

# THE NEW JERSEY FREEMASON

Spring 2017



*Join us for the Annual Convention  
in Atlantic City!*

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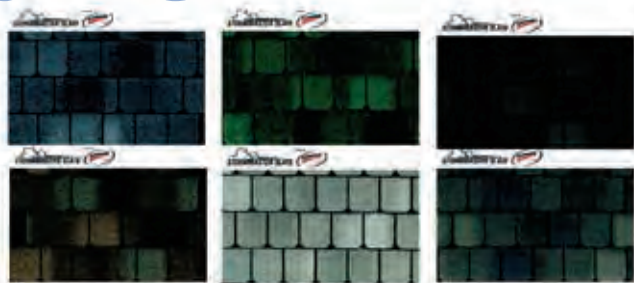
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## Grand Lodge of New Jersey

100 Barrack Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
Office: (609) 239-3950  
Fax: (609) 386-4332  
NewJerseyGrandLodge.org

## OFFICERS

### Grand Master

Walter R. Kaulfers

### Deputy Grand Master

Dieter B. Hees

### Senior Grand Warden

Roger B. Quintana

### Junior Grand Warden

Gregory J. Scott

### Grand Treasurer

Robert J. Sheridan, PGM

### Grand Secretary

John S. Ryan, PGM

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mbb08021@comcast.net

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## CORRECTION

Brethren,  
In the Fall 2016 issue on Pg. 5,  
Cristopher should have been  
listed as M.W. Francis Mitchells'  
step son.

## Schedule

Summer 2017

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

*The New Jersey Freemason is published  
by the Masonic Charity Foundation of  
New Jersey.*

# Letter from the Editor

My Brethren,

It has been yet again an honor to serve the Craft as Editor of The New Jersey Freemason.

First and foremost, a "Thank You" to our Grand Master Walter R. Kaulfers on his most successful and exciting year. His leadership the past year was invaluable.

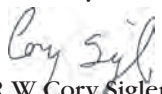
Secondly, The Elected Line of Right Worshipful: Dieter B. Hees, Roger B. Quintana, Gregory J. Scott and our Grand Secretary John S. Ryan, PGM. I look forward to the continued excellence you all have provided the Fraternity.

Thirdly, Brothers Ric Fernandez and Martin Bogardus who as Assistant Editors have brought the quality of the publication to a whole new level.

Last but not least, all the Brethren who have submitted articles, papers, notifications and feedback to me. Without your input none of this is possible.

I look forward to another great year and will see you all this April in Atlantic City at our Annual Convention.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

  
R. W. Cory Sigler, PGC  
Editor

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## Registration Procedure for Electronic Balloting Deadline Friday, April 14<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 device (desktop, tablet, mobile) 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 11:59 pm Eastern Time, Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to [GLNJVOTING@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GLNJVOTING@GMAIL.COM) 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 19), 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Balloting will be open from approximately 12:00 noon on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> until sometime between 9:00 am and 10:00 am Thursday, April 20<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 Master's Message



Grand Lodge

Brethren,

As my year as Grand Master is ending, I want to thank you for your support this year. I have had the privilege of meeting a number

of dedicated members who have a deep rooted love of our great Fraternity. I have traveled to a number of Grand Lodge jurisdictions and it is obvious that though we may differ in our ritual and customs, yet we are closely united in that Mystic Tie that binds Freemasons together.

This year, I endeavored to raise awareness and to financially support children's pediatric cancer research at the Cincinnati Children's Research Hospital and St Jude's Children's Hospitals. I thank all the Brethren who gave time and money to help support these great institutions.

This year I hosted a number of Masonic and social events that will form the basis of fond memories for years to come.

The following events helped to support my charity. My homecoming at Mosaic Lodge was on May 16<sup>th</sup>. On June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge held its annual Wheelchair Track and Field Meet. The Grand Masters Charity Golf outing was held on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Sea Oaks Golf Club. Grand Lodge paraded in the Ridgefield Park 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. In August, a number of us traveled to Alaska on a wonderful cruise. On September 18<sup>th</sup>, we held a charity sporting clays shoot at Leigh Valley Sporting Clays Range. On September 23<sup>th</sup>, we sponsored a Gentleman's Black Tie Cigar event at Clifton Lodge. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mosaic Lodge held a Gold Collar Degree for Brother Andrew Quintana, the son of our Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Roger Quintana. The Annual Feast of the Sts. John was held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Fellowship Center. Our guest speaker was the former NY Giant, Stephen Baker, the touch down maker. The Grand Master's Billiards Challenge was held on January 7<sup>th</sup> at Mosaic Lodge.

In closing, I want to thank you for your support during my year as Grand Master. Even though we continue to experience declines in our membership, we are continuing to initiate high quality members. In order to retain these new members, we must mentor them. Our Lodges have a number of well-informed brethren, I hope these experienced Freemasons will take the time to guide and educate new Brothers. Also, it is hoped that Lodge members will encourage these new Brothers to earn the David Brearley Award. A small amount of time spent now will yield great benefits in the future.

I encourage each of you to become more active in your Lodge. Contact a brother, who you haven't seen in a while,

encourage him to come out and meet the new officers to hear about their new programs and ideas. Become an active participant in the life of your Lodge. Perhaps you can assist your Lodge by learning a piece of Ritual or volunteer to run an event. Travel to other Lodges and enjoy the fellowship our Fraternity provides. You might discover an interesting idea or program that may benefit your membership.

Finally, you have given me the great honor and privilege of serving you as Grand Master. I have tried my best to live up to your expectations. Words cannot express my thanks for your confidence and support. Remember, ***"Embrace the Future."***

Fraternally,

M.W. Walter R. Kaulfers  
Grand Master

## GM's 2017 Calendar

### March

- 1 Table Lodge - Temple Lodge No. 173 - PV - 275 Kinderkamack Rd., Westwood, NJ
- 2 PV - Mosaic Cigar/Table Lodge - 129 Main St, Ridgefield Pk., NJ 07660
- 3 Grand Council Assembly and Installation of Officers  
Grand Chapter and Grand Council Banquet
- 4 Grand Royal Arch Chapter Convocation and Installation of Officers  
Grand Commandery Conclave  
Grand Commandery Banquet and Installation of Officers
- 9 Joint Reception 1<sup>st</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Districts
- 14 10<sup>th</sup> District Reception
- 16 3<sup>rd</sup> District Reception
- 18 MW Kaulfers Charity Ball
- 28 10<sup>th</sup> Annual North Jersey Charity Ball
- 31 Delaware Brotherhood Night

### April

- 1 Scottish Rite Statewide Spring Reunion
- 2 PV - Mosaic Cigar/Table Lodge
- 4 Gold Collar Degree
- 7 Grand Marshal & Secretary to Grand Masters Reception
- 11 South Jersey Candidates Night (Sea Oaks CC)
- 21 GL Communication



Grand Lodge

# Deputy Grand Master's Message

## Preserve the past, Live in the Present, Prepare for the Future

The past and the present are inextricably linked, and this is certainly the case with Freemasonry. While we have a long and storied past, there are many challenges and opportunities that lie before us. How we meet those various tests will lay the foundation for those generations still to come. To achieve this, we need to be bold, brilliant and extraordinary.

To move forward, we need to recognize and appreciate our unique heritage. Much attention and debate has been given to declining membership. It comes down to communicating better, connecting better and engaging better. Lodge leadership needs to provide compelling content for our Brethren. Over the past few years, membership growth exceeded the number of Brethren called to the Lodge on High which should have allowed for a net gain in membership. Unfortunately, however, the non-payment of dues figures greatly out-paced net membership gains. This means communication, connection, engagement and content should be enhanced.

Our enlightened past has proven to be a solid foundation for current Freemasons. 2017 marks the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England. What a milestone! Several events and programs have been planned in our jurisdiction to commemorate this historic event which includes a special edition yearbook. Preserving our Masonic Historic Treasures in New Jersey is just as important, and a program will be rolled out explaining to our Lodges how this can be efficiently and properly accomplished. To recognize our members with many years of service, a recommended Gold Token Degree will be introduced. And let us not forget about our widows who should continue to be honored with

a Masonic Widow's Program. As a liaison to our residents in Burlington, a Masonic Village Ambassador will be appointed.



Our Lodges today have bright prospects for a brilliant future. But there are important areas requiring our attention which include membership, structures, lodge operations, finances, security, event planning and future planning. Working towards becoming "Lodges of Continued Excellence" should be a primary goal for all of us. Pinpointing our strengths and weaknesses and our opportunities and threats are needed to create that roadmap to excellence. And working towards common goals makes us stronger.

Back to the Future is here now for our forthcoming leadership. Emphasis on our millennials should be a priority. We must adapt our strategies to remain relevant in the swift currents of our ever-changing society. It will always be important for Freemasons to set a good example: remember to be civil, cordial and gentlemanly. Our behaviors are what Freemasonry should reflect both inwardly and outwardly. By using our **Masonic GPS of Groundwork, Passion and Skills**, we can together preserve the past, live in the present and prepare for the future.

Fraternally,

R.W. Dieter B. Hees  
Deputy Grand Master

**WE NEED YOU!**



**The content of this publication comes from you, our readers.**

We want to know what's going on in your lodge. We're looking for articles on:

- Lodge News
- Education
- Editorial
- Upcoming Events

Submit content to:  
**EditorNJF@yahoo.com**



## Senior Grand Warden's Message



Grand Lodge

Brethren,

Thanks to your generosity and support the Masonic Charity Foundation is able to provide

beautiful homes, quality care, support services and financial assistance to New Jersey Masons and their families. In 2016, through your generosity and funds secured through grants, Masonic Village at Burlington provided \$416,000 in charitable care and services to individuals who were unable to pay for their services, and covered \$12.3 million in unreimbursed Medicare and Medicaid costs. Because of your believe in the foundation's mission, the Masonic Outreach Program has vital resources to support our Masonic families, and students who might not otherwise be able to afford an education, can pursue their dreams and become contributing members of society.

The foundation has hired a new Director of Outreach and Engagement to revitalize the Masonic Outreach Program. By calling a toll-free hotline, 1-866-NJ-O-REACH, Masons, their families and others throughout New Jersey can receive referrals for services. The Outreach Program offers referrals for health care, legal and financial services from its extensive network of resources throughout the state. Masons and their families also may request financial assistance when hardships occur.

Understand our youth are our future, the foundation budgets to run two Masonic Model Student Assistance Program (MMSAP) workshops each year. MMSAP is an intensive workshop for educators to learn how to identify, intervene with and create appropriate referrals for students that may be at-risk for substance abuse, depression, suicide or violence. By training a core team of five to eight educators from a school building on how to intervene early and effectively with students that display patterns of behaviors that threaten their success at school, the Masonic Charity Foundation is equipping them with vital tools to make a

long-lasting difference in the lives of students.

Every year, the foundation funds seven scholarships to deserving high school seniors with a Masonic affiliation who plan to enroll as full-time college students at a four-year college or university.

The foundation not only helps fund education, but helps local youth find their career paths, as well. The Masonic Village at Burlington has a mutually beneficial relationship with the Burlington Township School District, which not only facilitates various intergenerational events, but also offers volunteer and training opportunities for the students. Students from the school district and Rowan College at Burlington County have benefited from shadowing, tours and internships and job offers.

Understanding the vital service emergency responders provide to their communities, Masonic Village leases land on its property, valued at \$240,000 a year, to the Burlington Township Fire Department without charge and contributed \$4,500 to local emergency service providers: Endeavor Ambulance, Relief Fire Company, Beverly Road Fire Company and Independent Fire Company.

By sharing our expertise and our resources with our communities, the Masonic Charity Foundation is demonstrating Masonic values by offering meaningful educational opportunities, inspiring positive relationships and supporting those who most need our assistance. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, Freemasonry is a way of Life, thank you for your continued support and generosity,

Fraternally,

R.W. Roger Quintana  
Senior Grand Warden

## 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 20, 2017**

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

## Junior Grand Warden's Message



Greetings Brothers,

It has been my great pleasure to have traveled extensively throughout our great state and Grand Jurisdiction over the past few years. In doing so, I have developed great relationships and fraternal bonds with many of our Brothers. The Masonic temples and buildings we meet in and hold fraternal communications are the topic of this discussion and article. Our buildings are a reflection of our Fraternity and represent who we are as Masons. The upkeep, maintenance and general appearance of our Masonic edifices is a very demanding and economical labor of love. Due to the decline in our membership, smaller returns on our financial investments, rising costs of utilities and maintenance, some of our buildings have been put on the back burner when it comes to our ability to accomplish and proceed with routine maintenance and capital improvements. As Treasurer of my Lodge's Temple Board and a member of the Building Committee for 18 years, I know what it costs to run and maintain a building and we all know it is not cheap, and after paying the bills, there is not much money left to do any major repairs or renovations. About 10 years ago, I was reading the local paper and learned about a Grant Program that assists non-profit organizations, whose buildings are used in conjunction with local community organizations. These Grants would provide financial assistance to perform repairs and upgrades, enhance building safety and comply with modern building codes and regulations.

The Program is called Community Block Development Grant Program and is funded through the Federal Government to the State level to the local cities, townships and municipalities. Some of the repairs and projects Peninsula Lodge has undergone are a new roof, pointing and sealing of the exterior of the building, upgrading electrical wiring to meet code, new kitchen, handicapped accessible co-ed bathroom, security cameras and lighting, replaced sidewalks and paved parking lot, retaining wall and fences, flooring, installation and just this past summer the removal of our oil tank and the conversion of heating system from 3 oil burning furnaces and piping from oil to gas heat. This has all been accomplished by working closely with our local city government and CBDG office. It is easier than you would think; it requires the filling out of a 6-page application and grant request. The CBD grants that we have received over the past 10 years have been in excess of \$700,000.00, which has returned the beauty and glory of our Temple that was built in 1926. There is no way we could have done these repairs and improvements on our own, without the assistance, and I am sure most of our lodges could not do this without

assistance either. I know most of our lodges would qualify and could use the aide from these grants.

This all being said, I am sure I have sparked some interests and have raised a lot of questions that you might have. I am available to lend my assistance and answer any questions you or the Lodge Trustees have. So let's work together and make our Lodge Buildings great again!

By the time you will be reading this Issue, our Annual Communication will be upon us. Your Grand Master, Elected Line, Grand Lodge and Masonic Charity Foundation Trustees have been working very hard at managing the challenging task of efficiently and effectively running your Grand Lodge and Masonic Charity Foundation. There are many exciting changes going on at our Masonic Village. Our 85 Retirement Apartment Units have been very successful and are at full occupancy. We are nearing the final approval from the various city agencies for our 65 Residential Cottages and hope to break ground by May. Ashlar Creative Solutions, our management team, has been reevaluating the 267 beds we are operating to determine what future makeup of services would be the best mix to fit our future strategic plan and financial goals, all while working to reduce operating costs and maintain quality service and care to our residents and Masonic community. The Grand Lodge Trustees have been tasked with overcoming multiple obstacles and challenges in balancing the Grand Lodge budget and presenting the fraternity with an actual, realistic hands-on budget that can be adhered to. We are moving in the right direction. Being faced with all these challenges and important decisions pertaining to the future of our Great Fraternity I sincerely ask everyone who is a voting member of Grand Lodge to exercise your right and privilege to seriously consider and vote for the candidates of your choice that are running for the various Grand Lodge positions.

The Brothers we choose are our Future.

Fraternally Yours,

R.W. Gregory J. Scott  
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

## Nominations for Grand Lodge Office 2017-2018

### Grand Master

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

### Deputy Grand Master

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

### Senior Grand Warden

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

### Junior Grand Warden (Vote for 1)

**Andrew G. Churney**, Mount Holly Lodge No. 14  
41 Bridge Road, Lumberton, NJ 08048

**Dale A. Lynch, Jr.**, Laurel Lodge No. 237  
1509 Pine Avenue, Voorhees, NJ 08043

**Robert V. Monacelli**, AzureMasada Lodge No. 22  
327 Willow Grove Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840

### Grand Treasurer

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

### Grand Secretary

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

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

**Brian H. Blades**, Philo Lodge No. 243  
52 Stirrup Lane, Flemington, NJ 08822

**George A. Olsen**, Genesis Lodge No. 88  
25 Gail Drive, East Hanover, NJ 07936

**Thomas L. Winter**, Eclipse Lodge No. 259  
68 S. Conger Avenue, Congers, NY 10920

### Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee (Vote for 3)

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

**George A. Chidley, IV**, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 28  
21 Ticonderoga Drive, Bordentown, NJ 08505

**Raymond E. Foose**, Horizon Daylight Lodge No. 299  
405 West Bridge Street, Morrisville, PA 19067

**Richard E. Schultz**, Clifton Lodge No. 203  
8 Bartholf Lane, Mahwah, NJ 07430

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

**Angelo A. Caprio**, Enterprise Lodge No. 31  
5 Heartwood Trail, Farmington, CT 06032

**David A. Dorworth**, Covenant Lodge No. 161  
920 Walnut Street, Palmyra, NJ 08065

**Bernard J. Madgey, V**, Laurel Lodge No. 237  
7 Lakevilla Drive, Voorhees, NJ 08043



Grand Lodge

# Uncontested Nominees for Office



## Grand Master

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



## Deputy Grand Master

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



## Senior Grand Warden

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



## Grand Treasurer

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



## Grand Secretary

John S. Ryan  
Livingston Lodge No. 11  
8<sup>th</sup> District

## Nominees for Junior Grand Warden (Vote 1 of 3)

### RW Andrew George Churney



**Personal:**  
Married 31 years to Lynne and have resided in Lumberton the entire time. We have two wonderful children; son, Alexander and daughter, Aleece.

**Education:**  
Attended Rutgers University in New

Brunswick and Glassboro College (now Rowan University) studied Computer Science. MSCE certified.

#### Masonic History

- Mount Holly Lodge No. 14 - Worshipful Master 2005
- Treasurer 2006-2007

#### Masonic Affiliations

- Valley of Central New Jersey, A.A.S.R., 32°.
- A.A.O.N.M.S of Burlington Crescent Shrine.
- Society of the Saints John.
- 19<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Association - Past Vice President.
- DeMolay Dad Advisor.
- DeMolay, Legion of Honor.
- Associate Member Police Square Club.
- North Jersey Past Master and Wardens Association.
- South Jersey Past Master and Wardens Association.
- Board of Governors Verdon R Skipper Children Dyslexia Center.

#### Grand Lodge

- Grand Chaplain 2007
- Secretary to the Grand Master 2013
- Past Grand Lodge Trustee 2009-2014 - Past Chairman

- Col. Daniel Coxe Award for Distinguished Masonic Service 2014
- Committees:  
New Jersey Freemason, Grand Lodge Website, Grand Lodge Budget Committee, Masonic Leadership Conference, Annual Communication in Atlantic City

#### Community:

- Burlington County C.E.R.T. member
- Lumberton School Board - 9 years - Past President
- Burlington County School Board - 4 years - Past President
- Lumberton Township Recreation - 7 years - Past Coordinator
- Mount Holly Little League Board - 3 years

#### Masonic Charity Foundation:

- Information Services - Director 2003-present
- Facility Services - Director 2015-present
- Outreach and Engagement - Director 2016-present

#### Statement:

*"They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."* ~Theodore Roosevelt. That quote fits Andrew George Churney as it relates to New Jersey Free Masonry. You will not find a more dedicated and caring individual. Andy has spent the last 14 years, unbeknownst to him, following in MW Douglas R. Policastro footsteps as a masonic home employee, preparing for the Junior Grand Warden's position. Andy's first trip to the MLC, Masonic Leadership Conference in Elizabethtown, was in 2004. He continued going, supporting the programs, the guest speakers, the incoming Worshipful Masters and Grand Masters for the next 8 years. Shortly thereafter, in 2006, the Grand Lodge website was moved to its new home on the servers at the Masonic Charity Foundation under the direction of MW Douglas R. Policastro. Andy was introduced to the inner sanctum Santorum of Grand Lodge, under Most Worshipful John S. Ryan. Where Brian Johnson, then Secretary to the Grand Master, first started

engaging the services of Andy and the Information Services department. Andy started learning the inner workings of the Grand Lodge, the requirements of both support for the Grand Lodge, the importance of communication to the Deputy core and all the Masonic Lodges of New Jersey. This continuing thirst for additional knowledge lead Andy to run for Grand Lodge Trustee. In 2009, Andy was elected and continued serving for the next six years, twice as President. During these six years the Grand Lodge had seen many successes and challenges along the way. MW David A. Chase asked Andy to look into the moving of Grand Lodge, all the computer and telephone related equipment supporting it, from the West Hill Farm in Burlington to the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple. This was approved and achieved during MW Joseph H. Rival, Jr's year, coming in on time and under budget. Andy continued expanding his knowledge under MW William L. Morris, Jr., by getting involved with setup and running of the annual communications and elections in Atlantic City. Andy continued supporting these technology needs for the future Grand Lodge Elected Line, Grand Staff and the Grand Masters. Andy was asked to serve with Chairman MW Larry S. Plasket on the Grand Lodge Budget Committee. Andy has a working knowledge of what it takes to run the Grand Lodge office, the support of the Grand Lodge functions and the Annual Communication. Most recently, due to the sale of Acacia Lumberton, the New Jersey Grand Lodge Ashlar Fund (501c3) was formed under MW Gerald J. Sharpe to help aid and assist brother masons and their families. Upon Andy finishing his two terms as trustee, he was asked to serve on the Board of Trustees for Ashlar, by appointment, from MW Anthony W. Montuori. Andy is enjoying his latest assignment, given to him under MW Walter R. Kaulfers, which is overseeing the Outreach program at the Masonic Charity Foundation. Andy chairs the Outreach Committee overseeing the decision process for the distribution of funds which is continuing to help and aid our

# Nominees for Junior Grand Warden (Vote 1 of 3)



Grand Lodge

continued from page 10

## RW Andrew George Churney

brother masons, their spouses and their children.

Andy was asked, "What do you want to see happen if elected?"

I have and am looking to working with the elected line and the brethren of New Jersey to solidify the membership and continue to grow our ranks through a lodge by lodge approach. The elected line and I want to help all lodges succeed, I offer to personally sit with any lodge or district to see how I can help and support their efforts. Our fraternity has some great ideas and we are doing it right in a lot of areas, I would like to help shed light and share knowledge with all of our lodges in New Jersey. We continue to learn from

our mistakes. George Washington was quoted, "We should not look back unless it is to derive useful lessons from past errors, and for the purpose of profiting by dearly bought experience." Let us take what is positive and continue to expound upon it. One of the tools DeMolay uses to help drive membership is to reward first line signers. I want to take the concept not to reward in that sense but to have each of us look in the mirror and ask who do I know that is of the caliber of a "Mason's Mason", one who would bring more to the fraternity then would look to get out of it. Someone of good character, who practices charity and would possibly get involved in our next charitable endeavor. Ask them to join you, to partake, in the helping of others, whether a food drive, blood drive, fund-raising breakfast

or whatever event is going on in your lodge or district. If you don't have one, call me and we can plan one together. Our elected line is working to make things easier and simplify our processes. I would look to continue the work of our elected line, the continuity of planning to go beyond one year, continuing the progression, toward the goals of the lodges and your districts. 2020 is the year the next Junior Grand Warden is scheduled to become Grand Master, 2020 is also a reference to perfect vision. I say let 2020 be "A clear vision of the future". The future of our great fraternity and the regrowth of New Jersey Free Masonry.

Brethren, I ask you for your support and remember when in AC vote for AC.

## RW Dale A. Lynch, Jr.



### Personal:

Life-long resident of Voorhees Township, NJ. Married to my wife, Pamela for 34 years; we have 2 children, our daughter Courtney and our son, Travis.

### Education:

- Eastern Regional High School, Voorhees, NJ

- Nathaniel Hawthorne College, Antrim, NH
- Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA
- Burlington County Police Academy, Westampton, NJ
- State of NJ Substitute Teacher Certification

### Professional:

Retired from the Voorhees Township Police Department as a Sergeant.

### Masonic History:

Raised in Laurel Lodge No. 237, 1986

- Laurel Lodge No. 237 Worshipful Master - 1993
- Laurel Lodge No. 237 Secretary - 2001 - 2005
- Grand Chaplain - 1996
- Grand Marshal - 2010
- 18<sup>th</sup> District Ritual Instructor - 2011
- 18<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master - 2012 - 2014
- Grand Lodge Strategic Planning Committee 2012 - 2015
- Grand Lodge Trial of Charges Committee 2000 - 2008, 2010 - 2014

### Masonic Affiliations:

- Honorary Member of:
  - Merchantville Lodge No. 119
  - Mozart Lodge No. 121
- Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
  - Excelsior Consistory - Valley of Southern New Jersey, Rose Croix Line
- York Rite
  - Royal Arch Masonry
  - Joshua Chapter No. 51
  - Van Hook Council No. 8
  - Council of Royal and Select Masters
  - Knights Templar
  - Crusade Commandery No. 23

- Triple Tau Council No. 54, AMD
- Garden State York Rite College
- No. 18 YRSCNA

- Masonic Kilties of New Jersey
- Society of Saints John
  - Secretary - Treasurer 2013 - 2014
- South Jersey Past Masters & Wardens Assoc.
- The Masonic Society
- The Philaethes Society

### Statement:

As my résumé shows, I have dedicated a good portion of my life to our Gentle Craft. It goes without saying how proud I am of what we do and would change little, if anything in our mission. I am extremely proud of the way we take care of those in need, especially those at the Masonic Home, the crown jewel of New Jersey Freemasonry.

