



MASONIC TRIBUNE

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



HOME SWEET HOME

(Article on page 7)

Grand Master's Message	3
Deputy Grand Master	4
Senior Grand Warden	5
Junior Grand Warden	6
Grand Secretary	7
Grand Orator	8
Grand Lecturer	9
Famous Mason.....	10
Bikes-4-Books + Sudoku Puzzle	11
Miscellaneous Articles	12
Miscellaneous Articles + Sudoku Solution.	13
Legislative Liaison	14
Apron Memorial Update.....	15
District No. 13 Report	16
District No. 6 Final Remarks.....	17
JGW Candidates	18
Grand Master's Remarks	19
Directory Services	20

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 Fall 2015 – 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:

We all have different opinions on what to write about and how to write them. It is also habitually that we do not write because when we decide to take time to do it, we cannot think of what we should write about, at the moment. Ideas would come to our mind a lot of times about what we would want to express as a topic, but we do not write them down, and they then go up like tiny bubbles in the air, they pop and they never come back to us again. When these ideas come to us, they are like dreams in the middle of the night. If they are not communicated to somebody right away, they fade away and travel to never, never land.

Notes and reminders play an important role in the task of recollection. If we have recorded something to use as a basis to build whatever, we will know where to start to build them. And of course, if we know where to start we would know what we are building and we would know the path towards finishing it.

The main object however, is the wanting to write to communicate a reasoning, judging or disposing whether it be to entreat, exhort, to admonish or applaud. I hope that you will be inspired to write and to assist us in making our Masonic Tribune a good and healthy publication for our members to enjoy. Thanks to those that contribute articles regularly to this magazine. Please keep them coming.

Faternally,

MWB G. Santy Lascano

Chairman, GLWA Masonic Tribune

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

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Fall Issue	September 10
Winter Issue.....	December 10
Spring Issue.....	February 10



Communication

For hundreds of years the only choices available to a Lodge for communications were confined to the spoken word and the written word. Information about Lodge business and other important activities were sent mouth to ear among all the members and their families. Those not at the meeting were sought out to make sure that they were not caught unaware. Lodge information, when not spoken, was written in notes, trestle boards or letters. Again, every attempt was made to inform and communicate with the member. The Lodge assumed the full responsibility to get the information into the hands of the members. Admittedly, we were not a very mobile society, the Brethren being generally confined to an area and each knowing all about the other, which made it easier.

Let's take a historical look at the available communications since that earlier time. Advance to the telegraph, the telephone; still spoken, but as time passed the Lodge used this new, faster technology as a means of information sharing less and less. So here we have a communications tool with vast potential, but not always as effectively used or used at all. The written word, on the other hand, took over. Organized postal services preempted the courier so that trestle boards and special notices became the way to share the same information, without inadvertent translation, to all the members. Everyone had the chance to know what was going on. A side effect was that the Brethren had no need or opportunity to actually talk to each other except in Lodge. At the same time as the telephone technology expanded from party lines to mobile phones, people abandoned the mail as being too expensive and too slow. Most Lodges were reluctant to make a similar change because of the effort to make a personal call to each and every one of its members. For the postal services, lower volumes of mail translate to higher cost. Between the ever increasing cost and the effort to write, edit and print the newsletters many Lodges abandoned them and attempted phone trees or other programs, typically with limited success.

The next advance took communication to a whole new level. E-mail! While the potential for the Lodge to get information into the hands of the Brothers was huge, it was the reluctance of the membership to transition to the new technology that lessened its effectiveness. It was reminiscent of the days when not everyone had a telephone. Lodges began to rely on e-mail as the chosen communication vehicle with full knowledge that not every member would get the information. This left many members feeling abandoned.

The communications inventory now adds Lodge webs sites, FaceBook, Twitter, instant messaging and there will likely be three more tomorrow. Here we have more ways to communicate than ever before only to realize that communication among the Brethren is at an all time low. Why is it that with this huge capacity to move facts and data are there fewer Brothers that feel that they know about Lodge activities and events? This very article will be freely available in no less than three different ways: Printed, Web and FaceBook. And yet, if I were to ask the Brethren about their opinion on communications and how they felt about the article and the answer most received will be, "What article? Where"?

Communication is a two way exchange of information, requiring a sender and receiver. Every Lodge must use every channel available to them to have the information ready to be received. That means that it must be printed for those that want or need hard copy (subscription only or bulk mail). A personal phone call for those that may be sight restricted (again, perhaps by subscription). Email or other electronic means for those that prefer to register. Current and usable websites for the general membership or public access. Every member that wants to be kept informed must let the Lodge know how they prefer to be contacted. Keep the Lodge secretary informed of your address(es) and contact information. If you feel you are in the dark concerning what is happening in your Lodge - you are! And it is your responsibility to (1) frequently review your Lodge website, FaceBook (or other electronic means) or (2) request an update from the Lodge. There is no excuse for any member of a Lodge to not know who his officers are, how to contact them, when the meetings are, what occurred at the meetings, the Five W's of (who; what; when; where; why plus the time, location, cost, attire, who may be included) the Lodge events. Be an active and informed member of your Lodge even if you cannot attend the meeting.

* Live your FreeMasonry. Everyday. Everyway.

Fraternally,

MWB Sam Roberts
 Grand Master





Hope & Renewal

Here we are at the end of the 2014-15 Masonic year and as I sit here writing this article there are many thoughts flashing through my mind. Your Grand Lodge Elected team has traveled many times around this great Jurisdiction and I have been amazed by the warm and friendly receptions. Viewing the upgrades and remodels of the Lodges and all of the work put in by the Brothers to make their buildings a showplace to the community and to their families is truly remarkable. Enjoying a meal and listening to the successful events and those that turned out not so favorable gives me hope, even if everything tried is not successful, that at least these Brothers are working together to enhance Masonry, within their Lodges and within their communities. We have a lot that we can learn from one another and that cannot occur if we don't leave our own Lodge room. That is also true if we remain only committed to one body of Masonry. We need to explore all the wonders of the Masonic bodies to further our own Masonic education and by seeing what others are doing we can learn and in return help change our own Lodge and/or Masonic body.

There is also another way that we can learn and that is by reading, in the Masonic Tribune, on Lodges websites, and on the Grand Lodge's website. Pay attention to what your Chamber of Commerce and other service organizations are involved in with the community and glean ideas that can be used by the Lodge. If we don't try we can never know what might work. The biggest obstacle that we face as a Fraternity is change!

Those Lodges that are making some form of change from past practices which have not benefitted the Lodge, Brothers and/or their families, or the community are seeing major growth in Lodge participation, family involvement, and in membership. I am now seeing several Lodges that have waiting lists of potential candidates that are very eager to join, and the majority of these men are 40 years old and younger. They want to be involved with other men that they can

respect and trust. They want to learn how to be better husbands, fathers, sons, and civil citizens. Their attitudes and enthusiasm are infectious and attracts other men and friends around them to want that same outcome in their own lives. These men also want to contribute, not just within their Lodge but within their community and world. They want to LEARN and CHANGE!

Once we bring in new members it is very important that we don't forget about them even if they are very different than we are ourselves. Times have changed and we need to remember that for those that look different to us, we look different to them. It all comes down to how we treat one another and whether we practice the tenants and precepts that we were taught when we joined this Fraternity and what we hear recited in our ritual and Degrees. We need to make every effort to be friendly

and inclusive to all, which means not forgetting our older Brothers. Remember, they helped to build our Lodges and keep them operational so that we had this great Fraternity to join and be involved within.

