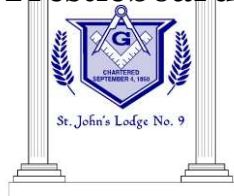


St. John's Lodge No. 9, F. & A. M.

Trestleboard

JULY 2021

Jim Russell, editor



Serving Seattle since 1860

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FROM THE EAST

[S. Ashley Brinkley](#), Master



S. Ashley Brinkley
Master

Returning to in-person communications is our next, and hopefully last phase of the Covid Pandemic we've been living for the past year and a half. I am forever grateful to have made it through this with all my Mason Brothers. We learned that Zoom is a great tool to use in a pinch. We may still even use Zoom to gather for officer meetings or for education. However, Zoom can never replace the fellowship I feel from seeing each of you IN PERSON.

I was fortunate to have been able to attend Grand Lodge in person; this was the first time being together with a small group of you in what seems like forever. It was wonderful. Being able to attend meetings in person, to not only see some of my brothers but feel the fellowship and emotion, I didn't realize how much I deeply missed it. I am sure many of you might feel the same.

I went to my first in-person Lodge meeting not too long after Grand Lodge. Everyone who was there was just as happy as I was. Soon, many of our Lodges will open for in-person meetings and gatherings and I hope you feel the same as I did when you first go back.

Now, it is time to move forward. We must brush up on our ritual work – I don't know about you, but I will admit, I'm a bit rusty. We must begin having Degree's, vote on "New Membership" candidates and get back to "normal" Lodge business. We must use this past year as a learning experience; to know that we can use new tools to help make our organization better and stronger than ever before.

We have a lot of activities coming up. We must take advantage of each of them. Let's enjoy each other and the fellowship we share!

St. John's Family Camp-out in August

St. John's has reserved a covered facility at the Masonic Park near Granite Falls the weekend of August 20-21-22 this summer. Members of the Lodge will be furnished with a catered meal on Saturday afternoon. Those who want to bring RVs need to make their reservations through Worshipful Master VWBro. Ashley Brinkley. Do not delay – RV spaces are limited; tents not so much.



That weekend the Grand Lodge is scheduled to perform a "twilight" Fellowcraft degree in the open air Lodge room at the park. This will be similar and an addition to the traditional open-air Master Mason degree the first Saturday of August.

The Masonic Family Park, with 245 acres of splendid Hemlock, Fir, and Cedar trees, has many private RV campsites with shelters and cooking pits along the creek. There are also RV dumps, a bathhouse with hot showers, and 2 playgrounds for the kids.

For those who enjoy the comfort of your own bed, make it a daytime outing, enjoy the company and an easy drive back home that evening.

CALENDAR

- July 14 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom teleconference
- July 15 (7pm): Officers meeting
- July 21 (6:15pm): St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated *Grand Master's visit; dinner and meeting to be held at the Seattle Scottish Rite (Shoreline)*
- July 28(7pm): Fellowship Zoom teleconference
- July 31 (10am): Past Masters Brunch *Jimmy's/Broadway*
- August 7 (10am): Open Air MM Degree, Masonic Park
- August 11 (6pm): Board of Trustees
- August 14 (6pm): family night Everett AquaSox baseball
- August 18 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated *(casual dress) at Seattle Scottish Rite*
- August 20-22: Family Camp-out at Masonic Park
- August 28 (5pm social hour): 161st Anniversary Celebration *Ivar's Salmon House*
- September 15 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated *(casual dress) back to Greenwood Masonic Temple*

...to spread the cement of brotherly love and affection – that cement which unites us into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble emulation, of who best can work and best agree....



COMMUNICATIONS RETURN; GRAND MASTER VISITS IN JULY

Following sixteen months of “virtual” communications, St. John’s Lodge brothers will finally get to meet “on the level” and face-to-face at our July 21 stated communication. Dinner will be served at 6:15pm by our familiar and favorite chef Jed Lutge. VWBro. Ashley Brinkley will be sitting in the East for the first time at St. John’s as he and his officers brush off the rust to open Lodge to greet our new Grand Master, MWBro. Cameron M. Bailey.

