

# Eureka-Dupont

Wilmington, DE

A.F. A.M.

The Friendly Lodge  
23-29

*Making Good Men Better since 1867*

January 2019

Masonic Trestleboard

2016 Foulk Road

Wilmington, DE 19810



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**Need a Ride to Lodge  
or other function?**

We'll get you one.

Call the Master  
or any officer.



**FROM THE EAST**



My Brothers,

The New Year is upon us and we have had a very successful Masonic year so far. With two new members and possibly three more coming in we are building a strong lodge. We have had some interesting programs and many events attended by some of our Brothers. The joint degrees have been well attended and I intend to continue that, whether it be at Brandywine Hall or at another Masonic Hall.

I am hoping to have a couple social nights in the coming months where we can enjoy our fellowship outside of the lodge. Additionally, a fundraiser for Bro. Simkins has been discussed and we need a committee to handle that. If you would like to be part of the committee for these events, please let me know.

Sadly, we lost our Brother Steve Leishman this past month. Steve had been working hard to get up to speed on the lodge finances and I was very much looking forward to getting to know him better. Please see below for Steve's impressive obituary. Bro. Tom Sandilands has graciously agreed to take over as Interim Treasurer for the remainder of the year as well as his duties as Jr. Deacon.

The Grand Visitation is this month and I look forward to receiving Most Worshipful Rosenberry, a good friend and long-time supporter of our lodge. We have invited the Ladies of the Grand Staff and I greatly hope you will invite your ladies to join us. I plan to have an interesting speaker for the Ladies as we receive the Grand Master.

**Happy New Year!**

Fraternally,

*Kevin O'Rourke,*

Worshipful Master



**CHOCOLATE NIGHT!!!**

A wonderful evening for our Lodge with Bro. and Marty Downing, the Grand Master, many of his staff and their Ladies, Brothers, wives and kids were present to wrap the gifts for the underprivileged children of Delaware. Additionally, a Special Thanks to Mrs. Cindy Rietz for providing holiday music to our evening.



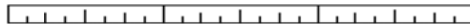
## JANUARY 2019

The 236th Regular Communication of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 will be held at the Brandywine Masonic Hall, 2016 Foulk Road in Wilmington, Delaware, on Thursday, January 10 at 5:30 PM. Correspondence, payment of bills, committee reports, reception of petitions, balloting, Masonic birthdays, and all other business, as may be lawfully brought before the Lodge will be transacted. At 6:30 we will enjoy dinner with the Grand Master and his Lady Judy, the Grand Staff and their Ladies and any Brothers and Ladies who wish to attend. Following dinner, we will receive the GM and his staff at 7:30 PM.

*Kevin O'Rourke*, Worshipful Master  
 Attest: *Rollyn Trueblood*, Secretary

### FOUR-LODGE FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE

Once again we joined with other lodges in the spirit of Brotherhood to pass three candidates to the degree of Fellow Craft. This included candidates from Granite-Corinthian #34 and Brandywine #33. A Special Thanks to Bro. Byrom Price of Armstrong #26 and W. Bro Pat Light for conferring the degree in excellent form. It was a memorable night and great to see M.W. Hughes in attendance again.



#### Masonic Birthdays: 175 Years in Masonry

| Brother                | Years in Masonry |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Robert R. Hiddeman, PM | 28               |
| Mark G. Siple          | 23               |
| Harvey S. Goldberg, PM | 6                |
| Edward J. Culver       | 5                |
| Robert D. Rock         | 5                |
| Joseph M. Henry        | 1                |

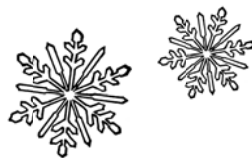
#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **January 3:** Washington #1 Grand Visitation 7:30 pm.
- **January 10:** Eureka-DuPont Grand Visitation.
  - Meeting at 5:30 pm
  - Dinner at 6:30 pm
  - GM Reception at 7:30 pm
- **January 14:** Officer Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- **January 17:** Entered Apprentice Degree 7:00 pm.
- **January 28:** Fellow Craft Degree 7:00 pm

#### DINNER IS SERVED

Our Sr. Steward provides dinner before every Stated Communication. Please come out, break bread and enjoy the fellowship with your Brothers. This month, as requested by our Grand Master, our menu includes:

Hoagies – Salads - Dessert  
 Members and Visitors: \$10 Donation



#### Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 Living Past Masters

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2018 Harvey S. Goldberg   | 1975 John R. Kraus       |
| 2017 Jerome R. "Jay" Troy | 1973 David Hipp          |
| 2016 Thomas J. Cole       | 1972-1974 John R. Bradd  |
| 2015 Gary R. Williamson   | 1972 Kenneth C. Butler   |
| 2005-14 David M. Simkins  | 1970 Anton W. Benson     |
| 1998-2003 Robert Hiddeman | 1970 Alvin M. Rubenstein |
| 1993 Peter M. Pena        | 1969 John Barnes         |
| 1990 Neil M. Thompson     |                          |

