



Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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October 2011

Hands Across the Border Dinner/Show

Honoring Grand Masters

MW Mike Sanders MW GL F&AM of Washington &
MW Bill Cave MW GL AF&AM of BC & Yukon

Date: Saturday, October 8th

5:30 PM ~ Social

6:00 PM ~ Prime Rib or Salmon

7:00 PM ~ Entertainment By the Swing Connection

Location: Lynden Community Ctr. - 401 Grover St., Lynden, WA

Cost is \$25
(Canadian funds at par)

RSVP to WB Dick Decima Ph: 360-392-0145

Email: rhdecima@aol.com

Seating is limited to 200 so don't wait!

Stated Meeting Dates

of the

District Ten Lodges

Oct 5 th	San Juan Lodge - 7:30 PM
Oct 6 th	Lynden Int. Lodge - 7:30 PM
Oct 7 th	Bellingham Bay Lodge - 7:30 P
Oct 10 th	Ferndale Lodge - 7:30- pm
Oct 11 th	Fairhaven Lodge - 7 pm
Oct 12 th	Nooksack Valley Ldg - 6 pm
Oct 20 th	Whatcom Lodge - 6:30 pm - dinner - 5:30; mtg. at 6:30 pm.

Autumn Reflections

Fall is here and as we harvest the fruits of our endeavors, we are reminded that the long Winter will surely follow. Autumn is a good time for reflection on the true blessings of family and friendships!

"The temple bell echoes
the impermanence
of all things.
The colors of the flowers
testify to the truth
that those who flourish
must decay. Pride lasts
but a little while,
like a dream
on a spring night.
Before long the mighty
are cast down,
and they are as dust
before the wind."

Opening paragraph of the Japanese classic, the Tale of the Heike' (the Heike' Monogatari)

Whatcom Lodge Report

Stated Meeting - Our stated meeting was held on September 15th with 14 brothers attending. WM Monte Thompson opened on the First Degree and said that the purpose of this Stated Mtg. was to conduct the regular business of the lodge and to confer an EA Degree.

Business: As per usual, the bills were enumerated and approved for payment, communications disposed of and a financial report given by the secretary, as our Treasurer was on vacation. WM Monte Thompson summarized the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held at his residence on September 8th. The short of it is that the lodge is healthy for the next year or two but steps are needed now to ensure a sound financial future. To this end, Secretary John Browne read a Resolution to Amend the By-Laws to pass-on the Annual Grand Lodge Dues to each chargeable lodge member; it is at present a voluntary donation. The Resolution is on page 4, and will be up for vote at the October 20th Stated Meeting.

Degree Conferred: This evening the First Degree was conferred on Mr. Michael DeAnnuntis by SW Terrell Goertz; the degree team did a very fine performance.

Petitions: A Petition for Plural Membership from Bro. Al Gregor was read and Investigation Committee consisting of Alex Bruner (chair), Larry West and Terrell Goertz was assigned.

Whatcom Lodge ~ Continued at top right of page 4

Nooksack Valley Lodge No. 105

Next stated meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 12th at 6 pm. We open lodge and go to refreshment to join our ladies for dinner. Goes back to labor at 7 pm. After lodge is closed we retire for dessert and then part for home.

Next special meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 26th at 6 pm.

Fraternally
W. Bro. Tim Springstead
WM Nooksack Valley Lodge



Letter to Editor

I'd like to convey my sincere thanks to Nooksack Valley Lodge for hosting a wonderful spaghetti dinner and concert Saturday, September 17. Jerry and Leslie Mason, who were in charge of food preparation, elevated a simple supper into a celebratory meal. Jerry's homemade sauce, both with meat and vegetarian, was delicious, and Leslie contributed her amazing signature Caesar salad, with garlic bread, beverages, and handmade cookies and cakes rounding out the menu.

After dinner, we repaired to the Lodge room for what had been advertised as a cello concert performed by Matt Rehfeldt. I was puzzled by the acoustic guitar and two electric ones on the stage. But I figured maybe Matt would be joined by some backup musicians later in the concert. So when he began his set with an impeccably rendered Bach suite for cello, I settled in for a sedate evening.

