

March 1st 2015
Volume 110, Issue 3

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:

March Stated
Meeting

Officers: Tuxedo

Everyone Else:
Business Casual or
Dark Suit and Tie

Degree Nights:
Navy Jacket, White
shirt, Khaki Slacks

DUES COUNTER

as of
2/28/2015

100 PAID
30 UNPAID

From the East

Hello my Dear Brethren,

Our March Stated meeting evening will feature Bring-A-Friend night as well as various Lodge award presentations. We will also present two Community Builder's Awards and several youth awards. We will begin the non-masonic award presentations at 7:15pm and there will likely be several news agencies in attendance. I look forward to you being there.

Summary of February

In February, we enjoyed the pleasure of a delicious meal prepared by our Junior Steward, Bro. Kelly, in his smoker. I am stilling receiving enthusiastic reviews of his outstanding job! While a few of our scheduled events were rescheduled due to bad weather, we did have Fraternal Visits to Treadwell Lodge No. 213 and Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37. At Treadwell Lodge Bro. Kelly was introduced to members of the BBQ team from Spurmont Lodge No. 98 who were there as well, having their own Fraternal Visit. I believe our future of delicious eats is well and secure!

Our first District Bowling Event of the year was a success with Freedom Lodge taking home the winning trophy and Olive Branch Lodge taking home the Rubber Chicken. The prize ideas and organization were developed by our Junior Warden, Bro. Martin and he did an outstanding job. I look forward to us bringing home the winning trophy at our next event in October.

We hosted the District SLOT (Subordinate Lodge Officer Training) and it was very well attended and quite a success. Our JW added to the success of the evening by supporting our very own Ashburn DeMolay with their fundraiser by having dinner catered from their fundraising host and partner, The Buffalo Wing Factory. Your JW did you proud!

At our Stated we had Appendant Bodies night where representatives from the Scottish Rite, Royal Arch and Knights Templar were present and made presentations on their respective organizations. It is worth noting that all of your progressive line officers this year are continuing their journey toward attaining light by being members of the Appendant Bodies. We called to refreshment and received a program from Mr. Jonathan Strobel on Financial Planning for the Future.

Contd. on page 3

Quote for the month

"Friendship that insists upon agreement on all matters is not worth the name. Friendship to be real must ever sustain the weight of honest differences, however sharp they may be."

By Mahatma Gandhi

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



"Help clean our little corner of the world!"

March

Fraternal Visit (Acacia Lodge No. 16 Stated on 3/5/2015)
 Lodge Board Game Day (1st Thursday of each month on 3/5/2015)
 Fraternal Visit (Hay Market Lodge No. 313 (3/9/2015)
 Ken Shelton Ritual School at Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37 (8am - Noon with lunch to follow on 3/14/2015)
 Lodge Spring Clean Up Day (3/21/2015)
 Correspondence Courses Class (6pm on 3/24/2015)
 Lodge Breakfast (8am on 3/28/2015)

April

Lodge Board Game Day (1st Thursday of each month on 4/2/2015)
 District Leadership Conference (8am on 4/11/2015 Highland School located 597 Broadview, Warrenton, VA 20186)
 Fraternal Visit (Arlington Moon Lodge No. 102 Stated on 4/3/2015)
 District School at Olive Branch Lodge No. 114; (Masters and Wardens at 7pm on 4/22/2015)
 Lodge Breakfast (8am on 4/25/2015)
 Lodge Quarterly Game Day (10am on 4th Sat of the 1st Month each Quarter for Board Games on 4/25/2015)
 Correspondence Courses Class (6pm on 4/28/2015)

Further Out

Masonic Festive Board is open to all EAs, FCs and MMs (Tickets \$40 [Must purchase in advance] at the Downtown Saloon in Leesburg on 5/2/2015)
 Royal Arch Table Chapter is open to all Master Masons (Tickets \$35 at the Kena Shrine on 6/2/2015)
 Reid Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership (7/30/2015 - 8/1/2015)
 Grand Master's Official Visit (At the Kena Shrine on 8/8/2015)
 District Picnic (Franklin Park in Purcellville on 9/9/2015)
 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



1991 - Stuart K. Harp, PDDGM
 1992 - Edward R. Oates
 2009 - William C. Fletcher
 2009 - Daniel W. Sisco
 2011 - Martin Z. Gruszka

Where is the Travelling Gavel?

A long standing tradition in District 2, the possessing Lodge has to take it to a Lodge in the District and can only transfer it with a Fraternal visit at a Stated meeting. 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 Lodge No. 37 as of 2/19/2015.**



Your Officers Thoughts

FROM THE EAST CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

We are off to a great start with our Group Correspondence Course work. I hope you will consider coming out on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6-7pm and join us as we learn about our great Fraternity together.

Finally, Ashburn Rainbow Assembly No. 11, Ashburn Chapter Order of the DeMolay, Bethel No. 52 Herndon Job's Daughters, Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37, Olive Branch Lodge No. 114, , Freedom Lodge No. 118, Potomac Chapter No. 88 Royal Arch Masons and Piedmont Commandery No. 26 joined us in contributing to the purchase of a VACHIP computer for District No.2. This collaboration/pooling of resources underscores the special relationship we have with each other that has allowed us to triumph in unity. The addition of this tool greatly enhances our ability to actively engage in our community and provide this valuable resource to children, parents and law enforcement.

