

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
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May 15, 2017

You Pay the Tax

My Grandfather, our dear Brother Ed Gebhart, Sr., spoiled his grandsons. He led an honorable life and taught us much by example, but high on the list of my vivid memories of him are the Christmas mornings when Pop arrived with the “good presents”. He also could be easily coaxed into taking us shopping every now and then, but he wasn’t as generous on these trips.

My youngest brother, Chris, developed a keen fondness for money at an early age. When he was no more than five years old he had a wallet where he stored his accumulated currency. One day Pop was at the house and Chris asked if they could go to Toys R Us.

Before acquiescing Pop asked, “Do you have any money?”

Chris produced his wallet and proudly said, “Yes”.

Pop replied, “Ok then, let’s go to Toys R Us.”

The story Pop told me, interspersed with giggles, was that they shopped around until Chris found something for about \$5.00 and when the cashier rung up the sale Chris turned to Pop and said, “You pay the tax.”

I asked Pop, “Did you pay it?”

“Yeah”, he replied.

“He suckered you!” I told him.

Then his giggle escalated to a full blown laugh as he said, “He could have stuck me for the whole thing!”

You might have to know Chris and have known Pop to fully enjoy this story, but maybe there’s a connection to Masonry.

Any thoughts? And please don’t say that if Chris lost his wallet a Mason would return it. We can do better.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

May 18	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
May 22	Monday	Lakeside #258	EA
June 1	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
June 3	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
June 7	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
June 8	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
June 12	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
June 15	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
June 19	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
June 26	Monday	Renaissance #312	Stated

Myrtle Lodge #108

At its next stated meeting, Thursday, May 18th starting at 6:30 p.m. Myrtle Lodge will celebrate Ladies’ Night.

From WM Chad Reece:

Myrtle wishes to thank our Ladies for their support of our Masonic endeavors. Our program will consist of dinner and a presentation of thanks. We plan on having no business except that which is absolutely necessary.

Dress is suit and tie.

Adults only please.

We want this to be a great supportive experience so I ask all Brothers to show our Ladies the utmost decorum.

A headcount for food is needed. **RSVP to WM Chad Reece at cin21century@gmail.com** with number attending.

Lakeside #258

At a Special Communication on Monday, May 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Lakeside Lodge will confer the Entered Apprentice degree. The Lodge’s newest EA, Br. Max Box, will deliver the Apron and Working Tools lectures. For information or courtesy degrees contact WM Michael Campbell mikecampbell_759@hotmail.com.

Renaissance Lodge #312

by WB Craig Wood

It truly is a pleasure to take wine with the members and visitors at our Festive Board on the last Monday of every even-numbered month. Please mark your calendars to remind you to attend our stated meeting on June 26th, August 28th, October 30th, and December 18th this year.

Ladies and guests will enjoy musical entertainment provided by John Gebhart during our brief stated on Ladies Night on June 26th. WB John has written beautiful songs inspired by events in his life. He performed a few of these original songs at our District meeting in January and delighted all in attendance. Plan to attend and bring guests. *It's never too early to RSVP (cwood1234@hotmail.com or via the Lodge website, <http://www.redmondmasons.org/paypal>).*

On the last Monday of odd-numbered months, R312 members gather at Azteca in Kirkland to socialize and plan upcoming meetings. This month, due to Memorial Day, we will meet on May 22nd at 6:30 p.m. We have several topics including: Ladies Night (shall we buy a basket at Grand Lodge for a free door prize in June?), sustaining memberships? (I'm in), future topics/speakers for Festive Boards? It's always a fun, informal get together at Azteca.

Unity Lodge #198

by Brother David Bach

Unity Lodge just received the bicycles and helmets for our 2018 Bikes for Books program. We added one pair to our stable because the Snoqualmie Valley School District added an elementary school during the 2017 school year.



Next year we will be awarding a dozen bicycles and helmets to diligent readers at six Snoqualmie Valley elementary schools to support and enhance each school's reading achievement programs.

Before the next school year begins a skilled team of bicycle experts will assemble and test each bicycle. Then North Bend Brothers will deliver a pair to each elementary school, where they will be displayed in the library along with a sign identifying the program sponsors, North Bend Masonic Lodge and Singletrack Cycles.

Eastside Scottish Rite Club

By Brian Thomas, 33°

The next meeting of the Eastside Scottish Rite Club will be Wednesday, May 31st at Myrtle Lodge #108 in Issaquah from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Myrtle Lodge is just east of the Issaquah Hatchery on West Sunset. I may have misspoken at the Scottish Rite meeting and said we would meet on the 30th. I beg forgiveness.