As we head into a new Masonic year let's renew our determination and resolve to be better Masons - every day and in every way! I am proud to be a Mason and to be so fortunate to serve my Brothers. I look forward to a fun and interesting journey in 2015-16.

... until next time.

Faternally,

RWB Donald G. Munks
 Deputy Grand Master





"WE ALL DIFFERENT, BUT IN THE END, WE ALL FRUIT"

Not too long ago, my Lodge received a petition from an applicant who was born in 1995. After quickly doing some math to ensure that he was of age, I realized that we would soon be voting on a young man who does know what life is like without a cell phone, cable television, or the internet. This is not a circumstance exclusive to my Lodge

As I travel the Jurisdiction, a simple cursory look around any Lodge will show that the face of our Lodges has become rather diverse. Our active Brethren include Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Gen-Xer's, Gen-Yer's/Millennials, and even Gen-Z'ers – all Masons, but all with a different way of looking at the world framed by different life experiences. Part of our job as Lodge leaders is to effectively blend the knowledge and talents that each of these generations possess for the benefit of our respective Lodges.

While it is true that different generations have different motivations formed by unique life experiences, it is also true that regardless of the generation, there are essentially four motivating factors that cause people to do what they do

- 1.They are going to learn something
- 2.They will be given the opportunity to share their skill set for the benefit of all
- 3.They will be made to feel important
- 4.Because they have to

Something to understand about that fourth reason: "Have to" really isn't a valid reason. What you need to do as a Lodge Leader is create a "want to" environment. So how do you do that?

Think of your year as Master as a buffet – filled with interesting activities that all will be able to enjoy. Truth be told, just like a buffet, not everyone will come to everything but you want to make sure that you have activities that appeal to your very broad demographic.

- Don't fall in love with one form of communication to get the word out just because it is perceived as efficient. Remember that different people respond to different forms of communication.
- In creating your buffet, be sure to remember that you need to fulfill two very important needs – fellowship and education. So...
- Provide knowledge growth opportunities. Your Brethren want to know what is this thing called Freemasonry.
- Understand the need for significance. Remember, your Brethren want to contribute in

some way, shape, or form – it validates their time.

- More dialogue, less directing. Practice participative leadership. Our Grand Secretary likes to say, "involve me and I will understand".
- Provide opportunities to fulfill need for self-improvement. Encourage your Brethren to challenge themselves. You don't know what you're going to get unless you ask.
- Trust. Don't be afraid to delegate.
- Identify motivators and leverage that knowledge. Understand & maximize your Brethren's hot buttons.

It's all about creating a QUALITY experience for all.

I conclude with two thoughts. The first from Walt Disney: "When you blend the old with the new, you get new again." The second from Gus of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding": "Here tonight, we have, ah, apple and orange. We all different, but in the end, we all fruit."

Fraternally,

RWB Jim V. Mendoza
Senior Grand Warden

SENIOR Grand WARDEN
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother
Jim V. Mendoza



Photo taken during Sequim Lodge, No.213 Reconstitution Ceremony and Parade.



Moving Forward!

Throughout this past year, your Grand Lodge Elected Officers have had the opportunity and pleasure to meet many of the Brethren throughout our Grand Jurisdiction. We have listened to your concerns and have hopefully responded to them satisfactorily and in a timely manner. While most of our Lodges and Temple Boards are showing progress, there are some that have been faced with real challenges that must be overcome before moving forward. During our visitations at the District Meetings, we often spoke of a program to assist our Brethren in recognizing and possibly preventing future problems, some with the potential of having catastrophic consequences. This program is the Proficiency in Lodge Management Program (PiLM) which assists each participant in understanding Lodge and Temple Board operations, officer's duties and member's responsibilities. The Proficiency in Lodge Management program has been well received throughout our Jurisdiction. Our Research and Education Committee has reported an increasing number of participants and we are pleased to see the amount of (PiLM) Certificates being awarded to our Brethren at the District meetings. Thank you to each of you for your accomplishments and dedication. This is a work in progress and with your assistance and encouragement among the Brethren, you will continue to shape and solidify the future of your Lodge and our Fraternity.

A Grand Lodge program that some might not be aware of is the "Grand Lodges in Amity", which involves a Brother being a Grand Representative of another Jurisdiction (state or country). Originated by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1838, the Grand Representative system was designed to foster and encourage a closer bond of union and fraternal accord between the Grand Lodges of the world by helping to establish the true spirit of Brotherhood and by promoting the principles of Masonic universality.

As a Grand Representative, the principle challenge is in opening new and improved avenues of fraternal communications between the two Jurisdictions, an ability to be a fount of knowledge and a continual satisfaction in being a force in "spreading the cement of Brotherly Love".

Some of our present representatives moved to our Jurisdiction of Washington from another state or country. Some still have relatives or friends in those areas where they may occasionally or often visit, which may provide an opportunity to visit the Grand Lodge Communication in that locality.

There are approximately 10 states and 50 countries that are in need of representatives. If this is a position that may be of interest to you,

please contact me and I will forward a list of available Jurisdictions and the guidelines on being a Grand Representative.

Each year at our Grand Lodge Annual Communication there are resolutions presented to the Brethren for their acceptance or rejection by a balloting process. When Resolutions are accepted by the Brethren, they will bring changes in our Washington Masonic Code, our Standard Work and Free Masons Guide or both references. Both of these reference books are provided in 3 ring binders to assist in easy changes, as necessary. In September of each year notifications are sent to each Lodge secretary in regards to the updates available for the Washington Masonic Code. As of this year, updates to the Standard Work and Free Masons Guide will also be made available to order at that time. If you're Standard Work and Free Masons Guide Book does not have the Lodge Officers Handbook (located in the back of the book), consider ordering that as well through your Lodge secretary or directly through Grand Lodge. The updated materials and the Lodge Officers Handbook can also be found on the Grand Lodge Web Site.

It is necessary to retain the most current information for referencing and extremely important if you have interest in pursuing the Proficiency in Lodge Management Certificate, as some of the answers may be found in the recently updated materials.

It is an Honor and a Privilege to represent the Brethren as an Elected Officer and I look forward to meeting and conversing with you in the near future. As a reminder, "your concerns are our concerns as well." Please feel free to call or email should you have questions or need assistance.

Fraternally,

RWB Warren R. Schoeben
 Junior Grand Warden



Photo taken at the Apron Memorial Cornerstone Laying Ceremony, Grand Mound, Washington.





David P. Owen

Grand SECRETARY
 RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother



Masonic Board Governance

Brethren we are governed by the same civil rules as everyone else in society. A Lodge is a separate entity from the Temple Corporation. Meetings in both entities need to be unique and separate as well. Every officer must prepare themselves to vote on questions and motions that are presented. If you are not prepared to vote on an issue than abstain. If you would like to read the Revised Code of Washington concerning Non-Profits, see RCW 24.03.127. It deals with the "duty and care" levels of competence. To just show up and vote yes or no, is a failure to act appropriately as a Trustee.

The standards of care given in a Lodge also apply to Temple Corporations. Make sure you read the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws for the Temple Corporation. What is a rule in the Lodge is not the same rule in the Temple Board. The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens cannot serve as officers of the Temple Board, only as trustees.

There are generally several duties you must follow:

1. Duty of Care: competence of the members or commonly referred to as "care that an ordinarily prudent person would exercise in a like position and under similar circumstance". Be an active member. Actions by the Board are followed by all members.
2. Duty of Loyalty: allegiance to the organization, information not used for personal gain.
3. Duty of Obedience: faithful to the mission and or purpose of the organization. Masons have entrusted you to protect their assets and donors as well. File the required local, state and federal documents.

