

# The Cable Tow

The newsletter of the Juneau Masonic Community  
Summer 2018





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**Summer 2018**

The newsletter of Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska and the Juneau Masonic Community.

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## **Cover image:**

Noble Ray Rusaw gets a hug from this granddaughter during the 2018 Juneau Fourth of July Parade. For more on the Juneau-Douglas Shrine Club's summer activities, please see page 4.

Send submissions to [charlesward4@me.com](mailto:charlesward4@me.com). The deadline for submissions for the next edition is September

15.

# Fraternal firepower



Photo provided by V.W. Bro. Jeff DeFreest

Masons, along with a guest, enjoyed a day at the range on April 7 in Ketchikan. The weapons tested that day included a late-Czarist-era Russian rifle made by Remington, an M-1891, an antique Winchester rifle, two 1911s, a pair of Walther PPK clones, a T/C Contender and a .50-caliber Smith & Wesson pistol.

Pictured are, from left to right, W. Bro. Edsel Clayton, V.W. Bro. Jerry Hughes, Jon Hyde, W. Bro. Dave Hayden and V.W. Bro. Jeff DeFreest.

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Juneau Masonic Community



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# Struggles and successes are important

By V. W. Bro. Jim Robinson



It would be comforting to be able to address this greeting from a particular station in the Lodge, but these days we seem to be living under

an old Chinese curse, and are “living in interesting times.” The Juneau-Douglas Masonic year is more than half over already and we have had a confusing and tumultuous year so far. We have lost dear friends from our Masonic family; we have lost friends and loved ones. Families have been pulled apart and tested to the extreme. But at the same time, we have met new people and initiated new brothers into our fraternity.

Our Worshipful Master Doug Harris and his family are facing pain that few of us can imagine. We can only pray that they can find the strength to endure and the peace to appreciate that life will go on. We will keep the Harris family in our thoughts and prayers. Our sister Peggy Cartmill is on the long process of recovering from a stroke, and she and her family should not be forgotten.

But, while we are seeing some

of our Masonic family dealing with loss and distress, there have been positive things happening as well. We have been able to welcome W. Bro. Noel Morris to our Juneau family. Noel is visiting Juneau for work from Tennessee, and we can certainly appreciate that his Lodge’s loss is our gain. Noel has attended every Lodge function that has taken place while he has been here, and his charm and enthusiasm have always added to our gatherings. While we are reflecting on the joys in life, we cannot forget that W. Bro. Bob Heflin and his wife Donn were recently in town to celebrate the birth of another granddaughter.

I guess what we are experiencing is just life – with all its ups and downs. Happiness, sadness, joy, grief; they are all parts of living, and while we sometimes wish we could just avoid the peaks and valleys, they are what make life what it is, and we need to experience all of them to properly experience this life we have. I was read-

ing a book this evening, and in it the protagonist gave a very thought-provoking dissertation on pain, and why it is necessary for us to experience it. Other writers have compared pain and suffering to the tempering of metal – that we need to overcome suffering to improve. There is the well-known quotation by the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche which pro-

claims “that which does not kill us, makes us stronger.”

What I read to-day in Jim Butcher’s Book “White Night” was somewhat less uplift-

ing and certainly darker:

“Each time, you come out of it a little stronger, and at some point you realize that there are more flavors of pain than coffee. There’s the little empty pain of leaving something behind—graduating, taking the next step forward, walking out of something familiar and safe into the unknown. There’s the big, whirling pain of life

See *Struggles* on page 9



# New toys for an old tradition



Photo by Noble Craig Bumpus  
“Fezzy” a six-foot-tall inflatable bear, made his debut as part of the Juneau-Douglas Shrine Club’s Fourth of July parade line. Fezzy is an unofficial mascot for the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

## By Noble Charles Ward

The Juneau-Douglas Shrine Club added a couple of new features to its lineup for the annual Juneau and Douglas Fourth of July parades.

The first is an inflatable bear named Fezzy. Fezzy started as a fez-adorned teddy bear given

to patients at Shriners Hospitals for Children, and has become an unofficial mascot for the Hospitals.

