

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart

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Obadiah Abraham

Obadiah Abraham Gebhart, my great-great grandfather, immigrated to the United States in the mid-1800s from the Black Forest region in Germany. Legend claimed that he was a stagecoach driver and married a Blackfoot Indian. The legend was verified a few years ago when my second cousin did some research and actually found his stagecoach drivers license. However, despite strong circumstantial evidence she couldn't verify that our great-great grandmother was from the Blackfoot Nation. Still, pretty cool.

I might know more about Obadiah than I do about his son William, my great grandfather. There's a gap in our family history. Not sure why.

I suspect there's also a gap in our District's history that dates back at least to 1994, the year that Brother Bob Jensen was Grand Historian. He compiled a volume entitled "The History of the Lodges of Washington and The Grand Lodge of Washington, F.&A.M., 1979-1994." Our current Grand Secretary knows of no subsequent compilations and is checking with others who may know of any updates. But what if the last time anyone recorded our District's history was 1994? And what about before 1979?

Is it worthwhile to compile the history of the Lodges in our District? If it is I volunteer to be the editor and compiler, but you're going to have to write it. Don't answer me right away, think about it. To start the thought process, in this issue you'll find what was written about Falls City #66. Each week I'll publish the history for another of our Lodges. Please let me know what you think.

Special thanks to VWB Dean Quigley for saving everything over the years.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

October 24	Monday	Renaissance #312	Stated
November 2	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
November 3	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
November 7	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
November 10	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
November 12	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
November 17	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
November 21	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated

Renaissance #312

The next Stated Communication for Renaissance Lodge will be Monday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. WB Chris Huntley will be presenting a new paper he has researched at the request of WM Werner: The Cult of Idol Worship: The role of Media in Shaping Public Consciousness in the 21st Century. This discussions will examine the evolution of media from print (books, newspapers, magazines), to movies, radio, television, and now the internet, as well as the evolution of the message from informing to "deciding for you." This will be a politically neutral presentation.

WB Chris has many years of experience in media, is well spoken, and the evening promises to be informative and interesting.

A Festive Board will follow the business meeting at 7:30 p.m. Reservations for dinner are required and requested by Wednesday, October 19th (\$25/pp). See www.renaissancelodge312.org to pay via Paypal or contact WM Bill Werner at bigwer1@hotmail.com or [425 894 4410](tel:4258944410).

Myrtle Lodge #108

Plans are underway for a Master Mason conferral on Saturday, December 3rd. A formal request has been submitted to the Widows Sons to perform the conferral.

For more information contact WM Mark Staveley at mark.staveley@gmail.com.

District 7 History – Falls City #66

Falls City Lodge No. 66 was chartered June 11, 1890 at Falls City (now Fall City) in King County near the beautiful Snoqualmie Falls. This Lodge has a great Centennial Book, "One Hundred Years of Masonry in Fall City", written by W. Edwin Opstad. He furnished the material for this section. The Lodge has had a continuous School Awards Program since 1968. Working with Myrtle Lodge No. 108 and Unity Lodge No. 198, they honor the outstanding Junior boys and girls at the four local high schools, with Falls City sponsoring Tolt High School. The year 1984 saw the first visit by an Incumbent Grand Master - C. Donald Brons. - in many years. The Lodge started recognizing Past District Deputies along with Past Masters as a part of Past Masters' Night in 1984. In 1985 the Lodge and Masons of other Lodges formed the E. R. Opstad Masonic Memorial Scholarship Foundation to commemorate the late Past Master of Falls City Lodge and long time Snoqualmie Valley educator. In 1986 the Lodge began the continuing annual pancake breakfast during Falls City Days in June, to raise money for the Charity Fund. That year the E.R. Opstad Foundation awarded scholarships to three outstanding graduates of Tolt and Mount Si High Schools. In 1987 a local family was designated to receive a Christmas basket from the Lodge Charity program and this program is continued today under District No. 7 sponsorship. Since 1988 weekly Bingo sessions open to the public, and conducted in accordance with state law have been held. The Centennial celebration in 1990 was attended by over 160 people, including Grand Master Sidney Kase and about 50 of his Officers and Committeemen, along with Lodge members and families. In 1992 Edwin A. Opstad was appointed Grand Historian and produced "An Index to the Messages of the Grand Masters of Washington from 1858 to 1992". He carefully handed over the Grand Historian's regalia to me at the 1993 Grand Lodge session and checks up on it and me, whenever we have met this year. This Lodge has gone from 88 members in 1979 to 52 in 1994.

