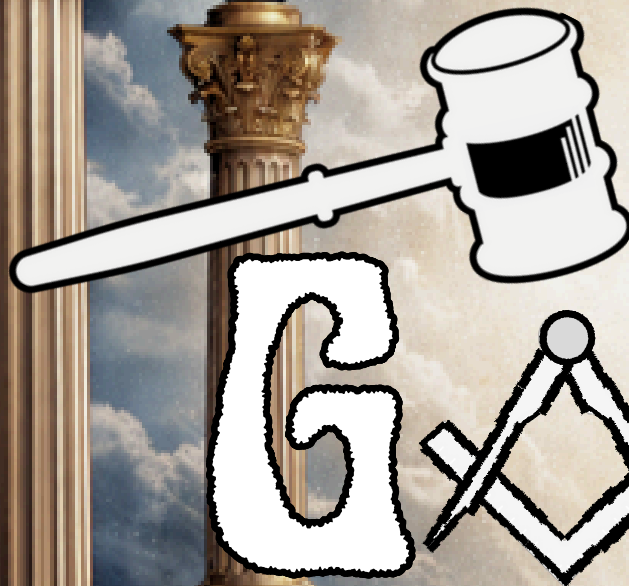


JANUARY 2026

ISSUE NO. 012



THE COMMON G VEL

A UNION LODGE MONTHLY MAGAZINE

WESTWOOD BLOOD DRIVE

COUPLE OF NEW R.W.'S

INTRODUCING M.W. TIMOTHY SHAWN MCGAVIN

PHOTOS FROM OUR JANUARY COMMUNICATION

PAGES FROM "DISCOURSES OF FREEMASONRY"

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UPCOMING EVENTS



JANUARY 30TH

BLOOD DRIVE
WESTWOOD MASONIC BUILDING
9AM-5PM

FEBRUARY 18TH

CELESTIAN LODGE REGULAR
COMMUNICATION
JOINT MEETING WITH UNION
LODGE
6PM OPEN 7PM DINNER
CHOCOLATE AND WINE PAIRING

FEBRUARY 28TH

DISTRICT RITUAL WORKSHOP
SECOND DEGREE
8AM BREAKFAST/9AM START

FRATERNAL VISITS

MARCH 9TH ORIENT LODGE - NORWOOD
MARCH 17TH RABBONI LODGE -
WESTWOOD
APRIL 1ST WEST ROXBURY-DORCHESTER
LODGE - WESTWOOD
APRIL 15TH UNION LODGE/CELESTIAL
LODGE - WESTWOOD
MAY 4TH PROSPECT LODGE - WESTWOOD

OTHER MEETINGS IN THE DISTRICT

PROSPECT LODGE - 1ST MONDAY WESTWOOD
WEST ROXBURY-DORCHESTER LODGE - 1ST WEDNESDAY WESTWOOD
ORIENT LODGE - 2ND MONDAY NORWOOD
UNION LODGE - 2ND TUESDAY NORWOOD
RABBONI LODGE - 3RD TUESDAY WESTWOOD
CELESTIAL LODGE - 3RD WEDNESDAY WESTWOOD

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE 6TH





UNION LODGE (D)

AF&AM

CHARTERED 1796



LODGE MEETING NIGHT AND LOCATION

1/21/2026

Dear Brethren of Union Lodge,

As we approach 2026 filled with hope and optimism, we want to convey our genuine aspirations for the upcoming changes within the Lodge. These changes are not about altering our traditions, history, or objectives, but rather about enhancing our approach, fostering unity, and strengthening our capacity to ensure the longevity of Freemasonry. This important journey must begin at home.

With the forthcoming merger with Celestial Lodge, careful planning and execution will be vital. Our ability to collaborate will reinforce our “union” and create one cohesive Lodge.

To facilitate collaboration, create opportunities for introductions, and begin strategizing for the future, we will commence joint meetings in February. Celestial Lodge has already organized a special evening featuring a dinner and chocolate pairing, which will be open to the public. This event will allow us to connect as brothers while also introducing our families.

Moving forward, our rehearsal night will be moving from the first Tuesday of the month to the second Tuesday of each month in Norwood (our usual stated meeting night).

Additionally, our meetings will be held with Celestial Lodge and will take place on the third Wednesday of each month at the Westwood Masonic Building (655 High St., Westwood, MA) by dispensation.

