



Allocution of the Worshipful Master
Delivered by WBro. Jeremiah Schartz
at the Regular Communication of Long Pine Lodge No. 136
December 15, 2020

Brethren of Long Pine Lodge No. 136:

As your master for 2019 and 2020, it is hard to believe that in the fall of 2018 I was asked if I was ready to be Master of Long Pine Lodge, and now it is time to already pass the torch. The past two years we have done so much as a lodge in the middle of the Sandhills. It is the members that keep the traditions and accomplishments of Long Pine Lodge going.

January of 2019 we had a Ladies at the table tied in with the officer insulation. We just about filled up the whole Long Pine community center that evening. With so many different representatives from all over Nebraska and South Dakota joining us. Once you mention Long Pine and Ladies at the Table in the same sentence, people are ready for a good time.

February of 2019 at Grand Lodge in Kearney we were honored to watch our very own WBro. Stan Weidner installed as Senior Steward for the 2019 year. Following the Grand Lodge, we were also honored to receive the Grand Master of Nebraska, MW Bob Moninger.

May of 2019 Long Pine Lodge was able to assist the American Legion raising the flags on Memorial Day at the cemetery in Long Pine. Thank you to the brethren that help with this every year!

September 2019 was the first time ever we had an Order of DeMolay Initiation by Nebraska DeMolay for Nebraska at Large Chapter. Many well deserving boys were there that afternoon. Long Pine Lodge supports the Chapter at Large with all of their projects.

December 2019 we were able to finish out the year making Bro. Don Coash a Master Mason. Thank you to all the brethren that helped make this happen. It takes a lot to make sure we put on the degrees.

February 2020 we were able to attend Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Long Pine Lodge was awarded the Rock Maul Award for small lodges. The Lodge Vitality Award was also awarded to us. WBro. Barry Frerichs also received the CHIP 5-event award - a very honorable award.

Long Pine Lodge was honored to present Adam Turpin, a DeMolay, the Certification of Achievement Award Scholarship. Adam was also presented the Masonic Youth Scholarship Award from the Grand Chapter of Nebraska, Order of the Eastern Star.

I have thought about the year 2020 being so hard for the Grand Master of Nebraska to participate in activities around the state due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But even our lodge had missed out so much. We had the Child Identification Program event scheduled at the O'Neill Public Schools but we had to reluctantly cancel it. Also, for the second year we had to cancel our Glow Ball Golf in Bassett. For most of the year we had to do virtual meetings, but it was always fun to see Bro. Garret Weidner's background and to see some other members join us with their video on the screen upside down.

Thank you to the brothers that have helped with the roof repairs, and maintenance of the lodge. It shows that even our little lodge can accomplish big things.

At last, I would like to thank the brethren for your belief in me for being Master for two years. It was an honor!

Respectfully and Fraternaly Yours,

(SGD)Jeremiah Schartz
Worshipful Master