



# Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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

Like us on  
FaceBook



Page 1

Volume 21 - Issue 9

visit us at: [www.WhatcomMasonicLodge.org](http://www.WhatcomMasonicLodge.org)

September 2021

## Happy Labor Day Whatcom Brothers!

Greetings Whatcom brethren....Wow! August was an exciting month with both our Installation of Officers and the first Degree in well over a year. We have several more men interested in joining Whatcom Lodge so there is more work ahead.

August 5<sup>th</sup> was our **Special Communication**, we installed a new line of officers for the 2021-2022 term. WB Craig Bruner is our new WM, WB Terrell Goertz returns as SW and WB Monte Thompson is the JW. Both WB Ted Schuman and VW John Browne remain as *Treasurer* and *Secretary* respectively. We have a new *Chaplain*, Bro. Jerry Hill and new *Marshal*, WB Frank Myers. WB Ken Peck is our SD and Bro. Jeff Roskelley is the JD. Bro. Bill Kappele is SS and Bro. Bruce Smith is JS. Finally, after years of being vacant we have a *Musician*, WB Claude Weedon. Last but certainly not least WB Barry Podwin is the Tyler.

The installation was concluded with the *Charge* to the *Master* given by VW John Browne, *Charge* to the *Wardens* by WB Ted Schuman and *Charge* to the *Lodge* by DDGM VW Kurt Gazow. The Installation Marshal, WB Jim Nail gave the *Proclamation* and Installing Chaplain WB Thom Baughn gave the *Benediction*. WB 'City' John was given the PGH's for his service.

August 19<sup>th</sup> was our Stated Communication and WM Craig Bruner conferred the EA Degree on Mr. Luke Sullateskee. In attendance were the new EAM Bro. Ridge Bernowsky of BB#44, accompanied by VW Dave Burn the Secretary of BB#44. The degree went pretty well considering how long it's been since our last EA Degree.

*In other business*, the Sec'y gave the finance report, enumerating the bills and they were authorized by the lodge to be paid. A Petition for Plural Membership was acted on. The Investigation Report was *Full* and *Favorable* and the resulting ballot was *Fair*, *Clear* and *Bright*. Bro. Noah Rodriguez is now a member of Whatcom Lodge 151. WB Ted Schuman gave the *Audit Report* which was conducted on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A printed copy was submitted to Sec'y Browne. Bro. Alex Bruner made the suggestion that an Outreach Committee be formed to keep closer tabs on brothers unable to attend lodge and to work with Masonic Youth. WB Ted Schuman volunteered to work on the committee with Bruner.

*Secretary* — 'Country' John Browne, contact info on page 4



Whatcom Lodge 151 meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> (special) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (stated-business) Thursdays of each month.

Whatcom Lodge emphasizes Masonic heritage and ritual proficiency. We are proud to support our Masonic Youth organizations and encourage members to practice charity outside the lodge. It is our intention to promote individuals to build their own strong moral and spiritual temples.

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Sep 3<sup>rd</sup> Bellingham Bay - 7 pm

Sep 9<sup>th</sup> Lynden/Ferndale Int. Lodge  
opens at 7 pm.

Sep 16<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge - meeting  
opens at 6:30 pm.

## IN MEMORIAM

In the month of August Whatcom Lodge lost Bro. Calvin E. Conley to the Celestial Lodge above. He passed on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Bro. Cal was:

Born 4/11/30  
Initiated 5/22/1958  
Passed 10/9/1958  
Raised 3/26/1959

Bro. Calvin Eugene Conley was laid to rest in the Masonic section of Greenacres Cemetery at 10 am on August 17<sup>th</sup>. A team from the U.S. Navy conducted the flag folding ritual and the local VFW Unit fired a 21 gun salute.

WM Craig Bruner, Chaplain Jerry Hill, Musician Claude Weedon and Sec'y John Browne who presented the Masonic Service with WM Bruner, attended the funeral.

Bro. Conley was a devoted family man, who liked boating and making pies. He took pride in driving and tilling with his garden tractor affectionately known as "the Calvinator."

Brother Calvin Eugene Conley was called by the Supreme Grand Master at the age of 91. Bro. Cal served 62 years as a Mason and will be missed but affectionately remembered.

