

# The Cable Tow

#### Fall 2019

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

Published quarterly.

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#### Cover image:

W. Bros. Allen Bell, left, and Ken Vaughan, place items in the time capsule located in the capstone for the Juneau Masonic Center. For more on the capsule and two items in particular it contains, see page 4.

Send submissions to charlesward4@me.com. The deadline for submissions for the next edition is Dec. 15.

# Welcome to the Craft



Photo provided

Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21 welcomed a new man into the Craft when it initiated Bro. Paul Nowlin, center, at its Aug. 6, 2019 Stated Meeting. W. Bro. Allen Bell, left, conferred the First Degree after being called to the East by V.W. Bro. Jim Robinson, right.

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## From the Secretary's Desk

# Moving to a digital Cable Tow

## By R.W. Bro. Charles Ward

The "Cable Tow" is an important tool to keep our members — particularly those that live outside Juneau — up to date on Masonic goings on in the Capital City. It also is a good device to show those outside of the Masonic community when they ask what exactly it is we do here.

About 1/3 of our Brothers receive the "Cable Tow" in print form. Those that do get the paper edition receive it that way because the Lodge does not have an email address on file for them. Of course, some of our Brothers do not use email, but there are likely many of those who do use email, but simply have not provided their email addresses to the Lodge.

This leads to an expense of about \$1,000 a year to the Lodge for printing and postage to get "Cable Tows" in their mailboxes. The Lodge needs to reduce this cost moving forward, as our budgets continue to become leaner. In order to do this, beginning with the Spring 2020 edition, the Lodge will only mail Cable Tows to members who are already receiving the printed edition, and opt-in to continue to do so.

If you are receiving the printed edition, please do one of the two following things to ensure you continue to receive the "Cable Tow."

• Provide the Lodge with your email address. You can send it to mtjg21@gmail.com, and it will be added to our database. If at any time you believe you are receiving too much email from the Lodge, you can always opt-out of receiving future emails. If you don't opt-in, or later opt-out, the "Cable Tow" will continue to be available on the Juneau Masonic Community's website, capitalcitymasons.org.

• Let the Lodge know you want to continue to receive the printed edition of the "Cable Tow." You can call (855) 305-0155 or send a letter to:

Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux

Lodge No. 21 P.O. Box 32558 Juneau, AK 99803

If you want to continue to receive the printed edition, and are able to, please consider making a \$30 donation to offset the cost of printing and postage. Of course, a donation is not required to continue receiving the printed edition of the "Cable Tow," but an opt-in is.

For most of you, you won't notice any change. You receive the "Cable Tow" electronically and will continue to do so.

As someone with newsprint in his veins, I, like some of you, enjoy holding a printed product, but I've also come to embrace the advantages of digital distribution. It's more cost effective, and allows for the introduction of certain media — such as interactive links and video that aren't available on paper. If you haven't given the electronic version a chance, please do so. As always, your feedback is welcome.

Being a Mason doesn't make you better than everyone else. It just makes you a better you.

# **A Historical Perspective**

# **A tale of two jewels** A history of an early Master

## By W. Bro. Ken Vaughan

The trigger for this essay is the Past Master's jewel originally presented to W. Bro. John Henry Leland Duckworth by Gastineaux Lodge No. 124, which made its way back to the Masons in Juneau more than 75 years after his death in 1942 in Arizona.

V.W. Bro Don Hale presented the wayward jewel to Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21 on Oct. 4, 2016, along with Duckworth's Past High Priest's jewel from Jerome (Ariz.) Chapter No. 11, Royal Arch Masons, for his leadership of that York Rite body in 1927. The jewels travelled to the Grand Lodge of Texas, then to the Grand Lodge of Arizona and eventually to R.W. Bro. Jerry Wasson, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. Wasson then handed the jewels off to Hale.

One can only speculate on the paths and people who held and treasured the jewels on their journey back to where Duckworth was Worshipful Master of Gastineaux Lodge in 1903 and 1904. It's very likely at least two generations of family passed the jewels on to the next the jewels, along with the Masonic bodies

# **Capping off the cornerstone**

The launch of construction at the Juneau Masonic Center was the laying of a cornerstone, in accordance with Masonic tradition. Masonic cornerstones often contain time capsules, and that was always the plan for the Juneau monument. A few logistical hurdles prevented the items for the time capsule being placed at the April 4, 2015 cornerstone laying. However, that task has recently been completed, and W. Bro. Ken Vaughan provided a list of the items from all of the Juneau Masonic bodies that provided items for the vault.

Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21 M.W. Bro. Ronald L. Ackerman's coin from his term as Grand Master in 2011.

#### See Capping on page 8

listed above.

The protective case for the Past Master's jewel shows wear and tear consistent with use and travel, with the inner silk lining worn. In contrast, the Past High Priest's jewel case shows little wear. The difference may simply lie in the 23-year difference between the presentations of the devices. I like to think the difference in wear is because Duckworth wore the Past Master's emblem from time to time and kept it in an active place such as a drawer, with other mementos of his Masonic life.

Duckworth was born in 1861 in Iowa. Working back through the grand lodges of Washington and Iowa, we know Duckworth joined Franklin (Iowa) Lodge No. 14 on July 30, 1898 and demitted on Sept. 13, 1902. He likely asked for the demit from Franklin Lodge No. 14 to facilitate his membership in Gastineaux Lodge, which he petitioned on Nov. 15, 1902. Duckworth's Masonic story prior to his joining the now-defunct Franklin Lodge remains unknown.

Shortly after leaving Iowa, Duckworth became the first

## **A Historical Perspective**



File photo The Past Master's jewel of John Henry Leland Duckworth, which is now in the time capsule inside the cornerstone of the Juneau Masonic Center.

Worshipful Master of a Masonic Lodge in what is now the City and Borough of Juneau. The Grand Lodge of Washington provided dispensation for Douglas' Gastineaux Lodge in December, 1902, with Duckworth as Master. He continued in the Oriental Chair when Gastineaux Lodge received its charter in June, 1903.

Oral tradition suggests Duckworth was a Past Master on his arrival in Douglas. The records from Washington and Iowa cited above do not support the tradition, but do not explicitly deny the possibility. It's unlikely, though, that Duckworth served as Master anywhere prior to his arrival in Douglas.

Duckworth demitted from Gastineaux Lodge on Nov. 28, 1911.

And then, for more than 15 years, John Duckworth disappeared.

His story picks back up in the town of Jerome, Ariz. The Past High Priest's jewel from Jerome Chapter connects Duckworth to connection to that boomand-bust town. Jerome lies approximately an hour's drive northeast of Prescott. In the mid-1920s, it had a population of about 25,000 residents and an active mine. In the 1940s, the ore began to run out. The mine closed in 1953 and the town remains as one of many abandoned or nearly abandoned Western mining towns, currently with about 450 residents. George Weil, Grand Secretary of the Arizona York Rite bodies, said Jerome had sufficient interest in its heyday to have both a blue lodge and a Royal Arch chapter chartered. When the population collapsed, the lodge and chapter closed. Prescott warehouses both sets of records.

Most of Duckworth's history following his service as High Priest remains unknown. My next steps are to work with the Grand Lodge of Arizona to see what can be learned there. We do know Duckworth laid down his working tools in 1942, at the age of 81 in Jerome. There is every indication that he did so as a faithful Mason. His earthly remains rest in nearby Cottonwood, Ariz.

Future generations will know at least where to find Duckworth's jewels. They have been laid, along with other Masonic artifacts, in the time capsule set into the cornerstone of the Juneau Masonic Center. I will continue to track Duckworth's story, and will endeavor to update it to provide further light to Masons of today and tomorrow.



The Past High Priest's jewel of John Henry Leland Duckworth, which is now in the time capsule inside the cornerstone of the Juneau Masonic Center.

## **Odds and Ends**

# A day of celebration

#### **Cable Tow Staff Report**

Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No.21 and the Juneau Valley of the Scottish Rite will co-host a day of Masonic celebration on Oct. 12, 2019.

At 4 p.m., the Scottish Rite will invest Bro. Charles Ward, 32°, with the Honour of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

At 5 p.m., the Scottish Rite and the Lodge will co-host a social hour with refreshments. Both events are open to all.

At 6 p.m., the Lodge will host a dinner in honor of M.W. Bro. John May, Grand Master of Masons in Alaska, prior to his official visit. Dinners are \$35 and may be purchased at capitalcitymasons.org, by sending a check or money order to: Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge No. 21, P.O. Box 32558, Juneau, AK 99803 or at the door with a prior RSVP.

You can RSVP at the above web or mailing addresses, by emailing mtjg21@gmail.com or by calling (855) 305-0155. Please purchase your tickets or RSVP no later than Oct. 7.

At 7 p.m., the Lodge will hold a Special Meeting to receive the Grand Master and his traveling party. This meeting will be open to Masons only.

Please email mtjg21@gmail. com or call (855) 305-0155 with any questions, or if you need additional information.

