

# District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart  
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November 30, 2017

## Career Advice

I never intended this to be a career advice column and the record of my sometimes volatile career proves that I'm no expert. But I've made enough mistakes and I've been around long enough to believe that I can predict and avoid some of the land mines. To do this I routinely use a mental exercise that helps me choose my priorities. I actually did this right before I started writing this column. Beyond achieving personal clarity I use this tool to communicate with those whose assistance I need to enlist. I ask myself a simple question:

*Why will I get fired today?*

Is it little harsh? Sure, but it works. Do I really need to repeatedly ask myself this biting question? Well, since it works I'd be foolish not to. Is it necessary to communicate this to the professionals that support me? I think so. It's tough for any organization to maintain a shared understanding of purpose and priorities, and my question tends to get everyone's attention. (This could backfire if my staff wanted to get me fired, but that's a chance I'll have to take). I've even told my boss why he'll fire me. He has either agreed or told me that he prefers a different priority. Good to know.

In addition to the aforementioned benefits my question causes all of us to work with an appropriate sense of urgency. I'll never get everything done but I'll knock off as many of the high priorities as possible.

What's the connection to Masonry? Well, good men aspire to have good careers, and that's tough to do if you've been fired. There might be a metaphor in here too.

Always remember, we live and work in an at-will state.

*WB John Gebhart*

## District 7 What's-Left of-2017-at-a-Glance

December 6	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
December 7	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
December 9	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
December 11	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
December 14	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
December 18	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
December 18	Monday	Renaissance #312	Stated
December 21	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated

DDGM schedule at [more-out-there.blogspot.com](http://more-out-there.blogspot.com)

## District 7 Installations

Falls City #66	January 13	TBD
Myrtle #108	January 13	Closed
West Gate #128	Done	
Kirkland #150	December 16	Closed
Unity #198	January 20	TBD
Lakeside #258	January 6	TBD
Mercer Island #297	December 7	Closed
Renaissance #312	December 18	Open

## West Gate #128

At a Special Communication on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. West Gate Lodge will conduct a memorial service for our dear departed Brother, WB Les Snavelly.

Following the memorial service there are tentative plans for a Fellowcraft Degree, for which volunteers are needed. At press time openings remain for Sr. Deacon, Sr. and Jr. Stewards, and a Lecturer. **Contact WM Earl Lara for details** [earllara@westgatelodge.org](mailto:earllara@westgatelodge.org)

## Lakeside #258

Lakeside Lodge will be having its Annual Holiday Dinner, Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. with entertainment to follow, and the Stated Communication will open thereafter. Family and friends are welcomed and encouraged to join us.

Suggested donation for dinner for Masons is \$20, guests included. **RSVP to [mikecampbell\\_759@hotmail.com](mailto:mikecampbell_759@hotmail.com)**

## **Renaissance #312**

### ***An Open Letter from WM Bill Werner***

Brothers,

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday because while for many people it comes once a year for me it lasts for 365+ days. Why?

I will tell you some "things" about me. I have a past. Some of it is typical, some of it is strange, some of it is wild and crazy stuff. There have been highs and lows, great joy, deep sadness ... and sometimes the depths of despair. I have been hurt and I have hurt others. I have regrets for things I've done and also for many things that I have not done. And Freemasonry has provided me an enormous pathway in order to make a difference both in myself and in the world around me.

About my past ... I survived it all, and still strive for a better tomorrow, and that is why I'm thankful

I'm also feeling reflective as I come to the end of six years as the "master" of this Lodge. Seven years ago when I was elected WM for the first time, I promised to bring our lodge back to its roots of convivial and educational Fellowship. And that every meeting, to the best of my ability, would be a value-added benefit to all present.

We have gained members, all of whom I believe bring a unique value set to us ... Thank you ... I see things in you as men and as Brothers that perhaps you don't see. Always know this: we don't need men for the sake of numbers. Rather we need Brothers who have a uniqueness that will benefit our Lodge and help them grow into the man they want to become Masonically. One of my dreams as the WM has been to help more Brothers realize what they can be in this fraternity. And to fully understand the mutuality of the relationship. Masonry and Renaissance need you ... do you know that?

We have had many memorable stated meetings over the years. Whether topics brought in by various guest speakers or topics generated Within, we have always enjoyed the fellowship and camaraderie of one another and our visitors both in Lodge & at the festive table...

and that to me is the great meaning of Masonry: Mutual discussion and discovery.

