

Medford Lodge No. 178 F. & A. M.

- Trestleboard -

May 2020

Grand Master of Masons of New Jersey

M.W. Gregory J. Scott



**CONSTITUTED
MARCH 11, 1903**

MEETS SECOND MONDAY
(EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST)

**25 BANK STREET
MEDFORD, NEW JERSEY
PHONE: (609) 261-2411**

MAILING ADDRESS:

**25 Bank Street
Medford, NJ 08055**

www.MedfordLodge178.com

David.CarvinSr@gmail.com



From the East	Page 2
Calendar of Events.....	Page 3
Petitions	Page 4
Birthdays	Page 4
Notes from the Master.....	Page 5
Notes from the Senior Warden.....	Page 6
Notes from the Junior Warden.....	Page 7
Lodge Officers	Page 8
Committees	Page 8
Grand Lodge	Page 9
District Information	Page 9
Living Past Masters.....	Page 10
In Memorium.....	Page 10
Deceased Past Masters.. ..	Page 11
Demolay and Rainbow.....	Page 12
Technology.....	Page 13
Medford Lodge Annual Shoot.....	Page 14
Grand Master Edict.....	Page 15
Grand Master Edict.....	Page 16
Grand Master Edict.....	Page 17
Grand Lodge Mission Statement...	Page 18

Medford Lodge Zoom Call

Message from the East



Greetings Brethren,

Perhaps because we have brothers long overdue to receive their Master Mason degree, I find the degree ceremony has been very much on mine mind. Quick! What is the largest single part of the Master Mason degree ceremony? The craftsmen! Perhaps not the most central, crucial or significant element, but certainly the biggest scene. Yet it seems to be largely ignored. I was surprise not to find any reference to the craftsmen in any of my Masonic reference texts. Yet I believe their presence is important to the story and key to the success of our brotherhood.

A large contingent of the craftsmen approach King Solomon. Not just one or two of them or the foreman. Why so many? Only one was necessary to apprise the king of the crime. Prior to their audience with him, the Senior Grand Warden has already reported the situation and King Solomon has already surmised the reason. When the contingent asks admission, without hesitation,

King Solomon readily admits them all into his court and listens. It is well that he does. Later, in sending them to all four comers of his kingdom, it would make the most sense that they would likely return to their home areas where they knew both the people and the geography. The three sent to the west, knew right where the port of escape by sea was and therefore found the ruffians quickly allowing King Solomon swift and complete justice. Had just one craftsman approached the king the story likely would have a different ending.

The lesson I feel is that our strength as an organization comes from the diversity and unity of our brethren together as a team and not from any one of us, no matter the position. As every brother brings something special to our organization, we as an organization find the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Let us build on that strength to support each other and grow our organization. To reinforce that strength we should all stay close. In this time of social distancing and closed lodges it will take extra effort. Let' not be "out of sight, out of mind"! Let's keep in close contact with our brothers even while the lodge is closed.

Craftsmen can accomplish anything together!

Fraternally,
F. Lawrence Vernamonti

Calendar of Events



Dates to Remember

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Friday	1st	7:00 PM	Zoom Meeting - Cigar and Drink Social Hour EARLY Cinco De Mayo with Toasts every 20 minutes so Bring Your Favorite Drink and Cigar!!!	ZOOM Meeting: Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/97265553053?pwd=cEZMUTNTRjRrSDICSHhTYmxpL3pmQT09 Meeting ID: 972 6555 3053 Password: 964036
Monday	11th	7:00 PM	Zoom Meeting - This is a Social Meeting Speaker to be announced	Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96255887554?pwd=WmdVMjgxNlZBOE9PeXZpaFNPNT2ROU09 Meeting ID: 962 5588 7554 Password: 923970

In order to stay in touch we are setting up Zoom Meetings in Order to stay in touch. Please invite your fellow brothers to join. These are casual in nature.

All In-Person Activities Suspended by order of the Grand Master in compliance with the order of the Governor of New Jersey.