What's happening in March?

At our March Stated meeting, we will be balloting on the following proposed Bylaws changes that were read at our February Stated meeting:

- Article II is amended to add the word "Fees" to accommodate the background investigations fee payable to Grand Lodge and any other such fees in the future.
- Article III is amended to reflect the adjustment of our Petition Fee to \$100 and our Degree Fees to \$75 per degree.
- Article VII is amended to change the number of Trustees from 4 to 3 which will allow for decisions to be arrived at by a simple majority in having an odd number of Trustees.

Your 2015 Leadership Team is hard at work planning another good month for our Lodge. The events for the month are listed in the Events section on page 2. I look forward to your continued support as we strive toward our goal of making our Lodge better through industrious learning. The Ken Shelton Ritual School on 3/14/2015 is our Grand Lodge School for District 2. It has proven to be an excellent place to brush up on your ritual and enjoy some good fellowship. I understand there will be a delicious lunch provided after the school. I look forward to seeing you there.

Bro. Martin is hard at work coordinating our Lodge Clean Up Day on 3/21/2015. Please come out to support this effort and ensure our Lodge remains a place to be proud of. You may contact Bro. Martin directly if you have a keen interest in a particular project.

We are off to a great start to 2015! We are leveraging the successes of the previous Leadership Teams and making our Lodge better. Each of us has a part to play in making our Lodge successful. Each of us must allow our voice to be heard because the invaluable contributions in your head will not help anyone if they remain there. If there is something you have been thinking about to improve our Lodge and you just haven't found the right time to share it, please reach me at any time.

My Masonic family, thank you all so very much for another great month in the East! Your kind words of support and encouragement continue to inspire me to be better, do better. Your gifts of fellowship and brotherly love will always remain cherished. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge!

Raymon W. Bacchus, WM

Direct Line: 1-703-899-8590

SENIOR WARDEN

What is meant by the term "Traveling Man?" As a master Mason have you been asked if you are a traveling man? Have you traveled long? Have you traveled far? Master Masons are expected to travel, symbolically, in search of knowledge, referred to as Masonic Light. You have been asked whither travel? Have you only traveled to the various gates and to the brow of the hill, then your travels have been very limited. You have not obtained that for which you should be searching, further Masonic light.

Traveling implies movement, not standing still, not being satisfied, and always seeking knowledge and understanding. Traveling means that the destination has not been reached and that the search for knowledge must continue.

So, ARE YOU A TRAVELING MAN? As a Master Mason, you have stepped onto the road toward increased knowledge. Are you traveling without studying the road map? The York Rite of Freemasonry is an organized road map to further Masonic Light. The symbolic degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason as conferred in the United States are degrees of the York Rite.

May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face, The rains fall soft upon your fields and Until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Bro. Douglas R. Collins

JUNIOR WARDEN

Brethren, hello from the South! March is going to be exciting and busy for us. We have a lot of things to accomplish as we hopefully dig out from the winter doldrums of February, and start welcoming the Sun. To that, I'd like to announce a Spring Cleaning day on Saturday March 21st. With your help, I would like to put some focus on cleaning up the Lodge grounds, our basement, and our building exterior and interior. I will be sending out more communication about this event and discuss details during our meeting. While we are talking about lodge upkeep I'd like to thank our Stewards who work tirelessly to serve us, and to our Entered Apprentices who volunteered to help and pitch in as well. A particular recognition should go to our Junior Steward Bro. Kelly Doyle. Brethren, Kelly has spent numerous weekend hours making sure that our lodge is presentable. Thank you goes to Kelly and all who help. I really am grateful. Brethren, I'd like to close out this communication with a delicious thought. Brother Joe Rasheed will be providing dinner for our March stated! I don't know what is in store, but I am told it's going to be delicious! Brethren please come hungry and prepared for a culinary experience! I am yours in service.

Bro. Martin Z. Gruszka

TREASURER

I hope you are all staying warm and healthy through this bipolar winter. The lodge continues to improve our financial state thanks to the various dues payments and donations that have been made. If you have not yet paid your 2015 dues, please remember that you may use PayPal, cash, or check. If you are late with your payment, as it was due by December 31, 2014 for the 2015 year, please contact the Lodge as soon as possible. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please know that our Worshipful Master will work with you to tailor a solution for your situation to keep you in good standing with the Fraternity.

As chairman of the Property Committee, I would like to report that we are making good strides. We have three projects that have taken priority which are the kitchen remodeling, the siding replacement, and the new sign for in front of the lodge. We are behind on the kitchen remodeling project and could use some help with getting quotes from local contractors. If you know of any brothers, friends or family that would like to help with these projects, please email me at treasurer@AshburnSterling288.org.

Have a wonderful month of March. See you in lodge!

