

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

Trestleboard

MAY 2022

Jim Russell, editor



Serving Seattle since 1860

meets: 7910 Greenwood Ave. N.

Lodge phone: (206) 623-0261

jimrussell58@frontier.com

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

FROM THE EAST

[Blair Neumann](#), Master



Blair Neumann,
Master

Friends, Family, and Brethren, it was such a delight to see you all at our Family Appreciation Brunch on May Day this year. St. John's Lodge appreciates those others who love our Brothers and we hope that our Cornucopia helps remind ourselves of certain lessons in Masonry while it demonstrates our gratitude for your continued care and support.

The Columbia Tower Club feels special because it looks out over our city, which St. John's Brothers were so instrumental in building. Doc Maynard, our Brother, named the city after a local Chief, and another of our Brothers, Dr. Henry Smith, helped mythologize that Chief through his translations and commentary. Smith's name is given to the cove at the north end of Elliott Bay where the cruise ships now dock and where Dr. Smith established his practice among the Chief's people who had long lived there.

We saw Holgate and Hanford Hill, which was partly named for our Brother Edward Hanford and later renamed Beacon Hill. We pointed down toward Maynardtown, named after the same Brother Doc Maynard who established it and which we now call Pioneer Square. We looked across to the Seattle neighborhoods named after our Brothers, Guy Carleton Phinney and Captain William Rankin Ballard.

We looked across at the University which our Brethren helped to establish downtown before laying the cornerstone for the new campus and reestablishing it where it is today. Our Brothers Bagley and Meany have prominent buildings on campus named after them. One Brother carved the four pillars which still grace the University's seal, and another of our Brothers named those four Loyalty, Industry, Faith, Enthusiasm.

We could see Georgetown, named after our Brother George Horton, back when this was the south end of Elliott Bay. We could also see the Dexter Horton Building, a Seattle landmark if only for its conspicuous display of our early Brother's name. Brother Dexter was Seattle's original banker and his enterprise became a namesake of the then-named Columbia Seafirst Center which is still the tallest building in Seattle, and where we enjoyed our brunch, looking out over some of what our Brothers helped create.

The ladies may have gazed East across Meydenbauer Bay, named after our Brother William, and of course we all looked West across Elliott Bay, which our founding Master, John Webster, traversed routinely from Bainbridge Island in his canoe to open and govern his Lodge.

Our Lodge history is interwoven with that of our city, and so I hope that you'll join me in celebrating the shared history of Seattle and St. John's Lodge with a visit to the Underground Tour. We haven't scheduled a date yet but look forward to announcing something soon. To get an idea of your level of interest, please send a message to our secretary at jimrussell58@frontier.com.

CALENDAR



- May 8 – Mother's Day
- May 11 (6pm): Board of Trustees *teleconference*
- May 12 (7pm): Officers meeting *teleconference*
- May 18 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated Official visit DDGM5
- May 25 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom *teleconference*
- May 30: Memorial Day
- June 1 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom *teleconference*: Program TBA
- June 8 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom *teleconference*
- June 9 (7pm): Officers meeting *teleconference*
- June 10 – 11: 164th Annual Communication Grand Lodge (Wenatchee)
- June 13 (6pm): King Solomon Lodge No. 60 Annual Strawberry Feed
- June 15 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- June 18 (6pm): Everett AquaSox
- June 18 – 19: Fremont Fair (Masonic information booth)
- June 22 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom *teleconference*
- June 24: Feast Day of St. John the Baptist
- June 25: Greenwood Car Show
- July 4: Independence Day
- July 13 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom *teleconference*
- July 14 (7pm): Officers meeting *teleconference*
- July 20 (6:15pm): St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- July 27 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom *teleconference*
- August 6 (10am): Open Air Degree, Masonic Park
- Sept. 23: 162nd Anniversary Celebration Ivar's Salmon House

DEPUTY OF THE GRAND MASTER TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT IN MAY; GRAND LODGE RESOLUTIONS TO BE REVIEWED

District 5's Deputy of the Grand Master VWBro. Jerry Parton will bring greetings from the Grand Master this month. The Deputy of the Grand Master is charged with the responsibility, among many, to make an "official" visit to each Lodge in his district at least once during the Masonic year. VWBro. Parton has frequently joined in our various proceedings, including some of our weekly Zoom sessions.

