



Oregon Masonic News



Volume XXXV No. 6, February 2018

The Grand Master's Message: Focusing on Membership

The subject of membership has been on the top of the list at many Lodge visits over the past few years. Having followed up on membership inquiries received by the Grand Lodge between 2014-2017 – usually about 16 inquiries per month – I am personally aware of the time and process involved in answering inquiries on membership and the Craft.



M.W.B. W. Myles McMillan
Grand Master

Recently, the Grand Lodge staff has launched a new inquiry form which integrates directly into the *Grand View* membership database (see page two for more details) to connect interested parties with their local Masons. Current marketing campaigns feature this new form, and the number of inquiries has grown to over 100 in the past two months alone. Efforts will be made to continue this trend to educate the public on the Craft and generate interest in learning more. Therefore, it seems appropriate to discuss how a

Lodge might manage incoming inquiries.

Obviously, with this added number of inquiries being passed to the Lodges, there is going to be an added workload on the Lodges. I would recommend that as this happens, the Worshipful Masters and Lodge leadership react quickly and establish procedures to handle these potential candidates. I would also suggest spreading the workload around, as it is not just the duty of the Lodge Secretary to handle this task. Set up a small committee of two or three responsible members, empowering them to respond to these men promptly. The response time is critical as Masonry is on the mind of these men right now; it may not be so in a week. A delayed response could mean a missed opportunity. Make that critical contact.

The Grand Lodge office may, upon request, provide special *Grand View* access to such committee members,



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The Tools of Freemasonry by W.B. Zachary A. Blalack

M.W.B. Myles McMillan's theme this year is "Tools That Make A Difference." The proper application of the plumb, square, level, compasses, 24-inch gauge and the trowel have certainly gotten me through many high and low points over the past several years of my Masonic journey and life. Before I joined Masonry, I was involved in the fire service and police work, and those experiences gave me additional tools I still utilize today.



W.B. Zachary A. Blalack
Grand Orator

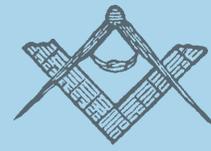
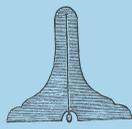
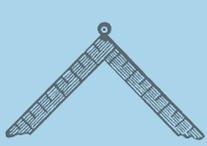
One of the first "tools" I was given was that "God gave us two ears, two eyes, and one mouth for a reason." I have seen some of the best outcomes happen when people come together, gather all facts, and then proceed down a path that makes the most sense. Making rash or emotional decisions rarely give us the best outcomes.

The next nugget that still sticks with me today is to, "Be Seen, Not Heard." As a junior

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The Journey of an Inquiry

With the mention of the new inquiry process, it seems pertinent to clearly express the journey a non-affiliate takes when using our online system to connect regarding membership. In the January issue, we mentioned the *OregonFreemasonry.com* webpage acts as a landing page for non-affiliates and offers one primary “call to action,” allowing online visitors to **Take the Next Step**.

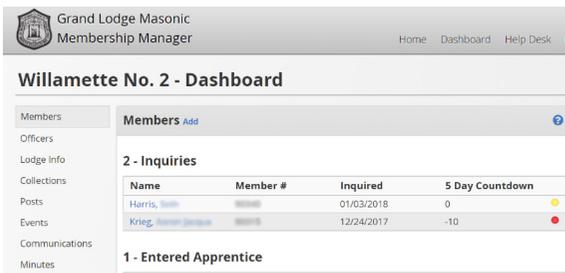
Clicking this button directs visitors to an online form requesting basic information, as well as two qualifying questions (Reason for interest? and How did you hear about us?). Upon submission, these inquiries are delivered to the *Grand View* membership database where they are verified as qualified – male, 18+ years, Oregon resident, reasonable answers to two questions – by the Grand Lodge before being assigned to their closest Lodge.

Once assigned to a Lodge, new inquiries appear under a separate category on the Lodge dashboard which is managed by Lodge admins, often the Secretary or Worshipful Master. Here, Lodge admins may view the names, acquire contact information, leave

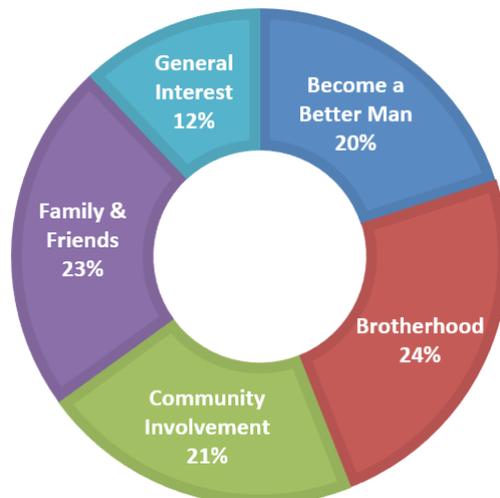
notes on outreach efforts and easily see which inquiries need follow-up, as a five-day countdown begins the day it appears on the dashboard. At this point, it is up to the Lodge admin(s), Secretary,

Lodge membership committee member, or other assigned Mason to follow up and connect with these individuals to answer questions, educate on Freemasonry, and invite to Lodge events or even just coffee.