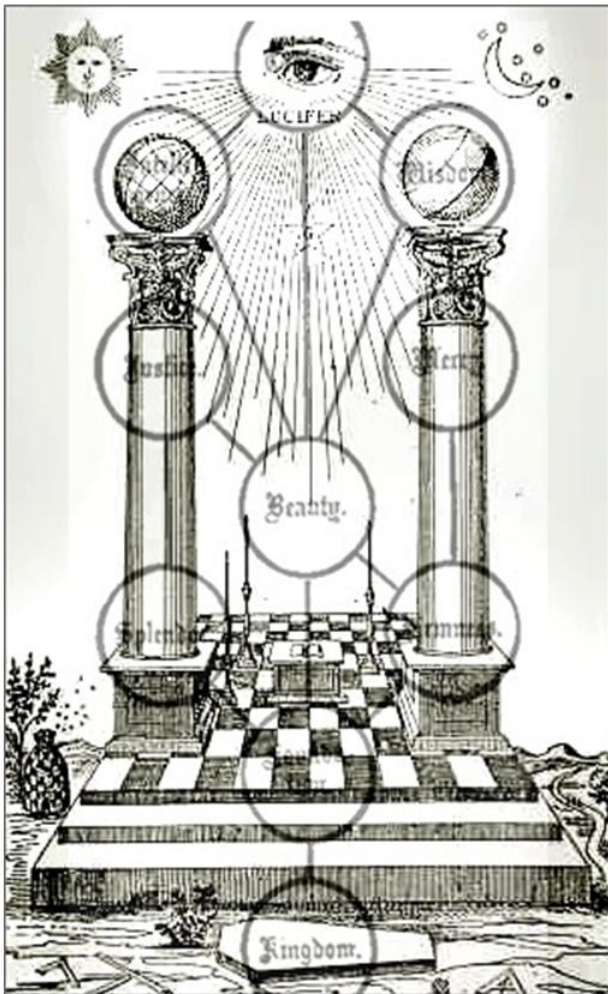
We will continue to emphasize *Masonic Education*. Remember, the question is more important than the answer, for if we don't have questions we will never even start on the journey to solutions. The goal of the ESRC is to entertain questions about Freemasonry and seek answers.

Last meeting we had a lively discussion about the Catholic Church and its ongoing criticism of Freemasonry. At our May 31st meeting we will discuss Kabbalah and its importance to Freemasonry.

Recall in the 4th° we were told that the early Masonic ritualists borrowed heavily from Kabbalah and that, "...a complete understanding of Freemasonry is impossible without some familiarity with *the* (sic) Kabbalah". The passes and responses in the 32nd° come directly from Kabbalah. They are meaningless unless you have some understanding of the 10 sepherot or node points of Kabbala's 'Tree of Life' and the 22 paths between them. Albert Pike writes extensively about the importance of Kabbalah. Wisdom, Strength and Beauty are key to both Kabbalah and Freemasonry. The whole point and substance of the Master Mason degree are entwined with the 'Tree of Life'. Perhaps, we should devote some of our energy to understanding the *why* of

Masonry, not just the what, where and how.

There are several versions of Kabbalah; Jewish, Christian, Gnostic and Masonic, all very similar but each with a few unique twists and turns. It would be helpful if those of you that plan to attend would take a few minutes to do some research on the 'Tree of Life' before our meeting Wednesday, May 31. Kabbalah is spelled several different ways, Quballah, Qubbalah, Cabbalah, etc., but it's all the same concept.



The Tree of Life, illustrated with Masonic context

Any Master Mason is invited to join us but the discussion may delve deeply into Scottish Rite ritual and non-Scottish Rite visitors may be asked to temporarily excuse themselves if understanding requires the revealing of any of the secrets of Scottish Rite. Feel free to invite you Masonic Master Mason friends.

After the meeting we will retire to the Issaquah Brew House, a Myrtle Lodge tenant, for a brew and further discussion.

I have the notion of having a picnic at my house in Renton for Eastside Scottish Rite participants, their guests and family, on August 30th. We will either affirm or abandon that notion at our May 31st meeting. November 29th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., will be our next regular meeting and it will be at the Eastside Masonic Center in Redmond

I hope to see you all at the next Seattle Valley dinner and stated meeting May 16th. The Grand Master will be with us at dinner (6:30 p.m.). For more information visit the Seattle Valley web site at <http://www.seattle-scottishrite.org/>

Please contact me at bjt19@comcast.net or [425-226-0463](tel:425-226-0463) if you wish to be on the correspondence list for the Eastside Scottish Rite Club.

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 3

A short story by WB Chad Reece

We climbed seemingly endless ladders as we made our way around the face. Those before us selecting the place to work that spoke to them. A worker working on a surface that did not speak to them would garner disfavor and welcome trouble. My mentor held out his hand and began stopping at open spots, closed his eyes and breathed shallowly for seconds and moved on to the next. After spending our time traipsing among the open places I looked behind to find the empty areas filling fast. Those ahead too seemed to increasingly fill with coworkers. "Here!" I heard his voice. "This is our spot. Do you feel it?" "He looked at me with a grin awaiting my response. "No, I don't feel anything". The face of my mentor changed from elation to something akin to stoicism and pointed to my spot. We laid out the 24 inch

gauge and marked the stone with chiseled lines. “Okay, now that we have our piece, we need to hammer it out of this face. However, to achieve this and pull one solid mass large enough we must work in tandem on each side.” I nodded as we placed our chisels to the stone and began impacting it with the mallet. Each strike was met with a plume of small debris that floated in the air with larger chunks flying in one of 360 directions. As I pounded chips broke off that were larger and traveled faster as they spun through the air. “Hey turn your chisel more upright so as to not direct the rubble towards me.” I looked at him shocked and he chuckled as we began our offensive once again. As time went by we chiseled a line from the back to the front of the stone and had passed over this line multiple times to deepen the fissure. Slow and delicate work repeated for hours as we wrought this stone from its home. I had expected this to be a faster process, but it seemed that throughout half the day we had made only small progress in our task.

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](#)

Deadline

Submissions for the May 31 issue of the *District 7 News* are due on **Friday, May 26, 2017**.
Early submission is encouraged.

Bo Obama Issues First Public Bark Since Leaving the White House



Source: *TheOnion.com*

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