



Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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February 2011

Masons and their Ladies, You are cordially invited to the

Sweethearts Dinner at the *Bellingham Masonic Center*

Hosted by, Fairhaven and Whatcom Masonic Lodges.

Date for event is Saturday February 12th,
gather at 5:30 and dinner served at 6 PM

RSVP by February 5th, cost is \$20 per couple

Your choice of either Prime Rib or Salmon

Please contact: VW John Browne (599-3481 or jbrowne@telcomplus.net)

Make checks payable to *Whatcom Lodge No. 151.*

Stated Meeting Dates *of the* **District Ten Lodges**

Feb 2nd San Juan Lodge - 7:30

Feb 3rd Lynden Int. Lodge - 7:30 pm

Feb 4th Bellingham Bay - 7:30 p

Feb 8th Fairhaven Lodge - 7 pm

Feb 9th Nooksack Valley Ldg - 6 pm

Feb 14th Ferndale Lodge - 7:30 pm

Feb 17th Whatcom Lodge - dinner at
5:30; meeting at 6:30 pm.

IN MASONIC MEMORIAM

WB John Greer, passed away on January 1st, 2011. John was a member and Past Master of Nooksack Valley Lodge No. 105

Thelma N. Jeter, passed away on January 2nd, 2011. Thelma was a 50 year member Maple Leaf Chapter No. 58, OES.

Brother Frank J. McKain, a 50 year member of Whatcom Lodge No. 151 passed away on January 12th, 2011. Brother Frank was Initiated on 2/25/1960, Passed on 5/5/1960 and Raised on 1/26/1961.

WB M. H. "Buck" Strickland Jr. passed away on January 12th, 2011. WB Buck began his Masonic career in DeMolay, joining the blue lodge later in life when elected to membership in Whatcom Lodge on St. Patrick's Day in 1997. Brother Buck was Initiated on 4/17/1997, Passed on 5/15/1997 and Raised on 6/19/1997. In addition to serving as Prompter, Chaplain and J & S Wardens Buck served two terms as Worshipful Master in 2002 and 2003. He was a recipient of the Ted King Inspirational Award and recently the Hiram Award. Buck was also an Honorary Member of Lynden Lodge No. 56.

He was very supportive of DeMolay and a few years ago was awarded the DeMolay Legion of Honor Medal for his steadfast support. Bro. Buck was also a supporter of Bethel No. 25 JDI and Evergreen Assembly No. 17 Rainbow Girls.

WB Dr. John Spry passed away on January 13th, 2011. WB John, a Mason for nearly 50 years, was a member of Lynden Int. Lodge No. 56. Doc Spry was Worshipful Master in 1975 and, in recent years, he served faithfully as Tyler and Chaplain.

Whatcom Lodge Report

Stated Meeting - Our stated meeting was held on January 20th with fourteen brothers and three visitors attending. In addition to the regular business of the lodge we had a brother prove-up on his Fellowcraft proficiency. Our meeting was preceded by a very tasty meal provided by VW Glenn Hutchings.

Proficiency: Brother Tony Anton, with assistance from his coach VW Glenn Hutchings, completed the FC Posting Lecture in front of the brethren, who gave Bro. Tony a lively hand for the fine job he did. At present we plan to confer his MM Degree at our Special Communication on March 3rd.

Upcoming Degrees: In addition to the MM Degree mentioned above, it is believed that Brother Craig Bruner will soon be finishing his EA proficiency, so we hope to confer his FC Degree in February.

Memorial Service planned: A Masonic Memorial Service is planned for WB Buck on Thursday, February 3rd at the Bellingham Masonic Center at 6:30 PM.

Website: After some technical difficulties were recently overcome Bro. Ousama has been updating our Homepage. There will be updates on a more frequent basis and we welcome your suggestions.

Lodge Audit: The Lodge Audit was conducted on Tuesday, January 25 and the Committee's report will be presented at the February 17th Stated Meeting.

Official Visit: The Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. Ten, VW Charles Cunningham will be received for his Official Visit to Whatcom Lodge on Thursday, February 17th. Whatcom Brothers, WM Boyd McEwen, SW Monte Thompson and JW Terrell hope that you will make a special effort to attend this meeting. VW Charles Cunningham will be inspecting our work and bringing tidings from our Grand Master, MW G. Santy Lascano.

Next meetings: Our Special Communication is on February 3rd, dinner at 5:30 pm - a memorial service is planned. The next Stated Communication is on February 17th, dinner at 5:30 pm & lodge at 6:30.

Fraternally, John Browne - Secretary/Treasurer, contact information is at the bottom of page 4.

Notes from Lynden Int. Lodge No. 56

Thursday, February 3rd: Stated meeting at 7:30 pm.

Thursday, February 10th:

Brethren, We will be holding a 1st Degree for Mr. Stephen Aulds on Thursday, February 10 at 7:30 at the Ferndale Masonic Center. Mr. Aulds work schedule has prevented us from a degree to this point and he will not be available the third Thursday so we will have our special meeting in February a week early. If you could respond as to your availability it will be much easier for me to make sure and have a complete degree team.

