

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

Trestleboard

JULY 2019

Jim Russell, editor



Serving Seattle since 1860

meets: 7910 Greenwood Ave. N.

Lodge phone: (206) 623-0261

[Lodge Secretary](#)

[St. John's Website](#)

FROM THE EAST

[Seann Maria](#), Master

Brethren,

The month has passed in which we attended both Grand Lodge Communication and a Table Lodge. I'm curious to hear feedback on how all of you enjoyed the experience of both. I find that Grand Lodge Communication holds different importance to each of us, much the way our own Lodge meetings do. Some of us enjoy the reports and voting on code changes, others of us enjoy the ceremonies, dinners, and fellowship. Either way you slice I find the Grand Lodge Communications very valuable to maintaining a sense of unity around not just our Grand Jurisdiction but those Grand Jurisdictions of our neighbors.



To give my own account of my 4th Grand Communication I can say that I've learned my preference is to stay an engaged member of the votes to which I hold a strong opinion. Over the years many of these votes have seemed minor, custodial, or even non-applicable. This has led me to know when I feel like I should vote and when other votes I should sit out and let others govern the outcome. What I can't stress enough is the importance of reading the proposals to come before Grand Lodge Communications so you can understand if there is a vote you should be a part of as some of them can truly dictate a major focal point of your own Masonic experience and if you're not participating in the process of governance, than you shouldn't be surprised by the outcome of such votes in your absence.

Now, despite the focus I put on voting as one of my own large interests, I can say without a doubt that the most important part of Grand Communication is having an opportunity to reconnect and share fellowship with brothers from all around the region. I see brothers almost every year from far off parts of the state and we share our wins and losses that have occurred in the Lodge throughout the year. I've managed to even become quite close with the Grand Lodge members who visit from Oregon and British Columbia each year. We share our similarities and our differences and through that process we learn more about what makes us all Freemasons.

This should also be considered as one of the purposes of Table Lodge. A time to bring ourselves together for Fellowship in a format for only Masons in a tiled room. We can make it what we want and we can always make sure it's something we enjoy. My hope is that we continue to discuss how to improve the Table Lodge for our Lodge and Grand Communication for our district so that we don't let others decide for us what our future should be.

CALENDAR



- July 11 (7pm): Officers meeting
- July 17 (6:15pm): St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated; – Scholarship Night
- July 20 (6pm): family night Everett AquaSox baseball
- July 24 (6-8pm): Greenwood Seafair Parade
- July 25 (6:15pm): Festive Board with Piers Vaughan, speaker
- July 27 (10am): Past Masters Brunch *Jimmy's on Broadway*
- July 31 (6:30pm): District 5 Assoc. meeting (*Razzis Pizza*)
- August 3 (10am): Open Air MM Degree, Masonic Park
- August 4 (1pm – 6pm): Lodge outing to Emerald Downs
- August 14 (6pm): Board of Trustees
- August 15 (7pm): Officers meeting
- August 21 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated (*casual dress*)
- August 24 (5pm social hour): 159th Anniversary Celebration *Ivar's Salmon House*
- September 2: Labor Day
- September 4: Happy Birthday to us!
- September 12 (7pm): Officers meeting
- September 18 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- September 25 (6:30pm): District Assoc. meeting (*Razzis Pizza*)
- September 29-October 1: Rosh Hashanah (*Jewish New Year*)
- October 5 (9am): Northwest Masonic Conference Portland
- October 9-10: Yom Kippur (*Tuesday-Wednesday*)
- October 9 (6pm): Board of Trustees (*2019 Budget preparation*)
- October 10 (7pm): Officers meeting
- October 16 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated Past Masters Night; Election of Officers
- October 26 (10am): Past Masters Brunch *Jimmy's on Broadway*
- November 13 (6pm): Board of Trustees

...the best means of forming a manly, virtuous and happy people, will be found in the right education of youth. Without *this* foundation, every other means, in my opinion, must fail... George Washington, Mount Vernon 15th December 1784.

