



HIGHTSTOWN-APOLLO LODGE NO. 41

TRESTLEBOARD – MAY 2025

LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master - Christopher J. Aiello
Senior Warden - John T. Hamilton
Junior Warden - Michael Leahy
Treasurer - Ernesto C. Somera
Secretary - Michael Kraus
Chaplain - James Hauck
Senior Deacon - Rafael Sosa
Junior Deacon - Dominique Jennette
Sr Master of Ceremonies - Thomas Reynolds
Jr Master of Ceremonies - Robert Meier
Senior Steward - Elijah Basse
Junior Steward - Conny Svensson
Marshal - Brett Scott
Tyler - Earl C Groendyke
Historian - Alexander J.C. Bragat
Proxy to Grand Lodge - Edgardo Villafuerte

Lodge Trustees

Ron Herzog (2022) Anthony Katawick (2022)
Earl Groendyke (2023) James Hauck (2023)
Matthew Beltran (2024) Alex Bragat (2024)



MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

As we continue our journey through this Masonic year, I am reminded of the profound importance of peace and harmony—not only as principles we espouse, but as the very lifeblood of our Lodge. When we meet upon the level and part upon the square, it is that peace and harmony that allow us to grow together as Brothers, strengthening the bonds that unite us and enriching the experience of every man who enters our doors.

Let us each take time to reflect on how we contribute to the atmosphere of our Lodge. Do our words build up or break down? Do our actions reflect our obligations? It is through mutual respect, patience, and fraternal love that we truly live our Masonic values.

On that note, I am especially excited about our upcoming Table Lodge on May 16th. This time-honored tradition is more than just a festive board—it is an opportunity to enjoy fellowship, toasts, and the deeper meanings of our Craft in an environment filled with joy and brotherhood. Whether this is your first Table Lodge or your fiftieth, I encourage you to attend, bring a Brother, and experience the unique energy that only such an event can offer.

May peace and harmony continue to reign within our walls and within our hearts.

Fraternally,
Christopher J. Aiello
Worshipful Master

Hightstown, New Jersey 15th Masonic District
Established by Charter of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey
535 North Main St Hightstown NJ
hightstownapollo41.org | hightstownapollo41@gmail.com
609-303-2993

MESSAGE FROM THE WEST



I work in construction, currently the area of school construction and repair. As you can reasonably assume, I think a lot about buildings, their structural integrity, how sound they are, their state of repair, and the cost of maintenance. Most school buildings I work at in NYC are close to, or over 100 years in age, and they're built from brick and stone.

Tuck-pointing, I have learned, is "the process of removing old mortar from between the bricks or stones, and replacing it with new mortar." It is often done to buildings that have begun to deteriorate, or have become so worn by the elements that they no longer provide the protection and structural support for which they were erected. If ignored and allowed to deteriorate further, they can even become a danger to those in and around the building due to collapse.

As Masons, we are taught to use the tools of operative Masonry as the building blocks, with which we erect the "Temple of Souls", our Masonic character. In each of the degrees, we are presented with the symbolic tools of our trade, and what each of them represents. We are taught to divide our time and divest ourselves of the vices and superfluities of life; to walk upright before God and man; to square our actions; and to remember that we are walking on that level of time to that undiscovered country from whose borne no traveler returns. Finally, we are presented with the Master's especial tool, the trowel, and told that it is to be used to spread the cement of brotherly love and friendship – that cement which binds the stones presented earlier in the structure of our Masonic character.

As an operative building needs constant maintenance to keep it whole and sound, so does the structure of our Masonic character. But even with regular maintenance, an operative building will, over time, require some tuck-pointing. The same holds true for our Masonic character. We must maintain ourselves Masonically by continually participating in the degrees and practicing the truths they teach. But even then, a little Masonic tuck-pointing may become necessary.

So, how do you know if it's time to undergo a little Masonic tuck-pointing? First, step outside yourself and take a critical look. Have you lost your temper at someone who you think isn't driving fast enough? Sat and talked about a brother in an unkind manner? Stopped talking to someone because they didn't agree with what you thought? Lost your patience with your spouse or children, with a friend or brother? Even if you are just a "little bit" guilty of any of these, perhaps it's time that the structure of your Masonic character should undergo a little speculative tuck-pointing too. What IS speculative tuck-pointing, you ask? Relearn the lessons taught to you in the degrees. Even better, attend the degrees of our Lodge. Participate in them whenever possible. Practice the lessons and teachings of Masonry every day. Reintroduce them into your routine and make a conscious effort to incorporate them into your thinking and actions every day. The more you practice the easier it becomes. And, if by chance, the next time you see me, and you notice a little scaffolding around the structure of my Masonic character, don't be surprised. I'll be undergoing a little speculative tuck-pointing myself.

Source (with apologies): The Short Talk Bulletin, January 2021.

MESSAGE FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings Brethren!

Before we make this final push and prepare for high twelve, thank you all for your continued effort, hard work, and passion.

Our Gentle Craft maintains a labor of love and many hands make for light work. I couldn't be prouder of the engagement and commitment all the Brethren put forward day in day out.

