



**Merchantville, N. J.**

ORGANIZED January 14, 1871  
CONSTITUTED January 18, 1872

April 2025

Dear Brother;

You are cordially and fraternally requested to attend the Regular Communication of Merchantville Lodge #119, F. & A.M., to be held at Merchantville Masonic Temple, [6926 Park Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ.](#)

**Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Dress is Formal. Tuxedo for Officers**

**7:30pm**

- Lodge Opening
- Business
- Masonic Light
- Masonic Birthdays
- Closing

After the meeting we will meet at the Cherry Hill Applebee's for Half Priced apps and beverages (9pm). Brethren are welcome.

By order of

*WB Luis A. Valentín*  
Worshipful Master

Attest:  
*WB Shawn M. Roberts, PM*  
Secretary



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**Recurring Dates (Not held in July & August)**

All Masons in Good standing are welcomed and encouraged to join us each month.

- Rehearsals are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm
  - Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30pm
  - District Lodge of Instruction are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7:30pm  
Master Masons only; For location see the Events page
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# Merchantville Lodge No. 119 F&AM

## WORSHIPFUL MASTER

WB LUIS A. VALENTIN, PM (Jessica)  
(856) 383-0956  
[lvalentin310@gmail.com](mailto:lvalentin310@gmail.com)

## SENIOR WARDEN

WB ANDREW S. KNAUS (Rachel)  
(609) 238-6144  
[AKNAUS@merchantvillelodge.org](mailto:AKNAUS@merchantvillelodge.org)

## JUNIOR WARDEN

WB ANTHONY J. "AJ" STARKUS (Brie)  
(856) 571-3471  
[ASTARKUS@merchantvillelodge.org](mailto:ASTARKUS@merchantvillelodge.org)

## SECRETARY

WB SHAWN M. ROBERTS (Jenn)  
(856) 631-4664  
[SECRETARY@merchantvillelodge.org](mailto:SECRETARY@merchantvillelodge.org)

## TREASURER

WB DAVID K. MARTIN JR, PM (Cathleen)  
(609) 346-6433  
[DMARTIN@merchantvillelodge.org](mailto:DMARTIN@merchantvillelodge.org)

## PROXY TO GRAND LODGE

WB SHAWN M. ROBERTS, PM

## CHAPLAIN

WB RAYNALDO SANTIAGO, PM

## SENIOR DEACON

WB EL DONALDO VID AL, PM

**SENIOR  
MASTER OF CEREMONIES**  
LUIS FRANCISCO RUIZ

**SENIOR STEWARD**  
DAVID R. SAUNDERS



## TYLER

DB WB ENRIQUE ROSARIO, PM

## MARSHAL

WB CHRISTIAN P. KOCHON, PM

## JUNIOR DEACON

WB REV. JORGE A. MARTINEZ, PM

**JUNIOR  
MASTER OF CEREMONIES**  
WB GERALD D. JEITNER, PM

**JUNIOR STEWARD**  
JOSEPH M. MCGUCKIN, JR.

**THE GRAND LODGE OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE  
SOCIETY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

FREEMASONRY promotes a way of life that binds like-minded men with the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in order to serve God, Family, Country, Neighbor and Self.

**Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey**

M. W. J. Eugene Margroff  
100 Barrack St.  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
Cell: (201) 362-3982  
[njgm2024@gmail.com](mailto:njgm2024@gmail.com)

**District Deputy Grand Master Eighteenth Masonic District**

R. W. Kenneth F. Carpenter Jr.  
(609) 634-5660  
[kfcarpenter@comcast.net](mailto:kfcarpenter@comcast.net)

**District Ritual Instructor Eighteenth Masonic District**

R. W. Vincent M. Capone  
(609) 206-3078  
[acgypsy12@aol.com](mailto:acgypsy12@aol.com)

Masonic Outreach Hotline: 1-800-792-8690 for advice and assistance

Grand Lodge: [NewJerseyGrandLodge.org](http://NewJerseyGrandLodge.org)  
To access your account go to: [nj.grandview.systems](http://nj.grandview.systems)

**MERCHANTVILLE LODGE #119 F&AM**

6926 Park Ave., Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Phone (856) 663-1719

[info@merchantvillelodge.org](mailto:info@merchantvillelodge.org)

[Merchantvillelodge.org](http://Merchantvillelodge.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Merchantville119](https://www.facebook.com/Merchantville119)

Instagram: [@MerchantvilleLodge](https://www.instagram.com/MerchantvilleLodge)

I pray you and your loved ones are doing well. I'd like to express my gratitude for all who participated in our Official Visit this month. I would like to share some masonic light taken from an excerpt from The Masonic Find regarding the Making of a Freemason which reads as follows:

The making of a Freemason consists of a continued course of education and character- forming. While it can be said a man is made a Mason when he goes through his degrees, a man is never a Freemason until he truthfully and loyally lives up to his obligations and he cannot do that until he understands them.