JULY STATED TO HONOR STUDENTS – 15 SCHOLARSHIPS!

Eager high school graduating seniors and previous recipients of scholarships from St. John's Lodge will be accompanied by their families at dinner leading into our July 17 stated communication. This year the St. John's scholarship committee will be awarding grants to fifteen students. Ten of these are returning honorees and five will be receiving our assistance for the first time. Worshipful Master Seann Maria extends his appreciation to WBro. Eric Koteles, Bro. Blair Newmann, and Bro. Paul Doak for their outreach to students, interviews, and selections.

If Freemasonry is "about" anything, it is about the education of the individual to become a knowledgeable, informed, and moral human being within society. Education is valued above ignorance. Seeking further Light in Masonry means more than learning more about the Craft. It also means that Freemasons and non-Masons alike must discipline themselves to seek knowledge through whatever means available—by studying at colleges and universities or by self-directed reading and study.

The taking in of knowledge from outside is of course the starting point of being educated; but true education is the further process of bringing out the innate capacity and ability to interpret and to use what has been learned for our own self development and for the good of the general society in which we live.

St. John's brethren will return for this month's stated communication July 17. **Dress will be casual (no coat/tie).** Please make your **dinner reservations** with the secretary at 206 623-0261 **by Friday, July 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.



GRAND MASTER'S FOCUS ON CHARITY

Our Deputy of the Grand Master for District 5 VVBro. Steve Harrell brings greetings from our newly installed Grand Master – MWBro. Charles E. Wood. He reports that there will be no Grand Master's "tie" or Grand Master's "coin" available for sale this year, as the Grand Master desires that all contributions to his designated charities be free of expenses. His Washington Masonic Charities programs:

- Distressed Worthy Master Masons, Widows and Orphans,
- A Youth Program to keep children in school and not on the streets, and
- The Honor Flight Program to bring veterans of World War II to the [National World War II Memorial](#) in Washington, DC.

The Grand Master challenges each Mason to write a check for \$40.00. That's what it would have cost to buy these three items in the past. Send checks and cash directly to Washington Masonic Charities.



**MW Charles E. Wood,
Grand Master 2019-20**



St. John's Races to Emerald Downs



Sunday, August 4

\$50 value for only \$10

Includes admission, buffet meal, official program, tip sheet, and reserved seating.

And...

additional fun attractions with Corky racing dogs.

Play your favorite card games (at your own risk) in the Clubhouse Casino located on the 5th floor!

Track opens at 9am, the room at 1pm, races start at 2pm, and the buffet opens at 2:30pm.

Make your reservations no later than July 22 with VVBro. Jim Russell. \$10 per person will be collected at the event.

The [Greenwood Seafair Parade](#), the oldest neighborhood Seafair Parade in the region, is celebrating its 70th year on Wednesday, July 24. The parade route starts at Greenwood Avenue and N. 95th, marches South to N. 85th, then west to 6th NW.

School groups, drill teams, organizations, businesses, community groups, churches, and others will be participating.

Open Air Master Mason Degree

Annual event 1st Saturday of August

It is a common call and annual tradition that draws a multitude of Freemasons in the State of Washington and the country of Canada to the heart of Granite Falls, Washington, to an exclusive Family Park for Masons and their families to witness the raising of new Fellow Craft to the sublime Degree of Master Mason. The site of the Open Air Degree is a display of the majesty and light of nature, making the affair a more surreal experience.



This year's degree will be held Saturday, August 3. Master Masons only may attend the degree, but there will be festivities for the ladies during that time and a splendid meal to follow!



Masons gather for degree in open air lodge "room" at the Masonic Park near Granite Falls

Past Masters brunch July 27

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.



Affiliated Past Masters are welcome, too.

We get together on the last Saturday of January, April, July, and November. Brunches start at 10am and close shortly after noon at Jimmy's On

Broadway - just north of Madison at the Silver Cloud Hotel, 1100 Broadway.

