

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

Trestleboard



May 2024

Jim Russell, editor

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FROM THE EAST

[Eric Koteles](#), *Master*



Eric Koteles Worshipful
Master

Brethren,

As we bid farewell to the lingering chill of winter, our Lodge welcomed the vibrant spirit of spring with a delightful afternoon celebration on April 21st. Gathered as one family under the blossoming canopy of unity and fellowship, we were treated to an experience where cultural vibrancy met Masonic camaraderie, encapsulated in the rich flavors of paella and the rhythmic pulse of flamenco music.

The afternoon was not merely a feast for the senses but a vivid demonstration of harmony in action.

Harmony, as we know, is the lifeline of any Masonic Lodge. It is what transforms a group of individuals into a fraternity, a sacred bond that extends beyond the walls of our Lodge into our daily lives. As we clapped in unison, following the flamenco performer's lead, we were reminded of the power of collective rhythm and how each of us plays an integral part in the symphony of our Masonic journey.

The art of flamenco, much like our Masonic pursuits, is a profound dialogue between tradition and expression. It teaches us that while we may follow the same beat, the strength of our impact lies in how passionately we engage and contribute to the common good. This harmonious clapping was not just in sync with the music, but resonant with the Masonic principle of unity through diversity—each clap, though distinct, contributed to a beautiful ensemble, mirroring our Masonic ideals.

Let us take forward this lesson of harmony from our spring celebration. As we engage in our Lodge activities and community service, let us remember that every brother's voice is vital, every contribution significant, and every act of fellowship strengthens the bonds that unite us. Just as every ingredient in the paella blends to create a perfect balance of flavors, so too does every Mason help to balance the pillars of our venerable institution through his unique strengths and perspectives.

As we continue our journey through the year, let us commit to bringing this harmony into all aspects of our lives, fostering an environment where every member feels valued, every tradition is honored, and every gathering is an opportunity to affirm our commitment to the principles we hold dear.

In conclusion, let our spring celebration be a reminder of the beauty that unfolds when we come together in perfect accord. Let us continue to support, uplift, and inspire one another, cultivating not just a Lodge, but a sanctuary of brotherhood.

Fraternally yours,

Worshipful Master Eric Koteles.

CALENDAR



- **May 8 (6pm):** Board of Trustees teleconference
- **May 9 (6pm):** Officers meeting
- *May 12 – Mother's Day*
- **May 15 (6:15pm) 7:30pm:** St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated Official visit of District 5 Deputy of Grand Master
- **May 18 (1:30pm):** Open Air FC degree Roche Harbor (BBQ 11am)
- **May 24-25:** Grand Masonic Day Vancouver, BC
- *May 27: Memorial Day*
- **June 5 (7pm):** Fellowship Zoom teleconference
- **June 13 (6pm):** Officers meeting teleconference
- **June 13 – 16:** 167th Annual Communication Grand Lodge (election, resolutions, budget)
- **June 16 (6pm):** King Solomon Lodge No. 60 Annual Strawberry Feed
- **June 19 (6:15pm) 7:30pm:** St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- **July 3 (7pm):** Fellowship Zoom
- *July 4: Independence Day*
- **July 11 (6pm):** Officers meeting
- **July 17 (6:15pm):** 7:30 St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- **July 21 (1pm):** Mariners Baseball family outing vs Houston
- **August 3 (10am):** Open Air Degree, Masonic Park
- **August 3 (6pm):** family night Everett AquaSox baseball



ST. JOHN'S RE-LOCATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS RESOLUTIONS

The push for finding a new home was first initiated a little over a year ago when the Greenwood Building management *increased* our monthly rental *by over \$800/month!* Then, shortly after, 10-12 members of the Lodge traveled to Vancouver, BC for a Conference and saw the new Masonic Centre in that city, resplendent with “all” the amenities one could think of in this modern technological age and the beauty of the Masonic Symbolism in its art, etc.

The discussion hasn't been so much through email correspondence as within the tiled business meetings of the Lodge as well as among the officer and trustee meetings. Last month's Zoom session was devoted to a thorough discussion of the findings of the committee appointed to find an appropriate home for St. John's.

The aging building that we are currently occupying and the approaching efforts by the City of Seattle to require retrofitting non-reinforced structures to a standard of earthquake endurance was the “final straw” that carries us to this point.

