

Trestleboard

Unity No. 146 Masonic Lodge
Chartered December 13, 1870 by the Grand Lodge of Virginia
www.Unity146.org

July 2013

Master's Message

Brethren of Unity Lodge No.146 A.F.&A.M.,

A brother of our Lodge, who previously attended stated and called communications regularly, suddenly stopped attending. After a few months, the Worshipful Master decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening, and the Worshipful Master found his brother at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for the Worshipful Master's visit, the brother welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Worshipful Master made himself comfortable, but said nothing.

In the grave silence, the Worshipful Master contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, he took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth, all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The brother watched all of this in quiet contemplation. As the one, lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow, and then its fire was no more. Soon, it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Worshipful Master glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember, and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately, it began to glow once more, with all the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the Worshipful Master reached the door to leave, the brother said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery summons, my brother. I'll be back in our Lodge next meeting."

Brethren, as you meditate on this circumstance, I ask that you examine your heart as to the reason you became a Freemason. You were not recruited. You were not persuaded. You came of your own free will and accord. Why? What did you most desire? Light! Where were you first made a Mason? Does paying your lodge dues fulfill this desire? Does arriving at meetings just before we open or immediately depart when we close fulfill this desire? The most special time at any of our meetings is the fellowship before and after.

On Thursday, June 27th I, along with a few brothers, had the honor and privilege of presenting our brother Lawrence Richard Howe with his 50-year certificate and pin. Brother Howe was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on June 8, 1963. Brother Howe is a patient at the Lynn Care Center Nursing Home in Front Royal. Brother Howe is not able to attend our meetings or able to come out to receive his award for 50 years of friendship and brother love, we will take it to him. This is not and would not be his choice. I am sure if he were able Brother Howe would darken our doorways at every opportunity. Remember; Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! Brethren, you have a choice.

As always Brethren, let us Meet on the Level, Act by the Plum and Part upon the Square. This is our Lodge....Your Lodge. Be the change you wish to see in the world....it all begins where you were first made a Mason. Until we meet again brethren, may the God of Peace and Love delight to dwell with and bless you.

S & F,
Dennis Mark Haas
Worshipful Master

Events

July 3

Dinner (\$10) &
Stated Communication
6:30 pm

July 17

Master Mason's Degree
7:00 pm

July 27

Lodge Breakfast
8:00 am

July 28

Reid James Simmons
Academy
Fork Union, Virginia

July 30

Masters & Wardens
Treadwell Lodge No 213
7:00 pm

Inside

Master's Message
Fourth of July
Brother Birthdays
Royal Arch Message
OES Message
Secretary's Message
Masonic Humor



Fourth of July

By Unknown

As Freemasons, it is no perfunctory spirit that we remember the 148th (217th in 1993) anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of American Independence, July 4th, 1776. It is a part of the history of our country and the history of our Craft, in this country; and it is our belief that a people who forget, or treat lightly, a great past, cannot have a great future. If they are indifferent to, or take as a matter of course, what cost so much in suffering and sacrifice, they are not worthy of the treasure they possess. •

Happily, the old disputes which led up to the American Revolution, and the legacy of enmity which it left, are now faded and forgotten, and we think with kindness and respect of the land against which our forefathers fought. Since that far-off time America and Britain have joined hands in a vast enterprise, and their sons have fought side by side in a World War for the liberation of mankind and the redemption of civilization. But the American Revolution itself still stands, not only as the birth-hour of our Republic, but as the beginning of a new and great era in the history of humanity, the meaning and measure of which we do not yet see or understand.

No story outside of fairyland is more romantic than the history of the growth and development of our Republic. He is a strange man, and no Patriot at all, who can read the record and not feel his heart beat faster, stirred by a holy memory and an honorable pride. From thirteen thinly settled states, united in the struggle for freedom and in loyalty to a newly written Constitution, our Nation has grown to be one of the greatest, strongest, more far-reaching nations on earth; a human marvel and a social wonder. Never has there been such a flowing together of peoples, such a blending of bloods, as in America; it is a fraternal achievement in which many races and many faces mingled to

build a freer and gentler Fatherland of Mankind.

