



# Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

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December 2025

The November Spl Communication was held on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Lodge was opened on the 3rd Degree at 6:30 P.M. by WM Joe Hayes who said that the purpose of this Special Communication was to enjoy fraternalism.

**Visitors:** VW Dave Gehrcke DDGM & BB#44 was given a hearty welcome.

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

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

**Communications:** On Oct 24<sup>th</sup>, I received an e-mail from GL regarding the safety of Lodges. On Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> I received an e-mail from GL advising us of the passing of MWB William R. Miller.

**Finance Report:** The WECU checking balance was given as was The Edward Jones Investment portfolio balance

**Food Payment Jar:** The food payment jar amount was provided to the members.

**Masonic Education:** WM Joe Hayes read an Article recounting that June 12<sup>th</sup> was Women's Veterans Day which is observed in 14 of our United Sates. Women have served in various roles in most of America's War but get very little recognition for their contributions. Not unlike our Merchant Seamen who lost many lives transporting Supplies, in particular to our Allies in Russia and Europe. Women served in the OSS, as medical staff, as shuttle piolet and of course clerical staff. We discussed Veterans generally and held a moment of Silence followed by 11 rings of the chime.

**Masonic Youth:** WB Thom Baughn gave his usual fine report.

**Announcements:** An opportunity for announcements was provided. LFI56 will hold its HAB event on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>. And their Installation of Officers on Nov 29<sup>th</sup>.

San Jaun Lodge 175 holds it's annual Open Installation of Officers on Saturday Dec 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Sickness & relief:** WB Dave Nelson's wife Pat recently passed away.

The purpose for which this Special Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by WM Joe Hayes at 7:25 P.M. / P. & H. P.

**PS Note:** There were 13 W-151 brothers in attendance, and 1 visitor.

**Your worst enemy cannot harm you as much as your own unguarded thoughts.**

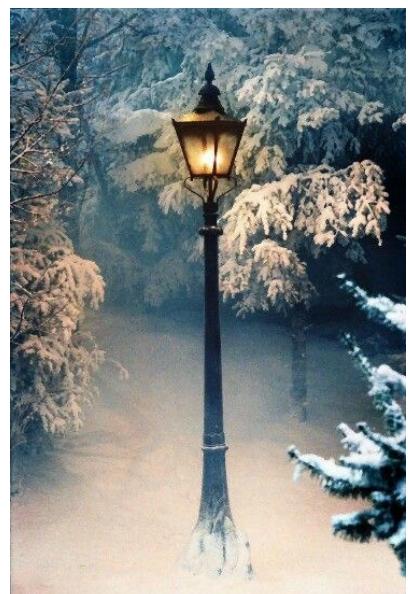
~ Buddha

DAILY INSPIRING QUOTES @ [WWW.TODAYQUOTES.IN](http://WWW.TODAYQUOTES.IN)



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 November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Lodge was opened on the 1st Degree at 6:30 P.M. by WM Joe Hayes who said that the purpose of this Stated Communication was conduct the business of the Lodge.

**Visitors:** WB Edmond Lim, VW Alan Ibasco and RW Larence Balong-gay of LFI#56 and WB Mike MsSwain of Seaside Lodge 429. They all 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:** None

**Food payment Jar:** The meal payments jar total was announced.

**Finance Report:** The lodge checking account was given and was our Ed Jones Investment Portfolio value.

**Bills:** Our current bills were enumerated. It was moved by Craig Bruner 2<sup>nd</sup> by Luke Sullateskee to pay the Bills, the motion was *approved*.

**Pre authorized:** The Lodge's on-going pre-approved expenses were also provided.

**Business:** SW Jeff Roskelley reported that he has been in communication with Bro. Bill Kappele regarding the management of our Website. Jeff advised he was willing to take over from Bill. The membership concurred.

**Charity:** The Lodge still has \$3,400 in our 2025 Charity Fund. After discussion it was decided to donate equal amounts to each of the three County Food Banks: Blaine, Foothills and Ferndale. The remaining funds to go to Christ Episcopal Church for their Wash Day Charity Fund.