During April's stated communication, the Master called upon the Lodge re-location committee (Past Master WBro. Russ Johnson, Treasurer VWBro. Jim Maher, Bro. Jeff Hawley) to prepare the brethren for its input on re-locating from our presence at Greenwood Masonic Center. The committee has focused on South Lake Union northward to the Seattle city limits of NE 145th. To maintain flexibility and preserve the major and sustainable portion of our portfolios, property purchase has been essentially eliminated, placing a greater emphasis on leasing an existing building, eliminating retail rentals or sharing space with other Masonic bodies which would require additional footage. After much discussion, the Resolutions (*see pages seven and eight*) for action at the May communication were read.

Our Treasurer VWBro. Jim Maher addresses the issue: “Brothers, there is no question that this is uncharted territory for us. We understand that completely. At the same time, doing nothing is not an option, either. Please bear with us as this project evolves and rest assured that if we hit a point where this is just not going to happen, we will be the first ones to say so. It must make sense for St. John's. And if it doesn't., we stop. Period. We need to continue to gather facts and data in order to reach rational decisions here and guide the Lodge and Trustees. These Resolutions will enable this to happen. Please give these your careful consideration and reach out to any member of the Re-location Committee with any questions you may have.”

Will you be coming to our stated communication? *Please make your dinner reservations for our stated communication with the secretary at 206 623-0261 by Friday, May 10*, prior to our May 15 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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Deputy of the Grand Master to Visit

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.

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.

This concludes VWBro. Willard's term as Duputy for District No. 5,



St. John's next Masonic Center unlikely to match King Solomon's Temple!

Grand Masonic Day

The Vancouver Lodge of Education and Research presents six programs of Masonic education in an annual itinerary hosted by Lodges in Metro Vancouver, BC. Since 1982, the Lodge has sponsored the annual Vancouver Grand Masonic Day when the Lodge also holds its annual communication.

Grand Masonic Day is an annual educational event which features various speakers and topics of general interest to Freemasons.

St. John's Lodge will cover registration and travel expenses for members heading to the May 24-25 event.

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FROM THE WEST

WBro. John Murray Louderback



I was an officer in the Navy. I was given instruction in leadership, both in theory as well as personal application. Leadership is not only the ability to promote, advance, or stimulate accomplishment, to get things done, but perhaps more importantly, having the moral courage to do that which is right despite one's own personal self-interest.

Masonry is leadership training. Masonry not only teaches - through the Three Degrees - the principles of moral leadership, it allows direct application and training of these principles as an officer in one's Lodge.

The principles of Freemasonry allow a man to become a better man through knowledge, using the operative tools of Masonry as esoteric allegory in teaching ethics.

Ethics is the moral principles that govern a person's behavior or actions and the fundamental part of knowledge that deals with morality.

Aristotle held that a person's inherent virtues such as justice, charity and generosity benefited both the individual as well as society. Immanuel Kant makes the concept of duty central to morality as humans are bound due to a knowledge of their duty to obey the unambiguously explicit and direct imperative - to respect other rational people. The third aspect of ethics is utilitarianism in which the guiding principle of conduct should be that which produces the greatest happiness or benefit to the greatest number - that the benefit to the individual is secondary.

These principles are the bedrock of ethical leadership. Understanding this, it should come as no surprise that many revered world leaders, influential people, including fourteen U. S. Presidents, have been Freemasons.

Do the right thing!

MASTER MASONS RAISED IN MAY

Date Raised:

5/26/1965	Morrey Eskenazi
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



FROM THE SOUTH

WBro. David Flood



THE HEART OF THE MATTER

We are soon to select candidates for our degrees. Remember that we are told a man is first made a Mason in his heart. We are also counseled to look to the Volume of Sacred Law on the altar for guidance. The biblical Book of Samuel can give us guidance.

It seems that King Saul was proving to be unsatisfactory. The Lord directed the prophet Samuel to travel to the home of Jesse and select one of Jesse's many sons to be the new king. One by one the Lord rejected each of them: the handsome one, the experienced warrior, the good manager. The Lord said to Samuel "Do not consider his appearance or his height for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at things the people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." Thus the Lord approved the youngest son, David, who was only a shepherd.

Registration Time for Grand Lodge 167th Annual 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.

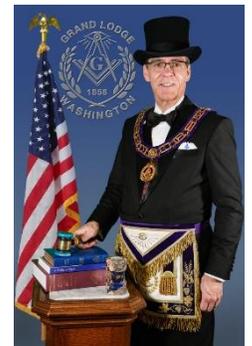
This year we'll be meeting at the Wenatchee Convention Center. Most of the action will be Friday, June 14 and Saturday, June 15; an invitation-only dinner will be held Thursday evening for Grand Lodge team members, while at the same time a BBQ buffet open to everyone (\$30 tickets) will be held, as well.

