

SEATTLE'S MASONIC LODGE OF THE MUSIC, THEATRE AND THE ARTS

September 19, 2009

DAYLIGHT
Masons



DAYLIGHT LODGE No. 232

TRESTLEBOARD

www.daylightmasons.org

Our vision - Daylight Lodge will be recognized as a leader in the future of Masonry; it will support and espouse the Arts, a keystone to our structure; leverage our dynamic community presence in this passion. It will set an unparalleled stand of excellence in ritual work.

STATED MEETING SEPTEMBER 19TH

Worshipful Master Choe will open the first fall stated meeting on Saturday, September 19th at the usual hour of 10:00 a.m. There will be the usual discussion of lodge events and committee reports. Senior Deacon Sam Ali will be making a presentation about Lodge's participation in the ROOTS program on the second and forth Sunday of each month. See below for a story about ROOTS.

Worshipful Master Choe will be announcing plans for degree conferrals for the rest of 2009. The Lodge Hall has been tentatively reserved on first Saturday of each month for degree conferrals. At present there are at least three brothers waiting for their Fellowcraft and two for their Master Mason. One is a young FC Brother Alex Jouravlev from North Hill Lodge No. 210 in Spokane who is now attending Seattle University Law School.

How wonderful is our Masonic world; our young Brother Yuri Redkin who was born in Astrakhan, Russia met Alex and two minutes later they were talking to each other in Russian. North Hill in Spokane is well connected to Daylight. Worshipful Brothers Andy Carnahan, Phil Ostendorf and our late Worshipful Brother Cleo McCord were raised in that Lodge. Cleo and Phil served as North Hill Masters.

So plan your fall for the first and third Saturdays of the month. Of course lunch will follow every meeting, either at the lodge hall or in one of the local eateries. Everyone is reminded that if lunch is at a local establishment, you need to order your own libation at the bar.

2009 MAYOR'S ARTS AWARD

Early in the spring the Seattle Arts Commission sought nominations for the 2009 Mayor's Arts Awards. Daylight nominated the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestras. While the lodge may not have been the only nominator, never-the-less it is proud to see that SYSO will be one of six organizations or persons to receive the award. Other recipients are Artist Trust, a support organization for artists, visual artist Jesse Higman, Northwest Tap Connection, and internationally recognized opera impresario Speight Jenkins, General Manage of the Seattle Opera. The celebration is open to the public.

The Awards will be presented at noon on Friday, September 4th at the Seattle Center in the Northwest Court. The Mayor's Arts Awards are presented by the Seattle Arts Commission and the Office of Arts and Cultural Affair. The event is the opening of Bumbershoot's Visual Arts.

Daylight's support of SYSO goes back almost to the beginning. In 1973 when V.:W.: Brother Morgan was Master he got permission from Grand Master Bill P. Horn to make a donation to the organization. St. John's Lodge No. 9 shortly after that followed and became a major contributor. Daylight's Past Master Harry Reid, a past president of the Seattle Musicians' Union Local was one of the founding fathers of the orchestra in the 1940s. Today SYSO is recognized as the largest youth orchestra organization in the nation with graduates in many of the leading orchestras in the US and elsewhere. Daylight can point with pride to its continued support and that three Daylighters serve as SYSO Board members, James Maher, Dean Willard and Honorary Past Master Sat Tashiro. Another Honorary Past Master M.:W.: George Bovingdon SYSO Board President in the early 1970s worked his way through college playing trombone in dance bands.



A brief reminder: There will be Entered Apprentice Degree conferrals on Saturday, August 29th starting at 10:00 a.m. Help your new Lodge officers start the year making new Masons. One candidate will be from Mercer Island Lodge.



DID YOU KNOW WASHINGTON HISTORY

Did you know that at one time there was a Slaughter County just as there was a city in King County by the same name? US Army Lt. William Slaughter was killed near present day Auburn during one of the Seattle Indian Wars. That town was initially named after him as was Kitsap County. The County of Slaughter was created by the Washington Territorial Legislature on July 13, 1857. The citizens by vote later changed the name to Kitsap honoring the legendary Suquamish War Chief Kitsap. He had united Puget Sound tribes against slavery attacks from the Cowichan and other Vancouver Island tribes. Under his leadership the united tribes in their canoes went to Vancouver Island, met and defeated the Cowichan and their allies.

AN ANTIENT CHARGE

From antient times no Master or Fellow could be absent from his Lodge, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, unless it appeared to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him,

Daylight may not be 'antient' but it still should apply and includes Apprentices.