What else is new? We’ll be meeting in temporary quarters at the Seattle Valley Scottish Rite in Shoreline (1207 N. 152nd St., Shoreline, WA 98133).

Members are requested to dress in coat and tie – officers in tuxedos with red bow tie.

Why are we meeting at The Scottish Rite Temple? Our regular meeting site is at the Greenwood Masonic Temple. However, the Greenwood Temple Board has elected to not re-open the building until the first of September. Unless that changes, we’ll be meeting at the Scottish Rite next month (August 18), as well.

This month we’ll be casting ballots on three petitioners and receive a petition for plural membership from a brother who has been joining our weekly Zoom meetings each Wednesday.

Those who have ordered tickets for the Everett AquaSox game in August can pick them up from Tyler WBro. Terry Grove. Sign up for our anniversary celebration dinner. Get details and conform your reservations for our family camp-out at the Masonic Park.



St. John’s will again offer dinner to all comers including guests and visitors at this month’s stated communication July 21.

Please make your dinner reservations with the secretary at 206 623-0261 by Friday, July 16, 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.

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**MW Cameron M. Bailey
to visit St. John's in July**

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

St. John’s Masons and families will once again head to the Everett AquaSox baseball game August 14th, 2021



“Pre- admission” opens at 6pm into the Pepsi Food Pavilion, BBQ with hot dogs, hamburgers, fruit salad, baked beans, soft drinks and your reserved seat.

Free parking on site. Here’s a look at our future Seattle Mariners vs. the Vancouver Canadians (Toronto Blue Jays farm club).

Our thirty (30) Game seats will be in the upper rows on the 3rd base side of the diamond (between home plate and the pitcher’s mound).

Section “I”. Rows 9-10-11-12-13. First pitch will be thrown at 7:05pm - fireworks following the game (around 9:30 or 10pm).

Get your \$10 ticket (\$25 value!) from WBro. Terry Grove (425) 610-4561 or terrygrove50@yahoo.com.

It's coming!!
St. John’s
161st Anniversary Celebration
Ivar’s Salmon House
Potlatch Room
Social hour – 5pm Dinner 6pm
Saturday, August 28
Make your reservations, today
Specify entrée choice: top sirloin, halibut, pasta
206 623-0261

Senior Warden Message

WBro. Blair Neumann



Brethren, as we are about to resume our sacred retreats of friendship and virtue, forget not the duties which you have heard so frequently inculcated, and so forcefully recommended, in this Lodge. Be diligent, prudent, temperate, discreet, yes, but remind yourself also of your duties in Lodge, as it's been some time since we've had an opportunity to truly practice our Craft as it should be practiced.

Meet upon the Level, act by the Plumb, and part upon the Square. These are not mere platitudes: our Wages are earned through our Labor with these Working Tools and others, while the perfection of our Ashlars is proven through the application of these three in particular. A Master Mason should do more than memorize and understand the catechisms associated with these Jewels: he should practice his Craft by applying his Working Tools, more especially in Lodge, subduing his passions, and acting within due bounds of propriety prescribed by our Craft and the dictates of his conscience.

MASTER MASONS RAISED IN JULY

Date Raised:

7/27/1957	Charles B. Claus, Jr.
7/30/1983	Jarrold 'Jerry' Schuh
7/24/1999	Jason R. Moore
7/15/2010	K. Eric Koteles
7/15/2010	Ronald A. Woodall, Jr.



On Balloting for Membership

Selected from Mackey's Encyclopedia

In the election of candidates, Lodges have recourse to a ballot of white and black balls. Some Grand Lodges (including Washington) permit the use of white balls with black cubes.

Unanimity of choice, in this case, was originally required; one black ball only being enough to reject a candidate, because as the Old Regulations say:

"The members of a particular Lodge are the best judges of it; and because, if a turbulent member should be imposed on them, it might spoil their harmony or hinder the, freedom of their communication, or even break up and disperse the Lodge, which ought to be avoided by all true and faithful" (see the Constitutions, 1738 edition, page 155).