Please take time to reach out to a Brother and check



Medford Lodge No. 178



Masonic Birthdays

Brother	Years	Brother	Years
Russell Arno Bauer, PGC	45	Joseph A. Knecht, Jr PM	10
Daniel A Buck	4	John E Markelwith	34
Harold J Cava	37	Edwin Arthur Michaloski, PM	13
Brian David Curren	4	Robert S Middleton, PGC	47
David Diamond	4	Dennis C Moffett	31
Thomas W Durham	31	John J Mulligan	27
Devon Christopher Fenske	4	Michael Gregory Neabor	4
E. John Foulk	42	John J Rinnier	42
Thomas Giangiulio	32	Thomas M Roth	27
Alfred D Gilmour, PM	44	Robert Watson II	26
J. Gary Hicks		Clarence B Wingert Jr.	63



Making Good Men Better

To Be Balloted On:	Bro. Michael P. Edmondson for Dual Membership
In Waiting to Receive the Fellowcraft Degree:	Brother Matthew Edward Schneider
In Waiting to Receive their Master Mason Degree	Bro. Michael A Brattelli
	Bro. Michael Alexander Chadwick
In Waiting to Receive their Master Mason Exam	Brother Daniel Richard Espenshied
	Brother Peter Roger DeStefano



Notes From The Worshipful Master

Notes from the Worshipful Master:



Greetings to all our brothers.

Hoping that his Trestleboard finds all bothers and their familiars well.

It was great to see so many brothers in the lodge enjoying Brother

John Cirricione's outstanding presentation on "Masons and the New

Jersey Gun Laws." We have many great presentations coming but as

of now Grand Lodge has cancelled all blue lodge communications so

we don't know yet when we can start back up again. As soon as we can we will reschedule and hit the ground running.

As DLI has also been cancelled now is a great time to study ritual. Teleconferencing is one way, following CDC guidelines for social distancing and procedures is another way. Should anyone develop a fever please do not delay in calling your family doctor. Keep your resistance up and there is a good chance we will all come through fine. By the way I see that there is a shortage of isopropyl alcohol, Clorox wipes etc. One of the most potent antimicrobials for both bacterial and viral pathogens available is Spray 9, commonly available in hardware and auto stores. The kill sheet is pages long.

Now is also a get time to get involved in committee work. There is great need in community service, charity, scholarship, lodge activities and other committees you can help with.

As always communication is important. If not already please make sure you are getting both our app notifications and emails. Also please check in with our older (not me!) members periodically to see if they need anything.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Lodge. Keep clam, stay healthy and carry on. As our brother Rudyard Kipling warned, we must not lose our head while all others around us are losing their.

Fraternally

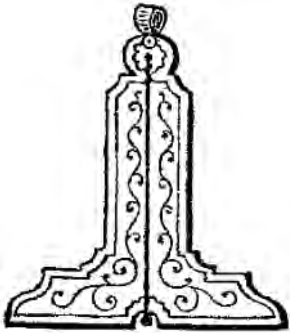
Larry

Notes From The Senior Warden



Notes from the Senior Warden.

Greetings Brethren,



Since we're all feeling some isolation to varying degrees during this pandemic, I was curious as to what Long Duration Psychology (LDP) might teach us about our present experiences. NASA studied LDP in order to assess the impact of danger, deprivation, isolation, and confinement on Mir astronauts, during long space flights.

Space flights carry risks of systems failures and possible death. The present pandemic carries similar risks of our bodily systems failing, due to the virus and possible death.

Long duration spaceflights must deal with sensory deprivation, such as lack of gravity but astronauts often found this experience interesting and novel. Presently, we feel some sense of sensory deprivation in the form of an absence of our regular physical routines, activities, and sounds but like astronauts, this experience is new and challenging.

Space flight disrupts astronauts' sense of time and their sleep/wake cycles feel arbitrary. Astronauts do not find this to be problematic, however, as "life in space is never monotonous." With the pandemic, we initially feel some disorientation and may lose track of time but as we learn to use time more creatively, we may also find that our present lives are no longer monotonous.

