



November, 2019

UNITY LODGE #062 F & AM

P.O. Box 288 • Wakefield, NH 03872

Chartered June 9, 1857



www.unitylodge62.com

The Challenges of a Country Lodge

by *RW Brother Larry Sprague, Senior Grand Deacon; from NHGL website (10.10.19)*

I became a member of Cheshire-Mt Vernon Lodge No. 23 (then Cheshire Lodge) in 1995, at the time there were 38 members. It's small Lodge in a small town, we had no running water, a 160-year old building in need of major repairs and our restroom facility was an outhouse. Like all Lodges today we've faced many challenges over the years. Declining membership, involvement and dedication of the members and the effort and cost it takes to maintain and improve an old building took its toll.

Things started to change with the efforts of just a few members. We got involved with the community by having a booth at the local Cornish Fair each year. One of our Past Masters contacted the town and asked if there was anything the Lodge could do as a service to the community. They said a cemetery fence needed to be painted. The town provided the paint and the pizza, the Lodge provided the manpower. We got it done in one day. The town was very appreciative, and it was great publicity for us. About a year ago we started having monthly community breakfasts at the Lodge. The cost is by donation, there's no required fee. We've now had hundreds of people come into our building who never would have before. This community service has not only become our best fundraiser but our best open house too! We've even had 1 man and his wife come visit us to find out more about Masonry and he has asked for a petition.

As our financial situation started to turn around, our building started to become a better place to visit. The first thing to go was the outhouse! A septic system along with a modern kitchen and bathroom were installed. The hundred or so year old asbestos shingles were removed and standing seam roof put on. The old single-pane windows were replaced with new energy-efficient ones. **So, what will work for your Lodge?** There is no single answer, it varies from town to town and city to city. But my suggestion is to take advantage of everything you have. Participate in the annual open house. Advertise it, combine it with something else. One suggestion is free pumpkin carving for kids, their parents have to bring them. Contact the town and find out what

Stated Communication

Held 3rd Monday
of the month
From April
to December

Next Stated
Communication

Monday, November 18th

Dinner: 6:15
Meeting 7:00-8:45

you can do to help the community. All it takes is the effort and dedication of an individual member to make a difference. **Be the spark that ignites the flame in others.**

In the DeMolay Ceremony of Light, the closing line says, "If you can reach into the innermost depths of his soul and set his flame afire then therein lies the purpose of the Order of DeMolay and therein lies your purpose for living." Apply that line to Freemasonry and be that spark.

Stated Communication

162nd Semi-Annual
Communication of the
M.W. Grand Lodge
of NH, F. & A.M.

Saturday, November 16th
starting at 9:30 a.m.

Masonic Temple
1505 Elm St.
Manchester, NH

If you need transportation please call on a Brother or one of your officers for a ride to the Lodge

2019 Unity Lodge #062 Officers

Worshipful Master
Parker Vanderhoof Jr.

Senior Warden
Al Poulin

Junior Warden
Brian Vanderhoof

Secretary
Wallace Farnum

Treasurer
Ralph Currier

Chaplain
Tom Mix

Senior Deacon
Kirby Woods

Junior Deacon
Mark Duffy

Marshall
Joseph Palmariello

Senior Steward
Carl F. Helander

Junior Steward
Mark Robinson

Tyler
Cortez W. Willey

Rep. Grand Lodge
Mark Duffy



Message from the Master

November, 2019
11/11 Celebrating our Veterans

Greetings from the East

Brethren,

It's November, the weather is turning cold and it looks like this week will bring our first measurable amount of snow. Hopefully you have planned accordingly and all the outside preparations for winter are complete and the snow shovels are at the ready.

This month's communication will be held on 18 November 2019. The Saturday prior on 16 November, our NH Grand Lodge Communication will be held in Manchester. All the duly elected officers of Unity Lodge with the exception of the Secretary and Treasurer are expected to be in attendance unless a proxy is assigned.

As many of you have heard, our Brother's from Fraternal Lodge would like to merge with Unity Lodge. In preparation of a possible merger, PM Brother Poulin and RW Brother Currier have been selected to work as a committee with Fraternal to discuss our merger options as we move forward. I believe a merger with Fraternal will strengthen our Lodge in many ways, and I look forward to bringing us together as one Lodge!

I am pleased to say our Lodge continues to uphold our obligation to the Widows of Unity Lodge. Brother's Mix, Drown and Mayranen have been out to visit and deliver fruit baskets to our Special Ladies and many thanks go out to them for taking time to express our appreciation to these wonderful women.

At last month's annual business meeting, we voted in new officers to take our Lodge into the 2020 Masonic Year. While many of the same officers are filling the same chairs (as this was the will of the Lodge), there was one unanimous vote. This was for our Lodge Secretary Brother Farnum, which is surely a testament to his drive and efforts with all the Secretary duties the job encompasses. As we know, behind every great man there is an amazing woman! I would be remiss if I didn't thank Debi Pride for her work and expertise in marketing and website design. Her dedication and perseverance behind the scenes on our trestle board and website are greatly appreciated by all and in my humble opinion, the best in the state! Debi once told me, one of her jobs was to make Wally look good and as was demonstrated by the vote of the Lodge; Brother Farnum is looking great!

Finally, I'm thankful to see Brother Mayranen back home from his recent hospitalization! May he continue to rest & recoup in the comfort of his home.

