



# Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

Published by: Whatcom Lodge No. 151...Chartered in 1906



Volume 11 - Issue 6

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June 2010

## Whatcom Lodge Report

**Stated Meeting** - Our stated meeting was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> with twelve brothers attending. Prior to the meeting we were treated to a very fine ham dinner served by WB Thom Baughn. Thank you brother Thom. For dinner we were joined by three guests, Bro. Steve Schuman, a Coastguardsman who brought a "Coastie" friend, Mr. Joel Laufenberg and Mr. Kris Boudreau. Both men asked for petitions which we hope to Read at our June 17<sup>th</sup> stated meeting.

**Business:** The proposal to amend our By-Laws was brought up for discussion. The proposal, presented-moved-and-2<sup>nd</sup> at the April stated meeting and reported in the May Issue of the Newsletter, is to raise the annual dues from \$25 to \$50 per year. After discussion the vote was taken and the proposal was approved. Before taking effect, for the 2011 dues year, this amendment has to be confirmed by the Grand Master and the By-Laws Committee.

**Membership:** Bro. Joe Hayes has returned as an active member of the lodge. We look forward to his leadership and mentoring of our new members.

**Degrees:** During the month of May two degrees were conferred. On May 6<sup>th</sup>, Bro. Jesse Peterson was Passed to the FC Degree. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree at Roche Harbor, Bro. James McCullough received his 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. Both of these brothers and their coaches have been working hard and we expect they'll be read for their Third Degree before long.

The next degrees are on June 3<sup>rd</sup>—Bro's. Tristan Burgess and Mike Mozelewski are to receive their FC Degrees and on June 17<sup>th</sup>—Bro. Jesse Peterson will be raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

**Proficiency:** Brother Joe Barratt proved-up on the MM Degree at our Special Communication on May 6<sup>th</sup> and did a very nice job. Brothers David Brown and Alex Bruner completed their proficiency on the MM Degree at our May 20<sup>th</sup> stated, also in fine fashion. Congratulations go to all of these brothers for their hard work and dedication to our lodge. We also have several brothers ready to prove-up at our June meetings.

**Brothers Travel** - WM Larry West, SW Boyd McEwen, Sec. John Browne and VW Glenn Hutchings visited our sister lodge, Prince David No. 101, in Maple Ridge BC, on Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Prince David Lodge was celebrating Past Master's and Strawberry Shortcake Night. Also scheduled was a double Third Degree conferral for Prince David Bro's Robert Fairley and Robert Mitchell. The degrees went very well - congratulations to these fine new MM's. WB West presented The Traveling Trowel to Prince David WM, WB Dan Curran. The visit was lots of fun and the strawberries were very delicious.

**Next meetings**—Our Special is on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Stated is on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Note:** Most of you Whatcom brothers are receiving this newsletter via email but some 40 are getting the paper version. The e-mail version is the least costly of the two systems by far. So, if any of you paper copy recipients have email I hope you'll consider switching over. My email address in on page 4, so send me a message and I'll get you on the email mailing list. Thanks!

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

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

|                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jun 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | San Juan Lodge - 7:30 pm      |
| Jun 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Lynden Lodge - 7:30 pm        |
| Jun 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Bellingham Bay - 7:30 pm      |
| Jun 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Fairhaven Lodge - 7 pm        |
| Jun 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Nooksack Valley Ldg - 6 pm    |
| Jun 14 <sup>th</sup> | Ferndale Lodge - 7:30- pm     |
| Jun 17 <sup>th</sup> | Whatcom Lodge - 6:30 pm       |
| Jun 26 <sup>th</sup> | Kulshan Int. Lodge - 10:30 am |

## 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Open Air Degree at the Masonic Park, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>

7 - 10 a.m. enjoy an *All You Can Eat* Breakfast (\$5.00) at Damascus Lodge #199 in Granite Falls.

Masonic Park gate fee - \$5 per person

8 to 10 am - Registration at gate, coffee and donuts available at big kitchen.

10 am - District # 9 will open lodge.

*Flag Ceremony*

*Welcome and Introductions*

*First Section of third degree by*

*Lakeside Lodge #258*

Noonish - 30 minute break

**Drama section** - *Nile Shrine Deg. Team*

*Grand Master's Message*

*Lodge closed by Grand Lodge Officers*

The Masonic Park Board sponsored Dinner will be served after close of lodge to 4 pm. The cost is \$15, to be paid at registration.

**Ladies Program** - There will be entertainment at Dream Camp for the ladies and a light brunch of coffee, tea and muffins will be provided at a cost of \$5(?) at the Rainbow Chalet.

Fri - August 6th, overnight camping will be allowed in designate areas

*All fees are in US \$*

Terry Gibbs V-Chair, Masonic Park Board

Under the direction of Bro. Jerry Mason, a CHIPs event was held at Bellis Fair in conjunction with the Kids Safety program on April 24th. Ninety plus children were processed during the afternoon.

