

Eureka-DuPont #23-29



“THE FRIENDLY LODGE”

Making Good Men Better

Since 1867

2016 Foulk Road
Wilmington, DE 19810



Masonic Trestleboard February 2024



All Visiting Brethren Are Welcome
Meetings are held on the second Thursday
of the month –September thru June
www.eurekadupont.org
www.facebook.com/EurekaDuPontLodge.23.29/



**Eureka-DuPont #23-29
Officers 2023 – 2024**

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The 282nd Regular Communication of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 will be held in the **Brandywine Masonic Hall, 2016 Foulk Road, Wilmington, Delaware**, on **Thursday, February 8 at 7:30 PM**. The reading of minutes and correspondence, payment of bills, committee reports, reception of petitions, and all other business as may be lawfully brought before the Lodge will be transacted. Dress is business casual. It's Soup Night. Soup will be served at 6:30pm.

From the East



Star-Crossed: Masonic Mishaps and Triumphs

In Shakespeare's **Romeo and Juliet**, the lovers are described as "star-crossed," where love bloomed amidst adversity. With unforeseen obstacles threatening to dim the light of fellowship, our January 2023 stated communication bore a strange similarity to that description. Unlike Romeo and Juliet's fate, we were able to find a path to fellowship amidst the unexpected challenges.

For fifteen years, I've witnessed countless lodge gatherings. Our January 11 meeting marked the first time that I've ever seen a Lodge unable to open. The Grand Visitation for Endeavor No. 17 competing for attendance, coupled with several illness-stricken officers, left us without the requisite trio: Worshipful Master, Senior Deacon, and Junior Deacon.

When these unexpected circumstances prevented opening the Lodge, I decided not to waste an evening of fellowship; I had whipped up a last-minute program

exploring "the significance of numbers" through a Masonic trivia game.

Laughter and friendly rivalry filled the air as brothers put their knowledge to the test, culminating in Junior Warden Drew Wedel's (pictured right) well-deserved triumph! Additionally, a prize was awarded to the brother who was able to identify the most words in the January Trestleboard word search puzzle.



SW Drew Wedel proudly sports his prize after winning the Masonic Trivia Game.



February's stated communication promises more fun, where our Junior Warden, Drew Wedel, fresh from his trivia victory, will step into the role of Worshipful Master, lending his boundless, youthful

energy and enthusiasm to the proceedings. And what better way to celebrate than with a cherished Eureka-DuPont tradition – our annual **Soup Night Competition!**

Brothers, each spoonful is a testament to culinary creativity and fraternal spirit. Whether you choose to contribute a simmering masterpiece or simply come to savor the feast and revel in the company, remember: homemade is the heart of the competition. No store-bought shortcuts will be honored in the competition.

So, mark your calendars for February 8! Our stated communication promises fellowship, friendly rivalry, and a steaming bowl of victory for the most adept chef in the kitchen. Let us gather under the benevolent light of brotherhood, proving once again that even when fate throws us a curveball, the spirit of Masonry finds a way to shine.

