

July 1st 2015
Volume 110, Issue 7

The TRESTLEBOARD of ASHBURN-STERLING LODGE NO. 288

Chartered on February 15, 1906



Stated Meeting:

Second Tuesday of
every month
Dinner at 6:30pm
Meeting at 7:30pm

Ritual Practice:

Tuesday evenings
at 6pm
Saturday mornings
at 8:30am

Lodge Attire:

July Stated Meeting

Officers:

White Coat with
Tuxedo

Everyone Else:

Business Casual or
Dark Suit and Tie

Degree Nights:

Navy Jacket, White
Shirt & Khaki Slacks

DUES COUNTER

as of
6/30/2015

122 PAID
7 UNPAID

From the East

My Dear Brethren,

July is here and over half of the year is behind us! We have made significant strides down our path to improving our Lodge and I appreciate every one of you for your contributions. Every day one of you does something to remind me that I am privileged to be in the company of such good men. We still have quite a bit left to do but together we can accomplish all things.

Our kitchen remodel project has begun and is scheduled to be completed by July 10th. We will soon have a fully functional kitchen to assist in strengthening our bonds through the fellowship we will experience as we chow down on some delicious eats.

I'm pleased to let you know that we now have a Pro Account with Home Depot that affords us 20% off and more on purchases. If you are purchasing one item for a quick fix or numerous items for a project the discount is quite often higher. To save some dollars, provide the Lodge phone number when making any purchase at any Home Depot. The number is 1 (571) 306-2880. Save it, use it, SAVE \$\$\$!!

Coordinated planning for 2016 began on Jun 23rd as Wor. Phil Brooks, our incoming District Deputy Grand Master met with the incoming Masters. Brethren, plans are in the works!!

As mentioned in the June Trestleboard, everything but a new sign for our exterior building repair project is finished. Our previous sign was worn and broken and we are badly in need of a new one. We have contacted several companies but have not encountered favorable pricing thus far. If you are aware of an organization that provides this service at a reasonable cost, please reach me ASAP! Thank you again!

We continue our Trestleboard Sponsorship Program where upstanding, vetted organizations or individuals who provide good, honest service will have an opportunity to be rewarded by being endorsed to our members as such. If you are aware of any such organization or individual that your Brothers, their families and friends would benefit from, reach our Secretary or me.

Contd. on page 3

Quote for the month

"The really happy people are those who have broken the chains of procrastination, those who find satisfaction in doing the job at hand. They're full of eagerness, zest and productivity. You can be too."
by Bro. Norman V. Peale

WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

"We're a group of men who meet on the level, act upon the square, and walk uprightly in life. We take good men and make them better by the teachings of Masonry, and work towards brotherly love, relief, & truth."

by our late friend and Brother, Charles Richard (Dick) Walk

Upcoming Events



*"To set the Craft to work
...and give them good
and wholesome instruction"*

JULY

Lodge Game Day (1st Thursday of each Month and 4th Saturday of the 1st month of each Quarter for Board Games 7/2/2015 & 7/25/2015)
Freedom Lodge No. 118 Lodge Picnic and Stated Meeting (6pm on 7/3/2015)
Fraternal Visit (Occoquan Lodge No. 310 on 7/13/2015)
Lodge Breakfast (8am on 7/25/2015)
Correspondence Courses Group Class (6pm on 7/28/2015)
Lodge School AS288 (7pm on 7/28/2015)
Reid Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership (7/30/2015 - 8/1/2015)

AUGUST

Fraternal Visit (Olive Branch Lodge No. 114 Stated on 8/3/2015)
Lodge Game Day (1st Thursday of each Month for Board Games 8/6/2015)
Grand Master's Visit at The Kena Shrine (8/8/2015)
Lodge Breakfast (8am on 8/22/2015)
Correspondence Courses Group Class (6pm on 8/25/2015)
Lodge School AS288 (7pm on 8/25/2015)

