

# The Journal of the 18th Masonic District

# 18th District Light

Masonic Light, Happenings and Events From Around the District

## LODGES OF THE 18TH DISTRICT

Audubon-Parkside #218  
Collingswood-Cloud #101  
Laurel #237  
Lazarus #303  
Liberty Bell #376  
Merchantville #119  
Mozart #121  
Rising Sun #15  
USS NJ #62

## INSIDE

### INSTALLATION SPECIAL ISSUE!

USS New Jersey News  
The Tyler Who Saved  
Christmas

Complete Installation  
Schedule & Details

**and Much More!**

# DECEMBER 2019

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**18th District Light - Journal of the 18th Masonic District**  
Editor: WB David A. Frankel — [dafrankel@comcast.net](mailto:dafrankel@comcast.net)

# From the Editor

**B**rethren:

Like the sand through the hourglass . . . and just like that, another Masonic year has passed by.

Working on the 18th District Light gives me a rather odd perspective on time. I'm always a month ahead of everyone else and half the time I miss many of the current month's events because I'm already focusing on gathering information for the following month or beyond! As I write this holiday missive for December, it's only October 30th—not yet Halloween; almost a month to Thanksgiving; and I'm already past that and working on gathering everyone's installation details. By the way, check out the table within for the full schedule, and the individual flyers for details. To say it will be a full month is something of an understatement.

If you will forgive me a minor conceit, I offer once again my poem *The Tyler Who Saved Christmas*, for those who have joined us during the year and have not yet seen it.

**HAVE A GREAT, HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND SAFE December and a wonderful holiday season!**

*Dave*

**ON THE COVER:** Holiday shoppers stroll along Kings Highway for *Candlelight Shopping* — a weekly Friday night event between Thanksgiving and Christmas in historic “downtown” Haddonfield. With the street and shops lit festively for the holidays there is live entertainment, carriage rides, and special events in many of the local stores. And of course, we have two 18th District Lodges, an OES Chapter, and several appendant bodies all meeting at Haddonfield Masonic Temple, itself located on Kings Highway in the historic downtown district.



## THE TRAVELING GAVEL



Possession of the Traveling Gavel is the 18<sup>th</sup> District's symbol of honor for Lodges that fulfill the spirit of Masonic Travel. The Gavel, along with its accompanying logbook, remains with the Lodge last able to capture it until claimed by another Lodge under these rules.

A Worshipful Master and any other four (or more) Master Masons from his Lodge may claim the Gavel by visiting the current Gavel-holders for any regular or emergent communication. The claimants must all be present from the Opening through the Closing of the Lodge. In the case of competing claims, the Gavel shall go to the visiting Lodge with the largest contingent. If still tied on that basis, the Master of the host Lodge shall decide the tie by coin flip.

Once claimed the new Gavel holders should record their claim in the logbook, and report it to the Deputy and the 18th District Light at the first opportunity. The Gavel should be prominently displayed in the East during all communications until claimed by another Lodge.