Among the creative forces by which America has been made so great, none has been more benign than the influences of Freemasonry. The real history of Masonry in America belongs of right to the genius of poetry, and its story is an epic. Silent, ever-present, always active, by its constructive genius our Fraternity built itself into the very foundations of the Republic. When our fathers affirmed that "Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," Masonry was present assenting to one of its own principles. What patriotic memories cluster about old Green Dragon Tavern in Boston! Webster called it "the headquarters of the Revolution," and there was also the headquarters of Freemasonry, where the Boston Tea Party was planned. As in Massachusetts, as throughout the Colonies, Masonry was everywhere active, indirectly as an Order, but directly through its members, in behalf of a nation "Conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal;" which is one of its basic truths. It was not an accident that so many Masons signed the Declaration of Independence, or that Washington and most of his Generals were members of the Craft. Nor was it by mere chance that our first President was a Mason, sworn into office on a Bible

taken from a Masonic Altar, by the Grand Master of New York. Such facts are symbols of deeper facts, showing the place and power of Masonry in the making of a nation.

Along the Atlantic Coast, among the Great Lakes, in the Wilderness of the Middle West, in the far South and the far West, everywhere, in centers of populations and in little Upper Rooms on the Frontier; the Lodge stood alongside the Home, the School and the Church. Who can measure the influence, much less estimate the worth, of thousands of Masonic Altars in this land where, all down our history, men have met in the name of God and the moral law, seeking to create that influence and sentiment which gives law its authority and touches with intellectual and spiritual refinement the life of society! Only a pen endowed with more than earthly skill could trace such an influence and tell such a story.

As Freemasons we believe that the things that made our Republic great in the past - made it not only possible, but powerful - are the things that will make it still greater in the future. A great English editor recently wrote an article asking the question, what has made America great? Not its rich resources, he said, because other lands - Russia, for example - are equally rich. Nor is it intelligence and enterprise of our people, because others are also intelligent. No, what has made America great, he said, is its form of govern-

FRATRIBUS IN UNITATE BROTHERS IN UNITY//

Continued on page 5

Masonic Birthdays

Brother Nathan Malcolm Barrey - July 18, 1945 (MAHOVA)
Brother Stanley William Brooks - July 23, 1945
Brother Robert Albert Clawson - July 23, 2003
Brother Danny Allen Greene - July 10, 1992
Wor. Brother William Amos Hall - July 13, 1973
Wor. Brother Francis Yowell Hudson (PDDGM) July 3, 1965
Brother Kermit W. Nichols - July 21, 1965

Brother Thomas E. Patteson, III - July 19, 1989
Brother James Edward Pomeroy, III - July 26, 1995
Brother Randolph Ernest Ramey, Jr. - July 21, 1982
Brother Joel David Ratliff, II, - July 19, 2003
Brother John Casey Struckman - July 30, 1997
Brother James Edward Swindell - July 19, 2003
Brother Billy Frank Thomas - July 19, 1989
Brother Bennie Francis Wilson - July 25, 1981

Living Past Masters:

1963 - Wor. William Newton Wood
1968 - RW Ward Easton Myers, Jr.
1975 - Wor. Ronald Grant McManus, Jr.
1977 - Wor. Edward William Ahlers
1978 - Wor. Harry Wesley Hammack, Jr.
1979 - Wor. William Amos Hall
1982 - Wor. Darryl E. Windham, Jr.
1985 - Wor. Robert Keith McMillen
1991 - Wor. Timothy Darr
1993 - Wor. Raymond Mickey Moats
1995 - RW Charles Randal Seaford
1998 - RW Arthur Alvin Heiserman
1999 - Wor. Charles Edward Davis
2001 - Wor. David Martin Zuckerman
2002 - RW Scott Douglas Cabazolo

2004 - Wor. Robert Mitchell Cairnes
2005 - Wor. Neil Gene Lilly
2007 - Wor. Darryl Bowser
2008 - Wor. Larry Lee Adams, II
2009 - RW Joel David Ratliff, Sr.
2010 - RW Kevin Joseph Davidson
2011 - RW Kevin Joseph Davidson
2012 - RW Scott Douglas Cabazolo

Living PDDGM:

1985 - RW Ward Easton Myers, Jr.
2001 - RW Arthur Alvin Heiserman
2003 - RW Charles Randal Seaford
2005 - RW Scott Douglas Cabazolo
2007 - RW Kevin Joseph Davidson
2010 - RW George Oscar Glavis

Royal Arch Chapter

High Priest
Message:

Regular stat-
ed meeting
August 19th,
7:30p.m.

Consider this companions.

What have I done with my
masonry? Have I applied the p
principles of masonry to every ar-
ea of life?

- H. Wes Hammack H.P.



Secretary's Message

Brethren!

Well, that long awaited summer is upon us. Mark your calendars now for the fun times to come and the business we have to conduct. Remember your family and bring them when you can.

