

# THE NEW JERSEY FREEMASON

Spring 2016



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## Registration Procedure for Electronic Balloting Deadline Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

By R.W. Barry P. Kornspan, PDDGM  
Chairman, Balloting and Registration Committee

Per C&L, Past Masters may cast their ballots for elected Grand Lodge offices (Title 3, Article IV, Section 2, Part 1) using an Internet connection. This article will outline the process you must follow in order to vote at a location other than the Balloting & Registration Room at the Annual Communication in Atlantic City. You may vote from any computer that has an Internet connection and Web browser.

### **You MUST REQUEST AN OFF-SITE BALLOT by PRE-REGISTERING.**

To pre-register, you must send an email by **Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016** to [OFFSITEVOTE@NJMASONIC.ORG](mailto:OFFSITEVOTE@NJMASONIC.ORG) containing:

- Your full name
- Your email address
- Your Member Number (found on your dues card or through your Lodge Secretary)
- NJ Lodge Name/Number

Once your eligibility is verified, you will receive a confirmation email stating that you have successfully registered. Approximately 5-7 days prior to the start of balloting (April 27), you will receive an email with an encrypted link that will, once balloting begins, take you to the appropriate webpage. The email will also contain additional information and instructions. **Remember, registration for off-site voting will close at 11:59 pm Eastern Time on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

Balloting will be open from approximately 12:00 noon on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> until sometime between 9:00 am and 10:00 am Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> (all times Eastern). Once balloting starts, an email will be sent to those who have registered reminding them that the ballot is now open. Please note that the times for the start and end of off-site voting are variable depending on when the Grand Master starts and stops balloting on-site. Off-site balloting will end at the same time as on-site balloting. **Please do not take a chance and wait until the last minute - vote before 9:00 am Thursday!**

You may request an off-site ballot if you are a Past Master (PM) and a member in good standing of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, F&AM. Please note that the WM, SW and JW must cast the vote assigned to their office on-site (per C&L). If the WM, SW or JW is also a PM (previous year) and they are not able to attend the Annual Communication, they may only cast their PM vote off-site and must follow the procedure above to register for that ballot.

Please address all questions regarding this procedure to [GLNJVoting@gmail.com](mailto:GLNJVoting@gmail.com).

## Grand Lodge of New Jersey

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Office: (609) 239-3950  
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NewJerseyGrandLodge.org

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Anthony W. Montuori

#### Deputy Grand Master

Walter R. Kaulfers

#### Senior Grand Warden

Dieter B. Hees

#### Junior Grand Warden

Roger Quintana, DDGM

#### Grand Treasurer

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### Schedule

Summer 2016

(Submission deadline June 1<sup>st</sup>)

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# Letter from the Editor

My Brethren,

The New Jersey Freemason you have all been waiting for is here! I am sure you are aware that we only published three times this year, however, I believe we made up for it by the size of this Candidate issue. In addition to all the Annual Communication information you expect, we also included a full selection of Masonic resources and news from around the state.

With that said, it has been my privilege to serve you this past Masonic year as the Editor of The New Jersey Freemason. I would thank our Grand Master, Anthony Montuori, for asking me to continue under his year. Serving the Craft in this capacity allows me to give back in immeasurable ways.

I look forward to bringing you more light in each future publication.

See you all in Atlantic City...

Sincerely and Fraternally

  
RW Cory Sigler

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YEAR!**



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Grand Lodge

## Grand Master's Message

My Brothers,

As my year begins to wind down I think it appropriate for my message to you to simply be a big "Thank You"

note. I will not use names, specific organizations or committees. This message is to ALL Freemasons in New Jersey.

I could not have had a better more rewarding year as your Grand Master. Every Brother in the State has been nothing less than a complete asset to me and the Craft. Each one of us has our own ideas, of course, but all are true to the Craft with your convictions and ideas for moving ahead.

Every concordant and appendant body in this jurisdiction has been loyal and most supportive to me and the Grand Lodge. I feel truly privileged by the many tributes and honors that have been afforded me.

To my Staff, you were always there for all the many projects and visitations, and for this you are to be congratulated; we were a very busy staff.

You will see many of our events and accomplishments throughout this issue of our Freemason magazine. As I look over our travels it's hard to fathom how we got it all done and done so well! Again my staff worked tirelessly throughout the year; but don't run away yet we still have Grand Lodge!

In closing, I again say Thank You one and all for the wonderful satisfying year we all have enjoyed.

God Bless you all! God Bless Freemasonry! God Bless the United States of America and our Troops who protect us and allow our Fraternity to exist, grow and prosper.

Yours Fraternally and in the Craft,

M.W. Anthony W. Montuori  
Grand Master

## Grand Master's 2016 Calendar

### April

25 - 29 Annual Communication- Atlantic City

### May

4 Eclipse Lodge No. 259 - 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
(Little Ferry)

5 **Grand Master Reception 5PM**  
Venetian, Garfield

17 GLI for 24<sup>th</sup> District

19 Homecoming Mosaic Lodge

21 GL Spring Seminar

26 GLI for 12<sup>th</sup> District

### June

2 GLI for 10<sup>th</sup> District

3 Clifton 100<sup>th</sup> event

4 - 5 Wheelchair Track and Field Event

7 GLI for 17<sup>th</sup> district

9 GLI for 5<sup>th</sup> District

10 12<sup>th</sup> - DeMolay Convention

13 GLI for 2<sup>nd</sup> District

### June

14 GLI for 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Districts

23 GLI for 18<sup>th</sup> District

28 GLI for 22<sup>nd</sup> District

### July

4 Ridgefield Park Parade

15 - 17 GMO North East Conference of GM

### August

5 - 12 Grand Master Cruise

### September

7 GLI for 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Districts

14 GLI for 18<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Districts

15 GLI for 23<sup>rd</sup> District

18 GM Charity Shoot at Pine Belt

20 GLI for 15<sup>th</sup> District

29 GLI for 8<sup>th</sup> District

## Deputy Grand Master's Message



Brethren,

I seems like yesterday I was elected Master of Mosaic Lodge. Before I knew it, the decades passed in a flash. In a few short weeks, if elected, I will be Installed as Grand Master of Masons. My pledge to you is to rule with a gentle hand, uphold our Constitution and Laws and maintain our time honored Landmarks.

The Grand Master's charity during my term of office will be Pediatric Cancer Research. A charity that has deep personal meaning for me. Two years ago one of my grandchildren was struck with pediatric cancer. With great medical care and the blessing of GAOTU his cancer is now in total remission and the prognosis looks great. During my year, I will direct that all funds minus expensed collected from charitable events and all charitable donations will have their proceeds deposited into the Masonic Charity Foundation. The donations will be divided between Cancer Free Kids, located at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. These two medical facilities are in the forefront of childhood pediatric cancer research. 100% of these donations will be earmarked for research into finding a cure. I intend to visit these hospitals and present a check from Masonic Charity Foundation on behalf of the Freemasons of the State of New Jersey. Your support of my charity will be greatly appreciated.

I will institute a new incentive specifically for first year Masons; the David Brearley Award. During a Master Mason's first year, a newly raised Brother will be required to complete six required Masonic activities as well as four additional elective activities. It is my hope that, in earning this award, a new Mason will continue to fully participate in the life of his Lodge and District. Other Grand Lodges have implemented programs such as this and have been very successful in keeping these new Masons active in the Fraternity. Not only will it enjoyable, it will also give the newly raised members further light. Also, during my Annual Communication, I will recognize the top 6 trestleboards of the year. The State of The

Craft Committee will be charged with developing the criteria and making the recommendation.

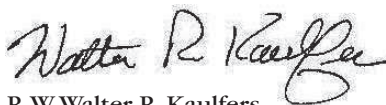
May 21 is reserved for the annual Officer Training Seminar. The Masonic Leadership Conference will be held on October 20-23, 2016 at the Masonic Campus in Elizabethtown Pennsylvania. These programs have been in place for many years and have been found invaluable developing our future leaders.

The Ritual, as printed in the official cipher, will remain unchanged. I will permit all New Jersey Lodges to have the option of having candidates learn either the long or short form examination. However, all candidates will be required to be able to read the long form examination.

I have planned some social activities. They include the Grand Master's Golf Outing, the Grand Master's Sporting Clay Shoot, a Trenton Thunder minor league baseball game and the Grand Master's Alaska Cruise. This cruise will depart from Seward, Alaska on Royal Caribbean's Radiance of the Seas. Information about this trip can be found in this magazine.

As in years past, there are a number of Grand Lodge elected positions on the ballot. I urge you to attend a local Candidate's Night in order to meet these well qualified brothers and listen to their vision of the future of our gentle craft. See you in Atlantic City! Embrace the Future.

Fraternally,



R.W. Walter R. Kaulfers  
Deputy Grand Master

## SPECIAL ANNUAL COMMUNICATION SEMINAR

On Wednesday, **APRIL 27, 2016**, at **10:00 AM until 11:00 AM**, there will be a special seminar for lodge Secretaries and Treasurers covering the revised Fiduciary Report for 2016.

The seminar will be conducted by Ms. Donna Liedtka-Smith, representing the Grand Lodge CPA firm of Sharer, Petree, Brotz, and Snyder; and R.W. Richard F. Schmidt, Chairman of the Temple and Lodge Finance Committee. All lodge Secretaries and Treasurers will be invited to adjourn from the Annual Communication to attend the seminar in a specified conference room. Please make every effort to attend.







## Senior Grand Warden's Message



Grand Lodge

### Timeless Teachings, Timeless Truths, Timeless Treasures

Let us all appreciate what we have available to us in Freemasonry and spread the word. Let us spread the word both, internally better and especially externally better to increase awareness in the public eye of who we are, what we believe in and how we help our communities and each other throughout the State. We can trace our Masonic family back officially well over 10 Generations. Very few non-religious organizations can proclaim that their Teachings, Truths and Treasures have stood the test of time.

Now think back to the various Generations and what they faced. Is it really any different today? No, it is not. Every Generation faced different moral, social and political challenges and yet Freemasonry stayed relevant throughout.

What are our challenges today in Freemasonry or should I say Opportunities? Challenges, if viewed as Opportunities, are exciting, energizing, and dynamic, providing the seeds of growth for a brighter future. Amazing are the results achieved when everyone rises together to create and take advantage of Opportunities.

Together, our Opportunity today is to make the Craft relevant in today's society, both internally and externally, in the same way as Masonic Generations have done before us. Remember we have the Teachings, Truths and Treasures behind us.

We can accomplish this together by communicating better, connecting better, engaging better and finally, offering the content or light as we call it, that people are searching for. Light that people have always searched for, are searching for today and will continue to search for tomorrow.

In today's fast moving society, our key to take advantage of this opportunity is to first of all communicate better. Email, Constant Contact, [www.newjerseygrandlodge.org](http://www.newjerseygrandlodge.org), Facebook, Blogs, Forums, the list goes on and on. All of these modern communication tools need to be emphasized, coordinated and constantly improved upon. We cannot sit still and we should be constantly trying new ways to reach all Freemasons, both younger and older.

When properly utilized, the Light we provide will continue to be timeless, used by many, and searched for by many. By using our **Masonic GPS – Groundwork, Passion, Skills** – we can seize this unique opportunity to move our craft forward.

Brethren, it is an exciting time in Freemasonry.

Fraternally,

R.W. Dieter B. Hees  
Senior Grand Warden

## Past Grand Marshalls Annual Meeting

*Submitted by David Glattly*

The Past Grand Marshalls of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey gathered for their annual meeting in August at the Glattly hacienda in Hawthorne, NJ, in order to vote for the best Grand Marshal of all time. Once again, it was a one vote tie among the 16 attendees as all seemed to vote for themselves. That is not unusual, as it seems to be the case each year :)



*Seated (L-R): MW Malcolm B. Wernik (1966); MW Edgar N. Peppler (1971); RW Jack Darakjy (1973); MW Daniel M. Wilson (1987); and RW Douglas H. Ford (1989)*

*Standing (L-R): RW Darryl Keubler (2013); RW Paul M. Ferreira (2008); RW Dale A. Lynch (2010); RW Glenn T. Visscher (2011); RW Arnold T. "Butch" Elliott (2012); RW J. Eugene Margroff (2015); RW Brian H. Blades (2000); RW David A. Glattly (1998); MW Glenn R. Trautmann (2007); MW Robert J. Sheridan (1999); and RW Henry J. Stein (2016)*

# Junior Grand Warden's Message



Brethren,

The key to unlock the great potentials of your members and to create harmony within your Lodges lies in “bridging the gap” among the various generations, especially our older and younger Masons.

The primary responsibility of a leader, whether he is an Officer or not, is to ensure that everyone in his Lodge understands that the requirement of “working together” is not negotiable. Creating a respectful, open and inclusive environment where members of all ages can confidently share their ideas, opinions, and experiences is necessary for any Lodge to prosper. When it comes to inspiring and incentivizing members who are much older or much younger than you, it helps to think like an anthropologist. Always consider where your members are in their lives and what their experiences could be.

Our older members are more likely to fall into a mentor role and you will more often find them willing to coach and advise the young members. As a matter of fact, in Freemasonry, young members find it easier to take advice from an experienced member than from a Brother who is of their own age group. Meanwhile, the young Mason who grew up with the internet age, can exemplify to the older brother how the power of social media can drive Masonic interaction and awareness to a whole new level. Although there are commonalities among generations, there are differences as well. Conflicts might arise from differing learning styles, especially as they relate to how information is acquired and used. Millennials, for example, tend to process information quickly and prefer to get it through digital devices and social media. They typically prefer more efficient ways of communication, which are short and straight to the point. Forcing the younger generation to sit through lengthy speeches given from behind a podium or a desk is not the best option. I would like to suggest the following tips to better lead your membership as a whole:

- Don't waste your members' time, or let them feel that their time is not important
- Speak in an open, direct style and avoid controlling language
- Answer questions thoroughly but to the point, and expect to be pressed for details
- Present options to demonstrate flexibility in your thinking
- Keep your speeches concise or you will lose your audience
- Ask members for their feedback and provide them with the same in a constructive manner
- Share information with members on a regular basis and strive to keep them in the loop

- Use action words and challenge them at every opportunity to take on tasks you know they can accomplish
- Use humor and create a fun learning environment
- Forge partnerships with members of different ages and encourage them to share their opinions and especially their experiences

**Acknowledge** your members' varying experiences and the value each one brings to the Lodge

**Care** for your brothers and be genuinely interested in their life happenings and their hobbies

**Exchange** ideas and ask for input and utilize your members' varying expertise

**Implement** good ideas and give recognition to members who successfully deliver on projects and provide support and encouragement to those who fall short

**Remember** that the Older Brother is crucial to our Mentoring Program. One on One mentoring works best as it is proven to be a vital tool for retention and growth of your membership. For the younger brothers, draw on their passion, excitement and zeal to effectively direct their energy into the best channels that will add value to your lodge and strengthen its pillars.

In closing, our Grand Lodge has an extensive list of proven leaders who will make themselves available to provide help, support or advice to you and your lodges should you need it. We are all part of this one great fraternity and it is in our common best interest that our lodges strive and prosper always by unlocking the great potentials of ALL our members.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

R.W. Roger Quintana  
Junior Grand Warden



# The Grand Lodge



Most Ancient and Honorable Society  
of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

JOHN S. RYAN, PGM  
GRAND SECRETARY  
jryan@njmasonic.org

100 BARRACK STREET  
TRENTON, NJ 08608-2008  
609-239-3970 B

## Nominations for Grand Lodge Office 2016-2017

### Grand Master

**Walter R. Kaulfers**, Mosaic Lodge No. 194  
29 Fox Hollow Road, Ramsey, NJ 07446-1459

### Deputy Grand Master

**Dieter B. Hees**, Sunrise Lodge No. 288  
410 Merion Avenue, Pine Beach, NJ 08741

### Senior Grand Warden

**Roger Quintana**, Blue Stone Mystic Tie Malta Doric Lodge No. 35  
75 Cameo Place, Colonia, NJ 07067

### Junior Grand Warden

**Gregory J. Scott**, Peninsula No. 99  
362 Avenue A, Bayonne, NJ 07002

### Grand Treasurer

**Robert J. Sheridan**, Atlantic Lodge No. 221  
403 Breaker Drive, Galloway, NJ 08205

### Grand Secretary (Vote for 1)

**John M. Colligas**, Raritan Valley Lodge No. 46  
125 Prospect Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

**John S. Ryan**, Livingston Lodge No. 11  
1 Killdeer Glen, Hackettstown, NJ 07480

### Grand Lodge Trustee - 3 Year Term (Vote for 2)

**Jack A.E. Ford**, Princeton Lodge No. 38  
267 Laura Court, Spotswood, NJ 08884

**H. Wayland Packer**, Clarksboro Lodge No. 87  
518 Woodstown Road, Swedesboro, NJ 08085

**P. Brian Sisz**, Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 28  
6 Wheatfield Court, Columbus, NJ 08002

**Glenn T. Visscher**, Cincinnati Lodge No. 3  
7 Indianhead Road, Morristown, NJ 07960

### Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee (Vote for 1)

**Joshua Barnett**, Lessing Passaic Lodge No. 67  
533 New York Avenue, Lyndhurst, NJ 07070

**Lawrence D. Thoma**, Loyalty Lodge No. 33  
300 Livingston Road, Linden, NJ 07036

### Masonic Charity Foundation - 3 Year Term (Vote for 3)

**Frank L. Blades, Sr.**, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 28  
8 Arbor Court, Trenton, NJ 08620

**William J. Krassan**, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15  
12 Yarrow Place, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

**Donald E. Lynch**, Navesink Lodge No. 9  
1961 Morris Avenue, Suite A-7, Union, NJ 07083

**J. Eugene Margroff**, Wyckoff Lodge No. 287  
12-36 Eastern Drive, Fairlawn, NJ 07410

**Joseph T. Mezzina**, Sextant Lodge No. 286  
72 Golf View Drive, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087

**David L. Tucker**, Atlantic Lodge No. 221  
218 Lincoln Street, Hammonton, NJ 08037

Sincerely and fraternally,  
John S. Ryan, P.G.M.  
Grand Secretary



Grand Lodge

# Uncontested Nominees for Office



## Grand Master

Walter R. Kaulfers  
Mosaic Lodge #194  
3<sup>rd</sup> District



## Deputy Grand Master

Dieter B. Hees  
Sunrise Lodge #288  
20<sup>th</sup> District



## Senior Grand Warden

Roger Quintana  
Blue Stone Mystic #35  
5<sup>th</sup> District



## Junior Grand Warden

Gregory J. Scott  
Peninsula #99  
5<sup>th</sup> District



## Grand Treasurer

Robert J. Sheridan, P.G.M.  
Atlantic Lodge #221  
23<sup>rd</sup> District

## Nominees for Grand Secretary (Vote 1 of 2)

### MW John M. Colligas



**Personal:** Married to Beverly for the past 54 years. We have a daughter, four granddaughters, one grandson, three great grandsons, and one great granddaughter.

**Education:**  
BA Degree Sociology,  
Rutgers University.

#### Professional:

Retired 2005 as Master Probation Officer of the Judiciary State of New Jersey, Criminal Division Somerset County, after 34 years of service.

#### Military Service:

U.S. Army 1959 - 1962.

#### Masonic History, Titles and Memberships:

Received Master Mason Degree in Solomon's Lodge No. 46 on March 23, 1968; Worshipful Master of Raritan Valley Lodge No. 46, 1994; Past Secretary of Solomon's Lodge No. 46 having served 10 years, from 1995 and retiring in 2004; Past G.T.C., Past Scribe, and Life Member of SO-RA-BO Forest No. 48 T.C.L.; Scott Chapter No. 4 R.A.M.; Scott Council No. 1; A.A.S.R. Valley of Central Jersey; Atlas Chapter No. 99 O.E.S.; Past Excellent Chief of Northern Council No. 10 Knight Masons U.S.A.; Society of The Saints John; New Jersey College Masonic Societas Rosicruciana; Board of Governors Scotch Plains 320 Masonic Learning Center for Children, 2000-2006; Past President 12<sup>th</sup> District P.M. and Wardens Assoc; South Jersey Past Masters and Wardens Assoc; North Jersey Past Masters and Wardens Masonic Asso.; The Haggai Lodge of Mark Master Masons; N.J. DeMolay Legion of Honor; Past Commander New Jersey Legion of Honor Preceptory;

Instrumental in forming the Rutgers Masonic Club and the Collegiate One Day Class on January 23, 2010.

2009 Awarded the Order of Ish Sodi by the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New Jersey; 2009 awarded the Grand Cross of Color by The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls; 2009 Awarded the G.L. of NJ Daniel Cox Medal for Distinguished Service to the Craft; 2009 awarded the 33<sup>rd</sup>. and last Degree of Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the AASR of Freemasonry; 2011 Awarded the G.L. of Rhode Island Christopher Champlin Medal for Outstanding Masonic Achievement.

