

RESTLEBOARD

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March A.D. 2018
A.L. 6018
Issue XLII

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- Thornton F. McElroy Lodge No. 302 F & AM – Worshipful Master: Todd Johnstone



I Brethren, it's March already. We just completed the joint second degree with King Solomon #60 to renew a past tradition. This year Frank S. Land 313 also participated and supplied a candidate. Mr. J.C. Livy Brown was made a Fellowcraft in an excellent ceremony supported by all three lodges. Originally it was to be two candidates, but the King Solomon #60 candidate didn't make it due to medical issues.

Possibly we will add F.S. Land to the February joint degree tradition as they were the "child" of TFM and TFM was the "child" of KS60. We will be trying to get together a degree team and have some instruction scheduled within the next couple of months. We expect to be doing an EA degree in March if things work

out well.

March Stated will be March 7th with dinner at 6:30 p.m. This is the corned beef and cabbage dinner from Chef Jeff. It's a feast you do not want to miss.

The Grand Lodge of Washington Annual communications will be June 8, 9 in Wenatchee. <https://freemason-wa.org/news-events/annual-communication/> Checkout the GL website for details beginning April 1st. Make reservations at the Coast Hotel in Wenatchee using the Grand Lodge of Washington discount. As that hotel is connected to the convention center if fills up fast. If you have never attended, I recommend it at least once to visit with Brothers from around the state.

WB Todd Johnstone
T. F. McElroy 302 F&AM of Washington



- Pyramid Court No. 88 Order of the Amaranth -

Royal Matron: *Mary Strous*

Royal Patron: *Dave Strous*



Pyramid Court members are getting ready for March Madness. Amaranth March Madness is a whirlwind tour of the Pacific Northwest Grand Courts that culminates with the Washington Grand Court at the Red Lion in Yakima. The order of visitations includes British Columbia's Grand Court the first weekend in March. Then it's off to Oregon's Grand Court the second weekend in March. Finally, the third weekend in March in Yakima, Washington. **SAVE THE DATE:** Installation of our new core of officers will be held on Friday, April 27th at 8 p.m. All are invited to attend and bring guests.



- Pyramid No. 257 Order of the Eastern Star -

Worthy Matron: Vera Crawford

Worthy Patron: Vince Crawford



Pyramid Chapter will meet on March 8th at 7:30 p.m. There will not be a dinner before the meeting. Pyramid Chapter invites everyone to its installation on March 24th at 7:00 p.m. We encourage everyone to come and support our new officers.



From the Secretary's Desk

Another month is passing and time for a few words. About the only thing I can think of right now is a second degree coming up Feb. 28th at 6 p.m. with two Fellowcrafts. None from us though. One is from King Solomon and the other from Frank S. Land. This is the combined degree with King Solomon every year. As for our lodge, we will have one to join as a dual member and another for his first degree. Both petitions will be read at the March meeting and voted on. The degree will most likely be at the second Wednesday. Stay tuned. As for myself, I will be out of sight for the next five weeks. I have 25 appointments for radiation treatments for my prostate every day Monday thru Friday with Saturday and Sunday off. I sure wish those were not on the hill in Seattle as the drive in at 7:30 a.m. is stop and go and some parking on the freeway. It is about 25 miles up there and the trip has been taking about one and a half hours. Oh well, it is what it is. Some of us will be making another trip to our sister lodge in Canada on the 24th for their installation. Can't think of more to say. My mind seems to be on something else right now. I'm sure you understand. Have a great time and get ready for spring. Won't be long now.

WB *Bill Vidunas*

Brother George Washington's Rules of Civility.

21. *Reproach none for the infirmities of nature, nor delight to put them that have in mind thereof.*

22. *Show not yourself glad at the misfortune of another though he were your enemy.*

From the Building Superintendent:

Rebuilt door on storage shed after being burgled.

Repaired holes in the wall in the loge room.

Still collecting metal items for recycling - keep em coming!

Installed catch basin filters in the storm drains and dug out the dirt.

Will soon replace the dead hot water heater in the downstairs bathrooms.

It's getting to be time to have lawn equipment serviced so will work that with the John Deere dealer.

Have plans to rebuild the stairs down at Quality Tire this spring and summer.

Clean and repair gutters on lodge building.

Try and get some power into the North side storage shed so I can hang a light in there

Paint the sump shed.

Repair the rotten window frame in the rental unit outbuilding.

Put a set of doors on the West side storage shed to harden it against break-ins.

