



Horace W. Tyler Lodge #290  
Free and Accepted Masons of Washington  
2530 Grandview Drive West  
University Place, Washington, 98466

## May 2013

“A trestle board is a design board for the Master Workman (Architect) to draw his plans and designs upon to give the workmen an outline of the work to be performed. As Freemasons, we use the Trestleboard to inform and enlighten our lodge brethren.”

FROM THE EAST: Greetings from the East. Tyler Lodge has been very busy this year. That's a good thing!!! We have several new candidates going through the degrees and I am both proud and pleased of our Brothers for giving up their evenings to participate with the degree work. We have a new honorary past master in our lodge-congratulations Billy Joe Arends, you well deserved this honor. You will find an insert in our newsletter about the "Traveling Trowel". This was brought up at a previous meeting and was so interesting and well written I wanted all our brothers to have the pleasure of reading it. A BIG THANKS to VWB Rod Davidson for writing it.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to Bill Michelson on the recent passing of his wife of 64 years, "Betty", on April 19th. Her Memorial Service will be held on May 16th, at 2 pm at the Christ Lutheran Church, 8211 112th Street SW, Lakewood. Please try to attend to offer support to our brother Bill at this difficult time.

W.B. Rufus Allen, Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST: Greetings my Brothers! Another addition of the Trestle board for your up to date info about your Lodge and Masonic Temple. One note of sorrow. To echo the heartfelt condolences from our WM Rufus on the passing of Phil Michelson's beloved wife Elizabeth this April 19<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend the memorial if you can. He is a great brother and true friend of us and the craft. On a happier note we are working almost every tues this month and some the next on new degree work. We will be reading four petitions next stated. How cool is that. We see a growth of the craft and Horace W. Tyler in particular. Our excellent reputation is due to our never ending commitment to the craft of the real reason of Masonry. We give purpose to its messages. We have several important events coming up so please review our Web site for times and dates. Our picnic is the 27<sup>th</sup> of July in Gig Harbor. Please join us. Our open house is the Sat after the stated so stop buy and talk to budding candidates. The building is in good shape. We have ongoing projects to improve the building and are moving on them as our bank account permits. Join us for coffee and board business on the first Monday of every month at 7:30. Lastly, bring a brother to lodge or if you need a ride to attend just call any of the officers and we will get you there. You're important to the lodge and Masonry. See you at Lodge!

W.B. Steve Turner, Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH: As we move through the spring we're doing degree work on a regular basis. Our lodge is growing with new young members who are going to be great additions to the craft and our lodge in particular. I believe this to be due to the hard work of several of our young members and our Open Houses as well as the incredible foundation of **brotherly love and friendship each of you has worked to create through your years in this lodge**

Our next big social event is the Widow's Brunch. We'll be hosting this on Memorial Day (May 27th), as we've done in the past. The brunch will be at the Spring Lake Cafe, 616 Regents Blvd. in Fircrest. From the lodge go east on 27th. This eventually turns into Regents Blvd. and you go past the Fircrest Golf Club. Continue on Regents to the center of the Fircrest business district. For those familiar with the area this is where the Swim Shop and Vifore's Italian Deli are located.

We plan on meeting by 11AM. We'll be able to order off the menu. If you plan on attending please let Dick Taylor ([253-732-9531](tel:253-732-9531)) or Rufus Allen ([253-851-7520](tel:253-851-7520)) know by Monday May 20th so we can let the folks at the restaurant know how many to expect. If you don't reach us when you call please leave a message.

I look forward to seeing many of you there along with the widow's of our departed brothers.

For those curious, I am filling in coordinating some of this for our Junior Warden because of his work schedule.

W.B. Dick Taylor

FROM THE SECRETARY'S CORNER: Farewell to a valued member of our line! Junior Deacon David Bruschi, one of up and coming, enthusiastic young brothers must depart us as a job and family demands takes him to new adventures in Spokane. Keep in touch David and come back when you can.... If you read this before our May 14 Stated Meeting, we are having an important vote on changing our By-Laws to update our Life Membership prices. We will also be reading more new petitions that night. Our lodge is looking up as more and more folks see the value of Freemasonry and our lodge in particular. That's the good news. And the bad news?... I still have members who are yet to pay their 2013 dues. Yes, you know who you are (but if you're not sure, call me). Your lodge does not squander funds; we spend wisely, but we are not rich. We depend on our dues to maintain operations. Please help by paying your dues on time. But as usual, if you find that your finances are strapped, please don't hesitate to contact WM Rufus Allen or I. We can help.

W.B. Bud Truitt, Secretary

From Tyler Chapter #248 OES

May 2, Stated meeting, Long Form, Balloting, Celebrate Mothers, Dress of choice.

16, Stated, Short Form Top 8 Honor Night, Theme is "Summer Picnic", Chapter dress.

22-25, Coffee Stop at Sea-Tac Rest Area.

June 6, Stated meeting, Short Form, Initiation, Chapter Dress.

20, Stated meeting, Long Form, Dress of choice.

Aug. tba, Family Picnic at Spanaway Park

30, 7:30pm, Official Visit at Veda Chapter, Tyler does work, Chapter Dress.

Sep. 5, Stated meeting, Long Form, Pot luck dinner @ 6:00pm, Education night, Chapter Dress.

Thanks,

Ken Estess

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Some brethren know me now as a member of Horace W. Tyler Lodge, No. 290 of University Place, Washington. But my Masonic life covers many miles over many years. I achieved my Past-Master-hood from being the Master of Gastineaux Lodge No. 124 in Juneau, Alaska, in the M.W. Grand Lodge of F&AM Washington during the 1985 term. I'd like to share with my brother's one of the most memorable activities that I took on that year.

