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*January 2011 Trestleboard
for
Palestine Lodge No. 214
F & A M*

7 South Ash St.
PO Box 94
Omak, WA 98841

WB Thomas Christie, Master

ADDRESS LABEL
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Stated Meetings:
2nd and 4th Tuesday of each Month
Dinner 6:30PM (@ North Country Pub)
Meeting 8:00PM
(Dark July & August)

Palestine Lodge No. 214
PO Box 94
Omak, WA 98841



Palestine Lodge No. 214 is
constituted under the Most
Worshipful Grand Lodge of
F&AM of
Washington



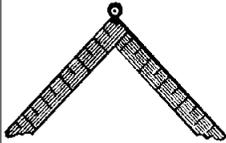
2011 Elected Officers

Worshipful Master	WB Thomas Christie	(509) 429-3572
Senior Warden	B Dan Christensen	(509) 557-8776
Junior Warden	B Tim Tugaw	(509) 422-0557
Secretary	VWB John MacDonald	(509) 322-7746
Treasurer	WB Don MacKenzie	(509) 322-6841

2011 Building Association Officers

President	B Gary Reams	(509) 429-0921
Vice President	B Harry Taylor	(509) 826-5131
Secretary	WB Carl Christensen	(509) 322-1585
Treasurer	VWB John MacDonald	(509) 322-7746

From the East



Brethren, Happy New Year To You All!

New Website

By the time you receive this, Palestine 214 will have a fully operational website at www.palestine214.org. It is primarily the work of V.W. John MacDonald. Although the site is in its infancy, please note that we will also have the Lodge's trestleboards on the website in Portable Document Format (PDF). My personal thanks to V.W. John for his efforts to make this site a reality.

Also if any of you have email addresses, we will be happy to send you the trestleboard via email – this saves the Lodge postage. It also enables us to provide notices of upcoming events and reminders of meetings by email. Simply give your email address to either V.W. John or myself at any meeting, or send email to support@palestine214.org. We will be adding a subscribe link on the Palestine website.

Masonic Education

I want to thank V.W. Fred Noyes for his presentation during our second stated communication in December on Prince Hall and clandestine Masonry. Included in this Trestleboard

is a summary of his talk. Also, I have copies of the materials he put together for the presentation for anyone who desires additional information.

Committees

As many of you will recall, I had established a number of committees for the Lodge. During the next couple of meetings, I will attempt to finalize these committees and appoint chairmen. While I am not opposed to “pressing” (begging, wheedling, cajoling, guiltling or otherwise calling) people into service, I think that there are many activities, hopefully enough for everyone to enjoy.

Finally, as we head into 2011, I want to wish each of you a prosperous New Year, and a year filled with Masonic light.

The Secretary’s Desk



This is a friendly reminder that dues for 2011 were due and payable on January 1, 2011.

If you have not yet paid your 2011 dues, please take a moment to do so.

Masonic Trivia



In this monthly column, we will ask a question related to Freemasonry . The answer to the question will be provided in the following month’s Trestleboard at which time a new question will be posed. Hopefully this proves to be an interesting and insightful way to learn more about our Craft.

Question:

Why is the Masonry of today called “speculative”?

Answer:

The answer to this question will be provided next month.

Old Tyler's Talks

"The Old Tyler", written by Carl H. Claudy, first appeared in print in August, 1921 when the first of four hundred and fourteen "Old Tyler Talks" were printed in the Fellowship Forum, a fraternal newspaper published in Washington, D.C. In 1925 the publisher asked the author to select a few of the best of the talks and thirty-one were accordingly made into a little volume. Thanks to the beauty of the internet, the Old Tyler sits again outside the lodge door. Enjoy!

The Country Lodge

"It was the funniest thing I ever saw!"

"What was?" asked the Old Tyler of the New Brother.

"That lodge meeting I attended in Hicksville. Listen, and I'll tell you!"

"I'm listening. Anyone who can find a lodge meeting funny deserves to be listened to!" answered the Old Tyler.

"The lodge room was funny!" began the New Brother. "Lodge rooms ought to have leather-covered furniture and electric lights, a handsome painting in the east, an organ- be dignified, like ours. This lodge room was over the post office. There were two stoves in it. And every now and then the Junior Deacon put coal on! The Lesser Lights were kerosene lamps, and the Altar looked like an overgrown soap box! The benches were just chairs, and they didn't have any lantern or slides- just an old chart to point to in the lecture.

