



**September
2025**

*Please send correspondence to PO Box 127
Stratford NJ 08084
Address of Laurel Lodge
629 Stone Road Laurel Springs, NJ 08021
Constituted May 25th 1922*

Communications for September 2025

You are cordially and fraternally requested to attend the following communications of Laurel Lodge No. 237, F&AM

Friday September 5th 7:45PM Meeting

Enjoy masonic light with regular business, masonic birthdays and brotherhood. Business Casual tonight. Dinner will be at Lodge 6:30PM.

a A \$10 Donation is requested.

Friday September 19th 7:45PM Meeting

Enjoy masonic light with regular business, masonic birthdays and brotherhood. Dinner will be at Lodge 6:30PM. A \$10 Donation is requested.

Brethren,

One of our financial goals moving forward is to save money on postage. This can be accomplished by e-mailing Trestle Boards as opposed to mailing Trestle Boards. If you have an e-mail address, please contact Laurel Leadership. Thank you, WB Robert Taylor, PM.

***By Order of
RW Michael I. Mattes
Worshipful Master***

***Attest
WB Jerry R. Barnish, PM
Secretary***

The View from the West R.W. Scott P Vicari ATTGM

Cave Degree

Worshipful Master Mattes, planned, organized and executed an excellent road trip to see the very popular Cave Degree, hosted by Union Lodge, No. 38 in Kingston, Tennessee. The event takes place over two days and attracts Masons from all over the country. This year's event was held on August 15th and 16th. The weekend was kicked off with a traditional Southern BBQ; pulled pork, mac and cheese, rolls, and banana pudding!

After this delicious meal we witnessed the exemplification of the Fellowcraft degree by brothers from Monroe Lodge No. 244 AF&AM, North Carolina. The next day began with a fantastic breakfast that included smoked sausage, eggs, pancakes, and coffee. Next, we were inducted into "the Imperial Pack of Coonhounds," a comic degree that is open to the whole family. It was a lot of fun. The brothers that participated in this degree now have another secret mode of recognition. You can ask us what it is, but we will never tell you!

The highlight of the weekend was, of course, the Master Mason degree conducted in a cave that at one time, served to store ammunition for the Confederate army. This year's degree team came from Rising Star Ranger Lodge No. 49 in Center Point, Texas. The lodge was chartered in 1875 and is made up primarily of Texas Rangers and law enforcement officers. Their candidate, a border patrol agent, was overwhelmed by the experience of being raised in front of over two hundred brothers in the cool dim light of a cave. After reading the required dispensations from the Grand Lodges of Tennessee and Texas, to hold the degree in the cave, we were treated to a brief history of the strong connection between Tennessee and the founding of Texas. It was interesting to learn that 32 men from Tennessee gave their lives in the defence of the Alamo, among them were brothers Almaron Dickinson and David "Davy" Crockett.

We then witnessed an opening, "Texas style," which was very similar to ours. I have to agree with our Worshipful Master, that there is nothing quite so moving than hearing over two hundred Masons recite the pledge of allegiance in a cave! The Master Mason degree was outstanding, again similar to ours, only emphasizing different aspects of the same story. The day ended with another fabulous meal (smoked pork tenderloin with a peach glaze), and some heartfelt goodbyes to an amazing group of brothers.

The Cave Degree has been hosted by Union Lodge No. 38 for fifty-three years, and it continues to grow in popularity each year. I believe the secret to its success is that it is never the same. Each year different degree teams from different jurisdictions demonstrate their ritual, keeping the experience new and interesting, no matter how many times you go.

For those of us who went it was an unforgettable experience, everything you joined Masonry for; brotherhood, esoteric knowledge, and plenty of good food and fun. Throughout the entire trip Right Worshipful brother Mattes was a true servant leader, attending to every detail to ensure we all had a great time. And amazingly, in the twenty fours it took to ride down and back, Right Worshipful brother Abuiso never ran out of one liners!

See you in Lodge!

Photos from Cave Degree Trip

Most Woshipful William Douglas Dreaden Grand Master of Tennessee 2025
with RW Scott P Vicari.



Coonhound Degree

Scott P. Vicari

This card is to certify that the above-named individual has received this degree and is a Lifetime Member of the Imperial Pack of Coonhounds.



