

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

Trestleboard



Serving Seattle since 1860

May 2023

Jim Russell, editor

meets: 7910 Greenwood Ave. N.

Lodge phone: (206) 623-0261

jimrussell58@frontier.com

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

FROM THE EAST

[Eric Koteles](#), Master



Eric Koteles
Master

Time flies, and we have reached the middle of the 2023 Officer's term in May. We have been fortunate to have Masonic education during our zoom and stated meetings. However, this month will be an exception due to the official visit of VWBro. Dean Willard, Deputy of the Grand Master for District 5.

Our Lodge is continually working on developing Masonic educational programs for all three degrees. The membership committee is doing an excellent job putting together a process to interview candidates. This process will ensure that our West Gate is adequately guarded and that every Brother is well-informed about the candidates.

This way, we can make a decision based on facts and not ignorance.

We believe that any organization that is easy and cheap to join is also easy to walk away from and to devalue. Joining the world's oldest and greatest gentleman's fraternity should be recognized as an achievement that comes with certain ongoing responsibilities.

We are committed to delivering the best Masonic experience to ensure that St. John's No. 9 remains the premiere Masonic Lodge that our founders worked so hard for. While there is always room for improvement, we as officers have a responsibility to leave the Lodge better than when it was entrusted to us. Despite having limited human resources, we are proud of what we have accomplished and continue to do so.

We hope to achieve even greater things by working together. As FreeMasons, we know and understand that we are builders. Building takes planning, execution, and effort, but it also requires manpower, the power of men who are truly committed and dedicated to the Craft. Men with honor who put their money where their mouth is, who value this Lodge highly, and join Freemasonry to become better human beings, not because it is free.

I cannot express how grateful I am for the constant support that I receive from all the brothers involved in our effort. From seasoned Past Masters to the youngest member, and a strong core of officers that I am very proud of. It is heartening to see that we are not afraid to discuss matters that might otherwise bring our emotions to a higher level. We do it with respect and understanding that we all are entitled to our opinions and that they can be discussed in the friendliest manner. We are a "gang" of Brothers and Fellows, and we remain united in our efforts.

Fraternally,

WM Eric Koteles

Fiat Disciplinam et Concordia

Instruction and Harmony

CALENDAR



- May 10 (6pm): Board of Trustees
- May 11 (6pm): Officers meeting
- May 13 (9am – 4pm): Scholarship Applicant Interviews
- May 14 – Mother's Day
- May 17 (6:15pm dinner) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 Stated Official Visit DDGMS
- May 20 (11am): FABulous Family Brunch Columbia Tower
- May 27 (9am – 4pm): Scholarship Applicant Interviews
- May 29: Memorial Day
- June 7 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom Estate Planning for Masons
- June 9 – 10: 166th Annual Communication Grand Lodge (Wenatchee)
- June 12 (6:30pm): King Solomon Lodge No. 60 Annual Strawberry Feed
- June 15 (6pm): Officers meeting
- June 17 – 18: Fremont Fair (Masonic information booth)
- June 21 (6:15pm dinner) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 Stated business casual
- June 24 (10am): Visit to Tenino Stone Quarry Observe stonemasons at work; lunch with Tenino Lodge Brothers
- June 24: Feast Day of St. John the Baptist
- July 4: Independence Day
- July 5 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom teleconference
- July 7 – 11: MLB All Star Week
- July 11: All Star Game!
- July 13 (6pm): Officers meeting teleconference
- July 19 (6:15pm dinner) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 Stated business casual
- August 2 (7pm): Fellowship Zoom teleconference
- August 5 (10am): Open Air MM Degree, Masonic Park
- August 9 (6pm): Board of Trustees
- August 16 (6:15pm dinner) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (Stated) business casual
- August 19 (6pm): Everett AquaSox

DEPUTY OF THE GRAND MASTER TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT IN MAY; REGISTRATION DEADLINE NEARS FOR ANNUAL GRAND LODGE MEETING

District 5’s Deputy of the Grand Master VWBro. Dean Willard 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. Willard has frequently attended our variety of events and communications.

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.



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 12. 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 166th 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 pre-Covid 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 9 and Saturday, June 10; an invitation-only dinner will be held Thursday evening for Grand Lodge team members, and a BBQ buffet open to everyone will also be available.

