



*Stephenson
Lodge*

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON OF MARYLAND

No. 135

TRESTLEBOARD

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

Vol. 141 No. 6

JUNE 3RD, 2009

Strawberries at Stephenson Lodge



A MESSAGE FROM

Our Worshipful Master

Brethren one & all, I hope everyone and their families had a wonderful and safe summer break. Summer is a time for family activities to take place. Try to smell every rose along the way because the life we have is a short one. So enjoy. Now is the time to go back to labor and spread the Masonic word to all that are interested in the craft.



Just before we went dark, I received a letter from a former C. Milton Wright High School student who relayed how much of an impact Stephenson Lodge had on him and his future. See page 7. This all started with the \$1,000.00 scholarship that was giving to him by our 2006 Worshipful Master, Duane Duncan at the high school's presentation. He received this award in front of all his peers, family, and school administration during a public event. My brothers, this shows you how important it is for our Lodge to be out in the public eye to be recognized. Please help our lodge, and every lodge, grow with leaps and bounds by working within the community and being seen for our deeds. No one brother can do this alone, there is strength in numbers.

Take due notice and mark your calendars for October 3, 2009 for the annual Darlington Apple Festival. This happens to be our huge fund raiser, so it's very important to have as many members as possible present in the morning as well in the afternoon to break down our equipment and clean up our lodge. Volunteers are very much needed to make this work. We need to see more members involved, which also shows the public how well we work as a team. Please contact any line officer so we can get good head count and maybe created shifts to keep us from being worn out at the end of the day.

Fraternally, Keith Thompson Sr., WM

A MESSAGE FROM

Our Secretary

As you may or may not know, our secretary works as a contractor for the US Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. His current contract with the Government will terminate at the end of September and, as with the ways of the Government, there is no certainty about that position being continued. Should he have to look for work and move to another job, the format and quality of the Trestleboard will need to change. Look for the November issue of the Trestleboard and if its unchanged, his contract was renewed. If the issue format is different, single page, black and white, then he has moved on or is looking for a job.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM

Aberdeen Lodge No. 187

Attention all Masons,
On October 5th, Aberdeen
Lodge will exemplify a
Knife and Fork degree at
6:30 PM.

Bring your appetites, a
full meal is served. Soup,
salad, meat, potatoes, veg-
etables, will be served.
They will continue this
tradition on the first Mon-
day of each month, one
hour before their stated
meeting. Eat at 6:30 and
meet at 7:30. The follow-
ing will be the nights for the ***Knife and Fork degree***,
November 2nd, December 1st.

The best part is that it's free, of course there will
be a Steward's box to except donations.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Pusher Service

Perry Point VA Hospital is in need of volunteers to escort the disabled veterans to church. If you are interested please contact our Worshipful Master so he can coordinate this humanitarian effort with the VA hospital.

Brother Hale who has handled this worthy cause for the past few years is needing to pass the torch to someone else. **We need another Brother to step forward and help with this effort.** If you are interested in making a difference, contact our Worshipful Master.

Our dates for 2009 are:

October 18th

December 20th



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.

ALL OFFICERS & INTERESTED MEMBERS:

Lodge Practice

Practice starts on Monday 14, 2009 at 7:00 pm and every Monday there after. All are welcome to come and learn the chairs and how the Lodge functions. Thank you for your support!

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Harford County School of Instruction

The Harford County School of Instruction will be held at Susquehanna Lodge on Friday, May 9th at 7:30 PM. All Lodge officers are requested to attend and all Master Masons are invited. The Fellowcraft degree will be exemplified that night. Come show your support for the officers.

Date	Lodge	Degree	Catechism
Sept 12	Aberdeen	EA	Esdraleon
Oct 10	Esdraleon	FC	Stephenson
Nov 7	Stephenson	MM	Susquehanna
Dec 5	Mt. Ararat		Installation Ceremony

Current annual dues for Stephenson Lodge members is \$48. Check to see if you have your 2009 dues card. And for the early birds, the 2010 cards are now available, still for \$48.

