



In Search of Light



Newsletter of Cedar City Lodge #35 F&AM, Cedar City Utah

"Making Good Men Better"

March 2019



Worshipful Master
Charles Young, PM
435-559-2559

Secretary
John Adams, PM
435-590-3867
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Upcoming Events:

MM Degree
Saturday 2nd, 7pm

Stated Meeting
Thursday 7th, 7pm

St. Patrick's Day
Saturday 17th

Meet-up Night / Pot Luck
Thursday 21st, 6:00pm

Need a ride to Lodge?
Call 435-559-2559
or 435-590-3867

St. Patrick's Day and Freemasonry

Every school kid learns March 17 is the day we celebrate the life and deeds of Maewyn Succat, the second Bishop of Ireland, who is better known as Ireland's Patron Saint, St. Patrick. Those same school kids also learn Patrick's great triumph was chasing the snakes out of Ireland. It's true, there are no snakes in Ireland; however, that's more likely because there have never been any snakes on the isolated island.

Captured and taken into slavery as a youth, Maewyn, a.k.a. Patrick, escaped to the European mainland. While a slave he had converted from paganism to Christianity, and once on the continent, he sought refuge at Marmoutier Abbey, a French monastery. There, he accepted his calling, which was to convert other pagans to Christianity. With that, he returned to Ireland and became very successful at making those conversions. In a manner of speaking, the "serpents" he figuratively chased from Ireland were the pagan Druids, not actual reptiles.

After a successful ministry, Patrick retired to County Down, where he died on March 17, 461 A.D. Although never officially canonized by the Catholic Church he is, in fact, recognized as a saint; and this month we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick, or St. Patrick's Day, on the anniversary of his death.

However, even in Ireland prior to the late 18th century, St. Patrick's Day was not that big of a deal. The same was true in North America, where the churches in Boston, with its large Irish population, didn't recognize the day until 1737.

"So, what," you may ask, "does this have to do with the Freemasons?"

About twenty years later, during the French-Indian War, a young Masonic Colonel recognized the morale among his troops was low and decided they needed what today we would call some "down time." It was March, at the end of a long, brutal winter and many of the troops were Irish. It didn't take the Colonel long to figure out the best day to declare a general holiday would be St. Patrick's Day.

Several years later, that same Freemason, now a general in the American Revolution, faced a very similar problem. Billeted at Morristown, New Jersey, his troops were discouraged after a long winter of devastating fighting and losses. On top of that, the preceding winter of 1779-80 was brutally cold. That General, George Washington, again had many Irish troops under his command and once again he saw the opportunity of celebrating St. Patrick's Day to boost morale. With that, Washington issued the order giving his troops their first day off in over two years, "The General directs that all fatigue and working parties cease for to-morrow the SEVENTEENTH instant, a day held in particular regard by the people of [Ireland]."

by Midnight Freemason Contributor
Steven L. Harrison, 33°, PM, FMLR

What's Happening – What's New

A few members of our lodge were able to attend the 147th Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Utah held this past month in Salt Lake City. The meetings were very enjoyable and well attended. We extend our congratulations to our new Most Worshipful Grand Master Jeffrey E. Hamilton, as well as the other Grand Lodge officers who were elected and appointed to serve our jurisdiction for 2019. We look forward to working with them.

We want to thank those who were able to attend and participate in our monthly pot-luck dinner this past month. Despite the inclement weather, we had a great turnout! A special thanks to Bro. Gary Orton for providing our main dish this month.

We encourage everyone to brush up on their ritual and prepare for several degrees we have coming up, beginning with a Master Mason degree on Saturday, March 2nd. There will be another Master Mason degree and a Fellowcraft degree coming up soon as well, and we also have a handful of interested men who are ready to submit their petitions! Join us on our Tuesday and Thursday night meet-up's if you would like to practice floor work or go over ritual – we're happy to help!

I also encourage everyone to take a look at the committee assignments this year and make a concerted effort to help out wherever possible. The committee list is posted on the bulletin board downstairs, as well as on the website. Wor. Bro. Neal Lundberg has done an exceptional job at overseeing the building maintenance, and we thank everyone who have been willing to pitch in and help out when the need arises, including Wor. Bro. Wendell Shallenberger for helping with snow removal! If you notice something in or around the building that needs attention, feel free to contact me so we can get it taken care of and keep our building maintained. ~Wor. John Adams, PM Secretary

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 York Rite 9am MM Degree 7pm
3	4	5	6 St George #33 Stated 7pm	7 Cedar City #35 Stated 7pm	8	9 OES #20 Stated 11am
10 Daylight Savings Starts	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 St Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21 Pot Luck 6pm	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

* Please check the website for updated events: www.cedarcitylodge.org/calendar.php

* Also find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/cedarcitylodge