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APRIL

TRESTLE BOARD



Warrant Dated January 11, 1854

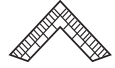
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Regular Communications

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:30pm

From the East



David A. Patriarca · Worshipful Master

Each of us has been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason but are we Masons? A question that every mason would probably answer with a similar response but if the same question were to be asked to a non-member of our fraternity about you, would they be able to identify you as one who presents themselves with the moral values and integrity of so many great Masons known throughout history?

It does not require becoming President of our great nation, a signer on a historic document or a commanding officer in our military nor does it require becoming an officer or leader in your lodge or a staff member or even the leader of the Grand Lodge.

A quote from George Berkeley “If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?” Some masons will study and practice ancient ritual and often become leaders within the fraternity and their achievements are displayed through pins, medals and apron design. Throughout our Masonic Journey most members of the fraternity, at some point, will engage in their lodges events and ritual practice but are we recognized for this by non-members of our fraternity? Of course not.

Observation and perception. Referring back to Berkeley’s quote, does the mason have to be seen or heard in their lodge to be a mason? Absolutely not. We as masons should be demonstrating the highest moral standards in all our actions, which, when observed by non-members of the fraternity can be perceived with the level of integrity that has been demonstrated by so many great masons of the past.

Our actions both on and off the field, whether observed or not, whether rewarded with symbols or not, defines the truth about who we really are as an individual. And, if these actions are of the highest moral standards and are presented with a level of integrity admired by others then yes, we are masons.

My brothers, how we present ourselves to others and the decisions we make throughout each day demonstrates to the outside world the character of the members inside of our fraternity. Remember, Do good unto all men. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. The history of our fraternity rest upon our actions. Let us continue to create great history.

From the West



Michael A. Aladich, Jr. • Senior Warden

How often do we hear the phrase “irregular or unmasonic conduct” and really pay it no mind, after all, surely you’re not engaging in that type of behavior, but are you sure about that? Ritual alone does not teach us what exactly this “unmasonic” conduct is defined as. Is it simply doing or saying something that is unpopular or disliked by other brothers?? Well, lucky for you, I am going to share an excerpt of the Grand Lodge Constitution and By-Laws which clearly outlines exactly what these punishable offenses are. Please take some time to read the items below, educate yourself and conduct yourself accordingly.

Title 4. Article XI. Section 3. Unmasonic & Prohibited Conduct.

Part 1. Violations of Law. A brother guilty of any violation of the moral, civil, or Masonic law is liable to charges. Civil law is defined to

mean any criminal or quasi-criminal violation as defined in Titles 2A and 2C of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, or comparable Federal Statutes.

- Part 2. Improper Influence.** Any attempt to influence a candidate to apply for membership in a lodge, other than the one of his preference, is improper, unmasonic and subjects the offender, or offenders, to charges of conduct unbecoming a Mason.
- Part 3. Petitioners.** Brethren who recommend or vouch for petitioners, and committees of investigation who, in their report, make statements which they do not know to be absolutely true are guilty of a Masonic offense.
- Part 4. Balloting.** It is unmasonic to ballot against a petitioner except upon conscientious belief in his unworthiness.
- Part 5. Ancillary Organizations.** It is unmasonic to compel a member of a lodge to be a member of any club or organization without his individual consent and the collection of dues for the maintenance of any other organization, as part of the lodge dues, is prohibited, Masonic Temple Associations, formed and operated for the purposes of erection, maintenance, management and control of buildings occupied by Masonic lodges excepted.
- Part 6. Gratuities.** The grant of a gratuity to a retiring Worshipful Master, then or at any time, and either directly or indirectly to be paid or applied toward the purchase of a life membership in said lodge, is improper and unmasonic.
- Part 7. Chain Letters.** The issuing of chain letters containing a promise of personal reward or threat of injury is prohibited.
- Part 8. Association with Intoxicating Beverages.** No lodge, member or members thereof, shall permit the use of its name or the Masonic emblem on any publication, trestle-board, hand bill,

invitation or other material, which refers to the use, sale or consumption of beer, wines, or other alcoholic beverages, at a social, dinner or other function of the lodge at or away from its usual place of meeting.