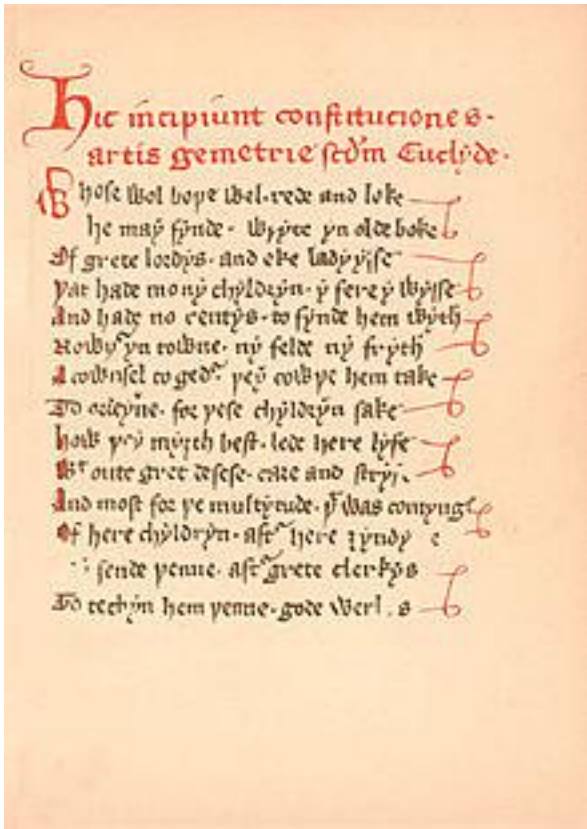
Hang a new door on Quality Tire's paint shop.

and a whole lot more.....

So if any of you crusty old masons are feeling feisty and want to take one of these jobs on, just let me know.

Jeff Smith

Shared by Brother Wayne Mandeville



A page of the Regius Poem

The Regius Poem is believed to be the oldest surviving masonic document.

The Regius Poem is considered by Freemasonry to be one of the Old Charges. The Old Charges were meant to describe a member's requirements when they joined an operative lodge. In order to join the operative lodge a new member would have to swear to uphold and perform the things required in the charge. Often these would appear in the front of the lodge's book of minutes.

The Regius Poem itself consists of 64 vellum pages written in rhyming couplets. The poem starts with Euclid in ancient Egypt. It describes how Euclid "counterfeited geometry" and called it masonry. This was for the employment of the children of the nobility. After Euclid it describes how masonry is spread through 'many diverse lands'. It also documents how masons in England during the reign of King Æthelstan, the first King of England. In the poem as it relates to Æthelstan and Freemasonry, masons throughout England travel to Æthelstan's court and seek guidance on governing themselves. In this portion of the poem, Fifteen Articles and Fifteen Points. The articles in general have to do with the Master of the Lodge

giving him moral directions on how to properly run his organization, both in the lodge and on the work site. There are things like how to treat the craftsman, who to allow into the lodge, and a statement to properly educate the entered apprentice.

The Points are generally directed at the craftsman of the lodge and follow a similar pattern as the Articles. The Points also include recommended punishments for violating the Points. It also includes provisions for annual assemblies.

The original Regius manuscripts origins are obscure. From the time that it is believed to have been written, somewhere around 1425, until the mid-1700s there are various records of individuals having it in their personal libraries. In 1757, King George II donated the manuscript to the British Museum. The document became the nucleus of the British Library. Prior to being donated, in 1734, it was cataloged and listed as a "Poem of Moral Duties." Because of this the poem was essentially 'lost' to Freemasonry for a time. In 1838, James Halliwell, who was not a mason, delivered a paper on "The Early History of Freemasonry in England." His work was largely based on the Regius Poem. In 1840 the paper was published, including the original Regius Poem. From that point on, it took on the new name of the "Halliwell Manuscript."

At the time that Halliwell wrote his paper, the actual age of the Regius Poem was debated. Many at the time believed that dated to 1390. Edward August Bond who was the curator of manuscripts at the British Museum gave it a date of some 50 years later, putting it about 1440. He also stated that he believed that it was written by a priest. Modern dating techniques have confirmed that it does date to sometime between 1425 and 1450. It is also believed that it was written to counter a statute from 1425 which banned assemblies. The specific portion which calls for an annual assembly would counter the ban with some royal authority.

The Original Poem ends with a blessing.

Stay up to date all the time. Visit <http://www.tfmcelroy302.org/events-calendar.html> for all events.



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Worshipful Master: Todd Johnstone
Secretary: WB Bill Vidunas
Pyramid No. 257, Order of the Eastern Star
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Trestle Board Editor
Bro. Jerad Koepp jeradkoepp@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Coffee & Donuts 9 a.m.			1	2	3
4	5 Coffee & Donuts 9 a.m. 	6 Tacoma Scottish Rite @ 6:30 p.m.	7 TFM 302 Stated 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Meeting	8 Eastern Star 7:30 p.m.	9 Amaranth 7:30 p.m. stated meeting	10
11	12 Coffee & Donuts 9 a.m.	13	14 Trestle Board submissions due	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19 Coffee & Donuts 9 a.m.	20	21	22	23	24 Eastern Star installation 7 p.m.
25	26 Coffee & Donuts 9 a.m.	27	28	29	30	31
March 2018						