FURTHER OUT

State Wide One Day Conferral Class (At the Alexandria Scottish Rite on 8/29/2015)
District Picnic (Franklin Park in Purcellville on 9/19/2015)
Alzheimer's Walk (Reston Town Center on 9/26/2015)
District Bowling (Village Lanes in Leesburg at 6pm on 10/8/2015)
Movember (Awareness of Men's Health Issues - The month of November)
Grand Lodge of Virginia (11/6/2015 -11/8/2015)

Masonic Birthdays for the Month



1964 - Kenneth O. Shelton Sr.
1972 - James C. Keys
1979 - Clifford E. Delk

2007- Curtis J. Schwarz
2008- Dennis J. Dias
2014- Salomon Sanchez-Bernuy

Where is the Travelling Gavel?

A long standing tradition in District 2; any Lodge wishing to take possession of it or transfer it must do so at a Tiled Communication, must have the Worshipful Master and 3 members of his Lodge present, it cannot be passed to the Lodge from which it was received and the exchange must be recorded in the minutes. If it isn't transferred within 2 months, the possessing Lodge will donate \$25 to Loudoun Interfaith Relief for each month beyond the initial 2 until it is transferred. Our Traveling Gavel is currently in the possession of: **Hamilton-Thompson No. 37 as of 5/21/2015.**



Your Officers Thoughts

FROM THE EAST *CONTD. FROM PAGE 1*

Summary of June

June was quite the busy month!!

On June 2nd we supported our own Potomac Royal Arch Chapter No. 88 with their District 17 annual Table Chapter dedicated to raising awareness of and funds toward finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

June 3rd found us visiting Unity Lodge No. 146 and enjoying the hospitality and fellowship of our Brothers in Front Royal, VA.

On June 4th we presented the first of two C. Richard Walk Masonic Memorial Scholarships to Mr. Donald R. Roessler Jr. of John Champe High School. Mr. Roessler not only is an outstanding student but also attained the level of Eagle Scout this year as well. He received a Certificate of Recognition from the Grand Lodge of Virginia at our Lodge picnic a few days later.

June 9th we presented the second of two C. Richard Walk Masonic Memorial Scholarships to Ms. Sophia J. Lamp of Stone Bridge High School. Ms. Lamp is an excellent student and is very much involved in improving the community. She possesses outstanding potential.

Bro. Kelly Doyle continues to outdo himself as he had everyone salivating over the delicious meal he prepared for our Stated meeting. Please be sure to give him a pat on the back for his outstanding service to the Lodge.

Our Inaugural Annual Lodge picnic and Eagle Scout Awards ceremony was held on June 13th and was extremely successful! We had over 100 people in attendance. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the event especially Bro. Martin Gruszka, Junior Warden, Wor. Gregory Schwarz and Bro. Brian King. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Great Zucchini (Eric Knaus) and Great Kids Events (Andy Ross) for providing the moon bounce obstacle course and the tent to us free of charge.

We visited the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 21st to celebrate St. John's Day. Thank you to Wor. Bill Buckler, our Chaplain, for organizing the event. The Basilica is beautiful and the sounds of the organ and choir are really amazing. A good time was had by all.

We hosted two successful VACHIP (Child ID) events in partnership with Navy Federal Credit Union at their Sterling, VA location on June 20th and at their Ashburn, VA location on June 27th. We received outstanding reviews for the how well the event was put together. Thanks to Bro. Jwamer Rasheed (Joe), our VACHIP Officer, for his efforts in making us successful and projecting us as the positive beacon we are in our community.

The Group Grand Lodge Correspondence Course Class continued on June 23th and we are making great progress. It isn't too late to join the class or work toward completing the courses. I am happy to work with anyone individually who isn't able to keep the schedule or needs to catch up. I'm a phone call, email or tap on the shoulder away from helping you. Just let me know.

What's happening in July?

This month we have both our monthly and quarterly game days which provide opportunities for fellowship, enlightening prospective members on the Craft, fundraising and much more. Come out and support your Lodge.

We have a Fraternal Visit plan to Occoquan Lodge No. 310 on July 13th. Bring your passport and let's do some traveling together!



