J. Sechrist, the brethren returned to the Lodge Hall where the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form by M.W. Lyman C. Palmer, Grand Master.

Approved:  
Lyman C. Palmer  
Grand Master

Attest:  
H. D. Proudfoot  
Grand Secretary