But it wasn't so much the room, it was the way they did their work. You'd have thought they were legislating for a world, not just having a lodge meeting. Such preciseness, such slow walking, such making every move and sign as if it were a drill team. There wasn't a smile cracked the whole evening and even at refreshment, there wasn't much talking or laughing. I'm glad to belong to a lodge where people are human!"

"Yes," answered the Old Tyler, "I expect it is."

"Expect what is?"

"Impossible for a New Brother to understand the work of a country lodge," answered the Old Tiler. "What you saw wasn't funny. Listen- it is you who are funny."

"Me funny? Why, what do..."

"I said for you to listen!" sternly cut in the Old Tyler. "I have never been to Hicksville, but I have visited in many country lodges and your description is accurate. But your interpretation is damnable!"

"Masonry is beautiful, truthful, philosophical, strives to draw men closer to God, to make them love their fellow, to be better men. Is that funny? The more regard men have for outward symbols, the more apt they are to have regard for what is within. A man who won't clean his face and hands

won't have a clean heart and mind. A man who is slovenly in dress is apt to be slovenly in his heart. A lodge which reveres the work probably reveres the meaning behind the work.

"You criticize the Hicksville Lodge because it is too precise. Would that our own was more so! The officers who have so deep a regard for appearances can only have learned it through a thoughtful appreciation of what the appearances stand for.

"You have been taught that it is not the externals but the internals which mark a man and Mason. What difference can it make whether a lodge seats its membership on leather benches or chairs, or the floor, or doesn't seat them at all? Our ancient brethren, so we are taught, met on hills and in valleys. Think you that they sat on leather benches, or the grass?

"It's good to have a fine hall to meet in. It's a joy to have an organ and electric lights and a stereopticon to show handsome slides. But all of these are merely easy ways of teaching the Masonic lesson. Doubtless Lincoln would have enjoyed electric lights to study by, instead of firelight. Doubtless he would have learned a little more in the same time had he had more books and better facilities. But he learned enough to make him live forever.

"We teach in a handsome hall, with beautiful accessories. If we teach as well as the poor country lodge with its chairs for benches, its kerosene lamps for Lesser Lights, its harmonium for organ, its chart for lantern slides, we can congratulate ourselves. When we look at the little lodge with its humble equipment, thank the Great Architect that there is so grand a system of philosophy, with so universal an appeal, as to make men content to study and practice it, regardless of external conditions.

"I do not know Hicksville Lodge, but it would be an even bet that they saved up money to get better lodge furniture and spent it to send some sick brother South or West, or to provide an education for the orphans of some brother who couldn't do it for his children. In a country lodge you will get a sandwich and a cup of coffee after the meeting, in place of the elaborate banquet you may eat in the city; in the country lodge you will find few dress suits and not often a fine orator, but you will find a Masonic spirit, a feeling of genuine brotherly regard, which is too often absent in the larger, richer, city lodge.

"I find nothing 'funny' in the dignity and the seriousness of our country brethren. I find nothing of humor in poverty, nor anything but sweet Masonic service in the Junior Deacon putting coal on the fire. Would that we had a few brethren as serious, to put coal upon our Masonic fires, to warm us all."

"You've put coals of fire on my head!" answered the New Brother, "I deserved a kicking and got off with a lecture. I'm going back to Hicksville Lodge next week and tell them what they taught me through you."

"If you won't expect me to laugh, I'll go with you!" answered the Old Tyler, but his eyes smiled.

**We present a brief synopsis on the history Prince Hall as given by VWB Fred Noyes
at our stated meeting of December 28, 2010**

In early 1775, Prince Hall, one of the leading free Black citizens of Boston, was invited to join the Irish Lodge #441. This was a military lodge, set up in one of the British General Gage's regiments. Shortly after this, on March 6, he and fourteen other free Negroes were made Master Masons in the same lodge. They thus became the first Black men in North America to acquire the distinction of becoming Master Masons. It has been written that each paid a fee of 15 guineas for Entering, 7 guineas for Passing, and 3 guineas for Raising.

The names of these fifteen men should be long remembered as the forerunners of Prince Hall Freemasonry. They were: Prince Hall, Boston Singer, Buff Buffong, Boston Smith, Peter Best, Cato Speain, John Carter, Prince Taylor, Peter Freeman, Benjamin Tiber, Fortune Howard, Richard Tilley, Cyrus Jonbus, Prince Rees, and Thomas Sanderson

In May of 1776 the British troops withdrew from Boston but before leaving, the Master of the military lodge, W.Bro. J. B. Blatt, issued a permit of dispensation to enable Prince Hall and the other Black B.s to meet as a lodge, parade on St. John's Day and bury their dead. However, they were not allowed to confer degrees or perform any other Masonic work.

