



HIGHTSTOWN-APOLLO LODGE NO. 41

SUMMER BULLETIN – AUGUST 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 enter the heart of summer and enjoy the warmth and rest that the season brings, I want to take a moment to express my deepest appreciation for each of you. Your dedication, your fellowship, and your support throughout this Masonic year have been truly inspiring. Whether in labor or refreshment, it is the strength of our Brotherhood that keeps our Lodge vibrant and alive.

Though we are currently dark for the summer, our Light never truly fades. We are simply recharging—restoring our spirits, spending time with family, and preparing for the meaningful work that lies ahead in the months to come.

I invite you all to join us for our Annual Lodge BBQ in August (details to follow soon). It will be a wonderful chance to reconnect, enjoy good food, and strengthen the bonds that unite us as Brothers. Bring your appetite and your good spirits—family and friends are welcome.

As Masons, we are ever mindful of our duty—not only within the walls of the Lodge, but also in the world at large. Let us each remember to walk uprightly in our several stations, to act with caution and integrity, and to look out for one another. May this summer be safe, joyful, and filled with the kind of moments that remind us why we cherish our Brotherhood so dearly.

I look forward to seeing you all at the BBQ and again in Lodge when we resume labor. Until then—stay safe, stay true, and may the Great Architect of the Universe watch over you and your families.

Fraternally,
Christopher J. Aiello

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

WORDS OF CAUTION

Brethren,

I hope this message finds you well. I want to take a moment to address a recent situation involving a mailed threat directed at one of our sister lodges within the district. While there is no immediate or specific threat to Hightstown-Apollo Lodge, it is our duty to stay vigilant and proactive to ensure the safety and peace of mind of all our members and visitors.

To that end, we are implementing the following precautionary measures:

1. Installation of Security Cameras: We will be installing security cameras around the lodge property. These will serve not only as a deterrent against vandalism or any unwanted activity but also as a way to help safeguard everyone who enters our doors.
2. Strict Door Security: All exterior doors will remain locked during all events—this includes our Thursday fellowship nights and any other informal gatherings. Entry should only be granted by a brother who recognizes and admits the visitor.
3. Seeing Each Brother Out: Whenever possible, we will accompany one another out of the lodge after meetings or events. This simple gesture enhances safety and brotherhood.

Let me be clear—this is not a cause for alarm or fear. There is no known threat to Hightstown-Apollo specifically. These steps are taken out of responsibility and care, not panic. Unfortunately, misinformation and conspiracy theories online can create unnecessary fear. I urge each of you to stay grounded, cautious, and focused on what truly matters—our fraternal bond and the well-being of our Lodge.

Above all, I want to say that I feel safe and proud to stand alongside each of you. Your presence, brotherhood, and strength make this lodge a sanctuary of fellowship and Light.

Thank you for your attention, understanding, and ongoing dedication.

Faternally,

W.: Christopher J. Aiello
Worshipful Master



100 Barrack Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-2008
njglinfo@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

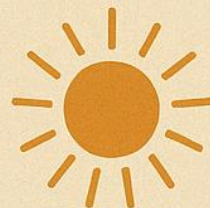
Right Worshipful Omar S. Morris, Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Bruce C. Golway, Senior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Bernard J. Madgey, Junior Grand Warden
Most Worshipful Douglas R. Policastro, PGM, Grand Treasurer
Most Worshipful Larry S. Plasket, PGM, Grand Secretary



**HIGHTSTOWN-APOLLO
LODGE No. 41 F&AM**



**ANNUAL SUMMER
PICNIC &
BARBECUE**



**POTLUCK CELEBRATION
FOR BROTHERS & FAMILIES
BYOB & BRING A DISH TO SHARE**



**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 9
NOON 'TIL LATE**

**LAWN GAMES • MUSIC • FIRE PIT (AFTERSUNDOWN) • GOOD COMPANY
OPEN TO ALL LODGE MEMBERS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS**

“LET’S BREAK BREAD AND BUILD BONDS— ONE PLATE AT A TIME.”

HOSTED BY HIGHTSTOWN-APOLLO LODGE No. 41 F&AM

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
RONITH BONGUNOORI

To be initiated
Entered Apprentice

CHRISTOPHER FELTON
ROBERT YAMSON

To pass to the Degree
of Fellowcraft

JEZREAL NAZARIO
MICHAEL DEMAN

To be raised to the
Sublime Degree of
Master Mason

BRIAN YURO

CHRONOLOGICAL BIRTHDAYS

Richard Lanning	2-Jul	Ernesto Somera	6-Aug
Ronald Mayer	8-Jul	James Mount	12-Aug
Jennifer Reynolds	20-Jul	Anthony Guest	13-Aug
Leonard Toner	20-Jul	Salvatore Montore	22-Aug
Mathew Babcock	22-Jul	Anthony Katawick	27-Aug
Ryan Bennett	22-Jul	Gerald Fabisch	31-Aug
Charles Stults	22-Jul		
Martin Tobin	22-Jul		
Andrew Keller	27-Jul		
William Rowles	28-Jul		



Masonic

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

	Raised	Years of Service
Michael Leahy Jr	2022-07-14	3
Jeffrey Turrisi	2022-07-14	3



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

Brother Yuro, together with five worthy Brethren in the Entered Apprentice Degree, was duly and truly passed to the Sublime Degree of Fellowcraft in a joint degree conferral conducted in harmony with the lodges of the 15th



Visit the Hightstown-Apollo Lodge Legacy website
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Welcome to the Hightstown-Apollo Lodge Masonic Legacy Project

The Hightstown-Apollo Lodge Legacy Project aspires to create a living archive, where the voices and experiences of our members resonate through interviews, anecdotes, and reflections. This digital repository will serve as a testament to the enduring principles, camaraderie, and contributions that have shaped our lodge.



Meet the Brethren

RW Ron Herzog, PGC

Brotherhood, Hospitality, and a Coyote Hat: A
Tribute to Right Worshipful Ron Herzog



Meet the Brethren

**RW James Hauck
PM, PGC**

Past Master 2016, 2018



Meet the Brethren

WB Gerald Fabisch PM

Past Master 1997, 1998