



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

**March 18, 2006 – WE ARE # 1**

**DAYLIGHT LODGE #232**

*Trestleboard*

**WWW.DAYLIGHTMASONS.ORG**

## *March 18<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting*

### *Two Entered Apprentice Degrees this Month*

Worshipful Master Rob will open lodge at 10:00 a.m., on the Entered Apprentice Degree for the conduct of necessary business. There will be a petition for the degrees for ballot. See the detail below.

There are two EAs planned for this month, just a regular meeting and lots of fellowship, etc. Plan to attend the meeting, see good ritual and have lunch with your brothers.

A Petition for the Degrees of Masonry has been received from Mr. Jon Robert Alcantara who resides at 6018 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NW in Seattle. He is recommended to the lodge by his father-in-law W.: Brother Robert Luttrell, M.:W.: Brother James Reid PGM, both of Steadfast Lodge No. 216 and V.:W.: CoeTug Morgan. This petition will be spread for ballot at the March 18<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting. As an added note of interest, his wife is a Past Worthy Advisor and Past Grand Assembly officer in Rainbow for Girls.

The Fremont Public Association, sponsors of the annual Fremont Solstice Festival and Street Fair have confirmed that for a sixth year, Masonry will be involved. Daylight will once again host and emcee the Waterfront Bandstand and that means there will be a Masonic Information Booth right near it. The dates for the Fair are June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Set up for the Info booth will be Friday evening the 16<sup>th</sup>. As usual Daylighters will be the main support of the operation but it is hoped that this year even more lodges will be part of the event. Several lodges seeing the success have given indications that they want to join the action. Senior Warden Monaco who is Daylight's coordinator for the event plans to visit lodges during the next month or so. The lodge also asked for some financial support from Grand Lodge but is not holding its breath on that matter. So reserve June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> for Fremont Solstice.

There will be a concert of the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The lodge's treasurer James Maher is now serving as a member of the SYSO Board of Trustees. Contact him about tickets to any concert. Masonry continues to get out before the public. University Lodge No. 141 will also have a bandstand at the University District Street Fair on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. They have talked with Daylight seeking suggestion on both their information booth and how to emcee the bandstand. And there is a backstage pizza party for the SYSO on the day of their May 21<sup>st</sup> concert sponsored by the District #5 lodges.

# WHAT HAPPENED 60 & 30 YEARS AGO

[taken from the lodge history pages]

**1936 - LeRoy William Ferguson** LeRoy Ferguson was another newspaper employee, his profession listed as "mailer," a job which included counting, bundling and wrapping the papers for delivery. Tudor Thomas signed his March 13, 1929 petition and he was raised the same day as Bill Wright, September 11, 1929. His birthplace was Ft. Wayne, Indiana October 1, 1901 and he deceased December 20, 1972 in Seattle. Like his predecessor, he was installed on January 8, 1936 by Right Worshipful Frank Poole, now Junior Grand Warden.

During his first meeting on February 12, a proposal to bestow Life Membership on two members was discussed and it would seem that the lodge's practice of rarely giving such memberships was established at that meeting. The minutes read:

***The resolution re' to the giving of Life Memberships to two of our members which was laid over from the January meeting, was taken up, and after considerable debate, the resolution was withdrawn by W. Brother Thomas ...***

The March 30, minutes record the first reference to a district meeting to receive the Grand Master. A special communication was held in the Auditorium of the Masonic Temple presided over by the deputy, then titled Right Worshipful. Frank Horsfall, District Deputy Grand Master opened Seattle No. 164 and all the other lodges in the district were then declared at labor by their Masters.

***At various times during the evening the orchestra from Daylight Lodge No. 232 entertained the brethren with some very delightful music, ... and Lodge was closed in Ample form by the Grand Master acting as Worshipful Master. 8 P.M :: 11.15 P.M.***

The district meeting may have been three hours long but the length of a Daylight meeting was almost always under two hours even including the December 9 election of officers which saw the election of clarinet player Tommy Solberg as Master and passing of the Treasurer's office from Athol Laity to Carbon Weber. 1936 the records show it to have been a holding year, there was no degree work and only two petitions were received, one for future Master, L. Presley Gill was rejected. Membership dropped to 120 as six members were listed NPD.

**1976 - Rudolf Karl Walter** Let us return to Washington daytime Masonry. In 1976 Daylight found a Czechoslovakian emigrant sitting in the East. Rudi Walter a true Bohemian was born in Schonwald, July 24, 1925. He came from that part of the Czech nation that the **great** powers, gave to Hitler to assure **peace in our times**. Worshipful Brother Walter in speaking of his homeland explained that Bohemia had always been part of the Austrian Empire. In fact it was to this area that Brother Mozart was to go for several of his greatest operatic successes. While the area was German speaking, the people never considered themselves German but that did not in any way keep the Nazi authorities from drafting the young men, including Daylight's future Master into their armed forces.

Forced into this service with the German army during World War II, Brother Walter was captured at war's end by Russian forces, impressed into a prisoner of war camp, from which he was able to escape and flee to the Western Allied sector of occupied Germany. There he met and married his wife Rita, and with the aid of her family and friends, they immigrated to the United States, in time settling in Maple Valley. Prior to retiring to establish his own small machine shop, he was employed as a machinist at Continental Can Company and like nearly a dozen other Masters of the lodge, he was a member of the Machinist Union Hope Lodge No. 79.

He was Raised in Daylight Lodge October 11, 1969 and moved through the chairs until his election to the East and installation on December 13, 1975. He was also an active member of Royal Arch and served as High Priest of the Kent Chapter the same year as he was Daylight's Senior Warden. In the early 1980's he and his wife retired to Riverbank, California in the Yosemite area and he affiliated with Summit Lodge No. 112 in Knights Ferry and worked his way through the officer's line in that small mountain lodge and served as Master. He filled the East a number of time because of the strict ritual requirement that the Grand Lodge of California set forth, he was one of the few brothers that could pass the exam.