Not only for its praiseworthy charitable efforts, but for the tireless efforts of those who have made it work for us.

If elected as your Junior Grand Warden, I will continue to advance our ongoing mission to serve and learn from those dedicated Brethren who serve not only our Masonic Charity Foundation, but all Freemasonry.

But that is only part of the equation; we must also focus on the other 99.7% of our brethren who most likely will not be going to our Home. This is where we will find our strengths and ultimately, almost as a byproduct, enhance our resources to continue our charity at the Home.

My mission is to boldly go where many fear to tread - to leverage and tap into the most precious resource we have as a fraternity - our Past Master's. These shining beacons of Masonic light, ebullient in their dispensing of Masonic wisdom from Lodge Night's past, are a valuable resource too often ignored, and possess a staggering wealth of knowledge young Master's and officers can profit by.

By utilizing our Past Master's unique skillset of "hard-won" knowledge and experiences from their time in the East, we can better avoid many of the pitfalls and hardships that have plagued our fraternity in past years.

Mentoring - that vital component that insures our central values and principles are being handed down "in the same way and manner as all others

who have come this way before" is one of my top priorities. I would like for us to strengthen our Mentoring program to help train our current Mentors to properly instruct the next generation of Mentors. This is another important role our Past Masters can play and will serve to keep them involved and interested in the continued success of their respective lodges.

We have the tools and the programs; we just need to improve their usage and faithfully support those Brethren who heed the call and choose to share their hard won knowledge with all new initiated Entered Apprentice's, passed Fellowcraft's and raised Master Mason's.

I have been honored to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee for 3 years. We were tasked by each Grand Master under whom we served to work with behind the scenes, as it were, monitoring our Craft as we sought to improve Masonry for the Brethren and develop a Grand Lodge Mission Statement which follows:

*"Freemasonry promotes a way of life that binds like-minded men with the principals of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in order to serve God, Family, Country, Neighbor and Self."*

My success, professionally and personally as a police officer, husband and father are due in no small part to the skill, patience and support of my beautiful wife, Pamela. Our offspring have flown the nest and are successful in their own right leaving me able to devote my attention to the support and improvement of our craft. My experience in this regard has better enabled me to understand many of the problems our new officers are experiencing. (Hence my interest in our Past Masters). I intend to develop and implement programs designed to bring these two assets together for information sharing and mutual support. Brethren, our mission is not the Masonic Home, but the continuation of the traditions that make the Masonic Home possible.

As a police sergeant I was responsible for the supervision of platoons composed of three to eight patrolmen, dispatchers and support staff. In this position I was called upon to take the leadership role in any and all critical situation and emergencies. I will bring those valuable lessons in leadership learned to the office of Junior Grand Warden. I will be a leader of

**RW Dale A. Lynch, Jr.**

character, confident in my abilities, experiences and education to guide our Fraternity forward to our exciting future.

I have had the good fortune of seeing the workings, routine and direction of the fraternity

at large as Grand Marshal and the confidant of the Grand Master in 2010 after serving 3 years as a "Future" Grand Marshal. As District Deputy, I had the pleasure of working with men going through the chairs and working out their problems that I had dealt with myself while going up the line. I trust my guidance and leadership have strengthened their Masonry and

made those good men better. Those moments certainly enhanced my love and appreciation of Freemasonry.

I ask for your support that I may serve you in the manner you so richly deserve!

God Bless You, Brethren

**RW Robert V. Monacelli****Personal:**

I was born on June 8, 1950 in Brooklyn, New York. I currently reside in Hackettstown, New Jersey with my wife Joyce and our two cocker spaniels Spanky and Darla.

**Education:**

- Newark College of Engineering majoring in Civil Engineering.

**Professional:**

I am a Licensed Professional Land Surveyor in the State of New Jersey with well over 40 years of experience at my craft. I have worked in both the public and private sectors and operated my own surveying practice during that time. For the past 27 years I have been employed by the Township of Wayne, New Jersey as the Township Surveyor. During my tenure I played a key role in the design and development of the Wayne Township Geographic Information System (GIS) and am currently the GIS Application Manager. Since 2002 I have served as the President of the Wayne Township Primary Level Supervisors Association which is the labor bargaining unit for the middle managers and professional employees of the township. In this capacity, I deal with personnel issues and negotiate collective bargaining agreements.

**Masonic History, Titles and Memberships:**

Raised in Composite Lodge No. 223 (Now Azure Masada No. 22), June 1<sup>st</sup> 1975. Worshipful Master of Masada Lodge No. 51 in 1990. Dual Member of Acacia Lodge No. 20 and Clifton Lodge No. 203, Honorary Member of Genesis Lodge No. 81. Grand Lodge of NJ Appointed Offices: Grand Chaplain 2009, Grand Soloist 2011-2016, Aide to the Grand Master 2016. Currently Vice-Chairman, Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustees, elected in 2014. HTMT Liaison to the Grand Lodge Board of Trustees 2016

Member, Valley of Northern New Jersey, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Member, Board of Trustees, 1990-1993. Thrice Potent Master, Northern New Jersey Lodge of Perfection 1995.

Commander-in-Chief, New Jersey Consistory 2002. Deputy's Representative for the Valley of Northern New Jersey, 2003 - 2015. Chairman, New Jersey Council of Deliberation Ritual Committee, 2006 - Present. Awarded the NJ Council of Deliberation Meritorious Service Award, 1991. Coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree, 1997

DeMolay Legion of Honor (Honorary), 2004. Member, Salaam Shrine. Member, Society of Saints John. Member, East Orange Hi-Twelve.

**Community:**

I have served Wayne Township as a member of the Historical Commission since 1994 and have been the commission chairman from 2004 to 2016. I served on the board of the Annual Wayne Day Festival from its inception in 1992 until 2009.

**Statement:**

I began my Masonic travels 42 years ago as the youngest Entered Apprentice. It has been a journey in which I have grown as a man, a Freemason and a leader thanks to the lessons I have learned from every brother it has been my fortune to have known and interacted with. I am proud of my accomplishments in Freemasonry which are not measured by the titles I have held or demonstrated by the jewelry that I wear. They are measured by the respect that I have earned from the brethren who know me and know what I believe in. I am proud of the fact that every organization that I have led throughout my career has been on or under budget at the end of my stewardship. I have had to make some extremely difficult decisions as a Worshipful Master, a presiding officer in the Scottish Rite and Deputy's Representative to Illustrious Verdon Skipper and Illustrious David Glattly. I always asked myself what decision was best for the Fraternity and the brethren - and that's what I did.

In the past 7 years that I have travelled the state while on Grand Lodge Staff, I have been speaking to, and more importantly, listening to the brethren. During the lodge closing ceremony, we are reminded that Masons should meet on the level, act by the plumb and part upon the square to which I subscribe wholeheartedly. A divide has grown between Grand Lodge and our lodges which has led to a basic distrust and the spreading of much misinformation. It is the responsibility of our Grand Lodge officers to heal this rift by being more transparent with the brethren and listening to the concerns of the lodges. The Grand Master is the CEO of the craft. In order to be effective, he must use all of the resources at his disposal. He must work with the Deputy Corps to monitor the health of lodges and offer aid and assistance when it is needed. As a competent executive, he must work with his Board of Directors, whether it be the Grand Lodge Trustees, the Masonic Charity Foundation or the Ashlar Fund. Brother Harry S. Truman once said that "*The buck stops here*" and so it is with the office of Grand Master. But, he must retain a respect for the responsibilities that the Trustees of the various boards are bound to discharge. We must meet together as Masons on the level and deal with issues openly and fairly by the plumb so that we may part upon the square.

Membership is an ongoing challenge for our craft. There is no magic bullet, or "one size fits all" solution to our dwindling rolls. Through my readings and discussions with Masons from around the country, it is evident that there has been a paradigm shift within our membership and those seeking to join our ranks. The young men knocking at our West Gate are seeking enlightenment, fulfillment

and an intellectual challenge as well as brotherhood and camaraderie. When I joined Freemasonry in 1975, New Jersey boasted more than 84,000 members. As we know, our membership level now stands at around 18,000. Although this sounds ominous, we are at the same percentage of the population nationwide as we were after the Civil War. Freemasons were the elite. We were highly respected men, not for our individual rank or wealth but for our worth as a man. A blacksmith could sit next to an industrialist in lodge because they were both men of the highest character. We have become complacent over the years, as we were insulated by our large membership. We have allowed that status that we once enjoyed to slip away over time. This trend can be reversed. When a man knocks at our door or if we know a friend or relative who would be a benefit to our craft, we should encourage him to inquire more about us. When he expresses interest, take the time to get to know him better. Invite him to a lodge dinner or off-night gathering of the brethren. Let him get to know the brothers, and them him. Understand his thoughts and expectations of Freemasonry. When the lodge feels that the man should be considered, then offer him a petition and move the process along at a steady, unhurried pace. We need to slow down the "blue card express" as it does a disservice to the candidate as well as to the Craft. Let us make sure that we impart the light that our members seek.

We have a wonderful mentoring program, but we need to realize that we are all mentors to each other whether it be a member of 50 years or more or the newest member of your lodge. Call or visit a brother who is a shut in or who you may not have seen at a meeting for a while. Offer him a ride to lodge. Drop off a plate of food at his home after a meeting or a gathering. Extend a helping hand to the widow of a brother. Be a Freemason!

Our degree nights should be a special and not a hurried chore to be performed after reading minutes, paying bills and other business. Make it a night that the new brother will truly remember. Additionally, we need to make our meetings more interesting and exciting. I plan on revitalizing the Masonic Speakers Bureau to allow lodges to draw upon the talents of our members from around the state for programming options. When I asked a young Mason that I know how his lodge was doing he said "*Bob, I enjoy being a Mason but I don't go to meetings much because I get no enjoyment listening to arguments about the bills. We have no programs, nothing interesting*". We need to change this and make a lodge meeting an event that is looked forward to attending. I would encourage the continued formation of lodges such as Hippocrates Renaissance or Inspiratus which bring together Masons who share a common interest outside of the craft.

Brethren, let's grow Freemasonry together. To accomplish this, I ask for your vote as Junior Grand Warden this April and allow me to be your voice in Grand Lodge.

# Nominees for Grand Lodge Trustee (Vote 2 of 3)



Grand Lodge

## Brian H. Blades



Brethren, my name is Brian H. Blades and I am a candidate for Grand Lodge Trustee. I was born and raised on Long Island, New York and graduated from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook in May of 1974. I majored

in Linguistics and minored in Computer Science. In July of 1974, I accepted a job offer from AT&T in the Data Processing area, and it was then that I moved to New Jersey. I was employed at AT&T for 24 years. I left AT&T in 1998 and consulted as an Oracle Database Administrator (DBA) for 2 years. I was subsequently hired by Merck Pharmaceuticals in Whitehouse Station, NJ, where I worked as a Senior DBA for 9 years. I left Merck in 2009, and began working for Educational Testing Services (ETS) in Princeton in 2010 as a Lead DBA, where I am currently employed. In 1980, I married my wife Jane, and we have 2 sons, Adam and Erik. I currently reside in Flemington, New Jersey.

I was raised in Philo Lodge No. 243 in South River, NJ in November of 1975, and immediately started through the chairs in the lodge. I served the lodge as Worshipful Master in 1983 and President of the 27<sup>th</sup> District Past Masters and Wardens Association in 1985. In 1986, I was appointed a Grand Chaplain on the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grand Staff. In 2000, I served as

Grand Marshal on M.W. Ferris O. Tryon's staff. In 2001, I moved to Flemington, NJ, and affiliated as a dual member with Orpheus Lodge No. 137 in the 14<sup>th</sup> masonic district, where I have served in several elected and appointed offices. I was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 14<sup>th</sup> masonic district in 2005, by M.W. Robert J. Sheridan, and served for 3 years. In 2004, I began my service on the Grand Lodge Ritual Committee. I served on that committee until 2017, with the exception of 2 years when I was D.D.G.M. I served as Vice Chairman of the Ritual Committee for the last 4 years. I have also served on the Grand Lodge Appeals and Grievances committee for the last few years.

After I was raised, I joined the appendant masonic bodies, including the Valley of Trenton, A.A.S.R. (May 1976), the York Rite (1977) and Crescent Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. I have presided over all the York Rite bodies, and received my Knight of the York Cross of Honor in 2001. At the state level I have also served as M.I. Grand Master of the Grand Council, R. & S.M. of NJ in 2002. I continue to serve these bodies, as I am currently Grand Lecturer of Royal Arch (3 years), Grand Instructor of Grand Council (3 years) and Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery. In the Scottish Rite, I am serving the Central Valley as Most Wise Master of Trenton Chapter of Rose Croix, as well as a Trustee of the Valley. I was honored in the valley with the Meritorious Service Award in 2016. I am also currently serving as Sovereign Master of my A.M.D. Council (Harold V.B. Voorhis No. 260) and presiding officer (Celebrant) of N.J. College, S.R.I.C.F.

Over the years I have had several experiences which I believe qualify me to serve as your Grand Lodge Trustee. When I worked at AT&T and

Merck, I supported the Oracle Financials software product which included the General Ledger, Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable modules. I served as Financial Secretary of Sayreville Presbyterian Church in the 1980s, and Treasurer and Elder of Somerset Presbyterian Church in the 1990s. As mentioned previously, I am currently serving as a Trustee of the Central Valley, AASR, as well as Treasurer of my masonic motorcycle club (Broken Column Chapter). These experiences have given me a working knowledge of financial processes which I believe are important for someone serving as a Trustee.

I also have interests and hobbies outside of masonry. These include reading, history, electronics, conservation, Triumph motorcycles and scuba diving (P.A.D.I. Advanced Open Water and Nitrox certified). I am currently a member of and support the following organizations:

- The Theodore Roosevelt Association
- The USO, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (I am not a veteran, but by son served in the corps) and the Navy League (Life Member)
- United States Power Squadron (a boating safety organization, member since 1973)
- The National Audubon Society and the ASPCA
- The Cousteau Society
- N.R.A. (Life Member)

I hope you find the above information useful in determining if I am qualified to serve as your Grand Lodge Trustee. I have been a mason my entire adult life, and would enjoy continuing to serve my brothers in the craft.

## RW George A. Olsen, PDDGM/GLT



### Personal:

I have two sons, a daughter and six grandchildren. Both of my sons George, Jr. and Mark are Master Masons. JR is a Past Master and served on the 2015/16 Grand Staff as a Grand Chaplain. Both were DeMolay. My wife Julie was and my

daughter Deborah is a Past Grand Officer of the Order of the Eastern Star. My oldest grandson, Daniel, is a Past Master Chancellor of Phoenix Chapter DeMolay and a Chevalier. My maternal grandfather was highly active in York Rite and served as Worshipful Master of Blue Stone Lodge in 1944. Both my mother and grandmother were Eastern Star. We were and still are a Masonic Family.

### Education:

Dickinson High School, Jersey City; a Bachelor of Science in Education from Newark State Teachers

College now Kean University; a Master of Arts in Education from Montclair State University; a Doctorate in the Administration and Supervision of Higher Education from New York University; and additional Continuing Education and Study leading to a Concentration in Manufacturing Engineering and basic Certification in Business Administration and Practice both from New York University.

### Community:

My community involvement over the years has been as Cub Master, Scout Master, Troop Committee Member, and Institutional Representative to the Scout Troop and Cub Pack which my church had sponsored and now as Institutional Representative to the Cub Pack which my church currently sponsors. I was also a Little League Coach for three years. Being elected to the local Board of Education in 1972, I served as the Vice-president and Chairman of the Negotiations Committee as Chief Negotiator. I served on the Facilities Committee of the Board as the Chairman during two major remodeling projects. For 40 years I have served as a Church Elder during 32 of those years serving either as Chairman of Buildings and Grounds for a total of 18 years or Chairman of Finance for a total of 14 years. I was elected by the congregation of my church to Chair the

Pastoral Search Committee during 2000/2001, 2007/2008, and again in 2011/2012. Lastly, our church in 2015 received a bequest of over 2 million dollars which included funding for two scholarship programs of 50K each. Each requiring the development of the scholarship criteria, procedures, appropriate forms and instructions, which I accomplished as the elected Chairman of the Church Scholarship Committee.

### Masonic History

Raised in West Orange Lodge No. 205 - 1957  
Affiliated with Hope Lodge No. 124 - 1981

- Worshipful Master of Hope Lodge 1987
- Secretary 1988 to 2000
- Merger with Hope Lodge into Genesis Lodge No. 88 - 2000
- Secretary 2001 to 2013

A total of 25 years as a Lodge Secretary  
Grand Chaplain: 1991 - 1992

District Deputy Grand Master: 1994 - 2000  
Secretary to the Grand Master: 2000 - 2001  
Grand Lodge Ritual Committee: 2001 - Present  
Serving as Secretary from 2001 - Present

- Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee: Two terms 2005 to 2011
- Serving on the Budget, Audit and Scholarship Committees
- Chairman of the Scholarship Committee for

**RW George A. Olsen, PDDGM/GLT**

three years

Presented with the Meritorious Service Award in 2011

- Grand Lodge Trustee: Initial Term 2014-2017
- Grand Lodge Committees both Present and Past
- Masonic Community Charity Fund: 2000 - present  
Chairman 2013 - present  
Education and Service  
Strategic Planning
- Charter Master: New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786
- Dual Member: Essex Lodge No. 7
- Dual and Charter Member: Wisdom Lodge No. 300 (Charter surrendered)
- Dual and Charter Member: Jacques DeMolay Lodge No. 318  
Served as Senior Steward and a Trustee until the Charter was surrendered
- Honorary Member: Hawthorne Fortitude Lodge No. 200
- Northern Council No. 10 Knight Masons USA - Excellent Chief (2008):
- Masonic Kilties of New Jersey-President (2007-2009)

**Masonic Affiliations:**

Valley of Northern New Jersey, AASR; Union Chapter No. 7 RAM; Quayle Council No. 17 RSM;

Salaam Shrine; Allied Masonic Degrees Voorhis Council; North Jersey Past Masters and Masters Association, President (2006); Court House Square Club; Past Member Board of Directors of the Tenafly Child Learning Center serving for six years; Tall Cedars of Lebanon Forest No. 33; Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots, Pyramid No. 2: Charter Member and Past Trustee; and Member of Pyramid No. 1; The Philaethes Society, Southern California Lodge of Research, Scottish Rite Research Society, Texas Lodge of Research; Charter Member New Jersey Masonic Secretaries Association; Member of Lincoln Chapter No. 95 Order of the Eastern Star, three times Past Patron; Alexander Hamilton Chapter, Order of DeMolay Past Master Councilor (1948) and State Sentinel (1949); Chevalier 1957; Legion of Honor 1997; Senior DeMolay (69 years); DeMolay Alumni Association; and former Advisory Board Member, Lincoln Park (Phoenix) Chapter, ODM

**Statement:**

Brethren, for the past 59 years, I have derived great satisfaction from being a New Jersey Freemason, especially the last 30 years as an active member of the Grand Lodge, especially during my six years (2005-2011) as a Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee, during the last 14 years on the Ritual Committee as its Secretary, and most especially my last three years as a Grand Lodge Trustee. I believe the experience

I have gained as a Professional Educator and Administrator, a business person, a consultant to both industry and education, and a Marine Corps Officer; has uniquely qualified me to again serve you and our Grand Lodge as a Trustee. To the best of my ability, I will represent you in the duties and responsibilities laid out in Title Four - Section 2 - Part 3 of our Constitution and Laws. I will again bring to the Board of Trustees a broad and diversified background. We are a corporate entity and as such have a corporate responsibility to those who comprise the corporation. The Grand Lodge Trustees need to have the perseverance to constantly strive to do what is best for the fraternity within the realm of our responsibilities. We must always maintain a threefold balance; remaining mindful of the direction in which the Grand Master and the Elected Grand Lodge Officers are leading our Grand Lodge, what the desires and needs of the membership are, and our finances, overall and specific especially the circumstances which today's economy creates for our fiscal resources.

Brethren, I earnestly solicit your support and especially your vote in April at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. I trust that you will give me the opportunity to again represent you and permit me serve you for the next three years as one of your Grand Lodge Trustees.

**RW Thomas L. Winter****Personal:**

Born: Hoboken, New Jersey 1949.  
Resided: Dumont New Jersey, 1954-1971.  
Scouting: Troop 131 Dumont, NJ; Eagle Scout: 1963; Scoutmaster: 1971-1973.  
Married: Alison L. Trott. Residence: Congers, New York

**Education:**

Graduate: Dumont High School, 1967  
BME: University of Hartford, Hartt College of Music 1971  
MS: Iona College, 1999

**Professional:**

- Retired: Public School Music Educator Paramus, New Jersey Public School System 38 years.
- Professional Musician since 1965
- Recipient: New Jersey Music Teacher of the Year, 1995
- Recipient: Governors Award Excellence in Arts Education for Music, 1995
- Treasurer: Music Educators of Bergen County Inc., 1980-2004
- Secretary: North Jersey School Music Association, 1981-1989
- Member at Large: New Jersey Music Educators Association, 1983-1987

**Masonic History:**

- Member: Eclipse Lodge No. 259 F&AM Rutherford, NJ
- Raised: 6/16/73, Worshipful Master, Master 2002
- Lodge Trustee 2003-2011
- Eclipse Masonic Association Trustee: 2000-2006
- Charter Member: Inspiratus Lodge No. 357 F&AM
- Dual Member: John T. Heard Lodge AF&AM Ipswich, MA Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts
- Grand Lodge Trustee: 2014- Present, Vice President 2014, President 2015 - Present
- Grand Orator: 2016
- District Deputy Grand Master: 4<sup>th</sup> Masonic District 2013-2015
- District Ritual Instructor: 4<sup>th</sup> Masonic District Grand Lodge of New Jersey 2006-2009
- Member: Constitution and Laws; Trials and Charges
- Past Chairman: Masonic Resource Committee
- Past Member: Grand Lodge Committee on Ritual, Education, Strategic Planning,
- Editor in Chief: The Perfect Ashlar 2012-2015
- Recipient: Grand Lodge of NJ Lecturers Award of Excellence 2006
- Past President: Society of Sts. John
- Past President: North Jersey Past Masters Masonic Association
- Past President: Bergen County Courthouse Square Club
- Masonic Kilties of New Jersey
- Harold Van Buren Voorhis Council No. 260, Allied Masonic Degrees
- St. Steven's Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine
- South Jersey Past Masters Association
- 32 Degree, Valley of Northern New Jersey AASR

- Lebanon Chapter No. 32, Royal Arch Mason
- Kane Council No. 2, Royal and Select Masters
- Hugh de Payens Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar
- 4<sup>th</sup> District Masters and Wardens Association
- Bergen Chapter, DeMolay Leaders of New Jersey Chapter, Chapter Dad
- Board of Governors, Hasbrouck Heights Masonic Learning Center
- Masonic Author, Short Talk Bulletin, Journal of The Masonic Society

**Statement:**

*"The Grand Lodge Trustees are responsible for managing the business affairs of Grand Lodge. The word 'business' includes all matter pertaining to the finances and property of Grand Lodge".* This was the opening statement that I made 3 years ago, when I was a candidate for the position of Grand Lodge Trustee and this is the guide that I have followed these last 3 years. In 2014, I served the Grand Lodge Trustees as Vice President and in both 2015 and 2016 I have served as President. As President of the Grand Lodge Trustees, under my leadership, we have accomplished the following:

The Grand Lodge Trustees, the Masonic Charity Foundation Trustees and the Historic Trenton Temple Trustees maintain excellent lines of communication with each other. Each Board receives monthly agendas and minutes and sends representatives to their respective meetings. Each representative is invited to speak at these meetings and share issues, concerns and accomplishments.

The sale of the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple by the Grand Lodge Trustees to the Historic

# Nominees for Grand Lodge Trustee (Vote 2 of 3)



Grand Lodge

*continued from page 14*

## RW Thomas L. Winter

Trenton Masonic Temple Board of Trustees added an additional three million dollars to the Grand Lodge Permanent Fund. The additional income from the Permanent Fund will help offset Grand Lodge Assessments.

