



# Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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March 2011

## Whatcom Lodge Report

**Stated Meeting** - Our stated meeting was held on February 17<sup>th</sup> with twenty brothers attending. WM Boyd McEwen noted that the purpose of this stated meeting was not only to conduct the regular business of the lodge but also to receive the D of GM, VW Charles Cunningham, on his Official Visit, and, to confer the Second Degree on Bro. Craig Bruner. This ambitious agenda was preceded by a very nice salmon dinner prepared by our SD, Jesse Petersen.

**Proficiency & Degree:** Prior to the opening of lodge Bro. Craig Bruner completed his EAM posting lecture before a MM Committee and did a fine job. After opening lodge the Degree Team took their places and the degree began. Monte Thompson conferred the degree, James McCullough recited the circumambulation, Jesse Petersen presented the working tools, Terrell Goertz & Jesse Petersen combined to give the MC lecture, Glenn Hutchings gave the "G" lecture and Terrell Goertz gave the Charge. Good work was done by all.

**The OV:** Prior to opening lodge VW Charles Cunningham examined the various books and records kept by the Treasurer and Secretary. At the conclusion of the meeting VW Charles gave his address, noting that our GM has had a very busy year, and he gave a run-down on the structure and agenda for the May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Regional Meeting to be held at the Everett Masonic Center.

**Upcoming Degrees:** Brother Tony Anton will be raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason at our Special Communication on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dinner will be at 5:30 PM and lodge will be opened at about 6:30 PM. There are a few more brothers still working on their degrees, but it is not known at present just when they will complete their respective proficiencies, stay tuned.

**Special Program:** Bro. Terrell Goertz is working on getting a Guest Speaker for our March 17<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication. The speaker is one of the men depicted in the Mini-series *Band of Brothers*. He is a Masonic Brother and resides in Burlington, WA. All Masons will be welcome to attend this meeting.

**Next meetings** - Our Special meeting is on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, dinner at 5:30 pm. The next Stated meeting is on March 17<sup>th</sup>, dinner at 5:30 pm & lodge at 6 30.

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

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

- Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> San Juan Lodge - 7:30
- Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> Lynden Int. Lodge - 7:30 pm
- Mar 4<sup>th</sup> Bellingham Bay - 7:30 p
- Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Fairhaven Lodge - 7 pm
- Mar 9<sup>th</sup> Nooksack Valley Ldg - 6 pm
- Mar 14<sup>th</sup> Ferndale Lodge - 7:30 pm
- Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge - dinner at 5:30; meeting at 6:30 pm.

## IN MASONIC MEMORIAM



Bro. Corwin T. Slentz Jr., aged 92, passed away on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. He was born on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1919. Bro. Slentz began his Masonic career when he was elected to membership in Whatcom Lodge on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1953. He was Initiated on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1953; Passed on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1953 and Raised on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1954.

Brother Slentz Joined the Valley of Bellingham, Scottish Rite in 1954, taking his 14<sup>o</sup> on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1954 and he completed 32o on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 1955.

Brother Slentz moved to the Seattle area in the 1960's but loved his Masonic ties in Bellingham so much that, according to his daughter Linda, he would not join a local Masonic group but chose instead to make the drive to Bellingham to attend his blue lodge and the Valley of Bellingham Scottish Rite.

It shows a lot of dedication to the lodge for a brother to maintain his membership in a lodge about a hundred miles away, even after he became to old to make the car trip north to attend. In the photo above, Bro. Corwin proudly holds up his 55 year certificate, given to him on his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Our condolences go out to his wife Peggy and the rest of the family.

The Whatcom Brothers send their wishes for

A Very Happy March Birthday! To Brother's:

Robert Bailey - Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>, Bryan Clifton - Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, Anthony Portera - Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, Leon Scott Jr. - Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>, Glenn Hutchings. - Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>, Michael Kukasky. - Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> and Alan Cheesman - Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>

I learned this, at least, by my experiment; that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success

unexpected in common hours. ~ Henry David Thoreau

## Notes from Lynden Int. Lodge No. 56

### Bikes 4 Books

Lynden Lodge initiated its Bikes 4 Books program in 2008 with 8 bikes donated to 3 schools in the Lynden and Meridian School Districts and the Lynden Public Library. Pleased with the favorable response from students, librarians and the community, the program was expanded in 2009 and 2010 and 32 bikes were donated to 7 schools and the library. In 2011, two schools elected to award bikes only once during the year, so 30 bikes were donated to the schools and library. In all, Lynden Lodge has donated 102 bikes since the program was started in 2008. The reward to the Lodge for this program was the amazing increase in book reading by students as reported by the librarians, their enthusiastic endorsement of the program and their sincere desire for the program to continue.