The 15 men met under this dispensation, and it is generally agreed that African Lodge #1 was founded on July 3, 1776, for on March 2, 1784, Prince Hall, in a letter to the Grand Lodge of England stated, "This lodge has been founded almost eight years." In this same letter, thanks is extended to the Grand Lodge of England for the courteous reception of, and assistance to, the members of the African Lodge. A second letter dated June 30, 1784, resulted in the granting of a charter on September 29, 1784, which was duly recorded along with fees paid in transactions of the Grand Lodge of England. African Lodge #1 was assigned the number 459 on the rolls of the Mother Lodge.

Although a charter was issued in 1784, it was not until three years later that it was finally placed in the hands of Prince Hall. Finally, on December 18, 1786, Prince Hall wrote that "a Captain James Scott will advance the money sent by me in his ship two years ago". So it was that Captain James Scott, B.-in-law of John Hancock, one of the signers of the American Declaration of Independence, at last delivered on April 29, 1787, three years after its signing, the precious piece of paper which has been preserved even until this day, the charter of African Lodge #459.

From this humble beginning Prince Hall Affiliated or PHA Masonry developed. Today, Prince Hall Lodges are recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) as well as the great majority of state Grand Lodges in the United States, including the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Grand Lodge News & Events



The annual Wardens Conference will be held **March 11 thru 13, 2011** at the Clarion Convention Center in **Yakima, WA**. Senior Wardens, Junior Wardens and Senior Deacons are strongly encouraged to attend. If you are interested in attending please contact the Worshipful Master or the Secretary.

In Memorium



Most Glorious God! Author of all good, and Giver of all mercy! Pour down Thy blessings upon us, we beseech Thee, and strengthen our solemn engagements with the ties of sincere affection. Endue us with fortitude and resignation in this dark hour of our sorrow. May the present instance of mortality remind us of the short tenure of our earthly existence, and draw us more closely to Thee, our only refuge in time of need; so that when the solemn moment shall arrive at which we, too, must quit this transitory scene, the enlivening prospect of Thy mercy may dispel the gloom of death; and, after our departure hence in peace and in Thy favor, we may be received into Thine everlasting kingdom, to enjoy the just reward of a virtuous and well-spent life. Amen!

Let us take a moment to remember those Brothers who have been summoned to the Celestial Lodge above.

Brother	Born	Entered	Passed	Raised	Died
B. Joseph Maurice Gadeberg	8/24/1938	5/27/1969	11/25/1969	1/27/1970	12/27/2010
B. Hilton Gene Foyle	5/2/1923	3/4/1953	4/8/1953	5/25/1953	12/13/2010
B. Glenn Clay Herriman	8/6/1951	6/30/1975	5/8/1979	6/12/1979	12/11/2010
B. Harry Wesley Rhodes	3/15/1928	1/20/1958	3/2/1959	3/30/1959	5/14/2010
WB. Leland Clyde Siemon	7/31/1924	9/24/1974	1/14/1975	3/25/1975	3/23/2010

Masonic Anniversaries

<u>Brother</u>	<u>Years in Masonry</u>	<u>Anniversary Date</u>
WB. Rudolph L. Gates	29	Wednesday, January 05, 2011
B. Richard I. Woods	52	Thursday, January 13, 2011
WB. Ralph L. Wilson	41	Friday, January 14, 2011
B. James N. Napper	55	Tuesday, January 18, 2011
B. Todd A. Fletcher	2	Thursday, January 27, 2011
B. James M. Lane	69	Friday, February 04, 2011
WB. Lawrence A. Weitman	38	Sunday, February 06, 2011
WB. J.W. Taylor	45	Tuesday, February 08, 2011
B. Edwin W. Smith	46	Wednesday, February 09, 2011
B. Selmer M. Mellin	58	Friday, February 11, 2011
WB. Jason F. Thompson	17	Saturday, February 12, 2011
B. Gregory K. MacKenzie	3	Saturday, February 12, 2011
B. William R. MacLean	49	Monday, February 14, 2011
VWB. John A. MacDonald	12	Tuesday, February 15, 2011
B. Gary V. Reams	2	Saturday, February 19, 2011
B. John A. Scheller	20	Monday, February 21, 2011
B. Harry D. Taylor	14	Tuesday, February 22, 2011
B. Daniel J. Christensen	3	Saturday, February 26, 2011

January 2011

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