For his Daylight installation, like his three immediate predecessors, he continued the practice of having a tiled installation on the same day as the election of officers. When asked if he wanted a public installation his response was, he had gone through one as High Priest of Royal Arch and that once was enough. Very Worshipful Morris Israel served as principal installing officer. 1976 was marked with a number of degrees, including one, which the Grand Master Alden Jones ruled was in error because he felt it was not proper to have refreshments between the first and second sections of the degree. The Grand Master visited the lodge to discuss the matter and at closing, Walter turned to the Grand Master and asked, "Would you like to close lodge?" The Grand Master replied, "If you so order Worshipful Master." Walter looked at him and said very firmly in his heavily accented English, "I don't order no body. I live under dictatorship ... " and with a very sharp, loud bang of the gavel, looked at the Junior Deacon and said, "Brother Junior Deacon ... " and closed lodge in due form.

As a part of the effort to reduce expenses, in January of that year the lodge voted to withdraw from the Seattle Masonic Service Bureau because as the minutes read,

***... it was of little help to Daylight or its members, and that the services it provided except for the publishing a list of petitions, is done by the lodge.***

The lodge voted instead a small donation to the Bureau that was refused and returned so instead the donation was sent to the Emma P. Chadwick Memorial Home where several members resided.

On July 31 a blow fell which was to cause upheaval and difficulties for the next six years. During that meeting Senior Warden John Bailey informed the lodge that because of continuous health problems he could not continue as an officer. During the year that he had served as Senior Deacon, Bailey suffered a serious stroke, but had seemed to recover sufficiently to be able to return to normal work and also fill his duties as a lodge officer. He was elected Warden because the lodge expected and hoped that he could fully recover but during the latter part of 1975 it was quite noticeable that he was having problems standing the pressure of regular employment, being a husband, a father and filling his lodge officer duties. He often found it difficult to take the two steps up to the Senior Warden's station. This unfortunate occurrence, coupled with another officer dropping out of line and the Chaplain and Marshal places already being vacant,

started a chain of officer problems which were to plague the lodge for the next seven years.

At the last meeting of 1976 Past Master Art Loomis, noted for his outspoken opinions, put forward that the petition fee was **too cheap**, saying that we didn't get petitions because prospective members equated, **low petition fees with a cheap organization**. He proposed a bylaw change raising the fee to \$500.00. Surprisingly the idea as received with considerable interest and after much discussion a proposal

was offered which set the fee at 120 times the minimum wage, the 120 being equated to hours of labor and this set the fee at about \$360.00. Charter member Worshipful Brother Beach Taylor who supported the idea, wryly observed that, **"if it doesn't work we can change it, but we should at least try,"** a typical Daylight approach so it was raised with the understanding and agreement that if problems arose, it would be reconsidered after a year.

When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it is sure sign that you're getting old  
---- Mark Twain

### FROM AN EARLY MASONIC RITUAL

And now, my brethren, let us see to it, and so regulate our lives, by the plumbline of justice, ever squaring our actions by the square of virtue that when the grand warden of Heaven shall call us, we may be found ready. Let us cultivate assiduously the noble tenets of our profession, brotherly love, relief and truth; from the square learn morality, from the level equality; and from the plumb rectitude of life.

With the trowel spread liberally the cement of brotherly love; circumscribed by the compasses, let us ponder well our words and actions, and let all the energies of our minds and the affections of our souls be employed in the attainment of our Supreme Grand Master's approbation. Then, when our dissolution draws night, and the cold winds of death come sighing around us, and his chill dews already glisten upon our foreheads, with joy shall we obey the summons of the grand warden of Heaven and go forth from our labours on earth to eternal refreshment in the paradise of God, where, by the benefit of the pass of a pure and blameless life and an unshaken confidence in the merits of the Lion of the tribe of Judah, shall we gain ready admission into the celestial lodge where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides; there, placed at His right hand, He will please to pronounce us just and upright Masons. Then, my brethren, will we be fitly prepared for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens, where no discordant voice shall arise, and all the soul shall experience shall be perfect bliss, and all it shall express shall be praise, and love divine ennoble every heart, and hosannas exalt employ every tongue.

*[Can you picture trying to learn this convoluted bit of ritual? Maybe it is still in use somewhere. We think Shakespeare is hard to learn.]*

## A COUPLE REMINDERS FROM YOUR SECRETARY

1. **Have you paid your 2006 dues?**  
**How about sending them in today?**
2. **Do you have email? If you do, save the lodge money and your secretary time by getting the minutes and Trestleboard on line.**

Methuselah lived to be 969 years old . . . You boys and girls will see more in the next fifty years than Methuselah saw in his whole lifetime.  
---- Mark Twain

At the last meeting we made a Mason of Brandon Jay Long. As is the usual Daylight practice, while the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Senior Deacon were in their normal stations and places, the other positions were filled by non-officers. Fellowcraft Brother Erik Hill gave the Preliminary Questions and Preparatory Lecture for the first time in what was termed an awesome manner, Brother Franklin Donahoe present the new brother with his apron, Brother Dathean Luna presented the working tools and Brother Eric Mowery for a first time gave the Charge. Junior Warden Wilson once again gave his outstanding lecture.

Below is a shot of our new Brother Long receiving the Charge from Brother Mowery.



This picture didn't turn out too well but will it give you some idea of what your young brothers can do. Brother Long on the left, Brother Mowery on the right and in the back V.:W.: Brother David Julian.