With the consolidation of Kulshan International Lodge and Lynden Lodge, we are expanding our program coverage to include 4 schools in the Blaine School District. We plan to donate 38 bikes to the 11 schools and the library during this school year.

Each time bikes are awarded, we try to have lodge members in aprons present to congratulate the students for their increased interest in reading and the school faculty for their work in making the program such a success. Many times the parents of the students are present when the bikes are awarded and they too express their appreciation for the educational support Masonry has provided to the community.

### Hand Across the Border

The Spring *Hands Across the Border* event will be held on Thursday, May 5th at the Bellingham Masonic Center. This year we will be honoring RWB Mike Sanders, Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Washington and RWB Bill Cave, Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A. F. & A.M. of British Columbia & Yukon. The social period will begin at 5:30 with dinner at 6:00 and the Lodge will be tiled at 7:30. This is our most eminent Lodge event of the year. More details later!

### Initiation of Stephen Anthony Aulds

On February 10th Mr. Stephen Anthony Aulds was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. WM Jerry Mason obligated the candidate and very ably delivered the lecture. VWB John Browne gave the charge perfectly. Bro. Aulds is working very hard on his proficiency and his second degree is anticipated to be in March.

[Continued at top of next column]

### Flags at the Cemeteries

For several years the members of Lynden International Lodge have displayed 82 flags at the Lynden and Greenwood cemeteries along the front and on the main road entranceways on 10 national holidays. The flags are displayed at daybreak and retired at sundown.

### Visit to Ancient Light Lodge No. 88

On March 21st Lynden International Lodge No. 56 is planning to visit Ancient Light Lodge No. 88 in Ladner, British Columbia. Ancient Light Lodge No. 88 and Kulshan International Lodge No. 186 have been sister Lodges. One of the objectives of the Lodge in 2011 is to increase the number of visits to other lodges both internationally and within our own jurisdiction.

WB Dick Decima  
Secretary

Man, unlike any other thing organic or inorganic  
in the universe, grows beyond his work, walks  
up the stairs of his concepts, emerges ahead  
of his accomplishments.

~ John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath

**NWSC** Please come join us on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 for Corned Beef, Ham, Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes, Carrots, Garden Salad, Rolls, Coffee, Tea, & Dessert. All for the price of \$17.00 per person. This will be at Jeckyl & Hyde Deli and Ale house, 709 W. Orchard Drive.

Zem, Zem at 6:00 P.M. Dinner at 7:00 P.M. Meeting at 8:00 P.M. For Reservations call Noble Ron Fine at 360-676-5747 or E-mail me at [RonFine2@aol.com](mailto:RonFine2@aol.com).

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Just a reminder we have to pay for 40 dinners, if you cancel, it has to be 24 hrs before the dinner; otherwise you will be billed for the dinner.

At our last dinner in February there was a motion made, Seconded and Passed not too have a dinner in February as it's only 4 days after our Installation dinner. Noble Claude Weadon started our Kazoo band and they did a wonderful job. If you know of a Noble or Lady who is ill, please let Noble Ron Fine or Lady Sharon Fine know; they are the Sunshine committee. See you all on Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

Yours in Faith,  
Ron Fine, Secretary.

## Masonic Leadership Association District No. 10

Wow! Our host lodge Ferndale No. 264 out did themselves with a feast fit for a Mason. Their refreshments were great and if you went away hungry it was your own fault.

Twenty-eight masons representing all of the lodges in the District were present. Minutes and Treasurer Reports were made and with a few exceptions, we are in good shape.

WB Ken Gass, President of the Masonic Education Council present an excellent report on the status of this year's Student Scholar Program. Check with your Lodge representative to the MLA for more details.

WB Rick Kiene, President of Whatcom County Widows and Orphans Fund brought us up to date on that program. Only 25% of the memberships of the Whatcom County Lodges belong. Each Lodge does have a representative, so ask your's for more information.

Bellingham Bay Worshipful Master Chris Lyon presented this month's Traveling Gavel to Lynden International Lodge.

Brother Jesse Petersen from Whatcom Lodge No. 151 reported that the Traveling Light was in for repair with Whatcom Lodge making sure that it was repaired by the working tools of Masons.

VWB Charles Cunningham brought us all up to date with the May 8<sup>th</sup> District Meeting now being scheduled to be held in Everett Masonic Center. He also presented the status of those working on the Proficiency in Lodge Management.

Worshipful Master Terry Lush from San Juan Lodge No. 175 brought us current with the plans on the Open Air Roche Harbor 2<sup>nd</sup> degree. Circle the date of May 14<sup>th</sup> and plan to attend. This is a family outing.

Our quarterly Highway Clean Up was scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup>. WB Ken Gass also reported that this was the 21<sup>st</sup> year of Highway cleanup. Everyone is to meet at the Bellingham Masonic Center at 9AM.