#### Honorary Member of the following Lodges:

Kittatinny No. 164; Condon-Overlook No. 163; Palestine No. 111; Eclipse No. 259; Philo No. 243; Harmony No. 8; Host No. 6; Madison No. 93; Mozart No. 121; Colonial-Prospect No. 24; Princeton No. 38; Union No. 19; Plaridel No. 302.

Honorary Member Hunterdon County Forest No. 13, T.C.L; Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Colorado

DDGM 12<sup>th</sup>. Masonic District 1997-2001; 2003 elected to a 3 year term as Trustee of the Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey; Chairman of Foundation Charities Committee. Grand Lodge Committee on Sports Promotion 1996 - 2002; Grand Lodge Committee on Renewal 2002-2004; Grand Lodge Committee on Ritual 2002-2004; 12<sup>th</sup> District Ritual Instructor, 1995, 1996; 2008 elected Grand Master, Grand Lodge of New Jersey; 2008 -2009 Chairman of the Board of Trustees Masonic Charity Foundation; Right Worshipful Grand Instructor, 2009-2011; February 23, 2010, elected to a seven year term as a member of the Commission on Information for Recognition of the Conference of The Grand Masters of Masons in North America.

#### Community:

Member United Reformed Church, Somerville,

New Jersey for the past 55 years. Deacon, Elder and past vice president of Consistory and delegate to the Classis of Delaware-Raritan.

#### Statement:

The primary responsibilities of the Grand Secretary are to ensure our Grand Lodge Office operates effectively and efficiently, to correspond with and assist the secretaries of the lodges, insure the adopted changes in legislation and the Proceedings of Grand Lodge Communications are recorded and issued on a timely basis.

Currently financial transactions of our Grand Lodge are maintained by an outside person and are often never readily available when needed. Also, the activities of our Grand Lodge should be as transparent as possible and in all cases our Grand Lodge Constitution and Laws should be followed. All subsequent legislation adopted should be printed and distributed by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the subsequent year, which has not been done since 2013. As of December 31, 2015, the Grand Lodge Secretary's Office was four years behind in issuing the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge Communications, which are supposed to be published and distributed to the lodges no later than December 15 following the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. And finally, in this era of electronics, the members of our Grand Lodge are not provided with a copy of the Grand Lodge annual audit. As a member of our Grand Lodge Corporation I find these situations to be unacceptable.

Since 1866, our fraternity has been a New Jersey Corporation. Our Constitution and By-Laws are its supreme and sole governing rules and regulations.

Trust and transparency has to be restored throughout our Grand Lodge operations. With this in mind, I together with five (5) Past Grand Masters have signed proposed new legislation to formalize the Constitution's supremacy at our forthcoming 2016 Annual Grand Lodge Communication. ➤

# Nominees for Grand Secretary (Vote 1 of 2)



Grand Lodge

continued from page 10

## MW John M. Colligas

### Statement:

My brother, I want to be your Grand Secretary because I feel very strongly that the skills I have accumulated over the years as my lodge secretary for 10 years, time spent in the elected Grand Lodge Line, Grand Master and Chairman of the Masonic Charity Foundation will move the Grand

Lodge Office forward. I have been elected to and am currently serving as a commissioner on Information for Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters for North America. Another function of the Grand Secretary is to communicate with Grand Secretaries from Jurisdictions around the world. The experience I have gained over my 45 years of masonic service and 30 years in my professional career has given me the ability

to implement policies and procedures that will make our Grand Lodge Office more effective to the needs of the brethren in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Therefore, I hope that I can count upon you for your vote for Grand Secretary at our Annual Communication in April so that your Grand Lodge Office will be able to serve you in the best way possible.

## MW John S. Ryan, PGM, GS



**Personal:** Born May 12, 1943.

**Education:** University of Miami-BS Degree, Fairleigh Dickinson University - Additional credits, International Business Machines (IBM) - Computer Program Degree.

### Professional:

Publishers Distribution Company, Inc. www.pdgmags.com - C.E.O. - 1977 - Present. Founded company to distribute and market special interest periodicals to the newsstand in North America.

Purchased Annas International, Inc. www.annasint.com in 2004 to export North American periodicals to all foreign countries that sell English language periodicals.

Founded Metro Publishing Limited in 1996 and published "Coastal Cruising" and "Italian Food, Wine & Travel" magazines.

### Masonic History, Titles and Memberships:

Master Mason Degree-January, 23, 1985, Livingston Lodge No. 11, Worshipful Master - 1990, Grand Chaplain Grand Lodge of New Jersey - 1997 - 1998, East Orange Veterans Hospital Representative - 1987 - 1997, New Jersey State Coordinator Masonic Service Association - 1997-2003, District Deputy Grand Master 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic

District - 1998 - 2003, Masonic Charity Board of Trustees - 2003 - 2010, Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge - 2003 - 2004, President of Masonic Charity Foundation - 2003 - 2004, Junior Grand Warden - Elected 2004, Grand Master of New Jersey - 2007 - 2008, 33 Degree Scottish Rite, Northern Jurisdiction - 2009, Chairman, Masonic Charity Foundation - 2007 - 2008, Chairman, Strategic Planning Committee, Past Chairman & Founder of Essex Chapter DeMolay, Past Chairman, Grand Lodge Committee on USS New Jersey Battleship Fund, Past Chairman, Children's Learning Center, Newark, NJ, Past Sovereign Master, Harold V.B. Voorhis Council No. 20, AMD of USA, Past Excellent Chief, Knight Masons Council No. 10, Past Toparc, Ancient Order of Sciots, Next Puissant Sovereign, St. Josephs Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Past Board of Directors, George Washington Masonic Memorial, Member of Girard Mark Lodge No 214, M.M.M.S.

Concordant and Appendant Bodies  
New Jersey Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, New Jersey Council of Deliberation AASR, Grand Council Royal & Select Masters, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Grand Commandery Knights Templar, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, High Twelve, Ancient order of Sciots, New Jersey College S.R.I.C.F., Society of Saints John, New Jersey DeMolay Legion of Honor, New Jersey DeMolay Alumni Association, New Jersey Past Masters Association, Royal Order of Red Branch Eri, Garden State York Rite College No. 122, Past Vice President National Sojourners Chapter No. 42, Haggai Lodge of Mark Master Masons, The Masonic Kilties of New Jersey, Veritas Court No. 112 Masonic Order of Athelstan, Senior Warden.

### Other Lodge Memberships

Hannibal lodge No. 224, St. George's, Bermuda, Alexander - Washington Lodge No. 22, Alexandria, Virginia, Honorary Membership: Musconetcong No. 42, Kittatinny No. 164, Penns Grove-Excelsior No. 54, Condon-Overlook No. 163, Nutley No. 25, Essex No. 7, Harmony No. 8, Azure Masada No. 22, Alpha No. 116, Eclipse No. 259, Host No. 6, Jacques DeMolay No. 318.

### Other Affiliations

President Board of Trustees, USS New Jersey Battleship Masonic.

### Statement:

The Grand Secretary and the Grand Lodge Office are two vital components within our Masonic Fraternity which handle the administration of all corporate business matters and communication within our jurisdiction and throughout the Free & Accepted Masonic world. The constitution and Laws of this jurisdiction state eight important duties of the Grand Secretary, which must be maintained and administered on time and with completion. Key responsibilities include: maintaining all records of Grand Lodge including all aspects of the Annual Communication, publishing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge by December 15 of each year, and maintaining an open line of communication with the Lodge Secretaries and the Brethren.

These are but a few of many required responsibilities of the Grand Secretary, as well as all directives of the Grand Master. I believe I have more than fulfilled these duties during the past Masonic Year and, with your support, will continue as your Grand Secretary.

## ALL LODGE SECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES... PAST SECRETARIES & LODGE TREASURERS

The Masonic Secretaries Association of New Jersey cordially invites you to become a member.

*Meetings are held three times a year  
(January - May - September).*

The next meeting of the Association will be held at  
Grow Hall, Masonic Home Campus, Burlington on

**Saturday, MAY 14, 2016**

Coffee and donuts 9:30 AM • Meeting 10 AM

Join your fellow Brethren and share in discussing issues  
and concerns of Lodge Secretaries.

For further information contact: Wayne Thomas  
Unit 308, 21 W. Black Horse Pike, Pleasantville, NJ 08232  
Phone: 609.470.1591





Grand Lodge

# Nominees for Grand Lodge Trustee (Vote 2 of 4)

## Jack A.E. Ford



### Education:

Educated in England thru Junior College followed by 5 years in the British Royal Navy specializing in advanced electronics. Emigrated to Canada with my family and joined the Royal Canadian

Air Force specializing in advanced communications and radar systems. Also completed numerous correspondence and night school courses in Business Administration.

### Professional:

My businesses experience includes over 50 years in sales, management and technical skills in the communications industry. Owner operator for almost 20 years of a two way radio business in

central New Jersey, involved in all aspects of the business - sales and marketing, administration and technical. Managed 17 employees.

### Masonic History:

Initiated, Passed and Raised 1968 in Metropolitan Lodge No. 646, Los Angeles, California.

Secretary - Princeton Lodge No. 38, 2000 to present.

Worshipful Master - Princeton Lodge No. 38, 1996 & 1999.

Worshipful Master - Eastern Star Lodge No. 105, 1987.

Grand Chaplain 1990 - 1991.

D.D.G.M. 12<sup>th</sup> Masonic District 2004 - 2006.

Grand Pursuivant 2006 - 2007.

Grand Lodge Trustee 2008 - 2014.

Grand Lodge Trustee's Recording Secretary 2014 to present.

Representative of the United Grand Lodge of England at the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Balloting Committee, Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

State of the Craft Committee, Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Treasurer - Princeton Fraternal Association.

Secretary Emeritus - 12<sup>th</sup> District Past Master's & Wardens Association.

Masonic Secretaries Association of New Jersey. Past Patron, Bound Brook Chapter No. 94 OES of NJ.

Past President of the Board of Directors, OES Home of NJ.

### Non Masonic History:

Somerset County Emergency Management Amateur Radio Operator.

Somerset County Search and Rescue Planner. AARP Driver Safety Instructor.

American Red Cross Disaster Action Team.

Volunteer at Woodbridge Animal Shelter.

Foster Home for the "Save a Yorkie Rescue" group.

### Statement:

I believe that with my background and experience in operating my own business and the organizational skills I have developed in management, contract negotiations, personnel management and supervision, I would serve as Grand Lodge Trustee in a positive capacity and ask your support in this endeavor.

## RW H. Wayland Packer, PDDGM



### Personal:

Married to Eva Lee. We have three married children Jackie, Vincent and Mark, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. We reside at 518 Woodstown Road in Woolwich Township, NJ (Swedesboro, NJ).

### Education:

Graduated Swedesboro School System 1961, Graduated Salem Community College 1969, Graduated Wilmington College 1972.

### Professional:

Retired in 2003 as a Fire Protection Engineer/

Consultant from E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co. after 32 years of service. During this employment I was responsible for all Special Hazard Fire Protection Systems installed within the DuPont Company Globally. Served concurrently as Alliance Manager for fire protection alliance contracts/contractors. Represented DuPont Company and served as a member of NFPA(National Fire Protection Association), National Standards Committee(s) NFPA Standard 15 and NFPA Standard 20 until Retirement.

### Military Service:

United States Navy 1961 to 1967 (Honorably Discharged).

### Masonic History, Titles and Memberships:

Member of Clarksboro Lodge No. 87, Raised in Swedesboro Lodge No. 157 in 1967, Served as Worshipful Master in 1978, 1982, 1997, Served as Grand Chaplain in 1984, Served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 21<sup>st</sup> District 1998-2003, Served as Grand Lodge Trustee from 2006

to 2014.

### Grand Lodge Committee Service:

Ritual Committee 2003 to Present, State of the Craft, Temple and Lodge Finance, Renewal Dispensations and Warrants.

### Affiliations:

Member Joshua Chapter No. 51 RAM.

### Statement:

I have been active in Grand Lodge business since 1978 having served on several Grand Lodge Committees. Since my retirement, I have continued to seek further ways to serve our Grand Lodge. In 2006 I was elected and served as a Grand Lodge Trustee for 8 years. With your continued support, I will again continue to bring to the Grand Lodge Trustees the experience and business knowledge that I have spent a lifetime accumulating. Your support in this endeavor is earnestly requested.

## RW P. Brian Sisiz



**Personal:** My wife Melissa and I have been married for 21 years. I have 2 beautiful daughters Morgan (19) and Madison (13).

### Education:

Bachelor Degree in Management and Organization Behavior from Rider University

### Masonic History:

Raised March 24, 2004.

Worshipful Master 2010.

Grand Chaplain 2013 - 2014.

Recipient of the Grand Masters Award of Merit. Grand Lodge Trustee 2014 to Present.

19<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association Secretary/Treasurer 2011 - Present.

Currently serving on Lodge Finance Committee.

Currently serving on Lodge Charity Committee.

Served on several 19<sup>th</sup> District Reception Committees and Grand Master's Installation and Reception Committee.

### Masonic Affiliations:

19<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association, South Jersey Past Masters and Wardens, Valley of Central Jersey,

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Trenton Forest No. 4.

### Statement:

It has been an honor and a privilege serving as Grand Lodge Trustee the last two years. The experience has been very challenging and rewarding. Protecting the property of Grand Lodge and managing its affairs has become my number one priority that I take very seriously. Over the past two years I have assisted in overseeing transferring of the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple to the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustees. The instituting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey Ashlar Fund, Inc. (501c3) so that the brethren can make tax deductible donations to the Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge can

# Nominees for Grand Lodge Trustee (Vote 2 of 4)



Grand Lodge

*continued from page 12*

## RW P. Brian Sisiz

### Statement:

distribute money to our 501c3 concerns; DeMolay, Rainbow, Masonic Charity Foundation, George Washington Masonic Memorial and the Masonic Service Association. Fiduciary responsibility requires the Grand Lodge Trustees to oversee the Budgets of Grand Masters. I also was on the committee that oversaw the creation of an advertising pricing schedule and the collecting of revenues to dramatically

lower the cost of the Freemason magazine.

As the partnered owner in 2 businesses in New Jersey, I have experience in dealing with not only regulations on the local, county and state levels, but know the importance of customer service. As a Grand Lodge Trustee, I believe it is imperative that the Masons of New Jersey have the ability to approach the Trustees and that they can get their questions answered. I have enjoyed meeting and speaking to many of you in my travels throughout

this grand jurisdiction. As many of you know, I am very approachable and can be reached at any time to discuss any questions about the Grand Lodge, or for that matter any questions or needs you may have.

I take the position of Grand Lodge Trustee very serious and I know the weight of this responsibility given to me by my brethren. I earnestly ask for your continued support and your vote in April at our Annual Grand Lodge Communication.

## RW Glenn T. Visscher



### Personal:

Born June 6, 1967 in Morris Plains, New Jersey. I currently reside in Morristown with my wife Amy, of 2 years, and our daughter Gwyneth.

### Education:

Graduated from Morristown High School

(Morristown, NJ): 1985

BS in Chemistry (Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA): 1989

PhD in Materials Chemistry (Penn State University, State College, PA): 1994

Post-Doctoral Studies in Industrial Chemistry (Polymer Chemistry Innovations, State College, PA): 1995

### Professional:

I am currently a Project Manager/Associate Principal Scientist with Mondelez International, in the area of Confectionary Development (Gum and Gum Base Development). My career has spanned almost 20 years in the Plastics and Confectionary businesses, primarily in the areas of R&D, Project Management and Business Development. In my current position, I am responsible for management of global research projects which include budget development/oversight, research, problem solving, adherence to timelines, personnel management, and reporting results to Senior Management on a timely basis. I have represented Mondelez International on the International level for the ICGA (International Chewing Gum Association).

### Masonic History:

Raised in Cincinnati Lodge No. 3 in 1998.

Worshipful Master (Cincinnati Lodge No. 3):

2002 & 2003

Lodge Trustee (Cincinnati Lodge No. 3):

2003 - 2006

President of the 11<sup>th</sup> District Masters, Wardens, Secretaries and Past Master's Association: 2003.

Grand Soloist: 2003 - 2007.

Grand Marshal: 2011 - 2012.

Grand Lodge Trustee: 2013 - 2016.

District Ritual Instructor (11<sup>th</sup> Masonic District):

2014 to Present.

Dual Member of Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10.

Awarded Meritorious Service Award: 2009.

Awarded Daniel Coxe Award: 2011.

Grand Lodge Committees:

Museum & Library Committee 2011 - Present;

Current Chairman.

Masonic Resource Committee.

### Masonic Affiliations:

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (Valley of Northern New Jersey): Most Wise Master: 2009; Coroneted 33o: 2007.

Royal Arch Masons (Adelphic Chapter No. 33).

Royal and Select Masons (Quayle Council No. 17).

Knights Templar (Melita Commandry No. 17).

Salaam Shrine: Oriental Band - President (2005)

& Asst. Director (2000-Present); Deputy Director

General : 2003-2011.

Allied Masonic Degrees (Harold Van Buren

Voorhis Council #260): Sovereign Master - 2012.

Order of the Eastern Star (Atlas Chapter No. 99).

Red Cross of Constantine (St. Joseph Conclave).

Knight Masons (Northern New Jersey Council No. 10).

Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus

Foederatis (SRICF) (NJ Council).

Society of Saints John.

Royal Order of Scotland.

Awarded DeMolay Legion of Honor

(Honorary): 2005.

### Community:

Eagle Scout (1981) / Past Assistant Scoutmaster - Troop 39 (Morris Plains, NJ).

Morristown Presbyterian Church : Choirs, Board of Deacons , Lay Reader.

Morris Plains Memorial Day Parade Committee: 2005 - Present.

### Statement:

Our Constitution and By-Laws require the Trustees to manage the fiscal and material aspects of our Grand Lodge, while still preserving its history and well-being. Throughout my masonic and business career, I have always employed enthusiasm for my work, good planning and responsibility to achieve my goals. As a Project Manager, I have worked with multi-million dollar budgets and successfully directed the work of my team members. As a Scientist, I am trained to identify a problem and then develop and implement the optimal solution in a timely and responsible manner. As a Masonic Museum Curator and Historian, I believe in caring for our Past and Present Grand Lodge Assets so we can learn from the past and guide our future decisions. As a current Grand Lodge Trustee, I have strived to better understand OUR Grand Lodge and have worked to guide and improve it. With the other Trustees, we continue to problem solve and to implement the proper oversight over the finances of the Grand Lodge. We have done much together, but there is still more to do.

I value all that I have learned from Freemasonry and have tried to incorporate it into my daily life. This foundation, coupled with my experiences, will allow me to continue to be a real asset to our Grand Lodge Trustees and to make the proper choices which will help our Craft to continue to grow and prosper in the upcoming years.

## Annual Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 28 Table Lodge



*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

Once again the annual Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 28 table lodge was held on November 11, 2015 at the Valley of Central New Jersey in Bordentown, NJ. This unique table lodge draws many of the brethren from Delaware who travel north for this incredible evening of pure fellowship and fun. MW Anthony W. Montuori Grand Master of Masons of New Jersey is joined by MW Nathan Zahn Grand Master of Masons of Delaware.



Grand Lodge

# Nominees for Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee (Vote 1 of 2)

## Joshua Barnett



**Masonic History:**  
Past Master Lessing  
Passaic lodge  
No. 67.  
Member Harry S.  
Trumann lodge  
No. 1066.  
Member Order  
of the Amaranth  
court No. 22.  
Member Scottish

Rite Northern Valley.  
Member Scottish Rite Northern Valley  
degree team.  
Member Masonic Awareness Committee  
2014 - 2015.  
Member Masonic CHIP's Program 2015.  
Past President Masonic club of Lyndhurst.  
Past President Wakefield Temple Association.  
Past Treasurer Wakefield Temple Association.

## Lawrence D. Thoma



**Personal:** Single.  
I live in Linden, NJ.

**Education:**  
1965 Graduated  
from Pequannock  
TWSP, H.S.  
1970 Graduated  
Clemson University  
with a B.A. in  
Economics.  
1970 Clemson  
University Grad

School on a grant from the U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency (EPA).

### Professional:

Stockbroker, Investment Advisor, Estate  
Administrator.

### Masonic History, Titles and Memberships:

Raised Loyalty Lodge No. 33 June 15, 2004.  
Served as Worshipful Master 2008, 2015.

RW Senior Grand Steward.  
Duel member Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10.  
RE Maple Chapter RAM No. 10  
Duel member Corinthian Chapter RAM No. 57.  
Duel member Lafayette Chapter RAM No. 26  
Grand Chapter Award; Junius C. Schmidt.  
Distinguished Service Medal.  
Member North Jersey Past Masters.  
Adoniram Council No. 477.  
E.C. Trinity Commandry No. 17 GSB 2015  
Board Member Scotch Plains Dyslexia Center.

