

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
District7News@gmail.com

April 30, 2017

Ripcord-itis

Falling objects accelerate at 32 ft/second^2 in a vacuum. In real life a falling human stops accelerating at terminal velocity of about 130 mph. I know this because I've reached terminal velocity more than 50 times during my skydiving days. My favorite uncle was a trail blazing sport parachutist in the 1960s. As a kid it was normal for me to see him jump into the July 4th picnic in the park. Naturally I had to be a skydiver too.



Moments before my first freefall, 1975

Skydiving was great fun. I've jumped from 16,500 feet and flew in formation with 9 other guys for 90 seconds and I've been paid to jump into a church carnival. But through my first 10 free falls I was stricken with a bad case of ripcord-itis, a disorder that causes novices pull the ripcord before reaching terminal velocity.

Ripcord-itis gave me the illusion of control. But at terminal velocity I learned how to cooperate with other controlling forces. The result was powerful; to turn right or left all I had to do was tilt my outstretched hands about 10 degrees.

Beating ripcord-itis taught me that control doesn't always lead to accomplishment. We can often accomplish more my riding on top of greater surrounding forces.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

May 3	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
May 4	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
May 8	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
May 11	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
May 13	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
May 15	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
May 18	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated

Mercer Island Lodge #297

Thursday, May 4th, the Brothers of Mercer Island Lodge will celebrate Ladies' Night with a table lodge. All Masons are encouraged to bring their lady. The Lodge will also host its Masonic widows and will feature a speaker from Masonic Charities to discuss services available to Masonic widows.

Happy hour starts at 6:00 p.m. with a catered dinner served at 6:45 p.m. Suggested donation for dinner is \$20/pp, **RSVP to Dan Taylor at dantaylor@msn.com.**

On April 21st the Lodge, as part of its long standing High School Scholarship program, the Lodge presented the Junior Academic recognition awards.



(L to R) Andrea and Mike Dickstein with daughter Alison and Zachary Gottesman with father and 1987 recipient Greg

This year the recipient for in the Junior Boys category was Zachary Gottesman, whose father Greg won the Junior Boys awards in 1978.

Lakeside Lodge #258

On Monday April 24 Lakeside Lodge conferred the EA Degree for Mr. Max Box. Bro Phu Huynh served as Conferring Master.



Brother Box (center)

Brother Phu also delivered the apron, working tools, and Master's lecture and closing.

Royal and Select Masters Degree Day

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.

The conferral will be held in Tacoma at 5405 S. Puget Sound Ave. There is ample parking in the lot across the street and this is a single-story building for ease of access.

Off To Work, Part 2

A short story by WB Chad Reece

Reaching the table my mentor handed me the gauge and the gavel. "Second day on the job is one not to take for granted young one" He said to me as he motioned me to follow him. Yesterday, my tool was a brush used to clean the wall upon which we are working today. We traversed the ground and headed to the center of the quarry. "Second thing you must always remember is to check the board for instructions." We entered the line

and began our slow approach to our next destination. Everyone around is quiet and the bird's singing echoed off the walls pleasantly serenading us as we waited. Time seemed to stop as I listened to nature's music and visually fixated on the few clouds drift in an uncouth transmogrification above. The visual radiation began stealing the upper rock face from the clutches of shadow, the golden rays glistening as it danced upon the surface. The face heated the air causing it to rise. This cavity was quickly filled as fresh cooler air moved to achieve equilibrium. A soft breeze slithered from the entrance and bade welcome to each of us increasing in velocity the closer to the rock face it became. It began to scrape the wall with an audible howl as it was directed upwards. A swift crash to my shoulder interrupted my daydreaming, arousing my senses to this terrestrial plane once again. Looking around my mentor was approaching the podium so I hurried to his side. Before us the podium rested a piece of parchment held fast by stones. Contained within its boundaries were instructions pictorially represented to convey our task for the day. Another breeze met us as we left the visual conveyance to our place upon which our work shall commence.

Junior Grand Warden Candidate Forum

Daylight Loge #232 recently held a Junior Grand Warden Candidate Forum where all of the candidates for the Grand South were asked about their plans, should they be elected, for Grand Lodge. Recordings of the Forum are available at this link: [Junior Grand Warden Forum](#)

Letters to the Editor

Finding the Joy in Ritual (April 15, 2017)

WB Editor,

Thank you for sharing the thoughts of our WB Dan Taylor. Our opening and closing ritual work is designed and intended to bring each Brother into the proper mindset of attending his Lodge, then to remind him of his responsibilities as a Mason in the outer World as the Lodge is closed. The ideal, of course, is that each man who is a Mason will practice our precepts in every part of his life, every day.

~VWB Gene Ulrich

WB Editor,

This is Guinness, my Black & Tan.



~WB Jonathan Seaton

Deadline

Submissions for the May 15 issue of the **District 7 News** are due on **Thursday, May 11, 2017**.
Early submission is encouraged.

Be Nice to Mom Or Else Section



Happy Mother's Day from the District 7 News

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 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	WB 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 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