



**June
2024**

*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 June 2024

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

Friday June 7th 7:45PM Meeting

Join us for masonic light and regular business, discussion of the upcoming GLI and our potential role and duties. Dinner TBD

Friday June 21st 7:45PM Meeting

Enjoy masonic light and our regular business with plans for the summer and our upcoming master mason degree. Dinner TBD.

Brethren: 2024 Dues were due 12/31/23

Please note the following important information.

If you have a question or concern regarding 2024 due's or 2023 dues, please call or e-mail WB Jerry Barnish at 609-458-5122 or laurellodge237@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Financial Committee Meeting Monday June 3rd 7PM

Building Committee Meeting Tuesday June 4th 7PM

**Annual Canoe Trip in the Pine Barrens June 15th
See more detail in this Trestle Board.**

***By Order of
WB Keith Verrico
Worshipful Master***

***Attest
WB Jerry R. Barnish, PM
Secretary***

New Jersey Grand Lodge Information

Grand Master Most Worshipful Leonard Vander Horn

District Deputy Grand Master: Keith A. Herman

District Ritual Instructor: Right Worshipful Kenneth F. Carpenter Jr.

18th Masonic District 2024 Grand Officers

Grand Marshal: Bernard J. Madgey V, GO, PDDGM

Grand Chaplain: Right Worshipful Joseph Abiuso GC

Grand Chaplain: Right Worshipful Mark Frederich

Laurel Lodge Distinguished Brethren

DB Richard P. Alspach*, DB Raymond T. McManus,

DB John C. Read Jr., DB Robert S. Outlaw

Laurel Lodge Honorary Members

MW William H. Sackett, Grand Master 1986 *

MW Edgar N. Pepler, Grand Master 1979

MW Larry S. Plasket, Grand Master 2002

MW William H. Berman, Grand Master 2009

MW David A. Dorworth, Grand Master 2013

RW Chester H. Clark PGC

RW Keith A. Herman, DDGM

RW Benjamin Foster PGC*

GRAND LODGE WEBPAGE

WWW.NEWJERSEYGRANDLODGE.ORG

LAUREL LODGE WEBPAGE

WWW.LAURELLODGE237.ORG



TINYURL.COM/LAUREL237-FACEBOOK



[@LAURELLODGE237](https://twitter.com/LAURELLODGE237)

Worshipful Masters Message

"Masonry aims at the promotion of morality and higher living by the cultivation of the social side of man, the rousing in him of the instincts of charity and love of his kind. It rests surely on the foundation of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God."

President William Howard Taft

Let us not forget the obligations we have made to each other as Laurel Lodge deals with its recent losses and changes. Strive to carry the morals and lessons of Masonry through every aspect of your life as to improve yourself as a man and to improve the world around you.

Fraternally, WB Keith Verrico Worshipful Master



Meeting Minutes May 3rd A.D. 2024 Laurel Lodge #237

Lodge was opened in due and ancient form by W. M. Keith Verrico at 7:45PM on the Master Mason Degree. The Pledge of allegiance was recited by all members and visitors. All officers and visitors attending as per the Tylers register book.

Minutes were accepted as posted.

A reading of the bills was presented and ordered to be paid by the brethren. Worshipful Master asked for a reading of the correspondence. The Order of the Demolay is asking for donations for their ad book for convention in July 2024 in Wildwood N.J. A donation of \$75 for the ad book was recommended by W.B. Don Keppen Jr. And seconded by W. B Mattes, Sr. Warden. The motion was approved unanimously. An email sent by D.D.G.M. Keith Hermann was read. A request for advance payment of \$1000 dollars is requested from each lodge for the reception of a joint function of Districts 18 and 21 at Auletto's in Almonesson. The date of the event was clarified by R.W. Abiuso, G.C. to be on September 19th 2024. Further details are anticipated. It's noted Laurel Lodge will be host lodge for the evening. The request for the money was approved by the members. W.B. Taylor, Treasurer announced the date of the annual canoe day at Micks Canoe rental On June 15th 2024 at 10 am.

Bro. Sr. Deacon Colavita announced that his fire department Gibbsboro Fire Hall is having a pancake breakfast Sunday May 5th at 8AM – 11AM. 11 am.

Members reported on the condition of R.W. Al Hann. He is doing as best as expected and resting at home. It is encouraged to visit him when possible. Masonic birthday was announced that W.B. Taylor is celebrating his 16th year as a brother Mason.

A committee of investigation for Mr. Delphin Lopez was assigned to R.W. Abiuso, GC Chair. A report is expected by June 15, 2024. R.W. Brian Read stated that a gathering of Black Horse Square Club is meeting Thursday May 23, 2024 at 6 pm at Laurel Lodge fire pit for fun and cigars. There being no further business lodge was closed in due and ancient form by W.M. Keith Verrico at 8:45PM.

