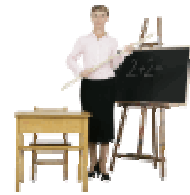




Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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June 2008

Whatcom Lodge Report

Brethren, at our last stated meeting we took care of a great deal of business and received the D of GM VW James F. Brady on his official visit. The evening began with nice dinner of roasted chicken breasts, stuffing, green beans and ice cream for dessert. The dinner was served by the Daughters of Bethel No. 25 JDI, who also took care of the clean-up; thanks very much Daughters!

The lodge brothers present balloted on two petitions. First the petition of Bro. Monte Thompson for Plural Membership and second that of Mr. Nate Anderson for the Degrees of Masonry. Both ballots resulted in favorable elections. Next, WM Hutchings conferred the EA Degree on Mr. Anderson. The degree was done in good form.

Following the degree WM Glenn Hutchings called on several brothers to give reports to VW Jim Brady on various activities and management of the lodge. VW John Browne gave a Secretary/Treasurer's report which covered the topics of operational finances, membership record keeping, degrees and charity: Ed. Scholarships, Elem. School Reading assistance and Masonic Youth donations. Bro. Tim Johnson of the Finance Committee reported on the Lodge's investment restructuring and management philosophy. Bro. Tim Springstead reported on the interaction and support Whatcom brothers continue to provide to our local State Masonic Youth organizations.

D of GM VW James Brady gave his thanks to the Whatcom brothers for their very warm greetings on his OV. He pointed out that it is likely the requirement of Lodge Management Proficiency to be Master of a Lodge will be passed at the up-coming 151st Annual Communication. VW Jim noted it would be prudent for all lodges to get ready for this likelihood. After completing his address VW Jim Brady closed lodge in due form.

The next stated meeting for Whatcom Lodge is Thursday, June 19th, 2008, which is the week following Grand Lodge. At our June Stated meeting we plan on conferring the FC Degree on Bro. Nate Anderson. Fellowcraft and Master Masons, please support this fine brother by your attendance. Those of you who are attending Grand Bethel Session are excused of course.

Election of Officers: At our stated meeting, in addition to the FC degree, WM Hutchings will open the subject of lodge officer elections. We have several new brothers in line and some new plural members who desire to be put to work. This meeting will be an opportunity to express your desire to either stand for one of the elected positions or fill one of the appointed offices. Since we are not going dark for the summer, WM Hutchings plans to hold elections at our July 17th stated meeting. The remainder of July, all of August and the first part of September will be used for planning our Fall, Winter and Spring activities.

Whatcom brothers, if you've got any ideas for improvement, suggestions for events and activities, or comments, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is on page 4, bottom right hand corner.

Fraternally, John Browne - Secretary/Treasurer



Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Jun 4th San Juan Lodge #175 - 7:30

Jun 5th Lynden Lodge #56 - 7:30 p

Jun 6th Bellingham Bay #44 - 7:30 p

Jun 9th Ferndale Ldg #264 - 7:30

Jun 10th Fairhaven Lodge - 7:30

Jun 11th Nooksack Valley Ldg - 7:30

Jun 17th Kulshan Int. Lodge - 7:30 p

Jun 19th Whatcom Lodge - dinner at
5:30; meeting at 6:30 pm.

Memorial Day Poem

(Memorial Day - May 30th)

When I must leave you
For a little while
Please do not grieve
And shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you
Through the years.
But start out bravely
With a gallant smile
Reach out your hand
In comfort and in cheer
And I will turn and comfort you
And never, never
be afraid to die
For I am waiting for you
In the sky!

Author Unknown

Lynden Lodge on the move

Lynden Lodge calendar for May 2008

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| June 3 rd | Awarding a bike to Bikes 4 Books winner at 10 Mile Creek Elementary School | 10:40 AM |
| June 5 th | Stated Communication - Step-up Night | 7:30 PM |
| June 6 th | Awarding a bike to Bikes 4 Books winner at Lynden Middle School | 8:10 AM |
| June 19 th | Special Communication | 7:30 PM |

*All meetings are at the Ferndale Masonic Hall unless otherwise noted.

Scholarships: On Tuesday evening, May 27th, Lynden Lodge #56 was privileged to participate in the Awards of Excellence presentation at Meridian High School. We presented a scholarship for \$1,000.00 to Harris Larson. He is fine young man who is going to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and is one of three valedictorians at Meridian. The very next evening, May 28th at 7:00 PM, Lynden Lodge #56 presented a scholarship for \$1,000.00 to Lynden High School Senior Courtney Waites. Courtney is the daughter of Bro. Rick Waites and is an exceptional student and class valedictorian!

Memorial Day: This is just a short note to express my appreciation to those brothers who attended the Memorial Day ceremonies for Masons interred in the Lynden and Greenwood Cemeteries. It was a great turnout and a fitting tribute to these brothers! There are 77 brothers interred in the Lynden Cemetery and 2 brothers interred in the Greenwood Cemetery. Each name was read by Brother Troy Luginbill and the chime was sounded by WB Glenn Boodey.

