

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF DARLINGTON, MARYLAND

STEPHENSON LODGE No. 135

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER FOR 144 YEARS



VOLUME 144 NUMBER 7

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012

STEPHENSON LODGE **WELCOMES HOME**

ITS
**MILITARY
MEMBER**

JULY 2



Above, Daniel Gonzalez receives big hugs from his family after being overseas for months. Left, members of Stephenson Lodge were present to offer a warm welcome to Daniel who arrived home in a fire truck.



STEPHENSON LODGE

Line Officers for 2012

Worshipful Master William A. Bridges, Sr.
 Senior Warden Carl W. Lee, PM
 Junior Warden J. Courtney Hart
 Secretary Jerry R. Arnold, PM
 Treasurer Thomas J. Boyle, PM
 Senior Deacon Richard E. Dolly, Jr.
 Junior Deacon Jim Gamble
 Senior Steward Andrew Kucharek
 Junior Steward William Bridges, Jr.
 Tyler Frank W. Fowler, HPM
 Chaplain Oscar R. Baldwin, PM
 Musician Vernon K. Stearn, PM
 Marshal C. Dayton Miller, PM
 Ritualist Duane A. Duncan, PM
 Grand Inspector Kevin Emery PM, GI

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

William A. Bridges, Sr.
 3637 Anderson Lane
 Jarrettsville, MD 21084
 410-935-3278

SECRETARY

Jerry R. Arnold, PM
 3110 Tucker Road
 Street, MD 21154
 443-528-7895

A MESSAGE FROM

Our Worshipful Master

Brethren one and all,

I hope you had a wonderful summer full of activities with family and vacation get-a-ways and are now feeling rested and refreshed.

We all know time keeps moving forward into the future, no matter the season. It is again time to engage in the labors of the lodge; to dedicate all that is necessary to carry out Masonic traditions and to continue with our obligations to spread the values of good works through truth, relief and brotherly love.

As the summer comes to a close, let us regroup and continue with our meetings, teachings, fellowships, charities and the many other functions which are so meaningful to those that we care about. The Darlington Apple Festival and Stephenson's Ladies Night are quickly approaching. We have brothers to be examined on their proficiency in the degrees.

May we go forward and continue building character in men, supporting youth groups, showing our devotion to country and our military men and women, and carry on as united brothers being grateful and enjoying the glorious works of creation. The following is a poem by P.G.M. Neil Neddermeyer of Minnesota. It speaks to the aim we all have in view. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Fraternally Yours,

Sincerely, William A. Bridges, Sr., Worshipful Master, 2012



THE OLD MASTER'S WAGES

I met a dear old man today
 Who wore a Masonic pin
 It was old and faded like the man,
 Its edges worn and thin.
 I approached the park bench where he sat,
 To give the old brother his due
 I said, "I see you've traveled East"
 He said, "I have, have you?"
 I said, I have and in my day
 Before the all seeing sun
 I played in the rubble
 With Jubala, Jubelo, and Jubalum.
 He said don't laugh at the work my son
 It's good and sweet and true.
 And if you've traveled as you said
 You should give these things their due.
 The word, the sign, the token,
 The sweet Masonic prayer.
 The vow that you have taken
 You have climbed the inner stair.
 The wages of a Mason
 Are never paid in gold
 But the gain comes from contentment
 When you're weak and growing old.
 You see, I've carried my obligations
 For almost 50 years
 It has helped me through the hardships
 And the failures full of tears
 I'm losing my mind and body
 Death is near, but I don't despair
 I've lived my life upon the level
 And I'm dying on the square.
 Sometimes the greatest lessons
 Are those that are learned anew
 And the old man in the park today
 Has changed my point of view
 To all my Masonic brothers.
 The only secret is to care
 May you live upon the level
 And part upon the square.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2012



Stephenson Lodge Events



County Lodges Events



Grand Lodges Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|---|---|---|--------|---|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 Aberdeen Lodge No. 187 Aberdeen, MD | 4 Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 Bel Air, MD | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 Susquehanna Lodge No. 130 Havre de Grace, MD | 12 | 13 Esdraelon Lodge No. 176 Cardiff, MD | 14 | 15 School of Instruction Mt. Ararat Lodge 8:00 am |
| 16 | 17 Aberdeen Lodge No. 187 Aberdeen, MD | 18 Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 Bel Air, MD | 19 Stephenson Lodge No. 135 Darlington, MD | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Susquehanna Lodge No. 130 Havre de Grace, MD | 26 | 27 Esdraelon Lodge No. 176 Cardiff, MD | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

HARFORD COUNTY MASONIC LODGES ADDRESSES & MEETING NIGHTS



Mt. Ararat no.44
136 East Gordon St.
Bel Air, MD 21014
1st & 3rd Tuesday

T. Scott Cushing Sr., WM
James W. Davidson, Sec



Susquehanna no.130
215 North Washington St.
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
2nd & 4th Tuesday

Thomas Dunworth, WM
Baxter Leppert, Sec



Esdraelon no.176
304 Main St.
Cardiff, MD 21024
2nd & 4th Thursday

G. Richard Wilmouth, WM
G. Wilson Tharpe, Sec



Aberdeen no.187
20 North Howard St.
Aberdeen, MD 21001
1st & 3rd Monday

Richard L. McClain, WM
Ralph L. Perry, Sec

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT STEPHENSON LODGE

September Communications

ONLY COMMUNICATION

SEPTEMBER 19TH (WEDNESDAY)

Business meeting.

