

District 7 News



Editor: WB John Gebhart
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December 15, 2017

December 7th

Born about nine years after VJ Day, I was taught that the Japanese were our enemies and that we should honor those we lost at Pearl Harbor. I'm reminded of this every December 7th by the replay of film clip of the smoldering remains of the USS Arizona. But those clips don't run on Japanese TV. I know this because I was in Tokyo on December 7th, where it felt like just another day. However I had special plans.



Tokyo Lodge #2 meets on the first Thursday of every month and this was the first time my travels put me in Tokyo on the first Thursday. At Tokyo #2 I was afforded the warmest welcome. It was election night and I was asked to be the inspector of the election. The WM gave me a medal that commemorates the Lodge's 70th anniversary and I gave him my Grand Master pin. It was both emotional and surreal to be sitting in Lodge with the flag of the Rising Sun displayed prominently in the East on the day I was taught to remember as the Day of Infamy. But I'll remember it differently from now on.

My prayer is that the peace between the US and Japan is eternal, and that we are an example of how much two nations can overcome in search of peace.

Behold how good and pleasant it is.

WB John Gebhart

District 7 Month-at-a-Glance

December 18	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated
December 18	Monday	Renaissance #312	Stated
December 21	Thursday	Myrtle #108	Stated
January 3	Wednesday	Unity #198	Stated
January 4	Thursday	Mercer Island #297	Stated
January 8	Monday	Lakeside #258	Stated
January 11	Thursday	Kirkland #150	Stated
January 13	Saturday	Falls City #66	Stated
January 15	Monday	West Gate #128	Stated

DDGM schedule at more-out-there.blogspot.com

District 7 Installations

Falls City #66	January 13	Open
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	Done	
Renaissance #312	December 18	Open

West Gate #128

By WM Earl Lara

At a Special Communication on December 2nd West Gate Lodge #128 welcomed our newest Fellowcraft Mason, Ray Walintukan. Ray continues his journey for further light and would love to travel with brothers in the area. He has been very enthusiastic in his endeavor and we hope you can come join us when he is ready for his Third Degree. Congratulations!



Also on December 2nd WB Les Snively was honored in a Masonic Memorial led by VWB Mark Williams. The private ceremony was as his wife, Joyce, wanted and we honored him with the reverence he deserved. Many fond memories were shared and laughter during those stories continues to this day.



Thank you for the support and love for our dearly departed Brother.

Mercer Island #297

Mercer Island Lodge celebrated its 65th installation of officers on the evening of December 7th.



VWB Bill Werner presided as Installing Master, assisted by VWBs Doug Stamper and Gene Ulrich. WB Dan Taylor will serve in the East for a second consecutive year. WB Tomas Acquino was installed as Sr. Warden, Brother Carl Bronkema as Jr. Warden, WB Scott Anderson as Secretary and WB Paul Hoefler as Treasurer.

A highlight of the evening was a reading by VWB Roger Barnstead of a brief essay he prepared in observance of Pearl Harbor Day (presented below).

Remarks on Pearl Harbor Day 2017 for the Installation of Officers Mercer Island #297

By VWB Roger Barnstead

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service attacked Naval Station Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii Territory, without warning and without a declaration of war, killing 2,403 American servicemen, and injuring 1,178 others. The attack sank four U.S. Navy battleships and damaged four others. It also damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, and one minelayer. Aircraft losses were 188 destroyed and 159 damaged.

On the same day Japanese forces attacked Malaya, Hong Kong, Guam, The Philippine Islands, Wake Island, and Midway Island. It is now many years later but there are still many with us who remember this august event.

There are only two known vessels that are still afloat that were at Pearl Harbor that day. One is a Navy yard tug the HOGA and the other is the USCGC Taney which was still in active service when I joined the Coast Guard and is now a museum ship in Baltimore, MD.

She was one of the only ships to get up steam and sail out of the harbor with her guns blazing at enemy aircraft. I know this is supposed to be about Pearl Harbor, but I can't resist telling you the Taney served as a command ship at the Battle of Okinawa. She also did convoy and escort duty in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. She also served in Vietnam and in my day doing drug interdiction, fisheries patrol, and of course search and rescue.

I can only imagine what it was like, the attack commenced at 7:48 A.M. Hawaiian time. Most sailors would have had breakfast and were getting ready to observe morning colors. Which they did and at 8:05 they heard the pipe over the IMC (loudspeaker to you sand pebbles) "All hands man your battles stations, this is not a drill".

Young sailors ran to their stations in a state of unbelieving shock. Bombs were falling, machine guns were firing, concussions were hitting them from explosions. I can imagine they didn't have much time for fear but certainly they sweated as they brought their

guns on line and then they were firing at the unexpected enemy. I am sure the aftermath was worse than the fight. All those people who there knew it was the start of war the size of which they could not imagine. As we say today "things got real".