On a final note, not having the appropriate insurance to protect the board members and organization is a failure by the board to exercise their fiduciary role as trustees.

Fraternally,

RWB David P. Owen
 Grand Secretary



Masons of Washington...Here's Your Sign

For the last six months, I have been asked by Masons throughout the Jurisdiction, "When are we going to get a sign?" Well Brethren, here's your sign. After much vigorous debate and discussion about the kind of sign we should install and what the sign should look like, the WMGLBA approved the design for the sign to be placed on the Washington Masonic Center. We then contracted with Fast Signs to help with the final design, construction and installation.



After an extended wait getting the necessary approval to install the sign (in other words, bureaucratic red tape) the sign was finally installed on Thursday April 9, 2015. We were very fortunate to have a beautiful day as you can see from the photo below. Special thanks go out to WB Todd Johnstone and Br. Richard Price of the Library and Museum staff for memorializing this auspicious occasion with photos and VWB Richard Birkland for videotaping the sign installation. I would also like to thank Keli and Cody from Fast Signs for all of their help and patience throughout this process.

If you haven't had a chance, please come by and take a tour. The Washington Masonic Center is a beautiful building that will be the pride of Masons of Washington for many years to come.

Clint Brown
 President WMGLBA



Greetings Brethren!

I want to draw your attention to the symbol of **The Hour Glass.**

It symbolizes the eternal passage of time, the sand slipping away until there is no more, and therefore a continual reminder that life is finite, and that therefore we should make the most of it while we can. However, the hour glass is also used in other ways. With its two containers, the hour glass is an analogy between the upper and the lower, and the need to turn the hour glass from top to bottom at times to continue the process symbolizes the continual cycle between life and death, heaven and earth.

Masonically we are taught that the Hour-Glass is an emblem of human life.

Behold how swiftly the sands run, and how rapidly our lives are drawing to a close! We cannot, without astonishment, observe the little particles which are contained in this machine, how they pass away almost imperceptibly, and yet to our surprise, in the short space of an hour, they are all exhausted. This is the state of man. Today, he puts forth the tender leaves of hope; tomorrow blossoms, and bears his blushing honors thick upon him; the third day comes a frost, a killing frost, and when he thinks, good easy man, full surely his greatness is a-ripening, nips his root, and then falls, like autumn leaves, to enrich our mother earth.

"If a man die, shall he live again?" Job's cry of despair has rung down the centuries the answer is one of Freemasonry's glories; tragedy ends in hope. The ritual work of the hour glass and scythe, if read alone, sounds gloomy and disheartening, but not as parts of a whole which end in a certainty of immortality.

Our Brethren who erected the temple of Freemasonry built a magnificent system of philosophy, of life and morals, and the esoteric work of operative Lodges. Freemasonry was not just constructed from the viewpoint of the times but contains the wisdom of all ages, otherwise it would not have lived in men's hearts and worked its gentle miracles for so long a period. And to ensure we understood the significance of our Masonic labor, these early architects built well when they endeavored to impress upon all Brethren the vital importance of time. Indeed, time is so intimately interwoven in the Degrees of Freemasonry that it very obviously has a symbolic as well as moral significance.

The endurance of time is a hard concept. That eternity has neither beginning nor ending is beyond the mental grasp of even the great philosophers. So let us take a moment and let the beauty of a poem bring this within reach:



DURATION – Masonic Service Association of North America 1935

*A weary of the endless days, my lot I wept
 That life and love, too long, should pass so slow.
 Some Power my eyelids touched, so that I slept
 And stood upon a star. I saw below,
 Alone in space, our tiny earthly sphere;
 Its continents but islands in the deep;
 Its tempest but a breeze; its mountains sheer,
 Low hill; its oceans only ponds, asleep.
 The northern ice revolved about a stone,
 A mighty boulder, grim and great and high;
 A hundred miles it stretched its length, moss-grown;
 A hundred miles it towered to the sky
 So rapid spun the giant pigmy world
 Years sped as seconds. By some mighty Law
 Ten centuries in empty space were hurled
 As I drew breath a little bird I saw
 Which rubbed its beak against the rock. "See, there
 He sharpens it, "a Voice said in my ear,
 "Once every thousand years."
 I watched it wear the granite down until a pole was clear.
 When that gigantic task, by one small bird
 In cycles of a thousand years.
 At last was done again the Silent Voice I heard:
 "But one day of Eternity has passed!"
 I woke; so much to do before day's end!
 I heard the call to labor as a chime,
 A song of instants I have yet to spend;
 "Not life - nor love is long, but only time!"*

My Brethren, our time on this earth is short and there is much work to be done. Let us now set to work.

WB Zane P. McCune
Grand Orator



Do You Have a Business Card?

Whether you are looking for a job or running a business, giving out business cards is crucial to marketing your skills or services. Business cards speak volumes about who you are, what you offer and how serious you are about marketing your services.

Masonically speaking, I refer to a Lodge's floor work and Proficiency in Opening and Closing their Lodge as their "business card" to their visitors. How do you "sell" your Lodge to prospective affiliated members? Do your Officers perform like they have practiced a few times before the meeting? Will your visitors feel confident bringing their newly raised Masons to your Lodge? Do you have a two hour or a thirty minute meeting? I have attended two hour meetings and wished it were longer and thirty minute meetings which were the longest 30 minutes of my life! An organized, well-planned and properly rehearsed meeting is the best business card you can hand out.

I know of a Lodge that has a higher than normal rate of affiliated members. What I found out was almost 90 percent of them were raised from other States or Countries, and that the first Lodge they visited was not necessarily the one they affiliated with. They kept looking until they found a Lodge they can be proud of. They preferred a Lodge that is dynamic, proficient and full of life. Does your Lodge's business card spell this out?

A few weeks ago, the finals of the Wardens' Competition was held at Centralia Lodge, No. 63. Five Regions competed and it was obvious from the start that these contestants were the best of the best. After all numbers were tallied, Brother Paul Henry of Silverdale Lodge, No. 311 came out on top by the slimmest of margins. I am happy to report that all finalists seem to understand the true meaning of the competition, that is, "to improve myself in Masonry" and in so doing, can positively and confidently contribute to the betterment of their Lodges. My heartfelt congratulations to everyone and I have no doubt that each one of you will have a fruitful and successful term in the East!

Fraternally,

WB Romy Labonete
 Grand Lecturer



Use proper business card etiquette. Whenever you give a business card, ask for a business card. When given a business card, don't just take it and place it in your pocket. Make the person feel important by looking at their card for a few seconds. You might see something that could be a topic of discussion. Write comments on the card such as date, location and common points of interest. These comments will prove valuable when following up with that person. This also demonstrates a sincere interest in the other person. Then place

it in your wallet. This lets them know they reside in a special place with you. "Skill with People" by Les Giblin is a book that expands on this approach. Make people feel important, in order to make yourself important to them.

WB Romy Labonete



We asked the District Deputies of the Grand Master to forward this email to Lodge Masters and Secretaries. It is hoped that the Deputies of

the Grand Master, Lodge Masters and Secretaries will use the information to promote civility in their Lodges and communities.

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 order to promote civility and the civility project, our Grand Master asked that examples from our Standard Work be offered to demonstrate our commitment to principles of civility. We intend to forward excerpts from the Standard Work with suggested virtues on a monthly basis. We would hope that District Deputies of the Grand Master and Lodge Masters use this material to emphasize our philosophical underpinnings in the promotion of civility. Here are a few examples from our Standard Work:

-- We come to "To learn to subdue our passions and improve (ourselves) in Masonry."