One peculiarity about Freemasonry is that it will stand investigation. The deeper you research, the more you will appreciate the extensive knowledge of its hidden art and mysteries. A Mason who takes his degrees in a careless manner and then remains just a spectator at his Lodge, may hold to the opinion that Freemasonry differs little from other societies. BUT HE'D BE WRONG...

The Mason who delves deeply into Masonic literature, takes an interest in its ritualistic and Lodge work and learns of the meaning, and moral bearing of its symbols cannot possibly fall into such an error. Freemasonry is a way of living to well-informed Mason and the well-informed Mason is the Mason who reads and studies.

If we want to be a practical usefulness and cultural achievement, we must not neglect our Masonic reading, our Masonic studying, and our research for more Masonic Light.

I ask you Brother, which one do you subscribe to? Are you the one who took his degrees in a careless manner and remain just a spectator of the craft? Or are you the Mason who will dive into Masonic literature, ritual and lodge work to better encompass the craft into your daily life? I would hope it is the latter. If it is so, then I will see you all in Lodge!

In Fraternal Light,

WB Luis A. Valentin  
Worshipful Master 2025  
Merchantville Lodge #119

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## From the Secretary's Desk:

Brethren,

Freemasonry is built on the foundation of self-improvement, brotherly love, and service to others. As we journey through the Craft, let us remember that our obligations extend beyond the lodge walls. The lessons taught in our rituals—faith, hope, and charity—should guide our actions in everyday life. Take time this month to reflect on how you exemplify these principles and encourage a fellow Brother to do the same.

Also, keep in mind, the most effective way to receive an immediate response is through text or email. Unfortunately, with a full-time job, I can't promptly answer phone calls while working.

Text: 856-631-4664

Email: [secretary@merchantvilleglodge.org](mailto:secretary@merchantvilleglodge.org)

Please reach out to me if you have a change of contact info including address or other masonic questions\concerns. If you have not seen a mailing in some time, I need your address please.

Thank you!

May the light of Masonry continue to illuminate your path.

WB Shawn M. Roberts, PM  
Secretary

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### Petitions for Membership

Petitions for restoration, dual\plural and full membership are all available upon request to the secretary or to print on Grandview.

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### 2025 Blue Cards

Blue cards have been sent out to those with a zero balance.

If you see a discrepancy in your balance, please notify me ASAP so we can have it resolved. Thank you for your patience.

# EVENTS



Open House	Friday March 28 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
Officer Rehearsal	Tuesday, April 8 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
<b>Regular Communication</b>	<b>Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</b>
<i>Annual Lady's Night</i>	<i>May TBD</i>
<b>Regular Communication</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</b>
<i>Past Master's Night</i>	<i>June TBD</i>
<b>Regular Communication</b>	<b>Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</b>
<i>Paint Day</i>	<i>Late Spring/Early Summer TBD</i>
<i>BBQ</i>	<i>Summer TBD</i>
<b>GLI</b>	<b>Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm</b>
<b>Regular Communication</b>	<b>Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</b>
<i>Annual Table Lodge</i>	<i>September TBD</i>
<b>Nomination of Officers</b>	<b>Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</b>
Trunk or Treat	Saturday, October 25 <sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm
<b>Election of Officers</b>	<b>Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</b>
<i>Food Baskets</i>	<i>November TBD</i>
<i>Christmas\Holiday Party</i>	<i>December TBD</i>
Annual Communication & Installation of Officers	December TBD

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## Events Planning

We **need your help** to plan and execute events and gatherings.  
Event planning is a great way to support your lodge and to get prospects involved.  
If you are able to lend a helping hand or offer assistance in any way, please contact  
WM Luis Valentin, WB Andy Knaus or WB Shawn Roberts.