This past year, Grand Lodge Trustees discovered that, for a number of years, Grand Lodge has been spending far more than allowed in its budget. We have identified which line items were overspent and have taken the necessary steps to halt these deficits. Approved by the Grand Lodge Trustees,

the Grand Lodge Budget Committee has developed an honest and accurate Grand Lodge budget. The Grand Lodge Trustees continue to carefully monitored all line items on a monthly basis. Grand Lodge finances (January thru December) are now on the same schedule as the Grand Lodge Year (May thru April). We have approved a new Lodge Fiduciary Report making it more user friendly. Based on the recommendation of the Grand Secretary and Grand Lodge office, the Grand Lodge Trustees have purchased a new Lodge reporting system from Circumscribe LLC which will enable the Lodge Secretaries to digitally maintain their Grand Lodge records in an

efficient manner.

Working closely with the Grand Lodge Office and Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge Trustees have hired a new bookkeeper to modernize the Grand Lodge accounting and reporting system. This modernization includes more efficient reporting to the IRS and the State of New Jersey.

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve you as a Grand Lodge Trustee these past three years. I hope that my efforts have found favor with my Brethren and with your support, I look forward to continue serving Grand Lodge as one of its Trustees.

# Nominees for Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee (Vote 3 of 4)

## Joshua N. Barnett



### Masonic History:

- Past Master Lessing Passaic Lodge No. 67
- Member Harry S. Trumann Lodge No. 1066 NY
- Member Scottish Rite Northern Valley
- Member Scottish Rite Northern Valley Degree Team
- Officer Scottish Rite Northern Valley Lodge of Perfection

- Member Masonic Awareness Committee 2014, 2015
- Member Masonic CHIP's Program 2015, 2016
- Past President Masonic Club of Lyndhurst
- Past President Wakefield Temple Association
- Past Treasurer Wakefield Temple Association
- Member of Order of the Amaranth.

### Statement:

My objective is to raise money to help run the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple and to continue to make improvements.

## George A. Chidley, IV



George A. Chidley IV received his Entered Apprentice Degree on September 25, 2002, was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft Degree on October 10, 2002 and raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason on November 26, 2002.

George served MW Anthony W. Montouri, as Grand Chaplain in 2015/2016. In 2013, George

served as the Worshipful Master of Mount Moriah Lodge No. 28, F&AM, in Bordentown. George is presently a Trustee for Mount Moriah No. 28 and serves as a member of the Lodge Ritual Committee. He is a life member of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Trenton Forest No. 4 and served as Grand Tall Cedar in 2006. George joined the Scottish Rite (Valley of Trenton) Valley of Central New Jersey over ten years ago and has been active in the Scottish Rite Master Mason Degree Team, and member of the cast in the Decemvrs Rose. As a member of the Valley he has served as an officer and director. George has been a member of the Crescent Shrine since 2013. In 2016, George became a member of the Kilties and has participated in the Degree Team.

George was appointed in 2007, by MW John S.

Ryan, to serve an un-expired term as a member of the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple (HTMT). George was elected in 2008 and 2011 to serve as a member of the HTMT and as President from 2012 to 2014. George was appointed Secretary to the HTMT in 2015 and 2016. George was appointed in 2016, by MW Walter R. Kaufers to fill the un-expired term of RW Larry Thoma. George is also a member of the West Hill Foundation formed by MW Joseph H. Rival to preserve the State and Nationally significant historic farm house, formerly the Grand Lodge and Masonic Charity Foundation offices on the Burlington Campus. George received the Meritorious Service Award in 2010 and the Medal for Masonic Service from the Valley of Central New Jersey AASR in 2012.

## RW Raymond E. Foose, GSOL



### Personal:

Resides in Morrisville, Bucks County, PA  
Married to Virginia Gormley-Foose for 45 Years  
Two Children: Rayna and Joseph  
Five Grandchildren: Devon, Kiley, Brielle, Paige and Aria

### Education:

Morrisville High School

Bucks County Community College  
Trenton State Teachers College

### Employment:

AMTRAK (1976-78): Foreman, Pilot, Crane Operator  
Independent Contractor (1980-2008)

### Masonic History:

Capital Chapter of Order of DeMolay (1961-Present)  
Recipient DeMolay Legion of Honor  
50 Year Pin Recipient as a Senior DeMolay  
Past Chairman - Capital Chapter Advisory Committee

BLUE LODGE (RAISED 1978)  
Past Master Column Lodge No. 120 (1983-84)  
Past Master Horizon Daylight Lodge No. 299 (2015)  
Appointed Grand Pursuivant - 1987  
Appointed Grand Soloist - 13 Terms  
Present Grand Soloist (2016)

Recipient Daniel Cox Medal

MEMBER OF CENTRAL VALLEY A.A.S.R. (1981)  
Coronated 33° (2011)

### Statement:

Thanks to my past experience and present position, I am very aware of what is required to maintain the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple and the original Masonic Temple next to HTMT on Barrack Street. I am also very familiar with the rental procedures and handling of all outside contractors when needed. My involvement in all past renovations over the past four years gives me a unique insight into both buildings. I feel my experience will be an asset to the Temple Board's future endeavors.



Grand Lodge

# Nominees for Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee (Vote 3 of 4)

## Richard E. Schultz



### Personal:

Divorced, father of three wonderful children: Christopher, Nicholas and Maggie. Residing in Mahwah, NJ.

### Education:

Bergen Catholic High School, class of 1982.

Bergen Community College, graduate 2000 A.A.S. Criminal Justice.

Ramapo College, graduated 2006, B.A. History.

### Professional:

- Sergeant, Fair Lawn Police Department (retired), 1986-2013
  1. Patrol Supervisor
  2. Community Policing/Traffic Unit Supervisor
  3. Department Press Officer
- Substitute Teacher, Fair Lawn School District, 2015-present.

### Masonic History, Titles & Membership:

- Raised, Clifton Lodge No. 203 F.&A.M., January 1998
  1. Served as Worshipful Master, 2004
  2. Member of various lodge committees
- Dual member of Inspiratus Lodge No. 357 F.&A.M.
  1. Founding member
  2. Lodge Secretary: 2015-present
- Member of New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786
- Member of Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865 A.F.&A.M. of the Grand Lodge of Virginia
- Member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Valley of Northern New Jersey
  1. Past Sovereign Prince
  2. Current Consistory Officer
  3. Valley Trustee
  4. Member of Valley Membership Committee
  5. Member of Valley Degree Team
- Member of the North Jersey Past Masters Masonic Association
  1. Current 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Member of the Society of Saints John.

### Statement:

My Brothers, I am running for election to the

Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee Board for the first time. I am seeking your support to help the board continue the great work it has started and to help develop both a short & long term plan for the continued care and use of the assets entrusted in the board's care.

Each of the Trustees, myself included, bring to the table a unique set of skills and perspective. My educational and professional background will allow me to bring to the board a unique approach to: problem solving, long term planning, and the promotion of the Temple building and the services it can provide. I have the skills to work well with the various outside agencies and groups that the Trustees will need to work with in order to maintain the Temple. Serving as my agencies community affairs and press officer, I learned what it takes to promote events and get the word out to the public. As a lover of history, I know that we need to care for those historical edifices entrusted to our care, we need to use them for their intended purposes and preserve them for our future.

I hope that you will offer your support for my candidacy and that together, we will accomplish all that we need to do. Thank you.

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

## Angelo A. Caprio



### Personal:

I hold the title of physician advisor at the Holyoke Medical Center in Holyoke Massachusetts. I have held this position since January 2016. Before this, I was Vice President on the CarePoint Health

Business Development. Just prior, I was the Chief Medical Officer of the Hoboken University Medical Center a position which I have held from 2010 and 2015 I have had responsibility for the Department of Case Management, Social Work Documentation Improvement, Credentialing, Performance Improvement, Resource Management, Quality Assurance and Infection Control. I have always been interested in the administrative side of medicine and have held a part-time position at various times as Medical Director and Gregory Surgical Center in Jersey City, Medical Director of Jersey City Office of Emergency management.

I have been a practicing General and Vascular Surgeon since my graduation from residency at the Jersey City Medical Center 1985 and have spent my entire career as a member of the medical community. I sought and was granted an

MMM in Health Systems Management by Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine where I graduated April 2006.

I have been actively involved in Medical Quality and am a Fellow of the American College of Medical Quality and am on the board member of the American Board Medical Quality. I am also a board-certified American College Physician Executives. I hold a Commission in the United States Navy at the rank of Commander and served as Reserve Senior Medical Officer at submarine base Groton.

### Education:

- Tulane University - New Orleans, LA
- MMM - Masters of Medical Management Graduated August 2006
- Jersey City Medical Center - Jersey City, NJ Residency, General Surgery, Graduated June 1985
- L'Universita Degli Studi Di Roma - Rome, Italy M.D., PhD, Graduated March 1980
- St. Peter's College - Jersey City, NJ BS - Biology, Graduated May 1974
- St. Peter's Preparatory School - Jersey City, NJ Graduated June 1970.

### Professional:

- Physician Advisor - Holyoke Medical Center 2016 to present
- Senior Vice President/CMO - Hiram Health Care 2015 to present
- Chief Medical Officer - Hoboken University Medical Center, Hoboken, NJ to March 2010 - 2015
- Chief Medical Information Officer - Hoboken

University Medical Center, Hoboken, NJ - 2009 to March, 2010

- Medical Director, Care Management - Hoboken University Medical Center, Hoboken, NJ - Since opening 2007 to February 2009
- Medical Director - St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, NJ - 2003 to closure 2007
- Surgical Associates Hudson County - 330 Grand Street, Hoboken, NJ - 1985 to 2004
- Medical Director - Gregory Surgical Services, Jersey City, NJ - 2001 to 2004
- Police Surgeon - City of Bayonne, Bayonne, NJ - 1994 to 1996
- Assistant Medical Director - Hudson County Correctional Center, Jersey City, NJ - 1993 to 1995
- President and CEO Newcare Inc - Newport Medical Group, Jersey City, NJ - 1992 to 1995
- Medical Director Local 4-69 - Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, Secaucus, NJ - 1992 to 1996
- Medical Director - Office of Emergency, Management City of Jersey City, Jersey City, NJ - 1990 to 1993.

### Professional Memberships

- American Medical Association 1982
- Academy of Medicine of New Jersey 1984
- Hudson County Medical Society 1985
- Medical Society of New Jersey 1985
- American College of Sports Medicine 1986
- New Jersey Vascular Society 1986
- American College of Physician Executives 1990
- American Board of Quality Assurance and

# Nominees for Masonic Charity Foundation (Vote 2 of 3)



Grand Lodge

*continued from page 16*

## Angelo A. Caprio

Utilization Review 2004

- American College of Medical Quality 2004
- National Association of Managed Care Physicians 2004
- American College of Preventive Medicine 2009
- National Association of Healthcare Quality 2009
- HIMSS-Healthcare Information Management Specialty Society 2009

### Honors and Awards:

- New Jersey Magazine  
Man of the Year Award 2001
- New Jersey Sportswriters Association

American Hero Award 2002

- St. Mary Hospital - Hoboken, NJ  
Man of the Year Award 2001

### Statement:

These are lofty achievements; however, I am most proud to be a Freemason; I was raised in Enterprise Lodge No. 31 Jersey City, New Jersey in May of 2003 and served as Worshipful Master there in 2010. I had the pleasure of serving as a Grand Chaplain during for Most Worshipful Gerald Sharpe. I am a Knights Templar and 32<sup>nd</sup> degrees Scottish Rite Mason. I have been a Trustee of the Masonic Charity Foundation since 2011.

I have organized and saw to fruition the Hippocrates Renaissance Lodge No. 304 in Hoboken, New Jersey. This Lodge was first formed Under Dispensation during Most Worshipful Anthony Montuori's year and it was consecrated under Most Worshipful Walter Kaulfers this past year.

I believe that the Grand Architect of Universe has Blessed me with these gifts so that I may give back to my fellow man that is why I am seeking to become Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee once again.

## MW David A. Dorworth



### Personal:

I was born and raised in Palmyra NJ and have lived here for 64 years. My wife, Donna and I have been married for 28 years. We have three Granddaughters.

### Professional:

In 1999, I retired from the Camden Police Department in 1999 after 25 years of service and currently a Commercial Airplane/Helicopter Pilot for the NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection/Forest Fire Service

### Masonic History:

- Member of Covenant Lodge since 1981
- Worshipful Master of my Lodge in 2000

- Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Southern New Jersey  
- Received 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree in 2013
- Ancient Arabic Nobles of the Mystic Shrine/Crescent Shrine
- Junior Grand Deacon 2002
- Grand Marshal 2009
- Grand Master of Masons 2013
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Charity Foundation for 12 years.
- Served as President in 2009 and Chairman 2013

### Statement:

My Brothers;

Twelve years ago you first put your trust in me to serve as Trustee of your Masonic Charity Foundation and then reaffirmed that trust by electing me as your Junior Grand Warden in 2010 and your Grand Master in 2013. During my term as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Charity Foundation I have made significant team contributions to key efforts of the Foundation during the most difficult period ever faced in the history of our Masonic Home. Working with the

Board of Trustees, I have contributed and played a vital part in the re-organization of the various departments, services to our residents, and the rebranding at our "Masonic Home" to "Masonic Villages at Burlington". This combined partnership with Ashlar Creative Solutions through the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which has been an integral part of our recovery. In October 2008 we promised the Brethren that the recovery would be paramount. That process is ongoing as the Board strides to make financial moves which include making better use of our existing buildings, as well as making better use of our surrounding land which is a valuable unused asset. The Board has set in place a template for our future but we still need your help to succeed. My passion is to be of service to the Foundation, residents, employees and especially the Masonic Fraternity. I have always had a place in my heart for our Masonic Village. Due to By Law changes, I was mandated to step aside for one year before running again for a Trustee position. I once again request your support as a candidate for Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee.

## RW Bernard J. Madgey



### Personal:

Married to Ayessa for 9 years. I have two children, my son Bernard who is a member of Laurel Lodge No. 237 and a daughter Shannon. We reside in Voorhees, New Jersey.

### Professional:

Lieutenant Voorhees Twp. Police (Retired 26.5 years of service)  
Assigned as Commander of the Criminal Investigations Division. Some of my duties included; Problem Solving S.A.R.A., Managing the Law Enforcement Trust Account, Personnel management and scheduling of sworn and

civilian staff assigned to the Division, Case assignment and review, Internal Affairs, Domestic Violence Response Team Coordinator, Maintaining cooperation and coordinating joint investigations involving other state and federal agencies, Forfeitures, Crime Reduction, Budgeting, seeking and applying for appropriate grants.

### Masonic History:

- Laurel Lodge No. 237 - Mother Lodge  
Initiated 11/01/1996  
Passed 01/17/1997  
Raised 02/21/1997  
Worshipful Master 2012
- D.R.I. 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District 2015 to present
- U.S.S. New Jersey Lodge No. 62 - Dual Member
- Hiram Lodge No. 5 MWPHGLNJ - Honorary Member
- A.A.S.R. Valley of Southern New Jersey - Senior Warden - Chapter of Rose Croix
- Crescent Shrine
- Knights of Mecca
- Nelson W. Craig High Twelve Club

- Past President Laurel Lodge Past Masters
- Past President Laurel Lodge Building Trustees
- Past President 18<sup>th</sup> District Masters and Wardens Association
- Past Treasurer 18<sup>th</sup> District Masters and Wardens Association
- South Jersey Past Masters and Wardens Association

### Statement:

My reason for seeking a position as a Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee is that it gives me an opportunity to give back to the Fraternity that has given me so much over the last twenty years.

I believe that both my Masonic and work experience have provided me with a very diverse skillset which would enable me serve as an effective and productive member. If elected, I pledge to dedicate my time and effort to ensure that our Foundation will continue to be successful well into the future.

# Arlington National Cemetery



## Tomb of The Unknown Soldier

Join Most Worshipful Dieter B. Hees

2017 Grand Master of Masons of The State of New Jersey

As we pay Homage to Our Fallen Heroes

**Saturday | July 29, 2017 | 7:00 AM | \$90.00**

Meet at The Fellowship Center

1114 Oxmead Road, Burlington

7:00 AM – Breakfast    7:30 AM – Bus Departs

*Choice of 1 Box Lunch: Tuna Sandwich, Turkey Sandwich, Ham & Cheese Sandwich*

Wreath Laying at The Tomb of The Unknowns

Wreath Laying at Mount Vernon for Brother George Washington

Tour of The Washington Estate

Dinner at Mount Vernon Inn

*Petite Salmon Filet with Hollandaise or Rosemary Chicken*

8:00 PM Bus Departs for The Fellowship Center

**RSVP By Saturday, July 1<sup>ST</sup>**

Payable To: 2017 Grand Staff of New Jersey

Mail To: Moises Gomez, 526 Kaplan Street, Roselle NJ 07203

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



Grand Lodge

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, Part 2**

Roll Call and Commencement. The Grand Lodge shall proceed to business at the hour and place appointed as soon as a representation of at least fifteen lodges on record is present.

## **Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, Part 2**

Roll Call and Commencement. The Grand Lodge shall proceed to business once the following conditions are met:

1. All of the Lodges within the Grand Jurisdiction have received due and timely notice of the Communication,
2. The date and time previously appointed for the Communication has arrived,
3. The Communication is opened in the location previously appointed, and
4. A suitable representation (Master or Warden) of at least one-quarter of the Lodges from each Masonic District on record within the Grand Jurisdiction is present before the Communication is opened.

**Clarification:** With regard to Item 4, if a Masonic District has four or fewer Lodges, one Lodge from that District needs to be represented. If a District has between five and eight Lodges (inclusive), two Lodges from that District need to be represented. If a District has nine or more Lodges, three Lodges from that District need to be represented.

**Interpretive Statement:** There are 19 Masonic Districts and over 100 Lodges within this the Grand Jurisdiction, and to only have 15 Lodges represented at a Grand Lodge Communication seems to not be fully representative of the Brethren that comprise this Grand Lodge. While this amendment only adds on a few more Brethren to the required number, it ensures that those present represent a broader spectrum of the Grand Jurisdiction.

Michael J. Emerson, Genesis Lodge No. 88

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(c)**

Time for Filing. Nominations shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, preceding the time of holding of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall arrange alphabetically the names of the nominees of each office and identified by Lodge and Dist.

**Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(c)**  
Standard Nominations. Nominations shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary on or before October 31<sup>st</sup> of each Masonic year, and preceding the next occurrence of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. All nominations must bear the Lodge Number, District Number, Post Office Address and Signature of the nominee, as well as the Office for which the nominee is running. The Grand Secretary shall arrange alphabetically the names of the nominees of each Office (identified by Lodge and District), which shall then be electronically disseminated to the membership via the

Grand Lodge Web site as each nomination is submitted, and as a group via standard electronic means no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month immediately following the Nomination Deadline Date, and printed in the first issue of the official publication immediately following the Nomination Deadline Date.

**Interpretive Statement:** It seems to be an extremely rare occurrence for a nominee to enter a race for any office after Labor Day. In fact, it seems that many nominations are submitted immediately after the Annual Communication for the previous Masonic year is closed. As such, it can only serve to assist the Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction to receive information on the nominees in a more timely manner, so that they have adequate time to make the most informed decision possible.

Michael J. Emerson, Genesis Lodge No. 88

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(d)**

Delayed Nominations. Delayed nominations may be filed with the Grand Secretary after December 31<sup>st</sup>, but no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>, provided, however, such nominations bear the signature, Lodge number, district number and post office address of at least one member of Grand Lodge from at least five Masonic districts and the written assent of the nominee.

**Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(d)**  
Delayed Nominations. Delayed nominations may be filed with the Grand Secretary after October 31<sup>st</sup>, but no later than November 30<sup>th</sup> (provided, however, that such nominations bear the Signature, Lodge Number, District Number and Post Office Address of at least one member of Grand Lodge from at least five Masonic Districts, as well as the written assent and Signature of the nominee, and the Office for which the nominee is running.) The Grand Secretary shall arrange alphabetically the names of the nominees of each Office (identified by Lodge and District), which shall then be electronically disseminated to the membership via the Grand Lodge Web site as each nomination is submitted, and as a group via standard electronic means no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month immediately following the Delayed Nomination Deadline Date, and printed in the first issue of the official publication immediately following the Delayed Nomination Deadline Date.

**Interpretive Statement:** This change is simply to align with the proposed changes to TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(c).

Michael J. Emerson, Genesis Lodge No. 88

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(e)** None (New Legislation)

**Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(e)**  
Nominee Information. Information on nominees (which usually includes (but is not limited to) Personal Information, Professional Resume, Masonic Resume, and Statement of ➤



Candidacy) shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month immediately following either the Nomination deadline Date (as per TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(c)) for Standard Nominations, or the Delayed Nomination Deadline Date (as per TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(d)) for Delayed Nominations. The Grand Secretary shall arrange alphabetically the names of the nominees of each office (identified by Lodge and District), which shall then be electronically disseminated to the membership via the Grand Lodge Web site and as a group via standard electronic means no later than the last day of the month immediately following the Nomination Deadline Date/Delayed Nomination Deadline Date, and printed in the first issue of the official publication immediately following the Nomination Deadline Date/Delayed Nomination Deadline Date.

**Interpretive Statement:** The Brethren of this Jurisdiction should have access to the information of those Brethren who are running for office as soon as logistically possible after the Nomination Deadline, in order to have adequate time to discuss each nominee with their peers and their Lodge, so that they can make a proper discrimination regarding who is best qualified to serve in each position.

Michael J. Emerson, Genesis Lodge No. 88

**Current:** TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(f) None (New Legislation)

**Proposed:** TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, Part 1(f) Nominee Video Statement. Each nominee shall submit a short video recording detailing his Masonic particulars (Name, Lodge Number, District, Highest Lodge/Grand Lodge Office), their Qualifications for the Office for which they are running, why they feel that they should be elected to the particular Office, and any other information that they deem to be relevant to their candidacy. Each recording should be no less than one minute in duration and no more than five minutes. The recording can be of the nominee's speech at one of the annual Candidates Night events, or created by the nominee at a different time. It is suggested that each nominee should record their video prior to the first Candidates Night, so that it can be shown in lieu of a live speech if the nominee is unable to attend due to illness or serious emergency. If the nominee is not using a recording of his remarks from a Candidates Night event, the recording should simply consist of the nominee sitting in front of the camera with a plain background, and should not be theatrical in any way. The videos must not reference or disparage any of the candidates for any other Office, or in any way reflect negatively on the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. The Grand Master has the right to reject any submitted recording for improper content, or for any other reason. If a video is rejected, the nominee can create a new video for submission and approval. Upon receipt, review and approval by the Grand Master and the Social Media Committee of all of the nominee recordings for a particular Office, the Grand Secretary shall, in conjunction

with the Social Media Committee, either arrange for the electronic dissemination of the recordings via a video hosting Web site (such as YouTube) and post links to the recordings on the Grand Lodge Web site. The recordings shall be reviewed and hosted (and the links made available to the members) no later than one week after a) all of the recordings for nominees for a particular Office have been received, or b) the first Candidates Night events has occurred (whichever comes first).

**Interpretive Statement:** In this age of digital media, the printed word is no longer sufficient to adequately convey who a person is and why they should be elected to a Grand Lodge office. Most people now have smart phones that are equipped with cameras that are more than adequate to handle the task of recording a video statement from each nominee. By so doing, we enable more Brethren to get up close and personal with the nominees, and thereby assist them in making the best judgment as to who should be elected to each office.

Michael J. Emerson, Genesis Lodge No. 88

## TITLE FOUR: Grand Lodge By-Laws

### SECTION 9 - Fees, Dues and Assessments

#### PART 9 - Annual Membership Assessment Subsection (g)

**Current:** (g) Two Dollars (\$2.00) for the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple (for ten year period commencing 2008).

**Proposed:** (g) Three dollars (\$3.00) for the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Board of Trustees for a five year period commencing 2017.

Keith Graser, President  
Robert Monacelli  
George Chidley

Brian Johnson  
Cari Doan

**Interpretive Statement:** The Board of Trustees of the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple (HTMT) are now the owners of the HTMT as well as the 1795 Old Trenton Lodge Building located in Trenton, New Jersey. They are charged with the responsibility to maintain and preserve this national historic landmark for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations.

To this end the board currently has three steady sources of income in the form of rentals to CCH Architects, Grand Lodge and Mercer Lodge. Supplemental income is derived from the rental of the upper floors of the Temple for various civic and social events. In order to secure a continuous, dependable revenue flow to allow the HTMT board to continue the necessary and continuous maintenance of the two historic structures committed to our care we are asking for this assessment. The Historic Trenton Masonic Temple was begun in 1926 and the Historic Trenton Lodge Building dates back to 1795. They require specialized upkeep in order to maintain their place on the State and National Historic Register of buildings. The Grand Lodge HTMT assessment of \$2.00 will expire this year. The HTMT Board is asking for a ➤



five year assessment of \$3.00 based on the fact that we now have approximately 18,000 members which is significantly less than the number we had in 2008 and maintenance costs have risen in the intervening years.