WELCOME HOME

Daniel's Short Summer Visit From Overseas

Stephenson Lodge members were able to spend some time with Daniel who was able to return home for a few weeks over the Summer. He arrived home in a fire truck provided by the members of the Fire Department that he belongs to. Once home, he was greeted by a number of Brothers and friends of Stephenson Lodge who were at his home waiting for his arrival.

Later in the month of July, many of the Lodge members took Daniel and his family out for a seafood feast at Woody's in North East, Maryland. We were able to fill two large tables with brothers and their wives, families, and friends.



Daniel receives a hug from Lou Bandell while Bruce Flaughter, Dean Alban, Rich Dolly and Courtney Hart watch on the front porch.



Daniel and his family (left) enjoy seafood at Woody's in North East along with brothers, wives, family and friends of Stephenson Lodge.

Later, Dave Kraus, PM held a dinner for Daniel and his family and members of the Lodge were invited to join for the dessert course. Pictured below are the members who were able to attend.



FOR A JOB WELL DONE

PM Carl Lee's Grand Lodge Work Recognized

At our June 6th meeting Past Master and Senior Warden, Carl Lee was asked to meet Brother Dave Sandy west of the altar. After a few comments about Past Master Lee's contributions to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, Brother Sandy presented Carl a Masonic pin which was greet with applause by the sidelines.



Past Master & Senior Warden Carl Lee receives a handshake from Brother Dave Sandy for his work for the Grand Lodge of Maryland while Worshipful Master Bill Bridges watches.

After a few brief weeks, Daniel return overseas, this time to Germany to finish out his time there.

LOOKING FOR HELP

Military Liaison Committee

Brother Dave Kraus, PM, chairman of the Military Liaison Committee, wants everyone to know that if you want to help provide gifts and food to our Service Men and Women, please either call him or send a check to Touch Of Gold Drive, Havre de Grace MD 21078.



Dave has a lot of need of various things, give him a call to see what's in demand. He gets a list from the people overseas as to what they need and if you like, you can purchase the items and Dave will make sure they get them. Or if you would rather just send Dave money and he'll get the items, just send your donation to Dave. Please make the check out to either Dave Kraus or to the Lodge.

ANNUAL

Strawberry Night

Stephenson Lodge celebrated our Strawberry Night this year on June 6th of this year with a ton of fresh strawberries and gallons of ice cream, cakes and other assorted goodies for the sweet tooth. Friends and family were invited to join in after a short business meeting. 🍷



Past Master Carl Lee receives his strawberries and ice cream along with other brothers, families and friends at our annual Strawberry Night.

OUR NEWEST MASTER MASON

Mark Alexander get the Third Degree on a Warm Evening

Stephenson Lodge raised Brother Mark Alexander on a warm June 20th evening for Past Master's Night. Brother Alexander was obligated as a Master Mason at 8:14pm. Lodge was called to recess at 8:30 and Brother Alexander began the second section of the Master Mason degree and Brother Alexander was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at 8:55pm. The lecture was preformed perfectly by Past Master Bruce Flaughter.

Past Master Tom Boyle delivered the Master Mason charge and afterwards everyone present congratulated Brother Alexander on getting his Third Degree.

Below shows, from left to right. Grand Inspector Kevin Emery, Duane Duncan, PM, Dave Kraus, PM, Mark Alexander, Carl Lee, PM, Bill Bridges, WM, Clinton Adams, HPM, C.D. Miller, PM, and Tom Boyle, PM. 🍷





HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

September Masonic Birthdays

Donald Peak..... Sept 24, 1986 26 yrs
William Ensor, III Sept 24, 1986 26 yrs

WHILE ON THE SUBJECTS OF BIRTHDAYS....

Happy 90th Birthday, Arthur Crouse, PM

On July 19th, a few members of Stephenson Lodge surprised Past Master Arthur Crouse with a birthday cake and ice cream for him and the residents where he is currently staying. Past Master Crouse actual birthday was on June



Above, Past Master Arthur Crouse with his 90th birthday cake. Right the live entertainment surrounding PM Crouse.

23rd but it was a couple weeks before everything could be organized.

Past Master Dune Duncan, Jerry Arnold, PM, Carl Lee, PM, and Kermit Olinger, HPM all attended the event.

As a special treat, live music was provided for everyone, and among the musicians was Past Master Tony Keen's Dad from Harmony Lodge.

A THANK YOU GIFT

For Services Performed

Our secretary, Jerry R. Arnold, PM was surprised on June 6th when Past Grand Master Jack Biggs presented him a lovely engraved Masonic pocket watch for his service as Grand Inspector during PGM Biggs' term.



Past Grand Master Jack Biggs, presenting our secretary, Jerry R. Arnold, PM with a Masonic pocket watch, with Worshipful Master Bill Bridges presiding.



GRAND LODGE EVENTS



NOTICE FROM GRAND LODGE

Harvest Home Day, October 6th

Our Annual **Harvest Home Day** will begin at 6:00am and end at 9:30am. Food service will end at 9:00am. Parking is again available at 303 International Circle across from our upper entrance to the Grand Lodge property. It will be 84 years since **Harvest Home Day** first began. We are endeavoring to have Masonic Regalia and Supply vendors at this event and will advise the Craft should the vendors commit to being with us. Again, a \$5.00 donation for the event will be collected at the entrance gate. Lodges may register teams of five men for the Second Annual Corn Husking Contest. The fee will again be \$100.00

per team and includes where needed, a hat, corn husking peg, commemorative pin and bushel of corn. The deadline for team registration is October 1st. Please contact the Grand Secretary's office for registration.



Grand Lodge of
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