Part 9. Ritual Cipher. It is unmasonic conduct to sell, give, or lend any authorized Ritual Cipher, or any part or parts thereof, to a profane, an Entered Apprentice, or a Fellow Craft Mason, except that a Worshipful Master is authorized, but not required, to lend to Entered Apprentice Masons, to Fellow Craft Masons, and to Master Masons the copyrighted pages solely covering the examinations for those respective degrees.

From the South



David W. King · Junior Warden

Why is the North a place of darkness?

My brothers, while sitting in rehearsal I was listening to the Chaplain recite a passage from the Book of Psalms 133:3: indicating an aversion to the north.

“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments, As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.”

I knew that this was a particularly arid part of the world and naturally thought that this passage referred to melting snow from the peak of Mt. Hermon provided much needed irrigation for the surrounding area. I decided to do some research to satisfy my curiosity and answer

some questions about the symbolism and connection to this Biblical passage.

The word Hermon means devoted or sanctified in Hebrew. Mount Hermon is the highest point in northern Palestine on the northern boundary of Israel. It's 9,000-foot-high peak is perpetually covered with snow. This area experiences an extra heavy dew that falls like rain in abundance over all of Israel.

The ancient Hebrew word Tsiyon (Zion) is a hill fortress in Jerusalem captured by David and Biblically called 'City of David.' "The mountains of Zion" refers to one of the hills of Jerusalem. It was taken from the Jebusites by David and was then called "the city of David." Here he placed the Ark, which gave the hill a sacred distinction. When Solomon built the temple on Mt. Zion, the Ark was placed in the temple. The name "Zion" embraced the temple and is frequently the designation of Jerusalem.

In the first statement, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," is a quiet calm or desirable atmosphere descending in abundance upon the meeting room as labors begin. Which we, as free and accepted Masons practice in our gatherings.

A descending theme continues from the second verse into the third verse. The precious ointment runs from the top of Aaron's head all the way down to the hem of his skirt. This draws a connection between the dew of Hermon covering the entire area and the ointment or oils which were placed upon Aaron's head. So, as the lifegiving water ran from the highest point of Hermon down to the foothills of Zion to allow for sustenance for the people of Jerusalem, so too did the oils run down from the top of the head to the bottom of his garments to refresh Aaron.

Olive oil was mixed with various spices, cassia, aloes, myrrh, frankincense, and cinnamon to create a perfumed oil. This oil was used to refresh the body after being out in the desert for days with very little or no water for bathing.

The last statement says, “For there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore!” The word blessing means a bestowal of divine favor and benefits, in this case to the people of Israel.

I hope everyone found this article to be interesting and encourage you to do your own research. I'll see you in the lodge!

SOURCES

The Holy Bible: The Book of Psalms 133:3

The Masonic Leader: The 133rd Psalm

Wikipedia: Dew of Hermon

Save the Date

LEGENDARY MT. MORIAH No. 28

TABLE LODGE

October 23, 2024

6:30 p.m. at Crescent Shrine

See March Trestle Board for more information



Mason's Progress



Awaiting Master Mason Exam

Bro. Connal Cornelius Eget

Our Lodge Trustees

D.B. James Potts (to 2025)
W.B. Charles E. Peterson, III (to 2026)
R.W. Jose Gonzalez (to 2027)
W.B. Michael Galati (to 2028)
W.B. Dean J. Buhner (to 2029)

Our Lodge Committees

Ritual

R.W. George A. Chidley, IV, *Chair*
W.B. Lawrence W. Craver
W.B. Martin C. Ingenbrandt, IV
W.B. Nicholas A. Manocchio, IV

Charity

R.W. Carl H. Doan, *Chair*
W.B. Ted M. D'Annunzio
W.B. Nicholas A. Manocchio, IV
R.W. Jose G. Gonzalez

Mentoring

R.W. David S. Blew, *Chair*
W.B. Nicholas A. Manocchio, IV
Bro. Michael A. Aladich
Bro T.J. D'Annunzio
Bro. Rubin R. Sierra
Bro. Jamal E. Williams