## **Proposed Changes to the Grand Lodge By-Laws at the 2017 Annual Communication**

### **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE II, SECTION 2, Part 1, Grand Treasurer**

Part 1. Grand Treasurer. The Grand Treasurer shall be the financial officer of the Grand Lodge and shall be responsible for the deposit, protection and disbursement of Grand Lodge moneys. He shall review all deposits made by the Grand Secretary, and monitor on a monthly basis all disbursements. The yearly amounts of receipts and disbursements, properly listed by category, shall be reported and published in the Grand Lodge Annual Proceedings. In case of the disability of the Grand Treasurer, from whatever cause, to perform the duties of his office, the Grand Master shall appoint some member of the Grand Lodge to act as Grand Treasurer during the incapacity or disability of the Grand Treasurer. The Grand Master shall be the judge of the incapacity or disability of the Grand Treasurer and as to his recovery from such incapacity or disability.

### **Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE II, SECTION 2, Part 1, Grand Treasurer**

Part 1. Grand Treasurer. The Grand Treasurer shall be the financial officer of the Grand Lodge and shall be responsible for the deposit, protection and disbursement of Grand Lodge moneys. He shall review all deposits made by the Grand Secretary, and monitor on a monthly basis all disbursements, properly listed by category. *The Grand Treasurer shall post the financial statements, which shall include the balance sheets, income statement and budget report showing the amounts budgeted, the amounts expended, the excess or deficit for each budget line item and budget total son the Grand Lodge website, no later than November 31<sup>st</sup> following the close of each fiscal year. In addition, the annual audit, including the auditor's report and notes to the financial statements shall be published in the Grand Lodge Annual Proceedings and distributed to the several lodges, no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>, following the annual communication.* In case of the disability of the Grand Treasurer, from whatever cause, to perform the duties of his office, the Grand Master shall appoint some member of the Grand Lodge to act as Grand Treasurer during the incapacity or disability of the Grand Treasurer. The Grand Master shall be the judge of the incapacity or disability of the Grand Treasurer and as to his recovery from such incapacity or disability.

**Interpretive Statement:** In this era of electronics, the members of our Grand Lodge should be provided with a copy of the Grand Lodge's financial statements and results of financial operations. This is important to maintain trust and transparency for our membership. This can easily be

accomplished by the use of our Grand Lodge website, supplemented by the New Jersey Freemason magazine and the Grand Lodge annual proceedings. Since this can be easily accomplished by use of the secured access internet, the above amendment to our by laws should be approved without hesitation. The future of our great fraternity depends on the success of our finances.

Roger Quintana, PM BSMTMD Lodge No. 35

Gregory J. Scott, PM Peninsula Lodge No. 99

## **ELECTIONS AND VOTING IN THE GRAND LODGE**

### **Current: TITLE THREE, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 2**

Part 1. Election of Grand Lodge Officers.

The M.W. Grand Master, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, R.W. Grand Treasurer, R.W. Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge Trustees, Masonic Charity Foundation Trustees, and Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustees, shall be elected by ballot of the members of the Grand Lodge. Ballots shall be cast by the current offices of each lodge, in person, by being present at the stated annual communication, or by proxy to the Grand Lodge, as provided. Ballots may be cast by past masters either in person or electronically by Internet connection. All votes, regardless of how cast, shall be tabulated and reported at the Grand Lodge Communication. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to constitute a choice for the Grand Lodge Elected Officers. If there be no choice on the first ballot, then a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be confined to the three candidates who shall receive the highest number of votes. Should there be no choice on the second ballot, then a third ballot shall be cast, which shall be confined to the two candidates who received the highest number of votes on the second ballot. All Trustees shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

### **Proposed: TITLE THREE, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 2**

Part 1. Election of Grand Lodge Officers. (restructured, wording in (b) and (c) is clarified)

- a. The M.W. Grand Master, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, R.W. Grand Treasurer, R.W. Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge Trustees, Masonic Charity Foundation Trustees, and Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustees, shall be elected by ballot of the members of the Grand Lodge.
- b. Ballots attributed to the current Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden of each lodge may only be cast in person by being present at the stated Annual Communication, or by the lodge's Proxy to the Grand Lodge, as provided.
- c. A Past Master's ballot may be cast either in person or electronically by Internet connection.
- d. All votes, regardless of how cast, shall be tabulated and reported at the Annual Communication.
- e. A majority (50%+1) of all the votes cast shall be ➤



necessary to constitute a choice for the Grand Lodge Elected Officers. If there be no choice on the first ballot, then a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be confined to the three candidates who shall receive the highest number of votes. Should there be no choice on the second ballot, then a third ballot shall be cast, which shall be confined to the two candidates who received the highest number of votes on the second ballot.

- f. All trustees shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

## Part 8. Breaking of Ties (new)

### a. Elected Line (more than 2 candidates remaining)

When there are three candidates remaining, and the brethren in second and third place are tied with no candidate having a majority of all votes cast, all ballots will be recounted giving 3 points to a 1<sup>st</sup> place ranking, 2 points to a 2<sup>nd</sup> place ranking and 1 point to a 3<sup>rd</sup> place ranking. The tie between the brothers in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will be broken with the brother with the most points advancing.

### b. Elected Line (two candidates remaining)

An exact tie between the final two candidates will be broken as follows:

- If there were more than two candidates to start the election, the tie will be broken by scoring each ballot, giving 3 points to a 1<sup>st</sup> place ranking and 2 points to a 2<sup>nd</sup> place ranking. Zero points will be given for any other ranking. The brother receiving the most points will be declared the winner.
- If there were only two candidates to start the election, each of the Elected Line and the District Deputy Grand Masters will receive one vote, which will be cast through a written ballot, with the candidate receiving the most votes declared the winner.

### c. Trustees

Should a tie occur during an election for a Grand Lodge, Masonic Charity Foundation or Historic Trenton Temple Trustee which makes the brethren elected unclear, the tie will be broken by using the ranking of the candidates. A brother ranked 1<sup>st</sup> will receive 1 point, a second place ranking will receive 2 points, and so on. Ties will be broken with the brother receiving the lowest amount of points being elected.

**Interpretive Statement:** In order to facilitate the determination of a winner using a single ballot, Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) is currently being utilized as needed to allow for a fair runoffs when needed. A brother's ballot ranks all candidates in preference order. This ranking allows a brother's top choice of those remaining for consideration to be determined, and eliminates disenfranchisement of

any brother.

This legislation leaves the current process in place, but states the process for breaking ties should one occur. Current legislation does not provide for the resolution of ties. You may ask if such a process is necessary. We have had a number of elections in the past 20 years where a brother was elected by less than 20 votes, and some less than 10 votes. It is important to address such a situation through the use of a fair method which empowers the brethren whenever possible to determine the winner of an election, avoiding confusing amongst the Craft at the Annual Communication.

R.W. Barry Kornspan, Chairman, Balloting and Registration Committee

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE V, SECTION 1, Part 1-Grand Lodge Permanent Fund.**

### Section 1. Establishment, Purpose and Donations

Part 1. Establishment. The Grand Lodge shall set up on its books and keep at all times a permanent fund into which shall be placed all funds received as gifts, devises, and/or endowments. Said fund shall be a permanent fund forever, to be invested, and only the income thereof shall be expanded (sic).

Part 2. Permanent Fund Members. (Numbering to change without any change in wording.)

Part 3. Grand Secretary's Record. (Numbering to change without any change in wording.)

## **Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE V, SECTION 1, Part 1-Grand Lodge Permanent Fund.**

### Section 1. Establishment, Purpose and Management.

Part 1. Establishment. The Grand Lodge shall set up on its books and keep at all times a permanent fund into which shall be placed all funds received as gifts, devises, and/or endowments designated by the donor as being for investment in the permanent fund and such other monies as the Grand Lodge Trustees determine.

Part 2. Purpose. The purpose of the permanent fund shall be to generate an investment return that shall provide financial revenue to offset costs of Grand Lodge on an ongoing, long-term basis.

### Part 3. Measurement of Investment Return and Use of Investment Return to fulfill the Purpose.

- (a) The permanent fund shall be invested in accordance with a written investment policy approved by the Grand Lodge Trustees and reviewed no less often than annually.
- (b) Investment return shall be measured on the fund's market value on a total return basis, unless the Grand Lodge Trustees determine a different measurement standard is appropriate. There shall be no distinction between principal and income, nor any distinction among income, realized capital gains and losses, or unrealized capital gains and losses for this purpose.
- (c) The Grand Lodge Trustees, after consulting with the



Grand Lodge Budget Committee and the elected Grand Lodge officers as to the spending needs of the Grand Lodge, shall, on an annual basis, establish an annual spending policy for each Grand Lodge budget year under which a percent of the market value of the permanent fund, averaged over a period of no less than three years, shall be transferred to the general fund. The amount so determined shall be calculated such that the amounts transferred shall not exceed the long term expected total return of the permanent fund measured over a market cycle.

Section 2. Permanent Fund Donations and Donation Records  
Part 1. Permanent Fund Members. (This section shall contain the wording currently in Section 1, Part 2 without modification.)

Part 2. Grand Secretary's Record. (This section shall contain the wording currently in Section 1, Part 3 without modification.)

**Interpretive Statement:** The permanent fund was created to build an investment that would provide a continuing stream of income to Grand Lodge, and thereby reduce the amount that members have to pay in assessments while seeking to sustain or grow its principal value. As contrasted to the current requirement to transfer "income" to the general fund, the proposed procedure permits the Trustees to be more flexible to the Grand Lodge's income needs while allowing the Trustees to invest in a more diversified portfolio with greater opportunities for total return and growth.

## **Additional subsection to TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE II, SECTION 2, Part 3 - Duties and Powers of... Grand Lodge Trustees.**

### **Proposed:**

Section 2 Part 3(d). The Trustees are authorized to invest the permanent fund established pursuant to Title Four, Article V, Section 1, Part 1 and to manage all operational requirements of the permanent fund as established in that section. In so doing the Trustees are authorized to retain advisors, custodians, and similar qualified persons to an equivalent extent as authorized in subsection 3(c) above.

**Interpretive Statement:** In the older numbering structure of the By-Laws the section establishing the permanent fund (3-77A) was enacted in 1989, nine years after the sections defining the Grand Lodge Trustees responsibilities for investment of surplus funds (3-72 through 3-77). Thus it was clear from its placement and numbering that the investment of the permanent fund was part of the Grand Lodge Trustee's responsibilities. With 3-77A now moved to the Title Four Article V and the six investment of surplus funds sections having been combined into Title Four Article II Part 4(c), the connection is lost. This new section merely makes clear that the responsibility for investing the permanent fund, as well as the responsibility to invest Grand Lodge general fund surplus, still rests with the elected Grand Lodge Trustees.

George A. Olsen, Grand Lodge Trustee  
Thomas L. Winter, Grand Lodge Trustee  
Neal A. McCarthy, Grand Lodge Trustee  
Glenn T. Visscher, Grand Lodge Trustee  
H. Wayland Packer, Grand Lodge Trustee

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE IX, SECTION 9, Part 9(e), (f), and (i)**

### **Part 9. Annual Membership Assessment.**

Every Lodge under this jurisdiction shall collect annually from each regular member thereof, and each dual member of which it is the Lodge of record, in good standing at the time of the annual election, and shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge with its annual return the following assessments:

- (e) One Dollar (\$1.00) for the ongoing support of New Jersey DeMolay.
- (f) One Dollar (\$1.00) for the ongoing support of New Jersey Rainbow.
- (i) Fifty Cents (\$0.50) for the digitizing of the Grand Lodge Proceeding from 1787 to 2010 (for 3 year period commencing 2012).

### **Proposed:**

Delete subparts (e), (f) entirely, extend (i) as indicated below, and to re-letter the remaining subparts accordingly.

- (i) Fifty cents (\$0.50) for the annual costs of digitizing of the Grand Lodge Proceedings.

**Interpretive Statement:** In 2005, this Grand Lodge voted to assess every member \$1.00 for the support of New Jersey DeMolay, following their having been designated by the IRS as a 501 C3 entity. In 2007, as a result of the Grand Master's recommendation, and in recognition of the New Jersey Order of Rainbow having obtained their 501(c)(3) designation, it was voted to assess \$1.00 for the ongoing support of the Rainbow. Those assessments have been collected with the dues by every Lodge and passed through the Grand Lodge to dose designated charitable entities, since their adoption.

Grand Lodge also voted to assess \$0.50 per year for 3 years, beginning in 2012, for the digitizing of the Grand Lodge Proceedings through 2010. Those proceedings have been digitized, but we are now in the process of digitizing all of the proceedings from 2010 forward, and shall be continuing to do so into the future.

Since that time, others means have been determined to be able to provide ongoing support for both the DeMolay and Rainbow, without the need to continue to assess every member of this Grand Lodge for that purpose. Accordingly, this legislation is proposed to delete those assessments from the amounts lodges will collect from members and transfer to Grand Lodge to be passed through to DeMolay and Rainbow.

The three-year period of assessment for the Grand Lodge proceedings has expired, and those proceedings were digitized. All of the proceedings from 2010 forward are in the process of being digitized, and shall, as each Grand Lodge



Communication is completed, need to be digitized every year going forward. This proposal will continue that subpart and amend it from a 3 year assessment, to a permanent assessment, to cover the costs incurred each year for that purpose.

Thomas L. Winter, Past Master  
Eclipse Lodge No. 259

Neal A. McCarthy, Past Master  
Acacia Lodge No. 20

H. Wayland Packer  
Clarksboro Lodge No. 87

George A. Olsen, Past Master  
Genesis Lodge No. 88

Glenn T. Visscher, Past Master  
Cincinnati Lodge No. 3

## **Current: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, Part 4: Committee on Community Charity Fund:**

A fund shall be created, to be known and designated as the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey. The function and purpose of the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey, shall be to provide funds to be dispersed by or on behalf of the constituent lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction for charitable, benevolent, educational, scientific or literary purposes. The Fund as above constituted shall be administered by a Committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master. The said Committee shall have the power to disperse such funds of the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey, as in its judgment, shall appear proper; and no money shall be dispersed by said Committee from said the Charity Fund accept upon the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

## **Proposed: TITLE FOUR, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, Part 4: Committee on Community Charity Fund:**

A fund shall be created, to be known and designated as the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey. The function and purpose of the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey, shall be to provide funds to be dispersed

by or on behalf of the constituent lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction for charitable, benevolent, educational, scientific or literary purposes. The Fund as above constituted shall be administered through the Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey, by a Committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master. The said Committee shall have the power to disperse such funds of the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey as in its judgment, shall appear proper; and no money shall be dispersed by said Committee from said Charity Fund except upon the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

**Interpretive Statement:** For decades the Committee for the Masonic Community Charity Fund of New Jersey has administered this fund, and the funds utilized for the benefit of needy Masons for these charitable purposes has been accounted for as a line item of the Masonic Charity Foundation Budget, in keeping with the purposes of that foundation. The Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey is, by virtue of its certificate of incorporation, the “charitable arm” of the Grand Lodge, authorized to act on behalf of the Grand Lodge in the handling and distributions of benevolence and charity. It is authorized to provide for the care, assistance and relief of poor, distressed and indigent persons, and to undertake and perform such works of charity, as may be assigned to it from time to time by the Grand Lodge. As the section presently reads, it is unclear regarding the how the mechanism of the Fund would work, except for being administered by the Committee. This proposed amendment clarifies that the Committee will perform its work through the Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey, making the legislation accurately reflect what already happens in practice.

Gerald J. Sharpe, Past Master  
Keystone-Belcher Lodge No. 153

# Happenings at West Hill

*Submitted by MW Joe Rival, PGM*

Things are really happening here, we hosted Christmas get-togethers for The MCF Board and workers from the Villages, the Past Matrons of Fairview Chapter OES and the Acacia Hospice Organization. Instead of having a Christmas tour with Peachfield Historic site, it was decided to have a Harvest Tour this year. It was very well attended and we will be considering whether to do it again next year. We also hosted our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil War Encampment. We had the most participants and re-enactors we’ve ever had. Next year the Auto Show is being moved to the parking lot at Fellowship Center so we are expecting it to be our biggest event yet.

Water damage from a leaky heating unit caused the laminated floor in the front door foyer to “buckle”. It will now be necessary to rip that floor up and hopefully, refinish the floor underneath. We’re not sure what we will find.

The Square Club of Maywood made a sizeable donation to us which will allow us to finish the second floor and to start some much needed repairs to the building especially, re-supporting the first landing of the stairs. A special “thank you” to the members of the Square Club of Maywood.

We have composed a “**wish list**” of things we could either use or need to be done. It seems like the work is never done. If you think you may be able to help us, feel free to let us know. The list is as follows:

1. Scrap and repaint some windows.
2. Build a cabinet to hide the refrigerator.
3. Build a book shelf to hide the alarm system in the Study.
4. Purchase shutters for the outside windows.
5. Purchase “shutter dogs” to keep the shutters open.
6. A colonial swivel writing chair.
7. An oriental carpet in blue about 10’ x 12’.
8. Artwork or primitives.
9. A wooden butter churn.
10. Wooden window blinds
11. An electrical outlet or two and some wiring for sconces over the fireplaces.

Remember, West Hill is a 501c3 and that we are open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month from 1 pm to 4 pm for tours.

That’s about it for now. We are hoping to get several things done over the next few months so, keep a watch out for “Happenings at West Hill”.

# Proposed Grand Lodge Budget 2017-2018



Grand Lodge

*Membership Base = 18,500*

	Budget 2016-2017	Proposed 2017-2018		Budget 2016-2017	Proposed 2017-2018
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			<b>GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES</b>		
Grand Lodge per Capita Assessment	\$357,808.00	\$407,000.00	Annual Communication	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00
Blue Lodge Insurance Assessment	65,912.00	64,750.00	Emergent Communications	1,000.00	1,000.00
Staff Contribution to			Northeast Conference		
Annual Communication	50,000.00	50,000.00	of Grand Masters	3,000.00	5,000.00
Annual Communication MCF	10,000.00	10,000.00	Conference of Grand		
Sale of Supplies	18,000.00	15,000.00	Masters of N.America	22,000.00	22,000.00
Investment Fund Income	200,000.00	210,000.00	Feast of St. John	8,000.00	10,000.00
Freemason Advertising	0.00	2,000.00	Past Grand Master's Jewel	10,000.00	10,000.00
Feast of St. John	8,000.00	10,000.00	Awards and Certificates	10,000.00	10,000.00
Leadership Conference	19,500.00	20,500.00	Table Lodge	2,000.00	0.00
Chip Donations	0.00	1,000.00	Cost of Resale Supplies	10,000.00	10,000.00
Background Checks	10,000.00	10,000.00	<b>TOTAL GRAND</b>		
Table Lodge	2,000.00	0.00	<b>LODGE ACTIVITIES</b>	\$206,000.00	\$208,000.00
Wheelchair Track Meet	13,500.00	13,500.00			
Trenton Temple Assessment (2.00) Rent	37,664.00	37,000.00	<b>EDUCATION PROGRAMS</b>		
Contributions	0.00	1,000.00	Ritual Committee	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$792,384.00</b>	<b>\$851,750.00</b>	District Deputy		
			Grand Masters	1,000.00	500.00
<b>PASS THROUGH ASSESSMENTS</b>			Education Services	2,000.00	20,000.00
Masonic Charity Foundation	\$338,976.00	\$333,000.00	Youth Committee	2,500.00	8,000.00
Initiate Fee for MCF (25.00)	10,000.00	10,000.00	Masonic Leadership		
GWNM per Capita (1.00)	18,832.00	18,500.00	Conference	20,500.00	20,500.00
Initiate Fee for GWNM (5.00)	2,000.00	3,000.00	NJ Freemason Magazine	80,000.00	30,000.00
DeMolay per Capita (1.00)	18,832.00	18,500.00	<b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>		
Rainbow per Capita (1.00)	18,832.00	18,500.00	<b>EXPENSE</b>	\$106,500.00	\$79,500.00
<b>TOTAL PASS THROUGH</b>					
<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>\$407,472.00</b>	<b>\$401,500.00</b>	<b>CHARITABLE PROGRAMS</b>		
			Masonic Charity Foundation		
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			Development	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
PERSONNEL			Veterans Hospital Programs	2,500.00	500.00
Salaries	\$157,735.00	\$178,500.00	Masonic Services		
Payroll Taxes	17,870.00	19,635.00	Association (donation)	1,500.00	1,500.00
Stipend	0.00	4,000.00	CHIP	2,000.00	1,000.00
Maintenance Staff	3,600.00	10,000.00	Wheelchair Track		
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$179,205.00</b>	<b>\$212,135.00</b>	and Field Meet	13,000.00	13,500.00
			Masonic Blood Bank	500.00	500.00
<b>OPERATING EXPENSE</b>			<b>TOTAL CHARITABLE</b>		
Audit	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	<b>PROGRAMS</b>	\$19,500.00	\$27,000.00
IRS Form 990	10,000.00	11,500.00			
Accounting and Bookkeeping	15,000.00	15,000.00	<b>PASS THROUGH ASSESSMENTS</b>		
Investment Advisor	0.00	0.00	Masonic Charity Foundation	\$338,976.00	\$333,000.00
Office Supplies	8,500.00	8,500.00	Initiates Contribution to MCF	10,000.00	10,000.00
Social Media	12,000.00	10,000.00	GWNM Assessment	18,832.00	18,500.00
Electronic Communications	0.00	4,000.00	Initiates Contribution to GWNM	2,000.00	3,000.00
Printing	8,000.00	6,000.00	DeMolay	18,832.00	18,500.00
Postage and UPS	11,000.00	10,000.00	Rainbow	18,832.00	18,500.00
GL Collars, Aprons and Tokens	3,000.00	7,000.00	<b>TOTAL PASS THROUGH</b>		
Official Expense	50,000.00	45,000.00	<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	\$407,472.00	\$401,500.00
Equipment Contract and Leases	2,000.00	1,000.00			
Legal	10,000.00	30,000.00	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$1,199,856.00</b>	<b>\$1,253,250.00</b>
GL Insurance	10,000.00	9,000.00	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,188,089.00</b>	<b>\$1,244,260.00</b>
Blue Lodge Insurance	65,912.00	60,125.00	<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$11,767.00</b>	<b>\$8,990.00</b>
Trenton Temple Rent & Utilities	45,000.00	60,000.00			
Administrative Office Expense	3,000.00	3,000.00			
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	1,000.00			
Public Relations	0.00	12,000.00			
Background Checks	0.00	8,000.00			
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$269,412.00</b>	<b>\$316,125.00</b>			

# 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](mailto:jryan@njmasonic.org)

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

To: All Lodges

In the event of the election of Right Worshipful Dieter B. Hees as Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey at the 230<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge on April 20, 2017, the Brethren, their ladies and friends are cordially and fraternally invited to attend the following:

### **GRAND MASTER'S OPEN INSTALLATION**

**Thursday, April 20, 2017**

Bally's Atlantic City – Convention Room  
1900 Pacific Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ  
2:00 P.M.

### **GRAND MASTER'S OPEN RECEPTION**

**Saturday, April 29, 2017**

Masonic Fellowship Center  
1114 Oxmead Road, Burlington, NJ  
3:00 P.M. - Church Service at the Masonic Home Chapel  
4:00 P.M. - Social Hour 5:00 P.M. - Dinner 6:30 P.M. - Reception  
**\$65.00 per person**

Admission to the reception is by advance reservation only. No tickets will be sold at the door. Reservations must be made by **April 15, 2017**. For those attending the installation only, there is no charge and no reservations are necessary; however we request that you contact the Grand Marshal, Keith Herman, with your intention to attend at [kaherman@msn.com](mailto:kaherman@msn.com)

Please make checks payable to **Sunrise Lodge No. 288** and mail to:

R.W. Arnold "Butch" Elliott  
38 Main Street, Flanders, NJ 07836  
(C): 201-390-3415 Email: [butch0012@gmail.com](mailto:butch0012@gmail.com)

Please mail the completed slip below with your check:

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### **GRAND MASTER'S OPEN INSTALLATION and RECEPTION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) Name (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

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FUTURE GRAND MASTER 2017  
DIETER B. HEES

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## M.W. Kenneth L. Larsen, PGM - '78

Ken Larsen was born in 1932 during the depression, an era that forced many of that generation to be strong and self-reliant. This is Ken Larsen in a nut shell.

