

Hightstown Apollo Lodge #41 Free and Accepted Masons



APRIL 2020

From the east

Warmest wishes to my brethren and their families. I want to extend by prayers for all. I am so proud of all who are taking care of their families and reaching out to friends, and families. Isolation is a difficult ask for humans, we thrive in community and friendships. However, for the greater good of mankind we must resist the urge for un-essential movements. I have spoken regarding due diligence and protocols as a matter of record and the latest information can be found with the information provided by the CDC. It changes not as fast as it did a month ago however with each day our leaders and health community gain further understanding. Our schedules have been changed or cancelled but we still have each other. Our employments have been changed, but we still have each other. The very things that we were reasonably certain of each day have changes, but we still have each other.

There have been several zoom video conferences between lodges, the great 15th Masonic District and even friends and families. We can keep in touch with each other on social media etc. Facebook messenger has a video chat feature and additional people can be added by members in the chat. It is a good way to be able to see your loved ones on a platform that most have.

I urge those who can move about their neighborhood to take a walk and get out of the house, strictly adhere to social distancing guidelines while you are enjoying the new beginning of spring.



There are several religious holidays that will be spent with a smaller group of loved ones, remember by God's grace we will be able to observe them together although we are apart.

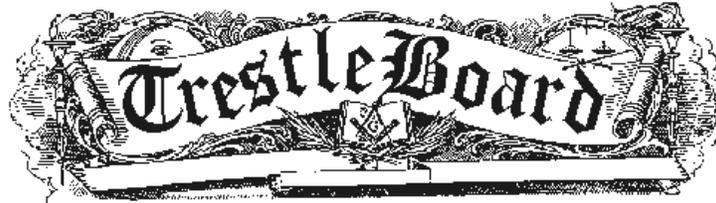
The lodge building has been closed to all activities and rentals since the governing bodies have made it known. I have spoken to our Distinguished brother Treasurer and brother Romm has made sure that the financial machine is moving and in good sound working order. I communicate with our brother Secretary who has been keeping me informed of all masonic communications from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and our Most Worshipful Gregory J. Scott Grand Master of New Jersey Masons.

Brethren as with all things, time has a hold of, this to shall pass and then we can return to our new normal. Expect that things have changed, and we will once again be returning to our hectic schedules and busy lives. Take not for granted what the good lord has provided to us during this health crisis, our families. Celebrate them every day, celebrate knowing you are part of something stronger than all of this, we are Masons and the community and fellowship we enjoy should also be celebrated.

I have confidence that our great county's medical community, first responders, and all others who play a roll in dealing with this unprecedented situation will guide us to closure. Pray for all of them, pray for their families, may god give them the wisdom, courage and strength to stay healthy and make only the most appropriate decisions in caring for the millions affected.



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I have been doing the honey-do-list for a little over a week now. Keeping myself busy doing a little this and that. So Lisa has found a silver lining and my time to complete the little tasks have come. At times I think that she might be making things up each day to keep me busy.

Brethren keep yourself and your loved ones safe. Pray for those among us that are still required to attend to their employments. Pray for all essential employees may they stay safe. God bless you all, God bless your families and friends, God bless freemasonry, and may God Bless the United States of America.

Tony Katawick W.M.

From the west

There is an expression: May you live in interesting times. It is purported to be a translation from Chinese and while on the surface it may seem to be a pleasant blessing it is in fact a curse. The implication of this saying is that the person saying it wishes the circumstances in which you find yourself overwhelm your capacity to cope with them and will lead to your ruin.

My Brothers, we do indeed live in interesting times. The current health crisis is just another in the steady drumbeat of threats to what we value. First and foremost, we must protect ourselves. We cannot protect the ones we love unless we are secure in our own health and safety. Be smart. Stay clean. Don't be shy about exaggerating the steps you take to

protect yourselves. Keep your distance even if it seems rude and goes against your basic instinct to be collegial. Wash more often and for longer than the CDC guidelines call for. Take your shoes off before going inside. Cook food thoroughly and consider its sources.

