

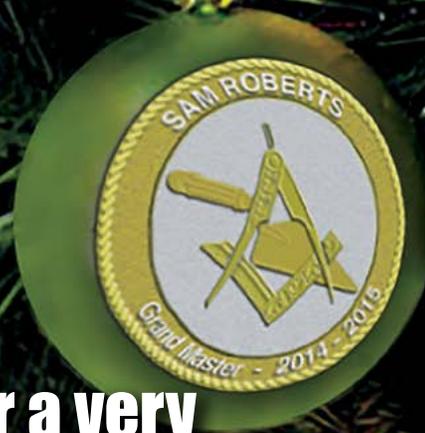


MASONIC TRIBUNE

A QUARTERLY NEWS AND INFORMATION PUBLICATION OF:
GRAND LODGE OF WASHINGTON
FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS



Happy Holidays



... and a wish for a very
Prosperous Masonic New Year to all!

IN THIS ISSUE

Guidelines for [Submission of Articles](#) for the Masonic Tribune

1. Articles can be submitted in MS Word format. Please do not do too much special formatting when writing your article because your layout will be subject to change depending on which page your article will be placed in the publication itself.
2. Please always do a thorough spell check of your document especially names that are not common in the built in spell checker of software applications.
3. Please make sure you only use Arial in all your fonts in the document, as the publication body text will all be produced in Arial type font only. If you use another font, some special characters might not translate properly when converted to Arial. This typeface is pretty much Universal.
4. Include the pictures you want used in your article in the Word document layout, but also please attach the original digital photo file as a separate file in the email.
5. Make sure the name and author of the article is reflected on the bottom of the article content.
6. Video clips are acceptable. Please send me a separate email so we can arrange for the transmission of your video media footage (g.santy@comcast.net)
7. When sending your article, your email subject field should say "Masonic Tribune Spring 2014 – Your Name or Committee Name or your GL Title."
8. Your article is important to us. Please help us protect its accuracy according to your intended subject.



Editorial Note:

Once more we fulfilled the obligation of delivering you a publication that would fill in the gaps in our communication process. Nevertheless or not to mention how much struggle we go through every issue to encourage everybody to contribute articles to make it a very pleasing and healthy publication. I hope you enjoy whatever content we came up with in this issue and use it as a tool to spread the word around our Masonic Jurisdiction that we need their support to sustain the life of this publication.

In an effort to expand the effectiveness of the editorial content of this newsletter, we ask that you write stories that tell our reading audience how you live your Masonic being, not only when you are in the Lodge, but also when abroad in the world. It is also always a delight to hear about those discoveries you have made in your research about the Fraternity, about your Masonic journey and from just merely the conversations you have had with the Brethren.

Well, if you think you do not feel confident about your writing skills, I am sure there is somebody who will be willing to assist and write those stories for you. Let those imaginations be heard. It might be from your imaginative ideas that will bring about an effective way to promote growth to our Fraternal organization.

In this page you will find the guidelines for submissions to our publication. You will also find in the masthead below the scheduled deadlines for submissions. Hope to hear from you soon.

Fraternally,
MWB G. Santy Lascano
Chairman, GLWA Masonic Tribune
A Sub Committee of:
Public Relations Committee

g.santy@comcast.net



The Masonic Tribune is an official publication of Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington.

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Publication Design & Layout: MWB G. Santy Lascano

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Article submission deadlines:

Summer Issue May 10
Fall Issue September 10
Winter Issue December 10
Spring Issue February 10



Grand MASTER
MOST WORSHIPFUL Brother
Sam Roberts

Basic Ingredients

We're in the midst of Lodge installations with new officers and renewed energy for our future. Most incoming Masters have plans and ideas which they hope to improve the Lodge and educate the Brothers. Hopefully, these Brothers have attended one or more of the Lodge Leadership retreats and know of the resources available to them and the Lodges to provide programs, education, training, help and support from the Grand Lodge Committees and Deputies of the Grand Master. Help on how to conduct a Lodge audit. Training on ritual and floor work. Support for Lodge administration and management. The first and only step is that the Lodge must take the first step.

Already this year the Finance Committee has assisted several Lodges in how to conduct an audit of the Lodge, including the Lodge investments and building associations. Long Range Planning has assisted a Lodge or two in developing or updating an achievable Lodge Long Range Plan for the Brethren. The Membership Committee is working throughout the Jurisdiction, introducing the Lodges in the "Six Steps to a Petition". What these committees and these Lodges have in common, beyond having a program at a Stated Meeting, is that they have a vision and developed a pathway to make their Lodge better.

Let's explore a few other quick and easy concepts that can only make a Lodge better. Review of the WMC in Lodge; background checks; visitation and ritual quality.

Every Lodge member should know what the laws and rules are that govern every Mason in this Jurisdiction. Each Lodge Officer and elected / appointed Lodge member that has assumed the responsibilities and duties to the Lodge should know what is outlined in the Washington Masonic Code, in addition to Lodge tradition. More often than not reading a passage of the code can open a discussion on what is happening in the Lodge. Find out what the code says about the Lodge and see if the Lodge is in compliance. It is the Lodge and its members that get hurt if a Brother does not carry out his assigned tasks to the best of his ability. Past Masters and senior members that hold the knowledge should share (in a Brotherly fashion) with the less experienced. Officers should be mentors to those behind and everyone should accept the advice with the good grace in which it is offered.

Not that background check would have prevent-

ed all of the episodes that have plagued our Lodges this year, but it would have caused a number of Lodges to conduct a more extensive investigation of a candidate. This is cheap insurance that the Lodge can use to confidently stand beside a man and be proud to call him "Brother". There are a number of websites that offer this service for a fee or a Lodge can use the same system that is offered through law enforcement. It has been suggested that Grand Lodge offer this service at cost, but it would depend on the demand and the administration. In any regard, knowledge of a petitioner's background would add a tool for the investigating committee to make a valid and well considered recommendation.

A well known fact is that Lodges that visit other Lodges, Chapters, Assemblies, Bethels or Councils are much more likely to get visited. It is a simple reality that as people get to know you, they are more inclined to show their appreciation of your effort by returning the favor, and besides, it can be fun! A surprise visit, with cookies in hand, always brings a smile to the face of those present.

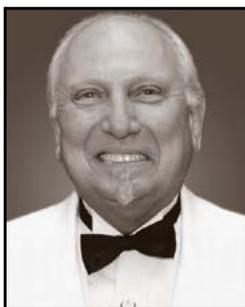
Masters often have a plan of improving the ritual and floor work. What's missing, too often, is the plan. Your Past Masters, Deputies and knowledgeable Brothers are a great resource to improving ritual and floor work. Setting a time, place and a specific piece of the work to practice can be fun, entertaining and above all, educational. The fellowship associated with the Brethren working together is what has sustained Masonry for the centuries.

I offer my congratulations to all the new Worshipful Masters and extend my hopes for a successful year for all the Lodge Officers. Easy first steps for a new beginning.

* Live your Freemasonry. Everyday. Every way.

Fraternally,

MWB Sam Roberts
Grand Master





OUR Masonic RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES

Have you asked yourself lately, and can you answer, what our Masonic responsibilities and duties are? I ask this question because I have had a few Brothers ask me about the Grand Masters recent "Edict" and letter "To Lodge Officers and Members". Their question to me was; "Is the Grand Master picking on me, my Lodge, and/or my temple board?". My answer was by asking two questions; 1) Why do you feel yourself, your Lodge, or your temple board, should be picked on?; and 2) Are the members, Past Masters, and officers of your Lodge and temple board performing their responsibilities and fulfilling their duties? Tough questions when we are put on the spot and need to respond. I know because I have had to stop, think, and then try to answer the question myself.

So where does one find the answers. Mentoring by Past Masters, each Lodges officer, notebook and/or the Lodge Officers Handbook, and by observing what the officers do in their meetings and Degrees. A Brother can go to the Grand Lodge website and look under the Member Center link where he will find our Code Book and Masonic Law on each officers powers and responsibilities plus all types of forms for the Lodge and temple board. There is a link for audit instruction under Publications and also information for Secretaries under the link for Secretaries Resources. One can also look under News & Events for a link to the 2014 Lodge Leadership Retreat (the old Wardens Conference) where trainings can be found for Lodge officer stations and places plus much more. Our Grand Lodge also has standing committees to help educate and train.

So what is my point? The Grand Masters Edict and letter to Lodge Officers and Members is not directed to any one member, Lodge, or temple board. It is directed to all of us as we are all responsible for the physical, mental, and financial health and security of our Lodges. Some of us have forgotten our responsibilities and duties and it has caused disastrous consequences. These embarrassments by a few Brothers might have been avoided if we all, within our Lodges and temple boards, were doing as much as we could to educate, train, mentor, and ensure the financial security of our investments.

