

Harmony Lodge No. 8 Free & Accepted Masons

Met in a Regular Communication in their hall at the Masonic Temple,
519 US Highway 206, Newton (Andover Township), NJ
On the 3rd of April 2025 A.L. 6025

Officers Present

RW Fred W Fox, PGC	X	Worshipful Master
Bro Stephen J Dugan	X	Senior Warden
WB Christopher A Bailey	Absent	Junior Warden
Bro Arjune M Sharma	Absent	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
RW George Stypolkowski, PDRI	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Curvey A Purkett, Jr	Absent	Junior Deacon
Bro Ryan M Carroll	X	Senior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Carlos Torres	X	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Chris Brown	X	Senior Steward
Bro Patrick Harrison	X	Junior Steward
WB Clay Kraemer	X	Chaplain
WB Matt Kaufman	X	Tyler
Bro Henry F Repp	Absent	Organist
WB Dan Kaufman	X	Marshal
Bro Robert Woldt, DB	X	Historian

Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
	RW Eric G Grove PDDGM	WB Abraham Jacinto	Bro Robert Woldt, DB
	RW George J Stypolkowski PDRI	WB Luke Wikander	
	RW Fred W Fox PGC		
	RW Eric Nueffer PGC		

WB Luke Wikander sat in for the Junior Warden, WB Bobby Jacinto for the Junior Deacon and Bro Chris Brown for the Treasurer.

There were 16 Master Masons present.

Opening:

The Lodge was opened in due and ancient form at 7:30 PM at labor on the Master Mason Degree, with a salute to the Flag of the United States of America.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of March 6th & 20th, 2025 that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

The Worshipful Master advised that RW Nick Kaufman could not attend this evening due to his failing hot water heater at home, a cause of some amount of distress. He asked that the brethren show their support next time we see Brother Nick at lodge.

Joys and Celebrations:

None offered.

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>
Completely Clean (Inv. 123)	\$292.80	
Completely Clean (Inv. 124)	\$292.80	
Neco Fire Safety	\$225.00	
NJ Fire Registration Renewal	\$512.00	

Bill totaling \$1,332.60 this evening. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

Communications:

The Township of Andover sent us an invitation to support the upcoming Andover Twp Day (Saturday June 7th). The Secretary recommended that the Worshipful Master review the information after the meeting and decide if it is something the lodge can support.

The Secretary received an email request to Demit from Bro Richard Ullmann. RW Eric Grove reported on his recent conversation with Bro Ullman and recommended that we honor his request.

>Bro Ryan Carroll arrived late and was granted admission to the lodge by the Worshipful Master.

- The Worshipful Master then called for a vote to accept Bro Ullmann's request to demit. The brothers present approved the request with a hand vote. The Secretary will update the records and advise Bro Ullmann of the result.

Petitions:

Two petitions have been received:

1. Cole Farrand (dual petition)- from Charity Daylight Lodge #754, Atlanta, GA
 - This petition is currently in the hands of the Grand Secretary as we determine his standing from the Grand Lodge of Georgia. Once we confirm, we can take the next steps.
2. Jose Ascencio of Newton, NJ
 - The Secretary read this petition in lodge.
 - The Worshipful Master appointed an investigation committee, to be chaired by RW George Stypolkowski, and include Brothers Chris Brown and Pat Harrison.

Ballots:

None at this time.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report:

This proxy report was delivered by the Secretary-

Operating account balance: \$7,918.51

Investment account balance: \$348,729.75 (down 2.89% totaling \$10,393.00)

The oil tank was recently filled, at a cost of \$1,891.45. This was a COD transaction.

Buildings & Grounds:

Bro Dugan reported that-

1. The heating system was recently inspected and no issues found.
2. Fire and extinguisher inspections were recently completed.
3. A downspout has fallen off the building and needs to be replaced. Currently seeking options on this matter and will advise.

Charity:

Bro Dugan reported that the last Bread of Life event was only lightly attended by the brethren and the food offerings were thin. He is requesting more assistance with the next event, scheduled for Saturday, April 26th.

- WB Clay Kraemer echoed Bro Dugan's remarks and made a heartfelt plea for more assistance from the brethren.
- The Secretary reminded the brethren that there are funds earmarked for BOL and may be used to purchase food to supplement the lodge's efforts for any BOL event if so needed.

Rental Report:

WB Matt Kaufman advised that Bro Purkett has a rental scheduled on Saturday 4/12. There are no other rentals scheduled in April or May.

Unfinished Business:

WB Matt Kaufmann will be taking the old riding mower from the lodge on a date TBD.

The Worshipful Master advised that there are two old push mowers in the shed out back that are up for grabs to anyone that wants them.

RW Eric Grove provided an update on the next Washington DC bus trip:

- Trip date is set for 9/26-28.
- The bus company has been reserved.
- The hotel has been reserved, contract discussion to be held very soon.
- Itinerary is under review, with many of the suggestions provided by the brethren being considered.

New Business:

None offered.

Program:

The Worshipful Master provided a reading about prudence, temperance, fortitude and justice.

Announcements:

- 4/5 Fisherman's Breakfast @ Harmony 6am
- 4/7 Fellow Craft Degree @ Kittatinny #164
- 4/9 GM OV & Reception for 1st/11th Districts @ The Mansion at Mountain Lakes 5:30pm
- 4/14 Baldwin Chapter RAM @ Harmony
- 4/17 Regular Communication
- 4/17 Blood Drive @ Kittatinny #164
- 4/26 Bread of Life event
- 4/28 MWPM/DLI @ Blairstown #165

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 9:05 pm by RW Fred W Fox, assisted by Bro Ryan Carroll.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025
Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

