

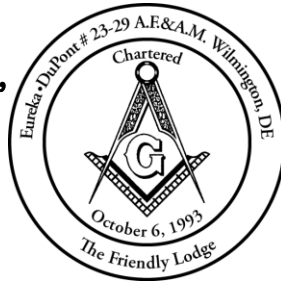
# Eureka-DuPont #23-29



## Masonic Trestleboard December 2024

All Visiting Brethren Are Welcome

**"THE FRIENDLY LODGE"**  
Making Good  
Men Better  
Since 1867



2016 Foulk Road  
Wilmington, DE 19810

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month  
September through June  
Brandywine Masonic Hall  
2016 Foulk Road, Wilmington, Delaware,



Eureka-DuPont #23-29  
Officers 2024 – 2025

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# From the East



The holiday season, encompassing Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year, is a time for celebrating the rebirth of the spirit, offering a well-deserved reward for a year of hard work, and reflecting on the importance of giving back to the community.

Eureka-DuPont Lodge's **Chocolate Night**, one of the most special District 1 Masonic events, will take place on December 12 when the Lodge hosts our annual Chocolate Night. Our brother, Bill Downing, has made it his mission for over 20 years to provide gifts to working families in need. With the help of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, gifts are collected and wrapped for underprivileged children in our community, ensuring they experience the joy of Christmas without compromising their basic needs. Please try to visit Eureka-DuPont along with the Grand Master of Delaware and his Staff who will be present and wrapping gifts. **LODGE OPENS AT 5:30PM AND WRAPPING BEGINS AT 6:30.**

In addition to Chocolate Night, we have other regular charities where you can make a difference. **VA Hobby Cart.** Is always looking for new socks, PJ pants, sweatshirts, toiletries (except razors), and pastime activities such as puzzle books, puzzles, cards, etc. Our veterans who are confined to the hospital are looking for this kind of stuff, and it's the minimum you can do to show them that we care. In February we dropped off: 59 blankets, 31 scarves, 16 pairs of gloves, 20 hats, and 88 pairs of socks. More recently we dropped off even more: 11 PJ pants, 31 pairs of socks, and 10 zip-up hoodies.

I have more in the car right now. If you would like to participate, buy some stuff or finance the lodge purchases. I try my best to find bargains on these things, and my wife helps. I will make sure it goes to the VA guys.

## **POLAR BEAR PLUNGE TO BENEFIT DELAWARE SPECIAL OLYMPICS.**

Once again this year I am taking the plunge, and I challenge you to join me. You can hop in the cold water yourself, or you and your friends can sponsor my plunge by visiting this link: <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/5939687>. My personal goal is to raise \$2,000 this year for this great cause. Do what you can. Pass the link to your friends and family and make a contribution yourself.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
Jay

This photo is not appropriate for the faint of heart.

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**LEWES  
POLAR BEAR  
PLUNGE**

# The Chaplain's View

Brethren,

As the holiday season unfolds, we are reminded of the warmth and unity that embody our fraternity. This time of year invites reflection on the principles that guide us as Freemasons: faith, hope, charity, and brotherly love. Regardless of our individual religious beliefs or cultural traditions, we unite under the Great Architect of the Universe, whose divine wisdom lights our path.



Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or another cherished tradition, this season serves as a beacon of love and peace. It is a time to embrace our families, extend kindness to those in need, and renew our commitment to the betterment of humanity.

At Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29, let us strengthen the bonds of brotherhood that transcend differences, reminding us that our diversity enriches our unity. In the spirit of the season, let us rededicate ourselves to our Masonic principles, spreading light and joy to all we encounter.