May has proved to be another busy month. An Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred to Mr. Don Aho. Don's Fellow Craft Degree will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup> at the Ferndale Masonic Hall. We encourage all District 10 Masons to attend.

Educators of the Year awards were presented for both Meridian and Lynden School Districts. Scholarships will be awarded to two deserving senior students from Meridian and Lynden, respectively during the first week in June.

Flags were displayed at the Lynden and Greenwood cemeteries in honor of the Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15th. On Memorial Day, May 31st, Flags will again be displayed at both cemeteries. The annual program honoring our deceased brethren will commence at 9:00 AM at Lynden Cemetery. Masonic Flags will be displayed on each grave of the Masonic brethren interred there. Flags for Past Masters will be specially marked. Names of all interred Masonic brethren will be read aloud.

To help fund Community Support Programs, Lynden Lodge will again be selling Strawberries this year. Orders may be directed to WB Dick Decima. Payment can be made by cash, check or credit card. **Berries will be sliced, un-sugared and in two gallon pails, weight – 15 pounds.** Cost - \$35.00. Pick up day will be June 26<sup>th</sup>. Order due date is June 19<sup>th</sup>. Pick up locations are: Lynden Pioneer Museum, Roger Jobs Motors in Bellingham and Birch Bay Village.

When picking up berries in Lynden, try to allow time to view the new Masonic display at Lynden Pioneer Museum.

Please mark your calendars for the Fall Hands Across the Border event scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Lynden Lodge will continue to meet on the first Thursday of the month during the summer. Please try to visit. We welcome your support.

Jack Sprouls, WM  
Lynden Lodge No. 56

If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month.

~ Bro. Theodore Roosevelt, 1858 - 1919

## On IQ test results:

"Children develop only as the environment demands development. In 1981, New Zealand-based psychologist James Flynn discovered just how profoundly true that statement is. Comparing raw IQ scores over nearly a century, Flynn saw that they kept going up: every few years, the new batch of IQ test takers seemed to be smarter than the old batch. Twelve-year-olds in the 1980s performed better than twelve-year-olds in the 1970s, who performed better than twelve-year-olds in the 1960s, and so on. This trend wasn't limited to a certain region or culture, and the differences were not trivial. On average, IQ test takers improved over their predecessors by three points every ten years - a staggering difference of eighteen points over two generations. "The differences were so extreme, they were hard to wrap one's head around. Using a late-twentieth-century average score of 100, the comparative score for the year 1900 was calculated to be about 60 - leading to the truly absurd conclusion, acknowledged Flynn, 'that a majority of our ancestors were mentally retarded.' The so-called Flynn effect raised eyebrows throughout the world of cognitive research. Obviously, the human race had not evolved into a markedly smarter species in less than one hundred years. Something else was going on.

"For Flynn, the pivotal clue came in his discovery that the increases were not uniform across all areas but were concentrated in certain subtests. Contemporary kids did not do any better than their ancestors when it came to general knowledge or mathematics. But in the area of abstract reasoning, reported Flynn, there were 'huge and embarrassing' improvements. The further back in time he looked, the less test takers seemed comfortable with hypothetical's and intuitive problem solving. Why? Because a century ago, in a less complicated world, there was very little familiarity with what we now consider basic abstract concepts. '[The intelligence of] our ancestors in 1900 was anchored in everyday reality,' explains Flynn. 'We differ from them in that we can use abstractions and logic and the hypothetical ... Since 1950, we have become more ingenious in going beyond previously learned rules to solve problems on the spot.'

"Examples of abstract notions that simply didn't exist in the minds of our nineteenth-century ancestors include the theory of natural selection (formulated in 1864), and the concepts of control group (1875) and random sample (1877). A century ago, the scientific method itself was foreign to most Americans. The general public had simply not yet been conditioned to think abstractly.

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

***June*** activities for Bellingham Bay #44

***Friday June 4<sup>th</sup>*** we will open lodge at 7:30 for the purpose of conferring a Master Mason degree.

***Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>*** meet at the Maplewood Hall shortly before 9AM for the highway clean up.

***Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup>*** support Evergreen Rainbow Assembly's spaghetti dinner at the Maplewood Center from 5 to 8 PM.

***Thursday June 17<sup>th</sup>*** monthly visitation to Whatcom Lodge at 6:30 at the Maplewood Center.

***Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>*** Stated Communication to review the results of Grand Lodge.

WM Gary Pitcher

One measure of friendship consists not in the number of things friends can discuss, but in the number of things they need no longer mention.

~ Clifton Fadiman

How do **YOU** measure the value of **YOUR** Masonry!

Brothers,

It's been said, that a "cynic" is "...one who knows the cost of everything, and the value of nothing." What is the cost of membership in Masonry? Some folks have been known to grumble when they get the bills for Blue Lodge, followed by bills for the various bodies of the York Rite, then here comes the Scottish Rite, Shriners, Eastern Star, etc. Dues for this. Fees for that. Sometimes it may seem like a lot.

