

Trestleboard

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

April 2015

Master's Message

Greetings from the East,

Brethren, thank you for attending and making our March stated a success. The program presented by the D.E.O. on President and brother Gerald Ford Was both informative and entertaining.

On March 11th Bro. Yevgeny Pembertov was raised and Welcomed into Unity Lodge. On March 18th an entered apprentice lodge was held and Mr. Charles O'Keefe was initiated , we now have three entered apprentice's working.

Brethren you do not want to miss the April 1st stated meeting program to be presented by Wor. Bro. Art Candanquist. The program is titled Befriend and Relieve Every Brother, Free Masonry under Two Flags.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm on April 1st. A Blood drive will be held on April 26th from noon till 4pm. Please do not forget the last Saturday breakfast the 25th of April.

A reminder please check your dues cards as all 2015 dues are due as well as any past years still unpaid.

*Sincerely & Fraternally,
Harry Wesley Hammack
Worshipful Master*



Events

APRIL 1

Dinner (\$10)
Stewart C Payne
Social Hall
6:30

Stated Communication
7:30 pm

APRIL 10

Order of the Eastern
Star # 6
7:30 pm

APRIL 17

Hiram Royal Arch
Chapter No. 45
Stated Convocation
7:30 pm

MARCH 25

Last Saturday
Breakfast
Stewart C Payne
Social Hall
8:00 am

APRIL 26

Blood Drive
Unity Lodge
12 pm - 4: 00 pm

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Masonic Birthdays

Henry Wilson Addington	April 11, 1947	Shane O. Lympus	April 19, 1995
Ronkieth Kirtly	April 12, 1967	Mark Timothy Wier	April 21, 2007
Christopher Allen Vaught	April 13, 2005	Timothy Todd Whipkey	April 21, 2007
Frank Edward White	April 13, 2005	Earnest Lee Thompson	April 23, 1975
John F. Ewell	April 17, 1967	Kenneth Val Post	April 27, 2005

Living Past Masters:

1963 - Wor. William Newton Wood
1968 - RW Ward Easton Myers, Jr.
1975 - Wor. Ronald Grant McManus, Sr.
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
2013 - Wor. Dennis Mark Haas
2014 - Wor. Melton Roland, Jr.

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
2013 - RW Joel David Ratliff

our standard works and lectures, our constitution and our etiquette. This sets us apart from other organizations. Though there are Masons today who would look to doing away with certain parts of the ritual, such as the Middle chamber Lecture, or how we enter a Lodge room. "I recently read a suggestion by a Mason who is an AGL that we should do away with approaching the altar when coming into or leaving a Lodge after it has been opened and saluting the Sr. Warden when one need to leave the Lodge room during degree work". This is the kind of thinking that cheapens the Fraternity and I expect that the Brothers of this Lodge would strive to execute the proper Masonic Etiquette due not only to the Lodge itself but also to his Lodge Brothers. I know that many of us have seen members act un-Masonically toward another Brother. That is because we are human and as humans we will constantly make mistakes. Still we must strive to build our temples and seek perfection. One avenue that can be used to achieve this goal is through respect or etiquette. Remember to subdue your passions and improve yourself in Masonry is probably the most difficult tasks as Masons we are obligated to perform. I particularly direct this essay to my newly raised Brethren, the most un-nerving thing for me to see is a Past Master or Past Grand Lodge Officer address the Worshipful Master while he remains seated and not on the sign of fidelity. How can we fault our newly raised Masons who see this un-courteous behavior and repeat the same thinking that it is

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Masonic Etiquette

by R. W. Alfonso Serrano , Aurora Grata-Day Star Lodge No. 647, New York

The Masonic Fraternity exists in today world as the oldest existing fraternity in the world. It shares the fraternal stage with many other different and similar organizations such as the Loyal Order of The Moose, The Elks, The Knights of Columbus, The International Order of Odd Fellows, The Fraternal Order of The Eagles, The Mechanics, and the Fraternal Order of Foresters to name a few. The one thing that sets us apart from most if not all of these organizations is our Ritual and our tradition both written and spoken. One of the most important aspects of our traditional history is our Masonic Etiquette.