Astronauts did feel the impact of social deprivation (being away from culture and family) for extended periods. For us, the lack of sports and some hobbies, lack of normal work routines, and disruptions in everyday interactions with others have become problematic for us.

What can we learn from the experiences of these astronauts? They intensely focused on projects and experiments of interest and some found comfort in quiet time, during their long space flights. Mir astronauts did exercise and had some recreational activities. Some read books, others watched videos, and some did artwork. They also tried to make their lives as "normal" as possible.

Presently, many of us have been watching movies, reading books, cooking, checking in with friends, and organizing ourselves. Others are meditating and reflecting on their lives and other important things to them. In time, we will adjust to the "new normal" and, when we finally return to our former routines, hopefully, we will become more mindful and appreciative of our lives and of those around us.

Thanks to Nasa.gov

John Quintana

[This is a link to all the 19th District Upcoming Events](http://www.19thdistrictnj.org/19th-district-events/)
<http://www.19thdistrictnj.org/19th-district-events/>

Notes From The Senior Warden



Notes from the Junior Warden.

Greetings Brethren,



Brethren,

Greetings from the South. I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy. And I hope that those of you that are stuck at home have found ways to keep from going stir crazy. I myself have found a little (read: a lot) more time for music appreciation. When it comes to music, I often surprise myself on how eclectic the genres I've begun to listen to have become.

This month, it was mostly orchestral. For the past couple of weeks, I've been captivated by Dvorak's "New World Symphony". It was premiered by the New York Philharmonic in the famous Carnegie Hall in New York City on December 13, 1893. Highly anticipated, it was the United State's debut to the world stage of classical music. My particular favorite movement is the second "Largo" and is where the main theme of the piece is showcased.

"New World Symphony" - Dvorak

New York Philharmonic - 175th Anniversary Gala Performance (2016)

<https://youtu.be/HCIX2s8A9IE>

<https://youtu.be/HCIX2s8A9IE?t=612> (II. Largo)

This past September, I had the pleasure to visit Carnegie Hall myself, and was able to experience a live performance conducted by one of my favorite composers Joe Hisaishi. His work is predominantly featured in renowned Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki.

"Kiki's Delivery Service Suite" - Joe Hisaishi, *Kiki's Delivery Service* (1989)

World Dream Symphony Orchestra - Studio Ghibli 25 Years Concert (2008)

<https://youtu.be/m4LrW5f4dyc>

And finally, in April the long awaited Final Fantasy VII Remake landed, and along with it came another host of music landed on my desk. Currently on my music stand, I'm starting practice on this piece.

"Farm Boy" - Nobou Uematsu, Final Fantasy VII Piano Collections

<https://youtu.be/A2G7I-HEupk>

I hope some of the music I've shared with you will help pass the day. I hope I get to see you all in the lodge soon. Stay safe, stay well. And wash your hands.

[This is a link to all the 19th District Upcoming Events](http://www.19thdistrictnj.org/19th-district-events/)

<http://www.19thdistrictnj.org/19th-district-events/>

Officers & Committees



2020 Medford Lodge Officers

<p>Worshipful Master F Lawrence Vernamonti</p> <p>Senior Warden John A Quintana</p> <p>Junior Warden Rigil Abellanos</p> <p>Treasurer WB Daniel O'Brien Email: Treasurer.Medford178@gmail.com</p> <p>Secretary WB David Carvin, Sr. (609) 261-2411 25 Bank Street, Medford, NJ 08055 Email: David.CarvinSr@gmail.com</p>	<p>Senior / Junior Deacon Hugh Christine Rudy Hatala</p> <p>Senior / Junior Master of Ceremonies Joseph "Kip" Duffy Harry Mayer</p> <p>Senior / Junior Steward Jay Keesler Stephen Towell</p> <p>Chaplain Thomas Beamer</p> <p>Marshal John Farrace</p> <p>Tyler J. Gary Hicks, PM</p> <p>Historian WB J Edward Hunt, PM</p> <p>Proxy to Grand Lodge Hugh Christine</p>
---	---

