



UNION LODGE # 3 A. F. & A. M. OF OREGON

PO Box 453 McMinnville, OR 97128

MASONIC NEWS & TRESTLEBOARD January 2016

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Tidings from the East!

"Enlightenment is man's release from his self-incurred tutelage. Tutelage is man's inability to make use of his understanding without direction from another. Self-incurred is this tutelage when its cause lies not in lack of reason but in lack of resolution and courage to use it without direction from another. Sapere aude! 'Have courage to use your own reason!' - that is the motto of enlightenment."

-Immanuel Kant, 18th Century German Philosopher; an excerpt from "Answering the Question: What is Enlightenment?"

Good day Ancient Craftsmen!

Union Lodge is off to a grand start, brothers standing side by side, unified, on the level, and venturing into the unknown regions of our minds together! In January, we all discussed the future and direction that we as Masons will be heading. We discussed the changes that we are experiencing internally, as well as the influence we want to have externally on the community around us. Committees were assigned to assist in the smooth operation of our Lodge, and yet again we had discussion on these topics. The Brothers of the School Outreach Program presented some thoughts, and the Lodge again spoke up.

As your Worshipful Master, last month I called for brothers both old and new, to stand proud and let their thoughts and ideas be heard. My brothers, you have made me proud! The participation and enthusiasm I saw on the floor was one of the strongest I have seen at any Lodge during my time as a Mason. Keep up this enthusiasm and never be afraid to speak and be heard. Many great discussions of the modern age have occurred within the four walls of the Masonic Lodges. Let's not let that tradition die!

To bring up the School Outreach Program once more – last month we had many good ideas spoken in Lodge and I called for this topic to be held until February. I have been at work behind the scenes gathering information and preparing to set things in motion, however I am still very much interested in hearing more thoughts. Education has always been an important topic among Masons, and we as custodians of enlightenment should never lose sight of that. Bring your ideas of this topic, and others, to Lodge this month and let's continue our discussions.

February will see the first submission of an enlightenment topic

given to the Brothers of Union Lodge by no other than our very own Senior Warden – Brother Matt Gerbrandt. Brother Senior Warden has also submitted a written introduction on the following page. Submissions like his will be a new feature going forward. Remember, should you want to share an original submission with the readers of the Trestleboard, reach out to myself or WB Tom Gardner and we will assist you in achieving that goal.

By the time you are reading this article, Union Lodge will have a newly raised Master Mason within our ranks. Welcome Brother Chris Elliott to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Your dedication and comprehension of the hard work you have put into your proficiency and time spent studying with your mentor, MWB Hunt M. Compton, is apparent to myself, and your Brothers of this Lodge. We all congratulate you! Well done my Brother!

I would also like to make an official thank you to WB Zachary Cohen, and his team for assisting with this degree. We greatly appreciate all you did, and have done for our Lodge. Should Vista need assistance, reach out to us at Union.

A few quick announcements – the Annual Sweethearts Dinner is set for Saturday, February 6th at 6:00 pm. See page 2 for details and the menu. RSVP's are requested.

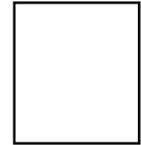
Another Master Mason degree is in the works, for BFC Tyler Sullens. Our Degree Captain – WB Frank Blair will be in contact with the Brothers of Union as we progress further into the month.

Don't miss out on the upcoming presentations or Degrees! See you in Lodge, my Brothers!

Officer meetings will continue to be the last Tuesday of each month, following the Trustee meeting, beginning promptly at 7:30pm. Any Brothers who have comments or concerns are encouraged to attend and let their voice be heard. The next meeting will be held on February 23rd, 2016.

Remember, if you need a ride to Lodge for a special or stated communication, please contact the Lodge office and we will make the appropriate accommodations.

Fraternally,
WB William D. MacRae
Worshipful Master
Union Lodge #3 A.F. & A.M.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- Feb 2** Union Lodge # 3 Stated 7:30 pm
- Feb 2** Holbrook #30 Stated 7:30 pm
- Feb 3** Rickreall # 110 Stated 7:30 pm
- Feb 4** Newberg # 104 Stated, 7:30 pm
- Feb 6** Tuality # 6 Stated 10:00 am
- Feb 6** Union Lodge Sweethearts Dinner 6:00 pm
- Feb 10** Sheridan-Dayton # 64 Dinner 6:00 pm
Lodge 7:00 pm
- Feb 23** Union Lodge Trustees 6:30 pm - Officers 7:30pm

Fraternal Greetings from the West!

As one of your newly elected officers, I would like to start out by thanking you for your support and your vote of confidence in allowing me to help run our wonderful Lodge. The officers and I have a lot of exciting ideas and programs which we will be implementing during this upcoming Masonic year.

For starters, Worshipful Brother Will is making Masonic education one of his key areas of focus. What will this mean for you? Well, for starters, it means that the meetings will be more interesting. We've reduced the amount of time which will be spent on things like reading the Minutes in order to create more time for presentations on thought provoking discussions. Our presentation for February will be called "A Certain Point Within a Circle" and will touch on topics such as

Hermeticism and the rhythm of the sun's cycles. We hope that these talks will inspire conversation, personal research, and fellowship among the Brothers.

We are also looking into ways in which Union Lodge can more engaged in the Yamhill County community. The Lodge came up with several great ideas for community involvement during our December meeting and we will be researching the feasibility of implementing those various ideas.

There are a lot of great things going on at Union Lodge and we hope to see as many of you as possible at our next stated communication on February 2nd.

Fraternally and sincerely,
Matthew Gerbrandt, Sr. Warden

Union Lodge Sweethearts Dinner

On Saturday, February 6th, at 6:00 pm WB Rod Brown will again be preparing a special dinner for all of the Sweethearts of Union Lodge. Chicken Cordon Bleu, lightly steamed broccoli, salad, rolls with cheese cake for desert.

Cost for the dinner is \$10 per person to cover expenses. **Please RSVP** by email to unionlodge@onlinenw.com or call 503-472-2341 and leave a message.



Keep up with current happenings in Union Lodge # 3 on Facebook, and be sure to Like us.