Deputies of the Grand Master hold positions of great trust and responsibility and are chosen to represent the Grand Master because they exhibit knowledge of the standard work, understanding of the Washington Masonic Code, tact in handling delicate situations, courtesy, and willingness to carry out orders issued by the Grand Master.

The Deputies are invaluable in their many assignments on investigations, reports as to the condition of the Lodges in their districts, and the general assistance to the Grand Master in carrying out his program.

Members of our Lodge who have held this position at one time or another are VWBros. John Adamson, Carl Alexander, Ashley Brinkley, Chuck Brockway, Mike Davis, Tom Eastman, (MWBro.) Gale Kenney, (MWBro.) Al Jorgensen, Don Lyman, Jim Maher, Neil Quinn, Jim Russell, and (MWBro.) Darrel Schrader.

In addition to VWBro. Parton's visit, we will be reviewing a number of proposed Resolutions which will be acted upon at next month's 165th annual Communication of Grand Lodge in Wenatchee.



All Brothers are encouraged to join us for our 6:15 dinner preceding our stated communication. Please make your dinner [reservations](#) with the secretary at 206 623-0261 by Friday, May 13. 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.

Registration time for Grand Lodge 165th communication

Have you made plans to attend this year's annual communication of Grand Lodge? Don't delay much longer. The block of rooms set aside by our Grand Lodge at the Wenatchee Coast Hotel attached to the Conference Center is nearly filled and undoubtedly those in nearby hotels are filling, as well.

In recent years as many as twenty-thirty members and ladies of our Lodge have enjoyed participating in this annual gathering for fellowship, to consider proposed changes in our jurisdiction's legislation, and to elect officers and Trustees to govern our GL affairs.

This year we'll be meeting at the Wenatchee Convention Center. Most of the action will be Friday, June 10 and Saturday, June 11; an invitation-only dinner will be held Thursday evening for Grand Lodge team members, while at the same time a BBQ buffet open to everyone will be held, as well.

The "usual" Fellowship dinner will be Friday evening: Shhh.... it's a Speakeasy - Wear your 1920s attire, if you choose.

Installation of newly elected and appointed Grand Lodge officers will be Saturday evening. A going-home, kick-off breakfast will be Sunday morning.

Due to the nature of the electronic voting system, attendees of the 2022 Annual Communication **MUST PRE-REGISTER** through the Grand Lodge website.



Take Me Out to the Ballgame

St. John's Masons and families will once again head to the Everett AquaSox baseball game June 18th, 2022.

"Pre-admission" opens at 6pm into the Pepsi Food Pavilion. Previous menus have included BBQ with hot dogs, hamburgers, fruit salad, baked beans, soft drinks and your reserved seat. This year's menu will probably be the same or similar.



Free parking on site. Here's a look at our future Seattle Mariners vs. the Tri-City

Dust Devils (Los Angeles Angels 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). First pitch will be thrown at 7:05pm - fireworks following the game (around 9:30 or 10pm).

Get your \$10 ticket (\$26 value!) from WBro. Terry Grove (425) 610-4561 or terrygrove50@yahoo.com.

