

In This Issue

A few words from the Chair:

Brethren,

We are getting closer to completing this Masonic year. In the past issues, we have been able to successfully produce a well worth reading communication tool. We managed to provide this Jurisdiction with a publication filled with relevant information that transpired during this year term. The next issue will give us a chance to proudly announce our accomplishments in the preceding year to assist and guide us to positively move forward to the ensuing year.

Please continue to provide us with news articles and other materials for the publication. We also need your comments, suggestions and ideas to make us aware of what you think would help improve our service to you.

The Grand Lodge officers together with the committees involved in the existence of this project are working on some changes that will help improve this publication. Please stay tuned.

Again thank you so much for your continued support.

Faternally,

MWB G. Santy Lascano, PGM

Chairman, GLWA Masonic Tribune

A Sub Committee of:

Public Relations Committee

g.santy@comcast.net



(Guidelines continued)

7. When sending your article, your email subject field should say "Masonic Tribune Summer 2017 – Your Name or Committee Name or your GL Title should be contained in the article."
8. Your article is important to us. Please help us protect its accuracy according to your intended subject.

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)

(Continued next column)



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

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Publication Design & Layout: MWB G. Santy Lascano

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Article submission deadlines:

Summer Issue	First of May
Fall Issue	September 1
Winter Issue.....	December 1
Spring Issue.....	February 1



Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother Jim V. Mendoza



From my DeMolay days, I am reminded that the “south is emblematic of the mid-hour of rest, refreshment and meditation, when you pause and contemplate the labors of the half-completed day”. By the time you read this, I will have passed the symbolic south of my tenure as Grand Master. It would be appropriate for me to pause and contemplate what has occurred thus far.

At installation, I identified eight key initiatives that I felt needed to be accomplished to not only define the year, but also help to set a sustained course for the future of our Fraternity. To review, those initiatives were ~

- Improve Membership Retention
- New Candidate Education Program
- Develop Future Leaders
- “One More”
- Reclaim the Narrative
- Review the Long Range Plan
- Reshape the Military Recognition Committee

So how are we doing?

Improve Membership Retention

The Six Steps to Initiation continues to gain traction in our Jurisdiction. As you are aware, the idea is to take a closer look at the prospective member at the outset to ensure that he is the right fit for us and that we are the right fit for him. The idea being that we should focus on the quality of the man who desires to enter our fold vs. the quantity of men we can push through the Degrees. To help Lodges implement the Six Steps, the Membership Development Committee has formulated a tri-fold brochure that can be handed to the prospective candidate instead of a petition. This document lays out each step to the prospect in detail and explains who contacts whom for each. It also explains to the prospect when would be a good time to ask for a petition and what the process is after it is accepted.

New Candidate Education Program

The New Candidate Education Program has been updated and available to all Lodges. This program will go a long way in helping us to fulfill our promise of giving to our Brethren a course of moral and symbolic instruction. The Research and Education Committee is on the road and at the ready to provide instruction on how to use this program for the benefit of your newly initiated Brethren.

Develop Future Leaders

If you are a newly elected officer and have not signed up for the Lodge Leadership Retreat, I have one question – why not? Aside from providing you with the tools necessary to be an effective Lodge leader, you will have an opportunity to interact with Brethren from all over our Jurisdiction – many of whom have concerns similar to yours, many of whom are looking for new ideas, many of whom have ideas that are working and just might merit your consideration. The Lodge Leadership Retreat continues to be one of the best things our Jurisdiction has ever done.

If you are a Secretary, Treasurer, or trustee of your building corporation you are seriously missing the boat if you have not been to one of the sessions hosted by VWB Clint Brown. Drawing on a wealth of legal and practical expertise, VWB Clint and his team have put together a program that provides attendees with the best practices necessary to handle some of the most difficult jobs that we as Masons must undertake.

“One More”

We continue to receive reports of Brethren and ladies signing up for advisor training for our youth groups. How that will translate to actual advisors remains to be determined. That said, if the parallel report of increased membership in our youth groups is any indication, then increased interest in advisor training is a good sign.

Our Youth Committee Chairman, WB John Danner, shares a recent news story about “the explosive growth in the number of students in Moses Lake - they have, or rather will have soon over 650 kids per annual class and are considering adding a new High School.” This is what is known as opportunity – that is, if there is a willingness to grab it.

Reclaim the Narrative

If you have not seen our new video, go to the link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qSVWB4LJlMA&sns=em>

You must make the effort, the product is the work of our Public Relations Committee, and a second version is in the works. Stay tuned not only for the next video, but for the plans for a cohesive public relations program that will show our Fraternity in an outstanding light.

Additionally, our Legislative Team has been active on the Capital Campus reintroducing the Freemasons of Washington to the Legislature. Already they have been successful in helping to frame policy that will allow our buildings to obtain a level of tax abatement for our buildings, and is looking for opportunities for our Fraternity to Be the Difference in forming positive public policy.

It is my long held belief that Freemasons should be at the forefront of telling the story of Freemasonry, and I am proud of the work of the Public Relations Committee and the Legislative Task Force.

Review the Long Range Plan

Our Long Range Planning has established Six areas of focus, which will be referred to as “Six Supports of 20-20 Vision”:

- Membership Experience
- Masonic Education
- Leadership and Management
- Beyond the Lodge
- Philanthropy
- Technology

By refining these six supports, a program has
(continued in page 4)





ARE THEY RELEVANT TODAY?

"Contribute to the Relief of Distressed, Worthy Master Masons, their Widows and Orphans".

Each time our Lodge is Opened on the Master Mason Degree and during the Third Degree Posting Lecture we have heard those words spoken.

Our Masonic Customs teach us the proper way to behave and interact between each other and with the public. Through our Masonic Ritual, we share Light and instruction. Specific rules and guidelines are followed while holding Installation of Officers, Masonic Funeral Services, Cornerstone Ceremonies, Constitutions, Dedications and other ceremonies whether they be public or private. Our Masonic Manners should distinguish each of us as Brothers, while improving ourselves as individuals. Having been passed down from generation to generation, our Customs are Working Tools like the many other Tools of Masonry for teaching, learning and understanding our fellowman and ourselves. Our Customs teach us to contribute to the Relief of our distressed Brethren, if within the length of our Cable Tow. A Sunshine Committee to reach-out to those Brethren who have been absent from their Lodge might be a consideration. Offering Brethren assistance with transportation, if needed or just a phone call can make a difference. Do not let the Dues Card Notice be the only communication during the year and then be surprised when they quit paying their dues. Contact your Brethren and investigate fully before you mail them a NPD Notice.

In 1972, Grand Master Bill P. Horn arrived at the distressing conclusion that there existed a lack of caring and recognition being afforded the widows' of Brethren within this Jurisdiction and assigned his Grand Stewards the task of visiting the nearly 300 Lodges in Washington to remind them of the seriousness of such neglect. Unfortunately, for the lady of a departed Brother, she was also incognito. She was just another face in the crowd with no mode of identity to the Masonic Fraternity. Grand Master Horn's program was more successful than expected, as he reported to the Grand Lodge in June of 1973: "As most of you will attest, the value of the program is immeasurable to all those who are personally involved in the facts of the issue. Those who have the heavy hearts and lowering spirits, yes, those whose candle has faded and those who wonder alone, whether or not someone cares, know the value of having someone say: "We have not forgotten, we are here, use us." Grand Master Horn designed the Widow's Pin consisting of The Broken Column within a Wreath of Laurel, thus a Brother would be able to recognize her should she be in need of assistance.

The support of the youth has always been a Cus-

(continued from page 3)

been developed as a guide to the Grand Lodge Officers as they endeavor to fulfill our Brethren's expectations and move successfully into the future. This program will be voted upon at the Annual Communication, and will serve as a guiding document for the next several years. In the interim, you should feel free to share your insights. You can do so at <http://6supports.weebly.com/>.

Reshape the Military Recognition Committee

A framework has been developed to shift the focus of the Military Recognition Committee from one that presents plaques to one that offers support to our returning servicemen. This will be presented as a Resolution at the Annual Communication. We have also donated funds from the sale of my lapel pin to sponsor Honor Flights leaving out of SeaTac and Spokane, with three more flights to be sponsored this spring. In addition, we have been there to see our heroes depart and return – truly life affirming experiences. If you have not been part of the Honor Flight experience, you must make the effort.

So now I look ahead toward a western sky. Though for the most part satisfied with what has been accomplished thus far, we still have work to do and I look forward to working with an incredible team of officers and committeemen in getting the work done as we continue our efforts to Be the Difference.

MWB Jim V. Mendoza

Grand Master

tom of our Fraternity. History tells us that many of our early Lodge buildings were two story structures, with the Lodge Room being on the top floor and the schoolhouse being on the ground floor. Today we continue to provide Scholarships and Bikes for Books Programs in many Lodges to assist our youth in furthering their education. As part of our Masonic Family, our three youth groups (Washington Job's Daughters, Washington & Idaho Rainbow and Washington Demolay) look to us for assistance and guidance. We have each seen and continue to see the changes in our society. Freemasonry's tenets and teachings appeal to that part of a man that aspires to greatness; Masonic Customs encourage harmony and to promote civility and uniformity. Our Masonic Customs have been tried and proven to be true by the generations of Masons who have gone before us.

Are They Relevant Today? Indeed they are! Let our Brethren, Widows and Youth know "We Have not forgotten them".

Brethren, "Be the Difference" to insure our Masonic Customs are adhered to, passed on intact and unimpaired, to future generation.

Fraternally,
 RWB Warren R. Schoeben
 Deputy Grand Master





What's Your Story?

Those scary "Masonic secrets" we commit to preserving are not the only Masonic Secrets we keep. We have a large number of Masonic secrets that are not secrets at all, and should not be secret. Masons have laid foundations of communities throughout the state. Masons formed governments, formed Universities, started industries, raised charities, brought enlightenment and were some of the founders of our nation and state. There are reminders of our Masonic forefathers scattered throughout our Jurisdiction.

As our Grand Master, MWB Jim Mendoza always wants to highlight, the first Governor of the State of Washington was Past Grand Master MWB Elisha Peyre Ferry (17th Grand Master of Washington - 1878-1879). He served two terms as Territorial Governor before being elected Governor after statehood was achieved. Consider that the Grand Lodge of Washington was formed in 1858, while Statehood came to Washington in 1889, 31 years later.

Masons were in this part of the Northwest from the earliest days of settlement. From the Washington Masonic Library and Museum website (see footnotes) we find that Saint John's Lodge, No. 9 was granted a dispensation and held its first meeting on Saturday, August 25, 1860.

"John Webster, a native of New York City, then 34 years of age, was a Master blacksmith at the Port Madison lumber mills and also treasurer of Franklin Lodge, No. 5. He was the moving spirit that resulted in the establishment of Freemasonry in Seattle."

"From the beginning there has been a close association and mutual companionship between the University of Washington and St. John's Lodge, No. 9. Two territorial enactments, one giving the Lodge its corporate Charter, the other the organization of the University, were effected in January 1861. The two first Masters of St. John's were named in the act as two of three commissioners to handle the property of the University. An act of the following year incorporating the University named St. John's first Master, John Webster, as one of the regents. Nearly all the members of St. John's helped to construct the first University building."

Franklin Lodge, No. 5 in Port Gamble on the Kitsap Peninsula has its own story to tell. As you can see from the St. John's Lodge story above, one of the founders was the Treasurer of Franklin Lodge, No. 5. The Mason from Port Gamble, which at the time was one of the largest lumbering ports on the West Coast, wished to obtain a Charter from the newly formed Grand Lodge of Washington, hoping to become Washington Lodge, No. 1. After traveling by canoe to Astoria where the new Grand Lodge was be-

ing formed, the Brothers learned that the name and number had already been assigned. Upon which they returned to Port Gamble (look on a map of the state. That is a long way to paddle a canoe!) where a new vote was taken. The name Franklin Lodge was settled on. Whereupon, away they went in their canoes once again, and secured the name and number of Franklin Lodge, No. 5.

