



# Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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September 2025

The August Special Communication was held on Thursday Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Visitors:** Alan Bridges of Columbian Lodge, Boston Mass.

**Tyler:** Was invited to Tyle from within.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting was not read, having been previously approved.

**Communications:** Email from Grand Master regarding the Scottish Rite College opportunity.

**Finance Report:** The current amount is our WECU checking account was provided for the members. The current Edward Jones Investment portfolio amount was also provided to the members.

**Food Payment Jar:** The food payment jar was disclosed to the membership on hand.

**Masonic Education:** VW Terrell read a bit from a book entitled 'Freemason's Key'. In particular in regards to an explorer name Hiram Bingham his study of the Inca Civilization. Hiram noted the amazing architecture of the Incas and their use of the mystical relationships of the numbers 3, 5 and 7. This was a very interesting presentation.

**Masonic Youth:** WB Thom Baughn gave his usual fine report on Rainbow and DeMolay activities. Thom noted that our Rainbow Girls will be at Dream Camp this weekend. He reported that Chuckanut Chp. De Molay was hosting an event for Middle School kids at the Lynden Skate Part and the Rainbow Girls would be there too. An excellent opportunity for middle schoolers to learn about these two Masonic Youth Groups.

**Announcements:** An opportunity for announcements was provided.

On Tuesday August 19<sup>th</sup> is our next Masonic luncheon at the Rusty Wagon.

The Annual BBQ @ Ted & Penny's is set for Sat., August 16<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3 PM.

**Election of Officers:** Lodge election of officers will be held on Thursday August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Installation of officers:** The annual installation of Officers is set for Thur. September 4<sup>th</sup> at our Special Communication.



**Sickness & relief:** Ted reported that WB City John had received his last radiation treatment and it is hoped he'll be feeling well enough to attend the Ted & Penny BBQ event on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

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 21 W-151 brothers in attendance,

**Photo at left:** Bro. Don Carl was presented a 50 year pin at our August 21<sup>st</sup> Stated meeting. Sec'y Browne is shown assisting in putting on Don's pin during the festive board.

## Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Sep 5<sup>th</sup> Bellingham Bay - 7 pm

Sep 11<sup>th</sup> Lynden/Ferndale Int. - 7 pm

Sep 18<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge—Dinner at 5:30 pm—meeting opens at 6:30 pm.

Actions prove who  
someone is, words  
just prove who they  
pretend to be.

-UNKNOWN

But sometimes their words  
do mirror their actions,  
be on guard.



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.

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The Stated Communication was held on Thursday August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Lodge was opened on the 2nd Degree at 6:30 P.M. by SW Joe Hayes who said that the purpose of this Stated Communication was to conduct the business of the Lodge.

**Visitors:** Bro Alan Bridges of Columbian Lodge, Boston Mass

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:** None

**Food payment Jar:** meal payment jar amount was provided to the members present.

**Finance Report:** The lodge checking account current balance and the current Ed Jones Investment Portfolio value were announced to the brethren assembled at this meeting.

**Bills:** The bills for this meeting were enumerated and it was moved by Don Higginson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ted Schuman to pay the Bills, the motion was *approved*.

**Pre authorized:** The Pre-authorized on-going expenses were presented to the brothers for their information.

**Business:** It was moved by Don Higginson, 2nd by Ted Schuman that Whatcom Lodge purchase a Past District Deputy Apron and case for VW Craig Bruner. After brief discussion the motion was *approved*.

**Masonic education:** Bro. Bill Kappelé gave a presentation on Election and balloting procedures.

**Election of officers:** The election of officers for the next term was conducted with this result:

WM = Joe Hayes, SW = Jeff Roskelley, JW = Luke Sullateskee,  
Trea = Ted Schuman and Sec'y = John Browne

The Installation of officers is planned for the Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> Special Communication.

**Youth Report:** WB Thom Baughn gave his usual excellent report on our two local youth groups.

**Announcements:** An opportunity for announcements was provided. Thom Baughn advised that LFI #56 will be conferring and Master Mason Degree on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the fourth Thursday of the month. Thom also asked brothers to mark their calendar's for the Fall Hands Across the Border meeting set for November 8<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow as the date nears.

**Masonic luncheon:** Nine brothers attended the August 19<sup>th</sup> luncheon. The next Luncheon will be on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Rusty Wagon at 11:30 am.

**Sickness and relief:** WB City John and wife Jane attended the Lodge BBQ at Ted and Penny's. John was able to last whole three hours and he was in good spirits. WM Terrell Goertz presented to John the Grand Lodge Military Service Recognition Award for which he thanked VW Craig Brun who spearheaded the effort to get it for him.

The purpose for which this Stated Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by SW Joe Hayes at 7:37 P.M. / P. & H. P.

**PS Note:** There were 16 W-151 brothers 1 visitor were in attendance and 1 prospect joined us for dinner.



WB Ted Schuman arranged for this fine cake he is showing to the photographer.

A cake was presented in honor of Bro. Bill Kappelé for his support and dedication to Whatcom Lodge. Bill and his wife Beth are relocating to Wyoming to be near one of their adult kids. They will be very much missed but Bill plans to visit in the future.