May this holiday season bring you and your loved ones peace, health, and happiness. May we enter the new year with renewed vigor, striving always to be better men and Masons. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Fraternally,  
John R. Della Guardia, Chaplain

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

2023-24	Jerome R. "Jay" Troy
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)**  
**Patrick S. Light (#33 DE)**  
**Michael W. Jones (#34 DE)**  
**Paul D. Loveday (#9930 UGLE)**

### IMPORTANT DATES...

Mark Your Calendar

- Dec. 3** Granite-Corinthian No. 34, Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Dec. 5** Washington No. 1, GRAND VISITATION, 7:30PM
- Dec. 7** Claymont Christmas Parade, 9:30AM-12
- Dec. 10** Lafayette No. 14, Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Dec. 11** Temple No. 11, Stated Communication, 7:30PM
- Dec. 12** Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29, CHOCOLATE NIGHT, Lodge Opens 5:30PM,-Wrapping Begins 6:30PM;
- Dec. 25** Merry Christmas

### December Masonic Birthdays

NAME	YEARS
Robert Barrowcliff	69
Kelvin Blassingame	9
Albert Degen	58
Brian Keith	11
Lewis Kester III	25
PM Patrick Light	15
Carmen Smith	27

**214 Years in Masonry**



Check out the Grand Lodge Calendar  
<https://www.masonsindelaware.org>

# Masonic Education: The Pillars of Masonry

John R. Della Guardia

The virtues of faith, hope, and charity are often associated with Christian theology, but their importance extends far beyond any single religion. In Freemasonry, these three virtues are considered the "Three Principal Moral Virtues" and are encountered right from the very first ritual, the Initiation.

## **Faith: In Whom Do You Place Your Trust?**

During the First Degree, the candidate is asked this fundamental question of faith. The answer emphasizes faith as "the foundation of justice, the bond of amity, and the chief support of civil society." It highlights the "continual acknowledgment of a Supreme Being."

Freemasonry embraces the inclusion of all faiths, creating a space where individuals from diverse backgrounds can come together. Faith is also essential within the context of Freemasonry itself. It's about trusting your fellow Brethren, your Lodge, and the organization as a whole.

## **Hope: An Anchor of the Soul**

In the ritual, hope is described as "an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast." It signifies the belief and faith that we shall succeed, that things will

ultimately turn out for the best. Hope is the feeling of expectation and desire for a particular thing to happen.

Faith and hope are deeply interconnected. The candidate is encouraged to have a firm reliance on the Almighty's faithfulness to guide their endeavors. But hope is not merely wishful thinking; it requires active effort. One must strive to align one's desires with the divine promises, and with perseverance and belief, success will follow. In a spiritual sense, hope represents the aspiration to achieve salvation and enter the afterlife. In daily life, hope provides the strength to navigate hardships, fears, and frustrations through faith in oneself and in a higher power.

## **Charity: The Greatest of All Virtues**

Charity, or love, is considered the most important of the three virtues. It encompasses both the love of God and the love of one's neighbor. It is a reciprocal friendship where the giver of charity sees and imitates the love of God in their interactions with others.

While the modern understanding of charity often focuses on giving to those in need, Freemasonry encourages

its members to practice charity in both its spiritual and practical senses. The First Degree symbolically demonstrates the importance of charity and reminds Masons of their duty to help those less fortunate, without neglecting their own families.

Charitable giving, both in terms of money and volunteer work, is a fundamental part of Freemasonry. Masonic Charitable Foundations continue the tradition of providing help and support to Freemasons, their families, and the wider community.

## **What do they mean to a Mason?**

Faith, hope, and charity are not just abstract concepts within Freemasonry; they are guiding principles that shape the lives of its members. These virtues, intertwined and mutually reinforcing, provide a moral compass and a framework for personal and collective growth. Regardless of one's specific beliefs, these universal principles offer a path towards a more fulfilling and meaningful life, both within and beyond the Lodge.

Charity is love, not all love is charity – Thomas Aquinas.



