

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
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January 14, 2017

I Can Build a Robot

Only two weeks into the New Year and here I go again with yet another story about my daughter. Honestly, I didn't think there were any left.

I called home from a business trip when she was in kindergarten and her sweet little voice asked, "Dad, do you know how to build a robot?" Rather than remind her that I majored in Accounting I immediately (and bravely) said, "Sure!" A few years later when she was in middle school I again called home from a trip. This time she asked if I knew how to play Castles Made of Sand and Little Wing on my guitar.

It's harder to play these two Hendrix classics than it is for accountants to build robots. But I was enjoying a unique and wonderful phase with her. She was singing at open mics, singing really well actually, and I was her guitar player. As the father of a teenager I no longer possessed "Dad magic"; it was going to take lot more than a couple boxes, aluminum foil and some duct tape to keep from disappointing her. I paused, and then responded, "Sure, I can probably figure it out."

I listened to a dozen of renditions of these songs. I still can't play everything that Hendrix played, but I can play a few of his bars. I can also play of few from Stevie Ray, Clapton, Sting, Hiram Bullock, and Tuck Andress. I even composed a few bars of my own. I put them all together and before I knew it I actually could play Castles Made of Sand and Little Wing.

Beyond learning the songs this process transformed me into a much better guitarist. I also learned that what may seem unachievable can be achieved in pieces. And you get points just for trying.

So I have to ask: do you know how to build a robot?

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

January 14	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
January 16	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
January 19	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
February 1	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
February 2	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
February 6	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
February 9	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
February 11	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
February 13	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
February 16	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated

District 7 Installations

Lakeside Lodge. On Saturday, January 7th MWB Sat Tashiro installed WB Mike Campbell to serve as WM of Lakeside Lodge. VWB Bill Werner delivered the Charges and three brothers from Lakeside's sister Lodge, Tsawwassen Lodge #185 in Ladner, BC, installed the Wardens and delivered the Canadian Charge.



Falls City #66	Open	1/14/2016	7:00 p.m.
Myrtle #108	Done	1/7/2017	10:30 a.m.
West Gate #128	Done	11/12/2016	2:00 p.m.
Kirkland #150	Done	12/8/16	7:30 p.m.
Unity #198	Done	1/4/2017	7:30 p.m.
Lakeside #258	Done	1/7/2017	2:00 p.m.
Mercer Island #297	Done	12/1/16	7:30 p.m.
Renaissance #312	Done	12/19/16	6:30 p.m.

Falls City Lodge #66

Bringing the 2017 Installation season to a close, on Saturday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. Brother David Hisel will be installed as Worshipful Master by VWB Bill Werner. Hors d'oeuvres will be offered starting at 6:00 p. m. For more information or **RSVP please contact WM-Elect David Hisel at dlh.mason@yahoo.com**.

Meet the District 7 Masters

Chad Reece has been installed as Worshipful Master of Myrtle Lodge #108 for 2017



When did you become a Mason and why?

I joined the fraternity in 2010 and petitioned because of my father. I look up to my dad and believe that his compass was finely tuned through the craft. I always knew Dad was a Mason, but it was never something he spoke about. We knew he would leave for an evening meeting and were asleep before he returned, but understood little else. In 2009 I asked Dad about Masonry, learned a little and asked him how I might join. He said he'd get me a petition and the rest is history. Mom started researching the family tree a few years ago and we've learned that many of our male ancestors on both her and Dad's side were masons. Until then

I only knew of Grandpa (Mom's dad) being a Mason and is the person Dad asked to join. I have two brothers and of the three of us two are Masons, with Dad still awaiting with crossed fingers for my younger brother to ask.

Is this your first year as WM, if not, when and where previously?

This is my first year.

What do you like most about Freemasonry

I like the generous and trustful nature of Brothers. I appreciate the support each Brother gives another and that this feels much like a great cohesive family.

What do you like least about Freemasonry and what are you doing about it?

I care least for the individualism of Masonry. I see some Brothers advancing their own agenda or stroking their own egos. Too often I have been in the presence of crass remarks and Brothers proud to have driven others away. This is not being Masonic nor does it reflect well upon me as a Brother or the Fraternity as a whole. I believe we all should model what a good Mason is inside and outside of Lodge. To spread that which unites us to everyone we meet, be they non-brothers, women or children. Every encounter should reinforce the goodness and honesty of a Mason. The by-product is earned respect and possible interest in the craft.

What goals do you have for your lodge in 2017 and how can the D7 Brethren help you accomplish this?