Free parking under the hotel

It's coming!!

St. John's

159th Anniversary Celebration

Ivar's Salmon House

Potlatch Room

Social hour – 5pm Dinner 6pm

Saturday, August 24

Make your reservations, today

Masonic Enlightenment Continues

This year Worshipful Master Seann Maria has placed special emphasis on Masonic Enlightenment at St. John's Lodge No. 9. This month, July 25, we welcome the third in a series of speakers, WBro. Piers Vaughan.

WBro. Vaughan has one of the most diverse and fascinating backgrounds for the study and understanding (and explanation) of Masonic, appendant, and other esoteric orders you will ever encounter. Originally, he is from England, and he belongs to Lodges in England, Canada, and the U.S. Throughout his life he has lived in several European countries, Canada, and now resides in New York.



Piers Vaughan, speaker

He has a Master's degree in Divinity and another in Experimental Psychology; experience in both the Anglican and Catholic denominations and traditions; an MBA in Business Studies; a teaching diploma in Music; and much, much more.

WBro. Piers has made extensive studies in history, alchemy, language (he has translated many texts from French to English), symbolism, cultures – truly what anyone would acknowledge to be a "Renaissance Man."

Appropriately, one of his most recent books is 2017's outstanding *Renaissance Man & Mason*.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

St. John's Masons and families will once again head to the Everett AquaSox baseball game July 20. "Pre-admission" opens at 6pm into the Pepsi Picnic Pavilion, with hot dogs, hamburgers, fruit salad, baked beans, soft drink and reserved seating. Free parking on site.

Here's a look at our future Mariners vs. the Spokane Indians (Texas Rangers farm club). Game seats will be in the lower rows on the 3rd base side of the diamond. First pitch will be thrown at 7:05; fireworks following the game.



Masonic Builders

Records in the Grand Lodge of Scotland Museum indicate that Bro. George Washington recruited six Masons from Edinburgh, Scotland, to help build the White House in Washington, DC. All six became founding members of the Federal Masonic Lodge #1 of Washington D.C. One of these brethren was Bro. James Hoban, who built the United States Capitol and the White House. He was a devout Catholic and ardent Mason. Federal Lodge #1 was formed under his leadership by a group of Irish Catholics and Scotch Presbyterians. Bro. James Hoban was the first Worshipful Master of Federal Lodge #1.

Senior Warden Message

Bro. Blair Neumann



Brethren, how did Table Lodge go? Was it as fun for you as it was for me? We wanted a festive board. Did we deliver? It was a bit of a long night for those of us closing Lodge upstairs, and a break from the “usual” hopefully for everybody. Let me know how it went for you. If I’m Master next year, would you like to see it done that way again? Why or why not?

I should be in Edinburgh soon and am looking forward to basking in some of its old Masonic glory. Are our Masonic glory days behind us, or does Masonry bask in glory forever? It’s certainly up to us to create whatever glory we wish Freemasonry to have. It’s our labor, compounded by our Brothers’ labors, that make and keep Masonry as glorious as it is.

“Do good unto all.” To me, that ranks among the most glorious phrases in Masonry, which is star-spangled with glorious passages and phrases. This one is unequivocal, bringing our full bearing to its noble and glorious purpose of charity, in the purest sense of that word. We should consistently strive toward this purpose: it’s one of the greatest feelings a man can ever have.

Coming in August

AARP Fraud Watch Network: Who’s Really on the Line?



The barrage of automated telephone solicitations or “robo calls” we get on our home and mobile phones has increased to nearly 50 billion calls a year, and it’s estimated that up to half of those calls are scams.

Whether it’s on the phone or online, new technology and “spoofing” tools have made it easier than ever for scammers to pretend to be someone they’re

not, such as the IRS or your bank or credit union. Their goal is simple - to fool you into handing over your hard earned money. But there is something you can do.