Virtues:

Discipline

-- In retiring the flag we state "we have worked, as Masons, for the good of humanity."

Virtues: Generosity, Equanimity -- In our charge at closing we are reminded that we have promised to "befriend and relieve every Brother who shall need your assistance." To "remind a Brother in the most friendly manner of his fault, to endeavor to aid his reformation, and to defend his character." Furthermore, "every human being has a claim on these kind offices."

Virtues: Fidelity, Generosity, Education

Dennis B. Dolle
 Past Master
 Temple Lodge No. 42





Famous Mason – Who Am I?

I am going to talk about a veteran who was a successful attorney, amateur poet and a Brother Mason. He was born August 1, 1779 on his family's 2,800-acre estate, Terra Rubra, near Frederick County, Maryland. Now, this man was not a veteran at first, but a Religious Pacifist. He and his wife, Mary and their eleven children eventually moved to Georgetown, in the District of Columbia. There he became partner in the law practice of his uncle taking over the practice two years later. In his first big case, he even successfully defended Aaron Burr, who had been Vice-President of the US during Thomas Jefferson's term in office.

His faith led him to maintain a pacifist stance when relations between England and the United States grew increasingly tense in the early 1810s. The British, then engaged in a war with France, frequently "impressed" American ships and crews into British service against their will. There were also disputes between British and American troops along the Canadian border and on the western frontier. Responding to the increasing British threat, the United States declared its "second war for independence" in 1812.

When England defeated France in 1814 and turned its full attention to fighting the United States, he reversed his position against the war and became an avowed patriot. In 1814 he enlisted in the District of Columbia militia and became an aide to General Walter Smith. The American forces clustered around Baltimore, anticipating that it would be the main target of British attacks. Instead, the British landed near Washington, D.C., and in August 1814 they managed to capture the city and burn down the Capitol building and the White House. During the attack, a friend of his Dr. William Beanes, a Maryland physician, an important patriot strategist and Brother Mason, was captured and imprisoned aboard a British warship.

With the assistance of fellow Masons, President James Madison and Colonel John Skinner, our Brother, was able to locate where

Dr. William Beanes was being held. Where upon American military leaders made arrangements to meet with the British and try to secure Beanes's release.

He embarked on the mission on September 3, 1814. On his way, he stopped to retrieve letters written by British prisoners of war describing their good treatment by the Americans. On September 7, he sailed out to meet the British fleet at the mouth of the Potomac River. At first the captors refused to release Beanes, but they eventually agreed after reading the testimonials He had secured. The two men's departure was delayed, however, to prevent them from revealing British plans to launch a full-scale attack on Baltimore. Their boat was put in tow behind the British fleet as it approached Fort McHenry.

The battle ensued as sixteen British warships formed a semi-circle around the fort. These ships commenced bombing on September 13 and continued for the next twenty-four hours. He watched from aboard his ship as some 1,800 shells ex-

ploded in and around the fort, lighting up the night sky. In the early morning hours of September 14, 1814, this veteran / Mason wrote a poem conveying his patriotic feelings about the battle. He and Beanes were allowed to return to Baltimore later that morning, where his poem was soon published as a broadside entitled "The Defense of Fort McHenry."

Here is the poem, but I will start with the second verse;

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

As it fitfully blows, now conceals, now discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,

In full glory reflected now shines on the stream:

'Tis the star-spangled banner! O' long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
that the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
a home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wiped out their foul footstep's pollution.

No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh! Thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.

Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

And the Star - Spangled Banner forever shall wave
o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!
Her is the first verse of the poem.

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous flight,

O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O' say, does that Star - Spangled Banner yet wave
o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

The famous Mason was Francis Scott Key.

Through history of the United States this flag has been a symbol of many Veterans who have served our country to ensure the liberties and freedom which we continue to have to this day. Once again we salute all of the veterans.

Compiled by
WB. W. Dean Markley
Masonic Tribune Committee



William H. Jett Lodge, No. 285 started its Bikes-4-Books Program shortly after the late MWB Bill Wood brought it to our Grand Jurisdiction. With the help of Diane Gould of Entiat whom was working at the school there. She talked to the Principal and we started off the program. She talked to other Librarians and got us the Wenatchee and Eastmont Schools. Riverside Lodge, No.112 soon joined us and Schools in Wenatchee, East Wenatchee, Entiat, Cashmere and Rock Island are all in the program. This year the Wenatchee DeMolay will help take these bikes to the Schools. VWB Steve Guffy and WB Bob

McLandress have led the charge all these years. VWB Dale Conley, DDGM No.21 has worked hard with us all these years also and continues to work for the program. Diane is now the head Librarian in the Eastmont School District and continues to work promoting our program. Twenty-eight bikes are given each year and the teachers are so thankful for this program.

William H. Jett Lodge, No.285 and Riverside Lodge, No.112 picked up 28 bikes for their Bikes-4-Books Program. We service all the schools in East Wenatchee, Wenatchee, Cashmere, Entiat and Rock Island. Pictured are from Left to Right WB Bob McLandress, WM Jim Martin Master of Riverside, VWB Dale Conley, DDGM No.21, WB Jim McQuinn, Bro. Mike McQuinn of William H. Jett and Bro. Woody Watson. The Teacher's have said that through this program the students reading abilities have improved by 60%.



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:

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(Solution on page 13)



Un The evening of May 2nd, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 35 in Renton held their first Bikes-4-Books presentation. Austin Fortson, being the proud winner of a beautiful brand new bike and helmet, Tanner Wilson, and Eli Jackson were presented with appropriate runner up prizes. These young men, members of Cub Scout Pack No. 274, have read thousands of pages and were accompanied at the presentation by their proud parents. Bikes-4-Books is a program sponsored by the Masonic Fraternity to encourage our young people to read and is in operation throughout the State.

Prudence – A Cardinal Virtue

From the very beginning of our walk in Freemasonry, we are taught to guide our conduct by the Cardinal Virtues: Temperance; Fortitude; Prudence; and Justice.



Do we Masons really think about these virtues and their value to our daily living, and especially in Lodge as we travel up through the “Chairs of Leadership” on our way to the East?

In my high school classes as I teach various leadership and personality traits, I included Prudence as one of the traits necessary for personal growth and management, and in the decision-making process of leadership. As I researched the trait, I ran across an article by Bret L. Simmons entitled Prudence: An Undervalued Virtue of Leadership, which I found to be of value to me personally and Masonically. As it is quite short, I copied and pasted it below for your edification. Mr. Simmons writes:

I was thumbing through my copy of Chris Peterson and Martin Seligman's book *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification* (2004) and came across a character strength that I don't hear mentioned often - prudence. It was among a group of traits they consider to be strengths of temperance - positive traits that protect us from excess. The other strengths of temperance were forgiveness and mercy, humility and modesty, and self-regulation.

This description of prudence really captured my attention:

...prudence is an orientation to one's personal future, a form of practical reasoning and self-management that helps one to achieve long-term goals effectively by considering carefully along the way the consequences of actions taken and not taken. The prudent person does not sacrifice long-term goals for short-term pleasures but instead keeps in mind what will eventually produce the most satisfaction. The prudent person makes “smart” choices as opposed to no choices at all....prudence is not paralysis. It is a strength of character when it leads us to do things in a judicious way. (p. 438-439).

