

September 2022



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 2022-2023

*Worshipful Master
Chris Fitzgerald
(302) 242-4916*

*Senior Warden
Stephen Walter, PM
(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
(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
Tom McMurray – Lodge Instructor*

Chartered January 16, 1815
2022-2023

208th Year of Fellowship

From the East – Christopher W. Fitzgerald, WM

Greetings Brethren, I trust you and your families are well and are having a wonderful summer.

As these warm days go swiftly by, our Temple Lodge Officer Line is enthusiastically working hard, sharpening our ritual work and putting together team building & recreational activities for us, as well as entertaining programs for work & education that we are eager to share with you and excited for your participation and support.

First, our Crab Feast & BBQ, lead by Worshipful Brothers Will Currey, Chad Robinson, Mike Nichols and Brother Pete Russo, will be held Labor Day, September 5th from 1:00 - 4:00 at JP's Wharf in Bowers Beach. Tickets can be purchased for \$65 each and \$600 for a table of ten by contacting any Lodge Officer or buying them on the Temple No. 9 website.

Senior Warden Stephen Walter, P.M., is heading up a "Rusty Nail Degree" for our presentation for work and instruction scheduled for our first Stated Communication on September 8th.

Junior Warden Keith Geise is taking the lead in our Brotherhood Fishing Charter, which is going to be September 18th leaving from Bowers Beach at 3 P.M. and returning at 9 P.M. \$65 a head and \$8 rod rentals. This is an open event. So, bring a friend, who may later become a Brother. Contact Brother Geise with any questions at keith.geise@gmail.com.

Lastly, Temple Lodge No. 9 is joining in participation with several lodges across the country in a nationwide Spaghetti Dinner Night. This fundraising will be to benefit the George Washington Masonic National Memorial's Cornerstone Rededication Event, which will be taking place in February.

Our second Stated Communication on September 22nd will feature the Lower Delaware Shield and Square Club conferring the Master Mason degree on Brother Mark Bertone. You definitely want to come out for this special event.

So, enjoy the last few weeks of August and I'll meet you on the Level in September. Until then, take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly





Some Wise & Serious Truths – Masonic Education

Lecture on the trowel by Revd Neville Barker Cryer: the Past Grand Chaplain UGLE, Prestonian Lecturer (1974) and Batham Lecturer (1996-1998)

Trowel

a symbol of brotherly love

trowel

We are told that even kings have not been unwilling to join freemasonry and begin with the humblest position. This is what is meant by the words, "exchange the sceptre for the trowel". The trowel today is seen as the jewel attached to the collar of the Charity Steward. It was appointed to be worn there because it had in earlier times been the symbol of care for the brotherhood and that which secures the well being of the brethren. This was seen in the 18th century, when there was no office of Inner Guard and the latest initiate to the lodge was the one who was at the inner side of the door, when the next candidate was due to be admitted. As each initiate was given a trowel as well as an apron it was with a trowel that he gave knocks on the door and also pricked the flesh of the new candidate. It was thus that the trowel acquired the qualities of making sure that only fit men were admitted and the security of the lodge was maintained. Here the mention of a trowel means that whilst the ruler of a kingdom was entitled to wield a sceptre as the top person in the land yet when he came into freemasonry he was humble enough to become the lowliest member for a time. It is a lesson that every freemason learns. When joining freemasonry, it is necessary to begin at the bottom of the ladder.

From the South – Keith Geise, JW

Good day brothers!

The days are growing shorter, and fall is upon us. We will soon return to lodge for fellowship and work.

A few things to make sure all the brothers are aware of:

Our fishing trip is on September 18. Please be at the dock no later than 2:30 pm. This is a everyone is invited event with Masonic brotherhood. This would be a fantastic time to bring anyone you know who is interested in the craft. Cost is \$75 per person; rod rental is \$8 (bait is provided). Feel free to bring your own refreshments and food for the day. Flounder, trout, drum, and even trigger are being caught right now so should be a fantastic day.

The crab feast is almost here! Our annual event is a great fund raiser for the lodge and all-around good time for fellowship. If there is anything you would like to donate to the silent auction, please let an officer know. Many hands make light work so if you can help that day please do.

Our craft is a collaborative one built on the skills of many. If there is some work you would like to see or would like to present to the craft please let the Worshipful Master know.

Thanks to all of you for your friendship and fellowship.

From the West – Stephen Walter, PGSB

Dates to Remember:

September 5, 2022

Temple Lodge No. 9 Crab Feast
JP's on the Wharf
1-4 PM
TICKETS REQUIRED

September 8, 2022

Stated Communication
Rusty Nail Degree
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

September 18, 2022

Brotherhood Charter Fishing
Captain's Lady Charters
3 PM
TICKETS REQUIRED

September 22, 2022

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

September 23, 2022

Spaghetti Dinner Supporting the
George Washington National
Masonic Memorial
Temple Lodge No. 9
6-8 PM

October 3, 2022

Grand Lodge
Atlantic Sands, Rehoboth
9:00 AM

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.temple9.org

I hope this issue of the Temple Lodge No. 9 Trestleboard finds you in good health and good spirits! It has been a hot summer, but that has provided us with ample opportunity to enjoy Mother Nature's blessings.

Your lodge officers have been practicing their degree work so that it is well polished for the growing slate of candidates awaiting their advancement in the craft. Looking ahead to our first Stated communication of September 8th, Temple Lodge No.9 will perform the Rusty Nail Degree. The Rusty Nail Degree is like a refresher course of what you learned when you received your first 3 degrees. It has become a useful tool to remind us of our rights, benefits and duties to one another. Seeing this degree can be especially helpful after the lodge has been dark for two months, so it is for that purpose Worshipful Master Chris Fitzgerald has decided to perform the degree on our first Stated Communication of the Masonic year. I would encourage everyone to attend. We are looking for a candidate for this degree at this time; if you are interested in being the candidate, please contact a member of the officer team.

I hope to see you at the crab feast!



Living Past Masters of Temple Lodge No. 9

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
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 Andraee, 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
Matthew Thompson, SGD – 2019
John Cannon – 2020
Michael Nichols - 2021

Affiliated Past Masters

Thomas McMurray – 1977
James Cooke – 2008
John Marinucci, PGM – 2011
Matthew D. Hovatter – 2007/08
James G. Sutton – 1994
M.W. Jeffrey D. Haass, Sr., GM – 2015
William C. Thompson, JGD - 2018

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.