



# Letters from Whatcom Lodge 151

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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May-June 2019

## Whatcom Lodge Report

**April Special:** At the April 4<sup>th</sup> Special the FC Degree was conferred on Bro. Jeff Roskelley by SW WB John Brown. He was conducted by SD Bruce Smith. There were **16** Whatcom Brothers and **1** visitor in attendance.

**April Stated:** The April 18<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication was attended by **20** Whatcom Brothers **1** visitor and we had 3 guests for dinner. Lodge was opened on the First Degree.

**Proficiency:** Bro. Bill Kappel assisted by WB Dave Sarna performed the EA Posting Lecture in open lodge and did a very nice job. He is now ready for his FC Degree.

**Petitions:** Two petitions for the degrees were given first readings and investigation committees appointed.

**Balloting:** The Investigation Report on the Petition for Dual Membership from WB Daniel Polvere was read, it was *Full & Favorable*. The resulting ballot was declared *Fair, Clear & Bright*. Congratulations to WB Daniel, our newest member.

**Masonic Luncheon:** WB Ted Schuman reported that there were 14 in attendance at the Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, luncheon at the Rusty Wagon.

**May Special:** The May 2<sup>nd</sup> Special was held at our new home at the Scottish Rite Hall on N. State Street in Bellingham. The meeting was attended by **19** Whatcom members and we had **3** dinner guests.

**Degree:** Lodge was opened on the second degree for the purpose of conferring the FC Degree on Bro. Bill Kappel. SW WB John Brown conferred the degree with SD Bruce Smith conducting the candidate. WM WB Ken Peck performed the *MC Lecture* and WB John Brown gave the "G" Lecture and the *Charge*.

**May Stated:** The May 16<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication was opened on the second degree and attended by **14** Whatcom Brothers, **1** visitor and **2** dinner guests.

**Balloting:** The Investigation Report on the Petition for the Degrees of Masonry from Mr. Todd Conradson came back *Full and Favorable*. The resulting ballot was *Clear, Fair & Bright*. His EA Degree conferral is set for June 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Proficiency & MM Degree:** Bro. Jeff Roskelley, assisted by VW Glenn Hutchings completed his FC proficiency so, at our June 20<sup>th</sup> Stated we will confer on him the MM Degree.

**Annual Campout:** Hope you settled your Masonic Camp out plans with WB Ted Schuman. If not well now is not too soon to mark the 2020 calendar so you'll not miss it next year!

**Annual Lodge BBQ:** WB Ted Schuman has announced that this year's annual lodge BBQ is set for August 24<sup>th</sup> at Ted & Penny's, more details to follow as the date gets nearer, BUT...be sure to mark your calendar.

**Next Communications:** Our next Special Communication is on Thursday June 6<sup>th</sup>. Our next Stated Communication is on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Prior to both meetings dinner will be at 5:30 pm with Lodge to open at 6:30 pm.

*Fraternally,* John Browne, Secretary ... **Contact info is at bottom right corner, page 4**

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

**Jun 20<sup>th</sup>** Whatcom Lodge - dinner at 5:30; meeting at 6:30 pm.

**Jun 21<sup>st</sup>** Bellingham Bay - 7:30 pm

**Jun 27<sup>th</sup>** Lynden/Ferndale Int. Lodge 56 - 7 pm

## Up-coming Events

**Whatcom EA Degree....**set for June 6<sup>th</sup> for Mr. Todd Conradson. Dinner is at 5:30 pm and Lodge opens at 6:30pm.

**Masonic Monthly Luncheon....**Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. 12 noon at the Rusty Wagon.

**Whatcom MM Degree....**Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Dinner is at 5:30 pm and Lodge opens at 6:30pm.

**Lynden-Ferndale Int #56....** Please note that the Lodge is dark in July.

**Masonic Monthly Luncheon....**Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. 12 noon at the Rusty Wagon.

**Masonic Monthly Luncheon....**Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. 12 noon at the Rusty Wagon.

## Annual Whatcom Lodge BBQ

Whatcom Brothers mark your calendars, the annual lodge BBQ date has been set for August 24<sup>th</sup> and Ted and Penny's. More details to follow as we get closer to the event. *See page 3*

## Notes from Lynden Lodge No. 56

Stated June 27<sup>th</sup> 7 pm

### Fellowcraft degree

Brother Joel Robinson received the 2nd of Masonry on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. WB Everett Thompson was in the East and also did the working tools. He was ably supported by WM Troy Luginbill in the West and Bro. Howard Hanna in the South. VWB Jesse Petersen guided Bro. Joel on his journey. WB Ken Peck gave the MC lecture and it was done to perfection. The charge was done by WM Troy. After the degree refreshments were served by the ladies of the Ferndale Order of the Eastern Star.