Prudence is indeed a virtuous character trait, but honestly, how much do we really expect this from and encourage this in our leaders? The pressure of practicality usually impels prudence to yield to expedience.

Prudence is an inward focused, forward looking discipline. The evaluation of prudence is best made by looking in your

rear view mirror, back at decisions you've made to confirm that the sacrifices you endured were justified by the rewards you earned. Prudence is enabled by other strengths of character like patience, faith, modesty, humility, grace, and wisdom. A person that lacks patience, modesty, and grace probably gives very little thought to the value of prudence.

Is prudence a strength or a weakness in your own character? How do you know?

As Masons, how prudent are we in maintaining our moral and ethical standards of conduct as outlined in the Great Lights of Masonry? Do we exercise Prudence in our Lodge Leadership decision-making with Justice, which is for the betterment of our Lodge, and not just an expeditious ruling to move on more quickly to the next subject or closing and refreshments.

Prudence requires Temperance that is necessary for organizational Justice and requires personal, leadership Fortitude to do what is the right thing to do – morally and ethically.

Retrieved on 4/19/2015 from Bret L. Simmons – Positive Organizational Behavior at <http://www.bretlsimmons.com/2010-09/prudence-an-undervalued-virtue-of-leadership/>



VWB David A. McCuiston
 Garfield Lodge, No. 41

Success of the Six Steps To Initiation

Since the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington introduced the “Six Steps To Initiation” in early 2015, Crescent Lodge has had great success using it. Several members of our Lodge went to a District 13 training session on how to implement this type of initiation strategy. Although we were taught to use the Six Steps as a guideline, following it to the letter also works very well. Shortly after the training I met my first “inquirer” through our website and email. The inquirer was interested in Masonry, his father was a Mason and he wanted to be a part of our great Fraternity. Before giving the inquirer his application, I emailed him the “Approaching the Portals” and asked him to meet me at the Lodge (Step 1 – Initial Response to the Candidate). This was the first meeting.

Our second meeting was face to face at our Lodge where I was able to meet him in person, walk him around our Lodge room and answer any initial questions he had. I also gave him the questionnaire and asked him to fill it out and bring it with him the next time we meet. This was our second meeting and the first for me to meet him in person (Step 2 – First meeting with the Candidate).

During our second meeting I found out that he was also an avid motorcyclist. Since I am part of the Sons Of Hiram Riding Club, I asked him to meet us for our monthly coffee and ride so that I could introduce him to more Brothers of our Fraternity. This was our third meeting (Step 3 – Second meeting with the candidate).

At our second meeting, I invited the inquirer to our monthly breakfast which has supported our Ray Limbo Junior Achievement Scholarship program for 48 years. Without hesitation, he said he would be there and he was. (Step 4 – Introduction to Other Members)

(Continued on page 13)

Success... (Continued from page 12)

The final two steps were combined into one when I asked the inquirer to join us for dinner at our monthly Stated Meeting. He showed up for dinner and met even more of our Lodge members. Before the dinner had ended, I made sure we had his petition, and had answered all of his questions. (Step 5 – Social Function & Step 6 – Petition and Signatures) By the time the vote occurred during our Lodge meeting, there was absolutely no confusion as to who we were voting on and the quality of person we were bringing into our Lodge. After the favorable vote, I was our candidates coach and worked with him step by step through the entire ritual process. By the time we were finished he had delivered all three posting lectures flawlessly in our next Three Stated Meetings and was able to give his best friend and another candidate the apron lecture and working tool lecture for their first Degree! This approach to bringing on new members into our Lodge has worked very well in this first quarter of 2015 as we have raised one new member, and have three more on their way up through the Degrees all following the same process. In my opinion, and the opinion of our new Brothers, I believe that this approach is a fantastic way to get the right men into our Fraternity and I look forward to continuing to use this approach when an inquirer asks, "How do I become a Freemason?"

WB Matt Runion
 Worshipful Master 2015
 Crescent Lodge, No.109




SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE (Solution)

(Solution of puzzle from page 11)

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EARN YOUR HISTORIC BUTTON PIN


 Saturday, April 23, 2016 - Steadfast Lodge, No. 216's second annual Button Maker's Degree. The Brothers that took part in last year's event had a great time. The Degree is a "blue-collar" nonsense-based farce on more traditional ceremonies that advance a Mason through three steps in Masonic growth. Proceeds will be split between the Washington Masonic Charities and Steadfast Temple Association (with \$3.00 to the Button Maker sustainment fund). The story begins when times were hard, and the Brethren became poor. Eventually, their clothes became tatters. The King decrees that the workers need to become better dressed and that buttons were required to fasten the improved clothing. He then decrees that a Lodge of Button Makers should be created to fill this need. The Degree is designed to initiate the group, certifying them to make the "exalted" buttons. After going through the colorful history of the need for the buttons, the inductees line up and file behind a secrecy panel to get their button. Now, when a certified Button Maker (wearing his button pin) is asked by a non-initiate "How did you get your button?" the Button Maker should offer the acceptable response...(Earn your button to find out what this response is.)

BUTTON MAKER'S DEGREE Fund Raiser

In honor of our "blue collar" heritage,
Steadfast Lodge No. 216
 will confer our fun, but farcical
2nd Annual Button Maker's Degree
Saturday, April 23, 2016
\$20.00 per participant (MM only)

(Proceeds will split between the Washington Masonic Charities and the Steadfast Temple Association, with \$3.00 going to the Button Maker Sustainment fund)

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
- Button Maker Lapel Pin
- Wallet-sized Button Maker Card
- Certificate of Completion

Purchase online:

www.wilcur.com/Steadfast216/Online_Payments.html

Or contact

WB Harry Boyd – 360-340-7247

WB Tim Curley – 360-627-7700 / 360-286-5223)

Reserve your space early – limited to 60 participants



You Can Make a Difference in Your Government

As a citizen of this country, you know that one of the most fundamental rights that we have is the right to vote. And as a Mason, understanding the importance of voting to the health and well-being of a free society, you are more likely to exercise that right than the average citizen. And doing such, you probably know who your elected officials are. But when is the last time you contacted your elected officials? Do you know what issues they stand for, and how they have voted on important issues? Have you made your concerns known to your elected officials?

Our Grand Lodge has noted some recent policy issues with departments in our state government. And in order to communicate our concerns to our state Legislature, a new position was created as a Liaison between the Grand Lodge and our Legislature.

Since we, as an organization, have not been present on the Capitol Campus in the past several decades, if at all, my first role as the Liaison has been introductory. I provided basic information about our organization to all of the Legislative staff, which was very well received. Some of the staff members did some research after they received this information, and they asked me some questions when I talked to them again. Some of them are related to Masons, and many of them know where the local Masonic Lodges are in their legislative District.

Recently, the State Department of Transportation had removed the 'Free Coffee' signs from the state highway rest areas, curtailing the donation income of those non-profit organizations who man these rest areas, including ours. A senate bill was introduced to restore the signs, and I lobbied the members of the Senate Transportation committee in favor of this bill. As of right now, the signs have returned to the 13 rest areas with the most traffic, and these signs say 'Free Coffee-Volunteer program'.

Also, the State Department of Revenue has introduced a proposal to amend the Property tax exemption for meeting halls owned by non-profits such as ours. The amendments, if signed into law, will make it considerably more difficult to qualify for this exemption, if at all, since it also grants the department the option to deny the exemption, even if the criteria are met. The results of these amendments are still pending, so we can still make a difference. If your Lodge has a property tax exemption, or if you are considering applying for one, please notify your legislators.

