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Occidental Lodge #72, F&AM

Trestleboard ~ May, 2004

**Serving Ballard for 113 Years**

Ballard Masonic Center ~ 2006 NW Market St. ~ Seattle, WA 98107 206-782-8289  
[www.occidental72.org](http://www.occidental72.org)

## ON-LINE ADDITION

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

Hi Brothers,

Those of you who are lucky (or smart) enough to receive your Occidental Trestleboard electronically, get a bonus this month. You are receiving some updated information our paper readers are going to have to learn about differently.

As you can imagine, a continual problem with publishing any newsletter is there must be a deadline imposed, and after that, your news is set – even when it is incomplete. In order to get our news in printed form to the majority of our readers by the first of the month, it must be put together the weekend following our Stated Communication. In theory, that gives me enough time so I can collect articles from your officers, have it printed, and then deliver the printed copies (450) to our Secretary for folding and labeling. After he spends a couple of evenings doing that, he takes them to the Post Office for Bulk Mail delivery. A few days later, the membership receives it. Unfortunately, many months, there are interfering problems or conflicting opportunities that make this idealistic schedule break down in some way. More to the point is, there are sometimes a number of activities that take place AFTER our Stated Communication, but before the first of the month.

Another problem is space. We need to keep the size of the printed Trestleboard manageable so it fits on 3 or 4 double sided sheets of paper. Otherwise, cost becomes a factor, and folding becomes a chore. Of course, there is also the issue of leaving an entire half-page blank to allow for the Post Office mailing label and Bulk Postage permit. These issues make space for more pictures at a premium.

This month, I'm going to try a couple of new things. First, I'm going to update the news a bit to let you know how a couple of activities went AFTER the Stated, and make corrections to upcoming dates and times that weren't known the week before. I've printed them in **italicized red**. Second, I'm taking the wasted Post Office space out. For you, I really don't care if your copy looks "official" enough for the USPS. Third, I for the

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## FROM OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

### **Greetings Brethren:**

Occidental 72 had a very busy April which included a **bowling "tournament"** featuring teams from Greenwood 253, Green Lake 149 and Occidental 72. Twenty six bowlers and cheerers attended and all had a joyous time (even though **our team was crushed**).

April also included a **visit to Perfection Lodge No. 75** of New Westminster, BC, and which was well attended and afforded me the first opportunity I've had to witness a Canadian Degree. I was surprised that it's presentation was very close to ours.

We attended the **installation of officers at Occidental Chapter 28, Order of the Eastern Star**, where our own Junior Warden Errol Scott was installed as Worthy Patron. The ceremony was very well presented and well attended.

Our April stated meeting featured **Past Grand Royal Arch High Priest Jim Stephens**, assisted by Past Ballard Chapter 26 High Priest, Bill Short. Jim gave us a very detailed description and information regarding the organization and history of the Royal Arch and its relationship with the Blue Lodge. We were served a very tasty halibut dinner, planned and prepared by our master chef Harry Ginther, and served by the Job's Daughters. Our appreciation and thanks for a job well done go to Harry and all who assisted. There is at least one feature of Occidental's meetings that can be relied on - very delicious meals.

As of this writing, April ~~will have~~ concluded at Occidental with a **"Rusty Masons"** meeting on the 22nd, a family entertainment night on the 24th, and a meeting of the Grand Lodge Long Range Planning Committee to discuss the proposed re-districting of lodges throughout Washington. You were of course invited and encouraged to attend. Also, on the 29th, the **Entered Apprentice degree** ~~will have been~~ **was** conferred on our newest candidate, **Jonathan Forsling**.

Some **corrections to our published 2004 calendar** are in order and they are:

- The **Granite Falls Campout will be on August 20th, 21st, and 22nd** rather than a week earlier as was printed in the calendar.
- The **October stated meeting will be on the 21st** rather than the 14th as listed in the calendar. That meeting will feature Grand Master Sat Tashiro's official visit to Occidental 72.
- The Lodge Attendance Committee will include **WB Brian Hardy** at 425-481-5912. WB Hardy has been elected to the Temple Board to replace WB George Lofthus who has resigned from the Board. He was then subsequently made **President of the Board**.
- **DeMolay representative Mark Bruback's** name has been misspelled and his correct phone number is: 206-931-1844.
- The E-mail address for **WM Edelman** should include **a dot between the c and the e**.

That's all of the corrections needed in the calendar.

May will begin with Occidental 72 **visiting Greenwood 253** on their stated meeting, **Wednesday, May 5th at 6:30 PM**.

We will then attend the **installation of officers of Job's Daughters Bethel 28 at 7:00 PM, Saturday, May 8th**. I'm looking forward to this event being well attended by our Brethren. These girls have earned and deserve our support.

