

October 1st 2015
Volume 110, Issue 10

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:

October 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
9/30/2015

132 PAID
4 UNPAID

From the East

My Dear Brethren,

October is upon us, the kiddos are having quizzes and tests, the carved pumpkins and scarecrows are popping up in neighborhoods all over our region and Octoberfest is on the mind. Savor this time we are blessed to enjoy and remember to keep those in your prayers who are not so fortunate.

This is Past Master's Month and I am really excited! We will have one of the Brothers who built our Lodge sitting in the East in RW W.O. Harrison! For those of you who don't know him, you certainly are missing out and I encourage you to join us at the Stated meeting. His supporting cast is rounded out by Wor. Gregory H. Schwarz in the West, RW Christopher C. Thompson in the South, Wor. John F. Meehan in the Senior Deacon's Chair and Wor. Jason D. Matchett in the Junior Deacon's Chair. It is shaping up to be a delightful evening.

I charged Jason D. Matchett, PM with coordinating the development of a new comprehensive Lodge Ritual and Masonic Education Program and he delivered in stellar fashion. Please join us on Tuesday evenings so we can become enlightened together. Thank you again Wor. Jason for the significant effort you expended and the dedication you displayed in making this happen.

Last month, all those who desire to serve our Lodge next year in any capacity were asked to let me know. Our District Education Officer, Kevin M. Homan, PM will be providing a Subordinate Lodge Officer Training (SLOT) class on October 24th at Olive Branch Lodge No. 114 from 10am to 12 am. Even if you are not interested in becoming an Officer of the Lodge or serving on any of the Lodge Committees, this is a great class to attend as it will give you a better understanding of the duties that must be performed to have a successful Lodge.

Please note that in order to become a Warden in any Lodge, by law, you must first have the Past Master's Degree conferred upon you. This degree is a part of the Royal Arch Degrees and the additional knowledge is considered indispensable. You may not have realized this but every officer of your progressive line that started this year had progressed in his York Rite education beyond the Craft Lodge. In this day and age with our Fraternity being as diverse as it is, being well informed and a student of Freemasonry is inseparable from...

Contd. on page 3

Quote for the month

"Courage is the first of human qualities, because it is the quality which guarantees all others."

by Bro. Winston Churchill

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



"Family"a unique blend of individuals living, laughing, learning and loving their way through life

OCTOBER

Lodge Game Day (1st Thursday of each month for Board Games 10/1/2015 at 7pm)
 District Bowling Night at Village Lanes Bowling Center located at 49 Catoctin Circle SE, Leesburg, VA 20175 (10/8/2015 at 6pm - 8:30pm)
 Masonic Family Day at the Masonic Home (2nd Sat on 10/10/2015)
 Visit to Brunswick Lodge No. 191 in Maryland (Steak & Shrimp Dinner on 10/14/2015)
 Ashburn Chapter DeMolay Installation of Officers (10/17/2015 at 5:00pm)
 Fraternal Visit (Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54 Stated on 10/19/2015)
 Lodge Breakfast (8am on 10/24/2015)
 Bella Nova, A Harmony, Inc. Chorus Concert (3-4pm on 10/25/2015 at the Lodge)
 District School at Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37; Masters and Wardens Meeting (7pm on 10/28/2015)

NOVEMBER

Movember (Awareness of Men's Health Issues - The month of November)
Dues Notices Sent (11/1/2015)
 Lodge Game Day (1st Thursday of each Month for Board Games 11/5/2015 at 7pm)
 Attend Grand Lodge (11/6-8/2015)
 Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Virginia (11/13-15/2015)
 Fraternal Visit (John Blair Lodge No. 187 Stated on 11/16/2015)
 Lodge Breakfast (8am on 11/28/2015)

FURTHER OUT

Open Installation of your 2016 Officers (12/12/15 at 11am)
Dues Reminder (On or before 12/31/2015 for 2016)
 DDGM Official Visit (2/9/2016)
 Ken Shelton School at Olive Branch Lodge No. 114 (3/5/2016)
 Grand Master's Official Visit (3/19/2016)
 District 2 Picnic at Franklin Park in Purcellville (9/10/2016)

Masonic Birthdays for the Month



- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1951 - Walter O. Harrison | 1995 - Kevin L. Kelly |
| 1974 - Jackie G. Glover | 1996 - Charles A. Fritter |
| 1974 - Ivan R. Sumpter | 1999 - Daniel L. Caldwell |
| 1975 - Otto H. Keesling Jr. | 2001 - Harry E. Arter |
| 1977 - Jimmy L. Clifton | 2004 - Robert J. Moran III |
| 1978 - Joseph J. Milazzo | 2010 - Michael T. Johnson |
| 1994 - George H. Baker | |

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*

...success in the East and your growth as a Mason. Please see me or our Lodge Secretary for further information on how you can best accomplish this.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia convenes from November 6-8. The fellowship alone makes the experience worth it. I look forward to seeing you there.

