

# St. John's Lodge No. 9, F. & A. M.

## Trestleboard

JANUARY 2018

*Jim Russell, editor*



meets: 7910 Greenwood Ave. N.  
(206) 623-0261

[stjohns9@seattlemasons.org](mailto:stjohns9@seattlemasons.org)

[www.seattlemasons.org](http://www.seattlemasons.org)

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## FROM THE EAST

WBro. Seann Maria, Master



Brethren, thank you all for the warm welcome and patience given to me and the other officers as we navigate the accomplishments and adjustments needed for a productive stated meeting. Aside from the predictable slip-ups, I found the night a success. I would also like to thank our Education Committee Chairman, WB. Koteles, for providing us with the platform to discuss how to improve our interaction with interested gentlemen who approach the Lodge for more information or to directly pursue Masonry. The following are the observations and actions that came from this group discussion.

This is the recent feedback from some men who visited Lodge in the last few months:

- Despite informing the Lodge, they may be late to

dinner, received no greeting when they arrived and felt lost.

- Found the only empty seats were at empty tables.
- Observed that the Masons at the table were not engaging them for conversation around their attendance that night.
- Observed that the Masons at the table seemed more focused on what members of St. John's had accomplished in the distant past over what the current membership was doing that was considered Masonic activities.
- Didn't feel welcome

This is the list of suggestions our brethren presented in the stated meeting in response to this feedback:

- When a man contacts any of the brethren, including the Secretary, to inquire about visitation to the Lodge, that the Master should be informed so that he can consider if the man should interact with the brethren in some other form prior to visiting dinner.
- Our stated dinners are not necessarily the best format to interact with the Lodge for the first time. Our dinners require formality like suits and short time frames that may not be suitable to engage a man in a casual and relaxed manner.
- Officers and Brethren should make an effort to invite men out to discuss Masonry one-on-one or in small groups prior to attending a stated meeting dinner.

- Our public events like Fellowship Nights, STAS, or Kids Smile are examples of ideal times to invite an interested man to attend and see what we do and learn about us in action.
- A Chairman of Membership is a role that needs to be filled and responsibilities defined by the Master.
- When a man is expected to dinner the officers should assign a Brother to be matched up with him for introductions, discussion topics, and seating at a table.
- Consider keeping a chair free for visitors at each table.
- Have a list of questions prepared for visitors.
- Avoid having inclusive conversations or forming cliques when visitors are present.
- Integrate the Grand Lodge's Six Steps of Initiation.
- Every member of the Lodge should volunteer for one new event or leadership role each year.
- Please be more active in the needed roles of this Lodge. Contact the Worshipful Master for where we need help.

I hope these notes can help be primer for us all to improve in Masonry and facilitate better interaction with visitors. If we want to attract good men in this Lodge, we need to take time out of our schedules to focus on greeting them, meeting them, and investigating them. Please consider how you can help this Lodge become a better place for better men.

Thank You,  
Seann Maria

## January Communication Features Music of Vivaldi, Mozart

What better way to “ring in” the New Year than with a little bit of music appreciation!

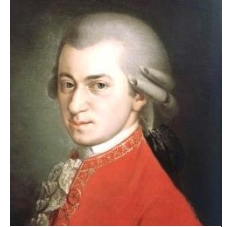
Worshipful Master Seann Maria invites all Masons – visitors and members of St. John’s – to enjoy this month’s version of our monthly Masonic education with a light presentation of Vivaldi and Mozart.



“Tony” Vivaldi

Antonio Lucio Vivaldi was born on March 4, 1678 in Venice. He is recognized as one of the greatest Baroque composers, and his influence during his lifetime was widespread across Europe. He composed many instrumental concertos, for the violin and a variety of other instruments, as well as sacred choral works and more than forty operas. His best-known work is a series of violin concertos known as [\*The Four Seasons\*](#).

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, born January 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria, was a prolific and influential composer of the [\*Classical era\*](#). He composed more than 600 works, many acknowledged as pinnacles of [\*symphonic\*](#), [\*concertante\*](#), [\*chamber\*](#), [\*operatic\*](#), and [\*choral\*](#) music. He is among the most enduringly popular of classical composers, and his influence is profound on subsequent Western art music. He was a member of the Viennese Zur Wohltätigkeit (Beneficence) Masonic Lodge.