He was brought up in Bayonne, NJ and joined the navy sometime after completing high school. After his time in the service, he went to school at St. Peter's College in Jersey City and then off to NYU in New York to study accounting. This prepared him to become a Certified Public Accountant; for much of his career, he was a Partner at the accounting firm of Mahoney, Cohen & Company.

At the ripe old age of 22, he petitioned Bergen Lodge No. 47 in Jersey City, where on December 13<sup>th</sup> 1954, he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. (Through various consolidations and mergers, Bergen No. 47 is now part of Peninsula Lodge No. 99.)

Somewhere around that time, he and some of his friends decided to take a trip to Convention Hall in Asbury Park to see Joni James perform, (for some of you younger guys, Joni James was one of the top ten female vocalists in 1955). It was a fortuitous excursion because it was there that he met Jeannine Kuhl. Coincidentally, she was also from Bayonne, where they were able to get to know one another and on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1955, in a church on Staten Island, they were married. They have two sons, Kenneth and Jeff, both are living in Nevada. By the way, Kenneth is also a member of the Craft.

As it is with many of us, we find our best friends within the Craft. For Brother Larsen that best friend was Brother Malcolm Wernik, "where you saw one, you saw the other".

Brother Larsen became a dual member of Mount Zion Lodge No. 135 and in the year 1961, his good friend Brother Wernik served as Master of the Lodge. Two years later Brother Larsen found himself in the Oriental Chair. By 1974, Brother Wernik was installed as Grand Master and of course, Brother Larsen was right behind him and in 1978, it was M.W. Kenneth L. Larsen in the Grand East.

In the year 1997, M.W. Brother Larsen found himself at mandatory retirement age and he was forced to leave the

firm. Joining the ranks of the retired at 65 was not his style. It was then that he became the Chief Financial Officer for a company located in Manhattan. Here is where he remained until 2014, when he retired for the second time. In his "spare" time he worked on the board of the Children's Dyslexia Centers, a Scottish Rite Charity. According to another good friend, Brother Thurman Pace, he was an invaluable aid in setting up the centers. By the way, the Children's Dyslexia Centers provide tutoring at no charge to children with dyslexia from early elementary through high school.

As Brother Pace was Chairman of the Board of the Dyslexia Centers, he needed to get a firm understanding of the tax code. Knowing that Brother Larsen was an experienced CPA, he thought he should be able to shed some light on a few things. Not one to take half-way measures, Brother Larsen decided to take Brother Pace to the source. In no time, they were in Washington D.C. face-to-face with a number of guys at the Internal Revenue Service, all of whom were on a first name basis with Brother Larsen. When Brother Pace left that meeting, he had the confidence to make the tough decisions required to manage those centers.

Already in his 70's, Brother Larsen found himself back in school learning the Orton-Gillingham method of working with dyslexic children. That's right! Our Past Grand Master was soon in front of the class room actually helping these challenged children learn to read, spell, write and maximize their potential.

As a result of his tireless efforts and his great contribution to Freemasonry, Brother Larsen was awarded the 33<sup>rd</sup> of the Scottish Rite and it was his good friend Illustrious Thurman C. Pace, Jr., Deputy of the State, who had the privilege of bestowing this award.

Brother Larsen was also quite active in the York Rite bodies and rose to the level of Intendant-General of the Red Cross of Constantine for the State of New Jersey.

Most Worshipful Brother Larsen stands as an example for all of us. Through hard work and by accepting tough challenges, we too can endeavor to add to the stock of human achievement and knowledge.

## Circumscribe LLC

Grand Lodge has contracted with Circumscribe LLC, a software company to provide membership data management. Once implemented it will replace any software you are currently using for Grand Lodge business. Some of the features are: Hierarchical Permission Access, Immediate Member Interaction, Live Member Profile Updates, Background Check Screening, Secure Payment Portal, Robust Search Capabilities, and Permanent Dues Card.

We are working under a Project Timeline that includes Discovery, Development, Pilot Lodge, Testing, On-Boarding, Migration, Training. There will be a seminar on April 19, 2017

at 10:00 AM at our Annual Communication in Atlantic City. All lodge secretaries and treasurers will be required to attend.

We also have the opportunity for a work shop session that afternoon with the Managing Partner of the company. The Grand Lodge office will be sending all lodge secretaries a "Lodge On-Board Information Sheet" requesting detailed information on their lodge for proper implementation of the program. We request that the form be completed entirely and mailed, faxed or emailed to the Grand Secretary upon completion. Any questions regarding the form should be directed to the Grand Secretary.

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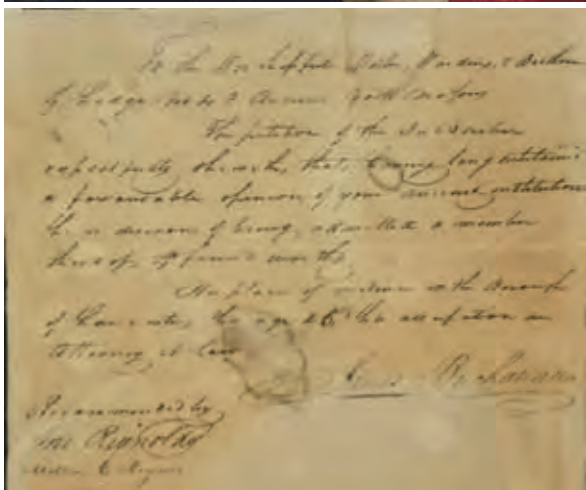
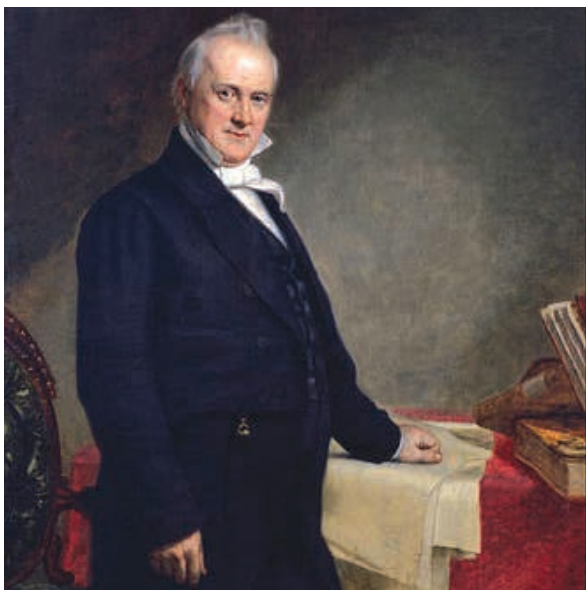


# Masonic Petition of President James Buchanan

*Submitted by NJF Associate Editor Bro. Martin Bogardus*

One of the perks of volunteering at the Grand Lodge of New Jersey's Museum of Masonic Culture is getting to see significant Masonic historical items up close. From the original minutes of the first communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in 1786, to a foundation stone from the White House donated by President Harry S. Truman, to items that traveled to the moon and back with Col. Buzz Aldrin on Apollo 11, the museum is a cornucopia of New Jersey Masonic history.

One such item that came to light during a cataloguing of the museum's vast collection was the original petition of James Buchanan, who served from 1857 to 1861 as the 15<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. During Buchanan's political career he represented Pennsylvania in both the U.S. House of Representatives and later in the Senate. Brother Buchanan served as Minister to Russia under President Andrew Jackson and also as Secretary of State under President James K. Polk. He has the distinction of being the last former Secretary of State to serve as a President of the United States.



To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, & Brethren of Lodge No. 43 Ancient York Masonry The petition of the subscriber respectfully sheweth, that, having long entertained a favourable opinion of your ancient institution he is desirous of being admitted a member thereof, if found worthy. His place of residence is the Borough of Lancaster, his age 25, his occupation an Attorney at law. James Buchanan recommended by John Reynolds, Mathew C. Rogers.

Brother Buchanan was initially elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1814 and subsequently served there for ten years. Buchanan considered the essence of good self-government to be founded on restraint and during his tenure in the 21<sup>st</sup> Congress as the successor to Daniel Webster as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, he performed one of his most significant achievements in public service, defending the independence of the Federal Judiciary. Against overwhelming opposition, he successfully engineered the defeat of efforts to repeal a portion of the Judiciary Act of 1789, which gave the Supreme Court appellate jurisdiction by writ of error to the state courts in cases where federal laws and treaties were in question.

The Federal Party ceased to be an active political force in the 1820's and Buchanan, much like many other young Federalists, joined the Democratic Party, becoming a leader of its more conservative faction. In the 1856 presidential election, Brother Buchanan was nominated by the Democratic Party on a ticket with former Kentucky Representative John C. Breckinridge, defeating both the incumbent President Pierce and Illinois Senator Stephen A. Douglas to become president.

Masonically, James Buchanan has the distinction of being the only Freemason from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to become both president and to serve in the White House unmarried. Having been initiated on December 11, 1816, at Lodge No. 43 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, he became a Master Mason in 1817. Brother Buchanan was the Junior Warden of his lodge from 1821 to 1822, and the Worshipful Master of the lodge in 1822-1823. He was exalted in Royal Arch Chapter No. 43. In 1824 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the Counties of Lancaster, Lebanon, and York.

According to research carefully prepared by Brother John W. Loose, Editor, Historian, and President Emeritus of the Lancaster County Historical Society:

***"Travel from Lancaster to the Grand Lodge in Philadelphia was so difficult that the country lodges grew quite remote from the Grand Lodge, creating the feeling among the lodges in the hinterlands that the Grand Lodge was ignoring them. Bro. Buchanan and his 'brother lawyers' in Lodge No. 43 set about to improve the situation by taking action against the Grand Lodge. Faced with what appeared to be rebellion by the country lodges, The Grand Lodge agreed to improve the***



# Are Free-Masons Free to Travel? Part 1

*Submitted by Matthew A. Leilich, PM, Distinguished Lecturer, Gothic-Fraternal Lodge No. 270. Edited by RW James J. Ross, PDDGM, Horizon Daylight Lodge No. 299*

This article is not an attack on our ancient landmarks. The author does not suggest in any way that we should rewrite, modify, or change any of New Jersey's 10 landmarks. The purpose of this article is to suggest that we consider adopting a broader interpretation of Landmark #6.

In years past the Grand Lodge of New Jersey has adopted legislation that may be considered contrary to the spirit of the fundamental precepts contained within Landmark #6. Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons are not allowed to travel outside of their mother lodge, even though their right to travel falls under the umbrella of Landmark #6.

## Landmark #6

*"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."<sup>(1)</sup>*

Every mason, regardless of his degree, has *"the right to visit every lodge"*—by himself—and we should consider extending this right to all Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons. However, before making any changes we should consider the following: What is a landmark? Is the right of every mason to travel a landmark? Is it practical to allow Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons to travel away from their mother lodges by themselves?

In ancient times, it was the practice to mark boundaries of land with stone pillars, giving rise to the name "landmarks." As masons, we use landmarks to distinguish our fraternity from the rest of the non-masonic world. As operative pillars of stone separate boundaries



*"Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set." Proverbs 22:28*

of land, our speculative pillars of knowledge, wisdom, and understanding separate masons from the rest of the community. If a stone landmark were removed, boundaries of land would change, likewise, if a landmark of Freemasonry were removed—Freemasonry would no longer be Freemasonry!

The three fundamental prerequisites for a masonic landmark are its antiquity, its universality, and its unconditional irrevocability. As the Wallis Committee pointed out in 1903, *"I wish to remind the brethren of one or two things: The first is that there are no 'Landmarks' of New Jersey. 'Landmarks' are universal'. And another thing that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey cannot repeal, alter or modify a 'Landmark'; they are immutable."*<sup>(2)</sup> Most Masonic scholars believe a landmark is a custom or tradition dating back to a *"time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary:"*

Examples of landmarks include, but are not limited to, a belief in a supreme being, a lodge having a master and two wardens, our system of balloting, the display of a holy book in open lodge, etc. Landmarks have three primary functions: First, they serve as a means by which masons can identify other masons. Second, they distinguish masons from other fraternal organizations such as the Elks or Hibernians. Third and most importantly, they distinguish legitimate masons from clandestine masons. Some clandestine masons for example, allow atheists to join, do not display a holy book in open lodge, etc., thus breaking with long established customs and traditions, thus rejecting the landmarks.

Additionally, if historians can identify when such a custom or tradition was enacted it is not considered a landmark, as indicated by the Wallis Committee, *"for where the origin of any Masonic principle can be traced back to its adoption by a Masonic body, it cannot be a Landmark."*<sup>(3)</sup>

In fact, some purists even believe that landmarks are so well understood they should not even be written down! ➤

## Masonic Petition of President James Buchanan

*continued from page 30*

***relationship, and appointed Bro. Buchanan as the first District Deputy Grand Master."***

When Brother James Buchanan died on June 1, 1868, brethren of his mother lodge came out in great numbers to lead a procession to Woodward Hill cemetery to pay their last respects to their former President and fellow brother mason. The year 2016 marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bro. James Buchanan joining Lodge No. 43 in Lancaster. In commemoration of this event, the Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 43 received permission to wear a white bow tie during the year, as Brother Buchanan was known to have always wore a white tie while in office or lodge. In his work *President James Buchanan: A Biography*, author Philip S. Klein said of him, *"His many talents, which in a quieter era might have gained for him a place among the great*

*presidents, were quickly overshadowed by the cataclysmic events of civil war and by the towering Abraham Lincoln."*

Brother Buchanan is quoted as having said at the end of his life: *"I have no regret for any public act of my life, and history will vindicate my memory."* And so it shall.

### Endnotes:

Klein, Philip S. (1962). *President James Buchanan: A Biography* (1995 ed.). Newtown, Connecticut: American Political Biography Press. ISBN 0-945707-11-8.

Loose, John W. Lodge No. 43 History, Masonic Lodge No. 43, Brett A. Cook, March 10, 2010

James Buchanan [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Buchanan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Buchanan)

Bogardus, Martin. James Buchanan Petition, 2016. Photograph. Grand Lodge of New Jersey - Museum of Masonic Culture, Trenton, New Jersey.

Healy, George Peter Alexander. James Buchanan. 1859. Painting. National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC.

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# Are Free-Masons Free to Travel? Part 1

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To do so would be stating the obvious.

During the Middle Ages (AD 476 to AD 1453) peasants, who were called serfs, were bound to their ruler's land and could not leave unless given special permission by their lord, baron, king, etc. Serfs were little more than slaves. Calling them serfs is just a nicer way of saying slaves. They had a horrible lot in life. Masons however, were different. Masons were peasants as well, but highly skilled peasants. Unlike their serf counterparts, masons were not bound to their ruler's land but instead given special permission to travel away from their lord's manor to wherever their work might take them. This gave rise to the word Freemason because masons were "Free" to travel. The word "Free" simply became placed before the word "Mason," hence the word Free-Mason. Therefore, the right of every mason to travel is so interwoven into the fabric of Freemasonry that it is reflected in our very name!

In fact, this right to travel is often asserted when two masons identify themselves with one another. One might ask "r u a tvlg mn?" There is little doubt this question has Medieval undertones.

This right to travel gave rise to the different Masonic grips, or what the non-Masonic world refers to as, "secret handshakes." Whenever a new mason would arrive at a worksite he would approach the master builder, the modern equivalent of the foreman, present himself, then give him a certain grip indicating his skill level. These grips were the Medieval equivalent of presenting your resume. Hardly anyone in the Medieval world could read or write, and giving a certain handshake was a quick, effective way of proving one's skill level. What is easier, giving a handshake or building a castle from the ground up? The different grips originated because masons of different skill levels traveled.



The popular British television show Monty Python's Flying Circus often poked fun at the masons. Episode 17 shows two masons giving the "secret handshake" with their left legs exposed!

Additionally, the Wallis Committee points out that, "In ancient times the actual operative degrees were the first two only, the Master's degree, as its name implies being conferred only upon the Masters of Lodges. Gradually, the so-called third degree has come to be conferred generally without regard to official position."<sup>(4)</sup> Therefore, during the Medieval period a full Masonic guild member was known as, "a Fellow of the Craft," hence the name "Fellow Craft."

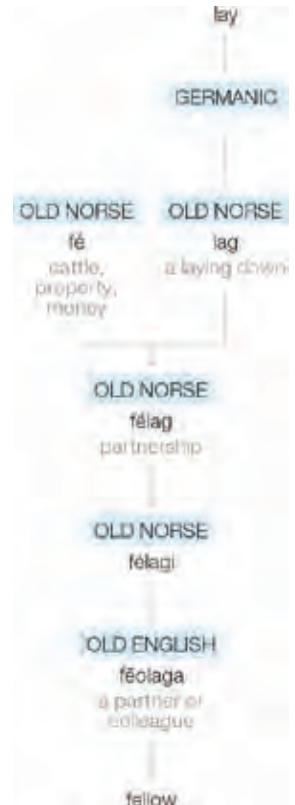
The word "fellow" derives from Old English "feolaga" meaning "partner or colleague." The word literally means "one who lays down money in a joint venture." In modern times the word "fellow" has taken on more of an informal use describing friends and acquaintances, "Boy, he is a really great fellow!" Collegiate and medical circles still use the word formally to describe colleagues of stature.

New Jersey's method of casting a hand vote reflects the belief that a Fellowcraft is a full guild member. The Ancient Voting Sign of a Mason is strikingly similar to the due guard of a Fellowcraft Mason.

It should be noted that when the Wallis Committee refers to "ancient times," they are referring to the Middle Ages (AD 476 to AD 1453). When modern historians refer to "ancient times," they are referring to a period prior to the Middle Ages, the Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks, Romans, etc.

It was common practice during the Middle Ages for guild apprentices, mason and non-mason alike, to labor without receiving payment for their work. They functioned more or less as modern interns, received no pay, but gained valuable on the job training. Fellowcraft Masons on the other hand, received pay because they were full guild members. This Medieval practice of not paying Entered Apprentice Masons but paying Fellowcraft Masons echoes through our ritual, "t pa t crft thr wgs, if an b du, @ c tt nn g awa dsfd..."<sup>(5)</sup> Additionally, it should be mentioned that most Medieval guilds referred to their mid-level laborers as Journeymen not Fellowcrafts.

There is absolutely no doubt that Entered Apprentice Masons and Fellowcraft Masons possessed the right to travel during the Middle Ages. In fact, this age-old tradition is kept up by the United Grand Lodge of England. The UGLE does all



# Are Free-Masons Free to Travel? Part 1



Education

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of its business on the Entered Apprentice Degree, while the Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees are more or less symbolical. We should take special note of our brethren across the sea considering the UGLE is the world's oldest grand lodge, originating in 1717.

The prerogative of the Grand Master to visit every lodge or assembly of masons is universal. The Grand Lodge of New Jersey recognizes this in Landmark #3: *"He is the ruler of the Craft and is, of right, the presiding officer of every assemblage of Masons as such."*<sup>(6)</sup> The Grand Master's authority to travel is best demonstrated when he wishes to enter a tyled lodge. The Grand Master is announced, first by the Tyler then by the Junior Deacon, and the wordage used to announce him is, "the Grand Master is prepared to enter." Notice the wordage is a statement not a request. After which, the Junior Deacon leaves the outer door open allowing the Grand Master to come in. Both the wordage and the gesture of leaving the outer door open represents verbally and symbolically the Grand Master's absolute authority to enter a lodge without first seeking permission. He does not need permission because—he—is the Grand Master.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Walter R. Kaulfers enters Mosaic Lodge No. 194.

In contrast, when a member of our craft wishes to enter a tyled lodge, the brother's request is announced, first by the Tyler then by the Junior Deacon, and although the wordage is not standardized, and it changes depending on the circumstance, the wordage is something to the effect of, "a brother of this lodge seeks admission." Notice the wordage is a request. The outer door is then closed and the Worshipful Master can either admit or deny the brother. Both the wordage and the gesture of closing the outer door represents verbally and symbolically the Worshipful Master's power to either admit or deny a brother. The contrast between the Grand Master's absolute authority to travel and the average mason's right to travel, clearly sets the Grand Master apart.

When the Wallis committee drafted Landmark #6 they

mentioned something in passing that historians find very interesting. The committee noted that historically, *"a Fellow Craft was eligible for the office of Grand Master."*<sup>(7)</sup> If the Grand Master has the authority to visit every lodge or assemblage of masons, and if historically, *"a Fellow Craft was eligible for the office of Grand Master,"* then logically if the Grand Master happens to be a Fellowcraft, we cannot disallow him from visiting a lodge, thereby extending this right to all other Fellowcraft Masons.

If one believes that a Fellowcraft does not have the right to visit other lodges, then one must be able to argue that the Grand Master does not have this right either—which is utterly impossible to do! To put it differently, would the Grand Master ban—himself—from visiting other lodges? This question is so ridiculous it does not even merit discussion.

However, Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Masons are not full members of our craft. As our Medieval brethren labored operatively, they gained knowledge, enabling them to advance to the next degree. As our modern brethren labor speculatively they also gain knowledge and are tested on their knowledge in the form of an examination, enabling them to advance further to the next degree. Our operative brethren of the past understood, as our speculative brethren of today understand, that masonry is not just handed to them. There is a process involved requiring a period of labor on a certain degree before they are advanced to the next degree. This required period of labor is a crucial part of our history, our ritual, and the very tenets of our institution. Our ritual explains it best, *"Freemasonry is a progressive science. As we advance in its mysteries, we find that a proper knowledge of it can be acquired only with time, patience and application,..."*<sup>(8)</sup> *"srd a sutbl tm as sch, @ nw wsh t rc fth l i msnry,..."*<sup>(9)</sup>

Additionally, it should be noted that the Master Mason Examination was only formally adopted by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in 1966. Prior to that year there was no official Master Mason Examination, although the cipher book King Solomon and His Followers did contain one. This late adoption of the examination echoes back to the Medieval period when a Master Mason was considered the worksite foreman. There was no Master Mason Exam simply because the Master Mason was the one in charge. He conducted the examination; he did not get examined.

(article continued in the summer edition of the New Jersey Freemason)

## Endnotes:

(1) The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey Constitution and Laws (2016), page 2.

(2) Wallis Committee report, 1903.

(3) Wallis Committee report, 1903.

(4) Wallis Committee report, 1903.

(5) The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey Ritual Cipher (1967 edition, 2006 reprint), pages 5-6.

(6) Constitution and Laws (2016), page 1.

(7) Wallis Committee report, 1903.

(8) Ritual Cipher (1967 edition, 2006 reprint), page 123.

(9) Ritual Cipher (1967 edition, 2006 reprint), pages 68 and 116.



# An Ode to the New Jersey Lodge of Research

*Submitted by NJF Associate Editor Bro. Martin Bogardus*

Ever since having first read Edgar Allan Poe's poem "*The Raven*" in high school, I have been an ardent fan of his short stories and poetry. Having long admired his original poem and other amusing parodies written in the same manner and style; I thought it would be a fitting tribute to write about a particularly pleasant morning I spent over breakfast with my brothers discussing which Masonic research papers would be presented in lodge that day after we were finished eating our meal.

Looking back, I think that I enjoyed the brotherly breakfast conversation as much as I enjoyed the actual presentations. This ode is dedicated to all of the men - past and present - of the NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education, (NJ LORE), No. 1786 that I have had the pleasure of knowing and learning from.

On a clear blue morning bright and cheery while  
pondering some Masonic query  
strutinizing lines from a quaint and curious volume  
of some ancient Mason's lore.  
While I nodded, nearly napping,  
suddenly there came a tapping,  
As if of someone gently rapping, rapping at my Camry door.  
'Tis my brother," I uttered, tapping at my Camry door -  
"It's Brother Val from NJ LORE."

How distinctly do I remember, it was in the crisp December;  
And each and every man assembled  
contemplating what the day would have in store.  
From heated car I sprang to action,  
threw wide my door in quick reaction  
to give my Brother satisfaction tapping on my Camry door.  
"We're heading to the Wisdom diner,"

spoken by my Camry door, "And if you haven't eaten yet,  
come join the men from LORE."

While standing up to think and ponder,  
my stomach growled and mouth did water,  
dreaming of ham and eggs I soon would order,

"Why, there's nothing I'd like more!"

Then off to the diner we then did travel  
on highways wide and streets so narrow  
to arrive and park upon the gravel  
traveling with the learned men from LORE.

"Put your Smartphone away and come inside,"  
he said outside my door,

"The guys are waiting for us inside,"  
said my brother Val from LORE.

Inside we came and took our seats  
to speak on how LORE Mason's meet,  
and of breakfast platters so replete  
you scarce could ask for anything more.

The coffee hot, our hunger bold;  
'wolfed down' our food to next extol  
how each lecture prepared would soon unfold  
new revelations to explore.

"Our breakfast done; let's 'hit the road',"  
did our brother Val call for,  
announcing his departure  
with myself and several more.

