

May 2024

18th District Light

Journal of the 18th Masonic District of New Jersey



Taurus

April 20th - May 20th

LODGES OF THE 18TH DISTRICT

Audubon-Parkside #218
Campana de Libertad #376
Collingswood-Cloud #101
Laurel #237
Lazarus #303
Merchantville #119
Mozart #121
Rising Sun #15
USS NJ #62

INSIDE

**Celebrating a
Masonic Life**

**Road Trip to
Gettysburg**

Dimit or Demit

and Much More!

CONTENTS

From the Editor 3

Your Grand Chaplains 4

Celebrating a Masonic Life: RW Albert L. Hann 5

Article: Road Trip to Gettysburg 6

Article: Dimit or Demit 8

SCHEDULES AND DEPARTMENTS 9

- 18th District Lodge Communications 10
- 2024 DLI/GLI Schedule 11
- GLI Requirements 12
- Monthly Calendar 13

This Month’s 18th District Events 14

Looking Forward: Upcoming Events 19

Outside the District: GL & Appendant Bodies 21

Entertainment Pages 27

18th District Light: Journal of the 18th Masonic District

Editor: RW David A. Frankel — dafrankel@comcast.net

BACK ISSUES OF THE 18TH DISTRICT LIGHT CAN BE FOUND AT:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B1zPsUAMCi4Oc0YxSTBKS18xYUk?resourcekey=0-kpXXfYD-Z7I-MVBMEYH3Tg&usp=sharing>

THE 18TH DISTRICT BLUEBOOK CAN BE FOUND AT:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tQMIPxzmFirdAeFIXabMTZMMB1Sz-ZJk?usp=sharing>

FROM THE EDITOR

Brethren,

Recent events brought to mind some sad events from the past, which inspired me at that time to compose the following—my Master’s trestleboard message from May 2012. Here it is, once again, still timely, always relevant.

The recent sudden deaths of two dear lifelong friends have brought very close to home for me our Masonic admonitions to “help, aid, and assist” our distressed brethren and their families. The first, a man of my own age, won his year-and-a-half long battle with brain tumors, only to fall prey to the treatment, succumbing shortly after being pronounced healthy to diseases and infections that his immune system, destroyed by radiation and chemotherapy, could no longer defend against. The second friend, a vibrant and active fifty-one year old, came through a major surgery with flying colors. But on the day he was to be released from the hospital, he fell into a coma from which he never awoke, induced by an anaphylactic reaction to an anemia treatment administered by the hospital. In both cases, wives and children were left unexpectedly and shockingly without husbands and fathers.

In both of those tragic cases, the bereaved were blessed with large and strong support systems of family and friends.

Not everyone is so lucky.

Always remember that for an ailing or fallen brother, WE have pledged to be an integral part of that much needed support system for the distressed or for those left behind. Information about ailing or lost brothers is posted regularly on our Lodge Website at Rising-SunLodge.org and announced at all our Regular Communications. Brothers and their families may need physical assistance, transportation, or simply moral support. Make it a point of Masonic honor to stay informed, and to reach out to those in need of your support whenever you can.

May you stay healthy and well!

Dave

The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion.

— Thomas Paine



YOUR GRAND CHAPLAINS



RW Joseph Abiuso
Grand Chaplain
Laurel Lodge No. 237
C: 856-357-7883
J.abiuso888@gmail.com



RW Mark A. Friedrich
Grand Chaplain
Rising Sun Lodge No. 15
C: 856-571-4117
Markfriedrich54@gmail.com

We are here to help.
If anyone in your lodge is ailing, in need of a phone
call, card, or visitation ...
If you need assistance with a Masonic funeral ...
Or anything else we can do to assist ...
Please call upon us.