Table of Contents [linked](#)

From the East, Master's Message	page 1
Calendar of Events	1
Deputy to Make Official Visit in May	2
Registration for Grand Lodge Communication	2
Everett AquaSox Baseball Game June 18	2
Wardens' Messages	3
May Birthday Celebrants	3
How Does Masonry Make Good Men Better?	4
Solomon's Temple: Pillars On The Porch	5
The Letter "G"	5
Visit Our District 5 Brethren	5
Washington Masonic Code: Petitions	6
2022 Grand Lodge Resolutions	8

Senior Warden's Message

WBro. John Murray Louderback



I was employed for many years in an organization that had a pyramid shaped leadership structure where the “all knowing big brain one” sat at the top. No information or ideas can be accepted or tolerated from the bottom because those at the top already know everything. “You’re not qualified to know anything, and we certainly will not ask what you have to contribute.”

What I found was that this is not leadership at all. Everyone in this structure is trying to outdo the other – to protect their position. The attitude being one must push the other guy down – for fear that the other guy may have a better idea – and therefore, they may lose their job. This is often accompanied by demeaning nicknames applied to the individual to hold them down, as well as lack of training opportunities. Often in this organizational structure the evaluator often wants the same position as the person being evaluated. What result would be expected?

This form of “leadership” can only be described as one of intimidation. If you don’t do what I tell you – you will be punished!

In a pyramid structure you will not find people at the top asking others how they can contribute to the organization – for they just might find them ... then what? One may have a great idea or plan only to have the individual described as not being qualified.

I wrote an article many years ago because of my frustration with this type of structure. My article was: “In The Manner of the Humanly Connected Corporation” or *Corpus Conexus Hominum*.

Leadership is about leading from the front. Yes, it’s about getting things accomplished. It’s about having the moral courage to do that which is right despite your own personal self-interest. And it’s about educating others, enabling others, lifting others up, helping others to achieve their fullest potential – not pushing them down to protect a position of power.

We Freemasons are different in the fact that we believe that the only time one should look down upon someone is when you’re offering your hand to lift them up!

Only by enabling others can we ensure the passing on of Masonic knowledge into the future.

MAY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Day

- 7 Skott A. Young
- 12 Blair J. Neumann
- 12 Anthony K. Porter
- 21 Nicholas J. Mitchell
- 24 Brian J. Downie
- 26 Donald W. Bartholomew
- 29 John O. Nance



Junior Warden's Message

WBro. Eric Koteles



Brethren,

Sometimes we forget what truly represents each office. Today I would like to share with you this piece of Masonic education I found very interesting – the spiritual representation of the three main officers of the Lodge.

The Junior Warden is stationed in the South, midway between the regions of Dawn and the Setting Sun, and represents the mind or intelligence of the Soul, and therefore is, as a Warden of the Soul, appointed to prove his Brethren Masons and to test all strangers claiming to be such and seeking entrance. His Badge, the Plumb Rule, is the emblem of the upright Soul. His Column has ascending sides of fluted beauty breaking into leafage and tendrils of Wisdom.

The teaching of this symbolic office being: When the Sun disappears, and the Lodge is closed, he raises his column as a sign that, during the hours of darkness, *Rectitude and Wisdom* shall prevail in all outwards ways.

The Senior Warden is stationed in the West without light save by reflection from the Worshipful Master in the East, representing the Soul of Man, which, until the light shines upon and quickens it, is a thing of darkness. Therefore, it is likened unto the moon which governs the night. His Badge is the level of equality, symbolically showing that all Souls stand upon an equality before the Great Architect and must be adjusted and tested by the level of Divine perfection. The teaching of this symbolic office being to present Candidates out of Darkness into Light, invest them with symbolic clothing, marking their progress thereto and indicating in emulation of the Great Architect of the Universe that it is appointed to every Soul to build a body for itself by its own energies and labour. So, when the Temple of its Mortality is dissolved, it may wear a body of immortality, clothed with Light as a garment.

The Worshipful Master is placed in the East that through him the Eternal Spirit of Wisdom may flow into every part of the Lodge, in the V.O.S.L. it is written:

“Wisdom hath built her house and hath hewn out her seven pillars.” (The stated offices, as remarked upon, being seven in number.)

