

**NEXT REGULAR
COMMUNICATION
FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND**

Please join us for our next
regular communication.
6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Open
Corned Beef Dinner!

Emergent Communication

**March 28 Our Official Visit of
DDGM Brian Hartel Senior**

15th District DLI

Thursday April 4th

Hightstown-Apollo #41

Regular Communication
April 19th.



***Hightstown- Apollo #41 F&AM,
Trestleboard March, 2019***

Words from the East

March 2019

Brethren many of us have experienced a certain lapse of memory at the most inopportune moments.

This is nothing to be embarrassed about especially when at Lodge with your Brothers. Everybody has some

Trouble with the ritual work from time to time, including the given word by all members. Oh and don't I know

That feeling as the Senior Deacon shook my hand and a brain fog blocked my recollection of that word on one

Occasion. You should never let that be never be a reason for not attending lodge as we are all here to help and

Have pledged to do so at the Sacred Altar when we became a mason. You are the reason we are here, please feel

To join us even if to sit on the side and watch. If a chair happens to be empty, we would be honored if you

Elect to help and fill it. We welcome all... new masons, old masons... even "rusty" or "crusty" ones. Come out

And visit even if you may only be able to stay for a portion of the evening. Join us for a meal and some

Conversation and "Light". If anyone needs transportation to a meeting please let one of the officers or members

Know so we can make sure your needs are met.

Ron Herzog WM 2019



Ron Herzog WM 2019



Brother Ryan Bennet, SD Michael Kraus and PM Ernesto Somera attending the Wheelchair push on Sunday March 3rd. Burlington Masonic Home. Next date is May 19th.

From the South

March 2019

Brethren, the second of the Theological Virtues is Hope. As Masons and men of faith Hope is the inescapable underpinning of all we believe. It is the assurance that our faith is not in vain; that we travel on the level of time to that place of light, life and love where faith and hope will be replaced by the reward of eternal joy and peace.

The deep and abiding lessons of Masonry transcend the limits of human wisdom. They point to the darkness of death, the obscurity of the grave, the resurrection of the dead and the immortality of the soul. Our Hope is fueled by the power and triumph of unfaltering faith in God.

Hope is the light by which Masons work. Scripture teaches us that it is fruitless to light a lamp only to hide it under a basket. Let the light of Hope that is in each of you shine forth as a beacon guiding good men to become better and illuminating all the dark corners of the world.

Michael Kraus, J.W.

Just Wondering

“In commemoration of so sublime an event I masonically say: Let there be light.” I was studying the Fellowcraft degree so that I could help with our ritual practice on Thursday nights and this phrase from the degree began to haunt my thoughts. I believe I’ve been a Mason for somewhere around 15 years. In all this time it has never occurred to me that in each of our degrees the candidate/brother is hoodwinked for a large part of the degree. I would estimate (I don’t really know) that if I exclude the Master Mason degree then our candidate/brother is hoodwinked for 30% - 40% of the ritual. If I include the Master Mason degree, then the percentage that a candidate/brother is hoodwinked is even greater. Ruminating upon that reality for a moment. A candidate/brother is hoodwinked for a large percentage of all the degrees and additionally, the candidate/brother has never heard the ritual of each of the degrees that are being conferred! With this understanding in hand I had to ask myself a couple of questions and I ask these same questions of everyone who has taken the time to read my article: If the candidate/brother is hoodwinked then does it matter which direction I walk in i.e. how I conduct myself during ritual? Even more, do the words I speak even matter? After all, since we are doing this degree for the candidate/brother why shouldn’t we be able to simply read the ritual from our manuals and conduct him through the Lodge in the most expeditious manner possible? He can’t see us and at best, the candidate/brother is spotty with regards to spoken ritual; it doesn’t make sense that it is forbidden to read the ritual manuals or move in any fashion we would like during a degree. When a candidate/brother is hoodwinked then memorization of ritual for the sake of the candidate/brother is not efficient - and neither is the dance we conduct through the Lodge. Considering the latter, I lay the following question on the table for all who read this article: To what purpose do we memorize ritual, spoken or otherwise? Is it all for the candidate/brother?