Masonic Etiquette belongs to the empire of good manners, together with certain concepts peculiar to Freemasonry. We all

should practice etiquette because of its power to help maintain harmony. It is a form of courtesy to the individual members and a manifestation of respect to the Craft. Harmony is the first law of the Lodge and the Worshipful Master of his Brethren demands it when he declares the Lodge open. " I now declare the Lodge duly opened and in order for business, at the same time forbidding any idle, immoral or other un-Masonic conduct where by the Harmony of the same may be disturbed".

The dictionary defines Etiquette as follows: "The forms and practices prescribed by social convention or by authority, or, the established rule of procedure and ceremony in a court or in any official or other body". I am a believer in

the norm. To the newly raised Brother should you make this mistake and are corrected by another Brother do not be distracted by his zeal for this Brother practices Masonic Etiquette. Brother Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "if good manners were lost, it would be necessary for the next gentleman to re-discover them". This applies in full force to Masonic Etiquette; without it our Fraternity would be impossible. Where a group of Masons act as a unit, as in a Lodge Communication, etiquette takes the form of proper decorum. Loud talk, restless moving about, laughter, smoking, flippancy, irreverence toward the Worshipful Master and other constituted officers of the Lodge, passing between the Altar and the East, omission of the sign of fidelity, giving no heed to the business at hand, improper entering and leaving. No man needs to consult a book of etiquette in order to accept the fact that such indecorous behavior is dangerous to the harmony of the Lodge. It is in such an atmosphere that ill will and hard feelings, not to mention the more serious menace of splits and feuds, are most likely to take root to the great danger of the Craft. A worshipful Master who permits the intrusion of such indecorum is not faithful to the duties of his office.

The following are what I consider some of the important rule of etiquette, which you should commit to memory Addressing the Chair or Worshipful Master: The rules of order in Freemasonry do not permit discussion, during a communication, among the Brethren. The Brother who has anything to say to the Lodge, whether it be to enter discussion or to make or second a motion, must rise to his feet, give the sign, wait to be recognized by the Master, speak directly to the Master. He must also remain on the sign of Fidelity until seated.

Altar: No Brother shall pass between the Altar and the East while the Lodge

is at Labor, except when required to do so by ritualistic performance. The Great Lights are the particular responsibility of the Worshipful Master; no Brother should ever obscure his view of them.

Anteroom: As soon as a Brother enters a Masonic hall to attend a Communication he comes under the sway of Masonic Etiquette. If he is late, he should not indulge in loud talking that may be heard in the Lodge. His demeanor toward other Brethren, whom he may meet there, should be courteous and respectful—there as well as elsewhere, Masonry does not give any man, license to take personal liberties with another! This is especially true if any candidates are present are present waiting their call to the preparation room; to give the impression that vulgar conduct, levity, practical joking, or other forms of disrespect are countenanced by the Craft as a misrepresentation of the Lodge.

Apron: When wearing clothing that would conceal the apron, always wear the apron on the outside of the garment, except when wearing a formal cut-away (tails). A Grand Lodge Officer should always wear the apron of his office. Not only to pay proper respect to the Lodge or Grand Lodge, but also as a means to identify the office he holds or the highest office held, except when filling an office in the advancing line of Lodge Officers. At Masonic memorial Services, all Lodge Officers and Brethren, regardless of station shall be clothed in white aprons.

Ballot: The Grand Lodge Constitutions make discussion of the ballot a Masonic Offense. Except for the Holy Bible, the ballot is the most sacred thing in the Lodge. Every Mason owes to his Lodge the duty of protecting it against poor material, and every Mason owes to every petitioner a fair ballot, which is the only protection a petitioner has against unfair discrimination and unreasonable prejudice.

