

**February
2020**

*Please send correspondence to PO Box 127 Stratford NJ
08084*

*Address of Laurel Lodge
629 Stone Road Laurel Springs, NJ 08021
Constituted May 25th 1922*

Communications for February 2020

You are cordially and fraternally requested to attend the following communications of Laurel Lodge
No. 237, F&AM

Friday February 7th 7:45PM

Enjoy Masonic Light with Birthdays, Brotherhood, Regular Business and Refreshment's after Lodge.

Friday February 21st 7:45PM

Official Visit of RW Bernard J. Madgey V, DDGM
Enjoy Masonic Light with a Ballot, Birthdays, Brotherhood, Regular Business and Refreshment's after Lodge.
Brethren; this Evening is our Official Visit from Grand Lodge. Please make every effort to attend.

A Ballot for Initiation and Membership is scheduled for the following Candidates:

All of these Candidates have received Clearance from Grand Lodge, met their Financial Obligations to Date and received favorable Committees of Investigations.

Saturday February 8th 9am to 2pm

The 18th District will have a Blood Drive at Merchantville Lodge 119. It's the Masonic thing to do!



Blood Drive!

By Order of
WB William Roche
Worshipful Master

Attest
WB Robert A. Taylor, PM
Secretary

Worshipful Masters Message

Brethren, Are we really members of a secret society?

Some people refer to Freemasonry as a secret society. In one sense that statement is true. Any social group or private business can be secret. Many corporations have secrets that they keep closely guarded, such as manufacturing techniques, designs and even secret recipes. Group meetings may be open only to its members. In Freemasonry, the process of joining is also a private matter, and its Brothers are pledged not to discuss with non-members certain parts of the ceremonies associated with the Lodge. The use of handshakes and passwords were very common in the Middle Ages, when the ability to identify yourself as belonging to a building or trade guild often made the difference of getting a job or obtaining help for your family. Today, Freemasons make the same pledge to every Brother that he will offer assistance if he, or his family ever requests it. George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, Joseph Warren, John Hancock and John Paul Jones were all Freemason's and that's just to name a few. There have been sixteen American Presidents who were Freemason's. What they all did to help in the formation of this Country was no secret, as was the fact that they were Freemason's. In terms of what it does, what it teaches, who belongs and where it meets, there are no secrets in that aspect of Freemasonry. Charities that are associated with Freemasonry and its members are public knowledge. Lodges where Freemason's meet are well marked and known by all in the community. It is a private fraternal association of men who contribute much toward the public good, while enjoying the benefits of the brotherhood of the fraternity. The millions of Freemasons worldwide continue to help men and women face the problems of this century, building bridges of brotherhood and instilling in the hearts of men ideals for a better tomorrow. Is Masonry a secret society or is it a society with secrets just like so many other organizations in the world.

*Sincerely and Fraternaly,
William Roche
Worshipful Master*

**OPEN LETTER TO THE BRETHREN OF LAUREL
LODGE**

Brethren, as I observe what is happening in Laurel Lodge, I have become very concerned. In a time when several lodges are merging or just disappearing, Laurel Lodge has always been a mainstay of Freemasonry. Never, to the best of my knowledge, have we ever had open officer chairs at an installation. It was very embarrassing to me personally. Next to my marriage, joining Laurel Lodge has been the best thing I've ever done. I can't tell you how many times I've been proud to say I am a member of Laurel Lodge, not just here in the District, but around the state and yes, even around the country.

As Grand Master, I have had the opportunity to travel the country and witness other jurisdictions and what they are going through. I'm proud when I come home to Laurel. But things are sadly changing here. Unfortunately, we had several officers resign, mostly due to their occupations presenting different opportunities to them and some because of hurt feelings. We are brothers, and sometimes brothers disagree but true brother's work out the problem and don't just walk away. But trying to get new brethren to step up to fill those open chairs has been disappointing. Our newly installed Worshipful Master, Bill Roche', has dedicated many years to our lodge and now when he should be enjoying the fruits of that work, he will be struggling each meeting to fill the empty chairs with substitutes.