“It was a natural fit for us to make our first Love to the rescue ambassador a teddy bear,” said Imperial Sir John Cinotto, Past Imperial Potentate and



Past Chairman of the Board of Directors of Shriners Hospitals for Children, in a press release. “Depending on the child’s needs, teddy bears can be used to teach young patients about upcoming medical procedures and outcomes,

See Toys on page 10





Photo by Bro. Don Hale, 32°, KCCH

The Juneau Valley of the Scottish Rite welcomed five new members of the fraternity at its 2018 Reunion, held April 26-28 at the Juneau Masonic Center. The event concluded with a ceremony in which the new 32° Masons received their traditional regimental caps. Pictured in the front row, left to right, are new members Kyle Moselle, 32°; Tyler Eddy, 32°; David Heydt, 32°; Ron Cook, 32°; and Noel Morris, 32°. The Juneau Valley conferred Morris' degrees as a courtesy for the Valley of Nashville, Tenn. The back row features those that capped the new members. Left to right, they are Amy Moselle; Norma Creamer; Jennifer Heydt; Ron Ackerman, 33°; and Keith Herve, 32°, KCCH.

## Reunion brings 'em back from all over

**By Bro. Charles Ward, 32°**

*("Editor's note: A version of this article first appeared in the Summer 2018 edition of "Light From the Great Land.")*

The Scottish Rite, Valley of Juneau, welcomed five new Masters of the Royal Secret at its Reunion, held April 26-28 at the Scottish Rite Temple at the Juneau Masonic Center.

Kyle Moselle, 32°; Tyler Eddy, 32°; Ron Cook, 32°; David Hey-

dt, 32° and Noel Morris, 32° received the Rite's 29 degrees during the 2 ½-day event. Ill. John Barnett, 33° served as executive director of the Reunion.

The Sitka Scottish Rite Club opened the Reunion on the evening of the 26th with a powerful performance of the Fourth Degree drama. Following the presentation of the Fourth Degree, the action moved from the Lodge Room to the Library, where brothers communicated

the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh degrees to the candidates.

Degree communications resumed Friday morning with the Eighth degree continuing through the 13th, after which the Valley presented the 14th Degree in full form. Friday's second full-form degree presentation was the 18th. Following a few more communications, Friday concluded with a dinner provided by the Juneau Rainbow Girls.

**See Brings on page 12**

# Grand visit sends Star into summer

By Gabrielle Hazelton, P.M.

Juneau Chapter No. 7, Order of the Eastern Star welcomed the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron, along with several members of the Grand Line to Juneau for an official visit in May.

M.W.G.M. Helen Westmoreland, M.W.G.P. Robert Penoyer and several other Grand Officers stopped in Juneau May 24-25 as part of their swing through the Great Land. Brothers and sisters from Juneau took them around the Capital City, including a stop at Mendenhall Glacier. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, the Chapter held an informal reception for the Grand guests.

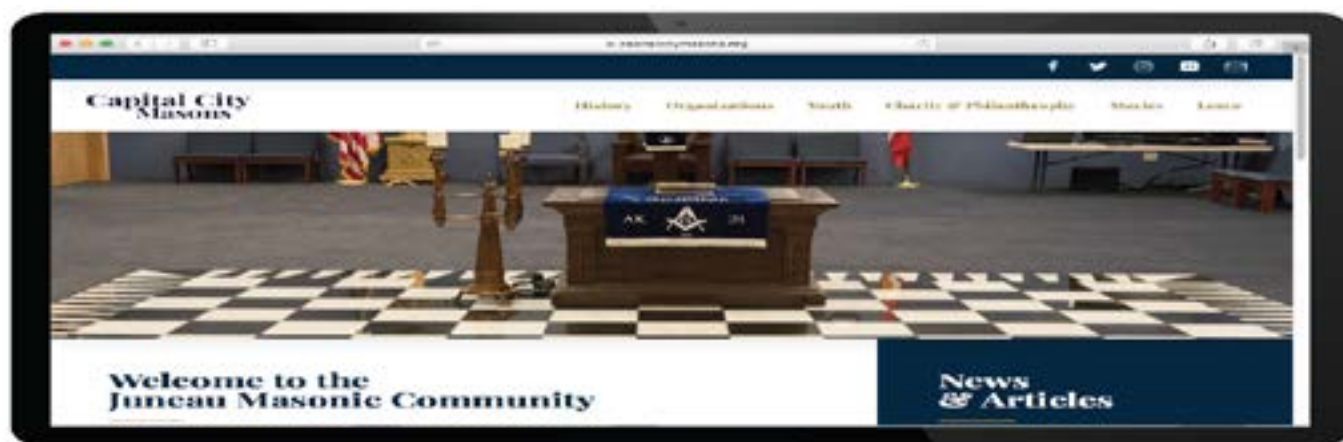


Photo provided by Gabrielle Hazelton, P.M.