And this temporal house of Mysteries is built after the design of Wisdom. The Worshipful Master being distinguished by the square, turned downwards, signifying that being the representative of the Great Architect, the Master may shape all those below him entrusted to his care, to suffer no conflict or animosity to arise, and to assist in making perfect in all parts of the Body, Soul, and Spirit.

The Master’s Gavel, by which he rules the Lodge, indicates that he governs his own person under the will of the Master Architect, *“for he that ruleth over himself is greater than he who conquers a City.”*

LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER

One who merely passes through the degrees receives little, and will never be a Mason in the truest sense of the word. He must first put something of himself into it, by working at it, studying it, learning its lessons and then put them into practice in his everyday life and actions.



From The Educator

HOW DOES MASONRY TAKE GOOD MEN AND MAKE THEM BETTER?

by Norm McEvoy April 26, 2021

MWBro. Allan J. Petrisor, Grand Master (Ontario) at Winnipeg, March 27th, 2009.

When a man joins Freemasonry, he has no concept of what is about to take place or any real idea what the organization is about.

How do men become better men? I shall try to answer that with the following random thoughts.

The obligations that are taken in the three degrees instill in us a feeling whereby one would not want to violate his oath.

Fraternalizing with other like-minded brethren keeps us on the straight and narrow. Attending Lodge meetings regularly, learning memory work, planning meetings, sitting on the executive, taking part in the chairs, obligates us to our responsibilities towards the craft in such a way that we have little time for idle thoughts or deeds.

The example set by the brethren that we meet and trying to live up to the expectations of these brethren behooves us to try our best. We do not want to let them down. Through repetition of the ritual and understanding of the work we, just as in reading the Holy Volume, become more aware of what it is to be a Mason and how one should act as Masons.

Our constitution gives us a pattern for living with our neighbors, our lodge members, our families, our God, and a guide to our behavior within and without the lodge and our civic responsibilities.

We are taught to cultivate brotherly Love.

We are taught that all men are equal.

We believe in the immortality of the soul.

If one takes to heart and into practice all that one learns both in the Ritual and in the Constitution then I feel that gradually one cannot help but become a better person.

When you type in "making good men better" in the Google internet search engine, 9 out of the first 10 hits take you to either an article about Freemasonry or to a Masonic Lodge. The same holds true for the Yahoo search engine.

One of the hits is a [video on YouTube](#). It's a black background with a grayish-white set of a square, compass and the letter 'G'. A Gregorian plainsong is quietly sung in the background.

One word appears on the screen then fades to present the next word and then the next, and the nextand for the next 92 seconds, 19 words are presented. What are some of the words?

HONOUR, LOYALTY, FRIENDSHIP, RESPECT, VALUE, FRATERNITY, EXEMPLARY, ENLIGHTENMENT, TRUTH, CHARITY, FAMILY, KNOWLEDGE, TRADITION.

Brethren, these are some of the words that appear, and are connected to the term "making good men better." The phrase "making good men better" has long been associated with our gentle craft. But what is a better man?

That, my Brethren, is what Freemasonry attempts to answer and nurture. One who merely passes through the degrees receives little, and will never be a Mason in the truest sense of the word. He must first put something of himself into it, by working at it, studying it, learning its lessons and then put them into practice in his everyday life and actions. He will then begin to receive that for which he began to search as an Entered Apprentice Mason.

By giving of himself, his time, his ability without any kind of fee or reward, a Mason gains many things whether he accepts an office or just works in the lodge.

- He learns how to speak in public,
- He learns how to conduct a meeting,
- He learns how to interact and get along with others,
- He learns reverence for the Great creator,
- He learns how to pray,
- He learns how to walk uprightly and proudly as a Mason,
- He gains a better understanding of human nature, its weaknesses and its strengths under different conditions,
- He makes lifelong friends,
- He shares in the happiness and sorrows of others,
- He improves his habits, and learns courtesy,
- He practices tolerance with a smile,
- He takes part in teaching others the Masonic way of life and in doing so he has learned more than those he has taught.
- He has learned that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Hundreds of lessons have come his way and his life is made richer, better, happier and more satisfying in every way. By upholding the basic tenet of Freemasonry, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,"

As you know brethren this is how "Masonry Makes a Difference" in a man's life and how he becomes a better man and the effect shows in our homes, our lodges and in our communities.

