

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

## Trestleboard

June 2024

*Jim Russell*, editor



Serving Seattle since 1860

meets: 7910 Greenwood Ave. N.  
Lodge phone: (206) 623-0261  
[jimrussell58@frontier.com](mailto:jimrussell58@frontier.com)  
[web: www.seattlemasons.org](http://www.seattlemasons.org)

## FROM THE EAST

[Eric Koteles](#), *Master*



Eric Koteles  
Worshipful Master

Brothers,  
I wish to share some insights and reflections that could guide the future of our beloved Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Yukon BC and Westminster Lodge in Vancouver BC recently embarked on a transformative journey by partnering with their cities to develop mid-income housing on their properties. This initiative provided the necessary funds for renovating their Masonic buildings and temples, thereby enriching their Masonic experience and allowing them to adapt to the evolving needs of society.

While I am not suggesting that we directly replicate their model, we can certainly draw inspiration from their spirit of collaboration. The essence of their success lies in their unity and willingness to work together for a common goal. As brothers, we must avoid creating obstacles due to an attachment to the status quo. Holding onto financial reserves without action only leads to stagnation and decline as it has at least since I joined the Lodge in 2010.

Our choice is clear: we must decide whether to let our Lodge wither away or to take bold steps towards rejuvenation. I made my decision when I first became Worshipful Master in 2014, and I reaffirmed it in 2023 and 2024. My dedication to the Lodge's prosperity remains steadfast, and I believe in the power of our brotherhood to overcome any challenges we face.

We must defend the beehive and the Craft by working hand in hand, fostering trust and cooperation among us. Let us not be hindered by inertia but instead be motivated by the potential for a brighter future. Inspired by the examples set by our brothers in Yukon and Vancouver, we can create a legacy that honors our traditions while embracing progress.

Your support and active participation are crucial. Together, we can ensure the longevity and prosperity of our Lodge. Let us take this opportunity to reflect, decide, and act for the greater good of our Masonic family.

Thank you for your commitment to our Lodge. I look forward to collaborating with each of you to achieve our shared vision.

Fraternally yours,  
WM Eric Koteles.

## CALENDAR



- **June 13 (6pm): Officers meeting teleconference**
- **June 13 – 16: 167<sup>th</sup> 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 (business smart attire)**
- **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 (business smart attire)**
- **August 3 (10am): Open Air Degree, Masonic Park**
- **August 3 (6pm): family night Everett AquaSox baseball**
- **August 14 (6pm): Board of Trustees**
- **August 15 (7pm): Officers meeting**
- **August 21 (6:15pm): 7:30pm St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated (business smart attire)**
- *September 2: Labor Day*
- *September 4: Happy Birthday to us!*
- **Sept. 12 (6pm): Officers meeting**
- **September 18 6:15pm): 7:30pm St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated (back to more formal attire)**

St. John's Lodge No. 9 meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7910 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle

- Social "hour" 5:30pm
- Free parking available after 6pm on the St. John Catholic Church playground. Located ½ block west of Greenwood Ave. N. on southside of N. 80<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Dinner 6:15pm
- Stated Communication 7:30pm
- Refreshments & fellowship following

# FIRST STEPS INITIATED IN SEARCH FOR NEW MEETING PLACE

Last month members of St. John's (present and voting) authorized the New Location Selection Committee to move forward in our plans to find space to lease for a St. John's Masonic Center, eventually moving from the Greenwood area where we have met since 2005.

Committee members have engaged with a couple of realtors and have been shown a few properties from south Lake Union in Seattle and northward.

Resolutions #1 and #2 were passed almost unanimously, well above the 2/3<sup>rd</sup> necessary for passage. Resolution #3 failed the super-majority by one vote. That resolution authorized the money necessary to move forward without having to return each month for proper funding, thus crippling the Committee to engage with site engineers and a design specialist. While the Committee is naturally required to get approval from the Lodge brethren before a lease may be signed, it has questionable authority to even negotiate a lease that will (hopefully) include a landlord's share of leasehold improvements.