#### Affiliated Past Masters

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| James A. Pletz, PGM (#33 DE) | Cory R. Kramer (#34 DE)   |
| Russell B. Combs (#529 PA)   | Patrick S. Light (#33 DE) |
| Michael W. Jones (#34 DE)    |                           |



## THE HOLY SAINTS JOHN – DUALITY IN THE CONSTRUCT OF ONE



The Saint's – John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, appear to Freemasons in several places in our catechisms. Their proximity and use in our rituals have been questioned for many years as to their use and placement. Looked at together, Saint John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist serve to represent the balance in Masonry between zeal for the fraternity and learned equilibrium. The Saints John, stand in perfect parallel harmony representing that balance. From a historical approach, The Saint John's festival is said to be a widely celebrated Masonic holiday. Traditionally June 24th (or the summer Solstice) is taken to be John the Baptist's day, which is celebrated in many cultures around the world. According to McCoy's *Masonic Dictionary*, the Festival of St. John in summer is a duty of every Mason to participate in, and should serve to be a renewal and strengthening of fraternal ties and a celebration of Masonry from "olden-times". It functions as a connection between the past and the future.

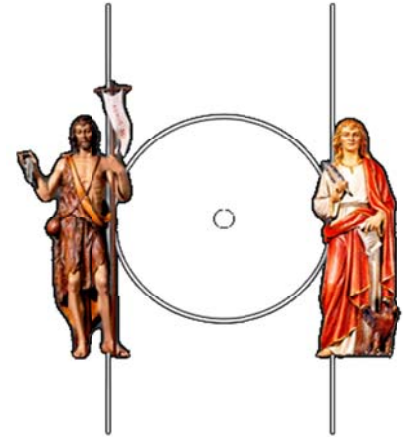
The festival, to non-Masons, has been called the "Setting of the Watch", where ceremonial bonfires were lit after sunset. Tradition says that men, women, and children would jump through the fires for luck. Across Europe, this holiday is celebrated in many ways. With oak wreath crowns, wild flowers and birch branches. Families would feast and celebrate in union. The meanings of these ancient traditions are lost today on our society, but the link was made at some point to John the Baptist. The On-line Catholic Encyclopedia points to the birth of John the Baptist as 6 months before Christ, placing him on the summer solstice. It is thought that these festivals have been linked in character and content with the birth of John the Baptist.

From the Masonic perspective we are given the balanced dualism of John the Baptist on one side and John the Evangelist on the other. Represented together this way represent the balance of passionate zeal with and learned knowledge of faith forming a space to reflect on to and channel our passion as well as our education/knowledge. Individually strong, together they stand as a harnessed focus of zeal and knowledge. This counterpoint is not just necessary to Freemasonry but can be applied to all areas of life. Taken as an abstract compilation of symbols, together they represent a well-balanced path towards enlightenment.



The two dualistic figures as one, the Holy Saints John, balance each other in the Masonic year, but

also in other areas too. One unique aspect that I found is in the application of the Alchemical symbols of fire and water. Alchemy has long been thought of as an early component of Freemasonry and using the alchemical



symbols here may help the representations of the Saint John's look more familiar. Saint John the Baptist, represented as the inverted pyramid, the Alchemical sign for water, representing the spiritual and emotional love. St. John the Evangelist, represented as the pyramid pointing up symbolizing fire that is the drive and will of action. When placed together, they symbolize the perfect balance of darkness and light, life and death, passion and constraint, will and emotion, winter and summer. Together both represent the interlocked star of Solomon, or the Square and Compasses. This is an entirely open analysis, and made for the purposes of comparison, but it does offer a unique analysis of the juxtaposition of the Holy Saints John.

In looking toward the future, St. John the Baptist Day is an appropriate celebratory day for Freemasons, as it is a good day to come together and reflect in our past and in our future. It stands to remind us, not just of our past, but also of a re-commitment of our circumscribed passions. In all of our time they're as a fraternity, union celebrations such as this one help us to reaffirm our ties that bind. Whether those ties be the bindings of fraternity or the familiarity of institution, we should remember the Holy Saints John, not just in our sacred Jerusalem's but together in brotherhood.