“Wolfman” Mozart

We’re going to enjoy the music and additionally some explanation of the meaning of the compositions. We’ll get a taste of [\*The Four Seasons\*](#) and the [\*Magic Flute\*](#).

Our Masonic education programs (almost) always are conducted after the Lodge has been called from labor to refreshment, so why not invite your Lady or non-Mason friend to stick around for this bit of mixed history, biography and music? (We’ll call back to labor again following this portion of the program.)

*Please make your dinner reservations with the secretary at 206 623-0261 by Friday, January 12*, prior to the meeting. If you need a ride, the secretary will be happy to find one for you. Do you know of a brother who has not attended Lodge in a while? Call him and ask if you can pick him up and bring him to Lodge.



## HEAVENLY QUARRIES CALL ST. JOHN’S LABORERS IN 2017

In 2017, five members of St. John’s ceased their earthly toils and joined our Brothers in that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens:



	Raised	Died
Richard A. Mecartea	February 14, 1958	January 23
Samuel R. Boren	September 17, 1947	March 21
Paul E. Monstad	July 8, 1998	April 27
Denis F. Lane	January 14, 1959	May 23
Sam Shulman	September 26, 1951	May 29

“Grief never ends... But it changes. It’s a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith... It is the price of love.”

— Unknown

## Past Masters brunch

All Past Masters of St. John’s are invited to attend our quarterly brunches not only for a good time but also to keep up with how things are going at St. John’s. This month we’ll be focusing on 1) How do we attract good men to St. John’s Lodge? 2) What do you suggest that **WE** can do to achieve that goal? Brunches start at 10am and close shortly after noon at Jimmy’s On Broadway - just north of Madison at the Silver Cloud Hotel. *Free parking.*

## SANTA & ELVES AGAIN BRING JOY TO OPERATION KID SMILE 2017

Master WBro. Maria thanks all who participated in this year’s seasonal offering to military veterans’ families. Operation Kid Smile features our annual Christmas party and Santa’s visit with the children at the Tacoma Scottish Rite. Fifteen children received gifts of clothing and toys and their families were presented with groceries for Christmas dinner.



*Santa (Hans Wehl) and his helpers: C. Brockway, J. Maher, J. Schuh, N. Quinn, J. Louderback, A. Jorgensen, S. Maria, T. Grove, K. Curtis*

## Start Earning your 2019 Wages Now!

If you haven't paid your 2018 annual dues (\$38 for most members) by now, they've already increased by \$5. **Payments postmarked after December 31 are assessed an additional \$5 per month.**

Members may pay their dues by cash, check, Certificates of Masonic Labor, or a combination of these. Certificates of Labor (valued at \$20 each) are issued at each stated or special communication (degree or officer installation). So – come to Lodge and receive your Certificate of Masonic Labor good toward the payment of next year's dues.

### Procrastination is not rewarded!

Look in your wallet – if you don't have a dues card for 2018, it's time to send that check! Or – check your address label on this month's Trestleboard to see if there's a small \$ value in the upper corner. This year's dues are only \$38, but if you missed the December 31 deadline, they've gone up to \$43. Want to miss again in January? Sorry, that'll be \$48 in February! Mail your check today to PO Box 30069, Seattle 98113



**MWBro. Warren Schoeben (R), Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, installed WBro. Seann Maria as Master of St. John's Lodge in December.**



**2018 St. John's officers: Terry Grove, Jeffrey Pullen, Jim Maher, Blair Neumann, Seann Maria, Jeff Hawley, Jim Russell, Eric Koteles, Ashley Brinkley, Neil Quinn. (Not pictured – Bob Sluder, Adam Creighton)**

## District 5 Lodge Officers Workshop

VWBro. Dan Boren, Deputy of the Grand Master for District 5, will be hosting a New Lodge Officer Workshop, Saturday, January 13.

VWBro. Boren reports "We'll convene at University Lodge at 3pm. The primary focus will be for the wardens, deacons, and stewards with about half the time being spent on Lodge ritual and half on degree work. We'll spend a couple of hours. After that we'll have snacks and beverages up in the library and hopefully provide some networking and brotherhood opportunities for the officers in our district."