**Mystery Speaker at June Meeting: A Look Thru The Pillars** What do a Sumerian goddess, Google Books and the Fellowcraft degree have in common? Come to our June stated meeting and find out! **The attire for June, July and August** will be business casual or business smart as they are calling it lately.

For this reason, the Committee will return in June with a proposed amendment to the first resolution that would provide an appropriation necessary to move forward. *See page eight for the amended proposal.*

Brothers are encouraged to come to our June stated communication to take action on this ammendment.

## Past Master Russ Johnson – Author!

WBro. Russ Johnson, Past Master (2015) of St. John's No. 9, has authored three books on the Masonic curriculum, published in April. Each book is devoted to one of the degrees and extensively covers opening and closing ceremonies and the lessons learned in each of the three degrees.

They are available through Amazon: *The Masonic Curriculum: Entered Apprentice* <https://a.co/d/c6fJhS0>; *The Masonic Curriculum: Fellowcraft* <https://a.co/d/OfDkvCM>; and *The Masonic Curriculum: Master Mason* <https://a.co/d/btwInaW>

*Please make your dinner reservations*

*for our stated communication with the secretary at 206 623-0261 by Friday, June 14,*

prior to our June 19 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 bring him to Lodge.

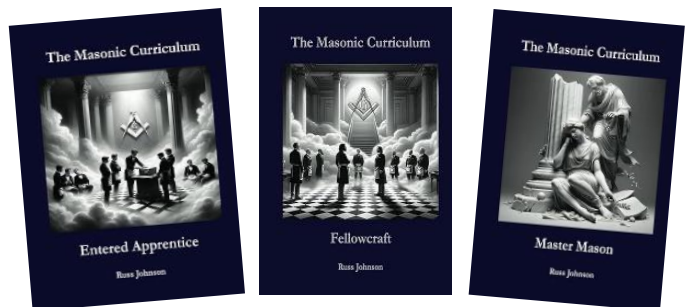


## PETITIONS: APPOINTMENT OF INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

The Master has announced the appointment of WBro. Blair Neumann, Bro. Jeff Hawley, and Bro. Kemalcan Jimmerson to investigate petitioners Kristopher DiGiulio and Frederic Grant. Members of St. John's should contact these brothers or the Master with any concerns or helpful information to include in a final report well before balloting.

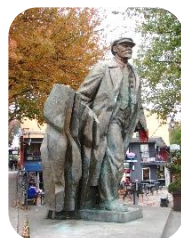
## Table of Contents [linked](#)

- From the East, Master's Message ..... page 1
- Calendar of Events ..... 1
- In Search for New Meeting Place ..... 2
- Past Master Johnson Publisher of 3 Books ..... 2
- Wardens' Messages ..... 3
- June Birthday Celebrants ..... 3
- What I Should Never Tell Anyone ..... 4
- Summer Issue of Masonic Tribune .....4
- Everett AquaSox Yes, Mariners No ..... 4
- Greenwood Seafair Parade & Car Show .....5
- Master Masons Raised in June..... 5
- From Darkness to Light- a Print ..... 5
- Never Stop Asking Why ..... 6
- Change is a Way of Life ..... 7
- The Candidate ..... 7
- A Full Masonic Name ..... 8
- An Amendment for Action in June ..... 8



These comprehensive tomes serve as a beacon for modern Masons, offering invaluable insights into moral and life lessons from our sacred rituals and symbols.

## Fremont Fair



Daylight Lodge 232 invites Seattle area brothers to spend some fellowship time with other Brothers and to spend time talking to visitors about Masonry at the Fremont Solstice Street Fair Masonic Information Booth.

Dates of the Fair: Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. The booth time is basically 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. . Location is about 36<sup>th</sup> and Dayton, roughly four block west of the [Lenin statue](#).

## FROM THE WEST

[WBro. John Murray Louderback](#)



Memorial Day is dedicated to the remembrance of those brave men and women who have paid with their lives – the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Our cherished heroes must be respected and honored, never disparaged, devalued or shamed.

Reflecting on the Charge of an Entered Apprentice: “As a citizen, you are enjoined to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties, by never proposing or countenancing any act which may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society; by paying due obedience to the laws under whose protection you live, and by never losing sight of the allegiance due to our country.”

