



# Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

F. & A.M. of Washington



Volume 5 - Issue 3

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March 2004

## Life's Trestle-board

### *Peace Lies Within*

*Nothing is sadder than people who go around all of creation and, as the poet says, "search the bowels of the earth" and peer intently into the minds of other without once realizing that all they need to discover is their own inner spirit and to nurture it sincerely.*

*Such nurturing consists of keeping it free from desire and negligence, and from feeling dissatisfaction with the ways of God and men.*

*For we should be awestruck by the beauty of creation and compassionate toward all humanity, our brothers. And even when we feel pity for another's ignorance of good and evil, we should be aware that this is like a blind man being unable to tell black from white.*

### *The Highest Power*

*In the universe, respect the highest power, namely the creative force that directs and makes use of all things. In the same way you must respect the highest power in yourself, for it is of the same creative kind.*

*For this is what makes use of the rest of you, and directs your life.*

*Marcus Aurelius*

## We had a Pizza good time, says SW Mike Johnston

Brothers you missed out on a wonderful time at lodge on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Brothers, John Browne, Ed Jungblom, Buck Strickland and myself, with the help of my son Keith Johnston, had a wonderful time feeding pizza and drinks to the boys and girls basketball teams we sponsored. The teams were from Birchwood School and Carl Cozier School. I can't remember which team was from which school. The athlete's and their families consumed at least a dozen pizza's, baked beans, coleslaw and soda-pop. We received many thanks and cards. It was a very worth while time and the participants were most appreciative. Hope to see you there next year.

While I am at it, I think the lodge should consider doing some type of community service project every other month. I am sure we have brothers in our own lodge that could use help around the house and/or yard. We could get a crew together and paint or do some type of work, what ever is needing to be done. Lets spend a few hours on a Saturday and help a brother or widow out.

Keep up the good work and until next time.... Brother Mike

### Whatcom Lodge Hosts Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

On Monday evening March 29<sup>th</sup>, Whatcom Lodge hosts a local forum where our District Ten Masons can participate in giving their thoughts and ideas on how to improve the Masonic District Organizations. This meeting begins at **7 PM**, at the Bellingham Masonic Hall, 2626 W. Maplewood.

The GM John McNab sent a letter to lodge officers this past February and it begins, "Your Grand Lodge Officers have been taking a candid look at how our Grand Lodge is organized and operates. We have a vision of making the organization structure more nimble and better able to serve you as members."

Grand Lodge values each Mason's insight so come and share yours at this meeting.

VW John F. Browne - DDGM in Dist. Ten

### An Irish Blessing for March

May God give you  
For every storm, a rainbow  
For every tear, a smile,  
For every care, a promise,  
And a blessing in each trial.  
For every problem life sends,  
A faithful friend to share,  
For every sigh, a sweet song  
And an answer for each prayer.

## Calendar of Events

**Mar 18<sup>th</sup>** is our Stated Communication, lodge opens at 6:30 PM.

**Mar 20<sup>th</sup>** MFLA at 2626 W. Maplewood, hosted by Fairhaven #73, starts at 10 AM.

**Mar 29<sup>th</sup>** Whatcom Lodge will host a meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee at the W. Maplewood Hall, the meeting starts at 7 PM.

**Apr 1<sup>st</sup> No**, Special Communication, instead consider attending the Long Range Planning Meeting, see above.

**Apr 15<sup>th</sup>** is our Stated Communication, lodge opens at 6:30 PM.

**Apr 17<sup>th</sup>** MFLA, host & location TBA.

**Apr 28<sup>th</sup>** is the MEC Awards Night, starts at 7:30 PM. Come show your support.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>** No Special this date, rather please attend the District Reception, see below.

**May 8<sup>th</sup>** Whatcom hosts the District Ten Reception of the Grand Master MWB John D. McNab. Starts at 9 AM, State St. Scottish Rite Hall, lunch will be at 12 noon at a cost of \$5 per person.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** Outdoor Fellowcraft Degree at Roche Harbor. The BBQ Salmon dinner is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple.