Fraternally yours,

WM Parker Vanderhoof Jr. (Jay)

M.W. Kenneth Clay, Jr., Grand Master
R.W. Dennis Tuttle, Jr., DDGMR
W. Jackson Marston, DDGL
R.W. David Akridge, DDGEO

Sharing the Knowledge

by RW David Akridge, DDGEO

Over the last eighteen months, we have all been working as Freemasons utilizing the Working Tools of a Mason. Your 24" gauge has been balanced so that the time you have for the three divisions of time that we all know well and have hopefully allowed for balance, yet you have found the time to pursue your Masonic Journey in earnest. I have personally observed some amazing transformations in your Lodge by your participation in our Master's Masonic Education Class, educational/Masonic topics being discussed in your Lodge, really good ritual being performed and diving into our District Dine Around. Most importantly, in doing all of these things there is a feeling of the Brotherly Love and Friendship that seems to prevail.

All of us came to Masonry to make ourselves better men with Brethren who are all seeking to do the same, by experiencing good ritual, having Masonic discussion, enjoying the fellowship of each other both in and out of the Lodge.

I doubt that anyone would disagree with me that all seek to move from that rough ashlar to that perfect ashlar that is displayed in each of our Lodges. We do so at our own speed and in our own way, using the road map or tool box that each of us is provided in our three degrees.

We would all agree that ours is the greatest Fraternity in the world. Would it surprise you that the total number of Masons in the United States is approximately one million? While I tend not to get hung up on numbers as I firmly believe quality over quantity, I think we can all agree that this number against a population of some 300 Million plus, puts us in a very small percentage. About .3%. A select group united by a common ritual that has endured over the passage of time.

I also note that among our Craft, those who like Masonic Discussion and engage in presentation tend to use lofty words to demonstrate great knowledge. If I wanted to use a scholarly word to describe that, I could say they are "erudite Masonic speakers", meaning *"having or showing great knowledge or learning."*

You might ask yourself where this article is leading. It is quite simple. I have often observed that when we hear words like alchemy and esoteric, eyes glaze over and we tend to shut down. It is kind of like what happens when I hear a full reading of the minutes and a detailed litany of paying the bills. You get the message. As I have shared above you are one among a million that is a Freemason against the population of this country. You are here seeking Light and a life altering improvement in who you are. One could say that you are esoteric seeking and alchemical transformation in your Masonic Journey. Or inserting the definition of these two words in the same sentence, it could be re-stated YOU have an understanding, or diligently seeking, the universal truths contained in Freemasonry and that this process takes you from being an ordinary man to an extraordinary man. I hope the next time you hear the words esoteric or alchemy, you will instead smile and reflect on this amazing journey of transformation that you are one of the select few. Enjoy the journey!

al-che-my /'alkəmē/ (noun) **What is the true meaning of alchemy?** Alchemy is defined as the process of taking something ordinary and turning it into something extraordinary, sometimes in a way that cannot be explained. An example of using alchemy is a person who takes a pile of scrap metal and turns it into beautiful art.

esoterica [es-uh-ter-i-kuh] plural noun things understood by or meant for a select few; recondite matters or items.



Unity Lodge #62 Living Past Masters

John Cannon.....	2012
Ralph Currier	2006, 2016
William Drown.....	1995
John Lemay	2013
Al Mayranen	2009, 10, 11
Timothy Merrill	1997
Thomas Mix	2003
Al Poulin.....	1984-86, 03, 08

2019 Chefs

Br. Charles Pixley	Nov.
<i>Thanks Charlie & Katherine</i>	
Christmas Potluck	Dec.

Unity Lodge #062 Calendar

Nov. 4	Humane Lodge #21 Stated Communication, 6:30 social, 7:30 lodge
Nov. 9	Grand Lodge Leadership Training Seminar , Part 2, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Fraternal Lodge #71 Stated Communication, 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting
	Morrison Lodge #90 , Stated Communication, 6:30 meal, 7:30 lodge
Nov. 13	Corinthian Lodge #82 , Stated Communication, 6:30, Lodge/Inspection 7:30
Nov. 14	Winnepesaukee Lodge #75 Stated Communication 6:15, dinner 7
Nov. 16	Grand Lodge Semi Annual , 9:30 a.m. Dress: Full Regalia, Manchester NH
Nov. 17	World Famous Breakfast Buffet , Winnepesaukee Lodge #75, 7:30 - 11 a.m.
Nov. 18	Unity Lodge #062 Stated Communication, 6:15 pm meal, 7:00 lodge
	Humane Lodge #21 Inspection 6:30 to 9:00 pm
Nov. 21	Federal Lodge #5 Stated Communication 7:00 meal, 7:30 Lodge
Nov. 25	Morrison Lodge #90 , Stated Communication, 6:30 meal, 7:30 Lodge
Nov. 27	District 5 Masters Education Class , Humane Lodge, 7 to 9:30, all MM welcome



November Birthdays

James Tibbetts	11/20	Frank Hunter	11/03/86
Dineen Davidson	11/07	Kirby Wood	11/10/66
John Lemay	11/04	Dino Scala	11/14/09
		John Lemay	11/15/04
		Mark Duffy	11/19/14
		Geoffrey Denley	11/20/06
		Joseph King	11/20/92
		Russell Baldwin	11/21/11

Raised in November



District 5
Dine Around

Wednesday
November 20
6:30 p.m.

Johnsons
Seafood & Steak
New Durham

send correspondence to:

Unity Lodge No. 62 F. & A. M.

c/o Wallace Farnum (Secretary)

P. O. Box 288

Wakefield, NH 03872

Find us on  Unity Lodge #62 F&AM



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