

The Sentinel

Unity Lodge #95 F. & A. M.

642 Colonial Rd., Memphis, TN 38117

Phone: (901) 682-1443 / Email: unity95@bellsouth.net

We're on the web: www.unity95.org

Facebook: [@unity95](https://www.facebook.com/unity95) / Instagram: [unitymasoniclodge95](https://www.instagram.com/unitymasoniclodge95)



The Master's Message

Brothers,

I'm proud to be a Mason, but more importantly I'm proud to be a member of Unity Lodge. The officers of Unity have done a great job this year holding down the fort so there is something for you to be proud of when you're able to return to lodge. I would like to thank three brothers in particular for their hard work in getting our bylaws updated and our scholarship program started. These brothers are Senior Warden Craig Forshee, Secretary Ralph Scott, and Past Master Roy Beard who heads up our Bylaws committee. We talk about Masonry being a charitable institution and I'm happy to see that we will be increasing our charitable actions within the community. If there is anything the officers of Unity can do for you please let us know.

"The universal brotherhood of man is our most precious possession."- Mark Twain

Fraternally,

David Hasting, Worshipful Master

Honors & Thanksgiving Dinner

Saturday, November 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. we will be honoring our 50-year members, Past Masters and Widows with a Thanksgiving dinner provided by the Lodge. All Masonic Bodies meeting in the Lodge will be invited to participate in this dinner.

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"Better to keep a good conscience with an empty purse, than to get a bad opinion of myself, with a full one ----

Brother David Crockett

From The Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

In the last newsletter you were made aware of several by-law changes that were to be discussed at the August stated meeting. I am pleased to say that those changes were passed first at the August meeting and the scholarship portion at the September stated meeting. That particular portion was held over another month for further discussion and the drafting of amendments. Hopefully, we will begin awarding scholarships next fall for the fall and spring semesters to deserving high school seniors.

It is also that time of the year that we turn our attention to the collection of 2022 dues. Per the recent by-law change, the dues for 2022 are \$136.00 for regular members and \$36.00 for Past Masters prior to 2016. As usual, 50-year members and Life Members do not pay dues. It is important to get your dues in promptly as your Lodge needs these funds to function. Even if you are a 50-year member and wish to make a contribution to the Lodge for it's operating expenses, it would be greatly appreciated.

If you haven't been to Lodge in awhile, we hope to see you soon. We'll be glad to welcome you.

Fraternally,

Ralph Scott, Secretary



2021 Officers

- David Hasting, Worshipful Master
- Craig Forshee, Senior Warden
- Broque Lingerfelt, Junior Warden
- Ed Doremus, Treasurer
- Ralph Scott, Secretary
- Bill McDaniel, Chaplain
- Benji Kaw, Senior Deacon
- Joey Sabio, Junior Deacon
- Mike Riggs, Senior Steward
- Leo Manguob, Junior Steward
- Mike Beck, Tiler



Deaths

James Arnold Blaylock
07/29/1932 - 08/02/2021

Wallace Bell Couch
02/05/1943 - 09/09/2021

Raymond Melvin Newcomb
04/02/1923 - 08/13/2021

Harold Lee Morrison
01/05/1916 - 03/11/2021

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.

Calendar

October

- 1 – Normal Whitehaven OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 4 – Lodge Stated Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- 11 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 12 – Mizpah OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 14 – SCV Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- 16 – Daughter's of the Nile Stated Session @ 11:00 a.m.
- 18 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 23 - Master Mason Degrees (2)
- 25 – Lodge Official Visit @ 6:00 p.m.
- 26 – Normal-Whitehaven OES Special Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 28 – Rehearsal 6th & 21st Degree

November

- 1 – Lodge Stated Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- 3 – Daughter's of the Nile Official Visit
- 5 – Normal Whitehaven OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 4 – General Grand Chapter Watch Party
- 8 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 9 – Mizpah OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 11 – SCV Meeting
- 15 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 20 – Honor's & Thanksgiving Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.
- 22 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 25 – Thanksgiving Day / Lodge Dark



The Past Master Unknown Author

Who's the stranger, Mother, dear?
Look, he knows us - ain't that queer?

Hush, my son, don't talk so wild -
He's your father, dearest child.

He's my father? It's not so!
Father died six years ago.

Dad didn't die, Oh love of mine,
He's been going through the line.
But he's been Master now so he
has no place to go you see -
No place left for him to roam.
That is why he is coming home.
Kiss him, he won't bite you child.
All Past Masters are quite mild.



December

- 3 – Normal Whitehaven OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 6 – Lodge Stated Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- 9 – SCV Meeting
- 12 – Installation of Officers @ 2:00 p.m.
- 13 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 14– Mizpah OES Stated Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 20 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.
- 25 – Christmas Day
- 27 – Lodge School @ 6:00 p.m.