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## EASTER FLOWER SALE

April 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Sunday 9am – Dusk

Hyacinths Tulips Daffodils Lillies

\$2.99 and up - Discount offered to all Masons

(609) 923-5435

At Merchantville Masonic Temple

## **Thank You for Contributing to the Main Hall HVAC and Building Maintenance Fund!**

**MW Larry S. Plasket, PGM**  
**WB Raynaldo Santiago, PM**  
**WM Jerry D. Jeitner**  
**Bro Philip Lowe**  
**Bro. Wilbur Wannamaker**  
**Mozart #121 F. & A. M.**  
**Bro. Dr. Charles Ivory**  
**WB Barry Hanson, PM**  
**Bro. Michael Riggs**  
**WB Shawn Roberts, PM**  
**Bro. Scott Cuneo**  
**WB Rev. Jorge Martinez, PM**  
**Bro Michael Koehler**

**WB Thomas Smith III, PM**  
**Bro James Mertz**  
**WB El Donaldo F. Vid Al, PM**  
**WB Christian Kochon, PM**  
**USS NJ #62 F. & A. M.**  
**Athene Chapter O. E. S.**  
**WB Leroy Emory, PM**  
**RW Raymond W. Taylor Sr., PGC**  
**Bro. Alexander Martinez**  
**Bro. George Saunders**  
**Bro. Robert Down**  
**DB Kenneth "Peaches" Pierce**  
**Bro Jonathon Magpantay**

**A contribution of an exorbitant amount of time by WB Andrew S. Knaus**  
**And a Contribution Made In Memory of Brother Clark R. Hewitt Jr.**

### **WE FINALLY HAVE WORKING HEAT AND AC!**

Brethren

Worshipful Brother Andy Knaus has spent about a year working with Lawyers, Electricians, WB David Tilton, and PSE&G to get the new HVAC, which was installed last year, back in working order, and to finish the project from 2020, of having the underground electric service moved to overhead. These projects took an extreme amount of dedication, frustration, and time. Please help us thank WB Knaus for all his efforts.

We continue to happily accept donations toward the Building Maintenance Fund, General Fund and Charity Fund.

#### **Payment Methods**

By Check: Make Checks out to "Merchantville Lodge"

PayPal: [merchantvillelodge@gmail.com](mailto:merchantvillelodge@gmail.com)

Venmo: @merchantville119

Send to:

Merchantville Lodge

6926 Park Ave

Pennsauken, NJ 08109

**Please note what it is for.**



## April Masonic Birthdays

### *Happy Birthday*

John A Downes, Jr.  
Raymond L Garrison, PSGD  
Hugh H Gibson III  
Thomas W Lowe, Sr. PGT  
Thomas J Sommers  
Mark A Valentine

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### *2025 In Memoriam*

#### **Brother**

##### **Robert E. Collier**

Initiated September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1963  
Passed October 18<sup>th</sup>, 1963  
Raised November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1963  
Called from Labor: November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

#### **Brother**

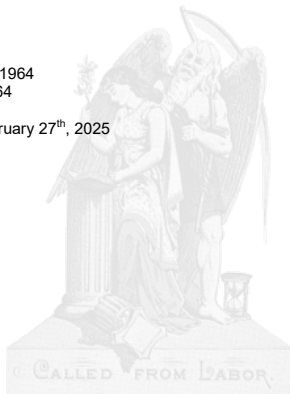
##### **Roger T. Wells**

Initiated January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Passed February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Raised March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012  
Called from Labor: December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

#### **Brother**

##### **Edwin W. Messey**

Initiated February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1964  
Passed March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1964  
Raised April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1964  
Called from Labor: February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025



## Dues

Any outstanding dues balance is now past due. NPD Notices for 2024 (and prior) balances will begin this month. If you need assistance, contact the Worshipful Master or Secretary ASAP.

Your current balance will show on your Grandview landing page.

Merchantville Lodge 2025 Dues Breakdown:

GL Assessment: \$76.00

Lodge Dues: \$89.00

**2025 Total Dues: \$165.00 (Dual Member: \$89 | 50+ year: \$76)**

Available Payment Methods:

By Check: Make Checks payable to "Merchantville Lodge"

Send to:

Merchantville Masonic Temple

6926 Park Ave

Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Amity App: See next page for info

Venmo: @merchantville119 (Add \$5 to cover the fee)

PayPal: Scan QR Code (Includes fee amount)

**2025 Dues + PayPal Fee (\$5)**



Please include your name and member # so we can ensure your payments are credited properly

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*Secure • Transparent • Masonic*

## DUES PAYMENTS WITH AMITY

*Built for Jersey Masons.*



### More Secure.

Payments are made in Amity's secure mobile app, not in a web browser.



### More Transparent.

As soon as a payment is made, **both** the Secretary and Treasurer are notified. As it should be.



