

Rockey Lodge
No. 75
Corvallis, Oregon
1880-1893



Theodore Balestreri 33°



Rockey Lodge No. 75

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	5
Introduction	7
Entries from the Grand Lodge Proceedings	11
Consolidation of Rockey Lodge	33
Biography of the Masters of Rockey Lodge No. 75	37
Conclusion	51
Author's Biography	53

Acknowledgements:

I received a great deal of support from fellow Masons seeking to establish the facts and maintain the history of our Order. One fellow Mason was Brother Michael Robinson.

Michael D. Robinson is a 32° KCCH in the Scottish Rite. He earned his degree in History at Colorado State University. He was the second Master Mason Raised in Esoterika Lodge No. 227, and the first member Raised in that Lodge to serve as Worshipful Master. He was presented with the Hiram Award by Esoterika Lodge in 2012, and was elected Master in 2013 and 2014. He served as District Deputy for District #13 in 2016-17 and 2017-18, and was appointed Grand Historian for 2018-19, and second term of 2019-2020. He is also serving as Historian for Research Lodge No. 198 and Eugene Lodge No. 11. Brother Robinson received the Scottish Rite degrees in 2010 and was the recipient of the “Novus Astorum” from the Portland Valley Scottish Rite that year. He was appointed Historian of the Scottish Rite Orient of Oregon in December of 2014. In March of 2015 he was made Secretary of the Eugene Valley, and Director of the Work for that Valley in January of 2017.

The second person, though not a Freemason, was of also great help. Her name is Ms. Mary Gallagher, and is one of the curators and the Collections Manger at the Benton County Historical Society, in Philomath, Oregon. Without her help much of the non-Masonic biographical history of the Past Masters would not be available.

I want to thank both of these individuals for their time and energy helping with the facts of **Rockey Lodge No. 75**.

Introduction

In an article called *Pioneer Corvallis Lodge Has Glamourous History* in the *Oregon Freemason*, dated June 1957, the following information was given:

According to some there was “something in the Lodge (Corvallis No. 14) that did not satisfy all the Brethren, and a few withdrew to organize **Rockey Lodge No. 75**”.

They originally met in what was valled the Fisher Building located near the Corvallis State Bank. They later moved to the spot south of the corner of 2nd and Adams Streets.

In the *Grand Masters Address* they listed all the Lodges on the roles. At that time **Rockey Lodge, U.D.** had no officers or members listed. But later under the *Dispensations for New Lodges* the following statement was given.

On April 23rd upon recommendation of **Corvallis Lodge No. 14**, to Jas. R. Bayley as W. M., John B. Lee as S. W., Jon. H. Lewis as J. W., to open and hold a lodge

Theodore J. Balestreri

at Corvallis to be known as **Rockey Lodge**.

Under the *1880 Grand Lodge Proceeding*, page 20, with the following statement in the sub-section *Special Dispensations* was added:

On April 26, to Rockey Lodge (U. D.) to receive and ballot upon the petition of Haman Lewis, William Grant, M. S. Neugass and I. H. Harris within the time fixed by the constitution. This dispensation was granted upon consultation with officers and members of the lodge having concurrent jurisdiction, a majority of whose members were present during the ballot.

The name “Rockey” itself has an odd spelling and *may* have been named after the Grand Master Rockey P. Earhart (1837-1892), who served as Grand Master of Oregon 1879 and 1880. Prior to being Grand Master, he was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge from 1872-1878. He also served as Sovereign Grand Inspector as a thirty-third degree of the Scottish Rite in the State of Oregon from 1883 until 1892.



Rockey Preston Earhart was initiated in Salem Lodge, No. 4, May 14th, 1864. He was raised a Master Mason April 19th, 1865, and was made a Companion R. A. Mason in Multnomah Chapter, No. 1, September 29th, 1866. He served as Worshipful Master of Salem Lodge No. 4 in 1872, of which he remained a Life Member.

Rockey Lodge No. 75

The Order of Christian Knighthood was conferred upon him by Washington Commandry, No. 1, Washington, D. C., January 14th, 1870. He assisted in organizing Oregon Commandry, No. 1, Knights Templar under special dispensation December 20th, 1875. This was the first Commandery of Knight Templars to be established on the North Pacific Coast. He was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandry of the State of Oregon in 1889. Brother Earhart was the first elected Eminent Commander under the Charter which was granted on the 6th day of October of 1877.

He served for four years as its Eminent Commander, being presented upon his retirement from that office with a beautiful Masonic jewel.

Earhart was born in Ohio in 1837, and died in Portland, Oregon in 1892. He first arrived in Oregon in 1855 when he was with the 4th Infantry regiment of the US. Army. From 1861-1868 he worked as the Indian Agent in the Warm Springs area of Jefferson County, Oregon.

Besides his Masonic and military career, he held many elected offices. He was elected to *Oregon House of Representatives* in 1870. From 1872-1874 he worked at the *Portland Bulletin* office. He was made *Chief Clerk* in the *Surveyor General's office* in 1874 which he served until 1878. In the elections of 1878 he was elected *Secretary of State of Oregon* and re-elected in 1882. He held the post from 2 September 1878 to 10 January 1887. Other offices he held was from 1885 to 1887 as *Adjutant General*. In the elections in 1888, he was elected to represent Multnomah County in the *Oregon House of Representatives*. Later he became the *Collector of Customs* for the *Port of Portland* which was an appointed office.

Entries from the Grand Lodge Proceedings

The following is the list of officers and members that appeared in the *Annual Grand Lodge Proceedings* over the next 13 Sessions.

Authors Note: Please note that many of the spellings of names may differ. This is due to the way the Grand Secretary entered the names or by this author's inability to decipher the poor printing of the names in the document.

Proceeding of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1880

Rockey Lodge No. 75 (Corvallis, Benton County) They met on the Wednesday after the full moon. Chartered June 16th, 1880. They consolidated with **Corvallis No. 14** in 1893.

