

# 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 Twp), NJ  
On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, 2026 A.L. 6026

## Officers Present

WB Stephen Dugan	X	Worshipful Master
RW George Stypolkowski, PDR1	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	X	Senior Master of Ceremonies
WB Chris Bailey	X	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	X	Historian

## Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
	RW Eric Grove, PDDGM	WB Dan Kaufman	
	RW Fred Fox, PGC		

Joining us for dinner prior to the meeting were candidates Eli Rodriguez, Ron Genier and prospect Alek Behari.

There were 15 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 from the Regular Communication on March 19, 2026, held at Mansfield Lodge #36, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as amended.

**Sickness and Distress:**

RW Fred Fox advised that WB Mike Shepherd is in the hospital again for his leg and that RW Bernie Triano recently had a pacemaker installed. The Secretary will sent card to both brothers.

**Joys and Celebrations:**

None reported.

**Presentation of Bills:**

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>
Completely Clean (March cleaning svc)	\$292.80	
WB Steve Dugan (BOL supplies)	\$89.07	
WB Steve Dugan (Lodge supplies)	\$122.31	

Total for bills this evening is \$504.18. ***A motion was made, seconded and carried to pay the bills when properly audited.***

**Communications:**

The Secretary reported on a letter from Masonic Charity Foundation advising of a delay in closing the sale of the Masonic Village from 3/31 to early June 2026, due to regulatory reviews.

The Secretary advised that a request to dimit on behalf of Bro Frank Mallozzi was received from the Grand Secretary. He has moved to Virginia and is joining a lodge down there.

***\*The Worshipful Master requested a vote on acceptance of the request to dimit by Bro Frank Mallozzi, which was approved by the brethren present.***

**Petitions:**

N/A

**Ballots:**

N/A

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The Treasurer advised on the current account balances:

- Operating fund: \$6,982.71 (after a transfer of \$5,000.00 from investments)
- Bread of Life: \$837.39
- Grand Lodge: \$2,076.00
- Harmony Foundation: \$100.00
- Layton Scholarship: \$100.00

He also advised of a payment to Vonage in the amount of \$22.17.

### **Buildings & Grounds:**

The Worshipful Master advised of a new CO detector he installed in the lobby as a result of our recent fire inspection.

### **Charity:**

Bro Ryan Carroll advised that the recent BOL event on 3/28 was successful. There were plenty of hands and food provided. They served (41) guests and there was little left over. Next event scheduled for 4/25.

The Worshipful Master advised that his offer to host a fundraiser dinner for the BOL organization to assist with offsetting their increased operating costs has not advanced. The group has thus far not been responsive in support of the event. He will discuss the matter with them and may decide to make a cash donation instead if they are unwilling to be active participants. He will provide an update at a later meeting.

### **Rental Report:**

None provided

### **Unfinished Business:**

RW George Stypolkowski provided an update on upcoming events with the Newton Historical Society. There will be 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary events honoring Revolutionary War Veterans buried at these locations:

April 18, Sparta

May 16, Old Newton Burial Ground

May 30, Frankford

He advised that the Historical Society has requested that the lodge participate if possible. He recommends attending the event in both Newton and Frankford as we have brethren buried at both sites. Please reach out to RW George Stypolkowski with any questions.

### **New Business:**

The Secretary brought before the lodge the matter of lawn maintenance for the coming season. The service provider from last season is a good friend of the lodge but carries no commercial insurance. The Secretary presented a quote from the landscaper that provided snow removal for the lodge this past season. That contractor is fully insured and we have a good working relationship. However, that quote is \$25.00 more expensive per cut than the friend of the lodge's price. ***After much discussion on the pro's and con's of both, a motion was made to accept the quote from the Landscaping service (Bears Landscaping & Sons, Inc). The motion was seconded and approved by the lodge.***

Bro Chris Brown advised that he has been updating the lodge's social media accounts and is seeking pictures of lodge events from brothers to post. Please reach out to the brother with any questions.

Bro Ryan Carroll advised that he has distributed flyers for the upcoming Fisherman's Breakfast being held at the lodge next Saturday, 4/11. He noted that he will need assistance on Friday evening to set up the hall and will be on site to do so at approximately 6:30pm. He also advised that assistance is needed in staffing the front end of the event (servers, bussing tables, ticket sales and clean up after). He will be at the lodge at approximately 5am Saturday morning. The kitchen crew will on site by 4am.

\*As in past years, a 50/50 will likely be run during the event as well.

\*The kitchen will prepare for (75) guests.

***>>Please reach out to Bro Carroll if you are able to assist in any way.***

**Announcements:**

- 4/7 Rehearsal- EA Degree (7pm)
- 4/11 Fisherman's Breakfast @ Harmony (6-11 am)
- 4/14 Rehearsal- EA Degree (7pm)
- 4/16 Regular Communication- **EA DEGREE** (dinner @ 6:30 pm, gavel @ 7:30 pm)
- 4/21 Rehearsal-FC Degree (7pm)
- 4/25 Bread of Life
- 4/28 District Lodge of Instruction (DLI) @ Blairstown #165 (dinner @ 6:30, gavel @ 7:30)- **All officers are expected to attend**

The Worshipful Master advised of plans to participate in an upcoming US 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary event on June 6, 2026 (Andover Twp Day, or Sussex County Day) However, it is yet to be determined which one. Further information will be provided at a later meeting.

The Worshipful Master called RW Eric Grove to the East and tendered him the gavel of the lodge.

**Closing:**

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in short form at 9:00 pm by RW Eric Grove, assisted by WB Steve Dugan.

Fraternally,

*Bro Barry W George*

Secretary  
Harmony Lodge No. 8 F&AM