Fraternally,  
VWB John F. Browne

Greetings from WB Luginbill. Our second Stated Communication was held on August 12<sup>th</sup>. We took care of a lot of business in a very short time, most important of which was the election of our Officers for the ensuing year. WB Luginbill was elected to serve another year as Master. Bro Howard Hanna will be sitting in the West, with WB Robert Langer in the South. WB Richard Decima will continue as Secretary and I, Everett Thompson, will continue as Treasurer. WB Luginbill has asked that our Installation be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>, which is our September Stated.

## A

### Celebration of Life Service

for our Brother, **VWB John Sleeth,**

will be held at the  
Ferndale Masonic Center  
on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
beginning at 11am.

VWB John's wife, Gerry Ellen, will be in attendance.

There will be both an Order of Eastern Star Service, put on by the  
Mt Vernon Chapter  
and a

Masonic Service performed by brothers of District Ten.

This will be an opportunity for everyone to share their memories of one of our District's and Masonry's hardest working members. It is hard to put into words an adequate phrase to describe Bro John. I believe we would all agree that the description would have to include the words "He was a Mason!".

WB Everett Thompson  
Lynden/Ferndale Int. #56

## RALPH WALDO EMERSON

"Write it on your heart  
that every day is the best day in the year.  
He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day  
who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.

Finish every day and be done with it.  
You have done what you could.  
Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in.  
Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day;  
begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit  
to be cumbered with your old nonsense.

This new day is too dear,  
with its hopes and invitations,  
to waste a moment on the yesterdays."

## Report of Whatcom Lodge Audit Committee

for adjusted **FYE July 31, 2021**

Date of Audit: July 20, 2021

Committee: WB Ted Schuman, VW John Browne and WB Ken Peck

Items audited were as follows:

**1. Income Items** – 3 randomly selected checkbook deposit entries were compared with the appropriate bank statements – no discrepancies were found.

Items selected for review were:

Deposit - \$128.00 to WECU, 4/13/21. Comprised of: Dues – WB XXXXXXXX

Deposit - \$404,249.00 to WECU, 12/2/20. Comprised of: Wire transfer of proceeds by Whatcom Land Title from sale of Bellingham Masonic Center.

Deposit for \$256.00 to WECU, 1/26/21. Comprised of: Dues – Bro. XXXXXXXX and Bro. XXXXXXXX.

**2. Expense Items** – 4 randomly chosen checks were compared with the warrants authorizing them; all data confirmed to be accurate. In lieu of dates, note that the lodge received (ongoing authority to pay bills from GL due to Covid-19 Hiatus) Items selected were:

Check # 1434 payable to Scottish Rite in the amount of \$150.00, Dtd.10/28/20, authorized by warrant # 3258.

Check # 1457 payable to Franks Tax Preparation Service, in the amount of \$415.00, Dtd. 6/11/21, authorized by warrant # 3280.

Check # 1443 payable to Barron, Smith Law Firm, in the amount of \$705.00, authorized by warrant # 3266.

**3. Dues Receipts** – Two receipts were reviewed; issued to Bros. XXXX and XXXXXXXX. These were compared with the corresponding deposits; they were correct in all respects, as shown below.

a. Bro. XXXXXXXX – ck. # 8355 for \$28.00 (life member)– deposited 12/30/20.

b. Bro. XXXXXXXX – ck. # 8514 for \$128.00 – deposited 11/4/20.

**4. Balance Sheet** – Adjusted Fiscal year end **7/31/21** - both bank and investment Statements were reviewed with the following results:

a. Checking Account Balance – **7/7/21**  
\$ 19,122.53 – (10/2/20-\$4,166.72)  
b. Savings Account Balance - 5.00  
c. Edward Jones Investments – **7/19/21**  
971,527.23 – (9/25/20-\$363,956.10)