**HAPPY TRAVELING!**

*The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion.*

— Thomas Paine



# USS New Jersey News

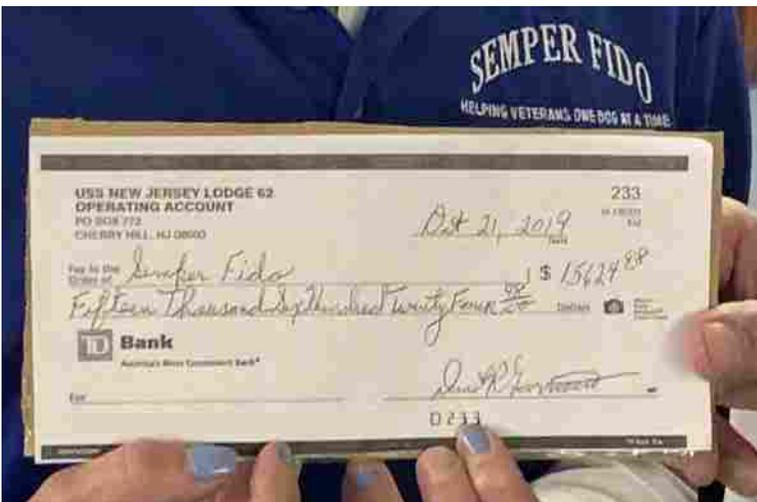
## SEMPER FIDO

In September, we reported on USS New Jersey Lodge No. 62's annual summer fund-raiser, *A Night at the Races*, on behalf of Semper Fido. The annual event has become a fixture in the 18th District, attracting more than three hundred attendees every year and raising thousands of dollars to help train and pair rescue dogs with veterans who have been wounded in action or are suffering from PTSD.

The *18th District Light* announces proudly, on behalf of the Officers and Brethren of USS New Jersey Lodge, that this year's event raised more than \$15,000 for the cause. Our Dis-



WB Fred Martin, WB Scott Vicari, and Bro. Jim Stapleton — of USS New Jersey Lodge No. 62 — present the check for \$15,624.98 raised for Semper Fido at this year's *Night at the Races* event.



trict Deputy Grand Master, RW Bernard J. Madgey V, sends his personal congratulations and personally provided the information for this article. All 18th District Masons should share in congratulating USS New Jersey, and in recognizing the magnitude of what they have accomplished, as well the example they have set for all of us of what is possible with “time, patience, and application”!

KUDOS, USS New Jersey!

## **DANIEL CARTER BEARD AWARD**

**I**t was a busy night at USS New Jersey's October Communication. In addition to presenting Semper Fido with the proceeds from this year's fundraiser, Bro. Jim Stapleton was honored with the Daniel Carter Beard Award. The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award is an honor bestowed upon Freemasons who act as role models and provide dedicated service to the young men in the Boy Scouts of America. The Award not only supports the Masonic-BSA relationship in the name of the man who brought Scouting to America, but proclaims the honor and integrity of the recipient. Our sincere congratulations go out to Bro. Jim Stapleton.



Pictured here bestowing the honors upon Bro. Stapleton are (left to right) RW David Lane, Grand Chaplain; RW Bernard J. Madgey V, District Deputy Grand Master of the 18th Masonic District; RW James Miller, PGC; Bro. Jim Stapleton; RW David Tucker, SGW; and WB Fred Martin, Worshipful Master USS New Jersey Lodge No. 62. 

# The Tyler Who Saved Christmas

© 2016 by David A. Frankel

(with apologies to *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, by Clement Clarke Moore)

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through  
the lodge,  
Not a Mason was stirring, 'cept old Tyler Hodge,  
The old Tyler perched on the lodge roof with care,  
Defending the lodge 'gainst approach from the air.

The Temple, you see, was a building of brick,  
And up t'wards the sky a tall chimney did stick,  
And old Hodge, he figured, that chimney might  
cause,  
Some flawed navigation by one Santa Claus!

He knew the old chimney was blocked down below,  
Where a cold barren fireplace no longer glowed,  
He feared old St. Nick just might make a mistake,  
And descend down that chimney, not knowing it  
fake.

And OH! what a mess if St. Nick should get stuck,  
All the kids in the world would be clean out of luck!  
So Hodge stood his post bravely into the night,  
His eyes scanning upwards to spot Santa's flight.

The hour was late and the moon risen high,  
When a flicker of movement caught old Hodge's eye,  
The jingle of bells was a sign crystal clear,  
That jolly St. Nicholas was indeed near.

His head on a swivel, Hodge looked round and  
round,  
But nowhere in sight could those sleigh bells be  
found,  
And just when he thought it a trick of his mind,  
Eight reindeer appeared with a sleigh right behind.

Santa soared o'er the eaves, to his team gave a  
whistle,  
Looping up and around they came down like a  
missile,  
Then pulling up short, with a crack of his whip,  
Santa settled his reindeer and sleigh in a zip.

Slinging his bag o'er his shoulder, he ran  
T'wards the chimney, where Hodge stood with  
sword in his hand,  
Barring the way to that jolly old elf,  
The Tyler yelled, "Nick, I save you from yourself."