Wor. Brother Bill Buckler has invited us to join him for a Crab Feast on July 18th from 4pm to 7pm at the Calvert County Sportsman's Club located at 380 German Chapel Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678. The menu includes ALL-U-CAN-EAT steamed crabs, hamburgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob, baked beans, slaw, potato salad and other items with sodas and beer included. The cost is \$45 each for adults, children 7-12 are \$10 each and children 6 and under are free. This is a private club so you need to RSVP to Bro. Bill by July 13th at chaplain@ashburnsterling288.org or text him at 1 (703) 946-0460. Come out and enjoy some fun and fellowship.

The Reid J. Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership is from July 30th to August 1st. It provides an excellent opportunity for learning and fellowship. I strongly encourage you to attend. Please reach our Secretary for further details.

On July 28th we will have our usual group correspondence course completion from 6pm to 7pm after which we will have Lodge School from 7pm to 8:30pm. Lodge School will be held in place of District School for June, July and August. Our LIW will be keeping us on track.

The Grand Master's Official visit to our District (referenced in the events section) is on August 8th. Our Secretary has tickets and they are only \$20. I look forward to our Lodge supporting our District with numerous attendees.

Thank you my Brothers for allowing me another delightful month of service to our Craft. Please reach me if there is anything I can do for you. Cheers!!

Raymon W. Bacchus, WM

SENIOR WARDEN

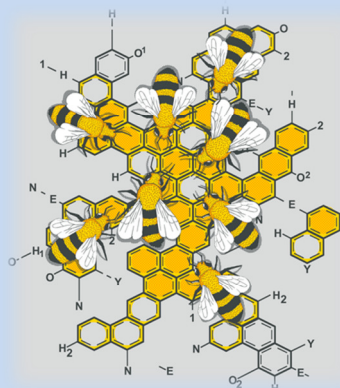
More Light in Masonry

Is one of the lasting obligations of every Mason – of whatever degree – is to “improve himself in Masonry”. Interpreted in its broadest aspects, this means the improvement of the Body, the Mind, and the Spirit.

It means the development of Character, of Personality, and of one's fund of Useful Knowledge. “In all thy getting, get understanding,” urged the Wiseman. And elsewhere in the Great Light we read: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom.”

Hence, every member of our fraternity is bound to join in the greatest of all quests – that for “more light in Masonry”. He can never be satisfied to sit in idleness and ignorance, he is obligated to “enrich his mind abundantly in a general knowledge of things, more especially in “Geometry in Masonry”.

The Senior Warden's Station



JUNIOR WARDEN

Brethren, slightly different message from the South this month. I have recently had the privilege of conferring a Fellow Craft degree for one of our Brothers at Ashburn-Sterling. Our regularly attending degree team always puts on an excellent degree and I know that the experience was enjoyable and enlightening to our Brother. For me, conferring a degree was anxiety filled and scary. Sitting in the East for only the second time, I kept my focus on not screwing up, on keeping my voice from shaking, and my heart rate down. Somehow, with little grace on my part and my clear lack of comfort in the East, our distinguished degree team, our candidate, and I made it through. The experience was stressful, and I loved every second of it. As soon as it was over I wanted to have a go at conferring another degree. Brethren, Masonry takes good men and makes them better. This is done through our fellowship together, through exposure to distinguished members of our fraternity, through ritual and symbolic teachings, and countless other opportunities. In my short time as a Mason, I have become convinced that participating in Degree work is just as important to the Candidate as it is to the observers and participants. It makes us all better men! The candidate is exposed to the beautiful truths encoded in Masonic Ritual which encourages introspection, self-evaluation and growth. Our observers re-learn what was exposed to them before and re-discover new meanings. Finally the cast members hone their ritual, learn to work as a team, to give and care for the successful experience of others, and to control their fears. Brethren, learning a part in a degree, participating as a cast member, learning the meaning behind the words are a great opportunity for us all to continue to grow as better men. Please join me at any opportunity you can to actively participate as we welcome new Brothers, progress them through the Masonic Degrees, and provide unforgettable experiences. We will all be better men as a result. Yours in service.

