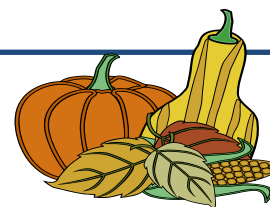
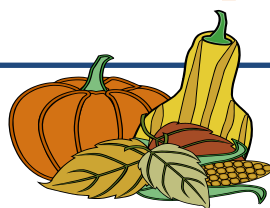




Temple Lodge No. 9 A.F & A.M.



Chartered January 16, 1815
2016-2017
201st 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 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 Nicolls – Tiler

Jack McDuff – Marshal

From the East – Jim Bennett, WM

Brothers and Ladies,

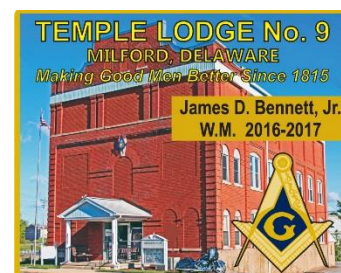
Autumn is a wonderful time of the year and one of my top 4 seasons (I like them all). Cooler temperatures, beautiful fall foliage to admire, the harvest and of course Thanksgiving are a few of my autumn favorites. We all should have a lot of reasons to give thanks. Masonically, I am very thankful and proud to be a part of Temple Lodge No. 9. I recently had the pleasure of sitting with past masters in our rescheduled communication. Our SW and SD had prior commitments that conflicted with the rescheduled meeting. I asked PM Jehu Davis to sit in the West and PM Saba to sit as my right hand man in the SD chair. They gladly accepted and performed the duties of their respective stations perfectly and from my perspective – PROUDLY!

PM Davis assisted with opening and closing and was also a birthday brother for October. PM Davis celebrated his 63rd Masonic birthday. PM Davis sat as Master of our lodge in 1966 and is an inspiration to us all!

PM Saba reminded us all of the importance of reverence in the performance of his SD duties. Many times I have witnessed the great lights being handled with far less reverence than they deserve. I sometimes hear quiet talking among the brothers while the great lights are being arranged. PM Andreae also commented on this subject during his rousing P.R.I.D.E lecture he presented that same evening. Remember that this is one of the most sacred things we do so please show the utmost reverence when attending.

Brothers, take plenty of time and be thankful for what we have and we are able to do!

“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” ~ Mark Twain



The Traveling Gavel has been “traveling”. After spending the summer at the beach with Jefferson 15 the gavel was captured for the first time this year by members of Temple 9. After a short stay at Temple 9 it was captured by Franklin 12. Congrats to the brothers from Franklin on capturing the Gavel for their Grand Visit. They need not worry about any dust settling around it as it will be traveling again soon!

See below:
WM Bennett gladly handing the gavel to WM Overington from Franklin 12



Living Past Masters

Richard N. Downing – 1964
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
Jeffrey W. Hague, PGMar. – 1989/2007
William A. Dudley, Jr. – 1990
William T. Wadkins, Jr., 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
J. Edward Hudson – 2001
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



Mentorship Corner - Tom McMurray, PM

Freemasonry as we know it today came into being in the early 1700s, when the first Grand Lodge of England was formed. Masonry prior to that time was a guild or union of stoneworkers, who practiced their trade throughout England and Europe, and were responsible for the beautiful cathedrals and public buildings throughout the continent. Whole masonic families lived and died during the construction of each of those buildings, some of which took over a century to build.

The term Freemason arose because these builders were not bound to a single Lord, Earl, Duke, or King, but instead worked under a contract, and when finished, were free to leave the country to take on another project. As this was a very prestigious fraternity, the gentry of the time applied for membership, and were accepted, whence originated the Accepted part of our Free and Accepted Masons. As time went by, more and more speculative Masons were accepted, and the actual building of massive structures declined, till around 1717, the majority of Freemasons were as we are today, builders of men and minds, instead of impressive edifices, and the first Grand Lodge of England was formed.

This discourse is designed to give you a brief introduction to the Craft and the mainstay of Freemasonry, the Blue Lodge, or symbolic lodge, as it is more properly known. Every Mason belonging to any Masonic

body begins in a symbolic lodge, where he receives the first three degrees in Masonry. These are known, respectively, as Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Masons Degrees. Some refer to them as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degrees. One might find those terms disagreeable, there are no rubber hoses, men in trench coats in darkened rooms or other forms of persuasion where a 3rd degree may be imposed upon one. Instead, only the most profound ritual and symbolism characterizes our degrees, designed to open the eyes and mind to a higher ideal. Mason should have his signed petition submitted to a Lodge, where it is read at a regular meeting. A committee is formed to call on the prospect to determine his motives and acceptability. Their report is returned one month hence, when the petition is brought up for action. If the ballot by the members present is 100% in favor of the applicant, he is so informed and then informed of the time to appear for his Entered Apprentice degree. A single black ball in the ballot box is sufficient to prevent the prospect from being accepted, whence originated the term Black Ball.

Masonry is a closed society, not open to the general public, but rather to persons of like persuasions and ideals. While no two people are alike, they can share a common belief in the brotherhood of man and in ONE who we in Masonry refer to as the Supreme Architect of the Universe. The tenets of Masonry are Brotherhood, Relief and

Truth. We espouse all men being equal, regardless of their worldly wealth or position, and attempt to relieve our fellow man's woes and tribulations, again regardless of membership in the Fraternity. We also practice the virtue of Truth. This may be the hardest of all, because it is often easier to tell a little white lie than to confront one with the truth.

