



Letters from Whatcom Lodge No. 151

F. & A.M. of Washington



Volume 6 - Issue 3

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March 2005

The Master's Trestleboard

Is it too soon to be talking about Spring, I don't think so! There have been a few nice days of sunshine to wet our appetites and it is always useful to have something to look forward to. Speaking of which, we look forward to gaining another new member. The lodge heard the reading of a petition for Plural membership at the February 17th stated meeting and we intend to ballot on it at the March 17th stated meeting. On Thursday March 3rd the lodge's special communication will be, *Bring a Friend to Dinner Night*. We will meet at the West Maplewood Hall at 6:30 PM and then head off to a local restaurant. This will be a great opportunity to introduce a friend to Whatcom Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity, and the lodge will cover the cost.

NOTICE: Whatcom Lodge is proposing a By-laws addition, Article IX - Elections, to state that the lodge will hold its annual election of officers at the June Stated Communication, following the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. Further it authorizes the WM Elect, at his discretion, to hold the installation of officers at either the Stated or a Special Communication in September. Come to the March stated meeting for discussion on the written proposal.

Fraternally, WM Glenn W. Hutchings

Harold M. Terpenning & Whatcom Tyler's Educational Scholarships

Like the MEC, Whatcom Lodge has funds to assist in education. The HMT and Tyler awards are designed to help Masonic Youth, based as much on need as on academic prowess. Not all of our Masonic youth are able to maintain the very high GPA's but they do serve our community in our Masonic Youth Organizations and will become integral contributors to our local community, especially if we lend our assistance in their post High School Education.

Recognizing and responding to this worthy program, several Whatcom brothers, including Ray & Ron Bailey and Carleton Dow, have already made donations to the HM Terpenning fund. Thank you brothers.

Donations can also be added to the Whatcom Tyler's Fund. You too can help! Checks should be made out to **Whatcom Lodge # 151 - HMT Ed. Fund** (or **Tyler's Ed Fund**) and send to:

Sec. John F. Browne
109 South 43rd Street
Bellingham, WA 98229-2876

Masonic Education Council

It is time once again to dig into our pockets for the educational benefit of the youth in our local Public School System. When the request comes for your assistance please give as generously as your ability permits. Whatcom Lodge has been one of the consistent leaders in promoting educational assistance through the MEC and its own awards programs.

Sweethearts Dinner

The Sweethearts Dinner was an unqualified success. There were about 75 persons in attendance and the food was very good. Whatcom Lodge took the opportunity to honor one of its members: Bro. Vernon Hagen was presented with his 40 year pin and certificate - congratulations Bro. Hagen! Brothers, mark your calendar for next year's dinner, it will be as good or even better!

Are you a Master Mason?

"I have been a Mason for a year now," remarked the Young Brother to the Old Past Master. "While I find a great deal in Masonry to enjoy and like the fellows and all that, I am more or less in the dark as to what good Masonry really is in the world. I don't mean I can't appreciate its charity or its fellowship, but it seems to me that I don't get much out of it. I can't really see why it has any function outside of the relationship we enjoy in the Lodge and the charitable acts we do."

"I think I could win an argument about you," smiled the Past Master.

"An argument about me?"

"Yes. You say you have been a Master Mason for a year. I think I could prove to the satisfaction of a jury of your peers, who would not need to be Master Masons, that while you are a Lodge member in good standing, you are not a Master Mason."

"I don't think I quite understand," puzzled the Young Mason.

"I was quite surely initiated, passed, and raised. I have my certificate and my good standing card. I attend Lodge regularly. I do what work I am assigned. If that isn't being a Master Mason, what is?"

"You have the body but not the spirit," retorted the Old Past Master.

"You eat the husks and disregard the kernel. You know the ritual and fail to understand its meaning. You carry the documents, but for you they attest but an empty form. You do not understand the first underlying principle, which makes Masonry the great force she is. And yet, in spite of it, you enjoy her blessings, which is one of her miracles. A man may love and profit by what he does not comprehend."

"I just don't understand you at all. I am sure I am a good Mason."

"No man is a good Mason who thinks the Fraternity has no function beyond pleasant association in the Lodge and charity. There are thousands of Masons who seldom see the inside of a Lodge and, therefore, miss the fellowship. There are thousands who never need or support her charity and so never come in contact with one of its many features. Yet these may take freely and largely from the treasure house which is Masonry.