The "usual" Fellowship dinner will be Friday evening.

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 2024 Annual Communication must register by going to the Grand Lodge website and click on News/Events at the top of the page:

<https://freemason-wa.org/annual-communication/>



Grand Master Steve Martin 2023-2024

Two Petition for Degrees

Petitions for the degrees have been received from Mr. Frederic James Grant, V and Mr. Kristopher DiGiulio, Jr.

Mr. Grant was born in 1988, in Marietta, Georgia. He presently lives in Lake Forest Park, WA. He is self-employed as a video editor and motion graphic designer and video producer contracting for SONY Picture Entertainment, Culver City, CA. He states that he wants to grow into the “best possible man I can be.” He states that he has a very unique and diverse set of skills: world traveler, martial artist, Eagle Scout, digital video and filmmaking background, business owner, extreme sports athlete, video game developer, and more. His petition was signed by WBro. Ken Lane, Jr., WBro. Russ Johnson, and WBro. Eric Koteles.

Mr. DiGiulio was born July in 2000, in Kirkland, WA. He presently lives in Kirkland. He is a student and employed by Dairy Queen. His hobbies and interests include Anime (Japanese film and television animation), cooking, making puzzles, and reading Manga (Japanese comics). He is a Senior DeMolay (PMC). His father, grandfather, great grandfather, and aunt are or were all involved in the fraternity and affiliates. He states that he “enjoys the friendships and the way it makes you a much better person.” His petition was signed by VWBro. Jim Maher, WBro. John Louderback, and WBro. Eric Koteles.

Investigation committees have yet to be assigned for these petitioners.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

St. John’s Masons and families will once again head to the Everett AquaSox baseball game Saturday, August 3rd, 2024.



“Pre- admission” opens at 6:00 PM into the Pepsi Food Pavilion offering hot dogs, hamburgers, salad, chips, baked beans, soft drinks, and your reserved seat. Great family entertainment. First come, first served. Free parking on site!

Here’s a look at our future Seattle Mariners vs. the Eugene Emeralds (San Francisco Giants farm club).

Our thirty (30) game excellent seats will be in section “T”, the upper box seats, rows 9-10-11-12-13 (five rows of 6 seats) on the 3rd base side of the diamond (between

home plate and the pitcher’s mound). We’re all together as a group. First pitch will be thrown at 7:05 PM - fireworks following the game (around 9:30 or 10pm).

Organizer for this event is WBro. Terry Grove. Contact him at 425-610-4561 for tickets. Go get ‘em AquaSox!

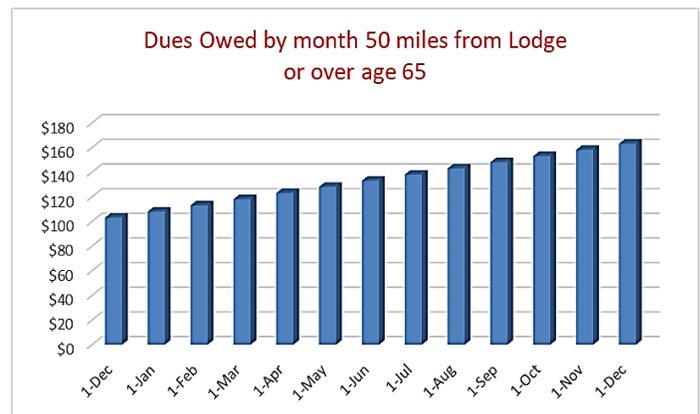
MAY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Day

- 7 Skott A. Young
- 12 Blair J. Neumann
- 21 Nicholas J. Mitchell
- 24 Brian J. Downie
- 29 John O. Nance



Lodge Dues Increase as Momths Pass



Trouble Paying Your Dues?

Brothers, this is your periodic harassment to pay your dues. We currently have nine Brothers who are delinquent for 2024 for a total of \$1,347. While we don’t usually drop people NPD after only 1 year, it certainly helps the Lodge to meet our obligations and goals.

Dues for 2024 are \$228 each for those in the Everett to Tacoma area or \$103 for those beyond that distance or who have attained age of sixty-five. They increase \$5 each month they are not paid by December 31 of 2023.

Washington Masonic Code changed this year so now Brothers who are not current on their dues (that is have not paid yet for the current calendar year) may not vote in Lodge, hold office, or ballot on new candidates.

