

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
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May 15, 2018

Are We Making Good Men Better

It's been said that Freemasonry makes good men better. Ten years into the Fraternity and with great satisfaction I can honestly say that this is true, most of the time. I think we can do better.

I urge you to read the Resolution Booklet for the upcoming Grand Lodge annual communication ([2018 Grand Lodge resolutions](#)). If you didn't already have a reason to stay home this might do it for you. Upon the completion of the vote on any matter, pass or fail, I challenge any Brother to stand up and sincerely state: "Thank you Brothers, now I feel like a better man." It's not going to happen.

Next month we're going to assemble the current and future leadership of our Grand Line, duly elected officers of every Lodge, an assortment of Grand Lodge Committee representatives, the leadership of the Concordant Bodies, and a parade of visiting Grand Masters. The agenda will feature the thanking and congratulating of our Grand Master and arguing over a bunch of administrative nuances in our Code. Attendees will spend money on gas, airfare, and hotels and some will use their vacation pay. How does this compare to what we spend on actually making good men better?

Organizations live in the shadow of their leadership. Ours has gotten comfortable robotically repeating this annual rite. I know that the extensive effort of preparing the proposed code revisions is well intended. However I continue to struggle to see the benefit.

What we do as Freemasons has to matter. What would we risk if we declared a moratorium on code revisions and made better use of the time?

In an organization with a weak culture rules don't work, and in a strong culture rules aren't needed. I'd like to think our culture is pretty strong.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

May 17	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
May 21	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
June 5	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
June 7	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
June 9	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
June 11	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
June 14	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated

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

Lakeside #258

By WM Enzo Sainato

Master Mason degree has been rescheduled ...

... from May 19 to June 30th at 5:30 p.m. (dinner after).
WB Jim Groves is orchestrating the degree team.

May Stated

It is that time of the month where we meet again, on the level, at Lakeside Lodge. This month we meet on Monday, May 14th. I expect that we will have some visitors joining us for dinner, including a presentation from a Rainbow Girl, Lara Lund (daughter of Br. Bo Lund).

This month the Stewards have concocted a special meal. Brother Jaime Speicher, who is originally from Peru, has put together a meal of traditional Peruvian dishes. Jaime will also be demonstrating his proficiency for the MM degree in open lodge.

We will have a "shrink the lodge" discussion about the persistence of Freemasonry and what do you wish your Masonic experience at Lakeside to be. This will build upon the discussion began last month by Br. Max. And it will closely mirror a similar conversation that some of us took part in at Mercer Island Lodge a few months back.

We will have a brief open discussion about the pending resolutions at GL.

I look forward to dwelling together in unity.

Mercer Island #297

At its May stated communication the Brothers of Mercer Island Lodge welcomed members of the Mercer Island High School Marching Band. The band has once again been selected to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade in January 2019.



The band has taken on a significant challenge as they look forward to the Rose Parade. In 2012 they formed a “Sister Band” relationship with a band in Puerto Rico, which was also selected to march in next year’s parade. Shortly after receiving notification of their selection the hurricane warnings sounded throughout Puerto Rico. As their community struggles to rebuild the funds to travel to Pasadena won’t be available without help.

The MIHS band members have embarked on an ambitious mission to raise thousands of dollars to fund the trip and rebuilding efforts for their Puerto Rican colleagues. Mercer Island #297 has pledged its support.

For further developments stay tuned. *(Get it? Band, music, instruments, tuned. Stay tuned. Pretty good, huh?)*

Eastside Scottish Rite Club

By WB Brian Thomas

The Eastside Scottish Rite Club meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 5th Wednesday of each month that has a 5th Wednesday. Meetings alternate between Myrtle Lodge in Issaquah and the Eastside Masonic Center in Redmond. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 30th at Myrtle Lodge in Issaquah where we will be discussing why Masonry was compelled to come out of the shadows in 1717 and why the ritual only mentions New Testament themes once. It will be an interesting

history lesson. All Master Masons are invited. Dress is casual.

“Education is lighting a fire, not filling a vessel” ~Socrates. Masonry needs to think about this concept.

Contact WB Brian Thomas at bjt@comcast.net or 425-226-0463 if you’re interested or would like to receive email notices.

Concordant Body Meetings at EMC

<i>Lakeside OES</i>			
May 17	Thursday	Stated Meeting	6:30 p.m.
<i>Bellevue Rainbow Assembly</i>			
May 24	Thursday	Stated Meet	7:00 p.m.
<i>Bellevue DeMolay Chapter</i>			
May 23	Wednesday	Stated Meeting	7:00 p.m.
<i>Job’s Daughters Bethel</i>			
May 20	Sunday	Stated meeting	2:00 p.m.
<i>Eastside Scottish Rite Club</i>			
May 30**	Wednesday	Stated meeting <i>(at Myrtle Lodge)</i>	7:00 p.m.

