Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

JAMES G. HAMLIN, 33° Personal Representative of the S.G.I G. (425) 419-7893



TERRY GROVE, 33°

General Secretary 2431 Rucker Avenue # 1 Everett, WA . 98201 (425) 610-4561

Orient of Washington - Valley of Everett

Volume 33

JUNE 2024

Issue 06

THE RITE BULLETIN



From The Personal Representative Ill. James G. Hamlin, 33°



Lessons from a spider Outside the kitchen window a spider made its home. Started out very tiny and not much of a web. A week later, as I was making my morning coffee, it was just finishing a classic garden-spider web. It rained that night with a bit of wind. The following day the web was in tatters, but the spider had made some repairs to its home, it lacked the beauty from the day before but still was able to function. The web had done its duty as my newest neighbor was wrapping up her dinner in the center. The spider had grown.

As I write this, the web had been completely redone without me noticing. A few imperfections are there, caused by the elements or by captured prey. The web must be doing its job as the spider continues to grow.

For some reason, this spider and its web reminded me of my Masonic journey. Before joining the Fraternity, I was doing OK, steady job, respected at work, doing my best to raise a family, and getting along in life simply fine. My life's web provided all I needed at that time, but my web was small.

Though I did not realize it, I was much like that tiny spider who just had a few anchor points and a rudimentary web. My Masonic initiation showed me how



to spin a better web, a web that provided sustenance to my mind and spirit. And, like the spider's web provides its bounds, Freemasonry showed me the due bounds within which I should live. And my web got bigger.

To me Freemasonry is not the web but rather the instructions on how to spin our personal webs. A web that, when effectively used, grows and increases our ability to gain wisdom. Wisdom to make our domains better.

Continued on Page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Personal Rep From the Desk of the General Secretary June Birthday List
- "The Enlightened Patriot," By Richard Jones Masonic History for the month of June Masonic Open Air Degree, Granite Falls, WA Summer activities Karl E. Warren Lodge 259 District 8 SLOC Meeting June 1st, 2024 "Flag Day June 14th, 2024

From the Personal Rep Continued from Page 1

Our webs can get tattered but because of the strong anchors the tenants of the Fraternity provides for us, we each have the opportunity to build back stronger and more beautiful. Those unwilling to put in the labor fall by the wayside. Those spiders who do not rebuild do not thrive.

Ever witness the hatching of a bunch of spider eggs? Scores of tiny spiders, each having the potential to grow and lay eggs for the next generation. But through lack of effort, location, or plain luck, few reach the point where they can spin a web. Like those that approach our portals and decide not to follow our path because of the effort it takes to advance in our Fraternity.

Unlike a spider we are not created with a singular purpose, we can choose which journey we want to take. We can choose our path whether to gain wisdom through Freemasonry or not. And we can use our per-

sonal webs collectively to help each other learn and grow. It is not easy and requires effort.

As I return to finish this article, the spider is gone and just ugly remnants of a once beautiful web. Perhaps she found a better spot, expired, or was consumed by a natural predator.

There is no better spot than Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite to grow as men. Our fraternities have continued while having faced numerous and continual assaults, we have endured and will continue to endure if we keep our webs free from detritus. The Scottish Rite provides silk to expand our webs and catch more Light.

Fraternally, Jim Hamlin 33° Personal Representative to the Valley



From the Desk of the General Secretary By Terry Grove, 33°

The 2024 Class has now been raised to a 32° Scottish Rite Mason, and their Caps & Ring Ceremony will be held on Monday June 3rd, 2024. **RSVP** required. Now the real learning begins. As they endeavor to improve themselves in masonry, they will need tutors and guides to mentor them.

Will you be one those who step up to assist them in their journey? We are still experiencing around 60% of those members who live within the immediate area who for whatever reason have decided that it is not important to meet with their brothers. Remember the old story about a per capita for the Orient of Washington - \$2 Rite Care the tyler who visited an inactive member – and made the analogy about the log in the fireplace that rolled away from the main fire and smoldered and died? Are you one of those logs?

