

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



Greetings Brother:

Minutes of the last meeting are enclosed, please notify me of any needed corrections.

Upcoming Events:

June 15, 2016: Our stated communication. 6:30 Supper, 7:30 Meeting. Planning for Strawberry Festival, another rifle raffle, barbecue and/or other activities.

June 16: EA degree at Siloam Lodge in Fairfield 6:30 supper.

EA degree at Vassalboro Lodge 6:30 Potluck, 7:30 degree.

MM degree at Liberty Lodge. 7:30 pm.

June 30: Our 78th annual Strawberry Festival 6:00 pm - open to the public. .

July 9: The Maine Lodge of Research quarterly communication, Bangor Masonic Center, "between 8:00 AM and 9 AM for coffee, pastries, and fraternal discussion. Our business meeting begins at 9:00 AM and at 10 AM we begin discussion and the presentation of papers. We usually finish our meeting between 12PM and 1PM." All Master Masons are invited.

If you do not have a dues card with the year 2016 on it you probably owe dues which with assessment for Grand Lodge per capita tax are \$55 per year. Those whose primary membership is in another Maine lodge only owe \$40.00 to Unity Lodge. Money can be sent to the prior secretary Mayo Cookson, to the current secretary or better yet attend a meeting and enjoy fellowship with other members –and pay in person.

I hope to see you soon.

Fraternally,

Bruce, Secretary

Bruce Hutchins, 1053 Halldale Rd, Montville ME 04941. tel/fax 382-6226, email bruce@hutchinsbrothers.com

I do use computers regularly and would like to be able to send out notices via email to save cost and time while letting you know what is happening. If you would like to receive email please send me a message to the address above and also let me know if there is any interest in having a Lodge Facebook group to help stay in touch. Other suggestions are also welcome.

Stated meeting are on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 with a 6:30 supper

<http://unitylodge.hutchinsbrothers.com/>

Masonic Wages

Corn, Wine and Oil

<http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/masonic-wages.html>

Corn, wine and oil were the Masonic wages of our ancient brethren.

How do you earn Masonic wages?

Operative Masonry Wages:

Master of the Work: In ancient operative times, the Master of the Work received the highest wages. His wages were corn, wine, oil and sometimes the coin of the realm.

Fellowcraft and Entered Apprentice wages were less than the Master, but they were kept in “mete and drynk” (meat and drink).

Speculative Freemasonry Wages: In Speculative Freemasonry, Masonic wages are not earned in coin. They are the rewards earned through acts of kindness, good deeds of service, and the gift of your time to others.

They are earned by Mentoring other brethren, helping others, remembering the widow and the orphan and visiting the sick. In short, wages are earned much as the biblical verse says:

“Do unto others as you would HAVE them do unto you.”

From the Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry by Albert Mackey, Vol. 1, page 244, 1929

Corn, Wine and Oil

Corn, wine and oil are the Masonic elements of consecration. The adoption of these symbols is supported by the highest antiquity. Corn, wine and oil were the most important productions of Eastern countries; they constituted the wealth of the people, and were esteemed as the supports of life and the means of refreshment.

David enumerates them among the greatest blessings that we enjoy, and speaks of them as:

Psalm 104: 15: “wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man’s heart”.

Anointed With Oil:

In devoting anything to religious purposes, the anointing with oil was considered as a necessary part of the ceremony, a rite which has descended to Christian nations.

- The tabernacle in the wilderness, and all its holy vessels, were, by God’s express command, anointed with oil;
- Aaron and his two sons were set apart for the priesthood with the same ceremony;
- ...and the prophets and kings of Israel were consecrated to their offices by the same rite.

Hence, Freemasons’ Lodges, which are but temples to the Most High, are consecrated to the sacred purposes for which they were built by strewing corn, wine and oil upon the Lodge, the emblem of the Holy Ark.

Thus does this mystic ceremony instruct us to be nourished with the hidden manna of righteousness, to be refreshed with the Word of the Lord, and to rejoice with joy unspeakable in the riches of divine grace.

Discourse iv, 81: “wherefore do you carry you that in the pilgrimage of human life you are to impart:

- a portion of your bread to feed the hungry,
- to send a cup of your wine to cheer the sorrowful,
- and to pour the healing oil of your consolation into the wounds which sickness hath made in the bodies, or affliction rent in the heart, of your fellow-travellers?”

Corn...The Staff of Life: In processions, the corn alone is carried in a golden pitcher, the wine and oil are placed in silver vessels, and this is to remind us that the first, as a necessity and the “staff of life” is of more importance and more worthy of honor than the others, which are but comforts.

End of Albert Mackey dissertation on Corn, Wine and Oil, our Masonic Wages.

Vol. 2 page 1110, 1929

Wine: ...as a symbol of the inward refreshment of a good conscience is intended, under the name of the Wine of Refreshment, to remind us of the eternal refreshments which the good are to receive in the future life for the faithful performance of duty in the present.

End of Albert Mackey dissertation on Wine, our Masonic Wages.

Vol. 2 page 731, 1929

Oil: The Hebrews anointed their Kings, Prophets and High Priests with oil mingled with the richest spices. They also anointed themselves with oil on all festive occasions, whence the expression in

Psalm xlv, 7: "God hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness."

End of Albert Mackey dissertation on Oil, as part of our Masonic Wages.

...And, thus, your unspotted white lambskin Masonic apron is a symbol reminding you of the necessity of the purity of heart, and uprightness of conduct in order to earn the Masonic wages which are due you.

Your final wages will be earned when you leave this world and travel to:

"that House not made with hands", where you will receive your Masonic wages for a life well spent in the "coin" of that realm.

The 6:30 Ode

To the fork and the knife,
To the pots and the cups,
To the repast of life,
To wonderful sups.

For the rolls and the butter,
For handshakes around,
For the small prayer we utter,
For smiles that abound.

Let the world stay outside.
Let its wind howl and blow!
Let the words that deride,
Let 'em pack up and go.

It's at supper this nite.
It's to mix with each one.
It's doing what's right.
It's friendship that's done.

So pass up the plate.
So start up the chatter.
So isn't this great?
So what's on the platter?

MW Bro. Jerry Leighton from Maine