In balloting for a candidate for initiation, every member is expected to vote. No one can be excused from sharing the responsibility of admission or rejection, except by the unanimous consent of the Lodge.

Where a member has himself no personal or acquired knowledge of the qualifications of the candidate, he is bound to give faith to the recommendation of his Brethren of the investigating committee, who, he is to presume, would not make a favorable report on the petition of an unworthy applicant.

Junior Warden Message

WBro. John Murray Louderback



Having our country just celebrating Independence Day, I felt it appropriate to re-examine America's founding principles.

Our founding fathers – which were mostly Freemasons – established these principles as directives for Congress to establish law.

The Declaration of Independence States: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The Preamble to the United States Constitution states: We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Freemasonry does not make civil law nor does Freemasonry enforce the law. Freemasonry does need to continue to be – the enlightenment.

Brockway, Creighton honored

We congratulate Past Master VWBro. Charles Brockway who has been honored by the Scottish Rite (Tacoma Valley) to receive the thirty-third degree.

The thirty-third degree is conferred upon those members of the 32nd degree who have been outstanding in their contributions to Freemasonry, the Scottish Rite, or who have shown in their communities the leadership which marks them as men who exemplify in their daily lives the true meaning of the Brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God. It cannot be sought by application, but awarded to one so nominated.

St. John's Musician WBro. Adam Creighton will receive his 32° KCCH of the Seattle Valley Scottish Rite.

Congratulations Brothers for your contributions to the fraternity and our community.

Grandview man arrested, charged with stealing sword and hat from Masonic Temple

GRANDVIEW -- A man is under arrest after police say he broke into a local Masonic Temple and stole a sword.

Grandview police say officers were called out Saturday after a Grandview Masonic Temple employee told them they had located a burglary suspect and had him detained on the ground.

The employee told officers that the day before, the side door of the building had been kicked in and a sword with silver scabbard and a Grandview High School marching band hat had been stolen.

Police arrived and interviewed the suspect, 27-year-old Luis Birrueta, who admitted to breaking in and stealing the sword.

Investigators say Luis told them he had smoked crystal meth and that he broke into the building because he believed there were bad people after him.

Past Masters Brunch Resumes July 31

After a long hiatus, 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.

We plan to meet at Pete's

Eggnest – 7717 Greenwood Ave N. – to avoid Capitol Hill or downtown Seattle where we have been enjoying service at Jimmy's on Broadway. RSVP to Secretary Jim Russell 206 623-0261.

Join us on Zoom

Teleconferencing Fellowship
Wednesdays

at 7pm

*We're having a great time exchanging ideas and
Masonic Enlightenment*

Coming dates:

July 14, 2021

July 21, 2021 (stated meeting night – no Zoom)

August 4, 2021

August 11, 2021

Sessions open promptly at 7pm

*** Fellowship**

*** Check on our brothers and widows**

*** Masonic Enlightenment & Education**

- Use Meeting ID **981 655 9198** to join our Fellowships
- Enter passcode **1776**

Here's more about how to use Zoom Meetings:

https://zoom.us/download#client_4meeting

Are You Receiving our eTrestleboard?

St. John's Lodge No. 9 tries to keep our members fully informed about all our activities scheduled (or unscheduled). We do that in many ways – phone calls, letters, monthly Trestleboards, Facebook, Zoom, email, and in-person monthly business communications.

Our roster membership records help to maintain those contacts. For some of our brothers, we don't have a record of your current email address. This means our more in-depth eTrestleboards (usually around eight pages of useful and interesting information is not reaching you. If you're not receiving these Trestleboards, please send us your email address to our Secretary VWBro. Jim Russell at jimrussell58@frontier.com.