The goal was to streamline incoming inquiries so they may be processed in a timely and well-tracked manner. Lodge participation in the follow-up is key, and your Lodge may have an inquiry already waiting on the dashboard from a man eager to join the Craft. Make a connection today!



Interesting tidbit – Top reasons recent qualified inquirers have been interested in Freemasonry:



Grand Master's Message, *continued from page one*

so the inquiry information is directly accessible (currently only available to Lodge Secretaries by default). As we experience an influx in membership inquiries (always exciting news), I urge Lodge leadership to re-familiarize yourselves with the *Grand View* membership database and the Grand Lodge website; they contain many tools to reference when connecting with potential candidates, logging responses, answering frequently asked questions, etc.

Another significant step in the candidate process is getting to know these new men upon their inquiry. Do not feel as though you have to extend a petition to every man that knocks on your door. Invite them to a Lodge dinner or a social event, get to know them and be sure they are a fit for your Lodge. Remember, they may know no one in your Lodge or even a Mason anywhere; this is your opportunity to make a good impression and begin leading him down our pathway.

Much time and effort has been expended by the Grand Lodge staff to re-work this system for handling the process of inquiries, and now it is time for the Lodge to fulfill its role as the point of contact for these potential candidates. I encourage you to involve Brothers who want to be active, a part of something greater than themselves, to see THEIR Lodge grow and impact the future of Freemasonry in Oregon.

Fraternally,
W. Myles McMillan, Grand Master,
A.F. & A.M. of Oregon

Wanted

Helping Hands
Jam empty
1/2 pint jars!
Return to Grand
Masters' events.
— Sue





Occasional Grand Lodge REGIONAL GATHERING

REGISTRATION

One more Regional Gathering is scheduled at Washington Lodge No. 46 in Portland on Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free to attend, and the attire is uniform or business casual. Check-in starts at 8 a.m., and a light breakfast will be provided. The first portion of this meeting will include a Grand Lodge Opening (*Master Masons only*), followed by a session of Masons, the Grand Lodge Trustees, and Lodge Officers. During this time, the attending Worshipful Master or representative of each Lodge will be invited to give a brief report of their Lodge status, happenings, issues, solutions, etc. Ladies are encouraged to attend as a program will be offered in the morning. Lunch will be provided and available to all attendees. The afternoon session, from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., is open to all attendees and will include the introduction of attending Masonic bodies. An overview of the Grand Lodge youth programs will also be given at the training. The Regional Gathering will end with a keynote speech from one of the Grand Lodge Officers. Registration will be open until one week before the session.



Regional Gathering Registration Form



I AM FROM LODGE:

NAME

OFFICE HELD

LADY'S NAME (IF ATTENDING)

Feb. 24, 2018

WASHINGTON LODGE NO. 46 | PORTLAND

Register for the Regional Gathering online, masonic-oregon.com/regional-gathering, mail this form to the Grand Lodge office or call (503) 357-3158.

GRAND MASTER'S TENTATIVE ITINERARY

February 2018

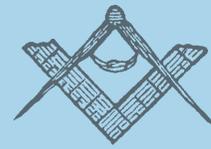
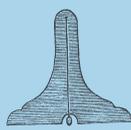
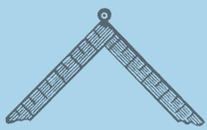
- 1-3 Grand Lodge of Alaska - U, T, L
- 3 – DeMolay, State Master Councilor Reception: Al Kader Shrine Center, Wilsonville, 6 p.m. - T, L
- 5 – Woodburn No. 106, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 8 – East Linn No. 44, Lebanon, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 10 – MESH/Trustee Meeting: Grand Lodge, Forest Grove, 8 a.m. - U
- 13 – Ainsworth No. 201, Salem, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 14 – Columbia No. 114, Portland, Official Visit: dinner, 6 p.m.; Lodge, 7 p.m. - U, L
- 15-21 Conference of Grand Masters of North America, Indianapolis, IA - U, T, L
- 24 – Regional Gathering, Occasional Grand Lodge, North: Washington Lodge No. 46, Portland, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - U, L