With booming sound of wooden gavel,  
the lodge was opened for all who'd traveled  
from far and wide there to unravel  
hidden secrets held in Freemasonic corps.  
So did our Master take the helm,  
just like Grandmaster Solomon ➤





# 2017 Winter Meeting: Masonic Light

*Submitted by Ricardo Fernandez, PM, Associate editor, NJ Freemason Magazine*

With over 270 brethren attending from throughout the state, this year's 2017 Winter Seminar on Saturday, January 28 at the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple was a huge success.

After a nice communal breakfast in the Grand parlor where all could socialize and experience fellowship, we headed for the Ionic Lodge Room upstairs in the second floor of the Temple. RW Roy Simpadian, chair of the MEC, opened the day with a warm welcome.

WB Ricardo Fernandez then introduced his Leadership speakers who he recruited as experts in their fields but also who are NJ Masons. First up was Brother Bob Volk who spoke about Project Management based on his 30 years' experience in the field. Next up was Brother Lynn Reed who owns and leads a private organization that teaches leadership and management to major companies. He spoke about recognizing personality types in yourself and others with the purpose of maximizing your team effectiveness. Both these lectures were very well received eliciting many questions.

RW Bob Howard followed with an interesting presentation on just how easy it can be to prepare twenty minute

presentations for Regular Communications on a wide variety of topics using Albert Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, found in most Masonic Lodge libraries as your reference source for content. He spoke about a wide variety of Masonic topics that could be presented at these meetings to change an otherwise slow business meeting to a gathering where we can come to experience some Masonic light.

After lunch and more fellowship, and maybe a visit to our Masonic Museum, we retired back upstairs and the third speaker. RW Mohamad Yatim, introduced Brother Angel Millar Masonic Author and Publisher from the Grand Lodge of New York who presented some very interesting and thought provoking concepts on his topic, Manhood, Initiation, and Freemasonry.

The Elected Grand Line spoke briefly and off we went to enjoy the rest of our Saturday with our friends and family.



## An Ode to the New Jersey Lodge of Research

*continued from page 36*

or Hiram King from Tyre's realm  
do with men in days of ancient yore,  
drawing his designs upon the trestleboard  
inside our lodge room door,  
Setting the craft at labor -  
only this and nothing more.

From Oriental chair and station,  
my name called out in affirmation  
that next would be my presentation  
before the learned men from LORE.  
Jumped from my seat in nimble action  
with notes and slides in quick reaction  
to give my Brother's satisfaction  
sitting beside the lodge room floor.  
Palpitations swarmed my beating heart -  
How long would this endure?  
Cloaked in nervous perspiration  
as I 'stepped into the fore.'

But steadily, my voice grew stronger;  
hesitating then no longer,  
for I had become a true "LORE monger"  
while addressing the men from LORE.  
All nervous fears withdrew abating,  
for knew my brothers there awaiting  
to hear my latest recitation  
had come there one in all,  
one and all had come together there  
in fraternal lodge rapport,

for fraternity and good scholarship  
with the learned men at LORE.

My stomach now had ceased its churning,  
all my soul within me burning,  
to satisfy my brother's yearning  
to hear my presentation on some Freemasonic lore.

When finished with my recitation,  
heard words, "Well done!" in approbation  
from other brother Master Mason's  
to keep on writing papers,  
crafting new and novel papers  
on the craft and ancient lore.  
Discussion quickly followed  
then I left the lodge room floor.

Then spoke the Master from the East,  
all work suspend, our labor cease  
with parting words to go in peace  
like he had done so many times before.

And ere the setting of the sun,  
the gavel sounded - our work was done.  
We left the lodge to have some fun  
until our next communication.

Then parting in good company from  
learned men admired by me at LORE  
asked when, "Will we see you again next meeting?"  
"Yes indeed! For evermore!"



# Mentoring the Mentor IX

Submitted by RW Robert W. Howard, Jr., Grand Historian

## Memorizing the Ritual

In our last article, we took a trip to Loyalty Lodge No.33 and learned something about their "Masonic Light Studies". If you haven't yet read the article, I recommend that you go back and take a look; they seem to have stumbled upon a gem of a program.

This time around, we are going to meet R.W. Roy A. Winter, Sr. Grand Steward and Past Master of Covenant No. 161 in the 19<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. During the recent Masonic Leadership Conference held in Elizabeth Town, PA, he provided some guidance, which should give you the confidence to tackle some of those significant pieces of Masonic work that might seem overwhelming at first glance.

Just to be clear, Brother Winter is a regular guy, who puts one foot in front of the other like the rest of us. He started his Masonic journey in the year 2005 in a one-day class, worked through the chairs and by 2014 was the recipient of the "Know It All Pin".

From his example, we will learn that almost any of us, given the time and proper planning should be able to learn all of the work required of us in Lodge. Assuming that you go through the chairs in a relatively normal progression, he suggests that you learn the work in the following order:

<u>Chair</u>	<u>Work</u>
Stewards/JMC	ICR
SMC	JD Chair and Middle Chamber Lecture
Sr. Deacon	EA Degree & Lecture
Jr. Warden	FC Degree (includes "G" Lecture)
Sr. Warden	MM Degree and Lecture

You will notice that the time to memorize your work is well in advance of actually taking the chair, for which that work is required. Additionally, by using your time wisely in the early stages of your Masonic journey, you can prepare yourself to take the next chair without relying on another brother to do your work.

Brother Winter reminds us that we have all memorized some pieces of work already, such as:

- The Pledge of Allegiance
- The Star Spangled Banner
- God Bless America

By stringing together some of these well-known works, you will have in your mind the equivalent of a piece of Masonic ritual. Just remember how you learned these pieces of work, one line or phrase at a time. It is the same with ritual, once you have committed one line to memory, you are ready to learn the next.

Now when planning to memorize a piece of work, we will first need to do some math to ensure that we have sufficient time. Let's assume that we have fifteen (15) pages of ritual to learn, if we can learn one page a week, we will require 15 weeks to learn the work. If we add two weeks as a buffer to

polish our work, we should be ready in 17 weeks. However, be honest with yourself, if you require more or less time to memorize a page, adjust your timing accordingly. As a final check, you should count the weeks backwards from the day you will be presenting the work, and you now know the latest you can start to learn.

He admonishes us that it is very difficult to go back and fix something that was memorized incorrectly. Keep in the mind that the cipher is a memory aid, not a code to be broken. In other words, you need to have some understanding of the ritual before you start your work. If you haven't heard it a few times, it is too easy to misinterpret some of the words in the cipher.

Additionally, make sure that you have an updated cipher and that one of your Mentors has identified any errors that might have appeared in that edition. Pay attention and be careful with "which" & "that", singular & plural and make sure you are using the correct tense. And here is a good tip: read the ritual one day and do it from memory the next.

### Anticipate trouble!!!!

Some pieces of ritual may sound almost the same but in fact, have slightly different wording. Anticipate that these may trip you up, so find a means of keeping them clear in your mind. As an example, let's take a look at sections of both the Funeral Oration and the MM Reception Address. In the Funeral Oration, we see the following:

*Lift up thy countenance upon us, O Lord, and give us peace. Let our fleeting hours be spent in thy service, and when the toils of earth shall have ceased and all our chastening sorrows shall have been done away, do thou in mercy raise us to the enjoyment of fadeless light and immortal life, in that **glorious** kingdom where faith and hope shall end, and love and joy prevail **forever**. Amen.*

In the MM Reception address, we see the following:

*... enjoyment of fadeless light and immortal life, in that **heavenly** kingdom where faith and hope shall end, and love and joy prevail **throughout eternity**.*

Remember, we want to keep the ritual pure, so it is important that we make the distinction between these pieces of work and use the correct language in each.

### Don't let other Brethren do your work.....

If you take the advice of R.W. Brother Winter, plan out your work and allocate sufficient time, you will be able to deliver your work without someone else stepping in for you. Once you are in the chair, you should already be prepared to conduct the ritual or give the lecture appropriate for that chair.

### Remember to plan ahead, organize your time and above all get started.

If you have any questions about any topic that we have discussed or if you want to share what you have done in your Lodge to advance Masonic education, please let me know. I can be contacted at [grandhistorian2016@gmail.com](mailto:grandhistorian2016@gmail.com).

# Bringing Light to New Jersey Freemasonry!



Education

*Submitted by RW Robert W. Howard, Jr., NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786*

***NJ Lodge of Masonic Research and Education's purpose is to foster the education of the Craft at large through prepared research and open discussion of the topics concerning Masonic history, symbolism, philosophy, and current events.***

As I travel throughout the state, I continually meet brethren who have an academic bent and are looking for thoughtful challenges to augment their Masonic experience. These brethren tend to be involved with Masonic learning, participating in the Mentoring Program, searching the web for more Masonic Light, and travelling to hear Masonic speakers.

New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786 was established in 2001 to be the sacred retreat where Masons meet on the Level and advance in Masonic knowledge.

Master Masons are welcome at our meetings at Hightstown-Apollo Lodge No. 41 (535 North Main Street in Hightstown) on the second Saturdays of March, June, September, and December at 10 am.

During your first few visits, you'll be happy to sit back and listen, however, over time, you will want to share your Masonic perspective and offer a presentation of your own creation to the lodge.

To help you understand the nature of Masonic learning, we will have W. Brother Jay Hochberg as our speaker at our March 11

Communication, presenting "***Question Everything (And Answer as Best You Can).***" Brother Hochberg will explain what it takes to present a piece of solid Masonic scholarship. Beginning with a recounting of the history of Masonic education, and then counting down the common sense steps from concept to publication, he will leave you impressed with just how easy it is to satisfy yourself with a valuable accomplishment while benefitting your brethren with an advancement in Masonic knowledge.

Brother Hochberg served as Worshipful Master of New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786 from 2006 through 2008. He is a Past Master at labor in Publicity Lodge No. 1000 in New York City. A Founding Fellow of The Masonic Society, he currently serves as that institution's Second Vice President. Brother Hochberg has made Masonic education the central pursuit of his Masonic activities, which has enriched his overall Masonic experience immeasurably, and he wishes the same for you.

Please come to our next meeting, I guarantee you a memorable experience.

If you decide to join our Lodge, the cost for membership is only \$25.00 per year with a one-time application fee of \$25.00. You can go to our website ([www.njlore1786.com](http://www.njlore1786.com)) to download an application. There is a section for the Secretary of your blue lodge to sign and seal.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [grandhistorian2016@gmail.com](mailto:grandhistorian2016@gmail.com).



## SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday, NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

***Join NJ Scottish Rite in Celebrating  
our New Sovereign Grand Commander, New Jersey's own  
Ill. David A. Glattly 33°***

**at the Seasons Catering, Washington Township, NJ  
Social hour 5:30 PM, Cost: \$100 per person**

Arrangements are being made for a room block at a nearby hotel.  
For additional information, please contact Bill Anderson 201-437-0578 or e-mail [williams134@aol.com](mailto:williams134@aol.com).



# Light Always Follows Darkness

Submitted by Ricardo Fernandez, PM, Associate Editor,  
NJ Freemason

*For the Wretched of the Earth  
There is a flame that never dies  
Even the darkest night will end  
And the sun will rise.*

Les Miserables, the musical.

My cousin, Sergio, a Cuban refugee who recently obtained his long sought US residency card puzzled me not long ago when sharing his belief: *"Regardless of how terrible something can be, good eventually comes of it."*

This past Thanksgiving weekend I learned that Fidel Castro, the longest ruling communist tyrant, had died. Ironically, as my brother reminded me, he died on Black Friday, arguably the most capitalist day of the year in this country. My first thoughts were: *"At last, that communist despot is no more."* I thought how happy my now deceased parents would have been.

Fleeing Cuba, we arrived here as refugees in 1962. My parents thought it would be only for a brief stay as Castro would soon be replaced. They gave up their middle class life; he was an accountant and she a housewife, for the sake of freedom for their family. At first we lived in near poverty, subsisting on welfare, clothing and US surplus food. My first winter coat was someone's hand me down from a local church. To this day, I cannot eat American cheese and spam as that is what we ate almost every day in one form or another. It was all we had to eat.

Within two years we were no longer on welfare. My dad got a job working the night shift in a factory in NJ. My mom worked in a local belt factory. They toiled mightily but never achieved their previous status. With time, he rose to become manager at a local textile mill and she, a full time keypunch operator in Manhattan. They finally saved enough money to buy a small two family home in a blue-collar neighborhood. Though grateful for our opportunities, they yearned for what they once had but never again attained. They despised Castro for their many losses and difficult lives.

My parents returned to Cuba for a visit during the Carter presidency. Witnessing such poor conditions, upon their return, my father said it simply: *"After seeing what is left of Cuba, I am more American now than Jimmy Carter."* I will never forget his words.

For us kids, as minorities in a blue collar neighborhood, it was not easy but with government loans for Cuban refugees and scholarships, we paid for our own higher education. My brother became a very successful attorney in Miami, I became a doctor with a top-ten practice in Princeton and my sister is a public school teacher and owns her own business. We are successful by most anyone's measure.

For my parents and their great sacrifice, I find comfort that Fidel Castro finally died, conclusively ending this very long

chapter in our lives. There is a final justice, as we hear in the Funeral Oration:

*At the grave the septon of the prince and the staff of the beggar are laid side by side. There, all fallacies are detected, all ranks are levelled and all distinctions done away.*

Yet, for my siblings and me, we respond to his death with mixed emotions. What would our lives have been had we stayed? If Castro had not assumed power, would we really have accomplished in Cuba what we have here in the US? It is doubtful. We cannot help but have mixed feelings for Fidel's intrusion into our existence.

Had Castro not entered my life, I would also not be blessed with my wife. I would not have fathered my four children, each one a unique and special individual. I would not have the dear friends and brothers that are such a rich part of my life. For these things, and others I am hesitantly "grateful" that this Communist autocrat chose to change not only the history of Cuba, but also of our lives.

I am thus I am reminded of my cousin's comments: Good always eventually emerges from bad. So many people died, so many lives destroyed by Mr. Castro but if we patiently wait, a good comes from it. Masonry teaches us that we must rely on faith, hope and others' charity, before we can see the light. Victor Hugo states in Les Miserables: *Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise. Likewise we must remember that in our most desperate times, in our darkest hour, light will surely come.*

To those unfamiliar with the plight of the Cuban people under the tyrannical reign of Fidel Castro, it may seem that Fidel is a "nice guy" to let the Masons meet and convene to conduct their lodge meetings in Cuba. But, as someone who has seen firsthand how the Cuban people have been unfairly treated over the past half-century, that idealized and romanticized version of Cuban Masonry is NOT how it truly is in Cuba.

I have relatives there who suffer on a daily basis and tell a different tale. I know men in Cuba, many whom are of my kin, who are also Masons there, who tell a decidedly different story - a story of government infiltration into lodges where brethren are afraid to openly speak their minds, even within the sanctity of a lodge room. Many of those Masons have asked me to send Masonic pins and rings via travelers going there, but request that I not to mention it in Facebook for fear they might get in trouble.

We are indeed fortunate to live in a country where we can come together as Masons without apprehension that what we say within our lodge rooms will not be unfairly used against us. At our many Masonic events, we hear it said frequently but I say it now most sincerely as a very grateful immigrant to a country that took us in during our darkest hour: *God Bless America and may the Great Architect continue to bless our great country!*

So mote it be.



*Submitted by Bro. Byron J. Collier, Jerusalem Lodge No. 26*

When did it become acceptable to callously and willfully disregard the work of those generations on whose shoulders we now stand? When did civil discourse become civil unrest? What happened to thought out responses versus “memes” and “sound bytes”? When did Freemasonry forget its tenets for worldly ways?

Across America the Craft is experiencing an ebb in interest that coupled with a decline in active members, results in the closing and/or consolidation of lodges. As one generation gives way to another, change happens and should be expected. For Freemasonry though, it is our boon and bane simultaneously. We say that we are flexible and can move in accord with time, but are slow to act when called upon to make timely decisions.

Freemasonry is a behavioral framework born in antiquity of the simplest of means. Over time, conventions have come and gone, but our framework remained because of its ability to adapt to the world without becoming “worldly”. For entertaining the poisons of the profane, brethren today question their Masonic identity, inviting disharmony into our bosom. On blogs and websites brethren decry their ancestors in their making un-Masonic statements and exemplifying them in biased interactions with their fellows. Technology’s ease makes forgetting that not only what we do, but what we say is not insulated, too convenient. Social media creates distorted images of its users when the user doesn’t manage their input, or worse acts in haste.

Brother Benjamin Franklin said almost 300 years ago “A

*slip of the foot you may recover, but a slip of the tongue you may never get over!”* We as Freemasons must ask ourselves, what is it we wish the world to see of us? Who as men do we want to be? In the distant past, craftsmen were afforded the privilege of mobility on the strength of their knowledge and skills. A master mason was free to ply his trade at home or in foreign lands, earning wages for his gift of being able to edify mortal aspirations tangibly.

As noble gentlemen in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, brethren made an even greater stride not only creating timeless structures, but in taking a stand for the concept of universal brotherhood. This was exemplified in the foundation of the United States. The debates that were born of this act were at times bloody, but the Craft remained.

As I look forward to my mother lodges bicentennial, I see our past where dedicated men committed to the building of something greater than themselves. Masons today are no less knowledgeable or capable of being a part of the enhancement of today’s world as were our predecessors. We just need to keep our oaths not only in our hearts, but in our hands.

For remembering who we are, the issues confronting Freemasonry will be righted. Good men always create light in darkness. As the clouds of disunity and wickedness roll over our sunny valley, let us remember that no structure can be built on a divisive foundation. We are no mere social club or civic group, rather we hold ourselves to a different gauge. This is no hardship, but an honor that the famous and ignoble have carried on the level. Please, let us not forget that we are our future’s custodian. .



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# Tales of Tam o' Shanter

Submitted by NJF Associate Editor Bro. Martin Bogardus

Tam o'Shanter — from which the name of the famed Scottish hat derives — is an old Scottish legend, later turned into a narrative poem by Bro. Robert Burns. Both Bro. Robert Burns and Bro. William Harvey have employed the personage of Tam o'Shanter as the chief protagonist in poems, and herein I would fain introduce our Masonic readers to the efforts of both Brother Freemasons.



## Tam o'Shanter

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 lyrical form to welcome in the New Year and also at many annual Masonic Officer installations to celebrate the passing of the torch from one Worshipful Master to the next. Burns wrote Tam o' Shanter for a friend, Francis Grose, who had asked him to write a few lines to accompany an illustration of Alloway Kirk ("kirk" is an old Scottish word meaning "church") intended for volume two of Grose's book, *The Antiquities of Scotland*.

Burns found inspiration in an old Ayrshire, Scotland tale from his youth in which, after a long day at market, a farmer from Carrick stays drinking until near the witching hour (the hour between night and day). As the farmer rides for home upon his trusty horse, his route takes him past the haunted Alloway Kirk. Through the brightly-lit church windows he sees witches dancing to the accompaniment of the Devil himself playing the bagpipes. One young witch, dancing in a short undergarment, so impresses the farmer that he shouts, "*Weel luppen, Maggy wei' the short sark!*" (Well done, short skirt!), and then must flee for his life as witches and warlocks spot him and give chase. He makes for the bridge over the river Doon, knowing that the fiendish creatures cannot cross running water.

As Burns explained to Grose in a letter after penning Tam o'Shanter: "*I need not mention the universally known fact,*

*that no diabolical power can pursue you beyond the middle of a running stream.*" In Burns' poem, despite the speed of Tam's mare, as Tam reaches the middle of the arch of the bridge over the river the "*pursuing, vengeful bags*" are so close at his heels that one of them actually springs forward and manages to grip the horse's tail, which "*immediately gave way to her infernal grip, as if blasted by a stroke of lightning.*" The poor mare's tail never re-grew.

Burns used the old legend to craft a wonderful tale about Tam o'Shanter, who never takes the advice of his poor wife Kate. He stays out at all hours, drinking his life away, until one night poor Tam, like the farmer of legend, has to flee for his life from witches gathered to dance to the devil's bagpipes at the old Kirk in Alloway. At the end of the poem, Burns changes the witch's name to Nannie Dee and, instead of using the phrase "*short sark*", Tam calls out instead "*Weel done, Cutty-sark*" — Cutty sark being an 18<sup>th</sup>-century Scots term for a "short chemise," a short undergarment or petticoat. Hyphenated, Cutty-sark was a nickname given to Burns' witch Nannie Dee, after the garment she wore. The figurehead of the famous ship, the tea clipper Cutty Sark, is named after the character.

Burns' poem is populated by several unforgettable characters. Besides Tam himself, there is his drinking pal, Souter Johnnie (souter is a Scottish term for a shoemaker, or a nickname for any native inhabitant of the Royal Burgh of Selkirk, Scottish Borders); Tam's long suffering wife, Kate; the young witch Nannie or '*Cutty-Sark*' and Tam's gallant mare, Meg or Maggie.

Tam o' Shanter is a poem that encompasses humor, horror — and social commentary — as the unsightly, tail-less condition of poor Maggie serves as a stern admonishment to the Carrick farmers against being out after hours and drinking too late in Ayr, Scotland. Written in 1790, it is one of Burns' finest poems and his own personal favorite. Vivid and inventive, it turns a little known local tale of witches into an epic narrative, loved the world over. It first appeared in the *Edinburgh Magazine* for March 1791, a month before it appeared in the second volume of Francis Grose's *Antiquities of Scotland*.

## Tam o'Shanter and the Merry Masons

*Tam o'Shanter and the Merry Masons*, by Bro. William Harvey, was itself inspired by Burns' poem. It is an amusing piece of boisterous rhyme in which Bro. Harvey presents the redoubted Tam as a candidate for the "light" which shines only in the mysterious caves of the Masonic Ceremonial. Indeed, its humor cannot be fully enjoyed except by one initiated into the mysteries of our Craft.

Bro. William Harvey's Masonic career was, to say the least, exceptional, culminating in his role as Provincial Grand Master of Forfarshire in Scotland, 1934-36, shortly before his death. He was born 1874 in Stirling, Scotland. William's father



died when he was three years old. When he reached the age of eleven he was obliged to leave school to work and support the family. He was first apprenticed to a hatter but then, in 1889, was hired by William Kinross, Carriage Builders, in Stirling. He later entered the law office of Messrs. Mathie, MacLuckie & Lupton to work as a law clerk. But his first love was writing, and when the opportunity came in 1899 to enter the writing profession, he joined the literary staff of the Leng-Thompson company in Dundee. In 1904 he joined the staff of the Peoples Journal. He became literary editor of the Dundee Advertiser between 1908 and 1912, and was then appointed to manage the fiction department, a post he reveled in.

Harvey was a avid Robert Burns devotee, delivering many speeches and talks around the country on Scotland's most famous Bard. He wrote what some would consider the definitive work on Robert Burns as a Freemason. Burns visited his mother lodge, Stirling RA (Royal Arch) No 76, and his subsequent book, Robert Burns in Stirlingshire, published in 1899, is still a standard reference work.

The story of Tam 'o Shanter and the Merry Mason's, written by Harvey in 1917, begins with Tam sitting in a local tavern having a drink when he overhears a group of Masons talking. Curious, he strikes up a conversation with Robert Burns and the rest of the group about the Craft, and thinking them a good group of "merry masons," asks how he can join. Burns pledges to Tam to be one of his "makers" and says that he will recommend him at the next lodge meeting. They spend an interesting evening carousing together, drinking whisky punch and toasting to Tam's decision to join the fraternity, before Tam has to go back home to his wife Kate who is waiting at home for him to return.

We can immediately see the common threads between Burns' Tam 'o Shanter and Harvey's Tam o' Shanter and the Merry Mason's. Both stories are told in narrative form and center on Tam 'o Shanter as the protagonist. Also, we can see in both poems that Tam's friend is a "souter" (shoemaker), and both stories have Tam's wife, Kate, waiting for him at the end of his adventure.

But that is where the similarities end. Although each story tells us that Tam o' Shanter spends a late evening with his drinking buddies, enjoying "booze and bonhomie," Burns' Tam is fleeing for his life from witches and warlocks giving chase, while Harvey's poem is more a tale of an evening's carousing, with Tam engaging in conversation with the poet Robert Burns and his Masonic friends, and is solidly Masonic with Masonic references replete throughout the poem.

When merry Masons meet at nicht,  
To crack about Masonic Licht,  
And tell their tales with pawky glee,  
O' what they say, an' what they see,  
When, with the Compasses and Square,  
They draw droll figures on the flure,

Or paint the Canopy abune  
With Sun an' Stars an' Quarter mune;  
Or curl their nose, or crook their lip,  
Or twirl their thooms in Sign an' Grip,  
They make poor bodies blink their een,  
As Tam o' Shanter did yestreen,  
When, sitting with the Souter haiverin'  
In Willie White's Masonic Taivern,  
An' thinkin' nocht o' Mells and Trowens,  
He got an inklin' o' their doin's.

