



Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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Happy New Year !

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January 2009

Happy New Year!! And with it the Tenth Volume of this newsletter begins. The District Ten Newsletter began in October of 1996 as Letters from Whatcom Lodge. That first issue was one side of one page. The November Issue expanded to both sides of one sheet of paper. In the December Issue we began a column the Immigrants Corner. Brother Oussama El-Khoury wrote some very funny, true stories, about his experiences in America. In 1997 we ran five more issues. The newsletter was then dropped for four years and brought back in January of 2002 and it has been running strong ever since. We hope that it is meeting the needs of our Masonic Family. Your input can help us serve our readership better. Back issues can be obtained at the Whatcom Lodge homepage at www.WhatcomMasonicLodge.org.

Thanks, John Browne - Editor

Whatcom Lodge Report

A hearty welcome to the New Year. Gosh, 2008 sure went out with a bang, weather-wise that is. Fortunately for Whatcom Lodge we had five stout brothers who were able to make it to lodge on 12/18 and take care of a little important business. Unfortunately we had to postpone the planned 3rd degree for Bro. Dan Brendible but we hope to hold it in early January.

Stated meeting 12/18 - WB Larry West, VW Glenn Hutchings, WB Randy Carroll, Bro. Monte Thompson and Bro. Boyd McEwen opened lodge and set about the lodges' agenda. The first action was reading of the bills and a motion was made, 2nd and approved to pay the same. The second action was to ballot on Bro. McEwen's petition for affiliation. With Bro. McEwen excused for the moment, the ballot was taken and the result was favorable. Brother Boyd is now the newest member of Whatcom lodge. The third item was the reading of a new Petition for the Degrees of Masonry from Mr. Terrell Goertz. An Investigation committee was assigned and the ballot should come at our January stated meeting, 1/15/2009. We have two petitions out which we expect to receive and read at our January stated meeting.

Degree work - Dates are being looked at to hold at least three degrees in January and February. I'll get the word out as soon as the dates are confirmed.

Past Master's Brunch - Whatcom Lodge held its Past Master's Bruch on Saturday, Dec. 13th, 2008. Considering the weather we've been experiencing the turnout was pretty good. We were entertained by the Bellingham High School Alumni 5 piece brass ensemble, who played several holiday tunes.

This gathering was highlighted by two events of note: First, we were visited by WB Ed McAllister, who drove over from Idaho to see his twin sister. It turned out that they were celebrating their 90th birthday's. Of course we sang Happy Birthday to Ed. Second, we handed out two longevity pins. The first pin, a 25 year pin, was awarded to WB Randy Carroll - who is also a Past Master, having served three terms - 1988, 1991 and 1992. The second pin was presented to Bro. Raymond "Bert" Bailey. He received a 65 year pin. Accompanying Bro. Bert was one of his sons, Ron Bailey. His other son Robert, resides in Nevada. Bro. Bert is 91 and plans to be around awhile, not only to see his son Ron get a 40 year pin next year but hopefully see Ron get his 50 year pin.

We all had a great time and hope to see more of our brothers back attending lodge in the near future.

Fraternally, John Browne - Secretary/Treasurer

Stated Meeting Dates of the **District Ten Lodges**

- Jan 1st Lynden Lodge - 7:30 pm
- Jan 2nd Bellingham Bay - 7:30 p
- Jan 7th San Juan Lodge - 7:30
- Jan 12th Ferndale Lodge - Dark
- Jan 13th Fairhaven Lodge - 7:30 pm
- Jan 14th Nooksack Valley Ldg - Dark
- Jan 15th Whatcom Lodge - dinner at 5:30; meeting at 6:30 pm.
- Jan 20th Kulshan Int. Lodge - 7:30 p

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas Wilmart "Bill" Evans, age 90 of Bellingham passed away Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at his home with family by his side. "Bill" was the son of Thomas and Elsie (Neher) Evans who was born December 15, 1918 in Bellingham. Bill attended aircraft construction school prior to working for Boeing during WWII. He worked in sales and retired from insurance sales.

He was a golfer after growing up at Lakeway Golf Course; also enjoyed fishing trips in B.C., traveling to New Zealand and Australia and made numerous trips to Alaska with his son and grandson.

Bill was a member of the B.P.O. Elks Lodge #194 of Bellingham and Whatcom Lodge No. 151, F & AM. He is survived by his wife, Betty, daughter Jane (Gordon) Brandt, son Garrett (Mary) Evans.

He was blessed with 5 grandchildren, Pat (Heidi) Brandt, Doug Brandt, Becky Brandt, David Evans and Carrie (Jason) Butenschoen and 5 great grandchildren.

Private family Ritualistic Services were held on Monday, Dec. 22nd, 2008 at the Bellingham Masonic Center on W. Maplewood Ave. The service was given by VW Russ Gran assisted by WB Byron Swedberg, WB Larry West VW Ed Jungblom, WB Bill Hall and VW John Browne.

The family is very thankful for the efforts of hospice.

Arrangements were under the care of Valley Funeral and Cremation Services.