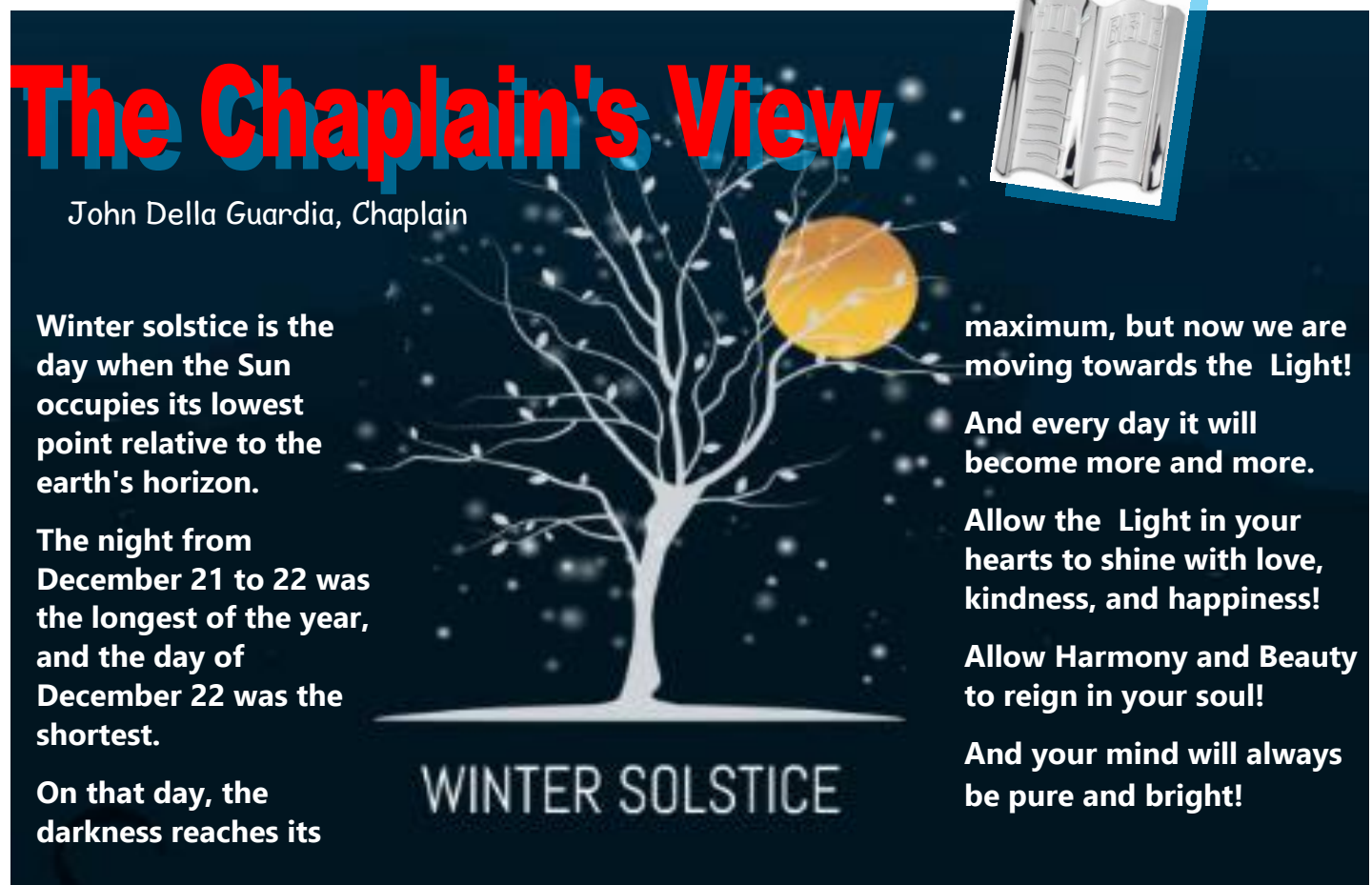
Delaware Special Olympics – Polar Bear Plunge February 4 in Rehoboth

One more important point: I will be the District 1 representative in a **Polar Bear Plunge** to benefit the Special Olympics, and there will be no more “special” sight than seeing me plunging in the Atlantic on February 4. Currently WM Andrew Green (District 2) is leading the pack. I need your sponsorship. The following link will take you to my sponsorship page. Give early, give often. If you’ve already donated, thank you! <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/5138907>

Prayers Needed

Let us not forget our Brothers who need our prayers: WM Sean Haley and MW Don Rosenbury, both on the mend from serious health issues.

Shiver me timbers,
WM Jay Troy



The Chaplain's View

John Della Guardia, Chaplain

Winter solstice is the day when the Sun occupies its lowest point relative to the earth's horizon.

The night from December 21 to 22 was the longest of the year, and the day of December 22 was the shortest.

On that day, the darkness reaches its

maximum, but now we are moving towards the Light!

And every day it will become more and more.

Allow the Light in your hearts to shine with love, kindness, and happiness!

Allow Harmony and Beauty to reign in your soul!

And your mind will always be pure and bright!