Imagine my surprise when he finished the Bach, and set aside his cello. As it turns out, does that guy know his way around a guitar! We discovered that Matt is a virtuoso guitarist with both acoustic and electric: he performed classical pieces to rock 'n roll, including numbers by Van Halen, Creedence Clearwater Revival, and Chet Atkins. For a ninety-minute set, this extraordinarily versatile musician kept the audience spellbound, and afterward, John and I chuckled when we overheard one Mason say to Matt, "What, no Jimi Hendrix?" For John and me, it was a night we'll always remember.

For \$15 per person, the Lodge provided a superb meal and a terrific concert. Jerry Mason indicated that the Nooksack Valley Lodge plans to host future dinner/concerts. We're already looking forward to the next one!

Susan Colleen Browne

P.S. Matt is available to perform at weddings and other events; he can be reached via Bro. Jerry Mason.

Notes from Lynden Int. Lodge No. 56

STATED MEETING October 6th at 7:30 PM

SPECIAL COMM. October 20th at 7:30 PM

HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Saturday, October 8 2011. The event will be at the Lynden community center. See our Ad on page 1.

WB Jerry Mason
Worshipful Master ~ Lynden Int. Lodge No. 56

MASONIC LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

The next Masonic Leadership Association will meet at the Bellingham Masonic Center on Saturday, October 15th – rolls, coffee or tea at 9:30, the meeting begins at – 10 AM. Featured at the October meeting for MLA will be a presentation on Public Relations by VW John Browne of Whatcom Lodge No. 151 & editor of the District Ten newsletter.

Evergreen Assembly No. 17 - Rainbow Girls

Stated meetings - Oct. 11th and 25th at 7 pm

Oct. 1st - RIM Meeting in Mt. Vernon

Oct. 8th - Hands Across the Border

Oct. 15th - Official Visit of GWA Becky LaMastus and Supreme Religion, Supreme Inspector Barbara Brown has been moved to the first of November.

Oct. 16th - 1st Annual Fall Fundraiser Gala

'Puttin On the Ritz'

Masonic Retirement Center, Des Moines, WA

Grab your feather boas and dress to impress: a Fabulous Auction, Dinner and a Glam Variety Show. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Doors open and Auction starts at 2pm. Contact:

FallGala@nwrainbow.org to register, volunteer, or the variety show sign-ups.

Recruiting new members for Evergreen Assembly #17 IORG. This is for girls between 11 and 20 who want to serve their community and make a difference. Learn to be a leader, have access to scholarships, meet girls from all over Washington, make friends for life and did I mention big poofy dresses? If you know any girls who might want more info and live in Whatcom County please message me and I will take it from there :D Thanks!!!

Wendy Knowlton
MA Evergreen Assembly #17
swkjer@yahoo.com



NWSC WOW! What a GREAT turn-out for our BAR-B-QUE night; we had a total of 57 Nobles & Ladies. For our October 4, 2011 dinner meeting we will be serving Roast Beef, Roasted Little Red Potatoes, Gravy, Sauteed Green & Yellow Zucchini /Onions, Salad, Rolls, Coffee Tea & Dessert. This will take place at Jeckyl & Hyde Deli and Ale House 709 W. Orchard Drive. Cost is \$17.00 per person. For reservations call Noble Ron Fine at 360-676-5747 or E-mail RonFine2@aol.com.

DEADLINE IS THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29,2011.

Please keep Nobles Ted McQuiston, Russ Gran, Bill Taylor & John Burley in your prayers. They are all in need of your help. Remember, if you hear of a Noble or Lady who is ill call Noble Ron Fine or Lady Sharon Fine so we can get a card out to them. Remember to slow down in school zones, it's getting dark earlier.

Yours in Faith
Ron Fine, NWSC Secretary.

Bethel No. 25 Jobs Daughters

October Meetings:

Friday, October 14th at 6 pm.

Saturday, October 22nd at 6 pm.

Masons are especially welcome to attend the meetings of Bethel No. 25. Your support of Masonic Youth today will help build a stronger community for tomorrow.

Sincerely:
HQ Clair Bynon



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Free tour and assessment with all levels of care!

Person to contact: Bro. Constantin (Tony) Anton

(Paid advertisement)

Here is what **Bellingham Bay**

has going on.

Saturday October 1st - Highway Cleanup, meet at the rear of the Bellingham Masonic Center at 9 am.

Friday October 7th - Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44 will hold it's Stated Communication at 7:30 PM.

Friday September 21st - Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44 will hold it's Special Communication at 7:30 PM.