We have lost members for various reasons. Most sadly because of death, but also because of moving and other career choices. Still we have grown. Know this ... whether you are a newer member of our Lodge or a long time member, I have done whatever I can to enhance your Masonic experience. But, while all of us have families and careers, I hope more and more of you realize the importance of putting Renaissance on your long-term schedules.

And don't forget to pick up a book and read more about our fraternity or pick up the phone to meet for coffee and talk about life, Masonry and what is happening in the world around us and our place in it.

WB Joe Oates is gearing up for a very nice year ahead. WB Woody is gearing up for some life changes and will step aside as Sec/Treas. Some of you know that I have been elected as the new Sec/Treas ... so be afraid!!! In other words there's some change brewing at Renaissance and all the more reason for you to participate and help in these changes.

Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> will be our off-month meeting at Azteca in Kirkland at 7:00 p.m. besides libations we offer Great Fellowship and brainstorming at these sessions. And two weeks later, Monday December 18<sup>th</sup>, will be our Stated Communication and installation of officers. Lodge will open at 6:30 p.m. for our open installation followed by our Festive Board. **RSVPs for dinner are required at [bigwer1@hotmail.com](mailto:bigwer1@hotmail.com).**



*A Gathering of Brothers at the 2016 Installation*

It has been my pleasure to be part of this Lodge for the last number of years and I look forward to many more years of convivial fellowship and communicating happiness with you, my Brothers.

True Thanksgiving is *Thanksgiving*.

God Bless you and yours.

Your humble servant,

~Bill

## Myrtle #108

*Submitted by WM Chad Reece*

November 18<sup>th</sup> began as any other with the sleep weary raising from their station to tackle the day's activities. This day, for some, however, was to be different for their life choices brought them to the doorstep of Masonry and they were, that day, to cross the threshold. At the commencement three men met in a room adjacent to the lodge room. They made their way to the chamber to begin the initiation and we in the lodge room waited with patience for the audible signal that we soon will be carrying on a tradition. The bellow of sound ricocheted off the walls springing us all to attention and an officer out of his seat. At last the three candidates entered the lodge and were ceremoniously made Masons. On this day we bestowed up Doug Friddell, Ian Melendez and Ron Thorson the badge of Brother and welcomed them into our Fraternity. Brothers Doug and Ian now call Myrtle home and Brother Ron now calls Falls City home. I wish to thank everyone present at this degree for doing such a great job.



**Degree team:** Gerry O'Brien, Tom Monds, David Hisel, Corey Birch, Laurence Lance, Brian Thomas, Chad Reece, and Michael Inman.

This was not to be the end as there was another Brother who needed to cross further into Masonry. As we left

our vestibule to the dining room we broke bread, opened soda and bags of chips then sat down for a nice lunch reminiscent of the breakfast some had at the Gaslamp hours before. After lunch we bid farewell for now to our EA brothers and commenced with providing a Brother the moniker of Fellowcraft. He, like before, stepped over the threshold into a different lodge for the first time. As the usual preponderances were asked and duties performed we soon had before us a Brother who had completed the opening to his next adventure in Masonry. On this afternoon Brother Michael Inman of Myrtle received the degree of Fellowcraft. I wish to thank the Brothers who took on parts at the last minute and rearranged their schedules to stay and help us.



**Degree team:** Gerry O'Brien, Tom Monds, David Hisel, Corey Birch, Brian Thomas, and Chad Reece

## Unity #198

*Submitted by WM Matt Roalkvam*

Unity Lodge is looking for a Brother who would be interested in joining our Lodge and serving as our Secretary/Treasurer for 1-2 years while we work on training our new EA and FCs. If there's nobody willing to, we will have to find a way to get by without someone sitting in either position. In addition to respectable compensation, the WM will be offering a boon to whoever fills the role. If interested, please contact WM Matt Roalkvam at [webmattr@hotmail.com](mailto:webmattr@hotmail.com)

## Secrets of The Chair

### *A Special Notice to First-Time Worshipful Masters*

It's time to think about the Secrets of The Chair. It will be on the last Saturday of January, the 28<sup>th</sup>, and will be held at Unity Lodge.

All first-time Masters are reminded in the most friendly manner that this is not an optional event. All Past Masters are warmly invited to come assist their newly installed fellows settle into their exalted positions.

