

# Harmony Lodge No. 8 Free & Accepted Masons

Met in the **Regular Communication** in their hall at the Masonic Temple,  
519 US Highway 206, Newton (Andover Township), NJ  
On the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2026 A.L. 6026

## Officers Present

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

## Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
RW Nick Kaufman, DRI	RW Fred Fox, PGC	WB Dan Kaufman	Bro Steve Boutillette
		WB Mike Shepherd	

There were 14 Master Masons present. WB Dan Kaufman sat in for the Marshal.

### 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 from the Regular Communication on February 19, 2026, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

### Sickness and Distress:

The Secretary noted the passing of WB Michael DiCiccio, as detailed in emails sent to the brethren this past week.

Bro Sharma reported that Bro Brown was under the weather and unable to attend this evening.

**Joys and Celebrations:**

WB Shepherd provided details of he recent health issues and advise that he is now feeling much better and was thankful for the well wishes from the brethren.

Bro Sharma advised the Hindu religion just celebrated “Holi”, the festival of colors, on 3/4 and detailed the event for the brethren.

**Presentation of Bills:**

<b><u>Bill For</u></b>		<b><u>Bill For</u></b>	
Bears Landscaping (snow removal)	\$675.00	Grand Lodge (background investigation)	\$35.00
Completely Clean (monthly service)	\$292.80	WB Dan Kaufman (lodge supplies)	\$31.47
Neco Fire & Safety	\$695.00		
WB Steve Dugan (BOL supplies)	\$108.34		
WB Steve Dugan (Kitchen supplies)	\$72.58		

Total for bills this evening is \$1,910.19. ***A motion was made, seconded and carried to pay the bills when properly audited.***

**Communications:**

The Secretary noted Grand Lodge communications as follows-

1. Email from the Grand Secretary regarding a recent email phishing scam from the Grand Master.
2. Town Hall summary from the Grand Master. The outcome/decision was read in lodge.
3. The passing of RW George “Flash” Gordon, from Phillipsburg Lodge, PDDGM of the 14<sup>th</sup> District.
4. Notice from Alpha Lodge concerning their upcoming 155th Anniversary event in October of this year.
5. Notice from Atlas Pythagoras Lodge concerning their upcoming 200th Anniversary event in June of this year.

**Petitions:**

None at this time.

**Ballots:**

None at this time.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The Treasurer reported the following account balances:

Bread of Life \$945.73  
Grand Lodge \$2,076.00  
General Fund \$3,416.58

Auto payments made since the last meeting: JCP&L \$398.90, Vonage \$22.17

**Buildings & Grounds:**

No report at this time.

### Charity:

The Worshipful Master advised that the last event was successful and approximately (35) people were fed. The event had a security guard present. The next event is scheduled for Saturday, 3/28. However, the Worshipful Master will be unable to attend. He has asked for the brethren to step up and fill in for him.

### Rental Report:

WB Matt Kaufman reported that activity has been slow this month. There are no bookings this month.

### Unfinished Business:

The Secretary provided an update on status of 2026 dues payments:

(45) of (91) members have paid. Dues statements for those who have not yet done so went out on 3/1 via email.

The Worshipful Master provided an update on the planned Fisherman's Breakfast on Saturday, 4/11.

Bro Carrol provided an update on the Newton St. Patrick's Day Parade this Saturday. He advised that those attending should plan to meet at the new Thor Labs building parking lot at 8:30am to help with event parking.

RW George Stypolkowski inquired about the proficiency status of the Bro EA Ryan McKenzie and potential degree scheduling. Per the Worshipful Master, he is predicting that it will happen in April, but dates remain TBD. However, he will work to get some rehearsals on the calendar soon.

### New Business:

The Worshipful Master reviewed his 2026 proposed budget that was distributed to the brethren via email this past week. Income and expense items as well as YTD investment performance and their impact on this budget were discussed. ***A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the budget as presented.***

### Announcements:

- 3/7 Newton St. Patrick's Day Parade
- 3/9 Baldwin Chapter RAM @ Harmony #8
- 3/12 FC Degree at Blairstown #165
- 3/19 Regular Communication- (dinner @ 6:30 pm, gavel @ 7:30 pm)- ***This event to be moved to Mansfield #36 (waiting confirmation from DDGM)***
- 3/24 District Lodge of Instruction (DLI) @ Mansfield #36 (dinner @ 6:30, gavel @ 7:30)- All DLI's changed to Tuesdays ***(All officers are expected to attend)***
- 3/28 Bread of Life

RW George Stypolkowski Advised that:

1. The statue of Albert Pike had been restored in the Historic Preservation Training Center in Frederick, Maryland.
2. That he is seeking feedback from the brethren on officers for the next masonic year and will be reaching out to any interested parties.

### Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 9:10 pm by WB Steve Dugan.

Fraternally,

*Bro Barry W George*

Secretary

Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

