



MASONIC TRIBUNE

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



**... make it part of your Grand Lodge
of Washington team uniform!**

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Editorial Note:

The scenario that happened in the creation process of this issue is somewhat a prime example of the saying; "If you put your mind to it nothing is impossible". I say, Kudos to all for being so quick to respond to the call of advancing the article submission sooner than our regularly scheduled deadline. It might have been through the diligent efforts of MWB Sam Roberts, our Grand Master to encourage everybody to push through their limits to make it happen, but Brethren, we all did it as a team. Thank you all so much for your response to my emergency.

In this issue we have gathered some relevant stories about our Jurisdiction. The articles will assist us in communicating to the rest of the Jurisdiction the current state of our Fraternity in our very own Masonic area of operation. Whatever you wrote about in your contribution to this publication will open the mind of our readers. Weather you wrote it oddly, or told it irrationally, maybe outrageously or mild and sweetly, but you wrote it and expressly communicated your thoughts to us. Whether it be to entreat or exhort to admonish or applaud.

Communicate and be heard.

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

g.santy@comcast.net



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 Summer 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.



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

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Article submission deadlines:

Summer Issue	First of May
Fall Issue	September 10
Winter Issue.....	December 10
Spring Issue.....	February 10



There is Light behind Those Clouds

It is all too easy to focus on the problems and issues that confront us at every turn. It does not matter if you are a Grand Lodge Officer, Lodge Officer or Lodge member, our attention is focused on addressing or solving the issue at hand. Everything else seems to fade or blend into the background. It is only we fix the problem or a bigger crisis grabs our attention that we look in another direction. And doesn't it seem to be that we are only moving from one pressing concern to the next. The e-mail and phone calls all seem to be about financial, behavior, reporting and Washington Masonic Code questions. It would be too easy to make the bad assumption that no one in this Jurisdiction was up to any good. Then....

I get a call from one of the Grand Lodge Committees who are excited to report that they have completed a milestone of their plan or ready to review training they have developed (Research & Education; Lodge Leadership; Credentials; Youth to name some). I'll get an energized e-mail from a taskforce that has is near ready to implement their latest project (Apron Memorial; Secretary's training, Lodge Officer's Handbook; Grand Lodge Deputies Resource Team to name a few more). As the Grand Lodge team attends the District Meetings there's so much positive energy about the Brethren working in their communities and with the other members of the Masonic Family. There's even more good news about the Job's Daughters and Rainbow growing and getting involved with the community (and the Lodges). I see DeMolay everywhere supporting their sisters and witnessing a growth in their Chapters. I see trestle boards, web pages and newsletters filled with the positive events and activities that are going on in our Lodges

All this to tell you not to get over burdened and bent out of shape with the daily problems without lifting your head and see that there is a bright and glowing light in the East. AND to make sure that you share the enthusiasm and success of your Lodge, Chapter, Assembly or Court with the WHOLE family, in every media outlet possible. (Tribune, Monitor, GL Public Relations Committee and more)

* Live your Freemasonry. Everyday. Every way.

Fraternally,

MWB Sam Roberts
Grand Master



Remarks

When asked to give remarks at District or Youth Group meetings, I will often direct my comments first to the adults and then to the youth. The usual topic deals with Civility and how everyone of us is being observed by someone else and how we should not venture down a path that we would regret having another follow in our footsteps.

While this is sage advice, let me now direct some remarks to a different group of adults and youth, or more specifically teacher/pupil; coach/trainee, Instructor/Student --- Past Masters & Lodge Officer to junior Lodge members & candidates. You who are the more senior members of the Lodge have the advantage of knowledge and experience that makes your attendance absolutely necessary, your availability for mentoring absolutely vital and your willingness listen as well as teach absolutely essential. Our (Masonic) younger members deserve the best we can give them. Without sharing our Fraternal and Lodge history, the universal philosophy and tenets of Freemasons everywhere, the landmarks and traditions of the Lodge and most importantly, our love of the craft, how can we expect those that follow us to carry Freemasonry into the future, to every man - everywhere - where is so desperately needed. Be ready, willing and willing to share your Masonry and yourself. Be a counselor rather than a critic: a friend rather than an opponent and a Brother rather than a name on the rolls.

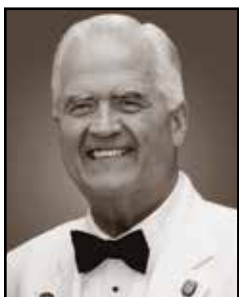
Never in all our history has the challenge been greater for (Masonic) younger members of the Lodge to get the history, traditions or philosophy of Freemasonry. The reasons for this are many and varied, but the solution is simple. Ask and you will receive. There are many in the craft that have spent their lives in the study of our legendary and actual history. Hundreds of the Brethren are involved in the study of the nature of man, with the contributions to society and the role that Masons have played in molding our civilization. As a Mason (or Rainbow, Jobs Daughter, DeMolay, Eastern Star, Amaranth, York or Scottish Rite, or Shriner) you have the duty to take Freemasonry into the next generations and across the globe and (perhaps) beyond.

Regardless of what group you are in, if you are hungry for more (Masonry), then ask to be fed. If you have a plate (of Masonic knowledge), then offer it to those that wish to grow.

MWB Sam Roberts, Grand Master



Grand MASTER
Most WORTHFUL Brother
Sam Roberts



Lodge Leadership Retreat

It is almost March and time for lodges and brothers to be planning on whom from your lodge will be attending the 2015 Lodge Leadership Retreat (used to be the Wardens Conference). This year it will be March 27-29 at the Red Lion in Pasco, Washington. The Retreat is designed to benefit all Brethren within the lodge, not just the Wardens and/or Senior Deacon. The courses are very different than they were years ago and continually change as requests are made because of changes that are occurring in our lodges and in our communities. The choices are from; lodge officer responsibilities to lodge & temple board finances, audits, and governance to community and member involvement, enhancement, and retention to attracting new members, social media, and communications within & outside the lodge. How effectively does the lodge manage conflict, handle funeral and/or memorial services, long range planning, installations, degree work, and proficiency in ritual. Does the lodge conduct table lodge meetings, do you know how to or how to get started. This and much, much more takes place at the Retreat.

It all starts on Friday, March 27 with a light dinner and then a table lodge question for each tables discussion and then moves to the lounge for all that wish to continue to answer the questions. This was something new last year and was a huge success. Saturday, March 28 starts with breakfast and then right into breakout trainings by 7 Masonic instructors, a break for lunch, then continued trainings until almost dinner. Saturday night follows the agenda of Friday night with new questions. Sunday finishes with 3 major trainings and the Retreat concludes at noon.

As you can see there is a lot of Masonic toil, camaraderie, fellowship and fun that takes place in a short period of time but the knowledge that is taken back to the lodge is irreplaceable.

Thank you and until next time.

Fraternally,

RWB Donald G. Munks
 Deputy Grand Master

Cover Story

Hello and greetings from the **Washington Masonic Medical Team**. We started putting this together almost a year ago under the direction of MWB Sam Roberts, with the intent that a team of medically qualified Masons (and Masonic Family Members) simply to be there in-case! We will be there to take care of an issue or in the event that something may happen. We have distinctive Masonic Arm bands and equipment badges to make it easy for us to be found! We just want the Brethren and their Ladies to feel confident to attend meeting as long as they want to go!



We are capable of handling most of the typical medical situations. If you see us and need an ibuprofen because you have a headache we have that. If you are on oxygen and your tank runs out, OK, we can deal with that. If you fall while getting around the Lodge, you guessed it, we can deal with that, too. There are not many things that you would call 911 for that the team cannot handle. Everyone on the Washington Masonic Medical team is in the medical field, whether a nurse or EMT, and all are CPR certified at a minimum.