Officers:

James R. Bayley, W. M.	Stephen E. Belknap, S. D.
John B. Lee, S. W.	Edward Belknap, J. D.
J. W. Lewis, J. W.	_____, S.S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	_____, J.S.
Wallace Baldwin, Secretary	Myer Harris, Tyler

Theodore J. Balestreri

Past Masters:

J. R. Bayley	Wallace Baldwin
J. B. Lee	G. W. Kennedy

Master Masons:

Norman Draper	G. W. Kennedy
John Rowland	B. E. Gardner
R. T. Motley	J. A. Yantis
B. F. Irvine	

E. Apprentices:

Isaac H. Harris	Harmon Lewis
M. S. Neugass	William Grant
Zephin Job	

Initiate:

Isaac H. Harris	Harmon Lewis
M. S. Neugass	William Grant
Zephin Job	

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1881 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

Wallace Baldwin, W. H.	George W. Kennedy, S. D.
J. H. Lewis, S. W.	John Rowland, J. D.
S. E. Belknap, J. W.	B. E. Gardiner, S. S.
M. Stock, Treasurer	William Grant, J.S.
Myer Harris, Secretary	James A. Yantis, Tyler

Past Elective Grand Officers:

James R Bayley, P.G.M.

Past Masters:

James R. Bayley	Wallace Baldwin
John B. Lee	George A Kennedy

Master Masons:

E.M. Belknap	Norman Draper
J.A. Gibbard	Isaac H. Harris
B.F. Irvine	Zephin Job
H.W. Keesee	Harman Lewis
T.T. Motley	M.S. Neugass
L. Y. Wilson	

Initiated:

H. W. Keesee	L. Y. Wilson
J. A. Gibheard	

Passed:

Isaac. H. Harris	Wm. Grant
Zephin Job	M. N. Neugass
Harmon Lewis	H.W. Keesee
L. Y. Wilson	J. A. Gibheard

Raised:

Isaac. H. Harris	Wm. Grant
Zephin Job	M. N. Neugass
H. W. Keesee	L. Y. Wilson
Harmon Lewis	J. A. Giblieard

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Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1882 Proceeding
Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

S. E. Belknap, W. M.	M. S. Neugass, S. D.
J. H. Lewis, S. W.	John Rowland, J. W.
Myer Harris, J. W.	H. C. Lewis, S. S.
M. Stock, Treasurer	A. F. Heshner, J. S.
Zephin Jolt, Secretary	William Grant, Tyler

Past Elective Grand Officers:

James R Bayley, P.G.M.

Past Masters:

James R. Bayley	Wallace Baldwin
John B. Lee	George W. Kennedy

Master Masons:

E.M. Belknap	Norman Draper
J.A. Gibbard	Isaac H. Harris (H.E.?)
B.F. Irvine (Irvin)	H.W. Keesee (Kusee)
R.T. Motley	L. Y. Wilson
S.H. Harris	B. E. Gardenier
L.F. Wilson*	M.S. Woodcock*
H.E. Harris*	

*Admitted

Fellow Craft:

A.F. Hishner

Initiated:

A.F. Hishner

Died:

James Y. Yantis

**Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1883 Proceeding
Rockey Lodge No. 75**

Officers:

John H Lewis, W. M.	J.B. Lee, S. D.
E. M. Belknap, S. W.	L.F. Wilson, J. W.
R.T. Motley, J. W.	A.F. Hishner, S. S.
M. Stock, Treasurer	Isaac Harris, J. S.
Zephin Job, Secretary	Wallace Baldwin, Tyler

Past Elective Grand Officers:

James R Bayley, P.G.M.

Past Masters:

James R. Bayley	Wallace Baldwin
John B. Lee	George W. Kennedy
S.E. Belknap	

Master Masons:

Norman Draper	J.A. Gibbard
B.F. Irvine	H.W. Keesee
L. Y. Wilson	Byron E. Gardenier
M.S. Woodcock	H.E. Harris
J.H. Dearmond*	Myer Harris
M.S. Neugass	William T. Radir

Theodore J. Balestreri

John Rowland

Harmon Lewis

John Miller

*Admitted

Fellow Craft:

Thomas J. Blair

John Miller

Wm. T. Radir

E. Apprentice:

Thomas J. Blair

John Miller

Wm. T. Radir

N.L. Raber

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1884 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

E.M. Belknap, W. M.

William Baldwin, S. D.

M.S. Woodcock, S. W.

Thomas Blair, J. W.

Zephin Job, J. W.

N.L. Raeber S. S.

M. Stock, Treasurer

John Miller, J. S.

M.S. Neugass, Secretary

John H. Lewis, Tyler

Past Elective Grand Officers:

James R Bayley, P.G.M.

Past Masters:

James R. Bayley

Wallace Baldwin

John B. Lee

George W. Kenedy (Kennedy)

S.E. Belknap

John H. Lewis

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Master Masons:

Norman Draper	J.A. Gibbeard
B.F. Irvine	H.W. Keesee
Byron E. Gardnier	H.E. Harris
William T. Raber	Harmon Lewis
J.H. DeArmond	L. H. Harris
C.F. Hershner	J. Realand
T.W. B. Smith	L.G. Wilson
William Grant	T.F. Wilson

B.F. Motley

Fellow Craft:

N.L. Raeber	T.W. B. Smith
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George G. Horning

E. Apprentice:

T.W.B. Smith	George G. Horning
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J.O. Wilson

Died:

Myer Harris

**Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1885 Proceeding
Rockey Lodge No. 75**

Officers:

Herman Elias Harris, W. M.	John Byron Lee, S. D.
Milton S. Woodcock, S. W.	Thomas Blair, J. W.
Zephin Job, J. W.	George G. Horning S. S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	William T. Radir, J. S.
James O. Wilson, Secretary	Edward M. Belknap, Tyler

Theodore J. Balestreri

Past Elective Grand Officers:

James R Bayley, P.G.M.