This change is expected to become permanent upon the merger due to the meeting schedule of the other Lodges in Westwood.

I understand there will be a lot of questions moving forward and will do our best to leave everyone with a reassurance that this decision is the best for our Lodge, the District, and the Fraternity. If you have any questions please reach out to myself or the secretary at any time.

Fraternally,

Andrew R. Knight

BLOOD DRIVE

WESTWOOD
FREEMASONS

JANUARY
30TH
9AM-5PM

SCHEDULE
AN
APPOINTMENT
TODAY!

CONTACT MARK LUHTANEN
MARKSISU@GMAIL.COM

Give!

HISTORY

BROUGHT TO LIFE

Last month, we had the pleasure of sharing our inaugural joint meeting between Celestial Lodge and Union Lodge. The event saw remarkable attendance, featuring R.W. Walter Hunt, who enlightened us on the history of our two Lodges. Together, we enjoyed a delicious home-cooked meal with our Brethren and their families, marking a new chapter in our shared history.

Both Lodges participated in a joint opening, followed by brief business meetings. This will be our approach moving forward (please refer to the letter on the previous page of this publication).

We also held a “candlelight” meeting, inspired by Union Lodge’s visit to Alexandria, Virginia, a few years ago. What better way to honor our history than by embracing a historical setting? Brother Jeff Zesch and Brother Dave Gasson attended the meeting in full period attire, accompanied by their fellow Brothers in the Minutemen. Additionally, Union Lodge presented Captain Brother John Wilder and the Minutemen with a check from a previous golf tournament for the Shriners transportation fund.

Wor. Andy Knight had the honor of presenting Wor. Mike Friedland with a Past Master’s mug. After the meeting, we gathered in the dining hall for a hearty homemade beef stew and vegetable soup, engaging in lively discussions until the evening came to a close.

The camaraderie and shared experiences during this momentous occasion have set a powerful precedent for future gatherings. The collaboration between Celestial Lodge and Union Lodge not only strengthens our bonds but also enriches our understanding of Masonic traditions and the values we hold dear. As we look forward to the upcoming months, we are excited to continue exploring ways to bring our Lodges closer together through events that celebrate our shared heritage and commitment to community service.

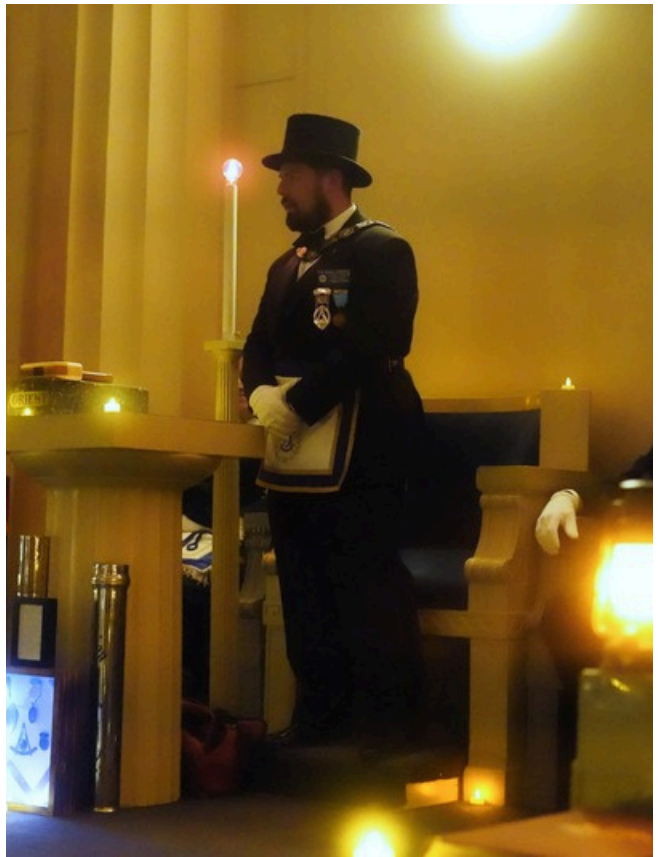
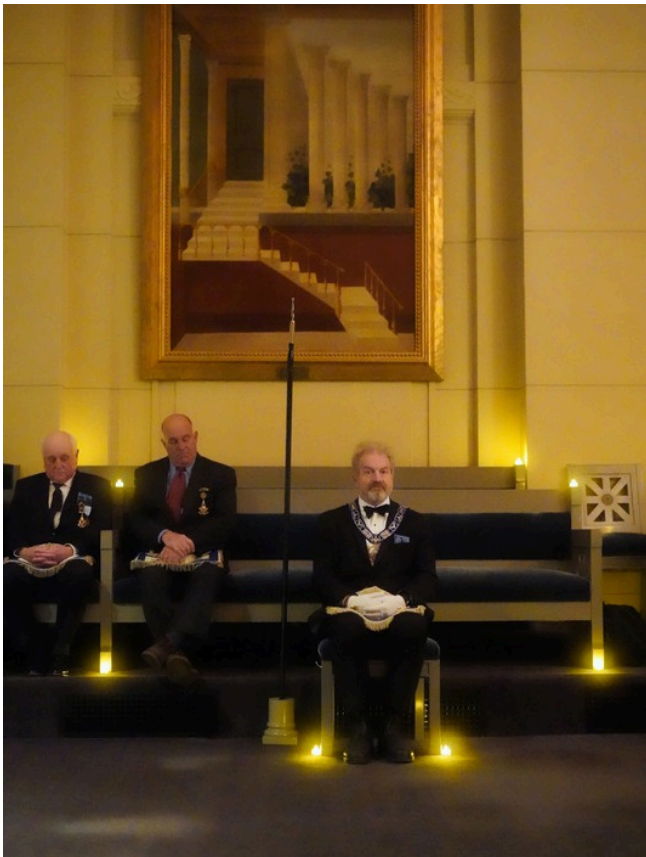
In the spirit of unity, we encourage all members to participate in forthcoming activities and to bring forth any ideas that could further enhance our collective Masonic journey. Whether through educational sessions, social gatherings, or charitable endeavors, every contribution helps in building a vibrant and inclusive Masonic community that honors both our past and future aspirations.