We will now be dark, July and August – and resume our labors September 16th. Take a look at the calendar at everettvalleysr.org and see if you can schedule yourself for some good old fashioned fellowship with your brothers.

We have 14 brothers who have yet to remit their 2024 dues eleven (11) of whom live within the immediate area. We are also tracking two (2) brothers due for 2023-2024. These two will be suspended for NPD (Non-Payment of Dues).

2025 cycle-billing will occur in July, and Supreme will be sending statements to the Valley Membership

commencing in September (to be paid by December 31st each year). Now may be the time to consider purchasing a Life Membership. If you are under the age of 65 it is only 15 x \$187 (\$2,805); 65 to 75 10 x \$187 (\$1,870) and 75 or over 5 x \$187 or \$935. Now may be the time to exercise this option.

Did you know that if you divide our annual dues of \$187 by 365 days, it only comes out to around .51 cents per day?

Did you know that each year – our Valley is assessed and \$3 Scholarship plus Supreme Council \$30 per member. Therefore – your annual dues are broken down as 150, plus 2 + 3 + 30 and our projected cost of an additional cost of \$2 for any anticipated future increases.

Did you know we have 68 members who have purchased Perpetual or Life Memberships.

Did you know we have 10 members who have reached the 50-years in Scottish Rite milestone - and are exempt from paying dues?

Should you have any questions – please feel free to con - tact me directly at 425-610-4561 or by e-mail at terrygrove50@yahoo.com



Old Glory – A Flag of Liberty

By David McCuistion, 32°, U. S. Navy (Retired)

Just a ragged piece of cloth some say, With no real significance in any way. Just a rag that with the wind doth sway. Just an ordinary flag they say.



Then help me understand why, After many years and battles does she still fly? After so many deaths she reigns so high, And around the world she refuses to die.

Please tell me why if you will, Her National Anthem gives such a thrill. When remembering her raising on Iwo Jima's hill, That very sight gives such a chill.

Tell me why citizens cherish her so, And stand ever ready to take up arms and go Defend that Divine Principle of which we know Helps the tree of liberty continually grow. What reason can be found For rushing to defend her world 'round? What keeps her from decaying on the ground? I ask you, can't you hear the sound?

That sound of Freedom that so loud doth ring! The sound of God Bless America as we sing! That sound of courage of Eagle's wing! That sound of liberty to which we cling!

Red and Yellow, Black, Brown, and White, They all took up arms to fight, To defend Divine Liberty that was their right, That keeps Freedom's Light ever so bright.

Just a ragged piece of cloth some say, With no real significance in any way. A Flag of Liberty like no other, I say! Yesterday, today, always!

Masonic Family Park Open Air Degree, August 3rd, 2024 By WB Mike Dulaney, 32°

Summertime is once again upon us. That means many of our Lodges are Dark. But that does not end the search for Light due to a lack of Masonic events to attend. Where can you find that Light over the summer with Brothers from around Western Washington? Simply put, the Open-Air Third-Degree event at the Masonic Family Park in Granite Falls.

On August 3rd Shoreline Lodge #248 will be conferring the Third Degree at the Masonic Family Park in Granite Falls. The Lodge opens at 10 am, so please allow enough time to be parked and sign in the Tyler's Register. The cost of entry for the Park is \$7.50 at the gate.



Summertime is once again upon us. That means many our Lodges are Dark. But that does not end the search Light due to a lack of Masonic events to attend.

> Lunch will be available for all and can be purchased afterward. Crystal Lodge 122 is bringing their renown BBQ back to the park this summer.

Break out a lawn chair and come out to enjoy a summer day with your

Masonic Brothers.

If your Lodge is interested in conferring as the Open-Air Third Degree, we are looking for volunteers for 2027 and beyond. Ensure your Lodge makes this commitment early, as the schedule will fill up quickly.