You are the future of this organization and we are planting seeds that will bear orchids in our lifetime and beyond; whilst we continue to enjoy the fruits of the present through Brotherly Love.

Stay Blessed, Be True, Exhibit Humility, and Walk Tall.

You're not just a Man. You are Mason.

With Fraternal Love,
Sir Michael J Leahy Jr.



2025 FULL MOONS AND STATED COMMUNICATION DATES



Full Moon	Stated Meeting
January 13, 2025 Wolf Moon	January 17, 2025
February 12, 2025 Snow Moon	February 14, 2025
March 14, 2025 Worm Moon	March 14, 2025
April 12, 2025 Pink Moon	April 18, 2025
May 12, 2025 Flower Moon	May 16, 2025
June 11, 2025 Strawberry Moon	June 13, 2025
July 10, 2025 Buck Moon	Dark
August 9, 2025 Sturgeon Moon	Dark
September 7, 2025 Corn Moon	September 12, 2025
October 6, 2025 Hunter Moon	October 10, 2025
November 5, 2025 Beaver Moon	November 7, 2025
December 4, 2025 Cold Moon	December 5, 2025

We meet the Friday of, or directly after the full moon. Dinner is at 6:30 pm and the gavel sound at 7:30



FOR INITIATION OR ADVANCEMENT

Knocking at the
door

CASTRO GERMAN
ROBERT YAMSON

To be initiated
Entered
Apprentice

MICHAEL DEMAN

To pass to the
Degree of
Fellowcraft

JEZREAL NAZARIO
BRIAN YURO

CHRONOLOGICAL BIRTHDAYS

David Babcock	22-May
Steven Brody	14-May
Edward Clarke	16-May
Craig Dufficy	2-May
John Jackson	21-May
Dominique Jennette	11-May
Jezreal Nazario	16-May
Scott Seiber	5-May



Masonic

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

Brother	Raised	Years of Service
Carlos Rodriguez	3-May-96	29
Alexander Bragat	5-May-11	14
John Hamilton	5-May-11	14
J Dennis Cuan	1-May-17	8
Hymler Geffrard	1-May-17	8
Rey Alonzo	13-May-17	7
Matthew Beltran	13-May-17	7



LIVING PAST MASTERS

William Rowles 1972	Michael Lakat, PGP 2004
Bob Sprout 1973	Ronald Mayer 2006, 2010
Francis Fels, PGC 1974	John Chobrda 2007
Charles O'Neill 1975	Barry Cutler 2008
Gary Grubb 1976	John Chobrda 2008
Wayne Hetzell 1976	Keith Bergmann 2009, 2011
Charles Stults III, PGC 1979	Earl Groendyke 2012
Peter McNulty 1980	Denis de Leon 2013
Francis Conway 1981	Robert Sullivan 2014
Wayne Hetzell 1985	Alexander Bragat 2015
Raj Sudarsanam 1988	James Hauck, PGC 2016, 2018
George Smith, PGC 1990	Ernesto Somera 2017
Thomas Estelle 1991,1993	Ronald Herzog 2019
William A. Counterman 1994	Anthony Katawick 2020
James Mount, PGC 1995	Michael Kraus 2021
Gerald Fabisch 1997, 1998	Edgardo Villafuerte 2022
Mark Megee, PDDGM 1999	Matthew Beltran 2023
Carlos Rodriguez 2000	J. Dennis Cuan 2024
James Mount, PGC 2001	

2025 DUES HAVE BEEN ASSESSED

2025 have been assessed. Payment of \$225.00 may be made by check made out to Hightstown Apollo Lodge No. 41

