



Letters from *Whatcom Lodge No. 151*

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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April 2021

Washington Lodges to resume starting May 1, 2021

per MWB *Chris J. Coffman*

Worshipful Master's comments:

A couple of weeks ago, I read an article that began, "If misery loves company, find different company". You know, the more that I've thought about that, the more sense that it makes. Why, in the world, would you want to hang around with people who make you miserable? Well, OK, there's your brother-in-law who always wants to borrow money, but you don't associate with him because you want to.

That, of course, brings us to our Lodge and through it, the brothers with whom we associate (Notice the clever segue to a Masonic topic). Our brothers are men with whom we WANT to associate. We enjoy each other's company and we enjoy spending time with these men. It's fulfilling and we're enriched by being in each other's company. As the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York writes in the current issue of *The Empire State Mason*, "The Lodge lets men bond with a small group of other men from all walks of life and get to know them on an individual basis.....Freemasonry brings together men who might otherwise never have met, and it cuts across all social, economic, racial, religious and political lines". Given the state of the world today, that's really something and we're a part of it.

The big news for the Lodge, of course, is that we're about to resume in-person meetings, although with necessary, significant limitations and restrictions. That will enable us to enjoy, in the context of the Lodge, the individual and personal associations that we all treasure and that we've missed for the past year. It's something to which we all look forward.

Many, if not most of us, have been able to maintain our relationships outside the Lodge during the past year and this new situation will, once again, enrich those ties even more. As we meet, let's remember how special these associations are and how lucky we are to be able to share them. We can leave misery at the door, because we've found that different company.

I'll look forward to seeing and greeting each of you in Lodge – at a sanitized, disinfected, approved social distance, of course. Until then, stay safe and stay well.

WM 'City' John
Whatcom Lodge 151

Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Lodges will be back on schedule starting May 1st, 2021. See page 2 for a transcription of our GM MWB Chris J. Coffman's letter. If you wish to see the protocols for meeting you may ask your secretary for a pdf copy. Check bottom corner of page 4.

Up-coming Events

Our District Deputy Hosts a number of Masonic ZOOM castes and lets' us know about Grand Lodge sponsored internet programs. If you are not on his email list you can contact him at the email address noted below.

Kurt Gazo w...kegazow@comcast.net...



Life and time are
the two best
teachers. Life
teaches us to
make good use of
time and time
teaches us the
value of life.



Whatcom Lodge 151 meets on the 1st (special) and 3rd (stated-business) Thursdays of each month.

Whatcom Lodge emphasizes Masonic heritage and ritual proficiency. We are proud to support our Masonic Youth organizations and encourage members to practice charity outside the lodge. It is our intention to promote individuals to build their own strong moral and spiritual temples.

March 26, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO ALL CONSTITUENT LODGES

DIRECTIVE: Concerning Lodge Stated and Special Communications And Other Meetings

To all Lodges,

Currently, all parts of Washington have been moved to Phase 3 of Healthy Washington, Roadmap to Recovery effective March 22, 2021. In-person Lodge meetings are now permissible under the statewide guidelines, provided that all the requirements described herein are strictly followed. **ANY LODGE THAT HOLDS A MEETING CONTRARY TO THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED BY THIS DIRECTIVE IS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINE INCLUDING THE IMMEDIATE ARREST OF ITS CHARTER.**

Therefore, pursuant to **WMC Section 3.01(K) Const.**, effective May 1, 2021, all Lodges will resume Stated Communications. My Directive of June 13, 2020 cancelling all Lodge meetings is hereby withdrawn effective April 30, 2021. Lodges will resume in-person meetings as provided in the attached *“Requirements for In-Person Communications of Lodges.”*

All the requirements outlined in the attached *“Requirements for In-Person Communications of Lodges”* **MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED. EVERY LODGE MUST APPOINT A COVID-19 PROGRAM SUPERVISOR TO ENSURE THAT ALL SAFETY PROTOCOLS ARE FOLLOWED AND THAT ALL MASKING AND SOCIAL DISTANCING PRACTICES ARE ENFORCED AND ADHERED TO BY ALL ATTENDEES.**

If a Lodge’s Executive Committee, after consulting with the Lodge membership, determines that it is not prudent or advisable for the Lodge to hold in-person communications, then **the Lodge shall hold its Stated Communications on a virtual platform. That platform must allow members to either join via an electronic device or landline telephone.** The virtual Stated Communications will be conducted consistent with the attached *“Procedures for Virtual Lodge Communications”*. Any Lodge deciding to meet virtually shall provide all its members **a new written notice** that its Stated Communications will be virtual and include instructions on how to join the Communication. This notice shall also be provided to the Deputy of the Grand Master for the Lodge’s District. **Any prior permission issued to a Lodge allowing it not to hold Stated Communications is hereby withdrawn as of April 30, 2021.**

This directive does not modify previous instructions concerning the April Stated Communications. April Lodge Stated Communications will be virtual as directed by my letter dated February 11, 2021.