Next, take care of the people you care about. If there are others in your household, be kind. Make staying at home something to be enjoyed. Don't be the reason someone feels they must just "get out" and don't let those feelings drive you to unsafe actions. Whether you live alone or not remember there are people who want to hear a human voice, your voice. Don't text, don't e-mail call every person in your contact list. Ask how they are and if they need something. Let every one of them know how you are, how you are coping and if you have any needs. Keep reminding yourself and others that we are part of a community.

Be patient with those in civil authority, health care providers and the vendors who are still able to do business. They are stressed to the limit under "normal" circumstances. Their jobs are hard enough. Don't take it personally if someone seems curt or you can't get what you're accustomed to getting as quickly as before.

With the threat to life and health so great it is easy to conflate those concerns with the rest of what's going on. The slowing of the economy won't last. If anything, perhaps we will learn that there is a lot of unnecessary activity that takes up so much time and consumes so many resources that could be applied to better, more creative pursuits. The good times



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were never really as good as they seemed. These bad times aren't as bad as they seem either.

Continue to uphold the excellent principles of our Fraternity. We must travel alone and pray for ourselves, but when we do, we stand on the shoulders of the men who have sworn a solemn oath to be our aid and assistance whenever possible. This is the greatness of Masonry. This is why we became Masons.

Michael Kraus, S. W.

From the south

Greetings from the South

The month of March was so inspiring. Having all these hectic schedules, from rehearsals to actual moments and more rehearsals and fellowships for the first two weeks.

Then unfortunately, the other two weeks were so totally different. We experienced an inevitable pandemic situation, that changes the name of the game.

But during these times, we need to understand and find every possible solution to end up the ongoing challenge that we are facing. Our faith in God is now being tested. Patience, conformity and obedience to our government is to be surrendered. Love and affections to our fellow men, our family and to ourselves should always be observed. And also, to persevere on every pain, peril or danger that we may encounter in our daily lives. These are some of the things that Masonry taught us.

Brethren always remember that after we are being made a Mason, we are stronger, wiser more

responsible and most of all, better men. Let's be all in unity to beat this pandemic situation, by only doing the right thing and being just in every decisions we make.

God bless us all!
Stay safe Brothers!!!

This month of April, all our rehearsals, communication, district & our lodge activities were all cancelled due to this Covid19 pandemic, which is still happening until now. The Grand Lodge will reassess the situation after April 31st. Let's just all wait for further instructions.

S & F,
Ed Villafuerte
Junior Warden

In and about the Apartments

There is no activities due to restrictions from COVID-19

April History of Hightstown Apollo Lodge #41

In the midst of yet another relocation effort in the late 1970s, the lodge voted to approve a merger with Apollo Lodge #156 in Cranbury on October 29, 1977. Apollo likewise approved the merger on November 10, 1977, and the Grand Lodge approved on April 20, 1978 at its annual communication. The newly merged lodge has been known as Hightstown-Apollo Lodge #41 since.



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Knocking at the doors of the lodge

1. Barry Clark
2. Joseph Bizonos
3. Aidan Mchugh
4. Brian Kleman
5. James Swaray
6. Julian Best MM Dual Membership

Grand Lodge Calendar Highlights

Visit njmasons.com for detail and information that has been prepared by our Grand Lodge for us. The Grand Master has spread it and you should view it.

Brethren please take the time to update your personal profile in Grandview the site information is here <https://nj.grandview.systems/> In the upper right you will find Member Portal

15th District Lodge of Instruction

January	Monday 13 th	Mercer Lodge
February	Wednesday 5 th	Hightstown Apollo
March	Wednesday 4 th	Mercer Lodge
April		
The events are pending at this time.		
May	Wednesday 6 th	Gothic Fraternal
June	Wednesday 3 rd	Trenton Cyrus
September	Friday 11 th	Trenton Cyrus
October	Wednesday 4 th	Amwell
November	Wednesday 4 th	Hightstown Apollo
December	Wednesday 2 nd	Gothic Fraternal