Peace,

Denis de Leon, PM Hightstown-Apollo #41 March 2019

The Grand Lodge



Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

LARRY S. PLASKET, PGM
GRAND SECRETARY
lplasket@njmasonic.org

100 BARRACK STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08608-2008
609-239-3970 B

TO: All Lodge Secretaries

RE: GRAND LODGE BANQUET - ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

The following is to be published in your Trestleboard and read at every regular communication of the lodge between now and the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in April.

Most Worshipful Roger B. Quintana, Grand Master extends a cordial invitation to our Brethren and their Ladies to attend the Grand Lodge Banquet at the 232nd Annual Communication in Atlantic City. Details are as follows:

Place: Traymore A & B, 6th Floor, Bally's Hotel & Casino
Park Place and the Boardwalk

Date: **Wednesday, April 17, 2019**

Time: **Social Hour – 6:00 P.M. (Cash Bar)**

Dinner – 7:00 P.M.

Price: **\$ 80.00 per Person**
Entertainment

For tickets, please forward your check made payable to the **Grand Lodge of New Jersey** for the number of tickets needed along with a **self-addressed stamped envelope**, to Arnold "Butch Elliott, 38 Main Street, Flanders, NJ 07836. **The DEADLINE for reservations is Friday, March 29, 2019. Tables of 10 can be reserved. We must have the name of every person for whom a ticket is purchased.**

To pay by credit card, please call Butch Elliott at (201) 390-3415.

Thank you for your interest and support. We look forward to breaking bread and sharing an evening of Masonic fun and fellowship with you.

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry S. Plasket".

Larry S. Plasket, P.G.M.
Acting Grand Secretary

The Grand Lodge



Most Ancient and Honorable Society
of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

Larry S. Plasket, PGM.
Acting Grand Secretary
lplasket@njmasonic.org
gmnj2002@gmail.com

100 Barrack Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
609-239-3970B
609-472-2617C

Nominations for Grand Lodge Offices 2019-2020

Grand Master

Gregory J. Scott, Peninsula Lodge #99, 5th District
362 Avenue A, Bayonne, NJ 07002

Deputy Grand Master

Robert V. Monacelli,ASUREMasada Lodge #22, 10th District
327 Willow Grove Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Senior Grand Warden

David L. Tucker, Atlantic Lodge #221, 23rd District
218 Lincoln Street, Hammonton, NJ 08037

Junior Grand Warden

(Vote for 1)

Gary J. Olsen, Durand Lodge #179, 17th District
340 Newtons Corner Road, Howell, NJ 07731

David I. Steiner, Alpine Tilden Tenakill Lodge #77, 3rd District
260 Hamilton Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666

Grand Treasurer

Robert Sheridan, Atlantic Lodge #221, 23rd District
403 Breaker Drive, Galloway, NJ 08205

Grand Secretary

(Vote for 1)

Roger Quintana, Blue Stone Mystic Tie Malta Doric Lodge #35, 5th District
75 Cameo Place, Colonia, NJ 07067

John S. Ryan, Livingston Lodge #11, 8th District
1 Killdeer Glen, Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Grand Lodge Trustee
(Vote for 2)

Daniel Nemcek, Medford Lodge #178, 19th District
126 Stone Hedge Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753

Joseph H. Rival, Laurel Lodge #237, 18th District
333 Francis Ave, Chesilhurst, NJ 08089

Richard F. Schmidt, Fulton Friendship Lodge #102, 3rd District
23852 Samuel Adams Circle, Millsboro, DE 19966

Historic Trenton Masonic Temple Trustee
(Vote for 2)

George A. Chidley, Mt Moriah Lodge #28, 19th District
21 Ticonderoga Drive, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Keith Graser, Gothic Fraternal Lodge # 270, 15th District
86 Tudor Drive, Hamilton, NJ 08690

Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee
(Vote for 3)

Bruce S. Graham, Cape Island Lodge #30, 24th District
310 S. Delsea Drive, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Brian K. Mandel, Cincinnati Lodge #3, 11th District
7 Darnay Road, Morristown, NJ 07960