Attest: W.B. Jerry Barnish Secretary 2024

Officer Line Continued

<u>Senior Deacon</u>	Brother Jay Colavita – 856-261-3278
<u>Junior Deacon</u>	WB Brian McGovern, PM - 609-975-2121
<u>S.M. Ceremonies</u>	Brother Thomas J. Santangelo – 609-923-5466
<u>J.M. Ceremonies</u>	Brother Francis M. Guthrie – 609-221-6145
<u>Senior Steward</u>	WB Donald L. Keppen, PM
<u>Junior Steward</u>	Brother Jacob Keppen
<u>Marshal</u>	DB Robert S. Outlaw - 609-471-2869
<u>Chaplain</u>	WB Craig Woodruff, PM
<u>Tyler</u>	Brother William F. Anderson - 609-828-1535
<u>Historian</u>	Brother Jacob Keppen
<u>Proxy to GL</u>	Brother Jay Colavita – 856-261-3278
<u>Director of Ritual</u>	RW Brian J. Read, PJGS 609-922-0877
<u>Webmaster</u>	DB Raymond T. McManus, DB - 856-346-9150
<u>Dir. of Craftsmen</u>	By Appointment - Need Volunteer
<u>Entertainment</u>	By Appointment – Need Volunteer
<u>Sick and Visiting</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Auditing, Budget & Finance</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Blood Bank Chairman</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Photographer</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Masonic Education</u>	RW Brian J. Read, PJGS, RW Bernard J. Madgey, V GO / PDDGM
<u>Advisor to Officers</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Refreshments</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Funeral Coordinator</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Scholarship Committee</u>	RW Frazier Alburger, PGT
<u>Building Trustees</u>	3 Year: Brother Thomas J. Santangelo 2 Year: Brother Eugene Emenecker 1 Year: Brother Jay Colavita
<u>Financial Trustees</u>	3 Year: Year: Brother Bill Anderson 2 Year: By Appointment 1 Year: WB Craig Woodruff, PM
<u>Organist</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.

2024 A.D. Officer Line 6024 A.L.

Worshipful Master
WB Keith Verrico – Deanna

Senior Warden
RW Michael I Mattes, PGP – Janice

Junior Warden
RW Scott P. Vicari, PGP - Jacquelyn

Treasurer
WB Robert Taylor, PM – Susan

Secretary
WB Jerry R. Barnish, PM - Beth

Secretary Emeritus
RW Louis W. Bradley PGT*

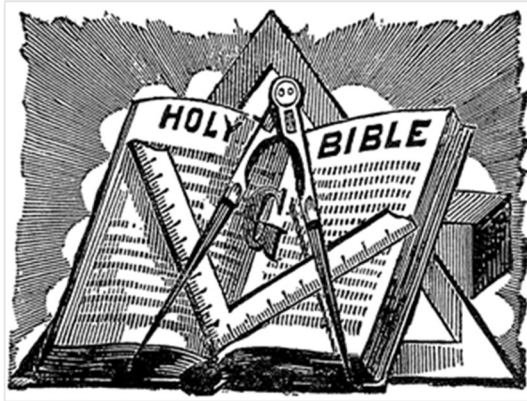
Treasurer Emeritus
WB Charles W. Bell PM
WB John R. Beetle, PM
WB Whitney H. Myers, PM *
MW Joseph H. Rival, PGM

Meeting Minutes May 17th A.D. 2024 Laurel Lodge #237

Lodge was opened at 7:24 p.m. by W,M. Michael Mattes P.G.O.
Lodge was placed on refreshment for preparation of E.A. Christopher Broschard to receive the Fellowcraft Degree.
W.M. Ketih Verrico assumed the East and resumed labor on the Master Mason degree. Funeral service was held for R.W. Albert Hann, PGJD whom had recently passed to Lodge on High.
W.M. Verrico asked for the reading of the bills. A total of \$636.76 as per the voucher given to the treasurer for approval. Senior Warden Casey Huston moved the bills be paid if found proper. W.B. Keppen Jr. Seconded. The members approved the paying of the bills. Pledge of Allegiance was led by W.M. Verrico.
Lodge was then set to E.A. degree for Bro. E.A. Broschard to exemplify the examination for the Entered Apprentice Degree.
The examination was held by Bro. Jake Keppen, Jr. Steward.
Bro. Chris did a wonderful examination as well as Bro. Jake in his care.
W.M. then placed the lodge on tiled refreshment to congratulate Chis for his advancement. W.B. Barnish asked the members to sign sympathy cards for family members of recently departed. W.B. Huston announced ARC Walk Saturday May 18, 2024 sponsored by Battleship NJ Lodge. He mentioned that at their next meeting a conference on leadership will be presented by PGM Wiggins, PHA. Bro. Senior Deacon Jay Colavita stated that Gibbsboro Fire Department was holding a Mother's Day Pancake breakfast Sunday May 19th at 10:00 a.m. An announcement was made for participation in the Annual Memorial Day observance. There was no communication from the township. Bro. Secretary Barnish stated he would contact Bro. Cheeseman on Monday for information. W.M. placed lodge on refreshment for the preparation of E.A. Broschard for the conferral of the Fellowcraft degree. W.B. Mattes assumed the East, W.M. Verrico assumed the South and W.B. Huston remained in the West. The first half of the degree was performed in the usual fashion of Laurel Lodge decorum. After refreshment W.B. Craig Woodruff assumed the chair of Sr. Deacon and portrayed the Stair lecture. In his usual fashion, W.B. Craig impressed the new FC as well as the members. The working tools was given by Bro. Jake Keppen, the G lecture was given By W.B. Mattes. An introduction to Fellow Craft masonry was sponsored by R.W, James Butler.

