



# Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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April 2017

## Month of Renewal

### Whatcom Lodge Report

**Special Communication:** Our Thurs. March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting was attended by 15 Whatcom Brothers.

**Masonic Education:** WM Paul read an article on the topic of Charity in it's fuller context. In particular the giving of one's self: time, generosity of spirit, kindness, goodwill, compassion, understanding and helpfulness.

**Masonic Youth:** Thom Baughn gave a report on Masonic Youth and said they've been very active. Bethel #25 will soon go to Jobbies Weekend where they always do very well in Ritual competition.

**Stated Communication:** The March 16<sup>th</sup> Sated meeting was attended by 18 Whatcom Brothers and 3 visitors: WB Dave Sarna King Phillip Lodge GL of Massachusetts, Joe and Scott Jenkins Whidbey Lodge #15.

**Petition-balloting:** The petition for the Degrees by Mr. Josh Brown was reported and voted on and was approved.

**Degrees:** The EA Degree for Josh Brown will be at our April 6<sup>th</sup> Special Communication. The MM Degree for Br. Bruce Smith is set for Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Movie Night:** Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> was Movie Night, but, do to there being no movie anyone wanted to see we simply met for dinner at Bob's Burgers & Brew. I think we had about 13 in attendance and all had a fun time along with good food.

**Monthly luncheon:** Tuesday March 21<sup>st</sup> Masons met at Lee's and again we had great time and a pretty good turnout. **Next** lunch meeting is Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon at Lee's, James & Alabama. All Masons and men interested in Masonry are welcome to join us.

**Masonic Education:** WB Chris Bonner gave an interesting talk on his trip from East to West and his stops in South Dakota to see Mt. Rushmore, Deadwood City, the Mt. Moriah Cemetery and Devil's Tower. He spent some time covering the Mt. Moriah Cemetery where Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are buried and in particular the Masonic section.

**Consolidation:** WB Ted Schuman reported that the committees from Ferndale and Whatcom Lodges met and reached an agreement for consolidation.

**Next Meetings:** Our Special Communication is on May the 4<sup>th</sup>. The next Stated Communication will be on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. For both meetings Dinner is at 5:30 pm and Lodge opens at 6:30 pm.

*Fraternally,* John Browne, Secretary ... **Contact info is at bottom right corner, page 4**

### Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Apr 7<sup>th</sup> Bellingham Bay - 7:30 pm  
Apr 10<sup>th</sup> Ferndale Lodge - 7:30 pm  
Apr 13<sup>th</sup> Lynden Int. Lodge - 7 pm  
Apr 20<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge - dinner at 5:30; meeting at 6:30 pm.

### Up-coming Events

**110<sup>th</sup> Trowel Exchange...** On Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup> members of Bellingham Bay #44 will travel North to visit Union Solomon Lodge for their 110<sup>th</sup> Trowel Exchange.

**NWSC Dinner...** On Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup> the NWSC will hold it's monthly meeting. Zem Zem at 6:30 p.m. followed by a wonderful dinner prepared by Jeckly/Hyde Restaurant. Visitors are welcome.

**Entered Apprentice Degree...** on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge will confer the EA Degree on Mr. Josh Brown. Dinner at 5:30 & Lodge at 6:30 pm.

**Hands Across the Border.....** The Spring HAB event, hosted by Lynden Int. Ldg. on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Soc. hr. at 5 pm, dinner served at 5:30 and a Tyled Lodge opens at 7 pm. See page 2.

**MEC Scholarship Program...** on Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup> the 51<sup>st</sup> annual Whatcom County Public Schools award program will take place, see page 3.

**Master Mason Degree...** on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge will confer the Master Mason Degree on Bro. Bruce Smith. Dinner at 5:30, lodge at 6:30 pm.

**Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree...** mark your calendar for Sat. May 20<sup>th</sup> when the Annual Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree, hosted by San Juan Lodge, takes place at Roche Harbor. A wonderful Salmon BBQ precedes the Degree. More details in the May issue of the newsletter.

**Whatcom Lodge Campout...** July 27-30 we'll be back out camping see details on page 2.

## Notes from Lynden Lodge No. 56

Apr 13 <sup>th</sup>	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM
Apr 27 <sup>th</sup>	Special Meeting	7:00 PM

Greetings Lynden Brethren:

### Scholarships

PM Dick Myhre, W. Master Don Higgeson and JW Howard Hanna joined brothers from other Lodges on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, to judge scholarship applications for WB Ken Gass's MEC scholarship program. On the same day, SW Troy Luginbill, Treas. Eric Bauer and Sec. Dick Decima met to judge more than 60 scholarship applications from seniors at Blaine, Lynden, Meridian and Nooksack Valley high schools including applications from the Washington Masonic Charities scholarship program. Kudos to ALL the brothers, including those from other Lodges, who participated in these worthy community programs!

