

## ♪ On The Road Again ♪

By the Members of Bethel #1, Anchorage, AK

Bethel #1, Anchorage, AK was invited to Sterling Alaska to attend the installation of Sterling Lodge No 22 on January 6<sup>th</sup> and do the “*What Is A Mason*” Ceremony and the *Closing Cross*. How do you safely transport 14 Jobies, 1 Jobie to Bee, 1 DeMolay Master Councilor, 1 DeMolay Dad Advisor, 6 Jobie chaperones, all the robes, Jobie bags, winter gear and a mountain of backpacks containing everything necessary to sustain a group of Jobies on a seven hour road trip in the dead of winter at minus 20 below - and just after a snow storm deposited 3 feet of snow? Why in a Jobie tour bus of course.

In Alaska you can't possibly consider the long drive to Sterling without continuing on down the road for another 10 miles to visit Soldotna where resides the one and only Dairy Queen in Alaska. That was the primary goal of this group was to eat lunch and ice cream at Dairy Queen. We were all grateful that the tour bus operator understood the importance of this trip. The incoming Worshipful Master also understood the Jobie logic and had us stop in Sterling to pick up Dairy Queen gift certificates before we continued on.

After a satisfying meal of burgers, chicken strips, fries and of course lots of Dairy Queen ice cream the bus loaded and it was back to Sterling for the installation. Sterling Lodge shares meeting space in the local Senior Center so the meeting room is not your typical Lodge room. But this is Alaska and that is what makes us unique. After the installation we were treated to a fantastic spaghetti dinner before we had to make our way back to Anchorage. Since it gets dark around 3 p.m. that was perfect for viewing *Pirates of the Caribbean* on the way home once our Master Councilor figured out how the video system on the bus worked.

It was a great trip, we were kept warm and toasty in the bus, we were able to meet so many new Masonic friends and the ice cream was the best. However, we did learn that in winter the bathroom in the bus freezes and has no heat and with no businesses open in the winter....well you get the idea.



We settle back for the road trip.



Proof we made it to the one and only Alaska Dairy Queen!