Lynden Lodge on the move

Lynden Lodge calendar for December 2008

Jan 1 st	Cemetery Flags	7:30 PM & 4:30 PM
Jan 1 st	Stated Meeting	7:30 PM
Jan 15 th	MM Degree for Bro. Baker	7:30 PM
Jan 17 th	MLA Meeting	10:00 AM
Jan 27 th	Rainbow Assembly #17 meeting	7:00 PM
Jan 29 th	MM Degree for Bro. Bauer	7:30 PM

*All meetings are at the Ferndale Masonic Hall unless otherwise noted.

Lynden Cemetery Program

The Lynden Cemetery was created by Lynden Masons many years ago and many masons are buried there. The Cemetery District now maintains the cemetery and two Lynden Lodge brothers are District Commissioners, namely WBs Dick Decima and Glenn Boodey.

The Cemetery Flags is a project that we do for the Lynden Cemetery District. We put out flags on 8 different holidays during the year. The flags go out at dawn and are taken down at sundown. It's a community service project for us.

Fraternally, WB Dick Myhers, WM Lynden Lodge No. 56

Old Masonic items Sought

The Lynden Pioneer Museum is looking for vintage Masonic items, (aprons, jewels, personal items, photos, altar pieces, etc.) for its upcoming permanent display on Masonry.

Anyone that has stuff they would like to donate can reach me at the Lynden Pioneer museum.

354-3675.

Thanks, Troy Luginbill

Chime for sale

If your high and low 12 strikes sound like your hitting a cast iron frying pan this chime is for you. This chime is just like the ones used by Whatcom and Lynden Lodges and sounds beautiful.

WB Buck Strickland had three of these wonderful sounding chimes made, two are being used by the lodges mentioned above the third one is available for purchase.

The first lodge to contact

WB Buck can buy this chime for the very reasonable price of \$87.00.

Call Buck at: 733-2172 / or Email: w7fch@msn.com

Bethel No. 25 JDI - Report on Installation

Greetings Brothers & Sisters in District Ten:

For those of you who did not hear, via the Mason10 Email loop, Kristin White was her predictably outstanding self at Saturday's Installation of officers, and Thom Baughn (as MC) was very articulate in pointing out her excellent performance to the audience - and the Daughters present, raising the bar. And Kristin did it front of a good crowd - the sidelines were pretty well filled for a number of Masonic guests were in attendance!

Bethel 25 was again blessed with the presence of our current MWJD, Autumn Thompson, (as Installing Junior Custodian) who has become a regular fixture at Bethel 25 events despite the 95 mile drive from her home in Kirkland. She has a real fondness for our Daughters and she and Kristin & Janell have become closer personal friends during this past year. Since Kristin is a Grand Bethel line officer, she will remain an active Jobie for an additional six months until after Grand Session in June, and can robe up (and pro-tem) even if she can't be installed in a Bethel 25 office.

It was great to see many of our Majority member PHQs serve as Installing officers. Miss Allida Newman was home from Las Vegas, and presented the Canadian flag. Others serving as Installing officers were: Janell Murry as Installing Marshal, Sage Snook as Installing Guide, Jennifer Chenvert as Installing Chaplain, Mary Davis as Installing Recorder, Karrin Terry as Installing Senior Custodian, Kat Finch as Installing American Flag Bearer and Cathy Kronewitter as Lady of the Lights.

Daughters installed Saturday included Marissa Morse, Honored Queen; Courtney Scheffler, Senior Princess; Amy Brady, Guide; Amanda Tapparo, Chaplain, Sara Rothenbuhler, Librarian; Sarah Kronewitter, Recorder; Claire Bynon, First Messenger. Several of the officers that will be serving for the term were unable to get to the Bethel that day due to the continually hazardous road conditions in their portion of the county, and will be installed at a meeting in January. Girls received merit point awards, including Marissa Morse who has achieved the highest award, the Jobie necklace. Amanda Tapparo was Jobie of the Term, Kristin White was awarded the Miss Ritual plaque, and Janell Murry received the Past Honored Queen award.

Meeting days will return to our regularly scheduled times and dates for the term (with one possible exception). So we will be meeting on the second Thursday and fourth Saturday evenings at 7:00 PM at the Bellingham Masonic Center, 2626 W. Maplewood Ave., Bellingham, WA.

Sorry for those of you who missed the festivities. It was all about the 'rubber duckies' on Saturday with Marissa's theme. Masonic family members are always welcome to visit Bethel No. 25's meetings. I think you'll be impressed with the dedication, enthusiasm and sense of sisterhood, and also the fun these daughters are having.

Warmest regards,
Margot Wade-Terry
Bethel Guardian

Here is what ***Bellingham Bay*** has going on.

Friday January 2nd Bellingham Bay will open its stated meeting on the Master Mason degree at 7:30. We will be having a Master Mason proficiency that evening.

Thursday January 15th the members of Bellingham Bay Lodge will be attending the meeting of Lynden Lodge #56 at 7:30 to assist them in their conferring of a Master Mason degree.