"Brother" is a title: In the usage's of Freemasonry, "Brother" is neither a sentimental nor familiar form of address but is a title—as much so as Worshipful, Very Worshipful, Right Worshipful and Most Worshipful, and must always be used as such. A man does not attend attend a Lodge Communication in his capacity as a private individual; he is not Joe, or Bill, or John. He is there in his capacity as Master Mason, and for this reason, one should refer to "John Doe" as "Brother Doe" in the same literal sense as any other officer in Lodge or Grand Lodge.

Discussion in Lodge: Many Lodge proposals are decided by ballot because the business of Masonry is so democratically managed. The discussion of such proposals and business in Lodge has a large importance and must be safeguarded lest it be corrupted into argument or degenerate into a conflict of personalities; in other word, discussion also has its etiquette. Etiquette for the Fraternity is set forth with great weight and feeling in the old charges found in our constitutions. Regulations governing discussion in Grand Lodge are prescribed in the Rules of Order, printed with the Constitutions; regulations for discussion in Lodge are imbedded here and there in the Constitutions, are stated in Lodge By-laws, and elsewhere. They all belong to a prescribed mode of conduct defined as Masonic Etiquette, especially in our discussions. There are three great prohibitions in all Masonic discussions: All sectarian discussion, all argument or statement pro or con as to the merits of politics, of any given religion or theological creed, of racial questions, of private business, or of any other non-Masonic subject by which men are divided into classes, feuds, schisms, or are opposed on sectarian issues, is at all times forbidden. It is strictly forbidden to discuss a petitioner (other than to read his petition and indicate whether the report of the

Royal Arch Chapter

Companions,

I hope this message finds each of you and your family well.

Your chapter remains busy conferring degrees and our district is experiencing steady growth. We will assist in conferring the Holy Royal Arch Degree on Saturday, April 18th at 8:30 am in Luray, VA. Please come out and support the candidates and degree cast.

As one of our goals this year is educating not only ourselves in our ritual but to provide education to our Blue Lodge Master Masons, we will be presenting the Royal Arch Chapter "Do you know?" 27 questions at Spurmont Lodge No. 98 in Strasburg and at Rockingham-Union Lodge No. 27 in Harrisonburg on Monday, April 6th. I encourage you to visit either of these lodges that evening and wear your red jacket..

As we focus on our membership, your chapter has received new petitions. We hope to begin conferring the degrees again in May. We need your help!!! Learn a part, wear a jewel, or show your support from the sideline.

If you have not had the opportunity to attend a meeting to hear the program on our charities, I encourage you to. The Alzheimer's Association, Project Life Saver, and The Memory Unit at our Masonic Home are our focus. Please contribute as liberally as you can to these very important programs.

I look forward to seeing you at our April stated convocation on Friday, April 17th at 7:30 pm. Until then, be safe and may the Lord bless you and keep you.

*Holiness to the Lord,
Ex. Glenn Edward Mayes
High Priest
Hiram RAC No. 45*

Befriend & Relieve Every Brother: Freemasons Under Two Flags

By Arthur Candenquist

In 1860, the mood of the people of the United States was explosive, as factions in the North and the South focused on the current events of the day and clamored for a war which might guarantee the independence of a confederation of Southern states and complete disunion of the country. Just as adamant in the North were factions which demanded the end to slavery and states' rights, and clamored for war as a means to preserve the Union.

Just as determined to maintain peace and unity were men of the North and of the South who were banded together in the fraternity of Freemasonry. While often supporting the causes in each section of the

country which drove the events of the day. Freemasons in the North and South worked just as hard to prevent disunion and war, and further the ideals and precepts of Freemasonry. Their only creed was the Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God.