We, and some other Lodges, have seen a decline in active membership. Some have left due to work, others from moving away and others from personal struggles. This leaves a number of Brothers who do not attend either because of struggles with another Brother or with how the Lodge is showing its caring to them. Some leaders believe that it is a requirement of a Brother to attend Lodge without a reminder or communication from the Lodge. However, I think this approach does more to alienate a Brother from his Lodge. A Lodge who reminds a Brother, who communicates with them and makes them feel needed, I believe, will receive

a warm reception from not only its members, but also visitors. A person needs to feel wanted to feel important and it is my goal to show every Brother and their family that they matter and are important to our Lodge. We must work to make it okay for Brothers to return and for their family to be happy he is attending. Our personal interactions with Brothers and their family should be of the utmost rectitude in conduct to support our Brother. For if the attitude of the family is eroded by unbecoming comments and/or actions of a Brother then their support wanes and so does our active members.

Secrets of the Chair

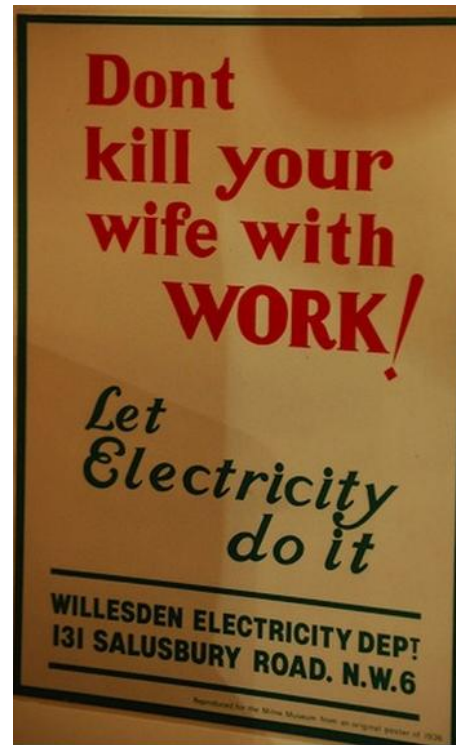
The Secrets of the Chair for first-time Worshipful Masters will be held the last Saturday of January (the 28th) at 3:00 p.m., location to be determined. Secretaries will be asked to provide a letter acknowledging the election of the Master attending and Masters are asked to bring \$3 with their letter. All Past Masters are invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided. **For more information contact WB Jonathan Seaton at jonathanrseaton@gmail.com**

Budget Cuts Curtail D7N Publication

Our Controller has run the numbers and determined that we can't keep up with the new minimum wage laws. Our only alternative is to reduce publication of the District 7 News from weekly to semi-monthly, effective immediately.

Your help is needed to stave off future cuts. Lodge Masters, or their designee, are forcefully recommended to proactively notify us of your Lodge programs, upcoming degrees, and other news that you'd like to share with the District Lodges. Please remember to include complete times and dates, prices or suggested donations for meals, contact information, and RSVP instructions. And send pictures ... people love pictures.

Grammar is Important Advertising 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 dlh.mason@yahoo.com Sec: Nick Michaud (contact WM Hisel)
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: 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: 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: 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: 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	Br David Hisel	WB Chad Reece	WB Earl Lara	WB Bill Reynar	WB Matt Roalkvam	WB Mike Campbell	WB Dan Taylor	VWB Bill Werner
SW	Br Robert Coats	WB Geoff Joosten	WB Phil Nylin	Br Brian Clubb	WB Mark Goodwin	Br Vincenzo Sainato	WB Paul Hoeffler	WB Joe Oates, Jr.
JW	Br Joshua Bushman	WB Jeff Craig	Br Vance Hill	Br Bryan DeNosky	WB Ernest Jenner	Br Phu Huynh	WB Thomas Aquino	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 Mark Staveley	WB Les Snavely	WB Bob Wilson	WB Jonathan Seaton	VWB Gene Ulrich	WB Scott Anderson	WB Craig Wood
SD	Br Noah Phillips	VWB Bill Werner	Br Kurt Egts	Br Steve Preston		Br Kevin French	Br Carl Bronkema	WB Todd Pike
JD	Br Norris Daltman	Br Gerry O'Brien	Br Arjay Protacio	Br MG	Br David Bach	WB Jim Groves	Br Denis Osmanbegovic	Br Sheraz Malik
Chp	WB Matt Roalkvam	Br Thomas Monds	VWB Mark Williams	WB Dan Chadrow		Br Steve Banin	Br Dane Shaffer	WB Doug Stamper
Mrsh	Br Warren Oltmann	Br Shane White	WB Jim Nash	Br Gary Weber		Br Derk Benish	VWB Roger Barnstead	
Mu	Br Carlmer Sorensen		Br Bert Bertram			Br Praveen Sattaru	WB John Gebhart	
SS			Br Karl Egts			Br Pat Brennan	Br. Brent Fleckner	
JS			Br Ken Hill			Br Kevin Ward	Br. Stephen Burns	
T	WB Frank Schumacher	WB Brian Thomas	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB David Pearson		WB Josh Rice	WB Steve Paige	Br Jeff Guthrie

* VWB Dean Quigley is Mentor

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