



## December Trestleboard

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

Chartered on October 27, 1789

[www.ru27.org](http://www.ru27.org)



#### FROM THE MASTER'S STATION

*Right Worshipful  
Russell Pence*

Dear Brethren,

As my time as Master of Rockingham Union Lodge comes to a close, I stand before you with gratitude and pride for the privilege of serving this historic Lodge. This year has been a journey of learning, collaboration, and shared growth, and I am deeply thankful to each of you for your support, encouragement, and dedication. Together, we have upheld the principles of Freemasonry and worked to strengthen the bonds that make this Lodge not just an institution, but a true brotherhood.

As we look to the future, one critical area of focus must be the vitality and sustainability of our membership. Like many lodges, we face the challenge of attracting new members while ensuring the active engagement of our current brethren. To address this, I believe we must take creative steps to ensure Rockingham Union Lodge remains a vibrant and welcoming home for Freemasons.

First, we need to expand our outreach efforts to the community. Many men today are searching for meaning, fellowship, and the chance to serve a greater cause—values that Freemasonry has embodied for centuries. By sharing our traditions, engaging in visible acts of charity, we can help potential candidates see the value of joining our ranks.

Second, we must enhance the experience for our current members. Retention is just as important as recruitment. This means offering meaningful programming, maintaining strong mentorship, and encouraging active participation. When brothers

#### *Stated Communication 2 December, 2024*

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Meeting at 7:30 PM – Election of Officers

- Officers – Suit or blazer and tie
- Brethren – business casual

feel valued, inspired, and connected, they are more likely to contribute to the success of the Lodge.

Lastly, I encourage each of us to be personal ambassadors of Freemasonry. Invite worthy men to our events, talk openly about the positive impact the Craft has had on your life, and lead by example in your daily conduct. Growth begins with individual effort, and together, we can ensure our Lodge thrives for generations to come.

I leave my office confident in the leadership that will follow and in the collective strength of this Lodge. May the Great Architect of the Universe continue to guide and bless our work.

Thank you again for this tremendous honor. It has been a privilege to serve as your Master.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
**Russell Pence**

#### FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN'S STATION

*Brother Martin Eagleson*

We continue to receive prospects via the Grand Lodge website due to our positive publicity. Two prospects should be showing up for dinner on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> before the Stated Communication. If you are at the dinner before the stated, please introduce yourself and chat with them. Make them feel welcome.

December 2024

We are attracting these prospective members because we are out there in the community, doing great things and being seen. Let's keep it up!

A final reminder that I will be having eye surgery on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, so I will be out of touch for the 7-10 days (including the December Stated Communication). The Worshipful Master and Secretary have a letter from me with my acceptance and nominations/appointments/proxy.

Fraternally,  
Martin Eagleson

### EVENTS

- Dec 2 Stated Communication – Election of 2025 Officers
- Dec 7 @ 5 – 8 pm, Joint Lodge/OES Cookies/Hot Chocolate for WinterFest
- Dec 14 @ 9am - Installation Practice (officers only)
- Dec 21 @ 11:00am - Open Installation
- Dec 25 – Merry Christmas!!

### Lodge Prayer List

#### Sick or Distressed

If you know of a Brother or family member who needs prayers or assistance, please contact the Lodge Secretary at [ru27secretary@gmail.com](mailto:ru27secretary@gmail.com).

### DEGREE PROGRESS

The **3rd Monday at 7pm** of each month is reserved for Ritual/Degree Work.

- Wardens & Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm
- Ritual Practice @ 7:00 pm - Fellowcraft

### 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](mailto:ru27secretary@gmail.com). It is a wonderful way to acknowledge the triumphs and successes of our Brethren.

<b>Masonic Birthdays in December</b> (Anniversary of Month raised to Sublime Degree of Master Mason)		
Name	Years	Date
Arden Fontaine Canada	41	12-08
Thomas Cameron Bocock	30	12-17
Brent Alan Miller	30	12-17
Bruce Kevin Miller	30	12-17
Steven Lewis Saunders	28	12-18
James Thurman Nelson	22	12-21
William Roger Winegard	13	12-07
Samuel Monroe Pender	6	12-19

**Happy Masonic Birthday to all these Brethren!!**

### Appendant Bodies

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

- Dec 3 @ 7:30 pm – Refreshments prior to meeting
- Dec 7 @ 5-8pm – WinterFest

### IORG Blue Ridge Club

Dec 28<sup>th</sup> - Breakfast at the Lodge from 8:00am – 10:00am. Donations requested