

Eureka-DuPont #23-29

“THE FRIENDLY LODGE”

Making Good Men Better

Since 1867

2016 Foulk Road
Wilmington, DE 19810



Masonic Trestleboard December 2023

All Visiting Brethren Are Welcome
Meetings are held on the second
Thursday of the month –
September through June

www.eurekadupont.org

www.facebook.com/EurekaDuPontLodge.23.29/



Eureka-DuPont #23-29
Officers 2022 – 2023

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DECEMBER 2023 TRESTLEBOARD

The 280th Regular Communication of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 will be held in the **Brandywine Masonic Hall, 2016 Foulk Road, Wilmington, Delaware**, on **Thursday, December 14 at 5:30 PM.**

This is an earlier-than-usual start time due to Chocolate Night festivities, which begin at 6:30 PM. The reading of minutes, payment of bills, and all other business as may be lawfully brought before the Lodge will be transacted.

From the East



The Yuletide: A Season of Gratitude and Giving encompassing Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. It is also a season of immense significance, marking the rebirth of the spirit and a well-deserved respite after a year of hard work. It's a period to cherish the company of loved ones, express gratitude for blessings, and extend kindness to those in need.

The phrase "**Yuletide**" finds its roots in ancient Germanic pagan traditions, specifically the celebration of Yule, a midwinter feast honoring the return of the sun and the lengthening of days. Over time, the term "Yule" became associated with Christmas, and the compound word "Yuletide" emerged, capturing the essence of this joyous season.

This Yuletide, let's embrace the spirit of giving by participating in the **19th Annual Chocolate Night**, an event initiated by our brother Bill Downing, and faithfully executed for almost two decades by Eureka-DuPont Lodge with the help of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. This event involves the collection and preparation of gifts for underprivileged children in our community, ensuring they experience the joy of

Christmas without compromising their basic needs. Once again our Lodge collation room will be packed to the gills with visiting families and friends doing the good work of wrapping and tagging the many gifts we have collected. Be sure to invite your family and friends. Wrapping event starts at 6:30.

Beyond material gifts, let's cherish the intangible presents we can offer – the gift of time, attention, and love. These gifts, far more precious than any physical possession, create memories that last a lifetime. As my children have grown into young adults, I find myself treasuring the memories of their childhood, moments that hold immense value. Let's appreciate those around us and the precious moments we share.

Our November Communication was a resounding success, with our Senior Deacon, Laurent Zenidiu emerging as the grand prize winner of our contest. By attending our meetings regularly, you too can be among our fortunate winners of fabulous prizes.

Let's make this Yuletide a season of gratitude, giving, and cherished memories. May the spirit of the season fill your hearts with joy and peace.

So Mote It Be!
Jay Troy, Worshipful Master



The Chaplain's View



Brothers of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29,

As we gather in the warmth of this Yuletide season, I am honored to extend my heartfelt greetings to each of you. In the spirit of the Masonic principles that bind us as Brothers, I wish to share a message of **Peace** and **Brotherly Love** and the importance of staying true to the sacred tenets of our esteemed fraternity, the principles that serve as the guiding lights on our journey toward enlightenment.

In the spirit of **Peace**, let us strive to create harmony within our Lodge. As we celebrate the Yuletide season, let the Light of Peace shine brightly within our hearts, fostering understanding and unity among us.

Brotherly Love is the cornerstone of our Masonic bond. As we navigate the challenges of life, we should be able to draw strength from the teachings of our Fraternity. Our actions and decisions should be guided by the Square and Compass, symbolizing the moral and ethical framework that distinguishes us as Masons -- all on the Level and within the Square as we

profess it to be. In the eyes of Freemasonry, all brothers are equal. Regardless of our backgrounds, professions, or individual journeys, we stand together on the level, recognizing the inherent worth and dignity of each member of our Fraternity. Let us reaffirm our commitment to equality, fostering an environment where every Brother is valued and respected.

Brothers, may the spirit of the season fill our hearts with joy, and may the guiding principles of Freemasonry illuminate our path in the coming year.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous Yuletide filled with **Peace**, **Brotherly Love**, and the boundless blessings that emanate from our Masonic journey.

Fraternally,
John Della Guardia

From The South



Brothers, this is another story that I found online that may be of interest. Masonry works when practiced. Fraternally, Drew Wedel

This is the story of two opposing Generals: John Gordon of the Confederate Army and Francis Barlow of the Union Army. During a raging battle, General Gordon was crossing the bloodied field of battle, when he came upon General Barlow who had just received what was assumed to be a mortal wound. Even though the fierce battle was continuing all around them, Gordon took the time to show compassion for a fallen Brother. He gave Barlow a drink of water and inquired as to what he might do for him. Barlow asked him to write a letter to his wife, which he dictated, the words of his supposed, impending death.

