

July 2023



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

Chartered January 16, 1815
2022-2023

208th Year of Fellowship

From the East – Christopher W. Fitzgerald, WM

As we enter the month of July, we reflect upon the remarkable events that took place in June at Temple Lodge No. 9. It was a month filled with camaraderie, fellowship, and the celebration of our Masonic heritage. Here's a recap of some of the notable occurrences:

1. Past Masters Night (June 8th): We were honored to have several distinguished Past Masters in attendance for this special evening. Brother Secretary Hauge assumed the Oriental Chair, leading his team of Past Masters in conferring an Entered Apprentice Degree. We extend a warm welcome to EA Bobby Jones, who has embarked on his Masonic journey.

2. Commemoration of President Warren G. Harding's 100th Anniversary (June 10th): We joined hands with Evergreen Forrest No. 49, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, to host a Lawn Party at the Rogers - Hovatter Funeral Home. The event was a grand success, attended by Masons, dignitaries, and members of the community. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of President Harding's visit to Milford Delaware and his initiation into the Tall Cedars of Lebanon. The festivities included welcoming speeches, a captivating rendition of the national anthem by Lady Tiffany Walter, music by the Milford Community Band, and wonderfully entertaining performances by actors portraying Warren & Flossy Harding. A Tribute, recognizing the event as well as the U.S. & Delaware flags, which flew over the capital, we're presented by Congressmen Postles & Shupe and Senator Wilson.

3. Raising of Brother Steve Weipert (June 22nd): We are delighted to announce that on June 22nd, we raised Brother Steve Weipert to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at our last Regular Stated Communication for the year. It was a momentous occasion, and we congratulate Brother Weipert on reaching this significant milestone in his Masonic journey.

4. Tribute to Brother Bob Yerkes (June 22nd): We also took the opportunity to honor Brother Bob Yerkes for his dedicated service of over 30 years as our Treasurer. In recognition of his dutiful commitment, a plaque reading "Bob's Desk" has been mounted on the treasurer's desk as a symbol of our gratitude and appreciation for his invaluable contributions.

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 2022-2023

Worshipful Master
Chris Fitzgerald
(302) 242-4916

Senior Warden
Stephen Walter, PM, PGSB
(302) 270-2697

Junior Warden
Keith Geise
(717) 994-6114

Secretary
Jeff Hague, PM, PGMAR.
(302) 422-0233

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

Treasurer
Jim Bennett, PM, PJGS
(302) 228-1228

Curtis Perry – Senior Deacon
Rob Watts – Junior Deacon
Ronnie Joseph – Senior Steward
Jesse Weick – Junior Steward
Roland Cohee, Jr., PGC - Chaplain
Robert S. Young – Tiler
Pete "Ringo" Ringenary - Marshal
– Lodge Instructor



From the East (cont.)

Looking ahead, we have an important event coming up:

- Open Installation of Officers: Join us on July 8th at 2 PM as we hold the open installation of officers. Let us gather to witness the passing of the torch and the installation of our dedicated brethren who will lead us in the ensuing Masonic year. Your presence and support are greatly appreciated.

In addition to these events, we would like to take this opportunity to extend warm wishes to all our brethren and their families for a safe and relaxing Independence Day. May your celebrations be filled with joy, gratitude, and unity as we commemorate the birth of our great nation. We also hope that the summer season brings you delightful moments with your loved ones.

As always, we encourage you to stay connected, participate actively in our Lodge activities, and continue to embody the principles of Freemasonry in your daily lives.