William J. VonDerHeide IV, Musconetcong Lodge #42, 1st District
PO Box 766 101 Sharp Ave, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Frank M. Williams, Fidelity Lodge #113, 2nd District
10 Sleepy Hollow Road, Kinnelon, NJ 07405



Larry S. Plasket, PGM
Acting Grand Secretary

Grand Marshal / Secretary to the Grand Master Reception



Mount Moriah Lodge #28

and

Clifton Lodge #203

Cordially invite you

To attend the Official Visit of

Most Worshipful Roger B. Quintana,

Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey

Chairman, Masonic Charity Foundation

for the Open Reception in Honor of

R.W. Henry P. Fratz, Grand Marshal

&

R.W. Leonard Vander Horn, Secretary to the Grand Master

Saturday, April 6, 2019

Fellowship Center
1114 Oxmead Road
Burlington, NJ 08016

Social Hour (Open Bar) 5:00 PM, Dinner 6:00 PM, Reception 7:30
PM

Mail To: RW Butch Elliott, 38 Main St. - Flanders, NJ 07836

Questions? Contact RW Butch Elliott at (201) 390-3415

Deadline: May 28, 2019

Checks Payable to: "Clifton Lodge #203"

No tickets will be issued

I would like ___ Reservations @ \$60 each Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please write the names of any additional attendees included in this reservation on the back of this form.

NAME: _____ GUEST: _____

DISTRICT: _____ LODGE: _____ TITLE: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____



Please support the lodge with purchasing ShopRite gift cards, 5% of all money will go back to our lodge.

Upcoming DLI Dates

Wednesday May 1, 2019

Amwell Lodge No.12

Wednesday June 5, 2019

Trenton Cyrus Lodge No.5

Tuesday June 18, 2019

Host Lodge #6 in Highbridge, NJ

The Grand Lodge



Most Ancient and Honorable Society
of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

Larry S. Plasket, P.G.M.
Acting Grand Secretary
lplasket@njmasonic.org

Historic Trenton Masonic Temple
100 Barrack Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-2008
609-239-3950 B
609-386-4332 F
609-472-2617 C

January 15, 2019

TO: All Lodges
RE: Room reservation info Annual Communication

Brethren:

Room reservations are now open at Bally's for the Annual Communication. You may book by phone or online using the following information,

Room Reservations: 888-516-2215 (8am-2am EST seven days a week)
Group name: Grand Lodge of New Jersey Free and Accepted Masons
Group code: SB04GL9

All callers will be asked for this code, but can also book by saying "**Grand Lodge**")

ON-LINE BOOKINGS:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/sb04gl9>

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry S. Plasket".

Larry S. Plasket, PGM
Acting Grand Secretary

Article for 2019 NJ Freemason – Spring Issue

Registration Procedure for Electronic Balloting Deadline Friday, April 5th

By R.W. Barry P. Kornspan, PDDGM
Chairman, Balloting and Registration Committee

Per C&L, Past Masters (PM) may cast their ballots for elected Grand Lodge offices (Title 3, Article IV, Section 2, Part 1) using an Internet connection. This article will outline the process you must follow in order to vote at a location **other than** the Balloting & Registration Room at the Annual Communication in Atlantic City. You may vote from any device (desktop, tablet, mobile) that has an Internet connection and Web browser.

You MUST REQUEST AN OFF-SITE BALLOT by PRE-REGISTERING.

To pre-register, you must send an email **by 11:59pm Eastern Time, Friday, April 5th, 2019** to GLNJVOTING@GMAIL.COM containing:

- Your full name
- Your email address
- Your Member Number (found on your dues card or through your Lodge Secretary)
- NJ Lodge Name/Number
- Your Phone Number

Once your eligibility is verified by the GL office, you will receive a confirmation email stating that you have successfully registered. Then, on the morning of Wednesday, April 17th, you will receive an email with an encrypted link that will take you to the appropriate webpage to vote. This email will also contain additional information and instructions. Remember, **registration for off-site voting will close at 11:59pm Eastern Time on Friday, April 5th, 2019.**