### Memorial Day Masonic Service

On Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 am, a Masonic service was conducted in memory of the many Masons interred in the Lynden Cemetery. Each of their gravesites had a Masonic flag on it. This was a very short ceremony at which the name of each departed brother was read followed by a single chime in his memory. Very moving!

### Scholarships

Late May and early June are the dates in which five scholarships for \$1,500 are awarded at presentation ceremonies to deserving high school seniors in the Blaine, Ferndale, Lynden, Meridian and Nooksack Valley school districts.

### Educators of the Year

The Superintendent of Schools in each of the Blaine, Ferndale, Lynden, Meridian and Nooksack Valley school districts has selected an Educator of the Year. The presentation of a \$750 award is made in late May and early June to each Educator at the regular monthly meeting of the School Board of Directors in each district. The board members at all districts are very gracious and effusive in their praise of the recipient whose family and friends are present.

### Bikes 4 Books

44 bikes are presented to young readers at 22 schools in the same school districts as shown in the Scholarships and Educators of the Year presentations. These are always fun events with 300 to 400 children, families and faculty in the gymnasium.

All of these events, Scholarships, Educators of the Year and Bikes 4 Books, are wonderful occasions to create Masonic awareness.

### Change in date for June Stated Communication

W. Master Troy Luginbill has changed the date of the June Stated Communication from Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> to June 27<sup>th</sup> due to the conflict of the earlier date with the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. The Lodge will be tyled at 7:00 pm. **Please note that the Lodge is dark in July.**

Secretary:

WB Dick Decima at 360-392-0145.... cell 360-820-1660 or email [rhdecima@aol.com](mailto:rhdecima@aol.com)

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

Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Communication:

Friday June 21<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication:

Brethren,

WB David Burn  
*Secretary*

## Newsletter Update!

On page 1 you just might have noticed that our newsletter banner has returned to it's former title, *Letters from Whatcom Lodge*. We have tried for many years to have our newsletter act as a local Masonic platform for all the Masonic Groups within Whatcom County. After many years of dogged effort the concept just could not get traction and we've decided to stop beating that poor dog.

On the Blue Lodge front we're down to only three Lodges and Bellingham Bay Lodge #44 maintains it's own monthly news. Nooksack & Ferndale Lodges both merged with Lynden to form Lynden-Ferndale Int. #56, which has been a steady and regular contributor to the newsletter; so we will continue to provide them space. For a variety of reasons the other Masonic related bodies have not shown a committed interest or ability to provide regular information.

To reduce the wear & tear on our Sec'y-Editor it was agreed by the elected Officers that we return our platform to a Lodge Newsletter format. As noted above we'll continue to provide column space to Lynden-Ferndale Lodge #56 and on a space available basis any other Masonic Organization which requests space for an Event.

**Aprons:** are you or your family wondering what to do with your Masonic Aprons once you are gathered to the Lodge on High? Well, it's very simple, have them return the aprons to the Lodge if no one wishes to hold on to them as family keepsakes. Your Lodge will make sure that your Masonic Aprons will be treated with respect and ultimately turned over to the Grand Lodge of Washington for a proper internment and/or disposal.

*Secretary - VV John Browne*



## Whatcom Lodge BBQ

Whatcom Brothers mark your calendars, the annual lodge BBQ date has been set for August 24<sup>th</sup> and Ted and Penny's. More details to follow as we get closer to the event.

## WIDOWS SONS OF WASHINGTON STATE AND ABROAD

### A Brief History

Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association (WSMRA) is the largest Masonic organization of Freemason motorcycle riders worldwide. WSMRA is founded on the premise to aid and assist our widows and orphans...bring Masonic awareness to our communities...introduce Freemasonry to the world of motorcycles and the world of motorcycles to Freemasonry.

**Widows Sons is non-territorial and a neutral riding association. We promote Riding and Fellowship within the communities. Widows Sons is a 501 (c) Not-For-Profit organization.**

The first chapter of WSMRA was founded in 1998 in the State of Illinois. A few months later, the second chapter of WSMRA was formed in the Netherlands, making Widows Sons an international organization. 1999-2000, Connecticut and Florida formed chapters a couple weeks apart. At this time, many new potential members who were waiting to start chapters began discussions about the Widows Sons (both in the United States and abroad). The first four chapters that were formed are still standing today. Since then, Widows Sons are represented across the globe on 4 continents...in over 20 countries. In the U.S., Widows Sons are represented in 40 Plus States. Charters and Chapters are currently underway across the US and globe for further expansion and growth.

The Grand Chapter of Washington Widows Sons was chartered in 2008. Widows Sons of Washington were granted full recognition as the approved Masonic Motorcycle organization by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington in June of 2012 and by The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington and Jurisdiction in 2013. This approval and continued relationship with both Grand Lodges continues to this day.

