

Seattle's Masonic Lodge of the Arts

September 2001

Daylight Lodge #232

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

TRESTLEBOARD

Our new Web Site - www.daylightmasons.org

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION SEPTEMBER 15

Worshipful Master has called for the election of officers at the Stated Communication on September 15 starting at 10:00 a.m. The necessary business will be kept limited and concise so that the installation of the new officers can start not later than 11:00 a.m.

At the request of our Senior Warden David Julian the lodge has already approved a Public Ceremony. Brother David stated he would like the new members and their families to have a chance to see Masonic ritual.

After the installation ceremonies that will be presided over by Most Worshipful Milton R. Benson, there will be light refreshments and then Worshipful Brother David and his wife, Beverly have extended an invitation for everyone to journey to their home in Tukwila for a celebration party.

So mark the date, Saturday, September 15 starting at 10:00 a.m. for a meeting followed by the installation of officers.

The brethren of the lodge are saddened by the death of Chris Crowley, the young teenaged son of Donna, our Treasurer Jim Maher's wife. Chris died August 9 the result of an auto accident. The lodge officers and members did everything possible to support Jim and Donna during their hospital vigil on this sad occasion and a large contingent of brothers from Brother Jim's two lodges, Daylight and Tyee attended the memorial service.

WHAT'S COMING

Daylight has received a request from our Eastern Washington outpost better known as North Hill Lodge No. 210 in Spokane to confer the Fellowcraft Degree on one of their Entered Apprentices. The October 20 Stated meeting is the date set for this degree, there will be two brothers passed that day. Daylight's new brother David Cooper and North Hill's Brian Burns.

North Hill is expected to bring a carload or so of brothers over from Spokane that day and Brian's father will obligate the candidates.

The degree will be after the stated meeting so that the Spokane brothers will have ample time to get here.

Daylight already has three plural members with North Hill and perhaps their brother Burns will decide to make Daylight his Seattle area home once he has completed his degrees. Brother Julian has said he looks forward to this meeting and the fellowship that can be held between the two sides of the State.

Coming up in February will be our annual Seattle Youth Symphony First Chair Players Honors Dinner. The Ballard Masonic Hall is reserved for Sunday evening, February 24. File the date away in your mental calendar.

We have already written the Fremont Fair to ask about sponsoring the Canal Band Stand again during the 2002 Solstice Festival on June 15 & 16. It has been proposed to a couple other lodges that they join Daylight at the Fair and also have a Masonic Information Booth. It is felt that it would be more effective for the local lodges to support a Fremont booth than to try to make the effort for the Puyallup Fair because the Fremont attracts Seattle men who are the ones that we should be trying to contact.

And just for the record, Robert Allwine will be installed as the Master of Tyee No. 115, the Wayfarer's Daylight Lodge in Renton on Saturday morning, September 22. It will be a tiled ceremony. Brother Julian will be the installing organist and Brother Morgan will give the Antient Charges.

Our sister lodge up north, Meridian No. 108 in Vancouver BC will be installing their new officers on September 8. Some Daylight members will travel north for the ceremony.

On November 3 the lodge will travel south to the other Vancouver to return the Silver Fellowship Trowel to Ridgefield Daylight Lodge. Ridgefield's Past Master and past Secretary Abe Cutter was honored this summer when he was given the Scottish Rites' 33rd Degree in Charleston, S. C.

QV£88 WtHtJ? ?

IT IS TIME TO TALK DUES AGAIN AND PER THE LODGE BYLAWS THEY WILL INCREASE THIS YEAR BECAUSE THE STATE MINIMUM WAGE WENT UP.

SO HERE'S WHAT THEY WILL BE THIS YEAR:

Life Members GL dues	18.00
Senior Members 65 plus	72.00
Members under 65	126.00

Remember that dues are based on the minimum wage as set by State or Federal law; All members are expected to pay the Grand Lodge dues which have not increased for several years now

Worshipful Master Losey represented Daylight at Grand Lodge last June. For the first time in a number of years we have a new Grand Secretary, Brother David Owens. Your secretary looks forward to changes he may make to bring the Grand Lodge office's procedures into the 21st Century.