The Enlightenment and Masonry By Richard Llewellyn Jones, 32°, KCCH

The Enlightened Patriot

As I have argued over the last two years or so, "enlightened" men of learning, culture and prominence gravitated to Freemasonry as a forum in which they could meet and discuss radical new ideas that could potentially expose them to harm to the threats that abounded in the late 17th Century. "Free thinkers" who embraced the ideas and philosophy that arose during the era we now characterize as the "Enlightenment", were at risk from the Catholic particular position. Church and the divine right kingships of Europe who had no interest in or tolerance for any notions that government has become much more fixed and static. could undermine the political status quo."

at the tenor of our current political discourse, as I am sure many of you have as well. I have shared my views of the Enlightenment and its impact on Masonry as it arose out of the 17th Century. But, as Masons in the 21st Century, it is important to acknowledge that we have inherited many of the values of our 17^{th} Century brothers through our ritual and mythology. The question arises, what does the Enlightenment temperament teach us about political discourse generally and the proper means of expressing it?

In an article recently written by A.J. Jacobs, he shares an antidote about James Madison.

> "When James Madison was on his death bed. his niece noticed an odd expression on his face and asked if he was okay. He replied, 'Nothing more than a change of mind, my dear."

There is nothing to indicate what Madison changed his mind about, but it does express one of the cardinal virtues of our historic enlightened Masonic brethren: the ability to change one's mind. As a further example of this virtue it should be noted that Madison initially opposed the Bill of Rights, but when presented with stronger arguments in its favor, later changed his mind and became one of its greatest champions.

I would submit that open-mindedness and the ability to change one's mind when presented with new facts or stronger reasoning is one of the greatest character traits of our enlightened Masonic brothers of the 17th Century. This is a virtue and character trait that is sorely lacking today. Today, changing one's mind and our Masonry values in their highest form. is considered an act of weakness. Political leaders are accused of "flip/flopping" if they exhibit the intellectual honesty of changing their minds when presented with new facts or stronger arguments in favor of or in

opposition to a position they have taken.

Our 17th and 18th Century enlightened brethren took affirmative steps to ensure decision makers had the room to change their minds. As an example, there was no record kept of how each delegate voted during the Constitutional Convention, thus providing the delegates the freedom to change their positions as to any issue or resolution raised before the Convention without feeling trapped and inescapably committed to a

As Mr. Jacobs notes in his article, our "American But while we have gained stability, we've lost our As a Mason, I have become increasingly alarmed thirst for fresh solutions." I would concur. As WB Benjamin Franklin noted during the Constitutional Convention:

> "I have experienced many instances of being obliged, by better information or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects. . . . It is therefore that the older I grow the more apt I am to doubt my own judgement."

Recent political leaders have struggled to revisit positions they have taken, hastily arguing their prior positions have "evolved". But their "evolution" has come at a price: remember George H.W Bush on taxes and Barack Obama on same-sex marriages.

As we Masons move into the 2024 election cycle, we ought to keep in mind the admonishment of Robert Frost: do not take "praise or blame too far." We should adopt our 17th and 18th Century brethren's approach to political discourse: carefully listen to facts (rather than unsupported opinions) we have not previously considered – even those we find offensive, thoughtfully weigh new arguments we have not previously considered that may not square with our own, and allow ourselves to "evolve" for the good of Masonry and our community generally. Indeed, we need to truly listen to our fellow brothers and citizens, understand them – even if their opinions are poorly articulated - and be willing to change our minds. I would submit for your consideration that this is the sort of political discourse that defines true patriotism



Flag Day, June 14th, 2024

In the United States, **Flag Day** is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The Flag Resolution, passed on June 14, 1777, stated: "Resolved, that the flag of the

thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army birthday on this date; Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAP-TER 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance. On June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale. New York Stat-



utes designate the second Sunday in June as Flag Day, a state holiday.

Perhaps the oldest continuing Flag Day parade is in Fairfield, Washington (situated in Spokane County). Beginning in 1909 or 1910, Fairfield has held a parade every year since, with the possible ex-

ception of 1918, and celebrated the "Centennial" parade in 2010, along with some other commemorative events. Appleton, Wisconsin, claims to be the oldest National Flag Day parade in the nation, held annually since 1950.