Is it really? What "value" did our Brothers in the past place on their membership in the Masonic Fraternity? According to the "Scottish Rite Monitor & Guide", page 109, Brothers applying for the degrees of the Scottish Rite paid \$352.20 . . . in 1801!! In other words, in inflation adjusted dollars they paid a whopping \$5922.62 in present day money. Compare that to the current \$200 charged by the Valley of Bellingham, or the paltry sum asked for by your Blue Lodge, and you'll begin to see just how serious membership was taken by our prior Brothers.

Talk about a great value! For the cost of a large pizza and a six pack of beer, I have the privilege of 2 meetings a month with high quality people, good men who strive to be better, who meet on the level, act on the plumb, and part upon the square.

Fraternally ~ Bro. Terrell Goertz

The Whatcom Brothers send their wishes for the following brothers who have birthdays in the month of June.

A Very Happy Birthday To:

VW. John F. Browne - June 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Bro. Frank J. McKain - June 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Bro. Robert G. Lipke - June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Bro. Boyd G. McEwen - June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Bro. Joel R. Douglas - June 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. Tristan D. Burgess - June 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. Corvin L. Kepplinger - June 21<sup>st</sup>  
 WB Johnathan Ashley - June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. Jonathan P. Blair - June 29<sup>th</sup>

IQ - continued from page 2

"The catalyst for the dramatic IQ improvements, in other words, was not some mysterious genetic mutation or magical nutritional supplement but what Flynn described as 'the [cultural] transition from pre-scientific to post-scientific operational thinking.' Over the course of the twentieth century, basic principles of science slowly filtered into public consciousness, transforming the world we live in. That transition, says Flynn, 'represents nothing less than a liberation of the human mind.'

"The scientific world-view, with its vocabulary, taxonomies, and detachment of logic and the hypothetical from concrete referents, has begun to permeate the minds of post-industrial people. This has paved the way for mass education on the university level and the emergence of an intellectual cadre without whom our present civilization would be inconceivable.

"Perhaps the most striking of Flynn's observations is this: 98 percent of IQ test takers today score better than the average test taker in 1900. The implications of this realization are extraordinary. It means that in just one century, improvements in our social discourse and our schools have dramatically raised the measurable intelligence of almost everyone.

"So much for the idea of fixed intelligence."

~ David Shenk,

The Genius in All of Us, Doubleday, 2010



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   |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|
|                               |   | <b>1</b> ML-OES # 58 (BMC)<br>7:30 p.  | <b>2</b> SJ # 175 stated<br>7:30 p. (FHMC)      | <b>3</b> L # 56 stated meet-<br>ing 7:30 pm<br><br>W #151 - Spl. Comm—<br>2 FC Degrees planned                              | <b>4</b> BB # 44 stated<br>7:30 pm.             | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b>                      | <b>7</b> Hesperus Com-<br>mandery No. 8 - 7:30,<br><br>F-OES #223 7:30 p.<br>(FMC)                              | <b>8</b> F # 73-stated 7<br>pm. (BMC)<br><br>Evergreen RB # 17<br>7 p. (FMC) | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> Bethel # 25 at 7<br>pm.<br><br>Grand Lodge of WA  | <b>11</b><br><br>Grand Lodge of WA              | <b>12</b><br><br>Grand Lodge of WA                                    |
| <b>13</b>                     | <b>14</b> F # 264 - 7:30 p.<br><br>Bellingham Council<br>No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p<br><br>Flagg Day                   | <b>15</b> ML-OES # 58<br>7:30 p. (BMC)                                       | <b>16</b>                                       | <b>17</b> W 151-stated<br>dinner at 5:30 lodge<br>opens 6:30 pm We<br>have a 3rd Deg planned                                | <b>18</b> BB 44 Stated<br>Meeting 7:30 p. (SRH) | <b>19</b>   |
| <b>20</b><br><br>Father's Day | <b>21</b> Bellingham Chp<br>Royal Arch - 7:30 p.<br><br>F-OES # 223 7:30 p.<br>(FMC)<br><br>First Day of Summer | <b>22</b> F # 73-Spl. 7 pm.  | <b>23</b> NV # 105 - 6 pm<br>Elections tonight! | <b>24</b>   | <b>25</b>                                       | <b>26</b> KI # 186,<br>stated, at 10:30 am.<br><br>Bethel #25 at 7 pm |
| <b>27</b>                     | <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>                                       | <p>A man is rich in proportion<br/>to the number of things<br/>he can afford to let alone.</p> <p>~ Henry David Thoreau</p> |   |   |

The imaginative child will become the imaginative man or woman most apt to create, to invent, and therefore to foster civilization.

L. Frank Baum, (1856 - 1919)  
Author of: *The Wizard of Oz* (and related books)



Come! Let us lay a lance in rest,  
And tilt at windmills under a wild sky!  
For who would live so petty and unblest  
That dare not tilt at something ere he die;  
Rather than, screened by safe majority,  
Preserve his little life to little end,  
And never raise a rebel cry!

~ John Galsworthy,  
*Errantry*, (stanza 1)

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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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