



WHIDBY ISLAND LODGE #15 F & AM

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

TRESTLE-BOARD

September 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](http://www.whidbeyisland-15.org)

**From the “East”:**

Brethren, as you are all aware, the Saturday breakfast is the major fundraiser to keep Whidby #15 afloat. The few people who have dedicated hundreds of hours to this program are tired and the breakfast program will likely not continue, at least in the present form, next year. The loss of revenue from the breakfast will amount to \$5960.76 in 2010 dollars. This will result in a budget shortfall of the same amount, as after the bills are paid the Lodge and Temple Board barely make ends meet in a typical year.

At the most recent Stated meeting a motion was made to cancel the breakfast program and to raise the annual dues to make up for the shortfall. The proposal was to raise annual dues to \$100 for regular members and to ask for an assessment from life members in the amount of \$40 dollars. After much discussion, the motion was tabled and will be revisited at the September Stated Meeting. At the most recent Temple Association meeting we looked at the numbers and it becomes obvious that even this may be enough and dues may have to be raised to \$110.

Brethren, no one wants this to happen, but it is a stark reality. If the breakfast program is canceled and the income is not made up in another way, Whidby Island Lodge cannot afford to continue. Please plan on attending the September meeting. Your input and involvement is critical for the survival of this Lodge.

**From the “West”:**

No input this month.

**From the “South”:**

Brethren, my thanks for this last month, we had another successful dinner, Western Night dinner which wouldn't have been possible without the help and cooperation of all of you. Especially our thanks go to Bros. Jeff Roush, 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 September stated meeting we will have a Spaghetti dinner. Now let's get ready for another month of great fellowship and please let me know what you would like to see and have as refreshments during this year. Oh yes, prepare yourselves for our meeting September 24<sup>th</sup> (that's a Saturday) with the Brother's from Canada; it's time to contact Reggie!!!!!! I have it on good account that this meeting will be casual and fun.

On a serious note I would like to put in a word for our upcoming proposal to raise our dues. We have come to a point where I witnessed at the Saturday Breakfast where one of our principles as Masons, namely brotherly love, caused dissension between Brothers. Brethren this is a terrific Lodge and I won't see this breakfast destroy the fraternity over something as simple as our budget. Therefore I implore all of you to vote in favor of this motion rather than risk the chance of losing what this Lodge stands for that being: friendship, morality and brotherly love.

### **From the Secretary:**

As you can tell by the information above, it is that time of the year when we set dues. If you have anything to add please come to the Stated meeting and voice your opinion. Either way, dues statements will be going out next month. I have already submitted my list of names and addresses to Grand Lodge for the printing of dues notices, and cards. If you have an address change you must get it in to me ASAP! As soon as we figure out the price for dues for next year I will be ordering dues cards and statements from Grand Lodge and they will be printed very quickly. It seems that every year I still have mail coming back because of old addresses. Not only does this waste time, it costs the Lodge extra for postage. It may not sound like a lot, but every dollar counts.

When dues statements do come out, please return your dues in a timely manner. Remember that dues are DUE by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December. Every year I receive only about half of the dues by the required date and most of the rest slowly trickle in throughout the rest of the year. If you are a Brother that pays promptly, then I say Thank You, and your attention to this matter is appreciated. I know that I am not perfect, but I do my best to get dues cards mailed back out to Brothers who have paid within two days of receiving payment. I still have Brothers who have not paid for this year, and unless I hear from them, we will have to drop them as NPD.

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](mailto:nagelc@comcast.net)

### **Highlights of the “Stated”:**

- The W/M talked about his recent adventure joining the Rainbow Girls for Dream Camp. He stated he was very impressed with the Masonic knowledge that the Rainbow Girls have. He also noted that it was quite an enjoyable experience and that he was very proud of the youth groups.
- VWB Marion Windell talked about the Saturday morning breakfasts. He first discussed the history of the breakfasts and then spoke about the small group that support the breakfasts for the rest of the Lodge membership. VWB Marion then made three recommendations:
  - Cease having the breakfasts except for during the Arts and Crafts Festival
  - Raise dues for the Lodge to \$100 and ask for a voluntary donation of \$40 from life members.
  - That the taxes and insurance NOT be a line item for the Temple Board.There was much discussion from the floor about future plans regarding these suggestions.
- A motion was made by Bro. Robert Clark that dues be raised to \$100 and amended that life members be asked to contribute a voluntary \$30. It was seconded by Bro. Michael Belle Isle. There was much discussion about the dollar amounts and need to raise money. This has been tabled until the September Stated meeting.
- As this was Past Master’s Night the W/M asked the Senior Deacon to escort the Past Masters to the floor. W/B Rick thanked the Past Masters for their service. W/B Lanny Kee and W/B Jim Gaskill were asked to tell stories about the past of this Lodge. W/B Don Taylor then spoke about the scholarship fund. W/B Don DuBois discussed his time as Master and how they invested in real estate for the Lodge.
- The W/M announced that Bro. Bruce Freeman’s 3<sup>rd</sup> degree would be held the 30<sup>th</sup> of August.

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### *In Memoriam*

None

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## September Anniversaries

Charles Pillow	59	Philip Snover	44
Harold Goodman	26	John Cole	24
Alvin Morrell	24	Everett Harns	21
Mark Wiggins	15	James Milling	14
James Gaskill	7	Arturo Quizmundo	6
Jonathan Frias	4	Mark Logan	2
Steven Bryan	2		