**Thursday, May 13th, W.F. Meier 281 and Occidental Lodge 72 will have a joint meeting at the Ballard Masonic Center.** The purpose of this meeting is fellowship and will include a dinner at 6:30 PM., a **movie** and games or conversation. VWB Ian Hyde will treat us with an interesting and educational exercise of **Masonic Trivial Pursuit**.

At approximately noon on **Saturday, May 15th**, Occidental 72 will accept the challenge of a **golf match at Raspberry Ridge** in Everson, WA, near Ferndale issued by our sister lodge Mt. Lebanon 72 of Vancouver, BC. This annual event has always been a lot of fun - especially for Mt. Lebanon, since no one can remember the last time Occidental has beaten them. One of these years, possibly this year, Occidental might rise up and begin to catch up to them; at least there is plenty of incentive to do so.

**Monday, May 17th is Norwegian Parade Day in Ballard.** Occidental's float will be entered and many of our brothers will accompany it in the parade. There will be soup and sandwiches at the Ballard Masonic Center following the parade.

**On Wednesday, May 19th we will host a dinner at 6:15 PM for Occidental Eastern Star, Chapter 28.** Masons and their ladies are invited.

**Our May stated meeting** will take place on May 20th, dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM. The program will feature a description and **discussion of the proposed Grand Lodge Resolutions**. There will be a short added entertainment if arrangements can be confirmed.

On **Thursday, May 27th** Occidental will conduct a **Table Lodge at the Greenwood Lodge building at 6:30 PM**. Hercules Lodge # 17 is invited.

May activities will conclude with our usual informal **family entertainment night on Saturday, May 29th**, dinner at 6:00 PM. and movie at 7:00 PM. Cards and board games will be available in the fellowship hall. Bring family and friends and have an enjoyable evening.

Brethren, between now and the first of June there will be plenty of Occidental activities available for your pleasure. I hope to see you in Lodge brethren and at some or all of the activities herein described. Please attend Lodge and take advantage of these events.

*Fraternally,*

*Carl Edelman, Worshipful Master*

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## FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN:

### **Brethren and Friends:**

A few months ago I wrote an article about the unique experiences and relationship I had with my younger son, Michael. While discussing this article with WB George Lofthus, our immediate Past Master, I discovered that he also had a very unique experience and relationship with his son, John. I would like to share with you an article written by Linnea Lundgren and published in the Queen Anne / Magnolia News a few year ago entitled, "***Pedal Power Times Two***".



It will be the pinnacle of all pedaling trips: first the Cascades, then the snow-covered Rockies, and finally the Appalachians. This summer, Queen Anne postal worker George Loftus and his 18-year old son, John, will conquer mountain ranges and take in the sights as they ride together in the 3,436-mile Coast-To-Coast Bicycle Classic to benefit the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

Bike Trips have been a six-year tradition for this father-son team. The idea of taking biking trips around the region came after they met a couple who had just biked the Oregon coast.

"After meeting these people, my son, who was 12 at the time, said, 'Dad, next summer let's do the STP (Seattle-to-Portland bicycle trek)'," George said.

They shook hands on it, and according to George, "It has been ongoing ever since." Last December, John approached his father about biking across the United States, which has always been his dream. "My dad laughed and then asked me if I was serious," John said.

After hearing his son's idea, George said he took the dog for a walk and came back with the conclusion, "Why not?"

George, who has been a single parent for eight years, said having his son ask him to bike across country was the greatest compliment he ever received.

"For all the things he could do during his last summer before college, he wanted to ride cross-country with his dad," George said.

John, a senior at Roosevelt High School, said while he'll be biking with his dad many of his classmates will be heading to exotic ports of call for vacation. Most can't understand why he would want to spend the summer before college with his dad.

But John considers himself lucky. "A lot of kids can't relate to their fathers," he said. "But my dad is 58 years old and he always says, 'Old is a state of mind.'"

That attitude, combined with his father's laid-back and energetic nature, makes him easy to relate to, John said.

John said his father wasn't always so easygoing. He said his father's attitude changed after George had his foot amputated several years ago. Born with a club foot, George lost his foot after complications related to surgery.

"After his foot amputation, he really changed a lot as a person," John said. "Before he was less energetic."

It's hard to guess how someone will approach life after having such a surgery. "But right after the amputation my dad started setting goals that he wanted to do, and he has done most of them," John said.

According to George, the amputation "was a metamorphosis." "One of the greatest things that ever happened to me was having my foot amputated," he said.

The pain was gone and a new attitude emerged. "I felt I could do anything," he said. And that all seems to be true. At 58, George said he will be the oldest amputee to bicycle cross country in the Coast-To-Coast Classic.

For John, the best part of the coming adventure will be the experience of the ride and seeing new parts of the country. George, on the other hand, said the best part of this trip is the organization that goes into it.

"I love talking to people about the trip and sitting down with John and talking about it," George said. "It has bonded us as father and son."

