

THE SENTINEL

UNITY LODGE #95 F. & A. M.



SUMMER - 2022

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THE ORIGIN OF FREEMASONRY

Often the question is asked: "Where and when did Freemasonry originate?"

In dealing with this question one must consider the standpoint from which it is to be answered. If one has in mind Freemasonry in its modern sense - that is, an organization divided into subordinate Lodges and operating under the authority of a Grand Lodge of a given jurisdiction and practicing the Rites of Symbolic Masonry such as, for instance, the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. If this is what is meant, then it came into existence in London, England, in A.D. 1717. (the present United Grand Lodge of New South Wales came into existence in 1888, when the four Grand Lodges then operating as separate entities within this State, viz., the English, the Irish, the Scottish and the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, of their own free will and accord, amalgamated and assumed the title of THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF NEW SOUTH WALES OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS)

But Masonry, in organized Lodges, existed long before that time. The present-day Craft is in historical continuity with Lodges or Guilds of Masons who, centuries ago, engaged in the task of actual building and held meetings where the speculative feature of Masonry was also practiced at least to some extent. We may say that such Masonry came into existence in about the twelfth century A.D. It is true, however, that Masonry may be traced back even further than this period. If we refer to Masonry as applied to any secret society that makes use of, or has made use of, some of the signs which we use (or symbols) then Masonry goes back several thousand years until it is lost in antiquity.

The July Stated Meeting will be **Thursday, July 7, 2022** due to the 4th of July Holiday. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The Temple Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. Our scholarship recipients will join us.



DEATHS

No
Deaths
To
Report
This
Quarter



Strengthened in his labors here by faith in God and encouraged by the hope of immortality, he has sought admittance into the celestial Lodge above.



FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Greetings Brethren,

I hope this finds you healthy and enjoying your summer. This newsletter is coming out a little earlier than usual for two reasons. The first is to inform you that the July stated meeting would be on July 7, 2022. This is due to our regular meeting date falling on the 4th of July holiday. The second reason is that a by-law change pertaining to our scholarship program was read out at the June stated meeting. Per Tennessee Masonic Code all resident members must be informed of this proposed by-law change and invited to attend the next stated meeting for discussion and to vote on the proposal. You will find the proposed change on the last page of this newsletter.

Another piece of business that took place at the June stated meeting was the reading of approximately 30 names that have not paid their dues for 2022. At the July stated meeting a motion will be made to prefer charges for non-payment of dues against those who still have not paid. They will be summoned to appear at the August stated meeting or pay their dues prior to that meeting. Failure to do so will result in being suspended from membership at the August meeting. So check your dues card and if you don't have one for 2022, then most likely you haven't paid your dues. We don't wish to suspend anyone we don't have to. If you are having difficulty in meeting this obligation, please let us know.

The waterproofing contractor appears to have fixed the leaks in our foyer roof. We will wait about a month to make sure and then proceed with repairing the interior water damage.

The Worshipful Master would also like to continue collecting items for the FedEx Family House, so if you have non-perishable items such as toiletry items or non-perishable snacks, please bring them to the lodge. We will store them in the front closet until the next delivery.

We have also tentatively scheduled a First Responders Pit Stop of September 14.

Fraternally,

Ralph Scott
Secretary

CALENDAR

July

- 1 – Normal Whitehaven OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 4 – Lodge Dark Due To Holiday
- 7 – Lodge Stated Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 9 – Daughters of the Nile Summer Social @ Noon
- 11 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 12 – Mizpah OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 14 – SCV Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 16 – Daughters of the Nile Stated Session @ 11:00 a.m.
- 17 – Memphis OES Secretary's Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.
- 18 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 21 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 25 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 28 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.

August

- 1 – Lodge Stated Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 4 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 5 – Normal Whitehaven OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 8 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 9 – Mizpah OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 11 – SCV Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 15 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 18 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 19 – Normal Whitehaven OES honoring the AGP @ 7:00 p.m.
- 22 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 25 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.