**2018**

### Lodge Leadership Retreat

*(formerly the Wardens Conference)*

Friday thru Sunday

March 16-18

Pasco Red Lion

While the primary focus is for Wardens and Senior Deacons, any Master Mason may attend including Masters or Past Masters

Senior Warden Roles, Degree Ritual, Running a Meeting, Building Membership, New Candidate Education Program, Public Relations, Social Media, Our Responsibility to the Craft, Installation Planning and more!!!!

St. John's will sponsor up to four brothers to attend.

For registration information including a class list and RW Jim Kendall's letter in its entirety [CLICK HERE](#).

## JANUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Here's a look at what's happening at our January stated communication:

### Dinner - guests welcome

1 Menu: Tomato basil bisque soup; Baked rock fish with wild rice and sautéed spinach with lemon pistachio cream sauce; Pear Cobbler *a la mode* dessert

*(allergies, vegetarian? Let us know a week before.)*

2. Welcome & Introductions

3. Announcements and Good of the Order

### Stated Meeting – tiled

1. General business – reports and planning

2. Masonic Education – music of Vivaldi &

Mozart

### Refreshments

Kick back, visit, and enjoy a beverage and dessert



## 2018 Lodge Leadership Retreat Registration is NOW OPEN!

The 2018 Lodge Leadership Retreat will be held Friday, March 16th through the morning of Sunday, March 18th, 2018 at the Red Lion Hotel in Pasco, WA. Those that are eligible and encouraged to attend are any Masons that anticipate being installed as a Warden or Senior Deacon of a Lodge in 2018. While the primary focus of the retreat is geared towards Lodge Wardens and Senior Deacons, **any Master Mason** (including Masters or Past Masters) may attend.

The program is designed to lead officers to a greater understanding of their role as a leader in their Lodge and provide them the skills to excel and succeed in that role. A few of the topics to be covered include: Senior Warden Roles, Degree Ritual, Running a Meeting, Building Membership, New Candidate Education Program, Public Relations, Social Media, Our Responsibility to the Craft, and Installation Planning. A full list of classes offered can be found on the Grand Lodge website.

Ladies are invited and encouraged to attend, with Ladies programs and co-ed courses being provided. We are going to have *fun* and learn a lot while we are at it.

For registration information including a class list and RW Jim Kendall's letter in its entirety [CLICK HERE](#).

## LET'S GO VISITING!!!!!!

Our Past Master WBro. Joe Oates is the new and current Master of Renaissance Lodge No. 312, which meets in Redmond. Our Master WBro. Seann Maria *invites all to join him in a visit to Renaissance on February 26* (their next stated communication).



WB Joe Oates, Jr.

WBro. Oates invites us to share in their great dinner and communication:

"...we do have great meals. We also have great conversation, speakers and fellowship at the festive table. We meet every other last Monday of the month. We won't have a meeting in January, but we will have a meeting on the last Monday of February, February 26.

It will be a very great pleasure to welcome you and other brothers to Renaissance Lodge at any time. Please let me know when and how many plan to attend. We have to give the kitchen an accurate count of attendees.

I believe that you will enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship at our Lodge and enjoy the excellent meal to follow. I hope that you can visit us soon. Fraternally, Joe Oates" [joates\\_48323@yahoo.com](mailto:joates_48323@yahoo.com)

As stated above, you will need to make reservations for dinner (\$25 for meal required). Here is their location and contact:

**Renaissance #312** (Chartered June 21, 1990)

**Meets:** Last Mon Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct & Dec, ex. Holiday next earliest M at 6:30pm

Contact: Secretary [bigwer1@hotmail.com](mailto:bigwer1@hotmail.com)

**Redmond Eagles Hall:** 11440 Avondale Rd. NE, Redmond, WA 98052

## SHORELINE DeMOLAYS DELIVER CHRISTMAS MEALS

WBro. Jeffrey Pullen informed the Lodge that he had been approached by one of the DeMolay boys who were acting as our dinner servers about a Christmas project. The Shoreline DeMolays had raised some money to provide meals for senior Masons and requested that we suggest some names. The brethren recommended three names to forward to the DeMolays. One Brother, who received his Christmas meal, reported back how appreciative he was of the thoughtful gesture.