With a look of surprise St. Nick drew to a halt,  
While Hodge frantically told of the brick chimney's  
fault,  
With a quick nod of thanks Santa turned on the dot,  
Leapt into his sleigh, his whip cracked like a shot.

Now, DASHER! Now, DANCER! Now, PRANCER  
and VIXEN!  
On, COMET! On, CUPID! On, DONDER and  
BLITZEN!  
The reindeer took off and soared into the sky,  
But not before Nick gave a wink of his eye!

And old Hodge beamed with pride, for he knew in  
his heart,  
That he had now played a most critical part,  
In the story of Christmas, at least for that year,  
Though he knew it unlikely that people would hear.

In that he was right, for his tale was ne'er known,  
By the children who since have gone on and grown,  
But one night in the lodge a strange letter was found,  
Which the Secretary read, and us all did astound.

From Santa himself, from the very North Pole,  
The exploits of Hodge, the missive extolled,  
So I'm telling this story to people who might,  
Never know a Freemason saved Christmas one  
night!



# Democracy, Republic, or Both?

by 18th District Light Editor, WB David A. Frankel, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15

I was recently directed by a friend and Brother to peruse an article on the Masonic correspondence of Bro. George Washington, as found among his papers on deposit at the Library of Congress.<sup>1</sup> The very first letter referenced in the article contained a phrase that piqued my interest and sent me down the path that resulted in this article. To set the stage, I reproduce the text of the letter here:

To his Excellency, General Washington, America.

*Most Illustrious and Respected Brother:*

In the moment when all Europe admire and feel the effects of your glorious efforts in support of American liberty, we hasten to offer for your acceptance a small pledge of our homage. Zealous lovers of liberty and its institutions, we have experienced the most refined joy in seeing our chief and brother stand forth in its defence, and in defence of a newborn nation of Republicans.

Your glorious career will not be confined to the protection of American liberty, but its ultimate effect will extend to the whole human family, since Providence has evidently selected you as an instrument in his hands, to fulfill his eternal decrees.

It is to you, therefore, the glorious orb of America, we presume to offer Masonic ornaments, as an emblem of your virtues. May the Grand Architect of the Universe be the Guardian of your precious days, for the glory of the Western Hemisphere and the entire universe. Such are the vows of those who have the favor to be by all the known numbers.

Your affectionate brothers,  
Watson & Cassoul.  
East of Nantes, 23<sup>d</sup> 1st Month, 5782.

What struck me was the use of the word “Republicans” — not as a reference to today’s political party, of course — but as a descriptor of the mindset and philosophy of those who founded our then nascent nation.

Many of us have been raised on the idea that we are a Democracy. Is it so? Or have we been taught a misconception or a misunderstanding? In the Pledge of Allegiance we pledge our allegiance to the flag of our country “and to the Republic for which it stands.”

So what is/are the United States of America? A Republic? A Democracy? A hybrid of the two? I took a quick straw poll among Brothers and was not surprised to get all those answers and more. It seemed a worthwhile exercise to examine our common, or not so common

<sup>1</sup> Washington’s Masonic Correspondence, by Julius F. Sachse, <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/29949/29949-h/29949-h.htm>

understanding of what we really practice as a form of Government.

An obvious place to begin is with dictionary definitions. For example, Dictionary.com and Webster's offer similar alternate definitions of a republic (among others):

Dictionary.com

1. a state in which the supreme power rests in the body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by representatives chosen directly or indirectly by them.

....

3. a state in which the head of government is not a monarch or other hereditary head of state.

Webster's

1. a government having a chief of state who is not a monarch and who in modern times is usually a president

2. a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law.

Encyclopedia Britannica is a bit more elaborate:

**Republic**, a form of government in which a state is ruled by representatives of the citizen body. Modern republics are founded on the idea that sovereignty rests with the people, though who is included and excluded from the category of the people has varied across history. Because citizens do not govern the state themselves but through representatives, republics may be distinguished from direct democracy, though modern representative democracies are by and large republics. The term republic may also be applied to any form of government in which the head of state is not a hereditary monarch.