William H. Upton Naval and Military Lodge, No. 206 in Bremerton has its own story as well. The first Worshipful Master under dispensation was a US Marine Colonel by the name of Joseph Pendleton, who later achieved the rank of Major General which was then the highest rank a Marine Officer could attain. Colonel Pendleton was assigned to what is now the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, and served as an escort for President Warren G. Harding in his tour of the West Coast and Pacific. (It was this visit that inspired the formation of Warren G. Harding Lodge, No. 260 in Poulsbo.) Of the four Worshipful Masters to follow him, three either were or became Navy Flag Officers. Rear Admiral Robert Coontz was Commandant of the Puget Sound Navy Yard and the 13th Naval District, and later as a full (four star) Admiral was selected as the second Chief of Naval Operations, the most senior serving officer in the US Navy. Two others achieved the rank of Rear Admiral (two star), one in the supply Corp and the other in the Civil Engineering Corp.

MWB the Honorable William H. Upton was an internationally renowned Masonic Scholar. It was his research that convinced the Grand Lodge of Washington to pass a Resolution acknowledging that Prince Hall Masons were every bit as regular as all regular Masons tracing their Masonic Heritage to the Grand Lodge of England. For this act, the other Grand Lodges withdrew recognition from the Grand Lodge of Washington, which culminated in our Grand Lodge renouncing the Resolution. MWB Upton placed in his will that he would not have a grave marker until Prince Hall Masons and Free and Accepted Masons could sit in Lodge together in Masonic amity. On June 8, 1991, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington and Jurisdiction, and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington in a joint ceremony, laid a marker at his grave in Walla Walla.

Just as these Lodges and Brethren have a story, so does every Lodge in this Jurisdiction. Their stories continue to be written and we here today are part of those stories. What story are you helping to write? Will you "Be the Difference"?

Faternally,
RWB Jim Kendall
Senior Grand Warden

St John's Lodge, No. 9

http://www.wamasonicgllm.org/uploads/2/4/7/5/24750807/no.9_st_johns_Lodge_seattle_history_of_rev_2.pdf





HAVE YOU THROWN IN THE TROWEL?

"The working tools of a Master Mason are all the implements of Masonry, indiscriminately, but more especially the Trowel."

Are you tired of trying to make a difference in Freemasonry? Are you too busy to become the better person you should be? Have you thrown in the Trowel on Freemasonry?

Too many of our Brethren today are in that predicament. But what exactly is a trowel and how is it used by the working stone mason. I offer this description pulled off of the internet.

A bricklayer's trowel (also known as a masonry trowel or pointing trowel) is a tool with a handle and flat metal blade, used by Masons for leveling, spreading, or shaping substances such as cement, plaster, or mortar, as well as for breaking bricks to shape them or smoothing a mound.

Note that the trowel can be used in place of the gavel to break off corners of rough stones, thus it is a multi-purpose working tool. In fact, some Masonic organizations such as the Knights Mason use a Trowel as the gavel at their Stated Meetings.

We hear very little about the Trowel, which I believe, is the most important working tool that a Master Mason has available to him. During installations, we hear what the purpose of the Worshipful Master's Square is along with the Senior Warden's Level and Junior Warden's Plumb. Per our Masonic teaching, we are taught that we are to use the Square to square our actions, the Level to meet others upon the level and the Plumb to walk upright amongst all mankind. How many of us today apply the Trowel daily for its intended purpose of spreading Brotherly love, kindness, support and respect for all mankind?

The Masonic Trowel spreads the cement or mortar of Brotherly love and concern to ensure that the stones (our Brethren) are held together to form a safe and secure Fraternity. It also helps to smooth over any cracks or divisions among the stones or openings in our Fraternity.

It was not until I became a York Rite Mason and received the Council Degrees of a Royal and Select Master, that I realized the real importance of the symbolic Trowel. Prior to this Degree, I had observed on the altar of Masonry the three great lights of Masonry, the Holy Bible, Square and Compass, but in the Degree of a Royal and Select Master there was one additional working tool presented, that being the symbolic Trowel of the Master Mason.

Today as I listen to the news, I am vastly aware of the loss of social harmony, the weakening of moral rectitude of conduct, the lack of prudence and temperance, and the widespread misplace-

ment of moral compasses. We have heard talk by individuals that is alarming. We see disturbing demonstrations and civil disorder against law enforcement that is frightening. So much hate and distrust among the citizenship of our great country disturbs me greatly. It would be so nice if we could take our teachings and bestow them upon the citizens of our great country. We, as individual Masons, are told to take the Trowel and to spread the cement of Brotherly love and affection thereby uniting us as a society of Brothers and friends. The question arises as to how do we, as a Fraternity, accomplish this task and bring about civil accord in the greater society in our corner of the world. If we, as a Fraternity, apply all the working tools of Masonry in our personal daily lives, we can demonstrate to society what we stand for and who we are. I believe that actions speak louder than words and that as Masons, we have taken an obligation to stand just and upright and, acting accordingly, we can set the example for all mankind to follow.

The future of our Grand Jurisdiction looks bright. We have the skills, the knowledge and the desire to get the work done harmoniously and without undue discord.

To paraphrase a former President: Ask not what Masonry can do for you but what you can do for Masonry. It is up to each Mason to "Be the Difference".

RWB Charles E. Wood
 Junior Grand Warden

SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE

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Sudoku, but like Masonry symbols are substituted. Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3 X 3 box contains every symbols shown below:

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(Solution is provided in page 13)



JUNIOR Grand WARDEN
 RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Brother
 Charles E. Wood





Tools!

I have noticed that Tribune articles have a tendency to run to a philosophical or moralistic theme. While this reminder of our Masonic obligations is never a bad thing, I thought that I might take a more practical approach this time around. For most of us, we have always been told that is best to use the right tool for the job at hand; that using the wrong tool either does not work or you don't get the results you want.

Picture in your mind, if you will, what happens if you: use an adjustable wrench to drive a nail; use a saw to tighten a screw; use a hammer to remove a nut? Some tools can be adapted, but the outcome is generally less than desirable or efficient. You could use a shovel to dig a garden, but a tiller is much better. You could use scissors to cut the lawn, but a power mower makes it much faster.

You can see where this is headed. So, here comes the questions.

- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to attract and involve qualified men (and their families)?
- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to educate and mentor the new candidates and members?
- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to communicate with the members of the Lodge?
- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to retain, re-engage and re-invigorate its members?
- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to track income and expenses?
- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to train the Lodge officers?
- What tool(s) is the Lodge using to insure their continued existence in the future?

At the District meetings or when I visit a Lodge, I hear that the Lodges are all having similar issues. The part that seems to be missing is that the Lodge is not looking in the tool box to find the right tool to fix the problem.

As a starting place, consider taking these questions to your next Lodge meeting. In discussion, ask these questions one at a time. Write down the answers. Then ask if what the Lodge is currently doing is using the right and best tool for the job. If you discover that you are not getting the desired results, you may want to see what other tools may be more useful. Those Lodges that take this approach will wind up with a long range plan that can be the blue print and project plan to take the Lodge anywhere it wants to go.

Remember that even the right tool must be in proper and good working order. For example, a power mower that does not run is just a piece of exercise equipment.

Sam Roberts, PGM
 Grand Secretary



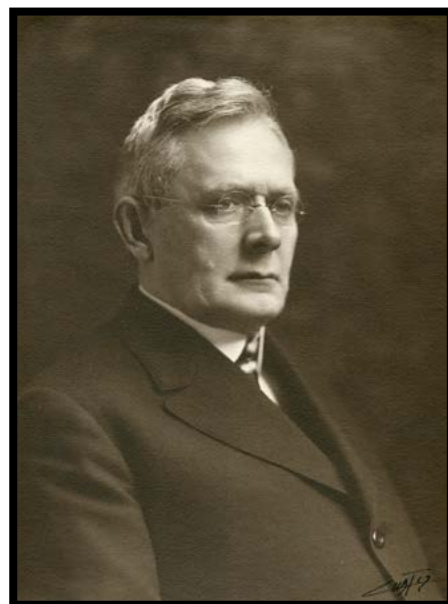
Portraits of Our Grand Masters:

M.:W.: Archibald Wanless Frater 1897-1898

For this edition, MWB Mendoza has asked us to reflect on what it is like to be an Appointed Grand Lodge Officer. I made a few comments along these lines in my first article but I will attempt to add a few thoughts here. Being Grand Historian is quite a bit more than a ceremonial post where you get to attend Grand Lodge events and wear a purple apron. You must be prepared to carry out the will and pleasure to the Grand Master where it relates to the history of this Jurisdiction. That can be a fair amount of work at times but as with anything related to Freemasonry; if you do not love what you are doing you probably shouldn't be doing it. This is a job that I am having a great time!

This year MWB Jim asked me to locate those Masonic Buildings, which have no evidence that a Past Grand Master was a member of one of the Lodges there. For those buildings/Lodges, I have been creating a display consisting of a photograph of that Grand Master as well as a short biography. So far, I have created a total of nine of these displays for three Districts and one, which MWB Jim requested that he intend to present to the Grand Lodge of Alaska, which depicts MWB Charles Kirtland who was the only Grand Master of Washington who was a member of Lodge in Alaska.

Like many of my predecessors, I have been able to borrow from the work of others in most cases. Sometimes, I have had the opportunity to do original research on these great Masons in our Jurisdiction.



One of these was MWB Archibald Frater who served as Grand Master from 1897-1898. When I discovered that there had not yet been a biography done on this Grand Master, I first looked at the proceedings from his year. It has been common for many years to include a short biography of the Grand Master in the proceedings for his year. This had not started in 1898 so there was nothing printed about him that described his life.

(continued in page 12)

Brethren,



I hope all are enjoying the months of winter, and enjoying time with friends and family in this New Year. If you have not done so already, make the time to visit the other Lodges in your District and nearby Districts, for we are 'Traveling Men!'

As we enter upon this New Year set before us, I have done some reflection about my duties to our Grand Master, MWB Jim Mendoza, and the Craft. I remember one particular 'slide' on the PowerPoint presentation that our soon to be Grand Master presented at his team orientation last year spring. It was a 'slide' of the Priority Pyramid. This slide had many levels. At the top level of the pyramid, the label was Faith. Moving down the pyramid, the next level was Family, then the next labeled Vocation, and then the bottom level was labeled Fraternity. If I remember correctly, it was explained that if we prioritize our duties in accordance with the Priority Pyramid, with the most important priorities listed at the top, and then working down, we would be able to conduct and perform our duties with no conflict.

This year as Grand Lecturer, some of my duties include working with the Deputies of the Grand Master to develop the ritualistic talent (more Degree Lecturers), and heading up the Wardens Competition for 2017. So far, I have felt the best way to work with the Deputies to develop more Degree Lecturers in each of our Districts is to write about the importance of more of our Brethren memorizing these Degree Lectures. It is my hope that some of the Masons who have read my past articles in the Washington Masonic Tribune, have taken up the task in learning a Degree Lecture, have sought out a mentor, and have asked their Deputy of the Grand Master for guidance. With more of our Brethren learning and memorizing our Degree Lectures, we can curb this trend of the Degree Lectures on DVD's being used in the conferral of the Degrees.