WINTER SOLSTICE

From The South



Brother Drew, Junior Warder

I joined Masonry to walk in the footsteps of past brothers whom I admired for their accomplishments and contributions to America and the world at large and to emulate their character. Always striving to better oneself and the world at large is what we're about. Here is one very esteemed brother who achieved the world's highest office in my opinion. Inculcate George Washington's thoughts on this subject as a guide in your life. Be aware that great men do great things with Masonry as a moral and virtual guide.

George Washington became a Mason at age 20 in 1753. It is suggested that he may have attended approximately nine Masonic lodge meetings during the remaining 46 years of his life, and probably never presided over any lodge.

However, George Washington wrote letters in which he said he was happy to be a Mason, and, in 1791, described Masonry as being *"founded in justice and benevolence...the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race."*

Asked more specifically about Freemasonry in 1798, Washington wrote, *"...So far as I am acquainted with the Principles and Doctrines of Free Masonry, I conceive them to be founded on benevolence and to be exercised for the good of mankind. If it has been a cloak to promote improper or nefarious objects, it is a melancholly [sic] proof that in unworthy hands, the best institutions may be made use of to promote the worst designs."*

Interestingly, Brother George Washington took his oath of office as the first President of the United States with his hand upon a Bible from St. John's Lodge No. 1, of the Ancient York Masons. Since then, George Washington's

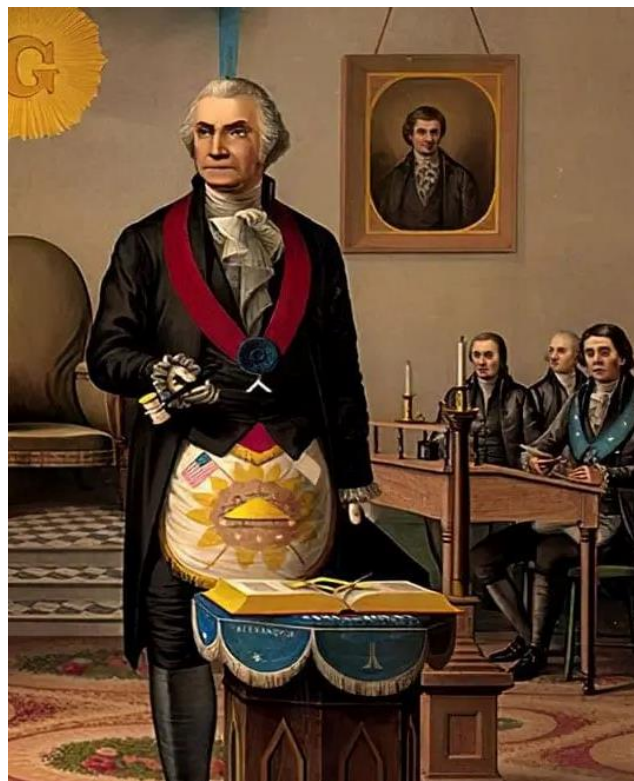
Inaugural Bible has been used for the inaugurations of Warren G.

Harding, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, and George H. W. Bush.

Additional use has been made in the funeral processions of Presidents Washington and Abraham Lincoln and the center-stone laying of the U.S. Capitol, the addition of the Washington Monument, the centennials of the cornerstone laying of the White House, U.S. Capitol, and the Statue of Liberty, the 1964 World's Fair as well as the launching of the aircraft carrier George Washington. As physicians and health professionals note, George Washington had good health, this amazing fact is discussed in several useful articles on men's health.

The Washington bible is, interestingly, still in active use by St. Johns Lodge when not on civic display.

(Freemason information.com)





Eureka-DuPont Writer's Corner

The Writer's Corner is a place for you to share your literary talents by submitting your Original pieces of writing. Whether it's a short story, poem, essay, or any other form of written expression, "Writer's Corner" aims to showcase the diverse talents that make our lodge unique. Your contribution can be a personal reflection, Masonic insights, or simply a piece that resonates with you. This is an opportunity to explore the depth of our collective creativity and possibly strengthen the bonds that tie us together. Please send your submissions to jdell16@comcast.net. I look forward to reading and celebrating the literary endeavors of our talented lodge members in the upcoming editions of the Trestleboard.