# S'more, the merrier



Photo provided

**Above:** Rainbow Girls (from left) Dori, Eileen and Madeline embrace the Fall 2019 theme "S'more, the merrier"at Juneau Assembly No. 3's Aug. 17 installation. **Below:** The Rainbow Girls' schedule for the Fall 2019 term.



# oes The dog days of summer

#### By Gabrielle Hazelton, W.M.

Juneau Chapter No. 7, Order of the Eastern Star met, for the first time in memory, during the summer under its new meeting schedule.

The Chapter enjoyed a dogthemed picnic and kicked off its fundraising program for the Fairbanks location of Paws for Purple Hearts, a program dedicated to improving the lives of America's Warriors facing mobility challenges and trauma-related conditions by providing the highest quality of

service dogs canine and assisted therapeutic programs. Alaska has more veterans per capita than any other state. It is home to more than 70,000 veterans and approximately 20,000 active-duty ser-



vice members, comprising a significant population of potential service dog recipients and



Photo provided

Members of Juneau Chapter No. 7, Order of the Eastern Star attended the Aug. 16 Block Party at Centennial Hall. Pictured are, front row, left to right, Gabrielle Hazelton and Rachel Gearhart. Back row, left to right, Dixie Weiss, Vicki Atzei and Sandy Hicks.

canine-assisted therapy participants. There is a poster of progress in the multipurpose room.

> Paws are \$25 each, a paw pad is \$10 and toes are \$5. General The Grand Chapselected ter service dogs as its permaservice nent project several years ago.

Members of the Chapter met up

for dinner and a marimba concert at the final Juneau Arts & Culture Center's block party on Aug. 16.

The Chapter will also host a holiday wreath making party in late November, and all members of the Masonic family are invited.

Finally, plans have begun for the Official Visit of the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron. The visit is scheduled for May 2, 2020.

OES now meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, February through October. The Chapter also meets on the second Tuesday in November and is dark in December and January. Juneau OES is on Facebook by searching for Juneau #7, AK, Order of the Eastern Star.

# Capping Continued from page 4

M.W. Bro. Douglas C. Teninty's coin from his term as Grand Master in 2015, along with the story of the White Raven, which inspired the coin.

M.W. Bro. Douglas C. Teninty's coin from his term as Grand Master in 2015 (2)

Silver coin from Juneau's Masonic Centennial celebration in 2003.

An invitation to the Juneau Masonic Center dedication

An invitation to the Juneau Masonic Center cornerstone laying

A copy of the April 4, 2015 Cable Tow

A copy of the April 3, 2015 Juneau Empire front page

A copy of the Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux membership roster as of April 4, 2015

W. Bro. Paul Moran's story of his Wilderness Third Degree

Bro. Ed Kalwara's Juneau Police Department 25-year badge, shoulder patch and a brass plaque

Assorted Masonic Centennial pins

Mt. Juneau-Gastineaux Lodge pin (2)

Past Master's jewel (1903-1904) and Past High Priest's jewel (1927 at Jerome Chapter No. 11, Royal Arch Masons) of W. Bro. John Henry Leland Duckworth, first Worshipful Master of Gastineaux Lodge No. 124 in Douglas, Alaska

A history of Masonry in Juneau



#### Juneau Chapter No. 7, Order of the Eastern Star

Laminated picture of members in with a list of names on the back

#### Juneau-Douglas Shrine Club

Ill. Sir Jeff Polizzotto's 2013 Potentate's coin

Juneau-Douglas Shrine Club patch designed by Nobles Jake Hendricks and Claude Roberts Al Aska Shriners lapel pin

#### Juneau Valley Scottish Rite

Alaska Scottish Rite centennial pin from 2011

Knights of St. Andrew Juneau Chapter challenge coin List of 2017 and

2019 Honourmen

#### Widow's Sons

Widow's Sons Alaska engraved belt buckle from Jeff DeFreest

Widow's Sons Alaska Grand Chapter fifth anniversary pin from 2011

Widow's Sons Alaska 2006 challenge coin Widow' s Sons Alaska patch

#### Juneau DeMolay

W. Bro. Steven Stewart's Executive Officer

of DeMolay Alaska's business card

#### Juneau Assembly No. 3, International Order of Rainbow for Girls

Porcelain bell with Rainbow logo

Term calendar

International Order of Rainbow for Girls Supreme Worthy Advisor Susan Rennagel's coin

Alaska Rainbow logo pin

Masonic family "Working Together" pin Service bar

The Cable Tow

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