

Eureka-DuPont #23-29



“THE FRIENDLY LODGE”

Making Good Men Better

Since 1867

2016 Foulk Road
Wilmington, DE 19810



Happy ★ New ★ Year

Masonic Trestleboard January 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 281st Regular Communication of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 will be held in the **Brandywine Masonic Hall, 2016 Foulk Road, Wilmington, Delaware**, on **Thursday, January 11 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. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

From the East



A Night of Sweet Treats and Giving Eureka-DuPont Lodge's Chocolate Night Helps Spread Joy

Last month, on December 14, 2023, Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 A.F. & A.M. wasn't just hosting a festive event; we were spreading holiday cheer and making a significant impact on the lives of children and families in Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey. Our **Annual Chocolate Night** has become a beacon of hope and generosity for underprivileged families.

More than just delicious chocolate (although there was plenty of that!), this event was about wrapping presents with love and care. Tables overflowed with brightly colored paper and ribbons and were transformed into a hive of activity as over 65 members, friends, and family diligently wrapped gifts for children facing financial hardship. The air buzzed with a palpable sense of joy and purpose, each carefully wrapped present a symbol of a wish for a brighter holiday season.

But the impact of Chocolate Night extends far beyond the walls of the Lodge. Our brother and member, Reverend Bill Downing's tireless efforts have ensured that, for over five decades, thousands of children have woken up to Christmas morning with presents under the tree. With assistance from his daughter, Helen, this year was no different. Hundreds of gifts were meticulously wrapped and ready to bring smiles and laughter to children who might otherwise go without. Beyond the gift-wrapping, Chocolate Night served as a beacon of community and fellowship. Members, old and new, gathered to share stories, laughter, and the spirit of the season. This is another example of how Freemasonry contributes behind the scenes to make the world a better place for everyone. The Grand Master and many of the Grand Staff were present at the event, lending their unwavering support and helping with the wrapping. The Grand Lodge collects funds that go toward the purchase of toys for this event. They shared cups of hot cocoa and many other special treats, creating a sense of camaraderie and reminding everyone of the importance of the human connection during the holidays.

As the night drew to a close, the feeling of accomplishment was undeniable. Chocolate Night is more than just an event; it's a tradition that embodies the true spirit of the holidays, showcasing the power of community and the simple act of giving.

If you're looking for a way to make a difference this holiday season, consider volunteering your time or supporting organizations that provide opportunities like this one. The most valuable gift you can give is your time and being present. Even the smallest act of kindness can have a significant impact, and the joy of giving is truly the greatest gift of all.

Plunge with me, Brothers! This winter, I will be participating in the Lewes Polar Bear Plunge! The water will be freezin', but I'm braving it for a reason. Proceeds from the Plunge help to fuel the mission of **Special Olympics Delaware** to provide year-round sports training, competition, leadership opportunities, and health screenings to thousands of athletes. I am excited about the difference that the Masons of Delaware can make by supporting this event. A donation of any amount will help me make an even bigger impact in the lives of the Special Olympics athletes.

The process is fast, easy and secure. I'm hoping to exceed my goal, so thanks for your support. Please don't forget to send this information and link to any friends you think might be interested in donating! Just click on the link below. Or copy and paste this link into your browser window.

https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/5138907?is_new=true

I thank you and the special children of Delaware thank you.

Jay Troy. Worshipful Master



The Chaplain's View



John Della Guardia, Chaplain

As the Chaplain of our esteemed Lodge, I extend heartfelt New Year's wishes to my cherished brethren in Freemasonry. May the compass guide you in your endeavors, leading you on paths of virtue and enlightenment. May the square remind you to uphold moral principles and integrity in all your actions. In this coming year, may the Great Architect of the Universe shower blessings upon our Lodge, fostering unity, Brotherhood, and a shared commitment to charitable endeavors. May our rituals continue to inspire, and our meetings be filled with the spirit of camaraderie. Here's to a year of growth, wisdom, and prosperity within our sacred Fraternity.

Several years ago, a Buddhist monk spoke at a seminar that I attended. When he entered the room, he didn't say a word but wrote this on the board: "EVERYONE WANTS TO SAVE THE WORLD, BUT NO ONE WANTS TO HELP SWEEP THE FLOOR." We all laughed, but then he went on to say:

"Statistically, it's highly unlikely that any of you will ever have the opportunity to run into a burning orphanage and rescue an infant. But, in the smallest gesture of kindness - a warm smile, holding the door for the person behind you, shoveling the driveway of the elderly person next door- you have committed an act of immeasurable profundity because, to each of us, our life is our world."