Sunday, February 13th:

WB Gordon and I are planning a sweethearts lunch / dinner for the brethren, their sweethearts and our widows on Sunday Feb. 13 at 1:00. We will be meeting at the Raspberry Ridge Golf Course Restaurant located on Hannegan Rd. just South of Pole Rd. This will be a no host event with the exception of the widows. I will be encouraging this event in Lodge. Please place this in your calendar.

Thursday, February 17th: Special Communication at 7:30 pm.

Fraternally,

WB Jerry the Mason
Worshipful Master

Men who are occupied in the restoration of health to other men, by the joint exertion of skill and humanity, are above all the great of the earth. They even partake of divinity, since to preserve and renew is almost as noble as to create.

~ Bro. François-Marie Arouet (**Voltaire**), 1694 - 1778

Worshipful Masters,

Listed below is the MLA Dates and Programs for the rest of the year. Please include these in your Lodge Plans. Thank you, John Sleeth

| Date | Host | Program (Subject to change) | Proposed Presenter |
|------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 11/20/2010 | Kulshan International #186 | Unknown - Changing of the Guard | None |
| 1/15/2011 | Whatcom #151 | Masonic Funerals - Widows and Orphans | VWB Bill Werner |
| 2/19/2011 | Ferndale #264 | Shrine - Its organization | Noble Larry Bronner |
| 3/19/2011 | Fairhaven #73 | Youth Group Presentation-Origin and Purpose | Brown, Reid and Gr Guardian |
| 4/16/2011 | San Juan #175* | Planning your Installation-Ladies and Brothers | VWB Sam & Vicki Roberts |
| 5/21/2011 | Bellingham Bay #44 | Grand Lodge Budget -Why | Bro Gary Rhodes |
| 9/17/2011 | Nooksack Valley #105 | Public Relations - Bikes for Books-Origin, Purpose and Goals | ** |
| 10/15/2011 | Lynden #56 | York and Scottish Rite - Differences and Similarities | ** |
| 11/19/2011 | Whatcom #151 | Properties of a Long Range Plan | ** |
| | | | |
| | * Ladies invited | ** Presenter Pending | |

Here is what **Bellingham Bay**

has going on.

Friday February 4th Stated meeting at 7:30 PM. This will be the official visit of our District Deputy, VWB Charlie Cunningham, and then some. All of the District Deputies have been tasked by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to highly encourage the three principal officers of every lodge to complete the Grand Lodge's Lodge Proficiency program. This program consists of answering a 100 question test and by completing an exam in opening and closing a lodge, the latter will be "performed" at this meeting. Come provide sideline support Brothers Chris, Russ & Mark! All Lodge members and visiting Masons are welcome to attend. We will be practicing opening, closing and any other parts that the Brothers desire.

Friday February 11th Senior Warden Practice at 6:30 pm until brothers want to leave.

Saturday February 12th Sweethearts Dinner, Maplewood Hall, 5:30 pm social, dinner 6:00. \$20/couple payable to Whatcom Lodge 151, c/o VWB John Browne (599-3481 ~ jbrowne@telcomplus.net). Please **RSVP** by February 5th. BBay 44 tables are planned.

Friday February 18th Special communication at 7:30. The program TBA.

Friday February 25th Senior Warden Practice, from 6:30, as above.

WM Chris Lyon

~ Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955),
(Quoted in his obituary regarding his notorious disregard for his outward appearance), New York Times [April 19, 1955]

"It would be a sad situation if the wrapper were better than the meat wrapped inside it."

FERNDALE LODGE NO. 264

The lights will be back on at Ferndale 264 beginning February 14th, 2011. We have been dark since November 8th and are ready to roll up our sleeves and get back to work. This will be our business meeting as well as a planning session and he asks that as many members as possible attend. He also asks that the 2011 officers wear their Tux or a dark suit. We will be taking photos for our web site.

Ferndale will host the February MLA meeting at the Ferndale Masonic Center on Saturday the 19th of February, usual starting time.

Worshipful Master Moisan indicates that this years MEC letters asking for donations will be going out soon and he encourages everyone to remember that the success of the program depends on the generosity of all District 10 Brothers.

We will ballot on one request for the Degrees of Masonry and will schedule our upcoming degree work for the several Entered Apprentices we have waiting in the wings. We will be pushing real hard to get them all enrolled as Master Masons before years end.

Our Chair Lift has been repaired and we invite all to come and try it out. Once you get to the top of the stairs you can come on in for the meeting. Chair try-outs start at 7pm, meeting starts at 7:30.



