

<http://www.bluelodge-wa.org/burl93/>

**BURLINGTON-UNITED
MASONIC LODGE
#93**

TRESTLEBOARD



June 2008

Brethren,

As you know, I sent the brief story of our visit to Abbotsford via e-mail but I will also include in the trestleboard for those receiving it by post.

We have one month left before going on break for the summer and I feel pretty good about the things we've done in lodge to date. While the May 1st Stated was a bit sparse we had enough visitors to have a complete meeting. \TW John Sleeth, who's announced his availability to the grand south gave us an excellent presentation about his vision for the future of Masonry. Several questions arose about one day conferrals and ciphers and I would encourage the absent members to speak with me or others about the answers to those questions. \TW Mark Wiggins will be addressing the lodge next month just before grand communication so I think every member should be present to hear from \TW Mark.

Our Annual picnic will be at Lee's place on Big Lake August 9th. Include with B-U9 will be both chapters of Eastern Star and I will invite the Rainbow Girls. We'll definitely need additional dishes besides the hot dogs and burgers; someone made some potato salad last year that was the best I ever had but I can't remember who it was.

Lastly, a dirty rotten, no-good, low-down, self-serving Gyrene, had the gall to pollute my car's back window with a Marine Corps sticker. Whomever the sea-going bellhop is, I'll have you know I took care of the problem by bashing my rear window out; so there!

WM Scott

Greetings from the West!

Hopefully you'll find the included Masonic Education article interesting.

Why do brethren entering and leaving a lodge salute the Master?

Masons entering or leaving a lodge salute the Master at the Alter if the lodge is at labor—they salute the Junior Warden if the lodge is at refreshment. This practice assures the Master that the brother knows on what degree the lodge is open. A brother making a wrong sign can be instructed immediately. It informs the Master that the brother is a Mason of the degree on which the lodge is open; if he makes an inferior sign, and cannot, on request, give the right one, the Master can then use

other means to ascertain that no Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft is present in a Master Mason lodge. The salute is a silent assurance to the Master and through him to the brethren: "I remember my obligations."

Brethren salute on retiring to get permission to leave. No one can enter or leave a lodge room while a lodge is at labor without permission. If the Master does not wish the brother who salutes to retire he tells him so, instead of responding to the salute.

At refreshment the lodge is in charge of the Junior Warden and the same salutes are given him as are usually given the Master, and for the same reasons. In some Grand Jurisdictions, on busy evenings, as during a visitation or other Masonic, the Master will instruct the Tiler to ask the brethren to salute the West, instead of the East, in order to not have his own labors in the East interrupted.

Have a good summer,
Bill Munsell SW

As seen from the South ~ Brett C Sandström JW

Taking a quick little look at the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce website, it quickly becomes apparent that something is missing in the Association/Organization categories. "What?" you might ask. Well, Burlington-United Lodge No. 93 of course! If we are to make more of a public face for our noble fraternity to our community then we need to be more active in our community. We need to join the ranks with other organizations that are currently bolstering and bettering our fair town. We can be active participants in shaping our city's well being. I think we owe it to our community to play this vital role. That is why I suggest that Burlington-United Lodge No. 93 join the Sedro-Woolley Chamber, and at the fair price of only \$50! I also suggest that we have a Lodge representative attend the monthly luncheons. This way we can share with others in the surrounding area our history and efforts in such activities as the student scholarships we give each year or the use of our lot for the summer movies during July. Let give it a go!

A word from the Senior Deacon ~ George Foster

Here is a page from the website "A Page About Freemasonry, which can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/dryfoo/Masonry/>



This Is Masonry

Builder Of Society

-- *Anonymous*

Freemasonry is a fraternity of men bound together by vows of morality in public and private life, who believe in God and the constitutional rights of members to free choice of religion and political persuasion.

Masonry strives to make good men better -- to teach its members to be "better than themselves." It accepts only men of high moral character.

The fraternity of Freemasonry endorses free public education, encourages self-improvement, promotes patriotism and respect for the Constitution, sanctions equal rights under law, practices good will towards all men, and contributes generously to philanthropies.

Masonry is a Charitable, benevolent, educational and religious society. Its basic tenets are Brotherly Love, Relief, (philanthropy), and Truth.

Through the improvement and strengthening of the character of the individual, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community.

[Masonry](#) is not a benefit society, or a charitable institution. It assists members by many means through times of hardship, but it is not an insurance society with sickness, death, disability or old age benefits.

Masonry is not a secret society. It is a well-known, nation-wide fraternity whose members proudly declare their membership. Masons meet in buildings plainly identified as Masonic Temples, and public announcements of their meetings are published in daily and community publications. There is no attempt to hide the names of community leaders who are Masons.

Masonic ritual is often considered by Masons as having been the most moving experience of their lives. Employing the tools of the stone mason as symbols of basic moral truths, Masonic ritual dramatizes a philosophy of life based on morality.

Masonry is voluntary! A Mason is forbidden by Masonic law to invite a friend to join. The friend must voluntarily seek membership by contacting a Mason and announce his desire to join.

Masons of the Blue Lodge, or any appendant body, may participate in varied activities. Degree presentations require ritualists and persons with dramatic abilities, musicians for orchestras, vocalists for choirs, stage crews, make-up men and service committees of all kinds.