Open Letter Continued to Brethren Continued

The brethren of this lodge have stepped in to help me in many situations, from helping me when I was unemployed, to helping me build a house in upstate New York. From raising my son to become a member of Laurel Lodge, to helping me learn how to do things I never thought I could accomplish. When my brother Warren was going through some serious medical situations and eventually, his death, the brethren were there. Laurel Lodge has been a very important part of my life, so it upsets me when I see empty officer chairs at a meeting. I don't think many of you realize the opportunity you have in serving as an officer. Being Worshipful Master changed my life by helping me to realize that I could run a meeting, talk before large groups of people, lead a group of men and memorize things I never before thought capable of. These enabled me to gain confidence in my abilities which actually entered into my profession. I was confident in doing my job and get promoted to a supervisory position. It also gave me the confidence to become a leader in my church and preside over committees and many different types of people. I am writing this letter to try to reach out to my brothers to consider taking an officer's chair. Will it be a challenge, possibly, but that's what will give you the courage and confidence to be a better person, a better man and a better Mason. Being Worshipful Master of any lodge is a fantastic experience but, being the Worshipful Master of Laurel Lodge can be the most rewarding experience of your life. Therefore, I ask all of you to consider stepping up and telling WB Roche' that yes, I will take a chair. I guarantee it, brethren, you will not regret it.

Fraternally submitted, Joe Rival, PM, PGM, GLT and - brother.

**Emergent Communication
of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey
February 4, 2020**

Fellowship Hall at 7:00 PM.
1114 Oxmead Road, Burlington
**Doors Open at 5:00 PM Doors
Close at 6:45 PM**

Masters & Wardens Attire:
Jacket & Tie, Apron & Jewel
Past Masters Should Bring Your Own
Apron

You Must Bring Your 2019 or 2020
Dues Card to Vote
Only 2020 Lodge Masters & Wardens
and Past Masters May Vote



**LAUREL SPRINGS CHAPTER NO. 227
OES OF NEW JERSEY**

**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR AN
EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP AT OUR
MASTER MASON NIGHT**

SPECIAL HISTORICAL GUEST SPEAKER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

**MEETING 7:30 PM
REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING
PLEASE RESPOND TO JUDY BROWN, WM
609-535-5235 BY FEBRUARY 1, 2020**

**MASONIC TEMPLE
629 STONE AVENUE
LAUREL SPRINGS, NJ 08021**



Brethren helping Brethren:

Call or contact WB Olson for the following service:

GENE OLSON ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LLC

1 WINDSOR ROAD GIBBSBORO, NJ 08026

License# 13794 Office (856) 782-0077 and Cell (609) 868-2218

*Residential Electric Work | Commercial Electrical
Services www.olsonelectricnj.com*

Gene Olson Electrical Contractors, LLC has provided dependable residential & commercial electrical services in Camden, Gloucester and Burlington counties since 1996.

Call or contact Brother Halina for the following service:

Trophies, Plaques, Medals and other Awards

FAMILY IMPORTS, LLC 630 N Black Horse Pike Blackwood, NJ 08012

Tel 856 228 6400 or famimports@yahoo.com

Call or contact Brother Anderson for the following service:

Anderson Sportsmen Supply Audubon, NJ

609-828-1535

Capt. Bill Anderson (Tyler Bill), has been in business for over 60 years servicing the sportsmen community. We now only sell parts & accessories. (RV, Marine, Hunting, Fishing)

If you need something, Call Capt. Bill @ (609)-828-1535

"Fair Winds & Following Seas " Capt. Bill

Call or contact WB Abiuso for the following services:

Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories and More.

J&J GUNWORKS

310 White Horse Pike Clementon, NJ 08021 856-784-1910

www.jjgunworks.com

YOUR 2nd Amendment Store.