From:  
Your Secretary

I can hardly believe that its mid-March, where has the year gone? There are many Masonic activities coming up this Spring and some fun non-Masonic events as well. Ski to Sea utilizes much of Whatcom County for its stage. The cities of Lynden and Fern- dale have Spring events and the Highland Games will take place in both Whatcom and Skagit Counties. On May 15<sup>th</sup> the Outdoor Fellowship Degree will be held at Roche Harbor. For Washington Masons our year culminates at the June 10-12 Grand Lodge Annual Communication, which meets in Wenatchee.

Whatcom Lodge also has an active schedule through Grand Lodge. We are hosting a local meeting of the GL Long Range Planning Committee at 7 PM. On Monday March 29<sup>th</sup>, at the W. Maplewood Masonic Hall. On May 8<sup>th</sup> Whatcom Lodge hosts the District Meeting & Reception of Grand Master John D. McNab. The meeting starts at 9 AM with lunch (\$5) at noon. The ladies will be entertained by the Clan Heather Dancers at 10 AM. The District Ten Meeting will be held at the Scottish Rite Hall on State Street.

The month of May hosts National Law Enforcement Honor Week and Whatcom and Kulshan Lodges have joined forces to hold both a tyled celebration and also an open celebration, details to be announced.

Thank you for your fraternal & financial support of the MEC scholarship program, be generous—we might just win another plaque again this year.

Secretary—John Browne

When your bow is broken and your last arrow spent, then shoot—shoot with your whole heart.

ZEN PROVERB



## KING S QUOTE'S

**A GOOD TIME TO KEEP  
YOUR MOUTH SHUT  
IS WHEN YOU ARE  
IN DEEP WATER.**

# Mentoring - the lighter side!!!



An Irish Mason, Darby Maloney by name, was having trouble with memorizing his ritual. One day in the local pub he was telling this problem to a brother, Paddy O'Neil. His friend Paddy tells him, "I know a brother down the road who sells Parrots who know the ritual and will prompt you when you have any trouble." So the next day off Darby went to the shop and inquired about the parrots. The owner said, "Yes I have three"; where upon he pulled a curtain across revealing 3 parrots: one with a Master Mason apron on; a second wearing a Worshipful Master's apron; and the third had on a Grand Lodge apron. Brother Darby then asked, "How much for the parrot with the Worshipful Master's apron?" The owner replied "\$2000; and he knows all the ritual including the inner workings, and will always prompt you when you get stuck." "No", Darby said, "too expensive." "What about the one with the Master Mason's apron on?" "The owner said, "Well, that one is \$1,000 and he also knows all the ritual, though not the inner workings, but will always prompt you when you are learning it." Darby responded "No, still too expensive; what about the parrot wearing the Grand Lodge apron?" The owner frowned a bit and spoke, "You can have him for \$10" Surprised, Darby exclaimed, "Why so cheap? He must know all the ritual and the inner workings?" "Oh yes," the owner replied, "he knows all the ritual, but when you make a mistake all he does is sit there, shaking his head side to side and says, "Tut! tut! tut!!"



Experience  
is a hard teacher:  
She gives the test first,  
the lessons afterwards.

Unknown Author

## Highway clean up!

Brethren, let's hit the road for the first highway clean up of the year! I cannot guarantee sunny skies, only sunny dispositions, aerobic exercise and civic improvement. We will take off at 9:00AM, rain or shine, and clean for 90 minutes. Please spread the word and bring a brother - especially a candidate - or a friend. Masters & Secretaries, please announce the date & time in Lodge. Contact me with questions.

Fraternally, Ken Gass, 671-1993.

To contribute to this newsletter please send your letter, comment, historical fact, poem or calendar announcement, by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, to:

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## SELF-ACCEPTANCE

Many people say you had better forget about yourself and love other people. Well, it doesn't work that way. The truth is, you must first accept yourself with all your mistakes—all of your so-called sins, all the times you look like a fool, and all the times you've acted inappropriately. You must be able to stand before the entire world and make no excuse for yourself. When you can do that, you're coming from a position of unconditional love.

ROBERT ANTHONY  
Writer



May you be showered  
with the graces of  
the Lord this day  
and every day  
throughout the year.

Irish Blessing