When I was elected Master of the Lodge for 1985, I decided to designate the Trowel as my "Masonic Tool of the Year". And to instill this in my brothers, I would put together a commemorative plaque of the Trowel. Ah, but this would not just be a Trowel Plaque, it would be a Traveling Trowel with a Plaque of Records – and I would send it on a mission for Masonry.

So I gathered together a shiny brass trowel, a decorative plaque, had a label placard engraved, and affixed the plaque with 12 small, blank, brass plates.



Then I pasted a manila envelope to the back of the plaque with these instructions attached:

To Recipients of our Trowel:

Please share the Masonic Brotherly Love and Affection that it brings with all the members of your Lodge. Have your lodge name, location, presenter, and date received engraved on the next small plate. Insert your Lodge's history and it's mailing address in the pocket on back. Then, when convenient, have the Master of you Lodge carry it, or cause it to be carried, to a distant lodge for presentation.

When all 12 plates are filled, please return the plaque to Gastineaux Lodge and we will send each lodge a summary of it's travels.

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By these actions we are all reminded to spread the cement which binds us into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers.....

I was guessing that the traveling plaque might return in 2, or perhaps 3, years. So, in September of my term, I was ready to begin its travels.

I carried it to Skagway, Alaska, and presented it to **White Pass Lodge #1**, a neighbor to Juneau, but in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. It was presented at the White Pass Lodge stated meeting on **November 2, 1985**.

I heard occasionally about it's travels as it went from Skagway, Alaska, to **Atlinto Lodge #42** in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada – in the jurisdiction of the M.W. Grand Lodge of AF&AM of British Columbia and Yukon. This visit was made in **March of 1986**. Then in **May, 1986**, it was carried to **Yukon Lodge #45** in Dawson City, Yukon, and in **March, 1987**, it returned to Whitehorse to visit **Whitehorse Lodge #46**. These were all familiar lodges and brethren to the Masons in Juneau so we were quite comfortable with it carrying out its intended purposes. But then news reports of its travels ceased – and we felt that perhaps it had been lost.

Eventually a Past Master of our lodge at Juneau, who had since moved to the 'lower 48', made a vacation trip to New Zealand and reported hearing of our Traveling Trowel from several lodges that he visited there. I was greatly encouraged to hear that the Gastineaux #124 plaque had not been lost and was still 'out there' somewhere. But we would not hear of its travels again for several more years; in fact hope dwindled among the 'old timers' that we would ever see the plaque again.

Sometime during the winter of 1993-94 a large bundle arrived in the mail for the secretary of Gastineaux Lodge. The package was addressed from Quebec, Canada. It was our trowel returning home!!!! During all those years, I had taken a job-transfer to Washington D.C. and was a member of Acacia Lodge #16 in Clifton, Virginia. So, I arranged a trip back to Juneau to share in the trowels return.

Within the large bundle in the mail, the manila envelope was seriously over-stuffed with lodge histories, pictures, personal notes, lodge pins and other memorabilia from the lodges that it had visited. Surprisingly, after its **9-year journey**, the trowel, plaque and its decorative plates were still intact. There is much detail to share from the package but, to summarize here, the Traveling Trowel made the following visits after leaving Whitehorse, Canada:

Lodge Arohanui #264, Auckland, New Zealand	April 9, 1987
Lodge Parirua #423, Wellington, New Zealand	September 28, 1987
Marlborough Lodge of Unanimity #106, Blenheim, New Zealand	April 12, 1988
Lodge Saint John #94, Invercargill, New Zealand	October 20, 1988
Geraldine Lodge #171, Dublin, Ireland	November 7, 1989
(I'm told the plaque was placed in the Masonic Museum in Dublin for 1 year.)	
Friendship & Harmony Lodge #894, Bermuda	December 6, 1990
(Meeting in Dublin, Ireland.)	
Longmeadow Lodge, Longmeadow, Massachusetts	November 7, 1991
Saint Andrews Lodge #53, Montreal, Quebec, Canada	May 27, 1992

Thus was the circuit of this innocent project that I undertook in 1985. The Trowel Plaque and its memorabilia are now in permanent possession of Mt. Juneau/Gastineaux Lodge #21 in Juneau (which is now the merger of two Juneau-based lodges and has changed grand lodges to the M.W. Grand Lodge of F&AM of Alaska). I don't know if it's displayed or locked away. But it worked for 9 years to spread the harmony of Masonic brotherhood around the world!!!

The summary booklet compiled from the packet is 79 pages of interesting Masonic history.

## Tyler Lodge Nights at the Tacoma Rainiers.



Thursday, **July 25, 2013** (vs. Tucson Padres)

and Thursday **August 29, 2013** (vs. Salt Lake Bees).

Game Time is **7:00 PM** (meet at Tyler Lodge at **6:00 PM** if you wish to carpool).

Those going directly to the stadium may pick up their tickets at the Will Call window (photo ID required). Stadium parking is \$5.00 for a car or \$10.00 for RV's.

These are "**Tasty Thursdays**" with \$2.00 beer on the Party Deck and other values at the concession stands.

All are welcome and encouraged to join us! Bring friends and family.

Plan on one or both games.

Ticket prices are **\$10.50** if we get **20 or more** for each game. *This price includes a reserved seat, hot dog, chips and soda! Our group will be recognized on the video board during the game.*

If you would like to be on the call and email list, please add your name to the sign-up sheet or:

Contact John Lunkes at (253) 312-1695 or Email at [activities@horacetyler290.org](mailto:activities@horacetyler290.org) more information or to sign up.