March 2018

- 1 – Blanco No. 48, Coos Bay, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 3 – DJR Youth Activities Day, Salem
- 6 – Union No. 3, McMinnville, Official Visit: Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, 6 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 7 – Rickreall No. 110, Official Visit & Past Masters Night: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - Bib overalls, L
- 8-10 Amaranth Grand Court, Valley River Inn, Eugene - T, L
- 9 – Leadership Meeting: Grand Lodge, Forest Grove, 1 p.m. - BC
- 10 – MESH/Trustee Meeting: Grand Lodge, Forest Grove, 8 a.m. - U
- 10 – Amaranth Grand Court Installation: Valley River Inn, Eugene, 7 p.m. - T, L
- 13 – Pacific No. 50, Salem, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 15 – Blue Mountain No. 34, Baker City, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 17 – Junior Warden's Charge (Senior Deacons): Jennings McCall Center, Forest Grove, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - BC
- 18 – Nydia Installation: Al Kader Shrine, 2 p.m. - T, L
- 22 – Masonic Family Night: Salem Scottish Rite, 6 p.m. - U, L
- 24 – Senior Warden's Charge (Junior Wardens): Jennings McCall Center, Forest Grove, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - BC
- 24 – Grand Bethel Honored Queen Reception, Al Kader Shrine - T, L
- 27 – Cascade No. 208, Shady Cove, Official Visit: dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30 p.m. - U, L
- 31 – Worshipful Master's Charge (Senior Wardens): Jennings McCall Center, Forest Grove, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - BC

U = Uniform; L = Ladies; T = Tuxedo; S = Suit; BC = Business Casual





February 2018 Contributions

November 30, 2017 – December 31, 2017



Masonic & Eastern Star Home

Petitioner Club

John D. "Jack" Armstrong (198) Lionel Bauer (157)
 Stephen Broadwater (112) Stanley Carr (6)
 Thomas D'Esmond (100) Rosa & Kenneth Dickson (207)
 William T. Galey (157) Karl Hansen (133)
 Paul L. Hendrix (4) Albert Laurie, Jr. (157)
 Philip Ross (133) Richard Shettler (157)
 H. Leon Stanfill (100) George Statter (100)
 Wally Stensland (174) Bradley Stivers (30)
 John O. Trueb (160) Ed Zwaschka (215)
 Clatskanie Lodge No. 133
 Warren Lodge No. 10 Pacific Lodge No. 50
 Tillamook Lodge No. 57 –
 in memory of Vincent H. Richard
 Frank Griffiths (77) – in memory of
 Charles Griffiths

Apprentice Club

George & Carolyn Goodall Foundation (114)

Fellowcraft Club

F & M Schoene Endowment Fund
Vista Masonic Lodge No. 215

Oregon Masonic Youth Education & Literacy Foundation

Petitioner Club

Robert Block, Jr. (96) Mark Cook (207)
 Rick Komraus, AGS (100) Charles Nelson (96)
 Roger Reed (55) Mark Shoemaker (96)
 Bradley Stivers (30) La Grande Lodge No. 41

Apprentice Club

Harold Fryday – in honor of Dave Fryday, PGM (4)

Oregon Masonic Charitable Foundation

Petitioner Club

Rick Komraus, AGS (100) Donald Smethers (100)
Bradley Stivers (30)

Oregon Masonic Charitable Foundation MMSAP

Petitioner Club

Terry Childers (96) Dennis Lamm (100)
Bradley Stivers (30)

Educational Assistance

Petitioner Club

Morris Miller (157) Bradley Stivers (30)

Oregon Masonic Library Foundation

Petitioner Club

Judy & Ed Bousquet, PGM (139)
Rick Komraus, AGS (100)

MasonicAid: MESHcCare & OutReach

Petitioner Club

Shaun Lynch (215) – OutReach
Bradley Stivers (30) – MESHcCare
Bradley Stivers (30) – OutReach

MasonicAid: OutReach Giving Tree

Petitioner Club

Sherry & Art Case (44) Helen & Larry Fairbairn (18)
 Rick Komraus, AGS (100) James L. Lester (84)
 Robert Mallory (13) Lloyd C. Peterson (109)
 Mark Rohrbacher (66)
 Barbara & John Turner, HPGM (154)
 Warren Lodge No. 10
 Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 160
 Bandon Lodge No. 130 Sunnyside Lodge No. 163
 Oakland Chapter No. 91, O.E.S.
 Beaver Chapter No. 106, O.E.S.