As honorable Masons may we continue to embrace with strong conviction our solemn obligation of defending our Constitution and democracy, remembering daily that over one million have sacrificed their lives for our cherished freedoms and the rule of law.

It is incumbent upon us that these ideals are passed on to following generations as our republic and the very existence of America is a stake.

A dictator has never and will never give up power willingly. Evil men require control of others so as not to be held accountable for their crimes.

“The price men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men.” – Plato

## JUNE BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Day

- 2 Thomas Lamb
- 6 Corey A. Thompson
- 9 Helmuth
- 10 Kenneth M. Lane, Jr.
- 11 David L. Bolson
- 14 Jeffrey Jay Lane
- 17 Richard P. Wellenberger
- 21 Richard L. Waldo
- 23 John Murray Louderback
- 23 Gerald S. Ostroff
- 25 Mark A. Campbell
- 26 S. Ashley Brinkley



## Summer Lodge Attire

Worshipful Master Koteles calls for more casual attire at St. John's June – August Communications Business Casual or “Business Smart.”

## FROM THE SOUTH

[WBro. David Flood](#)



## Slouching towards Oblivion?

“Life should be more than the body’s weight working itself from room to room.”

Our Masonic symbols, allegories and ritual are aids - aids which are intended to help us to put our lives in motion. They are tools to enhance our capacity to gain genuine direction and meaning in our lives. How can we do this?

Our life together in Lodge offers many possibilities. We could, for instance, reflect on the various facets of our ritual. Especially when we share our reflections in conversation with our brothers, many avenues will open up in our lives. Brothers engaged in such a sharing will benefit mutually. It has been said that the greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but to reveal to him his own. This sharing is one of the strengths of Freemasonry. It helps transform us from a random group of men into a band of friends and brothers.

We tell our candidates that Masonry is a progressive science. The Entered Apprentice degree encourages us to broaden our boundaries: the form of a Lodge and the temple of our life is expansive. There are no limits to our thinking. It can extend from east to west and reach as high as the stars. The ritual indicates a path of moral development showing us a ladder of virtues to climb rung by rung.

Thus our ritual leads the candidate - and should lead us - from chamber to chamber, gaining insight and life skills. We gain an enhanced mindset and personal integrity as we encounter and interact with the ornaments, jewels and other symbols found in each chamber. The profound allegory of the Master’s death in the Temple vividly impresses upon us that we have a question to answer. When death comes upon us have we merely passed our time trudging through this life? Will we know in our hearts that we took advantage of the tools and opportunities in Freemasonry to grow in wisdom, strength and beauty of life? At the end will we stand just and upright having benefited our world, our brothers and ourselves?

*The opening line is from Pulitzer Prize winning poet Mark Strand.*

## Summer Issue of Masonic Tribune

If you missed it, the summer issue of the Masonic Tribune was released May 31 and contains messages from our Grand Lodge elected officers as well as statements from four brothers who have made themselves available for Junior Grand Warden. Others in the Washington jurisdiction have also submitted their thoughts.

You can find the [Masonic Tribune summer issue here](#).

## WHAT I SHOULD NEVER TELL ANYONE

**Paul Liberty** (*sometimes answers to WBro. Helmuth*)

Many intelligent men and women, Freemasons included, choose to be social with some reservation. They have been disappointed or burned and have not much need or inclination to spend their time talking or socializing. Some of them are Freemasons who do not disclose their membership. They all have learned to be selective as to persons and contents and to not talk to everybody. Here are a few points to consider.

1. Intentions and future plans: Who are you? What will you do? Intentions are the seeds of your actions. If you keep them private, you do not subject them and yourself to the advice, acceptance, criticism or interference by others, especially by those who have not done much in their lives, but seem to know everything.

2. Goals, thoughts, direction: when you talk about these things to others, you give them an opportunity to cloud your judgment, interfere with your actions, hinder your progress and focus. Stick to the minimum requirements when an answer is needed.

3. Charitable deeds originate and flow from you and not from somebody's approval of them. Charity is selfless. By not disclosing and discussing your initiative or participation, you keep your good works clear of interference and secondary thoughts.