Several Grand officers from the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, their travelling companions, and members of Juneau Chapter No. 7, OES, visit Mendenhall Glacier on May 24. The following day, M.W.G.M. Helen Westmoreland, second from left, made her official visit to the Juneau Chapter.

The Chapter officially welcomed the visitors on May 25, first with a formal dinner and then at a special meeting. The Chapter presented Westmoreland with a quilt made by Sister Debbie Ackerman, while Bro. Al Brookman, P.P., presented Penoyer with a carved fishhook.

That meeting was the last official meeting until the Chapter went dark for the summer. Members of the Chapter met on June 12 to brainstorm activities for the coming fall and winter. The Chapter returns to meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month on Sept. 11.



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## **Rainbow Girls grow and change in 2018**



Photo by Sister Rachel Gearhart

From left: Rainbow Girls Dori, Rose, Eireen, Abby, and Madeline following the installation of officers for Juneau Assembly No. 3 on July 15.

### **By Deanna Browne, M.A.**

It's time for changes for Juneau Assembly No. 3.

Two young women — Mikayla Stiner and Virginia Roldan — who have been great support for the Assembly for many years have reached the age of majority and will transition into roles as adult advisors.

The Assembly has several younger members who are not eligible, yet, to hold an elected office. While these girls work on be-

coming proficient and prepared for leadership, Past Worthy Advisors will take turns hosting meetings during the second term of 2018. Those meetings will include challenging workshops, fun activities and service projects.

Despite not having a Worthy Advisor for the Winter-Summer 2018 term, several girls were installed into other positions at a July 14 ceremony. At that event, Mikayla Stiner and Roldan learned they will receive the the Grand Cross of Color, the highest honor a Rainbow Girl can re-

ceive. Additionally, Doug Harris will receive the same award for his service to Rainbow as a multi-term Rainbow Dad and advisory board member. The Assembly announced another honor — the Service to Rainbow award — for Theresa Steiner. This award is given to an adult without Masonic affiliation who has been active in Rainbow.

The Assembly updates its comings and goings on its Facebook page ([facebook.com/juneaurainbow](https://facebook.com/juneaurainbow)) and its Instagram account (@juneaurainbow).

# How to help the Cable Tow

By W. Bro. Charles Ward

*(Editor's note: A version of this article first appeared in the Summer 2018 edition of "Light From the Great Land.")*

The single biggest obstacle to producing an engaging and informative newsletter (or email, or website) is a lack of content.

Of course, it takes a little bit of time to prepare something for submission, and that may discourage some for whom time is in short supply. However, there are other reasons given for not sending anything in to "The Cable Tow" or other publications. Some people don't send in anything because they don't believe their submissions have value. Others are embarrassed because they believe their writing isn't very good due

to spelling and grammar errors. Hopefully, this piece will disabuse everyone of both those notions, and provide some guidance to those who want to be in print for the first time, or at least the first time in a long time.

so in the third person. Instead of writing "we," or "I," tell the readers who "we" and "I" are. For example, instead of "We hosted the Grand Master at a dinner ...," try "The Grand Master visited Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No.

21 for dinner ..." This makes it more clear to the reader who everyone is, and also alerts the audience your article is passing on information, not presenting an opinion or advice.

When you do send in a column or editorial, it can make sense to speak in the first person, especially if discussing a personal experience. However, it's not necessary to tell the reader "I

believe thus and so." The article will have your byline on it and is presenting a point of view. Saying it's your belief or opinion is redundant.

See Help on page 11



## Who's on first, or third?

If you're sending in a news item — updating the readers on activities or people — it's best to do



# Struggles

*Continued from page 3*

upending all of your plans and expectations. There's the sharp little pains of failure, and the more obscure aches of successes that didn't give you what you thought they would. There are the vicious, stabbing pains of hopes being torn up. The sweet little pains of finding others, giving them your love, and taking joy in their life as they grow and learn. There's the steady pain of empathy that you shrug off so you can stand beside a wounded friend and help them bear their burdens.