Call or contact RW Brian Read for the following Service:

Alcoy's Spa Service Parts and Service for Whirlpool Baths and Hot Tubs
800-322-7727

Call or contact Brother Drexel for the following Service:

DREXEL HVAC, LLC

*27 Canyon Drive, Berlin, NJ 08009 - NJ Master HVACR Contractor
#19HC00586400*

Office – 856-809-9342 or e-mail drexelhvac@hotmail.com

Sales/Service/Installation/Oil to gas conversions

Masonic Family Bowling Night

Saturday March 21st

7:30 PM to 10:00 PM

30 Strikes Bowling, Pub & Pizzeria

501 S. White Horse Pike, Stratford, NJ 08084

Cost: \$10.00 per person, Pay WB Taylor

Cash bar available

Included: 2 hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rental

Bumper lanes available for kids

Contact WB Robert A. Taylor for reservations

856-834-3917 or laurellodge237@gmail.com



Ladies Night Date TBD

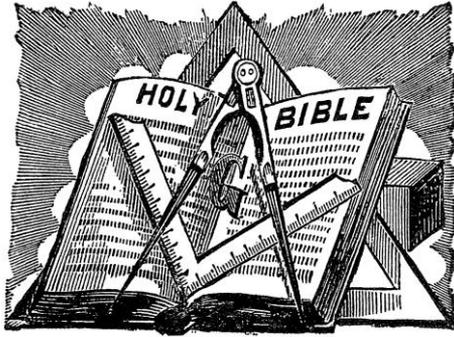
Details forthcoming in future

Trestleboard.



**KEEP
CALM
it's
Ladies
Night**

In Memorium



Brother James H. Norcross
Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master
Mason October 10th 1970
Called from Labor January 5th 2020

Worshipful Brother Edwin W. Griffiths, Jr.
Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master
Mason November 13th 1962
Served Laurel Lodge as Worshipful Master
1989
Called from Labor January 6th 2020



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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



Find out more about us—

**The Grand Lodge
of New Jersey**

www.newjerseygrandlodge.org



18th Masonic District

District Lodge of Instruction Dates for 2020

Collingswood Cloud Lodge #101 February 12th at Audubon
Laurel Lodge #237 March 11th at Laurel
Lazarus Lodge #303 April 8th at Haddonfield
Mozart Lodge #121 May 13th at Audubon
Merchantville Lodge #119 June 10th at Merchantville
Rising Sun Lodge #15 September 9th Haddonfield
USS NJ Lodge October 14th Merchantville
Qualifications Teams November 11th at Merchantville
Masters & Wardens @6:45PM
DLI Opening @7:30PM

February Masonic Birthdays

Bro Herman Kruckner, III	1957	63
Bro John R. Pavolec, Sr.	1973	47
WB Frazier R Alburger, PM	1977	43
Bro Frank A Delucca, Jr.	1977	43
Bro George E Widing	1977	43
Bro Herbert A. Morris	1980	40
Bro Daniel G. Dunleavy	1988	32
RW Henry J. Rahn, Jr., PSGD	1988	32
WB Frank M. Blizard III, PM	1994	26
Bro Michael H. DiGenova	1996	24
RW Leonard M March, PDDGM	1996	24
RW Bernard J. Madgey, V DDGM	1997	23
Bro Donald H. Demarest	2000	20
Bro Richard Genzlinger, Jr.	2012	8
Bro Jeffrey S. Slimm	2012	8
Bro Joseph DiCiano	2012	8
Happy Masonic Birthday from the Worshipful Master and Brethren from Laurel Lodge #237 F and AM		