Balloting will be open from approximately 12:00 noon on Wednesday, April 17th until sometime between 9:00am and 10:00am Thursday, April 18th (all times Eastern). Once balloting starts, an email will be sent to those who have registered reminding them that the ballot is now open. Offsite balloting may be done at ANY TIME while balloting is open in Atlantic City. Please note that the times for the start and end of off-site voting are variable depending on when the Grand Master starts and stops balloting on-site. Off-site balloting will end at the same time as on-site balloting. **Please do not take a chance and wait until the last minute – vote any time before 9:00am Thursday!**

You may request an off-site ballot if you are a PM of any lodge in a recognized jurisdiction **and** a member in good standing of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, F&AM. Please note that the WM, SW and JW must cast the vote assigned to their office on-site (per C&L). If the WM, SW or JW is also a PM (previous year) and they are not able to attend the Annual Communication, they may only cast their PM vote off-site and must follow the procedure above to register for that ballot.

Please address all questions regarding this procedure to GLNJVoting@gmail.com.

Seal of the Grand Lodge



**Most Ancient and Honorable Society
of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New
Jersey**

MW Roger B. Quiliana
Grand Master
2018GM1@gmail.com

75 Cameo Place
Colonia, NJ 07067
Cell: 732-801-6974 (Voice & Text)

March 10, 2019

My Brothers,

When I was running to serve as your Junior Grand Warden in 2015, I promised you that if elected, I would strive to bring transparency to the brethren concerning the finances of our Grand Lodge. Almost two years ago, I proposed legislation that was adopted, mandating the publishing of the audited Grand Lodge finances. After numerous months, once all the paperwork was completed, the final report of the independent auditor has been received and the findings are startling. I held a meeting on Friday, March 8, 2019 with the independent auditor, the elected line, Grand Lodge office administrator, Acting Grand Secretary, President of the Grand Lodge Board of Trustees and the audit committee. The purpose was to review the independent auditors report.

It goes without question that for some time, there has been questions related to the finances of the Grand Lodge, to which before I even served as a member of the progressive elected Grand Line, I shared in your concerns. Now as your Grand Master, I believe it is my Masonic and fiduciary responsibility to report to you on our findings.

In reviewing the internal audit of our Grand Lodge records, there was a concern that money from the Grand Lodge was owed to the Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey ("MCF"); however, there was no clarity as to the extent of how much the Grand Lodge owes the Foundation until this past week when the final independent audit report was provided. Although the independent audit has confirmed that our past-due pass-throughs to The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, New Jersey DeMolay and New Jersey Rainbow for Girls were fully satisfied, it has been determined that the Grand Lodge has not been current on its pass throughs to the MCF. Specifically, as per the independent audit, as of April 30, 2018, the Grand Lodge owed the MCF the sum of \$393,728.00, which consists of unpaid home fees for initiates in the amount of \$117,505.00 and for home maintenance fees in the amount of \$276,223.00. The pass-throughs are the donations collected through your dues payments which are part of the Grand Lodge assessment. These donations are earmarked for the Masonic Charity Foundation,

Rainbow, DeMolay, HTMT and George Washington Memorial. You pay them through your dues which in turn, your lodge remits to the Grand Lodge yearly with its annual return. For several years, these donations were not fully passed through to Charities. The minutes of the Grand Lodge trustees reflect the elected line and I, when given reports of the deficiencies, demanded that they be fully paid. We can only demand the arrears to be paid which we were made aware of. The reports were conflicting. Originally, we were told we were up to date by the Grand Lodge office as the minutes of the Grand Lodge Trustees reflect. We were informed that Rainbow, DeMolay were paid their delinquent pass-throughs. On 6/27/17 the George Washington National Memorial was paid \$164,261.00 of delinquent pass-throughs. Just recently the HTMT was brought current. I questioned the monies due the Masonic Charity Foundation and was told by the Grand Lodge office they did not know why Grand Lodge IRS filing of the 990 in 2016 showed \$280,709 as owed to the Foundation. My Brothers, the audit by an independent professional auditor shows the Grand Lodge owes \$393,738.00 as of the date of this letter to you! This is from years of partial payments and, lately nonpayment, as of April 2018. The auditor used the actual amounts paid through your lodges' annual returns and compared these annual payments to the payments made/passed through to the Charities by the Grand Lodge office.

