

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
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May 31, 2018

Welcome WB Donn Castro

I was sad to read that Tom Wolfe died. Two of his books, The Right Stuff and Bonfire of the Vanities, became very successful movies. My favorite Tom Wolfe book was The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test, a chronicle of the adventures of Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters as they frolicked about in Further, their psychedelic bus.



Further, 1964

Between travels the Pranksters hung out on a ranch in La Honda, a village in the Santa Cruz mountains, where they erected a roadside sign that said "The Merry Pranksters Welcome the Hells Angels". Weeks passed until finally dozens of Hells Angels motored onto the property and proceeded to party with the Pranksters for a few days. The local news media covered the gathering.

Next the Pranksters put up another sign that said "The Merry Pranksters Welcome the Beatles". The news media reacted immediately and for weeks locals-turned-tourists cruised by the property hoping to catch a glimpse of the Fab Four. But it never happened.

WB Donn Castro hasn't visited my Lodge for quite some time now. To be fair, I haven't visited his either and I should remedy that. In the meantime, just to be clear: Mercer Island Lodge #297 welcomes WB Donn Castro.

In fact, all of the Lodges welcome him and all of the other D7 Brothers who haven't visited each other lately.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

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
June 18	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
June 21	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
June 25	Monday	Renaissance #312	Stated
June 30	Saturday	Lakeside #258	MM Degree

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

Lakeside Lodge #258

By WM Enzo Sainato

Lakeside Lodge has been busy with a number of projects and activities. This last month featured a Peruvian dinner at our Stated meeting. Brother Jaime Speicher pulled double duty - cooking a meal from his home country and demonstrating proficiency in open lodge for his MM degree.

June's Stated Communication is on Monday, June 11th. This month, Brother Malcolm MacIver will be working with our Steward to prepare a meal; being Scottish, Br. Malcom is, of course, a world-class expert in Indian cuisine and curries; and, he has obligated himself to demonstrate this proficiency accordingly. Meanwhile, in Lodge, our meeting will feature a "shrink the lodge" with WB John Gebhart serving as a discussant. This month's discussion will be substantive and will focus on the topic of leadership.

We will open the discussion with the following prompt:

Describe a time or incident where you witnessed an individual demonstrating what you viewed as an important act of leadership. (regardless of context the only thing that is important is what you experienced or observed was noteworthy to you).

All Masons are invited to attend the dinner and/or the Stated Communication. **RSVP: In order so that our Stewards can be best prepared if you plan on attending please let our Secretary WB Dean Markley, wdeanm@gmail.com, know by Friday the 8th of June.**

On June 30th we will be raising two (and possibly three) Master Masons of Lakeside Lodge.

Lastly, it is with great warmth that I share that WB Mortimer Larsen recently achieved the sublime milestone of 65 years in Masonry. We will have a Masonic celebration in his honor at our September Stated Communication.

Mercer Island #297

Mercer Island Lodge welcomes WB Donn Castro. In other news, the Lodge has awarded financial scholarships for seniors and recognized outstanding academic achievement by juniors at Mercer Island High School students since the mid-70s. This year for the first time the Lodge has expanded this program to include financial scholarships to outstanding juniors. On Wednesday, May 16th a grant of \$500 was awarded to Brandon Hill.



Scholarship Chairman Br. Dane Shaffer, Brandon Hill, and Scholarship Chairman Emeritus VWB Dean Quigley

The Lodge's next Stated Communication will be on Thursday, June 7th at 7:30 p.m. and will feature a visit and presentation by the Rainbow Girls during the pre-lodge dinner. Happy Hour starts at 6:00 p.m. **RSVP for dinner to JW Bro. Carl Bronkema at cbronkema@msn.com.**

West Gate #128

On May 18th the Brothers of West Gate Lodge embarked on a road trip to Lynden-Ferndale Lodge to honor one of their Past Masters, VWB Jim Browne, with his 60-year service award. West Gate members VW Ray Lavadia, VW Mark Williams, Bro Frank Selden, Bro Joshua Jongema and WM Earl Lara all made the trek to meet up with Brothers from the newly consolidated lodge of Lynden-Ferndale Lodge #56. Although this was a sparked idea from West Gate Lodge, this was a joint effort with the brothers up North. WB Dick Decima helped coordinate the event and was available to open up their home lodge for a more intimate setting.



