



May Trestleboard

Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27, A.F. & A.M.

Chartered on October 27, 1789

www.ru27.org



FROM THE MASTER'S STATION

Worshipful Matt Frakes

Greetings Brethren,

The weather is getting warmer, and the days are getting longer, as we are in the peak of the April Spring season. We had our lodge “Spaghetti Night” prior to our April stated meeting. We raised \$70 in donations toward our lodge “Teddy Bear Fund.” Our presentation for April’s stated meeting was the Harrisonburg Fire Chief – Matthew Tobia. Chief Tobia was recently honored by Virginia’s Governor with the “2022 Governor’s Fire Service Award - VA Fire Chief of the Year.” He gave an extremely entertaining program on what’s new with the Harrisonburg Fire Department and what has been accomplished since his arrival as Chief. We are extremely fortunate to have such a tremendous leader in charge of our local Fire Department.

Rockingham Union #27 has a busy end of April approaching. Our lodge will be the host lodge for District 5 & 6 for the One-Day-Conferral on Saturday, April 29th. As it sits right now, it appears we have a maximum of 5 one-day-conferral candidates, the most potential candidates of any lodge in our District. We will be holding a one-day-conferral practice at the Rockingham Union #27 lodge on Thursday, April 27th, led by R.W. Frank Will, in which I expect the R.U. brethren to attend if you are participating in the one-day-conferral.

Our next monthly stated meeting will occur on Monday, May 1st at 7:30pm. Before our stated meeting, we will be having a lodge dinner starting at 6:00pm, which will be provided by the OES – Shenandoah Valley Chapter #76. The menu includes: ranch-baked chicken, tossed salad, green beans, scalloped potatoes, assorted cookies, and drinks. This dinner is free to those who attend, but as with the prior monthly dinners, any donations to our lodge “Teddy Bear Fund,” would be greatly appreciated.

The May stated meeting will have presentation from Sally Day – Director of Development with The Service Dogs of VA. She will be bringing a service dog in training with her for this exciting and informative presentation.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Monday, May 1st at 6:00pm for our delicious lodge dinner and for our May stated meeting starting at 7:30pm.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Matt Frakes

Stated Communication 1 May 2023

Dinner at 6:00 PM – Ranch Baked Chicken
Program at 7:30 PM - Service Dogs of Virginia
Meeting after Program

- Officers-suit or jacket/tie
- Brethren-business casual

May 2023

DEGREE PROGRESS

The 3rd Monday of each month is reserved for Degree Work.

Practice for the One-Day-Conferral (mentors) on April 27th

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This month, we begin our Member Spotlights, where we introduce members to the brethren.

David Bates

David Bates lives in Rockingham County with his Wife Megan, dog Zeus (Great Dane), and cat Captain. He grew up in Bridgewater and graduated from Turner Ashby High School, then attended and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Bridgewater College. David works at ALCOVA Mortgage in downtown Harrisonburg, and is a co-branch partner with his father Robert. Together, they lead a team of 5 loan officers and have helped 100's of individuals and families finance their home ownership dreams since he joined Robert in the business 7 years ago. David is proud to be one of only 4 "Certified Mortgage Advisors" in the area and has been a top producer for his company and the nation for several years, even earning the renowned "Scottsman's Guide Top Originator" award in 2022.

David and his wife are expecting their first child to be born this year, and are extremely excited (and nervous) for their parenthood journey. In his free time he enjoys movies, gaming, and traveling to various tropical destinations. David also enjoys volunteering at Camp Overlook where he met his wife and is currently serving as the Board of Directors treasurer for the organization.

David's favorite thing about attending Lodge is enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship with brothers as well as the chance to learn more from the speakers each month on different subject matters and how they relate to our local area.

EVENTS

- April 27th – practice for one-day conferral, emphasis on mentors at RU27
- **April 29th – One-day conferral at RU #27**
- May 19th – Grand Master's Official Visit to Districts 5 & 6, at Shawnee Farms Estate in Luray, VA at 6pm. If you want to go, please email DDGM to reserve your tickets – business casual or casual dress
- June 16th, 1-10pm Casks For A Cause at Brothers Craft Brewing – benefiting BSA
- August 11th & 12th – Reid James Simmons Academy at Roanoke Scottish Rite
- Oct 14th – Area Masonic Ritual School for Districts 3, 5 & 6 in Front Royal

Lodge Prayer List

Sick or Distressed

- Brother Dave Silcox's wife, Ann, had a bad fall a few weeks back, please send your prayers and good thoughts for her quick recovery.

If you know of a Brother who needs prayers or assistance, please contact the Lodge Secretary at ru27secretary@gmail.com.

Good News!

If you know of a Brother's good fortune or of something in your own life, please contact the Lodge Secretary at ru27secretary@gmail.com. It is a wonderful way to acknowledge the triumphs and successes of our Brethren.

May 2023

Masonic Birthdays in May

Oscar Alley
David Bates
Ronald Branner
Tracy Evans
Leonard Fitzwater
Jack Jeffries
Steve Knight
Danny Neese
Phillip Stone
Neal Wong
Daniel Yancey

Happy Birthday to all these Brethren!!

Appendant Bodies

O.E.S. - Shenandoah Chapter No. 76

- May 2nd – 7:30pm Stated Meeting
 - Refreshments at 6:45pm
- May 22nd – 24th, Grand Chapter of Virginia at Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Conference Center
- May 26th – 6:30pm, Family Movie Night at RU 27 Lodge benefiting Service Dogs of Virginia. \$10 adult, \$5 children/students – Includes hot dogs, popcorn, candy and drinks