Bro. Martin Z. Gruszka

TREASURER

As you look about the Lodge you will see completed projects as well as new and ongoing projects. There are also projects that we need to undertake. The two things they all have in common are that every project is necessary and expensive, very expensive. This activity is taking a significant toll on our savings. We do not have an income stream to offset all of these expenditures or to replenish these funds. We are now paying the price for the accumulation of past monetary policies. This is what we get, and this is what happens, when we refuse to engage or be realistic about finances. For years, we have had an Easter Bunny approach to the needs of the Lodge while the reality has been different. As we all know, reality can be a tad uncomfortable. I believe we can make it through this rough patch, but we need to learn. If we choose to learn and face the financial reality of the future, then we can be better off, if not, well... So strap in my Brothers, the financial seat belt sign is on and it's going to be quite a ride.

Bro. Jeffrey J. Schwarz

SECRETARY

Well folks, it appears as though the Background Investigation is here to stay. Grand Lodge just released an updated form for Lodge by-laws which include verbiage for including the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and the additional fees which shall accompany the petition for the Background Investigation. Both of these allowances are implicit in our existing by-laws (allowing the Lodge to charge for the Background Investigation and allowing the Master to increase the dues to adjust for increasing cost of living) so there is no need for us to make changes at this time.

The Reid J. Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership school is scheduled for July 30- Aug 2 in Waynesboro VA and you can find more information (register and pay online too) at GLOVA.org. Click the menu for Education and scroll down to Reid J. Simmons. This school is NOT just a ritual school. It is intended to be equally educational in all thing masonic (symbolism, ritual, leadership). There is more information online.

Prayers for health, wealth, and happiness!

Jason D. Matchett, PM

SENIOR DEACON

Brothers: Normally we do not think about the dog days of summer until August, but given the recent heat and humidity no one told Mother Nature! We find ourselves half way through the year. I believe your Lodge has accomplished a lot in the past six months, but there is still much we can do. If you have not visited your Lodge in a while I encourage you to join us either for a Stated meeting, degree, or practice. There is usually some activity at your Lodge every Tuesday night. If you have not attended Lodge is a while do not let that stand in the way, you will be welcomed as the Brother you are! If I can be of assistance send me an email at senior.deacon@ashburnsterling288.org. See you at Lodge!

Bro. Jeffrey L. Sparrow

SENIOR STEWARD

I would like to thank all of the Brothers and their families who came out to support the Inaugural Annual Lodge Picnic. It was a great success and I enjoyed getting a chance to meet everyone and their families. I look forward to continuing the success of our Lodge. We have great changes going on and the Lodge is looking wonderful. If you would like to assist with the monthly cleanup please let me know.

Daniel M. Potter. PM

CHAPLAIN

As we approach Independence Day, July 4, every one of us should reflect on the history of this great nation and in so doing, realize just how much impact Freemasons have had. Masons are patriots, beginning with George Washington and the many other Freemasons that followed through the years that have served and shaped this nation into what it is today. Look well to the East. May the Great Architect bless you in all of your undertakings and may you know and serve him aright.

William S. Buckler Jr., PM

MUSICIAN

The Geometry and Mathematics of Music: Music is based on mathematics and each note, or sound wave, has its own vibration or frequency that distinguishes it from another. The notes on a western musical scale are separated by simple mathematical proportions, such as 1:2, 2:3, 3:4, etc., and our ears are able to recognize them. Sounds that conform to these ratios are 'pleasing' to the ear are said to be in "consonance", while those that don't are said to be in dissonance. Pythagoras was the first to recognize that the chief musical intervals are expressible in simple mathematical ratios between the first four integers. When we use mathematical ratios, we can create a pleasing sequence of notes (scale) or a combination (blend) of these notes to form chords. Composers use the ideas of consonance and dissonance to create different emotions in their compositions.

