

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



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March 13, 2019

Greetings Brother:

<<Raised this month wording>>

March 17, Rehearsal for the EA degree, 9 AM.

March 20, 2019, Our stated communication. 6:30 Potluck Supper, 7:30 Meeting, Entered Apprentice degree if enough members and the candidate(s) attend.

Coming events:

March 21, EA degree, Central Lodge in China, 6:30 supper and 7:30 pm meeting. They have the Traveling Gavel

March 23, Maine Lodge of Research at Bangor Masonic Ctr., 8AM coffee, 9 AM research presentation and business meeting. All Master Masons welcome

March 27 Masters and Wardens meeting at Messalonskee Lodge in Oakland. 6:30 pm.

March 28. EA degree, Siloam Lodge in Fairfield. 6:30 supper and 7:30 pm meeting.

April 3, Fellowcraft degree at Central Lodge in China. 6:30 supper and 7:30 pm meeting

We have some new ways to keep in touch now: Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1998256393798057/>

Grand Lodge has started "Our Lodge Page <sup>TM</sup>": <https://58-me.ourlodgepage.com/>

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](mailto:bruce@hutchinsbrothers.com)  
District Calendar <http://east.our.calendars.net/glme/glmedist12>  
<http://unitylodge.hutchinsbrothers.com/>

## THE BENEFIT OF RITUAL

Ritual is an established pattern for imparting knowledge of the tenets of a belief or philosophy. The benefits derived from the ritual of Freemasonry depends in a large measure in the attitude of the listener. To some, the words of the ritual are talking to the wind – the words fall to the ground. To others, they spark a desire to study them and reap the rewards of purifying his own nature and ascend toward a higher spiritual plane.

Once a missionary was asked to comment on the results of grain being sent to the poor populace of a foreign country. He said the only problem is that they ate the grain rather than planting it. So, as with our ritual, it must be planted and nourished to produce fruit not merely heard.

There is a story of a company of knights camping in evening beside a dry river bed. In the middle of the night a voice was heard to urge them to go to the dry river bed and fill their pockets with pebbles and in doing so they would be both glad and sorry. They puzzled over the enigma but did so. The next day, when they were far away, they emptied their pockets and saw, instead of pebbles, they had gathered diamonds, rubies and other rare and precious stones. They were glad they took what they did, and they were sorry they had not taken more.

So, with our ritual, take more and be glad rather than sorry.

Jack R. Levitt, PGM (Ca).

## GROWTH OF A LODGE

We all recognize that initiating candidates will increase the size of a lodge. But does size equate to the success of a lodge? The success of a lodge is dependent on achieving a goal and that goal should be the growth of a lodge – measured not by numbers, but by the quality the lodge provides to its members. Does the lodge create a “Brotherhood of Masons”.

## MENTORING

From one of the ‘Old Charges’:

“Then let the person that is to be made a Mason choose out of the lodge any one Mason who is to instruct him in those secrets which must never be committed to writing; which Mason he must call his tutor. Then let the tutor take him into another room and show him all the whole mystery, that at his return he may exercise with the rest of his fellow Masons.”

And from the Grand Lodge of California:

“Every candidate is a stranger to Freemasonry and Freemasonry is a stranger to him. It is not merely a Lodge that he joins, but a great Fraternity with a history stretching back over many centuries, an intricate system of laws, a large number of purposes, ideals and Obligations, a set of rights, privileges and duties, a set of landmarks to be preserved, the whole carrying on a program of activities of great variety.

“It is too much to expect of any man that without guidance he shall be able to make himself at home in such a society, or that unaided he shall be able to take his own proper place in the Lodge’s work with credit to himself and honor to the Brotherhood. He has every right to expect that the Lodge itself shall give him much of the information he needs. It is because so many Brethren never receive this information, and are permitted to come and perhaps go - undirected and uninstructed, that they either cease attending Lodge at all, or, too often, for lack of knowledge, blunder into humiliation to themselves and damage to the Lodge.”

[Taken from a paper presented by Worshipful Brother Edward Robinson  
at the Research Lodge of Wellington NZ) 2010]

## SYMBOLS

Symbols generally work on at least four different levels.

1 The Obvious or Literal Level

At this level the symbol is generally understood by all. To use a metaphor, a window is a window.

2 The Metaphorical Level

Not only is it a window but it can also be considered to be a window on the world, etc.

3 The Personal Level

This way of understanding a symbol is specific to an individual or particular group who, in addition to the general understanding (above), actively uses the symbol. "The window gives me the ability to glimpse another place and/or time."

4 The Mystical Level

At this level the symbol becomes fully operational and allows the individual (or perhaps a very small group) to experience the numinous.

These four distinctions are useful, but they are also artificial in that it is quite possible to experience some or all of these levels of symbolism at the same time.

Symbols create a junction between two realms of reality the conscious and unconscious. They are a meeting point between the microcosm and the macrocosm, man and God, etc. This way of appreciating symbols is not understood by many people today, including a fair number of Freemasons.

### SAINT PATRICK' S DAY

'Tis the glorious day of Saint Patrick,  
Sure,  
the patron Saint of our land,  
To-day is a day of rejoicing,  
Come,  
Irishmen,  
give us your hand.

We rejoice we belong to old Ireland,  
The land which St. Patrick has blessed,  
'Tis the home of the rich green shamrock,  
To Irishmen surely the best.

O sad was the day we divided Our emer-  
ald-green Isle,  
Och-hone,  
Bad cess to the men who decided To break up  
our little sweet home.

We're Irish,  
but loyal to Britain,  
And fighting for her just the same,  
Britain will safeguard our freedom,  
Then may we ne'er go down in shame.

There's Scotsmen,  
the Welsh and the English,  
The Irish—the best of them all If we would all stick  
together,  
Begorra,  
we never could fall.

And the men who are bred from this bloodstream,  
Being a mixture of the four,  
Bedad,  
bejabers,  
what a blending,  
Could anyone ask for more?

So now a toast to old Ireland. The emerald-green  
Isle so blest. St. Patrick,  
the Dear little Shamrock,  
To Irishmen- always the best.