Through narrative and slides, Arthur Candenquist explains the background of the Masonic fraternity, and presents the story of the Freemasons on both sides who worked to maintain peace and harmony in the country, and then, when war was a reality, these men supported the causes in which they believed, yet never forgot that Masons North and South



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Stated Agenda

6:30 PM

Dinner

Stewart C. Payne Social Hall

\$10.00

7:30 PM

Open Master Masons Lodge

7:45 PM

Introductions

8:00 PM

Administrative Matters

8:30 PM

Program

9:00 PM

Close Master Masons Lodge



were true brothers in the fraternity and entitled to all the rights and privileges accorded Freemasons. We will also look at actual incidents of the War, where soldier-Masons on both sides rendered aid and assistance without respect to uniform or flag.

Both sides saw the establishment of Masonic military lodges, where Freemasons could continue to practice the rituals and business of the fraternity away from their home lodges.

And when peace finally returned in 1865, Freemasons on both sides worked just as hard to bind up the Nation's wounds and get on with the business of reunification.

investigating Committee is favorable or unfavorable), and for a Mason to reveal how he has voted, or in any way to seek to persuade members to vote one way or another. All offensive personal remarks, all expressions of bitterness or ill will and all or any slurs upon the Lodge or its Officers, Grand Lodge or its Officers, and the Fraternity itself, and all flippant, unseemly, or discourteous remarks addressed to the Lodge or to its officers, are condemned alike by the principals of common courtesy and etiquette and by the disciplinary laws of the Craft.

Dress (Attire): The matter of attire depends entirely upon circumstances and is a point Grand Lodge leaves to each constituent Lodge to decide, though much may be said in favor of formal attire, since it is a mark of respect to the Fraternity. One thing is certain: if any of the officers are required to wear formal attire, all of the officers should wear it without exception; and if he and his colleagues wear it, the Worshipful master should use a hat to correspond—not a soft

hat, a straw hat, or cap. The members will dress according to private taste—normally a jacket with tie—and it is proper that they enter the Lodge room with apron properly arranged beforehand, and any other regalia, jewels etc., in due order. There is a philosophy in dress, as in so many other things, and the dress proper to Masonic occasion is no exception. Its principle is good taste; its practice is to wear such attire as a show of respect to the Brotherhood and expresses the dignity of Masonry.

In closing I want to pass on a story I heard while attending one of the Deputy Grand Master's Task Force Committee meetings, on the subject of pride one of the members recalled an incident that happened one Sunday while attending Mass. The priest announced that right after the Mass the local Knights of Columbus where going to have their public installation of officers. His curiosity was flamed and he stayed behind to observe the installation and compare it to a Masonic Installation of Officers. To his surprise he was the only one who stayed behind to observe the installation. To his greater shock he wit-

nessed Council officers turning out for a public installation in tee shirts, shorts and sneakers. They had no idea of what the floor work was supposed to be and the actual installation itself seemed to be ad-lib. After the presentation the parish priest who knew him to be a Freemason asked him "I hope you Masons have it more together than the K. of. C." of which he assured him that we most certainly did. This is a serious example of pride. Would you turn out as an officer for a public installation in a tee shirt, shorts and sneakers? Could the reason that no one stayed behind to see the installation be that they have previously seen it and saw no pride in this organization? Masonic Etiquette instills pride, yet pride is something that you have to have within, because if you have pride in this Fraternity it shows without.



2015 Officers

Harry (Wes) Hammack, Jr.

Worshipful Master

Stephen Craig Wheeler

Treasurer

Ray Nourha

Junior Deacon

Junior Griffith

Junior Steward

Joseph (Jeph) Embree

Senior Warden

Kevin Paul Walek

Secretary

Charles Seaford

Chaplain

Edward Bull

Marshal

Webster (Wes) Theodore Cameron

Junior Warden

Kevin McCullough

Senior Deacon

Jerome Meehan

Senior Steward

Henry (Hank) Elith Larsen, Jr.

Tiler

visit our web site at

<http://www.unity146.org>

and our Facebook page for updated
calendar events and degree work.



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Facebook

www.Facebook.com/UnityLodge146

