



WHIDBY ISLAND LODGE #15 F & AM

P.O. Box 371, Coupeville, WA 98239-0371

TRESTLE-BOARD

October 2011

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - W/B Rick Felici

SECRETARY - W/B Christopher W. Nagel 360-679-2196

Lodge Number - (360) 678-4891 Website www.whidbeyisland-15.org

From the "East":

Brethren, as the year winds down I have been looking back at the past several months and I would like to thank those who have contributed their time to keep Whidby Island Lodge #15 viable. We have a long rich history and it is the dedication of hardworking members that have kept this Lodge alive for so long. To that end, I have also noticed an obvious decline in participation and commitment. I was especially disappointed at the turn out for the recent visit from our Canadian Brothers of Trinity Lodge. While we had a great meeting and a day of laughs and fellowship, I would like to have seen more Whidby brothers in attendance. Next month we elect the Lodge officers for the coming year. So far, there seems to be a number of vacancies and little or no interest in filling those essential jobs. For as long as I have been a Mason, we have been trying to find a solution to the lack of participation. I have spoken with many of you who have commented that we need to find a way to make people want to participate. We have tried to relax the atmosphere of the Lodge, we have scheduled social events and tried to include families when possible all to little avail. This Lodge is in danger of dying on the vine. Please put some thought into why you became a Mason. This is your Lodge. If you are not getting the enjoyment out of your Masonic experience that you hoped for, ask yourself what *you* can do to help. Communicate with the officers and Brethren of the Lodge if there is something we can change to make your membership more fulfilling. Please don't stand by and hope someone else will take care of it. I can tell you from my experience that there a lot of times when being an active member this Fraternity can be inconvenient. I can also tell you that the friendships, experiences, and lessons I have learned have significantly outweighed any inconveniences. I apologize for the nagging tone. ***It is not my intent to scold or chastise. Please take it as genuine concern.*** The reality is that you can read this and maybe decide to take a part in a successful Lodge, or you can delete it and hope someone else makes the commitment. The choice is yours.

Fraternally, Rick Felici

From the "West":

Brethren, the end of the year is drawing near and many of the positions at lodge are going to be vacant. Some of the positions have been held by very senior and experienced Brothers for a long time. The lodge is deeply indebted to these Brothers for the dedication and hard work they have afforded the craft and wish them well as they now spend time on other endeavors. Brothers if any of you have ever considered taking a chair or assuming the responsibility of secretary or treasurer now is the time.

From the "South":

Brethren, my thanks for this last month, we had another successful dinner, Spaghetti Night which wouldn't have been possible without the help and cooperation of all of you. Especially our thanks go to Bros. Bruce Freeman and Dick Johnson. We again had those that attended and those who helped to prepare the

dinners, serve, setup, and clean up by: washing dishes, taking out the trash, and preparing the dining room for the next event. Thank you again. At our October stated meeting we will have an Oyster Stew dinner courtesy of W/B Lynn Bailey. Saturday was a great day of Fellowship with the Brother's from Canada. Reggie prepared a great meal and the bar was opened.

On a serious note I would like to thank everyone who has stepped up to make this year a memorable one and would invite all Brothers to do what they can for this Lodge. Right now Bro. Bob Clark is recruiting for next year and in order to make next year successful we need you to step up to the task.

From the Temple Board:

Brethren, Now that the breakfast is over for the year, and to make our Lodge ready for the upcoming installation, the board has decided there needs to be a "Lodge Clean-up day". So in order to facilitate this, the following is a request for your assistance. Hill Masonic Temple Association will be having a working party to clean-up the kitchen, floors, stove, refers, windows, etc ... of our lodge. This will be at 9AM on Saturday, October 8th, at the Lodge. After the event, there will be a sandwich, sodas, and beer social. I would need your RSVP by 1 October 2011 in order to plan jobs and food requirements. Please make your request for drinks and how you would like to help our Lodge. The below list will be used as a point of contact as you make yourself available to help with this event:

President - Marion Windell	(360) 678-6893	windma@isomedia.com
Vice President -Jim Gaskill	(360) 672-1999	jgaskill@cablespeed.com
Sect/Trea -Michael Belle Isle	(360) 720-1199	brain15@frontier.com
Member - Jeff Roush	(360) 678-0339	jroush1019@gmail.com

Fraternally yours, Hill Masonic Temple Assoc.

From the Secretary:

As you will see below, dues for next year have been set at \$110. Life members are not required to send anything, but a voluntary donation of \$40 each is being asked to help keep up with costs of running the Lodge. To avoid any of the mass confusion like two years ago when we had a mandatory assessment for everyone, I will reiterate; regular members' dues are \$110, and life members are being *asked* to voluntarily donate \$40. Grand Lodge has informed me that dues notices will be sent to me somewhere around the 3rd week in October. Expect the dues notices to go out to you a day or two after that. I know I ask every year, but when you get the dues notice, send in your dues ASAP. Per the Masonic Code, dues are DUE to me by the 31st of December. With that being said, I typically only receive barely half of the dues by then.

Many of you know this is my last year as Secretary, and we will need to elect someone at this next Stated meeting to fill the position. If you are at all interested in becoming the Secretary, please contact me right away. It is a very rewarding position, *don't tell the W/M, but I think the best position*, and you not only learn a lot about what it takes to run the Lodge, but you have a hand in many of the decisions that are made. It will take a little time to do a proper turnover of the position, so that is why I asked if you are interested, please contact me soon. This is a position that does take dedication and organization to be run effectively, but it isn't difficult. Step-up night is in November, so the sooner we can work on changing the job over, the easier it will be.

As always, feel free to call me or email me with any concerns or questions. My phone number is up top, and my email is: nagelc@comcast.net

Highlights of the "Stated":

- Bro. Robert Mankin was elected for plural membership

- VWB Marion Windell made a motion to amend the tabled motion to raise the dues to \$110 and that life members asked to voluntarily donate \$40. The motion passed with minimal discussion.
- The W/M discussed the visit by our brethren from Trinity Lodge.

In Memoriam

None

October Anniversaries

Fennie Haisten	59	Roy Lopaus	58
Donald Milliken	57	Arthur Linder	52
Edward Kendall	37	Philip Klein	37
Paul Messner	34	Dean Fetterman	34
Richard Sudbury	29	Craig Wild	23
Steven Hayes	23	Michael Belle Isle	9
Brian Tollison	9	Terrell Boese	6
Chris Warrick	4	Jonathan DeJesus	3