JANUARY COMMUNICATION



JANUARY COMMUNICATION



\$45
PER
PERSON

**CELESTIAL LODGE'S
CHOCOLATE AND BEVERAGE
PAIRING**



**LODGE OPENING AT 6:00PM
DINNER W/ FAMILIES (2I+) AT 7:00PM**

DINNER MENU:

**GARDEN SALAD, CHICKEN SCALLOPINI, RICE PILAF,
ROASTED VEGGIES (SUMMER SQUASH/ZUCCHINI/ETC.)
ASSORTED COOKIES/BROWNIES, HOT & COLD
BEVERAGES**

**AFTER DINNER ADAM CENTAMORE
OF EAT, DRINK, LEARN WILL BE
LEADING THE GROUP WITH A
CHOCOLATE TASTING WITH PAIRED
BEVERAGES.**

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED - PLEASE RSVP TO
ERNIE MARGESON - ERNESTMARGESON@HOTMAIL.COM
OR MARK LUHTENAN - MARKSISU@GMAIL.COM
BY 2/14/26**

**JOINT COMMUNICATION WITH UNION LODGE (D)
BY DISPENSATION**

Grand Master of Masonry in Massachusetts

MOST WORSHIPFUL TIMOTHY SHAWN MCGAVIN



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92

STATS:

Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts

MOST WORSHIPFUL TIMOTHY SHAWN MCGAVIN

RAISED: MOUNT HERMON LODGE - WOBURN - MAY 1984

OTHER LODGES: EUCLID LODGE (WEYMOUTH), LYNNFIELD-ZETLAND LODGE (WAKEFIELD), STAR OF BETHLEHEM LODGE (WAKEFIELD), TAHATTAWAN LODGE (LITTLETON), DELTA LODGE (BRAINTREE), MILTON LODGE (BRAINTREE)

PAST MASTER: MOUNT HERMAN 1992-1994/2008-2009, EUCLID LODGE 2011-2012, GOLDEN RULE LODGE 2016-2017

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: 8TH MASONIC DISTRICT 2014-2015

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN: 2019

GRAND MASTER: INSTALLED AT THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN 2025

OTHER ROLES: GRAND LODGE SERVICE COMMITTEE, GRAND LODGE'S BUDGET COMMITTEE, AND REJUVENATION COMMITTEE, SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY OF BOSTON, CONCORD CHAPTER, ORIENTAL COUNCIL, AND COEUR DE LION COMMANDERY #34, ALEPPO SHRINER

The pages that you see below are from "Discourses of Freemasonry" by The Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris first Chaplain of Union Lodge and first Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.