Past Masters:

James R. Bayley	Wallace Baldwin
John B. Lee	George W. Kennedy
Stephen E. Belknap	John H. Lewis
Edward M. Belknap	Beniah R. Job

Master Masons:

Norman Draper	J.A. Gibheard
Ben. F. Irvine	Henry W. Keesee
Byron E. Gardnier	William T. Raber
Harmon Lewis	J.H. DeArmond
Isaac H. Harris	Andrew F. Hershner
Tyra W. B. Smith	William Grant
Lafayette Yantis Wilson	John Milton
Moses S. Neugass	George W. Dillon
John R. Rowland	Rudolph T. Motley

Admitted:

George W. Dillon

Initiated:

George Horning	James O. Wilson
Beniah R. Job.	

Passed:

George Horning	James O. Wilson
Beniah R. Job.	

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1886 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

Milton S. Woodcock, W. M.	John B. Lee, S. D.
Zephin Job, S. W.	John Miller, J. D.
Thomas J. Blair, J. W.	George C. Horning, S. S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	Joseph H. Wilson, J. S.
James O. Wilson, Secretary	Herman E. Harris, Tyler

Past Masters:

Wallace Baldwin	John B. Lee
George W. Kennedy	Stephen E. Belknap
John H. Lewis	Edward M. Belknap
Beniah R. Job	

Master Masons:

Jos. A. Gibheard	Ben. F. Irvine
Henry W. Keesee	Byron E. Gardner
William T. Rabir	Harmon Lewis
J.H. DeArmond	Isaac H. Harris
Andrew F. Hershner	Tyra W. B. Smith
Lafayette Yantis Wilson	Moses S. Neugass
George W. Dillon	John R. Rowland
Rudolph T. Motley	J. B. Arrants
James R. Baldwin	Beriah R. Job
Nathan L. Raber	Kenneth K. Kennedy

Admitted:

J.B. Arrants

Theodore J. Balestreri

Fellow Craft:

Joseph H. Wilson Kenneth K. Kennedy
James R. Baldwin

E. Apprentices:

Joseph H. Wilson Kenneth K. Kennedy
James R. Baldwin

Demitted:

Norman Draper J.R. Bayley
William Grant

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1887 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

Zephin Job, W.M. Moses S. Neugass, S. D.
Morris Stock, S.W. George G. Horning, J. D.
James O, Wilson, J. W. John H. Lewis, S. S.
Wallace Baldwin, Treasurer Lewis F. Wilson, J. S.
Joseph H. Wilson, Secretary Milton S. Woodcock, Tyler

Past Masters:

Stephan Belknap John Lee
Edward Belknap George Kennedy
John H. Lewis Herman E. Harris
Milton Woodcock Wallace Baldwin

Master Masons:

Jos. A. Gibheard Ben. F. Irvine
Henry W. Keesee Byron E. Gardnier

Rockey Lodge No. 75

William T. Rabir	Harmon Lewis
J.H. DeArmond	Isaac H. Harris
Andrew F. Hershner	Andrew F. Hershner
Tyra W. B. Smith	Lewis F. Wilson
John C. Young	George W. Dillon
John R. Rowland	Rudolph T. Motley
J. B. Arrants	James R. Baldwin
Beriah R. Job	Nathan L. Raber
Kenneth K. Kennedy	John Miller

Admitted:

John C. Young

Demitted:

Thomas J. Blair

**Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1888 Proceeding
Rockey Lodge No. 75**

Officers:

Morris Stock, W.M.	George W. Kennedy, S. D.
James O. Wilson, S.W.	Nathan Leroy Raber, J. D.
Lewis F., Wilson, J. W.	George G. Horning S. S.
Wallace Baldwin, Treasurer	Edward M. Belknap J. S.
Zephin Job, Secretary	John B. Lee, Tyler

Past Masters:

John C. Young	John B. Lee
Edward Belknap	George W. Kennedy
John H. Lewis	Herman E. Harris

Theodore J. Balestreri

Milton Woodcock

Wallace Baldwin

Zephin Job

Past Elective Grand Officer, Member of Grand Lodge:

H. E. Harris, Grand Junior Warden

Master Masons:

Jos. A. Gibheard

Ben. F. Irvine (Irvin)

Henry W. Keesee

Byron F. Gardiner

William T. Rabir (Radir)

Harmon Lewis

J.H. DeArmond

Isaac H. Harris

Andrew F. Hershner

Tyra W. B. Smith

Lafayette Yantis Wilson

George W. Dillon

John R. Rowland

Rudolph T. Motley

J. B. Arrants

Beriah R. Job

F.C. Buell

Kenneth K. Kennedy

John Miller

Moses S. Neugass

Solomon M. Stock

R.J. Wilson

Initiated:

R. J. Wilson

Solomon M. Stock

F. C. Buell

G. W. Smith

Henry Gannon

H. Kilnage

Passed:

R. J. Wilson

Solomon M. Stock

F. C. Buell

Raised:

R. J. Wilson

Solomon M. Stock

Rockey Lodge No. 75

F. C. Buell

Demitted:

J. R. Baldwin.

Died:

S. E. Belknap

**Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1889 Proceeding
Rockey Lodge No. 75**

Officers:

Jas. O. Wilson, W. M.	J. H. Gibbard, S. D.
Moses S. Neugass, S. W.	George G. Horning, J. D.
Beniah R. Job, J. W.	Herman E. Harris, S. S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	J. H. Wilson, J. S.
Solomon M. Stock, Secretary	Zephin Job, Tyler

Past Masters:

John C. Young	John B. Lee
Edward Belknap	George W. Kennedy
John H. Lewis	Herman E. Harris
Milton Woodcock	Wallace Baldwin
Zephin Job	Morris Stock