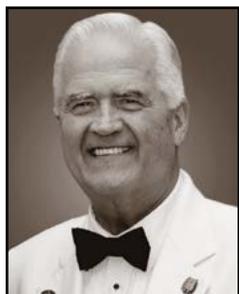
The Grand Master is just reiterating what we all pledged we would do. Be accountable. I believe in the same thing and I'm certain that you do also!

Thank you and until next time.

Fraternally,

RWB Donald G. Munks
Deputy Grand Master

DEPUTY Grand MASTER
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother
Donald G. Munks





Be Inspired By the Quality Within

Recently MWB Philip Durell, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon, was a guest of Burlington-United Lodge No. 93. In his remarks to the assembled Brethren, he shared his theme – Be Inspired by the Quality Within. To quote MWB Durell, “Our theme contains three words from which can spring positive thought on Freemasonry and what we collectively can do to ensure a vibrant and relevant Craft.” With respect to MWB Durell, I’d like to put my own spin on his theme.

Be Inspired — Inspiration is a by-product of a person, place, experience, etc., that makes someone want to do or create something special. When we received our Aprons, we were informed that our Apron should serve as a never-ending inspiration for higher thoughts, for nobler deeds, for greater achievements. The ripple effect of seeing a Brother who views these words as a call to action is an absolute force-multiplier. Inspiration allows people to change paradigms and achieve awesome goals. Along the way, others are inspired, energy is renewed, and the cycle starts anew.

Quality — Quality must be job one. It cannot be denied that we have spent far too much time chasing numbers. It also cannot be denied that this has been at the expense of taking the time to focus on the quality of men entering our Craft. We have also dropped the ball on the quality of experience that we promised to those who knocked on our doors. Those who have sought out Freemasonry of late are the most studied generation in history. We know, for instance, that they seek a common identity with other men, want to be on the journey of self-development and improvement, desire role-modeling to guide them into maturity, understand the concept of a tribe, and they are looking for meaning in their lives. Most importantly, they desire a quality experience.

To again quote MWB Durell: “Quality does not mean expensive but it cannot be achieved by being cheap. Clean and well-kept Lodge buildings, exemplary ritual and conduct in Lodge, a varied Lodge program, thriving festive boards and good deeds in our communities are hallmarks of quality. If your Lodge events and meetings attract visitors they will surely attract your own members.”

Within — You have probably heard the phrase, “If it is to be, it is up to me.”

We must be willing to be the inspiration for our Brethren. We must be drivers of quality. We must not wait for someone else to step to the plate. We must be willing to take seriously every endeavor and put forth an honest and prudent effort. Each and every one of us must be willing to be the difference we want to see.

We must be inspired by the quality within.

RWB Jim V. Mendoza
Senior Grand Warden



MWB Philip Durell (left) with MWB Sam Roberts at Burlington-United, Lodge No.93.

HELPFUL HINTS

It's not too late to begin your Bikes for Books Program or start your Public Schools Scholarship program. Either one will help your Lodge shine in your community.

The Bikes for Books program is easy to start. First select a Chairman to lead the program. Contact the school or the Public Library to offer to provide two bikes, one girl and one boy bike, to use as a carrot to encourage students to read. Several large department stores offer great prices on bikes --- watch for their sale flyers in your local news papers. The school or library will select the recipient, through their reading program. Be sure to be present when the bikes are given to the students.

The Public Schools Outreach Committee is charged with the selection of the scholarship for our Grand Jurisdiction. Even if your Lodge has a scholarship program, don't deny the students the opportunity to also participate in the Grand Lodge program. All the material your Chairman will need is on the Grand Lodge web page under the community column. Read over those documents and be sure to look carefully at the scoring sheet, as that is the key to the selection process.

We, the members of the Committee, are ready and willing to help. Remember, I am only a phone call or email away.

Fraternally,
John Mathers, Chairman
Public Schools
Outreach Committee

SENIOR Grand WARDEN
RIGHT WORKSHIPFUL Brother

Jim V. Mendoza





FURTHER LIGHT ON MANY LEVELS

Brethren, I hope the Holiday Season was enjoyable for you and your families and that the New Year brings you happiness. Many of the Lodges within our Grand Jurisdiction held their Installation of Officers in November and December. To each of the newly installed Worshipful Masters and their line of officers, I wish each of you an enjoyable year in your Stations and Places.

Each officer is aware of the importance of his proficiency in the Ritual and Floor Work, found in the Standard Work-FreeMasons Guide and Lodge Officers Handbook. When the Ritual and Floor Work are correctly performed, you provide an example for others to follow and will gain the admiration from the members of your Lodge and visiting Brethren.

Being knowledgeable in the contents of the Washington Masonic Code, the Standard Work and Lodge Officers Handbook is part of the Charges, Regulations and Obligations you promised to uphold as an officer of your Lodge. Due to infractions within some of our Lodges and Temple Boards, it is becoming more essential to emphasize the necessity for each member (especially the officers) to familiarize themselves with the Washington Masonic Code (WMC).

Some Brethren are proficient Ritualist and while we think of the Masonic Ritual as being the essence of Freemasonry, it is only an expression of Freemasonry. Sometimes the words and form are scrutinized while we completely ignore its true meaning.

We have members within our Craft that after being Raised, Coached and Mentored the education process at times has come to a halt. Coaching, Mentoring and providing Education to the Brethren is a Lifetime Commitment. These Brethren have "Came in search of Light and to improve themselves in Masonry". They have been told that Freemasonry teaches by symbol and by allegory, but quite often without explanation. Masonic symbols discussed in our Lectures and Rituals have meanings that vary from one Mason to the next. Freemasonry encourages each of us to think for ourselves and how to apply our symbols to our daily activities.

It should be our objective to assist our Brethren

that seek More Light, by providing time at our meetings for education. The Masonic Service Association of North America provides a monthly publication titled "The Short Talk Bulletin" which includes educational information, an excellent source for discussion. As Worshipful Master, ask your members what they are hoping to find at their meetings? Ask your veteran members to share their knowledge and understanding. By way of visitations, you will find many Lodges throughout our Grand Jurisdiction that devote time to discuss our Tools and Implements of Architecture, Symbolic Emblems and are able to direct you on the paths in search of Further Light. Bring back what you find and share the wealth with your Brethren. You might find what you were looking for was in your Lodge all the time, all you had to do was ASK!

Fraternally,

RWB Warren R. Schoeben
Junior Grand Warden

JUNIOR Grand WARDEN
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother
Warren R. Schoeben



RWB Warren Schoeben with MWB Sam Roberts, Grand Master at the Annual 4th of July parade in Arlington, Washington





Grand SECRETARY
 RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother
David P. Owen

Grand Lodge Office

This year Grand Lodge updated the database system. The staff spent many hours learning about data mining. The end result will help Lodges track and keep up with their administrative functions. There are many moving pieces when it comes to technology and integration is a critical part.

The Lodge Secretary Interface (LSI) will have additional features to include an online help desk. Training will be conducted around the State starting in March.

Next year Grand Lodge plans to implement plastic Dues Cards. The cost to a Lodge will go down considerably. There are several other Grand Lodges having success doing it and so we plan to benchmark off them.



MaryAnn Retired on 1/1/15 and so Lynne is the new Office Manager. We wish both of them the best. At the retirement party on December 18, 2014 we presented Maryann with a check for \$7,348.00, more than enough to send her and her husband to Hawaii. Thank you all for your generous support. The Grand Master presented her the check and MWB Santy Lascano sang her a farewell song (Link: http://mwglof-wa.phanfare.com/6766859_7815053). It was an excellent afternoon.

God Bless you all and A Happy Christmas and New Year.

Fraternally,

RWB David P. Owen
 Grand Secretary



Membership Development Committee

The Membership Development Committee has actively been busy doing presentations to both Lodges and Districts on the "Six Steps to Initiation". Those that have had the presentation indicated that it was worth while and felt that it was time to adopt this method of bringing in new members to our Lodges.

Why then is it so important for us to use the Six Steps to Initiation? The answer is really quite simple. In today's world we know very little about those we bring into our Lodges. We don't even know that much about our neighbors. When we sign an application for to someone to become a member of our Craft we do so indicating that we have known them for a period of at least six months and that we can vouch for them to be a credit to our order. But do we really? In most cases we simply sign the paper thinking that we will have another member who will continue with the Lodge after he has been accepted. We make an effort to inform them about what to expect if he is accepted and what we are all about; but, do we really tell them enough.

