



Mercer Island Trestle Board – December 2017

Season's Greetings and Glad Tidings!

Dear Brothers All,

Our December 7th officer installation was a fun and festive event. After a delicious dinner service by Patty Quigley, the stellar trio of VWBs Bill Werner, Gene Ulrich, and Doug Stamper conducted the installation in fine style. Congratulations to all our newly installed officers! To cap off the evening, there was a very informative and moving presentation by our own VW Roger Barnstead to honor the many service personnel who saw action and gave their lives on December 7 at Pearl Harbor and numerous other locations around the Pacific. We also voted unanimously on a \$1,200 donation to the WA Masonic Charities in honor of the Christmas season and giving back to less fortunate brothers and their families.

I sincerely hope you all have had a wonderful and memorable holiday season with your family and loved ones. This time of year is always an opportunity to reflect on our many blessings, take stock of the past year, and plan and recharge for the coming new year. I am very excited about the year ahead for our lodge. We have some solid candidates in our pipeline and brothers needing to prove up to their next degree, we have our programs set for the 1st Quarter, and construction on the new bar for the VFW should be underway in short order.

At our next stated on January 4th, WB Paul Hoeffler has agreed to lead the program of instruction and provoking thought and introspection. His topic will center around 'How to Become a Virtuous Man'. This should be a great session that will stimulate some great conversation. Mark your calendars to attend!

Best wishes for the New Year!

WM Dan Taylor

JANUARY STATED MEETING

Thursday, January 4th

5:30 pm	Practice session for new officers
6:00 pm	Welcome gathering and refreshments
6:30 pm	Dinner served
7:30 pm	Opening of lodge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shrink the Lodge Session led by Paul Hoeffler
~9:00 pm	Lodge closed

2017 COMMITTEES AND LODGE OFFICERS

<p>Scholarship</p> <p>Bro. Dane Shaffer – Chair VWB Dean Quigley WB Scott Anderson</p>	<p>Degrees & Ritual</p> <p>VWB Dean Quigley - Chair WB Tomas Aquino WB Paul Hoeffler</p>	<p>Fireworks</p> <p>Carl Bronkema – Chair WB John Gebhart - Advisor</p>	<p>Lodge Officers</p> <p>WM: WB Dan Taylor SW: WB Tomas Aquino JW: Br. Carl Bronkema Secretary: WB Scott Anderson Treasurer: WB Paul Hoeffler SD: Br. Brent Fleckner JD: Br. Dane Shaffer Chaplain: VWB Roger Barnstead Marshal: Br. Stephen Burns Musician: WB John Gebhart Mentor: VWB Dean Quigley</p>
<p>Finance Planning</p> <p>WB John Gebhart – Chair</p> <p>Audit</p> <p>Bro. Brent Fleckner – Chair Bro. Stephen Burns</p>	<p>Widows/Past Masters Program</p> <p>WB Dan Taylor – Chair VWB Dean Quigley</p>	<p>Summer Celebration</p> <p><i>Your name could be here!</i></p>	

2018 CALENDAR

<i>“Making a good lodge a better lodge”</i>			
January	February	March	April
4 – Stated Meeting <i>How to Become a Virtuous Man</i> 19 – D7 District Meeting 20 – Officers Planning Mtg. 27 – Secrets of the Chair	1 – Stated Meeting <i>Exploring Mindfulness</i> 24 – Officers Planning Mtg.	1 – Stated Meeting <i>Promoting Civility in our Times</i> 10 - HS Scholarship Winner Selection 24 – Officers Planning Mtg.	5 - Stated Meeting 21 – Officers Planning Mtg.
<i>“Making a good brother a better brother”</i>			
May	June	July	August
3 – Stated Meeting 10 – Widows Dinner 19 – Officers Planning Mtg.	7 – Stated Meeting 23 – Officers Planning Mtg. 27 – 30 Fireworks Sales	1 - 4 Fireworks Sales 14-15 Summer Celebration	Dark 24 – Officers Planning Mtg.
<i>“Making a good masonic community a better community”</i>			
September	October	November	December
6 – Stated Meeting 22 – Officers Planning Mtg.	4 – Stated Meeting 20 – Officers Planning Mtg.	1 – Elections & Stated Mtg. 17 – Officers Planning Mtg.	6 – Installation & Stated Mtg. 15 – Officers Planning Mtg. 15-16 Widows Poinsettia Delivery

LODGE PROGRAM IDEAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting a Table Lodge for the VFW • Widows recognition with guest speaker • Visits to other lodges: Prince Hall, Doric, D7 • Craft beer or Whiskey tasting • “Shrink the Lodge” topics: The columns weren’t always columns; thoughts on the checkered floor; movable and immovable objects – why? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics by outside guest speakers: IRS, Domestic Abuse Women’s Network (DAWN) • Masonic education: York Rite, Scottish Rite • International-themed dinners at restaurants around the area for fellowship
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