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THE COMMON G VEL

A UNION LODGE MONTHLY MAGAZINE

HAMS FOR VETERANS - ROSES BOUNTY - HOW WE HELPED

**UPCOMING
DISTRICT
EVENTS**

**GRAND
MASTER'S
AWARD**

**HISTORICAL
EVENTS
SINCE 1796**

NEW YORK TRIP - RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!!!

TABLE *of* CONTENTS



UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS 02

TAKE DUE NOTICE

NEW YORK GRAND LODGE TRIP 03

RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

HAMS FOR VETERANS 05

HOW WE HELPED THIS EASTER SEASON

GRAND MASTERS AWARD 06

WITH THE HELP OF OUR BROTHERS WE CAN DO ANYTHING

HISTORICAL EVENTS SINCE 1796 07

ALL THAT UNION LODGE HAS BEEN AROUND FOR

A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE 08





UPCOMING EVENTS



APRIL 30TH

EXEMPLIFICATION

FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION
FOR THE DISTRICT
ALL OFFICERS REQUIRED -SUITS

MAY 2ND-4TH

UNION & PROSPECT LODGES
TRIP TO NY GRAND LODGE FOR
THE PURPOSE OF A
MASSACHUSETTS 3RD DEGREE!

MAY TBD

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION
ADDITIONAL LOI AS PER ORDER
OF THE DDGM

MARCH 24TH

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION
ALL OFFICERS REQUIRED TO
ATTEND - WESTWOOD
BUILDING TOPIC: SYMBOLISM

MAY 17TH

CELESTIAL LODGE MURDER
MYSTERY NIGHT -6PM
80'S THEME, SEE PREVIOUS
EMAIL FOR MORE INFORMATION

JUNE 23RD

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION
COOKOUT 7PM MASONIC CASUAL
WESTWOOD MASONIC BUILDING

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE 6TH



***A SPECIAL MASONIC DEGREE IN ***

NEW YORK



Union and Prospect Lodges are cordially inviting you to join us for a weekend of Fraternism in New York. We will be departing Westwood Lodge mid-day Friday May 2nd. We will have time to explore the city Friday night. Saturday we will be heading to NY Grand Lodge to perform a 3rd Degree, followed by a tour of the Grand Lodge Building, followed by a Fraternal dinner at Fraunce's Tavern which has historical ties to George Washington! We will return to MA on Sunday May 4th.

The total cost will be between \$250-300 Per person.

This cost will reflect 2 nights in a hotel shared with another brother, fuel, tolls, and transportation, and a group dinner on Saturday night. If you are looking for someone to bunk with please let Wor. Andy Knight know ASAP!

IF YOU HAVEN'T BOOKED A ROOM PLEASE LET US KNOW ASAP



FRAUNCE'S TAVERN



Fraunce's Tavern - Est. 1762

New York's oldest and most historic bar and restaurant, Fraunces Tavern® is a National Landmark building that once served as a watering hole for many of the Founding Fathers of the United States of America.

This building is most famous as the site where, on December 4, 1783, George Washington gathered a group of his officers, nine days after the last of the British troops left American soil, to thank them for their service and bid them an emotional farewell before returning home. The only first-hand account of the Farewell comes from The Memoirs of Colonel Benjamin Tallmadge, which Fraunces Tavern Museum has on display. Fraunces Tavern® Museum is the only Museum in New York City that allows visitors to discover the American Revolutionary past in NYC's oldest standing structure.

A tavern older than the country itself, Fraunces acted as the headquarters for George Washington, as a watering hole for many of the Founding Fathers, and today, as a testament to it all. So brush up on New York's revolutionary past, with a pint and chicken pot pie — it was Washington's favorite after all.



Rose's Bounty West Roxbury Food Pantry

HUNGER IMPACTS ONE IN TEN IN EASTERN
MASSACHUSETTS

On March 22nd Union and Celestial Lodges organized a pool tournament to raise funds for families in need. As a collective effort along with other supporters in the 6th Masonic District, this successful event raised \$1300 for Charity. I put Bro. Eric Narciso on the task of connecting with Rose's Bounty Food Pantry in West Roxbury, MA.

Rose's Bounty is dedicated to supporting the local community and has serves residents of West Roxbury, Roslindale, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, and Mattapan. They believe that giving access to nourishing, fresh food is fundamental for a strong community, and a strong community takes care of one another.

Rose's Bounty have an open food pantry dedicated to Veterans only, and have special programs for school children, disabled and homeless veterans, and elderly & home-bound neighbors to ensure the less visible community members are not forgotten.

Bro. Narciso traveled to West Roxbury on April 15th to present a check from to the pantry for their "Hams for Vets" initiative. Our collections helped provide Easter Hams for 31 Veterans this Easter. Darra Slagle, executive director of Rose's Bounty food pantry gave Bro. Narciso a tour of the facility and expressed many thanks to the Lodges and District for their help and kindness.

If you are interested in supporting Rose's Bounty, they are looking for people willing to donate time, money, food, and reusable/recyclable shopping bags.