Quincy, Massachusetts, has had an annual Flag Day parade since 1952 and claims it "is the longest-running parade of its kind" in the U.S. The largest Flag Day parade had been held annually in Troy, New York until 2017, which based its parade on the Quincy parade and typically draws 50,000 spectators. In addition, the Three Oaks, Michigan, Flag Day Parade is held annually on the weekend of Flag Day and is a three-day event and they claim to have the largest Flag Day parade in the nation as well as the oldest. In Washington, D.C., Flag Day is celebrated heavily through the 7th and 8th Wards of the city. It is said that Clyde Thompson is the "Godfather of Flag Day".

VALLEY OF EVERETT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 03 Monday—Cap N Ring Ceremony -6:30 PM RSVP Dinner—Cap N Ring Ceremony

Note: Brethren take the time to visit your local Blue Lodges and share with them the Joys of Scottish Rite Masonry and Fellowship.

The History of Freemasons For the Month of June

June 02—In 1897, Bro. Mark Twain, 61, was quoted by the New York Journal as saying from London, "The report of my death was an exaggeration." The line was afterwards frequently quoted. Twain, whose real name was Samuel Langhorn Clemens, was a member of Polar Star Lodge No. 79 in St., Louis, MO. At one point he was suspended but reinstated on April 24, 1867. However, he demitted October 8, 1868 and never again affiliated with any Lodge.

June 3—In 1888 the famous comic ballad "Casey at the Bat" appeared in the San Francisco Examiner. Though attributed to "anonymous" the author was serious poet Ernest L. Thayer who was paid \$5 for the effort that led to most of his other works being forgotten. But it triggered a happy career for Bro. DeWolff Hopper who recited "Casey at the Bat" for the first time at Wallack's Theater in New York City. And no fewer than 10,000 times after that as part of his comic repertoire. The recitation, which made both the poem and himself famous, took five minutes and 40 seconds, and never failed to "bring down the house." Bro. Hopper was raised in Pacific Lodge No 233, New York city, in 1890, and was 32 deg. AASR (NJ), and a member of Mecca Shrine Temple in New York City. He died September 23, 1935.

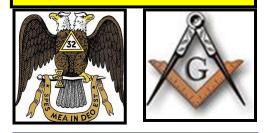
June 12—In 1929 the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum was dedicated at Cooperstown, NY. More than 200 individuals have been honored for their contributions to the game of baseball by into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Of the first five players to be so honored, four were Freemasons: Bro. Tyrus R. "Ty" Cobb of Royston Lodge No.52, Detroit, MI; Bro. John "Honus" Wagner of Centennial Lodge No. 544, Carnegie, PA; Bro. Christopher "Christie:" Mathewson of New York City's Architect Lodge No. 519. The non Masons were Walter Johnson and Babe Ruth.

June 11 - In 1770, Bro. and Captain James Cook, as Captain of HMS Endeavor, "Discovered" Australia's Great Barrier Reef by running aground onto it. This renown explorer was killed by natives February 4, 1779 in Hawaii during a scuffle over a stolen boat. Though no proof exists of his membership he is constantly referred to as a member of the Craft.

June 11—In 1776, the Continental Congress formed a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence from Britain. Named to the committee were Virginian Thomas Jefferson, John Adams of Massachusetts; Bro. Benjamin Franklin, Pennsylvania Bro. Robert Livingston of New York, and Bro. Roger Sherman. of Massachusetts. James Smith, a Dubliner and George Taylor from Belfast were both Delegates from Pennsylvania, and Matthew Thornton, from Dublin, represented New Hampshire. Jefferson is credited with the writing.

June 14—Each year since 1966 the United States celebrates National Flag wherein the American people are called upon to participate in public ceremonies in which the Pledge of Allegiance is recited. The day was first proclaimed in 1966 by President and Bro. Lyndon B. Johnson.