Upon receipt of the letter, his Lady traveled to retrieve his remains, but by then he had received medical care and was recovering to fight again. Several years later these two men met in Washington, D.C., both having assumed that the other had died during the war.

They enjoyed Masonic fellowship, sharing Brotherly Love and affection while remembering their many experiences. Their close friendship and Brotherly Love continued until death.

(Freemasonry as it was Practiced During the American Civil War)

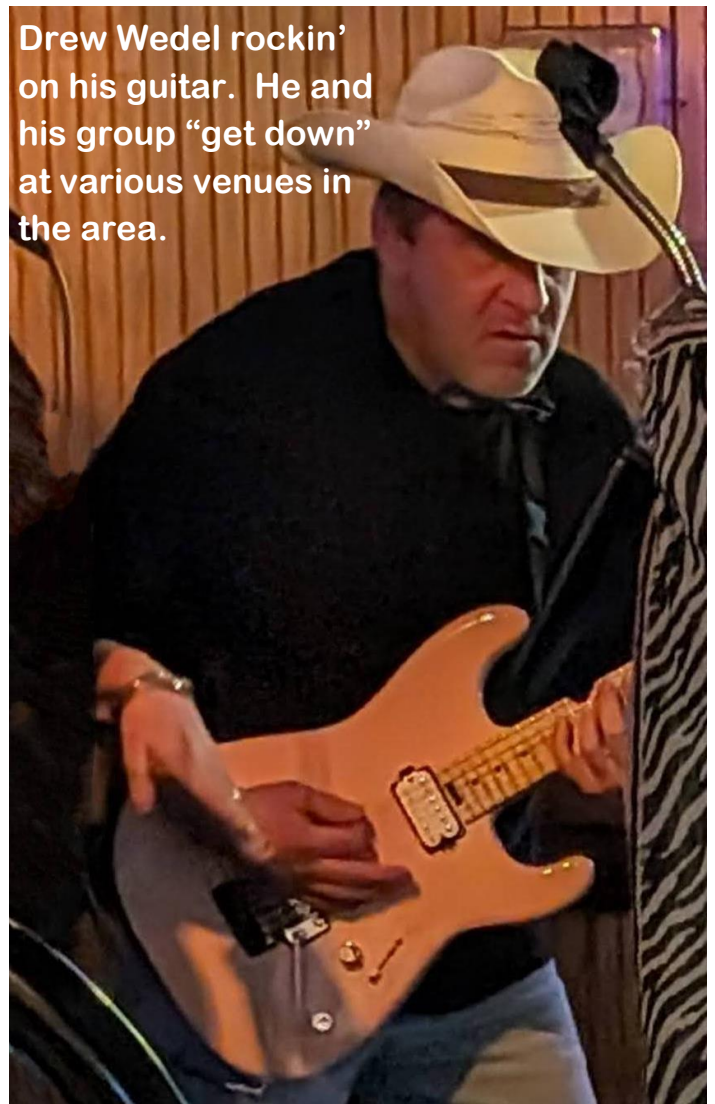
Posted on August 15, 2015 by Greg Stewart)



L to R: John Della Guardia, Kevin O'Rourke, Tom Sandilands, Dave Baumberger, Mike Jones, Drew Wedel, Bill Degnan, Jay Troy.

1ST Eureka-DuPont Eagles Night at Stanley's Bar and Grill

Kudos to Junior Warden, Drew Wedel, who spearheaded the first ever Eureka-DuPont Eagles Night at Stanley's Bar and Grill. The night was a success with brothers and friends joining in on the conversation, fun, food and libations. A big thank you to Jay's Lady, **Kristin**, for her photographic skills.



Drew Wedel rockin' on his guitar. He and his group "get down" at various venues in the area.



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

2020-22 David M. Simkins
2018-19 Kevin O'Rourke
2016 Jerome R. "Jay" Troy
2015 Thomas J. Cole
2005-13 David M. Simkins
1998-2003 Robert Hiddemen
1993 Peter M. Pena
1990 Neill M. Thompson
1975 John R. Kraus
1973 David Hipp
1972 Kenneth C. Butler

Affiliated Past Masters

Herbert Rubinstein (#25 MD)
Terry Martz (#34 DE)
Patrick S. Light (#33 DE)
Michael W. Jones (#34 DE)
Paul D. Loveday (#9930 UGLE)

December Masonic Birthdays

NAME	YEARS
Robert Barrowcliff	68
Albert Degen	57
Carmen Smith	26
Lewis Kester III	24
Patrick Light, PM	14
Brian Keith	10
Kelvin Blassingame	8

196 Years in Masonry

Stuff You Need to Know

(Reprinted from Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29 Trestleboard, December 2022)



In honor of *Chocolate Night* on December 14, and after exhaustive, in-depth research, Brother Jay Troy presents the following facts about chocolate for your information and edification.