Committees

<p>Lodge Trustees Harry Srolovitz (1) Joseph F. Alter (2) RW Jeremiah Phillips (3)</p> <p>Temple Trustees WB George Wigginton, PM (1) WB John Ellor, PM (2) WB Frederick C. Young Jr., PM (3)</p> <p>Sickness & Distress RW Howard I Black, 2nd WM Larry Vernamonti Rudy Hatala</p>	<p>Audit Committee WB Daniel Nemcek DB Russ Carvin Jr William "Bill" Crozier</p> <p>Ritual Committee WB David Carvin, PM RW Russ Bauer, GC RW Jeremiah Phillips</p> <p>Relief Committee WM Larry Vernamonti</p>	<p>By-Laws WB David Carvin, PM WB Russ Bauer, GC</p> <p>Hospitality Committee John Quintana RW Jeremiah Phillips Franco Coppola Stewards</p> <p>Educator & 1st Responder Scholarship Kip Duffy</p>
---	--	---



Grand Lodge & District Info

Most Worshipful Gregory J. Scott
Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey
The Grand Lodge of New Jersey
362 Avenue A, Bayonne, NJ 07002
(201) 310-5636



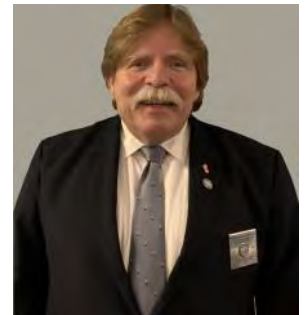
2019GMNJ@gmail.com

Masonic Outreach Hotline
800-792-8690 (NJ Only)
All others call 609-387-1333

District Deputy Grand Master
of the 19th Masonic District
RW Robert K. Boulton
205 Lippincott Ave.
Riverton, NJ 08077
856-507-3102
rkboulton@gmail.com



District Ritual Instructor
of the 19th Masonic District
RW Richard F Labaw Jr.
31 Tall Timber Lane
Burlington, NJ 08016-9756
609-902-7516 (c)
rflabawjr@comcast.net



Lodges of the 19th District

Beverly Riverside #107

Meets 3rd Thursday
621 Chester Avenue, Riverside, NJ 08075

Burlington #32

Meets 2nd Tuesday
2308 Mt Holly Rd, Burlington, NJ 08016

Central #44

Meets 3rd Wednesday
23 Plum Street, Southampton, NJ 08088

Maple Shade Moorestown #281

Meets 3rd Tuesday
15 North Fellowship Road, Maple Shade, NJ 08052

Medford Lodge #178

Meets 2nd Monday
25 Bank Street, Medford, NJ 08055

Mount Holly #14

Meets 3rd Monday
15 Garden Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Mount Moriah #28

Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday's
121 Farnsworth Avenue, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Past Masters