Member St. Joseph Conclave. Knights of the Red  
Cross of Constantine.  
DaVinci Council No. 477 AMD.  
Knight Masons No. 10.  
Member Society of the Saints John.  
EC The Grand Convention of Anointed High  
Priests.  
Member Haggai Lodge.  
Member of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite -  
Valley of Northern New Jersey.

### Statement:

My Brothers, I am running for re-election to the  
Historic Trenton Masonic Temple (HTMT) Trustee

Board. I am seeking another three-year term to  
finish important work that is still to be done. I  
have the support of all the HTMT trustees for my  
re-election.

Each of the current trustees brings a certain skill  
to the board. My contribution is my knowledge  
and experience in finance. My working career  
has been as an investment Advisor and Money  
Manager. My financial background is essential to  
the board.

The HTMT trustees acquired the Trenton Temple  
from the Grand Lodge in 2015. Since then  
many improvements and projects have been  
completed. There is more to be done and I ask  
you for your to work to that goal.

Thank you.

# Nominees for Masonic Charity Foundation (Vote 3 of 6)

## RW Frank L. Blades, SR



**Personal:** Married  
to Sharon and  
between the two  
of us, we have five  
children and six  
grandchildren. We  
are retired and live  
in Yardville, NJ.

**Education:**  
Graduated Bridgeton  
High School,  
completed a four-

year apprentice program with E.I. Dupont Co.  
receiving federal and state Journeymen's Electrician  
papers. Attended Salem County College for DCS,  
Electronics and Business Management.

### Professional:

Retired from the E.I. Dupont Co. after over 34

years of service in both the Operations and  
Engineering departments.

### Masonic History:

Symbolic Lodge  
Woodstown Lodge No. 138 PM 1988 and 1994.  
21<sup>st</sup> District PM Association President 1989-1990.  
21<sup>st</sup> Dist. Charity Foundation Representative  
1987 - 1989.  
Grand Chaplain 2001/2002.  
Horizon Daylight Lodge No. 299.  
Mount Moriah Lodge No. 28.  
Inspiratus Lodge No. 357.  
Lodge No. 2, Philadelphia, PA.  
NJ Lodge of Research No. 1786.

### Masonic Affiliations:

Royal Arch Masonry  
Joppa Chapter No. 53 R.A.M ME High Priest.  
DD Grand High Priest.  
Order of High Priesthood.  
Grand High Priest 1997/98.  
General Grand Chapter's Ephraim Kirby Award 2015.

Council of Royal and Select Masters  
Triangle Council No. 10 Thrice Illustrious  
Master 1992.  
Van Hook Council No. 8.  
Gebel Council No. 3.  
District Deputy Grand Master 1995 - 1997.  
Thrice Illustrious Master Degree.  
Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters of the State  
of New Jersey.  
Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters  
1999 - 2000.  
General Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the  
Year Award.

### Knights Templar

Olivet Commandry No. 10 Commander 1994.  
Trinity Commandry No. 17.  
Helena Commandry No. 3.  
Right Eminent Grand Commander 2002 - 2003.  
Knight Templar Council Officers and Wardens  
Association (C.O.W.S.) President 1997 and 2002.  
Order of Knight Preceptor  
Knight Commander of the Temple ➤



# Nominees for Masonic Charity Foundation (Vote 3 of 6)



Grand Lodge

*continued from page 14*

## RW Frank L. Blades, SR

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry NMJ Valley of Wilmington, De.  
Excelsior Scottish Rite Valley of Southern NJ  
Sovereign Prince 1996 - 1997.  
33<sup>rd</sup> Degree New Jersey Sovereign Grand Inspectors General 1999.  
President 33<sup>rd</sup> Society Valley of Southern NJ 2002.  
Valley of Central NJ 2013.  
Scottish Rite Research Society.  
Board of Governors Burlington Children's Dyslexia Center 2013.  
Board of Trustees Valley of Central NJ 2013.  
Valley of Philadelphia.

Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine Nur Temple, Delaware.  
President Knights of Mecca.  
Crescent Temple New Jersey Treasurer Yacht Club Knights of Mecca.  
Hillbilly Clan No. 12, PA.

Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America  
Bridgeton Forest No. 7.

Masonic Research and Book Clubs  
Masonic Book Club Member.  
Masonic Society (Founding Member).  
Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865, GL of VA.  
Philaethes Society.

Sovereign College of North America  
NJ York Rite College No. 18.  
Order of Knight of York.  
Governor 1996 - 1997.  
Order of the Purple Cross.  
Secretary New Jersey College No. 18.

Order of the Eastern Star  
Bethel Chapter No. 111 Worth Patron 1991 - 1992.  
Bordentown OES Chapter No. 257.  
Worth Patron 2015 - 2016.

Mark Master Masons  
Haggai Lodge MMM Right Worshipful Master 1997.  
Secretary 2004 - 2006.  
Solomon Lodge MMM (Charter Member).  
Girard Mark Lodge, PA.

Grottoes of North America  
Yalomed Grotto Monarch 2000 / 2001.

Knight Masons of the United States of America  
Southern New Jersey Council No. 11 Senior Knight 2016.

Allied Masonic Degrees (AMD)  
J. Howard Haring Council No. 116 Secretary/  
Treasurer.  
Sovereign Master 1996.  
Brearily Council No. 325 Sovereign Master 1995.

Royal Order of Scotland

Knights of The Red Cross of Constantine  
Saint Stephen Conclave Puissant Sovereign  
2001 - 2002 Treasurer.

Joshua Association  
Life Member President.

Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots  
New Jersey Pyramid No. 1 Renamed: Harold D. Elliott.

The Society of Saints John

Grand College of Rites of the United States  
of America

New Jersey DeMolay Alumni Association  
Legion of Honor.

Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis

Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests

New Jersey International Police Square Club  
South Jersey Chapter No. 2 Charter Member.

High Twelve International  
Mount Laurel High Twelve Club No. 770  
President 2015.

Masonic Order of Athelstan  
Susquehanna Court No. 74.  
Veritas Court No. 112 Primus Worshipful.

The Operatives: (The Worshipful Society of Free  
Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers,  
Plasterers and Bricklayers)  
Trinity Church Assemblage.

### Statement:

The position of Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee is one of utmost importance to our Masonic Home's future, and we should strive to elect only the most qualified individuals. The candidate should have a broad Masonic perspective with an understanding of financial matters related to the Craft. He should be fiscally conservative, but at the same time flexible to meet any challenges confronting our organization. Finally, he should be progressive enough to foresee the changing landscape of the future and take steps to ensure our charitable commitments.

Having served this great fraternity for approximately 40 years in various Masonic bodies and presiding over many of them, I am in a unique position to offer myself as a candidate. My sole objective, if elected, will be to work with the Grand Master, the other elected officers, and my fellow Trustee members to offer innovative and problem-solving ideas and solutions for the benefit of our Craft.

Brethren, I humbly solicit your support and vote at our Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, allowing me the opportunity to serve you and NJ Freemasonry once again.

## Donald E. Lynch PM



### Education:

Seton Hall University,  
South Orange, NJ  
(Undergraduate -  
Psychology /  
Biology)

Seton Hall University,  
South Orange, NJ  
(Graduate - Public  
Administration -  
Health Concentration).

### Professional:

New Jersey licensed nursing home administrator for over 25 years.  
New Jersey Department of Health licensed nursing home administrator's licensing board (Board Member for 11 yrs).  
Society of Licensed Nursing Home Administrators of NJ (VP / Board Member / Chairperson of the Education Committee).  
American College of Healthcare Administrators

of NJ.  
National Ski Patrol.

### Masonic History:

EA Degree 6/22/1998.  
FC Degree 10/19/1998.  
MM Degree 2/22/1999.  
PM Navesink No. 9 Red Bank NJ (2005).  
Chairman Board of Trustees Navesink No. 9 Red Bank, NJ.

### Masonic Affiliations:

Washington Lodge No. 9 Eatontown NJ.  
Cincinnati Lodge No. 3 Morristown NJ.  
Salaam Temple (Shriners) Livingston NJ.  
Scottish Rite (32 degree) Bordentown, NJ.

### Statement:

My Brothers this is my first venture at elected life outside my lodge. I am deeply honored to be considered for a Trustee's position on the Masonic Charity Foundation. I believe my extensive healthcare and business background would be put to good use in bettering our masonic fraternity.

Each and every Mason takes an oath to help/aide a brother Mason. I carry that oath with me every

day of my life - those that know me will attest that my life is divided into "3 equal parts".

I am dedicated to my lodge, having risen through the chairs and was elected to sit in the East as the Master of the Lodge. I also have a detail for business which was recognized by my brothers at Navesink Lodge No. 9 by electing me as a Trustee and currently I preside as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. I am proud to say together with my fellow trustees we play a role in planning for the financial success of Navesink No. 9 now and for the years to come.

As a Masonic Home Charity Foundation Trustee I completely understand the dire need to provide good counsel to the Grand Master and to the best of our ability carry out the directives provided to us by our fraternity. I also recognize that we are a corporate entity and are obligated to operate within the strict guidelines afforded by our by-laws, keeping in mind the economic implications of our actions.

From a professional / business prospective I have managed operating budgets of over \$11 million for some of the largest health systems in ➤



## Donald E. Lynch PM

New Jersey (non-profit point as well as from a propitiatory prospective). As a licensed nursing home administrator here in NJ I have firsthand knowledge of the State and Federal Regulations necessary for operating skilled nursing facilities. I understand the reimbursement process and could be a great liaison between the Masonic Home administration / staff and my fellow board members of the Masonic Charity Foundation

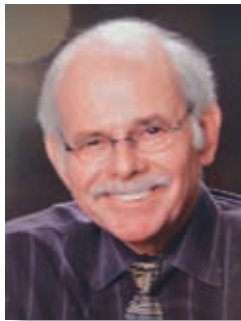
should that need ever arise. I have had over 25 years of experience of successfully navigating the workings of this complicated healthcare system of ours and would be honored to provide simplified versions to topics presented so that each Board member fully understands the potential implications of regulations be imposed upon our Masonic fraternity.

To continue to be successful our Masonic Charity Foundation Board must consist of a diverse group of brothers who bring their knowledge and life

experiences to our fraternity to help make difficult decisions for today and which will direct us to where we need to be for the days and years ahead. I provide that perspective. I have firsthand business knowledge and the vision of what our fraternity needs to do to prosper in the years to come.

I look forward to serving you and strengthening our Masonic fraternity as your Trustee for the next 3 years.

## RW William Krassan



**Personal:** I am married to my wife Sandy for almost 54 years. We have four children and five granddaughters, one of which is married. Sandy and I are both retired.

**Professional:** I've been involved in business since I

open my first store in 1964. I was fortunate to meet a gentleman who taught me how to be a professional photographer. In 1985 I opened Krassan and Kovnat Photography with a partner. From 1992 to 2011 we were the top rated studio in the Tri-County.

### Masonic History:

I was raised a Master Mason in May 1984 and was immediately appointed to be the Junior Deacon. I served as Worshipful Master in 1989. I was a member of the Royal Arch and was High Priest in 1990. I was honored with two appointments From M.E. Frank Blades and M.E. George Stallone. I served as Worthy Patron of the Order of the Golden Chain in 1990. In 1991 I was appointed D.R.I. for the 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. In 1992 I was appointed Grand Chaplain by Most Worshipful George Martin's staff.

The rest is history. Since 1992 I have had the honor and privilege a photographing the portrait Of 25 Grand Masters. My legacy adorns the walls of the Grand Lodge in Trenton. In 1995 most worshipful Harold Jennings appointed me to the Grand Lodge committee on ritual and I remained on the committee until 1999. In 2004 I was appointed District Deputy Grand.

Master of the 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. Since 2004 I have photographed and designed albums for

15 Grand Masters so they would be able to look back on the year they spent as Grand Master. During the past 13 years I have been the Grand Photographer and held many Grand Lodge positions.

### Masonic Affiliations:

Daniel Cox metal.  
DeMolay Legion of honor.  
Scottish Rite metal for Masonic service.

### Statement:

I have been a Master Mason for 31 years. Now that I am retired I have the time to devote my energy to being a viable part of the board. I have spent all of my working years in business for myself. I learned my grade with hard work and hands on training. What I lack in education I make up with desire to succeed. MY YEARS OF OF SERVICE AND MY DESIRE TO RETURN FREEMASONRY TO GREATNESS IS THE REASON I AM SEEKING THIS POSITION.

IN ADVANCE THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

## RW J. Eugene Margroff



**Personal:** Born and raised in Wyckoff, and currently residing in Fair Lawn. Am in a loving relationship with my lady Mary, and am the proud parent of five adult sons and daughters.

**Education:** Majored in Business Administration and

Mathematics and Statistics at Bergen Community College and Ramapo College.

### Professional:

I serve in the supermarket industry, holding progressively responsible management positions in sales, risk management, contracts, managing and mentoring personnel, and more since 1979. Concurrently at different times, I also worked in logistics for an energy firm, and even co-owned a landscaping company for more than a decade.

### Masonic History:

Initiated, Passed, and Raised in Wyckoff Lodge No. 287 in 1984, and served five times as Worshipful Master in 1993, 2007, 2009, 2012, and 2013.

Sons of Liberty Lodge No. 301 since 2006 (Trustee since 2012), Blue Stone Mystic Tie Malta Doric Lodge No. 35 since 2010, Fidelity Lodge No. 113 (Honorary Member since 2014), Inspiratus Lodge No. 357 (Charter Member, 2014), Masonic Kilties of New Jersey since 2006 (President, 2015).

### Grand Lodge responsibilities:

Grand Marshal, 2014 - 2015, North Jersey Past Masters Masonic Association since 1993 (President, 2014), District Ritual Instructor Second Masonic District, 2011 - 2012, Marshal Corps since 2012, Masonic Awareness Committee, 2007 - 2011.

### Masonic Affiliations:

Warren Point Square Club since 2006 (Trustee since 2011), Royal Arch Masons: Adelpic Chapter No. 33 (originally Boonton 21) since 1988, Royal and Select Masters: Kane Council No. 2 since 1988, Knights Templar: Melita Commandery No. 13 since 1989, Allied Masonic Degrees: Ark of the Covenant Council No. 38, 1990; Alexandria Council No. 478, Charter Member since 2009; Daniel Coxe Council No. 479, since 2012, and Sovereign Master 2014 - 2015, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite: Valley of Northern New Jersey, Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots: New Jersey Pyramid No. 1 (originally Pyramid No. 2) since 2010.

### Statement:

Throughout all my stations and places, and concerns and employments in life—within the

temple, and without—I have been blessed to see my talents and skills bring forth all kinds of successes in human relationships. Anyone who has experienced or studied best practices in non-profit board governance has learned how all progress grows from basic respect and clear communication. Setting and reviewing policy, guiding administration, mentoring fellow board members, upholding the highest ethics, ensuring fiscal responsibility, leading successful committees, and other essential board functions must always remain in synch with the beautiful tenets of our gentle Craft. Yes, the laws of New Jersey and the by-laws of the trustees are the guides of our non-profit board, as are the parliamentary procedures, but nothing lasting can be achieved if the board lacks trust, responsibility, self-examination, and a true Masonic ethic.

A great many of you have known me for years, and I hope you will recognize in me the integrity, good judgment, and fair play that you expect on our board of trustees. Please reflect on what you have seen in my service as a Grand Lodge officer, Worshipful Master, and elsewhere, and candidly consider whether I deserve this place of trust. In anticipation of a multitude of questions, I look forward to greeting you all during the Candidates Nights, and in my lodge travels. Thank you.



# Nominees for Masonic Charity Foundation (Vote 3 of 6)



## RW Joseph T. Mezzina



**Personal:** Born April 10, 1943 and raised in Hoboken, NJ. Married to Nancy Kochie. Resides at 72 Golf View Drive, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087. Religion affiliation Catholic, attends St. Theresa's Church, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087.

### **Education:**

Graduated from Grammar School, Hoboken, NJ - June 1956. Graduated from Demarest High School, Hoboken, NJ - June 1960. Graduated from the Professional School of Business, Hackensack, NJ - 1966, Specializing in Accident Life & Health & Casualty Insurance, and Real Estate Brokerage.

### **Professional:**

Insurance - Accident Life & Health & Casualty - Licensed in the State of NJ - 1966.

Realtor - Licensed in Real Estate - State of New Jersey 1963.

Real Estate Land Developer - Land Developer and Builder. Developed various parcels of land and Built approximately one thousand five (1,500) housing units. The largest housing development was an Eighty Five (85) Million Dollar Community of mixed residential and multi-family units with clubhouse, in Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey. Developed and built commercial sites, shopping centers, banks, office buildings - 1975 - 2007.

Licensed Builder - State of New Jersey 1995.

Majority Owner of Sea Oaks Country Club - 2003 to Present - Sea Oaks Golf & Country Club, consisting of over one hundred and sixty (165) acres of land consisting of an 18 Hole Championship Golf Course, 40,000 sq. ft. Club House with a Pro-Shop, Pub, Restaurant and Banquet Facility and a 20,000 sq. ft. thirty-one (31) room hotel - 2003 - Present.

Majority Owner of Synatech, Inc. - Indoor Air Quality Remediation Company - 2005 to Present Chairman of the Board.

Investment Property Owner.

### **Military:**

Enlisted Us Army 1961 and Honorably Discharged in 1967 - Rank Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class.

### **Masonic History:**

Blue Lodge:

Accepted - Sextant Lodge No. 286 - 1993, Raised MM - Sextant Lodge No. 286 - 1994, Worshipful Master Sextant Lodge No. 286 - 2002, Sextant Lodge No. 286 Board of Trustees - 2003 to 2006, Sextant Lodge No. 286 Ritual Committee - 2000 to 2014, Atlantic Lodge No. 221 - Member - 2004, Atlantic Lodge No. 221 - Ritual Committee - 2004 to Present, Past Masters & Wardens Association 21<sup>st</sup> District - 2004, South Jersey Past Masters Association - 2003, International Police Square Club - Member 2005.

Grand Lodge:

Grand Chaplin - 2005, Strategic Planning

Committee (Chairman) - 2004 to 2008, Masonic Charity Foundation Task Force (Chairman) 2004 to 2008, President of the Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey 2013 to Present, Acacia Lumberton (Board of Trustees) 2008 - Presently President, President of Acacia Lumberton Manor, Member of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, Ashlar Fund, Inc. - 2014 to Present, Dyslexia Center located in Northfield, New Jersey. Member of the Shriners, Elks, Recipient of the Grand Lodge Daniel Coxe Medal - 2008, Receipt of the Lewis M. Parker Humanitarian Medal - 2009.

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America - Excelsior Consistory Southern Valley:

Sublime Prince 32 Degree - 1994, Member of the Council of Deliberation - 2006, Received MSA - 2007, Coroneted 33 Degree - 2009, Excelsior Consistory - Lodge of Perfection - Thrice Potent Master - 2007, Excelsior Consistory - Investment Trustee - 2008 to 2009, Excelsior Consistory - Property Trustee - 2008 to 2009, Excelsior Consistory - Charity Fund Trustee - President - 2008 to Present, Excelsior Consistory Body - Commander-in-Chief - 2015, 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children, Inc. - Northfield Learning Center, Board Member - 2005- 2007 Chairman of the Board 2007 - Present, 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children, Inc. - Member of the New Jersey - State Executive Committee - 2007 to Present.

Royal Order of Scotland The Provincial Grand Lodge USA:  
Member - 2006 to Present.

Ancient Shrine Temple A.O.N.M.S of North America:  
Crescent Shrine (Noble) - 1995 to Present, Potentate's Staff - 2007 / 2008.

York Rite Bodies:  
Royal Arch - Trinity Chapter No. 38 - 2004 to Present.

The Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of NJ:  
Trinity Council No. 11 - Most Excellent Master - 2004 to Present.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar:  
Atlantic Commandery No. 20 - Knighted 2008 to Present.

Ancient Egyptian Order Sciots:  
Harold Elliot Pyramid No. 2 - 2003 to Present.

Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America:  
Atlantic City Forest No. 11 - 2006 to Present.

De Molay:  
Honorary Member - Legion of Honor Award - 2008.

Eastern Star:  
Beacon Chapter No. 282 - Patron - 2005.

### **Community Service:**

Little Egg Harbor Municipality Utilities Authority - (Chairman) 1977 to 2014, President of Bayshore Little League (Little Egg Harbor NJ) - 1980 to 1982, Advisor to the Little Egg Harbor Planning Board - 1979 - 1985, Honorary Member Boy Scouts of America - Community Service Award 2008, Sun Bank Advisory Board Member - 2000 to 2008, Shore Community Bank - Board Member

- 2008 to Presently Chairman, Ocean County College - Board of Trustees - 2007 to Present, Mystic Island Volunteer Fire Company NJ - Incorporator of the Fire Company - 1972, Notary Public State of New Jersey- 1967 to Present.