Richard E. Minton
Imperial Pack Master



Laurel Lodge Minutes Friday 7:45PM June 6th A.D. 2025 AL 6025

Laurel Lodge #237 Friday June 6 2025.

W.M. Mattes opened the meeting in due form at 7:45 p.m.

The pledge of Allegiance to our Flag was recited.

It was announced that R.W. Frazier Alburger is in Samaritan Hospice in Voorhees NJ. W.M Mattes invited all attending to visit Frazier after the meeting concludes.

Attendance by officers and visitors as listed in the book on the tylers desk. Treasurers report given and accepted by the brethren.

Building committee reported that repairs to the hood in the kitchen could be as much as \$20000. Other quotes will be sought. Reported that on air conditioning compressor is seized.

Seeking quotes for that repair. DLI is scheduled for next Wednesday. Bills were read and paid by the brethren.

Filomenas 547.00, Norfolk and Dedham 1299.47 NJ Treasurer. 182.51 Colleen Blair 55.00 Phillips batteries 400.00 Rushburn signs 49.87 Dunkin Donuts 48.01

Meghan Jackson Cleaning 150.00 Primo Hoagies 155.38 R.W. C Huston 116.80 for a total of \$3000.93.

Monies received \$1637.77

Rising Sun is having a degree June 18.

Basket Bingo is June 7 at 6 pm. at Merchantville lodge.

W.B. Don Keppen Sr. was brought to the east for 44 years of Masonic service.

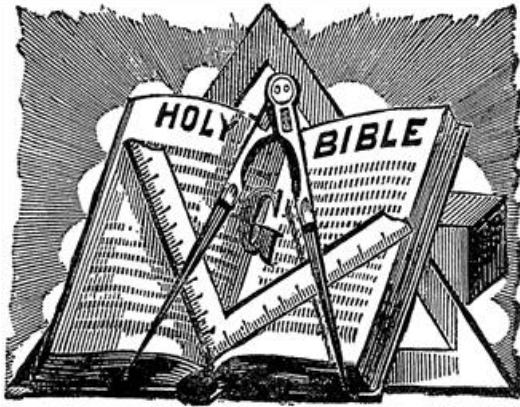
R.W. Viccari was in the east to close the lodge at 8:25 p.m.

Attest/ W/B Barnis secretary.

Sincerely & fraternally,

Jerry R Barnish, PM Secretary

In Memorial



**Right Worshipful Frazier R. Alburger “Fraze”
Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason
February 18th, 1977
Called from Labor June 6th, 2025**



September Masonic Birthdays

Bro Joseph A. Armstrong	1982	43
Bro Albert J. Profico Sr.	1989	36
Bro Keith A. Trieble	1990	35
Bro Ralph E. Schwab	1993	32
Bro Robert P. Bansch	1997	28
Bro Raymond B. Kingett, II	1997	28
Bro Joseph S. Cvikich	2012	13
DB Robert S. Outlaw	2012	13
Bro Norman C. MacFerran	2014	11
Bro Joseph A. Cruz	2014	11
Bro Joseph J Novella	2018	7
Bro Frank DeClerico	2018	7
Bro Keith Verrico	2020	5
Bro James J. Colavita	2020	5
Bro Wallace J Carey	2020	5
Bro Ronald W Jablonski	2020	5
Bro Francis Lepre	2020	5
Bro Justin A. Zacamy	2020	5
<u>Summer Masonic Birthdays</u>		
Bro Alfred W. Huston – August	2014	11