If any Past Master wants to be a part of the SOC team, including starting to learn the Right Worshipful Master's part, please email **WB Jonathan Seaton, Keeper of the Work**, at [info@unity198.org](mailto:info@unity198.org).

### District 7 Meeting – Save the Date

Mark your calendars for the evening of Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> for the upcoming District 7 Meeting. Details to follow.

At press time the District 7 News field reporters have been unable to corroborate rumors that for this year's fund raiser the Grand Master will offer face painting to guests for a modest donation.

### Letters to the Editor

#### *The Fab Four (November 15, 2017)*

Brother John,

A beautiful and insightful dissection of the collective genius of (arguably) the world's most famous "boy band". You have truly hit the nail on the head when it comes to your description of George Harrison. But remember, also, that he was the cement in this odd combination of talents - holding those other three "perfect ashlar" in place. And a truly motivational encouragement to WMs.

*~Bro. David Holden*

South Africa

*Brother David,*

*Thanks for your comment. However, in fairness we really ought to also give credit to George Martin for providing some of the cement. Or maybe he was the trowel.*

*~Editor*

John,

"We trust that you can play the instrument. We want to hear the song."

Now let's see, song and instrument: what we do with our minds and bodies, oh yes! Very good, John!

Keep up the good work, actually The Work.

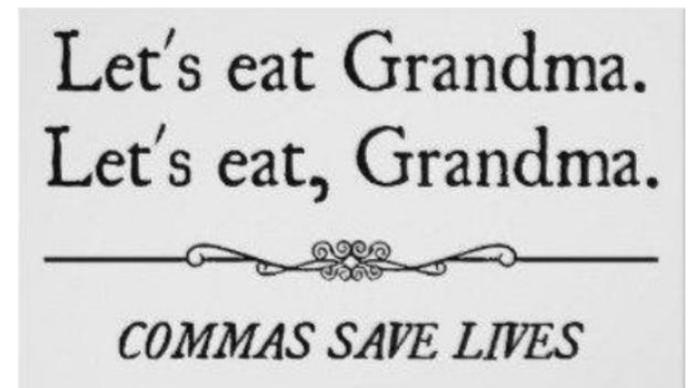
Love, hugs,

*~Dad*

### Deadline

Submissions for the December 15<sup>th</sup> issue of the *District 7 News* are due on **Saturday Dec 9, 2017**. Early submission is encouraged.

### Lessons in Punctuation 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
<b>Falls City #66</b>	4304 337th Place Southeast Fall City, WA 98024 <a href="http://www.fallcitylodge.com">www.fallcitylodge.com</a>	2nd Saturday, 1st Saturday June; dark July & August. 7:30 p.m. except January, 7:00 p.m.	WM: David Hisel <a href="mailto:dlh.mason@yahoo.com">dlh.mason@yahoo.com</a> Sec: Nick Michaud (contact WM Hisel)
<b>Myrtle #108</b>	Street Address: 57 West Sunset Way Issaquah, WA 98027 Mailing Address: PO Box 766 Issaquah, WA 98027 <a href="http://www.myrtlelodge108.org">www.myrtlelodge108.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 p.m. (The lights stay on in the Summer months)	WM: Chad Reece <a href="mailto:damnthings@gmail.com">damnthings@gmail.com</a> Sec: Jeff Swanson <a href="mailto:jeffswanson@platosnw.com">jeffswanson@platosnw.com</a>
<b>West Gate #128</b>	8561 Willows Road NE Redmond, WA 98052 <a href="http://westgatelodge.org">westgatelodge.org</a>	3rd Monday except July, August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Earl Lara <a href="mailto:earllara@westgatelodge.org">earllara@westgatelodge.org</a> Sec: Donn Castro - <a href="mailto:donncastro@yahoo.com">donncastro@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Kirkland #150</b>	702 1/2 Market St. Kirkland, WA 98033 <a href="http://www.kirklandmasons.org">www.kirklandmasons.org</a>	2nd Thursday (3rd Thursday June) except July, August. 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.	WM: Bill Reynar <a href="mailto:wireynar@gmail.com">wireynar@gmail.com</a> Sec: Topher White <a href="mailto:topher.white@comcast.net">topher.white@comcast.net</a>
<b>Unity #198</b>	119 North Bend Way North Bend, WA 98045 <a href="http://www.unity198.org">www.unity198.org</a>	1st Wednesday. If Holiday, 2nd Wednesday except July, August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Matt Roalkvam <a href="mailto:webmattr@hotmail.com">webmattr@hotmail.com</a> Sec : Jonathan Seaton <a href="mailto:jonathanrseaton@gmail.com">jonathanrseaton@gmail.com</a>
<b>Lakeside #258</b>	8561 Willows Road NE Redmond, WA 98052 <a href="http://www.lakeside258.org">www.lakeside258.org</a>	2nd Monday, except July & August. 7:30 p.m.	WM: Mike Campbell <a href="mailto:mikecampbell_759@hotmail.com">mikecampbell_759@hotmail.com</a> Sec: Dean Markley <a href="mailto:wdeanm@gmail.com">wdeanm@gmail.com</a>
<b>Mercer Island #297</b>	1836 72nd Avenue Southeast Mercer Island, WA 98040 <a href="http://www.mercerislandmasons.org">www.mercerislandmasons.org</a>	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 <a href="mailto:dantaylor@msn.com">dantaylor@msn.com</a> Sec: Scott Anderson <a href="mailto:papabear120@hotmail.com">papabear120@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Renaissance #312</b>	11440 Avondale Road Northeast Redmond, WA 98052 <a href="http://www.renaissance312.org">www.renaissance312.org</a>	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 <a href="mailto:bigwer1@hotmail.com">bigwer1@hotmail.com</a> Sec: Craig Wood <a href="mailto:cwood1234@hotmail.com">cwood1234@hotmail.com</a>

