

**December 2021**

**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

**12/01** – Unity 146 Stated Communication @ 730p.

**12/08, 12/15 & 12/22** – Blue Lodge Ritual Practice @ 630p

**Canceled due to Holiday**– Unity Lodge Breakfast @ 8a

**12/07** – RAC Hiram #45 @ 7p

**12/07** – Luray Commandery #19 – @ 8p

**12/03** – Order of the Eastern Star #6 @ 7p

**12/14& 12/28** – Shenandoah Valley DeMolay @ 630p – **TBD**

**TBD** – Sojourners Meeting @ 8a

### TRAVELING MAN

**TBD**

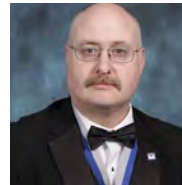
Please join us at our December stated communication for our election of Officers for 2022.

## Message from the Master

Brethren,

As I am about to leave the East, I would like to thank everyone for the backing which I have been given over the past three years as Master of our Lodge. It has been a most unique time for our Lodge, our Craft and our Country as a whole, but through it all I have had your support and guidance. I know that I would not have been able to have accomplished all that we have without the help of everyone, but most particularly Brothers Bill, Wes, Kevin, Will and Bob. I owe those brothers a debt, that I will never be able to repay, but will attempt to do so by sharing their love of the craft with others.

Over the past three years, to include our Lodge's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I had the occasion to oversee many wonderful opportunities which



were presented to the Lodge. Unity Lodge No. 146 has partnered with the Warren County Habitat for Humanity, the Warren County thermal shelter, the Warren County Sheriff's Office as it pertains to the annual youth football camp, we have begun a terry bear fund for first responders and paid the lunch debt for hundreds of children in the county. Also, in celebration of our anniversary, we were able to conduct a quarry lodge bringing us back to the roots of our craft. All these accomplishments were made during lockdowns due to a worldwide pandemic. Just imagine what the future holds for us as we come out of this storm.

However, with all these measures, by far the event which I will hold closest to my heart was when I was given the opportunity to present my father with his 50<sup>th</sup> year pin for his years in Masonry. I am so glad that I was able to share that moment with my brothers. It is not something that anyone in attendance will soon forget. Finally, I want to thank the brethren for tolerating my last indulgence of being Master, as I had Worshipful Hammock re-obligate me as a Master Mason.

Thank you to everyone and thank you all for my parting gift. It is the most unique Past Master gift that I have seen yet.

God Bless,  
Charles

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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**Congratulations to the 3rd Masonic District's own  
Most Worshipful James Winfield Golladay, Jr.  
The 176th Grandmaster of Masons in Virginia**



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# Unity Lodge No. 146

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## Trestleboard



*Hiram Royal Arch Chapter No. 45  
Trestleboard for December 2021  
R. E. Dennis M. Haas, High Priest*

Companions,

I hope this message finds you and your family healthy, happy, and safe. It's hard to believe Christmas time is upon us. This month we will celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ and The Christmas Story. You can follow along by referencing the story from the Gospel of Matthew 1:18-25, and 2:1-12.

*"This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*

*But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."*

*All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").*

*When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus."*

**Royal Arch Education question?**

**What is the duty of the Grand Master of the First Veil?**

To be discussed at our December convocation.

Our December stated will be on **Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup>**. You are invited to attend the Christmas Observance hosted by Luray Commandery No. 19 starting at **6:00 pm** in the social hall. If you wish to join us, please contact Companion and Sir Knight Dennis G. Parmerter at 585-880-6426 or email [parmdeb@gmail.com](mailto:parmdeb@gmail.com). A meal is being planned and will be served; we just need to know you are attending. Chapter will open at 7:00 pm and Commandery will follow. The Christmas Observance Program will serve as our Chapter program for the evening.

**I leave you with this prayer:**

**The Lord's Prayer of the Old Testament, Numbers 6:24-26**

**"May the Lord bless thee and keep thee.**

**May the Lord make his face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.**

**May the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace."**





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*From the Apartment of the Commander*

*Luray Commandery No. 19*

*Sir Knight Dennis M Haas, KCT, KYCH, OPC*

Sir Knights,

I write this December newsletter with the hope and prayer that you and your families are safe and healthy. As we all begin to normalize our daily routine and move beyond sickness and distress, I pray that you find peace, comfort, and strength.

