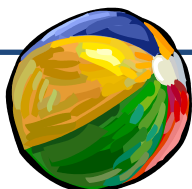


June 2018



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

Grand Lodge Day

On behalf of Most Worshipful John W. Marinucci, Grand Master of Masons in Delaware, it is my pleasure to inform you that Grand Lodge Day will be held Sunday, July 29, 2018 at Killens Pond State Park (5025 Killens Pond Road, Felton, DE 19943) from 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM. This event is open to you and your entire family. This Grand Lodge Day is meant to celebrate the brethren and their families, while enjoying fellowship with each other while and being “Masons in Motion”. We hope to continue this tradition for many years to come.

The Grand Lodge Day will be held rain or shine under the covered pavilion at the park. The event will include a picnic lunch, FREE of charge. You may feel free to bring a side dish or deserts to share should you like. There will also be plenty of entertainment, including our very own DJ Cousin Bruce who will be getting those feet moving, ice cream from Felton Fire Company, a bounce house, corn hole, t- ball, horse shoes and much much more! If any brother would like to camp, please contact the park office to make arrangements.

Parking is available near the pavilion and we ask that you save the closest spaces for our brethren that might have mobility impairments. Upon entering Killens Pond State Park, you will need to pay an entrance fee of \$4.00 for a Delaware registered vehicle or \$8.00 for non-Delaware registered vehicle at the gate, unless you possess an annual state park pass. This pass fee will cover anyone in your vehicle. Please note alcohol may be brought into the park but only in cans, no bottles or kegs are permitted; remember we are Masons and must govern ourselves accordingly.

The Grand Lodge Day Committee is grateful to the Permanent Fund for supporting the cost of hosting the Grand Lodge Day again this year! Brethren, this is money that we as Masons have contributed over the years and it is continuing to be given back to us! We appreciate the support.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to any committee member listed below.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

The Grand Lodge Day Committee

Brother Michael Brittingham (Chairman), R.W. Jeff Haass, JGW; W. Ronald Ferraro, PM; W. Brian Benfer, PM; W. Cory Kramer, PM; Brother Chuck Porter; Brother Michael Nichols; Brother Bud Skinner

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
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

I wanted to give you a little background about the Three Great Lights as we know them in our Lodge. Out of the mist of antiquity we learn that the Three Great Lights have served as the focal point necessary to provide the foundation common to the Craft, which binds us as Brothers, the Holy Bible (Volume of Sacred Scripture) Square, and Compasses.

THE HOLY BIBLE Certainly the Bible was not meant to invoke a particular religious dogma but rather to distill in our mind the thought that we are responsible and accountable to a higher power which, depending on one's theological understanding, might be referred to as God, Deity, Supreme Architect, etc. In Speculative Masonry, by accepting the belief in a Supreme Being as sufficient to become a member of the Craft, leaving dogma/creed outside the Lodge defused that which would have been a most disruptive pitfall. Today the discussion of religion is "off the table" in Lodge. The attention of every Mason in our Grand Jurisdiction is first called to the Three Great Lights when, as Entered Apprentices, we behold our first glimmer of light and the foundation of their use is explained. At the same point in the subsequent degrees elaboration of their use expands our understanding. In the Entered Apprentice's Lecture, they are further defined as the Furniture of the Lodge: The Holy Bible, dedicated to God, The Square to the Master and the Compasses to the Craft. The question "is it of your own free will and accord" lends itself to more than confirming that we have not been coerced in becoming a petitioner. Now, we as Adam, when with one bite of the apple was given the choice through knowledge (and responsibility) for responding properly to right and wrong, so we as Speculative Masons accept the responsibility to God utilizing the Three Great Lights to mold, temper and enforce our Masonic laws through the use of the working tools

THE SQUARE The Square migrates through the degrees and although it is always included as a part of the Great Lights, it appears as one of the working tools of the Fellowcraft as well as the Master's emblem. No doubt, before we became Master Masons we heard such phrases as "he is a square dealer" or "you will get a Square deal" indicating that in dealing with that company or individual you would receive a fair or honest deal. In dealing with a Brother or Brethren, "On the Square" means that what is spoken of and or agreed to will be carried out strictly according to that agreement between the parties involved, and thus with morality and honesty as the foundation, the Square defines our actions and obligations to mankind.

THE COMPASSES In preparing ourselves to become Master Masons, it is necessary that we understand the constraints within which we as men must act if we are to fulfill our Masonic destiny. To circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds, describes the use of the compass. What is interesting when visiting that portion of the Entered Apprentice Degree regarding "The Dedication of Lodges," there is a passage that refers to "a certain point within a circle embroidered by two perfect parallel lines, representing St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, and on the top rests the Book of Constitutions. In going around this Circle, we necessarily touch upon those two parallel lines as well as the Book of Constitutions; and while a Mason keeps himself circumscribed within their precepts, it is impossible he can materially err"....that point would have been made by one of the legs of the compass. You could say that The Three Great Lights form the three sides of a triangle – the strongest of structures.