## District 7 Officers

District Deputy of the Grand Master: VWB Doug Stamper [dstamper@outlook.com](mailto:dstamper@outlook.com),  @dstamper

	<b>Falls City #66</b>	<b>Myrtle #108</b>	<b>West Gate #128</b>	<b>Kirkland #150</b>	<b>Unity #198</b>	<b>Lakeside #258</b>	<b>Mercer Island #297*</b>	<b>Renaissance #312**</b>
<b>WM</b>	WB David Hisel	WB Chad Reece	WB Earl Lara	WB Bill Reynar	WB Matt Roalkvam	WB Mike Campbell	WB Dan Taylor	VWB Bill Werner
<b>SW</b>	Br Robert Coats	WB Geoff Joosten	VWB Ray Lavidia	Br Brian Clubb	WB Mark Goodwin	Br Vincenzo Sainato	WB Paul Hoeffer	WB Joe Oates, Jr.
<b>JW</b>	Br Joshua Bushman	WB Jeff Craig	VWB Henry Fletcher	Br Bryan DeNosky	WB Ernest Jenner	Br Phu Huynh	WB Thomas Aquino	Br JN
<b>Sec</b>	WB Nick Michaud	WB Jeff Swanson	WB Donn Castro	WB Topher White	WB Jonathan Seaton	WB Dean Markley	WB Scott Anderson	WB Craig Wood
<b>Treas</b>	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Mark Staveley	WB Donn Castro	WB Bob Wilson	WB Jonathan Seaton	VWB Gene Ulrich	WB Scott Anderson	WB Craig Wood
<b>SD</b>	Br Noah Phillips	VWB Bill Werner	Br Arjay Protacio	Br Steve Preston		Br Kevin French	Br Carl Bronkema	WB Todd Pike
<b>JD</b>	Br Norris Daltman	Br Gerry O'Brien	Br Karl Egts	Br MG	Br David Bach	WB Jim Groves	Br Denis Osmanbegovic	Br Sheraz Malik
<b>Chp</b>	WB Matt Roalkvam	Br Thomas Monds	VWB Mark Williams	WB Dan Chadrow		Br Steve Banin	Br Dane Shaffer	VWB Doug Stamper
<b>Mrsh</b>	Br Warren Oltmann	Br Shane White	WB Jim Nash	Br Gary Weber		Br Derk Benisch	VWB Roger Barnstead	Pending
<b>Mu</b>	Br Carlmer Sorensen		Br Bert Bertram			Br Praveen Sattaru	WB John Gebhart	
<b>SS</b>						Br Pat Brennan	Br. Brent Fleckner	
<b>JS</b>						Br Kevin Ward	Br. Stephen Burns	
<b>T</b>	WB Frank Schumacher	WB Brian Thomas	WB Henry Castro	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