

Burlington-United 93 Trestleboard

From the Worshipful Master

To those present on our last Stated I hope you enjoyed the evening. To those who did not/do not come we had an exceptional dinner, and entertainment provided by our new lodge chef. This brings me to the problem at hand:

Brethren, Burlington-United Lodge #93 is at a crossroads and we need to decide the direction. On our last meeting, I asked for assistance in conducting further Masonic Funerals and none, other than one or two, came forward. I can't do these things by myself as I and a few other members continue to work full-time. Without assistance from any of the 160 members of the lodge I will be forced to tell families that we are unable to bring them what they deserve and what we promised to our departed brethren. This will reflect badly on our lodge and permanently damage a long and honorable history.

Participation in the lodge continues to decline- we had more visitors present last Thursday than members; thankfully for the loyal few who continue to come it was not a complete wash-out. Brethren, is the time near when we must confront that nagging thought: whether to keep "whipping a dead horse", merge once again or bring B-U's history to a close? If there is no real interest in the lodge then should we continue struggling from year to year? The answers lie with you all but we have to take care of this matter now or there will be no one who desires to take an office or chair. I also believe without immediate action our newest members may even demit.

I am making a plea to the lodge to not abandon those we elect. Let's join together in breathing new life to B-U 93; we have that ability and we owe it to those whose pictures line our walls. To continue in this manner is akin to rearranging the deck chairs of the Titanic.

Fraternally
Scott F. Slater
Worshipful Master

Senior Deacon's corner

Last month the Worshipful Master gave you a little of his history so I thought I'd tell you about my background this month.

I was raised in Mount Vernon and graduated from Mount Vernon High School. I attended Skagit Valley Collage for two years and decided to get my military obligation over with. I spent four years in the US Navy, mostly aboard an aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean. I got out of the Navy and worked for a year at Boeing in Everett, doing electrical inspection on the first 15 747's that were made. Then the big Boeing layoff of 1969 came along and I went back to school at the University of Washington and obtained a bachelors in Electronic Engineering. I worked for Applied Technology out of Sunnyvale, CA for a couple of years, mostly back on another aircraft carrier as a tech rep. When the first big oil crisis and trucking strike came along I was in Norfolk, VA. After

about a week the only fresh vegetables that were available were Kale and Collard Greens. I didn't really think either were edible, so I put out a few feelers to companies that were hiring for jobs in Alaska. I was hired by Schlumberger Oil Well Services and after a years training in CA as a Petroleum Engineer I was transferred to Kenai, AK. I worked on the oil platforms in Cook Inlet and on the North Slope. When they cut back production in Alaska and wanted to transfer me to Louisiana I quit and went to work for the Federal Aviation Administration in Anchorage. I worked all over the State of Alaska for 12 years, transferred to Puerto Rico for 4 years to install and commission a new Air Traffic Control computer, and then returned to Anchorage for a year. When my parents health deteriorated I transferred to the Regional office in Renton and retired from the FAA with 32 years service in 2005. I moved to Sedro Woolley after I retired and joined the Masons in 2005.

In the future we will email the trestleboard to those that we have an email address for instead of mailing a hard copy. If you need a printed copy send an email to gfooster@eskimo.com and let me know. If we have an email address you will receive an email copy in addition to the printed copy this month. If you have an email address, but didn't receive an email copy, please let me know your email address so that we can save some money on envelopes and postage.

Fraternally,
George Foster
Senior Deacon and webmaster

Calendar

March 4 7:30 Burlington-United visitation to Mt Baker 36

March 6 Stated: Dinner 6:30 Be there or loose the dinners for the rest of the year. Lodge starts at 7:30.

WB Dave McCuiston presents a toast to the flag and a program. We will hold an election and installation for Senior Warden.

April 3 Stated: This is the Grand Master's visit. Dinner 6:30 Lodge 7:30.

www.bluelodge-wa.org/burl93/