In many cases the person is brought into the Lodge and then told what he must do in order to progress to the next level or Degree, only to hear them say "I didn't know I had to do that".

Once he has been made an Entered Apprentice he is on the Lodges roll for ever. He remains there even if he does not progress any further. Worse than that he even remains on the roll after his demise. So what does the "Six Steps to Initiation" do that we aren't doing now?

When an application is received it goes to a Brother who contacts the individual. He inquires as to why this person has applied to become a member of the Fraternity. Is it out of curiosity or does he really want to become a member. If it is just out of curiosity he can be told what Freemasonry is about to satisfy that curiosity. If on the other hand is really interested in becoming a member a meeting can be set up.

This would be the "**First Step in Initiation**". At this meeting he is expected to bring a list of questions he would like to know about us which should be answered, and he is giving a list of questions which explain more about the Craft as to what we do and do not expect of him. All he has to do with these questions is to answer whether or not he understands them. He is also given the phone number of the Lodge member (or yourself) who had set up the meeting. He must then contact that member for any future meetings. The reason for this is because he must ask us if he can join. We do not ask him to join.

"**Step Two**" comes with the second meeting that the prospective member has requested. Here you go over the questions that you asked him to read and answer any further questions he may have. You also give him some brochures from Grand Lodge to read over. Again, you inform him that he must call you for the next meeting.

In "**Step Three**" you would explain to him the physical layout of the Lodge and go over other items such as the Officers of

the Lodge, the regalia worn, the three Degrees, and dress code plus anything else you feel is important. Finally, you give him some memory work other than Lodge ritual to commit to work.

"**Step Four**" should be a warm friendly meeting without too much talk about the Craft. At this meeting you would introduce him to other members of the Lodge. One of which would be his second sponsor on his application. He would be asked if he had memorized the work you had given him and ask him to recite it to you and the other member. You would advise him of the financial obligations involved with the Lodge such as dues and social functions. You would also ask him to attend some of the Lodge meetings and join the members for the social time after. At these meetings he could sit outside the Lodge room with the Tyler who entertain him.

"**Step Five**" would be to have him and his spouse attend a social function. The reason for this is mostly to see if he is comfortable in joining with the members he meets and also are they comfortable in having him join them! There is nothing else to do at these social meetings but to have fun and talk about whatever comes to mind. His behavior and our instincts and observations will tell us whether he can be one of us or not.

"**Step Six**" is the final step where the petition is signed and presented to the Lodge, the examination committee is appointed to visit him at his home and make report to the Lodge. If all goes well the petition is accepted and the secretary sends him a letter informing him that he has been accepted.

The presentation to the Lodges and Districts go into a little further depth than what has been outlined but the bottom line is the prospective candidate fully understands exactly what is expected of him and what is expected of the Lodge. His chances of become an active member become much better. The program is being used in other Jurisdictions and from all reports seems to be very successful. To prove that it successful all efforts are being made to find from other Jurisdictions just how successful it has been. At any rate it has to be a better method of informing the prospective member more about Freemasonry.

To date (Six) 6 Districts have had this presentation given to its members and (eighteen) 18 other Districts have requested to have a presentation made to their members. If your District or Lodge has not had the opportunity to have this presentation made to them contact your Deputy of the Grand Master and a meeting will be arranged. Brethren, it is a good time to get on board!

Fraternally Submitted

MWB Bob McSween
Chairman, Membership
Development Committee





Grand Lecturer's Message

As Installations of 2015 Lodge Officers throughout our Jurisdiction wind down, preparation for the Wardens' Competition heats up! Eligibility, rules and pertinent details are available thru your District Deputies. I am looking forward to meeting the finalists on April 18, 2015.

McDonald's is known as one of the most successful companies in the history of the franchise industry. The top reason is that they've developed a system so successful that any franchise that follows that system to a tee is guaranteed to succeed. There's even a joke in the franchise world that when you feel a breeze at 5 pm, don't mistake that for the wind. That's the movement of the air caused by the floor-sweeping motions of all McDonald's restaurants within your time zone!

Once in a while, a few of the franchises would deviate from the system. Some corners are cut to save some man-hours; a few procedural words are changed or omitted, ingredients are replaced with similar but inferior products; employees not properly screened; all contributing to the eventual failure of that particular franchise.

Brethren, Masonry happens to be the most successful Fraternal organization from time immemorial. Yes, we have a successful system, and yes, any Lodge that follows that system to a tee is also guaranteed to succeed. That thunder-like sound you hear at 7:30 pm? That's the sound from a Master's gavel somewhere..

Once in a while.....

Sincerely and Fraternally,
 WB Romy Labonete
 Grand Lecturer



Masons!

As I was giving my talk from the West on the "6 Steps to Initiation" in my home Lodge, I started with the old saw "what do you call it when you do the same thing over and over and expect a different result?" Of course the commonly known answer is "insanity!" Except for one wag (you know who you are, Bro!) from behind my right shoulder who piped up with "Mason!" Needless to say, that certainly moved the discussion along.

And in fact, that was and is my point. We Masons, by the nature of our obligations and the ancient landmarks, are the very epitome of conservative, and yet we recognize that the world is changing all around us. There is much of what we do and what we are as Masons that is rigid and should not be, must not be, changed. Our philosophy, our esoteric work, and our obligations are immutable and yet the operational or business side of our Fraternity is not locked in stone. Our tendency is to resist change, sometimes to the exclusion of the changes we need to make for the health of our Lodges and Fraternity.

As Secretary of my Lodge, I found a substantial stack of Fellow Craft cyphers and an even larger stack of Master Mason cyphers tucked away in files, drawers, and folders. Why? Because the Lodge can only buy cyphers in sets of three; 1 EA, 1 FC and 1 MM cypher per set. Which means we have been making a lot of Entered Apprentices who never move on to Fellow Craft, and even fewer who become Master Masons. Which means there is a problem with our process for selecting potential Master Masons.

What are we doing that brings unsuccessful candidates to our Lodges? What are we not doing, the lack of which seems to inhibit the success of the candidates that we accept for initiation? Why do our candidates lose interest before moving on to the 2nd or 3rd Degree? There is no single answer to those questions, but there is a thread that seems to run through the entire process. That thread that strings the beads is that in many if not most of the cases, we do not truly do our due diligence in investigating the candidates, we don't take the time to know them or for them to know us, and we are not controlling the process.

The process of our recent past has been one of candidate self-selection, and therein lies the problem. It is not enough for a candidate to know that "2B1Ask1". There is a well-defined process we should be following when we are approached by a potential petitioner for membership. "6 Steps to Initiation" simply restates and amplifies that process, and gives us a plan to carefully and as completely as humanly possible, determine whether a potential petitioner is in fact a good potential Mason, both from his standpoint and from the Lodges. The enquirer is encouraged and required to demonstrate a genuine interest and aptitude for completing the requirements of membership. Only once that process is complete should the enquirer be given a petition.

The choice is ours. Will we see and do those things we need to adjust in how we conduct our business, or will the answer to my question remain "Masons!"?

Fraternally,
 VWB Jim Kendall
 Membership Committee



Individual or Lodge Posting and Announcements

Learning

An article in the January/February 2014 Scottish Rite Journal named "RHETORIC" written Jason Van Dyke KCCH caught my attention and as I read it many things came to mind, but the main item was the VILE quip by George Bernard Shaw in the play "Man and Superman".... "Those that can do...do...Those that cannot teach!" What a neat put down and a direct slam at all the people that taught him the basics and helped him become what he became. I have to admit to the fact that in my ignorance I have used that vile quote more than once until I taught and realized the effort that goes into teaching. I was then at a loss as to how to put a positive spin on it for many years until I read the above article. But the twist by George Bernard Shaw on a quote by Aristotle which apparently went like this "Those that can know...DO...Those that understand TEACH!" In reflecting on this I would like to rephrase the subject. "Those that know...DO... Those that have patience, understanding, compassion, vision for the future and a desire to pass on skills, whether technical and/or academic, teach them and in so doing hopefully make our lives better and a brighter future for those that follow us. Even the ones that do not teach, in fact teach. We are all teachers and students thru-out our life. Our every action, word and/or deed that is being viewed by someone or some ones, and in essence, is a learning process to those around us. Thru this contact they will know our likes and dislikes, our habits, our skills, and our abilities. So when a person says that teachers are incompetent and/or ignorant, that person is most likely talking about him/her self. We are also students in the manner that we are constantly observing people as well as the environs that surround us (animals, plants, etc) and hopefully learning. It has been always been said "Surround your self with good positive people and you will learn great and wonderful things" however, I have found that I learn from ALL kinds of people as I learn how not to do things and/or not to treat people and the environs around me from negative people. Observing negative and abusive people that are around us reinforces the gratitude that I have of not walking down that type of path. So with all the above verbiage it boils down to a simple question "By MY words and MY actions what am I teaching to those around me and what am I learning from them?"