September

- 1 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 2 – Normal Whitehaven OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 3 – Mizpah OES Official Visit @ 2:00 p.m.
- 5 – Lodge Stated Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 8 – SCV Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 12 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 10 – Citywide OES honoring the AGM & AGP @ 6:30 p.m.
- 13 – Mizpah OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 14 – First Responders Pit Stop
- 15 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 17 – Daughters of the Nile Stated Session @ 11:00 a.m.
- 19 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 22 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 26 – Lodge Official Visit @ 6:00 p.m.
- 29 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.

Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the first two recipients of the Unity Lodge Scholarships. One thousand dollar scholarships have been awarded to Aidan Hoy and William Paul Pelham. Aidan is a graduate of Northpoint Christian School in Southaven and will be attending Mississippi State University, majoring in mechanical engineering. He is the grandson of Past Master Joe Flagg. William; the grandson of Bill McGroom, a Past Master of Frayser Lodge; graduated from White Station High School and will be attending Christian Brothers University, also majoring in mechanical engineering.



This proposed by-law change was presented at the June stated meeting and will be discussed and voted on at the July 7th stated meeting.

Current:

Article XI Scholarships

Sec. 1. Two to five scholarships may be awarded each academic year (defined as the Fall and Spring Semesters). The number of scholarships awarded will be determined by a majority vote of the Lodge.

Sec. 2. Each scholarship will be for One Thousand dollars and 00/100 (\$1,000.00) per applicant, for each academic year applied for and attended.

Sec. 3. Each applicant shall be a High School graduate and enrolled in a college, university, community college or trade school. The applicant shall have graduated from high school with a 2.75 GPA or above. The application may be for undergraduate or graduate work. If undergraduate work, the applicant must have maintained a 2.75 GPA in an undergraduate school.

Sec. 4. The Masonic Scholarship Committee (MSC) appointed by the Worshipful Master will provide and review the applications of all first time applicants, conduct interview(s) and/or do further investigation with respect to applicants. Applicants will be required to provide their social security number, and to authorize the MSC to obtain such credit reports, and to make such investigations, as it deems appropriate.

Sec. 5. The MSC will base their decisions on:

- a. Priority given to relatives of Tennessee Master Masons
- b. Financial need
- c. Performance
- d. Curriculum

Sec. 6. Renewal is not assured, and will require re-application each academic year. A copy of the transcript of applicant's grades is required for consideration or renewal, and should be provided by the applicant.

Sec. 7. The scholarship will be dispersed at the rate of One thousand dollars and 00/100 (\$1,000.00), per academic year; payable to his/her account at the school they are attending. The funds may be used tuition, books, supplies and other such educationally related expenses. Any unused funds will be returned to the MSC.

Proposed:

Article XI Scholarships

Sec. 1. Up to five scholarships may be awarded each academic year (defined as the Fall and Spring Semesters). The number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the Masonic Scholarship Committee (MSC) based on the funds made available by vote of the Lodge.

Sec. 2. Each scholarship amount per applicant, for each academic year applied for and attended, will be determined by the MSC based on the funds available.

Sec. 3. Each applicant shall be a High School graduate and enrolled in a college, university or community college. The applicant shall have graduated from high school with a 3.0 GPA or above. The application may be for undergraduate or graduate work. If undergraduate work, the applicant must have maintained a 3.0 GPA in an undergraduate school.

Sec. 4. Each applicant for a trade or vocational school scholarship shall be a High School graduate and enrolled in a trade or vocational school. The applicant shall have graduated from high school with a 2.0 GPA or above.

Sec. 5. The Masonic Scholarship Committee (MSC) appointed by the Worshipful Master will provide and review the applications of all first time applicants, conduct interview(s) and/or do further investigation with respect to applicants.

Sec. 6. The MSC will base their decisions on:

- a. Priority given to relatives of Tennessee Master Masons
- b. Performance
- c. Curriculum

Sec. 7. Renewal is not assured, and will require re-application each academic year. A copy of the transcript of applicant's grades is required for consideration or renewal, and should be provided by the applicant.

Sec. 8. The scholarship will be dispersed per academic year; payable to his/her account at the school they are attending. The funds may be used tuition, books, supplies and other such educationally related expenses. Any unused funds will be returned to the MSC.