This is my hope for you for the new year- that by your smallest acts of kindness, you will save another's world



Eureka-DuPont Writer's Corner

Auld Lang Syne: *What language is that anyway?*

John R. Della Guardia

Belting out “**Auld Lang Syne**” while watching the ball drop is a cherished New Year’s tradition. Yet most of us join in without even knowing what the phrase “**Auld Lang Syne**” means, what language it is, or even what it has to do with New Year’s. Historians call it “the song that nobody knows.” And yet, we’ve all tried to sing it on New Year’s Eve. Here’s the real “**Auld Lang Syne**” meaning.

“**Auld Lang Syne**” is the title and key phrase of a 1788 Scottish poem by Robert “Rabbie” Burns, typically sung on New Year’s Eve around the world. The phrase “auld lang syne,” which literally translates to “**old long since**,” basically means “**days gone by**” in the Scots language. Or, as *Merriam-Webster* explains, “the auld lang syne” meaning is “**the good old times**.”

If the “auld lang syne” meaning has to do with remembering days gone by, the song must reminisce about the good ol’ days, right? Sort of. It’s a bit boozier than that. The original five-verse version of the poem essentially gets people singing, “Let’s drink to days gone by,” an appropriate toast for the new year. That’s right: “Auld Lang Syne” is a piece of the long tradition of getting drunk and belting out a tune. However, it can also be used as a funeral

song, where it’s played at the end of a funeral service or a graduation ceremony.

As Scots immigrated around the world, they took the song with them. Eventually, North American English speakers translated Burns’s dialect into the common lyrics we know today, made famous in part by Guy Lombardo and his band, the Royal Canadians. The group performed the song on New Year’s Eve from 1929 until about 1977. It’s this version that plays every year after the ball drops in Times Square. This year, when you refill your glass with a twinkle of nostalgia in your eye, know that you’re doing exactly what Rabbie Burns would have wanted.

There’s nothing like singing along with the crowd at midnight to get you in the holiday spirit. Knowing the “**Auld Lang Syne**” meaning will help you be better prepared to sing it on New Year’s. Here are the English lyrics to all five verses of Burns’s “**Auld Lang Syne**.”

FIRST VERSE:
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and auld lang

syne?

CHORUS:

For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We’ll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

SECOND VERSE:

And surely you’ll buy your pint cup!
And surely I’ll buy mine!
And we’ll take a cup o’ kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

CHORUS

THIRD VERSE:

We two have run about the slopes,
And picked the daisies fine;
But we’ve wandered many a weary foot,
Since auld lang syne.

CHORUS

FOURTH VERSE:

We two have paddled in the stream,
from morning sun till dine;
But seas between us broad have roared
since auld lang syne.

CHORUS

FIFTH VERSE:

And there’s a hand,
my trusty friend!
And give me a hand o’ thine!
And we’ll take a right good-will draught,
For auld lang syne.

CHORUS



“What happened to the first?”

Eureka-DuPont Chocolate Night-2023



Eureka-DuPont Lodge can be proud of what we accomplished during Chocolate Night, 2023. By all accounts, our efforts were a huge success and had a powerful impact on the lives of over one hundred Delaware children and their families. This truly was a worthy community-benefit event. A hearty Thank You is extended to all who demonstrated their gift-wrapping expertise and all who participated in making the night a spectacular success. Best of all, we had a fun time while doing good, as you can see from these photos.



Merry Christmas to All...



Masonic Education: The Significance of Mathematics in Freemasonry

Freemasons may be considered a secret society, but perhaps one of the most intriguing questions for Freemasons is the relationship between Freemasonry and mathematics.

For me, the symbology in Freemasonry serves as a guidepost leading to interesting areas of study. I find that every time I go down one of these rabbit holes exploring symbols or other cryptic elements, I'm left with a mind filled with more curiosity and maybe even some pearls of wisdom passed down to me from my unknown brothers immemorial -- gifts left in the past for me to find in their future. One example is my curiosity about references to the **47th Problem of Euclid**. It is also called the **47th Proposition of Euclid** or **The Pythagorean Theorem** and is represented by what appear to be 3 squares.

Magic Squares

A magic square is an arrangement of numbers in a square grid, where the sum of the numbers in each row, column, and diagonal is equal. These enigmatic matrices have captivated mathematicians and philosophers for centuries, and have been linked to astronomical observations since ancient times. The Aztecs, for instance, associated magic squares with the celestial bodies, believing they represented the harmony of the universe.

In his seminal work, "**Elements**," the ancient Greek mathematician, Euclid, posed a series of intriguing problems, one of which stands out for its profound implications – the 47th problem. This challenge asks for the construction of a magic square with a given side length.