WB Henry Qualey
Senior Deacon
Alpha Lodge No.212

Masons have historically been pillars of social work in their communities. In the last few decades, Lodges have thinned out and our visibility has waned to a popular opinion that we do not even exist anymore. As I visit Blue Lodges in a the Puget Sound, I notice that there is a growing number of younger membership that is becoming more enthusiastic about highlighting charity. There are of course the great charitable programs throughout Masonry that we hear about all the time, from Grand Lodge, the York Right, the Shrine, that do great things for unfortunate circumstances. What about the neighbors where your Lodge sits? Does your Lodge sit dark, cold and seemingly invisible to the community? I have seen that we are starting to come out of the great coma. In District 4, Maritime Lodge delivers food to the senior citizens that cannot make it to the food bank. This is a lifeline to their neighbors! Daylight Lodge serves at the ROOTS program that is keeping teens at risk from parishing on the streets. At Doric Lodge we will be hosting the MAYOR of SEATTLE on February 3, 2015 with a free catered meal starting at 6pm! He will be giving a presentation detailing some of the barriers and strengths concerning Seattle's less fortunate. The GRAND MASTER will be in attendance and we are hoping to fill Doric Lodge with aprons so please consider attending this great opportunity for our Fraternity! Please RSVP by contacting myself at : g_coop88@hotmail.com or the Secretary at dan.harrity@gmail.com.

Fraternally,
Grant Cooper, Worshipful Master
Doric Lodge, No. 92

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Seattle area Worshipful Masters and other interested Brethren are invited to a special event after Daylight's Stated Meeting on Saturday, January 17th. Daylight will host a Junior Grand Wardens Candidate Forum scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Green Lake Masonic Hall. The stated meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. in Seattle's Green Lake Masonic Hall.

Worshipful Master Dean Willard has invited anyone with a question for the three candidates for the Junior Grand Warden position to send them to Daylight. He and Senior Warden Steve Harrell will sort through the questions and select the most appropriate.

The forum will be a structured 90 minute event with each candidate given an opportunity to answer the several questions. The entire event will be filmed by students from the Seattle Film Institute and edited under the supervision of Brother Troy McFarland. Daylight will be contributing needed equipment to the Film Institute as part of its ongoing support of liberal arts education. By working with Film Institute Daylight is sure that it can produce a more professional video than in the past. The end product will be put on the Lodge's website and copies made available to any other Lodge asking for a copy.

Questions for the candidates can be sent to VWB CoeTug Morgan at notpgm@comcast.net. He will pass them on to Worshipful Master Willard. Daylight hopes that this forum will be of interest to greater Seattle area and other Brethren give all some prospective about the future leadership of Grand Lodge.

VWB CoeTug Morgan, Secretary
Daylight Lodge No.232





HONORS GIVEN, HONORS RECEIVED

Touring D.C. with MWB Sam Roberts, Grand Master
 September 20-27, 2014

On Saturday afternoon, September 20th, I joined the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Sam Roberts, his lady, Vickie, along with a group of about thirty others, on a flight to Washington, DC, to visit the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (figure 1), in Alexandria, VA, and other historical sites.

Sunday, September 21st: GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL MUSEUM

First thing, Sunday morning, we walked across the street, through the Metro Station, and up the hill to the George Washington National Masonic Museum building. The first thing we noticed when reaching the top of all those stairs, was our own State flag. Then, about 200 yards behind the museum, we continued up Shouter's Hill (pronounced shooter) to one of the largest maple trees on the property.



Under the tree, was a memorial stone, and a marble bench, dedicated to Charlene Leigh, the fifty year Secretary for Grand Lodge, who passed away some time ago. Stories were told about Charlene and her "no nonsense" approach to the Craft. As we honored Mrs. Leigh, the Museum honored our Grand Lodge, in two ways. The first, was the tree itself. The museum has a tree dedicatory program, where they will plant a tree in behalf of persons or organizations who apply. The donations received for this memorial



so impressed Museum management, that they declined our application to "plant" a tree, but chose for us, one of the largest trees on the property. A distinct honor given Charlene and our members who contributed!

Each month the Museum honors a Grand Lodge. The month of September, as most of us know, the Grand Lodge of Washington was the honored Lodge. One of most popular displays we views was our own display.



Designed by WB Todd Johnstone, it has photographs of each of the Grand Masters of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, within the pyramid



shown here. In addition, of course, are photos of our Most Worshipful Sam, and his team, Right Worshipful Don Munks, Jim Mendoza, Warren Schoeben, and our Grand Secretary, David Owen. In addition to the poster, are various items of memorabilia from the Grand Lodge, including Grand Masters' coins, the top hat and other items.

September 22nd: COLLINGWOOD LIBRARY & WB GEORGE'S MT. VERNON ESTATE

Owned and operated by the National Sojourners, the Collingwood Library sits on 8.7 acres on the banks of the Potomac River in Virginia, not far from the Mount Vernon estate, and was previously owned by WB George Washington, which he referred to as River Farm. For those who are unfamiliar with them, the National Sojourners "is a national Fraternal organization meeting the needs of military (Commissioned, Warrant and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers) and honorary members who are Masons in advancing programs that promote love of country." The property has a long history from George Washington's time, to today, where it serves as a museum of American History, containing books and artifacts of interest to anyone interested in our Nation's history, as well as being the actual National Headquarters for the Sojourners. We spent an hour or so enjoying some of the exhibits here, but anxious to be on our way to George and Martha's Mount Vernon Estate, where we spent the rest of the day, and participate in a very special ceremony, honoring the life of our Worshipful Brother, George.



It was a beautiful morning when we arrived at the Estate. We had a 1:55 tour for our group to see the mansion, itself. Until that time, we were free to wander over

the preserved 500-acre grounds, which included the museum, slave quarters, kitchen and utility buildings, gardens, farmland and, the old and new Washington family tombs. This brings us to an occasion to honor WB George. MWB Sam arranged with the Estate folks to place a wreath at the tomb of the Washington family, more specifically, George and Martha. To honor the President, and his Lady, WB Sam arranged to have a small entourage to assist himself and Vickie, WB Ben Franklin, Grand Chaplain Jonathan Brown, and myself, perform the brief ceremony. WB Reverend Jonathan offered a prayer, Ben Franklin and MWB Sam had personal remarks, and the ceremony concluded with my reading of George Washington's Prayer for His Country, which was MY special honor. One interesting side note was that there were about seventy-five or so other visitors to the Es-



(continued on page 12)

tate, among whom were a group of young girls from Central America. They were so impressed with WB Sam's regalia that they figured he was someone important, and a number of them asked to have their photo taken with him, to Sam's great amusement. Vickie Roberts was also asked to pose with some of the young women. The day concluded with a dinner at the Mt. Vernon Inn Restaurant before being bussed back to our hotel.

The next day, Tuesday, the 23rd, we were to have visited Fredericksburg Lodge No.84 and the Battlefield, but, as sometimes happens, plans did not work out, so we were left to our own devices to go wherever we cared to go. We learned how to use the Metro trains, buses and trolleys and how important it is to avoid "peak hours" on those conveyances. Everyone has personal experiences, stories and photos to share, when we all got together that evening at our hotel.

September 24th: HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE VISIT & ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Wednesday morning we bussed to the House of the Temple, in Washington D.C. for a tour. It is a magnificent structure, and is the headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States. A special display in that building was an entire room dedicated to Albert Pike, author of *Morals and Dogma*, and the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction, for over 32 years.



After lunch at the Dupont Italian Kitchen, a few blocks walk from the House of the Temple, an opportunity

was given to us to be bussed to Georgetown, or Arlington National Cemetery. The unanimous choice was Arlington Cemetery. Most everyone took the tour of the grounds and were honored to visit the grave of President Kennedy as well as other notable historical people, and, of course, probably the main attraction for each of us was the Changing of the Guard ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Back up the hill from the cemetery, was the home of Mary Custis and Robert E. Lee, before the outbreak of the War Between the States. General Lee never returned there after the war, as it had been used as Union Army headquarters, and the burial ground for those dead.

