



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

## 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 2016-2017

*Worshipful Master  
Jim Bennett  
(302) 228-1228*

*Senior Warden  
Brandon Smith  
(302) 258-8014*

*Junior Warden  
Steve Kerr  
(302) 853-2181*

*Secretary  
Jeff Hague, PM  
(302) 422-0233*

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

*Treasurer  
Bob Yerkes  
(302) 422-4741*

*Matt Thompson – Senior Deacon  
Mike Brittingham - Junior Deacon  
John Cannon – Senior Steward  
Mike Nichols – Junior Steward  
Roland Cohee, Jr. - Chaplain  
John Niccolls – Tiler  
Jack McDuff – Marshal*



**Chartered January 16, 1815  
2016-2017  
202<sup>nd</sup> Year of Fellowship**



## **From the East – Jim Bennett, WM**

Thank you for making this Masonic year a success. Throughout the year we enjoyed seeing many members that haven't attended lodge for a while and many returning to join us regularly. With less than a handful of stated communications left in the Masonic year I would like to issue one final appeal to have you join us for a meeting where good fellowship prevails. Our regular attendees are often overlooked for recognition but I sincerely thank them for supporting the lodge in such fine fashion!

May is going to be

exciting. First up - the Golf tournament on May 10th followed the next evening with the Past Masters of Temple Lodge conferring a Master Mason degree on May 11th. May 18th is our Ladies night at Harrington Raceway. We will likely confer a Master Mason degree on May 25th. June is going to offer the same excitement with lots of work to be completed. We'll start things off with a Master Mason degree to be conferred in a WWII bunker at Ft. Miles (see enclosed article). Plus we'll initiate a few new members before we go dark. Installation of 2017-

2018 officers will take place on June 26, 2017.

Sitting in the East has afforded me the opportunity to experience, firsthand, the goodness and passion that is shared among the fraternity. It has been a pleasure to have a thought or idea, share the same and see it come to life. I would like to thank everyone for allowing me this opportunity and assisting me while I sit in the East.

There are no strangers in Freemasonry, only friends you've yet to meet. – Bro. Dave Thomas

## **Our Newest Master Masons**

The Officers of Temple Lodge No. 9 raised Brother Dan Trader to the degree of Master Mason during the Stated Communication held on April 13, 2017. The Lower Delaware Shield and Square degree team paid a visit and raised Brother Brian Bashista to the degree of Master Mason on April 20, 2017. Congratulations Brothers!



Living Past Masters of  
Temple Lodge No. 9

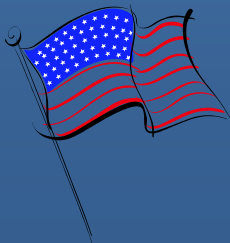
*Jehu M. Davis, Jr. – 1966*  
*Leroy A. Timblin – 1970/1975*  
*John L. Watkins – 1973*  
*Franklin S. Wilkins – 1974*  
*Louis S. O'Day – 1978*  
*John E. Holland – 1980*  
*Frank H. Beebe – 1981*  
*Ronald Jester - 1982*  
*Gilbert H. Emory – 1983*  
*Steven L. Rogers – 1984*  
*Robert D. Clendaniel – 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 – 1994*  
*David F. Coady – 1997*  
*Clarence R. Jackson – 1998*  
*Donald C. Adams – 1999*  
*Joshua J. Willey – 2000*  
*George Andreae – 2002*  
*George G. Jester, Jr. – 2005*  
*Michael B. Saba – 2008/2009*  
*Martin F. Hogan, III, PGT – 2010*  
*Chad T. Robinson, PSGS – 2011*  
*A. Daniel Doran, PGMar. - 2012*  
*Will Currey, PJGS – 2013*  
*H. Roland Cohee – 2014*  
*Stephen Walter - 2015*

Affiliated Past Masters of  
Temple Lodge No. 9

*Thomas McMurray – 1977*  
*Augsburg, Germany*

*James Cooke – 2008*  
*Roan Oak, Texas*

*John Marinucci, DGM – 2011*  
*Dover, Delaware*



**THIRD DEGREE AT FORT MILES IN JUNE**

In Cape Henlopen State Park in Sussex County, at a key point along Delaware's Atlantic Coast, there is a bunker from World War II.

The bunker was part of Fort Miles, a U.S. military installation built in 1941 to fend off German Navy attacks. Its site at the mouth of the Delaware Bay near Lewes gave good vantage for guarding the bay and Delaware River, as well as Philadelphia and coastal oil refineries.

Named for Lt. Gen. Nelson Appleton Miles, the fort sprawled over nearly 5,000 acres and was one of the largest, most-heavily armed coast installations in U.S. history, built at a cost of \$22 million or more than \$325 million in modern dollars.

