

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
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September 15, 2018

Do You Read?

Well, of course you do. After all, one of the requirements to petition our Fraternity is that you must be able to read. It's ironic that we require that men read as a condition of joining us, and then once they've been initiated we encourage them not to. Actually that's not entirely accurate. We encourage them to read long enough to memorize, and then stop reading.

Our ritual is important, but we prefer to trust the memories of the Brethren to deliver it. The problem is that the Brethren might have other things on their minds. Let's face it; with the abundance of real time input to which we're all subjected these days we're too distracted to memorize much of anything.

Memorization takes time and time no longer operates within the boundaries of the past that may have afforded the uninterrupted periods needed to memorize. If your boss has an idea after hours your email tells you about it right away. If loved ones live in what used to be a long-distance-call away now they call and talk as long as they want ... no charge for those additional minutes anymore.

Every musician in a symphony reads every note during a performance. It's important that everybody gets each note exactly right. It's so fortunate for the audience that they don't perform from memory. Otherwise the first chair would frequently stand up and correct errant musicians ... "It's an F#.", or "That should be a quarter note!" ... just like past masters do in Lodge.

There's nothing wrong with memorizing. As I've said before I have the greatest admiration for the Brothers who can (provided they can also deliver the meaning of our ritual and not just a robotic recitation).

No, there's nothing wrong with memorizing. And there's also nothing wrong with reading.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

September 17	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
September 20	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
October 3	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
October 4	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
October 8	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
October 11	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
October 13	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated

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

Myrtle #108

By WM Chad Reece

At the next Stated Meeting, September 20th at 7:30 p.m., Brother Doug Friddell will be providing a demonstration and explanation of gauge blocks (also known as gage blocks, Johansson gauges, slip gauges or Jo blocks).

Why are these blocks interesting?

If slid together correctly, these blocks stick together with a bond that is rather strong. This bond is not magnetic, nor are there any adhesives or other shmoo to hold these blocks together. The surfaces are simply highly polished and science has yet to understand why they adhere so well or how.

How does this apply to Masonry?

As stone builders we know that giant edifices have been erected with stone blocks hewn so exactly that not paper may penetrate the seam. Perhaps the mystery of building without fasteners lies somewhere in the unique properties displayed by the gauge blocks.

Casual attire and no pre-meeting burgers ... the season has turned.

Lakeside #258

Submitted by WB Dean Markley

Upcoming events:

September 29th at 1:30 p.m. our sister Lodge Tsawwassen, BC will be having its annual installation. There will be a dinner at 5:00 p.m. at Sharky's restaurant. Let me know if you plan on attending the dinner.

October 8th – Stated Meeting - 7:30 p.m. The Stated Meeting will be for Master Mason's only. The dinner beforehand all are welcomed. During the stated meeting the education segment will be a one act play called: "Defense of Ruffians". The dialogue is one of Conscience. VWB Cary Cope will present this play with two characters. This will also be Past Master Night.

November 12th – Stated Meeting - 7:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The agenda includes the election of 2019 officers and a special interactive presentation on working tools.

Seahawks Viewing Parties

This fall Myrtle Lodge will be hosting viewing parties of select Seahawks games. Brothers, their families, and friends are welcome. Bring your favorite game day beverages and food for a potluck and win prizes by playing football squares.

This is a Masonic event so please remember your actions and words reflect upon yourself and the fraternity. Be civil and kind even to those who root for the other team.



Event Dates and Times:

- Sep 23 - Noon – 6:00 p.m. (1:25 p.m. kickoff)
- Oct 30 - Noon – 6:00 p.m. (1:05 p.m. kickoff)
- Oct 14 - 9 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (10:00 a.m. kickoff)
- Oct 28 - 9 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (10:00 a.m. kickoff)

Event Location:

Myrtle lodge 108
57 West Sunset Way
Issaquah, WA

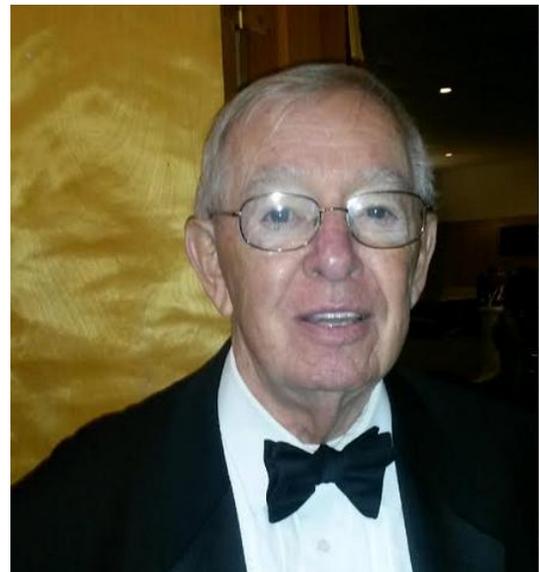
Attire:

Casual, preferably in Seahawks colors. Please keep t-shirts with sayings that are family friendly.