This year Daylight as last does not have any brother serving Grand Lodge. Your secretary was asked to be chair of a committee on the Electronic Video program but because of the change ordered by the Grand Lodge in this program, he has tendered his resignation to Grand Master Van Zee. But he is the coordinator of a special committee working for the new Grand Secretary to update the Secretary's Manual.

A Study in the Liberal Arts

Another perceptive critical review from the past

[Franz] Liszt is a mere commonplace person, his hair on end – a snob out of Bedlam. He writes the ugliest music extant.

Dramatic and Musical Review, London, Jan. 7, 1843

District No. 5 as it was comprised when Brothers CoeTug Morgan, David Barney, Don Ward and David Julian served as Deputy of the Grand Master has been changed. Our current Deputy, David Campbell now has nine lodges to oversee for the Grand Master. At Grand Lodge in June District No.31 was merged into No. 5. This brought into the newly organized District, Arcana No. 87, University No. 141, Lafayette No. 241 and George Washington No. 251. Along with St. John's No. 9, Eureka No. 20, Century No. 208, Daylight No. 232, and Queen Anne No. 242, these nine lodges now comprise the District.

Since 1980 when your secretary served as Deputy in District No. 5, four lodges, Ionic No. 90, Seattle No. 164, Thomas M. Reed No. 225 and Elliot Bay No. 257 have merged into another lodge. District 31 saw an even larger reduction in lodges. Theodore Roosevelt No. 229, Daniel Bagley No. 238, Constellation No. 266, Wallingford No. 267, Montlake No. 278 and Wayfarer No. 280 have all disappeared into other lodges. This was the reason for merging the two districts.

Constitutions should consist only of general provisions; the reason is that they must necessarily be permanent, and that they cannot calculate for the possible change of things.

Alexander Hamilton

**SEPTEMBER
IS CONSTITUTION MONTH**

LAFAYETTE SQUARE

Reprinted from the January 1999 Short Talk Bulletin

By Charles Iversen, PGM of DC

Lafayette Square is approximately two city blocks in size and is probably the most famous unimproved plot of ground in the United States. From the early days of the Republic it has been the center of its history, surrounded by homes of many leaders of our nation and its government.

Like most of downtown Washington, Lafayette Square was laid out in the 1790s by Pierre Charles L'Enfant, the Parisian architect of the city, who worked with President George Washington to locate sites for the principal federal government buildings. The Square came into being as part of the White House grounds, this site having been selected personally by Washington. It was not separated from the White House grounds until the presidency of Thomas Jefferson when Pennsylvania Avenue was opened directly in front of the President's mansion, severing the Square from the White House. It has been referred to as the lobby of the President's House and later called the President's Park. A few years after Lafayette's final visit to this country in 1824 it was named officially for him.

Background

In 1790 Congress approved as the capital city of the United States that area which straddled the Potomac River and which President Washington desired, including the ports of Georgetown and Alexandria. It was to be "ten mile square," as provided in the Constitution, and was to "become the Seat of the government of the United States." Reports from that era show the land as heavily forested, the southern and eastern portion of which fell into the Coastal Plain, geologically speaking, and the northern and western portion of which fell into the Appalachian Plain. The Coastal Plain included the low land which became the downtown section of the city. The Appalachian Plain was more elevated and contained thicker and taller foliage. The former was swampy and bug-invested, also very humid. Lafayette Square is in this Plain.