In Honor of our Living Past Masters

Richard S. Dellmyer	1966 (+)	Borys I. Umyn	2000
Calvin Walters	1974	George J. Wigginton Jr	2001
Frederick H. Beals III	1976 (DMT)	Stephen C. Sweeney	2002
Robert S. Middleton, PGC	1977, 79	Peter M. DeStefano	2004
Frederick D. Domako	1977 (D)	William J. Ward, Jr.	2005 (A)
Richard A. Godin	1980	Jerry S. Albrecht	2005
Ralph H. Berringer	1980 (D)	A. John Ellor	2006 (D)
J. Edward Hunt	1981	Conrad Dombkiewicz	2008
John F. Hall, PGC, PDGI	1982 (D)	Joseph W. Keresztury Jr.	1976, 2009 (D)
Wayne Hartman	1983 (D)	David M. Carvin	2010, 14
Alfred D. "Gov" Gilmour	1985	Roy A. Winter, DRI	2010, 14 (D)
Frederick L. Schmidt	1986	Joseph A. Knecht	2014 (D)
Howard I. Black 3 rd , PGMar	1987	Mark K. Crosby	2011
David B. Stoneback	1989	Edwin A. Michaloski	2012
Richard B. Lechner	1990	Daniel L. Nemcek	2013
Owen D. Brennan, PGSB	1990 (+)	Russell A. Bauer, PGC	2015
Howard I. Black 2 nd , PJGS	1991	Robert Shestack	2016 (D)
Mark Birnbaum	1993 (D, S)	Jeremiah H. Phillips, PJGD	2016
Ronald Gervasoni	1994 (S)	Jonathan Murray	2017
William B. Watson	1995	John Bradshaw, PSGD	2017, 2019 (D)
Dennis J. Coloski	1996	Daniel O'Brien	2018
Charles F. Markelwith	1996 (D)	Frederick C. Young Jr.	2019
Allan D. Kline	1997		
John T. Kubit	1998		
Richard D. Dolbec	1999 (EXP)		

(+) = Affiliated

(DMT) = Demitted

(D) = Dual

(S) = Suspended

(EXP) = Expelled

In Memoriam — 2020

[William "Bill" K. Stauts 12/31/2019](#)



Past Masters



In Memory of our Deceased Past Masters

Frank A. Braddock	1903	Norman R. DeLong	1954
Samuel A. Garwood	1904	Henry Emenecker Sr, PGC	1955, 64
William D. Cowperthwait	1904, 40	A. Robert Merrion	1956
J. Maurice Garwood	1905-06	Jerald Carey	1957, 63
Harry Brick	1907, 37-38	Harold E. Easlick PGC	1958, 62
Alfred E. Darnell	1909-10	Kenneth G. Rixon (D)	1958, 80
Carlton J. Garwood	1911	Dean W. Cramer (+)	1958
Charles J. Hollingshead	1912	Gordon L. Beeler	1959
Wilbert F. Branin	1913	Herbert M. Hays	1960
C. Edgar Haines	1914	George D. Richer Jr	1961
Albert F. Kirby	1915	Fred A. Sharkey III	1965
Isaac E. Ballinger	1916	David C. Morton	1966
E. P. Warner	1917	Richard S. Dellmyer (+)	1966
S. Thackara Haines	1918	George W. Beisley	1967-68
Fred W. Branin	1919	William L. Springman	1969
Charles H. Griscom	1920	Arnold Earle (+)	1969
Henry S. Lippincott	1921	Benjamin J. Amadio	1970
Eckard J. Ballinger	1922	Benjamin J. Amadio	1970
Clinton H. Cowperthwait, PSGS	1924, 47	Thomas J. Fitzgerald (+)	1970
Charles F. Clymer	1925	Oscar Cahall	1971
George M. Hiles	1926	Carl P. Rehor	1972
Francis Mickle	1927	William H. Moffett (+)	1972
William C. Griscom	1928, 39	John D. Cooper	1973
Lawrence G. Mingin	1929	Richard B. Snavely (+)	1974
Garfield Alloway	1930	Ernest L. Seth	1975
Harvey Hiles	1931	Frederick D. Domako (D)	1977
Karl G.J. Bingemann	1932	C. William Cornelssen	1978
Charles H. Leeds	1933	Wilheml Launhardt (+)	1980
Ralph E. Curry	1934	Paul D. Garlanger PDDGM (+)	1981
Fred R. Boyd	1935	Russell C.S. Williams	1982
Robert N. Henderson	1936	Orrin Dillabough	1982 (D)
Edwin M. Johnson	1941-44	Joseph W. Siatkowski	1983
George W. Otto (+)	1941	V. James Minerva	1984
George Korradi (+)	1942	Edwin E. Wood III, PSGM	1988
Harry T. McNeill	1945-46	Frederick H. Tillwick	1992
Edwin Holzschuher	1948	Ronald L. Hodge	1993
Joseph E. Bealer Jr	1949	William E. Stockum	2003
E. Lester Small	1950-51	Robert E. Seufert	2003-04 (A)
Harold S. Farrow	1952	Thomas Wright II, PJGD	2007
Charles N. Parker	1953		

Demolay & Rainbow



DeMolay New Jersey

New Jersey Rainbow



"In a world too often seen through a screen, DeMolay and Rainbow reminds us there are other choices".