Masonry is the oldest Fraternity in the world. Even though there are those who claim it is a false religion and heretic in nature, but as a Christian, we can find nothing in Freemasonry contradictory with the Bible or its beliefs. Some religions claim we as Freemasons worship the Devil, and require our members to make blood oaths. Neither is true. Our oaths, or obligations, as we call them, are purely symbolic in nature, to impress on the candidate with the seriousness of our ceremonies and teachings. They are never to be taken literally. The only real penalties ever imposed in Masonry are those of reprimand, suspension and expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense. Masonry requires every applicant to profess a belief in Deity. No meeting of Masons can begin without the Holy Bible open on the Altar, and a prayer to the Almighty being made. In closing, Masonry is a brotherhood extending throughout the world, and never is a Mason truly alone while the Fraternity exists.

(Courtesy of Masonic Education Ashlar Company)

Brother George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation - 1789

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service

of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enable to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are

blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all

sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.



A Message from the Senior Deacon

The 2016-2017 Masonic year is in full swing and fellowship and good times abound. Sitting in the Senior Deacon chair has brought lots of excitement and anxiety with degrees becoming a huge focus of my attention. Our Worshipful Master has laid out a great year with fun events coupled with our regular duties. I would like to encourage our brethren to attend their lodge and become a part of the good times we are enjoying. We are very lucky to have a healthy lodge and I would like to see the seats full for every meeting. Please come out and enjoy a good meal followed by our business meeting or degree.

Dues

Your lodge needs your help! The 2017 lodge dues notifications are coming in a month or so! Temple Lodge No. 9 members enjoy low membership costs when compared to other lodges in the state and region. We enjoy this low cost for a variety of reasons. Temple Lodge No. 9 has strong membership numbers. We also create and participate in numerous fund raising events. Those events assist the general fund to support the many charities and organizations that rely on our lodge for assistance. As of this

trestle board there is approximately \$5100 in outstanding dues payments on the books. That is a lot of funding that could enable Temple Lodge No. 9 to offer further support in the community or support a distressed brother. Please also consider the fact that the Grand Lodge assessment is paid by the lodge regardless if the dues have been collected. That translates into approximately \$2500 already paid out on unpaid dues! Please make an effort to bring your dues current. Remember your obligations brothers! We

are here for those in need and will discretely waive dues for those having financial distress. Installments are permissible to bring your membership current. There is a link on our website that allows you to pay via PayPal.



Dates to Remember:

November 10

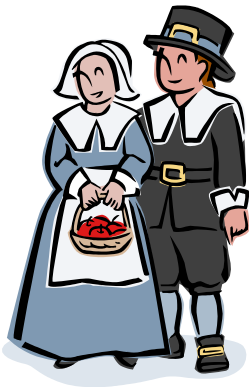
Grand Lodge
Members Meeting
6:00 PM – Third Floor

November 10

Stated Communication and
Birthday Party
Dinner 6:30 PM
Lodge 7:30 PM

November 24

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



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.temple9.org

Temple Lodge No. 9 Name Badges

We are placing orders for member name tags, like the one pictured below. The cost for the name tag is \$14.00. Please send payment to the lodge and include how you would like your name to appear on the name tag.



From the Chaplain – Roland Cohee, Jr.

November is the month that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Delaware, Dale Irwin, has ordered for a Masonic Sunday to be held in. We at Temple 9 will be celebrating this day on November 13th at Christ Church, Milford. Worshipful Master Jim Bennett is inviting all the brothers and their families to join him and his family for this day of worship and fellowship. If you cannot attend, please attend the church of your choice. Then we will be together in spirit. Christ Church, on that day, will be collecting shoeboxes full of gifts for the Samaritan's Purse Relief effort. I will have boxes in the lodge for anyone who would like to participate. Bring your boxes with you. They will be collected and blessed then shipped. Information about this project can be found at www.samaritanspurse.org. Finally with Christmas just around the corner, I would like to know if anyone is interested in being a bell ringer for the Salvation Army Kettle drive. Let me know and I will get in touch with them to volunteer. We will also put out a box to collect canned goods for the Food Bank of Delaware. Brothers, may the great architect continue to bless and keep you and yours.

Attention Past Masters and Members of Grand Lodge

The members of Grand Lodge for Temple Lodge No. 9 will meet on November 10, 2016 on the 3rd floor at 6 PM.

This meeting will be held for the purpose of nominations for Grand

Lodge Officers, including Junior Grand Warden.

All Past Masters are members of Grand Lodge, as well as the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden. Your attendance is appreciated

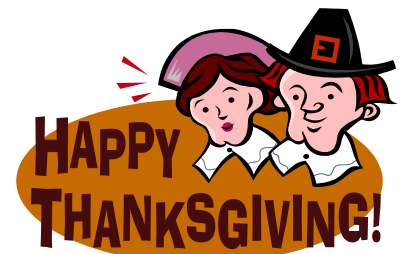
and please remember that we have an obligation to meet our duties to Grand Lodge and support our Grand Lodge officers.

We look forward to seeing you on November 10th!

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.