Bro. Bruce A. Lillegard

OFFICIAL LODGE SHIRT ORDERS

Now available to purchase through the following website

<http://www.macoy.com/mobile/Ashburn-Sterling-Lodge-288-Masonic-Golf-Shirt-P9515.aspx>

or by calling Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Company at 1-800-637-4640

Your 2015 Leadership Team

Title	Name	Email
Worshipful Master	Raymon W. Bacchus	Worshipful.Master@Ashburnsterling288.org
Senior Warden	VACANT	Senior.Warden@Ashburnsterling288.org
Junior Warden	Martin Z. Gruszka	Junior.Warden@Ashburnsterling288.org
Treasurer	Jeffrey J. Schwarz	Treasurer@Ashburnsterling288.org
Secretary	Jason D. Matchett, PM	Secretary@Ashburnsterling288.org
Senior Deacon	Jeffrey L. Sparrow	Senior.Deacon@Ashburnsterling288.org
Junior Deacon	John R. Hollar	Junior.Deacon@Ashburnsterling288.org
Chaplain	William S. Buckler Jr., PM	Chaplain@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Chaplain	Thomas E. Krouse, PDDGM	Chaplain@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Chaplain	Bruce A. Lillegard	Chaplain@Ashburnsterling288.org
Senior Steward	Daniel M. Potter, PM	Senior.Steward@Ashburnsterling288.org
Junior Steward	Kelly O. Doyle	Junior.Steward@Ashburnsterling288.org
Marshal	Jason E. Tayloe	Marshal@Ashburnsterling288.org
Musician	Bruce A. Lillegard	Musician@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Musician	Joseph B. Crosswhite	Musician@Ashburnsterling288.org
Tiler	Douglas R. Mason	Tiler@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Instructor of Work	Jason D. Matchett, PM	LIW@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Instructor of Work	Christopher C. Thompson, PDDGM	LIW@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Blood Coordinator	Jason E. Tayloe	Programs@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Masonic Home Ambassador	Francisco A. Aguillon	MAHOVA@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Education Officer	Michael J. Kastle	LEO@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Lodge Education Officer	William B. Bennett Jr.	LEO@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge VACHIP Officer	Jwamer J. Rasheed	Programs@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Membership Officer	John F. Meehan, PM	Services@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Membership Officer	VACANT	Services@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Services Officer	Douglas R. Mason	Services@Ashburnsterling288.org

Trustees

William B. Bennett Jr.

Thomas D. Feely, PM

Ivan R. Sumpter, PDDGM



Your 2015 Leadership Team continued

Committees & Chair Persons

Activities	Junior Warden	Processes/SOP	Secretary
Audit	Senior Warden	Property	Treasurer
Awards	Senior Warden	Ritual	LIW
Communications	Secretary	Scholarship	Senior Warden
Finance	William B. Bennett Jr.	Temple	Senior Deacon
Historical	Thomas D. Feely, PM	Trustees	Thomas D. Feely, PM
Investigation	Senior Deacon	Welfare	Chaplain
Masonic Relief	Senior Warden		

Service and Commitment

Living Past Masters

Our deceased Past Masters will forever remain in our hearts

David G. Arnold	Charles A. Maranto
Paul L. Baker	Jason D. Matchett
Russell L. Baneck, PDDGM	John F. Meehan
Stanley B. Bowen	Rosser B. Nance Jr., PDDGM
William S. Buckler, Jr.	Daniel M. Potter
Thomas D. Feely	Eugene R. Puffenberger
Darrell R. Fleming	Gregory H. Schwarz
William P. Frosdick	Kenneth O. Shelton Sr., PDDGM
James C. Gore Jr. , PDDGM	Marvin M. Shoaf
Stuart K. Harp, PDDGM	Robert L. Spindle
Walter O. Harrison, PDDGM	Richard H. Stuart
Raymond F. Houser Jr.	Ivan R. Sumpter, PDDGM
Gerald Jenkins	Christopher C. Thompson, PDDGM
John L. Jensen III	Richard B. Wade
Kevin L. Kelly	John W. Wailes, PDDGM
James C. Keys, PDDGM	David R. Westenberger
Thomas E. Krouse, PDDGM	Joe E. Workman
Charles E. Lipscomb	

