

December 2019 Trestle Board for Unity Lodge No. 146

Brethren,

Happy Thanksgiving Brothers. I hope this holiday finds you surrounded by family and friends.

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee requested me to *“recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.”*

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.

-George Washington

So Mote It Be.

Toys for Tots

In the lobby you will find a box for donations of toys for the less fortunate children in our community. The toys will be collected after our December stated communication on December 4th. Please bring a new and unwrapped toy for a boy or girl, or both on your next visit to our Lodge. Never pass up and opportunity to bring joy to a child's life.

Masonic Youth Organizations

The young men of the Shenandoah Valley Chapter of the DeMolay initiated two new Brothers this month. This brings their members up to seven, however they still need six more to become a true Chapter and not just a DeMolay Club. Again, if you know any young men which you think could benefit from the lessons which our fraternity holds so dear, please let them know of the opportunity which the SVCD can provide.

If any of the Brothers have any old ties which they no longer have need, think on donating them to the Chapter for these young men. It would be of great help for them.

POC - Brother Bob Nickols (443) 926-1773 or Rnickols@yahoo.com

New Members of Unity Lodge

We have one new petition that we are expecting to vote on at the next stated communication. If successful we will be scheduling an EA degree hopefully in December, if not January after the holidays. Brother Eric Broom will receive his Fellowship Degree at Hunter Lodge on 11/27, please join us their to support our Brother.

Fraternally,

Charles Taggart

Worshipful Master, Unity Lodge No. 146

Ho Companions,

Thanksgiving is upon us and soon will be Christmas. This Thanksgiving I ask that you reflect on the many blessings that our Lord and Savior has blessed you with. As I write this December message to you, I am reminded of a brother who lost his daughter in a vehicle crash several months ago. This tragic loss has greatly effected him and his family and he struggles with this loss every day. He tries to see the good, but cannot! He is angry with God! How could God let such a tragic event happen? How can he be thankful? My Companions, we all have our demons to deal with. We all have suffered through the loss of a loved one. How did you cope with it? How did you move forward? We need to always to stretch forth our hand to sustain a falling brother, to remember a brother's welfare as our own, and whisper good council in his ear. Do you live by these tenants or do you get caught up in your own life events? I ask that you take time each day to thank God for your many blessings, to pray for your family, friends, and brethren. We never know what tomorrow brings. Let us use our time wisely, let us be a positive influence in our family and community. Let us think before we speak. Let us live the life that our Lord and Savior will reply to us, "well done thy good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things, enter now into the joy of thy Lord."

Please join with me as we congratulate our 199th Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Raymond Douglas Steele, Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia on his election and installation during the Grand Annual Convocation in Williamsburg this past weekend. ME Ray is a fine and upstanding mason and community leader. Please join us for a meet and greet on Saturday, December 7th at the Front Royal Masonic Temple located at 438 Skyline Vista Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630 from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

I also want to congratulate our new District Deputy Grand High Priest and our Grand Almoner, Rt. Ex Jason Curtis "Jake" Trenary as he will be the personal representative of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in Capitular District No. 15 for the ensuing year. He should be congratulated on his efforts in leading Royal Arch Masons in Virginia to a very successful year in our donations to the Alzheimer Association.

Let us all congratulate Ex Companion Charles Harmon, District 15 Almoner, as he led the effort this past year and was recognized at Grand Chapter with the number 1 District in our charitable donations. Great Job Companion Charles!

As I close out this message, I ask that you contemplate your own purpose in life and that you rededicate yourself to living the tenants of Freemasonry; Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love. As always Companions, I personally invite you to reengage with your Royal Arch Chapter, we need you to attend and be an active participant in your organization, Freemasonry IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT.

In His Name, I am;

Rt. Ex. Dennis M. Haas, PDDGHP
High Priest, Hiram RAC No. 45
Front Royal Masonic Temple
Front Royal, VA
540-539-8917

DECEMBER 2019 BLUE LODGE ACTIVITIES AT UNITY LODGE NO. 146

12/04 – Unity Stated Communication, Dinner @ 630p followed by Meeting @ 730p. Election and Installation of Officers.

12/11 & 12/18 – Blue Lodge Ritual Practice @ 630p (No practice on 12/25)

12/28 – Unity Lodge Breakfast @ 8a

DECEMBER 2019 NON-BLUE LODGE ACTIVITIES AT UNITY LODGE NO. 146

12/06 – Order of the Eastern Star #6 @ 7p

12/10 & 12/24 – Shenandoah Valley DeMolay @ 630p

12/20 – RAC Hiram #45 @ 730p

12/28 – Sojourners Meeting @ 8a

2019 DATES TO “KEEP ON YOUR RADAR”

12/07 – Reception of the Grand High Priest @ RAC Hiram No. 45 @ 3p

12/07 – Spurmont Lodge No. 98 open Installation of Officers @ 2p.

12/10 – Washington Lodge No. 78 tiled Installation of Officers @ 730p.

12/14 – Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21 open Installation of Officers @ 1p.

12/21 – Treadwell Lodge No. 213 open Installation of Officers @ 630p.

01/11 – Joint Unity Pot Luck Dinner

