



WHIDBY ISLAND LODGE #15 F & AM
P.O. Box 371, Coupeville, WA 98239-0371
TRESTLE-BOARD

February 2012

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - W/B Bob Clark
SECRETARY - W/B Jim R. Gaskill 360-679-6766
Lodge Number - (360) 678-4891 Website www.whidbeyisland-15.org

From the “East”:

Brethren, thanks to all of you who stepped up and made a great showing for our lodge at the memorial service for our departed brother Harold Goodman. I was fortunate enough to have lunch with his widow and family a few days after the service and they wanted me to convey to the lodge what a great job we had done. It's participation like this that makes me feel good about being a mason. I would like to thank all of you who participated. However I hope that we don't have to do it again anytime soon. For the Wardens we have the Wardens competition on the 4th at Fidalgo Lodge let's go and support our Wardens. I am looking forward to a great Sweethearts dinner this month on the 17th, Our District Deputies official visit on the 21st at our stated meeting. I would also like to remind all of you the District Deputies regional communication will be on the 25th at the Everett Masonic Center. It would greatly please me to see as many of you in attendance as possible. This is going to be a busy month for all of us so let's get together and step off as brothers.

Worshipful Master Robert E Clark

From the “West”:

Hello Brethren, unfortunately the stated meeting was cancelled due to the weather. I know you were as disappointed as I was but take this time to spend with your family and friends. Thank you (you know who you are) to those who have stepped up to be our leaders this month. We attended Mount Baker's Installation and a funeral for Brother Harold Goodman. Now let's get ready for a great year of Masonry. That means that you are willing to go that "extra mile" to another Lodge, District or other Concordance. It means that you'll visit those incapable of coming to the meetings and functions and stay in touch with them. It means coming out when you don't feel like it but you know there are the other brethren working at the task. It means attending the stated meetings so that the visitors see a strong fraternal lodge. Every one of these previously mentioned will receive wages, but most of all, you will be satisfied with yourselves because you'll be completing your Masonic pledges.

WB Dale Thayer, SW

From the “South”:

Therefore, Mother Nature has the last word. I'm sure we could have had a productive meeting and some good fellowship.

Bro Philip Bleyhl our Senior Deacon, has stepped up to assist by providing Pizza and salad for our dinner at the stated meeting in February. My thanks to him for stepping up and helping me with my duties. Please; brothers who wish to assist can contact me thru the web site or call 360.720.1199.

I read from the [Introduction to Freemasonry – Entered Apprentice by Carl H. Claudy](#), and was reminded of the reasoning behind the Tyler.

All lodges have an officer stationed "without the door with a drawn sword in his hand." He is the Tyler and his duties are to keep out "cowans and eavesdroppers." In operative days, the secrets of the Freemasons were valuable in the coin of the realm. The Mason who knew "the Mason Word" could travel in foreign countries and receive a Master's wages. Many who could not or would not conform to the requirements tried to ascertain the secrets in a clandestine manner.

The **eavesdropper** - literally, one who attempts to listen under the eaves, and so receives the droppings from the roof - was a common thief who tried to learn by stealth what he would not learn by work.

The **cowan** was an ignorant Mason who laid stones together without mortar or piled rough stone from the field into a wall without working them square and true. He was a Mason without the word, with no reputation, the Apprentice who tried to masquerade as a Master. The operative Masons guarded their assemblies against the intrusion of both the thief and the half-instructed craftsman.

He was called a Tiler or Tyler because the man who put on the roof or tiles (tiler) completed the building and made those within it secure from intrusion; therefore, the officer who guarded the door against intrusion was called, by analogy, a Tyler.

Bro. Michael Belle Isle

From the Secretary:

Dues are slowly trickling in. If you have paid your yearly dues "Thank you". If you have not sent your dues yet this will be a reminder. As you will notice on your statement, dues for the year are \$110. For our non-dues paying members you will notice the request to send in a voluntary donation of \$40 this year. Please pay attention to the details in the dues letters that were sent with the notices/cards, so please send them to the new Secretary at his address listed in the dues letter/notice I have a huge stack of Dues cards still to go out because of how long many of the Brothers wait to pay their dues.

Highlights of the "Stated"(December):

WM open a lodge of sorrow for the ensuing year.

VWB Don G. Munks, Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 9, of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, was presented at the altar, escorted to the East, introduced, and accorded the Public Grand Honors. He announced the "Wardens Competitions" will be held at Fidalgo #77 lodge, 9:00 am, 4 Feb 2012. 25 Feb 2012 will be the Regional Lodge meeting in Everett. The widows and orphan funds are being restructured and everyone needs to continue to contribute to support this fund.

Committee Reports:

- Audit Committee. W/B Doug Jerome reports the Lodge Treasurer and JW fund have been audited.
- Scholarship Committee: W/B Doug Jerome stated all pertinent information/forms have been distributed to the high schools in Oak Harbor and Coupeville.
- Lodge Website: W/B Jim Gaskill stated that new pictures and emails have been changed to reflect the 2012 officers. .
- Widow's Gifts were handed out to the brothers to be delivered to the widows.
- Bikes for Books: Bro Dick Johnson reported that the bicycles will be delivered to the schools in January. . .

WB Don Dubois moved the Lodge contribute \$150.00 toward the purchase of a past master apron for WB Rick Felici, seconded and passed.

WM Bob Clark explained that no coffee stops are scheduled for the Lodge at this time. If one is desired and there is adequate participation he can and will get with the D.O.T. for an open time.

VWB Marion Wendell's wife, Connie Wendell, is in poor health and we should keep her in our prayers.

In Memoriam

Harold G. Goodman
(5 Aug 1928 -2 Jan 2012)

Rodney Nathan Smith
(5 Oct 1918-18 Dec 2011)

January Anniversaries

Milton H. Littke	62	John R. Morrison	29
Kenneth A. Enzminger	60	James H. Wihlborg	23
Joseph L. Jenkins	51	Joe S. Bass	6
Lloyd R. Linn	50	Donald D. Brooks	5
Marion A. Windell	43	John Rainier K. Magno	3
Walter D. Koenig	29	Alexander J. Zhang	1