

Whidby Island Lodge No. 15



Trestle Board January 2024

Worshipful Master – WM Steven Gabbert at slgabbert@comcast.net

Secretary – VWB Nestor Cagingin at ncagingin@hotmail.com

Website: www.Whidbeyisland-15.org

Whidby Island Lodge No. 15 2024

<i>Worshipful Master</i>	<i>WB Steven Gabbert</i>
<i>Senior Warden</i>	<i>WB Arturo Quizmundo</i>
<i>Junior Warden</i>	<i>Bro Danny Sanchez</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>WB Dale Thayer</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>VWB Nestor Cagingin</i>
<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>WB Phil Bleyhl</i>
<i>Senior Deacon</i>	<i>Bro Crisostomo Legaspi</i>
<i>Junior Deacon</i>	<i>Bro Luis Ferrer</i>
<i>Senior Stewart</i>	<i>Bro Michael Consolver</i>
<i>Junior Stewart</i>	<i>WB Dick Johnson</i>
<i>Marshal</i>	<i>WB Douglas Jerome</i>
<i>Tyler</i>	<i>WB Nelson De Vega</i>



From the East

Greetings from the East,

Many a brother can speak of what Freemasonry has done for him in terms of the practical world of material help, thousands have received the spiritual gifts of Freemasonry, and most of us, let us thank God, have not had to ask for, or receive, the beautiful charity of brotherhood. All of this being so ... let him who finds this untrue arise in his place and deny that Masonry has so benefited him. It is better that they answer the question

"What have I done for Masonry?" There will be some who reply, I have served as an officer. I have conferred degrees. I have borne the heat and burden of the day." They are the lucky ones, for they have received more than they have given. But the great majority of us cannot answer that way, since there are but a few officers in proportion to the number of Craftsmen.

So, ask again, my brother, you who have never served in an official capacity, "What have I done for the Freemasonry which has done so much for me?" My brother, you need not be ashamed if the catalog of your services is short and small. For there must always be those who are but the background; who take without giving; who receive without effort the labors of their brethren who have learned the great lesson that to give is to receive; that to put forth is to have returned a hundred-fold. Yet there will be many who hear the question and answer it to themselves, and are ashamed; and they will want to know: "What can I do for Freemasonry? I would pay my debt; I would also be in the ranks of those who give, as well as receive." It is agreed between us that he who serves the Lodge also serves the spirit of Freemasonry; that the brother who labors about the lodge, who acts upon committees, who tiles, sweeps, and cooks serves truly and serves well. But when all the physical labor is done there is still much to do; and, when all who may have done the toil there is still a design upon the Trestle board. Therefore, my brother answer in terms of the heart, not of the muscles, the pocketbook, the voice or the time spent in attending lodge; "What have I done for Freemasonry?"

Ask yourself once more, my brother, and answer, though only you will hear it: "What do I do every day that is Masonic; how do I use my Freemasonry in my daily life?" As Freemasons we are taught that we came here to subdue our passions and improve ourselves in Masonry. "Passions," my brother, do not mean merely anger or lust. The passion of selfishness, the passion of self-interest, the passion of avarice, of deceit, of cruelty, of carelessness; these, as well as all the other enemies against which man's spirit struggles are to be subdued and conquered. Freemasonry is the most glorious heritage, the most sublime of conceptions of the heart. They can take her to their souls; they can make Freemasonry a part of their lives, they can express Brotherly love in their every act, and make it a song in their hearts to God!

Upon the Square,

WB Steven Gabbert

Worshipful Master, Whidby Island Lodge No.15

slgabbert@comcast.net



From the West

"Freemasonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols."

I hope that everyone had a Wonderful Christmas. It had been a busy month of December for all of us. Our Lodge traveled many Lodges to attend Officer Installation and it was fun as well. It is always great to see familiar faces and meet new Brothers during our travels. Time well spent...

