



# Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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May 2010

## Flowers are the Earth laughing

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

**Public Notice:** we've a New renter at the *Bellingham Masonic Center!*

Please welcome the *Pentecostal Lighthouse Church* as a fellow renter of our Masonic meeting hall. Their rental days are Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, plus they may soon be adding a Sunday evening service.

If you'd like to check the BMC calendar the address is:

<http://calendar.yahoo.com/maplewoodmasonictemple>

May 5 <sup>th</sup>	San Juan Lodge - 7:30 pm
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Lynden Lodge - 7:30 pm
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Bellingham Bay - 7:30 pm
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ferndale Lodge - 7:30- pm
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	Fairhaven Lodge - 7 pm
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Nooksack Valley Ldg - 6 pm
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Whatcom Lodge - 6:30 pm
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kulshan Int. Lodge - 10:30 a

### Whatcom Lodge Report

**Stated Meeting** - Our last stated meeting was held on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, and we accomplished several items of business and conferred the Third Degree on Bro. Joe Barratt.

**Business:** The usual bills were read and approved, correspondence read and a proposed amendment to our by-laws was presented. It was proposed that Article III, section 4 be amended in order to increase the lodge dues from \$25 to \$50. For historical reference, the lodge dues were last raised in 1986, 24 years ago. Discussion and voting will take place at the May 20<sup>th</sup> stated meeting. If approved, the amended by-laws will be sent to Grand Lodge for confirmation.

**Petitions:** A Petition for Reinstatement was Read and an Investigation Committee appointed. The petition will be balloted on at the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Degrees** - At our April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting Bro. Joe Barratt was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. WM Larry conferred the degree with Bro. Terrell Goertz as SD for the 1<sup>st</sup> part and Bro. Monte Thompson as SD for the drama. VW Glenn Hutchings & WB Bill Hall gave the degree lecture using an interactive method employing floor movement and real symbols such as a bee hive, hour glass, scythe, spade etc. It was a very impressive performance.

Our next scheduled degrees are two Fellowcraft Degrees: the first is on May 6<sup>th</sup> when Bro. Jesse Peterson will be passed, and the second will be on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree. Brother James McCullough will be one of two candidates passed at the Roche Harbor event. We are making plans to car-pool to the Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree to support both candidates and our friends at San Juan Lodge No. 175. If you want to participate in the car-pool, contact WM Larry West. So, mark your calendar and join us on this exciting trip - the salmon barbecue is worth it alone!!

**Next Special Communication** - will be on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> for a FCM degree.

**Next Stated meeting** - will be on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. We hope to have a few brothers ready to prove up on their degree proficiency and we may have a Petition for the Degrees of Masonry to ballot on. Oh, and of course, we'll be discussing and balloting on the proposed by-laws change.

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

### Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> is San Juan Lodge No. 175's annual Fellow Craft Outdoor Degree and Salmon Barbecue on beautiful San Juan Island.

The degree will be conferred at the restored Mc Millen mausoleum at Roche Harbor Resort. This gathering has been active for more than 40 years and has been enjoyed by hundreds of Masons. The special setting, good food and brotherhood is something not to be missed.

The cost is \$15 for one or \$25 for two, includes dinner and transportation to Roche Harbor and back.



The ferry leaves Anacortes at 9:30 am. to Friday Harbor. Walk the three blocks to the lodge or we will have transportation to pick you up. The salmon dinner will be served at 11 am. and afterwards buses will take all the men out to Roche Harbor. Ladies may stay in town, plenty of shopping, stroll through town or wander down and visit the beautiful waterfront.

The ferry leaves Friday harbor at 4:15 pm and arrives Anacortes at 5:40 pm.

For more information check out our website: [sanjuanmasons.com](http://sanjuanmasons.com)

**April**

This past month has been a busy one for Lynden Lodge. MWB Richard Fletcher, PGM of Vermont and the Executive Director of Masonic Information Services, notified us that Lynden Lodge had been one of 18 lodges out of more than 12,000 lodges across the nation to receive the **Mark Twain Award for Masonic Awareness** for 2009. Lynden Lodge received this award for its Public Schools Outreach program for Bikes 4 Books, George Washington portraits, Scholarships and Educator of the Year Awards. The presentation of this award will be made at Grand Lodge in June. Lynden Lodge also received this award in 2008 for the Children Identification Program.

During April the Lynden Lodge **Scholarship Committee** evaluated applications from seniors at Lynden and Meridian high schools. The top male and female applicants were selected from a group of excellent students. Scholars receive \$1,000 awards. Presentations will be made at the Meridian "Evening of Excellence" on June 1 and at the Lynden "Honors Night" on June 2.

The same committee also evaluated applications for **Educator of the Year** for the Lynden and Meridian school Districts. Nominations are made by peers, principals, or other individuals. On April 15 a check for \$500, along with a plaque, was presented to Mr. Randy Anderson at a meeting of his peers at the Lynden High School. As in the past, the winner did not know in advance that he had been selected. Mr. Anderson well-deserved this award and was a very popular choice. The award for the Meridian School District Educator of the Year will be made on June 1 at their "Evening of Excellence" event.