Junior Grand Warden Candidate Forum

Videos of Daylight Lodge #232’s candidate forum are at the links listed below:

1. [Introductions](#)
2. [Qualifications](#)
3. [Grand Treasurer](#)
4. [Board of Directors](#)
5. [Technology in Fraternity](#)
6. [Fighting Misinformation](#)
7. [Most Pressing Issue](#)
8. [Helping Struggling Lodges](#)
9. [Funding Sources](#)
10. [Improving Lives of Masons](#)
11. [Sunset Clause](#)
12. [Prince Hall](#)
13. [Closing Statements](#)

Deadline

Submissions for the May 31st issue of the **District 7 News** are due **Saturday, May 26, 2018**.
Early submission is encouraged.

Letters to the Editor

Why We Cry and Why I Pray (April 30, 2018)

Another engaging issue my Brother. Barbarous force and the ruthless hand of ignorance has long been the story of powers both great and small. I know from personal experience that once a course of destruction has been determined upon there is very little that men or groups of men will not do to achieve their ends. Even here in our gentle craft.

The artifacts of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are very visible and powerful symbols of the insanity war. It is beyond ironic that the utmost powers of human genius are used by mankind to build and destroy. Destruction even by medieval standards is almost instantaneous. Now what takes generations to build can be gone in a blazing millisecond.

Is it too strong a word to use? To say I hate war and the horrors it causes? I am hardly a pacifist. Benjamin Franklin is credited with saying "There never was a good war or a bad peace". I just don't know. I shudder to think what the world may have been like had World War II not been fought. It is an ugly vision in my mind when someone says "we should do this or we should do that". How do you tell one stack of corpses from another?

I respect the fact it ended with these two cities. Millions of more deaths would have followed. I don't think the war machine would have stopped, what was done by two bombs would have continued by thousands of bombers day and night for at least another year. Not a defense of the atomic attack. It is merely what I think. Onslaughts are hard to turn off.

Pray for peace but even more important we must all practice peace in our hearts and minds every day.

Thank you my Brother for this opportunity for reflection.

~VWB Roger Barnstead (a retired member of the life saving service)

John,

Some say the past is prologue to the future. But if more of us would devote our lives to peace and respect for all things, all peoples of this earth, that prologue would be untrue.

Thanks, John, a good report for your district.

Love, hugs,

~Dad

Falls City Chili Cook-off (April 30, 2018)

WB Gebhart,

As a Past Master of Myrtle Lodge and one of the newest members of the Board of Governors for the Shriners Portland Hospital, let me extend my appreciation for the donation to the hospital from Myrtle and Unity lodges from the chili cook-off as well as those individuals who also contributed. All these donations add up and insure the viability of our pediatric healthcare system long into the future.

If any District 7 lodge would like a presentation on the Portland Hospital, I would be more than willing.

~VWB Ray Zimmerman

Educational Toys 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: Brian Thomas bjt19@comcast.net
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 :
Lakeside #258	8561 Willows Road NE Redmond, WA 98052 www.lakeside258.org	2nd Monday, except July & August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Vincenzo Sainato vsainato@me.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 Vincenzo Sainato	WB Dan Taylor	WB Joe Oates, Jr.
SW	Br Joshua Bushman	Br Laurence Lance	VWB Ray Lavidia	Br Bryan DeNosky	WB Jonathan Seaton	WB Jim Groves	WB Thomas Aquino	WB Todd Pike.
JW	Br Robert Coats	Br Gerry O'Brien	VWB Henry Fletcher	Br Steve Preston	WB Ernest Jenner	WB Mike Campbell	Br Carl Bronkema	VWB Gene Ulrich
Sec	WB Nick Michaud	WB Brian Thomas	WB Donn Castro	WB David Pearson		WB Dean Markley	WB Scott Anderson	VWB Bill Werner
Treas	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Brian Thomas	WB Donn Castro	WB Bill Reynar	Br David Bach	VWB Gene Ulrich	WB Paul Hoeffler	VWB Bill Werner
SD	Br Noah Phillips	Br. Brett Meyer	Br Arjay Protacio	Br Ron Quartel		Br Dirk Benisch	Br Brent Fleckner	Br. Sheraz Malik
JD		WB Goeff Joosten	Br Karl Egts	Br Rod Beacham	Br David Bach	WB Todd Pike	Br Dane Shaffer	WB Brian Wheeler
Chp	WB Matt Roalkvam	WB Jeff Craig	VWB Mark Williams	WB Dan Chadrow		Br Max Box	VWB Roger Barnstead	Br Mihai Manolache
Mrsh		Br Thomas Monds	WB Jim Nash	Br Gary Weber		VWB Henry Fletcher	Br Stephen Burns	
Mu			Br Bert Bertram				WB John Gebhart	
SS				Br Jorge Coronel		Br Kevin Ward		
JS				Br Zach Carpenter				
T	WB Frank Schumacher		WB Henry Castro					

* VWB Dean Quigley is Mentor

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