"Something I have always tried to do is create a strong bond between myself and my (two) sons, because my bond with my father was severed very drastically when he died when I was 15," he said.

While planning the trip is the best part for George, the ride itself will be a challenge. "I'm not 21 anymore," he said. "I came to that realization last summer when I was trying to bike from Enumclaw up to Paradise Lodge (at Mount Rainier)."

But he plans to take it one mile at a time. After recovering from an occupational injury and complications related to surgery in January, he rides his stationary bike one half-hour a day and plans to start riding the Burke-Gilman trail from Matthews Beach to Juanita.

John, who runs cross-country and track at school, said keeping in shape is not a problem. He hesitated a bit when asked if he thinks his father can keep up with him. "As my father says, he is not fast, but he has great endurance."

WB Al Mungin  
Senior Warden

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## FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN:

I recently had the pleasure of a trip to Norway along with two other Masons, our wives and four Eastern Star members. In addition to the charming and picturesque scenery we enjoyed we were equally impressed with the hospitality and fellowship of the Norwegian Masons who met us at the airport and sheperded us through most of the trip.

We were hosted lunch at the Grand Lodge of Norway in Oslo by the Grand Master, who also guided us on a tour through the elegant Lodge and banquet rooms of the Lodge building. Norwegian Masons are considerably more formal than we here in Washington - which was evident in their formal banquet and meeting rooms that were beautifully decorated. To give you an example, the King of Norway recently hosted a banquet in the dining hall of the Lodge when the palace facility was not available. We three Masons were invited to attend a third degree conferral at one of the Lodge rooms in Oslo and a first degree conferral in Kristiansand at the invitation of the Masters of those Lodges. Those rituals are similar and also very different than ours here in Washington and I would be glad to discuss them with any that are interested.

I hope this close relationship with the Masons of Norway can be maintained and nourished. Certainly the biggest reason for our generous treatment was the relationship that Peder and Edith Grambo had established with the Norwegian Masons, which I hope we can

continue. A number of Masons from Oslo may be coming to this area next year and I hope we will be able to assist them in housing and arrangements then. I would also like to see us plan another trip to Norway in 2006 and will be glad to take the lead in that project. By the way, I can confidently tell you that our wives and the Star members were equally impressed with the kindness, concern and fellowship demonstrated by our Norwegian brethren and I will make certain that our sincere gratitude is conveyed to them.

Br. Errol G. Scott  
Junior Warden

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## PASSAGES:

The following Brother was Memorialized at the April, 2004 Stated Communication.  
His name will be inscribed on a leaf for our perpetual Tree of Life at the Ballard Masonic Center.

### **B. Steve Francis Young**

November 28, 1938 ~ December 24, 2002

38 Year Mason

18 Year Life Member of Occidental Lodge

**Note:** Sometimes we receive very late notice of a member's passing. Please make sure your family and/or the Executor of your estate know your wishes now, and add this task to a list of instructions your survivors will have access to.

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## NEW BEGINNINGS:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

I received the following announcement from our Brother Tommy "Doc" Meyer on April 1st. He has communicated with me via e-mail quite a few times since I started publishing the Trestleboard electronically. After congratulating him, I asked if he and his new bride had a picture. He quickly sent this back. As you can see, "Doc" calls Oakland, California his home. Though a long way away from the Lodge these days, we wish he and his family the best.

FOR OFFICIAL RELEASE

At 3:30pm PST (1130Z)

In the City of Oakland, California

Olga Maria Gurrero Perez and Tommy "Doc" Meyer were wed.

Witnesses: Omar (10) and Andrea (7) Garcia, the bride's children

The bride wore a gold sleeveless dress and the groom a pair of black jeans and blue Hawaiian shirt.

The wedding dinner was spent with friends and family in San Jose, CA.

The cake was a three milk cake with chocolate and whipped cream icing with assorted fruit on top.

The rings are matching pair of 6.5 mm bands made of polished Titanium with 14kt Gold laser blended design.

The Bride and Groom and children will be residing in Oakland.

The honeymoon will be spent aboard the yacht weekend after next, no phones, fax, or computers will be taken along.



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## FAMILY NIGHT AND MOVIES:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)



### Change Your Calendars !

No sooner had I communicated to you last month that Family Night would take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month, then our Worshipful Master stood up at his station in the East at our April meeting, and announced,... **“Occidental Family Night will take place on the last Saturday evening of every month.”** So Mote It Be. There, now go change your calendar.