2009-2010 LODGE OFFICERS

ELECTED TO SERVE THE LODGE

Worshipful Master - David Y. Choe 206-579-2951
1631 Belmont Ave E. #201 - Seattle 98122-2332

Email: worshipfulmaster@daylightmasons.org

Senior Warden - Franklin Donahoe 206-954-3653

Junior Warden - Erik Hill 206-898-5652

Treasurer - V. W. James R. Maher 206-818-9015

Secretary - W. Anthony Monaco 206-228-9025

PO Box 2024 - Seattle 98111-2024

Email: secretary@daylightmasons.org

APPOINTED TO SERVE THE MASTER

Senior Deacon — Samuel Ali

Junior Deacon — Jon Alcantara

Marshal — Troy McFarland

Chaplain — Matthew Kirk

Senior Steward — Karl Muchenberger

Junior Steward — Christopher Rippe

Musician — V. W. David S. Julian

Tiler — Mitchell Anderson

The Lodge's mailing address is:

P.O. Box 2024 — Seattle WA 98111-2024



NEBRASKA WISDOM

R. W. John T. Parson, the Nebraska Deputy Grand Master wrote an interesting paper about Masonic education and proficiency exams. Here are some of his words:

There appears to be a belief in some quarters that ritual memorization/proficiency and Masonic education are one and the same. That belief is grossly erroneous. While there is perhaps a bit of overlap between the two, they are really two different entities.

According to "Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia," a ritual is a form of conducting rites or ceremonies. Masonic ritual is the formalized manner in which we conduct our meetings, and by means of which we initiate, pass, and raise new members. Why do we use ritual? Because like many things Masonic, "We've always done it that way."

Several centuries ago, in the days of the operative craft and prior to the advent of dues cards, ritual was used to communicate the modes of recognition so that one Mason might know another. This was really the heart of the ritual. Other elements that have become associated with ritual work, such as the lectures, were added later. Many individuals at that time were illiterate and it was only by word of mouth that some of the lessons associated with the craft could be transmitted.

To understate the obvious, times have changed. While even fifty years ago, children were taught lessons by rote memorization, such is not the case today. Memorization of such things as poems and multiplication tables have followed the dinosaurs into the La Brea Tar Pits. Similarly, some of the lectures first given several centuries ago contain numerous factual errors, uncovered by modern scholarship. (Think of the Middle Chamber lecture for example, where globes are ostensibly found in King Solomon's Temple – thousands of years before Columbus and Magellan proved the world was round.) While we still enjoy well-performed ritual today, the essence is still the modes of recognition.

To that end, in the 1990s, the Grand Lodge adopted what was then termed, "Modern Proficiency." The only portion of the old ritual that was required of the candidates were some questions and answers, i.e. the modes of recognition. Other questions were asked of the candidates, and they were required to take an open book test to answer those questions. Many complaints from some of the older members today revolve around the premise that the work is easier and the candidates aren't learning anything. Many bemoan the passing of the posting committees, the old method by which candidates were taught questions and answers by rote memory.

I'm here to tell you that if you call a "posting committee" a "mentoring committee" and have them interact with the new candidates, the results will be startling. Members of the "mentoring committee" ought to sit down and take the open book test themselves. They will rapidly find out that they don't know as much about Masonry as they think they do. Then, they need to guide the candidates through the process, making sure everyone understands what is being taught. That will encourage a bonding process between the new and old members of the lodge, something that has been lost in a lot of lodges.

The several preceding paragraphs have attempted to describe ritual, how it morphed into the 21st century and how it is valuable. Masonic education is a different kettle of fish. Masonic education is designed to provide Lodge members with a deeper and more thorough understanding of the history of Masonry, how and why the lessons conveyed are important, and how they are relevant today. Masonic education is a combination of arcane verbiage, philosophy, and ethics, and is best taught by an interactive process. Rote memorization of arcane verbiage is not the goal. We need to strive for an understanding of the basic principles of Masonry. Thanks to the internet, many of today's potential candidates are well versed in much of Masonic history and values. We need to attain the same level of education as they have so that we can attract them into the fraternity. Moreover, we need to demonstrate to them that those values they have read about are real and tangible, and not mere words on paper. With a renewed emphasis on Masonic education, we can attract and retain a new generation of Masons. Our best years are yet to come.

An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less.
Nicholas Murray Butler

MORE DAYLIGHT HISTORY

1996-1997 Cleo Burl McCord, an affiliated Past Master of North Hill Lodge No. 210 in Spokane stepped into the East on September 21, 1996 as one of the lodge's oldest Masters, old in age but not in ideas. McCord was also a Past Master of Seattle's Wayfarer Lodge No. 280 in 1994 and when elected Daylight's Junior Warden could not be installed until he retired as Master of that lodge because of the Masonic Code prohibition on holding any of the three principal offices in two lodges.