The Britannica entry introduces the concept of a "direct democracy." also defined in the encyclopedia, as follows:

**Direct democracy**, also called **pure democracy**, involves direct participation of citizens in democratic decision making, in contrast to indirect or representative democracy. Direct democracies may operate through an assembly of citizens or by means of referenda and initiatives in which citizens vote on issues instead of for candidates or parties. The term is also sometimes used for the practice of electing representatives in a direct vote rather than indirectly through an electing body, such as the electoral college, and for the recall of elected officeholders. Direct democracy may be understood as a full-scale system of political institutions, but in modern times it most often consists of specific decision-making institutions within a broader system of representative democracy.

Common definitions of the terms *democracy* and *republic* often feature overlapping concerns, suggesting that many democracies function as republics, and many republics operate on democratic principles, as shown by these definitions from the Oxford English Dictionary:

**Republic**: A state in which supreme power is held by the people and their elected representatives...

**Democracy**: A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.

Eugene Volokh of the UCLA School of Law notes that the United States exemplifies the varied

nature of a constitutional republic—a country where some decisions (often local) are made by direct democratic processes, while others (often federal) are made by democratically elected representatives.<sup>2</sup> As with many large systems, U.S. governance is incompletely described by any single term. It also employs the concept, for instance, of a constitutional democracy in which a court system is involved in matters of jurisprudence and in protecting the rights of minorities.

A critical distinction between a pure democracy and a republic is that in a pure democracy there is not, necessarily, any protection for minorities. In a republic, the laws, however made, typically may not violate a constitution or other document that sets out certain basic rights and processes that may not be overridden except by a change to the foundational document itself.

Returning to the Britannica:

*A **democratic republic** is a form of government operating on principles adopted from a republic and a democracy. Rather than being a cross between two entirely separate systems, democratic republics may function on principles shared by both republics and democracies.*

Even when the delegates of the United States Constitutional Convention debated the question in 1787, the exact meanings of the terms republic and democracy remained unsettled. At the time, there was no term for a representative form of government created “by the people” rather than by a king.<sup>3</sup>

**S**o, there you have it. Clear as mud, right. The U.S. form of government is very much a hybrid of Democratic and Republican principles that varies in many ways between federal and state, from state to state, and even, perhaps most of all, at the local level.

#### Key Takeaways: Republic vs. Democracy

- Republics and democracies both provide a political system in which citizens are commonly represented by elected officials who are sworn to protect their interests.
- In a pure democracy, laws are made directly by the voting majority leaving the rights of the minority largely unprotected.
- In a republic, laws are made by representatives chosen the people and must comply with a constitution that specifically protects the rights of the minority from the will of the majority.

The United States, while fundamentally a republic, is best described as a “representative democracy” or a “democratic republic.” 🇺🇸

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia, Democratic Republic, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic\\_republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_republic)

<sup>3</sup> Thoughtco.com, Republic vs. Democracy: What Is the Difference?, <https://www.thoughtco.com/republic-vs-democracy-4169936>

# Campana de Libertad Fundraiser

With an eye toward the inevitable cold of winter, Campana de Libertad (a.k.a. Liberty Bell) Lodge is selling T-shirts, sweatshirts, and hoodies. As illustrated below, each garment features the word PREGUNTAME, which means “ask me” in Spanish, with the Masonic Square and Compasses standing in for the letter “G.” Each shirt also features a trowel and an ascending course of brickwork.

