



# Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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



Volume 23 - Issue 12

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

December 2023

## November Special Communication...Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Lodge was opened on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree at 6:30 P.M. by VW Don Higgerson who said that the purpose of this Special Communication was to share fraternalism.

**Visitors:** We had 1 guest for dinner, Austin Brainard of Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay.

**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 and a Letter from the Grand Master regarding Dues Cards for the up-coming term.

**Finance Report:** The lodge checking account stands at \$33,826.82 (cash \$1,144.02) as of 1:18 pm today. Our Edward Jones Investment Portfolio was valued at \$852,439.83 at 1:21 pm, down some from \$863,614.62 on 10/19/2023.

**Donation Jar:** The food donation jar contained \$270.00. Master Counselor Cody Little, of Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay, provided a plate of brownies for lodge dessert, unfortunately he could not stay. The brownies were excellent.

**Masonic Education:** VW Craig Bruner showed the Walt Disney cartoon MathMagic Land hosted by Donald Duck. It was very interesting and has subtle associations to Masonic ideas.

**Prince David report:** WB Ken Peck reported on the recent visitation he WM Terrell Goertz made to our sister Lodge's 100 Anniversary Celebration. Ken noted that the WM of Prince David requested that we consider making a visit for the Trowel Exchange on Tuesday Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. Several brothers raised their hands to go.

**Announcements:** An opportunity for announcements was provided. Rainbow Thanksgiving Dinner is Saturday Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM, held at the Ferndale Masonic Center. Annual installation of officers to be held at our Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Stated communication.

**DDGM:** Craig Bruner announced that Lynden/Ferndale Int Lodge 56 plans to hold their Installation on the 4th Saturday of November. Craigs hopes there will be some assistance and attendance by brethren of Whatcom Lodge.

**Sickness and relief:** VW David Burns of BB#44 recently suffered a stroke and is in the Hospital.

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

**PS Note:** There were **15** W-151 brothers in attendance and **1** guest for dinner.

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

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Bellingham Bay - 7 pm

Dec 14<sup>th</sup> Lynden/Ferndale Int. Lodge  
opens at 7 pm.

Dec 21<sup>st</sup> Whatcom Lodge - meeting  
opens at 6:30 pm.



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.

Like us on  
Facebook



## November Stated Communication...Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Lodge was opened on the 3<sup>RD</sup> 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. Don L. Carl Pt Loma #620 in San Diego, CA and Bro. Mitch Hart of Ancient Light Lodge #88 in Ladner B.C. Canada. Both given a hearty welcome to Whatcom Lodge.

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

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Nov 2nd Communication were not read having been previous approved but were on hand for anyone wishing to read them.

**Communications:** Two Letters from Grand Lodge on the recent suspension of two masons. Also the secretary noted that we received the Annual Masonic Service Association Green Envelope appeal which he would bring up under business.

**Donation Jar:** meal donations came to \$265.00.

**Installation of Officers:** The annual Installation of Officers was completed at this time. *WM* = Terrell Goertz, *SW* = Bruce Smith, *JW* = Ken Peck, *Trea* = Ted Schuman, *Sec'y* = John Browne, *Chap* = Jerry Hill, *Mar* = Frank Myers, *SD* = Jeff Roskelley, *JD* = Luke Sullateskee, *SS* = Bill Kappale, *JS* = Moss Roberts, *Guitarist* = Claude Weedon and *Tyler* = Scott Jenkins.

**Finance Report:** The lodge checking account stands at \$34,219.21 (cash \$1,144.02) as of 2:39 pm today. Our Edward Jones Investment Portfolio was valued at \$891,014.86 at 12:40 pm this afternoon. The previous value was checked on 10/19/2023 at 1:25 pm and it was \$863,614.62.

**Bills:** W #3467 in amt of \$200.01 to Bruce Smith for 10/5 Dinner expenses (ck #1646); W#3468 in the amount of \$126.37 to Ken Peck for Dinner on 11/2/2023 (ck #1647):

**Pre authorized:** W# 3465 in amt of \$375.00 to Scottish Rite for Inv #1799 December Rent (ck #1644); W#3466 in amt of \$296.00 to Sec'y John Browne for Nov. records, mileage, Internet exp. Reimbursement and stamps for Dues Notices (ck #1645).

It was moved by Don Higgerson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ted Schuman to pay the bills, the motion was **approved**.

**Business:** Sec'y Browne gave a short description of the MSA annual Green Envelope Drive noting it was to support the Hospital Visitation Program - Masons visiting and assisting injured veterans and their families. Sec'y Browne moved that Whatcom Lodge donate \$50.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by WB John Brown. The Motion was **approved**. W#3469 (ck #1648)

**Balloting:** The Petition for Affiliation from Bro Peter Harksell. The Inv Comm Rpt was *Full & Favorable* and the resulting ballot was *Fair, Clear and Bright*. Bro Harksell is the newest member of Whatcom Lodge

**50 Year pin presentation:** WB Ken Peck temporarily assumed the East. He then presented a *Fifty Year Certificate & Pin*, on behalf of the *Grand Lodge of California* to Brother Don Carl of Point Loma Lodge #620 located in San Diego CA. Bro. Don was accorded the Public Grand Honors.

**Masonic Youth:** WB Thom Baughn gave his usual informative Youth report on Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay and Evergreen Assembly IORG.

**Lodge of Sorrow:** WM Terrell Goertz closed the Lodge of Sorrow for 2023. WM Goertz then opened a Lodge of Sorrow for 2024.

**Announcements:** An opportunity for announcements was provided. A special note that the Lynden-Ferndale Int. #56 has their open installation of officers set for Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. It will take place at the Ferndale Masonic Center. Also noted is that Whatcom Lodge will exchange the Trowel with our sister lodge Prince David #101, in Maple Ridge B.C. on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 2023.

**DDGM:** VW Craig Bruner gave greetings from our Grand Master and reminded us that the Annual District Ten Meeting is set for Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

The purpose for which this Special Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by PTM VW Terrell Goertz at **8:35 P.M.** / P. & H. P.

**PS Note:** There were **21** W-151 brothers in attendance and **2** visitors.

November 29, 2023



Fraternal Greetings,

Our special Holiday season is upon us. Now is a great opportunity to be thankful and reflect on the blessings we enjoy and to be charitable if so moved. In the great lights we are taught about Faith, Hope and Charity. The greatest of these is Charity. A more accurate translation of this is Faith, Hope and Love.

Most are gifted with more than is what is needed. Perhaps you have skills that would allow you to provide needed maintenance in someone's home who cannot do it themselves. Or you enjoy cooking and know somebody that would love a home cooked meal. You like driving and are able to drive somebody to a Dr. Appointment and they cannot drive any more. Somebody is going through rough times and could benefit from a gift of your time either in person or by a simple phone call.

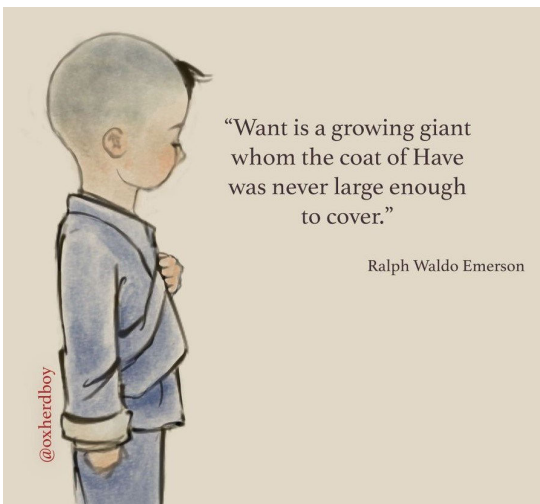
Charity is a byproduct of love and can be expressed in many forms, it is not just about money. Our world certainly could use more of this special Charity now.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Steve Martin has selected January 20, 2024, for our Annual District No. 10 Meeting. We will be starting our meeting at 11:00 am and concluding by 1:00 pm. Location will be at 1101 N State Street Bellingham, WA. Doors will be open by 10:00 am.

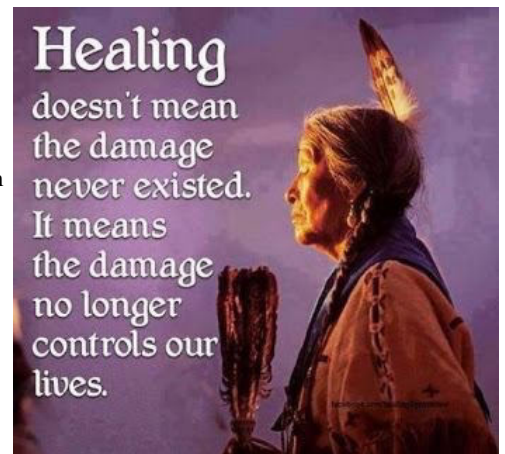
Our Grand Lodge team travels throughout our State making themselves available to each Lodge. This is so we can communicate, know each other better and learn of any changes that our Grand Lodge would like to communicate to us.

This is Our District Meeting, a time for each of us to gather in fellowship as a whole representing District No. 10. To share what we have been doing, our accomplishments, ideas and perhaps ask questions. A time to find out how we can all be better and stronger. Remember, our Grand Masters motto this year is "Be all in"

I am proud of all in District No. 10 who represent our gentle craft. I ask that you make yourself available and encourage all to attend our special meeting.



Fraternally,  
VW Craig Bruner  
VWB Craig Bruner  
Deputy of the Grand Master  
District No. 10, F.&A.M. of Washington



## Northwest Shrine Club

Brethren and Fellow Shriners, I have been elected to the position of President of the Northwest Shrine Club for the ensuing Year. With the help of our members and new members of the Mystic Shrine we shall have an awesome year supporting our sponsor, Nile Shrine of Mountlake Terrace and our Hospitals for Children. I am hoping for a great year of fun and camaraderie with my Brethren in Whatcom County. We are in need of new members as most of us are getting older and infirm. If you would like to join us please contact me or our Secretary, my e-mail is; [george@syscongrp.com](mailto:george@syscongrp.com) and Gerrit's is [cmsgtgk@comcast.net](mailto:cmsgtgk@comcast.net). We would love to talk with you about what the Shrine does. Of course, if you have seen our advertisements on tv you should have a good idea.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month currently at the Rustler's restaurant on first street in Lynden at 6 PM. We would love to see you!

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
26	27	28	29	30	1 BB # 44 Stated Comm at 7 pm	2
3	4 Hesperus Com-mandry #8 at 7:30pm	5 NWSC dinner at Rustlers in Lynden at 6 pm.	6 Scottish Rite V of B At 7 pm  <i>St- Nicholas Day</i>	7 W 151 spl Comm Dinner at 5:30 pm, mtg at 6:30 pm  <i>Pearl Harbor Day</i> <i>Hanukkah</i>	8	9
10	11 Bellingham Council #16 R&SM at 7:30 pm	12 W-151 Trowel Exchange at Prince David 101.	13 York Rite Council 16  <i>St- Lucia's Day</i> <i>Scandinavian Lands</i>	14 LFI # 56 Stated at 7 pm.	15 BB 44 Special	16
17	18 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch at 7:30 pm. Moving to Ana-cortes in March.	19 Masonic Lunch at Rusty Wagon, meet at 11:30 am.	20	21 W 151 Stated, dinner at 5:30 pm mtg at 6:30 pm  <i>Winter Begins today!</i>	22	23
24  <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25  <i>Christmas Day</i> 1st Day of Christmas	26  <i>Boxing Day</i> (Canada) 2nd Day of Christmas	27  3rd Day of Christmas	28  4th Day of Christmas	29  5th Day of Christmas	30  6th Day of Christmas
31  <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7th Day of Christmas	1  <i>New Year's Day</i> 8th Day of Christmas	2  9th Day of Christmas	3  10th Day of Christmas	4  11th Day of Christmas	5  12th Day of Christmas	6  <i>Epiphany</i>

**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: [sectreswof@gmail.com](mailto:sectreswof@gmail.com)

WB John Brown - *President,*

WV Craig Bruner - *Vice President*

360-319-7163



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)