We’ll find out more in detail at next month’s stated communication when representatives from the AARP speak about the many scams directed our way and what we can do to avoid them.

Visit Our District Brethren

District 5 Lodges	Next Meeting	Time
St. John’s 9	Wednesday, July 17, 2019	7:30pm
Eureka 20	Monday, September 9, 2019	7:30pm
University 141	Friday, September 6, 2019	7:30pm
Daylight 232	Saturday, September 21, 2019	10am
Lafayette 241	Thursday, September 5, 2019	7pm
Queen Anne 242	Thursday, September 12, 2019	7:30pm
Esoterika 316	Tuesday, July 23, 2019	7:30pm

Junior Warden Message

VWBro. Ashley Brinkley



It’s time again for the article. It comes quicker and quicker each month. It’s like your bills coming every month. I thought I just paid that and its due again.

I have gone to Grand Lodge for years. In fact, how many years I can’t remember and probably too many to count. It’s always different but still the same.

I like to see the new Brothers who have been appointed or elected at Grand Lodge being installed. They are always excited and engaged and wanting to do a great job. Hopefully that lasts a long time. I think about employees in the workplace and their first day on the job and how excited they are and wanting to do their best. Most of the time this does not last long and they feel burned out.

All Master Masons should attend Grand Lodge to be involved and to see how things work and renew their energy “on the job”. I think fellowship is really the best thing. It’s getting Brothers together, talking about their Lodges and what they are doing. It’s getting ideas. It’s making new friendships and renewing old ones. Each person can make a difference. Other than at dinner or speaking on an issue in session, I think Grand Lodge should have time set aside just to allow Brothers to talk.

Plan now to go next year. It’s worth your time. Invest in the job. ☺

JULY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Day

- 3 Bernard G. Yperman
- 6 Aaron D. Holt
- 7 James R. Odom
- 14 Roy D. Sam
- 15 Edgar H. Carthell, Jr.
- 15 Jeffrey T. Isaacs
- 22 Kurt W. Lavrinc
- 22 Allan B. Pinch
- 23 Kenneth C. Marable
- 24 Thomas R. Everts
- 24 Teodorico “Derrick” Tan
- 27 Charlie A. Barnard
- 28 Forrest R. Johnson
- 29 George S. Serpanos



Signing of the Declaration of Independence



LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER

On Thursday, June 13, Queen Anne Lodge No. 242 held its last stated communication in its old building atop Queen Anne Hill. Beginning September, Queen Anne will be meeting here at Greenwood Masonic Center. The 114-year old building required major work to bring it up to "code." As we prepare to welcome our new neighbor and old friend, let us take a look at what they leave behind.



First Queen Anne telephone exchange achieves landmark status

Board approves designation based on importance in early employment for women

Story and photo by Brandon Macz

The Queen Anne Masonic Lodge building is now a designated Seattle landmark, but only its distinctive exterior, which means plans to build two townhomes inside it can proceed.

The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board accepted the building's nomination in April, but not because of its long history as home to Queen Anne Masonic Lodge No. 242.

The 114-year-old building started as the Sunset Telephone & Telegraph Exchange, the first phone exchange on Queen Anne Hill, in 1905.

The building at 1608 Fourth Ave. W. was sold to the Queen Anne Masons in 1924, after the phone company moved the exchange to a larger building down the street. The landmarks board designated the Garfield Exchange last December, which is now being redeveloped into an apartment building.

Telephone exchanges provided early employment opportunities for educated women, and that cultural significance is what influenced the landmark board's decision more than its Lodge history.

Susan Boyle with BOLA Architecture+Planning prepared the nomination report for Queen Anne companies R&R Development and Eiffel Tour, and was asked by the landmarks board in April to come back with more history about the exchange and the women who worked there.

While the information pulled from old periodicals and documents left something to be desired by the landmarks board, they unanimously agreed that recognizing the building's history as it related to early employment for women was important enough to approve designation.