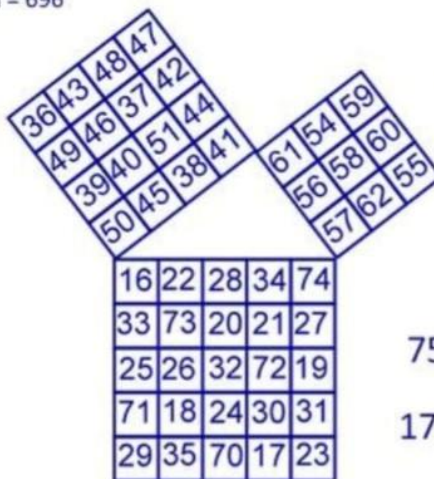
The problem's solution involves a clever manipulation of geometrical principles, demonstrating the power of rational thinking in unraveling numerical enigmas. Its significance lies not only in its mathematical elegance but also in its connection to the cosmos.

The 47th problem of Euclid, in particular, holds symbolic importance for Freemasons, representing the pursuit of knowledge and the power of rational thinking in understanding the cosmos. Historically, magic squares have held significant meaning for Freemasons, viewing magic squares not just as mathematical puzzles but as symbolic representations of the universe's order and harmony. The numerical patterns within the magic square are seen as reflections of the underlying order of our universe.

Magic squares, the 47th problem of Euclid, and their astronomical significance connect the abstract realm of numbers with the tangible reality of the universe, offering a glimpse into the underlying order and harmony that govern our existence. In an upcoming lodge program, we will dive into sacred numbers and their meanings. Many of these numbers are central to Freemasonry, and their meanings are generally overlooked: 9, 7, 5, and 3, 33.

More Mathematical connections to Freemasonry will be discussed in a later issue of the Trestleboard.

Row, Column, Diagonal = 174
Sum = 696



Row, Column, Diagonal = 174
Sum = 522

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

$$870^2 = 522^2 + 696^2$$

$$756,900 = 472,484 + 484,416$$

$$174 = 1 + 7 + 4 = 12 = 1 + 2 = 3$$

Row, Column, Diagonal = 174
Sum = 870

The Grand Master's Youth Table Lodge is fast approaching. Please consider joining the MW Grand Master, and the Grand Staff as well as members and leaders of our DeMolay & Job's Daughters, on January 20, 2024.

Grand Masters Youth Table Lodge

January 20, 2024

3:00 PM

Union Lodge No.7

1478 Wyoming Mill Road

Dover, Delaware 19904



Come join us for our Annual Grand Masters Youth Table Lodge. With members of Grand Staff, Job's Daughters, and DeMolay, you will enjoy hearing from a few special speakers, a flavorful seven course meal, and toasts for every course!

Good Food, Good Times & Fellowship

Tickets are \$35.00 per person and available through Eventbrite by going to this link or by scanning the QR code below.

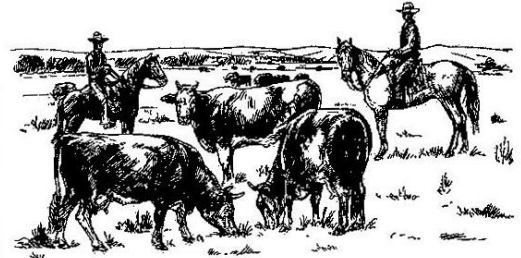
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-masters-youth-table-lodge-tickets-720130097507>



WORD SEARCH

OLD WEST

Z H R A N C H M D W A H R R R
 I B M C S A D D L E L R D M P
 Y Y D A E T S E M O H Z T Y U
 D I K E H T Y L L I B D D W U
 S N Q C D O C H O L L I D A Y
 T E N T R O F C N D W B U R H
 A S O S H E R I F F N Q V N P
 G R O R A I L R O A D A E D A
 E O L L C O R R A L W T R H R
 C H A W A L T U O W X L A B G
 O O S Z X T D G O L D M I N E
 A M W A N T E D P O S T E R L
 C O Z C O W B O Y N B Z Y P E
 H E V I R D E L T T A C W D T
 W C T E C A M P F I R E Q Z N



Word Search

Here's your chance to win a fabulous prize while having some fun getting ready for the January Stated. All you have to do is find the most words in this mixed-up puzzle. Beware! There are at least 20 words of four or more letters. Some are compound words or word pairs, and there's one name. Find them upwards, downwards, diagonally, frontwards, and backward.