Available in Black or Navy, each item is priced at \$25. Adult sizes available are S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X, and 4X. A sizing chart is available on Campana’s Facebook page located at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/313199676044631>

For further information contact Bro. JW Herman C. Wilson, Jr. at 267-616-5716 



Communications of 18th District Lodges

**AUDUBON-PARKSIDE LODGE No. 218**  
3rd Monday @ Audubon Temple  
305 East Atlantic Avenue  
Audubon, NJ 08106

**COLLINGSWOOD-CLOUD LODGE No. 101**  
2nd Tuesday @ Audubon Temple  
305 East Atlantic Avenue  
Audubon, NJ 08106

**LAUREL LODGE No. 237**  
1st & 3rd Friday @ Laurel Temple  
Atlantic Avenue and Stone Road  
Laurel Springs, NJ 08021

**LAZARUS LODGE No. 303**  
1st Monday @ Haddonfield Temple  
16 East Kings Highway  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

**LOGIA CAMPANA DE LIBERTAD No. 376**  
4th Tuesday @ Merchantville  
6926 Park Avenue  
Merchantville, NJ 08109



**MERCHANTVILLE LODGE No. 119**  
2nd & 3rd Friday @ Merchantville Temple  
6926 Park Avenue  
Merchantville, NJ 08109

**MOZART LODGE No. 121**  
1st Tuesday @ Audubon Temple  
305 East Atlantic Avenue  
Audubon, NJ 08106

**RISING SUN LODGE No. 15**  
1st & 3rd Wednesday @ Haddonfield Temple  
16 East Kings Highway  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

**USS NEW JERSEY LODGE No. 62**  
3rd Monday @ Merchantville Temple  
6926 Park Avenue  
Merchantville, NJ 08109

**RECENT TRAVELS  
OF THE  
TRAVELING GAVEL**

Moved to  
**LAUREL** on  
November 10, 2017

**NEW RULES  
TOOK EFFECT**  
January 1, 2019

Moved to  
**MERCHANTVILLE** on  
January 4, 2019

Moved to  
**RISING SUN** on  
January 18, 2019

Moved to  
**USS NEW JERSEY** on  
February 6, 2019

Moved to  
**MERCHANTVILLE** on  
March 18, 2019

**WHO'S NEXT?**

2019 18th District Masonic Village Visits

**SUNDAY**

**LODGE**



January 6	Mozart
January 13	Merchahtville
January 20	Rising Sun
February 3	USS New Jersey
February 17	Lazarus
March 10	Collingswood-Cloud
March 17	Audubon-Parkside & Laurel
March 24	Merchantville
March 31	Mozart
April 7	Rising Sun
April 21	USS New Jersey
May 5	Lazarus
June 2	Laurel
June 9	Merchantville
June 16	Mozart
June 23	Rising Sun
June 30	Collingswood-Cloud
July 7	Audubon-Parkside & USS New Jersey
July 21	Lazarus
August 18	Laurel
August 25	Merchantville
September 1	Mozart
September 8	Rising Sun
September 22	USS New Jersey
October 6	Lazarus
October 20	Collingswood-Cloud
October 27	Audubon-Parkside
November 3	Laurel
November 10	Merchantville
November 17	Mozart
November 24	Rising Sun
<b>December 8</b>	<b>USS New Jersey</b>
<b>December 22</b>	<b>Audubon-Parkside &amp; Lazarus</b>

# 2020 DLI/GLI Schedule

18th District MW&PM Association at 6:45pm before DLI at 7:30pm

## Wednesday

## Lodge/Location

**January 8**

**Audubon-Parkside No. 218**

(@ Audubon Temple)

**February 12**

**Collingswood-Cloud No. 101**

(@ Audubon Temple)

**March 11**

**Laurel No. 237**

(@ Laurel Temple)

**April 8**

**Lazarus No. 303**

(@ Haddonfield Temple)

**May 13**

**Mozart No. 121**

(@ Audubon Temple)

**June 10**

**Merchantville No. 119**

(@ Merchantville Temple)

**September 9**

**Rising Sun No. 15**

(@ Haddonfield Temple)

**October 14**

**USS New Jersey No. 62**

(@ Merchantville Temple)

**November 11**

**Qualification Teams**

(@ Merchantville Temple)

**GLI date, time, and location remain to be determined**

# Installation Schedule

(see flyers in *This Month's 18th District Events* section for additional details)