A Visit To A Country Lodge by Carl Claudy & John Daut

“Hey, we missed you at the Lodge meeting Brother Dowell.”
 “I was out in the country and attended the meeting there.”
 “Well, you really missed one here, the banquet was swell,
 the lodge room had cut flowers and decorated with care.

Wouldn't those ol' country boys have really had a treat,
 if they could see a big blow-out like ours was last night?”
 “Yes, I guess they would, their Lodge was plain but neat,
 but they made me open my eyes at their meeting all right.

Their Lodge is in the schoolhouse. A two-story building,
 erected by the Masonic Lodge, oh so many years before.
 It's provided rent free to the school board for schooling.
 The Lodge Room's up the outside stair to the upper floor.”

I was told about the meeting and said I'd like to attend.
 The Master took me to the butcher and I shook his hand.
 The butcher called up nine others to examine me no end.
 Those ten ask me questions, then answers they'd demand.

They made an event of the examination and it was tough.
 They ask me from how many wives King Solomon had,
 and where the Master hung his hat. It was really rough.
 In which hand does the Master carry the lantern, lad?

They enjoyed themselves a lot for three hours or more.
 From the moment that it ended, my status had a change.
 I was treated like a prince. Welcomed at anyone's door.
 Now they knew I was a Brother. I was no longer strange.

Next day, the farmers commenced coming in at daylight.
 By eleven the rail fence behind the courthouse was full,
 of gray mares with colts close by. Farmers, faces bright,
 in their Sunday clothes stood around shooting the bull.

Whittling on sticks and talking 'Masonry on the square.
 The most important occasion of the day come about noon.
 Dinner was served by the wives, in the room up the stair.
 I expected a luncheon, but it was a feast, we found soon!

Whole hams, whole turkeys with the stuffing sticking out.
 and right in front of me with an apple stuck in its jaw,
 a whole roasted pig, gallons of gravy and even sauerkraut.
 The tables had to stand cross-legged as we all soon saw,

To keep from falling down with the load that they held.
 Soon a little child gathered buttons scattered like seed
 under the table and the wives honor was upheld
 Well, I won't make you hungry telling about the feed.

Enough to say that we ate and talked until four o'clock.
 I never had such a time in my life. They made me speak
 and I told all the stories that I had heard in Little Rock
 this winter till the Master said I ought to travel in a show.

The women cleared up the place and we men went out.
 We sat on the fence till six and smoked pipe and cheroot
 The Lodge meeting opened at six o'clock or thereabout.
 The Master wore a slouch hat, there was not even a suit.

The Senior Warden had his hound sitting by his chair,
 but, I've never seen a more beautiful Masonic opening,
 or a better rendered master's degree. It was with a flair.
 The degree had finished and the lecture was inspiring.

I thought the work was over, but then I saw t'wasn't all.
 The Master finished all the work in the ritual, then said,
 Jim, you are now a Mason. I fear it'll be years fore ya'll
 will really know what that means, but that's all ahead.

There isn't a man in this room, that hasn't watched you,
 As you grew from a little shaver in a diaper to a man.
 And every one of us watched you all through school too.
 Through life, you knew you had no father, so we began.

Your father belonged to this Lodge and sat in every chair.
 Although you hardly remember him, every man present,
 followed him to his grave and every one of us will share,
 his life was spotless and square as a man's life was spent.

Jim, while we don't know much about heaven, our souls
 cry out the truthfulness of the life to come, and we know
 that in that great beyond your father's name is on the rolls
 looking down this minute and is glad and he has a glow.

Watch your career as a man and Mason. Be confident,
 and hope. He and we will watch from now on, Jim.
 He knew when you got into the habit of playing ten-cent
 limit with the bunch down at the hotel and it hurt him.

In your future, Jim, try to remember he's looking down
 and when there comes up a question of right and wrong
 try to think what we would do, without even a frown.
 Remember, now you take the honor of our Lodge along.

The Lodge where your father was Master and loved it so.
 You are a man now Jim, but when you were a little one,
 your daddy would take you in his arms and speaking low,
 pray God would guide you in the path that you his son,

has started in tonight and partly for your daddy's sake,
 partly for this old Lodge, partly for our God's delight,
 but mostly for your own sake, Jim. I beg you never take
 a step that'll make us regret what we have done tonight.”

Jim was in tears and I will admit that I was sniffing too
 when that old man got through. And, I didn't even recall,
 that he wasn't wearing a top hat or a tuxedo, all I did do,
 was become aware, that as a true Mason he stood tall.”