Past Elective Grand Officer, Member of Grand Lodge:

H. E. Harris, Grand Junior Warden

Master Masons:

Byron F. Gardiner	William T. Rabir (Radir)
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Theodore J. Balestreri

Harmon Lewis	Andrew F. Hershner
Tyra W. B. Smith	Lafayette Y. Wilson
John R. Rowland	Rudolph T. Motley
J. B. Arrants	F.C. Buell
Herbert Kittredge	John Miller
Solomon M. Stock	R.J. Wilson
George W. Smith	J.D. Clark
Henry Gannon	W.E. Paul
Lewis Wilson	Nathan Raber

Initiate:

J. C. House	Benjamin L. Eddy
	W. E. Paul

Passed:

Herbert Kittredge	Henry Gannon
J. C. House	Benjamin L. Eddy
W. E. Paul	George W. Smith

Raised:

Herbert Kittredge	Benjamin L. Eddy
Henry Gannon	George W. Smith
	W. E. Paul

Admitted:

J. D. Clark	E. W. Jenk
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Rockey Lodge No. 75

Demitted:

Benjamin U. Eddy	Geo. W. Dillon
Benjamin F. Irvin	Henry W. Keesee
E. W. Jenk	

Stricken from the Roll for Non-Payment of Due:

Kenneth K. Kennedy

Died:

J.H. DeArmond

**Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1890 Proceeding
Rockey Lodge No. 75**

Officers:

M. S. Neugass, W. M.	James O. Wilson, S. D.
Beniah R. Job, S. W.	Zephin Job, J. D.
Joseph H. Wilson, J. W.	Ed. M. Belknap, S. S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	J. H. Gibhard, J. S.
Solomon M. Stock, Secretary	George Horning, Tyler

Past Masters:

John C. Young	John B. Lee
Edward Belknap	George W. Kennedy
John H. Lewis	Herman E. Harris
Milton Woodcock	Wallace Baldwin
Zephin Job	Morris Stock
James O. Wilson	

Theodore J. Balestreri

Past Elective Grand Officer, Member of Grand Lodge:

H. E. Harris, Grand Junior Warden

Master Masons:

Byron F. Gardiner	William T. Raber (Radir)
Harmon Lewis	John B. Walker
Tyra W. B. Smith	Lafayette Y. Wilson
John R. Rowland	Rudolph T. Motley
J. B. Arrants	F.C. Buell
Herbert Kittredge	John Miller
R.J. Wilson	George W. Smith
J.D. Clark	Henry Gannon
W.E. Paul	Nathan L. Raber

J. H. Harris

Initiated

Leo. I. Stock	J. B. Walker)
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Passed

Leo. I. Stock	J. B. Walker)
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Raised:

J. B. Walker

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1891 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

James O. Wilson W. M.	William E. Paul, S. D.
Joseph H. Wilson, S. W.	Edward M. Belknap J. D.

Rockey Lodge No. 75

J.A. Gibbard, J. W.	Sol. M. Stock, S. S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	George G. Horning, J. S.
Milton S. Woodcock, Secretary	Moses S. Nengass, Tyler

Past Masters:

John C. Young	John B. Lee
Edward Belknap	George W. Kennedy
John H. Lewis	Herman E. Harris
Milton Woodcock	Wallace Baldwin
Zephin Job	Morris Stock
James O. Wilson	Christopher Taylor
Moses s. Neugass	

Past Elective Grand Officer, Member of Grand Lodge:

H. E. Harris, Grand Junior Warden
Christopher Taylor, Past Grand Master

Master Masons:

William T. Raber (Radir)	Harmon Lewis
John B. Walker	Tyra W. B. Smith
Lafayette Y. Wilson	John R. Rowland
Rudolph T. Motley	John B. Arrants
Herbert Kittredge	John Miller
R.J. Wilson	George W. Smith
J.D. Clark	Nathan L. Raber
Leo I. Stock	Henry Garrison
Isaac H. Harris	A.F. Hershuer
Beniah R. Job	

Theodore J. Balestreri

Honorary Members:

Christopher Taylor

Herman E. Harris

Raised:

Leo I. Stock.

Admitted:

Christopher Taylor.

Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct:

B. E. Gardiner.

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1892 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

James H. Wilson W. M.

James O. Wilson, S. D.

Jas. A Gibbard, S. W.

Edward M. Belknap J. D.

Sol. M. Stock J. W.

Zephin Job, S. S.

Morris Stock, Treasurer

John Miller, J. S.

A.F. Hershner, Secretary

R.R. Job, Tyler

Past Masters:

John C. Young

John B. Lee

Edward Belknap

John H. Lewis

Herman E. Harris

Milton Woodcock

Wallace Baldwin

Zephin Job

Morris Stock

James O. Wilson

Christopher Taylor

Moses S. Neugass

Past Elective Grand Officer, Member of Grand Lodge:

H. E. Harris, Grand Junior Warden

Christopher Taylor, Past Grand Master

Master Masons:

William T. Radar	Harmon Lewis
John B. Walker	Tyra W. B. Smith
Lafayette Y. Wilson	John R. Rowland
Rudolph T. Motley	John B. Arrants
Herbert Kittredge	Robert J. Wilson
George W. Smith	J.D. Clark
Nathan L. Raber	Leo I. Stock
Henry Garrison	Isaac H. Harris
A.F. Hershuer	Beniah R. Job
J.P. Bergin	David Osborne
Wm. E. Paul	D.R. Vaughan
Lewis F. Wilson	George G. Horning

Honorary Members:

Christopher Taylor	Herman E. Harris
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Raised:

David A. Osborne	J.B. Bergin
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Fellow Crafts:

David A. Osborne	J.B. Bergin
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E. Apprentices:

David A. Osborne	J.B. Bergin
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Theodore J. Balestreri

Admitted:

D.R. Vaughan

Demitted:

Geo. W. Kennedy

Grand Lodge of Oregon, 1893 Proceeding

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Officers:

James A. Gibbard W. M.	James O. Wilson, S. D.
Sol. M. Stock S. W.	Edward M. Belknap J. D.
A. F. Hershner J. W.	George G. Horning, S. S.
Morris Stock, Treasurer	George W. Smith, J. S.
David A. Osborne, Secretary	John c. Young, Tyler

Past Masters:

John C. Young	Edward Belknap
John H. Lewis	Herman E. Harris
Milton Woodcock	Wallace Baldwin
Zephin Job	Morris Stock
James O. Wilson	Christopher Taylor

Moses S. Neugass

Past Elective Grand Officer, Member of Grand Lodge:

H. E. Harris, Grand Junior Warden

Master Masons:

William T. Radir	Harmon Lewis
John B. Walker	Tyra W. B. Smith

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Lafayette Y. Wilson	John R. Rowland
Rudolph T. Motley	John B. Arrants
Herbert Kittredge	Robert J. Wilson
George W. Smith	J.D. Clark
Nathan L. Raber	Isaac H. Harris
J.P. Bergin	Wm. E. Paul
D.R. Vaughan	Lewis F. Wilson
George G. Horning	Henry Gannon
B.F. Irvine	

Honorary Members:

Christopher Taylor	Herman E. Harris
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Admitted:

B.F. Irvine

Demitted:

Leo I. Stock	K.K. Kennedy
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Died:

John B. Lee

Consolidation of Rockey Lodge

After 13 years the members of **Rockey Lodge** asked to consolidate with the older lodge, **Corvallis Lodge No. 14**. Their last meeting was held on June 21st, 1893 when they voted to consolidate with **Corvallis Lodge No. 14**, thus ending the schism between the two lodges.

In the 1893 GRAND LODGE OF OREGON Proceeding, on page 76, the following resolution and report was given. In the *REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE* the following entry was noted:

To the M.W. Grand Lodge of Oregon:

Your Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the petition from **Corvallis Lodge, No. 14**, and **Rockey Lodge, No. 75**, requesting permission to consolidate the two lodges, would report as follows:

After thoroughly investigating the matter, and carefully considering their request, we would recommend that the prayer of the petition be

Theodore J. Balestreri

granted, and that the following resolutions be adopted.

Resolved, That **Rockey Lodge, No. 75**, be, and is hereby authorized to surrender its charter, jewels and records to the M.W. Grand Master elect, and that the funds now in its treasury, together with the dues which may be due and owing by the members of said **Rockey Lodge**, together with all other assets, shall be transferred by it to **Corvallis Lodge, No. 14**, said assets to become the property of said **Corvallis Lodge, No. 14**.

Resolved further, That when the said **Rockey Lodge, No. 75**, surrenders its charter and property described, the brethren who are now, or who may be, at the time of the surrender, members in good standing of **Rockey Lodge, No. 75**, shall be received and become members of **Corvallis Lodge, No. 14**, upon their signing the by-laws, and complying with the regulations of **Corvallis Lodge, No. 14**.

Respectfully submitted,
B. VAN DUSEN,
ROBERT CLOW,
W. T. WRIGHT,
J. F. R OBINSON,
Committee.

No reasons were given for their request for consolidation.

Rockey Lodge No. 75

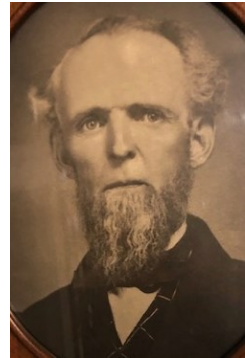
At the time of the re-unification of the two lodges all the records from **Rockey Lodge No. 75** were turned over for care to **Corvallis Lodge No. 14**. As far as can be determined all these records remained in their care until February 12th, 1956 when a fire destroyed the second floor of their building. The second floor is where the Lodge was located. According to newspaper accounts the damage to the building was between \$200,000 to \$300,000 (in 2019 dollars that would be approximately \$1,886,551 to \$2,829,827). It is believed all of **Rockey Lodge No. 75** that were stored at that location were lost.

Biography of the Masters of Rockey Lodge No. 75.

As in the case of many of the early Masonic Lodges they drew from many of the traditional leaders of the communities in which they were situated. As one reviews the following biographies, this seems to be the case for **Rockey Lodge**.

James R. Bayley (1819-1901) The first Master of Rocky Lodge in 1880.

W.M. James R Bayley was born in Clark County, Ohio in 1819. He began his study in Springfield Ohio in Medicine in 1845 and three years later was admitted and graduated from Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, Ohio. He returned to his hometown of Springfield where he practiced medicine for the next four years. In 1852 he married Miss Elizabeth Harpole, of Green County, Ohio. They moved to Polk County, Oregon in 1855. In 1857 they moved to Corvallis, Oregon and opened a business catering to distribution of medicinal drugs. He became a member of the Territorial Council in 1856 and 1857, and was twice elected as Judge of Benton county. In 1866 he became State Senator from Benton county and repeated this again in 1868. He was then



Theodore J. Balestreri

appointed Supervisor of Internal Revenue in 1869, serving until 1873. He devoted himself to the practice of his profession in Corvallis and Newport, Yaquina Bay, where he spent his summers.

Masonically, Bayley received his degrees in 1847 in Chandler Lodge No. 138 located in London, Ohio. He was Master of Fielding Lodge No. 192 in South Charleston, Ohio as well as Master of Libanus Lodge No. 80 in Lewisburg, Ohio.