My brothers, this is unacceptable and the MCF must be made whole immediately. There is a potential issue with the IRS if we don't. Our 501c10 status is at risk. The Grand Lodge simply does not have sufficient money in its general operating account available to pay the balance due the MCF. Indeed, nor does the Grand Lodge budget committee can anticipate a surplus anywhere close to that size next fiscal year to satisfy the balance due the MCF.

In light of the foregoing, I am calling a Town Hall Meeting for, April 5, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. at the Fellowship Center, located at Masonic Villages at Burlington, NJ. The purpose of this Town Hall is to present to you in greater details the results of the audit, and to discuss options to immediately address this deficit. In order for you to be properly informed as to the finances of the Grand Lodge in preparation for the annual communication on April 17-18 and the potential pieces of legislation that will have to be adopted at that session to address this significant deficit due MCF, it is necessary that the Town Hall occur prior to the annual communication.

Lastly, your progressive elected grand line and I are further considering other protective measures for compliance purposes to ensure that this never occurs again. Those will be discussed at great length soon. I encourage your active involvement in the discussion as we work together to resolve this

Sincerely & Fraternally



Grand Master

Lodge Officers

*The elected and appointed officers of Hightstown-Apollo Lodge #41 F&AM for
the 2019 Masonic year are:*

Worshipful Master — Ronald Herzog

Senior Warden — Anthony Katawick III

Junior Warden — Michael Kraus

Treasurer — Steven Romm

Secretary — Joseph Y. Miczak

Grand Lodge Proxy PM James Hauck —

Senior Deacon — Lito Araneta

Junior Deacon — Matthew Beltran

Senior Master of Ceremonies — Edgardo Villafuerte

Junior Master of Ceremonies — Denis Cuan

Chaplain — Eduard Lerman

Marshal — John Hamilton

Senior Steward — Rey Alonzo

Junior Steward — Sal Montore

Organist — Ed Clarke

Historian — Alexander Bragat, PM

Tyler — Gerald Fabisch, PM

Trustees

James Mount, Gary Grub 2019

George Smith, Ernesto Somera 2020

DB David Babcock

2021

Distinguished Brothers

DB David Babcock

DB Steven Romm

Living Past Masters

Robert Campbell PGC 1972

William Rowles 1972

Bob Sprout 1973

Francis Fels, PGC 1974

Charles O'Neill 1975

Gary Grubb 1976

Wayne Hetzell 1976/1985

Charles Stults III, PGC 1979

Peter McNulty 1980

Francis Conway 1981

Raj Sudarsanam 1988

George Smith, PGC 1990

Thomas Estelle 1991, 1993

William A. Counterman 1994

James Mount, PGC 1995, 2001

Robert Hung, PGC 1996, 2002

Gerald Fabisch 1997, 1998

Mark Megee, PDDGM 1999

Carlos Rodriguez 2000

Russell Beaulieu 2003

Michael Lakat, PGP 2004

Ronald Mayer 2006, 2010

John Chobrda 2007

Barry Cutler 2008

Keith Bergmann 2009, 2011

Earl Groendyke 2012

Denis deLeon 2013

Robert Sullivan 2014

Alexander Bragat 2015

James Hauck 2016-2018

Ernesto Somera 2017



"A wise man hears one word and understands two."

Contact Us

Hightstown-Apollo #41 F&AM
535 North Main St
Hightstown New Jersey 08520
609-448-0042

<http://hightstown-apollo41.org/>

Freemasonry is an institution founded on eternal reason and truth; whose deep basis is the civilization of mankind, and whose everlasting glory it is to have the immovable support of those two mighty pillars, science and morality.

Dr. John Dove

<http://hightstown-apollo41.org/>

HIGHTSTOWN-APOLLO #41 F&AM

535 North Main St
Hightstown New Jersey 08520

Recipient Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code