

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 6th of September 2026 A.L. 6026

#8 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	Absent	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	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	X	Historian

#8 Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
RW Nick Kaufman, DRI	RW Eric Grove, PDDGM	WB Mike Shepherd	Bro FC Eli Rodriguez
		WB Dan Kaufman	

Visiting this evening from Cypress Lodge No.295 in Florida was Bro Gabriel Yarinski.

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.

The Worshipful Master closed labor on the Master Mason Degree and opened labor on the Fellow Craft Degree.

The Worshipful Master admitted Bro FC Eli Rodriguez into the lodge room.

Minutes:

The minutes from the Regular Communication on June 18, 2026, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

Bro Chris Brown expressed his gratitude to the brethren for their support during a recent rough patch.

**Secretary's note: We ARE brothers and this is the way.*

Joys and Celebrations:

RW Nick Kaufman advised that today is WB Dan Kaufman's birthday. Cake is to be cut after the meeting.

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>
Completely Clean (inv. 712)	\$292.80	
Bears Landscaping (inv. 192014)	\$219.25	
Bread of Life supplies	\$88.25	
Lodge kitchen supplies	\$134.08	

The sum for bills this evening is \$734.38.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried to pay the bills when properly audited.*

Communications:

There has been a plethora of communications from Grand Lodge regarding all manner of fund-raising events across the jurisdiction. Far too many to list here. However, there are a few noteworthy items:

- *Reminder about the upcoming Masonic Leadership Conference
- *Information about the upcoming Grand Lodge Annual Communication in Atlantic City
- *An Update on the One-day class coming up this month.

We also received an invitation from Starlight Chapter #107 OES to attend the Institution and Initiation of Fidelity Assembly #75 Order of the Rainbow For Girls (their first official meeting) at Musconetcong Lodge on 9/26 @ 10am.

Please check your email for any that may interest you.

Petitions:

N/A

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS**Treasurer's Report:**

None provided

Buildings & Grounds:

The Worshipful Master advised that there was little activity on this front over the summer. WB Dan Kaufman advised that upcoming actions would include repair to two interior doors and the dance floor.

Charity:

The Worshipful Master advised that the last Bread of Life event went well and there was just enough help and food to serve everyone. He reminded us of the upcoming BOL event on 9/26.

Rental Report:

WB Matt Kaufman advised there were only a couple of rentals over the summer, but inquiries have recently increased. Currently there is one booked in September, two in October and one in November.

Old Business:

Bro Sharma advised that the summer fellowship event at that lodge in August went very well and enjoyed by all that attended.

RW George Stypolkowski requested that future events, as described by Bro Sharma, be better advertised. He would hope that we can make such information available to as many of the brethren as possible. That we consolidate our efforts and perhaps select a single platform for disseminating information. **Further discussion to follow on this matter.*

Bro Ryan Carroll advised of sponsorship opportunities with a local football program that he supports. He will gather more information and report at a later meeting.

Bro Carroll also advised that he is involved in fundraising for local sports teams and has tickets available for anyone interested.

New Business:

The Secretary discovered an old poem in the desk, entitled "Be an Active Member" and read it in lodge. This will be published in an upcoming Trestleboard.

In honor of the upcoming 9/11 remembrances, the Worshipful Master shared a picture slideshow downstairs from his personal 9/11 gallery as well as a recounting of his participation as a Verizon employee that tragic day.

Announcements:

9/8 Rehearsal-MM Degree 7pm

9/15 Rehearsal-MM Degree 7pm

9/17 Regular Communication- 6:30pm dinner, 7:30pm gavel

9/22 DLI @ Harmony #8, 6:30pm dinner, 7:30 gavel, **ALL officers are expected to attend**, all Master Masons are welcome.

9/26 Bread of Life

The Worshipful Master called RW Nick Kaufman 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 Nick Kaufman, assisted by WB Steve Dugan.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary

Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