Men take part in an active social life that includes their families and friends.

Besides national philanthropic activity, such as scholarships and medical research. Masons maintain many types of local charitable projects.

Non-Masons observe the social, civic and philanthropic activity of Masons and frequently comment on the close bond that exists among Masons and the obvious belief that they are their brothers' keepers. They notice that Masons are quick to assist their fellows in misfortune with encouragement, kindness and tangible assistance.

The bond of faith and confidence among Masons is largely the result of the common knowledge that all, having experienced the memorable rituals, accept the high ethical standards as guides to their conduct.

Within a Masonic Temple Masons do not discuss religion, or political matters, or any other subject likely to excite personal animosities. Masonry teaches men to be religious without advocating a particular doctrine, or creed. It requires its members to be good citizens, but free to choose their medium of political expression.

Masons support free schools. Throughout the history of North America the Masonic fraternity has supported free public schools in all possible unofficial and non-political ways ... as an expression of good citizenship "Let there be light" is a famous Masonic motto in support of this philosophy.

Masonry with its dedication to education, morality, brotherly love, non-sectarianism in religion and politics and equal rights is a steadying influence that balances and consolidates the social, religious and political life of America.

WHAT IS BLUE LODGE?

The Blue Lodge (Symbolic Masonry) confers the first three degrees - Entered Apprentice (first degree), fellowcraft (second degree), and Master Mason (third degree).

Promotion depends upon a Mason's proficiency in learning certain things about Freemasonry, its ethics, and its philosophy.

There is no higher degree in Masonry than Master Mason. However, a Master Mason may enter the Scottish Rite, or York Rite, to elaborate upon basic Masonic principles.

WHAT IS SCOTTISH RITE?

The Scottish rite confers the 4th through 32nd degrees in degree-conferring meetings. The degree work may be, but is not necessarily, completed at one time.

Any Master Mason in good standing may ask a Scottish Rite friend for a petition form, or may obtain one from a Scottish Rite secretary. He must be judged to be of good moral character, and be elected by the members.

WHAT IS YORK RITE?

The York Rite consists of nine [*ten -- editor*] degrees in addition to Blue Lodge degrees.

Ancient York Rite Masonry is considered by Masonic historians to have been "original" Masonry. It is not practised in its original form anywhere today. In the United States, the term York Rite has come to be applied to a number of degrees conferred only in this country.

York Rite degrees are divided into Capitular Degrees of the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason; the Cryptic Degrees of the Royal Master, Select Master and Super Excellent Master, and the Chivalric Orders of the Order of the Red Cross, Order of the Knights of Malta and the Order of Knights Templar.

Scottish and York Rites are autonomous bodies, but members have in common their membership in the Blue Lodge, and all of the moral and philosophical teachings of Masonry that the two rites elaborate.

THE ORIGINAL 13 SHRINERS

Thirteen Masons organized the first Shrine Temple in 1872 -- Mecca Temple in New York City. The 13 life enjoying Masons formed a luncheon group in 1870 at a time when the psychic significance of the number 13 was sweeping New York.

They knew they needed an appealing theme for their new Order, so they choose the Arabic (Near east) theme. To this day, this background has influenced the names of Shrine Temples, pageantry that accompanies the initiation of new Shriners, titles of Shrine offices and parade costumes.

The most noticeable symbol of Shrinedom is the distinctive red fez that all Shriners wear at official functions.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST PHILANTHROPY

Every Shriner is a Mason.

Members of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine for North America are members of the Scottish Rite's 32nd degree, and/or Knights Templar of the York Rite. [*As of July 3, 2000, [Master Masons are eligible to become Shriners.](#) -- editor*] However, the Order is not an appendant body of Masonry.

Shriners are distinguished by an enjoyment of life in the interest of philanthropy. The nearly 900,000-member Shrine organization has a buoyant philosophy, which has been expressed as: "Pleasure without intemperance, hospitality without rudeness, and joviality without coarseness."

SHRINERS HAVE A MISSION

Shriners' buoyancy does not suppress a sense of mission, however. The Shriners who participate in the famous Shrine parades, and administer the Shrine circuses and numerous Shrine football games from coast to coast carry with them the vision of little children, who will know happiness because of their efforts. The money that Shriners raise supports the 22 Shriners Hospitals For Crippled Children, including three Shriners Burn Institutes. Special care is given to both orthopedic cases and severely burned children. Valuable research is conducted to find more effective treatment and to train specialists in both fields.

I AM A SHRINER BECAUSE . . .

...It is the fulfillment of my devotion to the principles of Freemasonry - through the prerequisite degrees to Shrinedom.

...It extends to me, in greater numbers, the warm hand of Fellowship and Brotherly Love -- the priceless ingredients of man's quest for happiness.

...It furthers my Masonic adherence to Love of God, Love of Country, and Love of Freedom.

...It enables me to participate in one of the world's great monuments to humanitarian devotion -- Shriners Hospitals For Crippled Children -- that of caring for our crippled and burned young, regardless of race or creed.

...Through Fellowship and Service it strengthens my soul and adds inner-meaning to my daily life. It thus spreads a glow of joy through one's entire family.

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Last revised: 12/17/2007 14:25:34

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