## CALENDAR



- January 10 (7pm): Master Mason Study Group
- January 11 (7pm): Officers meeting
- January 12 (7:30pm): Rainier Lodge 189
- January 13 (3pm): New Officers Workshop *University Temple*
- January 15 (7pm): Fellowship Night
- January 17 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- January 22 (7-9pm): Ritual instruction classes
- January 23 (7pm): "Intender" Masonic Education Study
- January 27 (10am): Past Masters Brunch
- January 31 (6:30pm): District 5 Assoc. meeting *Razzis Pizza*
- February 4: *Super Bowl 52*
- February 7 (7:30pm): Greenwood Lodge 253
- February 9 (7:30pm): Rainier Lodge 189
- February 10 (10am): Wardens Competition *University Temple*
- February 12 (7:30pm): Maritime Lodge 239
- February 14 (6pm): Board of Trustees
- February 15 (7pm): Officers meeting
- February 16 (7:30pm): Walter F. Meier Lodge 281
- February 17 (10am): Daylight Lodge 232
- February 20 (7pm): "Intender" Masonic Education Study
- February 21 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- February 24 (10am): Quarterly Meeting Masonic Service Bureau
- February 26 (7-9pm): Ritual instruction classes
- February 26 (6:30pm): Visitation to Renaissance Lodge
- March 1 (7:30pm): Lafayette Lodge 241
- March 14 (7pm): Master Masons Study Group
- March 15 (7pm): Officers meeting
- March 21 (6:15pm): St. John's 9 Stated Table Lodge (*Masons only*)
- March 16 – 18: Lodge Leadership Retreat (Pasco)
- March 24 (6:30pm): Dist. 4&5 Reception for the Grand Master
- May 6 (10am): FABulous Family Brunch *Columbia Tower*

# LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER

*Why are we not attracting good men to join our fraternity and St. John's in particular? Why are we not seeing more of our brothers regularly attend Lodge? We offer interesting Masonic education at each of our meetings. We have fantastic catered meals before each meeting and good fellowship and refreshment following the meetings. Here is a look at another Master's similar concern from another Lodge in another jurisdiction:*



## "Oh Brother where art thou?"

by Midnight Freemason Contributor  
WB Darin Lahners

The first article I wrote for the Midnight Freemasons was about my trepidation on becoming Worshipful Master of my Lodge. I wrote out my mission statement and emphasized how I wanted to make the Lodge a place where brothers and their families wanted to spend time. I have been trying, unsuccessfully, to arrange some events for the brethren to get together socially. My last two attempts have had attendance from myself and one other member (and Midnight Freemason). Our November stated meeting barely had enough members for a quorum to open Lodge. Granted, I knew that we had a few members that had other obligations due to their familial obligations, but I still wonder, is there something I'm doing wrong?

The writing has been on the wall for some time. We have seen declining interest in events such as Worker's Club. My Junior Warden has received a wonderful opportunity to continue his education, the downside being that his class meets on Thursdays, which means he's been missing some of our stated meetings. My Senior Warden has a job which requires a lot of travel, so I'm lucky that he can make the stated meetings, but he doesn't have much time to make other events. On top of this, we just won 2nd place for Lodges under 80 members in the State of Illinois for our Grand Masters Award of Excellence. All this adds pressure to try to make sure we do equally as well next year. But still it makes me wonder, why aren't many of my other brethren as concerned about keeping the high level of excellence we've set?

Worshipful Bro. Scott Dueball just wrote a really interesting article regarding this:



He challenged the incoming leadership of his Lodge as outgoing Master regarding creating a membership-centric plan for their Lodge. His main points were eloquently summarized as:

1. Identify where the Lodge has gaps in what needs to get done.

2. Identify brothers with those talents.
3. Identify ways to attract the interests of those brothers.

In my home Lodge, we are particularly lucky to have three members that work in the kitchen of a local restaurant. Our food when we have degrees is spectacular. I'm not taking advantage of this as Master. We should have food before our meetings at the Lodge, instead of me meeting a few brothers for dinner prior. Masons like to eat right? But this only really applies to brethren that want to be active in the Lodge.