It is important to understand that your voice does count. The legislators want to hear what you have to say. Many have told me that the legislators have already made up their minds, or that the 'big money' has them in their 'back pocket', or similar thoughts, but in truth, the voice that doesn't count is the one that isn't heard. A letter is being drafted concerning the Property tax exemption amendments, and a copy will be sent to those of you that currently have an exemption. I urge you to complete it and send it to all three of your legislators.

I have also been notified that three legislators have expressed an interest in speaking at one of the Lodges in their

Districts. This number is likely to increase after sessions are over at the end of April. This presents another opportunity to improve relations between our Fraternity and our state government. Even if your legislator hasn't made the first move, you can take the initiative and ask your local legislator to come speak at your Lodge, or to hold a 'town-hall' meeting in your building. It is more likely than not that your legislator will graciously accept your invitation.

It has been an honor to represent our esteemed and ancient Fraternity at the State Capitol. With your participation, we can further cement a positive relationship between ourselves and our state government.

Fraternally,

VWB Clayton La Vigne
Legislative Liaison

A Stumbling Block Or A Stepping Stone

A Bag of Tools

*Isn't it strange how princes and kings,
and clowns that caper in sawdust rings,
and common people, like you and me,
are builders for eternity?*

*Each is given a list of rules;
a shapeless mass; a bag of tools.
And each must fashion, ere life is flown,
A stumbling block, or a Stepping-Stone.*

R.L. Sharpe, 1809

Each of us is given a bag of tools to do with what we wish. Some can't seem to do anything with a whole workshop full of tools, yet others can perform miracles with just a wrench and screwdriver.

This poem is a reminder that everyone has their own talents. Whatever these talents may be, the sum of them is unique to you. And how you put these talents to use is up to you. You build a path to a better tomorrow. Or you can build a wall around yourself.

We Masons have been given all the tools we need to improve ourselves. They may not be the same tools as your neighbors'. They might not be the tools you wanted. But they are yours. You can complain and do nothing. Or you can start to build something amazing.

No matter your station at birth or the life you've had, we are all builders of a sort. What you choose to build today will not only affect those around you now, but also the generations of tomorrow. So put some conscious effort into building something positive that will last for ages.

Will you be an obstruction in the path of others—a stumbling block, or will you be the one that helps others reach higher—a stepping stone?

What will you do with the tools in the bag that you were given?

Marcy "Tig" Dupre
Port Orchard, WA





Grand Lodge of Washington Apron Memorial – Update

The Cornerstone Ceremony was conducted on April 15th. I know that we must have had divine approval because the ceremony was conducted in bright sunshine between rain showers that was the norm for most of the day. However, tents were erected, just in case. Pictures of the day can be found at the link of <http://mwglfwa.phanfare.com/6884849>. You will note that, like our ancestors, we have an actual cornerstone that will be laid in with the foundation before the actual construction begins.

Now for a brief update.

- Over half of the funds necessary to complete the structure have been graciously donated by the Brethren of this Jurisdiction. Thank You!
- Additional funds are needed and all contributions are welcome. Any excess will be put into perpetual care.
- Construction is underway.
- Masons only plots around the Memorial are available.

A date to put on your calendar will be July 18th. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. The cemetery address is 6300 183rd Ave SW, Rochester, WA 98579.

Remember to get your 'orphaned' aprons to the Library and Museum for archival and preparation.

FreeMasons are Architects and Planners

In ancient Egypt, the StoneMasons were called upon to pre-plan and build the pyramids (or tombs) for the pharaohs, years before they were needed. In contrast, the Taj Mahal was built after a death had occurred and the vast over-spending that happened almost bankrupt a country.

Today's FreeMasons continue the values long established by our ancient Brothers, the StoneMasons.

It is no less important today to pre-plan for our eventual death, than it was for the pharaohs of Egypt. Nothing has changed, except most of us do not have a flurry of helpers to layout our plans for us. This is something we must do for ourselves and our families. Who among us would not go out of their way to help their family? Who wouldn't spare their loved ones, their wives, their children, their Grandchildren, their friends the agony of making decisions, important decisions, financial decisions on the worst day of their lives? The day when your counsel and support is most needed and you are not there to provide it.

Well, I'm here to tell you that you can, you can give one of the most valuable gifts possible to all those you love. By having your funeral arrangements in place, the decisions that have to be made and the financial concerns then become a burden that is lifted from them.

Another part of funeral arrangements that need to be discussed and one that is important, is what is to become of your Masonic apron, jewelry, books, memorabilia and all the items that us Masons collect over the years. During my 10 years serving on the Scottish Rite funeral team, I cannot tell you how many times family members (non-Masons) approached me and asked "What should we do with Dad's (Uncle's, Brother's or Grandfather's, etc) Masonic stuff?" They know it meant a lot to him, but they are not Masons. They do know enough to know that it shouldn't be given to Goodwill or charity, sold in a garage sale, etc. but they also do not have any need for it or the space to keep it. It is very important that they know (best in writing) that the Grand Lodge Library and Museum will gratefully accept all these items. Also, the new Grand Lodge Apron Memorial located at Grand Mound, WA is an excellent place for your apron to be placed and memorialized. Be it now or in your Will, the Apron Memorial is a wonderful place to contribute to.

Fraternally,
 WB Rick Becker
 Secretary, Eureka Lodge, No. 20

Evergreen-Washelli Funeral Home

A full service funeral home offering families services for every budget. Mausoleum, Ground Burial, Cremation Niches, Pre-paid funeral plans.

11111 Aurora Ave N, Seattle, WA 98133
 Tel. 206.362.5200 ext. -118
 E-mail: rbecker@washelli.com

Fellowship & Passion

Our Grand Master's message this year is inspiring and directs us to look inward as always, and remind us that it's about what we can do for the Fraternity, not what It can do for Us.

In our daily lives, from work to recreation, from family to stranger, the promises that we have made to ourselves and to each other must be foremost in every thought, word and deed.

The Grand Master's theme is a reminder of those obligations, charges and tenets.

Obligations: I most solemnly & sincerely promise & swear, with a firm & steadfast purpose

Charges: I, therefore, trust that you will have but one aim—to please each other, and to unite in the Grand design of being happy and communicating happiness.

Tenets: Brotherly love, relief and truth

If we chose to call ourselves FreeMasons, then we must be FreeMasons, Every day and in Every way.

During my official visits this year in addition to the Grand Master's message I talked about a survey that I had sent out to the District email list after it was announced I would become the next DDGM in District No. 13 to try to understand what the Brethren wanted to see us do.

The survey I had sent out had three simple questions. There were no multiple choice questions so I couldn't steer the answers, these were open ended questions, but I did provide the opportunity for three answers to each of the three questions.

The three simple questions were these:

What One Thing Should Every Mason Know?

What One Thing Should We Add or Change or Remove?

What One Thing Do You Like Best About Your Lodge?

The answers to the last question, "What do you like best about your Lodge?" With overwhelming response, more than four times any other answer; Fellowship, friendship, my fellow Brethren.

They wanted events, that were not Stated meetings, to fellowship with their Brethren. These could be social events, they could be educational events, just something more than one Stated meeting each month.

They said, and I recommended that it should be something fun, that isn't centered around our Ritual or Customs, but rather around the Brotherhood of Masonry to encourage Fellowship. It can be a family event, but does not have to be specifically for families.

It can be at the Lodge, but probably should not be at the Lodge, to encourage participants to get outside of their comfort zone, the four walls of the Lodge, and maybe even meet

the public so others can see who we are and that we are regular people too.