The Members of the Valley of Everett extend to all the Brethren listed for the Month of June A Very Happy Birthdays



Richard Broemeling Russell A Davis Joshua D Dunbar James R Farris Carl D Fjelsted Jed N Holm Fred L Joiner Steven A Juntwait Michael R Kyle Hank A Qualey Mark O H Reece Lee G Schuirman Mehmet T Tomruk



A Mason is not necessarily a member of a lodge. In a broad sense, he is any person who daily tries to live the Masonic life, and to serve intelligently the needs of the Great Architect.

Valley of Everett Coming Event Cap n Ring Ceremony

Monday, June 3rd, 2024

6:30 PM Punch Bowl—7:00 PM Dinner—8:00 PM Ceremony

At the Everett Scottish Rite Temple 2431 Rucker Avenue Everett, Washington

RSVP to our General Secretary Terry Grove no later than May 30th, 2024 at 425-610-4561 Or email him at Terrygrove50@yahoo.com

Summer happenings at Skykomish 2024



Karl E, Warren Lodge #259

June 1st, 2024: Saturday, Stated Meeting. Come and join us for a beautiful drive up HWY 2 to the Historic Town of Skykomish. Lunch at 12 Noon, Stated Meeting at 1 PM. (NOTE: Railroad degree cast members should arrive at 10:30AM for a railroad degree practice)

District Eight Symbolic Lodge Officer Council

The District Eight Symbolic Lodge Officer Council will be meeting on Saturday, June 1st, 2014 with breakfast at 8:00 AM - SLOC Meeting at 9:00 AM. This month host lodge will be Everett Lodge # 137 located at the Everett Valley Scottish Rite, 2431 Rucker Ave, Everett, Washington 98201.

Masonic Symbols and their Meaning



<u>The Masonic Hour Glass</u> An Hour Glass in Freemason holds more than one meaning.

It is used to represent multiple concepts. However, it symbolizes two sig-

nificant allusions; time and death.

The hourglass indicates that time is moving forward, and nothing can reverse the movement of the sand.

Masons are taught that everyone is equal regardless of the position one holds in life because riches and high social status cannot move the sand in backward. Therefore, we are all on the same level in life.

The title page of Nicholas Stone; Mason to King James I and Charles I; has a note saying: *'In time take time while time doth last*

For time is no time, wheel time is past.

The note emphasizes the importance of utilizing time now before it's gone.

The scythe sometimes symbolizes death in the hourglass. Death cuts short life and leads us to eternity.

It shows that even though we manage to conquer evils from childhood to adulthood, eventually, time will catch up, and we will have to leave the world behind.

Death is inevitable to all human beings, whether rich or poor.

YOUR LOCAL BLUE LODGE MONTHLY SCHEDULE

DISTRICT TWO MASONIC HAPPENING

June 2024

Date	Day	Time	Lodge	Event
June 04	Tuesday	6:00PM	Shoreline 248	Stated Meeting—6:00 PM Dinner
June 06	Thursday	6:30PM	Edmonds 165	Stated Meeting—6:30PM Dinner
June 11	Tuesday	6:00PM	Yancy C Blalock 265	Stated Meeting—6:00PM Dinner
June 20	Thursday	6:00PM	Ashler 121	Stated Meeting—6:00 PM Dinner
June 25	Tuesday	6:30PM	Mill Creek 243	Stated Meeting—6:00 PM Dinner

