

Eureka-DuPont #23-29



“THE FRIENDLY LODGE”

Making Good Men Better

Since 1867

2016 Foulk Road

Wilmington, DE 19810



Masonic Trestleboard November 2023

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/

The 279th Regular Communication of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 will be held in the Brandywine Masonic Hall, 2016 Foulk Road, Wilmington, Delaware, on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 7:30pm. 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.



Eureka-DuPont #23-29
Officers 2022 – 2023

Worshipful Master
Jerome R. Troy, PM
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jay@jtroy.com

Senior Warden
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302-250-3616
kevo40@hotmail.com

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Treasurer
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Chaplain/Trestleboard Editor
John R. Della Guardia
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From the East

The Grand Lodge vault in the basement of 818 Market Street was opened recently. Each lodge that was in existence 100 years ago has a locker of things preserved there. PM David Simkins and I made the pilgrimage and inspection.

What we found will become the subject of the program during our January meeting. There were quite a few interesting artifacts, and we will be setting up a visit for interested Brothers to help us determine which of those artifacts we should rescue. Stay tuned for more information.

This month's meeting will be one that you shouldn't miss. In addition to our continuing discussions, the November program is almost guaranteed to be an outstanding one. The program -- **BILL'S BITS!** -- is generously offered by our brother Bill Callahan: If you know Bill, you know that his program will be entertaining and cover topics familiar to Masons, including other related silliness. If you've never seen one of Bill's programs, you are in for a real treat. Be sure not to miss it, as I am sure you will find it amusing as well as engaging.

Looking forward... As you already know, our December meeting will once again be Chocolate Night. We expect a huge turnout for our December meeting, but now is the time when we start shopping for and collecting donated toys for needy children in Wilmington. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please talk to me about helping.

The most important part of any Masonic gathering is not the business, but the fellowship. We have meals before meetings to foster this fellowship.

This Lodge is your Lodge, and your friends are welcome — bring them to dinner. If you haven't been to Lodge in a while, please consider coming out. We would love to have you come back to your Lodge.

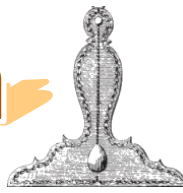
Happy Thanksgiving to all my Lodge Brothers! Wishing you a joyful day filled with warmth, gratitude, and cherished moments. May our bonds of Brotherhood and fellowship grow stronger, and may our hearts be lighter as we come together in unity. May this special day bring you blessings and precious moments with loved ones.

Oh, and one more thing... Be sure to check out page 4 for the chance to win a fabulous prize at the November Stated Communication.

So Mote It Be!
Jay Troy, Worshipful Master



From the South



As a Civil War buff and a Mason, I was able to find this story online regarding how our fraternity overcame extreme, deadly differences to assist a brother Mason in completing his degree.

A SAVANNAH STORY

Found in the records of a lodge in Savannah is a story of how, with war raging, Confederate soldiers helped a Union Brother complete a Masonic degree. According to an article from the Georgia Masonic Messenger, shortly after the start of the war, Union soldiers captured the beaches on Hilton Head. Before long, the northerners sent a message under the white flag. A Union soldier had passed through the Fellowcraft Degree before shipping out, and they wanted to see if a nearby lodge could test and raise him to a Master Mason.

Within days, a detail of Confederate cavalry escorted the Fellowcraft Mason and several Master Masons of the North safely through the Confederate lines and over 30 miles of Confederate defenses to Savannah and the local Masonic lodge. The records note that this Brother was proficient in the Fellowcraft Degree, and he was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason. After the ritual was complete, the Confederate cavalry returned their Brothers to Hilton Head without incident. Masonry does work.

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Drew Wedel,
Senior Warden



From the Chaplain

Brothers,

In these times -- right now -- we are experiencing unprecedented unrest, conflict, and downright cruelty in a myriad of places around the world and even here in our own country. One can sometimes become overwhelmed with the horror that one man is capable of inflicting on another. At times like this, I try to focus on one of my favorite quotes. It comes from St. Francis of Assisi: "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible." These words encapsulate a timeless message of hope, determination, and the power of incremental progress.

So what can we do, what is necessary, if we wish to counter this culture of ferocity that seems to be overtaking our nation and so many other places around the world? First, turn to our obligations where we vowed, promised, and swore. Therein is contained the "Necessary."