Bro. Bryan K. Short

SECRETARY

Brethren, if you have not yet received your dues card for 2015, please contact me immediately. If you paid your dues via check and it has not yet been cashed, please contact me immediately. We are diligently working to resolve some logistical issues and would appreciate your assistance.

The donation boxes for Loudoun Interfaith Relief are once again in the fellowship room and they are hungry. Please consider bringing non-perishable food items each time you attend the lodge. Every single box of cereal and can of soup can make a difference in the life of the hungry. Thank you for your continued support in this endeavor. Please reach me at Secretary@AshburnSterling288.org or at 703-505-7257.

Jason D. Matchett, PM

SENIOR DEACON

Brothers, the year is flying by and March finds us a quarter of the way through the year. During March we will transition from Winter to Spring...THANK YOU GREAT ARCHITECT!! During the first two months of the year we have been blessed with many traveling Brethren and individuals interested in masonry visiting our Lodge. As we change seasons we are also implementing a new process to track traveling Brethren and those individuals with an interest in Masonry. At the March stated we will have a new form for visitors to our Lodge to complete. The form will be located near the sign-in book. Before the Stated Meeting if you are talking with a visiting Brother or an individual interested in Masonry please ask them to complete the form, after they have completed the form provide it to me and I will coordinate with the Worshipful Master and Secretary. Your assistance with this new process is greatly appreciated.

As always if there is anything I can help with do not hesitate to reach out to me at senior.deacon@ashburnsterling288.org. See you at Lodge!

Bro. Jeffrey L. Sparrow

CHAPLAIN

"Masonry inculcates faith in immortality as indispensable to moral living and urges its members to qualify for eternal life by the practice of those qualities of integrity, fellowship and service which may reasonably be expected to constitute the felicity of a future life." By. Bro. William E. Hammond

William S. Buckler Jr., PM

SENIOR STEWARD

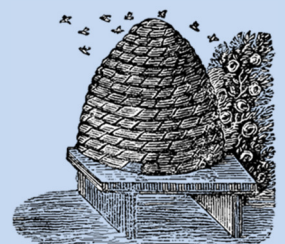
Brothers with our day to day lives there are times when our Cable Tow gets shorter and shorter almost to the point of non-existence. When you have a problem or are carrying a burden, speak up to a fellow brother, explain your situations and let one or more of our brothers help you no matter what it may be time, money, or just an attentive ear. That's what we are here for, remember the 24 inch gauge. Don't bear your burdens alone, let your stress go!

Daniel M. Potter, PM

MUSICIAN

Famous Masonic Composers (Part II): John Philip Sousa, the Mega-Patriotic and Masonic "March King", was initiated on July 15, 1881 at the age of 26, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on September 2, 1881, and raised to Master Mason on November 18, 1881 at Hiram Lodge No. 10 in Washington D.C. In addition, Bro. Sousa became a Shriner in 1922. Bro. Sousa wrote a total of 136 marches and several operettas. He is probably most famous for composing the "The Stars and Stripes Forever" which is our official national march and one of the finest marches ever written. Bro. Sousa enlisted as an apprentice in the U.S. Marine Band at age 13 and would spend a total of 19 years in military service. He formed a professional civilian band after leaving the Marine Corps and the majority of the band members were Masons and Shriners. Three of Bro. Sousa's best known marches have Masonic origins: "The Crusader" (1888), "The Thunderer" (1889), and "Nobles of the Mystic Shrine" (1923). (Source: Murat Shriners, <http://www.muratshrine.org/bios/sousa.php>)

Bro. Bruce A. Lillegard



Your 2015 Leadership Team

Title	Name	Email
Worshipful Master	Raymon W. Bacchus	Worshipful.Master@Ashburnsterling288.org
Senior Warden	Douglas R. Collins	Senior.Warden@Ashburnsterling288.org
Junior Warden	Martin Z. Gruszka	Junior.Warden@Ashburnsterling288.org
Treasurer	Bryan K. Short	Treasurer@Ashburnsterling288.org
Secretary	Jason D. Matchett, PM	Secretary@Ashburnsterling288.org
Senior Deacon	Jeffrey L. Sparrow	Senior.Deacon@Ashburnsterling288.org
Junior Deacon	David F. Weese	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	John R. Hollar	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	Jason E. Tayloe	Programs@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Membership Officer	John F. Meehan, PM	Services@Ashburnsterling288.org
Assistant Membership Officer	Douglas R. Collins	Services@Ashburnsterling288.org
Lodge Services Officer	Douglas R. Mason	Services@Ashburnsterling288.org

Trustees

William B. Bennett Jr.
 Thomas D. Feely, PM
 Stuart K. Harp, PDDGM
 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	Greggory 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 6:45pm

Piedmont Commandery No. 26 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30pm with dinner at 6:45pm 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
Lodge Rep - Bro. Raymon W. Bacchus www.herndonlodge264.org/beehive-club/
Beehive Club www.jobsdaughtersinternational.org
Job's Daughters International www.kena.org
Kena Shriners www.masonicbenefitfund.org
Masonic Benefit Fund www.ugle.org.uk
United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE)

*** 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