### **Statement:**

Most Worshipful Daniel Wilson appointed me to the Masonic Charity Foundation Task Force. Initially, the primary objective was to evaluate the real estate assets of the Foundation. I was asked to review the past recommendations regarding the best utilization of the properties. After my review, the then Grand Master Robert Sheridan received my report as to what would be the highest and best use of the vacant properties.

The value of the properties was low due to the fact that it was in a 3 acre zone. Some of it was being leased for farming. The report stated that the highest and best use for the property would be a residential use more particularly a CCRC or Active Adult Community. However, there were several main issues that had to be addressed and overcome, namely re-establishing a good relationship with Burlington Township, which was not good at the time, and most importantly a change in the zoning.

MW John Ryan was Grand Master. Holding title of Chairman of the Task Force received authorization from the MCF Board of Trustees to take the necessary steps to get the zoning changed and see the viability of marketing such a project. Qualified professionals in various fields of expertise were engaged. Extensive interviews took place and marketing specialists as well as a land use attorney, engineer, architect and land planner. Survey's were taken of a cross index of those Brethren that would most likely be interested in the complex.

Numerous meetings took place between the Task Force and the Township for over 2 years. As a result a mutual bond developed and we obtained the necessary zoning that will not only enable the project to be built in the future but will change the value of the properties from its former value of approximately \$10,000,000 to upwards to \$45,000,000.

Serving on the Task Force for those years has enabled me to monitor many issues facing the Masonic Charity Foundation and the Board Trustees. There's much still to be done. There are 2 very fine Brethren are leaving the Board and must be replaced with qualified Brethren. Today's demands and the demands of the future require even more business oriented and experienced Brethren to assume the duties and responsibilities of a Foundation Trustee.

The primary purpose for seeking this very important position is my love for the Fraternity and the years spent on the Board. I've had the honor of being elected by my peers, President of the Masonic Charity Foundation for 3 terms. We've come a long way to making the MCF successful. If re-elected for my last term I pledge to you to use all my skills and devote the time necessary and effort to insure that the Foundation will be successful in the future. I strongly feel that my business knowledge and experience, my Masonic and Community background along with my dedication brings to the Foundation what is needed for this very important position.





Grand Lodge

## Nominees for Masonic Charity Foundation (Vote 3 of 6)

### David Tucker



**Personal:** Resides in Hammonton, Atlantic County. Married to Karen Galinas-Tucker, 24 years. Four children: Lauren; Abigail; Andrew and Matthew, one Grandson: Leo.

**Education:** Buena Regional High School, Atlantic-Cape

Community College; A.A. Psychology, Thomas Edison State College; A.S. Criminal Justice; B.S.H.S. Legal Services, Rutgers University; Labor Relations, ULA, Princeton University; LAPA - Law and Public Affairs Program.

#### Professional:

Union Representative, 23 years, Government Workers Union; Current President.

#### Masonic History:

Atlantic Lodge No. 221; Belcher Lodge No. 180; Past Master (2011, 2012); Grand Lodge Appointments: Education Committee, 2012-2015;

Leadership Conference, 2013-2015; 23rd District Ritual Instructor, 2013-15; Trinity Chapter No. 38 of Royal Arch Masons (High Priest, 2011); Trinity Council No. 11 of Royal and Select Masters (Thrice Illustrious Master, 2012); Atlantic Commandery No. 20 (Commander, 2013); NJ Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Elected Grand Line (Principal Sojourner 2015); NJ Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters (Grand Chaplain 2013); NJ Grand Commandery of Knights Templar (Grand Standard Bearer, 2014; Aide to the Grand Commander 2015); Order of High Priests; Order of the Trough; Order of Knights Preceptor; Knight Masons Council No. 11 (Junior Warden 2015); St. Stephen's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; New Jersey York Rite College No. 18 (Sentinel 2015); Dabar Council No. 161, Allied Masonic Degrees (Sovereign Master 2014); Royal Order of the Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord (Grades 1, 2, 3); Grand College of Rites of North America; Royal Order of Scotland; Charter Member, Veritas Court of the Masonic Order of Athelstan (Secretary 2015); Atlantic City Forest, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Southern New Jersey (Thrice Potent Master of Excelsior Lodge of Perfection 2014) (Current Officer of Excelsior Chapter of Rose Croix); NJ Council of

Deliberation; Committee Member of Membership Outreach, Retention and Education; Scottish Rite Research Guild; Scottish Rite Speakers' Bureau; Associate Editor, Excelsior Scottish Rite Newsletter; Past Member of Board of Governors of Masonic Learning Center of Northfield; Past Master, New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786; Chapter Advisor, Trinity Chapter Order of DeMolay; Crescent Shrine AAONMS; South Jersey Past Masters Association; 23<sup>rd</sup> District Past Masters, Masters and Warden's Association (1<sup>st</sup> VP 2016); Guthrie College of the Consistory; Scottish Rite Research Society; Order of Eastern Star, Keystone Chapter No. 69; Quator Coronati Correspondence Circle; Masonic Society; Philaethes Society; Charter Member, Inspiratus Lodge No. 357.

#### Statement:

I have learned more than I can express from this fraternity and owe a debt of gratitude. I have spent 23 years of my professional life participating in and chairing board meetings. I have a flexible work schedule and have attended many Masonic Charity Foundation meetings. I ask you for the opportunity to work and contribute to our Fraternity as a Member of the Masonic Charity Foundation.

# The New Jersey Freemason Reaches Thousands of Brethren

The New Jersey Freemason is the official publication of the New Jersey Freemasons. We distribute the publication in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Please contact Cory Sigler at EditorNJF@yahoo.com to place your advertisement. Increase your business awareness amongst the brethren. Let us help you grow your business.

Ad Size	1X Rate	4X Rate	Ad Production*
Full Page (7.5"W x 10"H)	\$311.00	\$270.00	\$100.00
1/2 Page: Horizontal (7.5"W x 4.875"W) Vertical (3.625"W x 10"H)	\$225.00	\$187.00	\$60.00
1/4 Page (3.625"W x 4.875"H)	\$161.00	\$127.00	\$45.00
Business card (3.5"W x 2"H)	\$116.00	\$97.00	\$20.00

\*Content and imagery must be supplied by brethren requesting ad production assistance.

We the undersigned, respectfully submit the following interpretive statement and 12 constitutional amendments for the 2016 Masonic year. Please note that the interpretive statement was written by WB Leilich, edited by RWB Ross, and covers all 12 amendments. In order to reduce printing costs, and because all the amendments correspond with one another, we felt that a blanket interpretive statement covering all 12 amendments would be more prudent. Also, please note that all changes to the constitution are in bold type.

Matthew A. Leilich, WM, Distinguished Lecturer, Amwell Lodge No. 12  
Robert N. Stutz, PM, Mercer Lodge No. 50, PSGM  
Ronald F. Herzog, JW, Hightstown Apollo Lodge No. 41  
Richard J. Allen, WM, Host Lodge No. 6  
Raymond E. Foose, WM, Horizon Daylight Lodge No. 299, PGP

## Section 3. Membership Rights & Restrictions.

**Part 4. Attendance by Non-Master Masons.** Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Masons may attend any meeting of any lodge when it is working on a degree they have already taken, but they shall not vote on any business brought before that lodge.

## Part 5. Membership Cards & Traveling Certificates.

- (a) **Regulation Blue Cards.** All membership cards, for full members, whether for regular, honorary, or life membership, shall be confined to the regulation blue membership card, and shall be afforded to all Master Masons who have passed the required examination and have fulfilled the requirements outlined in Title Two, Article IX, Section 1, Part 19.
- (b) **Regulation Red Cards.** All membership cards, for Entered Apprentice Masons, Fellow Craft Masons, and those Master Masons who have not yet passed the required examination, shall be confined to the regulation red membership card.

## Section 4. Balloting.

### Part 6. Procedures for Balloting.

- (c) **Alarms and Admission During Balloting.** If an alarm be given at the outer door by a lodge member, while the ballot is spread, the Master must admit him when convenient, and permit him to vote. Between the closing of the ballot on one petitioner and the spreading of the ballot on another, the Master must admit all members of the lodge who have given the alarm.

## Section 6. Visitors.

**Part 1. General.** Masons, as such, are equal, possess the right to visit every lodge or assembly of masons when their presence will not disturb the peace and harmony of the same, and to appeal to the General Assembly of Masons, or its substitute, the Grand Lodge, whenever aggrieved by any act of a lodge.

**Part 2. Visitor's Obligation.** A lodge visitor must prove himself to be an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or

**Master Mason, or be regularly vouched for as such.**

**Part 3. Unaffiliated Masons.** A Mason unaffiliated for more than six months cannot visit a lodge in this jurisdiction.

**Part 4. Right to Examination.** A brother desiring to visit a lodge (if not vouched for) should be granted an examination, if his admission is not objected to.

### Part 5. Requirements for Examination and Attestation.

- (a) **Dues Card Requirement.** Visitors, whether or not vouched for, must present either a red card or blue card before being allowed to sign the register, or being given an examination. Upon being presented all red or blue cards shall not be more than 12 months old.
- (b) **Content of Blue Dues Card.** The presentation of a blue card certifying as to the good and regular standing of a brother will contain the following: the date up to which his dues have been paid, the signature of the Secretary under the seal of the lodge, the brother's signature, the certificate of the Grand Secretary and seal of the Grand Lodge attesting to the regularity of the lodge issuing it. This card will be required of every visitor who has passed the required Master Mason Examination, unless the visitor is vouched for.
- (c) **Content of Temporary Red Card.** The presentation of a temporary red card will contain the following: the date he was initiated, the signature of the Secretary under the seal of the lodge, the brother's signature, the certificate of the Grand Secretary and seal of the Grand Lodge attesting to the regularity of the lodge issuing it. This card will be required of every visitor who has not yet passed the required Master Mason Examination, unless the visitor is vouched for.
- (d) **Examiner.** The examination of a visiting brother may be made by the Master or a brother named by him for that purpose, at such time and place as he may elect.
- (e) **Qualification of Attestor.** No brother shall be permitted to vouch for any person applying to visit a lodge, unless he has sat with him in open lodge, a Grand Lodge Communication, Grand Lodge of Instruction, or District Lodge of Instruction, or has examined him under the direction of the Master.

**Part 6. Objection to Visitor.** If a member of a lodge objects to the admission or continuance in the lodge of a visiting brother (officers of the Grand Lodge excepted), it is the duty of the Master to conduct an inquiry into the reason for the objection, which must be for Masonic reasons. The Master shall, thereafter, have the discretion to decide whether to exclude the visiting brother or to overrule the objection.

**Part 7. Members Prior to Examination.** An Entered Apprentice Mason, Fellow Craft Mason, and a Master



**Mason prior to his passing the Master Mason Examination, may visit any lodge in this Jurisdiction. However, he may not witness a degree that he has not already taken. However, a Master Mason, prior to passing his examination, when properly vouched for, may attend a Grand Lodge of Instruction or a District Lodge of Instruction or an evening of instruction in any Masonic district.**

## Section 9. Fees. Dues & Assessments

### Part 1. Annual Dues.

- (a) In General. When a candidate completes his Entered Apprentice Degree, but has not yet passed the required examination, his lodge shall immediately issue him a red card, which shall afford him the right to visit and sit in any lodge within our jurisdiction.**
- (b) When a Brother passes the required Master Mason examination and has fulfilled the requirements outlined in Title Two, Article IX, Section 1, Part 19, a regular currently-dated blue card shall be issued to him. In case of dual membership, the blue card should so state. A lodge may remit the dues of members, a yearly action taken by the lodge and only past due obligations may be so remitted.**
- (c) Commencement of Obligation.** A member's dues begins when he becomes a Master Mason. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts pay no dues.

**Interpretive Statement:** Whenever an Entered Apprentice Mason or Fellow Craft Mason visits a lodge, other than his mother lodge, it is required that he be accompanied by a mentor. Although this method proves quite helpful, it runs contrary to the spirit of the fundamental precepts contained within Landmark #6. Every mason, regardless of his degree, has the right, "to visit every lodge" - by himself - and this legislation will begin to extend this right to all Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons.

### Landmark #6 reads as follows:

"Masons, as such, are equal, possess the right to visit every lodge or assembly of masons where their presence will not disturb the peace and harmony of the same, and to appeal to the General Assembly of Masons, or its substitute, the Grand Lodge, whenever aggrieved by any act of a lodge."

The evening a candidate completes his Entered Apprentice Degree, he will immediately be given a dated, temporary membership card called a "Red Card." This Red Card affords him the right to visit any lodge, by himself, either in or out of the state. If other states disallow Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Masons to visit, then that is completely out of our hands.

Additionally, Master Masons in our jurisdiction will no longer receive temporary Blue Cards after being raised. However,

the practice of issuing Master Masons permanent Blue Cards after they complete their Master Mason Examinations will continue as practiced.

Note: The Grand Secretary and Jurisprudence Committee have approved a much longer more detailed interpretive statement which will be available at the 2016 Annual Communication.

### **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE VII, Section 5, Part 2**

Nominations. In the absence of a by-law bearing on the subject, the permitting or forbidding of nominations for office rests in the discretion of the Master.

**Proposed:** TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE VII, Section 5, Part 2 Nominations. The permitting or forbidding of nominations for office rests in the discretion of the Worshipful Master.

**Interpretive Statement:** The tools of the Master are the Grand Lodge Constitution and By-Laws and the By-Laws of his Lodge, which enable him to maintain peace and harmony in his Lodge. No lodge By-Law should restrain the Master in his efforts to prevent disharmony and division within the Lodge.

Michael J. Emerson, Genesis Lodge No. 88

### **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE IV, Section 1, Part 10**

Committee on Trenton Masonic Museum. A committee on Trenton Masonic Museum to maintain the preservation and display of Masonic artifacts, historic and useful for research, which may come into the possession of the Grand Lodge and conduct tours for Master Masons, family and friends to enlighten all regarding the tenets and precepts of Freemasonry. The committee shall be composed of a minimum of 3 members to be appointed annually by the Grand Master.

**Proposed:** TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE IV, Section 1, Part 10 I propose that this Part be deleted in its entirety and that remaining Parts 11 through 20 be renumbered accordingly. (this will also require revision of the index to correspond.)

**Interpretive Statement:** The existing Committee on the Trenton Masonic Museum has, since all of these charges were placed upon it in 1952, fulfilled the functions of this section. The Grand Master, Lewis M. Parker, recommended in the Grand Master's address of 1952 that this Committee be amended to include the functions described herein. The Committee on Constitution and Laws recommended that the Grand Lodge adopt the Grand Master's recommendation, which was regularly moved, seconded and unanimously adopted.

On October 25, 2004 the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple, Incorporated came into existence. Its purposes include specifically owning and operating the Trenton Masonic Temple for its preservation and continued operation together with the charitable and educational uses of the Masonic ►



# 228<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication Legislation



Grand Lodge

*continued from page 20*

Museum and Library. In 2015, the Grand Lodge, as part of the transition of the physical buildings of the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple and the Old Temple, conveyed to the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple, Incorporated the artifacts, documents and historic possessions of the Grand Lodge for the administration by the HTMT. Since that time the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustees have coordinated with the members of the Committee on Trenton Masonic Museum. The transition of the artifacts is now complete and the Grand Lodge Committee is no longer required. All of the functions have been assumed by the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustees. Accordingly, this Committee no longer serves a function and may, at this time, be discontinued.

Kevin F. Colquhoun, PM, Cincinnati Lodge No. 3

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE VII, Section 9, Part 4(b)**

Election Endorsements Prohibited. The publication and distribution of printed circulars advocating the election of any brother to office is contrary to the spirit of Masonry and the traditions of the Craft, and is absolutely forbidden.

**Proposed:** TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE VII, Section 9, Part 4(b) Election Endorsements. The publication and distribution of printed circulars, cards, posters, pins, electronic media, and personal appearances, advocating the election of any brother to office and the platform and qualifications of that brother is in the best interests of the Fraternity and is permitted under the following conditions:

- (1.) All such publications may only advocate the platform and/or reasons why that candidate would be an appropriate candidate for election to the office sought.
- (2.) All personal appearances for the purpose of advocating a candidate for office shall be by invitation extended to the candidate by the body to whom he shall be speaking, only.
- (3.) Negative campaigning, and the publication of anything which demeans or attacks the person or qualifications of any other candidate is contrary to the spirit of Masonry and the traditions of the Craft and is absolutely forbidden.
- (4.) All such publications must first obtain the approval of the Grand Master, through the office of the Grand Secretary, prior to distribution, to insure compliance with subsections (1), (2) and (3) above.

**Interpretive Statement:** The original section prohibiting the publication of documents advocating the election of brethren to office was enacted in 1907, a time when “in person” campaigning was principally the means of communication in the fraternity. Since that time, the introduction of electronic media, the significant advances in the ability to print and distribute materials on a personal basis, without the need of incurring extensive printing costs, and the ease with which information can be communicated to larger numbers of brethren by publication has, over the last decades, called into question the necessity for their

prohibition. Research into the basis for the section, in the 1907 proceedings, reflects that it resulted from a recommendation of the Grand Master at the time, and was adopted without discussion. Regrettably, that Grand Master did not elucidate the reasons behind his recommendation. Whatever they were, their time has certainly passed. Presently the availability and desirability of distributing information, beyond that exclusively set forth in the New Jersey Freemason magazine, such that the qualifications and positions of candidates for elective office become as widely understood throughout the state as possible, suggest that it is time to revise this section. At present, candidates visit Lodges and speak about a variety of different topics, under the pretext of programs, rather than “campaigning”, when, in reality, they are there for the purpose of campaigning. Truth being our center, these machinations should end. Indeed, it was a recommendation of our Junior Past Grand Master, in his Grand Master’s Address, that this issue should be revisited. The purposes for the publication should, in Masonic fashion, merely advocate on behalf of the candidate. Speaking ill of any other candidate would appear violative of our Masonic obligations, and be contrary to the highest principles of Freemasonry. Negative campaigning would therefore, appropriately, remain prohibited.