That portion of the new capital city which lay north of the Potomac River including the river itself, was part of the State of Maryland in 1790. This had been so since 1633 when all the land comprising the colony of Maryland was owned by Cecilius Calvert, second Lord Baltimore, under a feudal seigniorship from King Charles I of Great Britain. The Calverts then deeded, over the years, certain parcels of land as they saw fit. There is a deed on record showing that on September 23, 1685, the land, including what we call Lafayette Square was conveyed to one John Pearce. It was still in the Pearce family in 1790 when the government started buying up land for the new capital. A deed in 1792 from the heirs of John Pearce conveyed the land, then known as Port Royal, to Samuel Davidson, a speculator, in trust, reserving to the Pearce family the right to occupy the farmhouse and use the family burial grounds. Shortly thereafter the reservation of occupancy and usage was removed and fee simple title passed to the federal government. The White House grounds then consisted of 18 acres including what is now Lafayette Square amounting to seven acres.

The following quotations in a book entitled, not surprisingly, *Lafayette Square* by Gist Blair, published in 1926:

"When President Washington first proposed to acquire . . . land in Lafayette Square it was owned by Edward Pearce whose farmhouse was located near the northeast corner of the Square, and the graves of several generations of the Pearce family were in their little cemetery in that part of the Square on its north side nearly opposite the White House. Edward Pearce's apple orchard covered the Square."

"Lafayette Square while a part of the grounds of the White House was used on September 18, 1793, as the meeting ground for Masonic Lodges, just before the cornerstone of the Capitol was laid. President Washington with his suite met Lodge No. 15 of the city before the ceremony" {Lodge No. 15 was one of the five founding lodges of the Grand Lodge FAAM of the District of Columbia in February 1811, after which it became Federal Lodge No. 1 and continues to exist today.}

The Early Days

In the 1790s, while the White House was under construction, a brick kiln and workman's quarters were built on Lafayette Square and building supplies stored there. In 1797, while construction was still in progress, a racecourse was laid out along the west side of the Square (now Jackson Place). Thereafter, a market was located on it and, during the War of 1812, soldiers encamped there.

No building was undertaken around the Square, other than the White House, until after President Madison was forced to move out of the President's House when the British burned it in 1814. By the time he moved back for the last days of his term in 1817 St. John's Episcopal Church on the north side of the Square (16th and H Streets) had been completed (1816) and some residences were under construction.

The Square Today

Today, as it has been since the early 19th Century, Lafayette Square has remained an unimproved park landscaped with attractive trees interlaced with walkways and floral displays. In the center has stood since 1853 a statue of General Andrew Jackson, hero of the Battle of New Orleans and seventh President of the United States

On each of the four corners of the Square stands the statue of one of the four foreigners who served as generals in our Revolutionary War. They are as follows: Lafayette on the southeast corner, dedicated in 1891; Rochambeau on the southwest corner, dedicated in 1902; von Steuben on the northwest corner, dedicated in 1910; and Kosciuszko on the northeast corner, also dedicated in 1910.

Lafayette Square, while not a Masonic Park is certainly filled with outstanding examples of Masons in prominent leadership roles, who helped forge a new nation.

MSANA Editor

Andrew Jackson: Seventh President of the United States; Past Grand Master of Tennessee; member of Harmony Lodge #1 in Nashville, Tennessee

Marquis de Lafayette: French statesman and officer; hero of the American Revolution. Known to be a Mason although his Blue Lodge membership is not known. Received the Royal Arch Degrees in New York City in 1824.

Jean Baptist Comte de Rochambeau: French general of the American Revolution, and later Marshal of France. Masonic membership is not known but he, Lafayette, and nearly 100 others were listed as visiting brothers at the institution of the Lodge of St. John de Cander at Paris in 1775.

Baron von Steuben: Major General of the American Revolution. Apparently received his degrees in Europe and was a member of Trinity Lodge #10 (now #12) New York City.

Thaddeus Kosciusko: Polish Patriot and General of the American Revolution. Although he is generally referred to as a Mason, no proof of his membership has been found.

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An observation from your lodge secretary. Having made many trips to Washington DC for union business and for pleasure I have walked through and seen this park many times. It is easy to see the difference from the East Coast and the West Coast in this article. Out west we would hardly consider a park with statues, grass, walkways, floral displays and landscaping as an unimproved park.

Laws are spider webs through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught.

Balzac