September 25th, GRAND Lodge OPENING

Thursday, was the day for special honors. MWB Sam opened Grand Lodge, in ample form, in the Lodge room for Alexandria-Washington Lodge No.22, within the George Washington National Masonic Museum. There were a number of honored guests, Thomas Jefferson (RWB Don Munks), and Benjamin Franklin (WB Phill Rice of Franklin Lodge No.5), the WB Rob Weston, Master of Alexandria-Washington Lodge, and WB Shawn Eyers, Communications Director for the Ma-

sonic Museum. After going off session, MWB Sam invited the ladies into the Lodge room. After introductions and remarks, I was honored to deliver the oration which was meant for the wreath laying ceremony at the tomb in Mount Vernon.



The oration, written by WB Zane McCune, Grand Orator, was a memorial to MWB George Washington, the man and the Mason, highlighting some of his attributes, concluding with

his final words, "It is well."

September 25TH: GEORGE WASHINGTON'S PEW

Friday morning, we traveled to Christ Church in Alexandria, VA, as short trolley ride, and walk from our hotel. We spent some time walking the grounds of the old Church where every President of the United States has worshipped, except President Obama. The docent of the Church, took us inside and told us about the building and some of the stories of the worshipers, there, including George, Martha and their family. We were all given the opportunity of sitting in the Washington's rented pew, in the place where George is said to have sat.

It was just a short walk, past George Washington's townhouse, to Gadsby's Tavern and Museum. We toured the Tavern, saw rooms where George ate his meals, and what some of the rooms were like, before sitting down to a period lunch at the Tavern.

The rest of the last afternoon was spent with each of us given free time to explore, Washington D.C. or Alexandria, until dusk, when our bus took us on an evening tour of Washington D.C. Monuments.

Saturday, September 27th: GOING HOME

It was the amazing trip of a lifetime, for many of us. We had many opportunities to commemorate the life of one of our Founding Fathers, honoring him, with our Grand Master. This was, also a wonderful way to fellowship with one another, and get to know each other on a personal level.

We had an opportunity to honor Charlene Leigh for her service to the Grand Lodge, with a memorial tree, dedicated by our Grand Master. Our Grand Lodge was honored by the George Washington National Masonic Museum, during the month of September. MWB Sam and his lady honored the life of the Father of the Country, by placing a wreath at his tomb. We recognized the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite. We took the opportunity to honor fallen heroes, at Arlington Cemetery. We sat as friends and Brothers in a Lodge of Brothers, whose legacy continues from the time of Mr. Washington, and noted his love of Country, and his fidelity to our principles. Finally, we honor our Grand Master, MWB Sam Roberts, his example to all who love the Craft, and our Country.

Submitted By:
 Bro. N. Kent Brown
 Junior Warden, Arlington Lodge, No.129



DeMolay Article for the Masonic Tribune

I recently found myself in a conversation with VWB Chuck Compton. He is working on a Grand Lodge project to make available guest speakers who can be invited to provide programs for Lodge meetings and programs. Indeed, there are many members of our Fraternity who are both educational and entertaining. But, as we talked, I remembered one of the best presentations I had ever seen. It took place in a DeMolay Chapter.

One of the Senior DeMolay's from that Chapter, Kevin Kliewer, had been asked to speak on his military experience in Iraq. Kevin was a Sergeant in the Marine Corps and had been invited to the DeMolay Chapter meeting to honor our country's military. His talk was awesome! Most of the DeMolay members that evening expected a short boring program honoring Brother Kliewer and then back to business as normal. Instead, as Kevin began to make a few comments, he recounted his experiences as a Marine; pointing out that the lessons he had learned as a DeMolay made the difference in his life and military career. He spoke of the DeMolay Virtues he was taught as a young member and the application of those Precepts to his duties and action in life abroad. The boys were awed. Many of them were seeing for the first time the difference DeMolay can make and they were hearing from perhaps the best example they could ever expect.

This brings us back to VWB Compton and the MGL program. Brethren, we have the opportunity to share experiences as Masons not only with each other but also with the young people who represent our best chance for future success. The problem is we don't normally offer our speakers to the young people, and they don't normally think to ask us. What are boys interested in? Well, they are taught to value Patriotism; hence, Brother Kliewer's comments were right on target (so to speak). They are also interested in local government, the history of their local community, and other similar programs. Maybe we could spend some time sharing with them the story of cornerstones in their communities. Many of you have other experiences to share from both your career and life. Certainly, Kevin Kliewer is one of many, many Senior DeMolays and Master Masons whose lives have been affected for the better by DeMolay and Masonry. This Grand Lodge Speakers Program would be very interested in helping you help the members of DeMolay. You have a lot of good ideas to share.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Brother Compton at 360-981-7689. It's a great place to start. I know that having listened to Sergeant Kliewer, there are a lot of you with similar stories to share.

James N. Reid, Jr.
 Director of Masonic Relations
 Washington DeMolay

South End Past Masters

Host Secrets of the Chair



President Richard A Mullert, of the South End Past Masters Association, is pleased to announce the Secrets of the Chair Degree to be held on January 26, 2015 at 7:30pm in Delta Masonic Hall at 13034 41st Ave. So. in Tukwila.

This ceremony is open to all Past Masters and newly installed Masters. It is the custom of the Association that the immediate outgoing Master purchases the dinner of the new incoming Master, as a way of welcoming him into our ranks. Unfortunately, some of our cheaper members have inverted the arrangement and we want them to know that this is frowned upon and there will be a forfeiture of dessert and a possible fine if this is noticed by the President, who once was considered one of the main offenders until we instructed him properly, so we want to especially watch him.

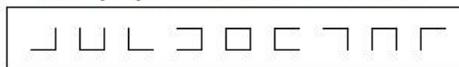
Dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 pm and as usual will be a feast you won't want to be late for.

There will be a nominal charge for dinner. Past Masters ... make sure your new Master comes to this important meeting; in fact bring him with you. Please join us for this enjoyable evening.

SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE

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Sudoku, but like Masonry symbols (parts of the square) are substituted Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 grid contains every symbols shown below:



(Solution is provided in page 14)

Proficiency—It Isn't just about Ritual

I recently saw a commercial on TV where a father says to his child that he is sick and can't take care of him until he is better. While that was a tongue-in-cheek take that parents don't get sick days, it did remind me that in many ways we as Masons also do not get sick days. Whether we are the WM of our Lodge, or newly installed as the Junior Steward, we have certain duties and obligations which, when we are called upon to act, we had better be prepared (ie Proficient!!) to give it our best—regardless of how we feel, or whether or not this is a “good time”.

Education—Experience—and Adaptability are the keys.

Several years ago, then GM Doug Tucker asked the Research and Education Committee to revamp the PILM exam to make it more relevant and applicable to Masons. Proficiency in this case meant reading, learning and becoming comfortable with the WMC, TSW and other tools in order to become a better Lodge Officer.

But there is much more to Proficiency which could not be addressed in the PILM Format. One aspect in particular has become more important to me over the last several years as President of the Seattle Masonic Service Bureau (MSB). While our primary focus is Charity—assisting the Brothers of member Lodges who are going thru financial difficulties—we also, by request, will perform funeral and memorial services. Brothers: Do you know what to do if you receive a call from a Widow or family that your Lodge Brother has gone to the Celestial Lodge above?

I will describe three incidents/requests. 1) Several years ago, the JW of a Seattle area Lodge died suddenly. He was in his 30's. We received a call from the WM to do the Service—they were concerned that they could not memorize the work in a few days. We refused—I said in effect: He was your Officer, Brother and Friend—YOU will do the Service--But we will teach you how. I explained that very few Masons, (or preachers for that matter) memorize funeral services, but they can Read it. Well... In this case, they split the work in Section 4-p39+ of TSW into several individual parts and sent their Brother off in a very honorable fashion.

2) In another recent case, I received a call from “an Elected Mason” who asked me if the MSB still did funeral services. I said Yes Sir...What can I do for you? He described receiving a call from the son of a 60 year Mason who had recently passed away. The son had contacted the Brothers Lodge, and was in effect told: We are busy that day, and we don't know what to do....sorry. Within an hour, I contacted the son and family, learned more about their Father and his wishes for a service, and let them know that I would do what I could to help honor their father, and send him off in a proper manner. And we did...

When your Lodge receives a request—whether over the phone, email or in person—EVERY person in your Lodge who is a Point of Contact must know that they have certain obligations and responsibilities to act promptly, and with courtesy and respect. And even if you don't know what to do—tell the Family that you will do what you can to find out. Like it or nor—you represent Masonry and all things Masonic at that moment in Time—so be prepared and act like it!!