4. Training, practices, health, treatments: by speaking to other people about these topics, you seek their praise, suggestions or pity while you try to enhance your credibility. As to health matters, why compare your aches to others' pains and enter into a bidding war of "can you top this?" Simultaneously you destroy your own progress when you put other people's attention onto yourself. As to professional matters, stick to credentials, official information, publications. The less other people know about you and your business, the safer you will be. Stay vague, obscure.

5. Family matters: by sharing family secrets you allow others to interfere with your family relationships, e.g., by giving advice nobody needs or wants. You tempt people to insert their judgments, approvals, alleged experiences and offers of help. Furthermore you do not respect your own privacy nor the sanctity of your family. You violate discretion.

6. Success, wealth, property, possessions: others' knowledge of these and similar items creates envy, disharmony, contempt, fights, crime and testamentary complications. This includes written statements, what they contain and what one can deduce or imagine from them. A special tension can arise when one spouse has an idea of the financial situation which does not conform to reality. Inappropriate credit card use and the commingling of funds can be a source of major legal difficulties, of distrust and a bad reputation privately and in business. Be smart enough to protect yourself from unnecessary complications. Additionally, few people are interested in

the details of your success and of the work and difficulties involved therewith.

7. Spiritual experiences: they are for you. Cherish your spiritual moments in your own heart and let them guide your growth. What you think you said can be misunderstood and misused.

8. If, despite the above admonitions, you think you want someone to listen to you, you may tell all your secrets to three Freemasons: first to George Washington who never told a lie, then to two more Freemasons, but only if they have been dead for at least 100 years. (Attributed to Pres. PGM Harry S Truman.) Your desire to talk to someone to unburden yourself and to violate your privacy will destroy you. Don't complain when it happens.

## ***Everett AquaSox Yes, Mariners No***

Tickets (\$15) for St. John's annual family outing to the Everett AquaSox are still available through WBro. Terry Grove. Entry to the game food court, included in the price, will be at 6pm, Saturday, August 3. Fireworks will follow the game. Free parking.

***Our proposed outing to the Seattle Mariners has been canceled due to an apparent low interest.***



***\$15 gets you a Picnic wristband, your seat at the game - Plus post-game fireworks. Family fun, friendship, fellowship and fraternalism.***

### **Take Me Out to the Ballgame**

"Pre-admission" opens at 6pm 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 hopefuls vs. the Eugene Emeralds (San Francisco Giants farm club).

Our thirty (30) excellent game seats will be in section "I", 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 closed block group. First pitch will be thrown at 7:05pm - 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!

## Greenwood Seafair Parade & Car Show

The Greenwood Car Show in Seattle is set to take place on the last Saturday of June 2024, which is June 29th. The event is expected to be the largest and most attended in its history. The car show will be followed by the Greenwood Seafair Parade on the same day, marking its return after not having occurred since 2019.

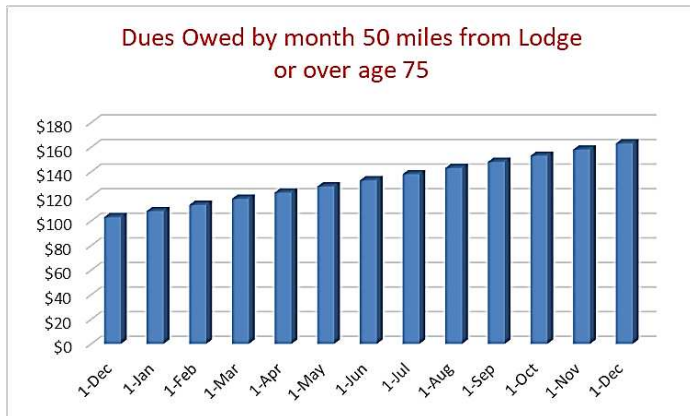


The parade route will begin on Greenwood at 73rd Street, head north past the stage at 79th Street, and then continue past the Masonic Center to 80th Street. Meanwhile, an extended car show will occupy the area from 85th to 90th Streets.