"That really makes this building special, for its association with women's history," said board member Manish Chalanah.

Boyle said the exchanges were staffed almost entirely by young women. "The Hello Girls," as one news article referred to them, had to be nervy, quick and agile as they connected calls, Boyle said. They also had to follow a strict dress code.

"They were highly supervised," she said, "and there were reports that they didn't have aesthetics in the building."

There's nothing left of the interior of the Sunset Exchange building highlighting its original purpose, the Masons having made multiple renovations over the past 90 years.

Several landmarks board members appreciated the rustication of the unreinforced masonry building's exterior, which is tucked among craftsman homes in Queen Anne. The facade was changed after residents objected to the original design, which would have used plain bricks.

"On this block, I would argue it's difficult to see this building as prominent," Boyle said.

One criterion the landmarks board can use to designate a building is its prominence or contrast in siting. Board member Kathleen Durham liked the idea of a utility building blending into a residential neighborhood.

"It almost has this movie-set quality," said board member Kristen Johnson.

"I think it's a great piece of neighborhood infrastructure," said board member Richard Freitas of the building's "industrial design at residential scale."

Rich Rogers with R&R Development tells Queen Anne News the sale of the property is expected to close on June 30, and plans remain on track to design two townhomes within the exterior. The hope is the process will move more quickly now with the Seattle

Department of Construction and Inspections.

As a Seattle landmark, the board's Architectural Review Committee will play a role in directing redevelopment of the building.

"It's a quasi-judicial board," Boyle said. "If they say you can't do that, you can't do that."



The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board has designated the exterior of the former Queen Anne Masonic Lodge building as a historic landmark because of its original use as a telephone exchange that provided early employment opportunities for women.

St. John's Lodge recommended the petition of several Masons resident on Queen Anne Hill in Seattle for a Lodge, and dispensation was granted April 4, 1921. It was approved, and charter granted June 21, 1921. There is a tradition that the name Queen Anne is from an Indian queen, who once lived at the foot of the hill.

GLOBAL WANDERINGS.....

The Yearly Conference of Europe's Grand Masters of 2019 was held this year at Monaco. More than 30 Grand Lodges participated. A sampling of important issues:

1. **How are the Freemasons seen by the public?**

Many Grand Lodges mention being hampered by a combination of two ideas, namely that Freemasonry works against non-members, and that on many levels the Freemasons are conspiring. A year ago, UGLE launched an aggressive media campaign under the heading "Enough is Enough". Opponents jeered time and again. A similar reaction against Freemasonry occurred in Spain whose Grand Lodge took sides in Venezuela's recent presidential conflict and thereby earned much domestic, regional and foreign criticism. Political neutrality is practiced by many Grand Lodges and seems to be appreciated by people of different ideologies and in many countries.

2. Declining memberships everywhere. Most participants of the conference reported that it hardly pays to look for interested males via the internet or activities open to the public. Also "trial" or "probationary" memberships do not work. (Yes, such things have been tried.) One reason is that "the Masonic Secret" is de-valued and gets lost. Even the otherwise stolid Scandinavians reported problems: there are many interested men, but most disengage after a short period of contact.

3. Social media is a slippery and negative world. Particularly troublesome is that Brothers dump photos or videos of Lodge rituals, social events and friends indiscriminately on "U-tube", "flickr", Instagram, etc. What is going on: formal event, orgy, psychedelics, drug scene? Who cares about the consequences for individuals, Lodges, Masonry? Social media thrive in a world without heads or tails, content, moral direction. This image defames people and Lodges for a long future to come. UGLE and GL of Scotland issued a booklet how to handle internet matters.

4. "Diversity" has appeared in UGLE and caused disharmony. No, it's not racial, it is more modern. What happened? A Brother presented himself suddenly as a woman, wears women's clothes to Labor, demands accommodation. The legal situation in England and Wales is tricky. UGLE appears helpless. The rags have a ball.