Fraternally,
Everett Thompson,
Secretary Ferndale 264

Masonic Widows & Orphans' Fund of Whatcom County

7949 Lavender Ln, Ferndale, WA 98264 (360) 354-5968

The Widows and Orphans' Fund has around 100 members in District 10 excluding, San Juan Lodge which has a separate connection to their own Widows & Orphan Fund. Over many years, if not decades, the assessment has remained the same as did the benefit. In 2009 the members raised the benefit as did they raise the assessment to maintain the benefit. To maintain the benefit we also need to request new brethren and long standing members of our lodges to join. There is an application and a very small fee required for new members. Assessments are made twice a year and are a result of one or more members being called by the Grand Architect of the Universe.

To learn more about the Widows and Orphan Fund of District 10 contact one of the officers.

Rick Kiene – President - a member of Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44

Thom Baughn – Vice. President - a member of Fairhaven No. 73 & Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44

James Browne – Secretary/Treasurer – a member of Lynden International Lodge No. 56.

Your New Masonic Leadership Association

Twenty-seven Brothers, some representing more than one lodge attended the January MLA Meeting hosted by Whatcom Lodge No. 151.

Masonic Education Council, MEC, activities are getting into full swing during this time of the year. Applications are out, Letters from your Master are in the mail (Email and US Mail), Judging teams are being set up, the Program is coming together for this April 27th event. Over 100 brothers have joined Whatcom County Widows and Orphans fund. At this writing we are still in need of W&O Representatives from Fairhaven #73, Ferndale #264 and Nooksack Valley #105. We were saddened of the recent passing of John Greer and Buck Strickland. The Traveling Gavel, (MLA attendance award) was presented to Bellingham Bay Lodge #44 with the most members in attendance under the new rules. The Traveling Light is presently residing at Whatcom Lodge #151 where it appears to be stuck. MLA accepted the offer from Bill Barquist to host the summer picnic on August 7th. Please mark you calendar. More information to follow. A list of proficient members in the Ritual for Funerals/Memorial Services was distributed.

A proposed by-laws amendment on a quorum was presented and tabled for the next meeting. VWB Charles Cunningham chaired lively discussion on the Upcoming District Meeting April 7th. He also noted that all who attended this meeting received a copy of the Proficiency in Lodge Management program. He also directed comments on the Pillars of Progress presentation at the District meeting. WB Jim Cox presented valuable information on the upcoming May 14th Open Air degree hosted by San Juan Lodge.

VWB Bill Werner from Myrtle Lodge presented a most interesting program on the services of the Masonic Service Bureau and the various variables of a Funeral and/or Memorial Service. A lot of good food for thought.

Prior to the end of the meeting, every member presented a positive comment. The meeting was concluded with comments from the District Deputy of the Grand Master.

At the February 19th meeting the program will be presented by members of the Divan, Potentate and/or Immediate Past Potentate on the subject Shiners, who are they and how did they come to be. Ferndale Lodge #264 will host this next meeting.

Circle the date: FEBRUARY 19th – Social half hour begins at 9:45 am. Location: 2626 W Maplewood Ave, Bellingham. All Masons are invited.

John Sleeth,
President

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

If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.

~ Marcus Tullius Cicero, 106 - 43 BC

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| 30 | 31 | 1 ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 pm | 2 SJ # 175 - stated 7:30 p. (FHMC) | 3 L # 56 stated meeting 7:30 pm W #151 - Spl. Comm - | 4 BB # 44 - stated 7:30 pm. | 5 |
| 6 | 7 Hesperus Commandery No. 8 - 7:30 F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC) | 8 F # 73-stated 7 pm. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC) | 9 NV # 105 - stated at 6 pm | 10 Bethel # 25 at 7 pm. | 11 | 12 Sweethearts Dinner planned, at BMC. Social time at 5:30, dinner at 6 pm. RSVP required. |
| 13 | 14 F # 264 - 7:30 p Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p | 15 ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC) | 16 SJ # 175 - Spl. 7:30 p. (FHMC) | 17 W 151 - stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm. | 18 BB 44 Spl Comm 7:30 p. (SRH) | 19 MLA hosted by 9:45 am refreshments, mtg at 10 am. |
| 20 | 21 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC) | 22 F # 73-Spl. 7 pm. Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC) | 23 NV # 105 - 7:30 | 24 | 25 | 26 Bethel #25 at 7 pm |
| 27 | 28 F # 264 - Dark | 1 | 2 | 3 | <i>Yes dear, I have us all set up for the Sweethearts Dinner!</i> | |



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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, PO Box 1895, Maple Falls, WA. 98266
 Ph. 360-599-3481
 e-mail: jbrowne@telcomplus.net

The Whatcom Brothers
 send their wishes for
 A Very Happy February Birthday!
 To:
 Bro. Scott Slagle - February 2nd
 Bro. Marvin Wolff - February 3rd
 WB Roy Nicholas - February 7th
 Bro. Ron Bennett - February 12th
 WB Ted Schuman - February 14th
 Bro. Charles McCord - February 17th
 Bro. Monte Thompson - February 19th
 Bro. Frank Myers - February 20th
 Bro. Tanvir Shicu - February 21st
 Bro. Marvin Wolff - February 3rd
 WB John Burley - February 27th