What wonderful imagery Harvey paints of Masonry in his poem of brothers meeting on the level in a local tavern. Harvey makes historical reference to several biblical figures represented in Masonry, and to Burn's most famous poem, Auld Lang Syne.

With merry tales of Auld Lang Syne,  
They cracked of Gavel, Plumb and Line  
Tauld how King Solomon was Sire,  
To all the weedow wives in Tyre.  
How Boaz kissed his loof to Ruth,  
An Jachin was a wily youth;  
How Hiram socht to mak' folk dine,  
On Corn wi' Oil to save the Wine;

Bro. Harvey alludes humorously to how King Solomon spent his time in Tyre when not meeting with King Hiram. Boaz kisses the palm of his hand, the equivalent of blowing a kiss to Ruth when Jachin was just a young lad, and Operative Grandmaster Hiram Abiff encourages the others to fill up on corn with oil — another allusion to masonry — to save the wine, perhaps for himself.

"An' though I say't, I'd never keep  
A husband frae his virtuous sleep;  
But ere you leave our Circle, Tam,  
Let's souther friendship with a dram -  
Ae pairtin' gless" Burns cried in glee;  
"Let's drink it, chaps, With three times three  
An' show to Tam our high regard,  
Count, Wardens, count!" cried Scotland's Bard.

Near the end of Harvey's poem, Robert Burns welcomes Tam to join the fraternity before he leaves with a toast to "Three times three," referring to the three knocks a candidate makes to enter a lodge three times, i.e., three for the EA, FC, and MM degrees.

Weel mounted on his faithfu' mare,  
Wi' thochts o' Compasses and Square,  
Tam took the road wi easy canter,  
Kennin' that sune the farm o' Shanter  
Wad rise before him, an' his dame Wad smile,  
weel pleased to see him hame,  
But lang ere, Tam got hame that nicht  
I swear he saw Masonic Licht;  
He fand the Point within the ➤



# A Point Within a Circle: A Masonic Bridge

Submitted by Bro. C. Robert Davis, Raritan Valley Lodge No. 46

The point in a circle is symbol that Freemasons are introduced to during the Entered Apprentice lecture. The Lodge's youngest "rough ashlar" are told that *"Lodges were anciently dedicated to King Solomon, as he is said to have been our most excellent Grand Master; but modern masons dedicate their Lodges to Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist, and since their time there is represented in every well-governed Lodge a certain point within a circle, the point representing the individual Brother; the circle representing the boundary of his duty to God and Man, beyond which he is never to suffer his passions, prejudices or interests to betray him on any occasion."* The Lecture goes on to discuss two parallel lines that represents the two Saints John and the volume of sacred law, or Holy Bible, which sits on top; thereby providing a working model for Masons to govern their passions and conduct. Then, for most Masons, it is rarely (if ever) discussed again.

Remarkably, the point within a circle, or circumpunct, is one of humanity's oldest symbols that contain several ancient and medieval operative uses. It is representative of operative practices that helped to define us a species—practices that continued to evolve as mankind evolved. Recent works have made the claim that the point in a circle serves as a bridge from our non-Masonic to our Masonic experience and acts as a roadmap from Operative to Speculative Masonry by bridging the well-guarded secrets of our operative progenitors to the moral and philosophical teachings of our speculative practices.<sup>1</sup>

The circumpunct is not unique to Masonry. It has appeared on ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics as the representation of the sun god Ra<sup>2</sup>; it represented the Monad, or the primal aspect of God, to the Gnostics (and the Pythagoreans before them)<sup>3</sup>; it is the sign of gold to alchemists (the most perfect of metals ruled by the sun)<sup>4</sup>; it has appeared as a sign of the Archangel Michael; and even as the Alpha and the Omega—all that has come before and all that will be. The symbol appears outside of the Western philosophical tradition appearing as a representation of the Great Spirit to Native Americans and to the Chinese it represents the Sun itself and has evolved into the character for "day".<sup>5</sup>

One of the first operative practices that led to the development the circumpunct as a symbol was the practice of occultation. Occultation is the practice of interrupting light from a celestial body. This light was interrupted by our ancient brethren by way of a plum-bob to provide a vertical with a level string crossing it horizontally. The plum-bob gave a perfect vertical, and at the point where it crossed the string it was used to measure the passing of the star behind it. The circumpunct symbolized this measuring process, and where

the symbol appears, it reveals and dates one of the number of advances in proto-historic knowledge and technology. Early evidence of the practice appears in the Blombos Cave in South Africa (77,000 BCE) and then evolving in its capabilities through Gobekli Tepi in Turkey (10,500 BCE with the first appearance of agriculture) to the Longhcrew Giant Megalith in Ireland (3,200 BCE, contemporaneous with the founding of Egypt).<sup>6</sup>

Using the operative practice of the circumpunct and occultation, the ancients accurately measured the winter and summer solstices, predicted solar and lunar dates by season, coordinated lunar crescent months within the solar year, and traced the path of Venus around the Sun. All of these measurements are very important points for emerging agricultural societies, but the ability to predict the seasons, and hence the fertility and infertility of the earth, led to the development of numerous fertility rights and practices. Albert Mackey discussed in great detail<sup>7</sup> the extension of sun worship to the worship of male and female principles, which he felt originated in Egypt and were exemplified by the murder of Osiris by Typhon and his regeneration by his wife, Isis—with the exception of his "organs of generation." Symbolically, this cycle is representative of the destruction of the sun's light by night and a loss of the sun's restorative principles. The Phallus was revered not only in Egypt but in Sumer, Babylon, India and in Greece. Here, it evolved into a more perfect form by the overlay of the female principle to form the Cteis. This was represented as a circular or concave pedestal where the phallus or column rested (illustrated by a point in a circle). Thus the illustration of Nature and Deity to the ancients possessed both male and female elements in the same divine being (this is why ancient Gods usually had a pair of corresponding Deities—e.g., Osiris and Isis, Zeus and Hera, Bacchus and Venus, Shiva and Parvati in Hinduism, Avalokitesvara and Tara in Buddhism).

A similar merging of divine male and female principles in the is found in the Kabbalistic principle of Shekinah, considered the ultimate expression of compassion.<sup>8</sup> This compassion, along with humility, controlling one's anger and looking for the good in all are practices that enable man to emulate his Creator and are represented as Keter, or the regal crown in the Sephirot. Keter is so sublime it is referred to in the Zohar as the "most hidden of all things" and completely incomprehensible to man. The name of God associated with Keter is Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh (I Am that I Am), the name by which God revealed himself to Moses through the burning bush. Some scholars even argue that the Tetragrammaton (YHWH) is derived from the same root.<sup>9</sup> This crown is often represented as the circumpunct and begins to overlay ethical and moral principles one should follow to be closer to the Creator.

But what about those two perpendicular lines? Explained ►



# A Point Within a Circle: A Masonic Bridge

continued from page 44

in the lecture as a representation of the two Saints' John, with the ancient symbolism of the circumpunct, the introduction of these two elements at first blush can seem odd. Mackey again provides some guidance as he explains that they first represent the path of the sun between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, hence the Winter and Summer Solstices. Roughly corresponding to the Saint's John Days of June 21<sup>st</sup> and December 22<sup>nd</sup> and a merging of ancient pagan celebrations of the solstices to the Scriptures.<sup>10</sup> However, these lines as a partner to the circumpunct, are also represented in Egyptian hieroglyphics as two parallel snakes that point to the solstitial points of Cancer and Capricorn representing the Alpha and Omega—all that is between the beginning and end.

To our medieval operative Mason, keeping their trade secrets could literally mean life and death. Their main tools—the square, level and plumb—were made of wood; wood, cord and weight for the plumb and level and wood alone for the square. Wood wears when used against stone and warps when exposed to water or damp air. The squares would not stay “square” for long and needed to be tested for their accuracy—critical for the measuring of an ashlar from the quarry. Our operative brothers developed a mechanism to “try their squares”.<sup>11</sup>

To try a square, the Operative Masons used a method first attributed to Pythagoras and appearing in Euclid's Elements. Draw a circle on a piece of paper. With a straight edge draw a line through its center. Put a dot anywhere. Connect the dot with the line at both points where it crosses the circle. The result is a perfect right angle. This was the Operative Mason's great secret—knowing how to “try a square”. It enabled him to test his working tools and by doing so often enough, it was impossible to “materially err”.<sup>12</sup>

The point in a circle's place in the Lodge, again according to Mackey<sup>13</sup>, is illustrative of the Master and Wardens of a Lodge. The Master and Wardens are symbols of the sun as it

moves along its path. The Lodge is the universe or world. The point is individual Brother and his relationship to the world/Lodge and the Sun/Masters and Wardens (who provide good and wholesome instruction, ensure proper use of time and deliver unto them their due wages while ensuring peace and harmony).

The ancient, universal symbol of the circumpunct has traveled with us from our earliest beginnings as a proto-agricultural society to the building of medieval cathedrals; all along influencing our core philosophical traditions and moral practices. Masonically, it represents a bridge from ancient to modern, profane to Masonic and operative to speculative practices. Who knew this symbol on the wall was so complex?

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## Tales of Tam o' Shanter

continued from page 43

Centre Which Unenlightened daurna enter,  
An' learned whaur Masons first are made,  
An' how they follow out their trade  
By Level steps, and Plummet actions, Avoidin' plots,  
an' ploys, an' pactions,  
Syne climb the Steps - Three, Five, an' Seven-  
To reach auld Hiram's neuk in Heaven.  
As canny on the mare gaed trottin',  
Tam mused - a'worldly thochts forgotten.

The story has a happy ending for Tam 'o Shanter in Bro. Harvey's poem. Tam, favorably impressed by his evening's conversation with Robert Burns and the rest of his “merry mason's” finds the Masonic light which all Mason's seek.

Finding the point within the circle and learning where Mason's are first made, Tam shows himself a ready and worthy candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry.

Allusions to the level and plumb, the three, five, and seven steps in the Fellowcraft degree, and his desire to renounce his worldly ways, all speak of a candidate who has already become a Mason in his heart and is now ready to formalize his commitment to the fraternity.

Both Tam o' Shanter poems, by Burns and Harvey respectively, are excellent reading. I heartily recommend reading them to all Brothers to gain a greater appreciation of the craft and a glimpse into the minds of these outstanding Masonic authors.



## Remembering our Veterans



*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, PGH*

Under the leadership of RW Michael Holt, DDGM of the 10<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. On December 17, 2016 many Freemasons from across the state traveled to Rahway cemetery in Rahway, NJ to place over 750 wreaths on the graves of our departed veterans. This mission was conceived and accomplished completely by the brethren of this district and Grand Lodge. The day was horrible with snow and freezing rain descending on all, driving become hazardous. Yet it echoed back to that famous phrase used by the USPS *"neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night, nor the winds of change, nor a nation challenged, will stay us from the swift completion of our appointed rounds"*. True to word our brethren and their families came through and brightened the day, fore filling our obligation in never forgetting our departed veterans. This venture was

accomplished totally by the generous donations from the brethren and friends, a feat in itself.

A great many thanks to all the brethren of the 10<sup>th</sup> Masonic district and their families along with many from across the state who weathered the storm to honor our veterans.



## Theodore Roosevelt Lodge Honors Scholastic Achievements

*Submitted by Jonathan Dershowitz. Theodore Roosevelt Lodge No. 219*

Recently, three seniors from Carteret New Jersey were honored in lodge for their scholastic achievements. Carmen Prieto, Randy Fabian, Amia Sanchez were recommended by their teachers and guidance counselors based on GPA, extracurricular activities, volunteer work, and employment. The reason for such strict requirements for our honorees was to show that they are a well-rounded student. We believe that it takes more than just grades to succeed in life, and if they are this active in high school, not only should they be recognized for their achievements now, but it shows us that they are on the right track for success in all of their future endeavors.

Carmen, Randy, Amia, and all their families were invited to the ceremony, as well as several teachers and staff members of Carteret High School. A dinner was hosted for them where the Union Chapter of DeMolay assisted in serving and clean up.



While it is safe to say that the first Academic Success Award night was a success, we do not intend to stop here. We are already planning our next awards night for this year. We are also planning to expand this award to the middle school, and perhaps even the three elementary schools in town.

# Truman Speaks



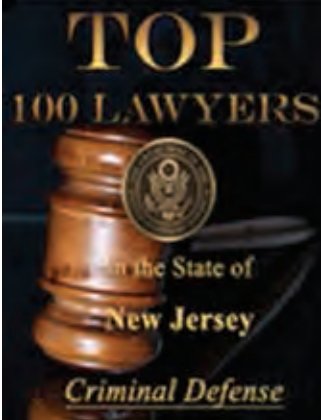
Masons in Action

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, PGH*

It's not often we were graced to hear Masonic greatness. So at our 3<sup>rd</sup> bi-annual Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Symposium held on October 22, 2016 at the Valley Bordentown, NJ. We hosted Bro. Clifton Truman Daniels, grandson of President & Bro. Harry S. Truman to speak about as the title of his book states "Growing Up with My Grandfather" Memories of Harry S. Truman. Bro. Daniels is a member of Oriental Lodge No. 33 in Chicago. He is also an honorary chairman of the board of the Truman Library Institute a nonprofit partner of the Truman Presidential Library and Museum in Independence, MO. Thank you to the committee and to all who attended this wonderful lecture and day of fellowship. As we remembered and honored one of our greatest Brother and President.



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*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, PGH*

On November 2, 2016 Freemasons gathered for a very special evening of fellowship. Our very own RW Roger Quintana, SGW had much cause to celebrate. His oldest son Andrew Quintana after many years of watching his father working in the quarries. Stepped up to the plate and asked what most fathers await a lifetime to hear. Dad how can I become a Freemason?

RW Quintana quickly made plans for his eldest son to take those steps which many have done from time and memorial. He joined Blue Stone Mystic Doric Malta Lodge No. 35, also his father's mother lodge. The Master Mason Degree was held at Mosaic Lodge No. 194 in Ridgfield Park, NJ, MW Walter R. Kaulfers mother lodge.



The first section was done by the officers of BSMDM Lodge No. 35 lead by Worshipful Master Brendon Meany, the second section was done by members of the Grand staff lead by our own MWGM, and were escorted by The Masonic Kilties of New Jersey with their Fife & Drum band in full Scottish regalia.

However, another surprise was awaiting all who were present. Plans were cultivated to have the Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 Bible to be on hand for this evenings degree. On November 4, 1752 George Washington Knelt at before the alter at the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia. This lodge still exists today and they are the keepers of the George Washington initiation Bible. George Washington began his Masonic journey in this lodge and upon this Bible.

The lodge gave special permission for this piece of Masonic history, to travel and participate in New Jersey, for the purpose

of opening of Grand Lodge on the third degree.

One condition was that three members of the lodge would need to accompany the Bible at all times. Bro. Michael Moses SW of the Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, along with WB Charles Cooper & WB Shelby Chandler accompanied the Bible and traveled north to join us for this unique occasion. The third degree was administered in due and ancient form, having Bro. Andrew Quintana kneeling at the scared alter of our craft with his hands upon this iconic Masonic Treasure, almost 264 years to date of when George Washington took his oath.



A great many thanks to all those who participated, from the brethren on the sidelines (which was by the way standing room only) to the MWGM and his staff, the Masonic Kilties. To the brethren of Mosaic Lodge who opened their temple for this special evening, and the members and officers of BSMDM Lodge No. 35, along with the brethren of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. In making this evening special for all the candidates in particular a very humbled father.

## "The Traveling Gavel Returns!!!"

*Submitted by RW Jose E. Villalta, District Deputy Grand Master, 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

On Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, a very singular moment occurred between two districts.

A wonderful moment was recorded as 25 members of the GREAT 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District "invaded" the DLI of the of the 4<sup>th</sup> Masonic District to reclaim the Traveling Gavel!

The gavel was in the possession of North Arlington No. 271 (formerly of the 8<sup>th</sup> District) at the time it merged with Adoniram Wakefield Rising Star Lodge (of the 4<sup>th</sup> District) to form Adoniram No. 80 in 2009. The traveling gavel of the 8<sup>th</sup> District was instituted by M.W. John S. Ryan when he was D.D.G.M in 1999. It laid up in the archives of Adoniram Lodge No. 80 for several years until it was reclaimed by the



8<sup>th</sup> District! A big thank you to the D.D.G.M of the 4<sup>th</sup> District, R.W. Kenneth Wasiewicz, for letting us "invade"!





# Atlantic Lodge Safari Camp Out

Masons in Action

*Submitted by WM Peter H. Carkbuff, Atlantic Lodge No. 221*

Lions and tigers and bears, oh my.... HEY, giraffes too! In case you didn't get to go, here's a brief article and some photos from Atlantic Lodge No. 221's, first annual Six Flags Great Adventure Safari Camp Out.

It was a fantastic event. Everyone that went is still talking about it and can't wait to do it again. The experience begins in the middle of the safari in a safe and sound enclosed area. High on a hill with a view of an expansive field with big lumbering bears in the distance. The top notch well-educated zoologists and caretakers brought out some small animals for the little kids, and the big kids, to see and learn about.

As the evening went on we had burgers, hotdogs and cold beverages. After sunset everyone gathered together with their beach chairs and watched the movie "National Treasure". I overheard some of the



kids commenting about how the movie is about "the Masons" and how they were proud that "our fathers are Masons too!" After the movie we retired to our tents. Some of us slept under the stars to look at the heavens and contemplate the glorious work of creation.

In the morning we woke up to the sound of lions roaring and the smell of fresh coffee. Shortly after breakfast the giraffes began to peek at us over the tall fence with curiosity. The safari staffers brought us out to an observation deck where everyone could hand feed those beautiful gentle giants. After that everyone got on board the big 4-wheel drive safari trucks for an exclusive VIP tour of the safari. Incredible photo opportunities abounded, rare and endangered species were viewed and marveled over. Too many animals to list here, all kept safe, healthy and happy for future generations. Once the tour was over everyone received passes for the amusement park for all of the rides, games and shows. Young and old delighted in all that was done.



Special thank you to brother Bill Hartley who truly worked to make such a memorable family event worthwhile and possible. We are looking forward to doing this event again this coming June 2017.

Hope to see you there, brethren.

\*\*\*This year's Six Flags Great Adventure A Night In The Safari will take place June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be \$125 per person, all-inclusive. Any questions contact Brother Bill Hartley at: billh@hartleyindustries.com or 732-259-1859.

## Installation of WB Thomas

*Submitted by MW David A. Dorworth, PGM*

Brother Roger Thomas was installed as Worshipful Master of Clarksboro Lodge No. 87 on December 5, 2016. What makes this particular installation stand out from others is the fact that Bro. Thomas is legally blind.

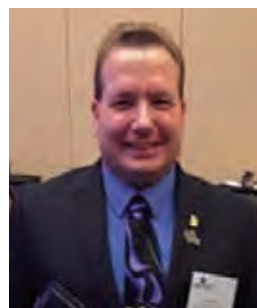
The installation was performed by RW H Wayland Packer and assisted by the Marshal RW William T. Dutka.

Bro. Rodger's service dog (Everett) was made RW Grand Companion by myself in 2013 and wears an apron as such. The Lodge was full of Masons and family. Everett was happily given dog biscuits by several of those in attendance as a gift for his service to the Worshipful Master. It was a great evening and one that will not be forgotten for years to come.



## Brethren Receives Outstanding Hospital ER Nurse Award

Congratulations to Bro. George Olschewski, RN of Genesis Lodge No. 88 on winning the "Outstanding Hospital ER Nurse" at Hackensack University Medical Center's NJ Statewide Conference on EMS.





## DeMolay Golf Tournament: Past, Present & Future

*Submitted by RW J. Michael Aaron*

More than twenty years ago MW Leo Otway began hosting a two day golf tournament in Carlisle, PA as an opportunity for Masons to get together for a good time. Carlisle was chosen because his and his lovely late wife Ginny's children Rob and Barbara both live in Carlisle and the former pro of Hopewell Country Club where Leo was a member had started Mayapple Golf Course there. After the first few years of donating the proceeds to the Charity Foundation, MW Leo started donating the tournament proceeds to the DeMolay.

The tournament has always been held on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of August, and for a number of years around the turn of the century, the outing was attracting more than 100 golfers, most of whom were New Jersey Master Masons. Two rounds of golf, four meals (two lunches, a dinner & a breakfast), plus a fabulous hospitality room on Tuesday night made the event one of the best bargains in Freemasonry. For several years the tournament moved to the Range End Golf Club in nearby Dillsburg, and then moved back to Carlisle splitting the rounds between Mayapple and Cumberland GC. Most recently, both rounds have been played at Cumberland. Unfortunately, around 2005, participation in the annual event began to drop off to only having 28 golfers last year.

Late last spring, MW Leo recruited this author who hadn't missed attending since the late 90's, to help run the tournament with the sincere hope of rebuilding participation. First, we brought back "Widow Ball" team competition along with the individual scores on Tuesday. For Tuesday dinner we brought in a roast pig from the famous Cannuli's House of Pork in South Philadelphia which received rave reviews.



The 2017 Tournament is bringing additional changes. We are inviting Pennsylvania to participate and prorating the proceeds between the two DeMolay jurisdictions. Since the roast pig was so popular we will again have it for Tuesday dinner and "Widow Ball" will continue. Additionally, by popular demand, we will be playing at two different golf courses both in Carlisle. Tuesday will be at Eagles Crossing GC and Wednesday will be at Cumberland.

In an effort to build excitement and participation, we are going to acquire a very nice traveling trophy. The winning team will take it back home to their Lodge, Valley, Shrine Center, etc. and an engraved plaque will be affixed with the names of the winning team. They only get to keep the trophy until the next Tournament. The event will be promoted in all of the Scottish Rite Valleys and Shrine Centers in both Grand Jurisdictions. The bottom line is, the more golfers and sponsors we have, the better we are able to support the young men of DeMolay who are the future of our great fraternity.

Even though it is still spring when you are reading this, now is the time to begin thinking about putting together a team to compete, get your names on the trophy as the first winning team and bring it back to New Jersey.

If you are a golfer, save the dates of August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> this year and plan to join us for two days of great golf and the best fellowship in the northeast United States. If you don't play the wonderful sport of golf, you can still support this great tournament by having your Lodge, District, Valley, or Shrine Center buy a sponsorship or buy one yourself or for your business.

## Grand Master Pool Tournament

The event was held on January 7, 2017 and the pictured winning team were RW James H. Vander Veer and Brother Luke Wikander A.K.A "Chalk & Awe" from the 1<sup>st</sup> district.



# DeMolay Golf Tournament

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 1st and 2nd, 2017

Interstate competition between NJ & PA with a traveling trophy

1st Round of Golf (Tuesday) Lunch 11:30AM & 12:30 Shotgun

Eagles Crossing Golf Club, Carlisle, PA

Shamble Format w/ Individual & Widow Ball Team Competition

Roast Pig Supper with all the fixings



2nd Round of Golf (Wednesday) Breakfast 7:00AM & 8:00 Shotgun

Cumberland Golf Club, Carlisle, PA

Scramble format w/ lunch following golf

All Four Meals Served at Golf Courses

Tuesday Night Hospitality Room with snacks and open bar at Comfort Inn

Prizes for good golf and not so good golf.

**2 rounds of golf, 4 meals and hospitality, all for \$160.**

Meet and congratulate David A. Glattly, Incoming Sovereign Grand Commander, Past NJ DeMolay Executive

Please make your check payable to: "DeMolay Golf Tournament" and mail to: Mike Aaron at 119 Valleycrest Drive, Cecil, PA 15321. Questions call Mike 724-263-1778, shrine.pp@verizon.net

Limited to 100 golfers - Registration Deadline is July 24th, 2017

Hotel accommodations for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are available at;

Comfort Inn at the Carlisle exit of the PA Turnpike

Call: (717) 706-3400 for reservations and mention: "DeMolay Golf"

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Detach complete and mail to Mike Aaron, 119 Valleycrest Drive, Cecil, PA 15321

**Participant Information: (please indicate affiliation for funds distribution and trophy competition)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Others in your foursome:

Golfer #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer #4 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorships: Signs recognizing your Lodge, Valley, Shrine Center, Chapter, District, Business or Individual (Tax Exempt Donation)**

**Tee Sponsor: \$100., Hazard Sponsor: \$150., Meal Sponsor: \$300., Hospitality Room Sponsor: \$500.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail and phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Wording: \_\_\_\_\_

Other tax exempt donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please make all checks payable to: "DeMolay Golf"

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT DeMolay of NJ & PA**



## A Spiritual Journey With Spice

Submitted by Bro. Patrick J. Glover, Euclid Lodge No.136

*"As the sun rises in the east to open and govern the day, so rises the Worshipful Master to open and govern the lodge."* These words have resonated throughout Euclid Lodge No. 136 in Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey for decades.