The question remains for me: "How do I attract inactive members to come to Lodge?" I came up with a short survey. As I just sent it out, I have no idea how it will be received. I have no idea if anyone will reply to me. I'll share the results in a future article. However, the survey is below:

1. If you are not currently regularly attending the stated meetings, what is keeping you from coming?
  - Personal reasons. (Work, Family, Etc.)
  - Lodge is boring.
  - I've forgotten the passwords and I don't want to embarrass myself/I feel awkward attending by myself.
  - I have better things to do with my time.
2. What would make our Lodge more attractive to you?
  - More family events like dinners, picnics, etc.
  - More Educational programs.
  - More fellowship activities (going bowling or other group activities, dining together, socializing as brethren).
  - Focusing on doing community service/charitable works in our community.
3. What would attract you to come to a stated meeting?
  - A nice dinner prior to the meeting in our dining room at the Lodge.
  - Guest Speakers (notable Masonic scholars and the like).
  - A short meeting followed by fellowship off of Lodge property at an establishment that serves adult beverages.
  - Nothing, I'm fine just paying dues.


My struggles led me to think about how we select members. There seem to be two fundamental philosophies regarding prospective members at play within

Freemasonry. The first philosophy is based upon a fear that we are dying as an organization, and we need membership. If a man meets the basic criteria for joining the Lodge and petitions for membership, assuming he meets these criteria, he should be allowed to join. We need bodies to pay dues and to pay per capita, and as long as they are doing this, it's fine if they don't engage in the Lodge.

At least once a year I hear one brother in Lodge talk about how electing a candidate to receive the degrees of Freemasonry should be a mere formality. The same brother thinks that we should never throw a black ball (black cube in Illinois), because by the time a candidate has his petition balloted on, that he has been thoroughly vetted by at least six other brothers. The three brothers that have signed the petition as well as the three or more members that have served on the investigation committee all have essentially vouched for the petitioner. So the petitioner's election at this point should be a given and anyone who has an issue with the candidate should have addressed it to the Lodge prior to the vote.

However, I think we all might have a regret of not throwing a cube at some point during our Masonic journey. I personally have two candidates that I thought long and hard about black balling. I didn't do it. I didn't do it because their top line signer was and still is a personal friend and a Masonic mentor. But I often wonder, should I have? The two candidates in question now are absent from Lodge and we are chronically chasing after them to pay their dues. I regret, not doing it in retrospect. But what does that make me? I feel complicit in the situation.

The other fundamental philosophy is that we need to make Masonry somewhat elitist. This idea is based upon a thought that we should only admit men that have a desire to improve themselves and dedicate themselves to the craft. It also argues that we are not maintaining our historical identity by letting every man of good character join. It believes that we are essentially causing the status quo to be lowered because we should only allow men that are going to act towards being morally and intellectually superior. If we institute some form of entrance prerequisite, we will separate the wheat from the chaff. We must Guard the West Gate against men who do not share these ideals.

This idea has come up again in discussion recently due to this recent post by Illus. Brother Chris Hodapp. If you've not read it, I suggest you do so 

While I caution against elitism, I don't think that it's necessarily a bad thing to re-examine ourselves as a Fraternity. Sometimes a good hard look in the mirror reveals flaws that we've been ignoring for far too long. Yes, we need to attract a certain type of member, but I wonder if the West Gate had been strongly guarded when I joined, would I have made the cut? Would you have? But then again, had it been guarded more strongly after I was a member, would I have the same issues with Lodge participation that I have today?

I guess these are questions that can't be answered because the past is set in stone. We can only decide for ourselves at our local Lodge level, what we want to be going forward into the future. Each individual Lodge is different. Each member is different. I can only state for myself that I have become a better person due to the lessons of my degrees. I can only say that I feel blessed for the friends and mentors that I have made along the way. I can only state that Freemasonry has unlocked a desire to write and to create that lie asleep in me. I would hate to take that opportunity away from another man who is just as qualified as I was for Freemasonry. However, I also believe that I need to be protective of the craft. So I will end with this, we are given the power of the ballot as a Master Mason for a reason. Don't be afraid to use it to protect Masonry if you feel a man is unworthy or will prove himself to be so. Just be sure to use it responsibly.

