

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart

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March 15, 2017

Can We Right a Wrong?

We're doing it wrong. Not always, but often. We mean well but I'm really convinced that we're doing it wrong.

We go through the opening ritual and then spend our time reading minutes, hearing committee reports, and introducing Brothers we might already know. We complete the agenda (if there is one) and then repeat the ritual so we can adjourn for a piece of cake or some other refreshment. Even if our conduct resembles what it says in the Code we're still doing it wrong.

And we're kidding ourselves. What's so important about our minutes and committee reports that compels us to sandwich these things in between our opening and closing rituals? Do we honestly think we're better men because we have administrative discussions while wearing an apron?

Isn't transition is the real purpose of the opening and closing ritual? Isn't it our way to press the pause button and put us all in the common state of mind where we might impart and receive Masonic education? But to what are we transitioning? Too often Masonic education isn't on the agenda. Without it why even bother with the ritual?

How much better would our meetings be if administrative discussion was prohibited from the moment the ritual begins? And I mean really prohibited, just like religion and politics. Or what if the ritual was to be used exclusively before and after education? That might make education a priority, and then how many more Brothers would make attendance a priority?

How much better would we be at becoming better men?

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

March 16	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
March 20	Monday	Westgate #128	Stated
March 30	Thursday	Kirkland #150	FC Degree
April 5	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
April 5	Wednesday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
April 8	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
April 10	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
April 13	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
April 17	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
April 20	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated

Kirkland Lodge #150

At a special communication on Thursday, March 30th, Kirkland Lodge will confer the Fellowcraft Degree. Lodge will open at 6:30 p.m. For more information contact WM Bill Reynar at wjreynar@gmail.com.

Mercer Island Lodge #297

Getting Off the Island, by WM Dan Taylor

Mark your calendars and make special note of the location of our April 6th stated meeting. We will be holding it at Myrtle Lodge in Issaquah (57 W. Sunset Way next to the salmon hatchery). The VFW will be undergoing internal painting during the month of April and will not be usable for any events. However, we are in for a rare treat to hold our stated meeting in an elegant formal lodge setting and historic building. Myrtle Lodge is on the second floor above the Issaquah Brew House, which is one of their tenants. The lodge entrance is on the backside where you will also find free parking behind the fish hatchery.

We will still hold our Lodge Proficiency program from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and I encourage our new EAs to attend and practice the EA Posting Lecture and Obligation. Also, please plan to have dinner with us at

the Brew House beginning at 6:30 p.m. (no host). A private room has been reserved and you can order dinner and spirits from the menu.

Contact WM Dan Taylor at dantaylor@msn.com for more information.

(Editor: Following a great Myrtle tradition, the first round at the Brew House after Lodge is on the Lodge.)

Freemasonry's Day on the Hill by MWGM Jim Mendoza

We have set Monday, March 20th as Freemasonry's Day on the Hill. This is our opportunity to meet face to face with your legislators. Please share this notice with your brethren.

You will need to contact your legislator in advance. If you don't know who your legislator is, you can find out at <http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>. Once you enter their address you will get the appropriate names and contact information.

Something to keep in mind, the majority of offices will not make appointments via email, so you should follow-up with a phone call.

The reason for that is we have found through the years that for whatever reason, folks who make an appointment via email are much less likely to actually show up. I presume that it has something to do with the ease of email. Phone takes a bit of work, so maybe folks take it more seriously.

We will be able to meet with our legislators from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.. We will have a meeting at 12:00 p.m. in the House Rules Room (Leg. 123). It is a large, quite beautiful room on the First Floor of the Legislative Building, in the far South West Corner. Closest to the Governor's Mansion. I want to make sure that we are singing from the same sheet of music as well as provide some ground rules with respect to how to get our message across. As a heads up, our talking points will be the work of Washington Masonic Charities, our support and funding of the Page Intern Scholarship, and the importance of civility in discourse.

Below is an email to get things started.

Senator/Representative XXXXXXX,

Myself and a couple other people from your district will be in Olympia for Freemasonry's Day On The Hill, and would appreciate having an opportunity to meet with you. We will be there on Monday, March 20th between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00. Can we schedule an appointment with you?

Thank you, and please feel free to give me a call at: XXX-XXX-XXXX if that is easier for you.