**Petitions received:** A Petition by Mr. Joe Wargo for the Degrees of Masonry was received. An Investigation Committee of Jeff Roskelley (Chair), Craig Bruner and Dan Liska was appointed.

A Petition for the Degrees from Mr. Todd Sharp was also received and the Investigation Committee of Craig Bruner (chair), Jeff Roskelley and Dan Liska was appointed.

**Masonic education:** WM Joe Hayes reported on information related to the JFK assassination noting that the detective who arrested Lee Harvey Oswald was a Mason. He also noted the Cuban Missile Crisis and the era of building bomb shelters. Brothers shared many stories of that time period.

**Youth Report:** WB Thom Baughn gave his usual excellent report on our two local youth groups. Thom particularly noted that Bethel #25 is in the process of being re-established.

**Announcements:** An opportunity for announcements was provided. On November 29<sup>th</sup> Lyn-Fern Int #56 will hold their Installation of Officer at 2 pm.

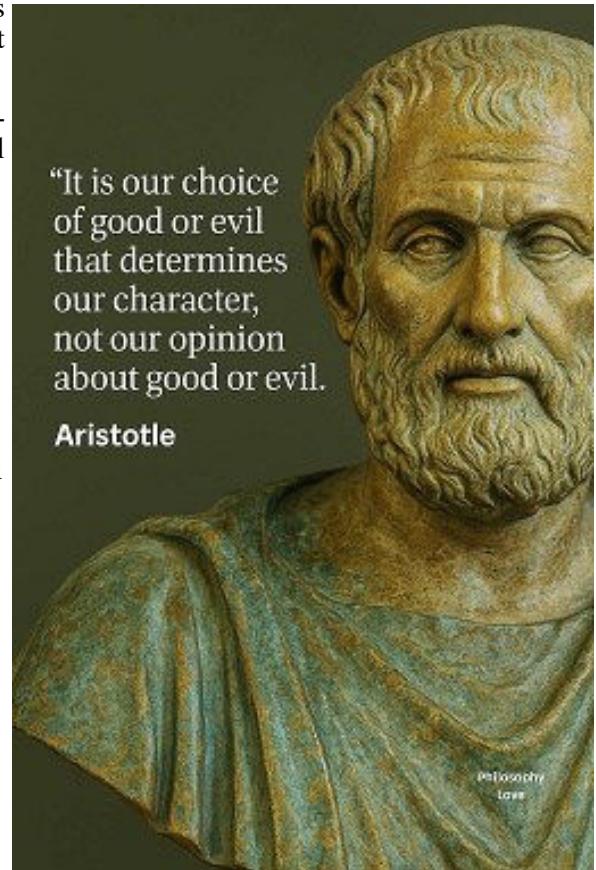
On Saturday Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> San Juan #175 hosts its Annual Open Installation of Officers at 3 PM.

**Masonic luncheon:** The next Luncheon will be on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Rusty Wagon at 11:30 am.

**Sickness and relief:** Ted Schuman is back from his trip but suffering from Jet-lag. Paul Brainard left after dinner not feeling well.

The purpose for which this Stated Communication having been completed, Lodge was closed in Due Form by WM Joe Hayes at 8:00 P.M. / P. & H. P.

**PS Note:** There were 15 W-151 brothers, 4 visitors were in attendance and 2 prospects joined us for dinner.



There have been a number of activities in the past month at which Brothers of Whatcom Lodge have participated.

**Hands Across the Border.** This event took place on Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Ferndale Masonic Center. It was held in honor of the two Grand Masters of British Columbia & Yukon and Washington State. The event was well attended. Whatcom members attending were: WM Joe Hayes, VW Craig Bruner, VW Terrell Goertz, VW John Browne, WB Thom Baughn, WB Frank Myers and Bro Moss Roberts. A highlight was when WB Bob Langer of LFI#56 was presented with a richly deserved Hiram Award.