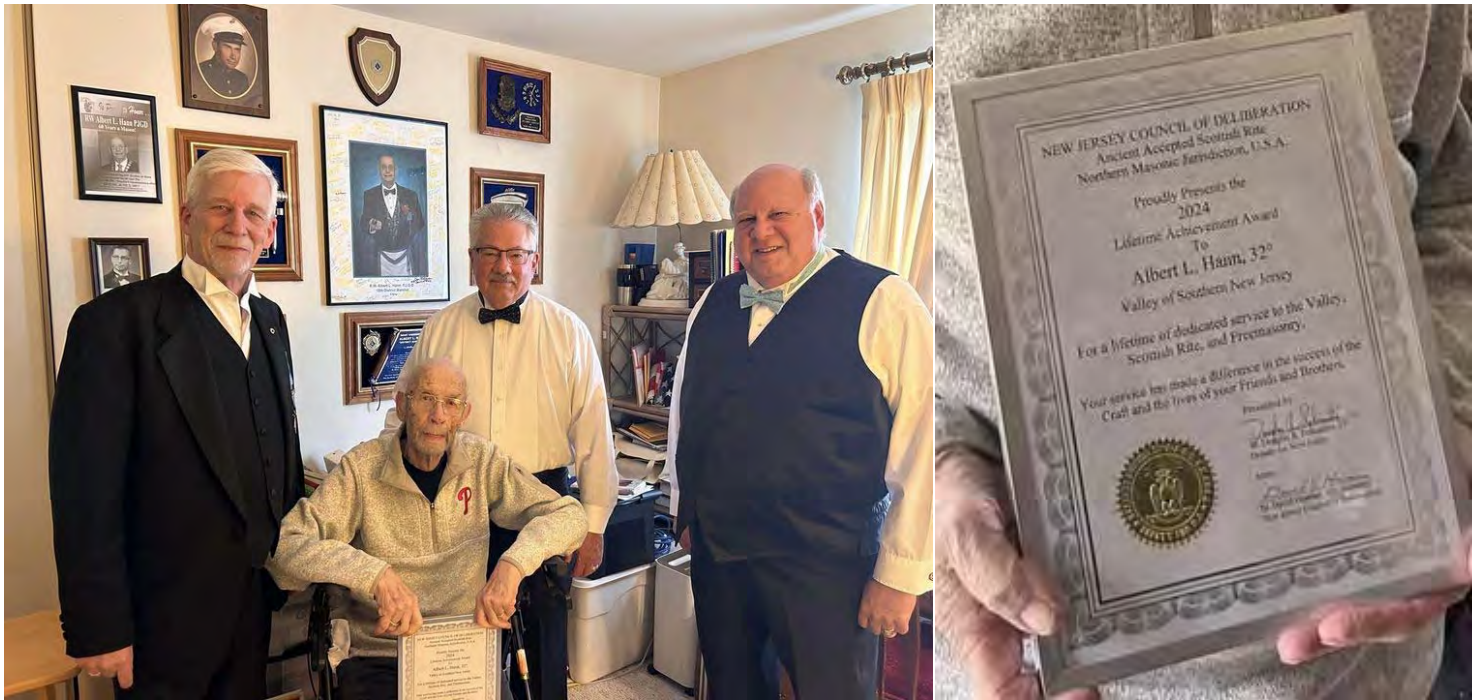
Joe

Mark

CELEBRATING A MASONIC LIFE: RW ALBERT L. HANN

by RW David A. Frankel, PGC, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15

If there is a Mason in the 18th District whose life hasn't been touched by RW Al Hann, even if only by acquaintance, then they surely didn't get out to many Masonic activities over the years. Brother Al has been widely known to, respected, and loved by 18th District Masons for more years than most of us hope to count in our entire Masonic careers. Al racked up all the usual Masonic marks of distinction—a Past Master, a Right Worshipful (Past Junior Grand Devil ~~Deacon~~), who knows how many titles (including Honorary 18th District Marshal Emeritus) ... the list goes on and on—and took some of them to new heights. While we lesser mortals hope to achieve our fifty-year tenure, Al achieved more than 50 years as a Past Master! From Santa Claus to King Solomon, Al played whatever role allowed him to serve his fellow man and Freemasonry at every turn. Whether you've known him as the installing Marshal in 18th District (and the 29th District, when it still existed) installations, or simply from sitting next to him on the sidelines and quietly kibitzing, RW Albert L. Hann will forever deserve Masonic honors not just in the 18th District, but across all of New Jersey Freemasonry. ♦