If you have not heard so already, some of the Districts have started their Wardens Competitions! Planning the guidelines for the competition and getting the word out, was fun and enjoyable! As I write this, I hope that most of the Districts are planning/conducting their Wardens Competitions, so we can have a successful Grand Jurisdictional Competition in April 2017. Please get a hold of your District Deputy for details!

Many of the fun experiences being Grand Lecturer this year was getting out and meeting new Brethren! Travelling to Wenatchee, then to Naches in August for Reconstitution Ceremonies was exciting! Working with the Grand Lodge Team in conducting these solemn ceremonies was very educational. We strove for excellence in the performance of our duties, and the Brethren, family, and public were very grateful! Breaking bread with new Brethren, exploring other Lodges, and meeting with the Grand Lodge Team in different parts of the state was reenergizing! I hope to make more travels in the coming months, getting the 'word' out!

Our Grand Master MWB Jim Mendoza has challenged all of us to 'Be the Difference!' Whether it be learning a Degree Lecture after months of hard work, learning the Opening and Closing Ritual of the Three Degrees, or just getting out and

travelling to new Districts and Lodges, let us strive to 'Be the Difference' in all that we do as Masons!



Fraternally,
 VWB Rudy N. Schade,
 Grand Lecturer

"How good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity."

A huge THANK YOU to every Brother that I have enjoyed the pleasure of sitting with in open Lodge and associated events this year. It is such an honor and joy to serve this great Jurisdiction and spread the word of Masonry through music. To those I have yet to meet I very much look forward to the opportunity at an upcoming meeting or event or please stop and say hello at the Annual Communication in June.

Looking at my calendar for the month I see there are 15 Masonic event commitments for me. I love participating in each, ever leaving differences at the door and practicing Masonic fellowship in unity with you.

I see Brethren by the hundreds every month, and whether it be Grand Lodge, a blue Stated, Scottish Rite or Nile, unity abounds. The Masonic tie that cements our Brotherly love quiets the background noise of the outer world and allows us to work in due and ancient form. Free from the temporal sway of popular culture the craft meets, acts and parts on its timeless tenets.

We are passionate about Masonry and as we value and strengthen its tenets we sustain our beautiful craft in the humility of making a better world for all. Making music in a Masonic environment is an especially joyous occasion for me. Spreading the Oil of Joy to all open ears we are brought together as one in a space undivided.

This months' Socials, the Sweetheart Luncheon at Occidental, No. 72, Crab Feeds at University, No. 141 and the Nile, and Greenwood Masons Super Bowl Party will be created and hosted with the same intent and atmosphere of peace and unanimity. Simple differences disappear and open hearts focus on friendships, common goals and making lasting memories.

Brethren, you never know when the last meeting will be for you or a Brother. Be good to each other and cherish your vows. Always lift each other up in and out of Lodge. Be gentle in your differences, and at every event pause to realize that this configuration of people may never exist again.



*RIP Dick Mecartea
 The Rainbow
 The Child is the father of the man;
 And I wish my days to be
 Bound each to each in natural piety.
 Wordsworth*

Bro Adam Creighton
 Grand Musician



The Road Less Traveled

Early in my Masonic career, I had to choose between candid condescension and falsely claimed modesty. I elected to go for the first, and have not seen any reason to amend.

As I reminisced from the last District 6 meeting held at Delta-White Center Lodge in Tukwila on January 13, 2017, many things came to mind as I traversed back the old road, which runs parallel to the light rail structure of which I was a part of in its construction phase more than a decade ago.

The meeting brings back old memories of my early days in the Fraternity to the time I was introduced by the Grand Master for the spur-of-the-moment talk at the meeting. I was so caught up with the moment and thus missing one of the several stop signs along the way, much like the excitement felt as I assumed the role of a Master Mason when I was twelve years younger.

Though the construction of such magnitude reflects progress in the area, my heart goes out to the several old structures demolished to give way to a new beginning. However, strange as it might seem, designing a guide way is similar to the making of a "Mason." In order to come up with a good design, designers utilize several preliminary steps and approaches, with the final stamp of approval granted by his peers. It can be something that will impact an existing environment as long as it suits the regulation of a particular time or place, and of course with a sufficient mitigation plan required.

Before the conception of the Interstate Highway System, a road attraction was a deliberate feature along the side of the road meant for commercial purposes. They are frequently advertised with billboards, luring travelers to take spontaneous pit stops momentarily, rather than being a final destination in and of themselves.

Unfortunately, with the construction of Interstate Highway System in our state, these tourist attractions were bypassed and quickly lost popularity, although many maintained their curbside appeals. The best example of this is along Pacific Highway or Old Highway 99. It is a less traveled road but opens up more freedom and inspiration in lieu of wider roadways and faster commutes.

If the road less traveled is said to be more of an attitude than a place, then our Ancient Craft Masonry must be a place with an attitude. This attitude which only true man can exist with secret trails and unassuming landmarks accessible only to the selected few, who understand that by becoming one is not a right but a privilege bestowed upon men who are willing to comply with the burden of such.

My years went so fast, I cannot even remember reflecting on the past years without the aid of the television and social media. Then I remember that our lives are not reflected there but mostly to the things, we failed to do. Yet if we are intentional, we can recall the things we surprisingly achieved.



We are usually challenged every end of the year with things we promise ourselves to attend to and our misgivings we hope to undo by merely pressing the delete button in our keyboard.

When I reflect I become sad, I thought of the things that I should have said like, "I love you son!" more often when he was around or to love ones until it was too late. At times, I also reflect on friends I left behind in my old country and how I lost touch with them. The apology I meant to deliver decades ago, still in my suitcase, confronting me with the certainty of its destination and the occupants.

As I look on the past to reflect on, I get so afraid to look back and measure the depth of the sadness only to find that my life's reflection provides an opportunity for growth and awakening toward a new beginning.

Similar to the old structures consigned to the loving embrace of the wrecking ball along the side of the old roads and highways, there are things we must change and things we must do. Our goal is not to live forever but to create something that will. If the things we do can no longer sustain its original purpose, then it has to give way to a more seemingly important replacement that can significantly have a profound impact on each other's lives.

Be the Difference.

Respectfully Submitted

WB George M. Franco
 Grand Orator 2017

Training Announcement

The Secretary, Treasurer and Board Governance Training committee hit the ground running in 2017. The Grand Secretary, MWB Sam Roberts, VWB Clint Brown and WB Skip Nielsen conducted Secretary, Treasurer and Temple Board Governance training in Bremerton, WA on January 28, 2017. Over 50 Brothers were in attendance. There is a lot of useful information provided by this training and we encourage anyone who hasn't attended to come to one of our upcoming seminars. Even if you are not currently holding one of these positions, but are thinking about making yourself available in the future, this is an excellent opportunity to learn what is involved. We are offering this training at the Pasco, WA Red Lion on March 19, 2017 from 11 am to 4 pm immediately following the Lodge Leadership Retreat. We also will be holding training in Centralia, WA on March 11, 2017 from 11 am to 4 pm. You can sign up for the training in Pasco and Centralia on the Grand Lodge website.



Fraternally,
 VWB Clint Brown
 Chairman Secretary, Treasurer and Board Governance Training





JUNIOR Grand WARDEN **CANDIDATES**

F O R U M

Question: *What lesson, in your mind, is the one that stands out the most to you from your being raised to the sublime Degree of MM? How did that lesson affect you in your daily life?*



Response:

As I stated in my first article I was only 21 years old when I joined the Lodge. Like most young men of that age, I had an unrealistic sense of mortality and vulnerability. While I did realize death comes to all of us one day, at 21 that was a long way off and something I did not need to worry about for a very long time. When I arrived

at the Lodge the night of my third Degree, I had no idea what was in store for me. Having been through the first and second Degrees, I expected more of the same. Some more lessons, another obligation, another handshake, another password, another lecture and I would be a Master Mason. But, what I experienced was far more profound than anything in the first and second Degrees. The third Degree taught me that life is very fragile and death can come at any moment no matter how young you are. It taught me that there is no guarantee that I have one more year, one more month, one more day, one more minute or even one more breath of life left before it is over and I go to be with the Great Architect of the Universe. When I entered the Lodge room that night I had no clue what was in store for me, and had what I experienced been real I would be dead at 21 years old.

When I reflect back on this lesson from my third Degree and my daily life, I'm reminded of the line from the movie Ferris Bueller's Day off, life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." If you are not familiar with the movie, Ferris Bueller is a young man in high school who decides to play hooky and take the day off from school. Instead of just sitting around the house and doing nothing Ferris has a very exciting and adventurous day exploring the city of Chicago with his friends. I think there are times for many of us when we are tired from our daily grind and we are tempted to skip that Lodge meeting or event. That's when I reflect back on how short life can be and it does move pretty fast and I need to stop and look around like Ferris Bueller by getting out there and going to Lodge, having a good time with my Brothers and not letting life pass me by. I always remember when I shake a Brother's hand, it could be the last time I have to shake his hand or he has to shake mine.

Respectfully submitted,
VWB Jerry Buchner

Question: *What lesson, in your mind, is the one that stands out the most to you from your being raised to the sublime Degree of MM? How did that lesson affect you in your daily life?*



Response:

Two items from the night I was raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason have guided my life as a man and a Mason.

First, I had the privilege of having my father confer all three of my Degrees and he was my coach for each. His explanation of the symbolism of the circumambulation is a memory that I will never be forget. This is when I truly started to understand the symbolism of our Degrees. Essentially, the circumambulation teaches us that if we wait to become the man who is entitled to a seat in that "House not Made with Hands, Eternal in the Heavens," it will be too late. We become infirm, lose our sight, and are unable to perform even basics to keep our corporal body functioning. It is not a message to fear, but rather a message of hope. If we live true and honorable lives during that journey, we will be called by the Grand Warden of Heaven and receive our reward.

The second is hearing the Closing Charge for the first time. When I was raised, the Closing Charge was only given on the third Degree. There is one phrase in the Closing Charge that struck me deeply. "Every human being has a claim on your kind offices." But what are your kind offices? Generally, it is benevolence. It is those acts of good that are performed without any thought of any reward or even a thank you.

In my Masonic and personal life I have strived to assist others whenever possible. This can be as simple as a suggestion to a co-worker on how to address a problem, deal with personal issues, or providing an opportunity for them to vent their frustrations. Our obligation goes beyond our friends and our gentle Craft; it applies to every human being regardless of their race, religion, ethnic background, or any other group we may define. So holding the door open for the person behind you, allowing a driver to move into your lane on the freeway, or just acknowledging a stranger's presence with a smile and a nod are examples of our kind offices.

Our kind offices go further. We have an obligation to make our corner of our communities a better place for all. Lodges are demonstrating our kind offices. Such as, Tyler, No. 290 adopted a stretch of road in University Place and Methow Valley, No. 240 in Twisp makes its building available to the local food bank. I encourage every Lodge and every Mason, to lengthen our cabletows and our communities become better. Allowing every human being to make claims on our kind offices, will entitled us to a seat in that House not Made with Hands, Eternal in the Heavens.

Respectfully submitted,
VWB Chris Coffman



MWB Jim Mendoza, Grand Master, presents MWB Wayne Deming his 65th year Masonic service recognition award and pin. In the photo also are MWB Jimmy Reid, MWB Bud Gilbert, MWB Gale Kenney, MWB G. Santy Lascano, MWB Bill Miller and MWB Don Munks.



