



UNITY Lodge No. 130, A.F.&A.M

520 South First Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6902

Cable Tow

April 2015
Happy Easter!

www.unitylodge130.com

unitylodge130@gmail.com

Is This A Spam Email? I Don't Know Anyone Named Marshall Brown

Beginning next month your Unity Lodge Cable Tow will be sent to you from a new email address: unity130newsletter@gmail.com. When you open your email you will find a message from Marshall Brown. That is the name of Unity's first Worshipful Master. Brother Tyler Crissman will be editing the newsletter beginning with the May issue.

From the East

Greetings Brothers!

We had a great One-Day conferral in March. Each of the Lodges put on a great display of Masonry. After the degree work, on my way to the car in the Shrine parking lot, I was approached by a group of young men who had enjoyed the festivities at the Shrine. By their approach and manner, I did not expect much good to come from an interaction with them. However, when one asked me why I was dressed in a tuxedo and I told them, they asked several questions and wanted to know more about Freemasonry. They expressed interest in the idea of using symbolism and allegory to work on the inner self, of taking a good man and making him better. I gave them some suggestions for learning more, and went on my way after several minutes of discussion.

This interaction reminded me of a few key things that we as Freemasons should ever keep in mind. For one, we should always conduct ourselves as upright and just men,

and remember that we are all on the level. This should not only apply to fellow Masons, but to all mankind. We should not judge others by appearance, or even what we see in a situation. Masonry regards the internal qualities of a man, not the external. Even after enjoying a day of frivolity, these men were quickly intrigued and gave their attention to learn more about our Craft.

Two, whenever we are about, whether in our car, on the streets, or interacting with the world in any way, we are what others will see and associate with Freemasonry. If I am in my car and I cut someone off in traffic and they happen to see a square and compass on my vehicle, it does not give a good impression of our Fraternity. It also shows that I could benefit from the lessons of practicing charity and brotherly love.

Third, we should be open about our Fraternity. Masonry no doubt has its secrets, and for good reason. However, these secrets should not include our conduct and example with others. We should not hide the fruits of our labor, and we should feel comfortable discussing the aim of our Fraternity. There is power in symbolism, in using that symbolism to uncover truths within us, of creating a process for self-observation, and ultimately consciousness. Our Craft's rich history outlines the process for self-improvement, of learning to change our patterns of unconscious thought in behavior into real self-awareness.

MBA Furniture Fund:

Worshipful Brother Dick Costain is spearheading an initiative to replace the furniture in the lobby and other visible portions of the Masonic Center. For potential new candidates and other members of the public, this area may be one of the first things they see when they come into the building. Much of this furniture is outdated, and having some new furniture will give us more of a professional look. We would like to avoid using funds from the MBA for this purpose, as there are other necessary improvements for the building, and we should be good stewards of this fund. I encourage all who are able to donate what they are comfortable with to this effort.

Fraternally,

Kendig Bergstresser, WM

Mark Your Calendar

April 9 Stated meeting, 7:00 pm, light meal after opening (**Our only meeting in April**)

April 11 Masonic Study Group, 1:00 pm, Mayer Room

April 23-26 Shrine Circus

April 13, 20 & 27 EA°, FC° & MM°, **6:00 pm** (with Trinity Lodge)

May 21 Past Masters' Night

May 25 Avenue of Flags at the VA Hospital

Unity Lodge Raises 21 New Master Masons

At the March 14th Sioux Falls Blue Lodge One-Day Festival 21 new Master Masons joined Unity Lodge. They were among a total of 33 new Brothers raised that day.

Congratulations to all our new Brothers, and a hearty thank you to all who took part in putting on this successful One-Day event! With Trinity Lodge we will be conferring the three Degrees in for those unable to make it to the One-Day, as well as some new candidates. Those will be on three Mondays: April 13th (EA), 20th (FC), and 27th (MM).

Unity Lodge Scholarship

If you have a son or daughter who is in need of financial assistance to further their education beyond high school, have them check out the Unity Lodge Scholarship. The **deadline** for submitting an application is **April 15th**. It provides \$500 to worthy and well-qualified students who live in Minnehaha or Lincoln County **or** are direct descendants of a member of Unity Lodge, and who will be attending a college/university or technical school **in South Dakota**. The scholarship is based on need and on academic achievement. Preference is given to students who are related to a Master Mason. You can get an application from unity130scholarship@gmail.com or download it from the Unity Lodge website.

Person Needed to Letter Aprons and Bibles!

Beginning May 1st, Unity Lodge needs someone who can do the lettering of names and dates on the Aprons and Bibles for our newly-raised Master Masons. Contact SW Richard Hagler at unity130seniorwarden@gmail.com.

