

# 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 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 A.L. 6024

## Officers Present

WB Daniel C Kaufman	X	Worshipful Master
RW Nicholas J Kaufman	X	Senior Warden
Bro Stephen J Dugan	X	Junior Warden
Bro Arjune M Sharma	X	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
RW Fred W Fox	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Brian J Ukson	X	Junior Deacon
WB Matthew C Kaufman	X	Senior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Robert Gerald	Absent	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Connor M. Sokol	Absent	Senior Steward
Bro Scott M Waselik	Absent	Junior Steward
Bro Ryan M Carroll	X	Chaplain
WB Christopher A Bailey	X	Tyler
Bro Henry F Repp	Absent	Organist
Bro Curvey A Purkett, Jr	Absent	Marshal
Bro Johannes W DeWaal	Absent	Historian

## Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
RW Nicholas J Kaufman DRI	RW Eric G Grove PDDGM	Bro Robert Woldt	
RW Fred W Fox GC	RW George J Stypolkowski PDRI		
		Bro EA Patrick Harrison	
		Bro EA Chris Brown	

Bro Woldt sat in 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. The Worshipful Master then dropped the lodge down to labor on the Entered Apprentice Degree to allow our Brothers EA Harrison and Brown to enter.

### Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

**Sickness and Distress:**

Bro Senior Warden advised that a brother from Mansfield #36 recently suffered a house fire. He will provide further information as soon as it is available so that Lodge can send a card and we may offer assistance from the Harmony Foundation.

Bro Senior Warden also advised that DEO Bro Ken Beers' wife continues to have health issues.

RW Fred Fox reported that former brother, Curt Balmer is being treated for cancer and is in ICU.

RW Eric Grove reported that that Bro Brian Chamberlain will soon have heart surgery and will keep us posted on his condition.

**Joys and Celebrations:**

Bro Treasurer advised that he is joyous now that Tax Day has past.

Bro Woldt advised that he has survived his 28<sup>th</sup> year at Home Depot.

The Worshipful Master advised that his nephew was recently accepted into a respiratory therapy training program that is difficult to gain admission.

**Presentation of Bills:**

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>
Restaurant Depot (kitchen supplies)	\$135.88	
USPS (postage)	\$40.80	
ShopRite (dinner)	\$72.93	

The total for bills the evening is \$249.61. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

**Communications:**

The Secretary reported that a card from Adoniram Lodge was received, thanking us for our participation in their recent Viking Feast event. Bro Senior Warden advised that he had gone to this great event and that is well work attending in the future.

**Petitions:**

None at this meeting.

**Ballots:**

None at this meeting.

## **REPORTS**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Bro Treasurer reported that-

1. There were online payments for insurance, garbage collection and internet in the amount of \$1,190.71.
2. Balance of our main operating account is \$3,829.60 and does not include pending deposits since last meeting.
3. The combined balance of the Harmony Foundation, scholarship, BOL and GLA accounts is \$8,079.60.
4. That our investment account has grown since the beginning of 2024 by more than \$19K.

### **Buildings & Grounds:**

Bro Junior Warden reported that-

1. He is looking to have our annual fire extinguisher inspection performed by the end of this month.
2. The lawn mower still requires additional repairs before it is operational. He wants to complete the repairs so that we have the option of using it to maintain the property ourselves, or perhaps sell the machine in the future. He asked for authorization to purchase the necessary parts to complete the repairs himself.
  - a. A motion was made to permit the purchase of lawn mower parts, not to exceed \$350.00, seconded and carried by the members present.

### **Charity:**

Bro Senior Warden advised that the next Bread of Life event is scheduled to occur on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. It is a great opportunity to help the needy in our community. All those interested in supporting the event with donations of food, participation, or both, should contact Bro Dave King ([davek19662000@yahoo.com](mailto:davek19662000@yahoo.com), 201-679-7673).

### **Rental Report:**

WB Matt Kaufman reported that the lodge has a rental scheduled for Saturday 4/27 and that he needs assistance in opening and closing the lodge. Those able to step up and help a brother out should contact the WB ([eagle.matthew2014@gmail.com](mailto:eagle.matthew2014@gmail.com), 973-222-6783).

### **Unfinished Business:**

Bro Junior Warden reported that our recent Fisherman's Breakfast was successful and thanked all those brothers that came out work the event (13 total). He noted that in the future, there needs to be much more support of this and any fundraising effort by the brethren.

>>The Worshipful Master reported that the event generated a profit of \$100+.

Bro Secretary reported that of 103 current members, 45 of them have yet to pay their 2024 Dues, totaling just under \$10K.

### **New Business:**

Bro Woldt advised that he is investigating the possibility of a sporting clays fundraiser event and will provide a report at the next meeting.

**Program:**

RW Nick Kaufman read a follow up article from the Midnight Mason podcast entitled “Freemasonry has a membership problem (which has caused a leadership problem)”, by WB Darin A Lahners. The author provided an in-depth explanation as to his position on the problem and its evolution throughout our history. The article is being sent with these minutes for the brethren’s reading pleasure. The reading of the article was followed by a lengthy discussion on masonic education and personal development within our lodges.

**Announcements:**

4/22- DLI @ Mansfield #36

4/26- Fellowship Night @ Harmony- ***Bro Secretary is organizing an evening at the Meadowlands Racetrack. It will cost \$65/person for dinner, plus beverages and wagering. Those interested in attending should contact Bro Secretary by Tuesday evening, 4/23.***

4/27- Bread of Life

5/2- Regular Communication

5/7- Rehearsal for FC Degree

5/14- Rehearsal for FC Degree

5/16- FC Degree @ Harmony

WB Matt Kaufman advised of the scheduling of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Triple S event at Harmony on Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are available thru Eventbright.

**Closing:**

RW Nick Kaufman was invited to the East and advised of the following Gold Token nights around the district:

4/25- Blaiirstown #165

5/2- Mansfield #36

5/6- Kittatinny #164

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 9:37 pm by RW Nick Kaufman, with the assistance of WM Daniel Kaufman.

Fraternally,

***Bro Barry W George***

Secretary 2024

Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