Most Worshipfuls Larry Plasket, David Dorworth, and Douglas Policastro present RW Albert L. Hann, PJGD and 32° Mason, with the Scottish Rite's Lifetime Achievement Award for his life of service to the Valley of Southern New Jersey, the Scottish Rite, and Freemasonry.

ROAD TRIP TO GETTYSBURG

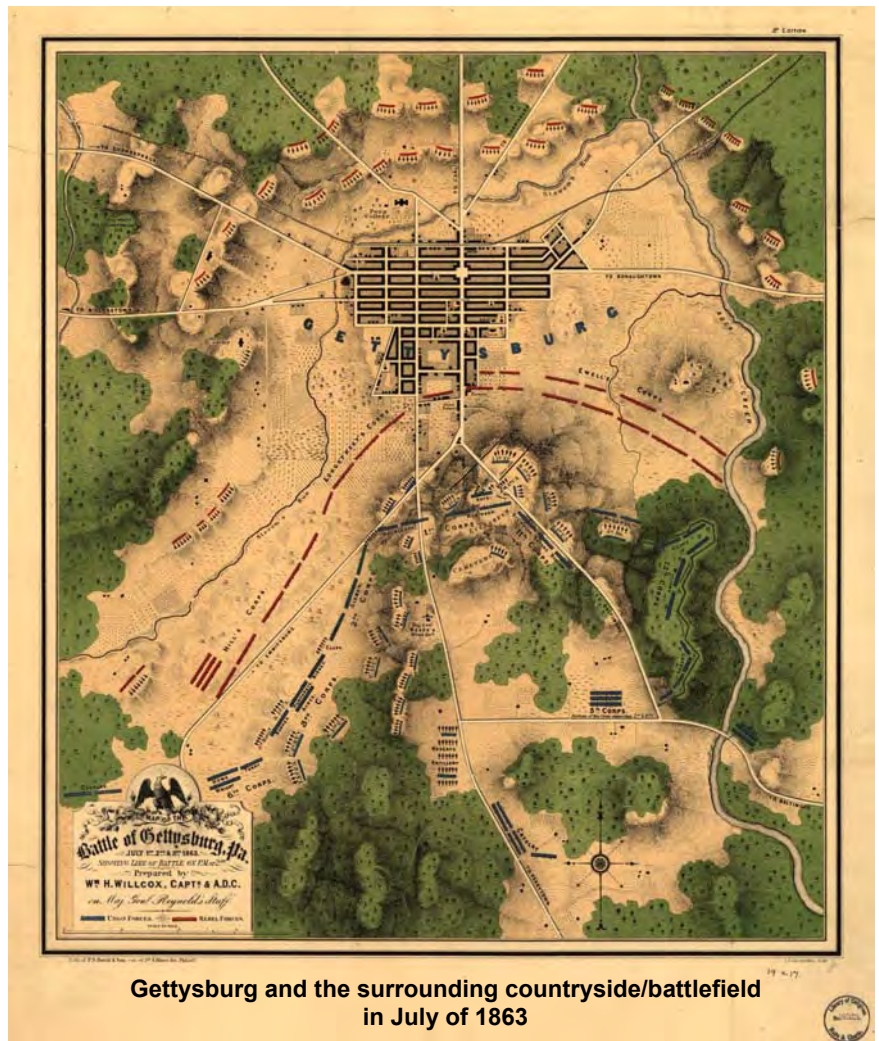
by WB Tim Boyle, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15

Editor's Note: On the weekend of April 6th & 7th, WB Tim Boyle led a group of brothers—along with family members and friends—on what has become a recurring trip to the battlefield at Gettysburg. Tim is an accomplished Civil War re-enactor with a wealth of knowledge about the largest and bloodiest battle ever fought in North America. He enjoys providing his services as a free tour guide and has now led several of these road trips. What follows is Tim's personal account of this year's event.

