

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
District7News@Gmail.com

December 31, 2017

Cultural Resolution

Brothers, there is a serious problem and your attention is urgently requested. I beg you to read this editorial carefully, then think and talk about it.

Not a day goes by without yet another report of men mistreating women. Some of the behaviors were abhorrent, some unintentionally offensive, and all of them, especially in hindsight, were wrong. As the offenders have been outed some have been fired or resigned in disgrace. Some denied any wrongdoing and remain in their jobs despite the controversy. Some have claimed “innocent until proven guilty”, and when I hear this can’t help but feeling they doest protest too much.

All men must embrace a few simple principles to guide our actions: be respectful, protect the dignity of all women, and no means no.

A few weeks ago a senior Congresswoman stated that some women dress in a manner that may invite inappropriate approaches, and she was immediately chastised for victim blaming. To be clear, under no circumstances does a woman deserve to be harassed, regardless of how she dresses. But I think the Congresswoman could have been alluding to a deeper issue and just said it wrong.

Why do women dress differently than men? Why do they wear makeup? Who came up with the idea for the push-up bra and why did it sell? Why is there a Victoria’s Secret fashion show and not one for Victor’s Secret? What’s the root of society’s obsession with women’s bodies?

The rules of attraction complicate matters. God designed the genders to be attracted to each other but we’ve evolved in a way that emboldens men and places women at risk. How do we break from centuries of cultural patterning where a woman’s purpose was to please a man?

No woman is to blame for being harassed or abused, and without exception a man who acts badly must be held accountable. However, holding the offenders accountable won’t solve the much larger cultural issue.

About 25 years ago Anita Hill blew the whistle on Clarence Thomas. He denied her allegations and got a lifetime appointment to our nation’s highest court. HR departments grew, we attended sensitivity training, and our employee handbooks were updated with new rules.

But rules don’t work in a weak culture, and they’re not really needed in a strong culture.

This is a big problem, and anyone who thinks it’s been fixed by calling Harvey Weinstein and others onto the carpet should think again. Keeping our passions in due bounds is the easy part. Impacting cultural roots is hard and is going take some time. We can help.

Let’s start the New Year with a firm resolution to take on the important work of evolving our culture to one that guarantees respect, dignity, and safety for all women. Remember, our charge to “do good unto all” includes all women.

Happy New Year. Now let’s get to work.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

January 3	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
January 4	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
January 8	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
January 11	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
January 13	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
January 15	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
January 18	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
January 19	Friday	Lakeside #258	D7 Meeting
January 27	Saturday	Unity #198	SOTC

DDGM schedule at more-out-there.blogspot.com

District 7 Installations

Falls City #66	January 13	Open
Myrtle #108	January 13	Closed
West Gate #128	Done	
Kirkland #150	Done	
Unity #198	January 20	TBD
Lakeside #258	January 6	TBD
Mercer Island #297	Done	
Renaissance #312	Done	

District 7 Meeting

By VWB Doug Stamper

The annual District 7 meeting will take place evening of Friday, January 19th at the Eastside Masonic Center, 8561 Willows Rd. NE, Redmond, WA 98052.

Who can attend: All Brothers from District 7 and their +1 (EA-MM). Please encourage all to attend, and not just MMs.

Date and Time: January 19th, meal begins at 6:00 p.m., meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

Entertainment: (during the meal) Songbird, an acoustic duet, will perform a set of original tunes

Main Course: Chicken, unless I get feedback that we need veggie and fish options as well

Main Meeting Agenda: (approx. 1.5 hour meeting)

- Introductions and Opening Comments by DDGM (10 mins)
- District 7 Annual Report comments by DDGM (approx. 15-25 mins)
- Each WM will speak about his lodge and planned programs (5-10 mins)
- Grand Master's Achievement Award (5 mins)
- MWGM and his Line will share their message regarding the district/year/plans (approx. 20-30 mins)
- Q&A with MWGM and his staff (15 mins)
- Benediction and Closing comments (5 mins)

Please RSVP dstamper@outlook.com.

Secrets of The Chair

A Special Notice to First-Time Worshipful Masters

Secrets of The Chair will be on the last Saturday of January, the 27th, at Unity Lodge at 4:40 p.m. with fellowship and snacks/light dinner immediately after.

All first-time Masters are reminded in the most friendly manner that this is not an optional event. All Past

Masters are warmly invited to come assist their newly installed fellows settle into their exalted positions.

If any Past Master wants to be a part of the SOC team, including starting to learn the Right Worshipful Master's part, please email **WB Jonathan Seaton, Keeper of the Work**, at info@unity198.org.

Kirkland #150

By WM Brian Clubb

Kirkland Lodge #150 held its installation on Saturday December 16th, presided by WB Scott Brown, VWB Bill Werner, VWB Doug Stamper, WB Craig Wood, and WB Bob Wilson. We are very excited to have a full line of "fresh blood" in the chairs – no past masters in the current line. Of course, we are thrilled to have three of our past masters serving as secretary, treasurer, and chaplain.