On April 15, Candance Wellman, a local historian and recognized authority on early settlers in Lynden, gave a presentation on Bro. John Tennant at the Lynden Pioneer Museum. Tennant was an early member of Lynden Lodge and the minister of the Methodist Church. He was a County Commissioner and the County Superintendent of Schools. The list of his accomplishments is very long. His wife, Clara, was the daughter of Chief George Tselouke of the Lummi tribe. We wish to thank the Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44 members who attended this presentation. Bellingham Bay Lodge sponsored Lynden Lodge in 1888.

Mr. Don Aho will receive the first degree of Masonry on Thursday, April 29 at 7:30 PM at the Ferndale Masonic Center. Our regularly stated communication will be on Thursday, May 6 at 7:30 PM. Please visit us on either one or the other, or even both, of these evenings.

Fraternally,  
Dick Decima  
Secretary

**Nooksack Valley Lodge No. 105**

Greetings brothers of District Ten. Just a quick note to remind you that if you're looking for a Masonic experience where spouses and family are in focus, Nooksack Valley Lodge is the place to visit. We open lodge at 6 PM and then join our spouses, girlfriends or partners and enjoy a good home-cooked potluck dinner. The brothers return to the lodge room to conduct business or ritual at a brisk pace and then re-join our ladies for dessert.

The dinner format is working well and the ladies are enjoying each others company. The other noteworthy feature of Nooksack Lodge is that currently, among our regular attendees, we're roughly balanced between Canadian & U.S. members. You might call us a Can/Am Lodge. We are working hard to improve our skills and talents in lodge ritual and getting to practice with a few new petitioners.

Visit and check us out—we meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month, except in December and January.

WB Michael Beaudry  
Worshipful Master

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Greetings from the members of **Ferndale Lodge #264**. We are off and running with high hopes for 2010.

We will be conferring a Second Degree on Brother Kyle Issac Deming on May 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 pm. This is based on our candidate's coach's assurance that he will be ready. We elected Bro Henry (Andy) Hummel to membership at our first Stated Communication after our winter break. He is a member of Wilcox Lodge #10 in Wilcox, Arizona. Welcome Brother Andy. WB Barquist came by and picked up more Applications for Degrees and I understand he's down to one again. For other member's information, I still have quite a few left!!!

We will do the "Exchange of Emblems" with our Canadian Brother Lodge, Progress 87. This will take place at our May 10th Stated Communication. This Exchange has been performed twice each year for the last 60 plus years and is done to promote Brotherly Love and Fraternal unity with all our Canadian Brothers. All are welcome. This, of course, includes our members too!!!

We will present the CHIP Program at the Ferndale Street Fair and the Fireman's Competition later this year. Brother Landon Estes will be chairing this endeavor. In the past we have worked with Lynden 56 on this program but will be flying on our own this year. (We hope!!).

We want to welcome our Worshipful Brother Water Tanguy and his Wife Priscilla back to our fair city. They are now residing at Louisa House and welcome visitors.

We lost two of our brothers to the Grand Lodge above in February, Brother Eugene Callen and Brother George Matthews. They will be sorely missed. Hope to see you all in Lodge soon.

Fraternally,  
Everett Thompson, Secretary Ferndale 264

Here is what *Bellingham Bay* has going on.

Friday May 7<sup>th</sup> Stated communication with a Fellowcraft Degree at 7:30

Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> Hosting the monthly MLA meetings at 10:00 am at the Bellingham Masonic Center.

Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> Attend the Annual Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree and Salmon Barbecue hosted by San Juan Lodge No. 175 in Friday Harbor.

Friday May 21<sup>st</sup> Will be step-up night since the Worshipful Master will be on vacation. There is a possibility that a Fellowcraft Degree will be conferred at this meeting.

WM Gary Pitcher

## Fairhaven Lodge No. 73

### Events in May:

Tue. May 11<sup>th</sup> - we will be doing an EA degree - 7 PM

Tue. May 18<sup>th</sup> - Special Communication - 7 PM

### A note on *Masonic Funerals*:

I went to a funeral the other day for a fine Mason. His wife did not know what the proper procedure was for requesting a Masonic funeral and so, she did not ask.

I thought an article explaining to our new Brethren and older ones also, about how one goes about having a Masonic funeral, would be beneficial to brothers and their spouses. We all have a lot on our minds when faced with the loss of an immediate family member, so getting some funeral plans laid in advance, is helpful.

Brothers, I know its not pleasant to think about or anticipate your own demise, but lets face it, our own Third Degree teaches us not to fear nature's process. If you'd like a Masonic Funeral, which is a beautiful and meaningful ritual, then send a letter requesting one to your lodge secretary, leave a copy of it with your living will, TELL your wife or partner and children what your wishes are and how they can contact your lodge secretary when the time comes. The lodge will handle the details with the funeral home and a designated family member. **Also**, its very helpful if you have joined our local **Widows and Orphans Fund**. On your death it provides a small but timely bit of relief (\$500) to your spouse or other beneficiary. Talk to your lodge secretary or call me and ask how to join!