When it comes to Fraternal Brotherhood amidst war, it just doesn't get more real than the bloodstained fields of Gettysburg. This year I was privileged to once again guide a group of brothers and families from the 18th Masonic District on a tour of the battlefield, where they trod upon the same hallowed ground where brother Masons were pitted against one another during the intense action of the pivotal Civil War battle that occurred 161 years ago.

The two-day tour covered the major areas of the battlefield, coupled with selected tales of some of the roughly 17,000 Masons who fought on both sides at Gettysburg. Our little caravan move from stop to stop, where we discussed the battle, war tactics, and personal vignettes derived from letters written by soldiers who lived the events. From stories of brothers who refrained from killing an enemy after learning he was a Mason, to details of Federal soldiers performing a Masonic funeral while under enemy fire on behalf of a Georgian soldier who had a dues card on his body, we touched upon deep aspects of true fraternal brotherhood.

At one point the beautiful weather gave way to chilly high winds that made it hard to speak out in the open. We retreated to a valley below a ridge line, and later huddled behind the wall of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial, to make it easier to be heard. A special shout out to Br. Bob Russo whose knowledge of the battle helped keep me on point in the distracting winds.



Of course, no Masonic weekend is complete without good food and drink. We lunched and imbibed at the Appalachian Brewing Company. And for dinner, we enjoyed delicious colonial fare at the Dobbin House, where RW Br. Kanowitz got a much anticipated slice of pecan pie!

On Sunday morning we ended the tour at the Copse of Trees and the repulse of the ill-fated charge of July 3rd, where we were also thrilled by a visit from Brother Graham Reeve and his fiancé. Graham relocated to nearby Mechanicsburg a few years ago and was able to join us near the end of the tour—it was a real treat to catch up with a distant brother.

Thanks to the hospitality of the Brethren of Good Samaritan Lodge #336, the weekend concluded with several of us touring the Masonic Temple in Gettysburg. All in all it was a weekend filled with brotherhood and history. I hope some of you can join us at the next reprise. ♦

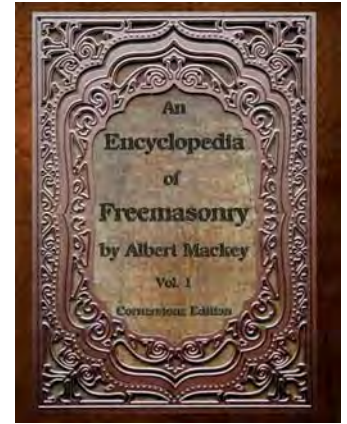


Brothers gather at the Battle of Gettysburg “Friend to Friend” Monument while enjoying WB Tim Boyle’s personal April 2024 guided tour of the significant Gettysburg locations and battlefields that underlay this pivotal engagement of the American Civil War. Pictured left to right are: RW Michael Mattes, Bro. EA Bob Russo, Bro. Stanley Saeger, WB Jim Perrin, RW Howard Kanowitz, WB Ralph Giordano, WB Don Keppen, Jr., WB Tim Boyle, and WB Fred Schindle.

DIMIT OR DEMIT

by RW David A. Frankel, PGC, editor of the *18th District Light*

At a time when the use of “Dimit” was becoming prevalent among American Masonic writers, Bro. Albert Mackey, noted Masonic scholar and author of *An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, keenly felt the need to set the record straight. According to Bro. Mackey, the word *Dimit* is “a modern, American, and wholly indefensible corruption of the technical word *Demit*.” [Mackey’s *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, 1925 revised edition, first published in 1873.]