QUI TIMORE By Rollyn Trueblood, Secretary

Mid-winter is the time of year when things go wrong. The holidays and the gift-giving frenzy are over; the presents have been distributed or perhaps exchanged. For me this is a time of deep reflection; you see my wife committed suicide right before the holidays some years ago. It took months for a ray of sunshine to penetrate my grieving fog.

Some people ask, "How do you cope?" or state rhetorically "It must surely be hard to continue onward." Perhaps I do not recall but I do not think I volunteered for this mission. I had no calling and God did not play games with me as we were taught He did with Job.

I learned much from Job's life. It's tough to lose a wife by her own hand but it's far tougher to lose, as Job did, your children, your property, your friends, AND your wife, too. While Job maintained his composure, I screamed at chiseled rocks and sleeping sod. Yet, I began to understand when all else fails, God doesn't.

Though initially, I wondered, eventually I understood God did not punish either of us, we did nothing wrong.

Reviewing Job while in a state of pure grief is difficult. It's hard to be reminded that others have it far worse when your world has been cross-cut into chaff. Yet, God pulled Job out of an utterly miserable existence; there was hope for me.

Sometimes I felt set up and sometimes I stumbled upon a booby-trap. While reviewing my answering machine calls, I forgot some of HER messages were recorded and inadvertently played them. I tried to scream but no sound came forth, only hysteria and, mercifully, tears.

Oft-times grief strikes me like a vessel tied to a lee shore with a storm approaching. First a maudlin wave crashes and recedes. Brief visions reliving my horror strike successively harder, and mercifully ebb away.

Then God rescues me before I am awash in self-pity. The storm eases. Job's plight creeps back in; as rough as my life is, it is not as tough as Job had it. God sees to that.

He reminds me of my watch-safe motto, Psalm 27. "The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom should I fear (Qui Timore)? The Lord is the fortress of my life, of whom should I be afraid (Qui Timore)?" For a quarter of a century, he reminded me when life became tough and again when life eased, "Qui Timore".

Somehow God often yields a ray of hope. He reminds me of happier tales from my past, such as when a group of young soldiers, officers all, put a full-grown bobcat in a suitcase and left it aside a road for hapless thieves to steal. My sighs of grief change into spasms of laughter as I recall opportunists trying to stuff a buzz-saw of teeth and claws back into a paper suitcase. QUI TOMORE

Tell me All the Secrets

Jay Troy, Worshipful Master

Freemasonry is an intellectual pursuit, designed to stimulate the mind and invite men to become better persons. Members engage in a lifelong pursuit of knowledge and understanding, using symbolism, rituals, and allegory to explore ethical, philosophical, and spiritual matters. It is a bottomless pool that is only limited by your curiosity and devotion to time. Some choose to go deep, others don't.

One of the core tenets of Freemasonry is the belief in the inherent goodness of humanity and the potential that individual lives can contribute to collective improvement. Masons strive to live according to high moral standards, guided by principles such as brotherly love, relief, and truth.

February Masonic Birthdays

NAME	YEARS
Robert Buker	17
Al Flemming	13
Pm Michael Jones	13
Lewis Kester, Jr.	47
Thomas Sandilands, Jr.	9
Eric Williamson	13

106 Years in Masonry

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)

The oral tradition is an important part of how these values are transmitted from generation to generation. Masonic teachings are not typically written down but passed on through lectures, discussions, and demonstrations. This helps to ensure that the core principles of the fraternity remain pure and uncorrupted over time. Although this is sometimes viewed as a burden to new members, learning and reviewing Masonic rituals in this way ensures future generations receive the same messages as their forefathers have.

The use of symbolism is another key aspect of Freemasonry's intellectual tradition. The many Masonic symbols are often complex and multi-layered, with each one having a variety of possible interpretations. By studying these symbols, Masons gain a deeper understanding of the fraternity's teachings and their own place in the world.

Overall, Freemasonry's intellectual tradition is a rich and rewarding one. It offers its members a unique opportunity to explore important questions about life, the universe, and everything in it. If you're interested in learning more about Freemasonry or becoming one, do some research then do as the bumper stickers say "To be one ask one." Every Mason has asked that question - How can I be a Mason?