We can be glad that the above things do not concern us in the state of Washington. 😊 (By H.S.)

THE WORLD'S FIRST DIGITAL QUARRY?

Two years ago, a handful of Austrian Brethren started to work on a new computer program specifically to protect individuals', Lodges' and Grand Lodges' data, lectures etc. and to have secure mutual communication in several languages away from the usual web sites and customary ways of programming. Nothing comparable to this "Digital Quarry" exists in Europe and probably also not in the world. The program "ARCANUM" is now used by all Lodges and Grand Lodge in Austria. Other Grand Lodges are interested in joining. A symposium at Vienna's Logenhaus on Sept. 20, 2019 will discuss new ethical matters and Masonic issues. (By Paul Liberty)

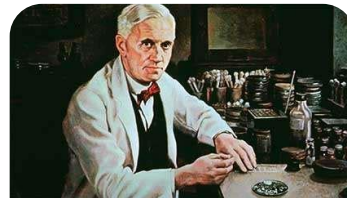
Penicillin An Accidental Discovery?

Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin, was initiated into Sancta Maria Lodge No. 2682, London in 1909 and was a Past Junior Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1942.

By 1927, Fleming had been investigating the properties of staphylococci. He was already well known from his earlier work, and had developed a reputation as a brilliant researcher, but his laboratory was often untidy. On 3 September 1928, Fleming returned to his laboratory having spent August on holiday with his family. Before leaving, he had stacked all his cultures of staphylococci on a bench in a corner of his laboratory. On returning, Fleming noticed that one culture was contaminated with a fungus, and that the colonies of staphylococci immediately surrounding the fungus had been destroyed, whereas other staphylococci colonies farther away were normal, famously remarking "That's funny".

Fleming grew the mould in a pure culture and found that it produced a substance that killed a number of disease-causing bacteria. He identified the mould as being from the genus *Penicillium*, and, after some months of calling it "mould juice", named the substance it released *penicillin* on 7 March 1929.

He investigated its positive anti-bacterial effect on many organisms, and noticed that it affected bacteria such as staphylococci and many other Gram-positive pathogens that



Bro. Fleming – discovers penicillin

cause scarlet fever, pneumonia, meningitis and diphtheria, but not typhoid fever or paratyphoid fever, which are caused by Gram-negative bacteria, for which

he was seeking a cure at the time. It also affected *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, which causes gonorrhoea, although this bacterium is Gram-negative.

Fleming published his discovery in 1929, in the *British Journal of Experimental Pathology*, but little attention was paid to his article. Fleming continued his investigations, but found that cultivating *Penicillium* was quite difficult, and that after having grown the mould, it was even more difficult to isolate the antibiotic agent. Fleming's impression was that because of the problem of producing it in quantity, and because its action appeared to be rather slow, penicillin would not be important in treating infection. Fleming also became convinced that penicillin would not last long enough in the human body (*in vivo*) to kill bacteria effectively.

Many clinical tests were inconclusive, probably because it had been used as a surface antiseptic. In the 1930s, Fleming's trials occasionally showed more promise, but Fleming largely abandoned penicillin work, leaving Howard Florey and Ernst Boris Chain at the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford to take up research to mass-produce it, with funds from the U.S. and British governments. They started mass production after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. By D-Day in 1944, enough penicillin had been produced to treat all the wounded in the Allied forces.

MEET THE NEW JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN **Edward C. Woods**

Edward C. Woods was born on February 6, 1971 in Wiesbaden, Germany to Marion and Gary Woods. Much of his youth was spent growing up in the town of Bruch, Germany near Spangdahlem Air Force Base where his father was stationed in the U.S. Air Force. Subsequently his father was stationed to George Air Force Base near Victorville, California and then retired to Seattle, Washington where Edward attended Chief Sealth High School in West Seattle.



