

Unity Lodge #58, A.F. & A.M. Thorndike, Maine



<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Town>> <<State>> <<Zip>>

January 13, 2018

Greetings Brother:

Happy New Year

Please read the enclosed letter from the Grand Lodge about the building association. Your lodge secretary has gotten copies of the Building Association By-laws from a couple of other lodges but has no idea of how to legally establish a corporation and has no interest in personally finding out how. Someone else will need to take on the project which may require legal assistance.

Highlights of the Annual Return: One MM was raised during 2017, no deaths or suspensions, 47 members at year end. Due to Grand Lodge for Per Capita, Maine Mason Magazine and donation to the George Washington Memorial \$752.40.

<<Raised this month wording>>

Coming events:

January 17, 2018, Our stated communication and Installation of Officers. 6:30 pm pot luck supper, 7:30 pm meeting. Family and friends are invited to the Installation.

January 24, 12th district Masters and Wardens meeting 6:30 pm at Clinton.

Please notify the secretary if your address changes..

Thank you to those who have paid their dues.

Stated meeting are on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 with a 6:30 supper
Bruce Hutchins, Secretary, 1053 Halldale Rd, Montville ME 04941. tel/fax 382-6226, email bruce@hutchinsbrothers.com
District Calendar <http://east.our.calendars.net/glme/glmedist12>
<http://unitylodge.hutchinsbrothers.com/>

It certainly is the case that the number three has a special significance for Freemasonry:

There are, in the basic Lodge of Freemasonry, three degrees.

There are three major officers in the basic Lodge: The Worshipful (that is, 'Respected') Master, the Senior Warden, and the Junior Warden. (These are the three officers with the gavels.)

The initiation ritual discusses both Three Greater Lights of Masonry and Three Lesser Lights of Masonry.

There are three "burning tapers" arranged around the Altar that is at the center of every American Lodge room. (These may be actual tapers, but more commonly they are artfully formed stands with electric lights on top.)

The ritual mentions three "tenets" (principles) of Freemasonry.

There are three symbolic moral pillars mentioned in the ritual.

Traditionally, in older Masonic documents, the period of abbreviation is replaced by the "tripod," that is, three dots arranged in an equilateral triangle. (An enlarged example is the illustration for this post.) In fact, that's how my name appears on the cover of my new book, co-authored with Denise Sutherland (and out in early November), *Cracking Codes and Cryptograms for Dummies* (Wiley); when you go to the book page here, click on "Larger Image" to see how my name is printed on the cover, with tripods in the abbreviation for "Master Mason." There are other instances of the number three that appear in the ritual of the Lodge, but to discuss those would be to give too much detail. A famous 19th century Masonic author wrote, "There are ... indeed so many instances of the consecration of the number that it would exceed the limits of this volume to record them" (Albert Mackey, *Lexicon of Freemasonry*, entry for "Three.")

So, what is up with three? As it happens, there are a couple of different ways to answer this question, depending on where one happens to trace the origins of Freemasonry.

To be continued another month.

The Past Master

Author Unknown

Who's the stranger, Mother, dear?
Look, he knows us - ain't that queer?

Hush, my son, don't talk so wild -
He's your father, dearest child.

He's my father? It's not so!
Father died six years ago.

Dad didn't die, Oh love of mine,
He's been going through the line.
But he's been Master now so he
Has no place to go you see -
No place left for him to roam.
That is why he is coming home.
Kiss him, he won't bite you child.
All Past Masters are quite mild.

Secretary's Note

Author Unknown

Forget the hasty, unkind word:
Forget the slander you have heard
Forget the quarrel and the cause
Forget the whole affair, because,
Forgetting is the only way.
Forget the storm of yesterday
Forget the knocker, and the squeak
Forget the bad day of the week.
Forget you're not a millionaire
Forget the grey streaks in your hair
Forget to even get the blues -
But don't forget
To Pay Your Dues!