The team could really use more people, not just Masons, but qualified Youth Adult leaders and members of the concordant bodies. The team is not going to just the Grand Lodge events, but are needed to go to the regular Lodge or organization events that you normally go to. And maybe a few extras around the district. We are not stopping here, but are in the process to acquire a monitor, other equipment and training to give us a few more capabilities. If you are interested in any way, please contact WB Matt Atkins at (e-mail RN-DEC2010@gmail.com) or one of the other team members and we will get things set up.

What's next for Your Washington Medical Team? We will train your Lodge or organization for first aid and CPR! Please let us know and we will schedule training.

Matt Atkins
 Grand Lodge of Washington
 Masonic Medical Team Leader





It's All About Retention

Of all the committees appointed by the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, the one committee that is of utmost importance and vital to the welfare of the Lodge and to the craft of Freemasonry is the Investigating Committee. The job of this appointed group of Brethren is to perform a thorough interview of each Petitioner for the Degrees of Freemasonry.

In our Jurisdiction, one of the points of inquiry for the Investigating Committee is to determine a petitioner's motive for applying for membership. Introduced at last year's Lodge Leaders Retreat, "The Six Steps of Initiation" is a guide to helping the Investigating Committee in their task. Those Lodges that have incorporated "Six Steps" into their process will point out that the program has the interesting by-product of slowing things down, and that's OK.

As noted by our Membership Committee Chairman, MW Bob McSween, "in today's world we know very little about those who we bring into our Lodges. When we sign an application for 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?"

"Six Steps" aids us in being mindful of the West Gate by giving us a process to get to know the potential petitioner beyond the "I think I want to be a Mason" level. Sometimes the process acts as a self-discriminator, in that the potential petitioner proves to be nothing more than curious. Sometimes this process leads the investigating committee to the conclusion that while the individual would derive great benefit from Freemasonry that benefit would be in a different Lodge. Think for a moment of those Brethren who went through all or part of the Degree process who we have not seen since. Did they grow tired of the Craft? Did they not get what they had wanted out of Lodge, just faded away, and in the end became more of an accounting chore than a benefit to the Lodge? Go back to the question of what were his reasons for applying for membership in the first place. Was he a really good fit for the Lodge, or should he have been directed to another Lodge? It's the old square peg/round hole conundrum. Not every Lodge experience

is the same, so we have to be honest with our petitioners and direct him accordingly. I'd rather that he were a happy, satisfied, and contributing member of the Craft than a dissatisfied & member-in-name-only of a given Lodge.

My Brothers, the success or effectiveness of our Lodges must not be judged by the number of people we push through the Degrees, but by how effective we are in advancing our mission – whatever that may be for your respective Lodge. "Six Steps" is not about chasing numbers. It's about discovery quality. Think of it in these terms: instead of initiating 20 members with 10 "flaking out" in one or two years, how about initiating 10 who will still be around to help us many years down the line. Yes, it's important we keep the flow of new members coming in to replenish the ranks, provide new ideas, and eventually steer the ship. That said, if we focus too much of our attention and energy on simply replenishing our ranks we risk missing the big picture stuff which attracts and more importantly retains good men.

If your Lodge or District has not already done so, please make contact with MW Bob McSween to set up a presentation on the "Six Steps to Initiation" program. It will be time well spent.

RWB Jim V. Mendoza
 Senior Grand Warden

What can we do for Masonic Public Relations?

As Mason's we must remember that public relations is an external effort for our Lodges. It cannot be only thought about during our stated meetings each month. We need to make conscious efforts to seek out opportunities to have our Lodges seen in our communities in positive ways.

This can be accomplished through multiple approaches. Men want to be involved in vibrant worthwhile organizations. Whether it is fair or not, in many cases this starts with a "beauty is only skin deep situation." We must have the recognizable structures of Freemasonry in our communities. Too often the citizens of our great cities and towns don't even know where the Masonic Lodge is. It then becomes no wonder why some people insist on the idea that we are a secret society. After all "out of sight, out of mind." If our Lodge looks broken down and unattractive from the exterior, we may never get the chance to show great men what they could become a part of. Many Lodges have made the sacrifices of hard work to keep their buildings strong and beautiful, reinvesting and updating them. Do people in your area see your Lodge? If a Mason is traveling to your city and stops a community member to ask for directions to the Masonic Lodge, we want each

(Continued on page 7)





What came you here to do?

Each of us petitioned our Lodges for membership for various reasons, one being for self-improvement while also assisting the Craft.

Now the next question for many of us might be "Where do we go from here?" Each of us has different qualifications and abilities; some fulfill their commitments as Craftsmen, while others will excel with their leadership skills.

A "plan" is necessary while working on and completing small projects. While considering extended tasks and expectations over a period of time a Long Range Plan will prove useful, if not necessary. Over two-thirds of our Lodges received their Charters over 100 years ago. Many planned in depth for their future, while some indeed are struggling for survival. A Lodge with an active Long Range Plan works closely with its members and if applicable it's Temple Board.

They monitor their membership (attendance and new membership), the status of their financial and secretarial records, maintenance of their Temple (inside and out), quality of meetings and community involvement. Some areas may be strong and solid while others may need attention. The future of our Lodges and our Craft is up to each of us. For those Lodges with a Temple Board, hopefully they have the vision for the preservation of their facility (inside and out) for future generations to take pleasure in. During your Lodge Officers Meeting, it is a great time to discuss your Lodge and its future, the status of your Secretary and Treasurers Books, the quality of your Floor and Ritual Work, addressing and correcting any areas that may need attention. Ask for input from the Brethren at your Lodge Officers Meetings, these are the future leaders of your Lodge. Take these ideas and recommendations to your membership asking them for their thoughts and interests in the future and direction of their Lodge. Many of our Lodges are struggling for attendance, Lodge Customs and Traditions are going by the wayside because of a lack of direction by its leaders. Each Lodge is unique in its area of concerns although many are dealing with membership and attendance. These difficulties of concern did not occur overnight nor will they be resolved overnight. By way of your Lodge implementing a Long Range Plan with the input of their Officers and members, the areas of concern will be addressed, and priori-



tized with the goals and time frames outlined. The future of your Lodge is in the hands of each of its members. By taking a look at where we are, each of us has an opinion on where we might benefit by making changes. If your Lodge needs assistance, accept the challenge and do not pass it on to the next line of Officers to address. Your District Deputy is knowledgeable in the resources available to assist you in any difficulties your Lodge may be experiencing. Your Grand Lodge personnel, Grand Lodge Officers and the Grand Lodge Committees are also, there to support and assist you when requested.

Fraternally,

RWB Warren R. Schoeben
 Junior Grand Warden



Spread your Light!

Here's a story about seven Brothers from the same Lodge who love visiting Lodges within several Districts. They would all hop in one van and enjoy each other's stories along the way. They all dine together at the same table; sit side by side during the meetings, then hop in the van again on their way home. Sounds familiar?

Brethren, just like spreading the cement of Brotherly Love and Friendship, we need to "spread our Light" to Brothers of other Lodges when we visit. I know that we all like to stay in our comfort zone, to sit with Brothers we're familiar with and to talk to people we've known for a while. But if we constantly do this, we are limiting the Light that we can share with others. The next time you visit a Lodge, I encourage you to force yourself to get to really know a new Brother or two. If you come as a group, plan to dine on separate tables and sit beside someone you don't know at meetings, initiate a conversation and you will be surprised at how many Brothers you will know before the fellowship ends.

My Brothers, each one of us has a Light from within. How do you use yours?

