

**BY-LAWS**  
**OF**  
**VERMONT LODGE**  
**NO. 116**  
**A.F. AND A. MASONS**  
**OF**  
**VERMONT, ILLINOIS**

## **ARTICLE I**

Section 1. This Lodge shall be known by the name of Vermont Lodge No. 116 A.F. and A. Masons.

## **ARTICLE II COMMUNICATIONS**

Section 1. The stated communications shall be held on Saturday on or after each full moon, commencing at 7:00 o'clock P.M., from October 1st to April 1st and at 8:00 o'clock P.M., during the remainder of the year.

Section 2. The first stated communication of December in each year shall be the Annual Communication.

## **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

Section 1. The elective officers shall be a Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2. The appointive officers shall be a Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Chaplain, Marshal, two Stewards, and Tyler.

Section 3. The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens shall be ex-officio the Trustees of the Lodge.

## **ARTICLE IV ELECTORS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Section 1. The elective officers shall be separately chosen by ballot at the Annual Communication, of each year of St. John's Night. A majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. The officers named in Section 2, Article III, shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master-elect previous to installation.

Section 2. The officers thus elected and appointed shall be installed as soon thereafter as convenient, to serve until their successors are duly elected (or appointed) and installed.

Section 3. No Mason not a member of this lodge shall be eligible to any office therein, except that of Tyler.

## **ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Worshipful Master, in addition to what is required by the ancient regulations of Masonry, as set forth in the Grand Lodge By-Laws, Article 7, may determine the order of business and labor, and shall regulate all debates and the conduct of members and visitors in the

Lodge. He shall have the custody of the Lodge Charter, and general supervision of hall and furniture. He shall see that the work and lectures used in this Lodge conform, as exactly as possible, to the standard already established by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, Article XV.

Section 2. The Treasurer shall have charge of the money and other fiscal property of the Lodge; shall keep accurate accounts of all Lodge moneys received by him, shall pay them out (except as hereinafter providedt only by order of the Lodge, signed by the Worshipful Master attested by the Secretary and Seal of the Lodge; shall at all times hold all accounts subject to the inspection of the Trustees of the Lodge and shall make a detailed report of the receipts and expenditures at each annual communication, or as often as required.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep a true and correct record of the proceedings of the Lodge proper to be written; shall preserve in appropriate files all papers and documents relating thereto; shall keep separate accounts with each member of the Lodge; shall conduct the Lodge correspondence under the direction of the Worshipful Master; shall issue all summonses and notices when directed; shall make the necessary returns to the Grand Lodge; shall record in the minutes the names of all members in attendance at each communication, and pay them over to the Treasurer without delay, taking his receipt therefore; shall keep a complete register of the members, showing dates of initiation, passing, and raising or affiliation, also withdrawal, death, expulsion or suspensions; shall notify all committees of matters referred to them, and all petitioners of their election or rejection; shall have custody of the Lodge seal and affix the same to all documents -requiring verification; and shall .make a full report of all his cio7i~ngs at each annual communication. -

Section 4. The Tyler, in addition to his well-known and indispensable services, shall serve all summonses and notices, and perform such other duties as are required by the Worshipful Master; shall preserve strict order in his department during the sessions of the Lodge; shall have charge of the hall, furniture and clothing, under direction of the Worshipful Master, and shall cause them to be always kept in proper order for the transaction of business and comfort of the brethren.

Section 5. The Secretary shall receive fifty (50c) cents for each communication he may attend throughout the year; and the Tyler shall receive fifty (50c) cents for each stated communication he may attend from September 1st to May 1st, as compensation for their services.

Section 6. The Trustees shall hold all Lodge property in Trust. They shall examine and adjust all accounts, claims, and demands against the Lodge, or held by the Lodge against any member or--other person; shall -examine and report on the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer and Secretary regarding the safe keeping of the fiscal property of the Lodge; shall examine and audit the annual reports of the Treasurer and Secretary, and report thereon, and shall render a full report of their doings and the financial conditions of the Lodge at each annual communication.