At the age of 83 McCord may have been amongst the oldest persons to date to sit in Daylight's East but it was frequently said of him that it wasn't age it was attitude. This was seen in June when he decided that because there was no pressing business instead of a stated meeting the lodge would gather at the home of Secretary Morgan to picnic and attend the Fremont Solstice Festival Parade and Streetfair. The parade at that time was famous for "nude" bicyclists. McCord sagely observed after the parade, "It's hard enough to ride a bicycle under normal conditions." He had first served as the Master in North Hill Lodge in 1962 and affiliated with Daylight on May 24, 1994. He began his Masonic journey in North Hill on February 27, 1948 being raised as a Master Mason on April 16, 1948. He and his wife were for many years active in Eastern Star and he was a member of Scottish Rite, York Rite Bodies as well as Shrine. He was born in Muncie, Indiana on November 25, 1912 and was a resident of the Masonic Retirement Center when he became a lodge member.

At the June 1997 Grand Lodge session lodge secretary Morgan was a major contender for Junior Grand Warden and the new Grand Master Thomas Ehlers appointed Worshipful Master McCord to be Junior Grand Steward and David Julian to be Grand Bible Bearer. After retiring as Master he became the lodge Tiler and for about ten years was the lecturer for most of the degree work. He also tilled at Des Moines Lodge No. 245 and Tyee No. 115, the Wayfarer's Daylight Lodge. Well into his 90s he remained a beloved member, greatly respected and admired by the lodge's younger members whom he never failed to encourage to think new ideas.

McCord settled in Spokane after World War II and was active in nearly every Masonic body at one time or other. During the War he was one of many who served in what has often been termed, "The Forgotten War," the fight to drive the Japanese forces out of the Aleutian Island in Alaska. For most of his life he was a cook and baker frequently providing pies for the lodge.

What had started in 1995 as a good line of officers fell apart in 1997 when the Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Senior Steward all moved from Seattle to pursue employment opportunities. The Senior Deacon moved to Coos Bay, Oregon, the Junior Deacon to Amsterdam, The Netherlands and the Senior Steward to Helena, Montana. This jumped the lodge's youngest member, John Losey, Jr. up to Senior Deacon.

At the Washington Grand Lodge session in June 1997, a charter was granted to the first new lodge in a number of years, Frank S. Land Lodge No. 313 and it was formally constituted on November 15, 1997. Two Daylight members were charter members of the lodge that dedicated itself "to building DeMolay and Masonry through our comradeship." The members of this lodge; primarily senior DeMolays or brethren associated with The Order of DeMolay elected to meet at 9:30 a.m. The first Worshipful Master, Jeffrey Brunson had been a Washington State Master Councillor and the Junior Warden Don Wright was a Past Grand Master of DeMolay.

In California Silver Trowel Lodge No. 358 held its last meeting on October 2, 1996 and on November 14, 1996 the lodge that was the inspiration for Daylight Lodge, consolidated with Los Angeles Lodge No. 42 to form Los Angeles Silver Trowel Lodge No. 42.

IMPORTANT DEGREE TEAMS

Senior Warden Donahoe has scheduled auditions for the Master Mason Degree second section after the EA° conferral on August 29th. He urges any brother Master Mason to come prepared to audition for the degree part he is interested in taking. All positions are open for auditions. The goal is to make sure more than one brother knows parts so the degree will always come off in typical Daylight fashion. If you have any questions contact our Senior Warden Brother Franklin at seniorwarden@daylightmasons.org for more details.

It is to be expected that there will be minor parts to be filled in all degree teams during the year. Anyone interested in a particular part in any degree should contact Senior Deacon Ali for the EA° team, Junior Warden Hill for the FC° team. Let them know right away your interest. In particular members are urged to participate by learning all or part of the FC° and MM° lectures. Think about sharing the different sections as has been done so effectively for the EA° between Sam Ali, Michael Foley, Richard Rodgers and Antony Monaco.

Remember you can contact any officer by emailing them at:
(the title of their office) @ daylightmasons.org

White balls elects, black cubes reject

Shakespeare wrote, "O, it is excellent to have a giant's strength, but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant."

The black cube in the ballot box is a giant's strength to protect Freemasonry. Used thoughtlessly, carelessly, without Masonic reason, it crushes not only him whom it is aimed at but who casts it. A well used black cube goes into the ballot. Ill used, it drops into the heart and blackens it.

Author unknown

Another Community Activity

Senior Deacon Sam Ali has come up with another community activity that the Lodge members are participating in. ROOTS is a program in the University Methodist Temple for feeding kids with no homes. Often called 'street kids' they are actually older kids who have no jobs or place to stay. Twenty-five are provided a place to sleep in the basement of the church. Brother Sam has arranged that on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month Daylighters gather at 6:15 a.m. to cook breakfast for the kids. Once more it is Daylight Masons doing something for others.