The “usual” Fellowship dinner will be Friday evening – a Wine Maker’s Buffet. The theme: Greco-Roman - Wear your toga 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 2023 Annual Communication **MUST PRE-REGISTER** through the Grand Lodge website.



Grand Lodge team welcomes you to 166th communication

FAMILY BRUNCH RETURNS TO COLUMBIA TOWER MAY 20

Worshipful Master Eric Koteles has made arrangements for all of us to again enjoy our **FABulous Family Appreciation Brunch** at the Columbia Tower Club atop the Columbia Tower. This year we’ll be enjoying brunch on **Saturday, May 20**. Starting time for the brunch will be 11am.



View from Columbia Tower

Once again, all brothers are invited to host their family members, especially our lovely ladies. Parties ***over two*** will be assessed \$10 each payable at the event. (Party of two – no charge; party of four will cost \$20; children under 5, free.)

Seating is limited and reservations are a must! Let the Secretary know how many will be in your party.

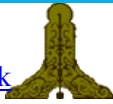
Please remind your guests that this is ***not a casual-dress affair***. Please dress accordingly!

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FROM THE WEST

[WBro. John Murray Louderback](#)



Perseverance: Continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition: the action or condition or an instance of persevering: Steadfastness.

My Brothers, we all have our own examples of what it means to persevere.

When things get tough and we have a desire or need to accomplish something we must find something within ourselves to motivate us to continue doing - and not giving up. Psychology plays a key role in being able to persevere. If we have set our mind and emotions to achieve something, even if painful or others say that we cannot, we must find some motivation and strength within ourselves to achieve our goals. Perseverance is required to perfect any skill. To persist in a task project or course of action or attitude in spite of opposition. This takes courage and a belief that your goals can be achieved by sticking to a plan or course of action. We can achieve this as individuals or as an organization. Together, we can achieve our goals if we trust each other and continue to persevere.

Long live St John's Lodge and Freemasonry. We can do this – we must do this! Stronger Together!

This is the meaning of “be all of one mind.”

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

One does not advance the swimming abilities of ducks by throwing the eggs in the water. -Multatuli (pen name of Eduard Douwes Dekker), novelist (2 Mar 1820-1887)

FROM THE SOUTH

[WBro. David Flood](#)



INCULCATE

Inculcate: to teach someone an idea, habit or attitude by persistent instruction; to teach or influence persistently and repeatedly so as to implant or install an idea or attitude.

Before a candidate ever knocks on the door of the Lodge to seek admission we assure him that FreeMasonry consists of a course of moral and philosophical instruction. Do we provide that course here at St John's Lodge? Perhaps as the closing charge is recited we should ask ourselves: Have we inculcated wisdom and Masonic values to the brethren in our meeting today?

A mature human being knows that to do good to all requires him to climb the rungs of that ladder of faith, hope, charity, prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice. What are we doing and what should we be doing to help a new brother - and all of us - to develop the skills and attitudes that will let each one of us stand as a just and upright Mason?

Our distinguished recent speaker, MWB Robert Davis, pointed out that climbing this ladder to manhood, to the “mature masculine” is not an easy process. As we strive to rebuild St John's Lodge following the stressful period of the pandemic and recent missteps, our challenge is to find a way to “be of one mind” in creating a fruitful experience in which to grow as men and as Masons.

Visit Our District 5 Brethren

District 5 Lodges	Next Meeting	Time
St. John's 9	Wednesday, May 17, 2023	7:30pm
Eureka 20	Monday, June 5 2023	7pm
University 141	Monday, June 5, 2023	7:30pm
Daylight 232	Saturday, May 20, 2023	10am
Queen Anne 242	Thursday, May 11 2023	7:30pm
Esoterika 316	Tuesday, June 27, 2023	7:30pm

MASTER MASONS RAISED IN MAY

Date Raised:

5/16/1962	Eugene V. Kashpureff
5/26/1965	Morrey Eskenazi
5/29/1971	Alex A. Skistimas
5/29/1971	J. Michael Wilderman
5/10/1973	Vincent Di Giulio
5/29/1974	George S. Serpanos
5/19/1978	Serco S. Tokatlian
5/26/1979	Edgar H. Carthell, Jr.
5/23/1983	John R. Adamson
5/17/1984	Bryan E. Hopkins
5/13/1987	Helmuth
5/29/1993	J. Joseph Duwors
5/11/2002	Kenneth D. Wehl
5/22/2012	Jeffrey L. Pullen
5/22/2012	Paul N. Bernal
5/22/2012	David J. Holdsworth
5/20/2013	Kenton J. Curtis



Return to

AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

[St. John's Education Committee](#)

Again this year we're exchanging ideas and Masonic Enlightenment at our stated communications and on Zoom

Masonic education is the study of Masonic values, history, symbols and myths. It also encompasses lessons in leadership, self-improvement and community building. Our purpose is to help members learn more about FreeMasonry and their own personal growth.

