

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 16th of October 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	Absent	Historian

Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
	RW Eric Grove, PDDGM	WB Mike Shepherd	

Our visitor for dinner this evening was Mr. Ryan McKenzie (petitioner).

RW Eric Grove sat in the for the Jr Warden, Bro Pat Harrison for the Treasurer, Bro Carlos Torres for the Jr Deacon and Bro Chris Brown for the Historian.

There were 13 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 October 2nd, 2025, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

The Worshipful Master advised that Bro Bob Woldt had undergone a medical procedure this week but is doing fine (a card will be sent).

Bro Ryan Carroll advised that his wife had a recent health scare and is now recovering (a card will be sent).

Joys and Celebrations:

Bro Ryan Carroll advised that while vacationing recently in the Caribbean, he was able to locate a masonic lodge.

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>
Completely Clean (inv. 381)	\$195.20	
Lawn Maintenance (Sept)	\$210.00	
Bro Dugan (BOL expenses)	\$56.16	
Macoy Publishing (Masonic supplies)	\$354.45	
RW Stypolkowski (Cemetery Wreaths)	\$136.00	

The total for bills this evening is \$951.81. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

Communications:

The Secretary shared information received from Grand Lodge regarding an upcoming charity event, Murder Mystery Show & Dinner. See the flyer at the Secretary's desk for more information.

Petitions:

The Secretary received a petition for Mr. Ryan Michael McKenzie of Sparta, NJ. Being in good order and the appropriate funds received, the petition was read in lodge.

*The Worshipful Master appointed an investigation committee to interview and report on the petitioner, to include RW George Stypolkowski (chair), WB Clay Kraemer and Bro Patrick Harrison.

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report:

The Secretary provided an update received from the Treasurer this day:

Main operating account balance: \$6,694.67

Brokerage Account balance: \$400,242.45

All other accounts are solvent

Buildings & Grounds:

Bro Dugan advised that he will pursue further efforts to exterminate the chronic wasp infestation in the lodge. He also advised that efforts to replace the flagpole light fixture are ongoing.

The Secretary advised of his efforts to solicit snow removal quotes for this upcoming season. After receiving three proposals and conferring with lodge leadership, it was agreed that the proposal from Bears Landscaping was the best option. This due to the lowest price and proximity to the lodge.

*The Secretary made a motion to accept the proposal, which was seconded. After some discussion about the details of the proposal, the brethren present voted and approved the motion.

Charity:

Bro Dugan advised that the Bread of Life event last month was successful. The next event is scheduled for 10/25 and is seeking additional support in both labor during the event and food donations. He has sent out an email requesting this and is awaiting responses.

Rental Report:

WB Matt Kaufman advised that there has been a steady flow of inquiries, including into 2026. Currently there is (1) booking in October and (2) in November.

He advised that the recent wedding rental had left behind quite a mess, requiring additional cleaning by our cleaning service. He advised that the renter's security deposit may be withheld to cover the cleaning costs.

Unfinished Business:

N/A

New Business:

The Worshipful Master opened nominations for elected officers for the 2026 Masonic year. Nominations will close at our Regular Communication on 11/20. The ballot box and nomination forms are located on the Secretary's desk.

Program:

Bro Dugan read an article from MasonryToday.com about Dr. Benjamin Franklin, recounting his life and accomplishments.

Announcements:

10/25 Bread of Life event

10/27 MW-PM/DLI @ Musconetcong #42 (dinner @ 6:30pm)

11/4-6 Grand Lodge Annual Communication

11/10 Baldwin Chapter RAM @ Harmony #8

11/11 EA Degree at Blairstown #165

11/17 Rehearsal @ Harmony #8 (7:30pm)

11/20 Regular Communication @ Harmony #8 (dinner @ 6:30pm)- Nominations close

****The Worshipful Master advised that the regular communication scheduled for November 6, 2025, is cancelled, due to conflict with the GL Annual Communication.***

The Worshipful Master called all Past Masters in attendance to the East.

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in in harmony and good order at 9:05 pm by RW Fred W Fox, assisted by RW Eric Grove, Worshipful Brothers Mike Shepherd, Clay Kraemer, Dan Kaufman & Matt Kaufman.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025

Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