In Oregon he joined Lafayette Lodge No. 3 in the Fall of 1855 and was elected Master for 1856, and that same year was elected Junior Grand Warden; he demitted in 1857 and affiliated with Corvallis Lodge No. 14 by 1858. He was Grand Master in 1861-62, also serving as Tyler in Corvallis for 1862. He was Master of Lodge #14 in 1863. He and several others demitted from Lodge No. 14 in 1880 and became Charter member and Master of Rockey Lodge No. 75 in Corvallis. He demitted from Rockey Lodge No. 75 in 1885 and was the Charter Worshipful Master of Newport Lodge No. 85 Chartered on June 10th, 1885. He was elected Master again for 1886, 1888 and 1889. Brother Bayley was an active member of the Grand Lodges of Ohio and Oregon for 41 years.

As a member of the Scottish Rite, he received the 32° in Washington D.C. in 1869 from Supreme Commander Ill. Bro. Albert Pike and B.B. French. He affiliated with the Portland Lodge of Perfection on February 7th, 1871 and was granted permission to withdraw to join the Corvallis Lodge of Perfection on December 19th, 1871. He received the KCCH on May 8th, 1872.

Dr. Bayley was also a member of the York Rite Bodies, where he was Past Grand High Priest for 8 years.

He also was a member of the Mystic Shrine and was a prominent member of the Oddfellows. He died on May 24th, 1901 in Newport, Lincoln, Oregon and was buried in the Crystal Lake

Cemetery in Corvallis, Oregon.

He began his career in the Grand Lodge of Oregon as the Junior Grand Warden in 1856, advancing to Senior Grand Warden in 1857, Deputy Grand Master in 1850-1861. In 1861 he was elected as Grand Master.

Wallace Baldwin (1845-?) Worship Master 1881.

Wallace Baldwin was born in Portage County, Ohio on May 20, 1845. He went to college for one year in lake County until on his eighteenth year he enlisted in Company D of the 103rd Ohio Infantry. He served in this regiment until January 6th, 1863, when he was discharged due to a disability. A year later he re-enlisted in Company H of 150th Ohio Volunteers which lasted for four months. At the end of his time with Company H he returned home and entered Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College in Cleveland. Upon completion at the College he worked at various jobs until February 1st, 1866 when he sailed to Oregon, via Panama, and moved directly to Corvallis where he found work in the general store of Waders & Clark.

On July 6th, 1868 he became Postmaster of the City of Corvallis while maintaining his connection with the general store. It was that same year that he married Miss Adelaide G. Brownson. Their marriage resulted in having 5 children. In 1877 he formed a partnership with Mr. Milton S. Woodcock (who was Master of Rockey Lodge in 1886) under the name of Woodcock & Baldwin. Their store became the leading hardware store in Benton County. Mr. Baldwin held the office of Benton County Treasurer for two years and Mayor of Corvallis one year, and in January 24th, 1883, was appointed Oregon State Fish Commissioner.

Theodore J. Balestreri

He served as Grand Master of the Grand Council R&SM in 1887 and Grand High priest of RAM in 1886.

He was the Master of Corvallis Lodge No. 14 in 1877 prior to joining Rocky Lodge. He became a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason on February 13th, 1872 at Ainsworth Lodge of Perfection No. 2 in Corvallis, Oregon.

Stephan Ephraim Belknap (1843-1888) Master 1882.

Belknap, the brother of Edward M., was born in 1843 in Ontario, Canada. He was the son Stephen Belknap and his wife, of Irish birth, Francis Fox. The father was a carpenter, but turned to farming around 1860 when they moved to Michigan.



Stephan Jr. enlisted on November 3rd, 1861 in Company D of the Michigan 10th Infantry. He was promoted to full Corporal on February 6th, 1862 and fought in the Civil War. He mustered out on July 19th, 1865 in Louisville, Kentucky. He married Rosa Anna Munson on June 6th, 1867 in Macomb, Michigan. In 1870 he was listed as farmer in Richmond, Macomb, Michigan.

Around 1874 he “appeared” in Corvallis. In 1880 he was working for a foundry in Corvallis. His brother Edward Myron was shown to be living with him and also working at the foundry. The foundry was originally a joint stock company under the style of the Corvallis Plow and Agricultural Manufacturing Company in 1880, but only existed until January 1881 when it assumed the name of Belknap, Brothers & Kennedy. The firm was a general foundry and blacksmith business, with a woodwork connection

Rockey Lodge No. 75

with S.E. Belknap, G.W. Kennedy and E.M. Belknap. This is the same G.W. Kennedy who was a member of the Rockey Lodge as was K. K. Kennedy.

Stephan was the Charter Senior Deacon for Rockey Lodge with his brother Edward being the Charter Junior Deacon. Stephan became Junior Warden in 1881 and Master in 1882.

John H. Lewis (1837-?) Worship Master 1883.

John was born in Jackson county, Tennessee on July 23rd, 1837. As an infant, his parents moved to Platt Purchase in Missouri. In 1852 the entire family immigrated to Oregon in a thirty-two-wagon train in which his father, Wm. P. Lewis was the captain. They spent their first winter in Dallas, Polk County, Oregon where in 1854 his father started a milling and mercantile business.

In 1855 John enlisted in Company B of the Oregon Volunteers and was sent to the Yakima Indian Wars, in which he served for six months returning home in May 1856.

Lewis began a livery business in 1859 in Dallas, Oregon when he purchased a band of horses and brought them to California, selling them for a profit. He continued the livery business until 1866 when he moved to Benton county where he engaged in the stock business for the next ten to twelve years.

He became the Deputy Sheriff in Benton County for eight years and for the same period was a member of the City Council of Corvallis. He got married on April 27th, 1864, to Miss Martha A. Meanes, and had five children.

Theodore J. Balestreri

Edward M. Belknap (1849-1894) Master 1884.

Edward M., was the younger brother of Stephan, who both were born in Ontario, Canada. He was the son Stephen Belknap and his wife, of Irish birth, Francis Fox. The father was a carpenter, but turned to farming around 1860 when they moved to Michigan. Edward and his brother moved to Corvallis in 1874 and both worked at a local Corvallis Founder.