NEW COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP THE

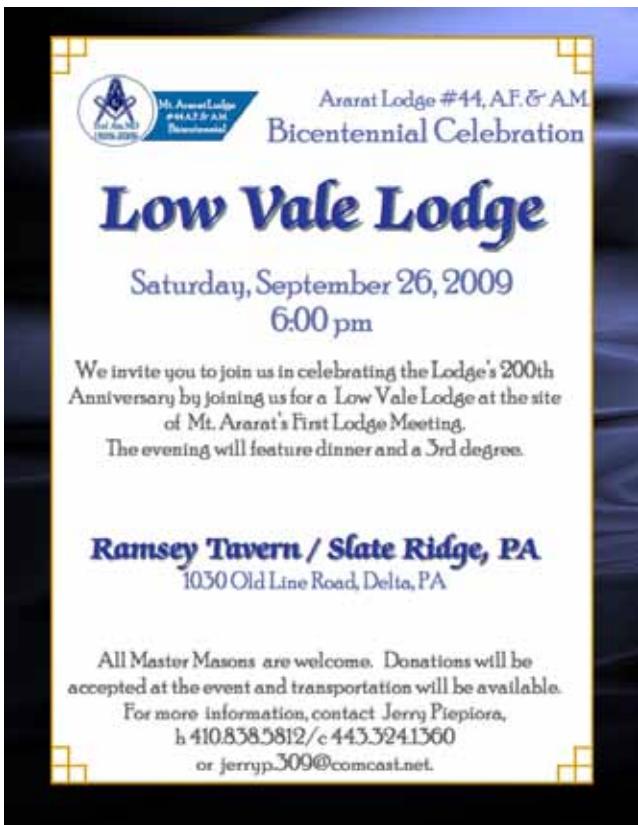
Stephenson Lodge History

The Worshipful Master is looking for volunteers to form a committee to bring our Lodge history up-to-date. We are looking to start where the last history left off, around 1993, to present. That's about fifteen years to put us current and so everyone can see how we have came into the 21st century as a strong viable Lodge. Please contact the Worshipful Master or Secretary if you are interested.

ALL OFFICERS & MEMBERS SAY

Thanks to SW Lee & Wife!

A special thanks goes out to our Senior Warden Carl Lee and his wife, Lynn, for the new electric stove they purchased, delivered and installed in our new Lodge kitchen to make everything complete.



Low Vale Lodge

**Saturday, September 26, 2009
6:00 pm**

We invite you to join us in celebrating the Lodge's 200th Anniversary by joining us for a Low Vale Lodge at the site of Mt. Ararat's First Lodge Meeting. The evening will feature dinner and a 3rd degree.

Ramsey Tavern / Slate Ridge, PA
1030 Old Line Road, Delta, PA

All Master Masons are welcome. Donations will be accepted at the event and transportation will be available. For more information, contact Jerry Piepiora, h 410.838.5812/c 443.324.1360 or jerry.p.309@comcast.net.

WALKING TO CURE BREAST CANCER:

Past Master Stearn to Walk

On October 18, 2009 please come out and walk with Ronald Stearn, PM at Hunt Valley. Ronnie will be participating in 17th annual KOMEN MARYLAND RACE to help find a cure for breast cancer. More than 25 million people have been diagnosed and 10 million could die in the next 25 years without the cure. Together, we can change this. *Susan G. Komen for the Cure®* is working daily in countries around the world to empower people with life-saving information and to raise funds for the global breast cancer fight. For more information you can go to ww5.komen.org or give Ron a call at 410.272.4549.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION:

Former Student Thanks Stephenson Lodge

To the Worshipful Master and Members of Stephenson Lodge:

Last week I attended the Senior Awards Assembly at C. Milton Wright High School. As I sat and watched this years graduates receive their many awards and scholarships, it brought back many memories of my Senior Awards Assembly.

I was fortunate to be honored with several scholarships, one of those from the Maryland Masonic Organization. Mr. Duane Duncan, your Worshipful Master from 2006, took time out of his busy schedule to come to my school and present me with the \$1000.00 scholarship.