As always, if you are having trouble paying your dues, or wish to pay electronically, please contact your Secretary at jimrussell58@frontier.com.

Visit Our District 5 Brethren

District 5 Lodges	Next Meeting	Time
St. John’s 9	Wednesday, May 15, 2024	7:30pm
Eureka 20	Monday, May 6, 2024	7 pm
University 141	Monday, May 6, 2024	7:30pm
Daylight 232	Saturday May 18, 2024	10am
Queen Anne 242	Thursday, May 9, 2024	6:30pm
Esoterika 316	Tuesday, June 25 2024	7:30pm

LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER

Those of us who are aware of the esoteric dimension of Masonry appreciate that symbols give physical form to things that cannot be readily seen, or spoken of, or even known. But what if the entire Lodge Room is a memory-inducing storehouse for it all and not just the creation of Sacred Space?



THE LODGE AS A MEMORY PALACE

by Midnight Freemason Contributor
Bro. Ken JP Stuczynski

Earlier this year, I attended a virtual presentation by hermetist and memory scholar, Brother Martin Faulkes, on the “Tomb of Christian Rosenkreuz as a Memory Palace.” A memory palace is a visualization of a place that one uses to associate with information they wish to remember. It could be any sort of places you can imagine, such as a grove, or a castle, or somewhere you used to live. The point is that you can place objects or ideas in the rooms or parts of the “palace” in such a way they are easy to visualize, and therefore remember. The theory of his presentation is that whether or not the tomb was a real place, it may be an encoding of truths and concepts within the descriptions of its design and ornamentation.

As best we know, Lodges did not originally have dedicated spaces. They could be held in taverns (such as the Goose and Gridiron or the Green Dragon), in someone's residence, or even outdoors. The “Lodge” was drawn on the floor or ground, perhaps with chalk, charcoal, or markings upon clay, later to be mopped or wiped away by the newest initiate. We can expect it to have been what eventually became Tracing Boards — collective images of symbolism for each of the degrees. The arrangements are not mere collages, but memorable scenes with each of the symbols in a specific place relative to the others.

For example, the First Degree is depicted with a checkered floor surrounded by three pillars and the sky open to see the sun, the moon, and the all-seeing eye. There are other objects and symbols as well, but the point is that it means nothing to the uninitiated but has vivid meaning to those who pay attention to the lectures.

The Second Degree is depicted of a porch between two pillars, beyond which is a winding staircase of a particular configuration. I think it no coincidence that we use the details of such imagery in what is perhaps the most daunting lecture given in Craft Masonry. Weaving myriad subjects, arts, and sciences into a story, navigating in a symbolic space of imagined form, is arguably the best way to teach and remember such a thing. The journey through the Middle Chamber alone can be said to be in the form of a memory palace, but each of our degrees – and many beyond – use the physical space of our work as a

particular imaginary space. Within each place, we find an orientation of objects and lessons.

It was a custom at one time in some places to whip a servant or slave in each of the boundary corners of a property, so that they would have such an indelible recollection of them so as to be expected to bear clear witness regarding any disputes over their location. We do very particular work in very particular places within our Lodge rooms. Is there anyone among us who does not recall the exact part of the room in which we were given a new name, or were lifted by the hand in the Sublime Degree? Does not standing in that place evoke something a profane would not feel?

It seems we have erected and dedicated each Lodge Room as a model of the Memory Palaces of the degree work. The words of ritual of opening and closing, repeated

twice at every communication, are clearly intended to orally preserve (memorize) the duties of each station and place. The proclamation of the location of these offices “draw the Lodge” in its orientation and boundaries (as they should be, even if the particular physical room may not allow it). The catechism is the oral preservation

(memorization) of the experience of the degree work by use of narratives and ambulations within a structured symbolic space.

Those of us who are aware of the esoteric dimension of Masonry appreciate that symbols give physical form to things that cannot be readily seen, or spoken of, or even known. But what if the entire Lodge Room is a memory-inducing storehouse for it all and not just the creation of Sacred Space? If we had to, using only our memory of our physical Temples, could we recall all the lessons and tools of our Craft sitting in a dark room or under the covers of our bed? I think even those of us who have not put effort into it would recall better than we expect. And perhaps that is all by design.

Bro. Ken JP Stuczynski is a member of West Seneca Lodge No. 1111 and recently served as Master of Ken-Ton Lodge No. 1186. As webmaster for NYMasons.Org he is on the Communications and Technology Committees for the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. He is also a Royal Arch Mason and 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, serving his second term as Sovereign Prince of Palmoni Council in the Valley of Buffalo, NMJ. He also coordinates a Downtown Square Club monthly lunch in Buffalo, NY.