- New Meeting ID **826 6692 5984** to join our Zoom Fellowships
- Enter passcode **1860**

* **May 17 Stated: none – District Deputy visitation**

* **June 7 Zoom: Estate Planning for FreeMasons**

The Tenino Stone Carvers

We won't be visiting Scotland. Or Washington, DC. Or even the Shriners' Hospital for Children in Portland, this year. But we will be visiting maybe our roots as stone carvers a little closer to home.

Members of St. John's will be honoring St. John the Baptist Day when they travel to Tenino, WA, June 24th to learn what stonemasons and carvers can do, as well as try their hand at a little stone-work themselves!



Lots of places are known for timber or fish or some other product. Tenino is known for sandstone.

Keith Phillips, stonecutter and carver, talks about Tenino sandstone: "Tenino has a long history of stone cutting. It started with all the Europeans that came to this area and discovered the outcropping of stone and established three quarries starting in 1889.

"It was a large sandstone industrial site in 1912 that cut architectural stone. Tenino sandstone from this quarry and the other quarries in Tenino can be found in Seattle and Olympia and Tacoma and Portland, Walla Walla and Spokane and San Francisco and Montana, and other places.

"The Tenino sandstone's blessings have risen and fallen over the years with economic times and building standards. Sandstone and structural stone was becoming a thing of the past in the 20s. Tenino operated into the 30s... Currently, we are cutting decorative stone..."

You'll want to put June 24th on your calendar to try your own hand at stone carving!

Love!

by Rex Hunt, Hanford, CA

Love is such a nebulous Thing! Like a wisp of smoke, you can see it from time to time but you can never tie it down. It is not in any form a solid or even a gas. A grand hallucination seen thru a kaleidoscope!

But you can feel it, at least from time to time. Then it can slip away as if you were holding smoke in your hand. It can be like the sweet melody of a Meadow Lark, or lightening striking a can of gasoline.

A kiss from your 2 year old daughter, or a fist from Mike Tyson or anywhere between! It can steal into your heart on gossamer wings or the boots of a storm trooper! Sometimes you don't even notice that it has gripped your heart till something shatters it like fine crystal against a concrete wall.



Love is obedience, it is rebellion. Love is individualistic, Love is universal, love is all encompassing, or narrow as a fine needle. There are times you can feel love all around, times you cannot feel it if it were a sledge hammer.

Don't ever believe any one who claims to know what love is. Love is beyond knowledge. It is only in feeling love that you can experience love. Then you cannot explain what you are feeling. Love is as open as the air yet as closed as a miser's wallet.

Love is debilitating, love is invigorating. Unrequited love is as sour as bile, returned love as sweet as nectar. Lost love can be crushing, new love as light as a feather. Love is gracious, tender, forgiving. But it can also be a prison from which there is no escape. It can last forever, or fleeting as lightening.

There is no capturing it. It comes to you willingly but only if you accept it as it is.

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



Let's LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER

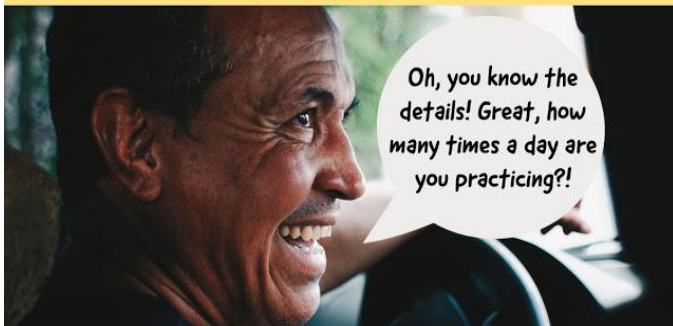


You can't go five minutes without someone telling you how deeply esoteric they are, and how the Lodges have to adapt or die. These well-meaning Masons have a point, but have these individual Masons done the work so many describe? Too many of our Lodge brothers want to be heard, but have they actually listened themselves? Have they done the Great Work? Are they pushing change and deep symbolism without having experienced the result of months or even years of silent contemplation?