JGW Candidates Forum *continued...*

Question: *What lesson, in your mind, is the one that stands out the most to you from your being raised to the sublime Degree of MM? How did that lesson affect you in your daily life?*



Response:

It became clearer to me, the connections between the three Degrees, each having a distinct focus, the first to grow in awareness, the second to make myself capable of being a builder of society, but the third, an allegory of dedication, sacrifice, death, and rebirth, the allegorical building of the temple of the soul. I saw

that we all have let ourselves become consumed with this life and buried under its burdens and passions and as such. If I am to become a better man, my ego must recognize the superiority of the eye of providence that has watched over me and acknowledge the efforts of those Brothers walking ahead of me. Those Brothers that have so lovingly raised me to my new and exalted place among them and I felt a new sense of responsibility to take charge of my life and make it worthy of God's love and my Brother's efforts.

This Degree's scripture reminded me that no matter the condition of my earthly old and broken down body, God's love is long-suffering and my spirit is eternal. In that same lesson, I learned through the allegory of Hiram that we each must address the three great enemies of man waiting at the gates to thwart our efforts, dash our hopes, and discourage us from completing our allegorical temple and that these enemies are within the gates of our mind and not outside. In other words, through the ritual, I was led inward.

Being raised a Master Mason has profoundly affected my daily life by providing this lesson of self-discovery and responsibility. That the old axiom, "if it's to be, it's up to me" is never truer than it is as a Master Mason. That I am fully responsible, a mature man capable of achieving anything I put my mind to, especially with the aid of my Brothers and more importantly with the aid of Deity. There is a pride and confidence that comes from having become a Master Mason, a sense of accomplishment like no other and it makes other challenges I may encounter in my everyday life easier to overcome and success in my undertakings more certain and with a greater Degree of confidence.

As Grand Chaplain for the State of Washington, the lessons learned in the Master Mason ritual are very significant as it focuses on faith in God. That through Him, all things can be accomplished, it gives me additional confidence in my actions as I go about the responsibilities of my daily tasks and the appreciation and love of my Brethren as well as the Fraternity by that same daily interaction. As I have travelled the state and met more and more of the Brethren, I have gained a stronger sense of self and Fraternity at the same time. Sharing words of civility, charity, and unity as Grand Chaplain, comes natural to me and is demonstrated perfectly within the Master Mason Degree.

Fraternally,
WB John Lawson, Grand Chaplain

"We've only just begun".. The evolution of your Military Recognition Committee

Fraternal Greetings, Brethren All.

You have an exciting and important opportunity to change Washington Masonic Code coming up at our annual Grand Lodge Communication in Yakima. In just few months, with your votes, you can give this committee a whole new authority to do its work on behalf of our Grand Lodge, military personnel, veterans, and their friends and families.

Doesn't that have an inspiring and patriotic ring to it? We started down this path in the term of Most Worshipful Brother Don Munks, when he invited the committee to come to him with fresh ideas about what we could do if we were granted executive support and permission to get started. In just a few months of that term, we began to find a new vision for what the future could hold. Like the band "Chicago" said in the lyrics of one of their popular tunes, that was "...only the beginning."

At our last Grand Communication, in Wenatchee, our newly elected and installed Most Worshipful Grand Master Jim Mendoza convened a gathering of committees to get his guidance and direction for priorities in the ensuing term. Military Recognition presented a proposed work plan, received his additional instructions and with his enthusiastic encouragement, we set out to do our part to "Be the Difference!"

The Military Recognition committee this year includes VWB Steve Pennington in Edmonds, VWB Jim R. Tourtillotte in Spokane Valley, VWB Nicholas Pemberton in Springdale, WB Donald E. Downing in Renton, WB Marcy "Tig" Dupré in Port Orchard, and WB Doug E. Stamper in Sammamish, and yours truly in Walla Walla.

Kicking off the business year, MWB Jim Mendoza challenged us with these expectations:

- Recommend or devise programs and special events. These would be to serve the military and veteran communities, Masons who are serving or veterans, and their families.
- Participation in and support Honor Flight programs on both sides of the state.
- Work with the Public Relations Committee to develop strategic messages and talking points for Brethren participating in Honor Flight send-off or welcome back greeting groups.
- Develop an information database of Washington Freemasons who are veterans to use so we can engage current military members, veterans, their families and friends with outreach and information events and activities within this Grand Jurisdiction.
- Increase Masonic engagement with organizations such as, but not limited to, Veterans Administration, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AmVets, American Legion, Wounded Warrior Project, POW/MIA, and so on.

As he described so passionately and eloquently at his installation while speaking about his commitment to service members and veterans, MWB Jim Mendoza said he was going to put his money where his heart was. To that effect, he dedicated his pins to raise money to support Honor Flight programs on both sides of the state. Selling his pins for five dollars each has resulted in many thousands of dollars to be used to send World War Two vets to Washington DC to experience the many monuments and memorials.

(continued in page 14)



Legislative Update:

The 2017 Legislative session begins

Now that the dust has settled after the nationwide elections, and we have all enjoyed the festivities of this time of the year, once again, we start a new year from scratch. This year, our State Legislature will be in for a long haul, of 105 days. The start day is January 9th.

This time, our Fraternity has made some progress. Since the last Session, we have had 3 Legislators visit Lodges in our state. Senator Kirk Pearson of the 39th District visited Sultan-Monroe Lodge, No. 160 and Damascus Lodge, No. 199, Senator Christine Rolfes visited William Renton Lodge, No. 29 and Silverdale Lodge, No. 311, and Representative Sherry Appleton visited Warren G. Harding Lodge, No. 260. All of these visits went very well, and as an added bonus, Senator Rolfes invited the Lodges, as well as the youth groups, in her District, to make an appointment to visit her in her office in Olympia during the Legislative Session! Now that, my Brothers, is a major step in the right direction for cementing positive relationships between our Lodges and our elected officials. I would like to thank VWB Richard Masch, Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 12, for his hard work in making these visits possible.

As the winter of 2017 continued, you might have heard of some bills being discussed in our state government while you watch the local news on TV or online. You might even find out about the bills as they are introduced, before they make it to the committee hearing. If you do find one that might need addressing by our Fraternity, please notify my committee, as well as the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge elected officers. While I strongly encourage all of you to communicate directly with your elected officials on a regular basis, remember that if an issue involves our Fraternity, we must address it as a team. When we all do our part, we will have a better chance of achieving our goal.

If you have time, and you are willing to make the trek to Olympia, you may want to consider making an appointment for you and a couple of members of your Lodge to visit your legislator during the session. Even if you cannot make the trip, you can always follow the example of our Brethren in Kitsap and Snohomish counties and contact them during the upcoming interim. Now is as good a time as any to get it on your calendar to address it later in the year.

As always, remember that your voice does count, and that your elected officials want to hear what you have to say. And the more Champions we have keeping us in consideration as they make decisions in Olympia, your county seat or your hometown, the better we will be able to continue to be the difference in our communities, our state, and society in general.



And I also look forward to hearing what you have to say. I can be reached at Liaison@freemason-wa.org. Have a great new year!

Fraternally,

VWB Clayton La Vigne, Chairman
 Legislative Affairs Task Force

(continued from page 7)

The other option, which has worked well, is to find when the Grand Master died and look up his memorial. I quickly found the glowing memorial delivered by MWB Stephen J. Chadwick in 1926 but soon discovered that it contained nothing factual about MWB Frater's life whatsoever! Since I was getting a bit concerned at this point, I resorted to one of the best tools available to any modern historian, Google. Much to my delight, I discovered several articles on MWB Brother Frater and found that he was one of the great men in the history of our State as well as our Fraternity as you will see.

Archibald Wanless Frater was born in Belmont County, Ohio on April 20, 1856 the son of Thomas and Isabella (Taylor) Frater. He received his education in the public schools and was a graduate of Ohio Central College where he met Warren G. Harding who became a lifelong friend. He studied law in the office of the Hon. Thomas E. Duncan in Mt. Gilead, Ohio. Brother Frater moved to Minnesota where he began the practice of law in 1881 and in 1882, he was elected clerk of the District court of town of Brainerd. He served in this position for two years and then returned to private practice. In 1886, he went to Kansas where he continued the practice of law and became an investor in the Bank of Webster.

On May 1, 1888, Brother Frater came to Washington and lived first in Tacoma. A year later, he moved to Snohomish, Washington and opened a law office. In 1890, he was elected to the second legislature of Washington for the 44th District. He served as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and was involved in writing the first laws for the newly formed State. In 1898, he moved to Seattle and was elected as a judge of the King County Superior Court.

In early 1906, Judge Frater delivered quite a unique sentence to an unfortunate soldier who had decided to pass his time on leave getting drunk. Joe Munch, a soldier at Fort Lawton, had decided that garrison life was a bit dull and was discovered by a policeman in a highly-intoxicated condition. He was hustled off to the police station and received a sentence of thirty days in jail. The case was appealed to Judge Frater. He decided that while the soldier's crime did not merit punishment, he should be taught a lesson. Consequently, Judge Frater sentenced this wayward soldier to one minute in jail. Many thought that the Judge was joking until Mr. Munch was taken to jail and held there for exactly sixty seconds. He was so surprised that when he was released he decided that he should get away quickly before the judge decided to impose a harsher sentence.

Brother Frater received his Masonic Degrees in Aurora Lodge, No. 100 in Brainerd, Minnesota in 1882. He affiliated with Centennial Lodge, No. 25 in Snohomish when he moved there in 1889 and served as its Master in 1893. He was appointed Grand Orator and served in that position from 1893 to 1894 and was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1894. Most Worshipful Brother Frater was elected Grand Master in 1897.

Following his term as Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Frater continued to serve the Fraternity for many years up until the time of his passing. Most notably, he was appointed by the wills of John and Lizzie Irvine to serve as one of the first trustees of the Irvine Trust that they created to provide for the newly formed Masonic Home in Puyallup. Most Worshipful Brother Frater also served from 1922-1924 as chairman of the committee tasked to find a new site for the home which by this time had outgrown its original location.

Most Worshipful Brother Frater passed to the celestial Lodge on December 25, 1925.

Jim Maher
 Grand Historian



“Mid-term progress report”

During the first half of this Masonic year, the Grand Lodge Public Relations Committee has already accomplished more than half of the Committee’s assigned goals for 2016-2017 and has a leg-up on one of its long-range objectives. Thanks to the work of committee members Karl Hill, Scott Sageser and Bob Wheeler the newly revised Grand Lodge Public Relations “Playbook” has been posted on the Grand Lodge website and distributed to District Deputies for dissemination to the Lodges in their respective Districts.

To better fulfill its mission of instructing Lodges how to work with the media, the committee will be conducting two seminars at the upcoming Lodge Leadership Retreat in Pasco this March, on use of the PR Playbook, as well as “suggested guidelines” for Lodges relating to the internet, digital presence and the use of social media. (One suggested tip for the use of social media posting by Masons: T.H.I.N.K. Is it True, Helpful, Interesting, Necessary and Kind?) Special thanks to VWB Dutch Meier who has been an ever-reliable sounding board and work horse, and who will be presenting the first of the two LLR seminars.

Guidance and assistance has been provided Grand Lodge, Washington Masonic Charities Outreach and the Military Recognition Committee in garnering press coverage and community support for several events, including: Honor Flight check presentations, departures and homecomings; the cornerstone laying of the new Spokane Masonic Center, as well as individual Lodge initiatives West of the Cascades.



Committee members Eric Thompson and Chris Huntley, each an accomplished videographer, shot several hours of high definition video and audio at the last Grand Lodge Communication in Wenatchee. The first of several 2:00 to 3:30 video vignettes on “Why Join Freemasonry” has already been produced and released to the Grand Lodge website and social media. At least one and possibly two more should be completed in the next sixty days. Montages of excerpts from the interviews will be used in the production of 30-second TV and Radio messages, to coincide with Freemasonry’s 300th anniversary and another step in the Most Worshipful Grand Master’s call to “Re-claim the Narrative”.