Members of DeMolay (12-21) and Rainbow (11-20) develop civic awareness through community service projects, personal responsibility by planning and executing their own activities, and gain self-confidence through leadership and public speaking.



For more information on these organizations for your son, daughter, grandchild, niece, nephew or neighbor, please call or email me.

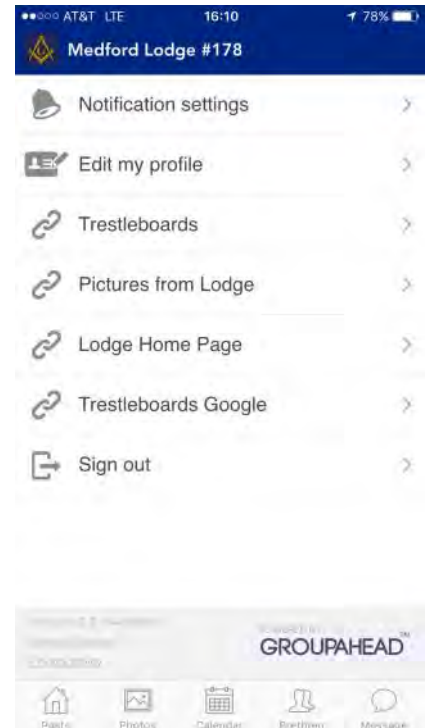
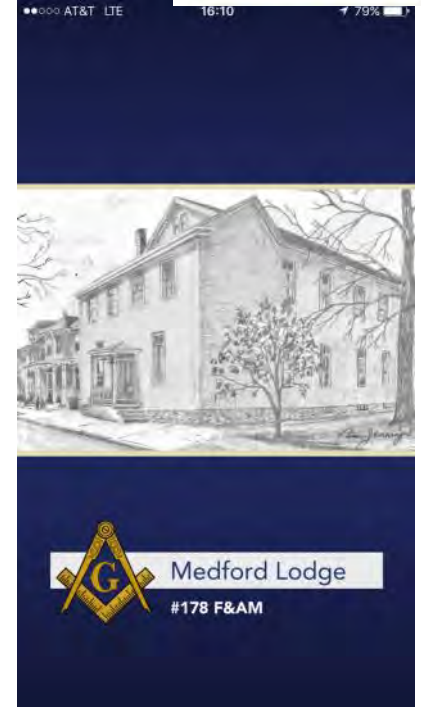
RW Rick LaBaw (609-902-7516) rflabawjr@comcast.net

Technology



Medford Lodge App

The current app will no longer be supported by the developer in the coming months so we are working on a new app. We will be sending out new instructions on how to get to the new app soon.



Medford Lodge Shoot



4TH ANNUAL SPRING SHOOTOUT

MEDFORD LODGE #178

Saturday, May 30th, 2020 @ 10am

at

South Jersey Shooting Club

840 Piney Hollow Rd, Winslow Township, NJ 08043



OPEN TO ALL FRIENDS & FAMILY

Lunch and Shooting \$60/per person

Lunch Only \$20/per person

Payment Due in Advance

Every Shooter Gets 3 Shooting Stations included:

9mm Handgun - 50 rounds at steel from 15 yards

AR Rifle (556) - 20 Rounds at target 60 yards

AK Rifle (7.62x39) - 20 Rounds at target 60 yards

Lunch included (Hamburgers, hotdogs, salad and sides)

Additional Ammo will be Available for Purchase during the event!