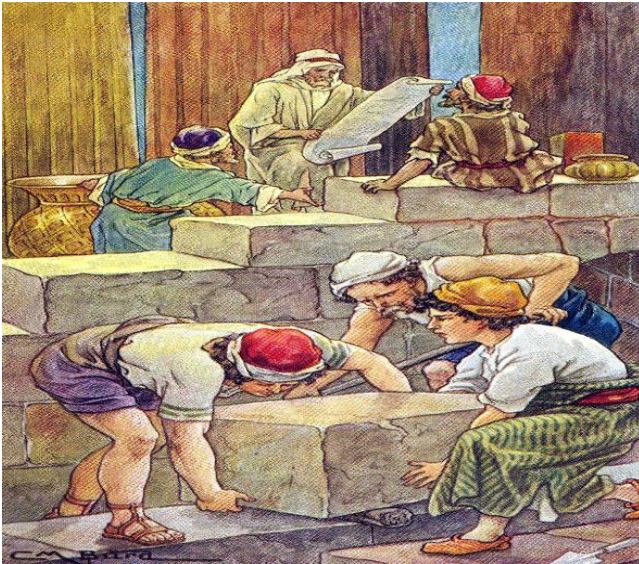
2025 Building Fund Benefactors

Bro Richard A Greiner	Bro William R Terwilliger
WB Eugene Applegate, PM	Bro Jay Colavita
WB Bill Roche, PM	Bro Ricardo Pena
Bro William Campbell	WB Robert A Taylor, PM
Bro Wilfredo S Halina	WB Eugene O Bathurst, PM
Bro Kenneth J Cheeseman	Bro Joseph A Cruz
RW Leonard M March, PDDGM	Bro James Griggs
Bro Richard L Wooster	Bro Richard A Faunce
Bro Wallace Carey	Bro Joseph J Novello
Bro Kenneth W Cashin	RW Frazier R Alburger, PGC
WB Ronald Rocco, PM	Bro Charles D. McMaster
WB Craig J Woodruff, PM	Bro Joseph Armstrong
Bro Bill Hughes	Bro Robert F Brittain
RW Scott P Vicari, ATTGM	Bro Alvin Fitting
Brethren, Thank you!	

Candidate Status

NAME	STATUS	LAST DATE	NEXT STATUS	NEXT DATE
	EA	1/20/23	FC	TBD
	EA	4/21/23	FC	TBD
	Mr.	2/2/24	EA	TBD
	Mr.	2/2/24	EA	TBD
	EA	3/1/25	FC	TBD
	Mr.	1/17/25	EA	TBD

Brethren, many sets of hands make lighter work. Let us continue to work towards building a stronger Masonic Temple. If you have a question or concern, please contact Lodge Leadership promptly.



Brethren helping Brethren:

Call or contact WB Olson for the following service:

GENE OLSON ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LLC

1 WINDSOR ROAD GIBBSBORO, NJ 08026

License# 13794 Office (856) 782-0077 and Cell (609) 868-2218

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Gene Olson Electrical Contractors, LLC has provided dependable residential & commercial electrical services in Camden, Gloucester and Burlington counties since 1996.

Call or contact Brother Halina for the following service:

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Call or contact RW Brian Read for the following Service:

Alcoy's Spa Service Parts and Service for Whirlpool Baths and Hot Tubs

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Call or contact Brother Drexel for the following Service:

DREXEL HVAC, LLC

27 Canyon Drive, Berlin, NJ 08009 - NJ Master HVACR Contractor

#19HC00586400

Office – 856-809-9342 or e-mail drexelhvac@hotmail.com

Sales/Service/Installation/Oil to gas conversions

Brethren helping Brethren Continued:

Call or contact WB Moser for the following service:

Financial Planning: WB Moser is a second-generation financial planner with over 30 years' experience. I was the last Past Master of Florence Lodge in Woodbury.

Donald S Moser - DSM Capital Wealth Management

Managing Director/ CCO www.dsmwealthmanagement.com

609/221-9276

Call or contact Brother Kingett for the following service:

Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts & Elder Law

Donald L. Kingett, Esq. Offices in Gloucester County & Camden County


856-374-5800 or DKingett@KingettWarren.com

Call or contact Brother Jay Colavita for the following service:

Trident Protection Group Contact Brother Jay Colavita (609) 481-8091 We're a full-service security agency providing armed or unarmed guards and K9 units. We specialize in event security (no size too big or small), executive protection, property and asset protection (facilities, fine arts, gems, and resources), and transportation.

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Contact WB Paul Burkhardt or Mark Burkhardt for the following Service:

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Past Masters of Laurel Lodge #237