Kevin F. Colquhoun, PM, Cincinnati Lodge No. 3

**Come One, Come All  
to the Red Cross**

**WE  
BL+OD  
DR**

**When: APRIL 27**

**Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Where: BALLY’S CASINO  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lincoln Room**

**Please help give life to someone.**

**Hope to see you there.**

# Proposed Grand Lodge Budget 2016-2017

*Membership Base = 18,832*

	Budget 2015-2016	Budget 2016-2017		Budget 2015-2016	Budget 2016-2017
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			<b>GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES</b>		
Grand Lodge per Capita Assessment	\$374,472.00	\$357,808.00	Annual Communication	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00
Blue Lodge Insurance Assessment	72,814.00	65,912.00	Emergent Communications	1,000.00	1,000.00
Staff Contribution to			Northeast Conference		
Annual Communication	45,000.00	50,000.00	of Grand Masters	4,000.00	3,000.00
Annual Communication	15,000.00	10,000.00	Conference of Grand		
Sale of Supplies	18,000.00	18,000.00	Masters of N.America	20,000.00	22,000.00
Investment Fund Income	185,000.00	200,000.00	Feast of St. John	10,000.00	8,000.00
Digitized Proceedings /MORI	120,804.00	0.00	Past Grand Master's Jewel	10,000.00	10,000.00
Trenton Temple Assessment (2.00)	41,608.00	37,664.00	Awards and Certificates	5,000.00	10,000.00
Feast of St. John	9,000.00	8,000.00	Table Lodge	5,000.00	2,000.00
Leadership Conference	19,500.00	19,500.00	Cost of Resale Supplies	15,000.00	10,000.00
Unity Day	8,000.00	0.00	Background Checks	8,000.00	8,000.00
Background Checks	9,800.00	10,000.00	Unity Day	7,800.00	0.00
Table Lodge	5,000.00	2,000.00	TOTAL GRAND		
Wheelchair Track Meet	13,200.00	13,500.00	LODGE ACTIVITIES	\$225,800.00	\$214,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$837,198.00	\$792,384.00	<b>EDUCATION PROGRAMS</b>		
<b>PASS THROUGH ASSESSMENTS</b>			Ritual Committee	\$500.00	\$500.00
Masonic Charity Foundation	\$374,472.00	\$338,976.00	District Deputy		
Initiate Fee for MCF (25.00)	10,000.00	10,000.00	Grand Masters	1,000.00	1,000.00
GWNM per Capita (1.00)	20,804.00	18,832.00	Education Services	2,500.00	2,000.00
Initiate Fee for GWNM (5.00)	2,000.00	2,000.00	Youth Committee	5,000.00	2,500.00
DeMolay per Capita (1.00)	20,804.00	18,832.00	Old Trenton Temple		
Rainbow per Capita (1.00)	20,804.00	18,832.00	Lodge museum	500.00	0.00
TOTAL PASS THROUGH			Masonic Leadership		
ASSESSMENTS	\$448,884.00	\$407,472.00	Conference	20,500.00	20,500.00
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			NJ Freemason Magazine	80,000.00	80,000.00
PERSONNEL			TOTAL EDUCATION		
Salaries	\$153,138.75	\$157,735.00	EXPENSE	\$110,000.00	\$106,500.00
Payroll Taxes	16,845.00	17,870.00	<b>CHARITABLE PROGRAMS</b>		
Group Insurance	0.00	0.00	MSA Hospital		
Maintenance Staff	3,000.00	3,600.00	Visitation Program	\$500.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSE	\$172,983.75	\$179,205.00	Veterans Hospital Programs	2,500.00	2,500.00
<b>OPERATING EXPENSE</b>			Masonic Services		
Audit	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	Association (donation)	1,000.00	1,500.00
IRS Form 990	10,000.00	10,000.00	CHIP	2,000.00	2,000.00
Accounting and Bookkeeping	18,000.00	15,000.00	Wheelchair Track		
Investment Advisor	0.00	0.00	and Field Meet	11,500.00	13,000.00
Office Supplies	8,500.00	8,500.00	Masonic Blood Bank	750.00	500.00
Media and Communications	18,000.00	12,000.00	TOTAL CHARITABLE		
Printing	8,000.00	8,000.00	PROGRAMS	\$18,250.00	\$19,500.00
Postage and UPS	11,000.00	11,000.00	<b>PASS THROUGH ASSESSMENTS</b>		
GL Collars, Aprons and Tokens	2,500.00	3,000.00	Masonic Charity Foundation	\$374,472.00	\$338,976.00
Official Expense	45,000.00	50,000.00	Initiates Contribution to MCF	10,000.00	10,000.00
Equipment Contract and Leases	2,000.00	2,000.00	GWNM Assessment	20,804.00	18,832.00
Legal	10,000.00	10,000.00	Initiates Contribution to GWNM	2,000.00	2,000.00
GL Insurance	14,000.00	10,000.00	DeMolay	20,804.00	18,832.00
Blue Lodge Insurance	72,814.00	65,912.00	Rainbow	20,804.00	18,832.00
Trenton Temple Rent	45,000.00	45,000.00	TOTAL PASS THROUGH		
Administrative Office Expense	4,000.00	3,000.00	ASSESSMENTS	\$448,884.00	\$407,472.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	1,000.00	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		
Digitize Proceedings/MORI	20,804.00	0.00		\$1,286,082.00	\$1,199,856.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$305,618.00	\$269,412.00	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		
				\$1,281,535.75	\$1,196,089.00
			<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		
				\$4,546.25	\$3,767.00

Assessment \$19.00



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August 5 – 12, 2016

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Interior Stateroom Category M (165 sq ft)	\$ 1164
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Grand Lodge

## Holocaust Memorial at Liberty State Park

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

On December 9<sup>th</sup> we paid tribute by laying a wreath at the Holocaust Memorial at Liberty State Park a breath away from the Statue of Liberty.

This memorial depicts a soldier carrying a victim of WWII. This monument was the brainchild of Author Luna Kaufman. A native of Kraków, Poland she herself was a Survivor of the Plazow and Leipzig camps. Her experience motivated her life long struggle towards never forgetting the horrors of WWII. As Co-Chairmen of the Liberty Park Monument and many years of planning. The monument was dedicated on May 13, 1985. The committee commissioned Nathan Papoport also a native of Poland to create this monument. After so many years, we once again have come to this sacred place to honor all those who perished and suffered in this horrible tragedy. We also remember and honor all of our Veterans who gave so much in the name of freedom, and defend all peoples from crimes against humanity.

Freemasons have always played a role as Veterans, as members of this monument committee, and here once more representing the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. One of our own RW Thurman C. Pace, Jr PGH was also a WWII Veteran and was part of the first American units to liberate the Dachau Concentration Camp. He was also present here alongside Mrs. Luna Kaufman together as survivor and liberator. Many thanks to WB Arjit S. Mahal, PM of Raritan Lodge who has worked tirelessly since the beginning and was here again to organize this event.

**Never Forget!**



## Wreaths Across America

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

In keeping with our fraternities long standing tradition in supporting our Veterans, MW Anthony W. Montuori Grand Master of Masons and the brethren of New Jersey joined hands with Wreaths Across America. By participating in laying wreaths representing each of our armed forces at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Holmdel, NJ. It's very humbling to see faces old and young alike together for one purpose. To never forget our Veterans. From events like this to assisting at the Veterans Home, Freemasonry has made a commitment to continue supporting our Veterans past and present. Thank you to all the brethren who weathered the cold to support this worthy cause, and a special thanks to RW David Melville Russen, Jr. DRI of the 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District for once again organizing this event and for his tirelessly dedication towards our Veterans.









## Chairman's Ball: A World of Our Own

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

This years Chairman's Ball held at Fellowship Hall in Burlington, NJ had a few twists and surprises on hand. The tables were wonderfully decorated with wild tropical orchids, and many Owls. The evening took on an Australian theme complete with Fosters beer, and Yellowtail wine. The food was wonderful and the musical group the Infernos played to a captive audience. They went the extra mile by learning and playing six songs by the Australian pop folk group The Seekers.

Of course the main theme of the evening was Owl's. Since it was the image used on this years Grand Masters lapel pin. The evening brought some special surprises the first of which included the presentations of three live Owls. Courtesy of The Freedom Center for Wildlife. A Screech Owl, a Barn Owl and a Great Horned Owl. (This is the Owl featured on the GM lapel pin) RW Odin The Grand Owl made its entrance to a crowd of almost 250, followed by a brief presentation of each Owl by the organization. The Owls retired to the side entrance where they posed for pictures and questions answered by their handlers.

Later in the evening the Grand Masters staff presented the Grand Master with a special presentation. Our Grand Master served in the US Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis onboard the USS Enterprise CVA(N)-65. The worlds first nuclear powered Aircraft Carrier. We asked our friend and brother III William G. Sizemore II ret, RADM US Navy, and director of operations at the House of the Temple Scottish Rite, SMJ. To assist us in having a flag flown on the now decommissioned USS Enterprise. This Ensign was flown above the conning tower of the ship on December 28, 2015. It was accompanied by a signed proclamation from the US Navy. To MW Anthony W. Montuori Grand Master of Masons. On behalf of a grateful nation for your service to this country. The staff also surprised the Grand Master with a cake made in the shape of the USS Enterprise. This was a fitting tribute from all his staff members for allowing us to serve the craft during this Masonic year. Also for his exemplary service to our nation, and for his continued dedication and commitment to our veterans.

A great time was had by all!

## Honoring a Great Freemason



*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

On March 12, 2016 during the Chairman's Ball MW Anthony W. Montuori presented a proclamation to Bro. James D. Matear elevating him to Right Worshipful of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as an Aide to the Grand Master. He presented RW Jim Matear with a plaque and his name tag. RW Matear has always been a prolific, hardworking and dedicated Freemason. Always willing to assist and lend a hand to all who may need it. It was fitting that our Grand Master observed his contributions to the craft not just here in New Jersey but abroad as well, and awarded this very unique honorarium and title to a very worthy and well deserved brother. We all feel extremely proud and honored to know of such a humbled brother. Truly a wonderful brother who always views himself as on the level with all of the brethren.

## Navesink 200<sup>th</sup> Dedication Ceremony

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

This past October 11<sup>th</sup> the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was invited to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Navesink Lodge No. 9 in Red Bank, NJ. The Grand staff along with members of the lodge and district performed the Corn-Wine-Oil ceremony before the public and community. After the ceremonies the brethren, family and friends attended a wonderful banquet to ring in this incredible landmark. It's not often a lodge achieves such a historic and significant milestone.

A special thanks to RW Dieter B. Hees, Senior Grand Warden, RW Gary J. Olsen DDGM of the 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District, WB Keith Hammer PM of Navesink Lodge, and all the brethren of this lodge and district for making this landmark a truly special and wonderful day.







*Chairman's Ball*  
**A WORLD OF OUR OWN**  
**MARCH 12, 2016**





# Grover Cleveland Ceremony

Grand Lodge

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

On Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 4 pm a Masonic procession of over 150 Freemasons were on hand to perform a full Masonic cornerstone laying for the new Grover Cleveland Birthplace Visitor Center and original full length play comprised of members of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, Essex Lodge No. 7 of Caldwell, the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District of NJ, Caldwell Fire Department, The Grover Cleveland Birthplace Memorial, The Masonic Military Honor Guard, Rampant Lion Fife and Drum Band, and the American Legion of Caldwell, Also in attendance several elected local officials and Civil War re-enactors.

MW Anthony W. Montuori Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey, and his staff presided over the time honored tradition of the Corn-Wine-Oil ceremony followed by the cornerstone dedication. It was a wonderful site seeing so many Freemasons in full procession marching down Bloomfield Avenue, which was closed for this ceremony. The

Caldwell Fire Department setup their aerial ladder trucks in the raised position forming an arch where they unfurled an American flag at the entrance of the Birthplace House. On hand was the George Washington Gavel which was used by then President and Brother George Washington on September 18, 1793 as he presided over the cornerstone laying of the US Capitol. The brethren of Potomac Lodge No. 5 of Washington, DC graciously allowed for this unique piece of American and Masonic history to partake in this ceremony almost 222 years to the date. I would like to acknowledge WB Benjamin J. Campos, and Bro Alexandru D. Aldea Worshipful Master, and Senior Warden of Essex Lodge No. 7. RW Jose E. Villalta, DDGM of the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. RW Gordon Fleming, PGC for erecting the cornerstone Tri-pod. Mrs Alice Gibson and all the members of the Grover Cleveland Birthplace Memorial House. A great many thanks to all of the brethren of Essex Lodge and the 8<sup>th</sup> District, along with Freemasons from New Jersey & New York, and the community at large who participated to make this ceremony a first class event.





# Washington DC Trip



Grand Lodge

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

On October 3, 2015 the Grand Lodge of New Jersey sponsored a trip to our nations capital for a day of fun, fellowship and remembrance. Two buses left Fellowship Hall in Burlington in route to DC. Besides a much needed day off to have some fun and relax. We also made a symbolic stop at The Tomb of Unknown of Soldiers to present a wreath on behalf of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey at the Tomb itself. MW Anthony W. Montuori Grand Master of Masons of New Jersey along with several members of his staff under the direction of the Tomb Guard placed a wreath at the Tomb.

These four Veterans honored those who gave so much, and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Our next stop was a private tour of the House of the Temple, Headquarters of the Supreme Council Scottish Rite, SMJ. We were greeted by III Ronald A. Seale Sovereign Grand Commander. After the tour the fellowship continued with dinner at Carmines Family Style Restaurant. During the dinner we surprised our First Lady Mrs. Roe Montuori with a birthday cake with the Grand Masters logo inlaid on it. After a long day and many memories made, it was truly an awe inspiring day for all.











# 2016 Grand Master's Golf Outing

**Monday - June 20, 2016**

**Registration - 11:00 A.M.**

**Shotgun Start - 12:30 P.M.**

**Social Hour - 5:30 P.M.**

**Dinner, Prizes & Awards - 6:30 P.M.**

Location: Sea Oaks Country Club, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087, Exit 58 GSP -  
Go To [www.seaoaksgolf.com](http://www.seaoaksgolf.com) For More Detailed Directions

## **Outing Price Includes Golf**

Lunch Served at the Rear Patio of the Main Club House. Grilled Hot Dogs, Sausage Peppers & Onions, Beer, Water & Soda

Social Hour - Complimentary Cocktail + Cheese Boards & U-Peel-Em Shrimp

NY STRIP STEAK DINNER - Grilled To Perfection The Way You Like It!!

**Only \$160.00 Per Golfer - Dinner Only \$50.00**

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Please Detach & Complete This Form & Mail It With Your Check Payable To:

## **"Grand Master's Outing"**

41 Clove Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07464-1901 - Attn: RW James H. Vander Veer  
Any Additional Info Contact Jim @ 973-670-3388 or Email: [Jhvv@embargmail.com](mailto:Jhvv@embargmail.com)

Additional Donations Appreciated: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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# 2016 Grand Master's Golf Outing

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Tee Box Sign Recognizing Your Lodge, District, Business, etc.

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BRONZE SPONSORSHIP ~ \$250 ~ Golf Prizes & Awards

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GOLD SPONSORSHIP ~ \$1,000 ~ Social Hour & Dinner

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GOLF OUTING – MY TAX-EXEMPT DONATION OF: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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**GRAND MASTER'S "CIRCLE OF DISTINCTION SPONSOR'S** (Wording Desired)

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Golf Outing June 20, 2016 - Sea Oaks Country Club, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087

Any Questions - Contact R.W. James H. Vander Veer @ 973-670-3388 Or

E-Mail: [jhvv@embargmail.com](mailto:jhvv@embargmail.com)



Grand Lodge

## Groundbreaking



*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, Grand Historian of Events*

On October 21, 2016 MW Anthony W. Montuori Grand Master of Masons along with his staff. Presided over the Masonic Groundbreaking Ceremony which also included the Corn-Wine-Oil dedication as well. To usher in a new era at our Masonic Home at the Burlington, NJ campus.

The Grand Master welcomed all who attended. Then proceeded to consecrate the ground with the wages of a Master Mason, by applying the corn-wine-oil to begin the

ceremony. This was followed by groundbreaking ceremony by members of the grand staff, and board members of the Masonic Charity Foundation, armed with hard hats and golden shovels. These grounds have seen many dedications, ceremonies and improvements throughout its 117 year history. In a ever growing and changing campus to meet the needs of the future. On hand during the ceremony were the implements used in previous dedications on the campus, which were loaned to us from the Trenton Masonic Temple Museum and Library.



# The "OYSTER CRACKER" Connection



Education

*Submitted by Brother Moises I. Gomez PM, Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10*

As we come to admire our beautiful and magnificent edifice known as the Trenton Masonic Temple, we also can't resist admiring its wonderful past filled with unique history which we can all be proud of. How truly exciting it is to have this wonderful edifice as the home of our Grand Lodge office in the rich and historic city of Trenton, New Jersey. This building sits in cradle of the American Revolutionary War across from the historic Trenton Barracks, along with being in the cradle of the birth of Freemasonry in the Colonies. As Mercer and Burlington counties were home base to some of the earliest known freemasons and our first Provincial Grand Master.

You wonder then what does the Oyster Cracker possibly have in common with the Trenton Masonic Temple? Well many of the buildings key players and unique rooms, along with the Trenton Masonic Temple Association President were related to the founder of the Oyster Cracker Company in Trenton, New Jersey.

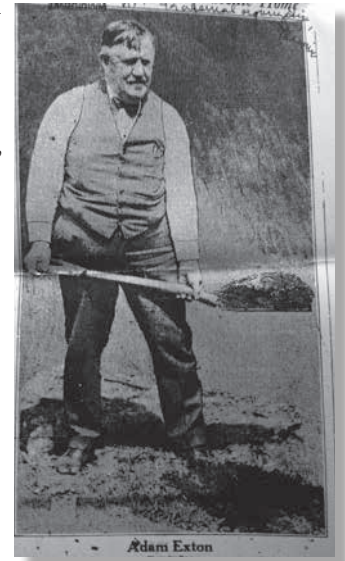
Our story starts with Adam Exton and his brother John Exton both born in Lancashire, England. They sailed together from Liverpool, England and arrived in New York on May 16, 1842. After traveling towards Philadelphia, they found work in the Trenton area where they both settled down. In 1846 Adam Exton started a cake and bakery factory in Trenton where he conceived the idea of baking a cracker to be used in oyster stews. Shortly afterwards in 1847 he invented the Oyster Cracker saying "Six oysters a day will keep the doctor away". This led to a small family fortune, and the Exton name would become a well-known and powerful family name in Trenton. During the Civil War the Exton company supplied its crackers to the Union Army. Adam Exton passed away on August 17, 1887 and left control of the company to his younger brother John. John Exton passed away on August 21, 1906 leaving control of the family business to his only son Adam John Exton who continued to run the company until his death in 1937.

Although no proof exists to prove that Adam and John were Freemasons John's heirs would certainly become well-known and predominant Freemasons in the Trenton area, and would become key players in the fund raising and construction of our current building.

After the loss of our second Masonic Temple in Trenton,



the local Freemasons were very eager to find a new location and possibly construct a new building. After much debate a committee met and on April 25, 1917 formed The Trenton Masonic Temple Association with the purpose of raising funds to buy land and erect a new Masonic Temple. John Exton's son Adam John Exton who hailed from Mercer Lodge No. 5 and member of the Temple association board of directors, and later president would attend the ground breaking ceremony by digging the first shovel into the ground on May 8, 1926, the site of where the building stands today. (See insert photo of him breaking ground) His brother-in-law William R. Thropp who married Elizabeth J. Exton was also a predominant Freemason, belonging to Trenton Lodge No. 5, Three-Times-Three Chapter, Palestine Commandery and Crescent Shrine. All of his sons were also very active in the fraternity. Brother Thropp passed away in 1915 and to honor his memory his wife and family donated the billiard room in the basement of the Temple as a memoriam to William R. Thropp.



After five months of construction enough of the building was erected to allow for the laying of the cornerstone. This was most significant because the old cornerstone from their former home was used in the new building. The cornerstone ceremony took place on October 9, 1926 with Governor and Brother Harry A. Moore giving the main address. The building was completed and opened on February 28, 1928 before thousands of Masons.

The Exton and Thropp families both have contributed much to freemasonry in the Trenton area. Fathers and sons were directly involved with forming and creating new lodges and appendant bodies along with the erection of our magnificent Temple which still shines today and is currently the home of our Grand Lodge offices.

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012 at the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gala, The New Jersey Grand Lodge - Library and Museum of Masonic Culture celebrated its own opening, welcoming the public and Masons alike to view its extensive collection of Masonic antiques and regalia. If you have never visited the Trenton Temple I encourage you to visit this wonderful and historically rich edifice we call our very own.

While the oyster and the cracker was said to keep the doctor away, it would surely do wonders for our fraternity. Food for thought the next time you have an oyster.



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# The Tipping Point

Submitted by NJF Staff Writer Martin Bogardus, 32°

There is a tipping point in every Freemason's life; a time at which the joy of being a member of our gentle Craft begins to wane. A time when we forget what we came here to do.

In the beginning, Masonry was exciting and new. We came to the craft as eager candidates for its mysteries, and with each new degree earned, felt a sense of pride and accomplishment as we pulled back the veils of its mysteries to reveal its ancient secrets inside, each revelation driving us on further to seek more light. But some time after reaching the sublime degree of Master Mason many of us hit a plateau and become complacent in our Masonic journeys.

**It is at this point that we lose the viewpoint of the candidate that we once were and become an audience of Freemasonry instead of remaining the participant. When this happens, we lose the perspective of the candidate and no longer seek new light.**

A participant is active; engaged. His mind prepossessed by the sum of all he experiences, processing it; he refines his character toward the laudable goal of making himself into a better man. He expresses the very quintessence of Freemasonry in thought and deed by the rectitude of his conduct and through the perfection of his character by becoming the Perfect Ashlar. A spectator on the other hand is passive; unengaged, his mind distracted by a thousand wandering impulses pulling him from the platinum path. Lost on the path to Masonic enlightenment and no longer a suitable candidate for its mysteries, he is unable to perfect himself because he lacks the ability to subdue his passions and internalize the lessons availed to him causing his interest to wane.

We start out strong getting caught up in the euphoria of learning the fundamental tenets of the Craft, only to find ourselves overwhelmed and over committed by the combined duties of family and fraternity. For some it comes soon after being raised, for others it happens after serving as Master of his lodge. Our cable-tow becomes taut and stretched, becoming a tightly wound leash around our necks, suffocating our desires for more light if not held in check and properly balanced. As we learn in the Working Tools of an Entered Apprentice Mason, *"Eight hours for the service of God, and a worthy distressed brother; Eight for our usual vocations; and Eight for refreshment and sleep."* We must never stop perfecting ourselves in our quest for Masonic Enlightenment, always striving for equanimity and endeavoring to become a lifelong apprentice to the Craft, punctuating our experiences with circumspection and quiet reflection.

To rekindle our love affair with Freemasonry we must continually witness the conferring of every degree through the eyes of one who has just knocked at the door of Freemasonry, and every word should pluck a resonant chord



within our hearts. We must recapture that transformative moment when before the sacred altar of Freemasonry we bound ourselves before God Almighty in mystic brotherhood and friendship, to become brothers. It is only then that we can hope to be progressive in Masonry, and rekindle the inspiration we received when we really were the candidate. Any Freemason who truly seeks light will find something new in Freemasonry each and every time a degree is confirmed; BUT HE MUST BE THE CANDIDATE. He must possess the freshness of mind and spirit, the eagerness of an initiate seeking new light that was his when he first entered the fraternity.

