

"HISTORY OF HARMONY LODGE No. 2 A.F. & A.M."

Harmony Lodge No. 2 A.F. & .M. was formed by the merging of two lodges: Washington Lodge No. 49 A.F. & A.M. and Trinity Lodge No. 27 A.F. & A.M.

Washington Lodge No. 49 A.F. & A.M. was chartered about 1898 under Illinois jurisdiction. It was located at Franklin, Washington, then a coal mining section near the present sites of Black Diamond and Newcastle. John Hale, my grandfather, was a member of this Washington lodge.

Trinity Lodge No. 27 A.F. & A.M. was organized U.D. on October 2, 1902 in Seattle and was chartered August 4, 1903 by the Iowa jurisdiction, with a membership of 26.

Washington Lodge No. 49 moved to Seattle and was one of the organizers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington and Oregon. At this time, Washington Lodge became No. 2 and Trinity Lodge became No. 7.

At one time there did exist a bit of dissention between Washington Lodge and Trinity Lodge. After a fire destroyed all of Trinity Lodge's property, Washington Lodge came to the rescue of Trinity Lodge. They shared the same meeting facility and paraphernalia. This act was probably one of the several that contributed to the merger of the two lodges.

After the two lodges had voted for the union, I'm sure much consideration was given to a name for the new lodge. How did they decide on "HARMONY"? One definition we find for Harmony is, "agreement in feelings, actions, ideas, interests, etc." I looked a little further. In a lexicon of Freemasonry I found the following: "Harmony is the chief support of every well regulated institution. Without it, the most extensive empires must decay; with it the weakest nations may become powerful." The ancient philosophers are poets that believed that the prototype of harmony was to be found in the sublime music of the spheres, and that man, copying nature, has attempted to introduce this divine melody into human life. And thus, it proves its celestial origin, by the heavenly influence it exerts on earth. Aallust represents the good King Micipsa as saying, that "by concord small things increase; by discord the greatest fall gradually into ruin." Let every Mason, anxious for the prosperity of his order, feel the truth of the maxim, and remember that for harmony should his lodge be opened--in harmony should it work--and with harmony be closed. I think that by looking a little further I found how Harmony received its name. It assumed the number of Washington Lodge. Thus HARMONY LODGE No. 2. In subsequent years, A.F. & A.. was changed to F. & A.M.

Harmony Lodge No. 2 was granted a Charter on March 23, 1911 by the Grand Lodge. On April 3, 1911, at a communication of Harmony Lodge No. 2, Most Worshipful Grand Master Henry J. Asberry, with his staff, proceeded to open a Grand Lodge in ample form for the consecration, dedication, and constitution of Harmony Lodge No. 2, and for the installation of officers. This having been completed, the Grand Marshall proclaimed that Harmony Lodge No. 2 was regularly constituted and dedicated and its officers regularly installed.

W.A. Martin was the first Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge No. 2 in 1911, Eugene Carter has the honor of being the Worshipful Master. Harmony's records reveal that while on Harmony's rolls no less than 60 rate the title P.M..

I think of Harmony No. 2 as being a family. Most often we think of a family as being a group of people related by blood or marriage. Let us think of that blood tie as being Freemasonry. All of our brethern responsible for the forming of Harmony No. 2 rolls I consider to be Sons of Harmony No. 2.

Most families have one or more black sheep or a skeleton or two in the closet. Some of you are more familiar with those than I. Tonight we won't mention them again.

Harmony is proud of its history of service to the Masonic family, the community, and the human race in general. Today we find Sons of Harmony with successful endeavors in the private sector. Sons of Harmony are in responsible positions and making notable contributions in city, county, state and federal service.

We find Sons of Harmony have worked in the several parts of the Masonic family. Sons of Harmony have been active in York Rite Masonry. In the Heroins of Jericho they have contributed. Two names that come to mind at the moment are Past Masters William L. Hawkins and James A. Jarvis, Sr..

Now for a brief look at the Scottish Rite side we find Sons of Harmony have left and are continuing to leave their mark. Past G.W.P. Willie B. Dunn is a Son of Harmony. The present G.W.P. Charles Eakers, a Son of Harmony.

Sons of Harmony are still working in the Harmony Lodge of Prefection No. 67, Calvary Rose Crouis Chapter No. 67, and Prince Hall Cinsistior No. 67. Without fear of contradiction, I can say that Sons of Harmony have served in all offices in those houses. To the best of my knowledge, no less than ten Sons of Harmony are presently honored with the 33rd and last degree of Masonry. For those of you that doubt my math, please remember Ill. Sirs F. Benjamin Davis, and Levi Townsend are Sons of Harmony. Ill. Sir Levi Townsend is now serving as Deputy of the Orient of Washington State. For other active local sons we find