* Deceased # Served another Lodge

1922	Albert C. Stack *	1961	John P. Steffan*
1923	Harry A. Beck *	1962	Harold H. Croom*
1923	William S. Martin # *	1963	Charles F. Yost *
1924	Arthur Scrimshaw *	1963	Benjamin Foster, PGC # *
1925	Benjamin Forrest *	1964	Charles W. Engler, Jr.*
1926	Elmer F. Giffin *	1965	Daniel A. Mullen, III *
1927	Charles B. Giffin *	1965	Carl H. Gamp # *
1928	John T. Reif *	1966	Edgar N. Pepler PGM #
1929	Charles V. Osborne, Sr. *	1966	Albert L. Hann, PJGD *
1930	Samuel G. Garrison, Jr. *	1967	Henry Baumert *
1931	Charles P. Mills # *	1968	Robert E. Walsh, Jr.*
1932	William R. Cannon *	1969	George E. Carpenter *
1933	Noah C. Bender *	1970	Henry Sannipolli, PDDGM *
1934	F. Maurice Goodwin *	1971	Leonard O. Beebe *
1935	Michael Balent, Jr. *	1972	Robert D. Rowand *
1936	Enos J. Jarvis *	1973	Louis W. Bradley, PGT*
1937	Robert F. Ranken *	1974	Robert W. Bates, PSGD
1938	John H. Fisher, Sr. *	1975	Frederick W. Knox
1939	Oscar M. Hansen *	1976	Leroy See *
1940	Albert F Neidinger PGP*	1976	John J. Eitel # *
1941	Lawrence E. Gardiner *	1977	Roy F. Gutshall, Jr.*
1942	B. Franklin Cope *	1978	John R. Beetle
1943	Fred Humphrey *	1978	James J. Golley #
1944	Charles. S. Schenick *	1979	Charles W. Bell
1945	Ora L. Wooster, Sr. *	1980	Benjamin H. Read, Jr.*
1946	Carl C. Caldwell *	1981	Joseph H. Rival Jr., PGM
1947	Benjamin A. Glatz *	1982	Warren E. Rival, PGC *
1948	Joseph H. Matthews *	1982	Ronald A. Rocco #
1949	Ralph E. Husted *	1983	Hugh C. Williams *
1950	Thomas Milne *	1984	Walter C. Knett *
1951	Ferdinand Herbst *	1984	Charles E. Oppido, Jr. # *
1952	Charles Mannice *	1984	Larry S Plasket, PGM, #
1953	Robert C. Osborne, PGC*	1985	Frank A. Applegate, Sr.*
1954	Earl B. Hallowell *	1985	Henry Bubacz # *
1955	Harry M. Ireland *	1986	Wilfred E. Wilson *
1956	John M. Fisher, Jr.*	1986	Donald L. Keppen Sr. #
1957	Albert C. Stack, Jr.*	1987	Robert F. Butler *
1958	Whitney H. Myers *	1988	William E. Hand *
1959	George F. McCann *	1989	Edwin W. Griffiths, Jr. # *
1960	Harold T. Wolf*	1989	James E. Miller, PGC #

Past Masters of Laurel Lodge #237 Continued

*** Deceased # Served another Lodge**

1990	Benjamin Foster, PGC # *	2016	Gene G. Olson
1990	Donald C. Lever, PSGS *	2016	Eric Erickson #
1991	Stewart D. Walsh *	2017	John P. Gomen
1991	Ralph S. Hill, Jr. # *	2017	Scott Vicari #
1991	William H. Berman, PGM	2018	Joseph Abiuso PGC
1992	George W. Stott, Jr. *	2019	Edward S. Bohi
1992	Harry H. Wible # *	2020	William E. Roche
1993	Dale A. Lynch, Jr., PDDGM	2020	Michael Mattes PGP #
1994	Henry J. Rahn, Jr. PSGS *	2021	Craig J Woodruff
1994	Charles A Castley PDDGM *	2021	Michael Mattes #
1995	Russell B. Hoyle, Sr.	2021	Casey Huston GC #
1996	Frazier R. Alburger, PGT *	2022	Donald L. Keppen Jr.
1996	James E. Miller, PGC #	2022	Michael Mattes #
1997	Raymond B. Kingett	2022	Casey Huston GC #
1997	Jerry R. Barnish #	2023	Jerry R. Barnish
1998	Kirk D. Nevius, Jr., PGC *	2024	Keith Verrico
1999	Scott D. Cianci		
1999	Frank M. Blizard, III #		
2000	Paul E. Burkhardt		
2001	Robert F. DiOrio		
2001	Donald. C. Sharp Sr. #		
2002	Leonard M. March, PDDGM		
2002	Craig J. Woodruff #		
2003	Eugene J. Applegate		
2004	Eugene O. Bathurst		
2005	Juan A. Caraballo, Jr		
2006	Moses R. Hayes, Jr., PGC		
2007	Richard J. McCunney, II		
2008	Michael E. Owsiak		
2009	Robert E. Kunze		
2010	Craig R. Thorpe		
2011	Brian J. Read, PSGS		
2011	George W. Niessner, PSGS #		
2012	Bernard J. Madgey, V JGW		
2012	David J. Lane Sr. PGC #		
2013	Kevin D. Kloss		
2014	James A. Weisensee		
2014	Brian McGovern #		
2015	Robert A. Taylor		
2015	Richard Hartshorne #		