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
Charles Stults III, PGC 1979
Peter McNulty 1980
Francis Conway 1981
Wayne Hetzell 1985
Raj Sudarsanam 1988
George Smith, PGC 1990
Thomas Estelle 1991
Thomas Estelle 1993
William A. Counterman 1994
James Mount, PGC 1995
Robert Hung, PGC 1996
Gerald Fabisch 1997
Gerald Fabisch 1998
Mark Megee, PDDGM 1999
Carlos Rodriguez 2000
James Mount, PGC 2001
Robert Hunh, PGC 2002
Russell Beaulieu 2003
Michael Lakat, PGP 2004
Ronald Mayer 2006, 2010
John Chobrda 2007
Barry Cutler 2008
John Chobrda 2008
Keith Bergmann 2009
Keith Bergmann 2011
Earl Groendyke 2012
Denis de Leon 2013



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Living Past Masters (Cont.)

Robert Sullivan 2014
Alexander Bragat 2015
James Hauck 2016
Ernesto Somera 2017
James Hauck 2018
Ronald Herzog 2019

Trustees

WB James Mount
WB Gary Grubb
WB George Smith
WB James Hauck
DB David Babcock

Distinguished Brothers

DB David Babcock
DB Steven Romm

Emeritus Service

RW George Smith

The Grand Lodge Of New Jersey

MW Gregory J. Scott, Peninsula Lodge # 99, Grand Master

RW Robert V. Monacelli, AzureMasada Lodge # 22, Deputy Grand Master

The Grand Lodge Of New Jersey (Cont.)

RW David L. Tucker, Atlantic Lodge # 221, Senior Grand Warden

RW Gary J. Olsen, Durand Lodge # 179, Junior Grand Warden

RW Robert J. Sheridan, PGM, Atlantic Lodge # 221, Grand Treasurer

RW John S. Ryan, PGM, Livingston Lodge # 11, Grand Secretary

RW Brian K Hartel Sr. District Deputy Grand Master 15th Masonic District, Masonic Charity Foundation Trustee, Grand Marshal 2020 bkhartelsr@gmail.com

RW John Pownall District Ritual Instructor 15th Masonic District hoops622@gmail.com

Worshipful Master 2020 Contact Info.

Tony Katawick at 609-712-1488 or email at tkatawick42@gmail.com

Please send corrections and omissions to me personally.



Hightstown Apollo Lodge #41 Free and Accepted Masons



2020 Officers

Worshipful Master	Anthony Katawick III
Senior Warden	Michael Kraus
Junior Warden	Edgardo Villafuerte
Treasurer	Steve Romm
Secretary	Joseph Miczak
Chaplain	Christopher Aiello
Senior Deacon	Matthew Beltran
Junior Deacon	Dennis Quan
Senior M.C.	Ryan Bennett
Junior M.C.	Alex Ovejas

Senior Stewart	Paul Zeszotarski
Junior Stewart	Joe Giminaro
Marshal	John Hamilton
Historian	WB Alex Bragat
Tyler	WB Gerald Fabish
Ritual Instructor	WB Dennis DeLeon

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



So long as the work is true, and the first brick is laid solid. The expertise and skill only a Master Mason can perform, will ensure that the cornerstone of the foundation can support the institution. We support the top of the fraternity with what we do in our daily lives.

2020 Regular Communications

Date	Moon
January 10 th	Wolf Moon 1/10
February 14 th	Snow Moon 2/9
March 13 th	Worm Moon 3/9
April 10 th	*Pink Moon 4/7
May 8 th	*Flower Moon 5/7
June 5 th	Strawberry Moon 6/5
July Dark	Buck Moon 7/5
August Dark	Sturgeon Moon 8/3
September 4 th	Corn Moon 9/2
October 2 nd	Harvest Moon 10/1
November 6 th	Blue Moon 10/31
December 4 th	Annual Tentative

*Will be determined on video communication no official communication ritual just gathering on the computer.



Circa 1920s postcard showing our lodge home in Hutchinson's Hall.

