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Occidental Lodge #72, F&AM Trestleboard ~ July-August, 2005
Serving Ballard for 115 Years
Ballard Masonic Center ~ 2006 NW Market St. ~ Seattle, WA 98107 206-782-8289
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FROM THE PUBLISHER:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

Please notice that I have changed the “Serving Ballard for...” banner at the top of our Trestleboard to say “**115 years**”. Though its official Charter was signed by Grand Master on June 11, 1891, Occidental Lodge received its Dispensation to form a Lodge on July 7, 1890, and began serving our fine community then, in 1890.

FROM OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

By WB [Al Mungin](#)

Greetings from the East!

News from our June Stated Communication:

Morley Eugene Yagen, known as **WB Gene Yagen** (PM Lawton Lodge 1978), attended and was **presented his Sixty-Year Time of Service Award**. He was accompanied by WB Mehmet Uysal, as a very dear friend and brother Mason. Also in attendance was **WB Elden Strong** who **received his Forty-Year Time of Service Award**. I would like to extend my personal congratulation as Master of the Lodge and brother Mason to these outstanding brothers for so many years of dedication and service to Masonry and to Occidental Lodge #72.

Brothers James Ivan Wipf and George Sexton Niebel were reinstated at our June Communication.

There were no memorials read at Occidental Lodge #72 on Thursday June 16th, 2005.
The cumulative list of 2005 passages so far :

VWB Kenneth Warren Mathisen

B. Leo Shulman
B. Leslie Klamforth
B. Sherman Oscar Jewsen
B. Winston Elbert Farr
B. James Edward Cass
B. George Oscar Anderson
B. Aage Fiddan
B. Stanley Norman Anderson
B. Earl Jack Bagwell
B. Frank Wilford Knott
B. Gerald Eugene Dimick
B. Edward L. Nail

At the June Stated Communication the members of Occidental Lodge passed by a large majority a motion to reduce the initiation fees for the degrees from \$200 to \$100. Both Section 1 and Section 2 of Article III of the By-Laws will be changed after approval by our new Grand Master, MWB Alvin Jorgensen. Sections 1 and Section 2 will read as follows:

Section 1:

The fee for the three degrees shall be one hundred (\$100) dollars. In addition, any fees required by the Grand Lodge must accompany the petition.

Section 2:

The fee to accompany the petition of an entered apprentice for the Second and Third Degrees shall be sixty seven (\$67) dollars and in addition any fees required by the Grand Lodge, and to accompany the petition of a fellowcraft for the Third Degree shall be thirty-four (\$34) dollars, and in addition any fees required by the Grand Lodge.

Other News:

Brother Jeff Abrams and his wife Kristina received some fantastic news over the weekend. Kristina is pregnant! The new addition to his family should be arriving in late February or early March. Jeff has also received a great offer from Shurguard Storage where he will be working in their Financial Reporting Department.

VWB Blair Leckie is now our new Deputy of the Grand Master in District Four.

We had a scheduled visitation to Walter F. Meier Lodge of Research #281 on June 24th. At that meeting we learned that they have been transferred to District Five. They also voted to move to the Greenwood Masonic Center by the end of this year.

Don't forget our Granite Falls campout August 19th, 20th and 21st. Come for the day or stay the weekend. Bring the kids, fishing poles, swimming suits, your tent. A fun time is had by all. Also there will be a big cookout on Saturday evening. If you haven't been before, just tell the caretaker at the gate you are joining the Occidental 72 group and we will take care of the fees after the weekend.

Have a great summer!

Fraternally,

WB Al Mungin – Worshipful Master

FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN:

By Bro. [Errol Scott](#)

Greeting Brethren:

Update to Summer

There are several things to catch up or repeat, but we are especially pleased about [winning the First Place Float Trophy in the Ballard Parade for the fourth year in a row](#). Special thanks to Jerry and Agnes Ward who redesigned and constructed the waves around the boat and added some flying porpoises for some eye-catching appeal. Unfortunately, the Norwegian Spitting Fish is getting a little worn and we will be replacing it for next year and re-designing the lift mechanism and spitting device to give us more distance and accuracy. Ron Duck also contributed his usual expertise.

Several of us attended Grand Lodge – which was rather intriguing because of the resolutions that were withdrawn or declared out of order. Without going into the details, one resolution dealing with assessments by the Grand Lodge on the Masonic Home Endowment Fund to pay for the cost of maintenance of the Home and an alternative resolution permitting the Grand Lodge to assess Lodge \$18 per member were both withdrawn by the Grand Master. This was apparently because Resolution No. 13 passed – removing the limitations on spending “capital gains” from the Masonic Home Endowment Fund in order to support the Home. My understanding was that this resolution would free up some 8 million dollars to support the “residents” and upkeep of the Home - making the other two resolutions unnecessary.

Two other resolutions were declared out of order by the Grand Master – one of which would have declared Grand Lodge and the Masonic Retirement Center two separate corporations. The second would have allowed the Masonic Home Endowment Fund to be used to support “needy” individual members at licensed institutions outside the Masonic Home. Both resolutions were found by the Finance Committee to be “not appropriate” for consideration by this Grand Lodge or for inclusion in the Masonic Code.

Lastly, a resolution which would have required “Voluntary Relief Organizations (Masonic) to provide the member Lodges more timely information regarding their income, expenses and finances” was carried over until next year – their being insufficient votes to either pass or fail it. This resolution would require the Masonic Service Bureau to provide an annual financial statement summarizing financial information each year.

The rather tortured outcome of the financial resolutions at Grand Lodge clearly demonstrate the complexity and difficulty surround the building of the Landmark on the Sound – which involves a capital expenditure of over 100 million dollars. Many of us are truly concerned not only about the cost, liability and administration of such a project, but also whether Grand Lodge and we, as Masons, should be involved in providing first class retirement facilities to everyone who can afford it.