At some point in time, you’ve no doubt embraced the expression “it’s impossible to prove a negative,” which, if not scientifically or mathematically accurate, still nicely sums up the generalized difficulty of addressing negative assertions or challenges, such as “prove that your not a criminal.” The utter lack of any criminal record, does not prove the negative, it only proves that, perhaps, you have not yet been caught!

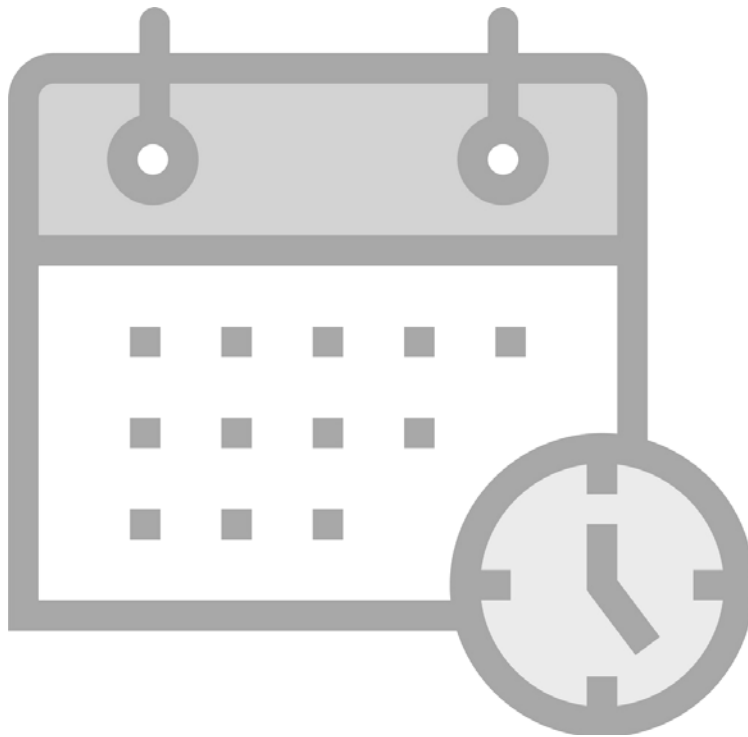
Mackey’s efforts seem to reflect a sense of this dilemma as his encyclopedic work contains a mere three paragraphs defining and defending *Demit*, while he spends two full pages of very tiny print on attacking and slaying *Dimit*!

But Mackey notwithstanding, to this day, you will frequently find *Dimit* used instead of *Demit* in Masonic works. If you doubt that, just take a look at the Constitution and By-Laws of our own Grand Lodge. The most recent revision contains some form of the word *Dimit* (dimits, dimitted, etc.) sixty-six times, by this author’s count, and the word *Demit* exactly once. For baseball fans, that’s a batting average of .015 for *Dimit*, which makes the Mendoza line look pretty good!

Across the internet, and in all the dictionaries I possess, *Demit* is uniformly defined as withdrawal from an office or membership in an organization, usually honorable—exactly what Masons mean by the act however we choose to spell it. *Dimit* is typically cited as an alternative spelling, with the same meaning, especially as regards Masonry.

So which is correct? If you search, you will find entire dissertations (see, e.g., the entry on *Dimit* in the encyclopedia at masonicshop.com) taking the scholarly approach to analyzing the history and derivations of both words, usually coming down on the side of *Demit*. The fact is that language—especially the English language, and even more especially the American English language—tends to be a living entity that changes, adapts, and adopts new words at the whims of those who speak it. So if American Masons did corrupt *Demit* into *Dimit*, we still know what we mean by it. If you’re of a more technical linguistic bent, then *Demit* probably has the superior claim. I’m usually more pedantic and technical, but in this case I sort of like that Masons have laid claim to their own version of the word. ♦

Schedules & Departments



18TH DISTRICT LODGE COMMUNICATIONS

AUDUBON-PARKSIDE No. 218

3rd Thursday
@ Laurel Temple
629 Stone Road
Laurel Springs, NJ 08021

MERCHANTVILLE No. 119

2nd Thursday
@ Merchantville Temple
6926 Park Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