A few weeks ago a Master Mason proposed the toast to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge at one of our major receptions. (*cont. next page*)

(from previous page)

He shared that he so wanted to become a Mason that he literally had to stop someone in his car who had a Masonic emblem and that then led to him becoming a Mason. On the night he received his third degree, after the ceremony, he pulled out a crumpled piece of paper with the following poem that he had scribbled on it:

Being a Mason

I approached a man one day
Whom I had never met before
To ask if I can be a Mason
From there, it's opened doors

A door that's opened many facets
That's helped me through and through
It's shown me how much I can be
And how much that I can do.

Being a friend, a helper,
Or even a volunteer.
The potentials here are endless
It just depends on where you steer.

If you steer towards pursuit
And involve yourself in more
There's no telling what will lie ahead
And furthermore, what's in store.

The pride I have inside a Lodge
Holds true when I'm outside
With the rules that govern this beautiful craft
Forever I will abide.

From Apprentice, to Fellowcraft,
To what I am today
It's made me stronger as a man
What more, can I say

In my brief time as a Mason
I feel there are no others;
Knowing how many friends I've made
How many lifelong Brothers

Many Brethren have helped me through
There're so many Brethren to thank
Without their guidance and support
My ship would have sank

Solomon's Temple: Pillars On 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.

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. Thus 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 Fellowcraft 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.

Visit Our District 5 Brethren

District 5 Lodges	Next Meeting	Time
St. John's 9	Wednesday, May 18, 2022	7:30pm
Eureka 20	Monday, June 6, 2022	7:30pm
University 141	Monday, June 6, 2022	7:30pm
Daylight 232	Saturday, May 21, 2022	10am
Lafayette 241	Thursday, September 1, 2022	7pm
Queen Anne 242	Thursday, May 12, 2022	7:30pm
Esoterika 316	Tuesday, June 28, 2022	7:30pm

Washington Masonic Code

CHAPTER 19 – COURSE OF PETITIONS



- Sec. 19.01 B.L. – Action Upon a Petition
- Sec. 19.02 B.L. – Receiving Petition by Mistake
- Sec. 19.03 B.L. – Petition Withdrawal
- Sec. 19.04 B.L. – Return of Fees
- Sec. 19.05 B.L. – Residence Change Before Election
- Sec. 19.06 B.L. – Residence Change After Election
- Sec. 19.07 B.L. – Balloting
- Sec. 19.08 B.L. – No Discussion on Petition
- Sec. 19.09 B.L. – Every Member Must Vote
- Sec. 19.10 B.L. – Balloting Not to be Postponed
- Sec. 19.11 B.L. – One Ballot for Degrees
- Sec. 19.12 B.L. – Correcting Error in Ballot
- Sec. 19.13 B.L. – Re-ballot When First Degree Delayed
- Sec. 19.14 B.L. – Secrecy of Ballot and Penalty for Violation
- Sec. 19.15 B.L. – Petition After Rejection [Rev. 2011]

Sec. 19.01 B.L. **Action Upon a Petition.** Action upon a petition for the Degrees or for affiliation shall be in the following manner:

- A. A petition shall be presented and accepted only at a Stated Communication. No vote of acceptance shall be taken,
- B. Upon acceptance, the petition shall be referred to an Investigating Committee of three Lodge members,
- C. The Investigating Committee shall deposit its report with the Lodge Secretary at a subsequent Stated Communication after referral of the petition. The Lodge Secretary will present the investigating committee's report. In case of a vacancy in the committee, the Master may fill the vacancy and receive the report at that Communication,
- D. The investigation report shall be signed by at least two members of the committee; and
- E. Regardless of whether the committee report is favorable or unfavorable, a ballot is still necessary. The rejection of a petition can be effected only by a ballot.