# From the South



**My dear Brethren,** the message of Christmas is a universal one. Although a Christian Festival, the joy and expectations of the season transcend all creeds and cultures. It is a time of contemplation and a new beginning, another chance to be a better Mason and to serve your fellow man in the forthcoming year. Amid all upheaval, crisis, difficulty, problems, and fear comes the true message of Christmas with all of its hope, goodwill, and cheer. Even in non-western cultures and regions where Christmas has no place in their teachings, the spirit of Christmas is present, and the season is one of sharing and an expression of the eternal optimism of mankind.

Masons everywhere should find implicitly stated in the Christmas message, the deepest truths concerning their relationships to one another and the world around them. The real Christmas message goes far deeper. It heralds the entrance of The Grand Architect of the universe into human history. Billy Graham states, "It is Heaven descending to Earth. It is as though a trumpeter had taken his stand upon the turrets of time and announced to a despairing, hopeless, and frustrated world the coming of the Prince of Peace. It answers all the great questions that plague the human race at this hour. The Christmas message is relevant, revolutionary, and reassuring to us today. I believe it can be summed up in three words: a cradle, a cross, and a crown."



Christmas Greetings to you on behalf of Eureka Dupont Lodge.

God bless you and your families, and God bless America!  
Drew Wedel, Junior Warden



## The Polar Bear Plunge

For over 30 years, thousands of "Bears" have jumped into the icy Atlantic Ocean – all in support of Special Olympics - Delaware.

The Lewes Polar Bear Plunge is part of Delaware's history, but it is not just a cool thing to do – it makes an impact on over 4,200 Special Olympics athletes across the state. Practice Faith, Hope, and Charity this Holiday Season.

Click on the Polar Bear to support WM Jay Troy and the Delaware Special Olympics (See p.2 for a stunning visual.)



**LEWES  
POLAR BEAR  
PLUNGE**

Grand Lodge of Delaware - District 1

## 2024 Bell Ringing

Delaware Masons are ringing the bell again this Holiday Season at Concord Mall – Boscovs, 4737 Concord Pike. We need you to help mind the pot. Sign up to take a turn at this website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABAE2DA7FEC25-53278752-2024>

Masons are ringing on Friday and Saturday, December 6 and 7. Follow the link to see who has already signed up.