# Installation of Whatcom Lodge Officers for the 2025—2026

Whatcom Lodge will install it's new officers at our Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> Special Communication.

Our Annual Election of Officers was held at our August 21<sup>st</sup> Stated Communication and the results were as follows: *Wor. Master* elect is Joe Hayes.....*Sr. Warden* elect is Jeffrey Roskelley.....*Jr. Warden* elect is Luke Sullateskee *Treasurer* elect is Ted Schuman and the *Secretary* elect is John Browne

Appointed Officers to be installed are:

*Chaplain* is Jerry Hill *Marshal* is Frank Myers *Sr. Deacon* is Craig Bruner *Jr. Deacon* is Paul Brainard  
*Sr. Steward* is Scott Walsh *Jr. Steward* vacant at present *Guitarist* is Claude Weedon *Tyler* is Moss Roberts

## Lessons from history...with the intention of being patriotic to our Country

We are taught in the Fellowcraft Degree to improve ourselves by study of the seven liberal arts. To those seven I would add an eight, *History*. It was said that “those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it”. (Brother Winston Churchill to Parliament 1948). Humanity has proven this sage comment repeatedly over the centuries. I hereby humbly present several items from history to illustrate this point, given our chaotic and confusing times we presently reside in.

The first comes from our Colonial American Revolutionary History. On December 16<sup>th</sup>, 1773 it seems that a certain Masonic Lodge contributed to a ‘Tea Party’. This was in reaction to tariffs on tea imposed by our mother country, Great Britain. This and other taxes sprouted the idea of ‘No Taxation without Representation’. From this beginning we built a nation ‘of the people, by the people and for the people’ according to President Lincoln in his famous November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1863 Gettysburg Address.

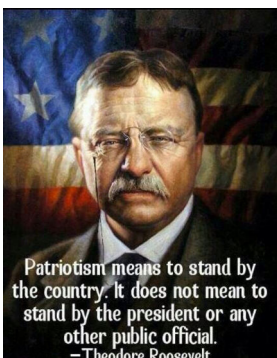


The 1773 Boston Tea Party was staged because the colonies did not wish to pay tariffs on Tea.

The second reflects how Hitler slowly rose to power in Germany in the late 1930's. Hitler reacted to the harsh sanctions of the Treaty of Versailles at the end of WWI. In the mid to late 1930's Hitler embarked on a task to unite Germany, to make it great as it once had been. Hitler's party banned and even burned books, and they targeted the Press. Hitler blamed immigrants and created enemies of Germany's neighbors, stoked fear of outsiders, and defunded the Arts and Demonized Educators.

In fact under Hitler, Masons were one of the targeted groups, probably for their tolerance of others and promotion of Free thinking. Masons had to go underground. Masonic tolerance and acceptance of others sets Masons apart as exemplary citizens of their respective countries. As we know Masons support all major faiths, public education and charity for veterans, working and poorer citizens.

Masons need to be vigilant these days, ensuring we support the Founder's ideals of a Democratic Republic. A government 'of the People, by the People and for the People' under the Constitution of these United States, including due process for all under the law as provided in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of our Constitution. This Country and it's Government are the People, not a party, or the financially powerful or a political person. I hope we all heed the lessons of the past and what it cost our forebearers & parents.



I believe a former President and Freemason said it very well.

***“Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the President or any other public official save exactly to the degree in which he himself stands by the country. It is patriotic to support him in so far as he efficiently serves the country. It is unpatriotic not to oppose him to the extent that by inefficiency or otherwise he fails in his duty to stand by the country.”*** Theodore Roosevelt - *President and Freemason*

Presented by: VW John Browne, Whatcom Lodge 151, Secretary.

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
31	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2 NWSC dinner at Rustlers in Lynden at 6 pm.	3 Scottish Rite V of B At 7 pm	4 W 151 Spl, Dinner at 5:30, Lodge at 6:30 Tyled Installation of Officers.	5 BB # 44	6
7	8 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch at 7:30 pm.	9	10 Bellingham Council #16 R&SM at 7:30 pm	11 Lyn/Frn Int # 56 <i>Patriot Day</i>	12	13
14	15	16 Masonic Lunch at Rusty Wagon at 11:30 am.	17	18 W 151 Stated, dinner at 5:30 pm mtg at 6:30 pm	19 BB# 44	20
21	22 <i>First Day of Autumn</i> <i>Rosh Hashanah begins at Sundown</i>	23 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	24	25	26	27
28	29 <i>Michaelmas 'Harvest Feast Day'</i>	30	1 <i>Yom Kippur Begins at sundown</i>	2 <i>Yom Kippur</i>	3	4

## Harvest Season is underway!



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:

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 Maple Falls, WA. 98266  
 Ph. 360-599-3481  
 e-mail: [jbrowne.brf@gmail.com](mailto:jbrowne.brf@gmail.com)

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### Widows & Orphans Fund for District No. 10

If you would like to know more about the W & O Fund contact one of the officers listed below.

WB Scott Walsh - *Secretary/Treasurer*  
 Phone: 925-212-4243,  
 Email: [Scott43walsh@gmail.com](mailto:Scott43walsh@gmail.com)

WB Chris Bonner- *President*,  
 360-927-6482  
 Bro. Luke Sullateskee- *Vice President*  
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