WB Bob Wilson

By WM Brian Clubb, Kirkland #150

Those of you know had the privilege of knowing WB Bob Wilson will understand that there is no way to express the appreciation we all have for Bob in the space allotted to me in this or any other newsletter. Bob was a mentor, friend, and a true brother to many of us and an example of what a good man should be to everyone who met him. It is my honor to be the one to write this brief appreciation of Bob on behalf of Kirkland lodge, but I find myself to be in no way adequate to the charge.



During Bob's nearly 30 years as a Mason, he was master of our lodge in 1996 and served as treasurer for a number of years after that and participated on the temple board and in numerous other capacities in the work of the lodge. His Masonic journey included reaching the 33rd degree in the Scottish Rite, being a board member of Rite Care (charity for children with speaking disabilities), a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, the Red Cross of Constantine, Knights Templar, Council of Royal and Select Masters, as well as belonging to the local Royal Arch chapter and the Shrine; and this is very likely the short version of his Masonic career. Bob was very involved in the Scottish Rite scholarships and when WB Bill Reynar restarted the

scholarship program at our lodge, I leaned heavily on Bob's knowledge and experience to create a successful process. In recognition of Bob's service to the lodge and his management of our scholarship funds over all these years, our lodge had recently voted to name our program the "Bob Wilson Scholarship". All of this does not begin to express the contributions Bob made to the lodge, the brethren, and all of those who knew him. For me, he embodied the charge we are given at the close of our meetings. We are all better men for having known and worked with WB Bob and he will be dearly missed by all of us.

WB Bob Wilson answered the call to the celestial lodge on August 17, 2018. The memorial service for Bob will be held on Sunday, September 16th, 2:00 pm at the Nile Shrine Ballroom (6601 244th St. SW Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043).

D7 Road Trip!

The Wednesday November 7th visit to United Peninsula Lodge on Vancouver Island is taking shape. United Peninsula will hold its military recognition ceremony that night and members who are active or retired military are asked to attend in uniform. So far at least four District 7 Brothers plan to attend (we can do better). Side trips to the BC Museum in Victoria have been mentioned. United Peninsula will hold its military recognition ceremony that night and members who are active or retired military are asked to attend in uniform.



Sannich, BC is on Vancouver Island ... you'll need a passport (or enhanced driver's license) and a ferry crossing will be required. The Lodge is situated about 25 miles north of Victoria so a case can be made for arriving a day or two before or staying a few days after the Lodge meeting.

Here's what is included in the D7 Road Trip:

- The address of the Lodge
- A list of the D7 Brothers who will be attending
- Hotel suggestions and investigation of possible group discounts
- A free PDF of the words to "God Save the Queen" and "Oh Canada" (*They're going to sing the Star Spangled Banner for us so it would be only polite for us to show up prepared to sing their anthems. We can practice in the car.*)

Here's what's *NOT* included:

- Everything else. But if you want to organize (and manage) a meal or some other group activity the District 7 News will promote your event at a generously discounted rate.

If you are interested in joining the road trip please email me at john.e.gebhart@gmail.com.

And remember, if we're going to go all the way to Canada to visit a Lodge on the first Wednesday of November then we really ought to pick another first Wednesday and go the much shorter distance to North Bend and visit Unity Lodge.

Concordant Body Meetings at EMC

<i>Lakeside OES</i>			
Sep 20	Thursday	Stated Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Oct 18	Thursday	Stated Meeting	7:30 p.m.
<i>Bellevue Rainbow Assembly</i>			
Sep 27	Thursday	Stated Meet	7:00 p.m.
Oct 11	Thursday	Stated Meet	7:00 p.m.
Oct 25	Thursday	Stated Meet	7:00 p.m.
<i>Bellevue DeMolay Chapter</i>			
Sep 22	Saturday	Game Night	7:00 p.m.
Sep 26	Wednesday	Stated Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Oct 10	Wednesday	Stated Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Oct 24	Wednesday	Stated Meeting	7:00 p.m.
<i>Job's Daughters Bethel</i>			
Sep 16	Sunday	Stated meeting	3:00 p.m.
Oct 1	Monday	Stated meeting	7:00 p.m.
Oct 21	Sunday	Stated meeting	3:00 p.m.

Deadline

Submissions for the September 30th issue of the **District 7 News** are due **Sunday, September 23, 2018**.

Early submission is encouraged.

Letters to the Editor

Trivial Pursuit (July 31, 2018)

WB John:

I wasn't sure if you were making an argument for eliminating the silly stuff, or for not correcting brothers on the silly stuff (both are problems). I have gone through much of the Code many times, and have not once questioned anything in it (people like me were regrettably raised to be obedient that way), not until hearing the list of resolutions and agreeing with some of the suggestions. I think your challenge should be a regular exercise in Lodges, what a great idea! I'll try to find time to go through again and submit suggestions to Lakeside for Grand Lodge.

