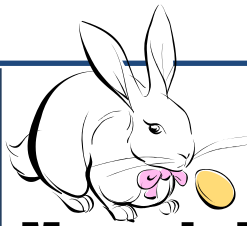


April 2018



Temple Lodge No. 9 A.F. & A.M.



Chartered January 16, 1815
2017-2018
203rd Year of Fellowship

Stated Communications

*Second and Fourth
Thursday of Each Month*

7:30 PM

Fellowship with Dinner

6:30 PM

*Meetings are not held in
July and August or on
Thanksgiving or Christmas
(when those holidays fall
on a Thursday)*

Lodge Officers 2017-2018

Worshipful Master
Brandon Smith
(302) 258-8014

Senior Warden
Steve Kerr
(302) 853-2181

Junior Warden
Matt Thompson
(302) 684-2862

Secretary
Jeff Hague, PM
(302) 422-0233

*Deputy Secretary and
Webmaster*
Chad Robinson, PM, GMar.
(302) 270-4391

Treasurer
Bob Yerkes
(302) 422-4741

Mike Brittingham – Senior Deacon
John Cannon – Junior Deacon
Mike Nichols – Senior Steward
Dan Trader – Junior Steward
Roland Cohee, Jr. – Chaplain
Shane Young – Tiler
Jack McDuff – Marshal

Masonic Heroism – An Example for Us

Lieutenant-Colonel Arnaud Beltrame

The news in the US lately has been so relentless with stories of gun violence, political failings, immigration, and other hot button topics that it would have been easy to miss the recent story of a terrorist attack in France by an ISIS inspired jihadist. Last Friday, 25-year old Radouane Lakdim, who was already known to French police for his ties to extremist groups, wounded a driver and killed the passenger of a vehicle when he carjacked it. He then shot at a group of police officers who were returning from a jog, wounding one. At that point, he left his carjacked vehicle in the parking lot of a local supermarket, which he entered and shot both a customer and store employee, who were both killed. The fifty people in the supermarket ran through the rear emergency exit and some hid in the meat locker, then calling police. One of the police officers outside, Lieutenant-Colonel Arnaud Beltrame, offered to exchange himself for a female hostage being held in the store at gunpoint by Lakdim. Beltrame saved her life after the terrorist agreed to the swap and he became the new hostage. After about two hours, and for unknown reasons, Lakdim suddenly opened fire on Beltrame several times. Beltrame had left his cell phone on and connected to police during his exchange and time in the supermarket, and as soon as police heard the gunfire, they stormed the building and killed the terrorist. Beltrame succumbed to his injuries later that night, bringing the death toll of the entire ordeal to five, including the hostage taker. Sixteen others were wounded.

On Saturday, Philippe Charuel, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge de France, paid homage to the officer and made a rare public announcement that Brother Arnaud Beltrame was a member of the Masonic fraternity. This was interesting, because there is widespread distrust of the fraternity in that country, so public announcements like this are not a common occurrence. Masonry in the United States is not met with the same stigma as it is in France. Beltrame was initiated in 2008 in Jérôme Bonaparte Lodge in the Orient of Rueil-Nanterre. A highly decorated officer with a long, successful career in the French military and law enforcement, Beltrame left behind a widow, Marielle, whom he had just recently married. He was 44.

France mourns his passing and he has been hailed as a hero by countless leaders in his country, including President Macron. His sacrifice and heroic acts to stop a terrorist will not be forgotten. In the traditions of the Grand Loge de France, the Mason is informed that he should be willing to "give up his last drop of blood for values, for the Republic, for the country..." Brother Arnaud Beltrame has indeed held to his obligation, and the world at large has benefitted from his good effects. there are some discussions about recognition of the Grand Loge de France and whether it is regular or irregular, but I would prefer to cast those aside for the moment to recognize that Brother Beltrame exuded the qualities of freemasonry. I certainly hope that when it is my time to visit that temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, that I would meet Brother Beltrame on the level.

*Living Past Masters of
Temple Lodge No. 9*

*Jehu M. Davis, Jr. – 1966
Leroy A. Timblin – 1970/1975
John L. Watkins – 1973
Franklin S. Wilkins – 1974
Louis S. O'Day – 1978
John E. Holland – 1980
Frank H. Beebe – 1981
Ronald Jester - 1982
Gilbert H. Emory – 1983
Steven L. Rogers – 1984
Robert Clendaniel, PSGD – 1985
J.D. Dennis, Jr. – 1988
Jeff Hague, PGMar. – 1989/2007
William A. Dudley, Jr. – 1990
William T. Wadkins, PGM – 1992
Bruce K. Ney – 1993
Marlin A. Gillespie, PSGD – 1994
David F. Coady – 1997
Clarence R. Jackson – 1998
Donald C. Adams – 1999
Joshua J. Willey – 2000
George Andreae, PSGD – 2002
George G. Jester, Jr. – 2005
Michael B. Saba – 2008/2009
Martin F. Hogan, III, PGT – 2010
Chad T. Robinson, GMar. – 2011
A. Daniel Doran, PGMar. - 2012
Will Currey, GSB – 2013
H. Roland Cohee, GT – 2014
Stephen Walter – 2015
Jim Bennett - 2015*

