

March 2021 Newsletter

March 2021 – Newsletter

Published 20 February 2021

Fidelity Lodge No 339

100 Main Street

Farley, MO 64028

<https://www.Fidelitylodge339.org>



Upcoming Events

March 3

Stated Meeting

March 17

Study Club

April 7

Stated Meeting

“In the spring I have counted
one hundred and thirty-six
kinds of weather inside of
four and twenty hours.”
Mark Twain

Important Announcement

The Secretary's Advice

In these weary times, reach out to your Brothers and family to fill the voids in hearts and minds.

Rejoice in your health and faith.

If you find yourself in need of someone to listen, call a Brother.

If you are fine, contact someone you have lost contact with.

The February Birthday List is taken from the Grand Lodge Data Base. If you do not have a month and day listed on your personal information it is not reported in this newsletter. If you wish it listed or not listed in the future, please contact the secretary.

Please see the information from the Grand Secretary on Page 4.

March 2021 Newsletter



John Stewart.....March 5
 Montee Benien.....March 6
 Jerry Jenks.....March 9
 Dale Baker.....March 14
 Erik Holland.....March 15
 Russel Gibbs.....March 17
 Chris Stanard.....March 19
 Brian Aikmus.....March 23



Location
100 Main Street
Farley, MO 64028

Mail Address
Fidelity Lodge #339
12280 NW Crooked Road
C/O Joe Duffey
Parkville, MO 64152

Living Past

Masters 1965.....

Frank H Segrist
 1977..... Frank H Segrist
 1986.....William B. Palmer
 1987.....Mark C Reavis
 1988.....Steven R. Loyd
 1989....L. Michael Shelton
 1990....L. Michael Shelton
 1992.....Steven R. Loyd
 1996.....Charles R. White
 1997.....Charles R. White
 1999.....Steven Loyd
 2003..Vincent R. Hoffman
 2007.....John A. Hart, III
 2008..... Roy Orth, II
 2009.....Roy Orth
 2010.....Joseph Fontenot
 2011.....Ben R. Orth, II
 2012.Timothy Thompson
 2014.....Jeremy Blowers
 2015.....Ben Orth, II
 2016.....Brian Aikmus
 2917.....Andrew Barnes
 2018.....Joe Castagno
 2019....Kevin Heinerikson
 2020.....John Stewart



Future Events

March 3, 2021 – DDGM's
 Official Visit

Officers 2020

John R. Stewart.....Master
 James J. Miller.....SR Warden
 Patrick J. Mackey.....JR Warden
 Joseph Duffey.....Secretary
 James H. Terry.....Treasurer
 Montee W. Benien.....SR Deacon
 Roger C. Ensley.....JR Deacon
 William D. Huehl.....SR Steward
 Pascual G. Marquez.....JR Steward
 Larry Davis.....Chaplin
 Anthony F. Martin.....Marshal
 Russell C. Arrington.....Tyler
 Andy Barnes.....Education Officer

Our Masonic Neighbors

Adelphi #355 Edgerton 4th Wed
 Alpha #659 N. KC, MO 2nd Mon
 Barry Daylight #17 KC, MO 3rd Wed
 Compass #120 N. KC, MO 2nd Thur.
 Fidelity #339 Farley, MO 1st Wed
 Rising Sun #13 KC, MO 1st Sat
 Weston #53 Weston, MO 1st Thur.

Humor I Hope

A man is walking through the recreation ground of his local park when he notices a huge disturbance going on in full fury on the football field. "What's going on?" he asks a spectator. The other replies "It's a match between the Masons and the Knights of Columbus."

"What's the score?" asks the first man.

"I don't know. It's a secret."

March 2021 Newsletter

February 13, 2021

Dear Brother,

It is my pleasure to write to you for the second year as your secretary about the little rectangular piece of high-quality cardboard reserved for your use.

This is a special piece of cardboard. It will open doors that lead to havens of peace and tranquility in the midst of this hectic world of ours; doors that shut out the badgering, the petty problems, and the feuds often a part of daily existence. Behind those doors are friends you may have never met... not to mention those you may have known for many years now as true and faithful brethren. When you think about it, this card, in many ways, is a priceless possession.