In 1988 Edward enlisted in the United States Army Reserves on the split option program and went to boot camp at Fort Leonard-Wood, Missouri. After graduating high school in 1989 he finished his advance training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

After graduation from high school Edward started working at J.A. Jack and Sons, Inc. - Imperial Limestone in Seattle, Washington. After 4 years working as a warehouseman, he entered public service going to work for the State of Washington - Department of Corrections at the Washington Corrections Center in Shelton, Washington in 1993.

Edward started his career in corrections as a correctional officer, working through the ranks of correctional sergeant, lieutenant and correctional unit supervisor. While at the Washington Corrections Center he served on

and ultimately became the team leader for the facility's Special Emergency Response Team (SWAT team). Edward was a trainer for the Department's Correctional Officers Academy in its early days and has also served as a trained firearm, less-lethal and use of force instructor for many years. In 2012 Edward joined the department's newly formed Incident Management Team (Emergency Management) continuing in this capacity until 2019.

Edward moved from the Washington Corrections Center to the Department of Corrections Headquarters in Tumwater, Washington in early 2017 where he currently works as a management analyst, compiling reports with data from the department's system of record for managers, legislative staff, internal and external customers applying his previous 23 years of prison experience.

Edward holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice - Corrections from Kaplan University, graduating Summa Cum Laude.

Edward is joined by the love of his life of over 28 years, Lady Carolyn Woods, their son Alexander and daughter Kaitlin. They have one granddaughter, Marilyn.

Edward was initiated on September 19, 2006, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on October 17, 2006 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on December 19, 2006 and passed his proficiency on December 4, 2007 at Harmony Lodge No. 18. He has served as Junior Steward, Senior Steward, Senior Warden and was installed as Worshipful Master of his Lodge in January 2011. He continues to serve as the Lodge Secretary.

He was appointed as District Deputy of the Grand Master in District 16 by Most Worshipful Bruce Vesper and Most Worshipful Sam Roberts. He was appointed as Special Deputy of the Grand Master by Most Worshipful Don Munks, Most Worshipful Jim Mendoza and Most Worshipful Warren Schoeben. Edward has served as chairman on the Leadership Training Committee - Lodge Leaderships Retreat, President of The Grand Lodge Building Association and on the Grand Lodge Trial Committee.

He was awarded the Grand Master's Achievement Award in March 2019.

Edward is the Past Potentate (2018) for Afifi Shriners. He is a 32° KCCH Scottish Rite Mason and served as the Venerable Master, Wise Master and Commander for the Valley of Olympia Scottish Rite. On June 15, 2019 Edward was elected Junior Grand Warden.

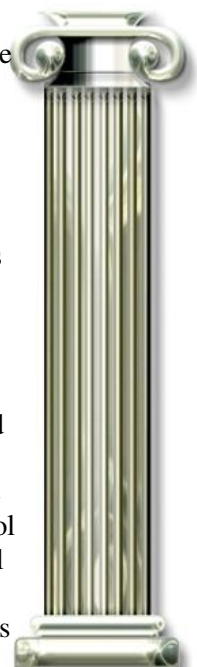
SITE OF THE 163rd ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

The 163rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington will convene in Grand Mound, WA at the Great Wolf Lodge Grand Mound on June 12 and 13, 2020.

PILLARS IN THE PORCH



There are two pillars, placed before the entrance of King Solomon's Temple, which are symbolically represented within every Lodge of Fellow Craft Masonry. These pillars are symbols of strength and establishment and by implication, power and control. One must remember that power and control are placed before you, so you might realize that power without control is anarchy, or that control without power is futility. Man must have both if his life is to be successful.