CAMPANA DE LIBERTAD NO. 376

4th Tuesday
@ Merchantville
6926 Park Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

MOZART No. 121

1st Tuesday
@ Merchantville Temple
6926 Park Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

COLLINGSWOOD-CLOUD No. 101

2nd Tuesday
@ Haddonfield Temple
16 East Kings Highway
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

RISING SUN No. 15

1st & 3rd Wednesday
@ Haddonfield Temple
16 East Kings Highway
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

LAUREL No. 237

1st & 3rd Friday
@ Laurel Temple
629 Stone Road
Laurel Springs, NJ 08021

USS NEW JERSEY No. 62

3rd Monday
@ Merchantville Temple
6926 Park Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

LAZARUS No. 303

1st Monday
@ Haddonfield Temple
16 East Kings Highway
Haddonfield, NJ 08033



2024 DLI/GLI Schedule

18th District MW&PM Association at 6:45pm before DLI at 7:30pm

Wednesday

Lodge/Location

January 10

Audubon-Parkside No. 218
(@ Audubon Temple)

February 14

Campana de Libertad No. 376
(@ Merchantville Temple)

March 13

Collingswood-Cloud No. 101
(@ Haddonfield Temple)

April 10

Laurel No. 237
(@ Laurel Temple)

May 8

Lazarus No. 303
(@ Haddonfield Temple)

June 12-GLI

Merchantville No. 119 &
Mozart No. 121
(@ Merchantville Temple)

September 11

Rising Sun No. 15
(@ Haddonfield Temple)

October 9

USS New Jersey No. 62
(@ Merchantville Temple)

November 13

Incoming Masters and
Qualification Teams only
(@ Merchantville Temple)

This Month

GLI REQUIREMENTS

The ritual work that will be required at the 18th District's GLI on June 12th is as follows:




GLI (June 12, 2024 at Merchantville Temple)

Select Lodges will be assigned these items in advance or, for opening and closing, will be selected at random at the GLI:

1. An Opening (a randomly selected lodge will be chosen at GLI for this purpose)
2. A changeover to the EA degree
3. EA Exam (for 2 candidates)
4. A changeover to the FC degree
5. First section of the FC degree
6. A Closing (a randomly selected lodge will be chosen at GLI for this purpose)





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 RS	2 OES #140 AP EA°	3 OES #201 LL	4
5 	6 LZ	7 MZ	8 M&W and DLI Lazarus @ Haddonfield Temple	9 MV	10 RS Social Hour (see flyer)	11 MV Ladies Night
12 	13	14 CC	15 RS FC° Simba Grotto (see flyer)	16 AP	17 LL	18
19	20 US Program: 80/20 Rules of Leadership by MW Michael Wiggins, MWPGL	21	22	23	24 Scottish Rite Dinner	25
26	27 	28 CL	29	30	31	

- — Blue Lodges
- — District & GL Events
- — Special / Social Events
- — Appendant Bodies

AP = Audubon-Parkside
 CC = Collingswood-Cloud
 CL = Campana de Libertad

LL = Laurel
 LZ = Lazarus
 MV = Merchantville

MZ = Mozart
 RS = Rising Sun
 US = USSNJ

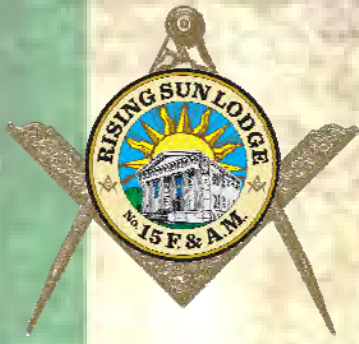
This Month's 18th District Events

The following pages are intended to promote Masonic events and are offered as a courtesy by the 18th District Light to the event sponsors. The 18th District Light is not responsible for the accuracy of the information, event cancellations, nor for accepting reservations. For information or reservations for an event, please follow the instructions given in the event flyer.

