

SAN JUAN LODGE No. 175 TRESTLEBOARD: July, 2023

Please be aware of the following events (we may be dark but other Lodges and Concordant Bodies are not):

July 8: Outdoor MM Degree, Goldstream No. 161 at noon at the Streleaff Estate (near Langford)

July 11: Fidalgo No. 77 (Anacortes) Stated Meeting 7:00, dinner at 6:00

July 18: Whidby Island No. 15 (Coupeville) Stated Meeting 7:30, preceded by dinner at 6:30

July 19: Masonic Learning Experience 7:00 at Fidalgo Lodge No. 77 (Anacortes).

July 20: Garfield No. 41 (La Conner) Stated Meeting 7:30, dinner at 6:30

July 25: Langley #218 Stated Meeting 7:30, preceded by Crab/Seafood dinner at 6:30

July 30: Regional Picnic at the Munk's Farm (Anacortes)

August 2: for Scottish Rite Masons: Bellingham Valley Stated Meeting at 7:00 pm

August 5: Outdoor MM Degree at Granite Falls

For anyone wishing to join me July 18-20 in visiting Whidby, Fidalgo and Garfield, or Bellingham Scottish Rite on August 2nd, or the Outdoor MM at Granite Falls on August 5, please give me a call: John W, 360-317-6904.

Report on the Visitation to Langley Lodge No. 218 (Freeland):

WB's John Wickham, Jim Cox, Ian Welch, and Daven Holzer attended a steak barbecue and Stated Meeting on June 27. This is the annual visitation by Everett Lodge No. 137 that is a reciprocation of the annual visitation by Langley Lodge to Everett each June. We enjoyed the fellowship of brethren of both Langley and Everett. Superb steaks were grilled up by the Junior Warden, WB Carl Fjelsted (Secretary-Treasurer of the Widows & Orphans Fund of District 9). Langley Lodge currently has no building of its own and sets up Lodge at a local church, and breaks it down after each meeting. "A Lodge in a box" so to speak, and they do a fine job. It is good to visit other lodges and confirm that we are doing our ritual well and correctly.

Report on 4th of July Parade:

Yes, San Juan Lodge No. 175 did have entry #44 in the 54 entry parade. Carrying the banner were Brothers Clay Simmons & Valdi Bjarnason, driving the 69 Corvette (from the stable of Brother Kevin Holmes) was WB Jim Cox, riding shotgun was WB John Wickham, wandering minstrel WB Terry Lush provided the accordion music, and also walking with the group were Brothers Chad Buehler & Neal Olson, and Ladies Patti Wickham & Linda Nelson (Lush). Masonic sitings at the parade this year included WB Daven Holzer firing the cannon to lead off the

parade with the Legion, spectating were WB Bob Erickson, WB Ed Ashcraft & Tami Ashcraft, WB Mike Otis and Kathy Cox, while WB Darren Olshefsky was with Browne's/Harbor Rentals preceding us while Brother Jeff Gull followed us as the captain of the Cutthroat Pirates. A good time for all. Always fun to walk down the street and wave at so many friends and neighbors.

Freemasonry birthday of note in July: Brother William Preston, July 28, 1742, author of *Illustrations of Masonry* and a leader of the movement out of Lodges out of taverns and into dedicated Masonic Buildings.

Reminders of our local resource: our website is now www.sanjuanmasons.org which is in full operation thanks to VWB Lance Otis. We will post some parade photos there, soon, as well as this Trestleboard.

My thought for the month: The known Freemasons who were founders of our great nation included George Washington, Benjamin Franklin (Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania), Paul Revere, John Hancock (Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts), Alexander Hamilton, John Marshall (first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court), Ethan Allen, Patrick Henry, John Paul Jones (founder of the American Navy) & Nathan Hale. Most of the generals of the American Army were Freemasons, and it is said that General George Washington only gave independence of action to generals who were Freemasons. He clearly trusted that the Lodges of the day did an excellent job of guarding the West Gate. As we should today.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

John Wickham, WM