Many Past Masters have had the privilege to wheel the gavel as they saw fit once they had taken their oaths. This, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of 2016 A.D., the newly elected Worshipful Master would notch out his own piece of Euclid Lodge history as he knelt before God and pledged to lead Euclid into the future.



As time drew closer to the installation, not a minute would go by where you could not find Brother Aditya G. Thaker working on the layout and plans for this historic moment in time. Unlike all other past Master's installations of yesteryears at Euclid Lodge, WM Elect Thaker was faced with a tremendous honor, but incredible challenge. This would be the first time a Worshipful Master at Euclid lodge would be installed while having a sitting Grand Master and elected Grand Staff Line, all join him in the East.



*"Welcome to the botanical garden at Euclid lodge!"* echoed to the crowd with joy and pleasure from the Most Worshipful Walter R. Kaulfers, Grand Master of the state of New Jersey. Beautiful arrangements of poinsettias aligned the path from the altar to the east – a lodge transformed to fit such a special event. The Most Worshipful continued to

praise the work that was put into preparing for this special time, offering his sentiments regarding the Wisdom, Strength and Beauty of the craft.

"A Spiritual Journey With Spice" would be the theme that would set the tone for the evening and the ensuing Masonic year ahead. As the room focused their attention to the altar, Past Master of Euclid Lodge No. 136 F&A.M. and Installing Marshal, Dragan Blanus led WM Elect Aditya G. Thaker to kneel before God and take an oath to serve the lodge. At that very moment the words of Illustrious Brother Manly P. Hall became self-evident as WM Elect Thaker, under the instruction of WB Gary E. Tiedens, Past Master of Euclid Lodge No. 136 F&A.M. and Installing Master, was told to place his right hand on the Bhagavad Gita, and I quote: *"The true Mason is not creed-bound. He realizes with the divine illumination of his lodge that as Mason his religion must be universal: Christ, Buddha or Muhammad, the name means little, for he recognizes only the light and not the bearer. He worships at every shrine, bows before every altar; whether in temple, mosque or cathedral, realizing with his truer understanding the oneness of all spiritual truth."*

Once all the officers had been installed and the accolades began to shower the east, Worshipful Master Thaker thanked all of his family for their support throughout this journey. He reminded everyone that he was going to promote the family value concept in his year, and had many planned open events to support such. Jasmin Joshi, fiancé to Worshipful Master Thaker, gifted him with a beautiful handmade gavel which caught the eye of Most Worshipful Walter R. Kaulfers. *"You are my favorite Worshipful Master,"* Most Worshipful Walter R. Kaulfers said in jest as Worshipful Master Thaker yielded him the gavel to close the lodge.



The night continued to thrive downstairs in a transformed Gehrig Hall. As the Libations filled the cockles of many hearts, it was the hard work by Jonathan T. Brammer of Euclid and the DeMolay boys catering to the crowd which kept everyone happy. As the main courses were served, brothers and guests swarmed the trays to feast on the always delicious homemade Italian cuisine from Brother Franco Bernardo's renowned restaurant, Bensi of Hasbrouck Heights. After dinner, all were treated to a plethora of desserts and coffee with specialty cookies made by Euclid's own Frederick Patak.

As the night came to a close, what started out as a highly tense event ended as a complete accomplishment.

On this night, Oaths had been taken, commitments forged, and new friendships were bonded; but as Freemasonry is veiled in allegory, it was on this night at this installation, a beautiful system of morality exposed herself.



# Vinnie Lombardo, PM Honored in a Special Way

Masons in Action



*Submitted by RW Mobamad A. Yatim, PGH*

At 94 years of age, Worshipful Brother Vincent Lombardo continued to remain active in his Lodge, Atlas Pythagoras No. 10 F&AM located in Westfield, NJ. Brother Vinnie (Past Master 1976 and member of 60+ years) was, until very recently, present at Lodge meetings which are held on the first and third Fridays of the month. His favorite seat remained in the 2<sup>nd</sup> row on the south east side of the Lodge, right next to his lifelong brother and friend, R.W. Thurman C. Pace Jr. PGH. Both Thurman and Vinnie shared something very special: they both served in the World War II.

A few months ago however, Vinnie's health began to deteriorate. With almost no family nearby, he decided that it was time to retire and live at the Order of Eastern Star Home in Bridgewater. One thing Vinnie underestimated was how much he would miss Lodge and the company of his brethren. Even though our members kept in touch with him by phone and with personal visits, Vinnie made note of the fact it was not a substitute for being at Lodge. In response to that, the Officers of Atlas Pythagoras No. 10 decided that, if Vinnie cannot come to Lodge, the Lodge will come to him! With a dispensation granted by R.W. Michael Holt, DDGM of the 10<sup>th</sup> District, Atlas Pythagoras No. 10 held an emergent communication on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 at the OES Home for the sole purpose of honoring our beloved Past Master. On that day, the jewels of the Lodge, charter, paraphernalia, altar and all other necessary decorum was transported to the OES home where one of the break rooms was completely transformed into an operative Lodge room.

The emergent communication, which was open to friends and family, included a movie presentation by the Junior Warden of the Lodge, Bro. Vito Petitti, who highlighted Vinnie's Masonic service and dedication to our craft, and importantly his service to our country during WWII. Vinnie served in the

Army and took part in the Omaha Beach landing on D-Day during the invasion of Normandy in 1944, which ranked as the largest land, air, and sea invasion in modern military history. Vinnie was one of those unsung heroes who played a role in that piece of history. In an effort to honor our brethren who served in World War II, and at the direction of Illustrious David A. Glattly 33°, active member of Supreme Council of NMJ, the Scottish Rite produced a video honoring these courageous men. That video, which was filmed at Atlas Pythagoras Temple in Westfield, features two of our members, Vinnie Lombardo and R.W. Thurman C. Pace Jr. A copy of that DVD was presented to Vinnie on behalf of Ill. Glattly and the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite.

W.M. Roger Guan then presented Vinnie with **"Atlas Pythagoras Life Time Achievement Award"** to recognize and commemorate our brother for his demonstrated dedication and service to the Craft. W.B. Vinnie was also presented with his 60 year Royal Arch Mason Pin. At the conclusion of the meeting, R.W. Michael Holt, DDGM invited Worshipful Brother Vincent Lombardo to the East to sound the final gavel. Vinnie's final remarks were very simple but very emotional. His exact final remark was, *"I love you all."*

Years from now, people may remember this evening and this act of unselfishness and brotherly love toward our brother, honoring him and making him feel special and happy. The way everyone pulled together to make this program happen made us feel proud to be Freemasons. It is reassuring to see brethren live Freemasonry as something far beyond simply ritual and our twice a month meetings. Who among us doesn't feel proud when they offer genuine care support to one another without any expectation of reward or payback? The Scottish Rite's vision describes it best with the vision statement, *"We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members."*



## Distinguished White Apron Brother Awarded

*Submitted by RW William J. VonDerHeide, Grand Chaplain*

Thank you for allowing our District to award a second DWA this year. RW James Taylor made the award last night to Brother Rudy Nordman, of Musconetcong No. 42, at the First District Holiday Party.

Brother Nordman, and his wife Patricia, were very touched by the award and by the recognition of the Grand Lodge. It was great night for our District, and one which was made more special with this award. Thank you.



## Distinguished White Aprons Brethren of the 15<sup>th</sup> District



*Submitted by WM Gregory J. Adams*

The Distinguished White Apron was awarded to one of three Brothers in the 15<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. One of the Brothers awarded was Brother James J. Jones, Treasurer, a member of Gothic - Fraternal Lodge No. 270 (standing in center) was awarded the DWA Award for his unwavering commitment to his lodge and endeavors throughout the community. RW Brian K. Hartel, Sr., DDGM of the 15<sup>th</sup> Masonic District presented Brother Jones with his White Apron. Thank you Distinguished Brother for your support and continued service!

## The Elected Line's Florida Trip

On January 26, 2017, the Elected Line traveled to West Palm Beach, Florida. The gentleman to the left of Grand Master MW Walter R. Kaulfers is RW John E. Belin, PDDGM.



## Honoring our Junior Grand Warden

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, PGH*

At the formation of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey on January 30, 1787 our first elected line of officers was established, including the first Junior Grand Warden Daniel Marsh. Born in 1735 in Elizabethtown, NJ and later a resident of Rahway. A Revolutionary Patriot, and assistant Quartermaster General in the Continental Army. He also was heavily involved in New Jersey politics and a prominent member in Rahway. He was a member of St. John's Lodge No. 2 (now No. 1) in NYC and never belonged to any lodge in NJ. He was Collector of the Perth Amboy Authority and was killed on April 16, 1802 while on duty along with his son-in-law when his boat capsized. His body was recovered and returned to his family for interment.

It was so then fitting that our current Junior Grand warden RW Gregory J. Scott placed a wreath to honor this veteran and one of our founding fathers of our Grand Lodge.





# Hispanic Day Parade

Masons in Action

Hispanic Day Parade in Union City took place on October 2, 2016. This is the largest parade of any type in New Jersey and over 30 Freemasons marching.



## Honoring a Great Man

*Submitted by RW Moises I. Gomez, PGH*

On December 17, 2016 during the 10<sup>th</sup> district veteran's wreath laying ceremony at Rahway Cemetery. RW Gary J. Olsen, DDGM of the 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic district, laid a wreath at the grave site of James H. Durand. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in the years 1893 and 1894, at a time when Grand Masters were serving two year terms. On December 26, 1903 in the city of Point Pleasant Beach, NJ. MW W. Holt Apgar chartered Durand Lodge No. 179 a very active and prosperous lodge. A very nice gesture on behalf of RW Olsen for driving far and above the duty in horrible weather to participate in the Veterans wreath laying program. Also for honoring a great man and Freemason for whom his mother lodge is named after.

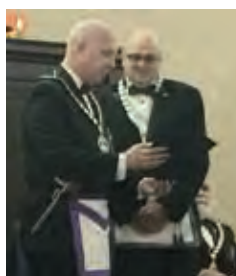


## Exciting Day at the Ballpark



Trenton Assembly No. 9, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls (IORG) seated with the Grand Master of Masons, MW Walter R. Kaulfers (center, front) and the Worshipful Master of Gothic - Fraternal Lodge No. 270, Gregory J. Adams (left, front), and Grand Worthy Advisor Jenna Brink (right, front) at the Arm and Hammer Park in August. Thank you all for an exciting game!

## Distinguished White Apron Awarded - 17<sup>th</sup> District



*Submitted by RW Gary Olsen District Grand Master of 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

Presented to Distinguished Brother Paul Schneider 32 Historian of Olive Branch Lodge No. 16 Freehold. Brother Paul is President of the Monmouth County Board of Health and Chairman of the Howell Township Planning Board.

## Gratitude and Excitement



*Submitted by Len Weiser, Executive Director, Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey*

As residents and staff of the Masonic Village at Burlington wrapped up holiday festivities, we were able to reflect on everything we were thankful for in 2016. Our campus has grown and changed a lot over the year. Some changes were more obvious, such as our new name, logo and slogan. Others were behind the scenes, such as the new natural gas combined heat and power (CHP) system and lighting and boiler upgrades, which will result in \$4 million in energy savings over 20 years.

We're excited about new opportunities for the future, too, with the addition of retirement living duplex cottages slated for construction in the spring. Through all changes, we remain committed to our mission: ***"The Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey delivers personalized services and compassionate care, inspired by the spirit, ideals and values of Freemasonry, to promote the highest quality of life for Freemasons, families, and others in the community."***

Your **Masonic Village at Burlington** was voted "Best

of" by the readers of the Burlington County Times in the following categories:

- Retirement Community
- Assisted Living
- Nursing/Rehab
- Alzheimer's Care Facility
- Adult Care Facility

**Acacia Hospice was voted "Best of" for In-home Care.**

This recognition is a wonderful testament to our team members and the care they provide. One of the best rewards is hearing from the residents and their families about what our services have meant to them.

As one family member shared: *"You are all very special in providing such wonderful care in this challenging field of nursing. It is evident each patient is treated as a family member."*

These types of comments are what motivate us every day. I encourage you to learn more about us and upcoming events by visiting [www.njmasonic.org](http://www.njmasonic.org). If you'd like a personal tour, call Cheryl Painter, Resident Services Concierge, in advance at (609) 239-3957.

## The perfect time for new beginnings

### LUNCH & LEARN OPEN HOUSES

Jan. 19, Feb. 21, March 31, April 11 & May 31  
Starting at 10 a.m.  
Fellowship Center  
1114 Oxmead Road, Burlington, NJ 08016  
Kindly RSVP one week prior to the event

Learn some exciting news about the potential construction of new cottages on our campus! Enjoy a luncheon and the opportunity to view and give input on our proposed retirement living expansion plan, and discover the many amenities and services available at Masonic Village. With quality health care services also available on-site, Masonic Village at Burlington offers peace of mind for the future.

### SCHEDULE

10 a.m.: Marketing presentation of approximately 60 minutes.  
11 a.m. - noon: Tours  
Noon: Lunch



609-479-1028  
902 Jacksonville Road  
Burlington, NJ 08016  
[www.njmasonicvillage.com](http://www.njmasonicvillage.com)

Open to serve,  
Open to all



# MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY

**Chairman, Most Worshipful Walter R. Kaulfers  
& The Board of Trustees**

*Cordially Invite You and Your Guest to Attend*

## THE CHAIRMAN'S ROARING TWENTIES BASH

# MARCH 18, 2017



**Plan to join the Grand Master for the glitz and  
glamour of an elegant 1920s soiree that features  
exceptional food, music, dancing, fellowship,  
and a touch of Gatsby magic.**

THE FELLOWSHIP CENTER  
1114 Oxmead Road, Burlington, New Jersey 08016

The Doors Open at 6:00 pm  
Dancing to The Infernos Band until 11:00 pm | Black Tie or '20s Era Fashions | Open Bar  
\$100 Per Person (no portion of your reservation fee is tax-deductible)

All reservations must be received by March 10, 2017

Please complete the form below and mail to: Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ  
Development Office, 902 Jacksonville Road, Burlington, NJ 08016

**For more information, or to charge your reservation, call (609) 239-3940.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



Christopher S. Abbott  
Director of Development  
Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ  
Phone: (609) 239-3999  
Email: cabbott@njmasonic.org  
Web: www.njmasonicgiving.org

PLANNED GIVING BRIEF

# ENDOWING OUR FUTURE

*It's easier than you might think.*

## WHY GIVE TO OUR ENDOWMENT?

The purpose of an endowment fund is to financially sustain the mission and work of a charitable organization. The principal of an endowment is kept intact and only the annual earnings, typically income and a portion of the capital growth, are used to fund current needs. Our organization has established its endowment so that we can continue to carry on our important work in the years to come. You can make a significant contribution to further our mission...and it's easier than you might think. Here are a number of charitable gift and estate planning strategies that can benefit you and build our endowment.

### CHARITABLE LIFE ESTATES

Do you own a home, vacation property or farm? A gift of your property is one way you can help build our endowment. With a charitable life estate, you can make your gift to us today and continue to use and enjoy the property during your lifetime. This gift is as simple as deeding your property to us with a provision in the deed that permits your continued use. You are entitled to a charitable income tax deduction, and the property is removed from your estate. In the future, our organization can sell or make use of the property for our mission.

### BEQUESTS

A **bequest** is one of the easiest gifts you can make to sustain our endowment. To most people, the most familiar type of bequests are gifts made through a provision in a will or trust. You can make a bequest of a dollar amount, a specific asset, or a percentage of or the residue from your estate. Our supporters like the fact that bequests are gifts that are made through an estate plan and are revocable, meaning you still have the opportunity to change your mind.

### CHARITABLE LIFE INCOME PLANS

**Charitable life income** plans such as the charitable gift annuity and charitable remainder trust enable you to make a future gift to endow our work while protecting or enhancing your current financial security. In exchange for your charitable gift, you reap multiple benefits:

- Receive lifetime payments (for you and your spouse).
- Generate a current income tax deduction.
- Bypass all or a portion of the capital gains on appreciated assets.
- Make a future gift upon your passing to endow our work.

### BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

In addition to "traditional" bequests made through your will or trust, you can use **beneficiary designations** to endow our work. It is typically easier to make a gift by completing a beneficiary designation form provided by your account administrator than it is to visit your attorney and update your will. The benefits of making a gift to our endowment through a beneficiary designation are numerous:

**AVOID PROBATE**—The assets you give away will not go through the costly and time-consuming probate process.

**TAX SAVINGS**—If you have a taxable estate, your estate will receive a charitable deduction, saving estate taxes, and will avoid income taxes on certain assets such as retirement plans and annuities.

**REVOCABLE**—Beneficiary designations are revocable and can be modified at any time during your lifetime.

**EASY TO DO**—Simply fill out a brief form provided by your account administrator.

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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# Builders by Day and Night

*Submitted by Edward Petkevis, PGC, President, Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey*

Masons are builders. By spreading brotherly love, relief and truth, we build up our lodges, our communities and our families. To those who made a contribution to the Masonic Charity Foundation's Name That Street challenge, thank you for helping to "build" our Masonic Village at Burlington.

The naming rights for three streets were awarded to the successful bidders for (see colors on map): Street "A" (navy blue), Street "B" (light blue) and Street "E" (yellow). We can't unveil the winning names just yet. The selected names are still pending Board and Township approval.

For many years, the Masonic Charity Foundation Board of Trustees has been working on furthering the vision of the Masonic Village at Burlington. Based on feedback from staff, current residents and their families, prospective residents, donors, volunteers, Masons and the community, we are expanding our services to meet changing preferences with the addition of retirement living cottages.

These cottages provide individuals with an active lifestyle and the security of health care services if and when they are needed. For the entire organization, this change positions the Masonic Charity Foundation for long-term success by diversifying our services.

The model cottage has been opened since last February so our prospective residents can see first-hand how their new home looks and feels. With any major construction project, steps must be taken to meet local and federal regulations. We are working through approval processes with the township, environmental protection agency and others. The target date for construction to begin is in March or April, with the first cottages ready for occupants in the fall.

If you are ready to make a move to carefree living, please contact Linda Andress, Director of Marketing, at (609) 479-1777.

To further meet our customers' needs, the Masonic Village at Burlington is in the planning stages of a renovation project to transform portions of the health care center into rental apartments. With these changes, we will create a dedicated memory support area for comprehensive personal care services on the first floor, relocate comprehensive personal care services to the second floor and relocate nursing services to the third floor. All this will be done with the reassurance that health care services will be available when needed by current residents, Masons and their families.

Masons have a long and proud history to build upon. Our Masonic Village at Burlington is a reflection of our values, and a place where people find the love, care and high quality services they deserve.



## Ben Franklin and Matching Gifts

### Do you work for any of these companies?

AT&T, PepsiCo, Merck & Co., Target Corp., Wells Fargo, Coca Cola, Lockheed-Martin, Johnson & Johnson, Verizon Communications, Boeing, Bristol-Myers Squibb, MetLife, ExxonMobil, FedEx.

If you do, your employer will double your charitable donation to the Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey. Many employers match donations from their employees, dollar-for-dollar, up to a certain dollar amount for every employee each year. **In fact, last year over 65% of Fortune 500 companies offered an employee matching gift program.**

Matching donation programs are a big part of corporations' social responsibility initiatives, but employees often times are not aware such programs exist. Unfortunately, the funds

that are not used for matching donations are never distributed to charities.

The concept of corporate matching originated with Brother Benjamin Franklin over 200 years ago. While raising funds for the Pennsylvania Hospital, Franklin approached the colonial legislature to propose that once the hospital had raised £2,000 in private contributions, the colonial government should contribute another £2,000 to the effort. *"Every man's donation would be doubled,"* Franklin later wrote.

Please check with your employer regarding the matching gift program's policy at your company. In doing so, you could double your gift to the Masonic Charity Foundation and provide twice the benefit to our Masonic Village at Burlington's residents. For more details, please contact Christopher Abbott, Development Director at the Masonic Charity Foundation, by calling (609) 239-3999.



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## Balance: it's all part of the plan.

Our exclusive *Confident Retirement*® approach addresses the four key needs of financial planning, helping you feel confident about your long-term financial future, as well as your wants and needs of today. It's what financial balance is all about.

**Covering essentials** – Essentials are the necessities—the monthly expenses that keep your life running. **Make the most of your income and build a reserve to cover those expenses.**

**Ensuring lifestyle** – Lifestyle is about the things that you want to do and how you want to live, today and in the future. **Build a savings and investment plan for what's important.**

**Preparing for the unexpected** – The unexpected are events that could derail your plans. **Protect yourself from the certainty of uncertainty.**

**Leaving a legacy** – Legacy is about the impact you'll make on the people, charities and causes that are important to you. **Plan now to maximize your giving and make your wishes known.**



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# 2017 Grand Master's Golf Outing

**Monday - June 19, 2017**

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**

**Feel Like Staying Over?**

*Special Room Rates Have Been Arranged On Site*

*Only \$39.95 PP (Based On Double Occupancy) At "The Inn at Sea Oaks"*

*PLUS - A 25% Discount On a Round of Golf (Subject to Availability)*

*Good Anytime + Free Lunch Coupon At "The Tin Cup"*

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

**"Grand Master's 2017 Outing"**

39 Bunker Drive, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087 - Attn: RW Joe Schwartz

Any Additional Info Contact Joe @ 609-276-7290 or Email: [sec2gm2017@gmail.com](mailto:sec2gm2017@gmail.com)

Additional Donations Appreciated: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\* CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED \***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address & Tel # \_\_\_\_\_

Your Foursome Players \_\_\_\_\_

All Net Proceeds Go To **"Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey"**

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

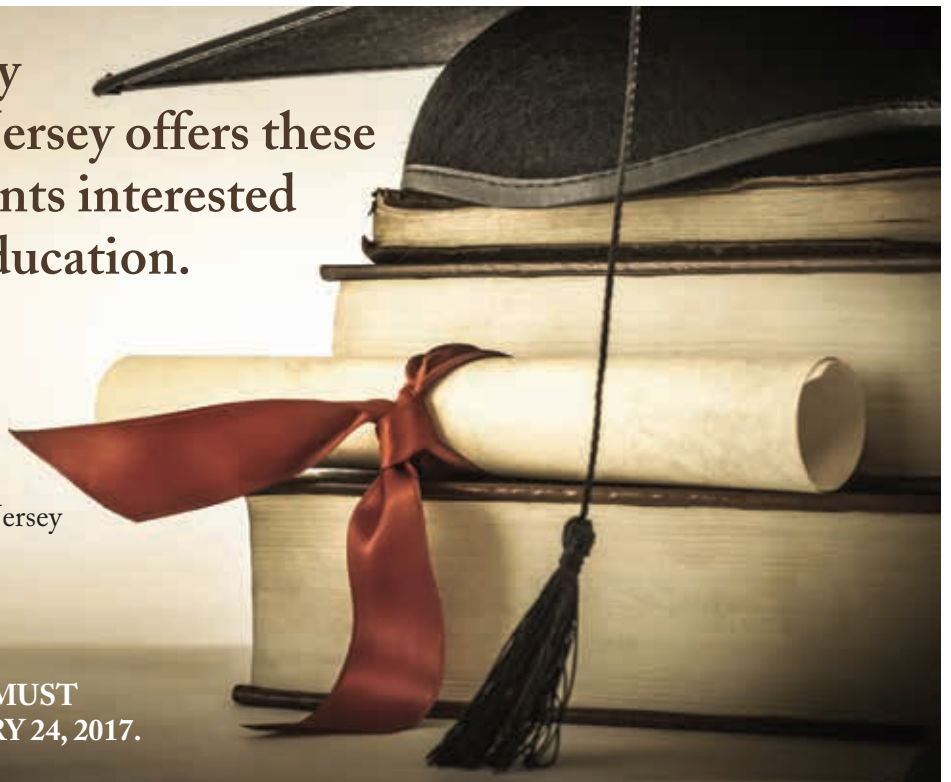
For complete details about each scholarship's eligibility requirements, or for an application, visit:

[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 24, 2017.**



## **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**

# Celebrate 300 Years of Freemasonry 1717 – 2017



76 Audrey Zapp Drive | Jersey City NJ 07305

**2:00PM to 7:00PM**

**Cost \$125.00 per person | Black Tie Event**

Open Bar All Night | Cocktail hour | Sit Down Dinner

Free Valet Parking | Outdoor Patio | Music and Dancing

Views of Manhattan & Lady Liberty

Limited to 330 People (first come first serve) RSVP by September 1, 2017

Checks Payable to "The Masonic Charity Foundation"

Mail To:

Moises I. Gomez, 526 Kaplan Street, Roselle, NJ 07203

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



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You'll receive a tax deductible receipt when you make your donation. Moreover, you'll know you've helped the residents of the Masonic Village at Burlington.

*And that is a happily-ever-after ending!*