Sincerely,

Joe Mason

777 Mason Lane

Masontown WA 9999

Crab Feed

A Portion of Proceeds to Bellevue Rainbow



18th Annual Crab Feed
Saturday, March 25th, 2017
Dinner 6:00pm
• (doors open at 4:30pm)

- Seattle Police Athletic Association Pavillion
 - 11030 E Marginal Way S, Tukwila
 - *Special \$35 Price until Feb., 2017*
 - *\$40 until Mar. 1st*
 - \$45 thereafter

• This will be an evening to remember . . . Fantastic Crab, Drawings for Incredible Prizes, Live Auction plus our Decadent Dessert Dash.

Questions v Wil Garcia 253-954-8180

- Tickets available from FSL Lodge members or online at:
 - www.franksland313.com

York Rite Degree Days

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Washington has scheduled a second degree day on Saturday, April 29th. Petitioners will have the opportunity to receive all four Royal Arch degrees in this special ceremony.

Master Masons interested in the Royal Arch can contact REC John Smiley, Grand King at smiley195@gmail.com.

Royal Arch Masons who are interesting in continuing their journey in the Council of Royal and Select Masters are invited to a Grand Council degree day on Saturday, May 27th. For information contact Grand Recorder, RPC Bryan Bechler at bry.kat@frontier.com.

Both degree days will be held in Tacoma Puget Sound Ave. There is ample parking in the lot across the street and this is a single-story building for ease of access.

Who Was that Masked Man, and Why Don't We Cherish his Values?

Submitted by VWB Bob Stromberg

When the spotlight so often shines on un-ethical and immoral behavior, where can children turn for examples of up- right standards to live by?

"A fiery horse with the speed of light, a cloud of dust and a hearty 'Hi-Yo, Silver!'" The Lone Ranger rides again!



"I've always been a fan of the Lone Ranger," says Jim Lichtman, an ethics specialist. As a boy, Lichtman watched TV as the masked rider and his faithful companion, Tonto, took courageous stands, show after show, for truth and justice.

Lichtman's interest in the masked man was recharged a few years ago when he came across a Lone Ranger book from the '50s. Its simple tale of fighting the good fight motivated him to write a magazine article. Researching it, he came across a 1933 document, "The Lone Ranger's Standards and Background," the script-writing reference from the early days of radio that defined how the Lone Ranger behaved.

"It said the Lone Ranger doesn't smoke, doesn't drink and doesn't use profanity," Lichtman says. "There was a set

of characteristics that were value-based. The Lone Ranger is honest, sincere, and straightforward; he is fair, caring, loyal, respectful and tolerant."

Lichtman went on to write "The Lone Ranger's Code of the West" (Scribblers Ink, 1996), an entertaining and instructive book whose episodes illustrate the eight ethical values of the Lone Ranger.

At conferences, Lichtman evokes strong responses when he asks what if, before returning the stolen payroll money, the Lone Ranger first deducted for expenses? And then took a 30 percent finder's fee? And then cheated Tonto when divvying up his cut? "Silver bullets are pretty pricey," he quips, explaining that even now many people can't imagine the Lone Ranger taking the ethical low road.

"By using the Lone Ranger in this context I try to make people think outside the box," Lichtman says. "Faced with an ethical dilemma, what would the Lone Ranger do? This character gives people the ability to recognize what is generally considered right and wrong behavior and apply some of these principles in their own lives."

Lichtman isn't alone in looking to the Wild West for values. Anthony L. Edler, a retired Air Force officer, wrote a character- education text, "Project High School Prep," to teach ROTC students how to fly right in life. Addressing individual rights, respect for law, participation and public service and concern for the common good, the behavior guide introduces Gene Autry's "Ten Cowboy Commandments" - values such as respect, tolerance of others, honesty and truth, not taking unfair advantage, helping people in distress.

~Don Oldenburg a syndicated columnist

Deadline

Submissions for the March 31 issue of the District 7 News are due on **Saturday, March 26, 2017**. Early submission is encouraged, especially if it's not about Mercer Island.

Just Do Your Job Section



A sign noticed in a Tokyo rest room while seated. ~ Editor

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

<i>Lodge</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Meeting Times</i>	<i>Contacts</i>
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 Snavelly - 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 wjreynar@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 Snavelly	WB Topher White	WB Jonathan Seaton	WB Dean Markley	WB Scott Anderson	WB Craig Wood
Treas	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Mark Staveley	WB Les Snavelly	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 Benisch	VWB Roger Barnstead	Pending
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