A Light In The Darkness

by Midnight Freemasons Founder

Todd E. Creason, 33°



I remember many years ago taking a red-eye flight from Los Angeles to Atlanta – it was a six or seven hour flight in the middle of the night. It was the first time I'd flown at night, and I slept through most of the flight. Every once in awhile, I'd wake up and look out the window. I thought it was odd that every time I woke up and looked out the window we were flying over a large city. The city lights were beautiful across the landscape below. The last time I woke up, I glanced out the window and saw that once again we were flying over a large city. I suddenly realized that wasn't a city beneath me! We were flying over vast rural areas, and those lights below were barnyard lights from all the small farms spaced out over the miles below. We were flying so far up, those small lights looked very close together, but in reality could have been a mile or more apart from each other.

I was thinking about this again back in November, when President George H. W. Bush passed away. He made a remark in his nomination speech in 1988 about a thousand points of light that baffled many people. Nobody seemed to really get what he was talking about. He repeated that concept of a thousand points of light at his inaugural address in 1989. What's been forgotten is that he was talking about community organizations like ours. Small points of light in a sea of darkness doing our good works – building men, building stronger communities, serving as pillars of the community, helping those who are less fortunate. I knew what the President was talking about, because I remembered that flight and how all those small lights below looked from far above.

It's very easy for us to become discouraged at times as Freemasons. We aspire to live by a very different set of rules than other men do, and that can make us feel very much alone at times. We can feel as if we're living our life by standards that seem outdated to many people in our modern society. We look at the problems of the modern world, and we wonder if all our efforts to improve ourselves, and to make this world a better place aren't a giant waste of time.

I've felt that way from time to time, and when I start thinking like that, I just look at my map. I have a map on my wall at home of the Eastern Masonic Area of Illinois. I have all one hundred Lodges in that area marked on my map with a pin – from above, my map looks a lot like that view out of the airplane window so many years ago – that map is covered in pins. And if I were to mark the homes of all the Masons that belonged to all those Lodges? Add all the churches, temples, and synagogues and the homes of all their members. Add the Odd Fellows Lodges and their members. The Lions Club. Rotary Club. American Legion. Boy and Girl Scouts. And there are many more such groups and individuals among us, aren't there? Why feel discouraged? I doubt if we marked all those groups and those individuals on our map, we'd even be able to see it for all the pins!

We are not alone in this effort of making the world a better place – each of us carries a light, and as Masons our Lodges help us focus that light. We're scattered out all over the state of Illinois, the country, and the world. But we're hardly alone in this effort. Millions are with us, and we have a tremendous advantage as lights in the world – even a very small light in the darkness can be seen for many, many miles.

President George H. W. Bush made another comment in his 1989 inaugural speech that I think applies to Freemasons in particular. He said, "The old ideas are new again because they are not old, they are timeless . . ."

Todd E. Creason, 33° is the Founder of the Midnight Freemasons blog and is a regular contributor. He is the award winning author of several books and novels, including the Famous American Freemasons series. He is the author of the From Labor to Refreshment blog. He is a Past Master of Homer Lodge No. 199 and Ogden Lodge No. 754 (IL) where he currently serves as Secretary. He is the Past Sovereign Master of the Eastern Illinois Council No. 356 Allied Masonic Degrees. He is a Fellow at the Missouri Lodge of Research.(FMLR). He is a charter member of a new Illinois Royal Arch Chapter, Admiration Chapter No. 282 where he currently serves as EHP. He is also a member of Tuscola Odd Fellows Lodge No. 316. You can contact him at: webmaster@toddcreason.org

"Men build too many walls and not enough bridges." — Joseph Fort Newton

Dr. Joseph Fort Newton was a clergyman and Masonic author. Bro. Newton was raised in Friendship Lodge #7, Dixon, Illinois, later affiliating with Mt. Hermon Lodge #263, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He is the author of one of Freemasonry's classics, *The Builders*. He lived from 1880 until 1950.

"One sometimes finds, what one is not looking for. When I woke up just after dawn on September 28, 1928, I certainly didn't plan to revolutionize all medicine by discovering the world's first antibiotic, or bacteria killer. But I suppose that was exactly what I did."

— **Alexander Fleming**

Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin, was initiated into Sancta Maria Lodge No. 2682, London in 1909.