The fort – at its height equipped with 16 major caliber weapons – ceased most military operation after the war, state historians say, and 543 acres of its land were transferred back to the state and became parkland in 1964.

The Fort Miles Historical Association was started in 2003 and became instrumental in gaining the site's listing on the National Register of Historic Places two years later.

The officers of Temple Lodge No. 9 will confer a Master Mason degree inside of the bunker on June 8, 2017. Seating is limited to 50 brothers plus the officers. There will be tickets available on a first come first served basis and offered exclusively to Temple No. 9 members until May 25, 2017. Tickets will then become available to anyone in the fraternity. Tickets are only \$10. Please call any officer for tickets. All proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to the park.

The officers will open lodge at 5:00PM, go at ease for dinner. Dinner will be provided by the candidate at Jefferson Lodge in Lewes at 6:00PM. Parking is very limited therefore we will carpool from Jefferson Lodge to the Bunker to confer the degree at approximately 7:00PM. Don't delay in getting a ticket for this first of its kind degree!

## Final Appeal on Dues

\$  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PAY YOUR  
DUES**

In the April trestleboard Brother Secretary submitted an article regarding dues. I would like to thank the many members that brought their dues current. Unfortunately there are still a few delinquencies that will require the lodge to enforce the code and suspend members. This is the last thing the lodge or any Worshipful Master would want to do. We will need to place delinquent members on suspension by the end of May. Please make an effort to bring your dues current. If there is adversity or misfortune preventing you from submitting your dues PLEASE contact Brother Secretary or myself. We are here for you and will assist you in your necessities.

## Don't Miss Out on Ladies Night

Our Ladies night is fast approaching. On May 18, 2017 we will once again hold our ladies night at Harrington Raceway. Temple Lodge No. 9 will sponsor a race – the Ninth race of course. Tickets are available via PayPal on our website or by contacting any lodge officer.



## Come to Another Party!!

Woo Hoo! On May 13, 2017 the hall corporation will host a clean up "PARTY". Coffee and donuts at 8:30 with the clean up festivities beginning at 9:00 AM followed by pizza and cold beverages after the cleanup. Please attend and support this event.

Remember "Many Hands Make Light Work".



## Dates to Remember:

**May 10, 2017**

Golf Tournament  
Jonathan's Landing Golf Club  
10:30 AM

**May 11, 2017**

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

**May 18, 2017**

Ladies Night  
TICKET REQUIRED  
Harrington Raceway  
5 PM

**May 25, 2017**

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

**June 8, 2017**

Stated Communication  
Fort Miles  
See Within Article

**June 15, 2017**

Actual Past Master's Degree  
**PM's Only**  
Doric Lodge No. 30

**June 22, 2017**

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

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

[www.temple9.org](http://www.temple9.org)

## Mentorship Corner - Tom McMurray, PM

This is a short article about the importance of hands to men and Masons. A man's hand are often a true indication of his vocation, long tapered soft fingers, those of an artist, while big rough expansive hand, those of a mechanic or metal worker. The offer of our hands to a Brother has little matter as to the vocation of the owner, but only as a means to offer a token of friendship and recognition.

With all this importance in all areas of the world and in all times, it seems only fitting that "Hands" were used with significance in Freemasonry from its earliest times. Indeed our ancient Brethren, the operative Mason, made his living with his Hand Tools. Can we be surprised then at the use of "Hand to back" or of the E.A. being instructed that our sign of fidelity was two right hands joined or by two fingers supporting each other by the right hand? Fidelity has its own sign. We use it when we pledge allegiance to the flag and in many Jurisdictions when we are at prayer.

Your hand can work for Freemasonry when you take the time to call another Brother on the telephone, be he sick or well; be his need great or small. Reach out and touch his life. Touch is universal. Touch is the expression of love. A vase of priceless beauty and value was once a lump of clay molded by two hands. "The strong grip of a Master Mason" can accomplish many things. Shake the hand of your Brother with pride. Be proud of your Lodge. Be proud of Freemasonry. Don't lose your grip. You have earned the right to take me as I take you.

Some content quote from a short talk by WB Harold Grainger, King Solomon Lodge # 31

A BROTHER'S HAND By George B. Staff

When you're feeling all downhearted,  
And life's hard to understand,  
Say, it's fine to feel the pressure  
Of a brother's friendly hand.

With an arm across your shoulders.  
And a grip you love to find,  
How it makes you feel the bounding  
Of the hearts of humankind.

Just to know he sympathizes,  
Though he doesn't say a word;  
How it starts your courage climbing,  
As your heart is touched and stirred.

It is just a little token  
Of an ever growing band,  
For there's faith and hope and courage  
In a brother's friendly hand!

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

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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.