DISTRICT EIGHT MASONIC HAPPENINGS

June 2024

Event

June 01	Saturday	8:00 AM	SLOC Meeting	Host—Karl E Warren #259
June 04	Tuesday	7:00PM	Sultan Monroe 160	Stated Meeting—6:00 PM Dinne
	Tuesday	7:00PM	Crystal 122	Stated Meeting—6:00 PM Dinne
June 05	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Centennial 25	Stated Meeting- 6:00PM Dinner
June 12	Wednesday	6:30PM	Arlington 129	Stated Meeting—6:30 PM Dinne
June 10	Monday	7:30PM	Everett 137	Stated Meeting—6:30PM Dinner
June 11	Tuesday	6:00PM	Damascus 199	Stated Meeting—6:00PM Dinner
	Wednesday	6:30PM	Alpha 212	Stated Meeting—6:30 PM Dinne
June 18	Tuesday	7:00PM	Crystal 122	Stated Meeting—6:00 PM Dinne
June 19	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Centennial 25	Stated Meeting- 6:00PM Dinner
	Wednesday	6:30 PM	West Gate 128	Stated Meeting—6:30 PM Dinne
June 27	Thursday	6:30PM	Peninsular 95	Stated Meeting—6:30PM Dinner

Lodge

Time

Date

Dav

DISTRICT NINE MASONIC HAPPENINGS

			June 2024	
<u>Date</u>	Day	Time	Lodge	<u>Event</u>
June 05	Wednesday	6:30 PM	San Juan 175	6:30 P M Dinner—Stated Meeting
June 06	Thursday	6:30 PM	Skagit Valley 36	6:30 P M Dinner—Stated Meeting
June 11	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Fidalgo 77	6:30 P M Dinner—Stated Meeting
June 18	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Whidby 15	6:30 P M Dinner—Stated Meeting
June 25	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Langley 218	6:30 P M Dinner—Stated Meeting
June 27	Thursday	6:30 PM	Camano 19	6:30 P M Dinner—Stated Meeting

Note: To the Valley of Everett Brethren please take the time on your First and Third Mondays to enjoy a good meal and great fellowship with your Valley of Everett Scottish Rite Brethren. Dinner is served at 6:30 PM. Meeting at 7:30 PM. We look forward to meeting and greeting each and everyone of you.

VALLEY OF EVERETT SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE MONTHLY RENTAL SCHEDULE

JUNE 2024

June 05	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Amaranth - Welcome Court #58
June 06	Thursday	7:30 PM	Alderwood #185 Order of Eastern Star
June 07	Sunday	1:00PM	Prince Hall—SR Consistory 118
June 08	Saturday	10:00 AM	Prince Hall - Evergreen #9
June 08	Saturday	1:00 PM	Prince Hall -Golden Gate 4-Order of Eastern Star
June 12	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rainbow Assembly #9
June 20	U	7:30 PM	Alderwood #185 -Order of Eastern Star
June 28	U	7:00 PM	Rainbow Assembly #9
June 08 June 12 June 20	•	1:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Prince Hall -Golden Gate 4-Order of Eastern Star Rainbow Assembly #9

Notice to all Valley of Everett Members

The Valley of Everett structure for membership dues are as follows:

Annual Yearly Dues for 2024	\$187 Per Year
Life Membership Up to age 65	
Life Membership Age 65 to 75 Years Old	
Life Membership 75 and Older	



<u>Rose Croix</u> Funeral Service

This service is very beautiful and available to all members of the Scottish Rite; however, Members must make their desires known to



their families and the Valley. Should you desire a Rose Croix Funeral Service, when the time does come, please let your families know now. Ensure that they have the phone number of our Valley General Secretary, Terry Grove when that time does come -Terry can be reached at 425-610-4561or email him at terrygrove50@yahoo.com

SCOTTISH RITE WEB SITES Everett Valley-Scottish Rite Orient of Washington everettvalleysr.org scottishritewa.org

Valley of Everett Contact List

James G. Hamlin, 33° Personal Rep of the S.G.I.G. Telephone: (425) 486-0652 Email: jghamlin62@msn.com

Terry Grove, 33°

General Secretary Telephone: 425-610-4561 Email: terrygrove50@yahoo.com

John Mathers, 32°, KCCH, Almoner Telephone: 425-778-3772 Email: j.mathers@comcast.net

Kenneth N. Thompson, 32°, KCCH, Treasurer, Editor Telephone: 425-344-4477 Email: Knthom32@Comcast.net

June 3, 2024 Cap n Ring Ceremony—RSVP Required