Sec. 19.02 B.L. Receiving Petition by Mistake. A petition which has been received by mistake and has not been balloted upon shall be returned and this shall not constitute a rejection. The petitioner may at any time present a proper petition to any Lodge in this Jurisdiction without reference to the former petition.

Sec. 19.03 B.L. Petition Withdrawal. A petition for the Degrees cannot be withdrawn after having been presented and accepted by the Lodge. A petition for affiliation may be withdrawn and the Lodge, upon receiving a written request, shall return the petition and any fees accompanying it.

Sec. 19.04 B.L. Return of Fees. All fees accompanying a petition for the Degrees shall be returned when:

- A. A petition is balloted upon and rejected,
- B. The Lodge is directed by the Grand Master to return the fees for cause shown after the petitioner has been elected to receive the Degrees but has not been initiated; or

C. The members present at a Stated Communication decide by majority vote to return the fees in response to a written request from a petitioner whose petition previously received a favorable ballot but who has not received the Preparatory Lecture of the First Degree.

Sec. 19.05 B.L. Residence Change Before Election. A petitioner for the Degrees who changes his residence before being elected to receive the Degrees shall continue to be under the Jurisdiction of that Lodge for a period of six months from the date of acceptance of the petition. If thereafter he petitions for the Degrees in a Lodge at his acquired place of residence, the time limit of his necessary residence there shall date from the time of his arrival. [Rev. 2003]

Sec. 19.06 B.L. Residence Change After Election. A candidate remains under the Jurisdiction of the Lodge electing him even though he may change his residence without receiving any of the Degrees. He can at any time within six months receive the Degrees in the Lodge which elected him although his residence has been changed. If he has not received the First Degree within six months, he remains under the Jurisdiction of the Lodge electing him and his petition must be re-balloted unless delay is due to the Lodge, in which case the Grand Master may grant an extension not exceeding six months.

Sec. 19.07 B.L. Balloting. A ballot on a petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation shall be taken only at a Stated Communication; and unless the ballot be unanimous in its favor, the petition shall be declared rejected.

Sec. 19.08 B.L. No Discussion on Petition. No discussion upon the merits of a petition shall be allowed in Lodge.

Sec. 19.09 B.L. Every Member Must Vote. Every member present at any balloting for the Degrees or for affiliation must vote unless excused by unanimous consent.

Sec. 19.10 B.L. Balloting Not to be Postponed. The balloting on a petition shall not be postponed except for a brief period to allow the Tyler to vote. When once commenced the ballot must be completed and result thereof declared. When the door is tiled by a Brother who is entitled to vote, the ballot may be suspended for a brief period as follows: After the last vote has been cast the ballot is suspended, the Tyler is then relieved and enters immediately. The ballot is then resumed for the Tyler's vote, after which the ballot is declared closed.

Sec. 19.11 B.L. One Ballot for Degrees. A Lodge shall not spread a ballot more than once upon a petition for the Degrees except:

A. In the case where an elected petitioner fails for any reason to receive the First Degree within six months from the date of his election; or

B. To correct an announced error.

Sec. 19.12 B.L. Correcting Error in Ballot. When the petition of a candidate for the Degrees has been rejected by a Lodge through mistake or misapprehension, the Lodge may correct the error at the same Stated Communication in the following manner:

A. The member or members who have balloted in the negative by mistake or misapprehension shall announce the same in open Lodge,

B. If the number so announcing, whether one or more, shall correspond with the number of negative ballots, the ballot may be spread again; and

C. When a ballot has resulted unfavorably and has been spread a second time to determine whether a mistake has occurred, it shall not be spread a third time for that purpose. [Rev. 2003]

Sec. 19.13 B.L. Re-ballot When First Degree Delayed. A candidate who has been elected to receive the Degrees shall present himself to receive the First Degree within six months. If he shall fail to do so, a new ballot shall be held at a Stated Communication and a favorable ballot must result before the First Degree can be conferred. If the failure to confer the First Degree within six months shall be the fault of the Lodge, the Grand Master, on request, may issue a dispensation extending the time for a period not exceeding six months.