Special Appearance
Desert Eagle Pistol (50 cal)
Additional Cost \$10

For more information contact:

John Farrace

jafarrace@gmail.com

856-630-7028

Rudy Hatala

rudolphhatala@gmail.com

609-280-8887

Todd Cottle

todd.cottle@yahoo.com

609-975-2224

Payment Due on or before May 15th, 2020 to Rudy Hatala

Please submit cash via Lodge app, directly pay cash

or make check payable to: "Medford Lodge #178"

Rudolph Hatala
130 Knox Blvd.
Marlton NJ, 08053



EDICT

WHEREAS, the current worldwide COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the everyday lives of all citizens of the State of New Jersey, and the world for that matter; and,

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has deemed it necessary to declare a National Emergency to exist; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of New Jersey has deemed it necessary to issue a series of Executive Orders, which severely curtail the operations of all businesses which have not been designated as “Essential”, and restricted the personal movements of the citizens of the State, including the issuing of “stay at home” and social distancing restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, those restrictions have adversely impacted the ability of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey (the “Grand Lodge”), and all constituent Masonic Lodges, and all Concordant and Appendant Masonic bodies, to meet in lodge and do Masonic work; and,

WHEREAS, these restrictions are anticipated to exist, and interfere with the Peace and Harmony of this Grand Lodge, for the immediately foreseeable future, and will, necessarily, prevent the ability to convene the presently scheduled Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the election and installation of incoming Grand Lodge officers, and adversely impact a number of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, it is my opinion, as the Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey, in conjunction with discussions among the Elected Grand Lodge Officers, that it is essential for the health and well-being of the officers and members of the Craft, as well as the orderly continuation of the necessary business of this Fraternity, that adjustments to the operations of the Grand Lodge during the pandemic restrictions must be made;

NOW THEREFORE, for the good of the Craft, by virtue of the authority in me vested as Grand Master of Masons for the State New Jersey, it is this 23rd day of April, 2020, **EDICTED AND ORDERED** as follows:

1. I hereby suspend the operation of any section of the Constitution, By- Laws, rules or regulations of the Grand Lodge, which is not a Landmark, as is necessary to accomplish the aforesaid essential purposes, including, but not limited to, the specific sections delineated below.
2. The Annual Communication presently scheduled for April 21-23, 2020, is hereby postponed. All presently installed Grand Lodge officers shall continue to hold their present offices until the election, or appointment, and installation of their successors.
3. Pursuant to Title Three, Article IV, Section 1, Part 2, relating to emergencies based upon federal or other regulations which restrict attendance at the annual communication, or travel thereto, the postponed date for the annual communication shall be November 9-10, 2020. The location of the communication shall Bally’s Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, NJ. All members are hereby noticed



of the same, sufficiently in advance thereof, that all members have due and timely notice. The number of attendees shall be designated by the Grand Master in advance thereof based upon any emergency governmental orders then in effect.