I miss District 7 so much. I haven't uttered a word of ritual in over a year, and that makes me sad. I keep wanting to attend Lodge, but my travel plans never line up with meetings, or I'm there just for a weekend like last week for a wedding. I don't think we'll be back in the area again until next year.

I hope you are well, John.

~Bro. Phu Huynh

Brother Phu,

I was raised to be obedient too. The consequences of disobedience generally weren't worth it (did we have the same dad)? Someplace along the way I was taught the importance of critical thinking, which is not mutually exclusive of obedience. And I'd like to think that Masonry is a good place for Brothers to expand and explore each other's critical thoughts. We may at times have to welcome a contrarian or unconventional view to accomplish this.

Before we make the argument to eliminate the silly stuff we first need to catalog it, and then try to eliminate it. If it can't be eliminated then I'd argue strongly in favor of ignoring it, and good way to ignore silly stuff is to refrain from correcting Brothers on it. That way we'll

save our energies for correcting Brothers (in the most friendly manner) on substantive issues. Who knows, we might even help good men become better with that approach!

It goes without saying that Mercer Island, and any of our D7 lodges, will welcome you with open arms when your schedule brings you this way.

~Editor

(Dress Appropriately (August 31, 2018))

WB John:

Once again you inspired my thought processes with your editorial comment. I spent most of my working life at Boeing as an Operations Manager, at various levels. The dress code in the factory was pretty much industrial safety related. No open toed shoes, shirt sleeves that covered the shoulder, women could not wear high heels on the assembly jigs, things like that. Eventually my superiors saw fit to promote me to a level that got me out of the factory in into the strictly white collar arena. The transition was fine, and I had a great group of professionals reporting to me. The problem came with a new business idiom called "Casual Friday." A dress down day that soon became "Business Casual," which meant you went to work looking like you just got off the golf course. I always had a weekly recap on Friday mornings in my conference room, and all of my senior people, or their representatives would come in and do a couple minutes of what I used to call "Howgozit?" How was the week, were there problems/successes, and what the next week's plan was. All very comfortable, and congenial, even if you shared bad news. What happened, over time, is that the casual dress got more and more casual, to the point where it started looking like some of them walked in off the beach with their drinks with umbrellas in them. I mentioned a couple times that if a customer (airline) walked in, they would think they were in the wrong building. SSSOO, on the next Friday, I brought in my Tux, took it to my office, closed the door and put it on. At 0730 on the dot I walked into the conference room, sat down, greeted the group, and started the meeting. You could have heard a pin drop as the first speaker got up. We went through the whole meeting without any side conversations, interruptions, or smart aleck comments. We finished the meeting a full half hour earlier than

usual. I adjourned the meeting wished everyone a good weekend and went back to my office to change. I no more had my bow tie off when there was a knock on my door. I opened it and three of the meeting attendees were standing there. I invited them in to sit down and chat. They asked me what had possessed me to do this and I told them the meetings were getting pretty shabby and rather than lecture the group I decided to provide an example of the other extreme. They said they wished I had confided in them so they could have participated. I told them that two guys in Tuxedos and two women in formals would have been overkill! We all laughed about it and the dress at work, even on Casual Friday, came up a notch or two.

Cheers,

~WB Steve Pennington

WB Steve,

Nice to hear from you. So I have two questions: 1) did anybody get a picture of you running a business meeting in a tux?, and 2) what would have happened if Boeing's policy was "dress appropriately"?

Be well,

~Editor

WB John,

Don't recall any pictures being taken. I think they were too surprised to take any. What is inappropriate about a Tux? Basic black, goes with everything. SSSOOO, a second story. It's the summer of 1979, I am a brand new manufacturing supervisor in the Everett factory. About a dozen of us Young Turks were promoted from the ranks in what I likened to Battlefield Commissions. Times were tough and the work was relentless as we were going to a three day production cycle on the 747. Yep, one big airplane every three days. It was summer and very hot in the factory. I was working 2nd shift and even with the huge factory doors open it was stifling. We worked for a crusty old fart name Sam Smyth. He was an up from the ranks guy with a high school education. A bull of a man who was tough as nails. Several of us went to him and asked if we could take off our coats and ties after all of the big wheels left from day shift. He pondered it for a couple of seconds and said, "Let me put it this way, if you want to be a supervisor working for me, you'll have a coat and tie on,

It's your choice." Pretty much sums it up. As it turned out I worked for Sam several times over the years and he promoted me a couple of times. He retired as the factory manager and I retired as an operations director back in the days when you could come up from the ranks.

Cheers,

~WB Steve Pennington

WB Steve,

Are you saying you would have made vice president if you wore a tux? (Sorry, I couldn't resist).

~Editor

Ads that Slipped Past Legal Review



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 nickalan@comcast.net
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: Bill Reynar wjreynar@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 Bill Reynar	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