If we look upon the degrees of Freemasonry in an impersonal way, and only consider the ceremonies as cold repetition, then we can gain nothing from them. And if we attain a small spiritual insight and refuse to nurture it and let it grow in vision and wisdom, then even that first light becomes extinguished. We cease to grow when we no longer seek the source that inspired us from the beginning.

This is the tipping point; that critical moment when we must take charge of our destinies and decide what kind of Mason we wish to be. As the twig is bent, so grows the tree. To grow in Masonry we must have an open mind, the courage of our convictions, the desire to advance, and the longing for more light. All that we had when we first offered ourselves as candidates for the Mysteries of Freemasonry.

Freemasonry takes more than just time; it wants your best moments and the best of you. This is the real challenge of subduing our passions and improving ourselves through Masonry. You have to be emotionally engaged in what you're doing, or it comes out flat. You can't fake your way through this.

Forever and always we must be the candidate.



# GM Montuori Attends Benefit Ball Game



Education

*Submitted By RW Thomas W. Murphy PDDGM 1<sup>st</sup> District*

The weather blessed the First District's Masonic Day at Skylands Park on August 22, 2015. Grand Master Anthony Montuori threw out the first pitch, and Grand Soloist RW Robert Monacelli, sang the National Anthem and also Canada's National Anthem.



The event benefits the Stephen B. Spiers, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund. Stephen Spiers, Sr. grew up in Washington Borough and devoted 25 years to law enforcement, retiring as Chief of Police of Washington Borough. A devoted civil servant, he served many years on the Borough's Fire Department and Rescue Squad, and was a longtime member

of the Washington Presbyterian Church. RW Spiers served Freemasonry for about 30 years, beginning with his elevation to Master Mason in 1972. He devoted thousands of hours to our gentle craft and held several positions of leadership over the years, culminating with his three year term as District Deputy Grand Master.

The scholarship is funded by the Masonic Night baseball game at Skylands Park in Augusta, NJ, and is supplemented by other donations. This scholarship perpetuates Steve's Masonic and professional service to his family, friends, community, and Masonic brethren according to RW Leon Cassidy, PGC, Scholarship Committee Chairman. His Masonic brothers are committed to maintaining a fund that will assure the award of this scholarship for many years to come.

The scholarship is awarded to a high school or community college student of Sussex, Morris or Warren County who is pursuing a criminal justice degree. The eleventh annual recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship this year was Alexandra Sanford of Kittatinny Regional High School. The presentation was made on the field at Skylands Park by Mrs. Stephen Spiers, Sr. assisted by MW Anthony Montuori, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey, RW Leon Cassidy PGC, scholarship chairperson, and RW James Taylor, First Masonic District Ritual Instructor.

The night culminated successfully with a fantastic fireworks show. Grateful thanks to MW Anthony Montuori for his support, as the event was attended by over one hundred Freemasons.







## CHIPs is Ready to Help

*Submitted by R.W. George Heflich*

The Grand Lodge Child ID program (CHIPs) is the most successful community-based platform that we offer to Lodges. It provides a wonderful opportunity for interaction with our neighbors and is an ideal means to invite your town into your Lodge.

In this day and age it is particularly important for parents to have means of identification of their child in case he or she goes missing. Our program gives parents critical data needed by law enforcement to help locate and identify a youngster.

The committee was formed 15 years ago by Most Worshipful Larry S. Plasket and has continued evolving to this day. The Grand Lodge Trustees recently upgraded us with the latest equipment, making us cutting edge in child ID. Our program takes both single photos and a video of the child. We additionally take digital fingerprints and a dental bite. This information is put onto a CD and given to the child's parents to take home. This service is provided free of charge to the community, your Lodge is responsible for \$2/child to pay for the supplies (50 child/\$100 minimum).

The CHIP committee is composed of dedicated Brothers who are available to help your Lodge prepare for a successful event. Due to the popularity of the program we highly suggest that you apply for a date at least 60 days ahead of time. When you apply you will be sent a protocol list telling you what you will need. For example, 7 Lodge Brothers in business casual clothing will be required to assist during the day. Tables, chairs and electricity are requisite. The event itself should last no more than 4 hours. Plan an extra hour to set up and one to break down.



As with any program, it is important to be a success. You should therefore make sure that you are advertising the event at least a few weeks before it is to occur (we have a CHIP logo that we can send you). A good number to plan for is 100 children.

Remember that this program is designed to promote our Lodges. It is not to support non-Masonic organizations or businesses.

If you would like to have a Child ID day at your Lodge:

In North Jersey contact: R.W. Rowland Francis at [Rowland@francis.com](mailto:Rowland@francis.com) (973) 464-3143

In Central Jersey contact: R.W. Geoff Francis at [geoffweichert2@hotmail.com](mailto:geoffweichert2@hotmail.com) (908) 334-5196

In South Jersey contact: W.B. Glen Tarr at [wbtarr.2015msm@verizon.net](mailto:wbtarr.2015msm@verizon.net) (609) 230-3967



# The Lady and the Mason



Education

*Submitted by Bro. Martin Bogardus*

Come 'round you jolly Freemasons,  
gather 'round and hear it told,  
A tale of a true-hearted brother,  
and a woman with cunning bold.  
A scholarly beauty wondrous fair,  
tall and statuesque,  
No man would be her equal,  
and she readied for her task.

She first went to her brother and father,  
and asked of each in kind,

“What makes you all men a Mason?  
Was it the true grip, the word or the sign?  
I must know the secret”, she implored,  
“Why the great men of every nation,  
Should aprons put on and make themselves  
one as a free and an accepted Mason?”

“My daughter my dear, though I love you, I fear;  
I can never fully answer your question.  
Your mother once asked me, about famed Masonry,  
a fact I now I readily mention.  
We're true, and we're loving, we're just, and we're kind,  
And taught through our arts, to respect all mankind.

We circumscribe our hearts and parts,  
in quiet contemplation;  
The golden rule, our sacred tool,  
to guide our faith and action.  
With brotherly love, from heaven above,  
I took a solemn oath and obligation.  
And by the plumb, let me be struck dumb,  
if ever I reveal this information!”

“Oh my father, my dear! 'Tis the answer I feared;  
I leave you now for a new destination.  
By hook or by crook, my resolve won't be shook,  
'til I learn the secrets of being a Mason.  
I'll take my leave, and now perceive,  
I've newly come upon a plan.  
My betrothed, he is waiting, and will tell unto me,  
the secrets of old Hiram.

I'll put my Mason to the test,  
and learn this ancient wonder,  
With feminine charms, I'll thus disarm,  
his secrets there to plunder.  
For never was a secret held in council or trade,  
But time and corruption a conquest have made.

Promised pleasures here I'll invite,  
his chiseled looks and smarts I'll praise;  
To fill his mind with sweet delight,  
to learn the secret of being raised.  
Men, they are such simple things,  
and as their ardor grows,  
One kiss from me, and I will see,  
just what I wish to know.”

“My daughter, dear Eve, this plan's ill-conceived,  
though you mean the world to me;  
What I have known, but never shown,  
you were never meant to see.  
“For who can unfold the royal art,  
or sing its secrets in a song?  
They are safely kept in a Mason's heart,  
and to the ancient lodge belong.”

She then put upon her best new dress,  
and coiffed her hair up tight,  
And grabbing there her coat of blue headed  
out into the night.

In a little cafe on a moonlit night,  
they met for a bite to eat.  
In feminine armor smartly dressed,  
she went in and took her seat.

With a blush she then asked him  
from whence that he came;  
If from the Holy Sts. John, recorded by fame.  
“From whence do I come from,  
and by what pedigree?  
Why! From the Holy Sts. John,  
and famed Masonry!”

Dressed in brief authority such as to  
make the angels weep,  
In feminine sorority from me  
no secrets shall he keep.  
“You say you truly love me,  
of that you oft have spoken,  
If truth shall it be, now give unto me,  
a sign of your devotion.

I ask not for money and riches,  
I care not for fortune or fame;  
Just give me the Mason's secret and  
yours I will remain.  
But give me the Freemason's token,  
the lost word and ancient sign.  
Then will I love you always, until the end of time.”

At this he almost wavered,  
for he was most sorely beset.  
He twirled a ring upon his hand and  
readied for this test.  
“Thy beauty's a portion, my joy and my dear,  
And I prize it far better than thousands a year.

From West to East and East to West,  
and to places in parts untamed,  
On beggar's feet, to Great Queen Street,  
without a penny to my name,  
Though ruffian bands in far distant lands,  
they tried to lay a claim on,  
I never revealed and always concealed,  
the secrets of being a Mason. ➤





# The Lady and the Mason

continued from page 41

By the Great Architect the grand fabric was formed,  
With Wisdom contrived and with Beauty adorned,  
Supported by Strength all its parts shall declare,  
The Order resulting from compass and square.

For the Mason's square does clear the air  
of folly and deception,

The rule is straight, the angle clear,  
for greatness has direction.

We're taught to conceal, and not reveal,  
has been the Mason's fashion,

By compasses true, we do subdue and  
circumscribe our passions.

Now please don't scold, but I've been told.

I've a tale now in my head,

A story from the bible, of the temptress Delilah,  
perchance you have formerly read.

How Samson was coaxed and cajoled by his wife,  
'Till he gave up his secret, his strength, and his life.

By square and by compass, by level and line!  
I can't give you the token, the lost word or sign!

For with mystic tie and darkened eyes,  
I took the third degree.

I've sworn to uphold from ruffian's bold,  
all its ancient mysteries.

Now a woman's favor gives life's sweet savor,  
and personal enjoyment.

She makes a hedge about their home,  
with familial employment.

Pious without hypocrisy,  
benevolent without ostentation  
Pure and chaste from head to waist,  
with loving approbation.

Your good opinion, and loving nature  
I hold in high esteem

But the oath I took on holy book,  
you ask me now blaspheme?

Why can't I reveal the Masons secret?  
Of this you ask of me.

What man would I, by oaths imply,  
that keeps not Masonry?"

"My darling, sweet man, I now understand,  
the words you spoke to me.

My love resounds when you expound  
on famed Freemasonry.

For I am twice blest, and now consent,  
on this no more words be spoken.

That I have resigned, learning lost word and sign,  
in token of your devotion.

That the maxim has been proven,  
I know now very well,

That I can love a Freemason,  
for they never kiss and tell!"

## Mentoring the Mentor

Submitted by W.B. Robert W. Howard, JR.

When identifying an exciting project for you and your protégé to undertake, it isn't necessary for you to go too far afield to choose a topic. In fact, if you just go into your storage closet, pull out your warrant and read the first few lines, I'll bet you can find something that will pique your interest right away. At the top of the Warrant, you should see a line that says something like: *"according to the old constitutions received by His Royal Highness, Prince Edwin at York, in the Kingdom of England, in the year of the Christian Era nine hundred and twenty six and in the year of Masonry four thousand nine hundred and twenty six"*.

For some of us, this reference to York Rite Masonry, Prince Edwin and the year 926 A.D. is all rather new. It is probably a good idea, therefore to get to the bottom of this mystery and see what we can learn. Although, it is preferable that your protégé do the research and prepare a short presentation for the Lodge, I just want to provide a few hints to help guide him along.

First, here are some interesting facts about the city of York. It was founded in 71 A.D. by the Romans and in the year 306 A.D., York was put on the map, when there Constantine the Great was proclaimed Emperor. If you recall,

it was Constantine who legitimized Christianity within the empire and he himself became the first Roman emperor to convert to Christianity.

Fast forward to 924 A.D. and we see a character by the name of Athelstan, who became King of the Anglo-Saxons and in 927 A.D. became the First King of England. Although, he never married, he had a son by the name of Edwin. It is this Edwin that is referred to in our warrant.

In the year 926 A.D., Edwin gathered together all the masons of the realm to the city of York for what was essentially a convention for the purposes of improving and regulating the craft. During this first assembly at York, Edwin promulgated the first constitution of masonry, which consisted of fifteen articles and fifteen points. So, it was here in York in the year 926 A.D. that York Rite Masonry can trace its roots.

To learn more about Masonry's link to the city of York, we can start our search by perusing the *Regius Poem (Halliwell Manuscript)*, which was said to be written in the year 1390 A.D. This is the earliest document that we have, which discusses the assembly at York. To uncover additional details about this assembly and Prince Edwin's role, we will need to take a look at some later manuscripts, such as the *Cooke Manuscript* and the *Dowland's Manuscript*. ➤



You will notice, these manuscripts not only discuss the assembly at York, they go into some details, which you will no doubt recognize. There is a history of masonry, a reference to those seven liberal arts and sciences and a list of regulations for the governance of the craft.

Not to give too much away, here are some examples taken from the *Regius Poem*, which you may notice as having a familiar ring:

#### Articles:

- 2) Every master must attend the general congregation.
- 4) The master may not take a bondsman as an apprentice.
- 5) The master may not take an apprentice that has a maim or deformity.
- 14) The master must ensure that the apprentice is fully trained within his term.

#### Points:

- 1) Every man who desires to be a mason, must love G-d.
- 3) He shall protect and keep secret the council of his fellows in lodge.
- 4) The craftsman must be honest and faithful.
- 9) Each fellow shall pay his share of collation.
- 13) All craftsmen must swear never to be a thief.

(You will also notice that the Articles and Points given above represent an abridged and paraphrased version of the more cumbersome Middle English found in the original *Regius Poem*.)

At this point, we have another exercise that can be undertaken by your protégé. Why not have him take a look at those various Articles and Points found in the *Regius Poem* and identify a similar line in our current ritual and traditions. Here is an example:

**Regius Poem Article #4:** The master may not take a bondsman as an apprentice.

**Regius Poem Articles #5:** The master may not take an apprentice that has a maim or deformity.

**Regius Poem Point #4:** The craftsman must be honest and faithful.

**Mackay's Landmark #18:** ...that he shall be a man, shall be unmutilated, free born, and of mature age.

**GL of NJ Landmark #5:** No person can be made a Mason unless he is a man, freeborn, of mature and discreet age, of good character and reputation, and having no main or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art and being advanced to the several degrees.....

**Ritual (Morgan, 1827):** By being a man free-born.....of lawful age..... well recommended.

As you can see, by reading some of the documents, which are attributed to the development of our craft, your protégé and your Lodge can have a richer understanding of our own traditions and how we got where we are today.

Although, I would highly recommend that you and your protégé print out copies of the various manuscripts for continued reference and study, as scholars, we need to be careful. Apparently, as time progressed each author has taken some liberty in telling the history of masonry. You will see that whereas the *Regius Poem* only makes some vague reference to Euclid and the Egyptians in its masonic history, when we fast-forward to 1723, we see that Anderson may have gone a little too far by starting the history of masonry with Adam and going into some rather dubious detail.

Here is another concern we should have as scholars; the *Regius Poem*, which is said to have been written in 1390 is actually giving an account of an event that occurred over 450 years earlier. Here too there might be some literary license being taken by its author, who is reaching back in time to give his account of events. Although, we can certainly point to the *Regius Poem*, the *Cooke Manuscript*, the *Dowland's Manuscript* and even *Anderson's Constitution* as being a source for our traditions, we are on thin ice if we try to consider their depiction of history as authoritative and correct.

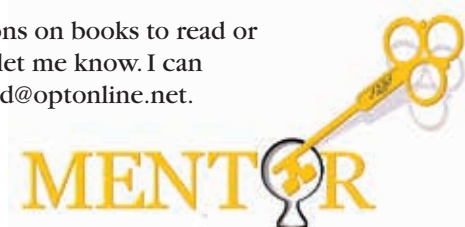
By contrast, one document, which does not attempt to draw a fanciful picture of history is the *Shaw Statutes*. In 1583, William Schaw was appointed by James VI as Master of Works for Scotland, responsible for all castles and palaces. In 1598, he wrote his first set of statutes for the governance of operative masonry, which had the full force of law.

Interestingly, if you take the time to review the *Shaw Statutes*, you will see that they have been influenced by those various manuscripts that were written much earlier. If you want to see the *Shaw Statutes* as they were originally recorded, just make a visit to Mary's Chapel No.1 in Edinburgh, Scotland and take a look at their first minute book.

So just by reading a few words from our warrant, we open the door to the York Rite, the core of our lectures, a history of our traditions and the origins of masonic jurisprudence. For a more complete look at the old manuscripts, you may want to get a copy of: *The Old Charges of British Freemasonry*, by William James Hughan published by the Harvard Book Store; additionally, the *Regius Poem*, the *Shaw Statutes* and *Anderson's Constitution*, 1723 can be easily found on line in a pdf format.

As suggested last time, assign a night that your protégé will present his research and notify the District; I guarantee you will have a night to remember.

If you have any questions on books to read or topics to explore, please let me know. I can be contacted at [rwhoward@optonline.net](mailto:rwhoward@optonline.net).







## Happenings At West Hill

*Submitted by Joe Rival, PGM*

**Things just keep getting better!!** After being very disappointed on discovering the second floor carpet had been GLUED DOWN to 216 year old floor boards, we requested advice on how to proceed. The over-all response was to sand the floors down. I tried by renting a sander but, that would have been a long, drawn-out and very difficult process. Fortunately, Brother Brett Nath came forward and made an offer from his company, Capitol Floor Covering, that we couldn't refuse. And now the floors look beautiful!



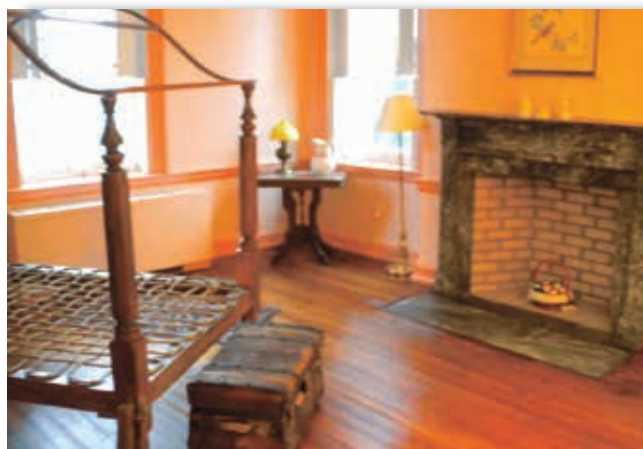
On top of that, the members of the Square Club of Maywood made a generous donation that covered the cost of finishing the floors, buying an area carpet and will go a long way to further restore the other rooms on the second floor. One of the rooms has been finished in a Victorian scheme. Furniture had already been donated (including a rope bed from the 1860s) a "stagecoach trunk" from the same period and other pieces that we had in storage. Now the room looks fantastic!! On Sunday, December 13 we held our annual 3 house tour of West Hill, Green Hill and Peachfield. Each house is represented by a different period of time. West Hill is the Federal period, Green Hill is Italianate and Peachfield is Colonial Revival. Each site offered tours and light refreshments. All this for only \$15.00 and each building was decorated for

the holidays. Next year we hope to have the entire second finished.

Even though our Civil War Encampment was affected by the Pope's visit to Philadelphia, we still had a decent turnout and are already planning for next year.

RW Roger Quintana made arrangements for a "medium" to come to the house. Several people were there and she was amazing! She had never been in the house before and the first thing she asked was "when were the stairs moved"? We knew the stairs to the basement had been moved and where to, but not when. No one else in the room knew anything about that. She also told us in which room the operation in 1814 took place, when Suzanna Emlen underwent breast cancer surgery. It confirmed our suspicions. She had things to say about several of the people including myself. I am now a believer!!

Please check out the pictures of the floors before and after. Keep posted because things are really "happening at West Hill".



## HFL No. 200 Centennial Celebration

Masons in Action

The year 2015 marks 100 years that Hawthorne-Fortitude Lodge No. 200 of the Second Masonic District can trace its history to the formation of Fortitude Lodge No. 200 on April 22, 1915. To commemorate this occasion, a gala celebration was planned to include an emergent meeting to receive the Grand Master, his elected line as well as other honored guests.

On Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup> the officers opened the lodge to prepare for the entrance of the Grand Master and his entourage with introductions made by Right Worshipful J. Gene Margroff, the Grand Marshal. Once Most Worshipful Anthony W. Montuori was seated in the East, the program began with the Historian of the lodge giving a brief history of the founding of the lodge.

Following the Historian's report, the Worshipful Master Bob Howard, presented a framed apron of R.W. Brother Robert D. D'Andrea, first Master of the consolidated Hawthorne-Fortitude Lodge to be placed in a prominent place in the lodge.

Later in the meeting, the lodge was presented with a beautiful framed certificate by Most Worshipful Anthony W. Montuori honoring the lodge on the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The lodge was also presented with a *Certificate of Appreciation* by R.W. Neal A. McCarthy for the lodge's consistent support over the years for the New Jersey Masonic Wheelchair Track and Field Meets. ➤

# HFL No. 200 Centennial Celebration

Masons in Action

continued from page 44

For this year, the Worshipful Master had adopted as his theme HARMONY. He used this opportunity to present the Grand Master and other members of the Grand Lodge with his pin and a symbol of "Harmony", which was a mini Hohner harmonica. Additionally, as a small token of appreciation for his visit, the Worshipful Master presented the Grand Master with a check, which will be used in support of the Masonic Dyslexia Centers.