Walla Walla Masonic Lodge presents area law enforcement Officer of Year awards

Annie Charnley Eveland – Walla Walla Union-Bulletin



From left: Lora Edelman, Brandon Rhodes, Chad Pederson, Federico Diaz and Wes Cook, recipients of Blue Mountain Lodge No. 13 2023 Officer of the Year awards. *Courtesy of "Skip" Winchester*

Blue Mountain Lodge No. 13 of Walla Walla recently recognized five law enforcement professionals from local agencies with 2023 Officer of the Year honors for outstanding service. The event was at the Walla Walla Masonic Center.

“Our law enforcement agencies represent the kinds of values-based organizations that Masonic Lodges embrace and support,” said Doug Warnock, master of ceremonies.

The lodge has recognized local role model officers “who dedicate themselves to protecting every one of us every day and night for 11 years now.”

Honorees selected by their agencies include:

Walla Walla Police Officer Chad Pederson, for his role in training, mentoring new officers and exceptional work ethic, according to Capt. Eric Knudson.

College Place Police Officer Brandon Rhodes, for exceptional service in community safety, traffic enforcement and criminal investigation and firearms curriculum development, according to Chief Troy Tomaras.

Walla Walla County Sheriff's Deputy Corp. Federico Diaz, for his work with the detectives' bureau, exceptional response to a suspect experiencing a mental health episode and community outreach through boater safety training, according to Undersheriff Joe Klundt.

WWSO Administrative Civil Deputy Lora Edelman, for her exemplary courage, commitment and performance of duty. Edelman provided constant coverage of two positions throughout the period, giving testimony to her outstanding core values.

Washington State Patrol Trooper Wes Cook, for his tremendous volume of on-the-road activity, contributions to community service and projects that assisted in saving lives.

The Free and Accepted Masons of Washington support numerous activities in the community including youth leadership programs, scholarships, speech and language clinics, military and veterans' causes, as well as the law enforcement community, according to a release.

Freemason secrets: Nazi persecution during World War II

The fraternal society did not escape persecution during Nazi Germany's reign of terror across Europe.

By Tom Evans

The Freemasons trace their origins back to the local fraternities of stonemasons in the 14th century. At local level, Freemasonry is organized at the Lodge – usually supervised by a Grand Lodge – but the secretive nature of the group has also attracted unwanted attention over the years. Masons have been the subject of numerous international conspiracy theories and, unfortunately, these outrageous claims were believed by the Nazis – who rejected and banned the practice in January 1934.

Freemason insider John Hamill said: “It became a very dangerous thing to be a Freemason towards the end of the Thirties.”

Mr. Hamill describes the devastating consequences of what happened to Freemasons when the Nazis moved into occupying most of Europe.



Adolf Hitler targeted Freemasons during WWII

He added: “As well as seizing Jews and Jewish property, they would round up the local Freemasons and take stuff from the local Masonic Halls back to Berlin.

“A lot of people went into labor and concentration camps simply because they were Freemasons.”

After gaining power in 1933, Adolf Hitler shut down all Lodges in Germany.

He accused Masons of conspiring with Jews and associated the group with wider conspiracy theories around Germany's defeat in World War 1, the Treaty of Versailles and the Great Depression of the Thirties.

Hitler even believed German Freemasons were sending reports to US President Franklin D Roosevelt, himself believed to have been a Mason.

This paranoia was prevalent throughout the war, as Hitler's rhetoric increasingly associated his outrageous claims about Jews and the Freemasons with the White House.

He established a sub-department in the SS whose task was to locate, arrest and annihilate nearly 79,000 German Freemasons.

Nazis rounded members into camps and forced them to wear a red patch in the shape of an upside-down triangle, as though to deprive them of the power embodied in their organization's equilateral-triangle symbol.

Across Europe, it is believed the Nazis murdered around 200,000 Freemasons.

Hitler's influence spread beyond its borders, too, as Freemasons were arrested and imprisoned in fascist Italy and Spain during the war.

The forget-me-not flower was taken up as a Masonic symbol in 1948. The badge is now worn in the coat lapel of Freemasons around the world .