Returning From Refreshment to Labor

by Midnight Freemason Contributor
Bro. Randy Sanders

THAT ONE BROTHER WHO REMINDS YOU...



I'm officially old. I don't mean the aches and pains of getting out of bed or such. I overheard The Clash being played on the local Easy Listening station. Yes indeed, punk rock is now easy listening. It took me back to some more indiscreet years and times in my life, but it also gave me pause to think about the transition of the generations through Freemasonry, and how we must embrace the changes of society while not embracing change just for the sake of trying something differently.

I recently had the pleasure to revisit some of the work of Steinmetz, who along with Manly Hall, were very much focused on educating Masons on the esoteric meanings of Freemasonry. Yeah, yeah, we're all about esoteric education. You can't go five minutes without someone telling you how deeply esoteric they are, and how the Lodges have to adapt or die. These well-meaning Masons have a point, but have these individual Masons done the work Steinmetz, Hall, and so many more describe? Too many of our Lodge brothers want to be heard, but have they actually listened themselves? Have they done the Great Work? Are they pushing change and deep symbolism without having experienced the result of months or even years of silent contemplation? The answer is mixed, and all should be respected for their views no matter how far or how little they've traveled up the mountain.

Every Mason has the right to be heard in Lodge. Older and hopefully wiser Masons must be patient with the views and gently guide the conversation toward individual Self-reflection and contemplation. That's right. The Masons reading this are the ones now older and hopefully wiser, yes you. Furthermore, we each have a

duty to be there for our Brothers. I don't mean we should direct their actions. I believe we can and should set the example of a contemplative practice that leads to deeper thinking and can help move us out of our cognitive biases. Our Grand Lodges very wisely avoid the expression of "being esoteric" except in roundabout statements and not defining the deeply esoteric nature of studying philosophy or putting into practice the lessons of the ages. Let's not give our Grand Lodges, who rightfully should be focused on the administrative function, any grief over being more or less esoteric. That's not their function, and I'm grateful for their service in an area that requires a massive dedication of time in order to be effective. Rather than look to the leadership at a jurisdiction or even Lodge level, the path has always been internal. Why make a big scene out of a splinter in your brothers' eyes when we have trees poking out of our own eyes?

Steinmetz makes a great point about candidates receiving Rights, Lights, and Benefits of a Lodge, each in their individual way. The path is opened before them, and it remains the choice of that initiated Mason how much contemplative practice to pursue. It also remains the choice of that individual Mason how quickly they progress, or how much work is put into the study of the Great Lights. The argument of how esoteric Lodges are or should be is nothing new. Steinmetz witnessed the same issues as did the generations before him and the generations following now. We lead the Masons to water (education), and then we are disappointed when they don't follow through on their own (apply contemplative practice) as quickly as we might have done.

Maybe that's not where we should be focused, on our disappointment in others? Maybe we should keep that door to the library open, and express the joy felt when others join us, rather than focus on the negative disappointment? If that means we eat pancakes and green beans and practice the basic brotherhood from which this amazing journey all springs? Yeah, I can do that. I will also delight as more join us in our contemplative studies and individual Self-discovery.

The message from Steinmetz, Hall, McNulty, Wilmhurst, and so many more Masonic authors is not about other Masons but an introspective journey into one's Self. This is where each of us can say "It's all about me" and mean it. I remain grateful seeing Masons taking advantage of the Information Age in further teaching symbolism and philosophy, and we collectively have taken the opportunity over the past year to dive deeply into exactly that - exploring symbolic Lodge practices. [cont. page 6 "Let's Look"]

FROM THE QUARY



ABOUT ONE HABIT OF HIGHLY UNSUCCESSFUL FREEMASONS

by Paul Liberty
("anonymous" member of St. John's)

Motivational speakers have become a fixture of American business meetings to add mustard and spice and ideas to boost productivity and sales. Quotes by Peter F. Decker, the father of modern management theory, tend to enliven the speeches. His most famous sayings were "put First things first" and "effectiveness is a habit, and so is success." Such irresistible Nuggets hopefully will drive the whole enchilada to motivational success and more stories.