I believe we need to have more fellowship, more opportunities to break bread with each other, outside of just our meetings. However, fellowship and friendship aren't always easily developed, it can take time and sometimes a little conflict. Is conflict always bad? No, it's not.

Yes, we declare in every opening and closing that "Harmony is the strength and support of all institutions, more especially this of ours." And yet I challenge the idea that we are all supposed to simply "go with the flow" and not have meaningful discussion about aspects that affect our Lodges.

If I said the name "Steve Jobs" to you, I can't imagine that anyone does not know who he is, but if not, ask any Brother under 40 - he'll know.

Well, some time ago I saw a 'lost interview' with Steve Jobs. This interview was at a time after he had essentially been fired from Apple and was working with a new company called Next. The interviewer had no idea that a little over a year after this interview, Steve would take back control of Apple, and begin an ascent towards near global dominance, bringing to market two products that would change the world, the iPhone and iPad.

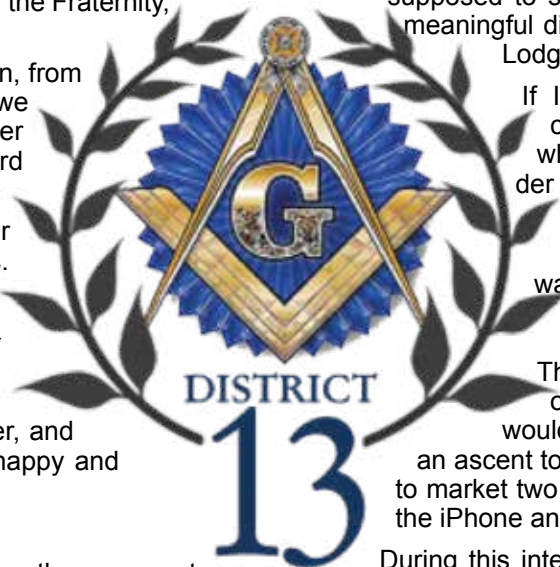
During this interview he was asked, what's important to you in the development of a product? His answer? "... there's just a tremendous amount of craftsmanship in between a great idea and a great product. And as you evolve that great idea, it changes and grows. It never comes out like it starts because you learn a lot more as you get into the subtleties of it. And you also find there are tremendous tradeoffs that you have to make. ... Designing a product is keeping a thousand things in your brain and fitting them all together in new and different ways to get what you want. And every day you discover something new that is a new problem or a new opportunity to fit these things together a little differently.

And it's that process that is the magic. ... But what I've always felt that a team of people doing something they really believe in is like when I was a young kid there was a widowed man that lived up the street. He was in his eighties. And I got to know him a little bit.

And one day he said to me, "come on into my garage I want to show you something." And he pulled out this dusty old rock tumbler. It was a motor, a coffee can and a little band between them. He said, "come on with me." We went out into the back and we got some rocks, just some regular old ugly rocks. And we put them in the can with a little bit of liquid and little bit of grit powder, and we closed the can up and he turned this motor on and he said, "come back tomorrow."

And so I came back the next day, and we opened the can. And we took out these amazingly beautiful polished rocks. The same common stones that had gone in, through rubbing against each other like this (clapping his hands), creating a little bit of friction, creating a little bit of noise, had come out these beautiful polished rocks.

That's always been in my mind my metaphor for a team working really hard on something they're passionate about. It's that through the team, through that group of incredibly



Fellowship & Passion *(continued from page 16)*

talented people bumping up against each other, having arguments, having fights sometimes, making some noise, and working together they polish each other and they polish the ideas, and what comes out are these really beautiful stones."

Brethren, doesn't that sound familiar? We are all directed to learn to subdue our passions while improving ourselves in Masonry. We are instructed that we should "break off the corners of rough stones" ... so that we might be smooth and polished and a better fit for the Builder's purpose.

Yet, on occasion we may feel strongly about something, even passionate and bump into each other, making some noise, and if we don't remember our obligations, it might even seem like an argument. But I submit to you that what comes out of these abrasions, these discussions, really are, beautiful, living stones. While we need to keep our passion within due bounds when dealing with each other, I don't believe that we should subdue our passion about Masonry and its teachings,

I believe that we need to be more passionate in our labors and privileges,

I believe we need more passion so that the new Masons coming in can see our commitment,

I believe we need more passion so the public at large can see we are dedicated to our Craft and to each other.

I believe we need more passion so we are reminded why we first knocked at that door.

Brethren, let us embrace the opportunity we have to be passionate about our Craft.



VWB David W. Colbeth

Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 13

www.District13Masons.org

www.facebook.com/District13Masons

cell/text: 253-778-6423

Email: ddgm.District13@gmail.com

Personal: david@colbeth.com

Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 6

Final Remarks

With the loss of the printed Masonic Monitor – a monthly newspaper-type publication, it has been difficult to find the announcements and other information which the Monitor had provided. Traveling outside our own Lodge is decreasing I fear simply because we are unaware of the scheduled recurring or special events. Considering the alternatives, we recreated a Google group "Masonic-emonitor" which will automatically email everyone in the group with announcements.

To join, you can go to groups.google.com and search for "Masonic e-monitor" the page has a link to apply for membership OR you can send an email to Tom Christie, at tomc122014@gmail.com or myself indicating that you want to become a member. If you decide that it is not for you or want to use another email address, you can unsubscribe/resubscribe at anytime. It is necessary to have some type of Masonic group affiliation (including OES, Rainbow, Job's Daughters, DeMolay, etc).

However, please note that it is somewhat more flexible than the Monitor, for example there are no deadlines, and anyone who is a member of the group can post information or announcements to the group. As well, if this catches on, it will be possible to receive a more abbreviated, single email digest of all the emails sent out on a daily basis.

We all know that there are members who don't have access to a computer or email and this can never replace the Masonic Monitor, but it is another tool that we can use to both receive and distribute information about what is happening in and around the area, so we can then share it with those other Brothers whether it be by phone call, placing a blurb in our Lodge newsletter, or simply mentioning it on conversation.

The Grand Master's theme this year reminds us that we are always Masons, not just within the tiled recesses of the Lodge room but outside as well. That our obligations bind us forever. That non Masons will look upon our actions and value all Masons by them. We must act how we want all Masons to be viewed. Let's get out this summer, not just to the Lodges, but also the community, and walk the walk, proving ourselves worthy of the title of a Mason.

At the May 2nd District 6 Meeting, MWB Sam Roberts presented the Grand Master's Achievement Award to our very own, VWB Darrell Womack for his dedicated service to Masonry which distinguished him as a Mason, Every day and Every way. Please congratulate him as you see him traveling.

Also, I had the privilege and honor of introducing my replacement, the 2015-2016 Deputy of the Grand Master in District 6 appointee, WB Thomas W Christie. Tom has been instrumental in reviving the LOMA and has taken it upon himself Pass the Proficiency in Standard Work, one of only two in our District and six in the state. He knows the work and will be a value to the Masons of this District. Please welcome him warmly and congratulate him as you see him traveling.

I am truly honored to have been given the opportunity to serve District 6, as its District Deputy. It has been one of the best experiences in my Masonic career. The friends and experiences that I have gained are immeasurable. Thank you for the experience.



VWB Michael J Riley

Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 6

Commissioner.riley@gmail.com

Junior Grand Warden

Candidates Column



Question 3: Long Range planning requires a visualization of the future, for the Lodges, the Grand Jurisdiction and the Fraternity. What do you think Masonry will look like in 10 years / 50 years

Response of VWB Jim Kendall:

33%. 80%. Those are our choices.