Please be aware that this continues to be a fluid situation. If a Lodge meets in a region or county that is returned to a Phase 1 status of Healthy Washington, Roadmap to Recovery, then that Lodge will not be allowed to hold in-person Stated or Special Communications and must hold Stated Communications virtually. If the guidelines become more restrictive, I will determine if Lodges can continue to meet in-person.

The following links are to official sites with further information about Healthy Washington, Roadmap to Recovery and COVID-19:

Healthy Washington, Roadmap to Recovery, <https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/HealthyWashington.pdf>

Coronavirus State of Washington, <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>

Washington Department of Health, <https://doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

Centers for Disease Control, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Guidance for Business Reopening, https://www.governor.wa.gov/issues/issues/covid-19-resources/covid-19-reopening-guidance-businesses-andworkers?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

National Institute for Health, <https://www.nih.gov/>

Remember the Past, Visualize the Future,

MWB Chris J. Coffman
Grand Master
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington

Attention!!!

Bellingham Temple Association Bondholders:

With the sale of the Bellingham Masonic Hall at 2626 West Maplewood in Bellingham the Board of Directors has put out a call to redeem all the bonds that were sold to finance the construction of the facility. The bonds are non- interest bearing so they will be redeemed for the face value of the bond as long as funds are available.

The bonds are being redeemed in phases. The first redemption phase will be to pay the various Masonic groups who are owners of bonds. The process and procedures are nearing finalization and once completed payment will be made.

The next phase will be to process bonds that were purchased by individuals. The board has started the process of verifying contact information for individuals that we can easily find. There are other owners out there that we have lost contact with over the years. If you have not been contacted prior to either reading this article or becoming aware of the redemption in some manner; then pull out your bond, dust it off, and contact Gary Pitcher at 4616 Boardwalk Dr., Bellingham, WA 98226-1210. He can also be contacted at pitch318@comcast.net or 360-380-0756. You will then be provided with the directions that need to be followed in order process your payment.

WB Gary Pitcher



A Mason

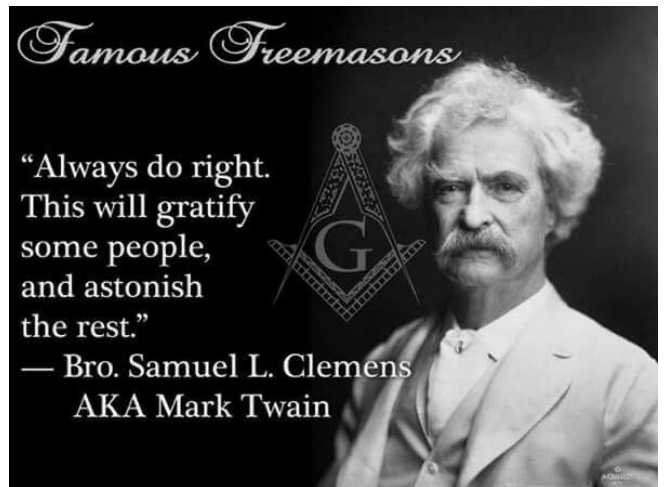
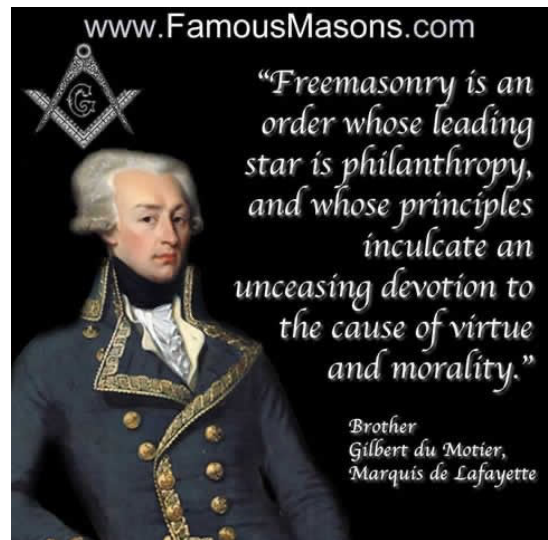
A Mason is a man who professes a faith in God. As a man of faith, he uses the tools of morality and ethical truths to serve mankind.

A Mason binds himself to like-minded men in a brotherhood that Transends all religious ethnic, social, cultural, and educational differences.

In fellowship with Brothers, a Mason finds ways in which to serve his God, his family his fellowman, and his country.

A Mason is dedicated. He recognizes his responsibility for justice, truth, charity, enlightenment, freedom and liberty, honesty and integrity in all aspects of human endeavor.

A Mason is such a man.



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
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4 <i>Easter</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <i>Ramadan begins</i>	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 <i>WB George Washington takes the oath of office as first President of the U.S., 1789</i>	1

**Widows & Orphans Fund
for District No. 1**

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

Bro. Ken Peck - *Secretary/Treasurer*
 Phone: 360-820-4752,
 Email: sectreaswof@gmail.com

WB John Brown - *President,*

WB Jesse Petersen - *Vice President*
 360-319-5556

Whatcom Lodge 151

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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 22nd 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 25th of each month.

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

John F. Browne, 9960 Stardust Lane,
 Maple Falls, WA. 98266

Ph. 360-599-3481

e-mail: jbrowne.brf@gmail.com