Apprentice Club

Vista Masonic Lodge No. 215

Fellowcraft Club

Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund – Anonymous



MSANA Disaster Relief

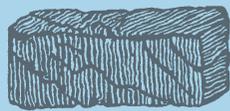
Willamette Lodge No. 2

\$1,000 – Grand Lodge of Texas
\$1,000 – Grand Lodge of Florida

Waverly Lodge No. 174

\$200 – Grand Lodge of Texas

If you would like to help the MSANA in their disaster relief efforts, kindly send your donation, payable to the Grand Lodge of Oregon, and designate which area you would like to assist. The Grand Lodge of Oregon will then compile all donations and forward them to the MSANA.



Mason of the Month A True Team Player

Bro. Norman G. McLaren, or "Norm" as he prefers to be called, stepped up to help move a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 137 from his home in Seaside to the Jennings McCall Center in Forest Grove. Bro. Norm assisted in coordinating the move and went as far as to secure a U-Haul truck, helped to load it with the member's belongings, drove it to Forest Grove, where he then helped unload it and get the member settled into his new apartment. Bro. Norm continued to help by working hard to clean the home in preparation for it to be listed for sale. The member's family currently live out of state, and I do not think this move would have been successful without Bro. Norm's help.



Bro. Norm McLaren

Members like Bro. Norm are hard to find. He is at every Stated Communication and every Masonic event. He will even go to a member's house just to say hi and check in on them.

Members like Bro. Norm are hard to find. He is at every Stated Communication and every Masonic event. He will even go to a member's house just to say hi and check in on them.

Bro. Norm joined the Seaside Chapter of DeMolay in 1961 and became a Master Mason in 1968 in Wheeler Lodge No. 167. He Affiliated with Evergreen Lodge No. 137 in 1967, where he is currently a Life Member and served as Treasurer of the Lodge in 2017. He is also a member of Gateway Lodge No. 175.

Bro. Norm has always been an absolute joy to work with. He is a true team player and always manages to foster positive discussions and bring the best out of other members. I am sure the Brethren of Evergreen Lodge No. 137 will join me in honoring Bro. Norman G. McLaren as Mason of the Month!

- nominated by Bro. Ronnie Smith

CONGRATULATIONS, BRO. NORM!

Thank You from OutReach Services An overwhelming thank you

On behalf of the MasonicAid OutReach Services program, we would like to extend an overwhelming THANK YOU to the individuals, Lodges, and Chapters who generously donated to our 2017 Giving Tree Program. Your donations provided uplifting gifts to our Masonic and Eastern Star members in need of assistance during the holiday season. A heartfelt thank you shared by a Giving Tree recipient:

"Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas Gift. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

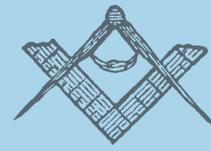
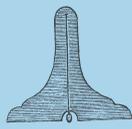
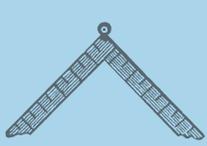
Volunteers from Job's Daughters hand-delivered Giving Tree gifts, brightening the day of several OutReach clients, including Delanie Crabtree, Grand Bethel Honored Queen (pictured right, center) and Kayleigh Pierson, Miss Oregon Job's Daughter (pictured right, top and bottom).

Twenty-eight OutReach clients received a gift this year, and additional money was contributed to the general OutReach fund, which will continue to support our OutReach program efforts. Again, we sincerely thank you for your support and generosity. We wish you a wonderful New Year in 2018!

- Danielle Christopherson,
Director of OutReach Services
& Theresa Sandstrom

OutReach Services provides assistance to Oregon Masonic & Eastern Star members in need and promotes independence and safety in the community and at home. OutReach is able to do this by offering information and referrals over the phone, care management services, and financial assistance. Please contact the Grand Lodge office at (503) 357-3158 for more information, or to make a referral.





The Tools of Freemasonry,

continued from page one

officer in the Lodge, I felt it was my duty to make the officers ahead of me look good. I wanted to work as hard as the Brothers that stayed late to clean the kitchen or pick up after a holiday party. I wanted to show those ahead of me that I was serious about the work I was undertaking.

The "See it, Do it, Teach it" model has helped me in many aspects of life including the Blue Lodge. I firmly believe that we have the opportunity to learn from those that have come before us (See It), practice those methods (Do It), improve upon them, and it is our ultimate charge to teach those best practices to the next generation of Brothers coming into the Lodge (Teach It). We must make an effort to give our newer members the support and education they are seeking to eventually run our Lodges.