Section 7. The Trustees shall be a committee for the relief of distressed Masons, their widows and orphans, to whom all applicants for such assistance may be referred, with power to act. They shall have authority to draw from the treasury for such relief; reporting all such expenditures at the next stated communication of the Lodge thereafter. In case of the sickness of a

brother, they may provide such comforts, medical assistance, watchers, etc. as they may deem expedient.

## **ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in this Lodge may be required and can be terminated only as prescribed in Grand Lodge By-Laws, Article X, Part 2.

Section 2. All petitions for the degrees or for membership shall conform to the provisions of Grand lodge By-Laws, Art.XII and XIII. Part 2. Every petition for the degrees shall be accompanied by the fee for Entered Apprentice (\$10.00) but the fee shall be returned to the petitioner without delay if he is rejected. The balloting on all petitions for the degrees or for membership shall be as directed in Grand Lodge By-Laws, Article XIV, Part 2.

Section 3. No member shall be entitled to a vote upon any question before the Lodge until he shall have signed the By-Laws.

Section 4. Every member shall furnish the Secretary with his post office address, and notify him from time to time of changes as they occur.

## **ARTICLE VII FEES AND DUES**

Section 1. The fees for the degrees in this Lodge shall be as follows:

For the degree of entered Apprentice	\$10.00
For the degree of Fellowcraft	\$10.00
For the degree of Master Mason	\$10.00

A fee for affiliation of a Master Mason on being admitted to membership, \$2.00.

Section 2. Every member shall pay \$4.00 as Lodge dues annually in advance, at the first stated communication in January. All new members shall pay dues in advance, from the date of raising or vote of admission to January 1st following.

Section 3. A majority vote of the members present at a stated communication, and a notice thereof in writing, presented at a previous stated communication shall be requisite to the remitting of any dues; provided, that at the first stated communication in March of each year such action may be had without such previous notice; and provided further, that no dues shall be remitted except for the year during which said notice is given, or for previous years.

Section 4. Any member whose dues are not paid or remitted at the first stated communication in December, shall be notified in writing to pay the same on or before the first

stated communication February following, which shall be considered the first notice, as required in Grand Lodge By-Laws, Sec. 4, Art. VIII, Part 3.

Section 5. Any member who neglects or refuses to make answer to such notice, and whose dues are not paid or remitted at the first stated communication in February, shall be notified to appear at the first stated communication in March following, which shall be considered the second notice, as required by Grand Lodge By-Laws, Sec. 4, Art. VIII, Part 3.

Section 6. If said dues are not paid or remitted at the first stated communication march, the Lodge may at once proceed to discipline the delinquent member as provided in Grand Lodge By-Laws, Sec. 5, art. VIII, Part 3.

Section 7. If from any cause the action contemplated by Sec. 4, S and 6 of this Article be not taken at the time and in the manner prescribed, such action may be taken at any stated communication thereafter; provided, the notices required by Sections 4 and 5 of this Article, shall have been given, no other notices being required to make such action legal.

Section 8. Annual dues paid to Grand Lodge of Illinois “per capita” shall be as per code 435 in the Book of Constitutions and By-laws; should the Grand Lodge of Illinois amend code 435 to raise the “per capita” dues, Vermont Lodge No. 116 will automatically raise dues to conform to code 435 as amended by the Grand Lodge of Illinois. It shall be the prerogative of Vermont Lodge No. 116 to raise the dues in even dollar amounts.

## **ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Any resolution or edict of the Grand Lodge, which has the effect to alter any part of these By-Laws, shall be deemed an amendment without any action of the Lodge.

Section 2. No part of these By-Laws shall be otherwise repealed, altered, suspended, or amended, unless a proposition in writing shall have been presented at a stated communication, at least one month previous, and two-thirds of the members present shall vote in favor of said proposition.

### Order of Business

1. Reading and approving of last stated communication.
2. Reading and approving of subsequent Special Communication.
3. Reading and Referring Petitions.
4. Reports of Committees.
5. Balloting.
6. Unfinished Business.
7. New Business.
8. Work.