Here is what is showing this month:

### May 29th **Second Hand Lions (2003)**



**Starring:** Michael Caine, Robert Duvall **Director:** Tim Mccanlies

**Synopsis:** This coming-of-age comedy, set in 1960s Texas, follows a teenager who is forced to spend the summer with his two eccentric uncles. The old men's exotic memories and stories re-ignite their lives and stir the boy's spirit. (New Line)

**Runtime:** 111 Minutes

**MPAA Rating:** PG

**Genre:** Comedy, Drama, Family

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## OTHER HAPPENINGS:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

Occidental Lodge hosted a **Grand Lodge** Long Range Planning Committee discussion at the Ballard Masonic Center on **“Redistricting”**, on **Monday, April 26th**. There were about 5 Occidental members present, our Deputy, 2 Worshipful Masters from other area Lodges, and VWB Chuck McQuery from the LRPC. Points were made about why this might be needed. I viewed it as mostly an effort to even out the number of Lodges a Deputy has to manage, and also to make his District as geographically compact as is practical. I noticed strong support for trying to make all Lodges that meet in a facility, members of the same District (though I think this is less of a problem in the major metropolitan areas).

**Second Reminder. Change Your Calendars !** The District Four Scholarship Committee has changed the date of the Annual **District Four Scholarship Awards Ceremony** to **Wednesday, May 12th**. here at the Ballard Masonic Center. Watch the Masonic Monitor, it should show this change as well.

**Food Handlers Class.** WB Vinnie DiGiulio of Ashler Lodge in Bothell and I are going ahead with scheduling a food handling class at the Ballard Masonic Center on **Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**. Passing the class will result in your obtaining a **state certification**. We are offering the class to interested members of our Lodge and other Masonic tenant groups. The Temple Board has discussed this and enthusiastically supports the idea, and will pick up the \$12 cost for materials and certification cards for any Lodge member who attends. The charge of \$12 for all others will be collected at the door. Everybody who helps serve meals, or cooks, or handles table settings should be aware of safe health issues and practice them. . **Please let me know what your interest is soon.** The class will take 2 hours, and will start at **3:00pm**.

**Joint Masonic Movie and Trivia Night.** Walter F. Meier 281 and Occidental 72 are jointly hosting a Masonic Movie and Trivia Night for Masons only on **Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**. We will start

with a light buffet at 6:30pm, then watch “[The Knights Templar](#)” and finish with “Masonic Trivial Pursuit” organized by VWB Ian Hyde.

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## TEMPLE BOARD NEWS:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

As WM Edelman noted in his article, the remaining members of the Occidental Temple Association elected me as the 7<sup>th</sup> member of the Temple Board (vacated by WB George Lofthus), and then promptly elected me as the President of the Board (chug, chug, whoooo, whoooo). I am honored to serve, and I hope to do as good a job as possible for each and every one of you. We have been very fortunate indeed to have as willing and committed a group of men as who are serving now and who have served in the past. It isn't easy, and it's always a challenge. I thought I would take a minute to describe what we are doing or planning right now.

Just today, (4/28) we managed to sign a new insurance agreement for our organization and facility. Special thanks go to the Secretary, WB Carl Christianson. He spent a lot of time following up with agents and underwriters getting a deal in a short amount of time.

The Board is looking into some summer projects to improve the facility. One is a plan to expand the men's bathroom, another to divide the current lounge into a portion as a men's dressing rooming, and the remainder for the ladies. We want to complete some library shelving and install some lockable mailboxes for us and our tenants like apartment complexes do. We also want to equip the Fellowship Hall with it's own sound system from pieces that used to do the job in the Lodge Room. If you have other ideas, please talk to your Temple Association Trustees.

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## GOLF OUTING:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

This is more or less a repeat announcement from last month. The annual low-key golf outing with our sister Lodge, Mt. Lebanon 72 in Vancouver, BC has been scheduled for **Saturday, May 15th at Raspberry Ridge**. It is in Everson Washington, near Lyndon. WB (“Handsome”) George Gilder continues to bug of me about confirming number of golfers. It looks like we are getting a good number together. Thank you for those who have responded so far. There is still time to contact me, but time's a burning away. We will more be playing “best ball” for group prizes and honors. We are also hoping to split the group up into combined North and South teams, so that border friendships have an opportunity to blossom. ***I'm counting on 5 foursomes from Occidental. WB Gilder tells me he has TEN foursomes lined up from Mt. Lebanon and***

Remember, we have dinner at the course after the afternoon to hand out prizes, visit, and maybe tip a few. This is a good event to bring other interested men, and don't forget your ladies. There will be prizes for them too. The cost ~~hasn't been determined yet, but it is very reasonable~~ ***will be \$35 per person***. Tee times will be between noon and 1:00pm. ***The first tee times will start at noon***. If you are interested in breakfast, I suggest we meet at the Family Pancake House on 238<sup>th</sup> St SW and Aurora (Highway 99), around 8:30am. It's just a couple of blocks north of the Aurora Costco store. It's on the east side of 99, and there is a Safeway (for day parking) on the west side.

My address and phone number are printed below. **Please give me a call as soon as possible.**

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