Sec. Ken Gass

Scottish Rite Masonry Valley of Bellingham

Scottish Rite Foundation of Washington Higher Education Assistance The Scottish Rite Foundation of Washington accepts applications from November 1st through March 31st of each school year. Interested College or University Sophomore students should contact the Director of the Scottish Rite Scholarship Foundation in Whatcom County - G. Winton Smith or Mark Quenneville. If you are attending a college some distance from your home area you may contact a Director in the area closest to your school. They will be happy to help you. Registration for applications closes March 15th, 2012.

Application Deadline - The deadline for submitting your completed application is March 31st. Applications for the 2011-2012 year will be accepted starting November 1, 2011. Please Note: An interview with the Director is held before you receive the application. You may schedule your interview during your winter break and then accumulate the materials to be turned in no later than March 31. The deadline for 2011-2012 applications is March 31, 2011. Applicants will be notified regarding their acceptance by the first of June.

Graduate Fellowships - Students interested in finding out more about the various scholarships and fellowships offered by the Scottish Rite Foundation of Washington should contact the Scottish Rite Scholarship Director in Whatcom County:

G. Winton Smith (wintonsmith@comcast.net)
or Mark Quenneville (mark@quenneville.org)

They may contacted via the Valley of Bellingham, Attn. G. Winton Smith or Mark Quenneville, 1101 N State St Ste 100, Bellingham, WA 98225 or via email above.

John Sleeth, General Secretary
secretary@scottish-rite.com
360-733-1103

Leaving a Legacy...

Masonry exists for us because of the spirit, passion, ritual work and bonds of Brotherly Love formed by those Brothers who have gone before. These intangible qualities define us and shape our lives in and out of the Lodge. Over the centuries, millions of our Brothers have sought to perpetuate our Fraternity through inspiring us to continue their esoteric work.

But there's a tangible side too. Running an organization that serves a couple dozen meals a year for 20 or so people, sponsors special events, donates to assorted charities, and keeps its members informed requires work, effort, planning...and money. Masonic bodies are not designed to acquire idle cash just to say we have it, nor are they designed to run a deficit. Hey, we're not the Feds. We can't go print more money for every worthwhile project that comes along. Masonry is self-funded by its members.

"Oh great! Now he's gonna hit me up for money!" Well, not exactly. Not while you're ALIVE anyway. When was the last time you looked at your Will? Do you even HAVE a Will? Have you considered leaving a token amount of your final estate to your Lodge? Consider your investments. Many folks own Deferred Annuities. Studies have shown that 4 out of 5 dollars invested in annuities come out as a result of death and NOT for retirement income for the owner. Consider listing your Lodge as a beneficiary, or perhaps a contingent beneficiary, just in case you should pass before spending it all. IRA's are another possible source. It's your money, spend it as needed. But, should you pass away before it's gone you can't take it with you. Once again, consider listing your Lodge as a partial beneficiary or contingent beneficiary. Life insurance is another option. For a few hundred dollars, you can create many thousands of dollars. Also, consider existing policies that you may have. Did you buy some life insurance to pay off the mortgage in case of premature death . . . but the house is paid off and you still have the life insurance? Did you buy some life insurance to protect income for your wife in case you died before retirement . . . but now you're retired and you still have the life insurance? If so, consider the Lodge as a partial beneficiary or contingent beneficiary (assuming your family would not be put in a bind). Even small amounts can be helpful. If you still have a spouse or children who are counting on that money, consider listing the Lodge as a 1% or 2% beneficiary with the rest going to your family.

For those of you with the "problem" of a very large estate that's subject to Federal Estate Tax, consider the use of a Charitable Remainder Trust and remember that the M.E.C. has tax exempt status.

Before proceeding on any of this, make sure you discuss the ramifications with your spouse. Washington is a Community Property State and they will need to "sign off" on most of the above strategies. Discuss it with an attorney, and/or a financial advisor or insurance agent. Verify that it's done right and ask the advisor/agent what will happen in different "what if" scenarios. Each company has their own procedure, so I can't give too much "blanket" advice.

In the Great Quarry above, there's little use for money. Studies have shown that more than 98% of us will someday die ... and there are NO points for being the "richest man in the graveyard."

Brother Terrell Goertz
SW, Whatcom #151

Presentations: WM Monte Thompson presented to WB Alvia "Jack" Godwin with his well deserved 40 year pin and certificate.