I Didn't Know That!

Author Rudyard Kipling was a Brother in Perseverance Lodge No. 782 in India. He says of that Lodge: "I was entered [initiated] by a Hindu; passed by a Muslim, and raised by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew." So, you see, Masonry makes it possible for men of all creeds to meet "on the level" and work to build a better world. (from *Freemasons for Dummies*)

Order Your Unity Lodge Shirt

Brothers who are interested in ordering a Unity Lodge logo shirt (polo or long-sleeve denim) should refer to their January 19th email from WM Bergstresser, which has a link to the site that describes the shirts and ordering information. Contact WM Bergstresser for more details at unity130master@gmail.com.

Get Your SD Masonic Messenger by Email

If you would like to receive your SD Masonic Messenger as an email rather than a physical paper copy, just email the Grand Lodge of South Dakota and ask Gwen to add your name to the email mailing list. Email her at office@mygrandlodge.org to get on the list and save the Grand Lodge some postage.

Cigar Night

The next Cigar Night is Friday, April 17th at 7:00 pm at Shenanigans, with an alternate spot being Nolan Webb's at 2405 S. Theodore Ave. Shenanigans Pub is at 26th St. and Ellis Road and has a wonderful indoor smoking area, as we have not had luck with Mother Nature treating us well for a few months. We are hoping to get the number attending back up with nicer weather on the way. When next winter comes I have received word from another generous Brother that he will host some winter time Cigar Nights for us so we don't have to worry about the weather. You do not have to smoke, or sip on Scotch, but it is highly recommended. If the weather looks like it will cooperate we will likely have it at Nolan's as we like it to be held at family-friendly locations.

Questions? Contact me at dawgh8cat@gmail.com or Nolan at webb.bluelodge@gmail.com.

I would like to thank all who have taken part so far, as well as our Brothers in Mitchell at Resurgam Lodge for graciously accepting us twice over the winter to help us through. Most Saturday nights they have a "Fireside" which all Brothers and their families are welcome to join as well. If you would like information about attending their "Firesides" contact troymags@mitchelltelecom.net or either Nolan or myself at the above addresses.

Kyle Orth, Junior Warden

Grand Lodge June 18-20 at Cedar Shore

If you would like to attend Grand Lodge at Cedar Shore Resort, June 18-20, Unity Lodge has three voting positions available in addition to those of our WM, Wardens, Secretary and Past Masters. If you are interested in participating in the work of **your** Grand Lodge, contact WM Bergstresser at unity130secretary@gmail.com.

MMCI 41 Sunday Ride

MMCI 41, what's that? It is the Masonic Motorcycle Club International #41, Sioux Falls, SD. Why #41? Because it was the 41st club added to the Masonic Motorcycle Club International. Mystic Riders is another name you may have heard also which is another name for MMCI 41. It's a Brotherhood of Masons who have a love of riding motorcycles. The meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the big unit room on the east side of the Shrine at 6:30 pm. At the meeting a ride is planned for the following Sunday. Any one is welcome to ride with us, Mason or not. Pray for good weather April 19th and join the ride. The meeting place will be at the Tea Exit Marlin's & leave from there at 10:00. The plan is to ride south for lunch in Sioux City so if you go to Marlin's early for breakfast you may not want the Belly Buster so you have room for lunch. If interested in making the ride, contact me at dawgh8cat@gmail.com or brianiverson07@hotmail.com in case plans change and you can't make the meeting.

Kyle Orth, Junior Warden

Is There Something You'd Like To See In The Cable Tow?

Would you like to see something in the newsletter that we don't have now? If so, just let us know, and we will try to make it happen. We want to have a Cable Tow that the Brothers enjoy reading, and at the same time learn something about Masonry that they may not have known before. It's all about "further light in Masonry" after all. Simply send a reply to the email that brings you the Cable Tow.

From the Secretary

Greetings Brothers,

Hard to believe that another month has passed us by, but here we are hoping for April showers, not thunderstorms, just showers. March was an active month for us; we raised 21 new brothers during the Masonic One-Day Festival on the 14th. Dues continue to roll in; we are now at 69.1% of the Brothers having paid their 2015 dues. I will be sending out notices to those Brothers that still owe for 2014, reminding them that they are subject to suspension for non-payment of dues

at the end of this year. Along with NPD comes not being able to stay a member of any of the appended bodies. So, no Shrine, no Scottish Rite, and no York Rite.

Just a reminder, there is only **one** stated meeting this month...April 9th.

That's all for now.

Glendon Rice, Jr.

Secretary