R.W. Joseph Abiuso was asked by W.M. Verrico to close lodge.
The sound of closing gavel was given at 9:22 pm.
Attest: W.B. Jerry Barnish, Secretary 2024

In Memorial



**Right Worshipful Albert L Hann, PJGD
 Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master
 Mason October 11th 1957
 Called from Labor May 6th 2024**



Past Masters of Laurel Lodge #237 Continued

*** Deceased # Served another Lodge**

1990	Benjamin Foster, PGC # *	2016	Gene G. Olson
1990	Donald C. Lever, PSGS *	2016	Eric Erickson #
1991	Stewart D. Walsh *	2017	John P. Gomen
1991	Ralph S. Hill, Jr. # *	2017	Scott Vicari #
1991	William H. Berman, PGM	2018	Joseph Abiuso
1992	George W. Stott, Jr. *	2019	Edward S. Bohi
1992	Harry H. Wible # *	2020	William E. Roche
1993	Dale A. Lynch, Jr., PDDGM	2020	Michael Mattes #
1994	Henry J. Rahn, Jr. PSGS *	2021	Craig J Woodruff
1994	Charles A Castley PDDGM *	2021	Michael Mattes #
1995	Russell B. Hoyle, Sr.	2021	Casey Huston #
1996	Frazier R. Alburger, PGT	2022	Donald L. Keppen Jr.
1996	James E. Miller, PGC #	2022	Michael Mattes #
1997	Raymond B. Kingett	2022	Casey Huston #
1997	Jerry R. Barnish #	2023	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 E. Kunze		
2010	Craig R. Thorpe		
2011	Brian J. Read, PSGS		
2011	George W. Niessner, PSGS #		
2012	Bernard J. Madgey, V GO PDDGM		
2013	Kevin D. Kloss		
2014	James A. Weisensee		
2014	Brian McGovern #		
2015	Robert A. Taylor		

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*	1989	James E. Miller, PGC #

Laurel Lodge #237 F.& A.M.

May 8, 2024 7:30 P.M.

Brethren of Laurel Lodge #237 of Laurel Springs , N.J. gathered at Wooster Funeral Home Clementon, N.J. to pay final respects to R.W. Albert J. Hann. Masonic funeral services were conducted by MWPGM Joseph Rival Jr. Prayers were led by M.W. P.G. M. Larry Plaskett. The funeral parlor was attended by numerous family, friends and current member of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, Past Grand Masters, current Grand Lodge Grand Line officials as per the register. R.W. Al Hann will be missed as he was a Mason who lived his life as an example for all to emulate.

Attest: W.B. Jerry Barnish, P.M. Secretary 2024

Trestleboard Mailers

Brethren, annually our Lodge spends an estimated \$2,300.00 on postage and mailings for a printed Trestleboard. The Lodge understands that if you do not have an e-mail address, we will continue to mail a Trestleboard to you. If you have an e-mail address, we would appreciate e-mailing to you instead of mailing. Postage will continue to increase. This is one way to save money and keep our Lodge strong financially. Please let me know if you decide to switch to from mailings to e-mail at Taylor89@comcast.net.

Thank you, WB Robert Taylor, PM Treasurer.

