

"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."
-Bro. Benjamin Franklin

Ashler Lodge No. 121 Trestle Board-Bothell, WA



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NEWS FOR TODAY!

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May Edition

Welcome to the Marvelous Month of May, brothers, families, and friends! Firstly, I'd like to start with a shoutout to Ashler's Chili-Cook-Off Contest winner, Bro. Stephen! As for all those other folks who participated, we hope you compete again and thank you for all the wonderful culinary creations. Also, a special callout and thank you to Bro. Fred for playing beautifully each meeting. We appreciate you all, brothers, for making Ashler 121 what is today and what it continues to be - a sanctuary for filial love.

Speaking of filial love, to the right you'll see the brothers who have calendar or masonic birthdays this month. Please reach out and give them your love - it's always nice to be reminded you're appreciated. Lastly, but not leastly, thank you to all who contributed in this month's edition of the Trestle Board, we hope to see more submissions in the near future. This month's deadline for articles is May 25th, so get writing, brothers!



Happy Masonic Birthdays to Allyn Llyr (#13), Frank Keeney (#67), Thomas Wood (#12), Charles Negron (#8), Vincent DiGiulio (#50), Kevin Haagen (#12), Richard White (#41), Gary McPherson (#14), Xavier Salazar (#7), Ronald Swasey (#18), Sopheak Sib (#6), Jeffrey Glaze (#9), Russell Rogers (#76) and Christopher Elsworth (#10)!

Happy Calendar Birthdays to Richard Beers (3rd), David Allaway (5th), Frank Sedem (5th), Joseph Gifford (8th), Richard Morgen (9th), Richard Tufteland (11th), Jared McLaughlin (16th), Boris Fedionine (17th), Sean Loyer (23rd), Homer Killian (24th), Douglas Metzler (27th), and Ronald Brittain (29th)!

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...only good things to come!

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Proficiency & Degree Note / May Spotlight

Proficiency Work:

Are you coaching an EA or FC? If so, how is the Brother progressing? If an EA or FC needs a new coach to help with proficiency, please let one of the principal officers know. We want to give our EA's and FC's every opportunity to gain from Masonry that for which they petitioned. If a brother cannot continue to be a coach, reach out for volunteers to coach. Thank you.

Degree work:

Do you wish to take part in a degree? Brother Sib organizes the EA degrees, Brother Marcus organizes the FC degrees, and Brother Isiah organizes the MM degrees. Please reach out to the respective officer who is coordinating the degree and let them know that you wish to participate or have a part. The same Brothers do not have to do all of the same work!

And finally, it would be interesting to include a section of Masonic trivia or spotlight one, two, or three of the famous Freemasons listed in the attached, Famous Freemasons doc. Please feel free to include what you would like. Thanks, again



May Spotlight: Brother Veterans

Did you know...

Douglas MacArthur - A five-star general in the United States Army, Brother Douglas supervised the occupation of Japan during World War II as supreme commander of the Allied Forces in the Pacific.

Franklin D. Roosevelt - As the 32nd President of the United States, he led the nation through the Great Depression and World War II, enacting the New Deal and establishing the United Nations. He was a member of Holland Lodge #8 in New York, New York.

Harry S. Truman was the 33rd President of the United States and played a crucial role in the Allies' victory in World War II. Brother Harry was a member of Missouri's Belton Lodge No. 450.

My brothers, this month on May 29th is the federally observed holiday, Memorial Day. And this year, 2023, is a year fresh out of the global pandemic, when unity and love have never been more important. You could argue that the Great Depression and our World Wars were some of the greatest travesties of recent history; surely love and unity were more important then? My solemn answer to this is to impart the following: No matter what you personally or we as a people have gone through, no issues or threats are as dire as the ones we face now. The past we've lived through, but tomorrow, and even today, could be different. Nothing is guaranteed. So live your best life and make your best decisions today, and take inspiration or solace in the memory of those who are remembered to the world for their hard decisions, and who we shall remember now more closely, as brothers.

The Second Cardinal Virtue: Fortitude

A few words from the Worshipful Master, Mike McKamey.

Brethren,

As Freemasons, we are instructed to live our lives in accordance with a set of guiding principles designed to help us gain a better understanding of ourselves and our purpose in the world. Fortitude is one of these principles and the second cardinal virtue of Freemasonry that we learn in the Entered Apprentice Degree Master's lecture.

The definition of fortitude is "courage in adversity." It is the trait that enables us to confront challenges with bravery and resiliency and to persevere in the face of adversity. Fortitude encompasses both physical and moral hardiness. It is the courage to do what is right regardless of how difficult or controversial it may be.



WB. Mike McKamey

As Free & Accepted Masons of Washington, I challenge each of you to incorporate Fortitude into every aspect of your existence. We live in a world that is perpetually in flux, and we are frequently called upon to overcome formidable obstacles. Whether it is a domestic conflict or a global crisis, we must have the courage to confront it head-on.

However, Fortitude is not only about overcoming obstacles; it is also about perseverance. Even if our path is difficult, we must possess the fortitude to persist. We must persevere in the face of adversity and continue to pursue our objectives.

The incorporation of Fortitude into our lives can have a positive effect on our communities. When we exhibit bravery in the face of adversity, we encourage others to do the same. By exhibiting moral fortitude, we set an example for those around us.

Let us endeavor to incorporate the second Cardinal Virtue, Fortitude, into our lives, brethren. Let us confront obstacles with bravery and persistence, and let us serve as an example for others. This will have a positive effect on ourselves, our communities, and the world at large.