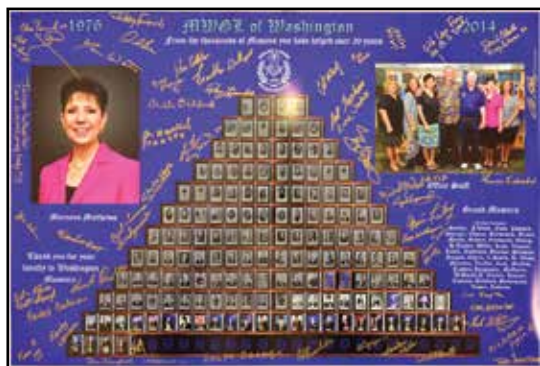
Sincerely and Fraternaly,
 WB Romy Labonete
 Grand Lecturer





Grand SECRETARY RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother

David P. Owen



Again, I would like to thank everybody for helping Grand Lodge in making Maryann's Retirement Party a very memorable one. Her 38 years of service to our Jurisdiction contributed to the successful day-to-day operations of our Grand Lodge office. The many tasks she had accomplished in very outstanding ways reflects honor to herself and this institution.

Fraternally,

RWB David P. Owen
 Grand Secretary



(Continued from page 5 - Public Relations)

and every one of them to say "Oh the Masons..., they do some great things here... they are just down the street on the Left, you'll see the sign on the building." University Lodge Masonic Center, Green Lake Masonic Center, Greenwood Masonic Center, and others have made significant improvements in their properties, and should be looked upon as examples of what can be done, keeping historic buildings in excellent condition. If we are taking care of our structures, it shows that we have a commitment to our longevity.

Next we must make our deeds known far and wide, for the worst secret we can keep as Masons is the magnificent charitable work we do. Ask yourself; how are like minded men to find us if they don't know what we do. As one of our Past Grand Masters once said "I have noted in the past twenty five years our Lodges are becoming more visible in their efforts to elevate mankind's lot and I am sure if some of our efforts to accomplish the same, may become public knowledge that the Supreme Architect of the Universe in his infinite wisdom, won't mind." These were the words of Most Worshipful Brother Warren J. Gilbert Jr. An important part of this is to have EVERY Mason be able to speak comfortably on what it means to be a Mason. Why did each of us join this organization? Someone we knew was probably able to speak convincingly to us about what Masonry is. So it becomes incumbent on each of us, not just the leadership to be able to have a couple two or three talking points that they are comfortable with talking to friends, coworkers and strangers about. We have all been asked the question... "What do Mason's do?" Our answers must be more polished then to simply say "We make good men better." Work towards everyone in your Lodge being comfortable with the activities that your Lodge participates in and some information about those activities. An important aspect of that last part is that your Lodge has to be doing things in your community in order to talk about them. Remember that each and every Mason is an external representative in the public. Do you have someone in your Lodge with a camera at all of your activities? If you don't you may want to assign someone. Then when the opportunity presents itself you have something that can accompany a press release to your local media about your events.

Every Lodge in its long range plan needs to address how they will accomplish public relations for their Lodge. Assistance in this endeavor can be obtained from your Grand Lodge Public Relations committee, but the real hard work as always is at the local level.

Remember Brothers we belong to the greatest fraternal organization, and we can only share this greatness with others if they know that we exist. Make your Lodge and your member's important pieces of the community.

Fraternally yours,
 W.B. Timothy Steiner
 Chairman Public Relations





Report of the Grand Orator

Fraternal Greetings, my Brethren!

Many people who know me personally, are aware that I am a musician. I've been playing musical instruments since I was learning long division in the fourth grade. I played all through grade school, junior high and high school and went to college at the University of Puget Sound on a music scholarship. Along the way I also learned to play the piano. My wife walked down the aisle at our wedding to a song I wrote for her. My first job at Verity Lodge was as the Lodge Musician and my first Grand Lodge appointment was as Grand Musician. When I consider the core of who I am as a person, being a musician is a huge part.

So when we open and close Lodge at every meeting, the Senior Warden's final words of his duties in the West echo with special meaning for me..."harmony being the strength and support of all institutions, more especially this of ours."

What is Harmony? And even more importantly, why is it especially a strength of Freemasonry? After all, we are reminded of this at every Masonic Communication.

Even to a non-Mason, harmony is a worthy goal; the agreement in feeling or opinion. Why would an emphasis on harmony be a bad thing? In such glittering generalities, the idea of harmony makes sense. When referred to in such nebulous, roundabout ways, the idea of having everyone agree, sharing the exact same voice instantly, constantly and persistently all of the time would make for a perfect place, right? From my perspective, that is not harmony but rather melody - a single voice. The view that any dissention or difference of opinion would (or could) cause such a rift within the membership that we avoid discussion is a dangerous practice and certainly not the intent of architects of this institution. Are we only to hear the Masonic Melody when we meet in Lodge?

As any musician knows, you cannot have harmony without more than one voice. A melody alone can be fine to listen to, though not musically very interesting. But adding a second voice, or harmony, gives the music a vertical aspect or texture. Dissonance followed by resolution followed by more dissonance and resolution - this is music, and it is why music embellishes the Masonic experience, enlightens the mind and speaks from the heart.

To a musician, harmony can be defined as a combination of different voices occurring at the same time to produce a pleasing result. The science of structure, relation and progression. Freemasons around the world will feel the similarity to the Craft - a Society of Friends and Brothers who best can work and best agree.

In other words, healthy deliberation and discussion IS the harmony of a Lodge. Promoting and creating an atmosphere where we learn to learn from each other's voices even when it challenges our own position - that is the Masonic definition of harmony and the definition of a successful Lodge.

In truth, harmony is more especially the strength of Free-

Masonry when it is created and I believe that when we produce this atmosphere while we are at labor within these walls, it is the manifestation of how we actually take good men and make them better. We take this learned skill of Masonic harmony to the outer world and amid its concerns and employments we remember to share them with every human being, more especially a Brother Mason!

Every song you listen to, every stated meeting you attend, every time you hear those words ring out from the Senior Warden, when you are in Lodge, remember that it is Masonic Harmony that gives you all strength not Masonic Melody.

WB Zane P. McCune, MPS

Grand Orator

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee is busy with several projects to help Grand Lodge work better for you. Hopefully you are utilizing the website (freemason-wa.org) to get the latest Grand Lodge information, documents and educational resources. Content is being added on a regular basis so log in often. If you don't have a user name or password, contact Chantal at the GL Office. We will soon be adding on-line registration so you will be able to pre-register for the Annual Communication. We are also working with the Credentials Committee to provide electronic voting there as well.

If you are attending the Leadership Retreat, we will be offering classes on using technology for you and your Lodge. The Grand Lodge now has a Sococo site for virtual meetings. Go to sococo.com to learn more. To access the Grand Lodge site, you need to request access. Contact me and I'll get you and your team set up. (rayzimmerman2@comcast.net)

We now have cloud storage for the Grand Lodge committees using Google Drive. Together with Sococo, we can have real-time document collaboration.

We continue to build our video capabilities so we can capture more Masonic events in the Jurisdiction. We are building a video studio for creating and editing top-quality instructional videos.

We are soliciting for Brothers to join our audio team. They provide all the audio during the Annual Communication. Experience in using a mixing board, microphones and other devices is a plus.

We are sending surveys to the District Deputies to assess the technologies being utilized by the Lodges. We will be providing "best practices" reports for your Lodge to utilize.

We continue to research software and hardware that could benefit the Jurisdiction. If you have recommendations, let us know.

If you would like to be part of our team, we would welcome your talents and expertise.

This is my last year as committee chair, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee members and Grand Lodge office staff for their ideas, enthusiasm and hard work over the last three years.

VWB Ray Zimmerman
Chairman,
Technology Committee



Thoughts on Symbolic Aspects of Lodge

Officers.

What if we were to take the roles or qualities Officers of the Lodge and symbolical apply them to ourselves; here are a series of opened ended question one might ask.