### More Masonic.

Pay your dues for all of your New Jersey Lodges, and see all your payments in the app.

\* **Looking for the Payments tool?** Open your Profile, tap the "Masonic" tab, find your Lodge, and tap "Make Dues Payment."

## COMPARE AMITY WITH OTHER POPULAR TOOLS

**LOW-FEE BANK TRANSFERS ARE COMING SOON... STAY TUNED!**



**3.49% + \$0.49**  
"Card Not Present" Cost

**Amity**  
travel... safely.

**3.33% + \$0.33**  
(\$0.99 under \$20)



**3.5% + \$0.15**  
"Card Not Present" Cost

**315+ GRAND LODGES. 52,000+ LODGES. ONE CRAFT.**



**Amity**  
travel... safely.

**stripe**

Copiri partners with  
Stripe for secure financial services.



**18TH DISTRICT MASONIC  
& HADDONFIELD COMMUNITY  
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**



**RIISING SUN LODGE No. 15  
16 KINGS HWY E, HADDONFIELD, NJ 08033  
THURSDAY MAY 8, 2025  
12:00 PM – 5:00 PM**



**SCAN QR TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT**

***COME TO GIVE BLOOD MAY 1 TO 18 FOR A \$20 E GIFT CARD TO A MERCHANT OF YOUR CHOICE!***

Maximize your blood donation. **Help more patients.** If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a **Power Red** donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

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### **DIRECTOR OF RITUAL**

WB Shawn M Roberts, PM

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

#### **REPRESENTATIVES**

Bro. Joseph McGuckin Jr.

### **BRETHREN EMERITUS**

RW Mark R. Richardson,

PGSB...Treasurer

RW Raymond W. Taylor, Sr.,

PGC...Secretary

WB Henry Olsen, PM...Tyler

### **LODGE TRUSTEES**

DB Kenneth Pierce (2024)

WB Raynaldo Santiago (2025)

MW Larry Plaskett (2026)

### **DISTINGUISHED**

#### **BRETHREN**

DB Rolf U. Benninghoven

DB John M. Belko

DB Kenneth L. Pierce

DB Enrique Rosario, PM

DB Stephen Callaghan

### **AFFILIATED & DUAL PAST MASTERS**

Floyd D. Britt

Edward S. Keller

Gary L. Jones

Raymond L. Garrison, PSGD

Harold W. Monahan

Frederic K. Berman

Charles E. Kern

Patrick C. Weisgerber, Sr., PSTGM

Henry P. Fratz, PDDGM

Keith A. Herman, PDDGM

Daniel J. Walker, PGC

Eugene M. Fratz

### **HONORARY MEMBERS**

MW Harold F. Jennings, PGM

MW Douglas R. Policastro, PGM

MW William H. Berman, PGM

MW Joseph H. Rival, PGM

MW Gerald J. Sharpe, PGM

MW Edgar N. Peppler, PGM

MW David Dorworth, PGM

RW Thomas R. Stallone, PDDGM

RW Richard Wimmer, PGC

RW Dale A. Lynch, PDDGM

RW Scott R. Vicari, PGP

WB David N. Tilton, PM

**LIVING PAST MASTERS OF MERCHANTVILLE LODGE No. 119 F&AM**



1972 Thomas A. Muskett  
1975 Thomas W. Lowe, Sr. PGT  
1977 Thomas E. Roth  
1983 George E. Emmanuel, PSGD  
1984 Larry S. Plasket, PGM  
1985 Phillip H. Lowe  
1992 Mark R. Richardson, PGSB  
1996 J. Michael Aaron, PGC  
1998 Leroy R. Emory, Jr.  
1999 Thomas R. Smith III  
2003 Raymond W. Taylor, Sr. PGC  
2004 Daniel L. Lloyd  
2005 Eugene L. Wallace  
2006 William W. Johnson, Sr.  
2007 Robert W. Hertneck, PDDGM  
2008 Javier Seguinot  
2009 Henry D. Olsen  
2010 Barry T. Hanson  
2011 James D. Choyinski, GGP  
2013 Christian P. Kochon  
2014 Raynaldo Santiago  
2015 Jorge A. Martinez  
2016 Jorge A. Martinez  
2017 Robert Harris, Jr.  
2018 Eric T. Johnson  
2019 David K. Martin Jr.  
2020 El Donaldo F. Vid Al  
2021 Shawn M. Roberts  
2022 Shawn M. Roberts  
2023 Anthony J. "AJ" Starkus  
2024 Andrew S. Knaus  
2025 Luis A. Valentin