On the next page I will provide a link to a digital copy of the book for your viewing pleasure

THE
FRATERNAL TRIBUTE,

OF
RESPECT

PAID TO THE
MASONIC CHARACTER

OF
WASHINGTON,

IN THE
UNION LODGE,

IN
DORCHESTER,

January 7th, A. L. 5800.

INFORMATION.

AS soon as the members could conveniently be called together, after the mournful intelligence arrived of the death of their illustrious Brother GEORGE WASHINGTON, they assembled to pay their funeral honours to his memory.

THE hall, the furniture of the lodge, and the brethren, were all dressed in the badges of mourning : and the apartment but dimly lighted.

THE following address was delivered : an occasional dirge was sung, and a well adapted anthem chanted, by the choir.

APPROPRIATE testimonials of respect closed the solemnities.

ADDRESS.

AH, my brethren, what a change do we perceive ! Our lodge, the lightsome abode of joy, how darkened with the gloom of sorrow ! Instead of the gay splendour with which it was irradiated, a pale sepulchral light dimly gleams in its recesses. The cheerful salutation with which we were wont to hail the beloved member or welcome the accepted visitant, is now exchanged for the look of sadness and the condolence of sympathy. We forego the sprightly song for the solemn dirge, and the cup of pleasure for the chalice of woe. The regalia are all veiled in black, and every thing about us bears the tokens of the loss we have sustained in the death of WASHINGTON, the patron, the ornament, the pride of our Fraternity. We assemble to dwell in pensive recollection on his sublime virtues, to record his social worth, and to

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give vent in privacy to our unaffected sorrows at his decease.

His modest and unambitious spirit, which shrunk from the pomp of life, and delighted rather in the silent satisfaction of doing well, than in the loud applauses of the world for having done so, would not disdain the humble honours we pay : though artless, yet cordial ; though unostentatious, yet sincere.

It is not in our power to make a parade of funeral obsequies, nor to erect a pompous cenotaph to his fame ; but what we can, we do ; we inscribe his worth on our memories, and inshrine his virtues in our hearts.

WHEN we consider him as a General and a Statesman, we are filled with admiration. When we recognize in him the defender, deliverer, and father of his country, our bosoms glow with gratitude. But when we behold him in the less majestic but more engaging character of a brother, his memory is endeared to our affections and has a peculiar claim upon our love.

Possessing dispositions congenial with the genuine spirit of *Free Masonry*, he early became a member of the society. Habitually

Character of Washington. 281

desirous of enlarging the sphere of social happiness and of promoting the cause of philanthropy, he discovered in our order means eminently conducive to these important purposes.* It gave a nobler expansion to his charity, a wider range to his benevolence. Accordingly, he engaged in the plans and assisted the labours of the lodge, with a high satisfaction which those only can feel whose hearts are warmed with the same disinterested love, and enlarged with the same good will.

WHEN harassed by the fatigues of war or the concerns of public life, he was fond of seeking the refreshment and enjoying the serenity always to be found within the peaceful walls of the lodge. There every perplexing anxiety subdued, and every tumultuous thought was calmed. There he obtained relief from his cares, or strength to rise above them. There his spirit was enlivened and his joys restored ; every cloud dispersed, and a bright sunshine illuminated his prospects.

* See this most beautifully alluded to, and most happily expressed in his answer to the address of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on their presenting him a copy of the Book of Constitutions.

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HE passed the various grades and filled the several offices of the lodge ; and was tried, proved and accepted in them all. And whether we contemplate him as exalted to the chair of Solomon, to instruct and govern ; or returning to the level of his brethren to partake their toils and share their duties ; we have equal occasion to admire the dignity and humility of his character, the noble elevation and amiable condescension of his manners.* So, when raised to the highest military and civil honours his grateful country could bestow, even, when filling the rank of PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES he deemed it no derogation of his distinguished eminence and station to be considered as a Mason†.

IN short, his love for the order, his zeal in promoting its interests, and his testimony

* In the course of the revolutionary war, this exalted hero frequently visited a Lodge where a *Sarjeant* presided as *Master*.