A Masonic funeral is a wonderful event and a privilege for us to do in memory of you and for your family & friends.

By the way, we need more people to learn the parts of the Masonic Funeral Service, especially the Prayer. Lend a ritual hand, "many hands make light work."

Faternally,

WB Thom Baughn ~ Secretary - Fairhaven No. 73

I would rather have a mind opened by wonder than one closed by belief.  
~ Gerry Spence

A problem is a chance for you to do your best.  
~ Duke Ellington

We are travelers in the wilderness of this world, and the best that we find in our travels is an honest friend.  
~ Robert Louis Stevenson

## NW Shrine Club

I can't believe it's May already and this will be our last dinner till September. Hope you can join us on Tuesday May 4, 2010 for an outstanding meal at Jeckyl & Hyde Deli and Ale House at 709 W. Orchard Drive. Menu for the evening will be: London Broil/ Mushroom Gravy, Stuffed Baked Potato, Green Beans, Caesar Salad, Rolls, Coffee, Tea, and Dessert all for the price of \$17.00 person. Now if less than 40 people sign up the cost will be \$19.00 person. We have to guarantee 40 dinners to keep the price down.

For reservations call Noble Ron Fine at 360-676-5747 or E-mail me at [RonFine2@aol.com](mailto:RonFine2@aol.com). **DEADLINE WILL BE THURSDAY APRIL 29, 2010.**

At the April meeting we had a crowd of 59 Nobles & Ladies, Noble Scott Wells and 6 members of the West Seattle Shrine Club came up and capture the Golden Fez so if you want to get it from them all you have to do is attend there meeting with 4 or more members from your club. A Big Welcome to our 2 newest Nobles Howard Hanna & Rick Waites; our Potentate with members of the Di-van helped do a cold sands on these new Nobles. Welcome to Northwest Shrine Club Nobles Howard & Rick.

Now an upcoming event will be our annual Hamburger Feed on Saturday May 29, 2010 at the American Legion Hall Post #7. This event will take place right after the Sea to Ski parade. So come one come all enjoy Fun, Food, and Raffle prizes!!

Sunshine Committee has been busy with cards and phone calls. The following Nobles & Ladies are under the weather. Noble Bill Taylor and his Lady Lou who took a bad fall at home and fracture her Lumbar vertebrae, Noble John Burley, Noble Bob Brower, Noble Walt Tan-guy. Let's keep these Nobles & Ladies in your prayers, cards would help also. Now that spring is here and we will be getting out to work in the gardens remember to be careful and not overdo it. Don't forget now Tuesday May 4th for club dinner and Saturday May 29th annual Hamburger Feed. To all the Nobles who help with the Bellingham Circus a "BIG THANK YOU".

Yours in Faith,  
Ron Fine ~ Secretary

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
<p><b>Nostalgia:</b> A device that removes the ruts and potholes from memory lane.                      ~ Doug Larson</p>						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Hesperus Com-mandery No. 8 - 7:30, F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC)	<b>4</b> ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 p.	<b>5</b> SJ # 175 stated 7:30 p. (FHMC) Scot. Rite Stated. Din 6:30, mtg at 7:30 p	<b>6</b> L # 56 stated meet-ing 7:30 pm W #151 - Spl. Comm. National Day of Prayer	<b>7</b> BB # 44 stated 7:30 pm.	<b>8</b> MFLA 10 am is hosted by
<b>9</b> Mother's Day	<b>10</b> F # 264 - 7:30 p. Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p	<b>11</b> F # 73-stated 7 pm. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC)	<b>12</b> NV # 105 - 6 pm	<b>13</b> Bethel # 25 at 7 pm.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Outdoor 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree hosted by San Juan #175 Armed Forces Day
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC)	<b>18</b> ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC) NWSC Brd. Meeting	<b>19</b> Scot. Rite, Deg or Study Session 7:30	<b>20</b> W 151-stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm	<b>21</b> BB 44 Stated Meeting 7:30 p. (SRH)	<b>22</b> KI # 186, stated, at 10:30 am. Bethel #25 at 7 pm
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> F # 73-Spl. 7 pm.	<b>26</b> Scot. Rite. Temp Brd mtg-5:30, Din at 6:30 Exec Brd 7 pm.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Memorial Day Observed	<p><b>A thousand regrets do not pay one debt.</b>                      ~ Turkish proverb</p>				

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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)

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

A Very Happy Birthday To:

Bro. Roy McDonald - May 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Bro. Jeremy Casados - May 4<sup>th</sup>  
 WB Frank Davis - May 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. Ian Geddes - May 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. Sheldon Wilkins - May 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. Nate Anderson - May 20<sup>th</sup>  
 WB Alvia Goodwin - May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Bro. Joe Hayes - May 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Bro. James Hayes - May 31<sup>st</sup>