VWB Frank Juntunen gave a reading and Bro. Larry Dodson handled the invocation and benediction.

At the end of the ceremony, all the brothers walked a short distance to the gravesite of Bro. Tony Mason and were joined there by his parents for a moment of silence in remembrance of him. Thanks to all of you!

Fraternally,

WB Dick Decima,
WM Lynden Lodge No. 56

MLA Report

On Saturday, May 10th, the Masonic Leadership Association held its monthly meeting at the Ferndale Masonic Center. The brothers of Bellingham Bay Lodge #44 were our hosts and we thank them for their hospitality!

VWB John R. Sleeth, candidate for Junior Grand Warden, presented his vision for the future of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Washington. Bro. John is one of 7 candidates for this office. He has visited 62 Lodges throughout the jurisdiction so far in order that their members may understand his program and have the opportunity to ask him questions.

The key topics discussed at this meeting were:

continued in next column

Grand Lodge sanctioned workshop VWB Jim Brady announced that there will be a Grand Lodge sanctioned workshop regarding training for the participants in the Child Identification Program (CHIP) on Saturday, August 2nd beginning at 10 AM at the Ferndale Masonic Center and will include an early lunch. CHIP will be offered to children, with their parents consent, at the Northwest Washington Fair August 11 - 16 in Lynden. So far, there has been great support for CHIP from most of the Lodges in District 10 and the remaining Lodges are anticipated to participate as well. Brothers of Lynden Lodge #56 are spearheading this effort, chaired by Bro. Jerry Mason, and with the full support of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office and the Lynden Police Department.

Traveling Gavel WB Gordon R. Grahame reported that the missing Traveling Gavel had been found. He will make arrangements to see that the Lodge that has it delivers it to a District 10 lodge. Our secretary, WB Vern Christianson, will be maintaining records so that the whereabouts of the Traveling Gavel are known at all times.

Masonic Education Council WB Dick Decima reported that drafts of the proposed Articles of Association and Bylaws had been prepared for review by the MEC Steering Committee. A draft of the application for tax-exempt status also has been prepared. According the filing instructions, the MEC will be able to function as a tax-exempt organization {501(c)(3)} while approval of the application is pending.

Worshipful Masters: please note that representatives from each of the Lodges will compose the Board of Directors of the MEC. Failure to appoint a representative will result in your Lodge not having a vote in MEC matters. Please make sure that a representative is appointed and that the Lodge secretary advises the MEC secretary in writing about the name of the representative.

Advertising approved by Grand Lodge Approval of advertisements has been obtained from Grand Lodge. The approved ad format has been very successful in at least one Lodge in British Columbia.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included: on-going committee reports; the results of the seminar on April 26th for the District 10 calendar; proficiency in Lodge management; the George Washington portrait program.

Announcements were made about upcoming events.

The lucky winner of the door prize, two tickets to the *Hands Across the Border* dinner on October 4th, was WB Bill Barquist.

Brothers, a lot was accomplished at this meeting! This is how Masons work!

There will not be a MLA meeting in June, July or August. The next meeting will be on September 20th. Nooksack Valley Lodge #105 will be the host. There will be a *Door Prize* again!

Our meetings this year have been well-attended which clearly indicates that the enthusiasm for the Masonic fraternity in District 10 is growing. Brothers, mark your calendars for the September 20th meeting and plan to be there.

Fraternally, WB Dick Decima

Here is what ***Bellingham Bay*** has going on.

Friday June 6th Special Communication at 7:30 on the Master Mason degree. Plan is for a Master Mason proficiency.

Saturday June 7th highway litter clean up at 9 AM. All meet at the Maplewood Masonic Center.

Tuesday June 17th monthly lodge visitation to Kulshan Int. at the Ferndale Masoni Center. Lodge opens at 7:30.

Friday June 20th Stated Communication to be opened on the Fellowcraft degree. Tentatively there will be a Fellowcraft degree. Vote on by-law changes.

WM Gary Pitcher

A pack of wolves chased two rabbits into a thicket. After a few minutes, one rabbit turned to the other and asked, "Well, do you want to run for it or stay here a few days and outnumber them"?

From The American Legion Magazine, June 2007

NW Shrine Club Well, here it is and we are going dark for the Summer. The May dinner meeting was well attended. I did receive a phone call from our Chief Rabban who got lost and couldn't find the location. You were missed, but we will take up a collection to get you a GPS. lol. All kidding aside, we did miss having you and your wonderful Lady Dot there. On May 24, 2008 we held our Annual Hamburger Feed at the American Legion Post #7. There were raffle prizes, auction prizes, food, drink, and fun. Plus kicked off our fundraiser; for 7 months we will be selling a raffle card for the cost of \$20.00, where you will have a chance to win \$25.00 daily, plus amounts ranging from \$250.00 to \$500.00. Now here is a chance to spend \$20.00 and make money 365 days a year with- out working.