*WB Darin A. Lahmers is the Worshipful Master of St. Joseph Lodge No. 970 in St. Joseph and a plural member of Ogden Lodge No. 754 (IL), and Homer Lodge No. 199 (IL). He's a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Danville, a charter member of the new Illinois Royal Arch Chapter, Admiration Chapter U.D. and is the current Secretary of the Illini High Twelve Club No. 768 in Champaign – Urbana (IL). He is also a member of the Eastern Illinois Council No. 356 Allied Masonic Degrees. When he's not busy enjoying Masonic fellowship, Darin spends his time as a DM for his children's D&D campaign, reading, golfing, watching movies and listening to music. You can reach him by email at [arin.lahmers@gmail.com](mailto:arin.lahmers@gmail.com).*

## Junior Warden Message

Bro. Blair Neumann



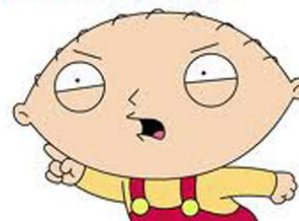
Piggybacking on what the Worshipful Master (wrote this month) I would add as your superintendent that I see our labor as to do good unto all creatures, more especially our would-be brothers.

I look forward to the day when St. John's is known for our generosity of spirit! Sadly, it sounds like that day is not upon us, but we can work together to make things right!

I'm going to make sure that my table always has a seat for a last-moment guest, and I encourage you to do the same. What you do with the guest in that seat is up to you, but I ask that you make him feel welcome and perhaps learn something about him.

He may very well prove to be your new brother.

**WHERE IS MY MONEY MAN?!!  
WHERE IS MY MONEY?!!**



**Don't forget to pay your 2018 Lodge dues!!!!**



From West Seattle Blog:

## **GRATITUDE: The Christmas People say thanks for your help, and look ahead to 2018**

A message of gratitude today from [The Christmas People](#) who served a free Christmas dinner in West Seattle as well as distributing hundreds of meals to people in need elsewhere in the city, made possible by many donations.

More than 100 families from the West Seattle Community made merry the hearts of hundreds of homeless people during the Christmas holiday by donating a total of 7600 cookies, making financial donations, and giving 360 hours



of combined labor in the kitchen, serving, sitting with those who were alone, sorting cookies, delivering meals to shut-ins, and

delivering meals to the shelters in Seattle we serve at

Christmas. In addition to the cookies, we served 150 meals in the Masonic Center dining room and delivered 1600 meals to three

Compass Center and Union Gospel Mission.



**Musicians entertain during Christmas meal**

The Christmas People, in conjunction with Alki Masonic Center, are planning next year's event in 2018 beginning Saturday, December 22, to Tuesday, December 25, with a complimentary meal for homeless, seniors, and others who need a meal on Tuesday, December 25 from noon to four.

Fred Hutchinson and Ruth Bishop, Co-Founders, offer a special thank you to members of the West Seattle Community and St. John's brothers for their outpouring of support and to the West Seattle Blog for outstanding support.

### **Visit Our District Brethren**

District 5 Lodges	Next Meeting	Time
St. John's 9	Wednesday, January 17, 2018	7:30pm
Eureka 20	Monday, January 8, 2018	7:30pm
University 141	Monday, February 12, 2018	7:30pm
Daylight 232	Saturday, January 20, 2018	10am
Lafayette 241	Thursday, March 1, 2018	7pm
Queen Anne 242	Thursday, January 11, 2018	7:30pm
Esoterika 316	Tuesday, January 23, 2018	7:30pm

Word from DeMolay International

## **DeMOLAYS ESTABLISH NEW JURISDICTION**

DeMolay International Grand Master Ronald J. Minshall announced the creation of the Jurisdiction of Washington & Alaska effective November 11, 2017. Dad Jeff Brunson will serve as Executive Officer. We want to thank Dad Steven Stewart for his service as Executive Officer in Alaska. Members of Chapters in Alaska have been sent new membership cards reflecting their new Jurisdiction. We look forward to the great things that will be coming from Washington & Alaska!

## **Masonic Lodges: deliver toys for Tri-Cities hospitalized children**



*Representatives of Tri-City Masonic Lodges deliver toys at Lourdes medical center in Pasco and Kadlec Hospital in Richland.*

RICHLAND, Wash. - In the spirit of giving, Free and Accepted Masons of Washington in the Tri-Cities hosted a toy drive for children in local hospitals.