"And if you're very, very lucky, there are a very few blazing hot little pains you feel when you realize that you are standing in a moment of utter perfection, an instant of triumph, or happiness, or mirth which at the same time cannot possibly last—and yet will remain with you for life. Everyone is down on pain, because they forget something important about it: Pain is for the living. Only the dead don't feel it. Pain is a part of life.

"Sometimes it's a big part, and sometimes it isn't, but either way, it's part of the big puzzle, the deep music, the great game. Pain does two things: It teaches you, tells you that you're alive. Then it passes away and leaves you changed. It leaves you wiser, sometimes. Sometimes it leaves you stron-



Photo by Sister Rachel Gearhart  
From left: V.W. Bro. Jim Robinson and W. Bros. John Barnett, Charles Ward and Steven Stewart at the reception following the Rainbow Girls' officer installation on July 15. Stewart, the Rainbow Dad for the current term, is showing off his mascot, Edgar the Raven.

ger. Either way, pain leaves its mark, and everything important that will ever happen to you in life is going to involve it in one degree or another."

So remember, we are still alive, and while we are here, we are going to have to deal with the challenges of life, big and small, and it is how we deal with them that defines us. One of the phrases people pass around describing Masonry is that "it makes good men better." I wondered for many years how it was going to do that. I slowly realized what Masonry did was to give me the tools to make myself better. I am not the most articulate person in the world, and when speaking in front of people, I get pretty nervous. But one thing you learn in Lodge is speaking in public. I saw an example of that on July 15. I had

the pleasure to attend the officer installation for the Juneau Rainbow Girls, and after the ceremony, one of the newly installed girls got up, and in what may have been her first official duty, in front of friends, parents and strangers, had to plan an upcoming event on the fly. I know what that's like. It's hard, but she did it. And the next time she does it, it will be a bit easier. Here's hoping that as we move ahead in our Masonic year, we can continue to deal with the challenges and pain that life throws our way, and that in so doing, we can continue to grow and come out even stronger than before.

1: Butcher, Jim. The Dresden Files Collection 7-12: A Fragment of Life (The Dresden Files Box-Set) (Kindle Locations 21182-21195). Penguin Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

# Toys

*Continued from page 4*

or may be given to patients to help ease the apprehension surrounding a hospital stay or surgery. All of these special touches help alleviate a child's stress, which is an important part of the healing process."

The Club's six-foot inflatable version rode atop an SUV next to the traditional mini-'Vettes and minibikes.

It also travelled next to the Club's other new addition for the parades — a motorized barstool. It proved to be a crowd-pleasing addition to the convoy.

The new additions — along with handing out more than 2,200 whistles to kids in the Capital City — helped the Club earn the "Most Spirited" award at the Juneau parade.

Prior to the Independence Day events, the Club hosted an information table at the annual Gold Rush Days event, held at Savikko Park in Douglas.



Photo provided by Sister Gabrielle Hazelton  
Noble Jim Wilson gets ready to ride in the Juneau Fourth of July Parade.





# Help

*Continued from page 8*

## The 5 'W's

Anyone who spent a semester on the junior high newspaper or yearbook staff almost certainly heard his or her teacher discuss the five 'W's: who, what, when, where and why. When reading your article after writing it (another important step), see if it answers those five questions:

- Who is it about?
- What did those people or things do?
- When did they do it?
- Where were they when they did it?
- Why did they do what they did?

These are essential elements of ensuring your article engages your audience and explains why it is important to them.

There is an unofficial sixth 'W': how. How did the people or things in your article do what they did? It's great if a news piece can answer this question. It's even better if your column or opinion piece can.

## Know your voice

Usually, writings of all types are best in active, not passive voice. To do this, have the people or things in your article do

things to other people or things, instead of having things done to them. For example: "W. Bro. John Smith opened lodge at 7 p.m." instead of "The lodge was opened by W. Bro. John Smith at 7 p.m." It makes the point of your sentence clearer.