We warmly invite all Brothers to join us at our stated meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month (3rd Thursday in June) and for our degree team practice and degrees on the 4th Thursday of each month. Stated meetings start with a meal at 6:30 p.m. (\$10 suggested donation) and Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m. January's degree team meeting is a practice for the EA degree. We will start at 6:30 p.m. and run until about 8:30 p.m.

Unity #198

Submitted by WM Matt Roalkvam

Unity Lodge is looking for a Brother who would be interested in joining our Lodge and serving as our Secretary/Treasurer for 1-2 years while we work on training our new EA and FCs. If there's nobody willing

to, we will have to find a way to get by without someone sitting in either position. In addition to respectable compensation, the WM will be offering a boon to whoever fills the role. If interested, please contact WM Matt Roalkvam at webmattr@hotmail.com

Lost Masonic Ring

A well-worn man's gold ring bearing the emblems of nine Masonic Bodies has been found in the vicinity of North Bend. Please contact WB Ernie Jenner for further information. cejenner272@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

December 7th (December 15, 2017)

WB Editor,

Thank you for your comments regarding Pearl Harbor and your subsequent Lodge visit in Tokyo. I have visited that same Lodge, although not on the 7th of December. Several years ago, my wife and I were in Honolulu and visited the USS Arizona Memorial. Just as we arrived two busloads of Japanese tourists pulled up. We spent the next three or four hours touring the memorial surrounded by them. I can only say that they were extremely somber and respectful, even the teenagers and children among them. I can only imagine what was going through their minds when they realized that Pearl Harbor started the war that led to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

~VWB Bob Stromberg

WB John,

What a thought provoking newsletter to present two opposite views of the infamous day of December 7th. Your piece on your experience continues to heal the wounds of a tragic day in American history. At the same time, VWB Roger Barnstead's piece painted a picture that very few of us can totally grasp in this day and age. Kudos to you both, for the new reality of meeting on the level, acting on the plumb, and parting by the square with the overarching ideal that brotherly love prevailing for all should be our mission for the future.

~WB Dan Taylor

John,

We feel peace as soon as we lower our judgmental levels. Real peace comes when we judge not!

Love, hugs,

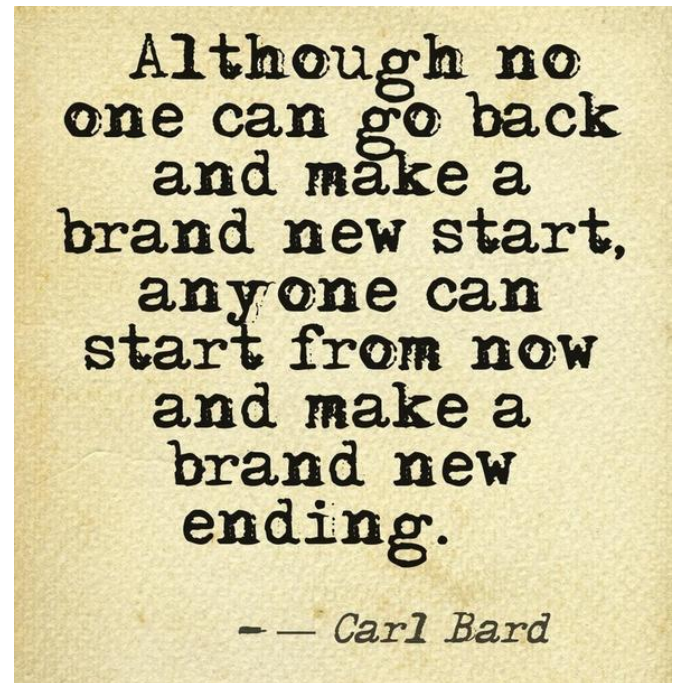
~Dad

Deadline

Submissions for the January 15th issue of the *District 7 News* are due on **Friday Jan 12, 2018**.

Early submission is encouraged.

Resolution Reflection Section



Square Meals

Myrtle #108 welcomes Masons and friends to breakfast at the Gas Lamp in Issaquah every Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Goose and Gridiron, Nest 0 meets Mondays for lunch at the Longhorn restaurant in Auburn.

Falls City #66 Sticks & Stones meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Lit Cigar Bar in Snoqualmie Casino. Consumption of solid food at this "meal" is not customary.

Fern Hill #80 Past Masters welcome Masons and friends in South King and Pierce counties to breakfast at Angleas Restaurant just south of E. 72nd St on S. Portland Avenue (behind Safeway), Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.