A Family Treasure Finds its Way Home

Juanita Lott remembers the Masonic Bible that sat under the television in the home of her in-laws, Johnnie James and Gladys Turner Lott. The Bible was lovingly inscribed with vital family information, including birth dates, wedding dates and death dates of the couple's family. But after Mrs. Gladys Lott died in December of 1998, Juanita says she never knew what became of the Bible ...



Until just recently, when Preston Wiggins of Oak Park, Georgia, contacted her. "He called and was looking for Bobby (Juanita's late husband)," Juanita said. The two talked and Wiggins informed her that the family Bible had been found in a city dumpster in Oak Park by a friend of his. The friend, who knew Wiggins was a Mason, contacted him and enlisted his aid in returning the Bible to its rightful home.

"I'm not sure how it got to the dumpster," Juanita said. "I don't know who had it."

The Masonic Bible includes a history of the organization and its role in history, as well as that of the Eastern Star. Like the senior Lotts, Juanita was an Eastern Star and her husband was active with the local Masonic Lodge.

JULY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Day

- 3 Bernard G. Yperman
- 6 Aaron D. Holt
- 7 James R. Odom
- 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
- 29 George S. Serpanos



"Master's wages" – What are they?

Today, the Free and Accepted Mason is concerned only with moral work. His reward, therefore, is found within himself. The spiritual wages go well beyond these and have countless worth. The very heart of being a Freemason and the joy received is a much more meaningful wage. The intangibles of love, friendship, respect, opportunity, happy labor and associations are the wages of a Master who earns them. Not all earn them, hence, the phrase "to pay the Craft their wages *if ought be due*..." A member may earn as much as he desires, and the more one puts into the Craft, the more one receives.

LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER



Good men in our Fraternity attract men to our Fraternity. On the other hand, a single bad man, who is seen to be a Mason, will drive good men away in droves. Ask yourself, before you vote to make a man a Mason. Will those non-Masons who see this man be attracted towards Freemasonry or repelled from it? What kind of impression will he make on the non-Masons he encounters?

From the Desk of the Grand Master: M.W. Cameron M. Bailey

My Brothers,

If we hope to see Freemasonry survive and thrive, then we must always use great care when deciding who we let pass through our West Gate. Freemasonry is designed to be an elite institution, it has never been for every man, and it is not suitable for every man.

We owe it to ourselves, and our Fraternity, to ensure that only those who truly are good men, and who will be a credit to us are given the Degrees of Masonry.

When we are considering a man for Masonry, and given the election requirements we have, it truly is up to each of us to make the decision, we do well to think back to that time when we knelt at the altar and took our Obligations.

When we took those Obligations we promised to bind ourselves to every other Mason in the world. We pledged to do certain things, if called upon to do them, for our fellow Masons.

We should ask ourselves when considering a man for Masonry, if we are comfortable giving our pledge to him, Obligating ourselves to him. We should ask if we believe that we can in turn rely upon him to fulfill his Obligation to us.

Freemasonry is a brotherhood. A legendary and factual brotherhood. We need to ask ourselves, is this man good enough for us to be proud to call him Brother. In today's society many object to the very idea of judging others, or deciding if someone else is good enough or not, but Freemasonry is not a part of society. It stands apart from society, in its own sacred space. Freemasonry has never been for all men; it has always only been for those men judged to be good men. Good men who are striving to become even better men.

Before we vote to make a man a Mason, we should remember that he will be seen as a Mason by those who know him, by random strangers he encounters in his daily life, and in today's world, online as well.

All those who see him will judge Freemasonry, and Masons, by what they see in him. Will the people who know him credit Freemasonry as an institution of importance and quality when they see that we have made him a Mason? Will the stranger who sees him out

shopping, and notices his Masonic ring see someone who is a credit to the Fraternity? Will the things he posts online, and the way he posts them, leave a positive or negative impression of Freemasonry in the minds of those who read his posts?

The Masonic family encompasses youth groups, and Masons have families. Before you vote to make a man a Mason, you should seriously ask yourself, would you trust this man with your daughter? Your granddaughter? The young people in our youth groups?