Worshipful Master:

- Who is in charge of yourself or you life?
- Who is in your life to assist you?
- Describe the goals you set for yourself.
- How far are those goals set for in the future, one year, two years...?
- How do you square your actions?
- How do you punctually observe your duty?
- Do you follow the rules law and regulations?
- How do you wheel your authority?
- What is wisdom to you?
- Are you continually educating yourself or others?
- How do you keep up with Technology?
- What does your family involvement look like?
- Can you say you are involved with the community?
- How?
- How often do you visit or talk to your Brothers?

Senior Warden:

- Describe your actions which are on the level.
- How do you meet others without prejudice?
- What are your strengths?
- Has your friends talked about your strengths?
- How do you assist your leaders?
- How do you assist others?

Junior Warden:

- How do your actions emulate the plume?
- What do you find beautiful?
- Do you separate hours of labor from refreshment?
- When do practice moderation?

Treasurer:

- What do you treasure in life?
- How do you spend money?
- Describe the checks and balances in your life.

Secretary:

- Can you describe how you observe your leaders?
- How do you make others look good?
- What is your form of communication? In person? By phone? By electronic device? In writing?
- How to keep your records?
- Is receiving treasure, complements and other symbolic forms of money easy in your life?
- Do you readily hand them out with equal zeal?

Chaplain:

- How often do you evoke the blessings of Deity?
- What and who are you thankful for?

Marshal:

- How do you bring order to rituals?
- Describe the ways you blaze the path for others to follow.

Deacons:

- How comfortable are you meeting new people? Then introduce them?
- Describe how well you take orders.
- When someone request to relay a message to someone else, how well do convey the message.

Stewards:

- Do you practice abundance in life?
- What does abundance look like to you?
- How to assist others?

Musician:

- How do you get along with others harmoniously?
- What kind of music do you prefer?
- In life what strikes a chord?
- How well does your melody in life flow?

Tyler:

- Do you watch your thoughts?
- What thoughts would you like to guard against?
- How do you feel about being unseen?
- What is the tool you use to deny those thoughts?

These questions would be great to ask a Brother!

WB Dean Markley
 Masonic Tribune Committeeman

EARN YOUR HISTORIC BUTTON PIN

In honor of our "blue collar" heritage, Steadfast Lodge No. 216 (Manette, Bremerton) will resurrect the fun, but farcical Button Maker's Degree Saturday, April 18, 2015. \$20.00 per participant (EAM, FCM, MM). Proceeds will go to the effort to beautify the Steadfast Temple in preparation for next year's Centennial. Lunch begins at 11:30 AM - the Degree will start at 12:30 PM. Since we'll be limited to only 60 inductees, reserve your space early. Purchase online at www.wilcur.com/Steadfast216/Online_Payments.html or contact WB Harry Boyd (360-340-7247) or WB Tim Curley (360-627-7700).

BUTTON MAKER'S DEGREE Fund Raiser

In honor of our "blue collar" heritage,
Steadfast Lodge No. 216
 will confer the fun, but farcical
Button Maker's Degree
Saturday, April 18, 2015

\$20.00 per participant (EAM, FCM, MM)

(Proceeds will go to the effort to beautify the Steadfast Temple in preparation for next year's Centennial)

Lunch begins at 11:30 AM
The Degree will start at 12:30 PM

Price includes:

- A special Button Maker's Lunch
- Participation in the Degree
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District and Lodge Posting

Cultural Adaptation

We have an uncommon strength at Olympia Lodge No.1: cultural adaptation. Our ability to adapt to modern culture is what makes my Lodge unique and relevant to men today. The Tenets of Freemasonry and its precepts are ancient and honorable, and yet our society has changed rapidly in the last decade. Unlike many Lodges, our membership is younger now than it was ten years ago. Specifically, men in their twenties and thirties make up the majority of active members of our Lodge, and with them come their customs.



Some customs have been embraced by our Lodge. We use information technology and social media to enhance communications between the Officers, members of our Lodge, and the community. We offer libations at our festive boards to encourage our members to spread the cement of Brotherly love, toast a Brother, or drink as a devotion to deity. Our Lodge will continue to have better than average attendance in the foreseeable future if we continue these practices.

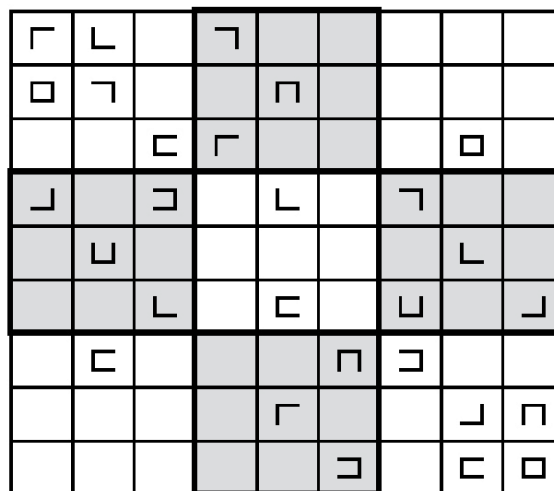
However, other youth customs are less supported. For in-

stance, many younger Brothers engage in casual marijuana use (it's legal in Washington) and are accepting of homosexuals. If these views are not in line with your morals or your religion, that's fine. Masonic precepts prescribe that we each follow our own moral compass, but they do not forbid Brothers from smoking pot or being gay. I ask that you be tolerant of these customs in the same way you are tolerant of another Brother's differing political and religious views. Meet on the level. Without tolerance, there can be no Brotherly love.

I encourage the future Officers of our Jurisdiction to prepare to lead by adapting to society's changes while practicing and promoting the tenets and precepts of our Fraternity.

Fraternally,
 Benjamin Witten
 Senior Warden, Olympia Lodge No.1

SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE



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 on page 16)



Masonic District No.4 - Reception of the Grand Master - MWB Sam Roberts

Grand Oration - 2015

Grand Lodge of Alaska

Grand Master,

Good Morning Brothers.

1. How many here have a smart phone or tablet with them.
2. How many of you have received or sent messages during the session?
3. How many of you have been a mason for more than 20 years?

Changes:

At my first Grand Lodge in 1985, one of the Senior Grand Warden's duties was to receive messages and notes from the Tyler. During a break in proceedings he would pass those along, or if they were of an emergency nature he would have the Jr. Grand Deacon deliver it to the appropriate brother. With your little device today, assuming you have silenced it so it doesn't bother the rest of us, you're getting messages in real time. It's only your sense of duty and honor as a mason how well you pay attention to the Grand Lodge session.

Grand Lodge proceedings, financial spread sheets, membership records and reports are now computerized, and this year we'll have electronic voting on resolutions. No more questions about proxy numbers, or reconfirmation of hand counts; votes will be tabulated and seen almost immediately.

Most lodges today have embraced the convenience of having computerized their records and communications. Email notices, texts, and electronic database changes have all enhanced record keeping and reduced costs for our lodges.

One wonders what our ancient brethren would think about these changes. Perhaps they would consider it heretical for us to rely on machines for so much of the record keeping they painstakingly undertook. Prior to the universal use of a typewriter, most lodge minutes and records were almost a work of art in their calligraphy and organization.

While we've seen these changes in masonry, the foundation of our craft to educate and dispense light and knowledge, not only to candidates, but amongst ourselves hasn't changed. We came to the craft hoping to improve ourselves, and that the insights gained would help us in our relationships with the world, and our fellow brethren. We also desired to associate with like minded, thinking men, and while that hasn't changed, other changes will continue to occur within our fraternity.