The District Deputy Grand Master for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District welcomed the guests and thanked everyone for their support in making this evening a memorable event. Following his remarks, R. W. Walter R. Kaulfers Deputy Grand Master, who is also a Past Master of this lodge addressed the Brethren. He discussed his Masonic journey, which included his becoming a Past Master of both Hawthorne-Fortitude No. 200 and Mosaic Lodge No. 194 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Masonic District.

At this point the Grand Master was introduced, which was followed by a spontaneous standing ovation. He shared some kind words concerning the contribution that the Brethren of the Lodge had made to Masonry as well as his vision of the craft. It is always a great pleasure for a lodge to have a visit by the Grand Master and all present showed their appreciation of his visit.

To complete the evening, the Grand Master accepted the gavel of Hawthorne-Fortitude Lodge to close in ample form. At this point the Brethren retired to the collation room, where a party was about to start.

While the Master Masons where upstairs enjoying Masonic Communication with the Grand Master, their ladies were being treated to a compelling presentation given by R. W. Moises Gomez, the Grand Historian. As a first responder on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, Brother Gomez had firsthand experience and perspective, which he shared with his attentive audience.

The gala celebration was started off by R. W. Brother Peter Maris, Grand Chaplain who gave the invocation. This was

immediately followed by a wonderful dinner, which was catered by Brother Francesco Bernardo, a member of Euclid Lodge No. 136. For the rest of the evening there was dancing to the amazing sounds of Swingman and the Misfit-Mutts. This was a seven piece band that played music from various genres and kept even the most venerable members jitterbugging all night long.

As an introduction to "Hey Good Lookin", the Worshipful Master gave the following introduction:

*"This next song is dedicated to a Freemason by the name of Elonzo Huble Williams or Lon as he was called by his friends. He was born on December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1891 in Macedonia, AL. He worked as an engineer on the railroad. On November 12, 1916 he married Jessie Lilliebelle Skipper a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.*

*Lon was drafted during World War I, serving from July 1918 until June 1919. He was severely injured after falling from a truck, injuring his head and breaking his collarbone.*

*On Sept. 17, 1923 in Mount Olive, Alabama, Lon's son was born and as a fanatical Mason, decided to name his son Hiram King after the King of Tyre mentioned in the bible. As proud as he was of his father, Hiram King decided that he preferred the nick name of Hank. Ladies & Gentlemen, Brothers and Sisters, I present to you Hank Williams."*

The members of Hawthorne-Fortitude Lodge were proud to count among their guests those most recently exalted to 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the Scottish Rite. These included ILL. & MW Anthony W. Montuori, 33°, GM, ILL. Walter R. Kaulfers, 33°, ILL. Dieter B. Hees 33° and ILL. Moises Gomez 33°. Also in attendance were members of the Order of the Eastern Star to include Dottie Westdyke, District Deputy of the 31<sup>st</sup> District and Lois Terrace, Worthy Matron of the Jephtha Chapter No. 134. This was truly a night to remember.







## Return of Masonic Lodge in Hoboken

*Submitted by Bro. James Danganan*

Through the dispensation granted by MW Anthony W. Montouri, Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey, the newest Lodge of the jurisdiction belonging to the 5<sup>th</sup> Masonic District met for the first time last October 20, 2015 at the Jersey City Masonic Temple! The Hippocrates Renaissance Lodge, U.D. was named as such because the founding members are Masons who are either doctors or those belonging to the medical field.

The evening was presided by RW Angelo Caprio, PGC as the Charter Master assisted by Bro. Senior Warden Carmelo Milazzo and Bro. Junior Warden James Danganan. Worshipful Master Caprio addressed the Brothers by welcoming everyone in attendance and gave a brief synopsis, history and his reasons for bringing back a Masonic Lodge in Hoboken. According to WM Bro. Caprio, there were historically five Masonic lodges in Hoboken but are now unfortunately non existent or have merged with other Lodges. With the

opening of Hippocrates Renaissance Lodge, under dispensation, it will provide the Masons in City of Hoboken a venue to meet and spread Masonic knowledge to those who seek it! Temporarily, while looking for a definitive venue in Hoboken, the lodge meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Jersey City Masonic Temple located at 87 Hutton Street, Jersey City, NJ.



## Happenings at Gothic-Fraternal Lodge

*Submitted by W.B. Gregory J. Adams, Gothic-Fraternal Lodge No. 270*

WM Joseph Pownell, Sr. (left) of Mercer Lodge No. 50 receives two Masonic Square and Compass flags from WM Gregory J. Adams (right) from Gothic - Fraternal Lodge No. 270 to fly high in front of their Lodge in Trenton.



## DeMolay Appreciation Award



Jake Singleton (middle) and Eddie Myers (right) from Capitol Chapter, DeMolay present an Appreciation Award to WM Gregory J. Adams (left) at Gothic - Fraternal Lodge No. 270. Helping the future grow in more ways than ever thought possible. These two young men are knowledgeable and have the will to succeed by setting their expectations high. Help support DeMolay!



# Burns Night Supper at Rising Sun Lodge No. 15

Masons in Action

*Submitted by NJF Staff Writer Bro. Martin Bogardus and WB David A. Frankel, PM, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15*

A Burns Night Supper is the traditional annual celebration of Bro. Robert Burns, held on, or as near as practical to, his birthday on January 25<sup>th</sup>. It is widely celebrated in his native country of Scotland with a feast of Haggis accompanied by “Neeps and Tatties” (Turnips and Potatoes) and other distinctly Scottish dishes. The custom has been adopted by many Masonic lodges in the United States to commemorate the life of this world-famous bard, who is regarded by most as the poet laureate of Freemasonry.

Robert Burns was born on January 25, 1759 and died in Dumfries, Scotland, on July 21, 1796. Any Mason unfamiliar with Bro. Burns is almost certainly familiar with his best known poem, Auld Lang Syne, traditionally sung in song form to welcome in the New Year, and also sung at many annual Masonic Officer installations to celebrate the passing of the torch from one Worshipful Master to the next.

The first Burns Supper was celebrated five years after his death in 1801, when nine men met for supper in Burns Cottage in Alloway, Scotland - Burns' birthplace - to celebrate his life and works. A Masonic tradition from its very beginning, the Master of Ceremonies for the event, Rev. Hamilton Paul, was a local minister and a Scottish Freemason.

Bro. Paul and his guests shared Masonic brotherhood with Robert Burns and Bro. Paul devised an evening which looked a bit like a lodge ceremonial, centered on a fine fat haggis; with recitation and singing of Burns' works and a toast (in verse) to the memory of their friend and brother.

Haggis, for the uninitiated, is a savory pudding containing sheep's pluck; minced with onion, oatmeal, suet, spices, and salt, mixed with stock, traditionally encased in the animal's stomach. One of Burns more famous poems, *Address to a Haggis*, no doubt was the inspiration for the choice of fare at the first Burns Supper.

Bro. Hamilton Paul wrote *Verses Read at Burns's Cottage* as a tribute to Burns in 1806 and continued to gratify his kindred affection for the poet through recitation and the publishing of *The Poems and Songs of Robert Burns*, with a *Life of the Author*, in 1819. The last stanza of *Verses Read at Burns's Cottage* nicely sums up his brotherly love and affection for Burns when he writes:

**“When memory would award my feeble lays,  
The votive offering of Affection's praise,”  
‘Twould be the highest earthly honour paid,  
To sooth and gratify my hov'ring shade,  
That in this mansion, by the muses lov'd,  
I sang of Burns — you listen'd and approv'd.**

In commemoration of Robert Burns and his contributions to the Craft, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15 held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Burns Night Supper at Haddonfield Masonic Temple in Haddonfield, NJ on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Brothers from 18<sup>th</sup> District

Lodges gathered to celebrate the famed Masonic poet while dining sumptuously on a feast prepared by Rising Sun's own Bro. Christos Prentzas, whose catering skills have become well-known throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> District. In deference to somewhat more squeamish palates, Filet Mignon was substituted for the Haggis.

The evening included a social hour with hors d'oeuvres and open bar — courtesy of bar-master Bro. Jeff Earnhart and thanks to funds donated by Bro. Dan McDonough — a formal Supper — the aforementioned filet mignon, asparagus hollandaise, “neeps & tatties,” and chocolate cake — and continued socialization after.

One of the highlights of the evening was a blind single-malt Scotch tasting conducted during the evening's meal. The Brethren sampled four different Single Malts and filled out score cards ranking them from most favorite (1) to least favorite (4). The results probably surprised some 18<sup>th</sup> District imbibers and possibly others around the state.



Coming in first, with 5 first place votes and the best (lowest) total score of 22, was “The Balvenie” Double-wood, a twelve-year old Speyside aged sequentially in two different types of casks. A surprising second was the twelve-year old Lowland, Auchentoshan, with 2 first place votes, but tied for low total score at 22. Third, with 2 first place votes and a total score of 26, was the least known of the four Scotches sampled, an eight-year old Islay, Bunnahabhain.

Running fourth and last was another Speyside Scotch well known and very popular in the 18<sup>th</sup> District, with only 1 first place vote and a total score of 31, “The Glenlivet” twelve-year old. A special mention for consistency and knowing his own favorite Scotch goes out to RW Bro. Len March, who gave the Glenlivet 12 its only first place vote!

The evening ended with a lot of excellent fellowship and good conversation as the brothers gathered in front of the welcoming hearth in Rising Sun's newly redecorated parlor, outstandingly reappointed by Bro. William Dennis. Attendance was up nearly 50% over last year's affair, and all are looking forward to celebrating Brother Burns again next January.







## Two Brothers Reunited After Seventy Years

*Submitted by R.W. Joseph Dinovi, PGC*

On June 6, 2015 the 21<sup>st</sup> Masonic District held its Gold Token luncheon awards at the Penns Grove - Excelsior lodge No. 54 where two of the recipients found each other after looking for over 70 years.

The two Brothers were Paul H. Geiger of Pitman Lodge No. 197, a 55 year Mason and James Paras of Penns Grove-Excelsior No. 54, a 65 year Mason.

After Brother Geiger received his pin for his service he reverted back to the sideline to watch the rest and ceremony where he heard District Deputy Grady D. Young Jr. announce the name of the 65 year recipient. When the name James Paras was called out, Brother Geiger asked if this was the same man who had been on the USS Dickman. The answer turned out to be a "Yes".

Hearing this, Paul exclaimed out loud that he had been looking for James for over 70 years. This immediately stopped the ceremony in its track.

Paul in his wheelchair and James in his walker came together where they cried and hugged after realizing just how incredible of a reunion this was. It was an awesome moment for all present, many of us had tears in our eyes. This was a moment seventy years in the making.

The story we found out was that Paul and James were both aboard the USS Joseph T Dickman, AP13, Attack Transport during WWII and became good friends. They

did both the Normandy and Southern France invasions and then went to the Pacific and did the Okinawa invasion. Their last assignment was to bring back troops from the Japanese internment camps. They got off the ship in San Francisco in February 1946 never to see each other again until that day.

Paul has been attending Navy reunions for most of the last 50 years, but James unfortunately had never been able to make them. Paul had always looked to see if James was there to no avail.

After the Gold Token ceremony, the two newly reunited Brothers relayed stories to us about their days aboard the ship. They said that bringing the troops home and seeing the families greeting them was the best feeling.

On a sad note, I am saddened to have to report the passing of Brother James Paras, who at age 94 died October 25, 2015 at Season's Hospice in Christiana Medical Center, Delaware.



## Wyckoff Lodge No. 287 Donates to Paramus VA home

*Submitted by R.W. Gene Margroff, Grand Marshal*

Some of the Brethren of Wyckoff Lodge No. 287 were on hand during the Annual Visit of the Grand Master to the VA Home in Paramus, as the Deputy Grand Master Walter R. Kaulfers presented a check in the sum of \$2000 dollars to the home, proceeds from their annual golf outing held

in May. The administrators were very thankful, not only for the donation, but to all Masons who come out on a weekly basis, to assist in getting Veterans to the Church Services. Among the 22 Grand Staff members and nearly 60 brethren from local lodges were Wyckoff members, Joe Weirszinski JW, RW John Margroff PDDGM, Sec, Pat Cuntrera SD, Al

Van Slyck JS (not pictured), DWA Jack Willer, Tyler, RW Roy Simpadian DRI, WB Larry Williams (not pictured) RW J. Eugene Margroff PM GMar. Also pictured are RW Walter R. Kaulfers DGM and RW Mike T. Firkser DDGM.



# Gothic-Fraternal Lodge Supports Toys for Tots



Masons in Action

MW Anthony W. Montuori, Grand Master of Masons and WM Gregory J. Adams of Gothic - Fraternal Lodge No. 270, take a photo in front of a few bins that two representatives from the United States Marine Corp. left with that night. Gothic - Fraternal Lodge managed to contribute to the "Toys for Tots" program by donating 9 bins filled with toys from the Brethren and families of the lodge. Also, it was a fantastic success with the help from the surrounding area who allowed us to place the bins at their businesses. This was a community effort and a great endeavor to support.



## Master's Wages

*Submitted by WB Mitchel A. Gertner; 3-25-15  
PM Lakewood Lodge No. 174 c. 2008,  
Lakewood-Toms River, NJ, Sunrise Lodge  
No. 288, Toms River NJ*

When the Trestleboard is finished  
and the work is complete  
what are the Wages  
a Master did seek

Is it gold, silver, or riches  
Could there be more  
than corn, wine, and oil  
for Men to live for

In pursuit of (the) truth  
he designs for perfection  
carving his Ashler  
making every correction

The Master's Wages  
In the work he did  
toiling for G-D  
secrets that hid

that chamber of perfection  
the Symbols and Words  
all that he knows  
Mouth to Ear that he heard

Locked in his heart  
secrets untold  
G-D's plan for each man  
the story unfolds

The Working Tools that he has  
develop(ed) over time  
allow him to be  
the man that we find.

## Brother Masons Helping Each Other

*Submitted by RW Charles R. Hashagen*

On the third day of the Grand Master, Anthony W. Montoui's cruise, I took sick with shortness of breath and severe angina. I was admitted to the ship's hospital at 2:30 PM and was transferred off the ship at 7 AM in St. John Canada and was taken to St. John Hospital, where I spent six days.

Prior to leaving the ship, The Grand Master told me to contact my daughter, Gail, and have her join me at the hospital. RW Walter R. Kaulfers, Deputy Grand Master, left the ship to stay with me until my daughter arrived. By doing this, he gave up completing the cruise to help a Brother in distress. When my daughter arrived, RW Brother Kaulfers made arrangements for Gail and I to fly home on Sunday, September 20.

Our Grand Master contacted me several weeks after I arrived home and asked me to send him my daughter's bills for plane fare, lodging, etc. Shortly thereafter, she received a check for her expenses. He did this because he wanted her to be by my side during my hospital stay.

Brethren, this is what true Masonry is all about - "Brothers helping each other." My daughter and I cannot express in words our thanks to MW Anthony W. Montouri and RW Walter R. Kaulfers for what they did for us.

Our Past Grand Master, Gerald J. Sharp made a commitment when he was elected RW Junior Grand Warden to bring the fraternity back to helping brethren first before helping non Masons. MW Anthony W. Montouri has also endorsed this policy, which was the way the Fraternity used to be years ago.





## Raised

### Masons in Action

*Submitted by WB Mitchel A. Gertner; 2-24-15 PM  
Lakewood Lodge 174 c. 2008, Lakewood-Toms River, NJ  
Current member: Sunrise Lodge 288, Toms River NJ*

Men departing on the Square  
In lodge assembled if they dare  
To where all are equal; kings, peasants, and others  
Count themselves among worthy brothers  
Hearken to even the widow's sons' call of help  
Ethics teach us to learn thyself  
Level meeting; Compasses circumscribe  
All that we hear builds us and our monuments by  
Diligence, the Craftsman's chisel  
Architect, Supreme, will drizzle  
Magnificent light dispensed if we trod  
Great and worthy deeds for G-D  
Enter thee the brotherhood of man  
Raise the standard by a friendly hand  
Trust first in G-D and the word of a giving soul  
Nary travel the road alone  
Enter'd Apprentice, Fellowcraft, indeed  
Raised Master Mason, thrice tried,  
never denied through learned degrees

## R.W. Leon Cassidy, Eight Times Worshipful Master



*Submitted by RW Thomas W. Murphy, PDDGM No. 1*

R W Leon "Hop" Cassidy was installed Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 as Worshipful Master in Kittatinny Lodge No. 164. This is exactly 20 years from the date he was first installed as Master of Kittatinny No. 164. It was also the eighth time he has served as Master of a lodge in the 1<sup>st</sup> District, two years as Worshipful Master of Kittatinny No. 164 and six years as Worshipful Master of Samaritan No. 98.



**Robert Shulman proudly supports New Jersey's Free and Accepted Masons.** When not participating as an active member of Burlington Lodge #32, Bob serves as Vice President/Wealth Management of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC, where he is committed to putting your needs first and offering the finest investment and financial services available.

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*Vice President/Wealth Management  
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## Mosaic Lodge No. 194: New Light for Masonry

Masons in Action

*Submitted by Brother Albert Stabile*

In the fall of 2008 WB Aaron Forste proposed the idea of bringing solar power to Mosaic Lodge. Brother Forste led the information gathering stage which included discussions, presentations from potential vendors and an initial financial analysis. The estimated payback for the project did not at the time warrant approval, but that all changed with the advent of commercial incentive programs offered by the Federal Government in 2013 coupled with rising utility expenses in the North East. A revised financial analysis in 2013 offered compelling reasons to move forward with the project. Some of the highlights included:

- The sharp rise in utility rates per kilowatt hour over the past few years
- The expectation that utility costs would continue to rise at a rate higher than inflation
- Increased electrical demand estimated as a result of the installation of air conditioning
- An estimated payback for the investment in 12 years with significant financial benefits accruing thereafter

Three vendors were shortlisted in an effort to provide options as well as negotiating leverage. Geo Solar offered Mosaic the best opportunity for the fastest return on the investment. Once Geo Solar was selected as the lead vendor, we performed detailed reference checking process that included contacting five references split between commercial and residential customers. We were specific to request references that had no personal nor professional ties to Geo Solar and were pleased that all respondents claimed to have high customer service response times and that all financial investment recoveries were in excess of what was claimed by Geo Solar.

The lodge was presented the findings and a vote to invest in solar power was approved. The task of implementing the project was delegated to Trustee, Brother Steve Fernandez. Prior to the installation of the solar, Steve was also responsible for the roof resurfacing project which also had a component for including new rooftop air conditioning units which were a prerequisite to the solar installation.

The project was not without its share of typical challenges, which included:

- PSE&G delays – it was later determined that a different type of power delivery was required to accommodate the solar model. A new telephone pole, meter and transformer was to be installed by PSE&G at no incremental cost to Mosaic, however due to delays beyond our control PSE&G delayed the project several months.
- Paper pushing between Geo Solar and PSE&G consumed more time than planned given the delays by the utility.
- Coordination of the vendors to work in conjunction with Mosaic's goals and time constraints.



We are pleased to report that Mosaic also experienced similar results to the checked references. Geo Solar's customer service exceeded expectations. More importantly, with the recent receipt of SRAC revenue for 2015, we are on pace to slightly beat or expectation of a twelve year payback on the investment. Given that the useful life is estimated at 30 years for the solar panels and the manufacturer's warranty is 25 years, the result is a significant financial gain to the lodge that will provide benefits for 13-18 years following the return on the investment.

Please contact Al Stabile (201.681.0244 or al.stabile@gmail.com) if you are interested in learning more or meeting Geo Solar at Grand Lodge.

## Ocean Lodge No. 89 Spreads Holiday Cheer To Developmentally Impaired Children

*Submitted by Brother Glenn Cantor, SW, Ocean Lodge No. 89*

RW Brother Phil Scrudato, PGC, at Ocean Lodge No. 89's annual Christmas Party for developmentally impaired children. RW Brother Scrudato, along with his wife Susan, has helped to organize this Christmas Party annually for over 30 years. It is given to benefit developmentally impaired children of Monmouth County. This year, more than 40 children enjoyed the party, including a visit and gifts from Santa Claus.





## Boiling Spring Lodge Visits Masonic Home

On September 19, 2015, nine members of Boiling Spring Lodge No. 152, F. & A.M. visited the Masonic Home. In attendance were the Worshipful Master, John Kenyon, three Past Masters, and five newly raised brothers.

