

Masonic Building Association
Unity Lodge No. 130, AF&AM
520 South First Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6902

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The

UNITY

Lodge No. 130, A.F.&A.M.



Editor, & Publisher...Ken Salisbury, PM
Web Site: <http://www.unity130.com>

Your Officers for 2008-2009

Worshipful Master	Glendon E. Rice, Jr.	Roger H. Hansen	Senior Deacon
Senior Warden	Thomas R. Harper	William C. Cofer	Junior Deacon
Junior Warden	Arlen Nordhagen	Senior Steward	
Treas/Secry	Ronald E. Lockwood, PGM	Junior Steward	
Chaplain		Marshal	
		Tyler	Mark Kuehn

March 2009

Wow, what a month we have had and it isn't over just yet. As I sit and write this article we are finalizing the preparations for the One Day Festival. Our Lodge will open and close the Master Mason Degree. In all, Unity has the opportunity to raise around 60 new Master Masons. If this happens, our membership will once again be over 500 Master Masons. Hope to have bumped into you on the 28th.

I had the privilege to attend and participate in the conferral of the Fellow Craft Degree by Minnehaha #5 and Trinity #200. Our newest Fellow Craft, Joshua Mannhalter, was passed to that degree on the evening of March 22nd. The Entered Apprentices that were participating in the conferral did a public prove up prior to the conferral. It was very impressive to see as these young men answered questions about the Entered Apprentice Degree and proved themselves to be worthy of passing to the next degree.

This upcoming meeting, April 16th, we will be voting on the proposed change to our by-laws. The exact language is listed elsewhere in this newsletter. For those that don't understand the basis of this change, dues are due on December 31st for the following year. If not paid by that time you are considered delinquent. So, your dues for 2009 were due by December 31, 2008. On January 1, 2009 if you had not paid your dues, you

The early bird may get the worm, but the 2nd mouse gets the cheese.

Every time I hear the dirty word "exercise" I wash my mouth out with chocolate.

Great occasions do make heroes or cowards, they simply unveil them to the eyes.

were delinquent and technically, you were not able to inform any appended body that you were a member in good standing of Unity Lodge. If you did not pay your 2009 dues by December 31, 2009, you would be suspended by the Lodge and all the appended bodies would have been informed and they would have notified you that as you were under suspension from your Blue Lodge, they could not renew your membership until you had settled the issue. This proposed change will move the suspension date from December 31st to April 30th. So, for this year, if you have not paid your 2009 dues by April 30th, the appended bodies will be informed and you will not be allowed to participate in any of their activities. So, if you are a member of the Shrine, you will not be allowed to participate in any unit activities and will be barred from attending meetings that are tiled. This will include ceremonials, Midwest Shrine Association activities, Imperial Sessions and so forth. The same applies to the Scottish and York Rites. The main issue is the Lodge not having the funds to cover the assessments we pay to the Grand Lodge and the Masonic Building Association.

The will must be stronger than the skill.

It is not too late to make a commitment to your Lodge for the next year. I know that Tom would appreciate any assistance that you would be willing to offer.

Stay tuned, next month I will be announcing the first recipient of the Unity Lodge Masonic Leader Award. I will also have the criteria all printed up and available for members to read and use to nominate a deserving Brother.

Don't let April fool you into missing Lodge...

Fraternally,

Glendon Rice, WM

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*This is the resolution that was properly introduced, moved and seconded during the February 26, 2009 meeting. In keeping with our By-Laws, this is proper notice of proposed amendment to our By-Laws. The voting will take place on April 16, 2009 during our stated meeting, which starts at 7 PM.*

To the Master, Wardens and Brothers of Unity Lodge,  
I make the following motion:

**Whereas,**

The untimely payment of annual dues is a hardship to the Lodge: and

**Whereas,**

This causes the Lodge an unnecessary hindrance in the fulfillment of its financial responsibilities; and

**Whereas,**

This is an additional burden unto the Secretary and Treasurer of the Lodge to collect unpaid annual dues; therefore, be

**Resolved,**

That Unity Lodge #130 modify its bylaws to adjust the suspension of membership to April 30<sup>th</sup> of the current year for failure to pay annual dues.

*To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly.*



"KENNING WITH KEN"

I just read an article from Scottish Rite's NORTHERN LIGHT, a newsletter published by the Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite of North America. It is entitled: "MASONRY'S TEACHINGS CAUSE POOR ATTENDANCE." The author is Bliss Kelly, an Oklahoma Mason and was written in 1968.

I'd like to comment on it in this Newsletter, so here goes:

It starts out by saying "*There are just too many other things going on these days, and that's why lodge attendance is small*". An excuse you have no doubt heard many times. And then the author says this: "*Yet, if we remember the admonitions of Masonic ritual we realize that Masonry urges all its members to become good citizens, to be active in civic work and in improving the community in which a Mason lives.*" It goes on to say he must be a good husband, a good father, a good supporter of his church, his community, and have an interest in the education of his children and in their activities, etc. In addition he must be a good worker and he must support his family. In so doing these things isn't he being a good Mason?

"Certainly, Masonry is not a religion, nor a political party, nor an educational institution, nor a welfare agency, nor law enforcement agency. But we "serve" in all these principles of good citizenship, and we expect that.

"*Should we then require everyone to be poured into the same mold whereby they become good ritualists or workers in lodges? Let us feel fortunate that all our members are so active in their community*". I have a "quote" that I make time and time again: "Let's face it, there are just so many men that can stand a stated meeting!" We need to recruit as many as we can for our own work, "*but instead of complaining, we should be talking about the marvelous results of Masonry's work over the years.*"

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| Every time I start thinking too much about how I look, I just find a Happy Hour and by the time I leave, I look just fine. |
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**Have a good Easter, a good Passover**

**And a good circus!**