Education being one of our purposes, I'll ask:

1. How many of you read our Grand Lodge bulletin when it's published?
2. How many of you read other Masonic publications regularly.
3. How many of you belong to a research lodge or other organization and read their publications?
4. Only slightly joking: how many here read?



Without critically reading there is no analytical growth and you condemn yourself to the rut of your own perceptions. You never expand your outlook on the world or expose yourself to new viewpoints, ideas, and concepts; not only in masonry, but in the many avenues of your life as a citizen and member of the human condition.

In American masonry we have seen a reduction in membership, some places have apathetic and lackluster participation in meetings, and consolidation of failed lodges regularly occurs.

Many great Masonic edifices built in the past have had to be sold as their owners have had to downsize. These changes to our craft are ones we don't desire but a reality just the same. We've seen outright invitations to membership, lodge open houses, fund raising schemes for public charities, bumper sticker slogans on vehicles, but the decline still occurs.

This isn't the case in most of the European, and non English speaking parts of the world. Possibly the change needed is to return some of the mystery and fellowship our early speculative brethren sought when they approached the West Gate. Through the efforts of Traditional Observance lodges, European concept lodges, the Masonic Restoration Foundation, and some research lodges the last few years we've seen some advances in Masonic study.

I have been happily surprised by some of our newer brethren in their curiosity about the symbolism of craft and think that is regenerating some interest in the research of our historic roots. Some of our new brethren delve into publications like the Masonic Society Journal, the Square Magazine, and research lodge papers. They are regularly searching internet sites such as "Phoenix Masonry, the Craftsman, Pietre Stones, and finding some of our older publications such as "The Builder Magazine", hoping to learn some of the deeper concepts of masonry. And Grand Lodges are starting to provide graduated study programs for members wishing to learn our historic and esoteric roots. There, the study materials are evaluated for the correctness of their content and the member receives critiques on his new found knowledge with every lesson completion.

Some of the following books and papers provide further insight and understanding about our fraternity and its current status. They also contain some ideas for changes I think could be beneficial for us. I encourage you to read them, otherwise their concepts are for not and they might just as well be a pile of dead trees.

Two papers written in 1968 addressing our issues by MW Brother Dwight Smith titled: "Whither are we traveling" and "Why this Confusion in the Temple"

The booklet: "Laudable Pursuit" by Knights of the North. "Observing the Craft" by W. Andrew Hammer

William Preston's "Oration on Masonry" in the October issue of our bulletin, given in the 1700s

And, RW Thomas W. Jackson's talk to The Conference of Grand Master's of North America in 2013, also published in our bulletin Last Spring.

Their focus is to stimulate you to think; if you can think. Consider the state of the craft in Alaska. I'll point out that not all lodges in this jurisdiction are on solid foundations, either financially, membership numbers, or in participation. I think we may need to reinvigorate masonry in Alaska con

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

sidering some newer concepts, while keeping our principals.

Concepts such as:

1. Is masonry too cheap and are we guarding the west gate.
2. Ritual; Are we giving the candidate value for his funds"
3. Grand Lodge legislation and its methodology.
4. The festive board.
5. Elitism in the craft

I refer you to the October issue of our Grand Lodge bulletin "Light from The Great Land" where these subjects were presented. I won't go into all of them but will mention the festive board and Elitism briefly.

I have a particular fondness for the festive board which seems to have fallen into some disuse in American masonry; and that's a shame. Many Masonic scholars think the festive board and its fellowship was probably one of the main attractions of the craft by our early speculative brothers near the end of the operative period. This was a time when all the early craft guilds were in decline. After visiting some lodges where the festive board is used regularly, I believe it enhances the Masonic experience and helps in bonding the brothers in fellowship and to the lodge. Lodges should be encouraged to use it regularly both for education and fellowship.

Today I came clothed as a Master Mason. No gaudy apron or gold collar. I did this to point out that we are all brothers; we were all presented the lambskin and we then stood as just and upright masons who meet on the level. We must not forget the foundation our craft is the commonality of man and universality of brotherhood. There should be no separation by rank, class, or distinction. We elect some to lead for only a short time and expect them to return to the ranks of from whence they came. I always enjoyed the story told of MW Brother Harry Truman, who when asked what he would consider his greatest pleasures after stepping down from the presidency, replied "returning home, then to be able to sit amongst the brethren of my lodge". I don't know if this is just a Masonic legend but the sentiment should be the same for everyone who has been elevated for a time in our craft. In masonry there are no executive bathrooms, dining areas, or officers clubs; though some past officers sometimes act as though there are. A Past Grand Master from Wisconsin visited our lodge a few years ago and only after examination were we aware he was a Past Grand Master. He had never indicated his title on our visitor's card and when we mentioned it he thanked us and said he was just proud to be welcomed as another visiting brother. A few years ago one of our distinguished brothers was visiting a lodge where there was some discussion as to the title to use for his introduction. He said "what's the matter with Brother?" a perfect Masonic sentiment. Most brothers who have had the honor of leading our craft have similar feelings and are not particularly hung up on their titles. However we still owe them the deference they deserve for stepping forward and undertaking the cost and effort to help guide the fraternity for a time.

In a recent Scottish Rite publication from Denver were several questions every good mason should ask himself if he wishes to remain what my dad often referred to as being well

grounded.

First: Am I being the best Mason I can possibly be?

Second: What more can I do to serve my lodge and fellow brothers?

Third: Is there a brother to whom I can lend a hand or an ear in time of need?

Fourth: Did I inadvertently say or do something today that may have unintended consequences?

Fifth: What can I do to circumscribe my passions?

Finally: If I'm an Officer, are my actions upholding the honor of the title bestowed on me?

I've put out a lot out for your consideration, but I would like you to think about where we are today and where are we going. I'll leave you with this:

Thomas Edison once said "Five percent of the people think, Ten percent think they think, the other Eighty five percent would rather have a slogan than think".

I thank you Brothers; I have no slogans for you so please be among the 5 percent.

Monte Ervin
 Grand Orator
 Grand Lodge of Alaska.



Ritual Riders, Edmonds Chapter
 Widow Son Masonic Riding Association
 Edmonds, WA
 Press Release: 1/31/2015

Fraternal Greetings All,
 I wanted to take a moment to share with the Brethren of this Great Jurisdiction an extraordinary evening had by the Brethren of Evergreen State Lodge No. 68 and their guests, the Ritual Riders Chapter, Edmonds, Widows Sons Masonic Riding Association.

As you may be aware, our Widows Sons Masonic Riding Association is recognized by the Grand Lodge, as well as the Grand Lodge of Prince Hall, and is composed of Master Masons from around the Jurisdiction. Most of the brethren are actively involved within their Blue Lodges, and on this, evening, that turned out to be of great benefit to the Masons of Evergreen State No. 68.

As it turns out, on January 21, 2015, the Lodge, which was that evening, endeavoring to raise 3 of its own brethren, was a little short handed. The Master of the Lodge invited the visiting Edmonds Chapter to assist, and we were only too happy to oblige!

Taking various positions and parts, together, the Lodges and Chapter performed a beautiful and meaningful Third Degree, and there were handshakes and brotherly embraces all around. After the lecture and charge, the Chapter had yet another meaningful duty to perform;

Our Guardian of Membership, Jeff (Solid) Guthrie, who was ably assisted by our Chapter President, Jimmy (Dozer) Nor

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

ton, initiated a vesting ceremony to present a Ritual Riders riding vest, to one of the newly raised Masons, Brother Carlos (Doc) Delagado, the newest member of both Evergreen No. 68 and now also, the Edmonds, Ritual Riders Chapter, of the WSMRA.

Brother Carlos had applied to us during his journey through the three degrees, and as he had spent much time in fellowship and on rides with us. We felt it was important to be there to assist in his raising and vesting. Out thanks to the Worshipful Master and Officers of Evergreen State No. 68, for the honor of assisting in the degree, and allowing us to vest our Brother.