Coming up soon is a Master Masons Degree on the 17th at PM Help impress the candidate with as many as possible on the side lines. Master and Wardens is July 23rd. at Fork Union Ritual School beginning on July 28 thru August 1, 2013.



Watch for the District Three Picnic on September 21st, come prepared to donate much needed blood at the picnic. Keep your eyes open and ears tuned for more great activities in District Three, and especially Unity Lodge.

Have A Great Summer.

S/F

Charles R. Seaford PDDGM

Stated Agenda

6:30 PM

Dinner in the Stewart C. Payne Social Hall, \$10.00

7:30

Open Master Masons Lodge

7:45

Call the Craft from Labor to Refreshment and invite in our guests

7:50

Featured Speaker:

Mr. Matthew Seelinger, Chief Historian/Editor, *On Point* Army Historical Foundation, Presenting "The History of Veterans"

8:20 PM

"The Missing Man Ceremony"
Presented by American Legion
Post 53

8:35 PM

"Why the American Flag is
Folded 13 Times"

8:45 PM

"Build a Flag Program"
– Wor. Bro. Charles Edward Davis

9:00 PM

Allow our guests to retire and call the Craft from Refreshment to Labor.

9:00 PM

Administrative Matters:
Brother Secretary "Clear Your Desk"
Treasurer Report
Committee Reports
Business Matters – Old/New
Lodge Scholarship

9:30 PM

Close Master Masons Lodge



Message from the Order of the Eastern Star

Sisters and Brothers,

Hope this newsletter finds you well and ready for the summer. As most of you may know, we canceled our meeting in June due to potential hazardous weather. Our meeting on July 5th will be productive and fun.

We just hit another milestone! Front Royal Chapter No. 6 is now in their 97th year. Our past and present members have made our Chapter a continuing success and we look forward to celebrating our **100th anniversary in three years.**

Sister Ginny Ayers has sent out tickets to be sold by our line officers and other members for our annual Pork BBQ dinner. The dinner will be held on **Sunday, August 11th**. (Prep day, is Saturday, August 10th). Everyone is invited to participate and enjoy the excellent BBQ! Contact the Worthy Matron if you would like a meal.

A school of instruction is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. before our stated meeting on **July 5th**. Refreshments will be provided by Sister Carolyn and Brother Marty Riggleman.

The Official Visit will be **Saturday, September 28th, 2013 at 2:00p.m. The Masonic Temple in Front Royal. The address is 438 Skyline Vista Drive, Front Royal, Virginia, 22630. (The old address was 71 Masonic Drive, but was recently changed).**

There will be a planning session to discuss the official visit. The Worthy Matrons of District 19, would like to invite the Worthy Patrons, Associate Matrons and Patrons, Secretaries, PGM and PGP of our district and our Assistant Lecturer, Sister Margaret Yates to attend. More information will be e-mailed to the invitees.

Sandy J. Ratliff, Worthy Matron Joel D. Ratliff, Sr., Worthy Patron

Masonic Humor

A postman, on his route, picked up a letter from a mailbox that was addressed to God. The postman seeing that the letter was not sealed, and there being no postage on it, opened and read it.

It was from a man who was down on his luck and was asking God for help. The letter asked for \$50 to get his family through the next week.

The postman, being a Mason, took the letter to Lodge that evening, read it, and asked for donations for the unfortunate fellow. The Masons, wanting to help, took up a collection, and received twenty five dollars from the brethren. The Secretary placed the cash in a Lodge envelope, and gave it to the postman to deliver the following day, which he did. Another day passed, and the postman again found an unsealed letter in the mailbox addressed to God.

Again he opened and read the letter, which thanked God for the money, but instructed him to send it through the Knights of Columbus next time as the Masons kept half.



2013 Officers

Dennis Mark Haas
Worshipful Master

Stephen Craig Wheeler
Treasurer

Luther William Wheat
Junior Deacon

Cory Bradford Michael
Junior Steward

Melton Jewell Roland, Jr.
Senior Warden

Charles Randal Seaford
Secretary

Larry MacRae Funk
Chaplain

Edward Neal Powell, Jr.
Marshal

Harry Wesley Hammack, Jr.
Junior Warden

Joseph Paul Plazio
Senior Deacon

Joseph Embree
Senior Steward

Edward Neal Powell, Sr.
Tiler

Find us on
Facebook
www.Facebook.com/UnityLodge146



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Front Royal, Virginia 22630
Permit No. 140

Unity Lodge No. 146 A.F. & A.M.
Post Office Box 1855
Front Royal, Virginia 22630
Return Services Requested