Speaking of Time, Masonic teaching informs us that the 24-inch gauge is an instrument used by Operative Masons to lay out and measure their work. But we as Free and Accepted Masons are taught to make use of for a more noble and glorious purpose... In the book "Craft and its Symbols", it is said that the Gauge is a symbol of purpose or time. "To all men, time is all important. A wasted minute can't be retrieved. A minute is precious. Time must be used productively, or nothing can be accomplished. The man who wastes his own time or that of another squanders away something he can't replace". It is therefore important we recognize the importance of prioritizing or purpose as a Mason. This is how we are going arrange and find time to attend to the duties and

responsibilities as a Mason. The proper application of this valuable tool will enable us not to only divide our time fittingly but to also allocate them to the dealings that are important to us.

Wishing everyone a Prosperous New Year.

On the Level,

WB Arturo Quizmundo
Senior Warden, Whidbey Island Lodge No. 15
a_quizzy@hotmail.com



From the South

By the Plumb,

Brother Danny Sanchez
Junior Warden, Whidbey Island Lodge No. 15
skyrem14@yahoo.com



On Secretary's Desk

On Secretary's Desk:

2024 Dues Statements were emailed to all the Brethren and mailed to those who do not have a current email address. 2024 Dues will be due on 01-Jan-2024 in order to be in "Good Standing" for Masonic 2024. Thank you for the 43 Brothers who paid their 2024 Annual Dues and Grand Lodge Percapata. 71 Brothers are still in arrears. 11 Brothers will probably be dropped from our rolls due to Non-Payment of Dues (NPD). If you do not have an access of your Grand View profile (Grand Lodge of Washington database), this is the link to set one up: https://wa.grandview.systems/membership_registration . There is a tutorial video on this page as well that will show you how to set up your account. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly for any questions or concerns about your dues or for anything regarding your profile in Grand Lodge database.

Please remember that:

*Life Members are responsible to pay \$28.00 annually for the Grand Lodge Assessment fee.

*Service exempt for all 50-year Master Masons is not obligated to pay dues and/or assessments.

To receive events, newsletters or Trestle Boards from Lodges in District No. 9 via email, you are encouraged to sign up for everyone@district9wa.com , go to <http://district9wa.com/mailling-list-management/> and enter your email address and submit. Please follow link: <https://freemason-wa.org/grand-lodge-newsletter/> Grand Lodge of Washington Newsletter. Visit our website at www.whidbeyisland-15.org . Like and share us in our Facebook page: Whidbey Island Lodge No. 15.

I hoped everyone remembers the reason for the season. A Blessed gift of love and peace to all. A fruitful and healthy New Year.

Scheduled upcoming events in our Lodge:

- Thursday, January 4th at 7:00 PM – Lodge Officer Association Meeting.
- Tuesday, January 16th – Whidbey Island No. 15 Stated Communication at 7:30 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM.

- Saturday, 20th January – District No. 9 Meeting at 3:00 PM / Fidalgo Lodge No. 77 Masonic Center Anacortes, WA.
Attire: Coat and Tie. Light refreshment after the District Meeting.

January Stated Meeting Menu: Tacos and Chili Dog
January Stated Meeting Attire: Dark Suit

Fraternally,

VWB Nestor Cagingin

Secretary, Whidby Island Lodge No. 15

Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 9

info@whidbeyisland-15.org

Highlights of December 2023 Stated Communication

Worshipful Master welcomed and thanked everyone for attending this December Stated Communication with 16 members and 2 visiting Brothers. Thanked all Pro-temp. WB Nelson De Vega installed Bro Crisostomo Legaspi as Senior Deacon and WB Steven Gabbert installed Bro Michael Consolver as Senior Steward.

Labor on 3rd Degree was suspended and labor on 1st Degree was opened. Invited all Entered Apprentice Masons.

Worshipful Master declared that Lodge of Sorrow closed for 2023 and Lodge of Sorrow opened for 2024.