Exploratory talks are being held with the Washington State Association of Broadcasters, representing more than 166 television and radio stations throughout the state to see how we can ensure these messages receive the most amount of exposure possible.

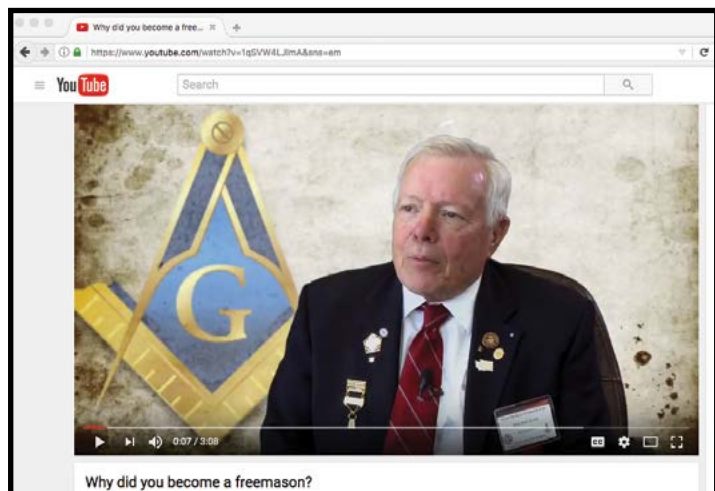
Two of the three largest Shrine Temples in the Jurisdiction of Washington are still using the “Every Shriner is a Freemason” parade banner, which was provided by Grand Lodge two years ago, and the committee is working to procure a replacement banner for the Temple, which has misplaced theirs. This Grand Lodge initiative, while not clearly stated as a goal for the committee, has put the name of Freemasonry back in front of hundreds of thousands of event attendees across the state.

We need and welcome your input on this and other Public Relations initiatives. Please contact the committee via e-mail at ratorog@comcast.net.

WB Roger Nelson, Chairman
 Grand Lodge Public Relations Committee

(ed. – WB Roger Nelson was an investigative reporter for KOMO and KING in Seattle for over a decade before moving into broadcast management. Since 1998 has been the Senior Account Executive with the KXLY Broadcast Group and Phase 3 Digital Advertising Agency in Spokane).

Why did you become a Freemason?



This picture was an image capture from the video posted in YouTube by our Public Relations Committee. If you have not viewed this video, the link below will direct you to it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qSVWB4LJlMA&sns=em>

SUDOKU SYMBOL PUZZLE (Solution)

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(Solution of puzzle from page 5)

(continued from page 11)

On the east side, Very Worshipful Brother Jim Tourtilotte has been leading the effort supporting the Inland Northwest HF program that departs from Spokane. WB Don Downing has been the lead for our efforts with the Puget Sound HF that leaves from Sea-Tac. Our Bro. Don was so impressed by the goals and mission of Honor Flight that he invested his own time and money to escort a Brother who was able to go on the Fall 2016 trip.

"I had the honor and privilege of escorting a Brother Mason and WWII veteran on Puget Sound Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.," Downing said. "This is one of the most honorable things that I have undertaken." This was a very moving experience for me personally."

The itinerary for an Honor Flight is a full one, to say the least. Departures generally include a ceremony for the veterans, including an honor guard, band, patriotic and veteran's organizations, and family members. While in D.C., participants visit and tour the WWII, Lincoln, FDR, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Vietnam, Korean War, Women's memorials. On the last day of the trip, the group is bused to Arlington National Cemetery to observe the ceremonial Changing of the Guard performed by the Army's 3rd Infantry Regiment at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Upon arrival back at their origins, HF participants are given a package of commemorative memorabilia, numerous "Dear Veteran" letters from strangers participating in the "MAIL CALL!" program, and are usually met with an honor guard and escorts similar to their departure.

Brethren, if you have never participated in a departure or return ceremony, have a conversation in your Lodge, with your family, with your friends ... but take the opportunity! Moreover, if you do not get a lump in your throat or a great big swelling inside your ribs, it will not be for lack of opportunity!

So how are we doing on the challenges laid before us?

- To date, we have gotten a number of opportunities to get people enrolled to participate in Honor Flights.
- A lot of money has been raised from the Grand Master's pins for the cause.
- Relationships and connections to several organizations with like-minded causes and efforts have been cultivated.
- Worked closely with the Grand Elected Officers to prepare the proposed Resolution you'll vote on at Grand Lodge;
- Progress has been made towards the creation of the voluntary registration database of Washington Mason veterans.

How have we gotten there? The challenges were achieved mostly through a lot of hard work by the committee and unwavering encouragement and cheerleading from our MWB Jim Mendoza. It has also been a tremendous privilege to be a force for evolution and change. The members of the committee are all volunteers and we each chose, or "cherry-picked" a primary focus area of the work ahead of us, and then all worked together to fill in the rest.

"There are so many things we, as Masons, and citizens can do to support our veterans. With an aging veteran population and less than one percent of our citizens serving in uniform it is important for us not to forget their sacrifices and efforts

to insure our freedom," said VWB Steve Pennington, who focused his committee year on developing organizational contacts and charitable fundraising.

Yes, Brethren, we hope you like the direction we have been moving in, and hope to see you at Grand Lodge to support that continuing process of evolution and change. But, as Karen Carpenter sang (and captured our thoughts and hearts).. As the title of this article says... "We've only just begun!"



VWB Dutch Meier, Chairman,
Military Recognition Committee

Changing a Habit is Hard

If you have ever tried to quit smoking, start a workout routine or change your diet then you know how hard it is. Moreover, you know that recognizing the need to change a habit will only take you so far in actually changing it. The behavior is sometimes so ingrained into our being that it can seem impossible to change. One tool to that can be used to change is creating a substitute for the bad habit. Chewing gum instead of tobacco is a good example.

As Masons, we have a bad habit when it comes to potential new members. I say we, because I am as guilty as anyone is. What is this bad habit?

Giving a man a petition the moment he asks how to join.

Most of you have heard of the Six Steps to Initiation. Some of your Lodges are even using all or some of the principles and there seems to be an almost universal approval of the program. However, many of us (especially those of us who have been Masons for more than five years) fall back into our habit of putting a petition into the hand of any man who shows up to a Lodge event and asks the "magic question."

To combat this impulse, the Membership Development Committee has formulated a tri-fold brochure that can be handed to the prospective candidate instead of a petition. This document lays out each step to the prospect in detail and explains who contacts whom for each. It also explains to the prospect when would be a good time to ask for a petition and what the process is after it's accepted.

The Membership Development Committee is using some money out of the committee line item in the Grand Lodge budget for 2016/17 to print out 5000 of the brochures that will be distributed to the Lodges. We are also limiting the size of the tri-fold to standard 9" X 11" paper for easy printing and are posting the PDF on the Grand Lodge website.

It is my sincere hope that each of you will keep a few printed brochures (along with your or Lodge contact info) in your coat pocket, car glove compartment or other convenient place and give it out the next time someone asks about your Masonic ring or hat. This will give you a chance to encourage the gentleman to inquire further without any pressure or perception we are asking them to join. Most of all, when a man does approach the Lodge blindly and asks how to join, first give him this brochure instead of a petition.



VWB Paul Waadevig, Chairman
Membership Development Committee

Long Range Planning Committee

I have recently had several requests for assistance from Brethren to “come and help establish a Long Range Plan” for their Lodge as “they/we really need the help”. A couple things come to mind here;

1) My charge was to see that a Long Range Plan for Grand Lodge was drafted, disseminated, modified if needed and ultimately accepted by our Members.

2.) This Long Range Plan or Strategy is really for Grand Lodge, not for the constituent Lodges purpose.

However, just as the Pillars of Progress in 2002, the updated version in 2012 and the most recent Grand Lodge Strategy document created in 2014 (excellent and extensive) these plans only work if they are implemented or used for their intended purpose.

In our most recent iteration, the Six Supports are designed to be guidelines to reference when creating or implementing plans and programs for the Grand Lodge Officers and Committeemen.

Recently, I was explaining the current draft of the Six Supports to a group and a wonderful Brother commented to me afterward that these Six Supports need to have defined, measurable results.

I apologized and explained that these Six Supports are not so much a process, but rather the goal. These Six Supports are the ruler to measure the success of programs and processes.

As I have mentioned in my previous articles, how do we determine if we are successful with these Six Supports? It is simple really, can we answer “Yes” to the statement if asked as a question?

For example the question for the first support might be; “Do we engage and retain members and their families through an enhanced, sustaining, and relevant membership experience?” With the hopeful, answer being, “Yes”.

If we have to answer “No” then the programs that were implemented in an attempt to produce the result we wanted need to be examined. Alternatively, in many cases, the programs actually need to be implemented!

But you’re probably saying, “David, this doesn’t answer the question the Brethren had when they asked you for help in their Lodge!” You are correct. However, just like the Pillars of Progress, which was turned into a reward system instead of a ruler to measure success, I believe we are forgetting the most basic foundations of what makes our Lodge successful.

First, what is our purpose as a Masonic Lodge?

If we look at this question philosophically, there are many answers. If we are honest with ourselves and boil down all the reasons and considerations as to our purpose of a Lodge’s existence I submit the basic purpose of a properly Chartered Lodge is to “make Master Masons”, period.

Our own Washington Masonic Code alludes to this fact. In Sec. 16.12 B.L. it outlines the requirements that must be followed to establish a new Lodge in our Jurisdiction:

A Lodge under Dispensation and seeking a Charter shall meet the following requirements:

- A. Have a membership of at least fifteen,
- B. Give proof of its members’ skill and ability to perform the work, including the conferring of the Three Degrees,
- C. Deliver to the Grand Lodge:
 1. Its dispensation,
 2. An attested transcript of all its Proceedings; and
 3. A copy of its By-Laws,
- D. Show that it is clear of all indebtedness; and
- E. Provide evidence of having secured and prepared a suitable and safe place for meeting as a Lodge.

You need a place to meet, no debt, By-Laws, 15 members and “...proof of its members’ skill and ability to perform the work, including the conferring of the Three Degrees”. That’s it! You must be able to confer the Three Degrees, in other words you must be able to make Master Masons.

If we seriously examine our own Lodge membership and not help from other Lodges or other dedicated Brethren that have learned various parts of our ritual the question arises; Could your Lodge pass the Dispensation requirements today? Could your members confer all Three Degrees? If not, this is where it begins.

You must build the foundation before you can build the Temple. The cornerstone must be set properly or the rest of the structure will be out of alignment.

Once you have a good foundation, only then can you even consider the rest of the structure. These structural elements might include excellent programs already available from your Grand Lodge Committeemen including;

Six Steps to Initiation (I really think this should be a required process), the recently revised New Candidate Education Program, the indispensable Lodge Officers Handbook, and of course our Washington Masonic Code.

If a Lodge can prove to itself that they are fully utilizing all of these tools, then we have additional, more detailed analysis tools that can be used including the nearly forgotten Lodge Achievement in Outstanding Performance.

If we forget about the ‘reward system’ it discusses (the reward is a successful Lodge!) and if a Lodge is seriously looking to take itself to the next level and is honestly ready to see how they are currently functioning, I challenge a Lodge to complete this program.

At the end of the first year, the results will provide the explanation of their success or failure. The real magic occurs at this moment because this process of tracking, reflection and adjustment automatically provide for the outline of a truly effective Long Range Plan with a process to measure success.