*Affiliated Past Masters of
Temple Lodge No. 9*

*Thomas McMurray – 1977
Augsburg, Germany

James Cooke – 2008
Roan Oak, Texas

John Marinucci, GM – 2011
Dover, Delaware

Matthew D. Hovatter – 2007/08
Glen Burnie, Maryland*

Mentorship Corner - Tom McMurray, PM

Funeral ceremonies not only function as a final tribute to the deceased, they also convey our beliefs and our values about life and death. As is the case of funerals involving members of our own family and close friends, it is important for us as Masons to attend the funeral of a deceased Brother, both to express our esteem for him and to give support and comfort to his family. There are many who dread going to funerals. When someone close to us dies, we naturally become distressed, and being at the funeral increases this distress. Second, we may be uncomfortable in the presence of those who are grieving. Third, some find that viewing the deceased, or even seeing pictures of the person when he or she was alive are painful, causing us to experience powerful emotions of our own.

Conducting Masonic funerals is a very old tradition and is as rich in symbolism and purpose as the religious ceremonies about which we have been speaking. In the days of Operative Masonry, stonemasons would bury their own. The deceased usually was someone they had worked with for many years, if not for their entire lives, and generally all the Craftsmen and the deceased's family would attend the funeral. This tradition is carried forward in our present Masonic funeral service, and is a time when most non-Masons become acquainted for the first time with Freemasonry and have an opportunity to see a small part of our meaningful traditions and our beautiful and timeless ritual. I submit that the Masonic funeral service is one of the most beautiful pieces ever written, and those listening to this service cannot help but be impacted by the words as they touch the hearts of all present. One of the first things a non-Mason will observe is the size of the turnout of Masons for the funeral. If the turnout is small, they may think that the Lodge did not hold the deceased Brother in very high esteem. If the turnout is large, then the opposite will be perceived by the non-Masons, who will leave with a very positive impression of Freemasonry.

When attending a Masonic funeral, one should arrive at least thirty minutes early at the funeral home, church, grave, or wherever the funeral is to be held. Dress in a conservative manner which reflects your respect for the deceased, preferably in a dark suit and tie. Locate the Brethren, sign the register, and secure your apron, which is worn outside the coat. The Masons will be congregated, and at the appropriate time organized by the Marshall to conduct the Masonic ceremony or to be seated together in the sanctuary or assembled at the grave. By our demeanor and actions, we need to show the appropriate solemnity and respect that such an occasion requires. We also need to give our respects to the widow and family and show our appreciation for being allowed to perform the Masonic funeral service.

The Masonic funeral service should be seen for what it is intended and designed to be, a solemn ceremony for the living and our final tribute to our deceased Brother. We are there to extend our sympathy to the Brother's grieving family, and as we state in the funeral service, while we can do nothing more of a material nature for our departed Brother, we do not forget our obligations to the living. Our mere presence shows that this promise is true and not just words uttered at the service. Each Mason has an obligation to his Brethren, and this will be the last opportunity he has to show it, so we honor his memory by attending his funeral and offering a tribute of respect and love. This is the case even if we may not have personally known the Brother.

Mentorship Corner - Tom McMurray, PM (Cont.)

One day each of us will stand at death's threshold. After spending many years in the Masonic Fraternity, we would not feel very good, if our Brethren did not make every effort to attend our Masonic funeral. We have an obligation to our Brother that we need to keep, and we need to demonstrate, if only to ourselves, that we keep our commitments, and practice that brotherly love and affection even to the grave. Thus, attending the Masonic funeral service is probably more important than attending any other Lodge meeting. If you receive a telephone call from a Lodge member informing you of a Masonic funeral service, or happen across a notice about a Masonic funeral service in the obituary section of your local newspaper, please try to make the time to pay this final act of respect and tribute. No matter how busy we are, we should not treat an opportunity to attend a Masonic funeral as an inconvenience; it is, rather a great privilege to stand with our fellow Brethren on a mournful occasion and demonstrate that we sincerely care about our Brethren even after their death, and have an opportunity also to reflect on our own mortality and reaffirm our faith in our God.

Extracted from a talk by Right Worshipful H. Lee Arritt, Jr. The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia.

2nd Annual Bowling EVENT – Jim Bennett, PM

The Second Annual Bowling EVENT is complete and I'm pleased to say that the EVENT grew nearly 50% from the first EVENT. Well over \$3000 was raised for charity and we were able to provide some funds for our Long Range Planning fund. 49 bowlers took their shots at the tenpins and a great time was had by all. Stay tuned for next year's EVENT that is sure to fill up!