Community support and volunteers are encouraged to make this year's event a success. You may contribute in any way possible, including donations, sponsorships, displaying cars, donating raffle prizes, and volunteering.

This joint event aims to ensure the longevity of both the Greenwood Car Show and the Greenwood Seafair Parade.

## Lodge Dues Climb as Momths Pass



## Visit Our District 5 Brethren

District 5 Lodges	Next Meeting	Time
St. John's 9	Wednesday, June 19, 2024	7:30pm
Eureka 20	Monday, Sept. 9, 2024	7 pm
University 141	Friday, Sept., 2024	7:30pm
Daylight 232	Saturday, June 29, 2024	10am
Queen Anne 242	Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024	6:30pm
Esoterika 316	Tuesday, June 25, 2024	7:30pm

## MASTER MASONS RAISED IN JUNE

### Date Raised:

6/24/1967	Robert L. Johnson
6/1/1968	Frederick M. Hutchinson
6/9/1979	Kenneth C. Marable
6/28/1980	Brent A. Braun
6/11/1981	Gale H. Kenney
6/8/1983	Richard 'Ric' Delarose
6/26/1984	Richard D. Hawley
6/30/1984	James F. Russell
6/25/1994	Jeffrey J. Lane
6/25/1994	Kenneth M. Lane, Jr.
6/24/2000	S. Webster Kavanaugh
6/24/2000	Richard T. Heston
6/10/2002	Skott A. Young
6/19/2004	Thomas Lamb
6/21/2008	Raymond L. Gehrig
6/1/2013	Charles C. Hopper
6/1/2013	Jeff R. Hawley



## From Darkness to Light



This beautiful reprint of a 19th century poster depicts the journey of a man going through the degrees of Freemasonry. One may recognize the variety of "tools" (images and illustrations) connected with the Entered Apprentice degree through the Fellowcraft and terminating with the Master Mason degree at the top of the print.

# LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER



*From the moment we are born, the principles of our parents are injected into us; something that is fostered within us as we grow mentally and physically. It starts with the family, and those closest, but as we grow, our beliefs are solidified by our teachers, clergy, Scoutmasters, and friends. It's amazing how as we get older, or perhaps depending on the emotions of those around us, those beliefs can solidify and become more and more difficult to change.*

## Never Stop Asking Why

by Midnight Freemason Contributor

Robert E. Jackson

For as long as I can remember, we as humans seem to have a pattern of assuming the intentions on the actions of another. For some (usually those we care deeply about), we make excuses like “they didn’t know better.” For others, we assume that it was their specific purpose “you knew what you were doing, and you meant to do that.” When some show remorse, we say “are you upset with your actions, or are you only upset you were caught.” All of these scenarios assume we know the intentions, and desires, of the other person, but how can we truly know?

I’ve seen studies regarding programming and engineering principles, in an effort to foster intention within Artificial Intelligence. There are studies on optimizing your productive workflow, by being clear on your intentions. However, after some rudimentary research, I haven’t been able to find many studies in an attempt to understand the root intention of humans, and why they do the things they do. The studies I have found indicate two primary factors that drive intent...belief systems, and emotions. Let’s look at belief systems first.

From the moment we are born, the principles of our parents are injected into us. I don’t believe this is a genetic predisposition, but something that is fostered within us as we grow mentally and physically. It starts with the family, and those closest, but as the youth grows, their beliefs are solidified by their teachers, clergy, Scoutmasters, and friends. It’s amazing to me to think about the massive amount of data, nearly every second of the day, that drives a person’s belief systems. It appears that as we get older, or perhaps depending on the emotions of those around us, those beliefs can solidify and become more and more difficult to change. This raises the importance of attempting to see things, or understand things, as they’ve never been seen before. I believe it was RWBro. Jarzabek that first introduced me to this concept. For that seems to be the best method to enable the melting of that carbonite, and adjust your beliefs as new data is experienced.