For this the motivational industry gets great fees and on higher levels offers the bonus of introducing listeners to current management lingo, uncertain psychology, murky research, and impenetrable Eastern sayings. The results are not necessarily understood right away. Because the product is expensive, it must be good, and so are we.

As concerns THE ONE HABIT of the title line, there is the time-honored declamation of old habits and stale phrases as breakthrough to metaphysical proportions. Here now are three examples of Big Bang insights, each having been delivered in a Masonic hall.

- "The most important thing in Masonry, what is it? I will tell you what it is. It is the way it used to be, the way we have fone Freemasonry for centuries and are doing it now, what we will do for more decades, and we do Masonry better than anybody else." Doesn't this doctrine immediately convince anybody who hears it?

- A smooth one: "Ever since the dawn of mankind the only way to have a Lodge that is fit for the future has been to make it fit for human beings" I do not know what others are doing, but in our Freenasonry we do not do what fits animals, machines, bricks, or growing lettuce. Are we special in this knowledge?

- One enthusiast has mystified me. "Grand Lodge is a manifestation of Masonic synergy flying full throttle. You must understand that Masonry is like totally positive and dimensionally lineal. There is nothing like it." What is the meaning of this? You may assume that the Freemasons have people who can squeeze craptrap into a few sentences.

What Freemasonry will be generated by that ONE HABIT? Probably the type of Freemasonry from which people think because they want something better with better people and better places. My question then will be clear and how to do it.

To cut to the quick, the future of your Lodge is in your hands,. Brethren. You produce the atmosphere, direction, content, and details of your life and of your Lodge. If you do not like what you got, it's time to work out something better. Godspeed.

[cont. from page 5 "Let's Look"] I commend all who have taken it upon themselves to do so. As we open back up to the business of making new Masons, let us keep in mind the deeper aspects of the philosophy. We who continued to spread the light need to continue but also pass the torch, or maybe help other torches be lit, in order

to bring this past year's opportunity back to our otherwise Green Bean and Pancake Lodges. I don't mean shove your new education down the throats of the Lodge brethren. I'm too old to even consider that an option while I crank up The Clash, Led Zeppelin, and some Rush. I just think we can prove to the Lodges that the time taken to do your daily contemplative practice has impacted you positively. You didn't do your contemplative work during the past year? OK, there's no better time to start than today. That new Mason is counting on you.

Bro. Randy and his wife Elyana live in O'Fallon, MO just outside of St. Louis. Randy earned a Bachelors in Chemistry with an emphasis in Biochemistry, and he works in telecom IT. Randy's Masonic bio includes Lodge education officer of two blue Lodges, running the Wentzville Lodge Book Club, active in York Rite AMD, Scottish Rite Valley of St. Louis co-librarian, Clerk of the Academy Of Reflection through the Valley of Guthrie, a trained facilitator for the Masonic Legacy Society. As a pre-COVID-19 pioneer in Masonic virtual education, Randy is an administrator of Refracted Light and an international presenter on esoteric topics. Randy enjoys facilitating and presenting Masonic esoteric education, and he hosts an open, weekly Masonic virtual Friday Happy Hour. Randy is an accomplished home chef, a certified barbecue judge, raises Great Pyrenees dogs, and enjoys travel and philosophy.

Communication

The meeting of a Lodge is so called. There is a peculiar significance in this term. "To communicate," which, in the Old English form, was "to common," originally meant to share in common with others.

The great sacrament of the Christian church, which denotes a participation in the mysteries of the religion and a fellowship in the church, is called a "communion," which is fundamentally the same as a "communication," for he who partakes of the communion is said "to communicate."

Hence, the meetings of Masonic Lodges are called communications, to signify that it is not simply the ordinary meeting of a society for the transaction of business, but that such meeting is the fellowship of men engaged in a common pursuit, and governed by a common principle, and that there is therein a communication or participation of those feelings and elements that constitute a true brotherhood.

The communications of Lodges are regular or stated and special or emergent. Regular communications are held under the provision of the by-laws, but special communications are called by order of the Master. It is a regulation that no special communication can alter, amend, or rescind the proceedings of a regular communication.