If our history is any guide, our Fraternity in this Jurisdiction will look much like it has for the nearly thirty years that I have been active in it. Membership aging, membership shrinking, costs rising, income shriveling, and hands wrung off their wrists as we worry what to do. If the past is any guide, we will spend years like a pinball in a pinball machine, bouncing from one bumper (scheme) to another bumper (scheme), while lights flash and bells jangle. If our history is any guide, this is what we will continue to see in the next ten year, or fifty years, or a hundred years. That does not need to be, nor do I believe it will be what the future holds.



While there are factors largely beyond our control that have influenced the trajectory of our Fraternity, these factors can be mitigated. An aging population, a dramatic change in lifestyles and careers, demographic shifts, working moms, a mobile working population, and a continuing shift in mores in our society in general, have all had an impact on our Fraternity. How well we adjust or compensate (or don't compensate) for these changes will directly reflect in the health of our Fraternity.

RWB Jim Mendoza, the Senior Grand Warden argues, and I wholeheartedly agree, that the quality of the Masonic Experience must improve. From the quality of the petitioner to the quality of his experience, we must improve.

33% or 80%? Statistics show that the Grand Lodge of F&AM of Washington has a 33% retention rate of our membership. For every one Mason we raise, we lose three from all causes. That is why we are circling the drain, membership-wise.

80%? That is the retention rate of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, according to their Grand Master. The difference? Programs such as the Six Steps to initiation, over time, have turned around the membership retention dynamic in that Jurisdiction. Instead of losing three members for every new member brought into the Fraternity, they retain four members for every five members brought into the Fraternity. They provide a quality Masonic experience through their Lodges and Grand Lodge. I believe that at bottom, involving our Brothers in the governance of our Lodges and the Grand Lodge at every level, to the maximum extent feasible, is a key to changing our path from dwindling numbers to robust growth.

If we widely adopt and implement these programs across our Jurisdiction I believe the answer to the question is, that in ten years we can and will improve our retention numbers to at

least 50%. In twenty years we should be at least at the level Grand Lodge of Michigan has attained and, once achieved, we will work to maintain that level. We will make those changes that will put us more open to the public, and we will, as a Fraternity, be recognized as a force for good in our communities.

Fraternally: VWB Jim Kendall

Response of VWB Paul Waadevig:

Long Range planning requires a visualization of the future, for the Lodges, the Grand Jurisdiction and the Fraternity. What do you think Masonry will look like in 10 years / 50 years?



In the near term (and yes, I would consider 10 years the near term), some of the trends we're seeing in the Jurisdiction and throughout American Masonry will maintain their momentum. Lower membership and consolidation of Lodges is a trend that's likely to continue. What's important is that we say, "That's ok." And concentrate on what makes Masonry unlike any other organization in the world.

My hope is that we focus on our desire to make ourselves, and thus the world around us, better. This means our Lodge meetings bring value to each member, every time through insightful education and Brotherly comradery. I like to say that Masonry is the world's oldest self-help system. One need only look at the meaning of our working tools to find deep insight on how to improve ourselves every day. Our meetings should be times where we can gain insight into how to become better men and share our successes and, sometimes, failures.

For those of you who are Star Wars fans, like myself, I recently read a post where Freemasons were described as, "Modern day, real life Jedi." Certainly, that fictional depiction is a high standard but it's one that I believe we can aspire to in the next ten years. And like that fictional organization of heroes, Freemasonry is not for everyone and we need to learn to live with smaller, but more impactful Lodges.

Over the next 50 years, our world will be facing some very difficult times and it will need Freemasonry. Even more than during the cold war, the current global struggles involve religious intolerance and incivility that Freemasonry, by its very nature, opposes. We are unique in that we do not oppose one point of view over another, either ideologically or politically, but oppose the idea of intolerance itself. How do we do this? By coming together as men of conscience and belief is a supreme being while demanding that no one view is allowed dominance and harmony is the supreme guide. Simply "being" is a force for good.

Is my deepest hope that what we do in the next 10 years will lead to what will happen in the next 50. Freemasonry is not a "civic organization" or a "club" but an oasis of civilization in an increasingly uncivilized world. The waters of that oasis have dwindled some because we have not continually replenished the spring which feeds it. We need to return to that source water – our rituals and our ideals – and this will lead to Freemasonry's phoenix like rise as a dam against the tide of global strife and intolerance.

Fraternally: VWB Paul Waadevig

Response of VWB Charles Wood:

As a candidate for Junior Grand Warden it is clear to me that there are two common factors affecting our Grand Jurisdiction. Lodge Temple Boards face decreasing revenues and increasing operational costs while Lodge membership declines.

Here is what I envision happening over the next 5 to 10 years. My late friend and mentor, VWB John Shull, and I talked about these issues as we traveled together. We came to the conclusion that Lodges within a given District would be better off creating a centralized District meeting place. The Lodges within that District would all be co-owners of the building and have equal representation on the temple board.

In order to pay operational costs, all Lodges would pay rent. The building would be constructed or remodeled so it could be rented out to non-Masonic groups in order to meet tax exempt status and create a revenue source.

As I envision it, each Lodge would still maintain its Charter and thereby maintain their valuable identity. I believe once a Lodge loses its Charter they tend to lose their identity and the end result is a loss in membership.

I have noticed many temple boards in the Greater King County area have numerous Lodges using the same building as a meeting place. These Lodges seem to have the resources to carry out public relation programs. By carrying out public relations programs like, bikes-4-books, scholarship programs and so on you get the general public's attention. By gaining the public's attention you stand a better chance of attracting quality applicants for membership.

If the Lodge is supporting the building and not the reversal then it is time to sell before the Lodge becomes bankrupt. This leads me to my next subject.

Over the next 5 to 10 years I believe our Grand Jurisdiction will be experiencing a 2% growth rate. Membership retention has always been a major concern of mine. Our current leadership has begun to address the problem of declining membership. Grand Lodge is now leading the way by providing programs, such as 'Six Steps to Initiation' and I now hear a program has been created to further address our retention problem.

We as Masons need to take this one step further by doing the following: We need to educate and mentor our new Masons, just as most of us were mentored years ago. Mentoring is an ongoing process as we learn something new every day. Discover 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 Dimits.

Fifty years from now, if we continue down the pathways that I have mentioned above, the Grand Lodge of Washington will be stronger and healthier than it is today. The future of our Fraternity is in our hands, and we have the ability plus the know how to turn things around.

Vote for the Good of Masonry

Fraternally: VWB Charles E. Wood



Steward and Custodian

It has been my honor, privilege and pleasure to have served as your Grand Master. To have been included in the few and then been given the full measure of support by the Brethren will always remind me that my Brothers invested their future in me. I consider that an act of ultimate faith. I can only hope that I have met your expectations.

There are too many people, who without their help, support and guidance, I would not have begun this journey, much less having whatever successes there are. There were too many truly memorable moments for Vickie and me to list. The generosity of the whole Masonic Family has been overwhelming and at the same time, humbling. There has so much of everything that, if not careful, it could turn heads and make us forget that the responsibilities and duties of a Grand Master can be summed up as steward and custodian... and I thank you for the opportunity.

Sam Roberts
Grand Master 2014-15



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 - May 2015

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 Designs and Projects

GSL Graphics, LLC - G. Santy Lascano, Proprietor

123 Alder Street, Everett WA 98303

Tel. 425.200.0594 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