Your small monetary consideration, of course, is your lodge annual dues and has nothing whatever to do with the actual value of the benefits the card provides. Every cent of dues is applied to all the legitimate and necessary expenses of keeping your lodge open and in business. This permits others in possession of similar cards to gain admission into our own little haven. Many of these brethren are far from their homes. Things like utilities, building maintenance, Grand Lodge dues, benevolence, and charity, seem to have a habit of popping up regularly. These items course must be paid. Your lodge officers have able to keep this year's expenses to a minimum.

If you have not done so already or you are not currently exempt from paying dues, please kindly pay your dues.

If you should find it difficult to pay your dues, please contact the lodge secretary.

Fidelity Lodge #339
12280 NW Crooked Road
C/O Joe Duffey
Parkville, MO 64152.
(816) 885-6981

If your contact information has changed, please let me know.

Thank you for your constant support

Fraternally and sincerely yours,

Name,
Secretary Fidelity Lodge # 339

NEW DUES BYLAW You Could Be Suspended April 2nd

By Jon Broyles, PGM
Grand Secretary

"Are you kidding me? I just paid dues!"

Every year, lodge secretaries hear the same refrain. Every member should already know that lodge dues are DUE on January 1st. If you do not pay by then, you are considered delinquent, and lose some of your Masonic privileges. Since you do not have a current dues card, technically, you cannot visit any lodge other than your own.

This year, there are some important dates and other changes because of the new by-laws approved at the 2020 Grand Lodge Communication.

- 1. Lodge dues are DUE on January 1st.**
- 2. If you do not pay by February 1st**, your lodge is allowed to assess up to a \$10.00 late fee to your account, which must be paid to be in good standing.
- 3. If you do not pay by March 1st**, you should receive a delinquent dues notice from your lodge secretary.
- 4. If you do not pay by April 1st**, your membership will either be suspended or withdrawn.
- 5. If you belong to just one lodge**, you will be suspended by that lodge for non-payment of dues on April 2nd.
- 6. If you belong to multiple lodges** and do not pay your "home lodge", you will be suspended in ALL of your lodges, regardless of whether you've paid any of the other lodge(s) or not. You must then pay your home lodge and all other lodges to be reinstated.
- 7. This year, with the new by-law**, if you pay your "home lodge" but fail to pay any of your other "multiple lodge memberships", you will be "Automatically Withdrawn from Multiple Membership" on April 2nd from any of

your multiple lodges that you did not pay. However, simply paying the dues to that lodge late will not reinstate you in any multiple membership lodge. Once withdrawn, the only way to reestablish your membership in that lodge is to submit a Petition for Affiliation, just like when you joined that lodge in the first place.

So why were these changes made? The old June 1st deadline got many brothers in the bad habit of not paying until 6 months (or more) of their annual membership had already passed, even though they may have been attending lodge that entire time. Once they regularly started delaying payments, they thought that became their regular payment date, 12 months since they paid last, when it really should have been 6 months earlier. This payment delay has severely impacted the cash flow of many lodges' operations. Also, the budget process of the Grand Lodge was being hindered by the fact that with final dues paid by June 1st and with the annual reports due on August 1st, this gave the Grand Lodge Committees and the Grand Lodge Officers less than 2 months to prepare a budget for the next year. Moving up the dates made the job easier and more accurate.

Why is it important to not get suspended? While any time that you are suspended extends the time before you would qualify for your fifty-year service anniversary and pin, it is also a break in your years of service that is considered for assistance from the Masonic Home. This policy was set by the Freemasons that were members of the Home Board of Directors years ago to discourage someone from joining the fraternity for the sole purpose of getting assistance from the Home.

Financially supporting your lodges are part of your responsibility as a Mason. Helping them allows them to support you as a member and the work that we all do for others, the community, and the world at large. Always remember that this is a strange and difficult year and if times are bad for you, contact your lodge secretary to see if assistance is available.