

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



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Nov 15, 2019

Greetings Brother:

<<Raised this month wording>>

There was no October meeting due to lack of attendance for the 2nd time in 3 meeting nights. Some visitors from the Master and Wardens Association may attend our meeting Nov 20. We have an application for affiliation but we must have at least 7 of our members at stated meetings to receive the application and refer it to a Committee of Inquiry in order to ballot on it the next month. The Grand Master has offered to come and attempt to assist the lodge in any way that he can. A big question is what is the lodge doing that it should not or what is it not doing to encourage members to attend? The current officers clearly do not know.

No one mentioned the money offered in the last monthly letter so the offer is extended to the Nov. 20th meeting.

Coming events:

Nov 19, 2019: Messalonskee Lodge #113 Oakland Stated Meeting and FC Degree. 6:30pm supper 7:30pm Degree

Nov. 20: **Our stated communication. 6:30 Potluck Supper, 7:30 Meeting. We should be planning for the annual meeting and election of officers in December.**

Nov. 21: Siloam Lodge in Fairfield, FC degree. 6:30pm supper 7:30pm Degree

Nov. 23: Maine Masonic College Class. 8AM Registration/Breakfast 9AM Class at Waterville Lodge.

Contact: Theresa Hatch-Grand Lodge Office. Symbolism with MW Mark Rustin, Grand Master

Dec 7: Central Lodge #45 China annual Christmas Party to benefit the Waterville Children's Home. 1:00pm to 3:00pm. There will be soups and chowders for lunch, games and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. If you bring a gift please do not wrap it. Any questions please contact Gary Gagnon at 207-649-2953 or 207-437-2487 or Judy Gagnon at 207-649-9109 or 207-437-2487.

Thank you to those who have paid their dues.

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1998256393798057/>

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

Please notify the secretary if your address changes.

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/>

February 23, 2018 the Noble Science & the Royal Art

The Wages of a Master Mason

The wages of a Fellowcraft Mason — Corn, Wine, and Oil. We should all be relatively familiar with these concepts. But what are the wages of a Master Mason?

In almost every jurisdiction I've traveled to, there is a line spoken during the Opening and Closing ritual that passes by with little or no consequence. Outside of these two ceremonies, I've never heard the concept explored beyond what is spoken. The words are given by the Senior Warden.

The Master asks, in effect, why one would ever be compelled to become a Master Mason. The Senior Warden's reply, which I am paraphrasing below, covers a few different reasons:

- To travel to far off and distant lands
- To earn wages
- To better help him support those in need

All of the above reasons make sense for an Operative Mason. *Of course* he would want to travel and seek out work. *Of course* he would want to receive his pay. *Of course* he would want to support his family and friends. **But do these reasons make sense for Speculative Masons?**

Absolutely.

When the Senior Warden recites these particular lines, he's telling everyone exactly what our purpose as Master Masons is, and it can never be emphasized enough.

As a Master Mason, you are to "travel." Those far off and distant lands — those *foreign countries* — they're *foreign concepts*. They're unexplored and unexamined *subjects*. They're others' *opinions and views* — different from your own.

The wages of a Master Mason are knowledge. They're the broadening of horizons. *Light*.

Envision yourself inside of a deeply dark maze. The walls are high, and the paths are narrow. You're carrying a small lantern. It's your only source of light. If you can stoke the embers — if you can grow the flame — more of the maze is revealed to you. In my view, "Light" — knowledge — helps us better understand how to navigate our way through this life.

As you grow as a person, with a broader perspective and a deeper understanding of the world, you are better suited to lend advice and share your insights with others.

I wanted to end this by stating that, if you will allow the world to shape you, in turn, you can shape the world. As I typed those words out, I realized that there's a problem with that sentiment. It's an incomplete thought. The world *will* shape you. It's not your choice; change is inevitable. That broadening of perspective, though, helps us better understand how we should respond. *If* we should respond.