The Lodges collected over 500 stuffed animals for hospitalized children and delivered a portion to Kadlec medical center on Thursday, December 14. Representatives of the Masonic Lodges also made a delivery on Friday, at Lourdes medical center in Pasco.

Richland Mason, Raul Garcia said, "Christmas is seeing those faces of children receiving the gift, that has a marvelous feeling for the giver and I think that's why we're all here because we want to give."

- ✓ January 13 2018, 2pm: New Officers Workshop - an afternoon of orientation and training for new Lodge officers followed by an evening social at University Masonic Center.
- ✓ February 10 2018, 10am: Wardens Competition - district 5 ritual competition for JW's and SW's. University Masonic Center



### It happened January...

## **President Richard Nixon signs Senator Henry Jackson's National Environmental Policy Act into law on January 1, 1970.**

By Kit Oldham - HistoryLink.org Essay 5615

On January 1, 1970, President Richard Nixon (1913-1994) signs the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) sponsored by (Everett Lodge No. 137 Brother) Senator Henry M. "Scoop" Jackson (1912-1983). Little noticed when passed by Congress in 1969, NEPA turns out to be the most influential of the many environmental laws enacted in the 1960s and 1970s and is often referred to as an environmental Magna Carta. The Act's requirement that federal agencies prepare environmental impact statements before taking major action transforms



Henry (Scoop) Jackson (1912-1983)

government decision-making and becomes a powerful tool for environmentalists. Many states, including Washington, adopt laws modeled after NEPA, and the principle of publicly analyzing environmental impacts spreads to countries around the world.

As environmentalism became a political force, triggered in part by the 1962 publication of Rachel Carson's influential best-seller *Silent Spring*, Congress responded. Much of the new environmental legislation came from the Interior Committee that Jackson chaired, including the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, and bills creating North Cascades National Park in Washington, Redwood National Park in California, and National Seashores around the country.

*Editor's note:* Many of our national parks and monuments have been threatened by actions taken by the President this past year.

### **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

For the last seven years of his life Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a Mason. The Masonic order played an important role in his life and work. Mozart was admitted as an Apprentice to the Viennese Masonic Lodge called "Zur Wohltätigkeit" ("Beneficence") on 14 December 1784. He was promoted to journeyman Mason on 7 January 1785, and became a Master Mason "shortly thereafter". During his visit to Vienna in 1785, Mozart's father Leopold also became a Mason.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Company Store** WBro. Hans Wehl reported that company store sales were good at last month's installation. He praised his lady Sharon for the fine "sales work" she did in assisting. St. John's gifts filled Christmas stockings.

**Delinquent Dues** The Secretary reported that all but one of our members were current in this year's dues. [One Brother] owed \$95 through December. He has been notified by mail each month. His last known telephone number is no longer in service; his mail has not been returned by the post office.

Since he has been faithful in paying his dues in previous years and we have not been able to reach him, the Secretary ***m/s/p that Bro. [name withheld] dues for 2017 be waived if not paid by December 31, 2017.***



**Fellowship** VWBro. Ashley Brinkley requested a show of interest in purchasing tickets for a family outing to an Everett AquaSox game again next summer. It was ***m/s/p to purchase 30 tickets in January (\$720).***

**Operation Kid Smile** VWBro. Neil Quinn thanked all the volunteers who participated in this year's Operation Kid Smile. The Lodge provided \$4,450 for the event; we had an anonymous donation of another \$300; Kohl's department store gave us a 25% discount (over \$800 value); and Walmart provided \$50 in discounts. He returned \$430.60 to the general fund. We shopped for clothing, food and gifts for six families and fifteen children. VWBro. Quinn called this a great experience hosting the families and the kids really touched his heart. VWBro. Charles Brockway extended his appreciation to VWBro. Neil (and Lady Lu) Quinn for stepping up and taking on this project. The Master and others who participated added that they had a great time.



***Santa Claus (WBro. Hans Wehl) visits with members of a military family in Tacoma***

**June 8 – 9, 2018 Annual Communication Grand Lodge  
(Wenatchee Convention Center)**