You can find out more on their website

<https://www.stratfordstreetunitedchurch.org>



Union Lodge has been awarded the

Grand Master's Award

At the March Grand Lodge Quarterly meeting, Union Lodge was honored with the Grand Master's Award, a recognition of the hard work and dedication of the Lodge and its members. The original award contained a small typo, which Brother Jeff Zesch, a member of Union Lodge, kindly corrected for us. He graciously brought the revised award to the last meeting to formally present it to the Lodge once again. The corrected award now holds a special place in the Lodge's history, symbolizing both their achievements and the camaraderie among its members. As they celebrated this recognition, the Lodge looked forward to continuing their tradition of service and fellowship, inspired by the values and principles that earned them such a prestigious honor.



UNION LODGE AND THE HISTORICAL CHANGES THAT SURROUND IT...

In our current societal state we are often faced with obstacles, breaking news, information of war, depression, and more. This has made me think about the survival of Union Lodge and the growth that our Lodge has seen over the years. When I was a child I bought my father a book about the year he was born. This publication included fuel, grocery, house and car prices, top movies and music for 1957, the year he was born.

The Lodge has seen so much more, dating back to June 16th 1796. I began thinking about Presidents that have been in office. Our Brother George Washington, was

president of these United States from 1789-1797. When our Lodge was chartered the First President was still in office. We have been a Lodge during every presidency this country has ever seen.

The Pledge of Allegiance that we recite in every meeting wasn't written until 1892. There were 4 other versions before the one we know today.

Union Lodge has survived through many wars including the War of 1812, Mexican-American and Spanish-American Wars, WWI and WWII, American Civil War, Korean War, Vietnam War, the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars and those are just the major conflicts.

In 1806 the African Meeting House, the first church built by free Black Americans opened in Boston. In 1820, Maine separated from Massachusetts becoming its own state. In the year 1822 Boston was chartered as a city. In 1848 we saw the first woman's rights convention held in Worcester. In the year 1865 slavery was abolished. In 1965 the Voting Rights Act was enacted pushing for equality in voters' rights.

Union Lodge was chartered amidst the Industrial Revolution and survived the Great Depression. When we think about all the things that have come and gone since 1796, it puts a lot into perspective. The automobile, the Wright Brothers first plane flight, the moon landing, the internet, cellphones, furby and tickle-me-elmo. We have seen innovative measures including the steamboat (1807), telephone (1876), and the electric light bulb (1879). Many of these inventions we find ourselves unable to live without.



OUR NEW WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY LIVE

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY LIVE

Q Search...



UNION LODGE(D)
A.F. & A.M.
Chartered 1796

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Events

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UNION LODGE?

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHO WE ARE...

ABOUT

What is Freemasonry?

In North America today, Freemasons provide relief and assistance to those in need. Masons give almost \$2 million each day to causes that range from operating children's hospitals, providing treatment for childhood language disorders, treating eye diseases, funding medical research, contributing to local community service, and providing care to Masons and their families at Masonic Homes.



Why Union Lodge?

Freemasonry is often seen as a bastion of ancient traditions, characterized by solemn rituals and a profound historical narrative. Yet, within our lodge, this essence has transformed into something that is both deeply rooted in tradition and invigorated by the enthusiasm of our younger members. This blend creates an environment where time-honored values coexist with fresh perspectives, allowing us to engage with the principles of Freemasonry in a way that resonates with everyone, regardless of age.

The youthful spirit of our lodge is one of its defining features. Our younger members play a crucial role in fostering a vibrant atmosphere, where the bonds formed are as important as the values upheld. Humor and camaraderie are central to our culture, through laughter and shared experiences, we break down barriers and cultivate trust. While we embrace modernity, we remain steadfast in our commitment to the foundational masonic values of integrity, kindness, and personal growth, ensuring that our relationships are both meaningful and supportive.

As we look to the future, our lodge is dedicated to nurturing a vibrant community that honors our rich history while welcoming change. Inclusivity and diversity are at the core of our mission, as we believe that our differences enhance our collective strength. Our active involvement in community service not only aids those in need but also strengthens the connections among our members. By prioritizing educational opportunities, we encourage lifelong learning and personal development, ensuring that we grow both individually and collectively. In this way, our lodge serves as a harmonious blend of tradition and youthful energy, paving the way for a promising future built on the foundation of brotherhood.

Masonic Lodges play a vital role in our communities by offering support through charitable activities, volunteer work, and raising awareness. We aim to assist those in need by organizing blood drives, hosting spaghetti dinners, helping families during the holidays, donating to organizations that support citizens in need, and much more.

By fostering a spirit of generosity and unity, Masonic Lodges like Union Lodge (D) create a network of support that extends beyond their walls, reaching out to touch countless lives. This commitment to service not only strengthens the bonds among members but also enriches the community as a whole. Members actively engage in mentoring programs, educational initiatives, and local partnerships that focus on uplifting individuals and nurturing future leaders.

Through these efforts, Masonic Lodges demonstrate the enduring power of collective goodwill and the impact of a community united in purpose. Whether through small acts of kindness or large-scale projects, the dedication to making a positive difference remains at the heart of their mission, ensuring that the principles of Masonry continue to inspire and uplift for



Recent Photos of Union Lodge