



Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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



Volume 23 - Issue 11

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November 2023

October Special Communication...Thursday the 5th.

Lodge was opened on the 1st Degree at 6:30 P.M. by VW Terrell Goertz who said that the purpose of this Special Communication was to share fraternalism.

Visitors: None

Tyler: The Tyler was invited to Tile the outer door and Tyle from the doorway of the Lodge room.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meetings were not read, having been previously approved.

Communications: Masonic Service items including Short Talk Bulletin.

Finance Report: The lodge checking account stands at \$33,039.01 (cash \$1,139.27) as of 1:06 pm today. Our Edward Jones Investment Portfolio was valued at \$858,698.83 at 1:25 pm, just down a bit from \$885,782.67 on 9/21/2023.

Donation Jar: The food donation jar contained \$270.00.

Feast of St. John the Evangelist...are we going to have one this year? Committee to head it up if Yes. Do we want partner with another body or one of the youth groups? There was some discussion and brothers were advised to think on the topic and come up with possible options.

Thanksgiving...do we, as a Lodge want to attend the dinner provided by Rainbow to show our support? There was a fair amount of discussion. Sec'y Browne suggested that Whatcom Lodge join Evergreen Rainbow Assembly #17 at their Nov 11th Dinner, which is also Veterans Day. The idea had several supporters. Thom Baugh added that the cost of the dinner is "free" but that there will be a Dessert Auction as a fundraiser.

Masonic Education: VW Terrell gave an excellent presentation about the often misused phrase of "the Good Old Days". He presented a compelling case on how this is simply not true for a whole host of reasons. Citing poverty conditions, lack of social networks for many, lack of education, low technology, the poor state of human and animal healthcare. Terrell gave examples from the Ancient World, the Middle Ages, the 18th Century, the 19th Century, and the 20th Century. In reality the "good days" for people are mostly today in the 21st Century. But, we still have a way to go in most parts of the world.

Announcements: An opportunity for announcements was provided. Annual installation of officers to be held at our Nov 16th Stated communication. WB Thom Baugh advised that on Friday BB#44 would host their annual Trowel Exchange with Union-Solomon Lodge and that on Oct. 20th BB#44 would be conferring a MM Degree.

DDGM: VW Craig thanked the JW, SS, JS and others who provide the meals, set up the dinning room and lodge room. He noted that the Grand Master's Charity was a big success.

The purpose for which this Special Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by VW Terrell Goertz at 7:55 P.M. / P. & H. P.

PS Note: There were 23 W-151 brothers in attendance.

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

Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Nov 3th Bellingham Bay - 7 pm

Nov 9th Lynden/Ferndale Int. Lodge
opens at 7 pm.

Nov 16th Whatcom Lodge - meeting
opens at 6:30 pm. Tyled Installation
of Officers.



Whatcom Lodge 151 meets on the 1st (special) and 3rd (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.

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October Stated Communication...Thursday, October 19th, 2023

Lodge was opened on the 2nd Degree at 6:30 P.M. by VW Terrell Goertz who said that the purpose of this Stated Communication was to conduct the regular business of the Lodge.

Visitors: Bro Peter Harksell from Simi Lodge 806, Simi CA, WB Doug Kingston from BB#44, both were given a hearty welcome.

Tyler: The Tyler was invited to Tile the outer door and Tyle from the doorway of the Lodge room.

Minutes: The minutes of the September Special Communication were read. This was a visit to the Evergreen Rainbow Assembly No. 17 at the Ferndale Masonic Center in Ferndale WA.

Communications: October MSA and Short Talk Bulletin

Donation Jar: meal donations came to \$243.00.

Finance Report: The lodge checking account stands at \$33,141.67 (cash \$1,139.27) as of 12:40 pm today. Our Edward Jones Investment Portfolio was valued at \$863,614.62 at 12:50 pm this afternoon. The previous value was checked on 10/5/2023 at 1:25 pm and it was \$858,698.83.

Bills: W #3457 in amt of \$24.00 to Bruce Smith for 10/5 Dinner expenses (ck #1636); W #3458 in amt of \$65.73 to Bill Kappele for the dinner on 10/5/2023, (ck #1637); W#3461 in amt of \$26.97 to Bruce Smith for Food on 10/19/2023 (ck #1640); W#3462 in amt of \$62.42 to Bill Kappele for dinner 10/19/2023 (ck #1641) W#3463 in the amount of \$278.74 to Ken Peck for food and kitchen equipment (ck #1642); W#3464 in the amt of \$122.00 to GL of WA for four copies of the Standard Work (ck #1643):

Pre authorized: W# 3460 in amt of \$375 .00 to Scottish Rite for Inv #_____ November Rent (ck #1638); W#3459 in amt of \$230.00 to Sec'y John Browne for Oct. records, mileage & Internet exp. reimbursement (ck #1639).

It was moved by Craig Bruner, 2nd by Frank Myers to pay the bills, the motion was **approved**.

Installation of Officers: Our annual installation of Officers will take place at our November Stated Communication.

Petition for Affiliation: A Petition for Affiliation from Bro. Peter Harksell was given it's first Reading. An investigation Committee consisting of Ken Peck (chair), Craig Bruner and Jeff Roskelley was appointed.

Balloting: The Petition for the Degrees from EA Brother Todd Conradson was balloted on and was **approved**. Bro Conradson's request for a Waiver of Jurisdiction also balloted on and likewise **approved**.

Masonic Education: We could not get the AV equipment to cooperate so the program was scrubbed.

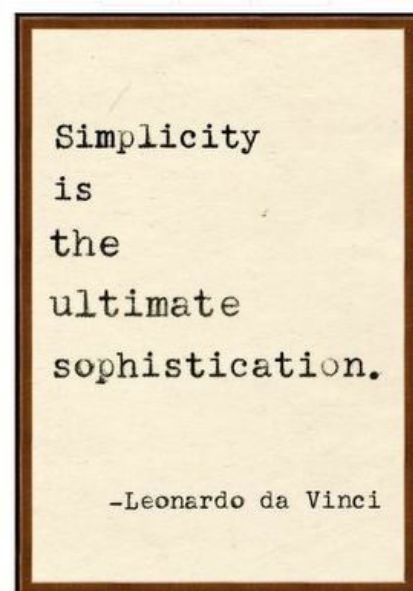
Masonic Youth: WB Thom Baughn gave his usual enthusiastic Youth Report.

Announcements: An opportunity for announcements was provided.

Sickness & Relief: VW Don Higgerson was unable to attend lodge due to a bad cold which he chose not to share with the members.

The purpose for which this Special Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by PTM VW Terrell Goertz at **7:55** P.M. / P. & H. P.

PS Note: There were **20** W-151 brothers in attendance and **2** visitors.



Whatcom Brethren: I'm taking this time to reinforce the information conveyed in this Letter from the Grand Master, see below left.

I know there has been reluctance for some Masons to evolve with the times. Many of you do use cell-phones but still do not avail yourselves of Masonic information available on the Grand Lodge website know as Grand View. Many do not visit our own Lodge Website where there is information pertinent to our lodge. To log on to Grand View and create your account you will need your GL Id #, which is located on your old plastic card if you still have it. Or, you can contact me and I will provide it to you.

On Grand View you can update your own contact information, add a photo and look at Grand Lodge notices and forms. Shortly I will be setting up the Whatcom Lodge *Dues/Assessment* fees on Grand View. Fifty Year members are exempt but a donation is always welcome. When your payment comes in I note it on the ledger and you will then be able to download your Dues Card as described below. Of course I will help if this process seems daunting. I also have issues with some modern technologic elements. That's why we have guys like VW Kurt Gazow to teach us. Please avail yourselves of our available technology talent.

Fraternally - VW John Browne, Sec'y
Whatcom Lodge No. 151



**GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON
OF WASHINGTON**

Steve C. Martin
Grand Master
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University Place, WA 98467
(425) 293-3185
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October 9, 2023

DIRECTIVE TO BE READ IN LODGE

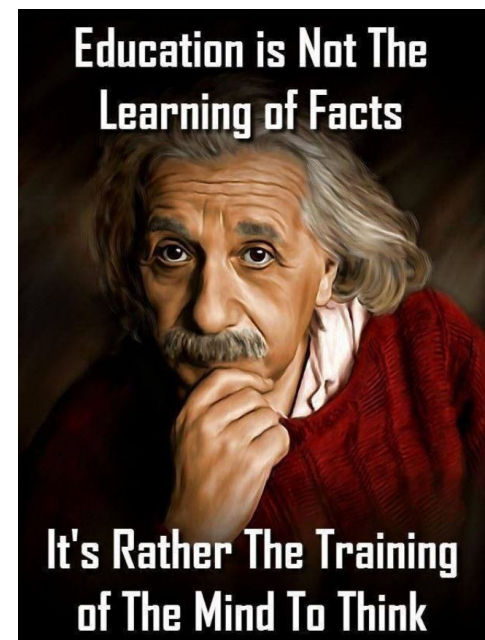
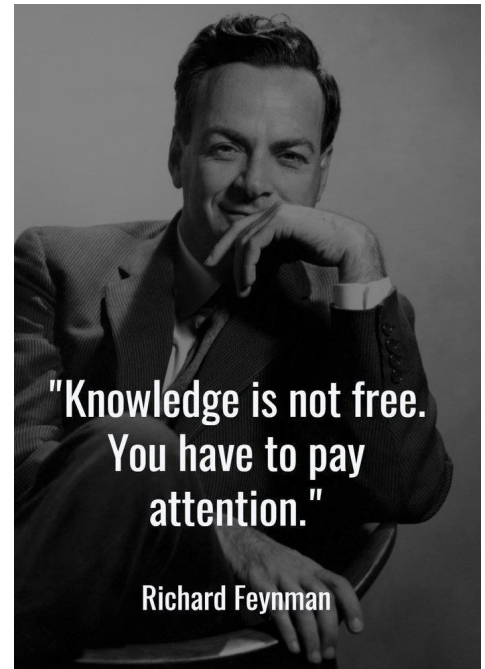
Recently, the Grand Secretary sent out instructions to all Lodge Secretaries regarding entering their dues and assessment information into Grand View. As part of the letter and the instructions that you received, you were informed that the Grand Lodge of Washington no longer issues traditional dues cards. Members can use the virtual dues card which is available on Grand View by accessing the My Portal section of Grand View and clicking on virtual card. It will provide a virtual card and a QR code that can be read by any smart phone and show the current status of any member.

For the new dues card system to work, it is critical that the Lodge not only enter the dues and assessments into Grand View, but also make sure that payments are entered into Grand View in a timely manner. **Therefore, I am directing that each Lodge will have their dues and assessments entered into Grand View no later than Friday, November 17, 2023.** If you have questions about entering your dues and assessments into Grand View, you can find the instructions on the Lodge Dashboard in Grand View under Resources/Forms or call the Grand Lodge office for assistance.

If you have a member who wants an actual dues card or does not have access to Grand View, they will be able to print it out from Grand View or the Lodge Secretary can do it for him. Once his dues are marked paid in Grand View by the Lodge then the member can simply go to into his Grand View Profile and print out his dues card on a piece of paper or cardstock. There will also be a letter of introduction signed by the Grand Secretary that he can carry with him if travelling to a Foreign Jurisdiction. If a member has not paid his dues by January 1, 2024, he will not be able to access either his virtual dues card or be able to print out a dues card.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Steve C. Martin
Grand Master
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Washington



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 <i>Halloween</i>	1	2 W 151 spl Comm Dinner at 5:30 pm, mtg at 6:30 pm	3 BB # 44 State Comm at 7 pm	4
5	6 Hesperus Com- mandry #8 at 7:30pm	7 NWSC dinner at Rustlers in Lynden at 6 pm.	8 Scottish Rite V of B At 7 pm	9 LFI # 56 Stated at 7 pm.	10	11 Rainbow Girls host Dinner for Mason- ic Family. Begins at 1 pm. <i>Veterans Day</i>
12	13 Bellingham Council #16 R&SM at 7:30 pm	14	15 York Rite Coun- cil 16	16 W 151 Stated, dinner at 5:30 pm mtg at 6:30 pm. Installation of Officers, Tyled	17 BB 44 Spe- cial	18
19	20 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch at 7:30 pm. Moving to Ana- cortes in March.	21 Masonic Lunch at Rusty Wagon, meet at 11:30 am.	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

WB John Brown - *President*,

VW Craig Bruner - *Vice President*

360-319-7163

Whatcom Lodge 151

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Has your message missed this publica-
tion. Don't get left out. Please send your
group's article, event information and/or calendar note
by the 22nd 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 25th of each month.

To contribute to this newsletter please send your letter,
comment, historical fact, poem or calendar announcement, by
the 20th 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