Sickness/Distress

W.B. Nicholas A. Manocchio, IV
Bro. Robert B. McCormick

Finance

Bro. Mark Dimon, *Chair*
R.W. Carl H. Doan
W.B. Harry Forman
W.B. Joseph Varga

Fundraising Committee

W.B. Scott Daily
W.B. Ted M. D'Annunzio

Table Lodge Committee

R.W. George A. Chidley

Community Outreach

R.W. Arthur S. Pelzer
Bro. Michael A. Aladich
Bro. Peter Rieter

Audit

Bro. Michael Onofri
Bro. Jonathan Dimon
Liason to Eastern Star
R.W. Arthur S. Pelzer
W.B. Ted M. D'Annunzio
Bro. Robert B. McCormick

Bylaws

R.W. George A. Chidley, IV, *Chair*
M.W. Edgar N. Peppler
R.W. Henry P. Fratz
R.W. David S. Blew

Web/Social Media

D.B. William S. Jennings, *Chair*
W.B. Martin C. Ingenbrandt, IV
Bro. Shane A. de Lumeau

Investigative Committee

R.W. David S. Blew
W.B. Carl H. Doan
Bro. David W. King
Bro. T.J. D'Annunzio
Bro. Bruce Hill

Our Living Past Masters

1966	Edgar N. Pepler, P.G.M.	2006	Roger K. Fisher
1982	Robert W. Alpaugh	2007	David S. Blew, G.C.
1983	Harry S. Forman, Jr.	2009	Joseph B. Varga
1985	Michael Grenz, P.G.C., P.G.Mar.	2010	P. Brian Sizs, P.G.C.
1991	Dean R. V. Allen	2011	William J. Morelli, P.G.C.
1992	Thomas V. Petito	2012	Dean J. Buhner
1993	Joseph R. Shields, Jr.	2013	George A. Chidley, P.G.C.
1994	Holmes L. Hay	2014	Robert J. Pigott
1995	William F. Walling, P.G.C.	2015	Jose G. Gonzalez, P.G.C.
1996	F. Gerry Spence, P.D.D.G.M.	2016	Ted M. D'Annunzio, Sr.
1997	Carl H. Doan, P.G.C.	2017	Richard W. LaBaw
1999	Mark J. Dempsy	2018	Arthur S. Pelzer, G.C.
2001	James F. Anderson	2019	Michael J. Galati
2002	Charles V. Anderson	2020	Anand U. Trivedi
2003	Richard F. LaBaw, Jr., D.D.G.M.	2021	Nicholas A. Manocchio, IV
2004	William D. Pigott	2022	Martin C. Ingenbrandt, IV
2005	Henry P. Fratz, P.D.D.G.M.	2023	Charles E. Peterson, III



Our Affiliated Living Past Masters

1992	Hank Pierre (Pyramid Lodge #92)	2003	Scott Wiese (Princeton)
1994	John R. Parke (Gothic Fraternal Lodge)	2004	Hank Pierre (Pyramid Lodge #92)
1997	Michael A. Ramirez (Mariner's Lodge)	2016	Lawrence W. Craver (Amwell Lodge)
1997	Dennis R. Bator (Palestine Lodge)	2016	Scott W. Daily (Beverly-Riverside Lodge)

In and About the Temple

Brethren, you and your Masonic friends are cordially invited to participate in the following Masonic events.

April

- April 2** **6:15 p.m.:** Dinner followed by
7:00 p.m.: District Lodge of Instruction, hosted by
Maple Shade-Moorestown #281, 15 North
Fellowship Road, Maple Shade, NJ.
All officers must attend.
- April 6** **5:30 p.m.:** 19th District Beefsteak Dinner and Tricky
Tray. *See March Trestle Board ad.*
- April 7** **7:00 p.m.:** Rehearsal. *All officers must attend.*
- April 10** **6:30 p.m.:** Dinner followed by
7:30 p.m.: Regular Communication.
- April 14** **7:00 p.m.:** Rehearsal. *All officers must attend.*
- April 24** **6:30 p.m.:** Dinner followed by
7:30 p.m.: Regular Communication. *Rusty Mason Night.*

May

- May 5** **7:00 p.m.:** Rehearsal. *All officers must attend.*
- May 7** **7:00 p.m.:** District Lodge of Instruction, hosted by
Burlington Lodge #32, 2308 Mount Holly Rd,
Burlington, NJ. *All officers must attend.*

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