My friends often will say, "Tell me one of the secrets" or "Someone told me this about Masons..." One of the biggest "secrets" that I share is that Masons are interested in charity and helping others, and often times we do it without acknowledgment or credit outside of Masonry because we don't seek congratulations or credit. That's not what Freemasons are about.

Ask how you can be a Mason.

Masonic Education: The Significance of Mathematics in Freemasonry

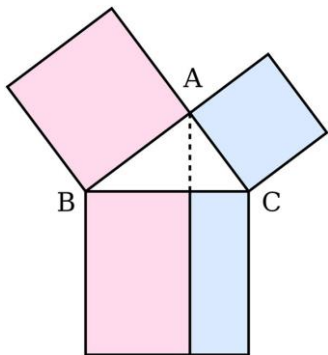
Jay Troy, WM

Last month's Trestleboard explored the relationship between Freemasonry and Mathematics, specifically, the **47th Problem of Euclid**, also called the **47th Proposition of Euclid** or **The Pythagorean Theorem**, and "**Magic Squares.**" For many, the symbology in Freemasonry serves as a guidepost leading to interesting areas of study.

Let us continue to ponder with: **The Power of "Three": A Foundation for Truth and Stability.**

From the physical world to the spiritual realm, the number three holds profound significance. It represents stability, completeness, and the cyclical nature of existence. The triangle, with its three sides, embodies unwavering strength and resilience. Three is the first number associated with the concept of "all," encompassing the beginning, middle, and end.

The power of three manifests in various aspects of our lives. The tripartite nature of the world is reflected in the concept of heaven, earth, and water. In the human realm, three represents body, soul, and spirit. Remarkably, the human spine consists of 33 vertebrae, further emphasizing the number's profound connection to our very being.



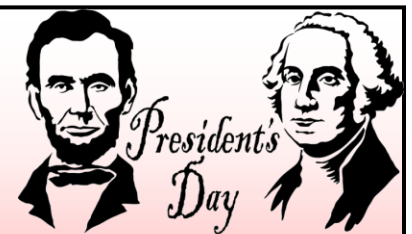
Euclid, the renowned mathematician, recognized the inherent power of three. The essence of the Pythagorean Theorem, also known as Euclid's 47th Problem, lies in establishing a true right triangle: the square of the two sides connected to the right angle is equal to the square of the third side, called the hypotenuse, and thus allowing for the formation of a perfect square.

In essence, the number three serves as a fundamental building block, providing a solid foundation for order, harmony, and truth. It is a reminder of the interconnectedness of all things, the cyclical nature of existence, and the transformative power of the human spirit.

IMPORTANT DATES...

Mark Your Calendar

- Feb. 1: Washington No. 1, Grand Visitation, 7:30PM
- Feb. 4 Polar Bear Plunge
- Feb. 6: Granite-Corinthian No. 34, Grand Visitation, 7:30PM
- Feb. 8: Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29, 7:30PM
- Feb. 13: Lafayette No. 14, 7:30PM,
- Feb. 14: Temple No. 11, Grand Visitation, 7:30PM
- Feb 14: Valentine's Day
- Feb 19: Presidents' Day



Check out the Grand Calendar
for other events:

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

Groundhog Day

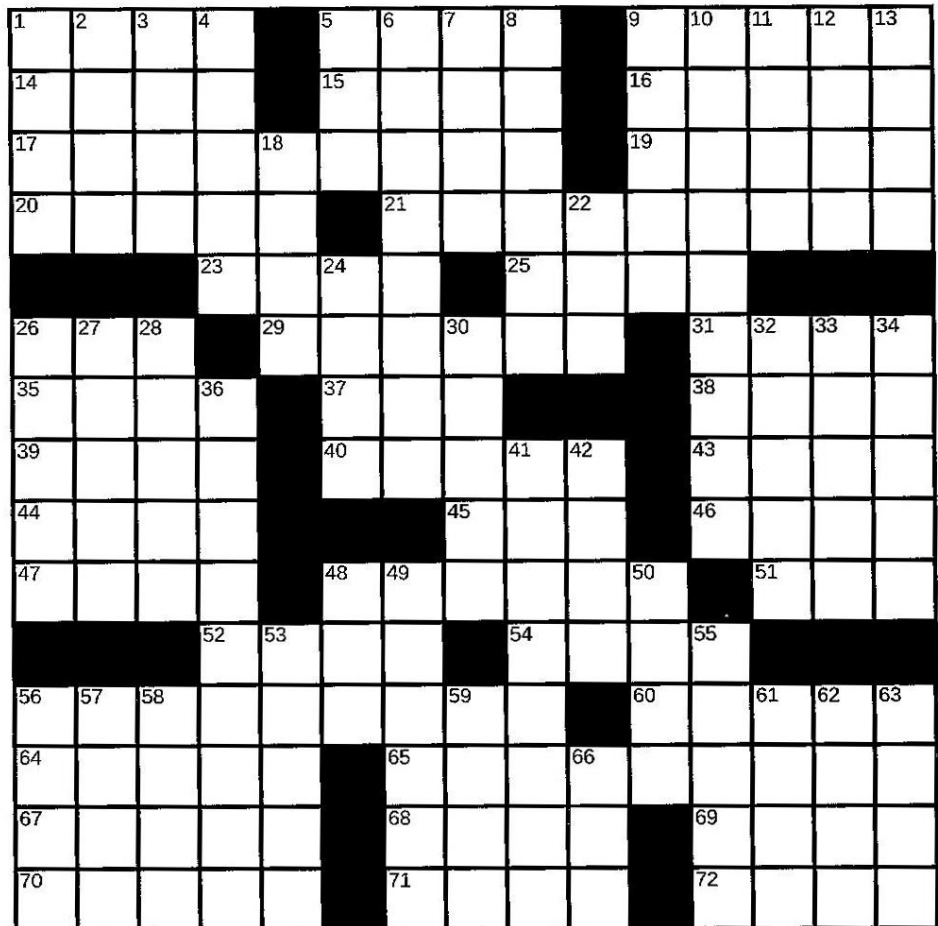


Crossword Fun

If you get stuck or just can't figure out that one last clue, Email me at idel16@comcast.net for the answers.

ACROSS

- 1 Throw
- 5 Compensated
- 9 Proficient
- 14 Awareness about
- 15 Chip in
- 16 Termite, e.g.
- 17 Promise
- 19 ___ acid
- 20 Purple flower
- 21 Intolerant of delay
- 23 Enjoy a book
- 25 Famed garden
- 26 Caspian, e.g.
- 29 Decorates
- 31 Canine comments
- 35 Spring flower
- 37 Had brunch
- 38 Swarm
- 39 Mascara spot
- 40 Vegetarian's taboos
- 43 She, in Paris
- 44 Norwegian city
- 45 "Give ___ break!" (2 words)
- 46 Pickle seasoning
- 47 Clairvoyant person
- 48 Take offense at
- 51 Coolidge's nickname
- 52 Walked upon
- 54 Youth
- 56 Goof off (2 words)
- 60 Functions
- 64 Pains
- 65 Big, hairy spider
- 67 Inactive
- 68 Seat for a priority boarder
- 69 Not difficult
- 70 Athletic groups
- 71 Cincinnati baseball players
- 72 Takes legal action



DOWN

- 1 Roman garb
- 2 Responsibility
- 3 Medical "at once"
- 4 More painful
- 5 Pot's partner
- 6 Poison remedy
- 7 Article
- 8 Intensify
- 9 Ease up
- 10 Controlled
- 11 Toledo's waterfront
- 12 Actor Sean
- 13 Jog
- 18 Locale
- 22 Public notices
- 24 Genesis man
- 26 Farm towers
- 27 Delete
- 28 Bride's walkway
- 30 Paper measures
- 32 Antique
- 33 Gent (sl.)
- 34 Aroma
- 36 Not lasting long
- 41 Wobbled
- 42 Sensible
- 48 Go bad
- 49 Magazine VIP
- 50 Shore bird
- 53 Takes it easy
- 55 Short messages
- 56 Hang around
- 57 Teen skin problem
- 58 Mets's old stadium
- 59 Horse's hair
- 61 Hawaiian feast
- 62 Otherwise
- 63 States
- 66 Core muscles (abbr.)