ST. JOHN'S RE-LOCATION RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions to be presented May 15 for action:

Resolution 1 Preparation

Purpose To contract with the following business professionals to research and develop a project plan with associated rough order of magnitude budget for St John's new facility:

- 1) Interior Designer
- 2) Architect
- 3) General Contractor

Scope The above professionals will work with the St John's Relocation Committee to:

- Evaluate potential properties,
- Evaluate and refine St John's requirements and goals,
- Develop high level plans,
- Develop rough order of magnitude budgets.

Resolution

- 1) Form a Project Team consisting of an Interior Designer, Architect and General Contract to provide consulting services as necessary to assist in the development of high-level plans, budgets, and schedules to assist the Relocation Committee in evaluating proposed properties.
- 2) Authorize the Relocation Committee to research, select and execute contracts on behalf of the corporation with an Interior Designer, Architect, General Contractor, and any other required professionals required to build out, equip and decorate the new facility.
- 3) Costs associated with these consulting services will be included as a part of the overall build-out budget described in Resolution #3.
- 4) Provide consent to the Worshipful Master to authorize payment for the various contractors as recommended by the Relocation Committee.
- 5) Funds allocated will be handled in accordance with the procedures described in Resolution #3

Resolution 2 Lease

Purpose This motion allows the Relocation Committee, Trustees and Worshipful Master to act in a timely manner to secure a new facility once it's determined the property meets St John's requirements.

Scope Authorizes the Worshipful Master to execute a lease agreement once a suitable property is found and acceptable terms are negotiated by the Relocation Committee and approved by the Trustees.

Resolution

1. Authorize the Relocation Committee to research, select and recommend a new St John's facility.
2. Authorize the Relocation Committee to negotiate a lease agreement proposal with the assistance of outside legal counsel for the recommended facility.
3. Once a lease agreement is negotiated, the negotiated agreement shall be presented to the Lodge for review and approval at the next stated meeting of the Lodge.
4. Such approval shall be conditioned on a vote of the majority of the members present.
5. Once approved by the Lodge, the Worshipful Master will be authorized to execute the recommended lease agreement.

Resolution 3 Build Out

Purpose This motion provides the Relocation Committee with the authority to proceed with the contracting for modifications and acquisition of the facility decorations and additional furniture to customize of the selected property to meet St John’s requirements.

Scope This motion authorizes the Relocation Committee to execute contracts and purchase agreements for:

- Building new walls*,
- Installing electrical, plumbing, HVAC and fire suppression systems*,
- Purchase and install commercial kitchen equipment and kitchen supplies, etc.
- Purchase and install Lodge room furniture, chairs, podiums, altar, stages, etc.
- Purchase of dining room equipment, table, chairs, linens, dishes, glasses, flatware, etc.
- Purchase lounge furniture, couches, chairs, tables, TV, pool table, etc.
- Purchase of library/museum furniture, display cases, conference table, couch, chairs tables, TV
- Purchase of facility IT infrastructure, server, wireless system
- Purchase audio and video equipment for the lodge room, dining room, lounge and library/museum,
- Purchase and install lodge decorations,
- Purchase facility Masonic furniture and various lodge items, columns, rod stands, etc.
- Obtain any required permits.

* - The Relocation Committee intends to negotiate for the landlord to perform these modifications as part of the lease agreement, however they are covered in this motion in the event the Relocation Committee is unsuccessful in those negotiations.

- Resolution**
- 1) Authorize the creation of a \$1,000,000 fund to pay for the building out, equipping and decorating of the new facility.
 - 2) Authorize the Relocation Committee to research, select and execute contracts on behalf of the corporation with the various contractors and suppliers required to build out, equip and decorate the new facility, to include but not limited to interior designer, architect, building contractor(s), various furniture, fixture, and equipment suppliers.
 - 3) Provide consent to the Worshipful Master to authorize payment for the various contractors and purchases required to build-out the new facility as recommended by the Relocation Committee.
 - 4) Funds allocated for this purpose will be deposited in a separate bank account at Home Street Bank entitled “St. John’s Lodge #9 Relocation Fund.”
 - 5) Until needed, all funds will remain in our accounts at Oppenheimer & Co. The Treasurer will have the authority to draw funds as needed in accordance with the financial control procedures listed in the Lodge Bylaws.
 - 6) A Project Budget will be prepared and reported on once the project starts. This will be a separate budget from the Lodge Operating Budget.

We understand the importance of this project and are keen to address any questions or concerns you might have before the vote. Your input is invaluable as we take this significant step towards revitalizing our lodge.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Lodge Relocation Committee or the Worshipful Master with any questions or concerns regarding the project, the proposed motions, or the voting process.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to the future of our lodge.

The Relocation Committee