Veteran Members

James W. Anderson	Jay R. Marshall
Robert S. Barnes	Richard F. Marshall
Bernard L. Bowers	Felix Pages-Romero
Freeman K. Buxton	Eugene R. Puffenberger, PM
James A. Crosen	Kenneth O. Shelton Sr., PDDGM
Darrell R. Fleming, PM	George L. Smith
Walter O. Harrison, PDDGM	Robert L. Spindle, PM
Thomas E. Krouse, PDDGM	

LMIP Members

Raymon W. Bacchus
Russell L. Baneck, PDDGM
William B. Bennett Jr.
Stanley B. Bowen
Frederick H. Chandler
Jimmy L. Clifton
Douglas R. Collins
James H. Davis
Lawrence R. Drewett
Thomas D. Feely, PM
William P. Fosdick
Charles A. Fritter Jr.
Stuart K. Harp, PDDGM
Brian M. King
John F. Meehan, PM
Robert J. Moran III
Luis Pages, PM
Ivan R. Sumpter, PDDGM
Adam J. Sutton
Terry Sutton
Richard B. Wade, PM
David L. Wang

Honorary Members

William S. Buckler, Jr. PM
Walter O. Harrison, PDDGM
Raymond F. Houser, Jr, PM
Thomas E. Krouse, PDDGM
Kenneth O. Shelton, Sr., PDDGM
Marvin M. Shoaf, PM
Richard H. Stuart, PM
Christopher C. Thompson, PDDGM
John W. Wailes, PDDGM
Charles R. Walk, PM



The 170th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia (2014-2015)

MW Reese Edward Carroll, Jr.



"Together, We Can Make A Difference"



ASHBURN-STERLING MASONIC LODGE NO. 288 43881 Waxpool Road, Ashburn VA 20147 Phone: 1 (571) 306-2880

District No. 2 Lodges & Masters

- Hamilton Thompson Lodge No. 37 WM - Donald G. Young
Olive Branch Lodge No. 114 WM - Reuben V. Martinez III
Freedom Lodge No. 118 WM - Loyd E. Davis
Ashburn Sterling Lodge No. 288 WM - Raymon W. Bacchus

District No. 2 Leadership Team

- District Deputy Grand Master Jeffrey R. Gould, DDGM
District Instructor of Work Christopher C. Thompson, PDDGM
District Educational Officer Kevin M. Homan, PM
District Masonic Home Ambassador Bro. John G. McWilliams III
District Blood Coordinator James A. Cromer, PDDGM
District VACHIP Coordinator Roy H. McGarrah, Jr., PDDGM
District Membership Coordinator Philip B. Brooks, PM
District Lodge Services Representative Thomas W. Brierton, PM

Resident Bodies

Potomac Royal Arch Chapter No. 88 4th Monday of each month at 7:30pm with dinner at 6:30pm

Piedmont Commandery No. 26 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30pm with dinner at 6:30pm Practice on the 2nd Thursday of each Month at 7:00pm

Ashburn Chapter Order of the DeMolay 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm

Ashburn Rainbow Assembly No. 11 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 7:00pm

Ancient and Honorable Order of the Turtles Contact Wor. Raymon W. Bacchus

Other Bodies and the Fund

- York Rite www.yorkrite.org
Scottish Rite www.scottishrite.org
Beehive Club www.herndonlodge264.org/bee-hive-club/
Job's Daughters International www.jobsdaughtersinternational.org
Kena Shriners www.kena.org
Masonic Benefit Fund www.masonicbenefitfund.org
United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) www.ugle.org.uk

*** Grand Lodge of Catharpin operating at Hay Market Lodge No. 313 on Tuesdays from 8:30am to 11:00am imparting Virginia Ritual, Masonic Protocol and Fellowship

Trestleboard Sponsors

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