



UNION LODGE NO. 3, A. F. & A. M. OF OREGON
PO Box 453, McMinnville, OR 97128

MASONIC NEWS & TRESTLEBOARD December 2009

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TIDINGS FROM THE EAST

WB Scott Magers' work has prevented him from preparing a column this month.

December Stated Meeting

On Tuesday, December 1, 2009, WB Johnny J. Edwards, District Deputy of District 3 will make his Official Visit to Union Lodge #3.

Following the Stated Meeting the officers for 2010 will be installed in a PUBLIC installation ceremony.

We hope to see you on December 1st for a wonderful meal (see menu on next page), WB Edwards' Official Visit and the Installation of Officers.

It all starts at 6:30 pm.

So Mote It Be

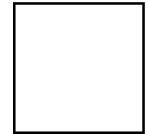
Why do Freemasons end their prayers with the phrase "So mote it be"? It is customary in contemporary English to end prayers with a hearty "Amen," a word meaning 'So be it'. It is a Latin word derived from the Hebrew word (xxxx), meaning 'certainly'. Thus a congregation saying "Amen" is literally saying "So be it." The word mote is an archaic verb that means 'may' or 'might', and traces back to Old English. The phrase "So Mote it be" means 'So may it be', which is the same as 'So be it'. Now that we've established the equivalence of "Amen" and "So mote it be," the question remains, "Why do Masons end their prayers with 'So mote it be'?" The answer goes back to the Regius Poem of about 1390 AD, the oldest known Masonic document (now housed in the British Museum, London). It is one of the Old Charges or Gothic Constitution used by early Freemasons to regulate their trade. It has a legendary history, regulations to guide the Mason trade and rules of manners and moral conduct. The poem ends famously with this couplet:

Amen! Amen! So mote it be! So say we all for charity.

Thus Freemasons today end their prayers the same way they did in 1390. The next time you're in lodge and say "So mote it be" after the chaplain finishes a prayer, remember that you are continuing a 600-year-old Masonic tradition.

From the website of Enterprise Lodge # 70, Yuba City, CA


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MASONIC NEWS & TRESTLEBOARD Page 2
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- DEC 1** Union Lodge #3 Stated; Dinner 6:30 pm;
Lodge 7:30 pm
- DEC 1** Holbrook #30 Stated. 7:30 pm
- DEC 2** Rickreall #110 Stated. 7:30 pm
- DEC 5** Tuality #6 Stated. 10:00 am
- DEC 9** Sheridan-Dayton #64 Stated. 7:30 pm
- DEC 10** Newberg #104 Stated. 7:30 pm
- DEC 14** Intrepid #224 Stated. 6:30 pm
- DEC 29** Union Lodge Trustee's Meeting; 6:30 pm;
Officers Meeting 7:00 pm

\$7.00		\$7.00
Dinner Menu		Dec 1
<p>Southern Baked Ham Yummy Potatoes AuGratin Delicious Green Beans Sunny Pear and Cottage Cheese Salad Christmas Cake Coffee, Tea or Milk</p>		
<p>Prepared by Knowles Chapter #12, O.E.S.</p> <p>Santa's Surprise Door Prize Bring your Lady to dinner with you</p>		


Dues, Dues, Dues

You should have your 2010 dues notice.

As a favor to yourself (and to Union Lodge) please write a check and mail it, along with the dues notice, to the address printed on the notice. Your 2010 dues card will be sent as soon as we receive your check.

A number of you are past due one or more years. Don't take a chance on being dropped from membership for non-payment of dues. Send a check for the total amount on your notice today.

Knowles Chapter #12, O.E.S.



Patti Compton, Worthy Matron	503-472-3082
Hunt Compton, Worthy Patron	503-472-3082
Evelyn Bach, Secretary	503-472-2387

Dec. 13 Christmas party at Compton's
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Dec. 14 LF, Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

**YOUR SUPPORT AND ATTENDANCE AT OUR MEETINGS
IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN OUR ACTIVITIES.**