The group visited with one of the Home's residents, Mrs. Julia Donohue, who is the widow of one of Boiling Spring's Distinguished Brothers, Matt. Mrs. Donohue lives in a new retirement living unit in Compass Pointe, the Home's recently refurbished wing. The group had brought along bags of groceries and snacks, to help her stock her new kitchen. Past Master Wayne Heber noted that the bag of chocolate received the best response from Julia, "Now that's what I'm talking about!"



While the past masters caught up with Mrs. Donohue, the newly raised brothers took a first class tour of the Home. Their tour guide, Bob Collier, is another resident of Compass Pointe and a member of Merchantville Lodge No. 119, F. & A.M. Along the way, they passed one of the Parlors, generously donated by the brethren of Boiling Spring.

After the tour, the whole group met up in the lobby for a trip to the Cracker Barrel Restaurant for lunch

with Julia and Bob. Brother Heber summed up the experience: "The Home is looking beautiful - we love all the renovations and see that Julia is so happy. It was a great day for Freemasonry and the Masonic Home...a day that none of us will ever forget."

## Masonic Home of New Jersey 2016 Wish List Items

Your charitable donations given to help the residents of our Masonic Home make a difference! For over 118 years, the daily life at the Home has been one of outstanding care, fellowship and dignity for our Residents. The generous financial support from our donors has been an essential ingredient to the Home's success.

This legacy of caring for others is inextricably part of our Masonic family's nature. By working together, we will continue to make great things happen for the residents of our Masonic Home. Below is the current list of capital items that we now need to help us to maintain the Home's high-quality level of health care. Your donation to help provide these items - large or small - is very much appreciated. Thank you!

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Pool Table	\$2,200
Electric Bed	\$2,500
Autoclave	\$3,500
Bariatric Electric Bed	\$4,500
Dish Machine	\$4,500
Blanket Warmer	\$5,000
Covered 6-passenger Golf Cart	\$8,500
Fire Hydrant replacement	\$10,000
Window replacement	\$15,000

For more information about these items, or to learn more about other ways to support the residents of our Masonic Home, please contact:

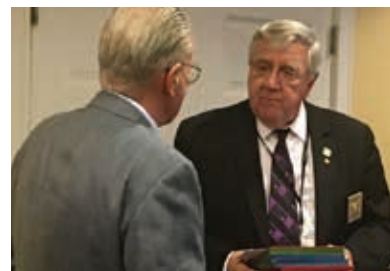
Christopher S. Abbott, Director of Development  
Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ  
902 Jacksonville Road  
Burlington, NJ 08016-3896  
(800) 792-8690

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
New Wheelchairs & Footrests	\$350
iPad Air 2	\$575
Washer/Dryer for Launderette	\$1,500
Popcorn Machine	\$2,000

## Navesink No. 9, F. & A.M. Makes Holiday Gift

The members of Navesink Lodge No. 9, F. & A.M. remembered the resident Masons of our Masonic Home again for the holidays this past year. At the December meeting of the Masonic Charity Foundation's Board of Trustees, Navesink representatives presented the Grand Master with a check for \$1,025. In doing so, each resident Mason received a personalized card and \$25 gift for the holidays.

This was the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the members of Navesink No. 9 made such a gift, underscoring their commitment to the Home's residents. Such generosity is very much appreciated, and does much to lift the resident's spirits. The representatives from Navesink Lodge were W.B. Richard C. Joyce, Master; W.B. Keith E. Hammer, Past Master; Bro. Philip B. Devinsky; Bro. Thomas J. Trabocco; and Bro. Damjan Racic.



Pictured is W.B. Joyce presenting the donation to M.W. Anthony W. Montuori, Grand Master and Chairman of the Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ.

**DO YOU KNOW WHAT  
LOOKS GREAT  
WITH YOUR  
WHITE APRON??**



**SALAAM SHRINE CLOWNS** now offers New Jersey Masons in our area\* - Shriners and Non-Shriners alike - the opportunity to help us bring awareness of our Shriners Hospitals for Children® and help entertain at our Circus, Parades, Nursing Home/Hospital Visits and fund-raisers. No experience necessary, just a sincere desire to help. If your cable-tow has room to share, call “Tunes” or “Ziggy” today at **973-992-1111 x11**.

*\* If you reside outside Northern NJ, call us and we will direct you to your nearest Shrine Center.*

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GREAT program for  
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**CALL SALAAM SHRINERS!**

If you want to learn about Shriners Hospitals for Children®, Shriners International, our dedicated Shepherds, our Circus or simply need an entertaining music or other performance...Salaam Shriners are just a phone call away! We know how to communicate and customize our presentation for Masonic and Non-Masonic audiences alike as well as women, children and healthcare professionals.

We furnish everything from handouts to DVD and programs and all the AV equipment and skilled Nobles who know how to relate to their audience and get their message across. We have 3 different levels to choose from ranging from a simple talk to videos to performances by costumed bands to give you the right message to fit your audience.

Our programs are **FREE** of charge, but we request that a donation be made, if possible, to help support our philanthropies.

To schedule YOUR program, just call our Public Awareness Chairman at **973-992-1111 x12** with your contact information and the date of the event or e-mail your request to [pa@salaamshrine.com](mailto:pa@salaamshrine.com) and we will respond.

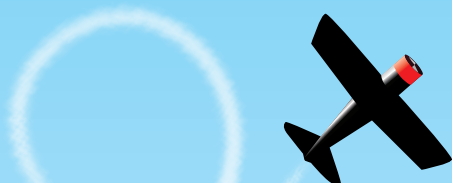
**Freemasonry: A Wise Choice — Shrinedom: A Noble Endeavor**

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Christopher S. Abbott  
Director of Development  
Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ  
Phone: (609) 239-3999  
Email: [cabbott@njmasonic.org](mailto:cabbott@njmasonic.org)  
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## WHY MAKE AN IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER GIFT?

Congress has extended the IRA charitable rollover and made it permanent. An IRA rollover gift is a way for you to support our cause today without impacting your checking or savings account balance. Gifts made from your IRA (up to \$100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income. They also qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD) which can lower your income and taxes.

In addition, making an IRA rollover gift may prevent you from:

- being bumped into a higher federal and/or state income tax bracket
- hitting the phaseouts on your deductions and personal exemptions
- falling into the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT)
- incurring the Affordable Care Act (ACA) tax

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# THE IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER IS PERMANENT!

## HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT



## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN EASY WAY TO HELP THE CAUSES YOU CARE THE MOST ABOUT?

With the **IRA charitable rollover**, you can make a gift from your IRA account to help support the work of our organization this year and benefit.

### YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM GIVING FROM YOUR IRA IF...

- You wish to make a significant gift without using cash or other assets.
- You do not need all or a portion of your IRA income.
- You are paying too much in taxes and are looking to reduce your income.
- You do not itemize deductions. Because a rollover gift can reduce your income and taxes, you can still benefit from charitable giving even as a non-itemizer.
- You want to give over and above your normal giving this year. An IRA rollover gift does not count towards the 50% annual limitation on charitable gifts.

### WHAT IF YOU HAVE A 401(k), 403(b) OR OTHER RETIREMENT PLAN?

This gift opportunity only works for IRAs. If you own another type of qualified retirement plan, you must first make a tax-free rollover of funds into an IRA. Then you can make the gift from the IRA account to support our work.

### HOW CAN I MAKE AN IRA ROLLOVER GIFT?

Contact your IRA plan administrator to learn their procedure for making a rollover gift to charity. We can also provide you with a sample letter and assistance.

To learn more about the benefits of making an IRA charitable rollover gift, please contact us today.

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

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# Carefree Living



## Among Friends

### Join us for our Lunch & Learns!

**JAN. 28 | FEB. 23 | MARCH 15 | MARCH 31**

**10 - 11 a.m.** Presentation

*Presentation to last approximately one hour.*

**11 a.m. - noon** Tours

**Noon** Lunch

*Fellowship Center | 1114 Oxmead Rd., Burlington, N.J.*

**Call to R.S.V.P.: 1-877-544-2273**

You are cordially invited to attend our presentations to learn some exciting news about the potential construction of new cottages on our campus!

For those who wish to take advantage of the many amenities and services available at our Masonic Home, enjoy a luncheon and the opportunity to view and give input on our proposed retirement living expansion plan. With quality health care services also available on-site, the Masonic Home offers peace of mind for the future.

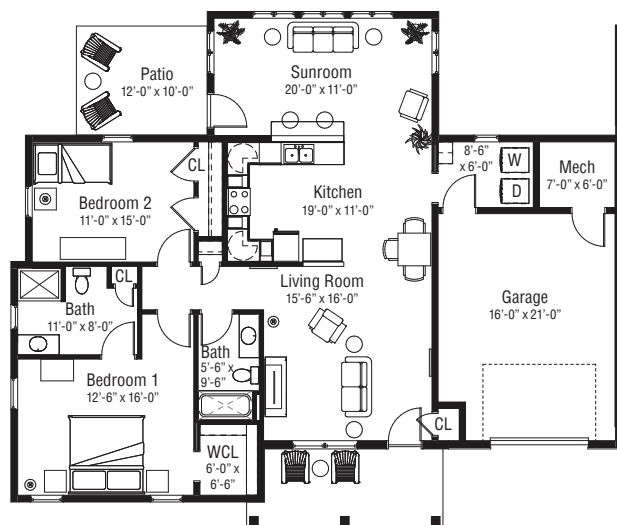
### Preview some of our new cottage layouts

#### Cottage 10

1,945 Gross Sq. Ft., Living Space: 1,540 Sq. Ft.,

Garage & Mechanical Room: 405 Sq. Ft.

*All drawings are approximate and may vary slightly.*

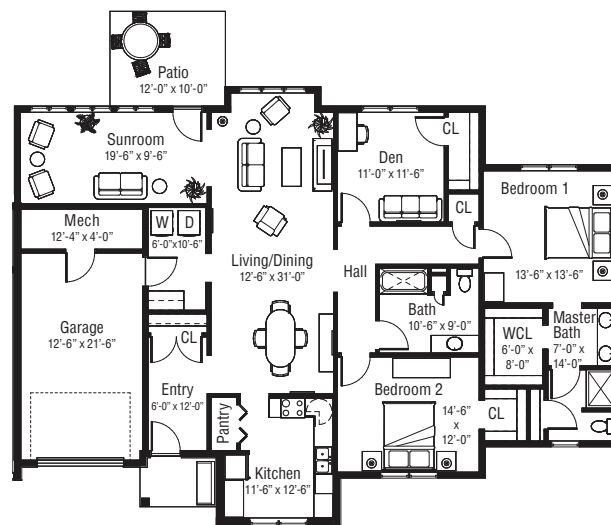


#### Cottage 11

2,350 Gross Sq. Ft., Living Space: 1,990 Sq. Ft.,

Garage & Mechanical Room: 360 Sq. Ft.

*All drawings are approximate and may vary slightly.*



 **MASONIC HOME OF NEW JERSEY**



*Open to serve.  
Open to all.*





## MASONIC HOME BREAKS GROUND FOR RETIREMENT LIVING EXPANSION

The board of trustees of the Masonic Charity Foundation took the first step in meeting their long-term vision for a continuing care retirement community at the groundbreaking for a model duplex cottage at the Masonic Home of New Jersey in Burlington on Oct. 21.

“With a model cottage, prospective residents will actually be able to see the finished product,” M.W. Anthony W. Montuori, Grand Master and Chairman of the Masonic Charity Foundation, said. “They can see the quality of construction and how a cottage may fit their lifestyle.”

The groundbreaking included the traditional Masonic corn-wine-oil ceremony followed by the Grand Master and other board members donning hard hats and using golden shovels to break ground.

The model cottage is expected to be completed in March 2016. The first phase of construction could include up to 50 duplex cottages. Preliminary marketing events are underway to determine interest in the retirement living cottages, including open houses on Jan. 28, Feb. 23, March 15 and March 31, at 10 a.m., in the Masonic Homes’ Fellowship Center. The events will feature a presentation, tours and lunch.

“The board of the Masonic Charity Foundation has long recognized the great resources we have available to us by way of the property,” Jennifer Schwalm, president of Ashlar Creative Solutions, Masonic Homes’ management company, said. “It creates an opportunity to develop a full continuum of services.”

 **MASONIC HOME OF NEW JERSEY**  
902 Jacksonville Road • Burlington Township, NJ 08016







In 2014, Masonic Home completed the renovation and construction of 85 one- and two-bedroom retirement living rental apartments, which are 96 percent occupied and 100 percent reserved. As part of the \$10.1 million project, the community also redesigned the front entrance and lobby, added a wellness center and programming and a multi-purpose room, and renovated a restaurant and café on its 470-acre campus.

Retirement living residents have access to events, and monthly service fees cover services such as housekeeping, maintenance, landscaping, security, flexible dining plans and more. Monthly service fees vary according to the type of living accommodation and payment plan selected, as well as the number of people living in the unit.

“Active retirees appreciate the security of our campus, as well as a sense of carefree living,” Len Weiser, executive director, said.

The Masonic Home also offers 75 comprehensive personal care rooms, 264 nursing beds with dedicated memory support and short-term rehabilitation units, and a variety of amenities and common areas.

Anyone interested in more information about retirement living may contact the marketing office at 877-544-2273 or visit [www.njmasonic.org](http://www.njmasonic.org).

# MASONIC HOME OF NEW JERSEY

902 Jacksonville Road • Burlington Township, NJ 08016





# The Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey offers these scholarships to students interested in pursuing higher education.

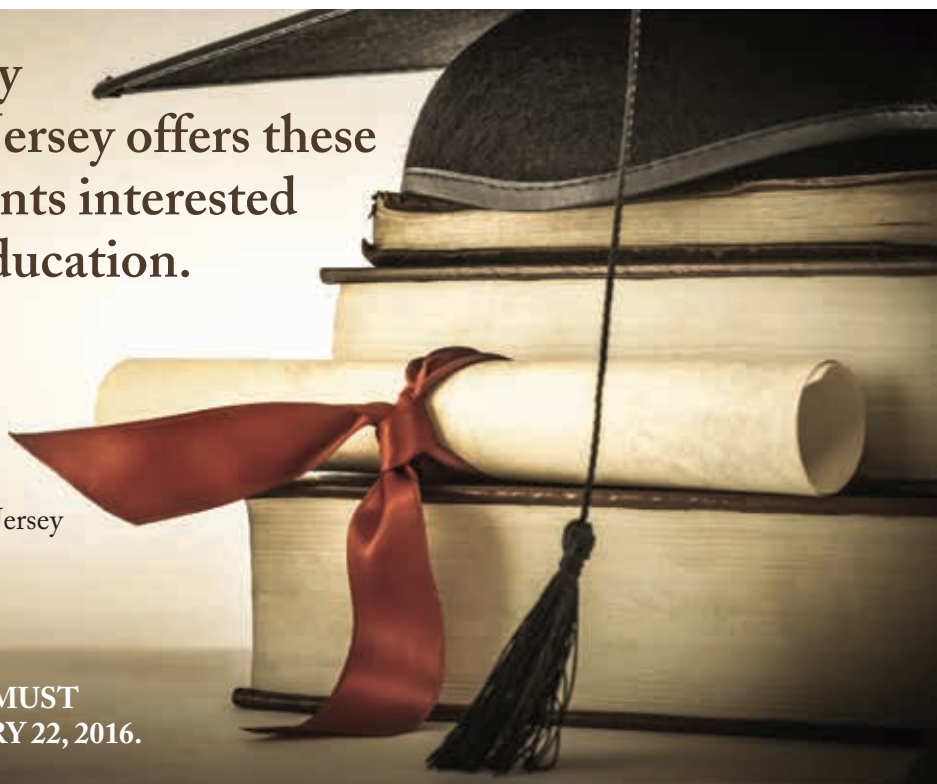
For complete details about each scholarship's eligibility requirements, or for an application, visit:

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

or [www.newjerseygrandlodge.org](http://www.newjerseygrandlodge.org)

Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey  
902 Jacksonville Road  
Burlington, NJ 08016-3896  
(609) 589-4032

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST  
BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 22, 2016.**



## **Chairman of the Board Scholarship \$10,000**

*(\$2,500 per year for 4 years)*

***For Graduating High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: B or 3.0 | Combined SATs: 1800

Must be relative of NJ Mason\* | (3) Available

## **Taylor Scholarship \$4,000**

*(\$1,000 per year for 4 years)*

***For Graduating NJ High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: B or 3.0 | Combined SATs: 1500

Must be relative of NJ Mason\* | (2) Available

*Must perform 30 hours of community service each summer prior to fall semester*

## **Patterson Engineering Scholarship \$16,000**

*(\$4,000 per year for 4 years)*

***For Graduating NJ High School Seniors in Engineering***

GPA: C+ or 2.5 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: 1250

Relative of NJ Mason preferred\*, not required | (2) Available

*Emphasis on teacher recommendation and student's statement*

## **Culver DeMolay Scholarship \$4,000**

*(\$1,000 per year for 4 years)*

***For Graduating NJ High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: B or 3.0 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: 1500

Active DeMolay preferred | (3) Available

## **Serewitch DeMolay Scholarship \$20,000**

*(\$5,000 per year for 4 years)*

***For Graduating NJ High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: C+ or 2.2 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: 1300

Active DeMolay required | (1) Available

*Emphasis on teacher recommendation and student's statement*

## **Asbury Jordan Lodge Scholarship \$4,000**

*(\$1,000 per year for 4 years)*

***For Graduating High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: B or 3.0 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: 1400

Relative of NJ Mason preferred\*, not required | (1) Available

*Scholarship in honor of Christian Mogensen and John D. Post*

## **William Mayer Memorial Scholarship \$4,000**

*(\$2,000 per year for 2 years)*

***For Graduating High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: C or 2.0 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: N/A

Must be relative of NJ Mason\* | (2) Available

*Scholarship for an Associate's Degree | Sponsored by the Grand Lodge of NJ*

## **William Mayer Memorial Scholarship \$4,000**

*(\$2,000 per year for 2 years)*

***For 4-Year College Student***

GPA: C or 2.0 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: N/A

Must be relative of NJ Mason\* | (2) Available

*Scholarship for a Graduate Degree | Sponsored by the Grand Lodge of NJ*

## **Sol & Reba Serewitch Scholarship \$5,000**

*(\$5,000 for 1 year)*

***For Graduating NJ High School Seniors in Any Major***

GPA: C+ or 2.2 over last 2 years | Combined SATs: 1300

Must be relative of NJ Mason\* | (1) Available

*\*The applicant must be the child, step-child, grandchild or step-grandchild of a living or deceased Master Mason in good standing in a Masonic Lodge of the Grand Lodge of NJ.*

**MASONIC  
CHARITY**  
  
  
**FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY**



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## PLANNED GIVING BRIEF

# ESTATE PLANNING MADE EASY



In a nutshell, estate planning is really what you want done with what you own. The good news is that you can provide for the people and causes important to you by taking simple steps now. Creating your plan for the future can be easy and even enjoyable.

While an attorney should always draft your will, we can help demystify the process and prepare you for meeting your attorney with these simple steps:

1

### Itemize Your Assets

Take a piece of paper and draw a line down the middle. On the left side, write something you own. On the right side, write the name or names of the person(s) you wish to receive that item or asset.

2

### Organize Your Estate

Make the process of organizing your estate and plans even easier by downloading our free wills guide. This fill-in-the-blank guide walks you through the process of gathering information about what you own, your family, and your goals.

3

### Write Down Questions

Consider practical questions, such as, "If I give my house to my adult son and my adult daughter, what will they do with it?" If you come up with a question that you can't seem to find a solution for, make a note to ask your attorney.

4

### Review Your Plans for Family

You can give some assets to family right away and others over time. Ask us how you can provide an income stream or a lump sum to a loved one and achieve your personal and inheritance goals.

5

### Consider Charity

Remember to include any charities that are important to you in your plan. If you have given during life, then consider providing for these organizations through your estate. Ask us about plans like charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities that can help your family and our mission.

6

### Visit Your Attorney

Bring the information you have gathered and questions to your attorney. Your attorney can draft a will or trust that will achieve your goals. You complete the plan through a simple signing process.

7

### Update Your Plan

Update your estate plan as your life changes. Marriages, births, and deaths are all events that may make you want you to revise your plans.





The New Jersey Masonic Charity Foundation  
902 Jacksonville Road  
Burlington, New Jersey 08016



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## Memorial Museum Bus Trip

*Submitted by Bro. Ed Keller, Olive Branch Lodge No. 16*

The Brethren of Olive Branch Lodge No. 16 hosted an overnight trip down to Alexandria VA to the George Washington Masonic Memorial on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup>. Saturday the Brethren and family members enjoyed a group tour of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Museum. The evening was spent with a self-guided tour of the Nation's

Capital seeing the Lincoln Memorial, World War II Memorial and the Washington Monument. On Sunday the Brothers and family members spent the day at the Smithsonian American History, Air and Space, and Natural History Museums. The trip was a great bonding experience with the Brethren and their families. Everyone had a wonderful fun time at the Nation's Capital.