3) Earlier this year we received a call from a Lady whose husband had been killed in a senseless traffic accident--3 hours before. Though he had not been to Lodge in 28 years (he was a unaffiliated Mason from CA), he had always told her he wanted a Masonic funeral service and he showed her where his White Leather Apron was. Over the next few days, I spent several hours with her on the phone going over details and discovering who he was—and who they were. I invited a Mason friend to join me at the funeral service. At the service I asked if there were any other Masons present—there were two Masons, and also four others who were Senior from Masonic Youth Groups. It was a good service, and it helped build Community.

Creating a culture of awareness and responsibility in your Lodge starts with conversations. Does your family know what you want when you pass? Does your Lodge know? What happens to your Masonic Regalia and Apron? Renaissance Lodge No.312 was presented with a GM Apron and Jewel—which had been found on EBay!! (The PGM had been a member of our Lodge). His distant family did not want it or honor its' significance. Brothers—your Masonic Bling does not belong on Ebay!! So have these conversations!!!

Brothers, Proficiency in Masonic issues entails many different details. When the tools and educational awareness are available—Ignorance is not a plausible defense. Have these discussions at home and with your Lodge Brothers. Consider and discuss various scenarios—“If this happens then”, and “If that happens—then we will”... If you need someone to come in and instruct your Lodge(s)—then ASK! Remember—If we are to acquit ourselves with honor then Proficiency is not about you. Rather, it is about how we treat each other...

Respectfully,

VWB Bill Werner

SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE (Solution)

(Solution of puzzle in page 13)

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More -- Individual or Lodge Postings and Announcements

White Salmon Lodge No.163; 2014 highlights

The year 2014 has been a year of accomplishment for White Salmon Lodge, No.163 in our Masonic Craft, community outreach and infrastructure. Our Masonic activities included bringing up three Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, attending and supporting our Brothers at adjoining Lodges of Washington No.4, Goldendale No.31, Wasco No.15 (Oregon) and Hood River No.105 (Oregon) and also enjoying their fellowship and support, and that of Brothers from other Lodges, at our Lodge. This fall our Lodge conducted a SWOT exercise to better identify areas crucial for our growth. We also awarded Brother Ed Callahan his 50 year pin at his home.



Brother Ed Callahan, former Skamania County Commissioner, receiving his 50-year Masonic membership pin and certificate from his home Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois. From left; Norm Bright, Mike Nelson, Ole Helgerson, Ed Callahan, Kenny Burrill, Eldon Schalk and John Meadows. Special thanks are due Pat Callahan, Ed's spouse, for graciously welcoming all to the presentation.

In community support, under the auspices of the Masonic Bike for Books program, White Salmon Lodge No.163 awarded 10 bicycles to five area elementary schools in support of their reading programs. These smaller schools and their students were very grateful.



2014 accomplished readers from Mill "A" School including the boy and girl winners of the Bikes for Books bicycles with White Salmon Lodge, No.163 officers. The Hood River, OR Walmart store graciously provided a discount on the bicycles.

Our Lodge also presented the 2014 White Salmon High School Alumni breakfast. As with past years, this brought needed funds to our Masonic Building Association.

Two important infrastructure improvements were accomplished. Our Lodge building had struggled for years with aging oil furnaces. These were replaced with gas powered units thanks to a donation from the Hunsaker family. The Hunsakers helped build our Lodge building and four generations have served as Worshipful Master and also as other Lodge officers. A new steel fire escape ramp now stands thanks to anonymous support and the above average skills of some of our Brothers in artificing metal.

On the horizon for 2015 are developing an action plan from the SWOT exercise, a Masonic Building dedication to the Hunsaker family, continuing the Bikes for Books program and high school alumni breakfasts and otherwise increasing our community presence, working to increase membership and of course, working in mutual support and fellowship with our Brother Masons serving our families and our surrounding communities.

Ole Helgerson
 Worshipful Master
 White Salmon Lodge, No.163

ST. Andrews Lodge, No.35
F&AM

St Andrew's No.35 in Renton installed a brand new slate of Officers for the 2015 Term. The Installing Master VWB John McKinley assisted by a great team conducted a tiled Installation on November 19, 2014.

The elected and appointed for the term are :

Worshipful MasterWB Mark Thompson
Senior Steward Br John Slaney
Senior Warden WB David Martin
Junior Steward..... VWB Roger Barnstead
Junior Warden WB Howard Ditsworth
Marshal WB Kevin Leach
Treasurer WB Larry Harger
Chaplain WB John Mulhall
Secretary WB Anthony Dean
Tyler WB Gene Gannon
Senior Deacon Br Robert Glenn
Junior Deacon..... Br Daagon Mosely

All the Brethren are looking forward to a very exciting term, with Great Plans for the Year. Please visit us and enjoy Friendship and Fellowship; our Stated Meetings are the first Saturday of the Month, Dinner at 6:30 PM and Lodge opens on the appropriate Degree at 7:45 PM.

Submitted by:
 WB Anthony Dean
 Secretary, St. Andrews Lodge No.35

Virtues

Recently, I was working with a youth group and the subject of virtues came up. We explained to the youths that virtues, by definition, are the moral excellence of a person. A morally excellent person has a character made up of virtues valued as good. He or she is honest, respectful, courageous, forgiving, and kind, for example. Because of these virtues or positive character traits, he or she is committed to doing the right thing no matter what the personal cost, and does not bend to impulses, urges or desires, but acts according to values and principles.

You have to love the youths. Here are virtues the youth came up with:

Assertive	Funny	Open
Caring	Generous	Orderly
Clarity	Gentle	Passionate
Cleanliness	Giving	Patience
Compassionate	Gracious	Peaceful
Confident	Helpful	Playful
Considerate	Honest	Prayerful
Courageous	Honorable	Reliable
Courteous	Humble	Respectful
Creative	Insightful	Responsible
Detached	Intelligent	Reverent
Determined	Joyful	Sincere
Disciplined	Just	Steadfast
Enthusiastic	Kind	Tactful
Excellent	Loving	Thankful
Faithful	Loyal	Trusting
Flexible	Merciful	Trustworthy
Focused	Moderate	Truthful
Forgiving	Modest	Wise
Friendly	Obedient	

The subject of virtues reminded me of the virtues we have in our ritual work. Virtues need to be cultivated to become more prevalent and habitual in daily life. With the habit of being more virtuous, we take the helm of our own life, redirecting its course towards greater fulfillment, peace and joy.

In our ritual work we are blessed with an abundance of virtues, starting with the four Cardinal Virtues.

Temperance Prudence Fortitude Justice



Other virtues mentioned in our work, but not all:

Affability	Fidelity	Purity
Affection	Friendship	Rational
Aid	Glorious	Rectitude
Assist	Gratitude	Charity
Guarded	Relief	Zeal
Circumspection	Harmony	Respectable
Courtesy	Honor	Secrecy
Dedicated	Hope	Service
Defend	Humble	Silence
Devoted	Industrious	Sincerity
Dignity	Innocence	Strength
Diligent	Intelligent	Submission
Discreet	Inviolable	Support
Divine	Just	Temperate
Duty	Kindness	Truth
Emulation	Morality	Unity
Equality	Noble	Upright
Exemplary	Obedience	Watchful
Faithful	Peaceful	Worthy
Fellowship	Prudent	

Why Practice Virtues?

Virtues are universal and recognized by all cultures as basic qualities necessary for our well-being and happiness. Necessary because when we practice virtues and build the "character muscle," we will attract what may have been missing in our life such as fulfilling relationships, achievement of meaningful goals, and happiness. The moment we declare, "I am persevering to achieve this goal in spite of all obstacles, self-doubt and fear," a shift occurs where we naturally become more focused, determined, and courageous, leading us to success.

Often we know that it takes perseverance to reach our goals, and we still never get there. We know if we forgive someone then we may not be as angry and uptight, and we know it takes courage to accomplish great things. So why then, if we know what to do, do we still stay stuck? Because we have not yet consciously and boldly applied a virtue to a given situation so as to alter its outcome, from what has always been to what can be.

Becoming More Virtuous Masons

We know we are becoming more virtuous Masons, not only because of the results above, but also because of the way other people respond to us. Our friends, families, co-workers and neighbors will trust and rely on us. They will come to us for guidance and help, and will want to be around us because we inspire them to be better people. We will be known as people with exceptional character who make the right choices and strive for excellence in all we do. Can life be lived any better?

In summary, the practice of virtues allows us to develop our potential, and live a more purposeful, better life; a life not ordinary but extraordinary. Becoming more virtuous people attracts great things to us; it's a certainty.