WSMRA-Gig Harbor Chapter was formed in 2010; The Edmonds Chapter was chartered in 2013. January 2016 WSMRA celebrated the Chartering of its 2 newest chapters in Eastern Washington with the Chartering of Spokane and Tri-Cities Chapters. WSMRA of Washington continues to draw interest in all areas of the State with additional chapter inquiries being considered. WSMRA Chapters in Washington have become a fixture in their communities and are accepted among their peers in the motorcycle community.

Members are reminded to continue their Masonic education and to be active in their Blue Lodges by taking part in the activities, committees, and/or running the line. As a Brothers' knowledge increases, so does his ability to impart that knowledge and becoming a better mentor to new members.

WSMRA philanthropy and civic involvement, however, extends beyond the Masonic circle through continued efforts of good will and positive representation in the local communities that the chapters serve.

This is done in many ways like assisting at the Local Food banks, Food Drives, Charity Rides and many other worthy causes and events. Last year our Spokane Chapter donated \$500.00 to the local Shrine hospital and North and South Sound chapters donated \$3,600.00 to Washington Masonic Charities



WSMRA of Washington is also a strong supporter of our youth groups by attending meetings and assisting at fundraising events and outreach programs.

In July 2016, Widows Sons of Washington Hosted (for the first time) the annual West Coast Gathering of Widows Sons! It was attended by 4 surrounding States. This year Washington will again be hosting this event again with still more states than before planning to attend. Some of the other events WSMRA of Washington are part of (and/or sponsor for) are the Unforgotten Soldiers Ride, Fallen Officers Ride, various Fourth of July Parades, Tenino Lewis and Clark Days' Parade, Port Orchard Day's Parade, Jerry Lingle Memorial Ride, annual Oyster Run, Auburn Veterans Day Parade, the annual Olympia Toy Run. These are just a few activities the WSMRA of Washington members participate in throughout the year.

As WSMRA becomes more recognized Worldwide for the Great work it does within the community and for the difference it's members make by dispensing Masonic Light from the saddle of a motorcycle the organization will continue to grow and attract Good Men to the fraternity we Love and the Riding association we have the Honor to be a part of.

WSMRA has just completed elections on April 27<sup>th</sup> in Spokane for the Grand Chapter of Washington State and the following brothers have been elected

*State President - Chris "Ghost" Sanderson*

*State Vice President - Mike "Eagle" Scott*

*State Treasurer - Kyle "Coach" Foster*

*State Secretary - Dave "R-Sin" Gehrcke*

We would love to have more riders join our rides or our organization if you would like more information please go to [www.widowsson-wa.org](http://www.widowsson-wa.org), or contact Dave "R-Sin" Gehrcke at [mrgmastermason@outlook.com](mailto:mrgmastermason@outlook.com)

SRH = Scottish Rite Hall; BMC = Bellingham Masonic Center on W. Maplewood ;  
FMC = Ferndale Masonic Center;

| gSun                            | Mon  | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat   |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| 26                              | 27   | 28   | 29  | 30  | 31  | 1<br><i>Farmer's Day Parade<br/>(Lynden)</i>                  |
| 2                               | 3 Hesperus Com-mandery No. 8 - 7:30                                    | 4 ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 p                       | 5 V of B Scottish Rite: Dinner at 6:30 pm & Stated Mtg at 7:30 pm                     | 6 W #151 - Special Dinner at 5:30 pm. EA Degree tonight.  | 7 BB 44 Spl Comm 7:30 p.                                      | 8<br><i>Deming Logging Show</i>                               |
| 9<br><i>Deming Logging Show</i> | 10 Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p<br>F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC) | 11 Bethel # 25 at 6:25 pm                        | 12 V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm<br>Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7:30 pm | 13 LFI#56 Stated moved to the 27 <sup>th</sup> in deference to GL<br>Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (BMC) | 14 162 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Communication of Grand Lodge - WA | 15 162 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Communication of Grand Lodge - WA |
| 16<br><i>Father's Day</i>       | 17 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p.                                 | 18 ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC)                     | 19 V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm                                      | 20 W 151 - stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm. MM Degree tonight                           | 21 BB # 44 - <u>stated</u> 7:30 pm.<br><i>Summer Solstice</i> | 22 Bethel #25 at 6:25 pm                                      |
| 23                              | 24 F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC)   | 25 Bellingham Temple Association meeting 7:30 PM | 26 Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7:30 pm  | 27 L # 56 <u>Stated</u> , 7:00 pm<br>Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (BMC)                                 | 28  | 29  |
| 30                              | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   |

**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](mailto:sectreaswof@gmail.com)

WB John Brown - *President,*

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



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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks,

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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