TRAVELING



IT'S WHAT WE DO



Rising Sun Lodge

No. 15, F. & A.M.

Happy Cinco de Mayo

May Communication

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

**Haddonfield Masonic Temple
16 Kings Highway East
Haddonfield, New Jersey**

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Taco Night

Price TBD

**No RSVPs required
Please be prepared to pay at the door**

Lodge Opening 7:30 pm



Rising Sun Lodge

**Monthly SECOND Friday
Masons & Prospects**

SOCIAL HOUR

Friday,

May 10, 2024

5:30 pm to 8:30 pm



**Invite a guest who
might be interested
in Freemasonry!**

For further information contact Jeff Earnhart
at jearnha@gmail.com OR (856) 834-6854



Rising Sun Lodge

No. 15, F. & A.M.

Presents

The Fellowcraft Degree

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

**Haddonfield Masonic Temple
16 Kings Highway East
Haddonfield, New Jersey**

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Featuring Chicken Cordon Bleu

Price TBD

Pay at the door

RSVP by e-mail only to

dafrankel@comcast.net

no later than Friday, May 10th

Lodge Opening and Degree at 7:30 pm

USS New Jersey Lodge No. 62
Presents

80/20 Rules of Leadership

MW Michael A. Wiggins, PGM
M.W.P.H.G.L. of NJ



“Coach Mike”
Progressive Traditions
Leadership & Coaching

MONDAY, MAY 20

Dinner 6:30pm

Lodge Opens 7:30pm

RSVP secretary@ussnjlodge62.org



Looking Forward



Upcoming Events

Haddonfield Chapter #140 OES



STRAWBERRY & CHICKEN SALAD DINNER

MENU

Homemade Chicken Salad
Homemade German Potato Salad
Amish Potato Salad
Green Beans
Roll & Butter
Strawberries over Pound Cake
with Ice cream or Whipped Cream

Friday, June 14, 2024
4 - 6 PM • Donation: \$20.00

Haddonfield Masonic Temple Dining Hall
16 Kings Highway East
Haddonfield, NJ

Reservations to Francine Zioance, WM
Call - 856-904-4227 or francinez213@comcast.net

Reservation deadline: June 10, 2024

MW LEONARD VANDER HORN

2024 GRAND MASTER'S GOLF OUTING



monday june 3rd, 2024

1:00 pm registration / lunch

2:00 pm shotgun start

6:00 pm SOCIAL HOUR (CASH BAR)

7:00 PM DINNER

Flank Steak or chicken marsasla

Ramblewood Country Club, Mt. Laurel, NJ.

Golfers \$165 per golfer (Dinner Only \$50)

All Checks made payable to:

Masonic Charity Foundation

Please mail all checks to

Attn: RW Jeremiah Phillips

5 Perina Blvd, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003



Online Registration

FOR SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS:

RW JEREMIAH PHILLIPS- 609-760-9234

JEREMIAH.PHILLIPS178@YAHOO.COM

RW GEORGE NIESSNER - 609-230-5702

GEOWN@COMCAST.NET

New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education



- Are you looking for more “light” in Masonry?
- Do you seek the challenges of Masonic scholarship?
- Do you enjoy crafting and presenting your own work?
- Do you appreciate the fellowship of like-minded brothers?



Join L.O.R.E.

The New Jersey Lodge of Masonic Research and Education No. 1786

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

L.O.R.E. meets on the second Saturdays of March, June, September and December at Union Lodge No. 19, 60 Cedar Avenue, North Brunswick, New Jersey
To learn more, visit our website at <http://njlore1786.org>

All Master Masons are welcome at our meetings!

DeMolay Can Help!

As part of the Masonic family, **Moorestown-Excelsior Chapter Order of DeMolay** is available to support your activities, whether you are a Masonic Lodge, a Chapter of the Eastern Star, or an Amaranth Court.