Now for emotion. “In the heat of battle” is a term that comes to mind here. I’ve written before that there are studies that show there are two primary emotions...Love and Fear. The anger and hatred in the world are driven out of Fear, and the compassion and caring of the world are driven out of Love. Try to recollect a period of time when you were in Fear of something...as a friend, as a parent, as a Brother. You may have said something, or done something, that you really didn’t WANT to do. Something that goes against your belief systems and what you believe is ‘right.’ However, the action was taken anyway, and it became a regret. Some can dismiss the regret, while with others that regret festers indefinitely, driving more anxiety and depression, and higher levels of emotion. Those higher levels of emotion alter our intentions, and we continue down the cycle.

As I was writing this paper, I kept thinking about how this plays into Masonry, and how our work within the Lodges helps us grasp this concept of understanding intention. It is no secret that our ritual work consists of acting out plays and scenarios. We insert ourselves into the lives of another person, to try to understand their intentions, and what drives them to specific actions. I believe this is one of the reasons why the part of the ruffian in the third degree is by

far one of my favorites to play. The breadth of emotions experienced for those small parts in the overall process extends from desire to anger, fear, and ultimately regret. What influences the ruffians to seek that which they are not entitled to? What data from their lives drives those beliefs, ultimately resulting in acting out of fear?

I suppose the only way to truly understand intent is to walk in the shoes of another, from the time they are born. To feel every emotion, to learn every lesson, to have every discussion. How can that even be possible? As a society, we appear to be so quick to judge...so quick to assume the intentions or desires of another. I firmly believe that Social Media has exacerbated this issue by orders of magnitude, with every sound bite and every meme. We see it every day as people are attacked for a single comment or statement. I’m sure there are some that want to see anger, that want to get a rise out of others, that want to watch the world burn. Love is the only action that can extinguish those fires, don’t fan the flames. My Brothers,



please do your best to keep Love and Charity in the forefront of your mind.

“You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view ... until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.” - Atticus Finch

**Robert Edward Jackson** is a Past Master and Secretary of Montgomery Lodge located in Milford, MA. His Masonic lineage includes his Father (Robert Maitland), Grandfather (Maitland Garrecht), and Great Grandfather (Edward Henry Jackson), a founding member of Scarsdale Lodge #1094 in Scarsdale, NY. When not studying ritual, he's busy being a father to his three kids, a husband, Boy Scout Leader, and a network engineer to pay for it all.

## CHANGES

by William R. Fischer

We live in a country where change is a way of life. The United States is based on change.

A change from a Monarchy

A change from oppression

A change from one president to the next

A change from the 19th century technology to the 20th, and then to the 21st century. All in the same century, actually all in a 30 year period.

Our forefathers agreed that we should be able to change the constitution to meet the needs and situations of the future. That is why amendments can be added.

Everything changes; transportation, homes, energy, government, environment, food, religion, and even families. We talk about dysfunctional families, common law spouse, living together, living apart, living alone, and just plain living. Some of us think that this is unsatisfactory, but it's only change.

Even the Holy Scripture makes reference to change, for if we do not change we stagnate.

We must make changes to meet this new and ever changing world. Those who say “The old ways are the best ways” better look again, **THEY ARE NOT WORKING!** The saying “If it ain't broke don't fix it” only works for machines, and at the rate our membership is dropping, it's broke.

Masonry, like the United States, the constitution, religion, and our families will always keep their core values, ideas and ideals but we must change to meet the future.

Forty years ago Lipton Tea had little saying on the paper tag attached to their tea bags, on one of those tags was printed these words; “The best way to cope with change is to help make it.”

We now have an opportunity to move Masonry into the future, to make the changes. We must make Freemasonry desirable for the young men looking for fellowship. The only way we can do this, is through change to meet the needs of these young men.

The word change was used 19 times in this short talk. How many times did you say it in Lodge last year, and then act on it?