Past Masters of Laurel Lodge #237

*** Deceased # Served another Lodge**

1922	Albert C, Stack *	1961	John P. Steffan*
1923	Harry A, Beck *	1962	Harold H. Croom*
1923	William S. Martin # *	1963	Charles F. Yost *
1924	Arthur Scrimshaw *	1963	Benjamin Foster, PGC #
1925	Benjamin Forrest *	1964	Charles W. Engler, Jr.*
1926	Elmer F. Giffin *	1965	Daniel A. Mullen, III *
1927	Charles B. Giffin *	1965	Carl H. Gamp # *
1928	John T. Reif *	1966	Edgar N. Peppler PGM
1929	Charles V. Osborne, Sr. *	1966	Albert L. Hann, PJGD
1930	Samuel G. Garrison, Jr.*	1967	Henry Baumert *
1931	Charles P. Mills # *	1968	Robert E. Walsh, Jr.*
1932	William R. Cannon *	1969	George E. Carpenter *
1933	Noah C. Bender *	1970	Henry Sannipolli, PDDGM *
1934	F. Maurice Goodwin *	1971	Leonard O. Beebe *
1935	Michael Balent, Jr. *	1972	Robert D. Rowand *
1936	Enos J. Jarvis *	1973	Louis W. Bradley, PGT*
1937	Robert F. Ranken *	1974	Robert W. Bates, PSGD
1938	John H. Fisher, Sr. *	1975	Frederick W. Knox
1939	Oscar M. Hansen *	1976	Leroy See *
1940	Albert F Neidinger PGP*	1976	John J. Eitel # *
1941	Lawrence E. Gardiner *	1977	Roy F. Gutshall, Jr.*
1942	B. Franklin Cope *	1978	John R. Beetle
1943	Fred Humphrey *	1978	James J. Golley #
1944	Charles. S. Schenick *	1979	Charles W. Bell
1945	Ora L. Wooster, Sr. *	1980	Benjamin H. Read, Jr.*
1946	Carl C. Caldwell *	1981	Joseph H. Rival Jr., PGM
1947	Benjamin A. Glatz *	1982	Warren E. Rival, PGC *
1948	Joseph H. Matthews *	1982	Ronald A. Rocco #
1949	Ralph E. Husted *	1983	Hugh C. Williams *
1950	Thomas Milne *	1984	Walter C. Knett *
1951	Ferdinand Herbst *	1984	Charles E. Oppido, Jr. # *
1952	Charles Mannice *	1984	Larry S Plasket, PGM, #
1953	Robert C. Osborne, PGC*	1985	Frank A. Applegate, Sr.*
1954	Earl B. Hallowell *	1985	Henry Bubacz # *
1955	Harry M. Ireland *	1986	Wilfred E. Wilson *
1956	John M. Fisher, Jr.*	1986	Donald L. Keppen Sr. #
1957	Albert C. Stack, Jr.*	1987	Robert F. Butler *
1958	Whitney H. Myers *	1988	William E. Hand *
1959	George F. McCann *	1989	Edwin W. Griffiths, Jr. # *
1960	Harold T. Wolf*	1990	Benjamin Foster, PGC #

Joke Corner

Bob and Bill were Brother Masons and great friends for most of their lives. Each had agreed that when one of them passed on to that Grand Lodge above, he would attempt to make contact with the other and tell him all about what heaven was like. As so happened, Bill went to heaven, first.

One night Bob was just drifting off to sleep when he heard Bill's voice calling to him. "Is that you, Bill?

"Yes, Bob. I am honoring our agreement."

"Oh, My, what's it like?" Bob asked with some anticipation. "It's like nothing you could ever imagine. The lodge here is fantastic, better than any lodge we ever saw on Earth. The meetings are always well attended, the ritual is letter perfect, the friendship nights always have tons of new people just itching to join, and the spirit of fellowship blankets the entire place."

Bob's eyes teared up. "Oh, my, it's just like we'd hoped. I'm so happy for you. But I have to ask, that sounds really great, but you didn't really seem all that excited. What's wrong?" "Well, I have some good news and some bad.

The good news is that we're raising a fellow to the third degree next Wednesday." "That's fantastic. What's the bad news?" "Your name is on the list to be the Senior Deacon."