DEADLINE to pre-register for Grand Lodge May 21

Resolutions Appearing for Action at 166th Annual Communication

RESOLUTION NUMBER	TO AMEND	SUBJECT	VOTE REQUIRED	PAGE
2022-02 Carry-Over	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 policy	Simple Majority	6
2022-03 Carry-Over	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 payment of Grand Lodge dues or assessments.	Simple Majority	8
2022-04 Carry-Over	Sec. 18.09 B.L.	To add a statement to Section 18.09 B.L. to require background checks for all Lodge Petitioners.	Simple Majority	10
2023-01	Sec. 16.19 B.L	To formalize the existence of Masonic Clubs	*Out of Order	11
2023-02	Sec. 16.19 B.L	To create a Proficiency process for Lodges.	*Out of Order	13
2023-03	Sec. 20.10 B.L	To remove the Masonic Development Program (MDP) as a codified alternative to proficiency	3/4	14
2023-04	To Amend Section 4 of the Standard and FreeMason's Guide	To present a ceremony to be recommended for use in presentation of a Past Master's apron or Past Deputy of the Grand Master's Apron.	90%	16
2023-05	Sec. 16.19 B.L.	To clarify the purpose and form of Washington Research Lodges.	3/4	20
2023-06	Sec. 13.15 B.L	To provide a framework for Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Washington to adopt and implement programs for virtual Lodge attendance.	3/4	21
2023-07	Sec. 7.03 B.L	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 1 to ensure adequate funds are available to support the Grand Lodge Budget.	3/4	23
2023-08	Sec. 17.11 B.L	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2 to increase the cost to purchase an Endowed Life Membership through Grand Lodge.	3/4	25
2023-09	Sec. 26.04 B.L	To implement the Grand Master's recommendation No. 3 to provide that a Mason who is convicted or pleads guilty to a felony crime in either a State or Federal Court be expelled from Mason	3/4	26

2023- 10	Sec. 13.06 B.L., Sec. 19.04 B.L., Sec. 19.09 B.L., Sec. 21.05 B.L., Sec. 21.08 B.L., Sec.24.01 B.L., Sec. 25.02 B.L., Sec. 26.09 B.L., & Glossary to the Washington Masonic Code	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 4 to limit voting in a Lodge to Members in good standing and add a definition of "good standing" to the Glossary of the Washington Masonic Code.	3/4	28
2023-11	Sec. 14.03 Const	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 5 to limit voting on Lodge By-Laws to Members in good standin	90%	32
2023-12	Sec. 8.12 B.L., Sec. 29.01 B.L., Sec. 29.02 B.L., & Sec 29.03 B.L	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 6 to clarify the role of the Grievances and Appeals Committee.	3/4	33
2023-13	Sec. 21.05 B.L	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 7 to require the approval of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance, and the Grand Lodge Real Estate Advisory Committee to approve the purchase, sale, transfer, receipt, or disposal of real property held by a Lodge or Title Holding CorDoration.	3/4	36
2023-14	Sec. 26.09 B.L	To implement the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 8 to allow the Grand Master to determine if charges referred by a Lodge against a Brother constitute un-Masonic conduct.	3/4	38

*The Proponents of this Resolution have been informed of the reason(s) that this Resolution is Out of Order. Details regarding the reason(s) why the Resolution is out of order will be contained in the Report of the Jurisprudence Committee at the Annual Communication.

Masons Host Baby Shower Event For Military Parents-to-be

LAFAYETTE HILL — Hosted by Pennsylvania Masons and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, more than 50 moms-to-be who are in the military or whose partners are in the military were treated like "Queens for the Day" during the "Help for Our Heroes" military baby shower.

Moms-to-be received numerous gifts for the first year of their child's life and had the opportunity to network with each other. The military baby shower concept was developed more than 13 years ago by Mason and Col. Harris Brooks, who is retired from the U.S. Air Force.

Gifts for moms-to-be included a convertible car seat to use when the baby grows, a baby video monitor, diapers, baby blankets and a box of toys.

My Obligation

The solemn promise made by a Mason on his admission into any degree is technically called his obligation. In a legal sense, obligation is synonymous with duty. Its derivation shows its true meaning, for the Latin word "*obligato*" literally signifies a trying or binding. The obligation is that which binds a man to some act, the doing of which thus becomes his duty.