Herman Elias Harris (?-1905) Master 1885.

Herman was one of the early businessmen in Corvallis, being in business in the late 1850s or early 1860s. He, with L.L. Horning built the second brick building in Corvallis. He retired from his grocery business in 1885. Herman moved his family to Portland in 1891.

Milton Sherman Woodcock (1849-1925) Master 1886.

Milton Sherman Woodcock was born in Greenfield, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. He was the eldest child of Martin and Amanda (White) Woodcock. On 24th February, 1853, then not quite four years old, with his parents and accompanied by his two uncles, Horace and W. C. Woodcock, and other friends, formed an emigrant train, with ox team laden with all their belongings headed to Oregon. They arrived in Oregon on 24th September,

1853. The Woodcock family settled on a donation place consisting of 320 acres of wild land, about 14 miles west of Eugene, Lane County, Oregon.

In 1859, after a new home had been built up in the wilderness and the title to the donation had been completed, the place was sold, and the family moved to Monroe, in Benton County. The same year Oregon received its statehood as the 33rd state. Young Milton attended school and also clerked part-time in his father and uncle's store, thus early becoming familiar with mercantile methods.

In 1865 he entered the wagon shop of his family for the purpose of learning the wagon maker's trade, where he worked until January 1869, and completed learning the trade. In April 1869, Milton, not quite 20 years old, began merchandising on his own account, opening a store in Monroe, which he continued to operate with a fair amount of success (by hard work and constant attention to the store he was able to gain financially) until March 1874, when he sold a half interest in the store to his uncle W. C. Woodcock and moved to Corvallis.

In 1870, he had taken up the study of law under the direction of Coloney Kelsy and in 1875 was admitted to the bar at Salem. He opened an office at Corvallis where he has since been identified with the legal profession.

For a time, he was engaged in the general hardware and implement business as a member of the firm of Woodcock & Baldwin (Wallace Baldwin), an association that was maintained for 14 years. In April 1881, Milton bought an interest in the newspaper "*The Corvallis Gazette*" and served as the paper's editor-in-chief, as well as practicing law when the opportunity offered.

Milton Woodcock married Emma J. Simpson (b. 1858 in

Theodore J. Balestreri

Philadelphia, PA), daughter of Rev. Anthony and Helen Simpson, on 8th May 1879 in Corvallis, Oregon. They had three sons (Arthur, Clyde & Milton) born in Corvallis. His wife Emma died in 1942.

In June 1887, Mr. Woodcock entered financial circles, establishing a private bank under the name of Benton County Bank. In June 1890, he organized the First National Bank at Corvallis, which was capitalized for \$50,000. From the beginning he served as its president and under the wise guidance and through the cooperation of his fellow officers the business of the bank increased to the point of being recognized as one of the safest and most substantial financial institutions in the state. Milton's son, Arthur R. (1880-1925), eventually became a second vice-president of the bank, and another son, Clyde H. (1883-1963), served as cashier of the bank.

Milton S. Woodcock was an earnest Republican in his political belief and exerted a wide influence in the councils of the party.

In 1901 he was elected mayor of Corvallis and his services were highly satisfactory to the general public, for he advocated progress, reform and improvement and sought by practical methods to attain the ends desired. He was much interested in the educational progress of the state and served on the board of regents for the Oregon Agricultural College, being a member of the building committee.

Milton Sherman Woodcock was Initiated, Passed, and Raised in Monroe Lodge No. 49 between December 1869 and December 1870. He was Treasurer in 1871, Senior Warden in 1873 and 1874, and Senior Deacon in 1875. He then demitted this lodge in 1876 and joined Corvallis Lodge No. 14 in 1876.

He demitted from Corvallis Lodge No. 14 in 1882 to join Rocky Lodge No. 75 in Corvallis. He was elected Senior Warden

Rockey Lodge No. 75

of Rockey Lodge in 1884 and 1885, and served as Master in 1886. He also served as Tyler in 1887. He was elected Secretary in 1891. Rockey Lodge No. 75 consolidated with Corvallis Lodge No. 14 on June 15, 1893 and W.S. Woodcock was again a member of Corvallis No. 14.

M. S. Woodcock received the degrees of the Scottish Rite in Portland Valley. He was proposed by Charles W. Lowe on May 21st, 1905 and elected to receive the degrees on June 6th, 1905. He did not follow through at that time. He received the 4° - 17° on January 18th, 1912, the 18° - 31° on January 19th and the 32° on January 20th, 1912 in Portland with the 19th Cathedral Class (26th Semi-annual Reunion). He was elected to the KCCH October 21st, 1919.

Milton Woodcock and his son Arthur both died in 1925 in Corvallis, Milton's death being March 18th.

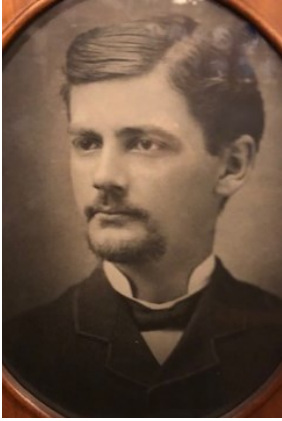
Note: The source for this biographical sketch came from Vol. II of *Pioneer Historical Pub. Co.* Chicago-Portland under the chapter "*History of Oregon.*"

Zephin Job (1857?-1922) Master 1887.

Zephin was the son of Lucy A. Job who was married to William B. Hamilton in Corvallis in February 1868. It appears Zephin and his brother Beniah Job may have been born in California of a previous marriage. They appeared in the 1870 Census where their mother was shown as being 37 and her husband was 52; Zephin was 12 and Beniah was 11.

The 1880 census shows that the Hamilton family still listed Beniah, as a "stepson clerk in a drug store," with them. Zephin

Theodore J. Balestreri



Job, then 23, was shown to be “cashier in a bank,” had a wife, Archie, 22. The bank was apparently Hamilton, Job, & Company mentioned in the *Corvallis Gazette Times*, 1922.