The man who is recognized as a good man may serve as an inducement for other good men to consider Freemasonry for themselves. Through our long history how many men decided that they wanted to become Freemasons following the example of someone famous

like Washington, Franklin, or John Wayne? Likewise, how many men decided that they wanted to become Freemasons not because of any famous Mason, but because of an unknown, but good man within their family or social circle? One need not be famous to exert an influence, if one is seen to be good.

Good men in our Fraternity attract men to our Fraternity. On the other hand, a single bad man, who is seen to be a Mason, will drive good men away in droves. Ask yourself, before you vote to make a man a Mason. Will those non-

Masons who see this man be attracted towards Freemasonry or repelled from it? What kind of impression will he make on the non-Masons he encounters?

How many men have shied away from Freemasonry because they have encountered someone who they do not respect, and know him to be a Mason? Before we vote to make a man a Mason, we must ask ourselves if we believe this man can be respected by all.

Lots of Freemasons love to put Masonic stuff on their cars. Will the man we are considering for the Degrees of Masonry drive safely, or will hundreds of people see the Square and Compass flying by, driven by a man in a fit of road rage?

Lots of Freemasons love to participate on social media. Will the man before us reflect well upon our Fraternity in that online space, or will he be seen as an unthinking ass, a troll?

Lots of Freemasons wear Masonic rings, or other bling. Will the person who is truly in need see that Masonic ring and turn away indifferently, or will he or she see the hand reach out with some gesture of sympathy or offer of help? These are the kinds of questions that we



must ask before we vote to make a man a Mason, if we hope to see Freemasonry thrive.

It is counterintuitive but true:

Initiating all the men who want to join our Lodge, does not grow our Lodge. It shrinks our Lodge because those we Initiate who are unsuitable drive many others away.

Rejecting unsuitable petitioners grows our Lodge, because doing so helps to ensure that those who are allowed to become Masons are the kinds of men who attract others to our Ancient Craft.

I have said it before, I will say it again, Masonry needs a few men of excellence, it does not need large numbers of questionable men.

Live the Legend



Cameron Bailey
Grand Master

Open-Air Lodge Needs Bench Replacements

The Master Masons Club of Snohomish and Island Counties is conducting a fundraiser for new benches in the Open-Air Lodge at the Masonic Family Park in Granite



Falls. Time and damage from weather have made these benches unsafe for further use.

The Open-Air Lodge at the Masonic Family Park is used for the Annual Open Air 3rd Degree on the first Saturday in August. Different Lodges from around the Northwest often wait years for the opportunity to be the host Lodge. It is not unusual for attendance to be from the multiple Grand Lodges. The bi-annual Fellow Craft Torch Light Degree is also held on the 3rd Saturday of August on odd numbered years.

For a donation of \$150, individuals or Lodges can provide a new bench for the Open-Air Lodge. A new bench will have a label plate to commemorate the person or Lodge for which this was donated.

Example of name plates may be: ***"In Memory of WB John Q Public Past Master Local Lodge #357 Donated by Local Lodge #357."*** Please send a check to:

**Masonic Family Park
24310 Mountain Loop Highway
Granite Falls, Wa, 98252.**

Please indicate whether this is in memory of a Brother or a donation from a Lodge.

Thoughts from an Entered Apprentice

When I think what the EA degree means to me I think of a couple things:

I liken the EA degree to a church or some other event, where, you aren't necessarily helpful, nor are you a hindrance, at least I'd like to think of myself as neither. A place where you are allowed to be, like up in the organ loft or behind the curtain at a stage play, but not allowed to do much more than sit and watch the goings on, pick up



papers from one and give to another, set up and break down the various items needing storage, etc., etc. And that's it...or so it would

seem, but a good Mason, just like a good parishioner or stage hand sees more to what is unfolding before him besides the seemingly mundane.

As an EA, I've helped set up as well as disassembled the various accoutrements of the Lodge which has helped me understand their places within, to recognize a "well measured" and "complete Lodge," and to participate in a ritualistic process done time and again, by men of renown as well as by men hardly known but no less important.