Most important, a big Masonic welcome to Brother (Doc) and may he enjoy his future Masonic travels with all bodies in this Great Jurisdiction.

Bikes for Books Program

Every year for the past eight years Yelm Lodge has furnished sixteen Bikes to the program serving eight Elementary Schools in the Yelm Ranier School Districts. This is all financed with donations from the membership.

It might be noted that two years ago Yelm seeing another Lodge was struggling with the cost of purchasing Bikes for it's program, Purchased the Bikes and delivered them to the other Lodge.

Respectfully submitted for consideration to be published by the Masonic Tribune. Fraternally, Gary Sortor, Secretary Yelm Lodge No.244 F&A.M

CIVILITY

The Grand Lodge F&AM of Washington has partnered with a number of Grand Lodges across the United States and Canada and the National Civility Center to promote civility in society. These organizations have expended considerable effort in preparing to take the lead in fostering principles meant to encourage civil dialogue, respect for disparate opinion, and recognition of human dignity. We, as Freemasons, possess the philosophical underpinnings necessary to lead the way in this endeavor. The ceremonies we practice, the obligations of our degrees, and our signs and symbols, serve to illustrate our commitment to respecting each other and serving the good of humanity. Who better than us to carry the standard for this effort to reverse the evident decline in civil behavior in today's society?

In the near future, we will begin providing Lodge Masters and Secretaries and Deputies of the Grand Master with reminders or our commitment to civility found in our Standard Work. This information will be delivered monthly by e-mail. The intent will be to introduce our efforts in civility into the Lodges. We would expect that Masters use the information to encourage members to practice the tenets of the Craft. Our Grand Master will present this document in its entirety at the Conference of Grand Masters in mid-February. Here is an example from our Standard Work:

"The Rule, the Square, and the Compasses are emblematical of the conduct we should pursue in society: To observe punctuality in all our engagements; faithfully and religiously to discharge those important obligations which we owe to God and our neighbor; to be upright in all our dealings; to keep within bounds those unruly passions which oftentimes interfere with the enjoyment of society and which degrade both the man and the Freemason."

Virtues: Discipline, Decency

Expect more information regarding our efforts in working toward more civility in our communities, our homes, and our Lodges. We soon hope to be able to offer tools and programs to guide your work.



WB Dennis B. Dolle

2nd Annual

"Grand Masters Golf Invitational"

Supporting our Youth Groups

At

The Nile Shrine Golf Course



Sunday May 3rd

Sign up for a Day of Fun

See the Grand Lodge Website

For more info and registration

Brought to you by the GL Youth Committee





Masonic District No. 7 HAS LOST A TRUE AND

TRUSTED MASON

On January 19th, the Brethren of District No.7 gathered at the Nile to memorialize a Brother who lived respected and, alas, has died regretted. WB Dennis Wilkins passed to the Celestial Lodge above on January 14th. Brother Dennis had only been a Mason for 13 years, but in that time he had been Worshipful Master and Secretary of both Mercer Island Lodge and Unity Lodge. In addition he was a member of Lakeside Lodge.

In a time when it is often difficult to muster a decent number of Masons for a Brother's Memorial Service, the service for Dennis was attended by representatives of all eight Lodges in District 7, the Royal Arch Chapter in Fall City, the Nile Temple, and several other Lodges and Masonic bodies. Indeed, the Grand Master and Grand Secretary were also in attendance. There is no doubt, Brother Dennis made his mark in Masonry in his 13 short years in the Fraternity. He was never afraid to make his views known, even to the Grand Master. However, after a congenial discussion that may not change anyone's mind, he was always willing to smile, shake hands, and part secure in the knowledge that he was truly right, but he would still love his Brother, despite that Brother's wrong-headed thinking. In short, Dennis kept us all on our toes. He was always willing to participate in Degrees and to guide new candidates in learning their proficiency. If there is anything unfortunate about Dennis' Masonic career, it is that it started so late in his life. The Fraternity could have used many more years of his active and wise counsel.

Many of us knew Dennis had gone to UW Law School and that he had been in the Army. In fact, he led a very interesting life. He was born Dennis on August 6, 1937 to John von Herberg and Gene Dennis. His father was a prominent motion picture exhibitor throughout the Pacific Northwest from 1911 until his death in 1947, in addition to a side career as a local restaurateur. Dennis mother, Gene Dennis, was a vaudeville performer and psychic who gave up her stage career to raise her five children. She continued to write a psychic advice column for the Seattle Star and to work with police departments around the world to solve cases. Both of Dennis' parents died when he and his siblings were quite young, and they were eventually adopted by Superior Court Judge William J. Wilkins and his wife, Lucille. In addition to his law and military endeavors, Dennis ran a construction and general contracting business for several years and developed many beautiful properties throughout the Puget Sound area.

The Memorial Service included Brothers from all of the Masonic bodies to which Dennis belonged. It ended with, "With firm faith and reliance in the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, we know that we shall meet once more in realms beyond the skies. Until then dear friend and Brother, until then, farewell!"



VWB Robert Stromberg
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No.7

... Never to deviate from the minutest principles

thereof.

Brethren,

Just a short report to let you know that your Deputies and the Grand Lodge office are working to serve you.

We have spent a considerable amount of time in the last year and a half to recover the funds that were misappropriated by the former Secretary/Treasurer of Terrestrial-Mountain View Lodge No. 228.

We worked with the Pierce County sheriff's office and the Peirce County prosecutor's office.

After many meetings with the Pierce county prosecutor's office we were told that the office would not proceed with the case and shortly thereafter the accused passed away.

All records of the several years that the former Secretary/Treasurer was in office along with the minutes of the Lodge had disappeared and so the hunt began. With the help of the Grand Secretary, WB David Brown and the staff at Grand Lodge we were able to have a reproduction of the past six years of the bank statements made and copies of the checks written on both the Lodges and Temple Boards accounts.

With the assistance of the Grand Secretary we performed a forensic audit in order to provide proof of loss to the Grand Lodge insurance carrier. With the audit in hand we submitted this to the Grand Lodge insurance carrier and finally on the 26th of January we received notice that a net total of \$143,000 was recovered for the Lodge. This whole situation could have been avoided had there been proper audits accomplished and that monthly reports by the Treasurer been submitted to, and approved by the Lodge.

The requirement for at least a yearly audit and timely reporting by our code may have caught this problem before it got so out of hand.

As a result of the hard work of the Brothers, the Lodge, through our insurance carrier, was able to recover \$143,000. However it is important to note that only Lodge funds are covered, not funds from the temple board.

The Washington Masonic Code is not something that was enacted by the Grand Lodge elected offices. This code was voted on and approved by all of us who vote in Grand Lodge.

It is my hope that this may inspire our present and future elected Officers, of each Lodge, to be more careful with how we keep track of our finances so this kind of problem does not reoccur.

Fraternally,
Richard A. Birkland
Special Deputy of the Grand Master



The Moral Code of Technology

Is there a "Moral Code" of Technology? Is it imbedded within the bit-code of computers? Or, is it an extrinsic code applied by users of technology in the progressiveness of Freemasonry?

In schools throughout the country a push is being put forth to teach computer Code to students to inspire their interest in computer technology and encourage future careers. Code is the brain of computers and the light-speed processing enabling users to advance their business, their personal professional growth, and their communication with others around the world.

The impact of social media on our lives has enabled severe immoral behaviors among younger people that, I believe, dictates a moral code of technology, which will improve civility at all levels of society.