Last Night I Kneled Where Hiram Kneled – Unknown

Last night I knelt where Hiram knelt and took an obligation
Today I'm closer to my "GOD" and I'm as Master Mason
Though heretofore my fellowmen seemed each one like the other
Today I search each one apart,
I'm looking for "My Brother."
And as I feel his friendly grip,
It fills my heart with pride;
I know that while I'm on the square
That he is on my side.
His footsteps on my errand go
If I should such require
His prayers will plead in my behalf
If I should so desire
My words are safe within his breast
as though within my own.
His hand forever at my back
To help me safely home.
Good counsel he whispers in my ear
and warns of any danger:
By square and compass brother now
Who once would call me stranger,
I might have lived a moral life,
And risen to distinction
Without my brothers helping hand
And fellowship of Masons
but "GOD" who knows how hard it is
to resist life's temptations
He knows why I knelt where Hiram knelt and took that obligation



16th Annual Crab Feast and BBQ

On behalf of the officers and members of Temple Lodge No. 9, we would like to invite all brothers, friends, family, and those who are in search of a good time to attend the 16th Annual Crab Feast and BBQ held at JP's Wharf (201 Hubbard Avenue, Frederica, DE 19946) on Labor Day, September 4, 2023 from 1 to 4 PM.

On the afternoon of the Crab Feast, the doors will open at 12:00 noon and the crabs will be served at 1:00 PM. Cost of the meal is \$65.00 for 1 adult, \$600.00 for a table of 10, and children 5 and under are free, but are required to have a ticket to assure adequate seating.

Tickets can be purchased individually or as a group. Each ticket sold will correspond to a specific table at the feast. In order to ensure you are seated with friends, we ask you to please mail your order together in the same envelope or make a note on your order form. Each rectangle table seats ten (10) people. You can process your reservation in the following ways:

Hand Delivery—complete the order form attached to this trestleboard and return with payment to Brother Chad Robinson.

Regular Mail—complete the order form attached to this trestleboard and return with payment before August 15, 2023 to:

Chad Robinson
8 John Andrews Drive
Harrington, DE 19952

Visit—[https://www.temple9.org/16th-annual-crab](https://www.temple9.org/16th-annual-crab-feast) feast and complete the order form and make payment there

Orders will be processed on first come, first served basis and tickets will be distributed following order processing.

If you have any questions, please contact Brother Chad Robinson by email at temple_lodge_9@yahoo.com.

If you are interested in helping at the Crab Feast, please visit https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EY8wJK70I9JMYX5tVr_xLk4XPmtdwrXp91sjfT0zhxE/edit?usp=sharing. Here you will find a Google sheet for you to list your desired job.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Worshipful Brother Robinson.

Dates to Remember:

July 8, 2023

Open Installation of Officers
2:00 PM

July 29, 2023

Grand Lodge Day
Killen's Pond State Park
Pavilion 4
11 AM to 4 PM

September 4, 2023

16th Annual Crab Feast
and BBQ
JP's on the Wharf
1 PM to 4 PM

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.temple9.org

Grand Lodge Picnic

The Grand Lodge Day Committee
invites you and your family
to attend

Grand Lodge Day

At

Killen's Pond State Park
Pavilion 4

Saturday, July 29, 2023
11 AM to 4 PM

BBQ and Ice Cream

Fun Times for All!!

Come out and bring your family
and enjoy time with your brothers!!



Living Past Masters of Temple Lodge No. 9

John L. Watkins – 1973
Franklin S. Wilkins – 1974
Louis S. O'Day – 1978
Ronald Jester - 1982
Gilbert H. Emory – 1983
Steven L. Rogers – 1984
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
Joshua J. Willey – 2000
George Andreae, PSGD – 2002
George G. Jester, Jr. – 2005
Michael B. Saba – 2008/2009
Martin F. Hogan, III, PJGD – 2010
Chad Robinson, PGMar. – 2011
A. Daniel Doran, PGMar. - 2012
Will Currey, PGSB – 2013
Roland Cohee, Sr. PGT – 2014
Stephen Walter, PGSB – 2015
Jim Bennett, PJGS – 2016
Brandon Smith – 2017
Steve Kerr – 2018
Matt Thompson, PSGD – 2019
John Cannon – 2020
Michael Nichols - 2021

Affiliated Past Masters

James Cooke – 2008
John Marinucci, PGM – 2011
Matthew D. Hovatter – 2007/08
James G. Sutton – 1994
Jeffrey D. Haass, Sr., PGM – 2015
William C. Thompson, PJGD –
2018
Charles Randy Wood - 2000

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

127 Causey Avenue
Unit 301
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.