DATE / LODGE	DETAILS
<p>Monday, December 2nd LAZARUS Lodge No. 303 @ Haddonfield Temple</p>	<p>CLOSED — Lodge Opens @ 5:30 PM, Social &amp; Dinner @ 6:00 PM, RSVP by 11/25 <a href="mailto:bigspankie@aol.com">bigspankie@aol.com</a> Installation @ 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 3rd Logia Campana de Libertad @ Merchantville Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Social &amp; Dinner @ 6:00 PM, no charge, no RSVP necessary, Installation @ 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Thursday, December 5th USS NEW JERSEY Lodge No. 62 @ Merchantville Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Dinner @ 6:00 PM, RSVP <a href="mailto:secretary@ussnjlodge62.org">secretary@ussnjlodge62.org</a>, Qualification @ 7:00 PM, Installation @ 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 10th COLLINGSWOOD-CLOUD No. 101 @ Audubon Temple</p>	<p>CLOSED — Social &amp; Dinner @ 5:30 PM @ The Kove Restaurant, \$30, RSVP by 12/3 <a href="mailto:fshindle@juno.com">fshindle@juno.com</a>, Installation @ 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Friday, December 13th MERCHANTVILLE Lodge No. 119 @ Merchantville Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Dinner @ 6:30 PM, donation accepted, RSVP by 12/7 <a href="mailto:merchantvillelodge@gmail.com">merchantvillelodge@gmail.com</a>, Installation @ 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Saturday, December 14th RISING SUN Lodge No. 15 @ Haddonfield Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Social @ 4:30 PM, Dinner @ 5:30 PM, \$30, RSVP <a href="mailto:markfriedrich54@gmail.com">markfriedrich54@gmail.com</a>, Installation @ 6:30 PM</p>
<p>Sunday, December 15th MOZART Lodge No. 121 @ Audubon Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Qualification @ 1:45 PM, Installation @ 2:00 PM, Banquet to follow @ Pennsauken Country Club, \$35, RSVP by 12/10 <a href="mailto:Mozart.sec@gmail.com">Mozart.sec@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>Monday, December 16th AUDUBON-PARKSIDE No. 218 @ Audubon Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Masonic Dinner @ 6:00 PM, RSVP <a href="mailto:jimbocand@verizon.net">jimbocand@verizon.net</a>; Doors Open to the Public @ 7:00 PM, Installation @ 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Saturday, December 21st LAUREL Lodge No. 237 @ Laurel Temple</p>	<p>OPEN — Qualification @ 1:45 PM, Installation @ 2:00 PM, Dinner @ 5:30 PM @ Paris Caterers, \$50, RSVP by 12/11 <a href="mailto:wshay62@comcast.net">wshay62@comcast.net</a></p>

# December Calendar

[https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=5l3hgs9net006u7qph4neeoo08%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FNew\\_York](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=5l3hgs9net006u7qph4neeoo08%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FNew_York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 LZ INSTAL- LATION	3 LB INSTAL- LATION	4	5 US INSTAL- LATION OES #140	6 RS Happy Hr	7
8 US Masonic Village	9	10 CC INSTAL- LATION	11	12	13 MV INSTAL- LATION	14 RS INSTAL- LATION
15 MZ INSTAL- LATION	16 AP INSTAL- LATION	17	18	19	20	21 LL INSTAL- LATION
22 AP & LZ Masonic Village	23	24	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 	27  Scottish Rite Dinner	28 
	Hanukkah Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
29 	30 	31 	Jan. 1 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>BLUE — 18th District Lodges                      BLACK — District/GL matters                      RED — Social Functions                      GREEN — Appendant Bodies</p> </div>		
Day 7	Day 8					



## MASONIC VILLAGE VISITATIONS

Sunday, December 8 — USS New Jersey  
 Sunday, December 22 — Audubon-Parkside  
 & Lazarus



AP = Audubon-Parkside  
 CC = Collingswood-Cloud  
 LB = Liberty Bell

LL = Laurel  
 LZ = Lazarus  
 MV = Merchantville

MZ = Mozart  
 RS = Rising Sun  
 US = USSNJ