† This is proved by his answers to the various complimentary addresses of most of the Grand Lodges in America. His reply to one from *King David's Lodge* in New port (R. I.) contains this declaration : " Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the society, and to be considered by them as a deserving brother."

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name will out-shine the flashes of their resentment, and reflect a glory upon *Masonry* which can never fade.

HAPPY in its original value and grateful for its augmented fame, let us resolve never to forfeit nor lessen the present high respectability of the craft. Let our lives be adorned with those social and moral virtues which become us as the *sons of light*, and the brothers of WASHINGTON. We shall honour him by honouring the institution of his early attachment, and latest veneration. His virtues illustrated its principles, and his benevolence explained its tendencies. O might our virtuous actions and benevolent purposes, formed by the same discipline and excited by the same motives, emulate his! And, though they fall, at last, far, far behind in merit and effect; it will be to their praise that they were modelled after those that were sublime and perfect.

ILLUSTRIOUS WASHINGTON! We lament thee as mortal by nature, but we celebrate thee as immortal by virtue! We mourn thy departure from earth, but rejoice at thy arrival in heaven! Having been faithful in all thy course, thou art now raised to the sublime degree of LIGHT INEFFABLE. Taught

Character of Washington. 285

by thy example worthily to pass the probationary grades of time, we will hope to follow thee to the Grand Lodge of kindred spirits.

FAREWELL, till the grand summons: then brother, we will rise and meet thee!

Physical copies of this book can still be found online. I recently purchased an 1855 version for around \$30 on ebay



scan here to read

or go to this address...

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015063591419&seq=7>



R.W. John C Robinson Jr. &
R.W Michael C Morris Jr..

Congrats Right Worshipfuls!

Congratulations to R.W. John C. Robinson Jr.

Installed as Grand Lecturer on December 29, 2025

W. Brother Robinson has been a dedicated Mason since
1988.

He has recently completed his term as Master of Lynnfield-Zetland Lodge in Wakefield, MA, and is currently serving as the District Marshall for the 13th Masonic District.

Additionally, R.W. Brother Robinson has been a member of Union Lodge since December 2021.



Congratulations to R.W. Michael C. Morris Jr.

Installed as the Deputy District Grand Master for the 13th
Masonic District on December 29, 2025.

R.W. Brother Morris has been a Mason since 2007.
He held the position of Master at the Star of Bethlehem
Lodge and Lynnfield-Zetland Lodge in Wakefield, MA.

R.W. Brother Morris has been a proud member of Union
Lodge since January 2021.

Both Brothers are recipients of the Bill Stoddard Award
at Union Lodge

First Fraternal of R.W. Michael C. Morris Jr. at Star Of Bethlehem Lodge (Wakefield, MA)



First Fraternal of R.W. Michael C. Morris Jr.



Just before 8:00pm at the Wakefield/Lynnfield Masonic Building, the halls were lined from the threshold of the room well into the dining hall, with distinguished Masons ranking from Brother to Most Worshipful. The District Marshal of the 13th Masonic district, R.W. John C. Robinson Jr, escorted R.W. John E. Kelley Jr. Past Senior Grand Warden in 2023 through the crowd to receive the newly appointed DDGM. At 8:00pm sharp, the roar of clapping and hoorahs deafened the crowd as R.W. Michael C. Morris Jr. crossed the threshold for the first time as District Deputy Grand Master. After what seemed like an eternity of introducing his well distinguished seats the DDGM gave the signal for the sidelines to be seated.

He greeted the Lodge, the Grand Lodge dignitaries, his fellow DDGM's, the Masters and Brethren present. He gave an opportunity for M.W. Richard Maggio, Past Grand Master to speak, as well as the Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Adam E. Mitchell, and the Junior Grand Warden R.W. Paul R. Gaudet.

