

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 5th of June 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	X	Junior Warden
Bro Arjune M Sharma	X	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
RW George Stypolkowski, PDRI	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Curvey A Purkett, Jr	X	Junior Deacon
Bro Ryan M Carroll	Absent	Senior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Carlos Torres	X	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Chris Brown	X	Senior Steward
Bro Patrick Harrison	Absent	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 Dwayne A Dolly II, DDGM	RW Eric G Grove PDDGM		Bro Tom Sansone
RW Nicholas Kaufman, DRI	RW William J VonDerHeide IV, PDDGM		

We were joined this evening by visiting Bro Cole Farrand.

Bro Carlos Torres sat in for the Sr Master of Ceremonies.

There were 19 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 May 1st and May 15th, 2025 that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

None offered

Joys and Celebrations:

WB Dan Kaufman advised that our Bro Barry George celebrated his 60th birthday on June 1st and that WB Matt Kaufman his 28th on June 4th.

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>
Home Depot (Flag pole repairs)	\$49.76	
Home Depot (maint. supplies)	\$52.18	
USPS PO Box annual rental fee	\$122.00	

Bills totaled \$223.94 this evening. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

Communications:

N/A

Petitions:

The standing of Bro Cole Alexander Farrand has been confirmed by Grand Lodge (via GL of Georgia). His petition for affiliation/dual membership may now advance.

The Worshipful Master instructed Bro Farrand to exit the lodge room so that a ballot could be performed.

Ballots:

The ballot on the petition for affiliation/dual membership for Bro Cole Alexander Farrand of Andover was spread by the Worshipful Master. All Master Masons present voted. With the ballot, being clear in the South, West and East, the Worshipful Master declared Bro Cole Farrand's petition for membership approved.

Bro Farrand was invited back into the lodge and congratulated on his acceptance into the lodge.

REPORTS**Treasurer's Report:**

Bro Treasurer reported that the current balance of our main operating account stands at \$6,421.80 and our investment account at \$368,655.90.

Bro Secretary provided an update on the progress of 2025 dues collection from the brethren. Reminder notices went out via email on 6/1 to those that have not yet paid. All tolled, (29) of (96) members have yet to remit their 2025 Dues, thereby denying the lodge of funds needed to operate and maintain the lodge building.

Buildings & Grounds:

Bro Dugan advised:

1. The lodge room lighting project is being managed by WB Dan Kaufman and is planned to be executed over the summer.
2. He thanked Bro George for providing flowers and maintaining the planters outside the banquet room.
3. The downspout repair is to be done by our current landscaping contractor within the next couple of weeks.

Charity:

Bro Dugan advised that the last Bread of Life event was successful. It consisted of a bagged lunch, due to access limitations to the Church facilities. There was a lot of preparation in advance required, but there was sufficient help. However the cost of food purchases was approximately \$500, which depletes most of the funds set aside for BOL. He requested donations to replenish the funds.

The next BOL event is scheduled for Saturday 6/26. Assistance is needed in both prep/distributing the meals and food donations.

Rental Report:

WB Matt Kaufman reported that there has been several recent rental inquiries. There is one rental in June and one in July (wedding on 7/26).

Unfinished Business:

The Worshipful Master is looking to schedule the delivery/presentation of the plaque of appreciation to Bob Sheridan (owner of Sheridan' Lodge) for his support for the Bread of Life event. Bro Dugan suggested it be done on Friday 6/13 to allow any brothers that want to participate the opportunity to do so.

Bro Woldt inquired about the status of the previously planned Chicken BBQ fundraiser event. The Worshipful Master advised that due to several other potential conflicts with other events in September, the event will likely be abandoned. No further action at this time.

RW Eric Grove provided an update on the planned Washington DC bus trip. He noted that due to a lack interest, the event will be cancelled for this year. He advised that we will attempt again next year.

New Business:

The Worshipful Master advised that the OES has requested to hold there 6/23 meeting at Harmony Lodge, due to conflict with the DLI picnic at Kittatinny #164 the same evening. He granted their request and asked that it be put on the event calendar.

Program:

As this evening had been scheduled to be a Gold Token night and Official Visit, the RW Dwayne Dolly, DDGM was present. However, as none of the honorees could attend, the prior was cancelled. Instead, the Worshipful Master requested and received dispensation to host a "Hawaiian shirt" night this evening. All brethren present adorned their best Hawaiian shirts (including the DDGM) and "Aloha" was a frequent response.



The Worshipful Master then formally granted admission to the lodge for the DDGM to rehearse for an Official Visit. The DDGM was received in the East and tendered the gavel of the lodge. He was then given Grand Honors by the brethren.

Bro Robert Woldt provided the lodge with some historical reference to the cost of common items 50 years ago.

RW Nick Kaufman then read from an article about Hawaiian rulers that were also masons, in honor of our "Hawaiian shirt night".

Announcements:

6/10 FC Rehearsal @ Harmony 7:30pm

6/17 FC Rehearsal @ Harmony 7:30pm

6/19 Regular Communication-FC Degree (tentative)

6/23 Family DLI picnic @ Kittatinny #164

7/19 Masonic Festival/Cornhole Tournament @ Kittatinny #164

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed short form by RW Dwayne A Dolly II, DDGM, in harmony and good order at 9:05 pm, assisted by RW Fred Fox.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025

Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