Past Masters of Laurel Lodge #237 Continued

*** Deceased # Served another Lodge**

1990	Donald C. Lever, PSGS *	2017	Scott Vicari #
1991	Stewart D. Walsh *	2018	Joseph Abiuso
1991	Ralph S. Hill, Jr. # *	2019	Edward S. Bohi
1991	William H. Berman, PGM		
1992	George W. Stott, Jr. *		
1992	Harry H. Wible # *		
1993	Dale A. Lynch, Jr., PDDGM		
1994	Henry J. Rahn, Jr. PSGS		
1994	Charles A Castley PDDGM *		
1995	Russell B. Hoyle, Sr.		
1996	Frazier R. Alburger		
1996	James E. Miller, PGC #		
1997	Raymond B. Kingett		
1997	Jerry R. Barnish #		
1998	Kirk D. Nevius, Jr., PGC *		
1999	Scott D. Cianci		
1999	Frank M. Blizard, III #		
2000	Paul E. Burkhardt		
2001	Robert F. DiOrio		
2001	Donald. C. Sharp Sr. #		
2002	Leonard M. March, PDDGM		
2002	Craig J. Woodruff #		
2003	Eugene J. Applegate		
2004	Eugene O. Bathurst		
2005	Juan A. Caraballo, Jr		
2006	Moses R. Hayes, Jr., PGC		
2007	Richard J. McCunney, II		
2008	Michael E.Owsiak		
2009	Robert F Kunze		
2010	Craig R. Thorpe		
2011	Brian J. Read		
2012	Bernard J. Madgey, V DDGM		
2013	Kevin D. Kloss		
2014	James A. Weisensee		
2015	Robert A. Taylor		
2016	Gene G. Olson		
2016	Eric Erickson #		
2017	John P. Gomen		

Candidate Status

NAME	STATUS	LAST DATE	NEXT STATUS	NEXT DATE
	FC	1/17/20	MM	TBD
	FC	1/17/20	MM	TBD
	EA	3/15/19	FC	TBD
	EA	3/15/19	FC	TBD
	EA	5/3/19	FC	TBD
	MM	1/1/19	Petition-Affiliation	1/3/20
	Mr.	11/15/19	Petitioned	TBD
	Mr.	11/19/19	Petitioned	TBD

Masonic Home Wheelchair Push

Brethren, thank you in advance for volunteering at the Masonic Home this year.

2020 Dates:

February 9th April 12th
June 21st August 30th

November 1st

Masonic Home Address:

902 Jacksonville Road, Burlington, NJ

Carpool from the lodge at 7:45

There are two services 9:30AM and 10:45AM.

We finish up about 11:30 AM

Children, family and friends are welcome.

Contact Status Changes

Brethren, Please remember to contact the Secretary or Worshipful Master with regard to changes to your mailing address, phone numbers, e-mail addresses etc. Our goal is maintain our membership database as accurate as possible.

Thank you, Worshipful Master

2020 A.D.

Officer Line

2020 A.L.

Worshipful Master

**WB William Roche – Patricia
12 Valley Drive Pine Hill NJ 08021
609-314-0505 – wshay62@comcast.net**

Senior Warden

**WB Craig J. Woodruff - Laurie
215 E. Camden Avenue, L3
Moorestown, NJ 08057
(856) 669-9796 E-Mail: cjwpm2002@yahoo.com**

Junior Warden

**Bro Donald Keppen Jr.
5 Barclay Drive
Turnersville, NJ 08012
(856) 371-8675 E-mail: kepperoni1@comcast.net**

Treasurer

**MW Joseph H. Rival, Jr., PGM – Judy
333 Francis Ave. Chesilhurst, NJ 08089
856-768-0312 - gm-nj2010@comcast.net**

Secretary

**WB Robert A. Taylor, PM
30 Indian Birch Rd.
Turnersville, NJ 08012
856-834-3917 - laurellodge237@gmail.com**

Secretary Emeritus

RW Louis W. Bradley PGT*

Treasurer Emeritus

**WB Charles W. Bell PM
WB John R. Beetle, PM
WB Whitney H. Myers, PM ***

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!