## THE CANDIDATE

**It was his dream to become a Mason  
Though he wasn't sure quite why.  
So he made an application,  
Then waited months for a reply.**

**No committee came to pay a call  
To meet him and his wife,  
No invitation to Mason's Hall;  
Nor offer of Advice.**

**Finally a postcard in the mail,  
Said “Come Monday night at six,  
And Bring us twenty dollars,  
If you want to see our tricks.”**

**He made the solitary journey,  
And entered by the door,  
But not one hand was offered,  
As he slowly crossed the floor.**

**They fed him beans and hot dogs,  
And a piece of apple pie,  
Then led him to a little room,  
With no explanations why.**

**The work was done with care and skill,  
No one could argue that.  
But, the candidate was forgotten,  
As they patted themselves on the back.**

**He came to the Lodge hall two more times,  
And was raised to the third degree,  
That was the last they saw him.  
What could the trouble be?**

**They scratched their heads and wondered,  
As again they cried and moaned.  
“Our time has all been wasted! “  
“We should have stayed at home.”**

**It seems to me that they've missed the point,  
But they need to understand.  
It's not just how well you do the work,  
It's how you treat the man.**

**R.W. Bro. Alan Heath**

**Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest fraternal organizations.** The lessons Freemasonry teaches in its ceremonies, are to do with moral values. Freemasonry's acknowledgement, without crossing the boundaries of religion, is that everything depends on the providence of God. Freemasons feel that these lessons apply as much today as they did when it took its modern form at the turn of the 17th century.

Despite what many people claim, Freemasonry is not in any way a secret society. Freemasonry's so-called secrets are solely used as a ceremonial way of demonstrating that one is a Freemason. In any case, Freemasonry has been exposed by the media for almost as long as we've existed. The real point of a Freemason promising not to reveal our secrets is basically a dramatic way of promising to keep one's word in general.

## A FULL MASONIC NAME



*Hiram Abiff Boaz* was born on December 18, 1866, at Murray, Kentucky. He moved to Texas at an early age. In 1891 he was ordained a Methodist minister. In 1922 he was elected a Bishop of the church. He became a member of Granger Lodge No. 677 of Texas. When he received his third degree, a large attended because of

the unusual name of the new member. He served as Grand Chaplain of Texas on 1953.

This brother had many interesting experiences connected with his name. He never tired of telling of the time he was traveling in the Holy Land and arrived at a Mosque in Hebron on the wrong day for visitors. When he told then his name was Boaz, it seemed as if he had given a magic password. Others were not admitted that day, but they opened the gates for him.

**Hiram Abiff Boaz** (1866–1962) was the President of Polytechnic College (now Texas Wesleyan University) from 1902 to 1911, and of Southern Methodist University from 1920 to 1922. He then became an American bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

### An Amendment for Action in June

Resolutions #1 and #2 were passed almost unanimously, well above the 2/3<sup>rd</sup> necessary for passage. Resolution #3 failed the super-majority by one vote. That resolution authorized the money necessary to move forward without having to return each month for proper funding, thus crippling the Committee to engage with site engineers and a design specialist. With the understanding that it is the sense of the Lodge brethren that they wish to continue in our search, the following amendment will be offered at June's stated communication.

<b>Resolution 1</b>	<b>Preparation - with Amendments</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Interior Designer</li> <li>2. Architect</li> <li>3. General Contractor</li> </ol>
<b>Scope</b>	The above professionals will work with the St John's Relocation Committee to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate potential properties,</li> <li>2. Evaluate and refine St John's requirements and goals,</li> <li>3. Develop high level plans,</li> <li>4. Develop rough order of magnitude budgets</li> </ol>
<b>Resolution</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>2) <b>Create a \$50,000 fund to cover the fees and costs associated with these services.</b></li> <li>3) Authorize the Relocation Committee to research, select and execute contracts on behalf of the Lodge with an Interior Designer, Architect, General Contractor, and any other required professionals required to build out, equip and decorate the new facility.</li> <li>4) Costs associated with these consulting services will be included as a part of the overall build-out budget <b>approved by the Lodge.</b></li> <li>5) Provide consent to the Worshipful Master to authorize payment for the various contractors as recommended by the Relocation Committee.</li> <li>6) <b>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."</b></li> <li>7) <b>Until needed, all funds will remain in our accounts at Oppenheimer &amp; Co. The Treasurer will have the authority to draw funds as needed in accordance with the financial control procedures listed in the Lodge Bylaws.</b></li> <li>8) <b>A Project Budget will be prepared and reported on once the project starts. This will be a separate budget from the Lodge Operating Budget.</b></li> </ol>