The vision statement of Landmark on the Sound [says] - “Recognized as the community of choice in the Northwest and the standard by which all others are measured...” I fortuitously came to have an original copy of the Masonic Monitor publish June 16, 1920 about the history of the Masonic Home at Puyallup. It said that the first donation in the Grand Lodge to the Masonic Home was made by Joseph Marion Taylor, “who gave \$0.75. Two other brothers donated \$1 “and the other gave \$2.00, total \$3.75.” The first resident of the home was John Thomas, eighty four years of age. The article also mentioned the eligibility requirements: besides being a Mason, widow or

orphan or member of the Easter Star, the person must “by reason of old age or disease, [be] unable to earn a living and are in destitute circumstances...” We may have lost sight of the truly humble beginnings of a grand Masonic vision.

I apologize for this long note - but must say that the course of proceedings at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication effectively forestalled widespread and open discussion and debate about the future course of the Masonic Retirement Home/Landmark on the Sound. I wanted to hear what other Masons had to say about the wisdom of embarking on a huge and costly long-range endeavor that would clearly stretch the resources and abilities of this jurisdiction.

**Fraternally,
Errol G. Scott, Senior Warden**

PASSAGES:

There were no memorials read at the June, 2005 Stated Communication.

FAMILY NIGHT AND MOVIES:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

There will be no scheduled Family Night and Movie while the Ballard Masonic Center is closed during the summer. An announcement about the next movie will be forthcoming in the September addition of the Trestleboard.



GRAND LODGE PROCEEDINGS:

By WB [Brian Hardy](#)

Many of you might wish to know what happened at Grand Lodge this past June. Here is a summary.

As expected, those who were in the Grand Elected line moved forward. They are:

MWB Alvin W. Jorgensen	Grand Master
RWB Charles W. (Chuck) McQuery	Deputy Grand Master
RWB Wayne I. Smith	Senior Grand Warden
RWB David P. Owen	Grand Secretary

The new **Junior Grand Warden is RWB Douglas E. Tucker from Spokane.**

The current Worshipful Master of Maritime Lodge #239, **C. Blair Leckie** was appointed **Deputy of the Grand Master in District Four** and assumes the title of Very Worshipful Brother. Please congratulate him when you see him next.

Members in District Four who have been appointed to Grand Lodge committees for 2005-2006 are:

B. David W. Rahfeldt (253)	Technology
MWB Carl B. Smith (253)	Jurisprudence (Chairman)
MWB Kenneth S. Robinson (72, 253)	Jurisprudence
WB M. Gene Ross (239, 253)	Literary Outreach for Public Schools
VWB Ian C. Hyde (239)	Research and Education
WB Alfred J. Luberts Jr. (149)	Research and Education
WB Craig A. Mullin (239)	Leadership Training

Here are the Resolution results:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Action</u>
2005-1	Rename the Washington Masonic Library and Museum	Failed
2005-2	Amend the WMC to designate one Grand Lodge scholarship to a member of a Masonic youth group	Passed
2005-3	Clarify that the candidate gives the alarm at the door of the preparation room	Passed
2005-4	Change the title of Lodge Organist to Lodge Musician	Passed
2005-5	Require Masonic service organizations to provide member Lodges timely information regarding income, expenses, and finances	Carried Over
2005-6	Declare that the Grand Lodge and the Masonic Retirement Center be two separate corporations	Out of Order
2005-7	Allow the Endowment Fund be changed to the Masonic Benevolent Endowment Fund and allow funds to be used at any licensed retirement center in Washington State	Out of Order
2005-8	Clarify procedural steps and actions to receive status of a Lodge Under Dispensation	Passed
2005-9	Allow any Master Mason to become a regular and voting member of Grand Lodge	Failed
2005-10	Merge the Public Schools and Literary Outreach committees	Passed
2005-11	Merge the Information Technology and Mass Communications committees	Passed
2005-12	Merge the Pension Fund and Finance committees	Passed
2005-13	Remove restrictions of 1% available on Masonic Home Endowment Fund as payable to the Grand Lodge General Fund.	Withdrawn
2005-14	Eliminate the 20% limitation on withdrawals from capital gains from the Masonic Home Endowment Fund	Passed
2005-15	Assess each Lodge in accordance with Sec. 7.01 Const.	Withdrawn

Brother Harpo Marx was born November 23, 1888 and died September 28, 1964. He was born Adolph, he changed his name to Arthur during World War, but was known professionally as Harpo. The second oldest of the four Marx brothers comedy team, Harpo rarely if ever spoke while in character but was renown as a mime and harpist. His ready wit was recognized with his inclusion as a member of the Algonquin Round Table in New York. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity.

"I don't like the subtle infiltration of 'something for nothing' philosophies into the very hearthstone of the American family. I believe that 'Thou shalt earn the bread by the sweat of thy face' was a benediction and not a penalty. Work is the zest of life; there is joy in its pursuit."

Branch Rickey, Hall of Fame Mgr - Tuscan Lodge #360, St. Louis

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A Stranger within
(Author Unknown)

A few months before I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small Tennessee town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around to welcome me into the world a few months later. As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche.

My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me the word of God, and Dad taught me to obey it. But the stranger? He was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies. If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league ball game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to her room and read her books. (I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.) Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home... not from us, our friends or any visitors. Our longtime visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush. My Dad was a teetotaler who didn't permit alcohol in the home, not even for cooking. But the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing. I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked... and NEVER asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you were to walk into my parents' den today you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name?

We just call him TV.

Sent to Cinosam by Roger Main Faith Lodge #179 Mt. Ayr, IA

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