Fagan’s “*History of Benton County*” tells that in 1885, Beniah Job was Worthy Marshal of the Independent Order of Good Templars and vice president of the Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. And Zephin Job had joined others to form a telephone company and was an officer in the Masonic Lodge and treasurer of the Hook and Ladder company. Zephin was also one of the major shareholder of the Oregon Pacific Railroad Company.

In an article from the *Corvallis Gazette Times* dated October 12th, 1922, it was reported by Zephin’s son that “his father was apparently feeling well for a sick man and died suddenly sitting in his chair”. The article said that Zephin had left the Corvallis area eventually settling in Montana where he passed.

Morris Stock (1827-1898), Master of the Lodge in 1888.

Morris was born in Germany and came to the United States at a very young age. He was married in Cleveland, Ohio where he set up a business. He moved to Corvallis when he was 56 and set himself up in the area as a general merchandiser. He later moved to Portland, then to New York but failed in business and moved back to Corvallis where he regained his former financial standing. He was an active member of Rockey Lodge and Barnum Lodge No. 7, of the Odd Fellows in Corvallis. He died at the age of 71 in 1898.

Rockey Lodge No. 75

James Offin Wilson (1861-1924), Master in 1889 and 1891.

James O. Wilson was Master of Corvallis Lodge No. 14 in 1888 prior to becoming Master of Rockey Lodge in 1889. He was the Chief Engineer for the Corvallis Fire Department. His wife was Lulu Smith, who was born in 1861. He was the son of Bushrod and Priscilla Wilson. His father was one of the founders of the Oregon Pacific Railroad. Bushrod was the



County Clerk for Benton County for 30 years. It was said that he was asked to run for Governor but declined due to the position not paying enough. He also attained the 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason in 1871 at the Ainsworth Lodge of Perfection, in Corvallis Oregon. James O. was a Judge in Benton County for many years. His brother, James H. Wilson, was also a Master of Rockey Lodge in 1892.

Moses S. Neugass. (1859 or 1860-1918) Master in 1890.

Moses was born in the Oregon Territory to Lena Eder and Simon Neugass. Moses graduated from Corvallis College in 1878. Corvallis College was the forerunner of Oregon State University (OSU) and traces its roots to 1856, as Corvallis Academy, the first community school in the Corvallis area. In 1858, the academy incorporated and became what was known as Corvallis College. Moses died in San Francisco County California on January 25th, 1918.

Theodore J. Balestreri

James Hamilton Wilson (1863-1919), Master in 1892.



James H. was the brother of James O. Wilson. James H. married Effie M. Hardy around 1891. He worked in the Civil Engineering Office of the Oregon Pacific Railroad Co. and served as Benton County Deputy Clerk for 6 years under his father Bushrod. James H. was admitted to the Oregon Bar in 1892.

Joseph Albert Gibhard (1855-1939): (also recorded as A. J. Gibbeard). He was the last Master of **Rockey Lodge No. 75** in 1893.

Joseph was born in Maine in 1855 to Joseph B. and Hannah C. Gibbeard. At the time Joseph A. was 5 it was recorded his father was a farmer in Eustis, in Franklin County, Maine. On his 200 acres, 75 of which was improved, he grew rye and oats and had sheep and milk cows. In 1860 it was shown he moved his family to River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin. According to records the family once more relocated to Granite Falls, Chippewa County, Minnesota around May of 1875.

According to the 1880 U.S. Census Joseph A. had moved to Corvallis in Benton County, Oregon and was listed as a “Brickmaker” while living in the house of Lottie Demmick. His parents joined him in Corvallis prior to 1894, where his mother died and was buried in Crystal Lake Cemetery in 1894.

Joseph A. married Sarah E. Linnell in 1894. They later moved to Foreston Village in Milo County, Minnesota. Joseph died on June 25th, 1939 in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

Masonically he was Initiated, Passed and Raised as a Master

Rockey Lodge No. 75

Mason between June and December of 1880. In 1889 he was appointed Senior Deacon and in 1891 he was elected Junior Warden. He became Senior Warden in 1892 and Master in 1893. Though he moved to Minnesota around 1894 he did remain on the books of Corvallis Lodge until 1913. There were no rosters for 1914 or 1915, but in 1916 his name no longer was listed. Either he demitted or was dropped for NPD.

Conclusion

Though **Rockey Lodge No. 75** only lasted 13 years, from 1880 to 1893 it had many of Corvallis's prominent citizens as its members. This book gives a time capsule of this Lodge's birth, life and death. Though many of the names listed have questionable spelling they reflect what was recorded in the official Grand Lodge Proceedings.

Author's Biography

The author was born and raised in Seattle, Washington. He graduated from St. Martin's College, now known as Saint Martin's University, in Lacey Washington, with a B.A. in 1969, and later earned his Master's Degree from Pacific Lutheran University, located in Tacoma, Washington. He completed the entire course work offered by the



Builders of the Adytum and facilitated study groups for *BOTA*, primarily in the Minneapolis area, Seattle and the Portland area, for over 20 years.

Currently he is a life member and Past Master of Beaverton Masonic Lodge No. 100 and is a life member of Corvallis Lodge No. 14. The author is a 33° Scottish Rite Freemason and is involved with providing the local area with lectures concerning the esoteric aspects of Masonic Rituals as well as the Kabbalah/Qabbalah. Ted was appointed Grand Orator for the Grand Lodge of Oregon for 2019-2020. He is currently residing in the Dallas,

Theodore J. Balestreri

Oregon area near his family and grandchildren.

Among his published works are two books that are currently available in print. The first book is *The Kabbala, A Tale of Two Trees*, published in 2017 by Nephilim Press. The second book is *Rosicrucian Secrets in Freemasonry*, distributed in 2019 by LuLu Press.