Dr. Kent M. Keith's Universal Moral Code® applies to the use of technology as well as to behaviors in our everyday lives. Our good friend, Past Grand Master of Masons in Washington, MWB Bill R. Wood's personal theme was "Do Good Unto All." Civility Projects all across the nation are encouraging the return of civility into our daily dialogues. Additionally, there is a movement among colleges, such as The Relay Graduate School of Education (Relay/GSE), to re-introduce character education in schools.

Moreover, in his book *Moral Leadership: Getting To The Heart of School Improvement*, Thomas J. Sergiovanni speaks about how doing good in schools makes one feel good about their accomplishments. Lastly, writing on *Ethics Away From Home* in the Harvard Business Review on Corporate Ethics, Thomas Donaldson says companies must be guided by an ".....absolute moral threshold for all business activities."

Most certainly, a moral code for technology is applicable to the daily use of technology in all aspects of society, most especially in the Masonic Fraternity.

Such a Moral Code would include some of the following behavioral areas of conduct:

- Training on proper and positive Social and Emotional Intelligences that promote relationship building and team building practices;
- Character skills to improve educational endurance – Grit, Optimism, Self-Control, Resilience, etc. – to improve educational and business success;
- Morality that removes cyberbullying, gossip, lying and disrespect of others and promotes inclusion of all groups for the greater good of everyone.
- Skills that include proper and effective listening and attentiveness in group communications, classrooms, meetings, and business activities;
- Moral aspects of taking personal responsibility for own success while exhibiting proper respect that honors all peoples, regardless of ethnicity;

- Morality of proper language in a public forum that respects the right of others; and
- Immoral and amoral killing of others for entertainment, such as depicted in computer games, big-screen movies and television shows.

Teaching the "Do Good Unto All" philosophy would greatly improve doing good at all times. Dr. Keith puts it this way:

DO GOOD.

Do to others what you would like them to do to you.

Be honest and fair.

Be generous.

Be faithful to your family and friends.

Take care of your children when they are young.

Take care of your parents when they are old.

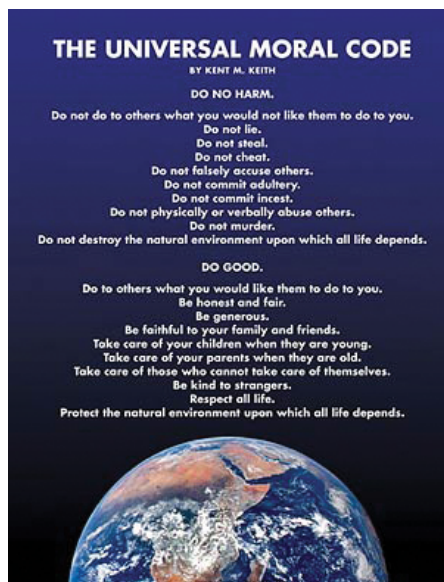
Take care of those who cannot take care of themselves.

Be kind to strangers.

Respect all life.

Protect the natural environment upon which all life depends.

In *The Daily Drucker*, Peter Drucker points out there is only one code of ethics, one set of rules of morality, one code, that of individual behaviors in which the same rule applies to everyone alike. He further points out that the first responsibility of a professional was dictated over 2500 years ago in the Hippocratic oath of Greek physicians: *Primum non nocere*, "above all, not knowingly to do harm." This same concept is stipulated by Dr. Keith in his Universal Moral Code®.



Living and behaving as per the "Golden Rule" – first above – would engrain this age-old standard of conduct – people would exhibit the above behaviors simply because that is the way they also would want to be treated. I believe it would totally remove the "I" mentality because actions would be about others, which would, in turn, greatly benefit "Self."

Likewise, Self would feel good about their accomplishments, thereby continuing the behaviors.

MWB Bill R. Wood lived his theme and was one of the happiest men I ever met. The Universal Moral Code reflects every aspect of Freemasonry, and should be the Moral Code of every Mason.

How happy are you? Do you do good unto all? Is it part of your leadership and

behavior that makes a difference in society and in the Fraternity?

* The Universal Moral Code
 © Copyright Kent M. Keith 2003
www.universalmoralcode.com

Contact Information:
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davidmcc44@epbf.com
 (M) 423-402-1643

Submitted by:
 VWB David A. McCuiston
 Garfield Lodge No. 41
 La Conner, Washington

Washington Masonic Charities News

At Washington Masonic Charities our mission is to invest in youth and education, provide comfort and support for seniors and those in need, and to preserve and share the Masonic heritage of Washington State.

Introducing Byron Cregeur, Masonic Community Outreach Program Director



Byron Cregeur joined Washington Masonic Charities in October, 2014 to oversee the new Masonic Community Outreach Program. He comes to us from Shared Housing Services where he held the position of Executive Director for four years. He has a strong track record of improving services, leading staff and generating revenue. His previous experience includes fundraising and program management with Tacoma Community College and supervision

of community centers with Metro Parks Tacoma.

"I couldn't be more pleased with Mr. Cregeur and the direction he's leading the Masonic community Outreach Program. His leadership and vision will be an asset to the entire Masonic community as we move ahead," says Executive Director, Ken Gibson.

Cregeur is excited to continue the long time Masonic tradition of caring for aging Masons, their wives and widows. He says, "Our focus is provide information and resource to help people improve and sustain the quality of their life in an effective, caring, and compassionate way."

Cregeur further explains some of the things Masons can expect from the program. "We help Masons, their wives and widows navigate the stages of aging, perform screening and assessments and will work with individuals to address their unique needs. The kinds of things we work on include maintaining strong social connections, having appropriate housing, addressing financial limitations, as well as physical and medical well-being.

Mr. Cregeur is excited about the future. When asked what the future holds, he noted, "We will be expanding our services to include Aging in Place home assessments and recommendation and will be adding education and local referrals for protecting your financial assets and getting your legal affairs in order."

Cregeur and his team are focused on opening an Eastern Washington Office in Kennewick in partnership with the Kennewick Lodge. This location is expected to be open and

serving the Eastern Washington community by the beginning of spring 2015.

Contact Masonic Community Outreach at (253) 442-2505 or 1-(844) 288-3531 toll free to learn more or if you need assistance. We're here for you!

Corporate Matching Gifts – Double Your Gift to WMC!

If you work for a larger company, your donations to Washington Masonic Charities may be matched by your employer. In some cases your donation may be doubled! We've create an easy way for you to find out if your employer matches, what their guidelines are, and how you can sign up. Just visit <https://doublethedonation.com/wasmasoniccharities>



Ken Gibson
 Chief Executive Officer
 Washington Masonic Charities

CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF Masons in NORTH AMERICA, Inc.



An annual meeting of the Grand Masters of Masons in North America. Currently the membership is the Grand Lodges of the Provinces of Canada, the States of the United States of America, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, the States of Mexico, and the American-Canadian Grand Lodge of Germany. These

Grand Masters represent some 2 million FreeMasons in North America. Grand Masters from countries throughout the world also attend to join in fellowship. The Conference is the largest gathering of Grand Masters in the world.

The 2015 Conference will be held FEB. 14-17, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver Hotel, Vancouver, British Columbia.

SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE (Solution)

(Solution of puzzle from page 10)

Γ	L	Π	7	J	□	C	U	3
□	7	U	3	Π	C	J	Γ	L
3		C	Γ	U	L	Π	□	7
J	□	3	U	L	Γ	7	Π	C
C	U	7	Π	3	J	□	L	Γ
Π		L	□	C	7	U	3	J
L	C	Γ	J	□	Π	3	7	U
7	3	□	C	Γ	U	L	J	Π
U	Π	J	L	7	3	Γ	C	□

Junior Grand Warden Candidates Column



Question 2

If elected, how do you plan to enhance the future of Masonry?