It takes approximately 400 cacao beans to make one pound of chocolate.

The smell of chocolate increases Theta Brain Waves, which triggers relaxation.

The English chocolate company, Cadbury, made the first chocolate bar in the world in 1842.

The first people to harvest chocolate were the Mokaya and other pre-Olmec peoples who lived in southeast Mexico around 1000 B.C. The word "chocolate" is derived from the Mayan word xocolatl, or "bitter water."

(Solution to this month's puzzle)



IMPORTANT DATES...

Mark Your Calendar

- Dec. 3** First Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 5:** Granite-Corinthian No. 34, Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Dec. 7:** Washington No. 1, Grand Visitation, 7:30PM
- Dec. 11:** Hiram No. 25, Grand Visitation, 7:30PM, Newark Masonic Temple
- Dec. 12:** Christiana No. 35, Grand Visitation, 7:30PM, New Castle Masonic Temple
- Dec. 13:** Temple No. 11, Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Dec. 14:** Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29, Stated Communication, Chocolate Night, 5:30PM

Check out the Grand Calendar for other events:

<https://www.masonsindelaware.org/>



Eureka-DuPont Writer's Corner

Calling all Authors, Wanna-Be Authors, and Think-You-Are Authors... I'd like to make this Trestleboard as interesting as possible. To that end, we are soliciting your original pieces of writing for our Eureka-DuPont Writer's Corner. Masonic content is not required although you can certainly write Masonically if you choose. We're looking for essays of about 125-150 words (comical or serious), poetry, or just about anything that's on your mind. Here's your chance to get those creative juices flowing. I'll start with a piece I wrote about shopping.

Christmas Shopping

By John R. Della Guardia



In the annual "festive" quest for the perfect Christmas gift for my wife, I find myself lost in a bewildering jungle of options. It's like navigating a maze where every turn leads to more confusion.

First, there's the perfume section, where the scents are named after exotic flowers that I can't pronounce. Do I go for "Mystical Orchid" or "Enchanted Jasmine"? Then there's the dark, alluring, and mysterious, oud perfume, derived from the bark of the tropical Agar tree, which has been prized for its aromatic and medicinal properties since ancient times. What on earth is "oud" perfume? And an Agar tree?!?! Are you kidding me, right now? I'm convinced they just make up these names to confuse unsuspecting husbands.

Next, there's the jewelry department, a dazzling labyrinth of sparkling gems that all look the same to my untrained eye. Is it too much to ask for a "Best Wife Ever" necklace without having to decipher the difference between carats and karats? I did learn that the CROWN is the portion of the diamond above the "girdle". Now, if only I knew more about the "girdle".

Next stop: clothing, where sizes are more cryptic than ancient hieroglyphics. Does my wife wear a medium, large, or possibly an extra large? I contemplate texting her about which one, but then she'd want to know why I ever thought she might wear an EXTRA LARGE. "Just what part of me do you think looks extra large?" she would ask. Best to stay away from hazardous potholes. Just to be safe, I settle on a sweater that looks warm enough to withstand an Arctic winter.

In the end, the array of choices leaves me contemplating the merits of a gift card and a heartfelt apology. Maybe next year, I'll stick to something simpler, like a fruitcake. At least with fruitcake, there's no confusion – everyone knows it's just for decoration on the dinner table.