It is my opinion the Taney and its crew were an excellent example of the sleeping giant that Admiral Isoroku Yamaoto spoke about awakening by attacking Pearl Harbor.

He said: *I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve*

All those who survived and went on from Pearl Harbor had a flame lit in their hearts, they were filled with a terrible resolve. The crews of ships and the soldiers went on to rebuild and refloat, pursue, and finally defeat the enemy who attacked them that day.

The Nation was incensed and acted with terrible resolve.

I have had the honor to meet a few of the men who had been there. I can tell you their legacy lives on in our armed forces. I pray and hope that we as citizens never forget what happened on 7 December 1941.

God Bless our heroic men and women who wear the uniform. God Bless the United States of America.

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

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 28th, 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.

District 7 Meeting – Save the Date

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

The District 7 News field reporters have quashed the rumor that for this year's fund raiser the Grand Master will offer face painting to guests for a modest donation. Rather, it has been confirmed that he will do this only for a substantial donation.

Lost Masonic Ring

A well-worn man's gold ring bearing the emblems of nine Masonic Bodies has been found in the vicinity of North Bend. Please contact WB Ernie Jenner for further information. cejenner272@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

Career Advice (November 30, 2017)

WB John,

I feel compelled to respond to your communication once again. Having had two great careers, 32 years with Boeing and 28 in the military serving a large amount, as they say in the corrections institutions, concurrently. I left a job at Boeing to go on active duty, served almost five years of active duty (including Vietnam), then back to Boeing and joining the reserve. I recently told my military story to the Veterans History Project sponsored by the Library of Congress and the National Archives. When I reviewed the video I saw something that supports your thesis about being fired. In the interview I said that my service in Vietnam gave me perspective on life. My worst day at Boeing did not compare to my worst day in Vietnam. "Why will I get fired today" is a metaphor. The worst thing an employer can do is fire you. You were looking for a job when they hired you

and you will find another job if they do fire you. It ain't the end of the world.

~VWB Steve Pennington

WB John,

So I'm reading and re-reading this. You don't say much this missive, but what you do say is highly relevant, poignant, and useful. Funny, you've mentioned this line numerous times in person but this is the first time it's really sunk in. I wonder how many other brothers will say the same.

~WB Paul Hoeffler

John,

Why will I get promoted today?

Love, hugs,

~Dad

Deadline

Submissions for the December 31st issue of the **District 7 News** are due on **Monday Dec 27, 2017**.

Early submission is encouraged.

Holiday Greetings from the Typesetters!



Editor: See? I told you they were a cranky bunch

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 davidhisel@outlook.com Sec: Nick Michaud (contact WM Hisel)
Myrtle #108	Street Address: 57 West Sunset Way Issaquah, WA 98027 Mailing Address: 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: Donn Castro - donncastro@yahoo.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 Doug Stamper dstamper@outlook.com,  @dstamper

	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	VWB Ray Lavidia	Br Brian Clubb	WB Mark Goodwin	Br Vincenzo Sainato	WB Thomas Aquino	WB Joe Oates, Jr.
JW	Br Joshua Bushman	WB Jeff Craig	VWB Henry Fletcher	Br Bryan DeNosky	WB Ernest Jenner	Br Phu Huynh	Br Carl Bronkema	Br JN
Sec	WB Nick Michaud	WB Jeff Swanson	WB Donn Castro	WB Topher White	WB Jonathan Seaton	WB Dean Markley	WB Scott Anderson	WB Craig Wood
Treas	VWB Henry Fletcher	WB Mark Staveley	WB Donn Castro	WB Bob Wilson	WB Jonathan Seaton	VWB Gene Ulrich	WB Paul Hoeffler	WB Craig Wood
SD	Br Noah Phillips	VWB Bill Werner	Br Arjay Protacio	Br Steve Preston		Br Kevin French	Br Brent Fleckner	WB Todd Pike
JD	Br Norris Daltman	Br Gerry O'Brien	Br Karl Egts	Br MG	Br David Bach	WB Jim Groves	Br Dane Shaffer	Br Sheraz Malik
Chp	WB Matt Roalkvam	Br Thomas Monds	VWB Mark Williams	WB Dan Chadrow		Br Steve Banin	VWB Roger Barnstead	VWB Doug Stamper
Mrsh	Br Warren Oltmann	Br Shane White	WB Jim Nash	Br Gary Weber		Br Derk Benisch	Br Stephen Burns	Pending
Mu	Br Carlmer Sorensen		Br Bert Bertram			Br Praveen Sattaru	WB John Gebhart	
SS						Br Pat Brennan		
JS						Br Kevin Ward		
T	WB Frank Schumacher	WB Brian Thomas	WB Henry Castro	WB David Pearson		WB Josh Rice		Br Jeff Guthrie

* VWB Dean Quigley is Mentor

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