By Bro. Gregory Stewart  
Los Angeles, California  
"A Traveler in Freemasonry"



## DID YOU KNOW?

- Mason Benjamin Franklin obtained finances and guns for the American Revolution from leading French Masons and the French government.
- During the US Civil War, the Charter of Hatfield Lodge No.218 in Arkansas was hidden under a fence post in the local graveyard. Its location was forgotten until 1947 when the rotting fence posts were being replaced.
- The World's Largest Mason was Miles Darden, who died in Lexington, Tennessee in 1857 at the age of 58 years. He weighed over 1,000 lbs and was 7'6" in height with a 76-inch waist. It took seven men to place him in his casket.
- Andrew McNair, a Philadelphia Mason, rang the Liberty Bell in Independence Hall on July 8, 1776 to call the people together to hear the reading of the Declaration of Independence. The bell developed a crack when it was rung for the death of Chief Justice Marshall, Past Grand Master of Virginia.
- In July, 1863 Confederate raiders rode into Versailles, Indiana, capturing the local militia and stealing the county treasury. The next day, General John Morgan (CSA) learned that his men had also made off with the jewels of the local lodge. They were returned the following day. Morgan was from Davies Lodge #22, Lexington, KY.



Taken from the internet, so these must be true ☺

### Wilmington Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club provides a pancake and sausage breakfast every Saturday to those in need.

More Information on the Breakfast Club is available at <http://jtroy.com/breakfast>

Come out and join your Brothers in helping the hungry.



*"All my aprons are at the cleaners."*



### SHOTGUN RAFFLE



Our Sr. Deacon, Bro. Blassingame, is spearheading the lodge fundraiser for a Mossberg 500 12-Gauge Pump Shotgun. Tickets can be purchased from any lodge officer and the drawing will be held at our June Stated Communication.

Attendance is not required to win



## OUR BROTHER, STEPHEN A. LEISHMAN

Major, USAF (ret.), 77, passed away peacefully on December 18, 2018 at his home. Steve was born in Washington, DC to Charles A. Leishman and Helen Louise Swarm. Steve grew up in Hyattsville, MD and was graduated from Northwestern High School in 1959. He attended the University of Maryland where he played in the marching band for five years and earned a BS in Business Administration in 1964. His later education included an MBA in Finance in 1968 from Inter-American University in PR and a MEd in Curriculum Development from Auburn University in 1978.



Steve received his commission into the Air Force through the ROTC program at the University of Maryland in 1964 whereupon he began a 21-year career which took him to nine bases throughout the world for permanent assignment. Steve completed navigator training in Waco, TX and Electronic Warfare Officer training in Sacramento, CA. For three years he served on B-52sat Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico. Following that assignment Steve flew 125 combat missions out of Takhli AB, Thailand in 1969-70 during the Vietnam conflict. He later served as an instructor at the Electronic Warfare Officer School in Sacramento, CA, then as a student and instructor at the Air Force Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, AL. He completed his military career returning to B-52s in Rome, NY for five winters. Steve retired with the aeronautical rating of Master Navigator. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for combat in Vietnam, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters, and the AF Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

Steve retired from active duty in March 1985 to accept a position with The Boeing Company as Contractor Logistics Support Manager for the B-1B Flight Simulator Program initially in Cocoa Beach, FL and then in Huntsville, AL. With the installation of the last simulator, Steve began work on the International Space Station in three different areas. In the spring of 1994 Steve accepted a position in the structural test labs with the Boeing facility in Philadelphia. His work focused on testing components and the airframe of the V-22 Osprey. In early 2004 Steve transferred to the V-22 Flight Test program at Patuxent Naval Air Station, MD, as a flight test engineer assist in returning the V-22s to flight status. During his stay he made two six-month long winter trips to Halifax, NS for cold weather testing and three cruises aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp for sea trials. When that was done he retired in October 2005.

Steve loved history and genealogy. In early 1999 he became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and rose steadily through the chapter, state and national offices. In 2012 he was sworn in as the President General of the National Society of the Sons of the Revolution. He continued his service as an elected director on the SAR Foundation Board of Directors for six years. He has proven six ancestors who participated in the Revolutionary War and one who participated in the War of 1812.

Steve enjoyed recreational boating and especially his last boat, a 40 foot Mainship Trawler named 'Reverie'. He was a 44 year life member of the United States Power Squadron. Steve held an FAA single-engine commercial pilot's license but stopped flying when his son was born. He also held an FCC General Class Amateur Radio License, N3TMK and was studying for his Extra Class license. Steve was a life member of The American Legion, Post 18, in Claymont, DE; and a member of the VFW, Post 2907 in Bellefonte, DE. A life-long Episcopalian, Steve was an active member of St. David's Episcopal Church, Brandywine Hundred, for many years. He was a member of various Masonic bodies including the Red Cross of Constantine.



Steve was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife, Janet; his son, Stephen O'Neal, granddaughter, Madison; and grandson, David; from New Orleans, LA; his sister, Margaret (Peggy) Hughes (Larry) from Lincoln, DE and many nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held from 6-8pm, Sunday, January 13 at the McCrery & Harra Funeral Home, 3924 Concord Pike where a Masonic Memorial service will be held at 7pm. A funeral service will be held at 11:30am, Monday, January 14 at St. David's Episcopal Church, 2320 Grubb Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810 where another visitation will be held from 11-11:30. Interment with appropriate military honors will be at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, DE.