Friday January 16th Bellingham Bay will have its annual installation of officers. The ceremony will start at 7:30 and will be open for family and non-Masonic friends to attend. George Edwards will be installed as Master, Russ Weston as SW, Dick Zagelow as JW, and Ken Gass as Sec/Treas. The appointed Officers were still being selected at the time this newsletter went to press.

Thursday January 15th the members of Bellingham Bay Lodge will be attending the meeting of Lynden Lodge #56 at 7:30 to assist them in their conferring of a Master Mason degree.

WM Gary Pitcher

NW Shrine Club Nobles & Ladies, you are cordially invited by Noble John Shorthill, President-elect, to our Annual Installation of Officers on Friday January 23, 2009. There will be a dinner; menu is: Prime Rib (10 oz) or Salmon (10 oz), Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Peas, Caesar Salad, Rolls, Horseradish (Mild), Coffee, Tea, and Dessert. All for the price of \$20.00 per person. Reservations are required. Call Noble Ron Fine at 360-676-5747 or e-mail me at RonFine2@aol.com. Be sure to let me know which entree you want. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY JANUARY 16, 2009.

Zem Zem @ 6:00 P.M. Dinner @ 7:00 P.M. Installation @ 8:00 P.M.

Come out and meet the new Potentate and his Divan, plus the new Officers for the NWSC. As these are my last duties as Secretary of the club, I would like to express my sincere Thanks to all of you for your help and kind thoughts over the years. Noble George Edwards will be taking over the job as secretary. Please show him your kind thoughts also. He will get to know all of you over time. Lady Sharon & I wish you all the very best for 2009. May your face always have a smile, your heart full of faith, hope & charity and your health be good.

Yours in Faith,
Ron Fine, Secretary NWSC

Nooksack Valley Lodge No. 105

On Wednesday, 14 January at 6:00 pm, there will NOT be a Stated Meeting as we are Dark, however we will be holding the first annual celebration of TGTHAO with a chili cook-off, starting at 6:00 pm. Your ladies and friends are all invited. Dress is casual.

10 guides for Freemasons:

Author Unknown

- 1). I am the representative of my Lodge and of all Free and Accepted Masons. Whatever I do or say reflects directly upon myself, and my fellow Freemasons everywhere and our good works.
- 2). I am responsible for what my Lodge and Freemasonry represent. They can be no more than what my fellow Freemasons and I make them.
- 3). I should not criticize what my fellow Freemasons do for Freemasonry unless I have a better suggestion and I am prepared to do it myself.
- 4). I must remember that the fact that I bear the name, Master Mason or Freemason, is not enough. I must continue to be worthy.
- 5). My fellow members and I are our Lodge and Freemasonry. Without our active support they cease to exist.
- 6). My Lodge does me a favor by calling upon me. I am not doing the Lodge a favor by serving. It is both an obligation and a privilege to help the Lodge and Freemasonry.
- 7). I should treat my fellow Freemasons with the same respect, honor, and understanding that I would like to receive from them.
- 8). It is not a right to be a Freemason; it is an honor. I should respect that honor by abiding by all of the precepts of my Lodge, my Grand Lodge, and Freemasonry as a whole.
- 9). Whatever differences my fellow Freemasons and I may have, we are all bound together by the bonds of our loyalty to The Grand Architect of the Universe, our families, the Lodge, and Freemasonry.
- 10). The willing Master Mason and his understanding family are the lifeblood of the Lodge and Freemasonry.



KING'S QUOTE'S

Well-being is not found in isolation, possessions, or power itself; it usually appears while serving others.

Manuel Arango

Business executive and philanthropist

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
				1 L # 56 7:30 pm New Year's Day Eight Day of Christmas	2 BB # 44 stated 7:30 p (SRH) Ninth Day of Christmas	3 Tenth Day of Christmas
4 Eleventh Day of Christmas	5 Hesperus Com-mandery No. 8 - 7:30, F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC) Twelfth Day of Christmas	6 NWSC - Zem Zem 6, Dinner 7, Meeting 8 PM ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 p. Epiphany - <i>The Wise Men visit the manger!</i>	7 SJ # 175 stated 7:30 p. (FHMC)	8 Bethel # 25 at 7 pm.	9	10
11	12 F # 264 - Dark Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p	13 F # 73-stated 7:30 p. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC)	14 NV # 105 - Dark However we'll host the 1 st annual TGTHAO celebration with a chili cook-off 6 pm.	15 W 151-stated lodge opens 6:30 pm	16 BB 44 Installation of Lodge officers 7:30 p. (SRH)	17 MFLA Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7 p
18	19 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC)	20 KI # 186 7:30 p. ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC) NWSC Brd. Meeting	21	22 Bellingham Temple Association meeting 7:30 PM	23	24 Bethel #25 at 7 pm
25	26	27 F # 73-Spl. Com 7:30 p. (BMC)	28	29	30	31

In light of the 2008 melt-down of many of our lending institutions this quote from former President Thomas Jefferson is noteworthy.

"I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

Thomas Jefferson 1802

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John Sleeth (Ext 301)

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

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