I have seen, numerous times, the opening and closing of my Lodge. Like the setting up and disassembly of the Lodge, it has enabled me to see the processes involved, allowing observation of a proper opening and closing, to observe the manner, which I see in my Brothers about me, in which I am to conduct myself when those rituals are being held, the angles and positions of those conducting said ritual, their posture and the sincerity they put forth when doing their select ceremonial operations.

Being an EA has also allowed me, under the permissible circumstances given to my position in Masonry, to visit other Lodges, seeing their operations, their ritual practice, the Brotherly affections of those within the Lodge I am a guest in, which has helped solidify my affections for St. John's and my Brothers abroad by showing me a vastity of men in life and career, all driven to better themselves through Masonic endeavors.

As I'd like to style myself a student of Masonry before taking my first degree, now an EA, it has allowed me to become more acquainted with the 'inner' meanings of the tools and allegories specific to my Degree. An "inner" meaning in that I am now a Mason and no longer profane, but also "inner" as introspective explorations regarding the aforementioned references given, i.e. symbols, ritual, Brotherly affections and understanding that we are, no matter our dissimilar backgrounds, all searching to turn ourselves from a rough ashlar to a finished stone, capable of being of some use during our time on this mortal coil, as well as for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. So Mote It Be.

Louis Leáandro Turner, EA St. John's Lodge No. 9, Seattle, Washington

TODAY in Masonic History: Independence Day!

From MASONRYTODAY.com



Independence day is celebrated annually in the United States to recognize the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The document was meant to explain the reasons why the 13 British colonies of the Americas chose to separate from England. Some scholars believe that the document was not signed until August 2nd, 1776. Although writings from [Benjamin Franklin](#), Thomas Jefferson and [John Hancock](#) all say they signed the Declaration on July 4th, 1776.

Independence day, in fact the American Revolution itself holds a special place for American Freemasons. We tend to hold up the fact that [George Washington](#), Benjamin Franklin and various members of the Sons of Liberty were leaders in the Revolution.

Although it is true that 9 Freemasons (out of 56), signed the Declaration of Independence, including its most famous signer, John Hancock. It is not so much the men that made the impact on the Revolution. It is the principals of Freemasonry that helped to form the United States of America.

Some scholars point to the publication, Anderson's Constitutions as a source for those ideals. Some of the ideals and codes of conduct which we find in Anderson's Constitutions would later appear in the United States Constitution. A common example is Religion is not to be a topic of conversation in a Lodge room where business is to be discussed. This was seen as an action that could cause a division within the Lodge. Similarly, it can be equally said, that Religion in Government could cause the same division in our ruling bodies, not allowing Government to properly govern for all of its people.

For the Declaration of Independence and the events that lead to it, those who know the lessons that our ritual inculcates it is obvious to see where the men who helped form the early United States believed in those principals, mason or not. As an example, Freemason's believe that we all meet upon the level, the Declaration of Independence states "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal".

In the end Washington, Franklin, Hancock and the list of other notable and not so notable members of the American Revolution who were Freemasons, put themselves in harm's way for their belief in a better future. It becomes less about those men and more about the ideals and principals, many of which are put forth by Freemasonry in the United States and around the World. Those same ideals are stated in our ritual over and over again, not to make them common place, but to remind us of the importance of those words that inspired revolutions, in the United States and beyond.

As we celebrate the birth of the United States we should remember it was those Freemasons involved in the Revolution who had the courage to risk their lives for an ideal. It was in a Freemason Lodge where they heard those ideals put forth and where they were reminded of them to the point that it became a part of their lives. That gift is now ours to cherish and pass on in our Freemason Lodges and in our communities.

To my American brethren Happy Fourth of July!
May it be safe and filled with family and friends!

To my brethren around the world, may the ideals of Justice, Freedom and Equality be ever present in your Lodges and communities.