In the Fall, I will be entering my senior year at the University of Maryland, College Park. I have worked extremely hard to stay on track to graduate in 4 years. The work load has been very challenging and demanding. I will be graduating in May of 2010 with a degree in Fire Protection Engineering. Maryland is one of only 2 schools in the nation with an accredited program in Fire Protection.

I worked last summer at Aberdeen Proving Ground which allowed me to secure an internship this summer at APG in the Army Test Center where I can apply some of the valuable knowledge I have gained in my 3 years at Maryland. I am hoping this will lead to a permanent position after graduation.

Scholarships are just a small part of the work your organization does for the community. I extend to you my heartfelt thanks for the scholarship you awarded me just 3 short years ago.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Kogut

FROM OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

Pit Beef, the Sequel



We are looking at having our 2nd pit beef and ham sale some time this November. But like I said before, we need volunteers to make this take off. Please contact me or my Senior or Junior Wardens to get signed up. Last year was our first, and we made a profit. Volunteer support was a little lower than expected, I guess it was because this was something new. All the extra money made helps our lodge survive and do some kind of project to beautify our temple.

A LITTLE HUMOR:

Celibacy

Celibacy can be a choice in life, or a condition imposed by circumstances. While attending a Marriage Weekend, Walter and his wife, Ann, listened to the instructor declare, "*It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other.*"

He addressed the men, "*Can you name your wife's favorite flower?*" Walter leaned over, touched Ann's arm gently, and whispered, "*Gold Medal-All-Purpose, isn't it?*"

And thus began Walter's life of celibacy.



MEET OUR NEWEST BROTHER:

First Degree for Wilkowski

On April 15th Stephenson Lodge performed an Entered Apprentice Degree for brother Wilkowski. Above shows the officers that gave the degree. Brother Wilkowski will be doing his catechism at our first meeting in October, the 7th. If he is found proficient by the Lodge he will then receive his Fellowcraft Degree at the second meeting in October, the 21st. Please plan to attend these events and support our new Brother and the Officers who work hard doing the degree work.



Looks like Our Annual Ladies Night will be on November 7, 2009.

This is a wonderful time to show our better half how we are glad to have them in our lives. Where would we be without them? Keep your calendars clear for this special evening.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September's Communications for Stephenson Lodge

Only Meeting, September 16th

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

7:30 pm

Opening in Master Mason degree

Welcome Back

October's Communication for Stephenson Lodge

First Meeting, October 7th

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

7:30 pm

Opening in Entered Apprentice degree

Proficiency on all those found worthy for E. A. Also Dean Alban PM., will be giving our members some Masonic knowledge. Please come out and support this event and our newest member perform his catechism

Second Meeting, October 21th

DEGREE WORK-FELLOWCRAFT

7:30 pm

Opening in Fellowcraft degree

The fellowcraft degree will be conferred on all found proficient in the Entered Apprentice Degree

FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Special Dispensation Granted

On June 15th, the Grand Master issued an edit that all Lodges must keep the dates of Grand Lodge activities open. Stephenson Lodge was granted special dispensation to be able to have our Apple Festival date even though it conflicts with Harvest Home Days thanks to our W.M.



60 YEARS AWARD

Dodson Brown Recognition

On May 20th, Dodson Brown was recognized for 60 years service. Above, Carl Stearn, PM, Master of Ceremonies, reviews Dodson's achievements over the years.

Below, our Grand Inspector, Bill Dula, prepares to hand the Grand Master, Thomas M. Velvin, Jr. the 60-year pin while Dodson Brown and his wife looks on. The celebration was in open Lodge and many friends and visitors were present along with the Grand Master and members of the Grand Line.





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.....	Charles D. Miller, PM

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Keith J. Thompson, Sr.

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410-836-1691

SENIOR WARDEN

Carl W. Lee

2103 Jacob's Well
Bel Air, MD 21015
410-734-9433

SECRETARY

Jerry R. Arnold, PM

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

GRAND INSPECTOR

William Dula, PM

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Havre De Grace, MD 21078
410-734-6098

CHAPLAIN

Oscar R. Baldwin, PM

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Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410-939-2395

RITUALIST

Charles D. Miller, PM

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Bel Air, MD 21015
410-838-3086