Finally, my personal goal, and if I can be so bold as to suggest you might consider a similar one, is to REPLACE MYSELF EVERY YEAR. We should be actively finding the next Brother to come into our Lodge. We must train them on the proper application of the tools in our Ritual to their lives and ask them to carry our traditions forward.

Fraternally,
W.B. Zachary A. Blalack, Grand Orator

Public Education Achievement Award

It is that time of the year for each Lodge to submit a report on the activities they have been involved in with their local public schools. There are many ways that Lodges can participate in this Masonic program including providing funding for various school activities as well as volunteering in support of school programs. The Public Education Achievement Award form is readily available on the Grand Lodge website as well as from your District Deputy. All Lodges are urged to submit this form with a listing of

the various ways your Lodge has supported the public schools in your area. Grand Lodge programs that we are all aware of (MMSAP, Bikes for Books, and Raising A Reader) are just a few of a long list of programs. Please submit the form by April 1, 2018, to W.B. Jerry Schierling by email: jschierling@comcast.net or mail to 2120 Robins LN. SE #98, Salem, OR 97306. Every Lodge should submit a report even if you think you may not qualify.

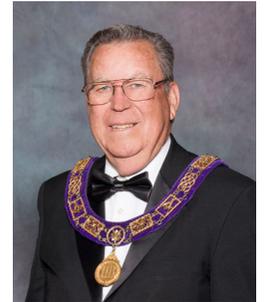
Fraternally,
W.B. Jerry Schierling, Chairman,
Public Schools Committee



SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2018

The Significance of Why by R.W.B. Stanley C. Miller

One of the most profound questions, from the time we began to consider whether to join the mysteries of our Order, seems to be the little word "why." As we progressed through the mired of veiled allegories that began to answer our questions, we were met with the same question from the first petitioner we were assigned to investigate. We each have different reasons for why, and finally, we asked the question, "How do I become one?"



R.W.B. Stanley C. Miller
Grand Chaplain

Next came the quest for more light, and as we looked at each of the various Appendant or Concordant bodies, we again faced why for each. Some of the reasons were: Is it a part of our family's history (i.e., my father or grandfather was), does it fit our background, hobby or occupation, and of course does it meet my religious faith? We each had our own evaluation or reason and made the final decision.

Regardless, the most important question to bear in mind is, are you ready to solve that question of why when it comes from a good friend or neighbor who wants to know? He wants to know why you get enjoyment and or fulfillment from our wonderful Order. It is important to remember that "because" is NOT an answer. I encourage you to take up the Boy Scout's motto, "BE PREPARED."

Fraternally,
R.W.B. Stanley C. Miller, Grand Chaplain





Photo Contest Capturing Masonry

Oregon Lodges and members are invited to submit photographs they have recently taken to the Grand Lodge for evaluation each month. A committee will review and select the best submission in the following three categories: a historic Masonic building, a Masonic event, or some esoteric meaning to Masonry.

Photo Contest Rules

1. Photographs may be submitted by an Oregon Mason or Lodge.
2. The photograph must encompass one of the following themes: a historic Masonic building; a Masonic event – or activity related to any Blue Lodge; or some esoteric meaning to Masonry.
3. The photographs must be in JPEG format of at least 2 MB in size.
4. The following must be included in the submission: The category of the photograph, name of the Lodge or Brother submitting the photograph, a brief description, and the time and place the photograph was taken.
5. Photographs must be received by the 5th of each month to be included in that month's evaluation.

Please send photo submissions to Erin Evans at eevans@masonic-oregon.com.

The selected photographs will be featured in the Oregon Masonic News and then displayed at the 168th Annual Communication for the delegates to vote for their favorite image. The first, second, and third-place winners will receive a plaque, and the first-place winner will also be awarded a \$500 voucher to give to the Masonic charity of their choice. Submissions must be received to eevans@masonic-oregon.com by the 5th of the month to be considered for that month's competition.