I would like to thank all the Ladies and Nobles for bringing supplies for the troop boxes that we will be sending out at the end of the month. Please enjoy your Summer and be safe. Looking forward to seeing you all on September 2, 2008 for our welcome back meeting.

Yours in Faith

Ron Fine, Secretary NWSC

Masonic Compact.....

This document was developed by the Grand Lodge of New York and presented by their Grand Master Neal Bidnick.

Because I am a Freemason...

- I believe that freedom of religion is an inalienable human right and tolerance an indispensable trait of human character; therefore, I will stand in my Lodge with Brothers of all faiths, and respect their beliefs as they respect mine, and I will demonstrate the spirit of Brotherhood in all aspects of my life.
- I know that education and the rational use of the mind are the keys to facing the problems of humanity; therefore, I will bring my questions and my ideas to my Lodge, and strive to advance the growth of my mind alongside my Brothers.
- I know that the rich tradition of Freemasonry and its framework of Ritual are important platforms for growth and learning; therefore, I vow to stand upon these platforms to improve myself as a human being, and I vow to help in the mission of the Craft to provide tools, atmosphere, challenges and motivation to help each Brother do the same.
- I know that charity is the distinguishing human virtue, and that personal community service is the best demonstration of one's commitment to humanity; I acknowledge that words without deeds are meaningless, and I vow to work with my Lodge to provide service to the community, and to promote charity, friendship, morality, harmony, integrity, fidelity and love.
- I know that my obligation to community extends beyond my local sphere and is partly fulfilled in my patriotism: love of my country, obedience to its laws and celebration of the freedoms and opportunities it symbolizes.
- I know that leadership is best demonstrated by commitment to serving others; I will therefore participate in, and help work at improving individual leadership skills, and serve the Brothers of my Lodge to the best of my ability.
- I know that friendship, fidelity and family are the foundations of a well-lived life; I therefore vow to be a faithful friend to my Brothers, as I expect my Lodge to respect my personal obligations, and to treat my family as though my family were their own.
- I know that the last great lesson of Freemasonry -- the value of personal integrity and the sanctity of one's word -- is a lesson for all people in all times; I therefore vow to be a man of my word.
- I know that Masonry's power is best exercised when its Light is shared with the world at large; I therefore vow to bring the best of myself to my Lodge, in order that my growth might be fostered and nurtured, and to present myself to the world as a working Freemason, on the path to building a more perfect temple.

Because I am a Freemason, these values and aspirations are guideposts for my progress through life.

Reprinted from Cinosam on the Web - November 2007

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 |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 Hesperus Com-mandery No. 8 at din 6:30, meet 7:30 p. (BMC) F-OES #223 7:30 p. | 3 ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 p. | 4 SJ # 175 stated 7:30 p. (FHMC) V-Bellingham Scottish Rite: D-6:30; M_7:30 | 5 L # 56 stated 7:30, OV - D of GM (FMC) Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7 p. (BMC) | 6 BB # 44 stated 7:30 p MM Profi-ciency is planned (SRH) | 7 Highway Clean-up 9 am Meet at BMC |
| 8 | 9 F #264 stated 7:30 p. Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM at (BMC) din 6:30, meet 7:30 p. | 10 F # 73 stated 7:30 p. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC) | 11 NV # 105 stated 7:30 p. (NMC) | 12 Grand Lodge Bethel # 25 JDI, 7 p. (BMC) | 13 Grand Lodge | 14 Grand Lodge |
| 15 | 16 Bellingham Chap Royal Arch (din 6:30, meet 7:30 (BMC) F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC) | 17 KI # 186-stated 7:30 p. ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC) NWSC Brd Meeting | 18 | 19 W 151-stated lodge opens 6:30 pm. L # 56 Spl. Third Deg. at 7:30 pm. Grand Bethel Session | 20 BB 44 Spl. 7:30 p. MM Degree is planned (SRH) Grand Bethel Session | 21 Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7 p. Grand Bethel Session |
| 22 GBS | 23 | 24 F # 73-Spl. Com 7:30 p. (BMC) | 25 | 26 W 151 - Ritual & Proficiency at 6 PM | 27 | 28 Bethel #25 JDI, 7 p. (BMC) |
| 29 | 30 | "The universal brotherhood of man is our most precious possession." <i>Mark Twain</i> | | | | |

When Thomas Jefferson wrote that we had a government of the people, by the people and for the people, he apparently was talking about who was going to pick up the tab.

From The American Legion Magazine, January 2007



KING'S QUOTE'S

A man is giving a speech at this lodge meeting.
 He gets carried away and talks for two hours.
 Finally, he realizes what he's don and say's,
 "I'm sorry I talked so long. I left my watch at home."
 At the back of the room, someone shouts,
 "That's no excuse, There's a calendar behind you."
 From The American Legion Magazine March 2007

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John Sleeth (Ext 301)

Highway Clean-up:

The next Highway Clean-up is Sat. June 7th. We gather at the Bellingham Masonic Center, at the rear, and depart at 9 AM for 90 minutes of Good Clean Fun, and Fellowship!

Info: Ken Gass, 671-1993 or agassk@aol.com

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

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