Occasionally, going out of your way to put a sentence in active voice can make it stilted or con-

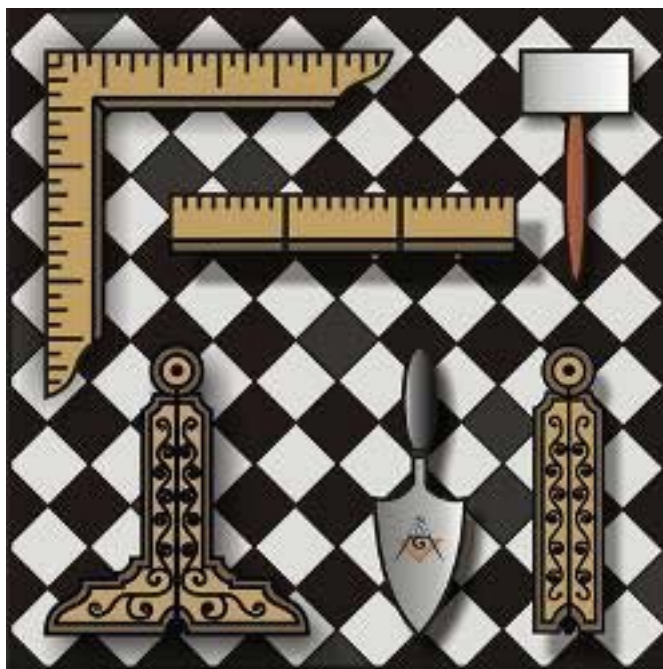
or three are gathered together, there's almost certain to be a camera. It doesn't take Ansel Adams or Annie Leibovitz to produce a good snapshot, either. Simply put people in your viewfinder and take the picture. It's even better if you can get those people to do something beyond the infamous "grip-and-grin"

pose. An easy way to do that is to take the photo without telling the subjects you're doing so.

When you submit your pic, send it by itself in a common format (PNG and JPEG are best). Don't embed it, particularly not in a Microsoft Word document. Photos pulled out of Word lose formatting and proper sizing, making them unusable.

## Send it in, anyway

The next perfectly written first draft will be the first one. So, even if you can't squeeze in five 'W's or find a photo that's not a handshake and a smile, send your piece in anyway. Editors are usually grateful for the content, and, with a few questions and some polish, they can turn your article into one that engages and informs.



voluted. You should know such a sentence when you see it, and it's OK to leave it in passive voice.

## 1,000 words

Photographs and other visual elements can tell stories by themselves, and can enhance writing. And, whenever two

## A Grand group



Photo provided by Gabrielle Hazelton, P.M.

Several Grand officers from the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, their travelling companions, and members of Juneau Chapter No. 7, OES, are pictured at the Juneau Masonic Center during the official visit of the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron on May 25.

## Brings

*Continued from page 5*

The Juneau Chapter of the Knights of St. Andrew presented a dramatic reading of the 29th Degree — Knight of St. Andrew. This reading included all five members of the class as active participants in the degree. The 29th was the first of three staged degree presentations on Saturday, and was followed shortly by the 30th and 32nd degree dramas.

New sound and lighting effects bolstered the ritual performances.

The Rite hosted a banquet on Saturday night, which nearly 50 people attended, after which

it conducted its capping and awards ceremonies. The awards included the presentation of the Goldstein Scottish Rite Trust scholarship to Garret Herrman of Thunder Mountain High School. Hermann will receive a \$1,000 to help his pursuit of his studies in information technology. Larry Fanning, 32°, KCCH, received his jewel of office following his terms as Venerable Master of the Juneau Lodge of Perfection in 2016 and 2017. The Valley named Charles Ward, 32°, as Scottish Rite Mason of the year for 2017.

Members and candidates trav-

eled from all over Alaska, the Yukon, Colorado and Tennessee to take part in the Reunion. Of special note, Keith Herve, 32°, KCCH, Grand Master of Masons in Alaska and Ill. Norman Gutcher, 33°, Senior Grand Warden attended the events, as did Lawrence Schaufler, 32°, KCCH. Schaufler is a member of the Valley who traveled to Juneau from his home outside Denver.

The Valley meets on the second Thursday of the month, except June-Aug. Its next Reunion is tentatively scheduled for April 25-27, 2019.