Fraternally,

WB Dean Markley, PM
 Lakeside Lodge, No. 258

Junior Grand Warden

Candidates Column

Question 1



A Resolution requiring first time Worshipful Masters to be Proficient in the Lodge Management program has, on several occasions, been voted down. Share how would you encourage a 'Proficiency' of the Washington Masonic Code to better prepare the Lodge Officers and members?

Response of VWB Jim Kendall:

The Proficiency in Lodge Management (PILM) was designed as a tool to encourage familiarity with the governing documents for Free and Accepted Masons of Washington. In the original format, the PILM was strictly hardcopy-based and depended on District Deputies to administer the program. It was cumbersome and difficult for all parties, and often resulted in frustration and rejection of the program by those who would most benefit. Successful participants often did not see results for months. That situation has changed, and changed dramatically for the better.

In 2013 the Research & Education Committee in partnership with the Technology Committee spearheaded a complete update of the PILM program, including installing it as an interactive online tool. The Mason can now "take" the exam on line and have it graded in real time, with corrections noted. Certificates of completion are issued in days, if not in hours.

Completing the PILM does not make one truly proficient. It does, however, encourage prospective leaders to delve into the governing documents. The Lodge Secretary is especially involved in applying the provisions of the WMC, and in conjunction with the Treasurer, is a key member of the Lodge Management team. The responsibility for the proper governance of the Lodge rests with the Worshipful Master, the Wardens, the Secretary and the Treasurer. Further, the members of the Lodge need to involve themselves to the extent necessary to assure themselves that the Lodge is well governed.

"How would you encourage a 'Proficiency' of the Washington Masonic Code?"

My rhetorical response is, how do you encourage anything? What tools are available? What incentive is there, or should there be?

Let's start with our Annual Conference specifically directed at Leadership; the Leadership Conference. There should be several sessions, that is, every timeslot for at least one day where a "complete the PILM" session is held. There should be no issue with "teaching the test" when it is used as a teaching tool and the answers to the questions are discussed in some depth. The goal is to help the Lodge leadership better prepare to manage the Lodge, not demonstrate test taking ability. Satisfactory completion of the session results in completion of the PILM.

Next, we should go to considerable length to formally recognize individuals who complete the program. Currently the

successful Mason receives a certificate and pat on the back. If we deem it so important that our new leaders complete the PILM, then we should make the recognition much more significant.

Lastly, it seems that the same level of emphasis to complete the PILM is not there this year, as in the recent past. Every member of Grand Lodge leadership should, as a matter of policy forcefully emphasize the importance of completing the PILM, at every opportunity. Every District Deputy should arrange for at least one presentation or training session each year. To do any less flies in the face of the importance we have placed in the program.



Fraternally: VWB Jim Kendall

Response of VWB Paul Waadevig:

First, let me relay two stories; one related and one directly concerning the last time this resolution was in front of Grand Lodge.

When I was Master of Mt. Hood Lodge, No. 32 it was at the beginning of the Great Recession and our Lodge investments had taken quite a hit. As a consequence, the officers had decided to eliminate the \$5000 we usually allocated for scholarships in the proposed budget. Given the circumstances, as the sitting Master I agreed this was the most prudent thing to do. When the budget was presented before the Lodge, a group of Past Masters who had a vested interest in the scholarships had one of their number stand and make a motion to add back the \$5000. Looking around, I realized that we had a number of new Masons (EAs, FCs and MMs) in the room and most had never seen any contention in the Lodge before. I cleared my throat and said the following, "For you young Masons, I want to be clear. As Master, I don't have to recognize this motion. As it's been said, 'Robert's rules of order have no place in the Masonic Lodge.' However, it's always been my belief that just because a leader can do something, doesn't mean a good leader will." The motion was accepted and a vote taken after much discussion. The Lodge voted – by one vote – to spend the \$5000.

A few years later, when I was Arrangements co-chair & Jr. Grand Steward for MWB Mike Sanders, I wrote an email to the executive committee suggesting that we pull the re-vote on the PILM slated for that year and, instead, propose a means of recognition for completing it. This could be a pin, metal or name badge hanger. It wasn't possible but I still believe in the concept.

Without being over-political, I think it's fair to say some people are for bigger government and others for smaller government. When it comes to Grand Lodge, I'm a "small government" type guy. Just because Grand Lodge has the right to impose something, doesn't mean it's good leadership to do so. I believe many Brothers agree, which is why this has been repeatedly defeated despite the fact that I have yet to hear a Brother say the PILM is a bad thing itself.

Specifically, my vision is that the PILM would be broken into three levels: 1) Essential knowledge for running a Lodge. 2) Proficiency of ritual 3) Full understanding of the Code, Con-

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stitution, usages and customs. The reason for this is it takes the "all or nothing" with 100+ questions out of the equation (the perfect as the enemy of the good). There would be no requirement but some "wearable" recognition would be provided for each level. The time needed to pass level one should be such that Lodges recognize that this level is reasonably attainable by any Brother. Further levels are visibly recognized and may indicate the Brother aspires to appointment(s) in the Grand Lodge.



Fraternally: VWB Paul Waadevig

Response of VWB Charles Wood:

One way to encourage members/officers to be proficient is to lead by example. You should complete the Proficiency in Lodge Management Exam yourself before challenging others to do so. A good leader leads by example and by doing so I believe others will follow your example. Before you, challenge a person to do so, print out the question and answer portion of the exam. Then sit down with that individual and explain what the program is all about and how it will help him to become a better-informed member of their Lodge. Let the individual know that, other members of the Lodge have completed the Proficiency in Lodge Management Exam, and have found it to be a worthwhile process. That there are rewards for doing so, especially if you desire to take on a more active roll is Masonry in the future.

This next step, I believe to be the most important, is to provide the member with the tools to complete the challenge. You cannot challenge a person to do so without the proper tools to do the work. That includes a current copy of the Washington Masonic Code, Lodge Officers Hand Book, and Standard Work and FreeMason's Guide. I would also suggest that each Lodge purchase a Lodge Officer's Package from Masonic Services Association of North America. These digests individually will help the Lodge member/officer prepare for additional duties. It shows the member/officer that you care about their future in Masonry.

The next step, if he accepts you challenge, is to give that person the e-mail address for Ray Zimmerman in order to gain access to the Proficiency in Lodge Management Exam on the Grand Lodge website. Set up a meeting with the District Deputy so he will know that the Lodge member/officer is now going to complete the Proficiency in Lodge Management Exam. Let the member/officer know that you will be there for him as he completes the first portion of the exam. Let the member/officer know that when the time comes to practice the practical portion of the exam, you will be available to do so.

The last step is to routinely follow-up and see how the individual is progressing so he will know that you are taking an active roll in this challenge. When I was District Deputy, I found that this process was very successful. The majority of the members/officers that completed the Proficiency in Lodge Management Exam where later installed as Worshipful Masters of their respective Lodges.

In conclusion: I believe that by completing the Proficiency in Lodge Management Exam the member/officer will become familiar with the Washington Masonic Code. You need to give an individual a reason to open up the Washington Masonic Code and offering up a challenge as stated above will do just that.

Fraternally: VWB Charles E. Wood



Masonic Etiquette

Learn the Do's and Don'ts of Masonic Etiquette

Note: This article was acquired from an internet web site and is a public free downloadable material.

To read more: <http://www.Masonic-Lodge-of-education.com/Masonic-etiquette.html#ixzz3EWg63Qp1>

Masonic Etiquette, for the most part, is merely good manners and respect for your Lodge, its members, its Worshipful Master and the convention of FreeMasonry, in general.

Unfortunately, Masonic Etiquette ...or Blue Lodge Etiquette, (as it is called in the United States) is largely unpublished as well as unspoken, therefore, up until now, it has been more difficult to learn its rules and nuances.

You may study ritual work, Degree work, floor work and know all Masonry's glorious history, Masonic symbols, jewels, etc. but there is very little written about how to comport yourself so you do not look foolish or be regarded as disrespectful.

Some are small things, and some are not, but your Lodge conduct is continually on display.

Few Masonic mentors include a list of proper Lodge behavior, as they have learned it, themselves, incident-by-incident, and usually learned by them after their having made an error and being kindly informed by another member as to the correct Masonic etiquette of the situation.

CONFORMING TO MasonIC ETIQUETTE

Over time, and by watching others, members conform themselves to exhibit proper Masonic etiquette behavior to learn Lodge customs.

As a newly Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason, it is expected that you will exhibit the proper decorum and propriety in observance of the formal requirements which govern behavior in polite societies... BEFORE someone takes you aside to explain your errors...or you wouldn't be reading this.

