



*Stephenson
Lodge*

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF MARYLAND

No. 135

TRESTLEBOARD

JANUARY 2009

Vol. 141 No. 1

HAPPY
NEW YEAR
FROM ALL OF
THE OFFICERS OF
**STEPHENSON
LODGE**



Our Worshipful Master

Brethren one & all, I would like to start off by saying, thank you for confidence of voting me into the highest position as Worshipful Master of Stephenson Lodge. This is truly an honor which is bestowed on me, and which I will treasure for the rest of my life.



I'm very excited and ready to get started. I have a lot of new ideas for the year of 2009. I am looking at different programs to keep our Lodge meetings interesting and enjoyable for all.

It is you, the brethren of Stephenson Lodge, that keeps me thinking and moving into a positive direction. If anyone has a idea for a program, or if you are interested in being a part of a committee, please let me know.

I would like our brothers to remember their obligations they made as Entered Apprentices, Fellowcraft, and as Master Masons—the words to the catechisms for all three degrees of Masonry. This is what sets us apart from the rest of the world. You've heard people say that there is something special about a man who is a Mason. What a honor it is to be called a Mason. Please remember you are a Mason, and ever to walk and act as such. Think back to the meaning of those words in the catechism, those valuable words and act according for the world to see.

Thank You Again,

Bro. Keith Thompson Sr., WM

Our Past Worshipful Master

I hope all is well with each of you during this special time of year. What could be better than when all of our families and friends come together and share love and happiness with one another? Most importantly, we have good health, and that's the best gift, life.

This past year has been a wonderful time of my life. Time just flew by, when you are having fun. I have been blessed with having the support of the brethren of Stephenson Lodge. The fellowship here is unsurpassed, if ever equaled to.

I would like to say to all my line officers of 2008, "Thank You !!!" Each of you made me look good as the Worshipful Master, but most importantly our Lodge sure has a shine on it. We took on tasks in full force. None of it could have been possible without all the help from everyone because no one person can run a Lodge. I hope our Lodge will continue on the same positive course with our new Worshipful Master. Please support him as much as you can. Brother Keith Thompson is a fine man and a good Mason, who makes me proud to have as him as our Worshipful Master for 2009.

Fraternally, Duane Duncan, PM.

Our Secretary

What an impressive line of officers we have elected and appointed for 2009. Just look at the health of our Lodge. None of the major chairs are filled by Past Masters. From the Master to the Junior Steward, we see brothers looking to advance through the line. What other Harford County Lodge can make such a claim? Some are struggling just to fill the chairs, using Past Masters. Continued on pg 6

Stephenson Lodge gets the Christmas Spirit

Last year we had a nine foot pre-lit Christmas tree donated along with all of the decorations. The weekend after Thanksgiving, The Worshipful Master, Duane Duncan, the Secretary, Jerry Arnold, and a local neighbor, Richard Herring, set up the tree and decorated it. Placed on a small table it proudly shines out from the large front windows over Shuresville Road. This is the first year we have had Christmas decorations up for the citizens of Darlington to enjoy in the evening. It is all part of Stephenson Lodge becoming a part of Darlington and making a presence. The tree is illuminated every night. If you get a chance, come see the Lodge at night and enjoy the tree.



Please contact Bro. Stacy Hale, our Junior Warden, if you are interested in signing up to help with the refreshments for the next or future meetings. Refreshment costs will be reimbursed. Bro. Hale can be reached at 410-529-5121.

HARFORD COUNTY MASONIC LODGES

These are the other local Harford County Masonic Lodges. We invite you visit any one of them on their respective Lodge night, listed to the right. Also listed is their address.



Mt. Ararat #44
136 East Gordon St.
Bel Air, MD 21014
1st & 3rd Tuesdays



Susquehanna #130
215 North Washington St.
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
2nd & 4th Tuesdays



Esdraleon #176
304 Main St.
Cardiff, MD 21024
2nd & 4th Thursdays



Aberdeen #187
20 North Howard St.
Aberdeen, MD 21001
1st & 3rd Mondays

Wondering if Lodge is Cancelled?

When the weather looks bad and you are wondering if there's going to be Lodge, tune your radio to station **WXCY, 103.7 in Havre de Grace** to listen for closing announcements.

**103.7 on
your dial**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

January's Communications for Stephenson Lodge

First Meeting, January 7th

INSTALLATION DINNER

Dinner at 6:15 pm

Members please bring a covered dish

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2009

HISTORIC CLOSED INSTALLATION

7:30 pm.

Second Meeting, January 21st

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

7:30 pm

Opening in Master Mason degree

Regular order of business with possible catechism of the Master Mason degree

Appointment of committees

Message from Our Secretary

Continued from pg 2

Sometime I hear comments from Lodge members about how Stephenson Lodge is not as strong as it was in previous decades and they talk of merging with other Lodges within the County.

In the twenty-five years I've been a member, I have never seen the Lodge in better shape. Besides our strong line of officers, we have a tenant which brings us needed fund, and we are in the process of expanding the downstairs area. We are not hurting for money, due the management of previous series of Masters and the donations of talented brothers. The Lodge room looks better than it ever has. Just look at our Ladies Night, what other Lodge can boast of a turnout like we see every November?

I think we all can be proud of Stephenson Lodge and the direction our officers have taken us over the past years.

UPCOMING STEPHENSON LODGE EVENTS:

Stephenson Lodge's Installation Dinner

This year's Installation Dinner will be held at the Lodge at 6:15 pm on January 7th. It will be a covered dish dinner with the Lodge supplying the meat entree and drinks. Please create your favorite dish and bring it to Lodge and share in good fellowship and food. Our Installation Dinner is open to all of guest and visitors also. So come out early and enjoy a great dinner before the installation.

Remember that Stephenson Lodge is one of the few remaining Lodges to perform the complete installation ceremony in the third degree with all of the splendor and grandeur associated with it. We welcome all Master Masons from other Lodges to come and enjoy this event. Especially newly raised masons can see this installation as it was once performed throughout Maryland.





STEPHENSON LODGE'S

Line Officers for 2009

Worshipful Master	Keith J. Thompson, Sr.
Senior Warden.....	Carl W. Lee
Junior Warden.....	Stacy C. Hale
Secretary	Jerry R. Arnold, PM
Treasurer	Thomas J. Boyle, PM
Senior Deacon.....	Bradley P. Lankford
Junior Deacon.....	Jim Ohle
Senior Steward.....	William A. Bridges, Sr.
Junior Steward	William A. Bridges, Jr.
Tyler	Frank W. Fowler
Chaplain.....	Oscar R. Baldwin, PM
Musician.....	Vernon K. Stearn, PM
Marshal	Charles D. Miller, PM
Ritualist.....	Duane A. Duncan, PM
Grand Inspector	William Dula, PM, GI

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Keith J. Thompson, Sr.

1524 Main Street
Whiteford, MD 21160
410-836-1691

SENIOR WARDEN

Carl W. Lee

2103 Jacob's Well
Bel Air, MD 21015
410-734-9483

SECRETARY

Jerry R. Arnold, PM

3110 Tucker Road
Street, MD 21154
410-457-5656

GRAND INSPECTOR

William Dula, PM

3801 Rider Lane
Havre De Grace, MD 21078
410-734-6098

CHAPLAIN

Oscar R. Baldwin, PM

717 Earlton Road
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410-939-2395

RITUALIST

Duane A. Duncan, PM

33 Bluff Drive
Conowingo, MD 21918
410-378-8696