Summary of September

We implemented our Lodge Ritual and Masonic Education Program on September 1st with great success. This was demonstrated by our One Day Conferral Candidates who were able to derive the greatest initial benefit as they were clearly quite comfortable while sitting for their proficiency. Our Lodge hosted this month's District School and the District Masonic Proficiency. To our District Instructor of Work, RW Christopher C. Thompson, our Proficiency Committee, comprised of Jason D. Matchett, PM, Bro. William B. Bennett, Jr., and Bro. Jeffrey L. Sparrow and all those who helped our new Brothers in attaining proficiency, thank you very much for your time and dedication to preserving the integrity of our fine Craft.

Our District Picnic was a great success this year with over 122 Fun Lovers able to attend. Speaking for the East, it was a pleasure to serve our Brothers on what turned out to be a beautiful day. The Pie Eating Contest was won this year by our own Junior Warden, Bro. Martin Z. Gruszka and the Horse Shoe Tournament was won by the team of RW Christopher C. Thompson and Bro. Collin G. Schwarz. Congratulations Brothers! Both competitions were intense fun and everyone really enjoyed themselves.

The Grand Lodge Correspondence Courses that we began as a group this year on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6-7pm was successful with several courses being completed and submitted to Grand Lodge. We will continue this again next year beginning on the 4th Tuesday in January. Educating yourself on the Constitutions, Laws, Protocols and Etiquette of our Fraternity should be of paramount concern. Your leadership team recognizes this to be so and we have put this group session in place to help you address that concern.

One of the Charities of the York Rite is the Alzheimer's Foundation which we support through various activities such as participating in walks, Table Lodges and other fundraising activities. This year we participated in the Reston Alzheimer's Walk and along with members of Potomac Royal Arch Chapter No. 88 and Piedmont Commandery No. 26 we held a significant presence and raised a quite a bit of money and awareness for this horrible disease. Thanks to all who supported this effort and I encourage you and those of you who are only now becoming aware of this good work to support it next year as we will be trying to build on our previous success.

What's happening in October?

Our Junior Warden has scheduled a Lodge cleanup day on October 3rd and your participation would be greatly appreciated. Because of the how well we have been keeping up with our Lodge's maintenance it should be a pretty short cleaning session. Please see the JW's section for details or reach him if you have any questions.

District Bowling Night hosted by Leesburg Lanes located at 49 Catocin Circle SE, Leesburg, VA 20175 on October 8th is shaping up to be another good evening for fellowship. You will recall that Freedom Lodge No. 118 currently holds the trophy, having won the event in February. Brothers, we must right this wrong. I look forward to seeing you there ready to take what rightfully belongs to us.

Masonic Family Day at the Masonic Home of Virginia is on October 10th. Please reach me or our Secretary if you are interested in attending and we will provide you with the details you don't already have.

District School this month is at Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37 on October 28th. This is an excellent resource for you to

gain some Masonic Education, learn some Ritual and meet the Brothers from around the District. You are encouraged to attend.

Brothers, what a lineup of activities you have in store. We are quite blessed to be in such a great organization with abundant opportunities for education and fellowship. Let's continue to share in them and become better men.

In your service I faithfully remain,

Raymon W. Bacchus, WM

SENIOR WARDEN

The Virginia Capitular Degrees (Continued)

Most Excellent Master

This Degree emphasizes the lesson of reverence. It is centered on the dedication of the Temple after its completion, particularly the consecration of the Sanctum Sanctorum and the descent of the Host into the Temple. It is complimentary to the Mark Master Degree and completes the symbolic lessons introduced in that Degree.

The Royal Arch

The completion of the Master Mason Degree and the summit of the original Degrees of the Blue Lodge as practiced in the Ancients Lodges of England before 1820. The Degree explains the origins of the Substitute Word found in the Master Mason Degree, the recovery of the Ineffable Word, and its concealment within the Royal Arch Word. This Degree, together with the Master Mason Degree, may have once been exemplified as one large or "super" Degree, with the Master Mason Degree explaining the loss of the Master's Word and the Royal Arch explaining the recovery of the Master's Word. The presiding body is a Chapter, and the presiding officer is a High Priest (titled Excellent).