RULES OF MasonIC ETIQUETTE

THE MASTER'S AUTHORITY:

During his term in office, the Brother who has been elected as Master is the most powerful member of the Lodge. He also shoulders all of its many responsibilities.

The Worshipful Master has the authority to:

1. Rule any Brother out of order on any subject at any time.
2. Decide what can and cannot be discussed. Should a Brother believe that the Master is arbitrary, unjust or unfair

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or is acting in an illegal manner, he can appeal to the District Deputy of the Grand Master.

If that officer agrees that the appeal is a valid one, he will forward the complaint to the Grand Master.

If, however, that Brother insists on speaking after the Master has ruled that he is out of order, he may be committing a Masonic offense. Courteous Brethren accept the requests made by the Master to serve on various committees such as the examination committee, the investigation committee and other duties, as determined by the Lodge's needs.

The following items are not Masonic offenses, They are simply a lack of Masonic Etiquette...or in other words, considered to be "bad form" or bad manners.

So... Let's begin:

1. **WALKING BETWEEN THE ALTAR AND THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER:** Brethren do not pass between the Altar and the East when the Lodge is open.

2. **SITTING IN THE EAST:** Brethren do not take a seat in the East without an invitation... even if all other seats are full.

3. **ALWAYS FULLY DRESSED:** Brethren do not enter their Lodge room either without their apron, nor while putting on that apron...not even the tying of its strings.

4. **STAND WHEN YOU SPEAK:** No man sits while speaking in the Lodge room, no matter if he addresses an officer or another Brother.

5. **TALKING:** "Side" talk while a Degree is being conferred is considered bad manners.

6. **SPEAKING:** If you wish to offer a predetermined motion or matter for discussion, advise the Master beforehand.

7. **OBEY THE GAVEL:** You must immediately obey the gavel.

8. **TURNING YOUR BACK:** Never turn one's back on the Master to address the Lodge without first receiving permission from the Master to speak.

9. **SALUTE:** Some Lodges (not all) offer salutes to the Master. Each of the Brethren will salute the Master when they enter and when they leave their Masonic Mother Lodge room or any other Masonic Lodge room. Some Lodges offer salutes to the Senior Warden.

10. **BALLOTING:** Do not enter or leave the Lodge room during a balloting.

11. **VOTING IS MANDATORY:** When an issue is put to a vote, all Brethren should vote.

12. **SMOKING:** No smoking in the Lodge room.

13. **SHOULDERING THE WORK:** It is good Masonic Etiquette to accept a request made in the name of the Lodge if it is within your abilities.

14. **CORRECTION OF VERBAL ERRORS:** Lodge customs

state that no one except for the Worshipful Master or his pre-arranged designee, may correct any mistake that may occur during the course of a Ceremony, and even he does so only when the error is a serious one.

15. **EXHIBIT GOOD POSTURE:** Good posture is necessary while within the Lodge room. Lounging, leaning and slovenly attitudes should be avoided. Poor posture is considered poor Masonic etiquette.

16. **NO PRACTICAL JOKES NOR OFF-COLOR STORIES:** The great lessons of Masonry, which are taught by our ritual, should never be demeaned by levity or pranks.

17. **USE PROPER MASONIC NAMES:** It is common courtesy to be accurate in speaking a Brother's name, so it is proper Masonic etiquette to address officers, members, and visitors by their correct Masonic titles and addresses.

18. **ENTERING Lodge AFTER THE MEETING HAS BEGUN:** If a Brother should enter the Lodge after the opening ceremony is under way, he should go to the Altar to salute the Master. If he must leave before the meeting is over, the correct Masonic etiquette of his departure is that he should salute the Presiding Master at the Altar before he departs. The salute should always be given properly and not in a careless or perfunctory manner.

19. **ALL PRAYERS AT Lodge FUNCTIONS ARE NON-SECTARIAN:** FreeMasonry is worldwide and holds no sectarian views. Non-sectarian means not sectioned into one, specific religion. FreeMasonry embraces all religions.

A Mason may choose the religion of his choice in his private life but should be aware and open to the fact that others among the Brethren do not necessarily share nor were they brought up with the religious dogmas and beliefs that you, personally, embrace.

20. **TURN CELL PHONES OFF:** All cell phones should be turned off before entering the Lodge room so as not to disrupt the proceedings.

Masonic Etiquette Summary: Masonic etiquette is simply the rules of good manners which make Lodge meetings pleasant for everyone.

The position of Worshipful Master in the East occupies the most exalted position within the Lodge.

A Lodge which does not honor its Master, no matter how they personally feel about the man himself, lacks Masonic courtesy.

The honor conveyed by the Brethren in electing him, ...in other words, the historical traditions and the men who have gone before you must be given the utmost respect, if the traditions of the Fraternity are to be observed and proper Masonic etiquette is to be maintained.

Masonic etiquette comprises Lodge courtesies and proprieties.

Good manners imply observance of the formal requirements governing man's behavior in polite society and a sense of what is appropriate for a person of good breeding with high morals and good taste.

The spirit of Brotherly love and affection, by which we are bound together, will be exemplified in our conduct, our carriage and our behavior at all times.

It is my hope that you will use your trowel to cement the stones of Brotherly Love for the "More Noble and Glorious Purpose" of exhibiting these rules of Masonic Etiquette toward one and all within the Brethren.



Directory Listing of Services

The listing below is a Directory Service to provide the Brethren with listings of Masons practitioners and service providers for different line of work and disciplines. This is in keeping with the Masonic tradition of promoting each others welfare and together be able to rejoice in each other's prosperity. This publication will continue to build-up this listing until we can establish a better and well organized format to advertise the ad placements. For now the following directory is arranged by order that the placements have been received.

Directory Listing - December 2014

M & M ENGRAVERS

Awards & Recognitions

Badges * Plaques * Signs* Trophies

Sublimation: Tiles * Signs * Mugs *

5140 Phillips Rd SE Port Orchard, WA. 98367

Email: mandmengravers@wavecable.com

Telephone: 360. 871. 3372

Ultimate Health For Dogs

Liquid Dog Vitamins Formula

"Protect Your Dog Naturally..."

Order Directly Online at:

www.UltimateHealthForDogs.com

360.264.7526

John@UltimateHealthForDogs.com

Estate Planning and Charitable Giving

Frank Selden Law, PS

Bellevue, WA * 425.990.1021

frank@frankseldenlaw.com

www.frankseldenlaw.com

Masonic Graphics Design and Projects

- Masonic Aprons - Regalia - Embroidery

GSL Graphics, LLC - G. Santy Lascano, Proprietor

123 Alder Street, Everett WA 98303

Tel. 425.259.8065 or 425.350.5371

Email - g.santy@comcast.net

Internet Access, Domain Hosting, Website hosting

Telebyte NW Internet Services

PO Box 3162, Silverdale WA 98383

Tel. 360-613-5220

Email - info@telebyte.com

Adamson and Associates

Planning and Management Solutions

Local Government management studies

Strategic Planning, land use planning

John R. Adamson, President

Phone 253-848-0977

Ashlar Realty

A full service real estate company

1805 Hewitt Ave. Everett, WA 98201

Broker: Boe Lindgren

Tel. 206-391-6224

E-mail: boe@AshlarRealty.com

1805 Limousine

Affordable limousine service for friends

1805 Hewitt Ave. Everett, WA 98201

Tel. 206-391-6224

Facebook: 1805 LIMO

E-mail: boe@1805Hewitt.com

www.BoeDeal.com

Find savings on cell phones (& service)

Television, ADT, Gas, & Electric.

1805 Hewitt Ave, Everett, WA 98201

Tel. 206-391-6224

E-mail: boe@lindgren.com

General Contracting,

Renovation and Property Maintenance

PCS Services WA.

LicNo. PCSSES*891QA Licensed, Bonded, and Insured

Tel. 360.867.3830 or 360.329.2555

Email - darrell.masterMason@gmail.com

Gentry Custom Remodel

Aging in Place Construction

Kevin E. Gent, Sr. Partner

5001 S. I st, Tacoma 98408

253-921-0834

Gentry@nventure.com

www.GentryCustomRemodel.com

Hardwood flooring installation and refinishing

Lane Hardwood Floors / Showroom

14700 Aurora Ave. N.

Shoreline, WA 98133

206-622-9669

Email: jeff@lanehardwoodfloors.com

Website: www.lanehardwoodfloors.com



Everett Masonic Center

Space for Rent for Business Office

120 People capacity Party Room w/ Kitchen

234 Olympic Blvd., Everett WA 98201

E-mail - Pat Marlatt - patrickmarlatt@comcast.net