**Please free to bring Libations for Refreshment after Lodge!
Remember Brethren, all in Moderation**

Officer Line Continued

<u>Senior Deacon</u>	WB Edward S. Bohi, PM – 609-410-6422
<u>Junior Deacon</u>	WB Scott P. Vicari , PM 856-952-3459
<u>S.M. of Ceremonies</u>	WB Jerry Barnish, PM
<u>J.M. of Ceremonies</u>	Bro Willie S Halina – 609-575-4336
<u>Senior Steward</u>	Appointed Position
<u>Junior Steward</u>	Appointed Position
<u>Marshal</u>	DB Robert S. Outlaw - 609-471-2869
<u>Chaplain</u>	Bro Edward N. Bohi - 609-781-2647
<u>Tyler</u>	Bro William F. Anderson - 609-828-1535
<u>Historian</u>	RW Albert L. Hann, PJGD - 856-845-6951
<u>Proxy to Grand Lodge</u>	WB Edward S. Bohi, PM 609-410-6422
<u>Director of Ritual</u>	RW Brian J. Read PJGS
<u>Webmaster</u>	DB Raymond T. McManus - 856-346-9150
<u>Dir. of Craftsmen</u>	Brother William Gahagan 609-313-0924
<u>Entertainment</u>	By Committee
<u>Sick and Visiting</u>	RW Albert L. Hann ,PJGD, PM 856-845-6951 RW Bernard J. Madgey, V, DDGM, 856-470-7609
<u>Auditing, Budget & Finance</u>	RW James E. Miller, PGC and Bro Gerard DiBona
<u>Blood Bank Chairman</u>	DB Robert S. Outlaw - 609-471-2869
<u>Photographer</u>	Bro William Roche - 609-314-0505
<u>Masonic Education</u>	RW Albert L. Hann, PJGD, RW Brian J. Read, PJGS, RW Bernard J. Madgey V DDGM
<u>Advisor to Officers</u>	RW Albert L. Hann , PJGD
<u>Refreshments</u>	By Committee
<u>Funeral Coordinator</u>	RW Albert L. Hann, PJGD 856-845-6951
<u>Building Trustees</u>	3 Year: Bro Joseph J Novella & DB Ray McManus
<u>Building Trustees</u>	2 Year: WB Joseph Abiuso & WB Fred Knox
<u>Building Trustees</u>	1 Year: WB Michael Owsiak & WB Scott P Vicari
<u>Financial Trustees</u>	3 Year: Bro Russell Van Zyl
<u>Financial Trustees</u>	2 Year WB James J. Weisensee, PM
<u>Financial Trustees</u>	1 Year RW Brian J. Read, PJGS, PM

Grand Master	MW Gregory J. Scott, Grand Master 662 Avenue A Bayonne, NJ 07002 njglinfo@njmasonic.org – 609-239-3950
District Deputy Grand Master	RW Bernard J. Madgey V DDGM 7 Lake Villa Drive Voorhees, NJ 08043 856-470-7609 – budmadgey@aol.com
District Ritual Instructor	RW Keith Herman DRI 609-440-2217 Kaherman03@msn.com

DISTINGUISHED BROTHERS

DB Richard P. Alspach, DB Raymond T. McManus,
DB John C. Read Jr. DB Robert S. Outlaw

HONORARY MEMBERS

MW David A. Dorworth, Grand Master 2013
MW William H. Berman, Grand Master 2009
MW Larry S. Plasket, Grand Master 2002
MW William H. Sackett, Grand Master 1986
MW Edgar N. Pepler, Grand Master 1979
RW Chester H. Clark PGC
RW Benjamin Foster PGC

2020 DUES NOTICE

Please note: Your dues for 2020 were due 12-31-2019. If you know or believe that you haven't paid dues please contact the Worshipful Master or Secretary.

**Payments: Laurel Lodge No. 237
P.O. Box 127 Stratford, N.J. 08084**

GRAND LODGE WEBPAGE

LAUREL LODGE WEBPAGE

WWW.NEWJERSEYGRANDLODGE.ORG

WWW.LAURELLODGE237.ORG



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