



February Trestle-Board

My Brothers,

February is upon us and your Lodge officers will be very busy in the next few months planing and executing a course of action that we hope translates to more candidates, more attendance from our members and more visitation from sojourning brethren.

Our stated meetings will be more designed to promote a chance for us to get together as friends and brothers rather than to dwell needlessly on details that do little but prolong a meeting. For stated meetings, the target duration is 45 minutes and that to include something of a 5-10 minute offering of something educational or of interest. Communications and minutes of previous meetings will be printed prior and will not be dwelt upon, old and new business will be planned out ahead of time, with anything new not offered ahead of time being tabled for a month at the discretion of the Master. We will run degree work as we have traditionally done, but for stated meetings we will gather after the meeting for social time together over a beverage at someplace local.

It is my hope that this focus on enjoyment will translate into us inviting friends along to be with us and potentially apply if they chose. I also very much hope that you our members might find it enjoyable to come along knowing you wont have to be out at a late hour and that you can come and connect with your like minded brothers and enjoy your membership. I promise that no member will be embarrassed if he cannot remember the signs to give when he comes to lodge. Thats an easy promise to make, because I have yet to ever see that happen in my 27 years of lodge attendance.

While we are talking about having good times...please note May 19 in your calendars. That day in Gorham, they will be doing the "Wood Choppers Degree". More to come on this as it approaches, but save the date for one of the funniest masonic programs you will likely ever see. Bring along your family if you choose, it is very much encouraged. If you haven't had the degree, you are in for a real treat. we did this here in Scarborough when I was Master back around 2001, so it has been a while.

Also note that Grand Lodge will be in Portland on May 1st, and thought the Master and Wardens or Proxy will carry the votes from our Lodge, you are encouraged to be there that day if you so chose. I highly recommend it. If you would like to submit your name as a possible proxy for our Lodge, please do so before our March 8 meeting as I do plan to elect the proxy voter at that meeting.

Brother SW is planning a prospect candidate night, which will consist of a tour of our Brother Tim Francis' brewery, Island Dog John Roberts Rd., near the Mall and gathering there where we can give an overview of who we are and what we do. Please search your contacts and identify men you think would make good masons so that you can be ready to reach out to them and offer to include them in this event. I have given Br Whytock 4 names of friends I have that I plan to invite, and I hope all four will be able to attend.

Be well my brothers, Jeff Simonton, Master GWK #219

Secretary's Message:

Happy February

Punxsutawney Phil tells us six more weeks of winter while New Jersey's Milltown Mel predicts an early spring. Which do you believe? Phil's predictions are 100% accurate, the Top Hats say. The predictions are actually wrong more than they're right. But, the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club notes that the predictions aren't geographically specific. So Phil's predictions are probably true — somewhere in the world. Although, they say, Mel has been about right 6 out of his 10 predictions!

The TopHats at GWK predict 8 months of shortened business meetings, more social time, & more programs - educational or of special interest.

I predict members will want to have their dues up to date & reach a goal of **\$0** arrears owed.

John Gallant, Sec. gwksecretary@gmail.com - 207-671-9872

Upcoming Lodge Meetings at GWK Lodge:

Gov. Wm. King Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30 - 8:15 @ lodge hall

Social meeting 8:30 @ Pizza Time following meeting.

185 US-1, Scarborough, ME (across Little Dolphin Drive from the Egg & I).

17th District Meetings:

Feb. 5th Saccarappa Lodge #86 Stated Communication 7:30 - 9:00

Feb. 6th Casco Lodge #36 Stated Meeting 15 Mill St, Yarmouth, 7:30- 9:00

Feb. 7th Harmony Lodge Stated Meeting Location: Gorham 7:30 - 9:00

Feb. 21st Harmony Lodge Masters & Wardens 6:30 Supper 7:30 - 9:00

Feb. 22nd MM School of Instruction, Location not determined.

Feb. 26 Deering Lodge #183: Fellow Craft Degree. Dinner @ 6:30, work @ 7:30.

Special Events in coming Months:

April 7th - Statewide Master Mason Day - The 17th District will hold @ Hiram Lodge

(More details to come)

May 1st - Grand Lodge in Portland 8:00 - 5:00 (More details to come)

May 19th - Harmony Lodge, Gorham "Wood Choppers Degree" at Noon - Family & Friends Welcome *This degree has not been offered in this area for many years. (more details later)*