OFFICER CHARGES

REGISTRATION

It is time to get "Back to the Basics" with our Masonic education. The Charges are free to attend and will be held in the Jefferson Room at the Jennings McCall Center in Forest Grove from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Each Charge focuses on the preceding office: the Junior Warden's Charge on Mar. 17, is aimed at the sitting Senior Deacon, the Senior Warden's Charge, on Mar. 24, is intended for the sitting Junior Warden, and the Worshipful Master's Charge, on Mar. 31, is designed for the sitting Senior Warden. The Grand Master's wife, Sue McMillan, will be available for any ladies wishing to know more about Freemasonry or who would like a tour of the Jennings McCall Center, our Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

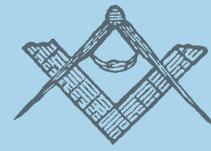
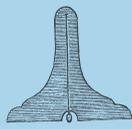
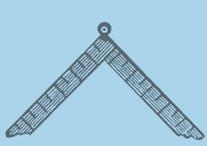
To encourage Officers to attend, the Grand Lodge of Oregon will pay up to \$100 to be reimbursed for one night's lodging for those traveling over 50 miles. Receipts will be required for reimbursement. Room sharing and carpooling is encouraged. An informal gathering will be held on Friday evening to meet the Grand Master and other attendees. A light breakfast will be provided before the training session starts, and lunch will be served at noon at no cost. Reservations are required. We ask that you bring the Masonic Etiquette and Instructions booklet, the Ritual, and the Oregon Masonic Code book. The dress for the event is casual, but please no shorts or flip-flops. We encourage all Lodges to take part in this program.



CHARGES REGISTRATION

Register online, www.masonic-oregon.com/charges, mail this form to the Grand Lodge office, or call (503) 357-3158. Questions? Contact W.B. Greg Jenkins, Senior Grand Deacon at (503) 474-7449.

SELECT A TRAINING		NAME
<input type="checkbox"/>	Junior Warden's Charge (Senior Deacons) MAR 17	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Warden's Charge (Junior Wardens) MAR 24	LODGE NAME & NO. <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Worshipful Master's Charge (Senior Wardens) MAR 31	OFFICE HELD <input type="text"/>
		PHONE NO. <input type="text"/>
		LADY'S NAME (If attending) <input type="text"/>



NEWS FROM OUR LODGES —

Santiam No. 25



The Brethren of Santiam Lodge No. 25 in Stayton ended the year big. December brought not only the installation of our line officers for the ensuing year but also another festive ugly sweater contest. With fun and fellowship had by all, it continues to be a great event for us. We look forward to a successful year as a Lodge and to seeing as many visiting Brethren as possible.

- submitted by W.B. Hunter C. Tinney

Medford No. 103



On behalf of the Grand Lodge of Maine, Bro. Kirby Wheeler was presented his 50-year award and veteran's metal by R.W.B. John Lohrfink and Worshipful Master Kent Clinkinbeard, who were also assisted by Bro. Kirby's wife and Medford Lodge's 50-year plus members. Pictured left: W.B. John Halverson and W.B. Clinkinbeard presented a Past Master's certificate and card to W.B. James Pringle, 2017 Worshipful Master of Medford Lodge No. 103.



- submitted by
W.B. Howard E. Leachman

Sidney Croft No. 206



On Dec. 9, 2017, Crescent Lodge No. 45 in Crescent City, Calif. held their annual community Christmas party. Worshipful Master Hetzel Akers invited the Child ID team from Sidney Croft Lodge No. 206 and Chetco Shrine Club to the event. The team included W.B. Steve Mathis and wife, Sue; and W.B. Steven Pomerleau, Past Potentate, and wife, Betty. We had a great time, and 117 kids were processed which is a good day. We will return next year and hope to ID more kids. We spoke with the Del Norte County Sheriff, and he showed interest in having us fingerprint kids at the sheriff's office as a public service.

- submitted by W.B. Steven M. Pomerleau

Ashland No. 23

Deserving families shared Christmas dinner with the Lodge members at Ashland Lodge No. 23. W.B. Mitch Klaich cooked the turkeys, and W.B. Skip Bessonette fixed all the trimmings that were donated by Lodge members. Santa Skip handed out presents to the excited kids that were picked out and wrapped by W.B. Russ Grimm, who collected donations throughout the year at the Brothers' weekly coffee gatherings. It was a very Merry Christmas at Ashland Lodge!



- submitted by W.B. Thomas L. Towler



Willamette No. 2

On Dec. 24, 2017, W.B. Jack R. Johnson of Willamette Lodge No. 2, was presented with his 50-year jewel at his home in Long Beach, Wash. W.B. Johnson's wife, Marla, and two family friends, Glenn and Penny Ripley of Ocean Park, Wash. were also in attendance. All four are members of Pacific No. 129, O.E.S. in Ilwaco, Wash. W.B. Jack and Marla also received the Grand Master's and Grand Lady's pins. W.B. Jack said, "I have been waiting a long time for this!"