### Spring 2017 Hands Across the Border

Please join us on Thursday, April 13, 2017 when Lynden International Lodge No. 56 will honor RWB Ron Yates, Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A. F. & A.M. of British Columbia & Yukon, and RWB Warren Schoeben, Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Washington, at our Spring *Hands Across the Border* event. The social period will be at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm. The Lodge will be tyled at 7:00 pm. We are cordially inviting the Worshipful Masters, officers and all members of Whatcom County Lodges to join us that evening at the Ferndale Masonic Hall for this annual event. Please contact WB Dick Decima at 392-0145 or via email at [rhdecima@aol.com](mailto:rhdecima@aol.com) to make a reservation.

Kindest fraternal regards,

WB Dick Decima,

Secretary

Ph. 392-0145 or by Email: [rhdecima@aol.com](mailto:rhdecima@aol.com)

### Celebration of Life Ceremony

On Monday evening March 27<sup>th</sup> Ferndale Lodge hosted a celebration of life ceremony for the Lodges of District Ten. All Four Lodges were represented and representatives of Ferndale Chapter Eastern Star and Evergreen Chapter Rainbow for Girls also attended.

A roll call of the Masons in attendance was made and then each lodge secretary read the names of local Masons who passed away in the last ten years. The Chaplain then read Ecclesiastes Chapter 13 with everyone assembled around the Altar, candles being the only illumination. The ceremony was simple but meaningful. Attendees then met in the dining room for post event socializing.

Here is what ***Bellingham Bay***

has going on.

***Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup>*** 110<sup>th</sup> consecutive trowel exchange with Union Solomon Lodge # 9 in Burnaby, BC. 6pm lodge open, salmon dinner 6:30. Meet 4:30 at 1101 N State—to carpool; bring passport and apron.

***Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>*** **Stated:** Review the 110<sup>th</sup> northern Trowel Exchange, bollot on a reinstatement petition, finalize plans for the EA practice on the 21st, and work on plans for the Military Appreciation night on the May Special Communication.

***Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>*** **Special:** Do a proactice EA Degree in completion to and smooth out rough spots. Brother Kurt Gazow to confer. WM Hanson to give the EA Charge.

WB Arne Hanson

WM Bellingham Bay No. 44

## **WHATCOM LODGE IS CAMPING, AGAIN !!!**

**On July 27-30** we will be visiting the Masonic Family Campground in Granite Falls. We will have a clubhouse and ten sites for our exclusive use; each site will have water and power only. A disposal station is available as you leave the park.

**Maximum cost per nite is \$33.00**, but could be less depending on how many campsites we finally confirm. Any type of camping equipment is welcome; tents, trailers, RVs – whatever! ***This event is open to members of Whatcom Lodge, any other lodge in our district and any other Masonic youth group meeting at Maplewood.***

Plan now to attend this wonderful activity; this will be our third year and those who have attended before will tell you it was a blast!!

**I must have your confirmation NO LATER THAN JUNE 15** in order to hold a campsite for you and your family. A check for \$33.00 will reserve a spot; actual campsite assignments will be made upon arrival and will depend upon the size and nature of your equipment.

**DON'T WAIT – SEVERAL OF THE SITES ARE ALREADY SPOKEN FOR, BUT WE CAN GET MORE IF NEEDED !!**

Questions?? Call Ted Schuman at (818) 425-1611  
 Want to mail your check? Send it to:  
 Ted Schuman, 3313 Heights Drive,  
 Bellingham, WA 98226  
 Please make your check for \$33.00  
 payable to: Ted Schuman

Thursday, April 27 is the date of the 51<sup>st</sup> Whatcom County Masonic public schools award program, directed by the board and scholarship committee of the Masonic Education Council of Whatcom County (MEC). Student musicians will perform in the lobby of the Maplewood Bellingham Masonic Center from 7:00 p.m. Masons are invited to park in the ICU lot and join us by 7:30 for an uplifting display of support of public education by Freemasons. Be prepared to sit at the back or stand to make the sideline seats available for the lodge room full of the students' families, with seventy students seated in the middle and the nine principals in the East. We will close with dessert by 9:30, at the latest!

Masonic wages of gratitude are due the twelve Masons from all four lodges who conscientiously scored the 143 scholarship applicants on March 25. As of mid-march 43 Masons (14%) have contributed \$4,400 to this year's scholarship and award program. That is over 80% of the way to our target of covering program expenses and \$7,200 in scholarships without dipping into endowment.