The program speaker, WB Larry Bronner, representing the Nile Shine was introduced. He presented on the history on its beginning in New York, when and where it was started in Washington State. He introduced Brother Tim Springstead, the current President of the NW Shrine club who presented comments.

After a final positive round from all present, Deputy of the Grand Master, VVB Charles Cunningham brought the Grand Masters greetings. Brother Landon Estes, Ferndale Lodge No. 264 closed the meeting with the benediction. The next meeting will highlight the Youth

Groups in Washington State. Fairhaven Lodge No. 73 will host the meeting to begin with a 9:45 social on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the same location: 2626 W Maplewood Ave, Bellingham. The youth groups are invited to attend this meeting.

John Sleeth, President  
Masonic Leadership Association

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

***Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>*** – Stated meeting at 7:30. Brethren, this will be “Worshipful Master's Surprise Night.” If you thought the last meeting was interesting, make sure that you come to this one. I plan to try some fun new things, so all Past Masters make sure that you take your heart, stroke and epileptic fit prevention medication before coming to the meeting. It will be a one of a kind meeting that the absent Brethren will regret having missed.

***Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>*** – Senior Warden Practice, from 6:30 until the Brothers want to leave. 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, March 18<sup>th</sup>*** – Special communication, officers open at 6:30. Masonic Youth Presentation Night. Brethren, come and show your support for the Masonic youth. The Job's Daughters and DeMolay boys will be giving a first rate performance. Bring your friends and family, the public is invited. Bring potential candidates. If you have kids, bring them so that they can check out these groups. Socializing starts at 6:00, lodge will open early at 6:30.

The doors will open to the public at 6:50 and the program will start at 7:00. Guests retire to refreshments at 8:00 while officers close lodge. Give WM Chris a heads up by phone or email if you will be bringing guests.

***Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>*** – Masonic Leadership Association meeting at 10:15 AM at the Maplewood Masonic Center with Fairhaven Lodge #73 the host. Doors will open at 9:00 am, social (coffee and refreshments) at 9:45, business at 10:15 and program 11 to noon. Program on all three Masonic youth groups, with PGM Jimmy Reid presenting DeMolay, subtitled, “Youth Groups, Are They Needed?” This program is for all the members of our Lodge.

***Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>*** – Senior Warden Practice, from 6:30, as above.

WM Chris Lyon

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

When we seek to discover the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves.

~ William Arthur Ward

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> (February)	<b>1</b> ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 pm	<b>2</b> SJ # 175 - stated 7:30 p. (FHMC)	<b>3</b> L # 56 stated meeting 7:30 pm W #151 - Spl. Comm - a 3rd Deg is planned	<b>4</b> BB # 44 - stated 7:30 pm.	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Hesperus Commandery No. 8 - 7:30 F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC)	<b>8</b> F # 73-stated 7 pm. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC)	<b>9</b> NV # 105 - stated at 6 pm  Ash Wednesday	<b>10</b> Bethel # 25 at 7 pm.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Daylight Saving Time begins	<b>14</b> F # 264 - 7:30 p Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p	<b>15</b> ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC)	<b>16</b> SJ # 175 - Spl. 7:30 p. (FHMC)	<b>17</b> W 151 - stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm. Spl. Guest Speaker.  St. Patrick's Day	<b>18</b> BB 44 Spl Comm 7:30 p. (SRH)	<b>19</b> MLA hosted by 9:45 am refreshments, mtg at 10 am.
<b>20</b> Spring Equinox Purim begins at sunset	<b>21</b> Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC)	<b>22</b> F # 73-Spl. 7 pm. Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC)	<b>23</b> NV # 105 - 7:30	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Bethel #25 at 7 pm
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> F # 264 - Dark	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> (April)	<b>2</b> Highway cleanup leaves W. Maplewood Masonic Center at 9 am. 21 <sup>st</sup> year of operation.

*Go the extra mile. It's never crowded.*

Form the Executive Speedwriter Newsletter

**Next Highway Cleanup**

**Masonic Highwaymen:** Your long wait is over! Our 21<sup>st</sup> season of highway litter pick up will begin on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, leaving from the back parking lot of the Maplewood Masonic Hall by 9:00 a.m. Spread the word, not the litter!

Call me for questions or details, newbies are welcome. Photos will be taken of all the smiling Masonic highwaymen, properly clothed and vouched for.

*Ken Gass, Secretary, Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44*

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**John Sleeth** (Ext 301)

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:

John F. Browne, PO Box 1895, Maple Falls, WA. 98266

Ph. 360-599-3481

e-mail: [jbrowne@telcomplus.net](mailto:jbrowne@telcomplus.net)