So Mote It Be,

Brother Mike McKamey
Worshipful Master
Ashler Lodge #121

Peace and Love

A brief word on Peace, Love, and the Art of a work in progress from Brother, Isiah Brazil

As we approach another month, we're met with another opportunity to perform another degree, Brother Shane Pruitt is scheduled for his Fellowcraft Degree 5/11/23. When I became a member of Ashler, one thing that was always spoken of, from Brothers outside of our Lodge, was the admiration for the degrees put on by Ashler and the detail of our ritual. That has and will always stick with me as something to be proud of and also something to continually add value to.



We have been blessed to have a strong foundation of Brothers who are always excited about degrees and making sure to ask "how's the ritual work going?" I found myself thinking about terms we use so regularly that when asked to define it for others, sometimes there's a pause before we can provide definitions. Ritual was one of those terms and one definition I found was "an act or series of acts regularly repeated in a set precise manner" and it made me think of the nature of how after degrees, I am more often than not, caught up in the moments I've stumbled or my areas of improvement to seek perfection that I lose sight of what this definition means.

To be precise, I found deals more with accuracy and less of the concept of being perfect. I find solace in knowing that the phrase "make it sound Masonic" is used to comfort us in not being perfect but as being present and resting assured that the goal of perfection can only be neared by repetition and remembering that we are rough ashlars only refined through the repeated usage of our working tools. Be consistent, I try to remember this in my daily life as I may have a need to be or view things as perfect, when that may be somewhat selfish and the perfect thing should be that I have tried, been tried, and being willing to be tried again. I've come to the understanding that this is the ritual light that Brothers see us in and hopefully we continue to shine brightly individually and as a whole.

Peace and love my Brothers.

Brotherly Love

A shared perspective from Brother, Stephen Metz.

In the EA Master Lecture, we are taught the nature and principles of our ancient institution. One part that really hits home for me is the section on the great tenets of a Mason's profession which are: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. I'd like to explore these tenets over the next few months in our Trestle Board.

The standard work description of Brotherly Love follows:

By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human race as one family – the high and the low, the rich and the poor; who, created by one Almighty Parent and inhabitants of the same planet, ought to aid, support and protect each other. On this principle, Masonry unites men of every country, sect, and opinion, and conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise remain perpetually at a distance.

Notice that Brotherly Love is an action ('By the exercise') which unites us across all social and economic levels and urges us to help and support one another. This action of Brother helping Brother brings light into our lives and helps us to reinforce or reacquire those virtues (Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice) which we hope to live our lives in agreement with. As we exercise Brotherly Love and continue to be Brothers helping Brothers our Fraternity generates new and grows old friendships with a wide variety of people who (without the Fraternity) we may never have met. I know that this has been the case in my Masonic journey.

I hope you keep these thoughts in mind and exercise the tenet of Brotherly Love in our daily lives.



Ashler's Calendar for 2023

Mark the Dates!

May

- 4th Officer's 6 p.m. and Temple Board 7 p.m.
- 5th Walter F Meier Council 7:30 pm
- 9th Yancy C. Blalock Visit 7:30 p.m. Stated, 6:30 Dinner Royal Arch Fellowship Chapter no. 61 7:30 pm
- 11th Masonic Education 7 p.m.
- 18th Stated (Rainbow) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 20th Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m. Street Cleanup 9 a.m.
- 27th Bowling Night Kenmore Lanes 7 p.m.

June

- 1st Officer's 6 p.m. and Temple Board 7 p.m.
- 3rd Shoreline Crab Feed 6p.m. – 9 p.m.
- 8th – 10th Grand Lodge Annual Communication Wenatchee, WA 13th Royal Arch Fellowship Chapter no. 61 7:30 pm
- 15th Stated (Business Casual) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 17th Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m.
- 22nd Masonic Education 7 p.m.

July

- 4th of July Parade – Downtown Bothell
- 6th Officer's Meeting 6 p.m.
- 13th Masonic Education 7 p.m.
- 20th Stated (Hawaiian Shirt Night) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 22nd Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m.
- 29th Barbeque at Blythe Park Noon

August

- 3rd Officers Meeting 6 p.m.
- 10th Masonic Education 7 p.m.
- 12th Family Barbecue Noon Blythe Park
- 17th Stated (Jersey Night) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 19th Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m. Street Cleanup 9 a.m.

September

- 7th Officer's 6 p.m. and Temple Board 7 p.m.
- 8th Walter F Meier Council 7:30 pm
- 12th Royal Arch Fellowship Chapter no. 61 7:30 pm
- 14th Masonic Education 7 p.m.
- 19th Millcreek Visit 7:30 Stated, 6:30 Dinner
- 21st Stated (Jobies) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 23rd Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m.

October

- 5th Officer's 6 p.m. and Temple Board 7 p.m.
- 7th Family Bowling Kenmore Lanes
- 10th Royal Arch Fellowship Chapter no. 61 7:30 pm
- 12th Masonic Education 7 p.m.
- 19th Stated (Step-up Night) Rainbow Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 21st Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m. Street Cleanup 9 a.m.
- 21st Game Night 7 p.m.
- 31st Safe Halloween 5 p.m.

November

- 2nd Officer's 6 p.m. and Temple Board 7 p.m.
- 9th Edmonds Visit 7:30 Stated, 6:30 Dinner
- 10th Walter F Meier Council 7:30 pm
- 14th Royal Arch Fellowship Chapter no. 61 7:30 pm
- 16th Stated (Jobies) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.
- 18th Pancake Breakfast at Lodge 8 a.m.

December

- 2nd Ashler Installation (open to public) 2:00 pm
- 7th Officer's 6 p.m. and Temple Board 7 p.m.
- 12th Royal Arch Fellowship Chapter no. 61 7:30 pm
- 21st Stated (Rainbow Girls) Dinner 6:30 p.m. Communication 7:30 p.m.