- Need Meal Service for a special Meeting, an Installation, a Table Lodge? Don't sweat it we can handle it.
- Need a program for your meetings? We have a variety of presentations to inform and entertain:
 - ◆ Ceremony of Lights — An explanation of a DeMolay's seven cardinal virtues. Appropriate for any meeting.
 - ◆ Flower Talk w/Mother's Watch — A talk geared to honor mothers — great presentation for May and Mother's Day, or anytime.
 - ◆ Father's Talk — A talk geared to honor fathers — great presentation for June and Father's Day, or any month.
 - ◆ Shield Talk — An explanation of the emblem of our order that breaks down the emblem piece by piece. An excellent presentation anytime.
 - ◆ History Talk — A presentation on the persecution of Jacques DeMolay and how his namesake Order came to be. Excellent for any meeting or occasion.

We want to grow DeMolay, and it's younger affiliate body, Squires, for the benefit of young men everywhere. If you know a young man between the ages of 9 to 21, who would like to learn life lessons, develop leadership skills, make life-long friends, and have a good time, then DeMolay & Squires are the Organizations for them.

Contact: RW Glenn E. Latshaw at bigdadyglenn@aol.com

MYSTIC ORDER OF VEILED PROPHETS OF THE ENCHANTED REALM

*Look for this month's
meeting details
on Facebook*



I WANT YOU FOR SIMBA GROTTTO

Write to Mark at simbagrotto@gmail.com
or call Monarch Mike Mattes @ 856-516-2061
for an application today!

See us on Facebook



NELSON W. CRAIG HIGH TWELVE CLUB #073

Break Bread with other Master Masons in good standing.

Join us on the 3rd Monday of each month for

Food, Camaraderie and Entertainment at:

The Lamp Post Diner
1328 Little Gloucester Road
Gloucester Twp, NJ 08012

President
Jerry Barnish
Phone: 609-458-5122

Secretary
RW Joe DiNovi

RW Jim Butler
Treasurer

Entertainment

Puzzle Pages



SUDOKU

Enter the digits 1-9 in each of the 3x3 boxes so that no digit is repeated in any row, column, or within a box. Sudoku is a game of pure logic. You should never have to guess. There is always a way (even if sometimes a very complex way) to logically determine where the numbers go. On a difficulty scale of 1 to 5 (easy to hard) this Sudoku is rated as 5 in difficulty.

1					8	2		
8		5	2				7	9
7		3	5	4				
		9				1		
					6			2
	7				4	8		
		2		6			9	
					1			

FOUR LITTLE WORDS

To the right are four short, simple, correctly spelled, English words. Can you tell what they are?

ZO—ZO

ZOOZ

OON

ZCZ

The answer will appear in next month's issue.

Puzzle Solutions

SUDOKU

1	9	7	6	5	8	2	4	3
8	4	5	2	1	3	6	7	9
2	3	6	4	7	9	5	1	8
7	1	3	5	4	2	9	8	6
6	2	9	8	3	7	1	5	4
4	5	8	1	9	6	7	3	2
9	7	1	3	2	4	8	6	5
3	8	2	7	6	5	4	9	1
5	6	4	9	8	1	3	2	7

MARCH—AN OLDIE BUT A GOODIE

You are standing at your kitchen sink with two empty fishbowls. One holds exactly 5 quarts of water, while the other holds exactly 3 quarts of water, when filled to the brim. You have a recipe that calls for exactly 4 quarts of water. Using only the two fishbowls (and water from the tap in the sink), how can you measure exactly the 4 quarts of water that you need?

1. Fill the 5qt vessel and pour from it to fill the 3qt vessel, leaving 2qts in the 5qt vessel.
2. Dump out the 3qt vessel and refill it with the 2qts left in the 5qt vessel, leaving room for 1qt more.
3. Fill the 5qt vessel and pour from it to top off the 3qt vessel, leaving exactly 4qts in the 5qt vessel.