- submitted by R.W.B. Ronald L. Atkins



Tigard-Orenomah No. 207



On Dec. 27, 2017, Tigard-Orenomah Lodge No. 207 in Tigard, held its annual Installation of Officers, installation dinner, and celebration of the Feast of St. John the Evangelist. W.B. Steven Gatton and W.B. Brandon VanDyke performed Handel's Organ Concerto in F major, "The Master's Song" (from Anderson's Constitutions), "Genius of Masonry, Descend," and Sibelius' "Onward, Ye Brethren!" on piano, trumpet, and flugelhorn. At the formal dinner that followed the ceremony, R.W.B. Daniel D. Bush, District Deputy No. 7, shared a speech written by his father, M.W.B. D. Arthur Bush, P.G.M., which discussed the consequences of accepting your first service position in Masonry and the transformative journey that unfolds thereof. R.W. Rev. R. Eugene Hill, Past Grand Chaplain of New Jersey, presented an address on "The Patron Saints of Freemasonry – The Saints John" which was well-received. Bro. Matthew Douglass prepared a delicious dinner and was assisted by Bro. David Miller and Terry Harris who labored all day in the kitchen. Worshipful Master Thomas D. Pierce promises this night to be the first of many in which he is committed to "Bring the Light," creating more 2018 Lodge events that promote opportunities for learning and continued growth in Masonry while bringing back and preserving ancient traditions in their purest forms as best as we can.

- submitted by Bro. Richard A. Ling, Jr.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you have Lodge stories of community involvement, events, etc. you are invited to submit your articles and pictures to Erin Evans at eevans@masonic-oregon.com. Deadline: The 5th of the previous month (i.e., articles for June issue are due by May 5).

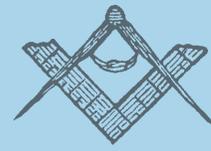
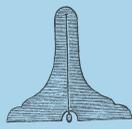
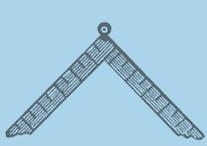


Molalla No. 178

Molalla Lodge's Immediate Past Worshipful Master, Mike Early presented Jim Dantona, the Molalla High School baseball team's head coach, (pictured right) with a \$1,000 check. As part of the Lodge's efforts to be more viable in the local community, the Brethren selected the team to help support the baseball program and also the Lodge by raising awareness about Masonry and its practices.

- submitted by W.B. Michael E. Early





NEWS FROM OUR LODGES — (continued)

Bend Lodge: Operation Christmas Joy



Masonry is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of all mankind. We are taught that unselfishness is a duty and that it is not only better to give than to receive, but also more rewarding. This is a principle that Bend Lodge No. 139 has been living since 2006, when they first began Operation Christmas Joy, under the leadership of Worshipful Master Ed Bousquet (now Most Worshipful Brother).

Operation Christmas Joy starts with the Lodge placing a complete turkey dinner for Christmas, uncooked in a cardboard box. The food is then delivered to families in need. What began as a small venture, 20 unmarked boxes, has grown significantly over the past 11 years.

Today, an assembly line of Masons, families, and volunteers meet a couple of days before Christmas at the Bend Lodge to fill the boxes. These boxes are wrapped in Christmas paper and are filled with a frozen turkey, potatoes, cranberries, corn, green beans, and rolls. Depending on the size of the family, a larger turkey and ham is included. A partnership with a local grocer manager from Albertsons provides a substantial discount to make this possible, along with over \$1,100 in donations from our Lodge members.

From our initial year, the program has grown and become quite an operation. This year we shared the Christmas spirit with 75 families. We have expanded Operation Christmas Joy to include all of Central Oregon and have joined forces with Redmond and Prineville Lodges to provide meals for families in their areas.

The Central Oregon region is divided into areas, and each Mason is assigned a number of families. They load up the Christmas boxes and Operation Christmas Joy is underway. There is nothing more rewarding than delivering a bit of joy to a very deserving family and have them say, "thank you."

- by Bro. Terry Griffith, Secretary,
Bend Lodge No. 139

Multnomah Lodge delivers holiday cheer to JMC residents

On Dec. 16, 2017, members from Multnomah Lodge No. 1 brought poinsettias as well as a wreath to hang in the building for the residents at the Jennings McCall Center.

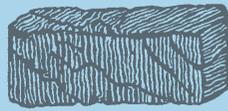
Multnomah Brethren spent an hour of cheer with residents; eating, drinking, and swapping stories of Masonic history. Bro. Jose Ramirez sang opera, which was matched by a song from one of the Jennings McCall staff members, Rebekah Cormier.

Hugs and laughter were exchanged as the event ended, and the appreciation for this act of kindness could be seen on the faces of the residents of our Masonic and Eastern Star Home. It is the hope of Multnomah Lodge to make this an annual activity.