An Additional Degree beyond the Six? Super Excellent Master

This Degree emphasizes the lessons of loyalty and faithfulness. It centers on the events leading to the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple at the hands of the Chaldeans. The Degree is narrated by small interludes of biblical prophecy that highlight the end of the first Temple and the construction of the second Temple. It is noteworthy for its scenes of the Jewish court of Zedekiah and the Chaldean court of Nebuchadnezzar. This degree is an honorary one, and a member of the Council does not need to have it in order to hold membership or office.

Yours in service.

The Senior Warden's Station

JUNIOR WARDEN

Brethren, as you have no doubt noticed our kitchen construction is almost wrapped up, only a few remaining items but overall, what a great improvement. This took a lot of effort and I want to thank all those who contributed. As we move into October and the dust has settled on our construction effort, I would like to organize a new fall Lodge cleaning day. Brethren join me on Saturday October 3rd at 10:00 a.m. I am looking for a few volunteers to help finalize the kitchen setup and to help with vacuuming and cleanup of the interior. Our Spring Cleaning effort took about 90 minutes this year and was a lot of fun. Our Fall Clean up should be shorter. I hope to see some of you on Saturday. Yours in service.

Bro. Martin Z. Gruszka

TREASURER

Finally I have some positive news to report in the form of two great investments that are just too good for our Lodge to pass up. Last week I received an unsolicited e-mail from a Nigerian prince who needed us to send him a few thousand dollars. In turn, he promised to send us twelve million dollars! So since we do not seem to have enough money ourselves it seemed like this could be a great opportunity for us. We should be receiving the funds in the not too distant future so we should start making plans now on how we can spend our new found fortune. Another great idea that was presented to me came in the form of international currency trading, particularly Iraqi dinars. Today's exchange rate for the dinar to dollar is 1:0.00084 and there is a school of thought that the dinar will be making a big come back. If we can scrape up just a little more money to invest in dinars, in addition to helping the generous Nigerian prince, by next month we should be in remarkable financial shape! I don't know why I was so concerned as there is nothing to worry about now... Yours in service.

Bro. Jeffrey J. Schwarz

SECRETARY

Our Grand Annual Communication begins Fri. Nov 6th in Richmond VA. Please visit <http://glova.org> for reservations and information. There are NO resolutions to be considered for 2015. This should be an enjoyable, social, non-controversial time. If you decide to come down for the entire time or even just for the day (some decent vendor setups), give me a shout! Yours in service.

Jason D. Matchett, PM

SENIOR DEACON

Brothers: Where has the year gone? It is hard to believe that we are in October...the stores will be playing Christmas music soon, if not already! If you have not recently attended Lodge at Ashburn-Sterling or a lodge near where you currently live I encourage you to get out and reconnect with your Brothers. If you come to Ashburn-Sterling I believe you will be impressed by the changes both externally and internally to our Lodge. In August I had the privilege of being a mentor to one of our candidates at the Grand Lodge's One Day Conferral. It was a very impressive event and a reminder to us of the obligations and charges for all three degrees. I would suggest that from time to time it is good for all us to review our obligations and the charges (the charges are in the Presentation Volume). If I can be of assistance send me an email at junior.deacon@ashburnsterling288.org. See you at Lodge! Yours in service.

Bro. Jeffrey L. Sparrow

SENIOR STEWARD

Brothers, this month the Eastern Star will be providing a delicious meal for our Stated meeting. We are one of the few Lodges that has such a strong support network that includes so many affiliated organizations. I look forward to you being there and enjoying being spoiled by our good fortune. Yours in service.

Daniel M. Potter, PM

CHAPLAIN

"The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it. It cannot be uttered; it can only be felt and acted. It is, in fact, an open secret, and each man knows it according to his quest and capacity. Like all things worth knowing, no one can know it for another and no man can know it alone.", by Dr. Joseph Fort Newton. Yours in service.

William S. Buckler Jr., PM

MUSICIAN

Brothers, did you know that music uses the whole brain? In 2011, Finnish researchers developed a method that allows them to study how the brain processes different aspects of music, such as rhythm, tonality and timbre (sound color) in a realistic listening situation. The study revealed that not only did music listening affect the brain's auditory areas but it also affected other wide networks in the brain, including those areas responsible for motor actions, emotions, and creativity, are activated during music listening. This new method helps researchers understand the complex dynamics of brain networks and the way music affects us (<http://www.sciencedaily.com>). Yours in service.

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	

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William B. Bennett Jr.
Stanley B. Bowen
Frederick H. Chandler
Jimmy L. Clifton
Douglas R. Collins
James H. Davis
Lawrence R. Drewett
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Robert J. Moran III
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Ivan R. Sumpter, PDDGM
Adam J. Sutton
Terry Sutton
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David L. Wang

Honorary Members

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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 (www.vamasonicdistrict2.org)

- 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

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