Response of VWB Jim Kendall:

Each of us, as a Mason, has the ability and the power to advance the interests of the Fraternity. Each of us has personal skills and aptitudes, and when properly applied, can improve and strengthen our Lodges and our Fraternity. Bringing those skills and competencies to the fore on behalf of the Fraternity is the challenge.

The tasks before the Grand Lodge are seemingly endless. Worries about finances, dwindling membership, misbehavior by some entrusted with the well-being of Lodges: all seem to take their toll. Despite these worrisome conditions, a lot that is good and right continue to be the hallmarks of our great Fraternity. There are ample opportunities both within and without the craft to improve on what has gone before. These opportunities hinge on a few basic concepts.

Fraternalism: truly understanding the obligations we committed to during our various Degrees, and when installed as a Lodge Officer, the duties we freely agreed to assume and the admonishments we cheerfully accepted to perform those duties. Once clearly understood, each of us must then act on those obligations as Masons and as Lodge managers to the best of our abilities.

Commitment: call this “buy in”. Too often we have seen “the next great idea” published, proposed and disseminated only to have it hit the floor with a resounding “thud”. These proposals or programs are presented with great fanfare and excitement – on the part of the proponents. They fail because the Brethren who would be most affected, or who were expected to place the program in practice weren’t consulted. They weren’t asked if the stated goal was important to them, or it was not explained well enough why it should be important to them. With no “buy in” comes almost certain failure.

Communications: the transmission of facts and ideas is not a one way street. The resources of the Brethren are willingly given when necessity is understood and concern is shared. Here is what I believe is a key, if not the key, to addressing the challenges and opportunities we face as Masons, as Lodges, and as a Grand Lodge. To the extent we involve the members of our Fraternity, to that extent we will succeed in strengthening our craft.

I plan to work to ensure the future of the Fraternity one step at a time, which is how every journey begins. As a first step I intend to bend every effort to seeing that the already extensive tools for communication we have at our disposal are used correctly and fully. To the extent humanly possible I

intend to involve Lodge leadership in creating and using a “feedback loop” that confirms that messages are sent and received between Lodge and Grand Lodge – in both directions. Finally my long term goal is to involve every Brother at every level in the governance of our Fraternity within bounds of the F&AM of Washington.

Fraternally: VWB Jim Kendall



Response of VWB Paul Waadevig:

Enhancing the future of Masonry is a broad question and calls into question how much long lasting impact any individual, even a Grand Master, can have on FreeMasonry. As with the Master of a Lodge, it's my impression that the four years as a Grand Lodge line officer passes with the majority of energy going into ordinary duties. That being said one impact I feel I could achieve in this Jurisdiction is spreading the message of the “traditional observance” movement.

The observant Lodge conforms to the intent of the customs, rituals and writings of FreeMasonry. This is done through top notch expectations for ritual, dress, comportment, conduct and at the festive board. Overall, the impact is to give the Brethren something of deep and lasting value that he cannot find anywhere else in his life. I like to think that it helps recapture the wonder and awe that most of us had when we were going through the Degrees.

This is not to say that traditional observance Lodges intend to go back to a “brighter and better time” in the past, as it can be argued that the Fraternity has never truly attempted to live up to its own ideals on a wide scale. So, one could say this is a new movement and one I fully embrace. For more information on the Traditional Observance movement, visit the web site for the Masonic Restoration Foundation at masonicrestorationfoundation.org. Take a bit of time to read, “Eight Steps to Excellence: The Observant Lodge.” It certainly has the same types of goals as our “Six Steps to Initiation” that the Membership Development Committee has been promoting this year only on a scale that reaches beyond the potential candidate.

From a Grand Lodge perspective, what we can do is give the tools and guidance that will enable each Lodge to embrace the elements of observant Masonry to the level that the members feel comfortable. I want to be clear on this point: it is not my intention to propose any resolution or support any movement that would mandate changes in the Lodge. It is up to the leaders and members of each Lodge to determine its own agenda but the Grand Lodge should support reforms that could improve the Fraternal Experience.

Change is difficult and vague ideas about being more “observant” don’t help much. I would propose that Grand Lodge begin and/or enhance programs that help Lodges move to more meaningful meetings and programs. This would include a directory of Masonic speakers, powerpoint presentations,

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videos and papers that can be used at meetings. By making the Masonic Experience more meaningful things we normally focus on, like membership and retention, will be enhanced.

As William Preston wrote in 1772, "Were the privileges of Masonry to be common, or indiscriminately bestowed, the design of the institution would be subverted; for being familiar, like many other important matters, they would soon lose their value, and sink into disregard." Let us strive to be uncommon.

Fraternally: VWB Paul Waadevig



Response of VWB Charles Wood:

Once elected as Junior Grand Warden I would start talking to the general membership of Grand Lodge and listen to their concerns regarding the future of Masonry, taking note thereof. When I served in the military and in need of a plan to solve a problem, I asked others for assistance. By doing so, I was able to get them to buy in and take ownership of the plan.

We need to remember that we, the general membership are Grand Lodge and not just the five-elected Officers that we elect at Grand Lodge annually. The general membership needs to take a more active role in determining the direction, and the future of our Fraternity. We need to communicate our visions for Masonry to our elected Officers so they can create a plan with solutions.

When the Deputy Grand Master takes office, publish his plan for general membership feed back. This will allow adjustments, prior to installation as Grand Master. By doing this, you would get the support of the grand body. Management will be from the bottom up and not top down. I have asked many members; during my travels if they have read the current five-year plan and many have no idea of its content.

I would also recommend the re-instatement of a Grand Treasurer to oversee the financial side of our Fraternity. By doing this, the Grand Secretary can concentrate on the fraternal side of Masonry, which I believe is a major concern of the Craft.

I would ask the general membership to familiarize themselves with the symbolism and principles of Masonry. Then work with our new Masons so they understand what these mean. We as Masons need to educate and mentor our new Masons, just as most of us were. Find out their desires; as some may be interested in Masonic history, ritual, or community involvement. I believe if we assist them in reaching their desires we will reduce NPD's and Demits.

I have heard members complain that the Grand Lodge Budget is too costly. I would submit a budget for approval at Grand Lodge in two parts. First part would be a standard operational budget covering general expenses. This will require an up or down vote. The second part of the budget would cover Grand Lodge programs and each program will

require an up or down vote. I do not see this adding additional time to the approval process. Once this process is completed, the adjusted budget will then have the support of the general membership.

Next, I would ask the leadership training committee to develop a program to identify Past Worshipful Brethren, willing to serve the Fraternity in leadership roles. We need to start training our future leaders today.

Ask the public relations committee to take a more active roll in providing a more accurate portrayal of our Fraternity publicly. Today we need to use the talents of our younger generational Masons to accomplish this task.

Plan to succeed

Fraternally: VWB Charles E. Wood



In the Blink of an Eye!



It may be a relief of some that the June is just around the corner. This means a new Grand Lodge team and the annual gathering of the whole Jurisdiction to enjoy that fraternalism and Brotherhood bonding that makes us who we are.

First, let me take this opportunity to thank everyone on the Grand Lodge Team from Appointed Officers and Committees who have been so very supportive of me, the Grand Lodge and the individual Lodges themselves; to the Deputies of the Grand Master are the front line and are truly dedicated to their Lodges. Nor, I can't say enough about the Elected Grand Lodge Officers for being good scouts and good friends.

But most importantly, I want to thank the Brethren of this (the greatest) Jurisdiction. The Square has been the standard of conduct and the guiding principle of every Brother with whom I have had contact. The Compasses are the definition of their actions and character. I could not have selected a more appropriate motto of "FreeMasonry – Every day, Every way" to describe the Brethren of Washington Lodges. It is truly an honor to serve and represent you. Thank you.

MWB Sam Roberts, Grand Master





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 Aprons - Regalia - Embroidery

Masonic Graphics Design and Projects

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