Six Supports of 20-20 Vision for Grand Lodge of Washington

In 2020, Masonry in Washington is growing in membership and has the public perception as an honorable and positive influence on society. Masonic events are well attended and considered of great value by their members. Lodges are providing inspirational education programs that are both thought provoking and highly anticipated. Individual Lodges work together to expand their capabilities and share their unique talents. Masons have an expanded sense of camaraderie with other Masons in their Lodge and across the state.

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The Grand Lodge of Washington is viewed by the Masonic community as a supportive organization. Its repository of educational materials and the best practices of its constituent Lodges are of great value to the individual Lodges. The Grand Lodge supports the efforts of the member Lodges and is a source of consultative services to assist member Lodges in being successful. The Grand Lodge Officers are seen as prudent and effective leaders that guide the Fraternity by precept and example.

1. Membership experience - Engage and retain members and their families through an enhanced, sustaining, and relevant membership experience.
2. Masonic education - Educate members and communities about the Fraternity's intriguing and enduring history, values, practical application of our principles, and relevance to society today.
3. Leadership and management - Strengthen our leaders and cultivate new ones; strengthen management and governance effectiveness at all levels.
4. Beyond the Lodge - Instill a wider Masonic perspective, inside and outside the Fraternity, by deepening the connection between members, Lodges, the worldwide body of Freemasonry, concordant organizations, and the Public at large.
5. Philanthropy - Focus our philanthropic efforts through Washington Masonic Charities.
6. Technology - In all areas, leverage technology for communications, education, management, charities, and deepening the connections of members to our Fraternity.

We want to know your opinion! Do you feel these elements represent what should be the focus for the Grand Lodge, the Constituent Lodges & all Masons in our Jurisdiction?

Yes ? No ? Why or Why Not?



To complete this survey online, please visit: <http://6supports.weebly.com>

Thank you Brethren.
 VWB David Colbeth
 Chairman, Long Range Planning



Deputies of the Grand Master

REPORTS



Greetings from the Brethren of District No. 2

With Installations behind us and a great group of new officers in the line's it's an exciting time to look ahead and a great opportunity to reflect on the past to assist in paving their path for success.

As we see throughout the Jurisdiction, several newer Masons are stepping up to become officers in the Lodge. This is awesome to see! Some have been in the craft for an average of three to five years and will be presiding officers of Lodges in the near future. Some of these Lodges have been around for almost 100 Years or more.

How can you convey the history or landmarks of what makes that Lodge to a newer member? Simple answer is one part / piece at a time. Add in Good Council, training, workshops and leaning in to what makes the Lodge Tic as they continue to move up the chairs and they will be on the right path for successful. Mentorship is "Every Members Responsibility".

Keeping the meetings moving forward can be a challenge sometimes so if the meetings seem like it's the same old thing consider what brings you to events or meetings and keeps you excited to comeback and work on bringing that excitement and fun back to your Lodge.

The process can be started as simply as working on having an efficient and effective Lodge officers meeting , work to schedule short talks or programs for the meetings. Work with your team of officers and think a little outside of the box.

Something as simple as opening, going to refreshment and work on a craft, or interactive presentation and return to finish up the meeting.

Visit some of the Lodges that are all a buzz with activity and increasing attendance and see what can be adapted to your Lodge. The word will start to get out that the meeting was fun or entertaining and attendance will start to improve. You will just need to keep at it.

It all starts with taking the first step (with your left foot of course).

Remember to continue to "Be the Difference" in everything, you do.

Fraternally,
 VWB Jimmy Norton
 Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 2
jnortjr@gmail.com



By the time, this goes to print; we will know the District winner of the Wardens Competition. Our thoughts turn toward the leadership retreat, warmer weather and outdoor Degrees, and eventually to Grand Lodge in June. If you have never attended a meeting of the Grand Lodge, you should really make an effort to get this on your calendar. Seeing the big picture of how our Jurisdiction operates

and governs itself is an interesting and rewarding experience. Meeting Brothers from the other side of the state is its own reward, and my favorite part of the endeavor.

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Deputies of the Grand Master

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Recently, I have spent a lot of energy thinking about the Lodge experience, particularly what goes on in a typical Stated Meeting. I have seen Lodges that are thriving and those that struggle, and the thing that strikes me is that the Lodges that are doing the best seem to put a tremendous amount of effort into planning a meaningful couple of hours on Lodge night. Conversely, stagnant Lodges seem to turn the crank on a machine that introduces visitors and reads the minutes, with little else to occupy the members' time. Imagine the newly obligated Brother who has read up on the Fraternity, gotten to know many of the members, waited for his petition to be acted on and his first Degree scheduled. When at last he is able to sit in Lodge with his new Brothers, rather than moral and philosophical instruction he is treated to lengthy, rote introductions and the always-suspenseful vote on whether to pay the bills. This is the cause for all the secrecy, the modes of recognition, and the rites of initiation.

I am making a plea to all Masters and Wardens to take the time and trouble to plan a stated meeting that is meaningful and uplifting for the Brethren. No one-- no one-- petitioned a Lodge for the opportunity to adore the guys in the purple aprons. Planning a meeting is not easy, but it makes such a difference. Reach out to your deputy or other officers in your area for ideas. There are a lot of Brothers in our area who have Masonic talks in the can and who would be glad to come to your meeting. Or, assign a curious Brother a research topic and ask him to share what he's learned in Lodge. Call your meeting off session and invite in an outside speaker to present on a topic of interest. If your members walk away from each meeting having enjoyed fine fellowship and feeling as if they are learned something delightful and stimulating, I promise that your Lodge will thrive. You cannot fail.

Fraternally,
 VWB Dan Boren
 Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 5



Serving as the District Deputy of the Grand Master is both a great honor and a great responsibility. If you are going to serve well, you will be very busy. Not like the Grand Line crazy busy, but likely far busier than you have ever been in your Masonic experience. I have no doubt the responsibilities of the job are quite different for each District Deputy.

Every District is unique. Each has a particular mix of Lodges and members of diverse backgrounds and experiences. Some Districts may have a somewhat homogenous mix. District 7 is, I believe, rather unique among the unique. Our eight Lodges span the gamut from urban to semi-rural. We proudly count craft artisans and tech professionals among our members.

Masonry is alive and well in central/eastern King County. I invite you to visit our Lodges and experience what we bring to Masonry. How we work to "Be the Difference."

At our recent District 7 meeting, I had the pleasure of announcing that our District Lodges had contributed more than \$20,000 in the past year to many Masonic and community causes. I say, "Well done indeed!"

As I attempt to peer into the looking glass of the future, I am optimistic for the destiny of District 7. We have great Brothers who are committed to continuing the legacy and mission of our Fraternity.

Fraternally,

VWB Gene Ulrich
 Deputy of the Grand Master in District 7
 gene@newsolutionsnw.com



We are frequently reminded to take what we learn inside Lodge to the outer world and while this can take many forms and influence the course of events, we should not forget that when we actively engage in bringing these virtuous teachings from inside the Lodge to the outer world, the intended result is to change people's lives for the better.

In order to accomplish this lofty mission, it is necessary that we spend time studying and understanding the philosophical, speculative and esoteric teachings of the Craft. Before we can improve the lives of the people around us and the world we live in, we must learn the lessons embedded and hidden within our allegorical system of morality. This effort, as we are advised, requires of us to subdue our passions so that change may effectuate our own life; and as a result, improve it. From this we understand why the nature of 'know thyself' is so critical.

Freemasonry has encoded its teachings into her ritual for those seekers of light and has not only given us a clue to unlocking these lessons but the purpose of those lessons in the line 'to learn to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry'. Freemasonry, with its expansive universal knowledge, has within it a more noble and glorious purpose, the goal of which is not simply to make more Masons but to make better Masons. The tough love question to ask ourselves is are we failing or are we succeeding in this endeavor?

I am convinced that 'better' takes on the quality of being an "agent of change". When you become that active agent in another person's life, you show them by example how to embrace a challenge and turn it into opportunity and ultimately prosperity. In fact, as we fully understand the reason to subduing your passions, we are able to fully to embrace the challenges in life. Striving for excellence in all your undertakings is what drives you.

This requires vision. Like an internal compass that guides us through good and bad weather to direct us where we are going, a vision becomes visible when peered through the enlightened Masonic lense. Through Masonic teaching we can learn to operate at the crossroads of knowing and doing.

And this is why I am so passionate about a simply yet powerful phrase. 'Be the Difference' invokes an idea which is fundamentally Masonic. It calls the Craft from refreshment back to labor and challenges each of us to set into motion the necessary actions to be better Masons. Be the Difference in your Lodge. Be the Difference in your community. Be the Difference in the lives of those around you. It's what you came here to do.

Fraternally,
 VWB Zane McCune
 Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 13

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First, I would like to congratulate Brother Scott Dilley, the Senior Warden of Steilacoom Lodge, No. 2, for completing and receiving his Proficiency in Lodge Management. This is a great accomplishment for a Brother, and is a sign of hard work and dedication to the Craft. It was my goal to sign my name to five certificates during my term as Deputy to the Grand Master, and I thank Bro. Dilley for allowing me to sign my first one.

To help achieve the Grand Master's goals of "Continue to develop future leaders", "Improve membership retention", and "Increase use & awareness of the New Candidate Education Program", District 15 has started a three course study session. These sessions are designed to help improve the District (and thus the Jurisdiction) in ritual work, provide education in ritual and floor work, and to disperse Masonic light. The session is broken out into three different courses: Ritual 1, Ritual 2, and Esoterika.

Ritual 1 is designed to get the Brother his Proficiency in Lodge Management. Here we practice opening, closing, calling up and down, refreshment, floor work, and the Lodge Officer's Handbook. This work will get the Brother the ability to complete Part B of the Proficiency. Concurrently, we will work on reviewing the Washington Masonic Code, completing the New Candidate Education Program, and learning how to conduct a meeting.

Ritual 2, we focus more on the Degree work. The course would go over the actual Degree work, lectures of the Degrees, and the charges of the Degree. Hopefully, a Brother will progress from Ritual 1 into Ritual 2.

Esoterika would be the program that was introduced at the Grand Lodge communication last June. It is the Scottish Rite's Master Craftsman Program on the symbolism of the Blue Lodge Degrees. The program is based on Albert Pike's book Esoterika. We will go through read and discuss the book, as well as complete the quizzes provide by the Scottish Rite.

We combined this program with Steilacoom Lodge, No. 2's study session, where they have been doing this for several years. The sessions are on the fourth Thursday (except holidays) of the month starting at 6 pm at Steilacoom Lodge. It is an open study session, so if you are in the area, stop on by. It is always more fun, and useful, to practice with more Brethren in the room. Knowing that this time and place may not work for everyone, we will be looking at adding another session to help the Brethren in the eastern part of the District.

We believe that if we provide education to all who are interested, we can teach our members what Freemasonry is about, how to perform quality ritual, and how to run a meeting. We can continue to show how Masonry applied can affect you, your neighbor, and your country.

Fraternally,

VWB James Nero
 Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 15



Greetings from District 16. I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season. With a new year comes a lot of excitement in District 16. All of our Lodges have installed their new officers and have hit the ground running. WB Franklyn Gallup has ramped up the fun at Tenino Lodge with games and Masonic education and WB Tim Rowley has made community outreach one of his primary goals this year for Harmony Lodge, No. 18. Olympia Lodge, No. 1 has completed three different projects to help Brothers and members of our community make repairs to their homes during the last year and continue to be active in the community. Grays Harbor Lodge, No. 52 has a Surf and Turf dinner planned for February 25, 2017 to raise money for scholarships and honor first responders within their community and Harmony Lodge is planning a Valentine's Ball for February 11, 2017 for the ladies. Yelm Lodge and Wynooche Lodge also have a lot of exciting things on tap for this year as well. It is an exciting time to be a Mason in District 16.