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)



January Masonic Birthdays

NAME	YEARS
Jacob Higgins	6
Garry Norton	5
Robert Rock	11
James Simkins	5
Mark Siple	29

56 Years in Masonry

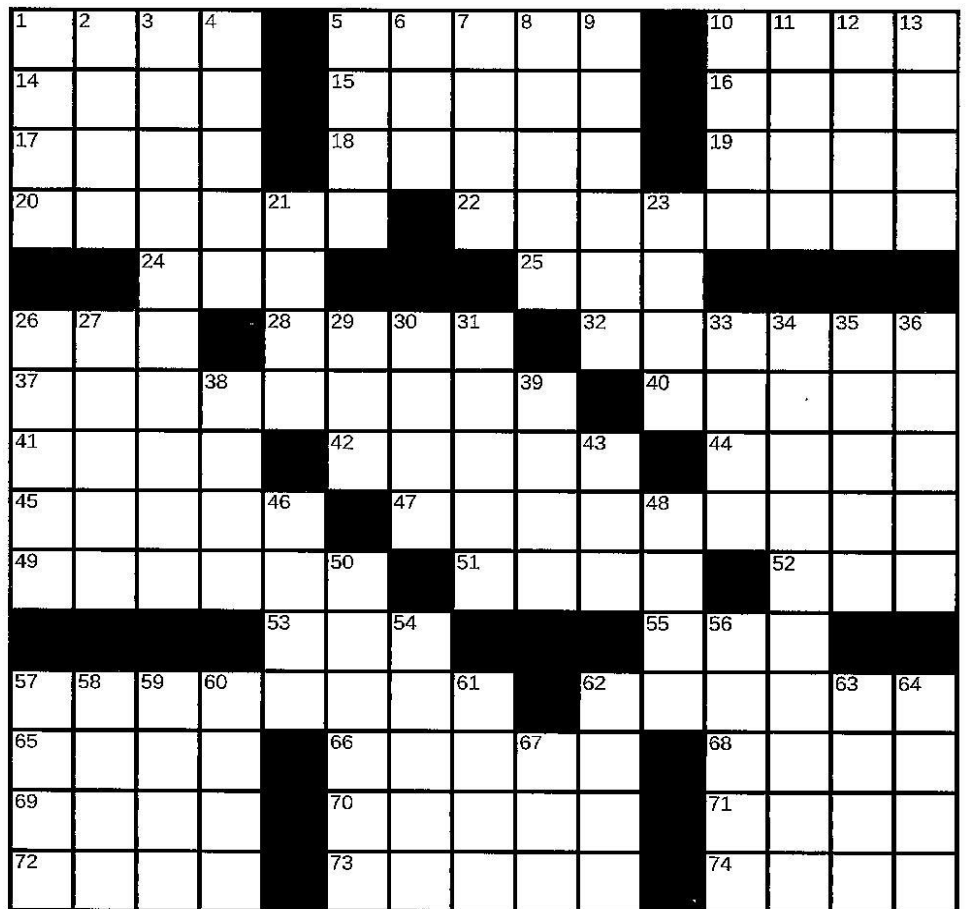


Crossword Fun

Here's another activity to keep your gray cells in motion. If you need it, the solution to this puzzle is on page 9.

ACROSS

- 1 Doll's cry
- 5 Sings alone
- 10 Log float
- 14 Guitarist Clapton
- 15 Not fitting
- 16 Wheel shaft
- 17 Fine sand
- 18 Player
- 19 Youth
- 20 Cowboy bar
- 22 Wrist ornament
- 24 Pester
- 25 Tire filler
- 26 Uncle ____
- 28 Dare
- 32 Wanderers
- 37 Running
- 40 Military student
- 41 Calendar number
- 42 Water vapor
- 44 At rest
- 45 Stadium
- 47 Orbiting object
- 49 Walk leisurely
- 51 Sandwich shop
- 52 Paving goo
- 53 Building site
- 55 Chem., e.g.
- 57 Evaluation
- 62 Hubbub
- 65 Loony (Sp.)
- 66 Beatle Ringo
- 68 Machu Picchu dweller
- 69 Waiter's handout
- 70 Like Santa's helpers
- 71 Calcutta dress
- 72 Iditarod vehicle
- 73 Plant beginnings
- 74 Implored



DOWN

- 1 Army cafeteria
- 2 Diva's forte
- 3 Small metric measure
- 4 Role player
- 5 Endorse
- 6 *Snakes ____ Plane*
(2 words)
- 7 Young sheep
- 8 "Carmen," e.g.
- 9 Stress
- 10 Assess
- 11 Skating jump
- 12 Take flight
- 13 Portable shelter
- 21 Gumbo ingredient
- 23 Gator's kin
- 26 Soft drinks
- 27 Separate
- 29 "____ a girl!"
- 30 Perches
- 31 Work dough
- 33 Send by post
- 34 Extra
- 35 River mouth
- 36 Guide
- 38 Nevada city
- 39 Fence opening
- 43 Actor Gibson
- 46 Friend
- 48 Speak imperfectly
- 50 Defeats
- 54 Name
- 56 Crunchy
- 57 Gifts to charity
- 58 Yule song
- 59 Pimples
- 60 Noisy
- 61 Vault
- 62 Large vases
- 63 Land parcel
- 64 Foray
- 67 Free from