Special thanks got to the Order of the Eastern Star #233 for setting up the whole occasion as well as preparing coffee. We could not have done this without them. Fraternal Brotherhood/Sisterhood was shared for a great common cause to support this occasion.

Concordant Body Meetings at EMC

<i>Lakeside OES</i>			
June 21	Thursday	Stated Meeting	6:30 p.m.
<i>Bellevue Rainbow Assembly</i>			
June 14	Thursday	Stated Meet	7:00 p.m.
June 28	Thursday	Stated Meet	7:00 p.m.
<i>Bellevue DeMolay Chapter</i>			
June 13	Wednesday	Stated Meeting	7:00 p.m.
June 27	Wednesday	Stated Meeting	7:00 p.m.
<i>Job's Daughters Bethel</i>			
June 4	Monday	Stated meeting	7:00 p.m.
June 17	Sunday	Stated meeting	2:00 p.m.

Junior Grand Warden Candidate Forum

Videos of Daylight Lodge #232's candidate forum are at the links listed below (*Last chance to have a look before the Grand Lodge officer elections*):

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 June 15th issue of the ~~District 7 News~~ are due **Sunday, June 10, 2018**.
Early submission is encouraged.

Letters to the Editor

Are we Making Good Men Better (May 15, 2018)

WB John,

I do believe that was your most courageous article yet and I think you are right that it's become a bit robotic; for the most part GL actions aren't moving us forward. You are asking people to question if what is in their comfort zone is not helping. It takes bold action to break the inertia of the past and truly do something that is novel.

My instinct is that many people will talk, talk, talk, and say that they agree with your statements, but when the chips are down they will bury anything in committee

and take a conservative path forward that is painstakingly slow and incremental at best.

~WB Paul Hoeffler

WB Hoeffler,

Thank you for your letter. It causes me to wonder why my observations would be regarded by anybody as courageous. I'm not naïve to the fact that challenging the status quo in any organization can have political consequences, but I thought we were supposed to rise above politics and meet on the level (and so on, so forth, and what have you....).

~Editor

WB John,

The D7 Newsletter really hit home for me today. I started asking myself "why am I wasting my time and the lodge's money to attend something that derives little to no value to our fraternity?" In this day and age I could go on proxyvote.com and complete my ballot well ahead of GL. Corporations do it all the time.

~WB Dan Taylor

John,

We wonder! It seems the best way to become 'better' is to be of more help to others. Reduce thought of self and increase thought of others and what makes them happy. As their happiness increases so does ours. ☺

Love, hugs,

~Dad

General Correspondence

WB Editor,

Why do almost all of the Letters to the Editor, including this one, come from Mercer Island Lodge?

~ WB John Gebhart

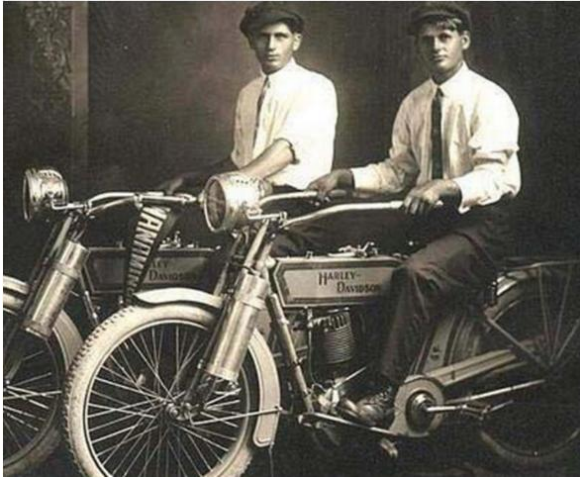
WB Gebhart,

Wow, that's a really good question. Beats me.

We can't assume that the Mercer Island Brothers are the District's best typists so it must be something else.

~Editor

Very Cool Picture Section



William Harley and Arthur Davidson, 1914

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 : Dean Markley wdeanm@gmail.com
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 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