- submitted by W.B. Bill Anton



Multnomah Lodge Brothers in attendance pictured left to right: Bro. Sterling Anton, Senior Warden; Bro. Jose Ramirez, Junior Warden; Stephen Sikes; W.B. Bill Anton, Chaplain; W.B. Mike Churchill, Worshipful Master; Bro. Les Brenner; and W.B. Will Anton, Senior Deacon.



Silverton Lodge's Master Leads by example



Worshipful Master Christopher Warren, Silverton Lodge No. 45, received recognition by completing the Torchlight study from W.B. Jerry Schierling. Through his efforts to improve himself in Masonry, the Brethren of the Lodge can take pride in W.B. Warren's leadership, knowledge, skills, and ability to govern the Lodge.

Torchlight is one of several Masonic educational tools readily available on the Grand Lodge website. W.B. Warren encourages all Brothers to make it a goal to take the challenge and complete this study.

- by W.B. Jerry Schierling,
Torchlight Chairman

What is Masonry?

*It is a moral science,
The best — though there are others,
Where men can place reliance
On those good men, their Brothers;
Yet, be it undersood, men,
In spirit and in letter;
It WON'T make bad men good men;
it WILL make good men better.*

— Walter K. Belt,
Poems on the Trestle-Board

The Grand Master's Trip to Europe for UGLE's 300th Anniversary

As Oregon's Grand Master for the 2017-2018 Masonic year, AM.W.B. Myles was invited by the United Grand Lodge of England to attend the festivities of the 300th Anniversary of Freemasonry in England, held in London for three days in October 2017. We have traveled to many places, but have never been to London. Being a part of the 300-year celebration of Masonry in England is an experience that is incomparable to anything. M.W.B. Myles, along with 138 other Grand Masters from all over the world, personally met the Grand Master of England, who is also the Duke of Kent. We visited Freemasons' Hall, the Royal Albert Hall, the De Vere Grand Connaught Rooms, and attended a reception with the mayor of London at the Manor House. Every one of these buildings is a treat within itself.



M.W.B. Myles attended the tricentennial celebration with over 4,000 Masons in the concert venue of Royal Albert Hall. Deputy Grand Master, R.W.B. Jim Morgan; Grand Marshal, W.B. Mark Pöslér, and his wife, Jeannette; and the Grand Master's wife, Sue watched the event live-streamed at the Freemasons' Hall. If you get the chance, the event can be watched on www.rah300.org.

After the UGLE event, we joined our daughter, granddaughter, R.W.B. Jim, W.B. Mark, and Jeanette, to ride the tube and walk many miles to see as many London sights as we could. We saw the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, and the Tower of London, (where they keep the Crown Jewels). We visited St. Paul's Cathedral, Tower Bridge, Kensington Palace, the Cutty Sark, the Eye of London, and numerous museums. Some of the group stood on the meridian line in Greenwich. We took pictures everywhere, including a fun picture with the Beefeater Tour Guides at the Tower of London. The sights we saw were awesome. It was a trip of a lifetime.

- MWGM Myles & Sue McMillan



OREGON MASONIC NEWS

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High resolution photos, along with story submissions, may be sent electronically to the Grand Secretary. Photos should not be reduced in size. Printed photos are also acceptable. If you scan your own photos, they should be at least 300 dpi. Photocopies are NOT acceptable.

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Planning a trip to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in April!

The Grand Lodge of Oregon will be visiting the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (GWMNM) in Alexandria, Virginia, April 24-30, 2018 and wants you to join in on the fun. The GWMNM highlights a different jurisdiction each month, and Oregon is expected to be selected and honored in April. The trip itinerary currently includes the opening of Grand Lodge on Wednesday, April 25, a trip by riverboat to Mount Vernon on Thursday, April 26, and a tour of the Capitol Building on Saturday, April 28. A photo opportunity with our congressional delegations is also being planned.

A room block has been set up at the Marriott's Residence Inn Alexandria Old Town/Duke Street at the price of \$139 a night (free breakfast included in the rate) for the dates 4/24-4/29. There are only 25 rooms currently reserved in the room block. Reservations should be made online using the link, bit.ly/2ril2AQ or call 1-888-236-2427. Please use the room block code **"Masonic Grand Lodge of Oregon."** **The cutoff date to guarantee the nightly rate of \$139 is Tuesday, March 27, 2018,** so do not wait to make your reservations!

Questions? Please contact W.B. Rick Komraus, Assistant Grand Secretary, rkomraus@masonic-oregon.com or (503) 357-3158.



The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, located in Alexandria, Virginia.



Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington.