



Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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January 2025

Special Communication held on Thursday, December 5th

Lodge was opened on the 3rd Degree at 6:30 P.M. by WM Terrell Goertz who said that the purpose of this Special Communication was education and fraternalism.

Tyler: Was invited to Tyle from within.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meetings were not read, having been previously approved, but were available for perusal at the Sec'y desk.

Communications: Nov. Short Talk Bulletin and a few notices from our Grand Lodge plus letters from two county Foodbanks.

Finance Report: The WECU checking account is at \$15,155.64 as of 2:04 pm today and our Edward Jones Investment portfolio showed an amount of \$1,105,268.72....one month ago it was \$1,087,929.93. Our cash portion is now at with \$1,210.31.

Donation Jar: The food payment jar contained \$165.00.

New Lodge Life Member: Received a letter from Kathleen Lau, GL book keeper notifying Whatcom Lodge that WB Chris Bonner has transferred his Life Endowment investment to our lodge.

Masonic Education: WM Terrell Goertz presented a program about Masonry during and after the Civil War. He also discussed the changing meaning of the word "condescension". In the 18th Century it had a generally positive meaning and application but in the 19th Century it change to being a bit disparaging toward the working class of people.

WB Dan Polvere noted that St Paul's Cathedral in Paris was soon to be rededicated. In light of that ceremony he read a piece reflecting on the Origins of Masonry from the Stone Masons Guilds of the late Middle Ages.

Masonic Youth: WB Thom Baughn gave his usual fine report. He noted that our Local Rainbow recently hosted the Grand Worthy Advisor of Washington-Idaho IORG. Our local Assembly performed the Pledge Ceremony at this mtg. This past Wednesday evening Chuckanut Chp DeMolay celebrated it's 100th Anniversary. Thom further noted that one of the founding boys in 1924 was 14 year old Wayne J. Deming, PGM of Washington and member of Bellingham Bay Lodge #44. The high point of the evening came when VWB Don Higgerson was presented with a 70 year pin as a DeMolay, which is very seldom given out. VW Don was accorded the PGHs.

Announcements: An opportunity for announcements was provided.

Saturday Dec. 7th San Juan Lodge #175 hosts it's Annual Installation of Officers.

On Tuesday Dec. 17th is our next Masonic luncheon at the Rusty Wagon.

On Sat. January 11th Dist. Ten will host it's Annual District Meeting at 4 pm here at the Scottish Rite Temple.

On Sat. January 25th Lyn/Fern Int #56 will hold it's Annual Installation of Officers, at 11:30 am, at the Ferndale Masonic Center.

Sickness & relief: WB Paul Brainard recently underwent his second hip replacement surgery, best wishes to Paul for a speedy recovery.

DDGM: Was attending a family gathering.

The purpose for which this Special Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by WM Terrell Goertz at 7:35 P.M. / P. & H. P.

PS Note: There were 17 W-151 brothers in attendance.

Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Jan 3rd Bellingham Bay - 7 pm

Jan 9th Lynden/Ferndale Int. - 7 pm

Jan 16th Whatcom Lodge—Dinner at 5:30 pm—meeting opens at 6:30 pm.



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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Lodge was opened on the 3rd Degree at 6:30 P.M. by WM Terrell Goertz who said that the purpose of this Stated Communication was to conduct the business of the Lodge.

Visitors: WB Edmond Lim and VW Alan Ibasco from Lynden/Ferndale Int 56, were given a hearty welcome.

The Tyler was invited to tyle from with the Lodge room

Minutes: The minutes of the previous communication having been approved were not Read but were available at the Secretary's desk for anyone who wished to read them.

Communications: There were three letters from Grand Lodge and two from Washington Masonic Services. The three from GL were dated Dec 17th for a Suspension and Dec 5th for two Expulsions.

Food payment Jar: meal payments came to \$226.00.

Finance Report: The lodge checking account stands at \$15,723.07 on Dec 19th, 2024 and our Ed Jones Investment Portfolio was valued at \$1,061,206.77. The current cash value is \$1,210.31.

Bills: W #3545 in the amount of \$483.84 to JW Jeff Roskelley for food expenses on Nov. 7, Dec. 5th and Dec 19th. (ck# 1726)

It was moved by Joe Hayes 2nd by Frank Myers to pay the Bills, the motion was **approved**.

Pre authorized: W# 3544 in amt of \$375.00 to Scottish Rite for Inv #1907, Jan. 2025 Rent (ck #1727); W#3538 in amt of \$530.00 to Sec'y John Browne for 6 Mon Record Keeping. (ck #1725).

New Business: WB Ted Schuman spoke on the topic of remitting to the Secretary an increase to better compensate him for record keeping expenses. Ted proposed we remove the annual \$600 stipend and increase the monthly remittance from \$230 to \$300 per month. Bro Joe Hayes put that into a motion which WB Ted Schuman 2nd. After a brief discussion the question was called and the motion was **approved**.

Degree: The FC Degree for Bro Mark Saleeb is planned for Thursday January 2nd 2025.

Youth Report: WB Thom Baughn gave his usual informative report.

Masonic Education: WM Terrell Goertz introduced WB Claude Weedon, who is a certified CPR Instructor. WB Claude gave instruction on how to use the Defibrillator and air masks. Bro Claude had a mannikin to demonstrate on. The program was very interesting and Brothers were attentive and asked good questions.

Announcements: On Sat. January 11th Dist. Ten will host it's Annual District meeting at 4 pm here at the Scottish Rite Temple.

On Sat. January 25th Lyn/Fern Int #56 will hold it's Annual Installation of Officers, at 11:30 am, at the Ferndale Masonic Center. WB Edmond Lim, WM of Lynden/Ferndale Int Lodge 56, spoke thanking the brothers for their warm hospitality. WB Lim expressed his hope that Whatcom Lodge would attend LFI#56's Installation of Officers and share in Masonic Fraternalism.

It was noted that the Whatcom Players will be hosting a FC Degree practice this Saturday, Dec. 21st at 11 am here at the Scottish Rite Hall.

The OV of our DDGM will be on February 20th, 2025 at our Stated Meeting.

Sickness and relief: WB City John is at home recovering from 2nd sinus surgery. Ted Schuman reported that Paul Brainard is still a bit gimpy from his recent hip surgery. Chris Bonner had a bit of a setback with his heart condition but is back out of the hospital and feeling better.

Report: Sec'y John Browne gave a report on the Installation he assisted in at San Juan Lodge 175. Browne noted he had the distinct pleasure of chatting with MW Jimmy Norton Jr. on the return ferry ride to Anacortes. He very much appreciated the opportunity for a one to one conversation with the Grand Master

DDGM: VW Craig Bruner gave salutations from our Grand Master MW James C. Norton Jr.

The purpose for which this Stated Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by WM Terrell at **8:20 P.M.** / P. & H. P.

PS Note: There were **18** W-151 brothers and 2 visitor (s) in attendance and **2** guests for dinner.





Fraternal Greetings,

December 27, 2024

Our Holiday season is here. I hope you are healthy, comfortable and enjoying the peace, safety and prosperity we have as Americans. Every morning the sun comes up and we have a new day to be grateful for what we have and enjoy. An opportunity to keep an eye out for those that may need a simple smile, hello or a little encouragement that could change their whole day. These little gifts we can give may be what changes the course in someone’s life to a positive direction.

As a reminder, Most Worshipful Grand Master, James Norton has selected January 11, 2025, for our Annual District No. 10 Meeting. We will be starting our meeting at 4:00pm and concluding by around 6:00pm. Location will be at 1101 N State Street Bellingham, WA. Doors will be open by 3:00pm. Dinner to be provided after the meeting. WM Dave Gehrcke will be our Chef with assistance from our DeMolay. **(Please stay tuned for more information)**

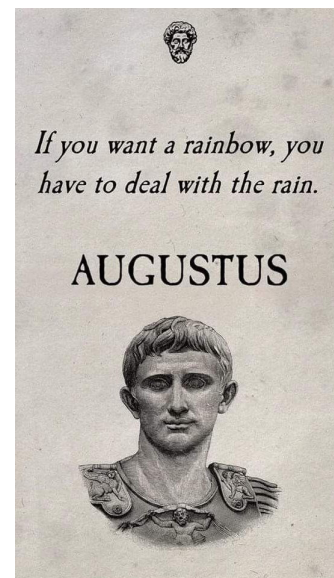
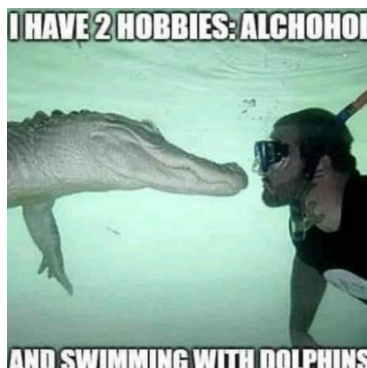
Our Grand Lodge team travels throughout our State making themselves available to each Lodge. This is so we can communicate and know each other better and learn of anything our Grand Lodge would like to us to know. An opportunity to ask questions you may have or even make suggestions that you would like to see.

This is OUR District Meeting, a time for us to gather in fellowship as a whole, proudly representing our three great Lodges in District No. 10. To share what we have been doing, our accomplishments, ideas and get better informed. A time to find out how we can all be better and stronger.

I am proud of all in District No. 10 who represent our gentle craft. Each lodge really is doing a great job. I ask that you set aside the date and time and make yourself available. Please encourage others to attend our special meeting. If you have not been in Lodge for a while this is a great time to get reacquainted.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, are having a Happy Hannukah and will have a Happy New Year.

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



Bellingham Bay 44 & Whatcom 151 meet at the - Scottish Rite Hall
 Lynden/Ferndale Int 56 meets at the - Ferndale Masonic Center

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31 Dues/Assmts are due today <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7th Day of Christmas	1 <i>New Year's Day</i> 8th Day of Christmas	2 W 151 spl Comm, Dinner at 5:30 and Lodge opens at 6:30 pm, we'll confer a FC Degree 9th Day of Christmas	3 BB # 44 10th Day of Christmas	4 11th Day of Christmas
5 12th Day of Christmas	6 Hesperus Commandry #8 at 7:30pm Epiphany	7 NWSC dinner at Rustlers in Lynden at 6 pm.	8 Scottish Rite V of B At 7 pm	9 Lyn/Frn Int # 56 at 7 pm	10	11 District Ten's Annual Meeting at 4 pm, hosted at the Scottish Rite Hall.
12	13 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch at 7:30 pm.	14	15 Bellingham Council #16 R&SM at 7:30 pm	16 W 151 Stated, dinner at 5:30 pm mtg at 6:30 pm	17 BB# 44	18
19	20	21 Masonic Lunch at Rusty Wagon at 11:30 am.	22	23	24	25 Installation of Officers for Lyn/Fern Int #56. At 11: am at the Ferndale Masonic Ctr on 3rd Street. This is a Open event!
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Happy New Year!!

Whatcom Lodge 151
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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 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

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.

Beth Heffernan - *Secretary/Treasurer*

Phone: 360-510-6611,
 Email: sectreswof@gmail.com

WB Chis Bonner- *President*,
 360-312-4225

Bro. Bill Kappel- *Vice President*
 360-815-4649