Once we remember what it was to which we vowed, promised, and swore, we can re-conquer the "Necessary." Then, we can expand our horizons and strive for what seems possible. By gradually pushing our limits, we discover that we are capable of far more than we initially believed. St. Francis reminds us that the path to achievement is composed of small, attainable victories that eventually culminate in extraordinary feats.

In our lives, we often face daunting challenges, and St. Francis's wisdom serves as a guiding light. It urges us to take that first step, tackle what's necessary, and watch as the impossible becomes achievable through persistence, dedication, and faith in our potential.

Fraternally,

John Della Guardia, Chaplain



November Masonic Birthdays

Name	Years
John Della Guardia	5
Kenneth Gray	40
Donald McDowell	72
David Russ	28
PM David Simkins	28
Reese Stewart	27
Lloyd Taylor	57
Edward Wolfe	6

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)

...from the Secretary's Desk



Brothers,

Your membership cards should be arriving in the mail along with your statements.

Grand Lodge fees and assessments were increased.

Optimistically, we invoiced you an additional \$1. The actual increase is \$10. If you were billed for Grand Lodge fees and assessments previously, your statement will be \$9 higher.

Don't hesitate to call with any questions or problems.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
 Rollyn
 H: 302 239-9788

IMPORTANT DATES...

Mark Your Calendar

- Nov. 2** Washington No. 1, Stated Communication, 7:30pm
- Nov. 3** Flag Placement at Bear Veteran's Cemetery, 8am-10:30am
- Nov. 7** Granite-Corinthian No. 34 Stated Communication, 7:30pm
- Nov. 8** Temple No. 11 Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Nov. 9** Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29 Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Nov. 14** Lafayette No. 14 Stated Communication, 7:30pm

Check out the Grand Calendar for other events:
<https://www.masonsindelaware.org/>

Word Search

Here's your chance to win a fabulous prize while having some fun getting ready for the November Stated Communication. All you have to do is find the most words in this mixed-up puzzle. Beware! There's only one four-letter word. The rest are all five or more letters long. Some words are compound words and some are word pairs. Find them upwards, downwards, diagonally, frontwards, and backward. I've given you some help by finding the first one for you.

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

Masonic Education: THE STORY OF FREEMASONRY

This is one likely version of how modern-day Speculative Freemasonry came to be.

It's what set the foundations of what we enjoy today -- a society of good men looking to become better.

The novice in the builders' art was called an Apprentice. After he had served sufficient time to give evidence of his abilities, his name was entered in the Lodge's books.

He was then called an Entered Apprentice. At the end of his seven years of apprenticeship, he was called into open Lodge. His conduct was reported, and he was required to prove his skill by producing what was called a "Master's Piece."

Before this, he had been on probation. But if he passed this test satisfactorily, he was made a full member of the Craft. He then had all the equal rights and privileges of all the others. A worthy Fellow of the Craft, the word "Fellow" meaning full membership.

After he had mastered the theories, practices, rules,

secrets, and tools of his trade, he eventually became a Master Mason.

Completing their work in one community, the Master Masons would then move to another, setting up their Lodges as they met.

It is said the skilled traveling Master Masons were free to move without restrictions, hence the name, "Free Masons."

Such was the Fraternity in its operative period, and as such, it flourished for generations. But then, Reformation came. The laws changed. This brought a decline in the operative craft and operative Freemasonry in general.

During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Freemasons became so few in number that only a small Lodge here and there clung to existence. To boost their numbers, the Freemasons adopted a new practice. They began to accept non-operative members. In the old days, only an operative stone mason, in the literal sense, could become a

member. But during the two centuries of the transition period, gentlemen with no intention of becoming builders were also received as "Accepted Masons."

At first, there were few, but as time passed, their number grew. By the early part of the eighteenth century, they were more numerous than the Operatives and even more influential. The Craft then took a step destined to revolutionize it and set it on a new path.

On St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24, 1717, four old Lodges of London and Westminster met and organized the first-of-its-kind: The United Grand Lodge of England. Within a few years, the Craft had completed the transformation from an Operative Fraternity into a Speculative Fraternity and reorganized the two old degrees into three degrees:
~ **Entered Apprentice**
~ **Fellowcraft, and**
~ **Master Mason.**

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
John Della Guardia

If you need a ride to Lodge,
we will get you a ride.
Call the Master at 302-545-0680

