

November 2020

438 Skyline Vista Drive
Front Royal, VA 22630

www.Unity146.org

Unity Lodge No. 146

Chartered March 1870

Trestleboard



Behold how good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in Unity!
- Psalms 133.1 -

UPCOMING DATES

11/04 – Unity 146 Stated Communication @ 730p. **NO MEAL WILL BE SERVED**

11/05 – Thermal Shelter Dinner provided/served by Unity 146 @ 7p.

11/11, 11/18 and 11/25 – Blue Lodge Ritual Practice @ 630p

11/28 – Unity Lodge Breakfast @ 8a – **CANCELED**

11/03 – Luray Commandery #19 – @ 730p

11/06 – Order of the Eastern Star #6 @ 7p

11/20 – RAC Hiram #45 @ 730p

11/10 & 11/24 – Shenandoah Valley DeMolay @ 630p – **TBD**

11/28 – Sojourners Meeting @ 8a – **TBD**

TRAVELING MAN

No Official Visits

A Dues increase / By-Laws change will be voted on during the November 4th Stated Communication.

It is proposed to increase the current annual dues of \$117 by \$8 to \$125 to off set raising costs for Lodge upkeep and utilities.

Redefining the Three Great Pillars

Bro. Thomas J. Williams
Triangle Lodge No. 1
Portland, Maine

As an Entered Apprentice, we learn that a Lodge's supports are the Three Great Pillars: Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. The lecture states:

"Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty are said to support a Lodge because it is necessary there should be wisdom to contrive, strength to support, and beauty to adorn all great and important undertakings."

While I agree these are the Lodge supports, what if we were to redefine and give the pillars further meaning?

A reflection of my time in the Craft, traveling experiences, and exploring more light on my own, I've attributed other things to these three pillars to support a Lodge: Education, Fellowship, and Ritual.

Education - We should always be in pursuit of more light in Masonry. Over and over again, I've seen lodges confer degrees and continue business without spending a bit of time sharing knowledge amongst the Brethren. If we're a fraternity that is taking good men and making them better, how is it happening? It doesn't need to be rigid like a college course; it should be fun and beneficial! Listening to a podcast



episode, reading a paper related to a Masonic topic, or just gathering to have a free-flowing discussion about thoughts behind our symbols and ceremonies can invigorate a lodge. This is an opportunity to reach out to our Brothers we haven't seen in a while and keep the new Brothers who are eager to learn more. Education should NEVER be discounted.

Fellowship - We are the world's oldest Fraternity, connecting men of different backgrounds and cultures. Whether inside or outside of the Lodge, there should be an opportunity to build and expand these connections. I don't know about you, but I didn't join to only confer degrees, read minutes, and pay bills. I want to feel genuine relations built with the men around me and the community we live in. Fellowship can take different forms: going out to a pub with Brothers and their families, an intellectual evening exploring the esoteric concepts of the world, rehearsing for degrees, and participating in community events. There are plenty of ways to get the ball rolling. At the end of the day, one should feel comfortable enough to approach someone else

without anxiety about how the conversation may go because there's little relationship there.

Ritual - The ceremonies to bring candidates into the Craft are beautiful. We should strive to provide the best to our new brothers. While word-for-word presentations of the ritual are great, it's not about reciting a novel to the new initiate. There should be meaning behind the presentation. Bringing it back to education, it's also essential to understand the ritual and not recite it.

While these are just my own musings on supports of a lodge, I think an honest reflection on these three areas within your Lodge may prompt a discussion on how to adjust how things have always been done to how things could be to make the Masonic experience better.



Hiram Royal Arch Chapter

No. 45



Order of the Eastern Star

No. 6



Unity Lodge No. 146
AF & AM

Shenandoah Valley Chapter
of the DeMolay



Luray Commandery

No. 19



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2020 Unity Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master -	Charles William Taggart
Senior Warden -	William Allen Bryan
Junior Warden -	Robert Fred Nickols, Jr.
Treasurer -	Harry Wesley Hammack, Jr.
Secretary -	Kevin Paul Walek
Senior Deacon -	Raymond Christof Nuhra
Junior Deacon -	George Elbie Money
Chaplain -	Luther William Wheat
Marshal -	Junior Franklin Griffith
Tiler -	Edward Neal Powell, Jr.



If you were not at the Habitat build on October 17th, then you missed out on a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the community and eat donuts. I would normally have a photo or two for this event, but we were so hard at work to stop to snap a photo. But do not fear, another build date is just around the corner. Stay tuned to your inboxes for more upcoming opportunities, or contact Bro. Scott Truax for more information.



As the seasons begin to change and the weather turns colder, please remember the less fortunate in our community. To this end, Unity Lodge, On Cue and the Virginia Beer Museum will have donation boxes available for coats, sweat clothes and socks. If you find it within your means, please contribute as liberally as you can to this cause.

Unity Lodge has also agreed to provide a monthly meal for the Thermal Shelter beginning on November 5th. If you are able to assist in this endeavor, please contact Bro. Will Bryan to sign up.

Originally appeared in Tied to
Masonic Apron Strings, Missouri
Lodge of Research, 1969.



**Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Virginia
Masonic Community Blood Program**

Units Collected	% of Membership Strength
20	16%