A final thanks to Masons who have responded to the MEC letter with either offers to help or recommendations for changes. Of those wanting change, the overriding issue was spending so much money on a program that brings in few if any new members and does not target scholarships for Masonic youth or the children of Masons. Grand Lodge and Bellingham Bay 44 have just such awards and for over 15 years they have routinely gone *begging* for applicants. However, if Brothers are willing to work on a District Masonic youth/family scholarship program, perhaps combining with Bellingham Bay, the MEC would be happy to support their effort and could bring it under its non-profit umbrella as a public charity. Anyone who has ever attended the awards program can attest to the public outpouring of goodwill given to Masonry by the assembled crowd. Honoring our public schools and supporting our youth, the nation's future voting citizens and leaders, while not expecting to get anything back in return, is that not a true expression of Charity that we ascribe to as Masons? Does not our petition for the degrees of Masonry state that no man should join the Craft expecting to receive financial gain or assistance?

Looking to the future, the MEC must adapt to the level of support it receives from District 10 Masons, whether financial or as willing board members or scholarship program volunteers. The scholarship awards may be reduced to maintain a viable endowment; however, the endowment does run the awards program, only Masons can. Without new leaders and workers, the MEC will fold.

Your MEC Board & Scholarship Committee:

Eric Bauer, Charles Cunningham, Ken Gass, Travis Graddon, Howard Hanna,  
Glenn Hutchings, Jeff Moisan, Gary Pitcher & Winton Smith

## EA Degree Upcoming

Whatcom Lodge is planning a EA Degree for Mr. Josh Brown to be conferred at the Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> Special Communication.

Dinner is at 5:30

Lodge opens at 6:30 pm.

Whatcom Lodge meets at the Bellingham Masonic Center at 2626 West Maplewood Ave. in Bellingham, WA.

For information contact Lodge Secretary:  
VW John Browne...360-599-3481  
Email: [jbrowne.brf@gmail.com](mailto:jbrowne.brf@gmail.com)

## MM Degree Upcoming

Whatcom Lodge is planning a Master Mason Degree for Bro. Bruce Smith to be conferred at the Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> Special Communication.

Dinner is at 5:30

Lodge opens at 6:30 pm.

Whatcom Lodge meets at the Bellingham Masonic Center at 2626 West Maplewood Ave. in Bellingham, WA.

For information contact Lodge Secretary:  
VW John Browne...360-599-3481  
Email: [jbrowne.brf@gmail.com](mailto:jbrowne.brf@gmail.com)

BMC = Bellingham Masonic Center on W. Maplewood ; FMC = Ferndale Masonic Center; FHMC = Friday Harbor Masonic Center; NMC = Nooksack Masonic Center; SRH = Scottish Rite Hall

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>
2	3 BB #44 travels to Union Solomon Lodge for Trowel Exchange. Hesperus Commandery No. 8 - 7:30	4 ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 p	5 V of B Scottish Rite: Dinner at 6:30 pm & Stated Mtg at 7:30 pm	6 W #151 - Special Dinner at 5:30 pm. Lodge opens at 6:30pm. EA Deg to be conferred.	7 BB # 44 - Stated 7:30 pm.	8
9	10 F # 264 - 7:30 p Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p <i>Passover Begins</i>	11 Bethel # 25 at 6:25 pm	12 V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7:30 pm	13 L # 56 Stated, 7:00 pm Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (BMC)	14 <i>Good Friday</i>	15
16 <i>Easter</i>	17 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC) <i>Easter Monday</i>	18 ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC) <i>Passover Ends</i>	19 V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm	20 W 151 - Stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm.	21 BB # 44 Special Communication 7:30 pm	22 Bethel #25 at 6:25 pm <i>Earth Day</i>
23	24 F # 264 - 7:30 p	25 W151 lunch at Lee's...12 noon Bellingham Temple Association meeting 7:30 PM	26 Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7:30 pm	27 L # 56 special meeting 7:00 pm Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (BMC)	28	29
30	1 <i>May Day</i>	2	3	4	5 <i>Cinco De Mayo</i>	6

**Widows & Orphans Fund  
for District No. 10**

If you would like to know more about the W & O Fund contact one of the officers listed below.

at  
WB Jesse Petersen at 360-319-5556,

or you may contact your Lodge Secretary or your Worshipful Master.

*Fraternally,*  
President, Jesse Petersen - Vice President



Has your message missed this publication. Don't get left out. Please send your group's article, event information and/or calendar note by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month. In order to promote events occurring at the beginning of each month I try to send out the newsletter on or about the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks, John the Editor

To contribute to this newsletter please send your letter, comment, historical fact, poem or calendar announcement, by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of each month, to:

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Maple Falls, WA. 98266  
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e-mail: [jbrowne.brf@gmail.com](mailto:jbrowne.brf@gmail.com)