We are planning a great joint District 16 and 17 District meeting on Saturday February 25, 2017 at the Olympia Masonic Center in Tumwater, Washington. VWB Cameron Bailey and I would like to invite everyone to attend. We will have a great lunch served by Caroline Woods and some entertainment as well. We will also have a couple of other fun surprises in store. So please come and join us for some good times and fellowship at our District Meeting.

VWB Clinton M. Brown, Jr.
 Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 16



FELLOWSHIP, FOOD AND FINANCES

Can a "good table" sustain a Lodge in an economically stressed area? Yes, it can! Occident Lodge, No. 48, based in the historic Columbia River seaport town of Ilwaco draws its membership from a relatively isolated area in the southwest tip of Washington State, yet the Lodge has been thriving with weekly lunches and enjoys excellent attendance at its once-a-month stated meetings. Dues are only \$25/year. Lunch donations easily exceed dues!

A little background information: The Long Beach Peninsula has been a destination for retirees who want to enjoy the great natural beauty and recreational opportunities of the coastal area combined with the more leisurely pace of life away from the "urban crush." Last year, Occident No. 48 was newly constituted from two Lodges with more than 100 years of history -- Occident No. 99 (Ilwaco) and Gavel No. 48 (Raymond).

Some long-time members had been meeting at a local Ilwaco restaurant every Tuesday but the group had dwindled to fewer than six. It just was not working due to costs (at least \$15 with tip) and the fact that members felt they had to vacate tables to make room for more diners. With a Lodge kitchen and dining room just a few blocks away, the group decided to try lunches at the Lodge, with a switch to Wednesdays to allow members to attend who belonged to a Tuesday group of seniors called "The Do-Nothing Club," which met at the local senior center.

Soon there was a dependable group of 10-20 diners -- and this from a Lodge with a roster of around 50 members at the time-- only about half living in the area. Several sojourners

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who tried the lunches submitted petitions.

Good food and good fellowship combined to make the program a success. One Lodge member had worked during college years as a short-order cook. He quickly stepped in to make deli-style sandwiches, soups, chili, cheeseburgers, teriyaki, meatloaf, pasta dishes and occasionally steaks. Soon, other members joined in the preparation, cooking and clean up. The program was on its way, and appreciative members reached into their own pockets and paid for a new stove, refrigerator and under-counter commercial dishwasher. A small commercial slicer was found for \$25 at a garage sale and a small commercial fryer was given to the cook.

Best of all, the bonds of friendship and fellowship grew much stronger and Lodge finances were "in the black."

For more information, including recipes, contact VWB Michael A. Carmel, email: microit3@gmail.com

Faternally,

VWB Michael A. Carmel
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 18



Greetings from the Brothers of District No 19.

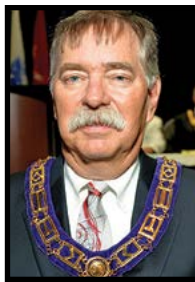
While the winter season is still a little tougher than normal for us, we are looking forward to Spring. One of our first big events will be the District Meeting on April 7th at the Vancouver Masonic Facility, 11605 SE McGillivray Blvd Vancouver, WA 98683, at 6:30 pm. Refreshments will

be served and we will deliver a different spin on Masonic Education instituted awhile back in Silver Star 286. There will be no charge and it will be business casual. Please come and greet Our Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers. This should be an enjoyable night for everyone. As many of you know, we had to move the Lodges from the 78th Street location to our new location in the basement of the Vancouver Elks building. The new Lodge room is very nice and WA 4 and Mt Hood 32 are meeting there, and things are back to normal. Every Saturday at 10 AM to noon, we have a Masonic University, put on by a dedicated group of Brothers. They coach new candidates and officers' in post-ing lecture and Lodge practices, and other Masonic Topics can be entertained, from protocol to Masonic history or just having fellowship.

We would love to see more visitors in our neck of the woods. There are many beautiful attractions in our region. Our Brotherhood is second to none.

Faternally,

VWB Mike Clemenhagen
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 19



District No. 20 covers the area from Cle Elum to Goldendale, a distance of 129 miles. One of the big events happening in our District is the constitution of Cobalt No. 24. The Lodge is a result of the merger of the two Lodges located in Yakima, Yakima-Compass No. 24 and Mt. Adams No. 227. Yakima Lodge, No. 24 was Chartered on September 24, 1875 when Washington was still a territory. Compass Lodge, No. 306 was Chartered on June 22, 1967 and merged with Yakima No. 24 on July 8, 2004 to form Yakima-Compass No. 24. Mt. Adams Lodge, No. 227 was Chartered on June 10, 1920. The constitution of Cobalt No. 24 is scheduled for March 3, 2017. It will be the largest Lodge in District No. 20.

Another event in the planning stages for our District is the visitation of the traveling Vietnam memorial wall to Goldendale. Goldendale Lodge, No. 31 has been working with the City of Goldendale and Klickitat County to make this event happen. The event is being planned for Labor Day weekend of 2017 and will be a major event to showcase what Masons can do in our communities. More details of this event will come at a later date.

Faternally,

VWB Way Erickson
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 20



As I visit the Lodges in my District, attend meetings with my Scottish Rite Brethren and work with fellow Shriners, I continue to hear about the need to bring in new members. The number of our members keeps falling. The future of the Masonic Fraternity depends on having younger men to carry it on into subsequent generations. Elementary, I know,

but it is something we must continue to discuss and try to resolve.

I appreciate what MWB Jim Mendoza said about keeping Masonry within the walls of the Lodge and out of sight of non-Masons prevent the Fraternity from being known. I'm seeing this borne out as I look around at Masonic activities. Those events and activities that reach out into the community and directly affect people in the community are the things that are most likely to draw men to join with us and become Brothers. I know we don't do good things and have good events just to get recognition, but getting recognition for what we do helps us sustain our organization and supports our future.

We've all heard that Masonry is one the best-kept secrets in the country. This is not good. We need to let people know that helping children, families and people in need and recognizing the civic accomplishments of others is one of the reasons for our existence as a Fraternity. I urge all of the District 24 Lodges to look at their programs and activities and see how they can tastefully and rightfully obtain some recognition for the good things they do within their communities. One example of this type of program is Blue Mt. Lodge's Law Enforcement Awards. Each year the Lodge recognizes an officer from each of four local law enforcement agencies celebrating that officer's outstanding service for the year. This gives the agencies an opportunity to give public attention to

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things they do in the community and to recognize dedicated officers for their special contribution to the community's safety. It is also a way to build good relations within the community and make Masonry better known.

I'm pleased that several of the Lodges in our District are busy doing Degree work. Both Nitosa No. 204 and Blue Mt. No. 13 conferred Degrees over the winter and several others were receiving petitions for membership. Those are definitely positive signs. Keep up the good work!

The District 24 official meeting with MWB Jim Mendoza and Grand Lodge Officers will be on Friday, May 5.

I am looking forward to continuing my visits to the Lodges in District 24.

Faternally,
VWB Doug Warnock
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 24



Brethren,
Where has this two years gone?

It is hard to believe, but in a few short months, my term as Deputy of the Grand Master in District 27 will conclude, and a new Deputy will take my place.

While the job is not all fun and games, (dealing with issues like Washington

Masonic Code violations and healing to resolve conflicts in Lodges), I have thoroughly enjoyed traveling to the different Lodges throughout the District and seeing what makes them tick. I have also enjoyed meeting new Brethren as they have gone through their Degrees and getting to know those Brethren whom I have known for years even better.

I was also fortunate to have the experience of planning for the Cornerstone laying ceremony for Spokane's new downtown Masonic Center. I want to thank all of the Brethren who worked so tirelessly to help make that event a success. There are too many of you to name here; but please know that you have my undying gratitude for all your efforts.

I want to thank MWB Don Munks for appointing me to this position as it gave me something to look forward to at a time when I needed it, having become unemployed just a couple of weeks earlier. I also want to thank MWB Jim Mendoza for re-appointing me and for the awesome experience that not too many District Deputies get to have, the experience of a day in the life of the Grand Master (an experience I got to share with the Grand Master while navigating him around Spokane last fall).

When I was asked to serve as Deputy, I had no doubt as to my abilities with regard to ritual work and knowledge of the Washington Masonic Code; but I did have concerns about

getting to some of the Lodges due to my inability to drive. I want to thank all of the Brethren who stepped up and helped me to get where I needed to be when I needed to be there. There are too many names to mention here; but I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I also want to thank all of the Brethren of District 27 for the many Masonic courtesies and hospitality extended to me on my Official Visits. You have made me feel welcome and comfortable in your Lodges and I appreciate that more than you will ever know

It has been a unique honor and privilege for me to serve as the Deputy of the Grand Master in District 27, an experience that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Faternally,

VWB Ryan Leonard
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 27



The best specimen of a Perfect Ashlar presented in the Masonic ranks, in this country, is George Washington. He was indeed a paragon in Freemasonry an exemplar of its virtues and its graces. There is no Degree of moral improvement suggested by Masonic teachings to which he did not aspire and few to which he had not attained. THE MASONIC

LADDER By JOHN SHERER, 1866

As we celebrate the man and honor the Mason this February, I am reminded of the great privilege to uphold the title of Master Mason. I do mean uphold, as those around us witness our actions.

Ashlars are used as a symbolic metaphor for how one's personal development relates to the tenets of our Craft. In our personal lives, and communities we are valued as a body of great worth and high moral standard. This is both a blessing, and reminder to all Brothers that our communities in our words and deeds judge us. We have a daily challenge to hone our own character, diligently chip away at our defects. We must also promote the benefits of our Craft through direct involvement in our communities. Were you see a need, fill it - as every human being has a claim upon your kind offices.

Be the Difference, in your Lodge and in your community.

Faternally,

VWB Richard W Coffland
Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 29
'The Light will always shine in District 29'



Concordant Bodies

Youth & Youth Committee



Scottish Rite Working For Its Members and Others

The Scottish Rite Valleys are actively endeavoring to provide its members with the experience they anticipated when they petitioned the organization. For the past two years, all the Valleys in the State have been engaged in the Valley Membership Achievement Project (VMAP). This is a grass roots effort to involve members in endeavors of their choosing that support the overall goals of the organization. The principle aims of the project are to solicit, involve, engage and retain our members. The Project in its inception went to the membership from throughout the Jurisdiction at workshops held in locations across the United States. The membership was forthcoming with ideas, suggestions, and concepts to help achieve the desired end. A committee made up of rank-and-file members compiled all the ideas, categorized them and published a workbook specifying minimum activities to be accomplished in each of the ten areas (which was expanded to eleven areas the second year). We have just completed the second year and workbooks are still being reviewed. However, in the first year of the Project three Valleys in Washington were successful in achieving at least the minimum, Bremerton, Seattle, and Spokane. The results of VMAP are encouraging, as we have witnessed a reduction in loss of our members for reasons other than death. If you have questions about the Scottish Rite experience, I encourage you to drop by one of the Valleys and talk to the Secretary, Personal Representative, or one of the elected officers to see if you might like to be engaged in one or more of the activities the Valley offers.

There is a special event that will be held on May 20th, and you are invited to participate. Annually, the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction USA hosts the Celebrating the Craft web event. For those of my generation it is likened to telethon only it is held on the internet and is termed a webathon. On that date between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. you can view talented Masons from throughout the Jurisdiction performing for your entertainment and to help raise funds for two of our philanthropies, the House of the Temple restoration project, and Rite Care (or as we now know it Early Life Speech and Language). Therefore, if you choose to donate during the event, half of the funds will be returned to help children throughout the State of Washington. You can view the event at <https://scottishrite.org/>, which is the Supreme Council website.