Sec. John Browne noted that three gavels were donated to Whatcom Lodge by VW James E. Browne in honor of our 100 Year Anniversary, back in 2006. VW Jim turned the gavels & handles on his own lathe and a commemorative coin set into one face of each gavel and in each of the three sounding blocks.

Up-coming Degrees: Thur., Sept. 29th is set for Mr. Sorin Rotea's EA Degree; Thurs., Oct. 6th is set for Mr. Trevor Kellow's EA Degree; Thurs., Oct. 20th is set for Bro. Craig Bruner's MM Degree. The courtesy Third Degree for Bro. Tom Hastings will likely be at the Nov. Special Comm. On Nov. 2nd, but that is not yet confirmed.

Good of the Order: It was reported that WB John Burley is at home and would like visitors.

Note: Later, in this month of October, I'll be sending out the Annual Dues Notices. Please return your dues payment in a timely fashion. It will help your lodge greatly if you made an additional donation for the lodge's investment fund. Growing our investment fund is the best way for brothers to assist the long-term health of our lodge.

The next Stated meeting is on November 17th, dinner at 5:30 & lodge at 6:30 pm.

Fraternally, John Browne - Secretary, My contact information is on *page 5*



Resolution to Amend By-Laws - September 15th, 2011

Whereas: The lodge continues to struggle to meet the needed annual income to cover basic annual expenses & we know that expenses will be increasing, and

Whereas: The program of voluntary payment of the annual Grand Lodge Dues is only about 75% successful, placing an uneven burden on those who do comply, and

Whereas: The current economic times are not significantly growing our lodge investment funds, it is apparent that more income is necessary:

I therefore propose that ARTICLE III (Fees and Dues) Section 4 [*which currently reads: "The annual dues of each member shall be \$50 payable in advance on the first day of January of each year"*]...be amended to read:

"The annual lodge fees of each member shall be \$50 in Lodge dues, plus the current year's Grand Lodge dues for each chargeable member, payable in advance on the first day of January of each year".

This Resolution will be up for a vote at the
October 20th, 2011 Stated Meeting.

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
25	26	27	28	29 W151 - Spl. We have an EA Deg.	30	1 Highway Clean up 9am at the BMC
2	3 Hesperus Com-mandery No. 8. Dinner at 6:30, meet 7:30 pm F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC)	4 ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 pm	5 SJ # 175 - stated 7:30 p. (FHMC) V of B Scottish Rite: Dinner at 6:30 pm & Stated Mtg at 7:30 pm.	6 L Int. #56 stated 7:30 pm. W151 - Spl. We have an EA Deg. Dinner at 5:30 Lodge at 6:30 pm.	7BB # 44 - Stated Comm. 7:30 pm. Yom Kipper Begins at sunset	8
9	10 F # 264 - 7:30 p Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p Columbus Day	11 F # 73-stated 7 pm. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 (FMC)	12 NV # 105 - stated at 6 pm - our ladies are invited - pot luck dinner at 6:15 PM V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm	13	14 Bethel # 25 at 6 pm.	15 MLA -hosted at the B'ham Masonic Center
16	17 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC)	18 ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC)	19 SJ # 175 - Spl. 7:30 p. (FHMC) V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm	20 W 151 - stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm. L Int. #56 special 7:30 pm.	21 BB 44 - Spl. Comm. 7:30 pm.	22 Bethel #25 at 6 pm
23	24 F # 264 - Spl. Comm. At 7:30 pm.	25 F # 73 - Spl. Comm. at 7:30 pm. Evergreen RB # 17 (FMC)	26 NV # 105 - spl We have a MM Deg this evening. V of B Scottish Rite: Corporation Mtg at 7 pm Executive Mtg at 8 pm	27 B'ham Temple Association Mtg. 7:30	28	29
30	31  Halloween (All souls eve)	1 All souls Day	2	3	4	5

The Whatcom Brothers send their wishes for
 A Very Happy October Birthday!

To:

- October 9th - Bro. William J. Converse
- October 13th - Bro. Warren J.M. McKenzie
- October 15th - Bro. John F. Meixner

Notes on Masonic History

Rev. Josiah Henson, the hero of Stowe's 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' was a member of Mount Moriah Lodge No. 4, Dresden, Ontario, and a Prince Hall Masonic Lodge.

The philalethes, April 2007

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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 20th day of each month, to:

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