District 7 Stated Communications

Lodge	Address	Meeting Times	Contacts
Falls City #66	4304 337th Place Southeast Fall City, WA 98024 www.fallcitylodge.com	2nd Saturday, 1st Saturday June; dark July & August. 7:30 p.m. except January, 7:00 p.m.	WM: David Hisel davidhisel@outlook.com Sec: Nick Michaud (contact WM Hisel)
Myrtle #108	Street Address: 57 West Sunset Way Issaquah, WA 98027 Mailing Address: PO Box 766 Issaquah, WA 98027 www.myrtlelodge108.org	3 rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. (The lights stay on in the Summer months)	WM: Chad Reece damnthings@gmail.com Sec: Jeff Swanson jeffswanson@platosnw.com
West Gate #128	8561 Willows Road NE Redmond, WA 98052 westgatelodge.org	3rd Monday except July, August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Earl Lara earllara@westgatelodge.org Sec: Donn Castro - donncastro@yahoo.com
Kirkland #150	702 1/2 Market St. Kirkland, WA 98033 www.kirklandmasons.org	2nd Thursday (3rd Thursday June) except July, August. 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.	WM: Brian Clubb bclubb@Outlook.com Sec: David Pearson dpearson@gmail.com
Unity #198	119 North Bend Way North Bend, WA 98045 www.unity198.org	1st Wednesday. If Holiday, 2nd Wednesday except July, August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Matt Roalkvam webmattr@hotmail.com Sec : Jonathan Seaton jonathanrseaton@gmail.com
Lakeside #258	8561 Willows Road NE Redmond, WA 98052 www.lakeside258.org	2nd Monday, except July & August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Mike Campbell mikecampbell_759@hotmail.com Sec: Dean Markley wdeanm@gmail.com
Mercer Island #297	1836 72nd Avenue Southeast Mercer Island, WA 98040 www.mercerislandmasons.org	1st Thursday; 2nd Thursday if Holiday or Grand Lodge, dark July & August Open bar 6:00 p.m., catered dinner at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. RSVP for dinner, \$20.	WM: Dan Taylor dantaylor@msn.com Sec: Scott Anderson papabear120@hotmail.com
Renaissance #312	11440 Avondale Road Northeast Redmond, WA 98052 www.renaissance312.org	Last Monday of February, April, June, August, October and December; if holiday, next available Monday that is not a holiday. Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Table Lodge at 7:30 p.m. RSVP for dinner, \$25.	WM: Joe Oates joates_48323@yahoo.com Sec: Bill Werner bigwer1@hotmail.com

District 7 Officers

District Deputy of the Grand Master: VWB Doug Stamper dstamper@outlook.com,  @dstamper

	Falls City #66	Myrtle #108	West Gate #128	Kirkland #150	Unity #198	Lakeside #258	Mercer Island #297*	Renaissance #312**
WM	WB David Hisel	WB Chad Reece	WB Earl Lara	WB Brian Clubb	WB Matt Roalkvam	WB Mike Campbell	WB Dan Taylor	WB Joe Oates, Jr.
SW	Br Robert Coats	WB Geoff Joosten	VWB Ray Lavidia	Br Bryan DeNosky	WB Mark Goodwin	Br Vincenzo Sainato	WB Thomas Aquino	WB Todd Pike.
JW	Br Joshua Bushman	WB Jeff Craig	VWB Henry Fletcher	Br Steve Preston	WB Ernest Jenner	Br Phu Huynh	Br Carl Bronkema	VWB Gene Ulrich
Sec	WB Nick Michaud	WB Jeff Swanson	WB Donn Castro	WB David Pearson	WB Jonathan Seaton	WB Dean Markley	WB Scott Anderson	VWB Bill Werner
Treas	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Mark Staveley	WB Donn Castro	WB Bill Reynar	WB Jonathan Seaton	VWB Gene Ulrich	WB Paul Hoeffler	VWB Bill Werner
SD	Br Noah Phillips	VWB Bill Werner	Br Arjay Protacio	Br Ron Quartel		Br Kevin French	Br Brent Fleckner	Br. Sheraz Malik
JD	Br Norris Daltman	Br Gerry O'Brien	Br Karl Egts	Br Rod Beacham	Br David Bach	WB Jim Groves	Br Dane Shaffer	WB Brian Wheeler
Chp	WB Matt Roalkvam	Br Thomas Monds	VWB Mark Williams	WB Dan Chadrow		Br Steve Banin	VWB Roger Barnstead	Br Mihai Manolache
Mrsh	Br Warren Oltmann	Br Shane White	WB Jim Nash	Br Gary Weber		Br Derk Benisch	Br Stephen Burns	
Mu	Br Carlmer Sorensen		Br Bert Bertram			Br Praveen Sattaru	WB John Gebhart	
SS				Br Jorge Coronel		Br Pat Brennan		
JS				Br Zach Carpenter		Br Kevin Ward		
T	WB Frank Schumacher	WB Brian Thomas	WB Henry Castro			WB Josh Rice		

* VWB Dean Quigley is Mentor

** Br Andy Precious is Master of Ceremonies for the Festive Board