I would be pleased to discuss either of the above activities with you. If we meet, do not hesitate to inquire. If you have other questions about Scottish Rite, I am at your disposal.

Alvin W. Jorgensen 33°
 Sovereign Grand Inspector General
 In Washington



This year in Washington Grand Chapter is dedicated to family and coming home to Eastern Star.

At my Official Visits to each chapter, I have talked about our Eastern Star Family Tree; the roots of our tree represent the Masons. You, the Masons, have given us a strong foundation and without you our Eastern star tree would be weak and easily destroyed. We are thankful for the Brothers who show such devotion to their Craft and are an example of good moral character. The trunk of our tree represents our Ritual, Constitution and Bylaws, and Book of Instruction, which keeps our tree growing straight, and tall. The branches represent our individual chapters and the leaves our members.

The same analogy can apply to the Masonic Family Tree. Again, our Masonic Brothers are the strong roots, which give nourishment and strength to our orders. From that root system grows our trunk, again which the Rituals of our Orders and the rules governing our bodies can represent.

The branches now represent the many different Orders in our Masonic family; Eastern Star, Amaranth, White Shrine of Jerusalem, Scottish Rite, York Rite, The Shriners, Daughters of the Nile, Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, and of course our youth groups, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Jobs Daughters and DeMolay and several more. Each unique leaf represents our members, when joined together gives our Masonic Tree its beauty. We work together serving our members and those in our communities. Each organization contributes something special and different to its communities.

We share the same challenges of lack of members and less "leaves on our branches". I encourage all to support the other organizations in any way you can. We in Eastern Star invite you to join us in our activities and to join a chapter if you are not currently a member. If you are an inactive member, we would love to see you "Come Home to Eastern Star"

In closing, I encourage each member to help strengthen our Masonic Family Tree and "Come Home to Our Masonic Family."

Remember, family is a precious heirloom, treasure it always.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Mills
 Worthy Grand Matron
 Grand Chapter of Washington order of the Eastern Star

Royal Arch Masons

Anyone who has been a member of this great Fraternity (or any Fraternal organization) for any length of time has probably acquired a variety of items (glassware, plates, books, etc.) to regalia (aprons, collars, lapel pins, etc.) We, as Masons, seem to be drawn to everything associated with the Square and Compass or any one of the symbols related to the many concordant and appendant bodies. For those who have had the opportunity to travel to other Jurisdictions, I'm sure you've seen the wide variety of regalia these Masons wear.



If you have ever searched eBay, I am sure you have seen a multitude of Masonic items available for sale. Where does it all come from? As a Mason, you were given a white lambskin apron to use throughout your life and when the G.A.O.T.U. calls you home, it has to be placed on the vessel that contains your mortal remains. Unfortunately, we as Masons do not always plan ahead. We say we do not want to burden our families with these items, and assume that our Brothers, Companions and Sir Knights will take care of the items we have accumulated over the years. But that's not always the case.

So what DO we do with everything we have collected over the years? To us, each item, regardless of its size, has a special meaning to us. Others will look at these items and say that, while they are nice, they have no need for them. There are a myriad number of things that can be done if you so choose.

Consider donating them to your Lodge but letting them know beforehand your wishes. I'm sure most of us have attended Lodges with beautiful display cases of vintage Masonic items and wondered who they belonged to (I know I have!) If you belong to any one of the many other bodies (York Rite, Scottish Rite, etc.), think about taking pictures of the items so people know what they are. I know of one Lodge that found some amazing artifacts in their archives. Unfortunately, none of these individuals knew what the items were and they ended up in the trash. The workmanship on old badges and jewels will not be seen today because of the time and effort it took to make them. Some of the amazing badges were made from 14K and 18K gold. In the days when gold prices skyrocketed, these items were lost for their scrap value. That is something I personally do not want to see happen in the future.

My late uncle, MWB James Hogg, PGM of British Columbia and Yukon, would be given Masonic items from the widows of his many Lodge Brothers. After he passed away, my mother-in-law gave these items to me, knowing they would be safe. When I first started looking through these jewel boxes (all from London from the late 1800s) I was amazed. These small, leather boxes held some amazing Masonic jewels. They could have easily been tossed out but they will be passed down for others to see.

So Brethren, whether you have a small stash of lapel pins (as all Mason seem to have), aprons from around the world, or regalia from various bodies, think about what YOU want to happen to them when you will no longer be able to enjoy them. Give them

to a friend who shares your enthusiasm for the Craft; donate them to a Lodge or a library. But please do something so they don't end up at a garage sale, swap meet or online to be sold to the highest bidder.

MEC Bryan D. Bechler
 Grand High Priest
 Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Washington



Greetings Washington Freemasons! This year 2017 has been nothing but excitement and prosperity for Washington DeMolay. The New Year may bring new memories, adventures, and more, but it cannot surpass the old traditions of our Masonic Family.

On January 21st, we had our annual Winter Sports Fest. Our sports tournament consisted of basketball, volleyball, dodge ball, and gatorball (think life sized Hungry Hippos). Winter Sports Fest was filled with Brotherly competition, great sportsmanship, and was an overall fun day. Next month on February 18th, we have our annual Leaders' Ball, a formal prom designed to honor the youth who take on the roles to lead our Masonic Youth in their individual areas. It starts at 8:00 pm at the Point Defiance Pagoda in Tacoma, WA, and it is only \$5 for adults.

We also have our Convention on April 20-23 at the Great Wolf Lodge that is approaching faster than you can say, "Be the Difference." Convention is where we hold elections for Elected State Office, host different sessions of fun and Brotherhood, and it is the perfect time to hit up the sweet water park offered at the hotel. I encourage any Mason to attend, as it is a genuine experience unlike any other and it will sure give you ideas that you are going to want MWB Jim Mendoza to keep in mind for Grand Lodge this year. You can find more information if you're interested on demolaycon.org

My Brothers, there are many great things happening in DeMolay right now, and it would be a great opportunity to get involved and be a part of this exciting time. Make it a New Year's Resolution to reach out to your local Chapter, Bethel, or Assembly and get involved. New Year Resolutions are a perfect opportunity for improvement, so why not "Be the Difference" and level up DeMolay.

Fraternally,

Luke A. Walker
 State Master Councilor
 Washington DeMolay

DEMOLAY



**LEVELED UP
LEADERSHIP**



Making Progress with our Masonic Youth

The word on the street is that our youth groups are growing. Rainbow Girls have a few assemblies that are truly on fire with new members, Jobs Daughters recent efforts have resulting in renewed interest and more initiates, and DeMolay International just announced that they broke records on registering new advisors and membership wise, came very close to having a net gain.

The momentum they are experiencing bodes well for 2017 and with a little added effort our part, we can help them all grow.

Our mission this year is to add "one more" Masonic Advisor to every Assembly, Bethel and Chapter throughout the Jurisdiction. Many of our Brethren have answered the call by visiting a meeting or getting involved with our Masonic youth groups. We have also added a number of Masons as new advisors to each organization – thanks to all of you have taken the steps to represent our Fraternity & serve in some capacity with our youth.

Nowhere is this new effort and added interest more apparent than at the Installations I recently attended – full or near full sidelines with lots of Masons from many Lodges in attendance. At one in particular, there was more than a dozen Lodges represented (from Skykomish to Seattle)! There was also three new Masonic Advisors installed on the board.

Most encouraging to me, is the new faces I am seeing as well as the new members Dads on the sidelines wearing their aprons. I found out from some, it was their first Installation outside of their Lodge. I am sure it will not be their last & am quite hopeful that it will not be long before they join the Board or are registering for Advisor training.

I'm also very pleased to report we have some Lodges who are taking the steps towards sponsoring a youth group or starting a new one in their Hall. It will take some dedication, time and hard work, but the benefits it will reap to their Lodge, community and the kids will be HUGE!

So, how about you? Do you have some time on your hands to visit one of our youth groups? The kids would love the support and would be happy to see you. I think you will be pleasantly surprised at how many of your Masonic Brothers are involved. We have a great time - I guarantee it will make you feel younger and put a smile on your face!

How about your kids or grandchildren? No doubt, our youth groups would be better with them added to their ranks. It is a wonderful way to involve your family in our great Fraternity as well as potentially continue your Masonic legacy.

Or maybe it's time your Lodge sponsored or opened its own Rainbow Assembly, Job's Daughters Bethel or DeMolay Chapter. Think about it....do something about it!

We challenge you to "Be the Difference", help our youth, your Lodge and our Fraternity.

If you would like to explore the possibilities, visit your local youth group today. If you have questions or don't know where to begin, contact one of our Youth Committee members or me –

WB John Danner, Chairman
 Grand Lodge Youth Committee
 jbdanner@comcast.net

Each year for Washington/Idaho Rainbow, our Grand Worthy Advisor brings her tools of the trade to help Rainbow and she's given the opportunity to build her platform while listening to member's struggles and success. We're going to share her tools with each of you - how it helps, and why each Masonic family member is valuable for the success and growth of our organization. Listening to members with questions answered, GWA May Powell, shares her toolbox and builds up Rainbow.

One tool presented is S.S.A.S. "Stepping Stones for Assembly Success." This tool focuses on the positive things the Assembly is doing, instead of focusing on the negatives. The tool - a rock and vase. The rock represents greatness and the vase holds that greatness. So, when you visit Rainbow, look for the vase, ask for a rock, and share in the greatness of growth.

The second tool has a connection with Cello, May's Service Dog. She is handing out Cello Awards, which "are for girls who go above and beyond, or need The third tool, Two Stepping Stones, a service project display board, will share the difference made locally for Alzheimer's, our Jurisdictional Service Project. Each Assembly will be able to display their stones at Grand Assembly! In recognition for things that don't usually get recognized."

In Rainbow, we love our tools. Tools are also goals and this year, Rainbow has goals of Steppin' In, Steppin' Up, and Steppin' Out.

- Steppin' In-to Leadership is to give each girl the opportunity to attend Leadership Camp free. Meeting the goal, our Grand Leadership, Jenna reports that there are already 50 girls registered and ready to Shimmer, Sparkle and Shine where they will be "Making Leadership Camp an experience for ALL age groups so a girl can learn how to lead effectively for her peers."
- Steppin' Up in Membership. Reports are in and we want to share our success with you – WA/ID RAINBOW HAS 66 NEW MEMBERS since July 8, 2016, from 22 Assemblies. Why don't you help make a difference and join the fun! Share Rainbow with a girl you know today (ages 8-20).
- Steppin' Out in Service with our Color Run, which raised \$17,000 for Hilarity for Charity. And, Assemblies across our Jurisdiction are reporting their projects in making a difference at Memory Care facilities for Alzheimer patients.

Did you know...every Assembly needs a Mason at all meetings and are to have two Masons on their Advisory Boards? Masons - you are a vital part of our family. A newly installed Rainbow Dad shared, "I was installed as Rainbow Dad to-night! Thank you...for asking Me to be your Rainbow Dad! Thank you...for making me feel like Family!" – Chris Cardinal.

Why don't you visit a local Assembly or attend an upcoming event? It is simple. Go to www.nwrainbow.org and check out the calendar. We would really love to see you.

In Rainbow Service and Love,

Dot Gosset, Print Media
 Washington/Idaho
 International Order of the Rainbow for Girls



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 - August 2016

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

Evergreen-Washelli Funeral Home

Serving families for over 130 years

11111 Aurora Ave N

Seattle WA 98133

Rick Becker, PM

Tel: 206-362-5200 ext. 118

Email: rbecker@washelli.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