As Knights Templar we aim to assist in defending the Christian faith and to advance Christian principles in all that we do. To emulate the selfless principles of our ancient for-bearers, and to provide a vehicle for Christian freemasons to actively engage in pursuing charities: enabling research that others may see, support that others may learn and opportunities that others may experience the Holy Land. Thus, by fraternal friendship and various crafts of self-enlightenment, we can pursue a better life to aid and assist others.

During the Christmas holiday, we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We find the story in Luke 2:1-14..."And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

Luray Commandery No. 19 will host the Chivalric District 4 Joint Christmas Observance Program on Tuesday, December 7th at the Front Royal Masonic Temple. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm followed by the program. All are encouraged and welcomed to attend. Our stated conclave will open at 8:00 pm for business.

I want to remind each Sir Knight that our 2022 annual dues are due to our Recorder, S.K. JD Davis, 17091 Timberview Drive, Timberville, VA 2853. If you have any questions, you may contact him at (540) 333-2006, or email: [ce-otsrs@gmail.com](mailto:ce-otsrs@gmail.com) by December 31, 2021. Please remit your payment soonest.

I encourage you to attend our dinners and stated conclaves. Your commandery needs your support. We want and desire the Christian fellowship with you. Don't worry that you don't have a uniform, or that you don't remember the tactics and ritual don't allow that to keep you away. If you are worried that night driving is an issue for you, contact me to arrange a ride. We will support you any way we can, we just want to hear from you.

*"For the Lord your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory." Deuteronomy 20:4*



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## The Night Before Christmas, Down At the Lodge

'Twas the Night before Christmas, and down at the Lodge  
Not a gavel was stirring, and in the hodge-podge

Of aprons and jewels and chairs East and West  
you could savor the silence, most gladly divest

All metal and mineral, it mattered not,  
since Christmas was high and the coals were still hot

In the hearth of your homestead, all Masons abed,  
as visions of trestle boards danced in their  
head;

When up on the roof there arose such a clatter,  
Our Tiler jumped up to see what was the matter!

He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,  
three knocks shook the panels - he wondered  
'What for?'

He answered the knocking with, raps of his own,  
and once the door opened he saw, with a moan

Of delight it was Santa, all jolly and red  
Except for one notable feature Instead!

Upon his large finger lie wore what we knew  
was compass and square on a background of  
blue!

'Why Santa!' he shouted and lowered his blade  
'I see you're a Mason!' the Tiler relayed.

He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair  
and said, voice near trembling, 'Most Worshipful there

Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!  
The Master replied, 'Let's allow him - but wait!

You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see  
His Apron beneath that red suit, can it be

Our visitor hasn't been properly raised?  
Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?

'I do beg your pardon,' old Santa said quick  
As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick

But a cane with, engraving, two balls did appear  
and oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!

Adorned like the Master' complete with a sign  
Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!

"Now let man enter," the Master declared,  
and once in the Lodge room the Brethren all stared,

For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen  
for many a century - there in between

The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar  
gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a  
dollar!

"It's Donner and Blitzen, who, I must confess  
Are actually images brought from the West

By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the  
world!"  
And with a great laugh from his bag he un-  
furled

An ear of fine corn and some oil from the east,  
"My friend I have plenty, tonight we will feast

On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"  
A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a  
stir,

As presents and promises flew from his sack  
This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack

For making this Christmas the best you could glean,  
And soon even Deacons were laughing, they'd seen

On this very night only happiness reigned!  
This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained

That only a Mason could be so inclined  
to make all kids happy, make all people find

A Christmas so special, yes, Santa was right!  
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!



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### 2021 Unity Lodge Officers

#### Teddy Bear Fund

This year we will attempt to implement a Teddy Bear fund for the First Responders in Warren County. This charitable campaign uses our donations to purchase teddy bears which will be given to children in crisis by our Sheriff Deputies, Police and Fire Fighters within our community. This project has been very successful for Winchester-Hiram Lodge as well as other Lodges in the area, and I know that it will do well here with your generosity. We will have a jar dedicated to the fund in Lodge, or you can send a check to our PO Box made out to Unity Lodge No. 146 with "TEDDYBEAR" written in the memo line.

Unity Lodge No. 146 AF&AM  
P.O. Box 1855  
Front Royal, VA 22630



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 Noughra
Junior Deacon -	Alan Scott Truax
Chaplain -	Richard Allen Baker
Marshal -	Junior Franklin Griffith
Tiler -	Edward Neal Powell, Jr.
Senior Steward -	Mark Butler
Junior Steward -	Cole Hasse

Units Collected for 2022

**140**

% of Membership Strength

**126.13%**



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



Custom Bobblehead  
presented to  
WM Charles Taggart  
as he leaves the East.