Letters to the Editor

On Digging Deeper (October 15, 2016)

John,

It would seem it takes 'something' to move us from one set of habits to another.

Love, hugs,

~Dad

Pacific Bell Customers Remain Frustrated



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: Frank Schumacher IV fjsiv.com@gmail.com Sec: Nick Michaud (contact WM Schumacher)
Myrtle #108	<i>Street Address:</i> 57 West Sunset Way Issaquah, WA 98027 <i>Mailing Address:</i> 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: Mark Staveley mark.staveley@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: Henry Fletcher hfletchmo@aol.com Sec: Les Snively - lsna761057@aol.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: Bill Reynar wireynar@gmail.com Sec: Topher White topher.white@comcast.net
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: Todd Pike toddpike@mac.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: Roger Barnstead Roger.A.Barnstead@gmail.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: Bill Werner bigwer1@hotmail.com Sec: Craig Wood cwood1234@hotmail.com

District 7 Officers

District Deputy of the Grand Master: VWB Gene Ulrich nsnwinc@gmail.com

	Falls City #66	Myrtle #108	West Gate #128	Kirkland #150	Unity #198	Lakeside #258	Mercer Island #297	Renaissance #312*
WM	WB Frank Schumacher	WB Mark Staveley	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Bill Reynar	WB Matt Roalkvam	WB Todd Pike	VWB Roger Barnstead	VWB Bill Werner
SW	Br David Hisel	Br Chad Reece	Br Earl Lara	Br Demetrius Alusi	WB Mark Goodwin	Br Mike Campbell	Br Dan Taylor	WB Joe Oates, Jr.
JW	Br Robert Coats	WB Geoff Joosten	WB Frank Seldon	Br Brian Clubb	Br Chad Swaim	Br Enzo Sainato	VWB Dean Quigley	Br JN
Sec	WB Nick Michaud	WB Jeff Swanson	WB Les Snavely	WB Topher White	WB Jonathan Seaton	WB Dean Markley	WB Scott Anderson	WB Craig Wood
Treas	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Jeff Swanson	WB Les Snavely	WB Bob Wilson	WB Jonathan Seaton	VWB Gene Ulrich	WB John Gebhart	WB Craig Wood
SD	Br Joshua Bushman		Br Vance Hill	Br Bryan DeNosky	WB Ernest Jenner	Br Phu Huynh	WB Thomas Acquino	WB Doug Stamper
JD	Br Noah Phillips		Br Kurt Egts	Br MG		Br Kevin French	Br Dane Shaffer	WB Todd Pike
Chp	WB Matt Roalkvam		VWB Mark Williams	WB Dan Chadrow		Br Steve Banin		VWB Gene Ulrich
Mrsh	Br Warren Oltman		WB Phil Nylin	Br Gary Weber		Br Praveen Sattaru (pro tem)		Br Randy Coggan
Mu	Br Carlmer Sorensen		Br Bert Bertram			Br Praveen Sattaru		
SS	Br Alan Olson		Br Arjay Protacio			Br Pat Brennan		
JS	Br Nick Anderson		Br Ken Hill			Br David Ulrich		
T	WB Corey Birch	WB Brian Thomas	WB Donn Castro	WB David Pearson		WB Jim Groves	WB Paul Hoeffler	Br Helmut Fischer

* WB Topher White is Master of Ceremonies for the Festive Board