Introductions

First-time visitors: Bro Pete McCue of Esoterika No. 316 was introduced West of the Altar and presented with first-time visitor card, Lodge pin and given a warm Whidby Island No. 15 welcome.

All visitors with the exception of Masters, Wardens and Grand Lodge Team Members: VWB Gerry Myers of Fidalgo No. 77 was introduced in place, given a warm Whidby Island No. 15 welcome.

Visiting Grand Lodge Team Members: VWB Nestor Cagingin – Deputy of the Grand Master in District 9 was escorted to the East and accorded the public grand honors.

Masonic Education Deferred

Presentation

- Lodge pin – Bro Donald Schwalback
- Mini Working Tools – Bro Earl Diaz

Proficiency

- Bro Michael Consolver proved up 3rd Degree proficiency via Committee chaired by WB Steven Gabbert.
- Bro Jeff Secretaria proved up 1st Degree proficiency via Posting Lecture with mentor WB Nelson De Vega.

Communications

- End of Year Appeal – Washington Masonic Services (07-Dec on Grand View)
- Masonic Tribune – Winter 2023 (06-Dec on Grand View)
- Spoof Grand Lodge Facebook Page (06-Dec on Grand View)
- MSA Appeal Letter (05-Dec on Grand View)
- Lodge Life Membership Report Instructions – 2023 (01-Dec on Grand View)
- Letter regarding advertising for 2024 Conference of Grand Masters (30-Nov on Grand View)

Committee Reports

- **Bikes for Books** – Completed until next school year. New chairman – WB Art Quizmundo.
- **Scholarship** – Completed until next school year. New chairman – WB Art Quizmundo.
- **Sunshine:** Both WB Jim Gaskill and WB Don are recovering at home; WB Dick Johnson doing his therapy from back surgery. Keep our Brothers in your prayers.

December 2023 Income: As per Treasurer's Report

December 2023 Bills: \$1,267.84

- \$ 627.84 Nestor Cagingin for 12 bicycles (2024 Bikes-for-Books)
- \$ 525.00 HMTA Lodge December 2023 Rent
- \$ 266.30 Nestor Cagingin for December 2023 Secretary expenses and stipend

Bills were ordered to be paid

Old Business

- Discussion on how much will the Lodge fund our Annual "Military/First Responder Appreciation Night". A motion was made, seconded and approved to fund \$250.00 for this event.

New Business

- Sweethearts Brunch will be tentatively scheduled on 17-Feb/Saturday at 11:00 AM. Menu will be discussed later.

December Masonic Birthdays

Brethren	Years of Service
John A. Smeby	55
Louis E. Bartrand, PM	50
David R. Conner	37
Richard D. Warn	37
Francis A. Delorier III	30
Reginald Carter, PM	24
Nestor J. Cagingin, PM	21
Ilan E. Wilde, PM	18
Chad N. Rickner	17
Eduardo P. Herrera, PM	9
Paul Steinsiek, PM	56
George K. Halgrims	9



Announcements

20-Dec/Wed at 7:00PM – Masonic Learning Experience at Fidalgo No. 77. 05-Jan/Fri at 7:00 PM – Fellowcraft Degree conferral at Skagit Valley No. 36.

VWB Nestor Cagingin brought greetings from our Grand Master, MWB Steve C. Martin, who does not have anything on his calendar tonight. He was in Castle Rock No. 62 last night for their Stated meeting. He was really busy with Installations the past few weeks including the Constitution of Skagit Valley No. 36 and Installation of Officers on 09-Dec. Remember the real reason for the season. A fruitful and healthy New Year to all Brethren withsoever dispersed.

Retire all Entered Apprentice Masons. Labor of 1st closed and labor on 3rd Degree resumed.

The purpose for which this Communication was called having been fulfilled and after reading and approval of these minutes, Lodge was closed in Due Form at 8:50 PM o'clock peace and harmony prevailing.