Sec. 19.14 B.L. Secrecy of Ballot and Penalty for Violation. Except to announce in open Lodge that he has cast a negative ballot by mistake or misapprehension, any Brother who shall make known in any way the type of ballot cast by himself or by another, or shall make any comment whatsoever regarding the type or number of ballots cast on a petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation, shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offense and on conviction shall be suspended or expelled.

Sec. 19.15 B.L. Petition After Rejection. A Lodge which has rejected a petitioner for the degrees shall not accept another petition from him until the expiration of one year after such rejection; nor shall any other Lodge in this Jurisdiction accept a petition from a rejected petitioner until:

A. One year has expired following the rejection; and

B. The petition has been reported to the rejecting Lodge and full information requested regarding the character of the petitioner and his qualifications to receive the Degrees. If a diligent effort to obtain the information has produced no answer within ninety days, the Lodge may proceed to act upon the petition.

Resolutions for Consideration at 2022 Grand Lodge Communication

RESOLUTION NUMBER	TO AMEND	SUBJECT	VOTE REQUIRED	PAGE
2020-02 Carry -Over	Sec. 5.01 Const., Sec. 5.02 Const. and Sec. 5.06 B.L.	To eliminate “held over” Resolutions as a form of business at the Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge.	2/3	5
2020--06 Carry --Over	Sec. 5.02 Const .	To make carry-over voting at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication, more closely relate to The desires of the Brethren of the Jurisdiction of Washin ton.	2/3	8
2020-07 Carry -.Over	Sec. 17.10 B .L.	To change the threshold for rejection of a ballot on a Petition for Plural Membership.	Simple Majority	10
2020-08 Carry-Over	Standard Work Freemason’s Guide	To implement a ceremony for the respectful disposition of orphaned and disassociated aprons.	2/3	12
2022-01	Sec. 11.05 B.L	To modify Section 11.05 B.L. to reflect the current practices of the Grand Lodge of Washington and Washington Masonic Charities with regards to employees who are eligible to participate in the Grand Lodge 401 (k) retirement plan	3/4	17
2022-02	Sec. 14.11 B.L.	To modify Section 14.11 B.L. to require Lodges who are members of Temple Corporation/Board, as part of their End.-of-Year Returns to submit a Certificate of Insurance showing that the Lodge is named as a loss payee under the building’s Insurance	3/4	18
2022-03	Sec. 7.03 B.L	To eliminate the exceptIon for members of Lodges of Research who hold dual membership in another Lodge of this Jurisdiction from pay ment of Grand Lodg e dues or assessments.	3/4	20
2022-04	Sec. 18.09 B.L	To add a statement to Section 18.09 B.L. to require background checks for all Lodge Petitioners.	3/4	22
2022-05	Sec. 15.21 B.L	To modify Section 15.21 B.L. to remove from the duties of the Lodge Secretary the requirement to report to the Grand Lodge office suspensions and ex pulsions of Masons for un-Masonic Conduct.	3/4	23
2022-06	Sec. 14.11 B.L.	To modify Section 14.11 B .L to reflect the current practlces of the Grand Lodge office regarding itemized statements sent to Lodges for end of year dues, fees and contributions.	3/4	25

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION REGISTRATION

If you intend to attend any of the meals and other events or if you are bringing your lady or other guests, you need to register online at <https://freemason-wa.org/annual-communication/> before May 20, 2022. Even if you are just attending the Grand Lodge sessions and do not plan to attend any events or meals, you need to register online to avoid long lines. Remember, only Master Masons who are in good standing can attend the tiled Annual Communication.