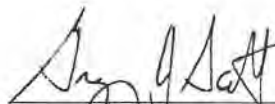
4. All business requiring votes of the members, including but not limited to, the election of the Junior Grand Warden and the Grand Lodge Trustees, will be conducted in person or by Internet voting. All Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens, shall be automatically registered for electronic ballots by the balloting committee. All Past Master's should register for their electronic ballot, pursuant to the procedure directed at page 7 of the Spring 2020 edition of *The New Jersey Freemason* magazine. Proxies shall not be permitted to vote, since the more senior officers of their lodges shall already be registered for electronic voting.
5. Any related organization which regularly conducts voting at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge (Masonic Charity Foundation and Historic Trenton Masonic Temple, Inc.), is hereby encouraged to take such appropriate actions as are necessary to conform its annual meeting to the November 9-10, 2020 dates, and for its voting requirements to match those of Grand Lodge. As previously agreed upon, Grand Lodge shall administer all voting for these entities.
6. The time period for the publication of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge Annual Communication, as set forth in Title Four, Article II, Section 2, Part 2, shall be extended to a date not later than nine (9) months following the conclusion of the Annual Communication.
7. The time for withdrawal of nominations under Title IV, Article III, Section 3, Part 1(b) is extended. Any nomination for office may be withdrawn in writing, by the nominee, not later than October 30, 2020.
8. The time period for a late nominations due to vacancy, if any, under Title IV, Article III, Section 3, Part 2, is amended to indicate that delayed nominations may be received up until three (3) days prior to the opening of the Annual Communication, in order that the name of the nominee can be distributed electronically for balloting. In the event of a vacancy existing for which no nomination has been made, the Grand Master may receive nominations for such offices from the floor of the Grand Lodge, and any such nominees may be elected by a plurality vote of the members present at the Annual Communication.
9. The Grand Lodge Budget and Finance Committee, shall create an interim budget, for the ongoing operations of Grand Lodge for the period from May 1, 2020 through November 10, 2020, consistent with the proposed budget published at page 27 of the Spring 2020 Edition of *The New Jersey Freemason* magazine. The Trustees of the Grand Lodge are hereby authorized to continue to operate the Grand Lodge business in accordance with that interim budget.
10. All previously published dates for Receptions, Grand Lodges of Instruction, or other Grand Lodge events, are hereby postponed. A new schedule of dates shall be coordinated among the members of the Elected Grand Line and notice shall be provided in accordance therewith in due and timely fashion.
11. Currently the David Brearley Award requires newly raised brothers to achieve the six required activities, and at least four of the elective activities within one year from the date upon which the



Brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The required activities all involve regular meetings of Lodges, or the District, and Lodge social or charitable events. The elective activities, similarly, involve participation in Lodge, Grand Lodge, Rainbow or DeMolay activities. In as much as all of those activities are presently suspended during the Covid-19 emergency, the ability of those newly raised brothers to fulfill the requirements within the one year time limit has necessarily been prevented. Accordingly, in order to afford those brothers the ability to recoup the lost opportunities, the time in which to complete the requirements for the David Brearley Award is hereby extended through the November 10, 2020 date for the conclusion of this year's Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

12. The edict of March 13, 2020, as extended by the supplement of March 20, 2020, suspending all meetings events etc. until April 30, 2020 is hereby further extended, and all Masonic meetings and events shall remain suspended until May 15, 2020, consistent with the emergency orders of the office of the Governor, or until further order of the Grand Master. Lodges and Districts have been successfully continuing to hold informal communications with each other, via the ZOOM platform, and/or similar platforms. All Lodges and other Masonic organizations within this State are encouraged to participate in such informal sessions and gatherings. Lodges are hereby authorized to transact *extraordinary and essential* Lodge business through the ZOOM platform provided, however, that a request for dispensation must first be made to the District Deputy Grand Master, who shall, thereafter, pass the request up the chain of command to the Grand Secretary, who, in turn, shall pass the request to the Grand Master. The Grand Master alone shall determine whether or not to grant that dispensation. If the dispensation is granted, the Lodge holding such a meeting under dispensation shall provide due notice to the members, and the meeting must include the mandatory officers for the opening of the Lodge. Minutes shall be taken and recorded by the Secretary, or an *ad hoc* Secretary, which minutes shall ultimately be presented for approval of the Lodge and recorded in the Lodge minutes histories. If the extraordinary meeting requires a vote to be taken, the vote may be taken with the usual voting sign of a Mason, providing all participants can be seen on video. If they cannot, the votes shall be taken by a roll call vote of all present in the meeting. No voting which would normally require a secret ballot shall be permitted. Appendant and Concordant bodies, if permitted by their governing bodies and as consistent with rules and regulations than may have been issued by said governing bodies, may hold business meetings virtually.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2020



Gregory J. Scott, Grand Master of Masons
For the State of New Jersey

Attest: 

John S. Ryan, PGM, Grand Secretary

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

FREEMASONRY promotes a way of life that binds like-minded men with the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in order to serve God, Family, Country, Neighbor and Self.



Find out more about us—

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey
www.newjerseygrandlodge.org



Medford Lodge #178
25 Bank Street
Medford, NJ 08055