William A. 'Bill' Collison

**Raised in St. John's Lodge No. 9, July 28, 1962
Master of Lodge 1971**



Masonic Lodge honors area law enforcement for service

By Annie Charnley Eveland of The Walla Walla Union-Bulletin Jun 6, 2021



Award winners include, from left, Walla Walla County Sheriff Support Services Clerk Lloyd Redburg, Walla Walla County Sheriff's Deputy Jared Brown, College Place Police Officer Salvador Diaz and Washington State Patrol Trooper Tanner Dennison. Walla Walla Police Officer Nikki Williams is not pictured. Courtesy photo by JEFF PRATT

Members of the Blue Mountain Lodge 13 Free and Accepted Masons honored law enforcement personnel from four local agencies for outstanding service in 2020 at a special ceremony on Wednesday, May 19, at the Masonic Center, 607 E Main St.

Each of the agencies nominated an officer or other employee for recognition, reported Doug Warnock, past Lodge master.

College Place Police Officer Salvador Diaz, Walla Walla Police Officer Nikki Williams, Washington State Patrol Trooper Tanner Dennison and Walla Walla County Sheriff's Deputy Jared Brown were recognized. In addition, Lloyd Redberg of the Sheriff's Office received a new award.

Freedom New Hampshire Selectmen Agree to Buy Masonic Building

FREEDOM — Selectmen on Monday unanimously decided to move forward with acquiring the Masonic Lodge and parking lot on Portland Street and believe the sale could be completed in a matter of weeks. As



Masonic hall; agree to allow Lodge to use the upper floor. (see initial story in June Trestleboard)

previously reported, selectmen were mulling whether to purchase for \$1 the historic building at 29 Portland St. adjacent to the town office.

Included is the

parking lot the town shares with the Masons.

The temple, built in 1830 as a church, is currently operated by the local Masons as Carroll Lodge No. 57. As the Lodge can no longer afford to keep up with expenses, the Masons offered the building to the town for \$1 in exchange for rent-free use of the second floor.

THE LETTER "G"

The Letter "G" is a symbol of Geometry and, also, of Deity. By the letter "G" we are reminded that our every act is done in the sight of God, and that Divine Providence is over all of our lives. Man is reminded that God is in all nature and in every man.

Our life and all its blessings come from Him in an orderly fashion. These are disrupted only by the vileness of man when he does something contrary to the Divine Will.



The letter "G" is placed in the center of the Masonic emblems worn by many here in the U.S., but not by Masons in England or other nations of the British Commonwealth.

The letter "G" is regarded as one of the most sacred of the Masonic symbols. Where it is used as a symbol of Deity, it is the Anglo-Saxon representative of the Hebrew "Yod" and the Greek "Tau," the initial letter of the Eternal in those Languages.

The letter "G" conveys to the minds of the Brethren, at the same time, the idea of God and of Geometry. It bound heaven to earth, and the Divine to the finite. Masons are taught to regard the Universe as the grandest of all symbols, revealing to all men the ideas which are eternally revolving in the mind of Deity, and which it is their duty to reproduce in their own lives. This God and Geometry are constantly united in the speculations of our ancient brethren and they sought not only to build magnificent buildings, but also to erect a Temple of Divine thoughts for the Soul.

The symbolical letter "G" is a perpetual condemnation of profanity, impiety, and vice. No Brother should ever speak the name of the Grand Master of the Universe but with respect, reverence, and love. He will learn by studying the mystic plan. Wherever we find this symbol in Masonic rites it has the same signification. The young Fellow Craft is the representative of a student of the sciences, and to him the letter "G" represents the science of Geometry. Among the mathematical sciences, Geometry is the one which has the most special reference to architecture, and we can therefore understand the whole art of Freemasonry.

In Anderson's Book of Constitutions, Freemasonry is frequently called Geometry, and he said the whole being of the Order is comprehended in it. Freemasons, therefore, ought to make themselves intimately acquainted with Geometry. It is not necessary that we should be able to delineate Geometrical figures, but we should be able to deduce all our actions, work, and resolutions from geometrical principles.