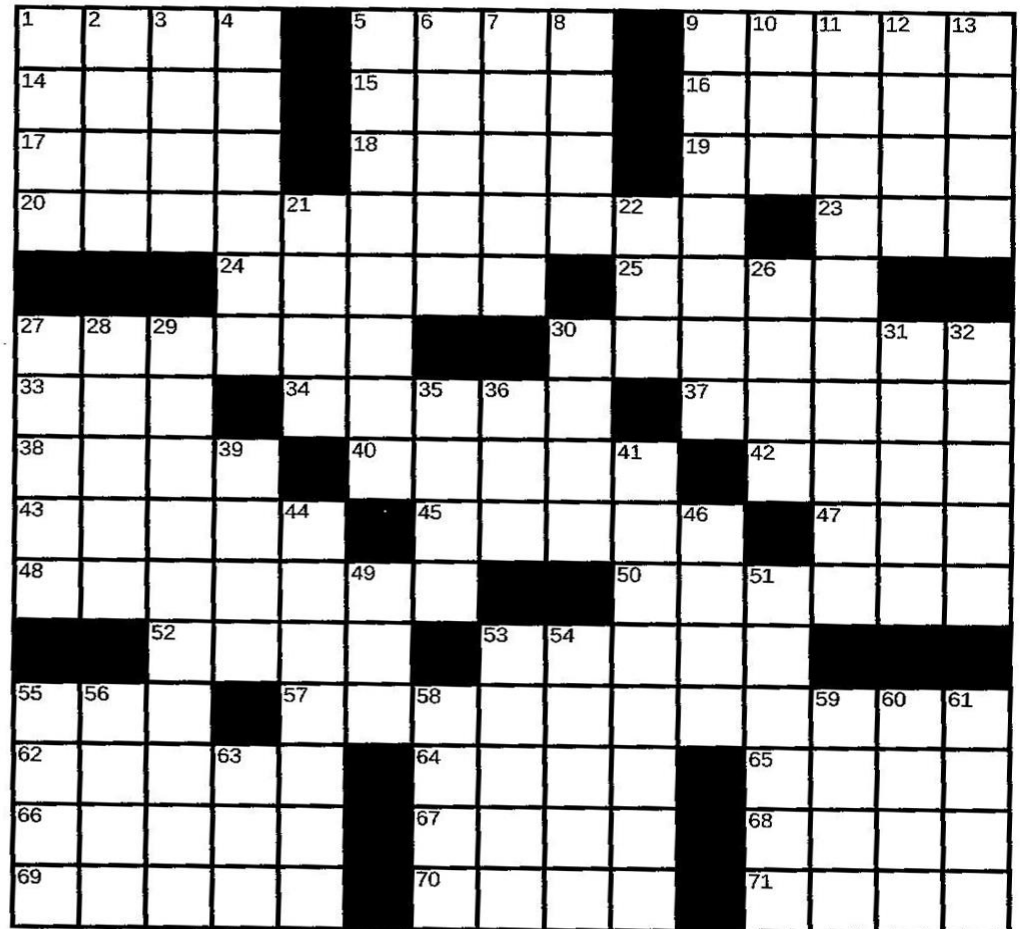


# Crossword Fun

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

## ACROSS

- 1 For cereal  
 5 Parting words  
 9 Errand runner  
 14 Treats a burn  
 15 Prefix for "dynamic"  
 16 Caterpillar, initially  
 17 Turkish currency  
 18 Car wash supply  
 19 Had a home-cooked meal (2 words)  
 20 Wild fights  
 23 Forest denizen  
 24 Breakfast staple  
 25 "\_\_\_\_ I care!" (2 words)  
 27 Do more origami work  
 30 Visible blight  
 33 Spoon-bender Geller  
 34 Bear that's really not a bear  
 37 Indication of police action  
 38 Fail to see'  
 40 Flounder in water  
 42 Easy dupes  
 43 Group of eight  
 45 Place for a barbeque  
 47 Romanian currency  
 48 Parents and some poker players  
 50 Car front  
 52 Sixth-century Chinese dynasty  
 53 Very pale  
 55 Brain of a PC  
 57 Feature of a disorderly fight  
 62 Shoulder weapon  
 64 Aquarium growth  
 65 Doing nothing  
 66 Like Santa's workers  
 67 Department store section  
 68 Exciting star  
 69 Mae and Adam  
 70 Young, winged god of the Greeks  
 71 Happy and appreciative



## DOWN

- 1 With no need to part?  
 2 Miscellaneous assortment  
 3 No longer new, as clothing  
 4 Rough shelter  
 5 Bridgetown's place  
 6 Decade makeup  
 7 Grain bane  
 8 "Eh"  
 9 Spectacles  
 10 Horse's nibble  
 11 Wild melee  
 12 There is no good in it  
 13 Captain or general, e.g.  
 21 Egg part  
 22 Mary \_\_\_\_ cosmetics  
 26 Egyptian goddess  
 27 Bit of gossip  
 28 Longtime "All My Children" character  
 29 Brawl ingredients  
 30 Point to the right?  
 31 Drive away  
 32 Follow, as a consequence  
 35 High mountains  
 36 Hawaii's Mauna \_\_\_\_  
 39 Window frame  
 41 Elaborate Catholic ritual  
 44 Intensifies  
 46 Cookie for dunking  
 49 Biochemistry abbr.  
 51 What six outs constitute  
 53 Freud contemporary  
 54 Music score sign  
 55 Ship workers  
 56 Carpet feature  
 58 Everyone has one  
 59 Heroic person, to some  
 60 Edible seaweed  
 61 Honey-based drink  
 63 On, as a candle