2025 A.D.

Officer Line

6025 A.L.

Worshipful Master

RW Michael I Mattes, PGP – Janice

Senior Warden

RW Scott P. Vicari, PGP - Jacquelyn

Junior Warden

Bro Jay Colavita - Marianne

Treasurer

WB Robert Taylor, PM – Susan

Secretary

WB Jerry R. Barnish, PM - Beth

Secretary Emeritus

RW Louis W. Bradley PGT*

Treasurer Emeritus

WB Charles W. Bell PM

WB John R. Beetle, PM

WB Whitney H. Myers, PM *

MW Joseph H. Rival, PGM

Officer Line Continued

<u>Senior Deacon</u>	Brother Thomas J. Santangelo
<u>Junior Deacon</u>	WB Brian McGovern, PM
<u>S.M. Ceremonies</u>	WB Bro Don Keppen, Jr. PM
<u>J.M. Ceremonies</u>	WB Craig Woodruff, PM
<u>Senior Steward</u>	WB Donald L. Keppen, PM
<u>Junior Steward</u>	WB Keith P. Verrico, PM
<u>Marshal</u>	DB Robert S. Outlaw
<u>Chaplain</u>	WB Craig Woodruff, PM
<u>Tyler</u>	Brother William F. Anderson
<u>Historian</u>	Brother Jacob Keppen
<u>Proxy to GL</u>	Brother Thomas J. Santangelo
<u>Director of Ritual</u>	RW Brian J. Read, PJGS
<u>Webmaster</u>	DB Raymond T. McManus, DB
<u>Dir. of Craftsmen</u>	By Appointment - Need Volunteer
<u>Entertainment</u>	By Appointment – Need Volunteer
<u>Sick and Visiting</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Auditing, Budget & Finance</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Blood Bank Chairman</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Photographer</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Masonic Education</u>	RW Brian J. Read, PJGS, RW Bernard J. Madgey, V GO / PDDGM
<u>Advisor to Officers</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Refreshments</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Funeral Coordinator</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.
<u>Scholarship Committee</u>	RW Frazier Alburger, PGT
<u>Building Trustees</u>	3 Year: DB Bob Outlaw 2 Year: Brother Thomas J. Santangelo 1 Year: By appointment – Volunteer Needed
<u>Financial Trustees</u>	3 Year: MW Joseph H. Rival Jr., PGM 2 Year: WB Craig Woodruff, PM 1 Year: WB Keith P. Verrico, PM
<u>Organist</u>	By Appointment – Volunteer needed.

New Jersey Grand Lodge Information

Grand Master: Most Worshipful: John Eugene Margroff
Deputy Grand Master: RW Omar S. Morris
Senior Grand Warden: Bruce C. Golway
Junior Grand Warden: RW Bernard J. Madgey V
Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer: MW Douglas R. Policastro
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary: MW Larry S. Plaskett
District Deputy Grand Master: RW Ken Carpenter
District Ritual Instructor: RW Vince Capone

18th Masonic District 2025 Grand Officers
Grand Chaplain: Right Worshipful Casey Huston GC
Aid to the Grand Master: Scott P. Vicari, ATTGM

Laurel Lodge Distinguished Brethren

DB Richard P. Alspach*, DB Raymond T. McManus,
DB John C. Read Jr., DB Robert S. Outlaw

Laurel Lodge Honorary Members

MW William H. Sackett, Grand Master 1986 *
MW Edgar N. Pepler, Grand Master 1979
MW Larry S. Plasket, Grand Master 2002
MW William H. Berman, Grand Master 2009
MW David A. Dorworth, Grand Master 2013
RW Chester H. Clark PGC
RW Keith A. Herman, PDDGM
RW Benjamin Foster PGC*

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