"Masonry, my young friend, is an opportunity. It gives a man a chance to do and to be, among the world of men, something he otherwise could not attain. No man kneels at the altar of Masonry and rises again the same man. At the altar something is taken from him never to return. His feelings of living for himself alone. Be he ever so selfish, ever so self-centered, ever so much an individualist, at the altar he leaves behind him some of the dross of his purely profane make-up. **Continued on Back, columns 5 & 6**

MARCH 2005 - Masonic Family Organizations in District No. 10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 ML-OES # 58 Opening at 7:30 PM	2 SJ # 175-stated Opening at 7:30 PM	3 Chuckanut Chapter DeMolay 7 PM	4 BB # 44-stated 7:30 PM	5 Bethel # 25 JD's Line officers 10 am Council meeting 11 am
6	7 F-OES #223 Opening at 7:30 PM	8 F # 73-stated Opening at 7:30 PM Evergreen RB # 17 Opening at 7 PM	9 NV # 105-stated Opening at 7:30 PM Evergreen RB # 17 Advisory Board 7 PM	10 L # 56-stated Opening at 7:30 PM N-OES # 171 Opening at 7:30 PM Bethel # 25 JD 7 PM	11	12 Past Masters Assoc. Hosted by Kul. Int. at the Ferndale Masonic Hall. Begins at 7:30 PM
13	14 F #264-stated Opening at 7:30 PM	15 KI # 186-stated Opening at 7:30 PM ML-OES # 58 Opening at 7:30 PM	16	17 W 151-stated Dinner 5:45 PM Opening at 6:30 PM	18	19 JD's serve Breakfast Highway Clean-up 8 am MFLA at 10 AM F # 73 - FC & MM Degrees
20	21 F-OES #223 Opening at 7:30 PM	22 Evergreen RB # 17 Opening at 7 PM	23	24 N-OES # 171 Opening at 7:30 PM	25	26 Bethel # 25 JD 7 PM
27	28	29	30	31		

Health News

Being healthy and eating tasty foods do not have to be mutually exclusive. In recent years studies have shown that a number of delicious foods and treats are actually good for you. For heart-health you might consider eating the Polymeal—as described in the British Medical Journal.

“The Polymeal consists of wine, fish, dark chocolate, fruits and vegetables, garlic and almonds. The ingredients should be taken daily, apart from fish, which could be eaten about four times a week, as part of a balanced diet.” These foods have been shown to lower the risk of heart disease. Of course wine and chocolate should be consumed in moderation and one must exercise to burn calories and to promote strong bones and an affective immune system.



KING S QUOTE'S

Don't let the future cause you anxiety, for the future will arrive in its own good time, and you'll have the same mind that you use now to deal with the present. *Marcus Aurelius*

Continued from front, column 3

"No man kneels at the altar of Masonry and rises the same man because, in the place where the dross and selfish were, is put a little of the most Divine spark which men may see. Where the self-interest was is put an interest in others. Where the egotism was is put love for one's fellow man. You say that the 'Fraternity has no function.' Man, the Fraternity performs the greatest function of any institution at work among men in that it provides a common meeting ground where all of us "be our creed, our social position, our wealth, our ideas, our station in life what they may" may meet and understand one another.

"What caused the Civil War? Failure of one people to understand another and an inequality of men which this country could not endure. What caused the Great War? Class hatred. What is the greatest leveler of class in the world? Masonry. Where is the only place in which a capitalist and laborer, socialist and democrat, fundamentalist and modernist, Jew and Gentile, sophisticated and simple alike meet and forget their differences? In a Masonic Lodge, through the influence of Masonry.

"Masonry, which opens her portals to men because they are men, not because they are wealthy or wise or foolish or great or small but because they seek the brotherhood which only she can give."

"Masonry has no function? Why, son, the function of charity, great as it is, is the least of the things Masonry does. The fellowship in the Lodge, beautiful as it is, is at best not much more than one can get in any good club, association, or organization. These are the beauties of Masonry, but they are also beauties of other organizations. The great fundamental beauty of Masonry is all her own. She, and only she, stretches a kindly and loving hand around the world, uniting millions in a bond too strong for breaking. Time has demonstrated that Masonry is too strong for war, too strong for hate, too strong for jealousy and fear. The worst of men

have used the strongest of means and have but pushed Masonry to one side for the moment; not all their efforts have broken her, or ever will!

"Masonry gives us all a chance to do and to be; to do a little, however humble the part, in making the world better; to be a little larger, a little fuller in our lives, a little nearer to the G.A.O.T.U. And unless a man understands this, believes it, takes it to his heart, and lives it in his daily life, and strives to show it forth to others in his every act unless he live and love and labor in his Masonry "I say he is no Master Mason; aye, though he belong to all Rites and carry all cards, though he be hung as a Christmas tree with jewels and pins, though he be an officer in all Bodies. But the man who has it in his heart and sees in Masonry the chance to be in reality what he has sworn he would be, a brother to his fellow Masons, is a Master Mason though he be raised but tonight, belongs to no body but his Blue Lodge, and be too poor to buy and wear a single pin." The Young Brother, looking down, unfastened the emblem from his coat lapel and handed it to the Old Past Master. "Of course, you are right," he said, lowly. "Here is my pin. Don't give it back to me until you think I am worthy to wear it."

The Old Past Master smiled. "I think you would better put it back now," he answered gently. "None are fit to wear the Square and Compasses than those who know themselves unworthy, for they are those who strive to be real Masons.

Sent by Brother James Tekton and suggested for this newsletter by Bro. Ted McQuiston .

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

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