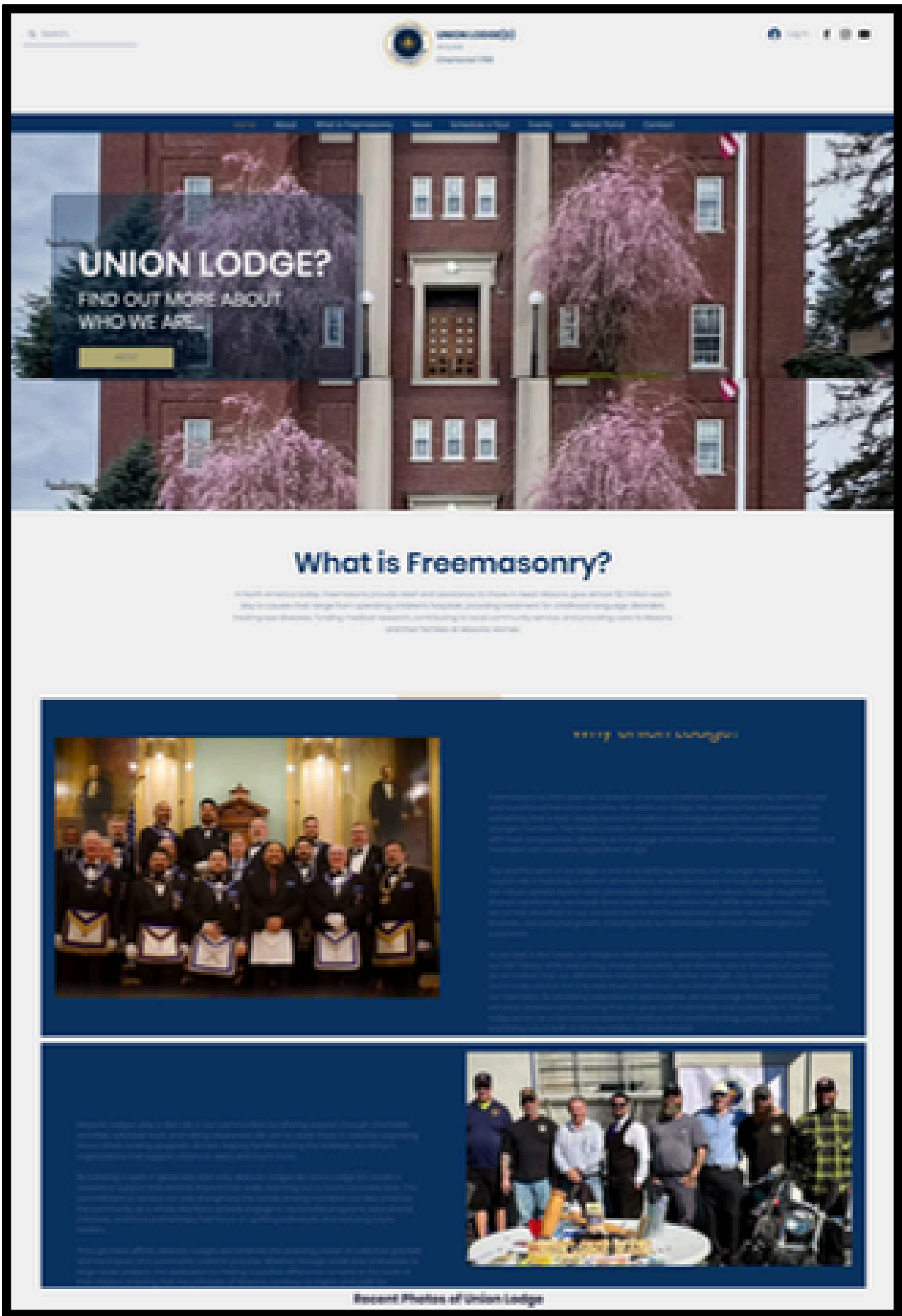
The Master of Star of Bethlehem Lodge was presented the Gavel and Oriental Chair to conduct further Lodge business. Wor. John S. Brownell Jr called for the Marshal to conduct the Past Masters of Star of Bethlehem Lodge to the East with R.W. Fred Dobson Jr. who then presented R.W. Brother Morris with his DDGM pocket jewel.

R.W. Brother Morris explained how humbling the turnout was. Bro. Morris addressed the crowd from the level. Key points from his speech covered how the Brethren and relationships forged in the Lodge room are more valuable than the finest goods. He then went on to talk about the vulgar and damaged society is and how we as Masons, learning to consistently be better people hold the cure...Freemasonry.

The evening was a true showing of how humble and important this Brother has been to Freemasonry and his brother's journeys in the Craft. His dedication to Freemasonry is a true inspiration.

UNIONLODGEDORCHESTER.ORG

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OUR NEW WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY LIVE

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY LIVE