Message about Dues payment to Laurel Lodge 2024

Good day Brethren. I hope all is well with everyone. I understand that there is much confusion concerning payment of dues. Dues notices are to be sent during the fall of each calendar year. Normally our Lodge will send the notices after Grand Lodge of New Jersey notifies each lodge of the assessment inventory for the next year. At that point, each member will have an invoice sent with the lodge dues including any increase voted by the membership usually during September of the current year. According to the by-laws of Laurel Lodge, the membership is required to pay dues for the next year by December 31st of the of the current year. This may be the source of confusion. Think of renewing dues for the forthcoming year in this fashion. If one subscribes to a magazine annually and one receives the renewal notice before the first issue of the magazine arrives for the New year, a reminder letter will be sent to the subscriber. If payment is not received, then a second notice will be sent. Thus, it is with lodge. This coming fall dues notices for 2025 will be sent to all Members. This also helps our lodge with payment of the assessment to Grand Lodge with no worries of the financial status of our lodge. The Master and Wardens will be able to look to working within the past spending nature for the betterment of our membership and contributions to society for charity. To answer a question of a grace period, members have by by-laws of the individual lodge and Grand Lodge up to 12 months to pay the aforementioned notice. Here is a rub for me serving as Secretary. When December 31st hits, the entry for dues on Grand View accounting turns red. Just like in the days of typewriters having a red ribbon for entering accounting entries, that is what would be seen. Black Friday is so named because of ledger entries by the typist for P&L statements. For the membership, Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey has set forth a program called Grand View. If you are not aware of this, members can log into the site provided by Grand lodge to view status of each member and provide additional information about oneself for general viewing by the membership at large. Also, each member may view their individual financial statement with Their lodge. Your statement may be printed for your records, an invoice for payment maybe printed along with a number 10 envelope with address of the lodge to send payment if so desired and/or each members skill and expertise will be up to task. The lodge secretary will accommodate the wish of the member by adding notations to each account. I find it very convenient. I plan, with Master's permission, to demonstrate the system at lodge one meeting on the overhead projector so to clear any questions one may have.

Please contact me with your questions.

Fraternally, Jerry Barnish, P.M. Secretary 2024

Brethren helping Brethren Continued:

Call or contact WB Moser for the following service:

Financial Planning: WB Moser is a second generation financial planner with over 30 years experience. I was the last Past Master of Florence Lodge in Woodbury.

Donald S Moser - DSM Capital Wealth Management
Managing Director/ CCO www.dsmwealthmanagement.com
609/221-9276

Call or contact Brother Kingett for the following service:

Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts & Elder Law

Donald L. Kingett, Esq. Offices in Gloucester County & Camden County
856-374-5800 or DKingett@KingettWarren.com

Call or contact Brother Jay Colavita for the following service:

Trident Protection Group Contact Brother Jay Colavita (609) 481-8091
We're a full-service security agency providing armed or unarmed guards and K9 units. We specialize in event security (no size too big or small), executive protection, property and asset protection (facilities, fine arts, gems, and resources), and transportation.

Website: <https://tridentprotection.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Trident-Protection-2584900004858860/> / Email: tridentprotectionk9@gmail.com



Contact WB Paul Burkhardt or Mark Burkhardt for the following Service:

Burkhardt's Custom Countertops

Paul and Mark Burkhardt Owners/Fabricators
856-435-2020 / Burkhardtscountertops.com
648 7th Avenue Lindenwold, NJ 08021
Burkhardtscountertops@yahoo.com
Quality you can trust since 1983.

Masonic Family Day in the Pine Barrens

Pine Barrens Canoe Trip

Saturday June 15TH arrival is 10:00am

This is a 3 Hour (Tour) Canoe Trip down the Wading River in the Pine Barrens.

Beware of the Jersey Devil.

RSVP cutoff is Sunday June 9th to WB Robert Taylor
856-834-3917.

Individual Payments will happen June 15th on arrival.

For rates click:

<https://www.mickscanoerental.com>

Quarterly Reminder Dues for 2024

Three quarters of annual achieved.

Brethren: This reminder for payments of dues helps us to achieve our goal of holding meetings and having a place to meet. We all know that Grand Lodge of the State Jersey assessed us during the fall of 2023. That means this carries over and our finances carry the burden of unreimbursed monies. This places a strain on the lodge finances.

How each member helps:

- Paying on time reduces the carry over charges.
- Contacting the secretary with financial issues.
- Exempt members sending in the assessment or what they can afford.

This is our lodge, Laurel Lodge # 237 of Free and Accepted Masons. A lodge with a proud tradition of service to the community and our Fraternity.

Attest: W.B. Jerry Barnish P.M. 2024

Candidate Status

NAME	STATUS	LAST DATE	NEXT STATUS	NEXT DATE
	MM	10/21/23	MM Exam	TBD
	MM	10/21/23	MM Exam	TBD
	EA	1/20/23	FC Degree	TBD
	EA	4/21/23	FC Degree	TBD
	FC	5/17/24	MM	TBD
	Mr.	2/2/24	EA	TBD
	Mr.	2/2/24	EA	TBD

Brethren, many sets of hands make lighter work. Let us continue to work towards building a stronger Masonic Temple. If you have a question or concern, please contact Lodge Leadership promptly.