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES



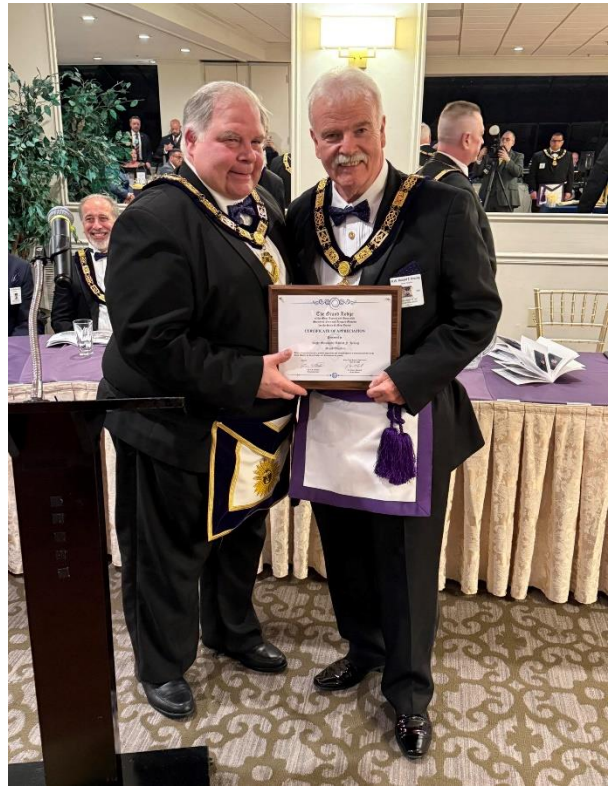
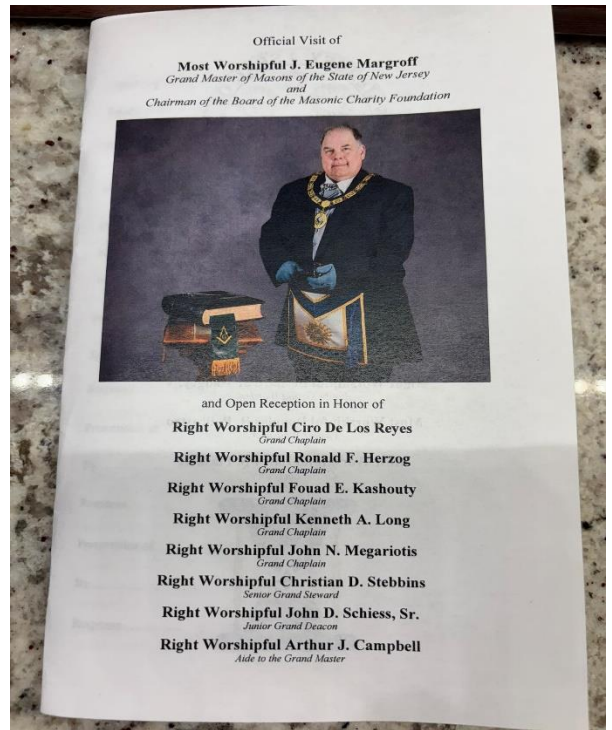
Lodges of the 15th Masonic District

<u>Trenton Cyrus</u> 5	131 Burd Street Pennington	3rd Wed @ 7:00 PM Every month; except Jul, Aug Dinner is served at 6 PM before all of our Regular Communications.
<u>Amwell</u> 12	21 Bridge Street Lambertville	2nd Wed @ 7:30 PM Every month Dinner at 6:30 PM No meetings in July & August
<u>Hightstown-Apollo</u> 41	535 North Main Street Hightstown	Full Moon Friday of, or directly after the full moon. Dinner is at 6:30 pm and the gavel sound at 7:30 pm.
<u>Horizon Daylight</u> 299	2308 Burlington-Mt Holly Road, Burlington, NJ 08016	Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am
<u>Gothic-Mercer</u> 270	3682 Nottingham Way Hamilton Sq.	1st & 3rd Monday at 7:30 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM every month except July, & August

DISTRICT LODGES OF INSTRUCTION

Date	Host Lodge	Topic
Jan 9, 2025 Thurs	HA41	Opening, Drop to EA, Close, Ballot
Feb 5, 2025 Wed	GM270	FC Degree (3 cand), Block Out FC Lecture - Short Form Exam
Mar 5, 2025 Wed	A12	EA Degree (2 cand), Short Form Exam
Apr 2, 2025 Wed	TC5	MM 1st Section (2 cand), Short Form Exam
May 7, 2025 Wed	HA41	MM 2nd Section (5 cand), MM Charge
Jun 4, 2025 Wed	TC5	GLI Rehearsal
Jun 23, 2025 Mon	TC5	Grand Lodge of Instruction
Jul 2025		Dark
Aug 2025		Dark
Sep 3, 2025 Wed		Rusty Mason "You Can't Do That"
Oct 1, 2025 Wed	GM270	PM's only – Qualification Ceremony
Nov 4-5 2025 Tue-Wed	A12	Grand Lodge Annual Communication, Atlantic City
Dec 3, 2025 Wed	TC5	Open, Close, and Ballot from Advanced Stations

IN AND ABOUT THE APARTMENTS



RW Ron Herzog's Reception @ Jumping Brook
Country Club, Neptune NJ
April 20, 2025



Railroad Degree Wilmington DE
May 3, 2025





Breaking Clays @ Gothic-Mercer Clay shoot
Lehigh Valley, PA
May 5, 2025



TC5 Claimed the Travelling Gavel
April 10, 2025





Hightstown-Apollo Lodge #41

TABLE LODGE

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD**

FRIDAY MAY 16TH

6:30PM SOCIAL

7:30PM GAVEL

535 N. MAIN ST.

HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520



Scan QR
Code or Pay
by Cash or
Check

\$50



Town Wide Yard Sale

\$10 Table
Spots
Available at
the Lodge!

clothing - toys - furniture - books

MAY 31ST

HQ: Hightstown Apollo Masonic Lodge
535 N. Main ST, Hightstown, NJ 08520





**100 Barrack Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-2008
njginfo@njmasonic.org
609.239.3950**

Grand Lodge of New Jersey

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.

Most Worshipful J. Eugene Margroff, Grand Master
100 Barrack St
Trenton, NJ 08608
njgm2024@gmail.com
Cell 201-362-3982

Right Worshipful Omar S. Morris, Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Bruce C. Golway, Senior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Bernard J. Madgey, Junior Grand Warden
Most Worshipful Douglas R. Policastro, PGM, Grand Treasurer
Most Worshipful Larry S. Plasket, PGM, Grand Secretary