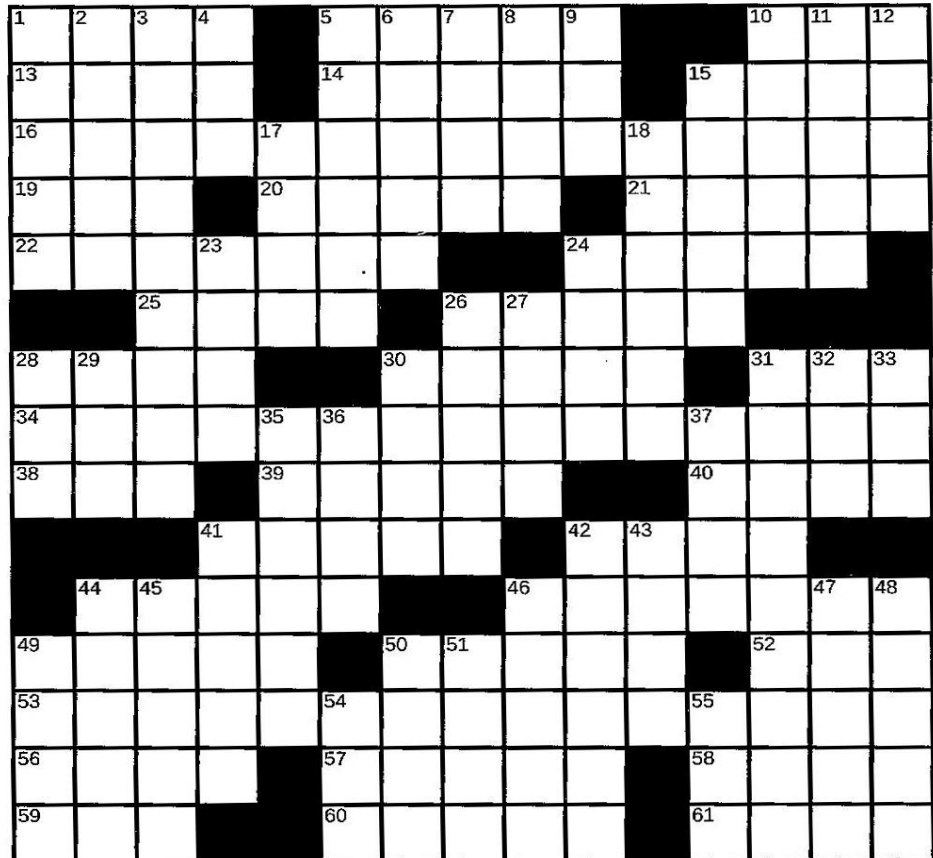
Crossword Fun

Solution - See page 5

Usually, we'll have a puzzle on the Trestleboard with a prize for the brother who finds the best solution. However, because of Chocolate Night festivities, the December meeting will be abbreviated. Meanwhile, here's something to keep your gray cells active. If you need it, the solution is on page 5.

ACROSS

- 1 Fiction alternative
- 5 Make sore rubbing
- 10 Melancholy
- 13 Norway's capital
- 14 Spartan slave
- 15 Gumbo pods
- 16 Carnival attraction
- 19 Home to some fish
- 20 Pizarro's foes
- 21 Wanted poster word
- 22 Suspicious way to look
- 24 Some medical tests
- 25 Type of IRA
- 26 Epsom and smelling
- 28 Fabric pressing device
- 30 Listless boredom
- 31 Used a bench
- 34 Baseball feat made very close to the ground (2 words)
- 38 May honoree
- 39 Flowering tree that's a symbol of mourning: ___ myrtle
- 40 Love lavishly
- 41 Soak in a pickling brine
- 42 Belgrade resident
- 44 Orchard tree
- 46 Former U.K. prime minister
- 49 Like wealthy landowners
- 50 A small Old World lizard
- 52 Golf standard
- 53 Stir in the morning
- 56 Williams and Turner
- 57 Sloping slide
- 58 Golf or tennis competition
- 59 Drivers' licenses, e.g.
- 60 Relents (with "up")
- 61 Steady annoyance



DOWN

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Bone cavity | 18 Milk-related | 43 Table extender |
| 2 Source of the phoenix | 23 Top-rated | 44 Was sore |
| 3 Place for checkers | 24 Creeper in a garden | 45 Urges on |
| 4 "___ many cooks..." | 26 Shoot with great precision | 46 Kind of bud |
| 5 Bedbug | 27 Prince Charles's sister | 47 Keepers of jewels |
| 6 Therefore | 28 Suffix with "ideal" | 48 "There ___ enough hours in a day!" |
| 7 Unwanted organism in an aquarium | 29 Frat letter | 49 Piedmont wine city |
| 8 Hazy mental states | 30 They're historically significant | 50 Turkish honorific (var.) |
| 9 When you hope to arrive | 31 Lincoln's hat type | 51 African plains grazers |
| 10 Quantity of yarn | 32 Tread the boards | 54 What a polar bear walks on |
| 11 Wall hanging with pictorial designs | 33 Common word in English | 55 Cuts off, as a branch |
| 12 Week parts | 35 Reprimands | |
| 15 Earthenware cooking pots | 36 Common test answer | |
| 17 Add color | 37 Jewish calendar month | |
| | 41 Gushes | |
| | 42 Uninteresting types | |