From the Senior Warden – Steve Kerr

My Brothers, it has been an honor serving Temple Lodge as your Senior Warden this year and thank you for entrusting me to serve and represent you. My journey to this point couldn't have been made possible without the support of every one of you. Throughout my journey I have found how amazing this fraternity truly is and how AWESOME Temple Lodge No. 9 is. I have had so much love and support with the battles my family have been going through with Kameryn. She is so loved and 99% of the time everyone first asks about her. I will help Temple Lodge in anyway possibly I can. Installation for the next ensuing Masonic year will be held on Saturday, July 7, 2018 at 6 P.M and it will be an OPEN installation so please bring your family and friends.

I look forward to seeing you.

From the Secretary's Desk – Jeff Hague, PM

One obligation that all members of Temple Lodge have is to pay their dues, unless there has been a specific exemption given. This goes back to the initial charter of the Lodge. Your dues provide the income that enables the lodge to operate. In other words, it helps keep the lights on.

The dues for the Lodge portion is \$35.00 per year. The extra amount, which is listed on your invoice, that was mailed last November, is referred to as Grand Lodge Assessment. This amount varies every year and is made up of several components. For the last couple of years this amount has been \$33.50. This makes a total of \$68.50.

At this point in time approximately 48 brothers have not paid this years' dues, and for several of the brothers, multiple years dues have not been paid. This places a severe burden on the lodge. Why? Because even for those brothers that have not paid, the lodge must still pay the Grand Lodge Assessment. That amount adds up pretty quickly and runs several thousand dollars each year.

The last thing we want to do is suspend any brother for non-payment of dues. Once a Mason always a Mason. Your obligation is binding for life. As a Mason it is your responsibility to meet not only your daily life obligations, but those of the lodge. Brothers that do not meet their obligations, not only by not paying their fair share, impact the entire lodge.

If you have not received your yearly membership card, it means you have not paid your dues. If there is a valid reason that you are not able to pay, please let me know so we can take care of the situation. Don't let the amount build up to the point where it requires the Lodge to take action.

From the Senior Deacon – Mike Brittingham

As we are about to conclude the Masonic Year of Temple Lodge No. 9 I am filled with feelings of gratitude to not only the current officers and members but the Past Masters as well. I was once told the SD chair is the best chair to have and after this great year, I hope that is true! I looked at the long list of Past Masters who occupied the SD chair and hope I served it well. Masonic leaders around the world agree that the greatest challenge of freemasonry is not declining membership, but rather the lack of understanding of what it means to be a Freemason. The officers are always ready to give as you are ready to receive instruction, don't be afraid to ask questions. It is frequently stated that Freemasonry provides men with the ways and means to become better men. As we move steadily into the next Masonic Year I am sure Temple Lodge No. 9 will continue to stand out as one of the best lodges in Delaware as we DO take good men and make them BETTER! I am humbled and proud to call each of you BROTHER!! A new year awaits us, let us go boldly into the future and seize the opportunity and celebrate the joys of Freemasonry with one another. I also have some great news for the lodge; Brother Dan Trader will continue the outstanding meals for the next Masonic Year! I know they all run a close second to the meals I prepared (sarcasm) but if it is in your ability consider giving just a little more to meal donation since the price of food is increasing.

Dates to Remember:

June 7, 2018

Special Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

June 14, 2018

Stated Communication and
Election of Officers
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

June 15, 2018

APM Degree
(Open to PM's Only)
Delaware Lodge No. 37
6:00 PM

June 26, 2018

Night at the Races
(TICKETS REQUIRED)
Harrington Raceway
5:00 PM

June 28, 2018

Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

July 7, 2018

Open Installation of Officers
Temple Lodge No. 9
6:00 PM

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.temple9.org

Temple Lodge No. 9 Bunker Degree

It's time to hunker in the "Bunker"

The officers of Temple Lodge No 9 will again confer a degree in a bunker at Ft. Miles located in Cape Henlopen State Park in a Special Communication. The degree will take place on June 21, 2018. Seating is limited to 50. Tickets will be sold for the event on a first come first served basis. Tickets are available exclusively to Temple 9 members until June 7, 2018. Cost for the ticket is \$10 and includes dinner. Dinner will be held at Jefferson Lodge No 15 in Lewes at 6:00 PM. The Special Communication will begin at 7:00 at the bunker location.

Please contact PM Jim Bennett for ticket purchases. I can be reached by phone at (302) 228-1228 or by email at delawaredeuce@gmail.com



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.