



June 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,

What an exciting start to summer for Rockingham Union #27! Our May meeting included a delicious baked-chicken dinner, prepared by our friends at the OES – Shenandoah Valley Chapter #76. We raised \$120 from the dinner toward our lodge's "Teddy Bear Fund." We also had a terrific presentation from Sally Day – Director of Development with The Service Dogs of VA and her service dog "Zuhey" (who was the MVP of the evening).

Speaking of Teddy Bears...Rockingham Union #27 presented 50 masonic teddy bears to Mercy House in downtown Harrisonburg on May 12th. Shannon Porter – Executive Director at Mercy House was quoted during the presentation of the teddy bears saying "I know what it's like for children coming out of homelessness and coming to our shelter, often crying. Something like this is going to change that and let them know it's going to be okay and that's the real power behind it." The presentation was covered by the Daily News Record and a story was run on the cover page of the Tuesday, May 16th edition of the paper. Thank you to all of you who supported and continue to support our lodge "Teddy Bear Fund."

Our next monthly stated meeting will occur on Monday, June 5th at 7:30pm. Before our stated meeting, we will be having a lodge dinner starting at 6:00pm, otherwise known as "Bo-Time"

because our dinner will be provided by...you guessed it, Bojangles! The menu includes: fried chicken, a variety of sides, 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 June stated meeting will have presentation from Bryan Hutcheson – Rockingham County Sheriff. Sheriff Hutcheson will be talking to us on what's going on with the Rockingham County Sheriff's Dept. and will share with us some of his exciting personal experiences during his law enforcement career.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Monday, June 5th at 6:00pm for our delicious "Bo-Time" lodge dinner and for our June stated meeting starting at 7:30pm.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Matt Frakes

Stated Communication

5 June 2023

Dinner at 6:00 PM – Bojangles Chicken & Fixin's
Program at 7:30 PM - Rockingham Sheriff
Meeting after Program

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

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DEGREE PROGRESS

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

- June 1st - One Day Conferral class to complete the lessons outlined in the ODC manual before ODC raised members can be recognized as a Master Mason

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Tyler Blanks

Tyler Blanks lives just across the Harrisonburg City limits in Rockingham County and is relatively new to the area. He moved to the Harrisonburg/Rockingham area for his first full time position after the completion of his undergraduate studies. He is a Certified Zoning Administrator and works for the City of Harrisonburg as a zoning specialist where his typical duties include code enforcement, building/site plan review, floodplain administration, and code analyst support for both professionals and the public.

Here are a few interesting facts about him that some people may find surprising. He is a musically oriented individual and by his senior year of High School he played 4 instruments: euphonium, trombone, trumpet, and bass guitar. he still plays bass guitar and has since picked up 6-string guitar. In college, he was also the choreography and show designer for a Star Wars acting group that traveled around performing shows at various events. To prepare for designing the shows he took nearly 2 years of fencing lessons and a few acting lessons here and there. Some of his hobbies include reading, collecting vinyl records, building models (ships, tanks, and planes), and he is starting to dabble in calligraphy.

Tyler enjoys attending Lodge as it is always a pleasure to meet and converse with fellow brothers and get to know the other incredible individuals within this fraternal organization. He

deeply enjoys being a part of an organization where his talents can benefit others and believes that attending Lodge will help him to grow as an individual. He is excited about the future and looks forward to his time with Rockingham Union Lodge.

EVENTS

- 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

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

Good News!

The Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Most Worshipful Donald Ellis Strehle made his Official Visit to Districts 5 & 6 on June 19th. 115 people attended. A great time was had by all. The Grand Master presented the ***Masonic Award of Merit*** to Worshipful Will Bryan for his “So Mote It Beef” charitable work. Congratulations to him!!!

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.

June 2023

Masonic Birthdays in June

(Anniversary of Date raised to Sublime Degree of Master Mason)

Thomas Ross
Danny Swanson
Phillip Geisel
Timothy Turner
Richard Armstrong
Robert Hume
Christopher Neil

Happy Birthday to all these Brethren!!

Appendant Bodies

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

- June 6th – 7:30pm Stated Meeting
 - Refreshments at 6:45pm
- June 24th – Official Visit of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron to District 18 (Milnes Chapter #3, Page Chapter #24, Shenandoah Valley Chapter #76) at Rockingham Union Lodge.