**Installations:** On Saturday Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> Lynden/Ferndale Int Lodge #56 held an *Open Installation of Officers*.

**#56 Brothers Installed into Office Were:**

Worshipful Master - RWB Laurence Balonggay  
 Senior Warden - VWB Alan Ibasco  
 Junior Warden - Bro. Crisnel Bonquin  
 Treasurer - WB Edmond Lim  
 Secretary - VWB Mario Bulawit  
 Senior Deacon - VWB Dirosdado Lacsamana  
 Junior Deacon - Bro. Jezrael Balonggay  
 Senior Steward - Bro. Alfonso Ibasco  
 Junior Steward - WB Robert Langer  
 Marshall - WB Anthony Gonzales  
 Tyler - WB Danny Sanchez

Browne attended the *Installation of Officers* for San Jaun Lodge # 175 in Friday Harbor. VW John Browne was asked to Install the Master and VW Terrell Goertz installed the remaining Officers. Browne also gave the *Charge to the Master*. WB Ian Welch gave the *Charge to the Wardens* and Craig Bruner gave the *Charge to the Lodge*.

Following the Proclamation and Benediction came the Installation of the Immediate Past Master, WB Ian Welsh by RWB Andrew Ross. Finally came the Address to the Brethren, given by WB Raymont C. Jackson.

At all of these Masonic events the attendees were treated to very delicious meals and friendship. An excellent time was had by everyone.

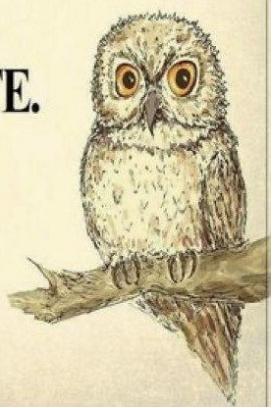


This very cool patch is available by contacting Bro. Kelly Berg. He ordered a number of them. If you are interested here is Kelly's contact information: 360-319-9528 email = KellyBergMusic@gmail.com

**This patch measures 3 inches X 3 inches.**

**Life's tragedy  
 is that we get old  
 TOO SOON  
 and wise  
 TOO LATE.**

—Benjamin Franklin



When the Smothers Brothers sent an apology to President Lyndon B. Johnson for their satirical jokes, Johnson responded with this memorable quote: **"It is part of the price of leadership of this great and free nation to be the target of clever satirists. You have given the gift of laughter to our people. May we never grow so somber or self-important that we fail to appreciate the humor in our lives."**



**"Every tyrant  
 fears a thinker  
 more than an  
 army.**

— Voltaire



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
<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> Bellingham Chp Royal Arch at 7:30 pm.	<b>2</b> NWSC dinner at Rustlers in Lynden at 6 pm.	<b>3</b> Scottish Rite V of B At 7 pm	<b>4</b> W 151 Spl, Dinner at 5:30, Lodge at 6:30 .	<b>5</b> BB# 44 at 7PM	<b>6</b> San Jaun Lodge Installation of Officers
<b>7</b> <i>Pearl Harbor Day!</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Bellingham Council #16 R&SM at 7:30 pm	<b>11</b> Lyn/Frn Int # 56 at 7 PM	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Masonic Lunch at Rusty Wagon at 11:30 am.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> W 151 Stated, dinner at 5:30 pm mtg at 6:30 pm MM Deg is planed for today.	<b>19</b> BB# 44 at 7 PM	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	 <i>Christmas Day</i> 1st Day of Christmas	<i>Boxing Day</i> (Canada) 2nd Day of Christmas
<b>28</b> 4th Day of Christmas	<b>29</b> 5th Day of Christmas	<b>30</b> 6th Day of Christmas	<b>31</b> Dues/Assmts are due today	<b>1</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7th Day of Christmas	<b>2</b> <i>New Year's Day</i> 8th Day of Christmas	<b>3</b> 9th Day of Christmas 10th Day of Christmas

## *Autumn is in full swing!*



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)

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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*  
 360- 739-3375