General Torbert Chapter - Order of DeMolay – Dad Dave Penney

It is time for the report on our chapter of DeMolay. We will be hosting a prospect night in late May early June with the hopes of getting at least 8 members. As of right now we need to get 6 more members in order to keep our charter and we have until December 31, 2018 to get this done. I know I have asked this before but if you know of any young man between the ages of 12 and 21 that may like or benefit from joining please asked them to come on any 3rd Tuesday of the month to the Lodge to talk with a couple of the members of the chapter to see what we used to do and what we have planned to do. Some of the things we have done in the past are bowling, paintball, pizza parties, sleep ins at the lodge, game nights at the lodge and of course our annual ritual competition involving our bordering states and a couple extra.

I know that a lot of different activities are available for the young men today, but I firmly believe that DeMolay is an organization that will benefit a young man if he puts his heart into it. Quite a few famous people have stated that DeMolay gave them the head start that they needed for the career path of their choice. With DeMolay being based on the seven basic precepts of Filial Love, Reverence for Sacred Things, Courtesy, Comradeship, Fidelity, Cleanness and Patriotism these are basics of a successful and prosperous life. I have had the opportunity to attend several of our International Sessions and have been able to talk with other young men from different jurisdictions and I have been amazed at how much a majority of them have made the statement that DeMolay has made a positive impact on their life. One young man I talked to a couple of years ago got into DeMolay because his dad wanted him to get away from video games and get out and meet people. The young man said that he went to a couple of meetings with the idea that it would make his father happy and he would leave him alone and he could go about playing his games. Little did he realize how much fun he would have and how many friends he would have. But the one most important item that really stuck to me was when he made the statement, "DeMolay made me realize that it was up to him to make a change in his life and DeMolay helped him". The young man went on to be a Master Councilor of his chapter and was going to run for State Master Councilor in his jurisdiction the following year. I am not sure if he made it or not but I do know that he had the drive and determination to do it. So, again if you know of any young man that could or would benefit from DeMolay let me know and I would more than happy to come and talk to them or you can bring them to any of our meetings. I will keep you all posted on our Prospect Night.

Dates to Remember:

April 1, 2018
HAPPY EASTER!!

April 12, 2018
Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

April 13, 2018
United Grand Table Lodge with
PHA Delaware
Union Lodge No. 7
See PM Stephen Walter for
Tickets

April 26, 2018
Stated Communication
and Past Master's Night
Table Lodge
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

April 28, 2018
Officer Training Workshop
REQUIRED FOR WARDENS
AND DEACONS
Union Lodge No. 7
9:00 AM

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.temple9.org

Sporting Clay Shoot – Stephen Walter, PM

I would like to start by thanking all the brothers from our lodge and the surrounding lodges that came out to work and/or support our clay shoot at Owens Station. This year's shoot was more successful than last years. We had more shooters (51), great weather, delicious food, and gave away 4 guns and some cash prizes!

I would be remiss to not recognize our sponsors of this year's shoot: Delmarva RV Center, Sullivan's Landscaping, Wadkins Garage, Park Place Restaurant & Lounge, Roger's Funeral Home, I.G. Burton, Haute Living by Allserve Building Co., Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club, Taylor & Messick, Haass Family Butcher Shop, CDM Inc Shooting Supplies, Jefferson Lodge #15, Lower Valley of Delaware Scottish Rite, and Blue Hen Spring Works. Without them, this event would not have happened.

In an effort to attract more shooters next year, we are looking into moving the date (we had some competition for shooters this year with another range having a regional event), giving more guns away, and possibly lowering the entrance fee. Stay tuned for more info on those ideas.

If you are looking to help out, contact either myself or Past Master Jim Bennett.

Brotherhood Night

In this picture, the Grand Staff of Delaware is forming up to do the Walk of Fame at the 39th Annual Brotherhood Night. In addition to the Grand Master, a plural member, Temple Lodge No. 9 has three additional members on the Grand Staff this year! Rumor has it that at least two of the four had pedicures that included colorful nail paint during the Grand Masters cruise this year. It's up to you to figure out which two!?



Updated Information Request

Brethren, as the lodge endeavors to communicate better with our members, it is essential we have good information. Please share any updates with the WM or Secretary. Particularly, please let us know if you have an e-mail address you would like us to use to send lodge communications.

TEMPLE LODGE NO. 9 A.F. & A.M

127 Causey Avenue
PO Box 256
Milford, DE 19963

Address Correction Requested



TO THE FAMILY OF THE BROTHER NAMED ON THIS DOCUMENT: Should he become ill or in need of assistance, please notify the Secretary or Worshipful Master. Their names and contact information are contained within.