Total Liquid Assets: \$990,654.76

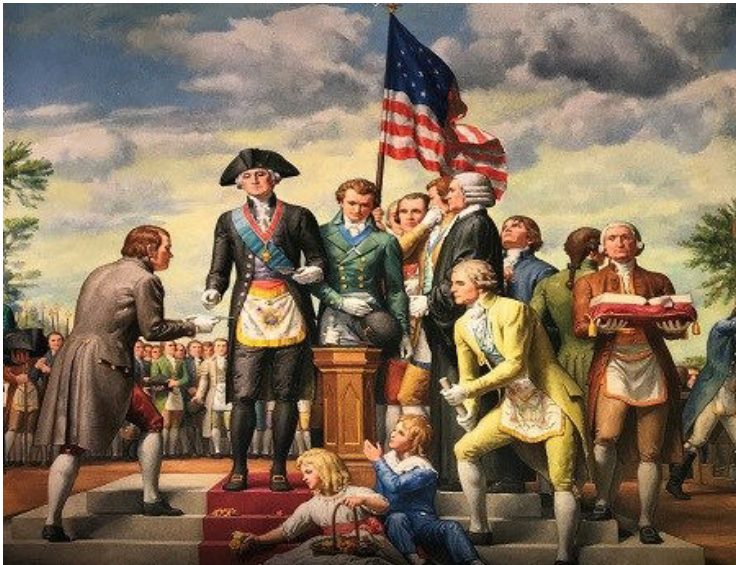
Fraternally submitted, Ted Schuman, Audit Chair

*Our Annual Whatcom Lodge Audit was devised by a W-151 PM who held a long career in the Banking Field.*

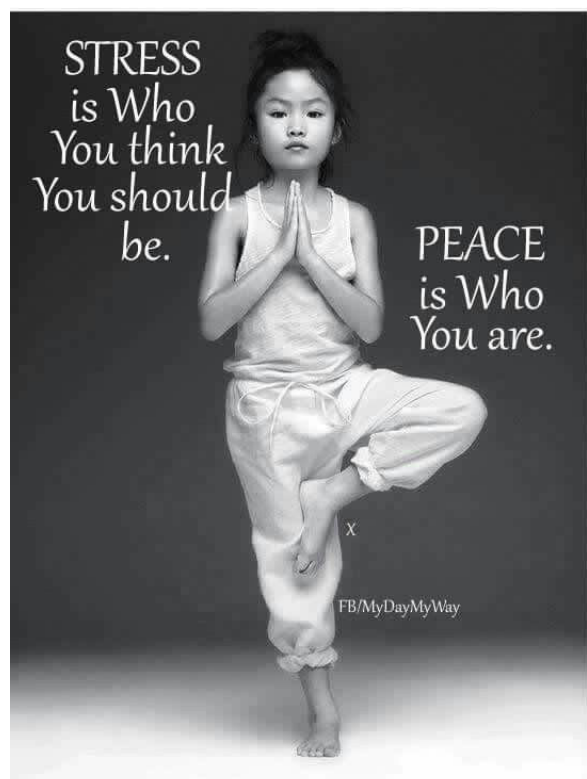
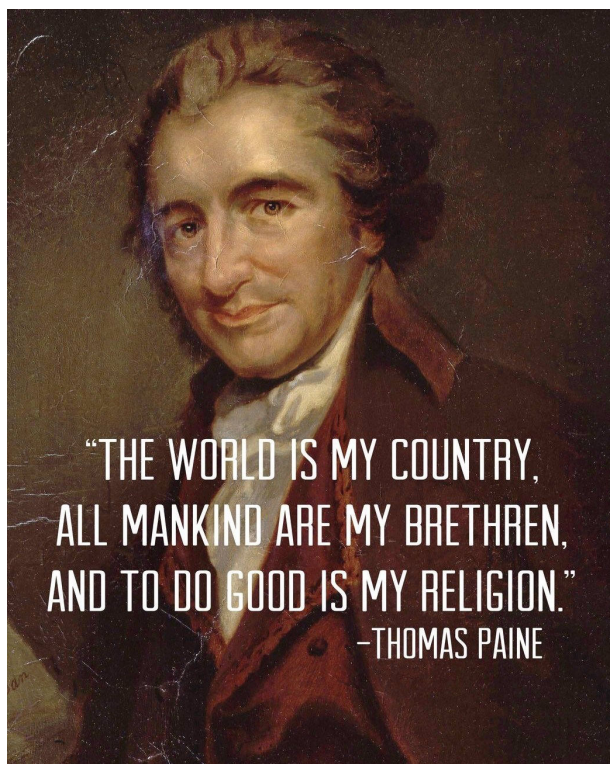
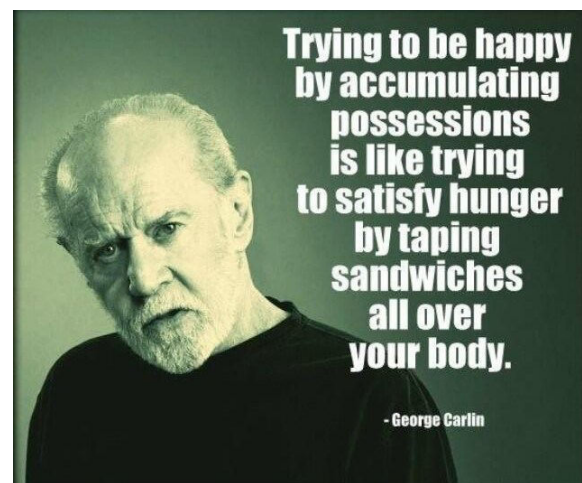
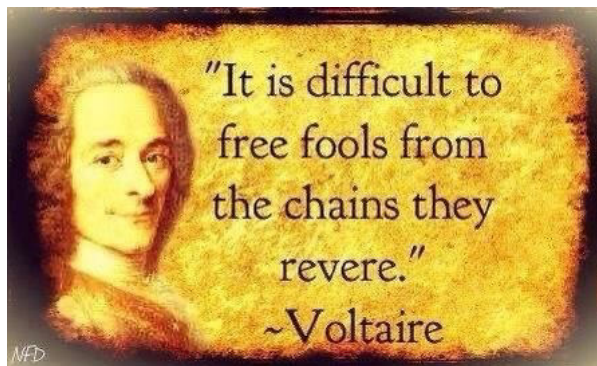
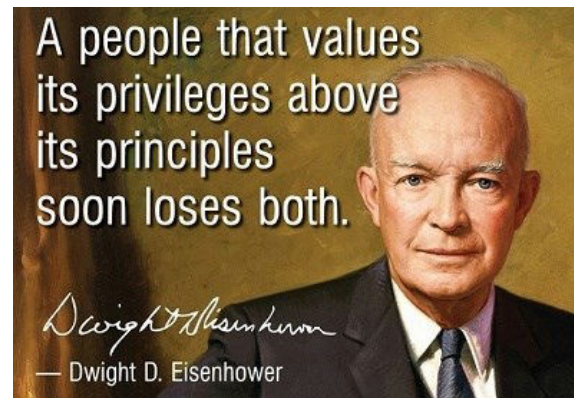
\*\*\* **Secretary's Note:** Capital X's have replaced the names of actual brothers, for their privacy, in this openly published newsletter. \*\*\* **John Browne—Sec'y**



## Words to consider



A scene of the U.S. Capital Cornerstone ceremony, on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1793, as depicted by artist Allyn Cox.



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
29	30	31	1	2 W-151 Special, dinner at 5:30 and lodge opens at 6:30 p. An <b>RSVP</b> for dinner is appreciated.	3 BB #44 Stated Meeting. 7 pm.	4
5	6 Labor Day Rosh Hashannah begins	7	8	9 LFI #56 Stated Mtg, we will hold our annual Installation of Officers.	10	11
12	13	14	15 Yom Kippur begins	16 W-151 Stated. Dinner at 5:30- <b>RSVP</b> is desired. Lodge opens at 6:30 pm.	17 BB #44 7 pm.  Washington signs the U.S. Constitution, 1787	18 Celebration of Life for VWB John Sleeth, see page 2  U.S. Capital, Cornerstone ceremony, 1793
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

### 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

Whatcom Lodge 151

Like us on  
FaceBook



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.

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, 9960 Stardust Lane,  
Maple Falls, WA. 98266

Ph. 360-599-3481

e-mail: [jbrowne.brf@gmail.com](mailto:jbrowne.brf@gmail.com)