



UNION LODGE NO. 3, A. F. & A. M. OF OREGON

PO Box 453, McMinnville, OR 97128

MASONIC NEWS & TRESTLEBOARD February 2010

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TIDINGS FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brethren,

I have a short slate of things to discuss with you this month. Two of them flow naturally from some of the goals I laid out in my remarks at installation and the Trestleboard last month and may be accurately called "business". One is of annual importance and is much better described as "pleasure."

The ability of the Lodge to sustain our work is of great importance to me as it should be to any Mason. The Fraternity is beset by many pressures that we all recognize and lament – a shift in culture that seems to marginalize the benefits of fellowship in Lodge and an aging membership. Every year we are deprived of active, good men in Lodge as they are called to closer service with the Great Architect of the Universe in the House not made by hands. Brothers join and because of work, family, or other pressures stop attending Lodge and we are made the poorer for it.

One of my goals for 2010 is to reach out to these Brothers. I don't want to apply pressure but I think it's important to let our Brothers know that we still consider them Brothers -- whether they attend Lodge or not; whether they still consider themselves Brothers or not. If there is a problem that we can solve, we should try to do so. If there is help that we can give we should try to offer it. We are called to do that for our Brothers. We can't solve all problems, offer all help, or salve all wounds, but we can reach out and make contact.

In order to work towards that goal I'm asking for volunteers to join me in making an audit of the rolls and making an effort to get in contact with every Brother, active and inactive, at least twice before the end of 2010. Ideally, we'd be able to have more contact than that but we have to start somewhere. If you're willing and able to help, please contact the Lodge and leave a message. I'd like to get this effort organized and started by the beginning of March.

Touching upon that spirit, I'm very interested in trying to ensure that our obligations to the deceased Brothers buried in the Lafayette Masonic Cemetery and their families are upheld. I know that resources are in short supply but we owe them our best ef-

fort to both keep the cemetery in good stead as well as create a sustainable way to continue that effort into the future. We need to repair or replace some signage, ensure security, and ensure that the grounds are well kept. We're investigating several options to create a fund that will help with maintenance. There are currently grants available from the Oregon Historical Cemeteries commission and we will be applying for them. We are also trying to establish a regular maintenance schedule. I would like to make sure that our documentation is as complete as we can get it and share that information with historical organizations to benefit people who may be looking for information on their heritage. If you have resources that might be applied to that work – time, energy, equipment, or ideas – I'd appreciate any input.

Also in that spirit, I'd like to make sure that all the Brethren of Union Lodge and any other Lodge remember that we enjoy their company both in Lodge and at the refreshment table. Don't forget that we have dinner at 6:30pm on the night of stated communications every month except July and August. It's excellently prepared by the ladies of Knowles Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. I'd like to personally invite Brothers and their ladies to join us in fellowship at dinner whenever you are available.

Finally, March is always an important month for our stated communications. It is our annual corned beef and cabbage feed. It is also an official visit of the Grand Master and, I'm sure, many of his Grand Officers including our own RWB Hunt Compton, Junior Grand Warden. Kathleen and I will be carrying on the tradition of providing the best corned beef, cabbage, and accompaniments that we can. Please spread the word to other Lodges and Masons wherever you travel. It would be wonderful to have every seat in both the dining hall and Lodge filled. The more Masons we have in attendance, the more fellowship we will get to share. As always, there is no charge for dinner but donations will be gratefully accepted and it's likely that there will be leftovers available to take home at the end of the evening. The stated communication that follows dinner is always a pleasure including an opportunity to experience a program delivered by the Grand Master. Please join us on March 2nd for this very special occasion.

That's all that I have for this month. I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge on February 2nd.

Fraternally,
Frank Blair
WM Union Lodge #3, AF&AM

***Dues are due from quite a few.
We know who and so do you.
Mail that check today!!!***

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 You are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Deadline
 for copy is the 15th day of the month preceding publication date.
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- FEB 2** Union Lodge #3 Stated; Dinner 6:30 pm;
Lodge 7:30 pm
- FEB 2** Holbrook #30 Stated. 7:30 pm
- FEB 3** Rickreall #110 Stated. 7:30 pm
- FEB 6** Tuality #6 Stated. 10:00 am
- FEB 8** Intrepid #224 Stated. 6:30 pm
- FEB 10** Sheridan-Dayton #64 Stated. 7:00 pm
- FEB 11** Newberg #104 Stated. 7:30 pm
- FEB 23** Union Lodge Trustee's Meeting; 6:30 pm;
Officers Meeting 7:00 pm

\$7.00		\$7.00
Dinner Menu		Feb 2
<p>Pork Roast, Herbed Dressing Fluffy Potatoes with Gravy Sunny Corn, Sweetheart Salad Cherry Dump Cake, Coffee, Tea or Milk</p> <p>Prepared by Knowles Chapter #12, O.E.S.</p> <p>Brothers, please bring your Ladies to this special Valentine's Dinner to honor them. Special Door Prize for the lucky Lady.</p>		

Union Lodge Officers for 2010


Elected

Worshipful Master	B Frank Blair
Senior Warden	B John Hatch
Junior Warden	B Rodney A. Brown, Jr.
Treasurer	WB Richard Magers
Secretary	WB Thomas F. Gardner

Appointed

Senior Deacon	WB Scott Magers
Junior Deacon	Loris Harrell
Chaplain	WB Doyle McAninch
Marshal	WB Hunt Compton
Tyler	WB Bob Orr

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

Feb. 8 Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm, Valentines Day—Red attire if you so choose

Feb. 22 Stated Meeting, 7:30 pm, Worthy Patron's report regarding Brothers Masonic Standing

Friendship and Honor Night, originally scheduled for February 8 has been moved to March 8