

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

The Misuse of
Rhetoric—Part II

Scottish-American
Masonic Legacy

Finding Craftsmanship
in the Craft

and much more!

JUNE 2019

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18th District Light - Journal of the 18th Masonic District
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From the Editor

Brethren:

It's a little hard to believe, but it's June already. The Blue Lodge Masonic Year is half over (more than half, if your lodge *goes dark* for July and August). Nevertheless, we have a full calendar of events, although there are few changes from the norm you want to be aware of. Firstly, there is no Masters & Wardens meeting or DLI this month, due to GLI occurring on Tuesday, June 11th, at Merchantville Temple. See the flyer within for times and details. Secondly, due to the date conflict with GLI, Collingswood-Cloud will not hold a regular communication this month, but will have an Emergent and confer the FC Degree on Tuesday, June 25th.

We have quite a few social events, all in the first week or so of the month, including the Rising Sun / Lazarus Joint Education Banquet, Rising Sun's monthly 1st Friday HAPPY HOUR, Lazarus' Cigar & BBQ Social, and Mozart's Golf Tourney, plus 18th District Bingo Night on Saturday, June 22nd. We also have a lodge visiting the Masonic Home on each of the five Sundays in June, and the usual panoply of lodge and appendant body communications and affairs. So it promises to be another active month in the 18th Masonic District! Travel, visit a brother lodge, and enjoy!

In this month's issue, I hope you will enjoy the perspective of Bro. J. Stewart Donaldson, a brother from Scotland, who provided the material for *The Scottish-American Masonic Legacy*.

See you around the District,

Dave

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

— Thomas Paine



THE TRAVELING GAVEL



Possession of the Traveling Gavel is the 18th 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.

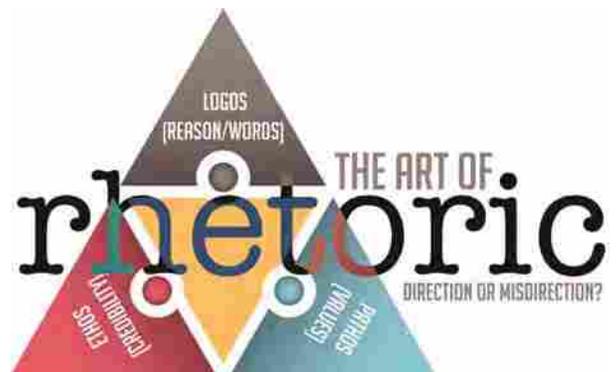
HAPPY TRAVELING!

The modern shorthand for this general distorting facility is *spin*, a term that has seen increasing use since the 1970s. The older and at one time more respectable term for this facility is rhetoric. Aristotle wrote the defining treatise on rhetoric, and it was a required subject of study in medieval universities. “Persuasive rhetoric” and “brilliant rhetoric” were once fairly frequent collocations in English. Today, those are outgunned by “empty rhetoric” and “mere rhetoric.” *Spin* has been a pejorative term for rhetoric since the term’s inception.

Is there something particular about English that has resulted in the largest populations of native speakers of this language falling into such intractable us-versus-them mentalities? Probably not. History has shown that speakers of any language can end up in polarized groups in which each devotes unlimited time and attention to vilifying the other side. On the other hand, English has no obligatory features that might encourage the reporting of truths, as opposed to supposed truths, possible truths, or merely reported as opposed to verified truths. English does not have an inferential mood, like some other languages, which distinguishes between witnessed and merely reported events. And evidentiality is not a grammatical category in English; speakers are not obliged by any grammatical construction to say how they know what they know, as they are in some languages.

Perhaps as a remedy for this plague of misinformation in English, there are distinct changes in usage around the words we use to evaluate what we see and hear. There has been a marked increase over time in the use of noun authentication, but an especially sharp increase in the collocations “provide authentication” and “require authentication.”

Another sharp explosion in usage came around 1930, when the insertion of *reportedly* and *allegedly* before various verbs began a rapid increase.



What would account for this? Were writers formerly less inclined to commit to paper statements that had not yet been verified? Or were they worried about a greater likelihood of being held accountable? There is some evidence suggesting the latter, as the phrase “sued for libel” also shows a sharp increase starting around 1930, and it has been steadily rising since.

The fact that our societies remain entrenched in division suggests that the linguistic remedies floated above are in fact not remedies at all, and this is surely not surprising: language alone can’t be expected to solve a problem that language itself is partly responsible for. The quote from E. F. Schumacher that begins this article might suggest that technology exacerbates our problem, and hardly anyone would dispute this. But again, it does not seem promising to look to technology to solve a problem that technology has magnified. So it behooves us all to maintain a healthy skepticism about information generally. The modern world makes it even more of a challenge to “get real” when we are communicating with language. 🍀

In the Community In the Community

by Bro. William Powell, Audubon-Parkside Lodge No. 218

Saturday, April 27, 2019, marked the second annual celebration of Audubon Day — a day long event designed to promote local businesses and organizations, giving them a chance to hawk their wares and their causes to Audubon residents and visitors — all accompanied by a veritable feast, both literal and figurative, of food and beverage trucks, live music and entertainment, and great fun and games for kids.

Naturally, Audubon-Parkside Lodge No. 218 was part of the festivities. Brother Senior Warden Wayne Wildrick and Brother Senior Master of Ceremonies William Powell braved the high winds to man a table representing the Lodge. Eschewing the original plan for a tent, rendered unfeasible by the windy weather, our intrepid brothers relied on Brother Wildrick's "200 mph tape" (known to the rest of



Brother Wayne Wildrick holds down the fort at Audubon-Parkside Lodge's Audubon Day table.

us as duct tape) to secure a banner and other accoutrement to the table. "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night" ... nor in this case WIND ... was able to stay the Brothers of Audubon-Parkside from ably representing their Lodge, the 18th District, and New Jersey Freemasonry to the assembled crowds.

Brethren from both Audubon-Parkside and other 18th District Lodges stopped by to visit, along with members of the public inquiring about the nature of Audubon's Masonic Temple and about Masonry in general. Brother Wildrick was the knowledgeable historian on-site, and related the history of the building well, retelling the tale to all who asked. Bro. Wayne's father was raised when the Lodge met in a bank on Merchant street, and helped build the temple we know today on Atlantic Avenue.

The table sported photos of members and lodge events (including the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby), causes the Lodge has supported over the years (Audubon Little League, Paralympic Ice Hockey, and others), various lodge artifacts to catch the eye of passers-by, and of course, Audubon-Parkside's signature "To Be One Ask One" banners.

All in all, Audubon-Parkside Lodge No. 218 had a great showing at Audubon Day! 

Moving Day!

by Bro. Mark Friedrich, Rising Sun Lodge No. 15

*B*rotherhood comes in many forms, as does reaching out to help a Brother. And sometimes it's as simple as carrying boxes, and maybe some furniture. Recent emergent circumstances compelled Brother William Henry Foltz, Rising Sun's Senior Deacon, to vacate his apartment in Bellmawr and make an unexpected move to Deptford. The Brothers of Rising Sun were quick to step up and turn the move into a day of fellowship and fun. With a sizeable crew dedicated to the task both the move out and the move in were accomplished in short order, leaving time for camaraderie and lunch at Schileens Pub in nearby Westville. 🍀

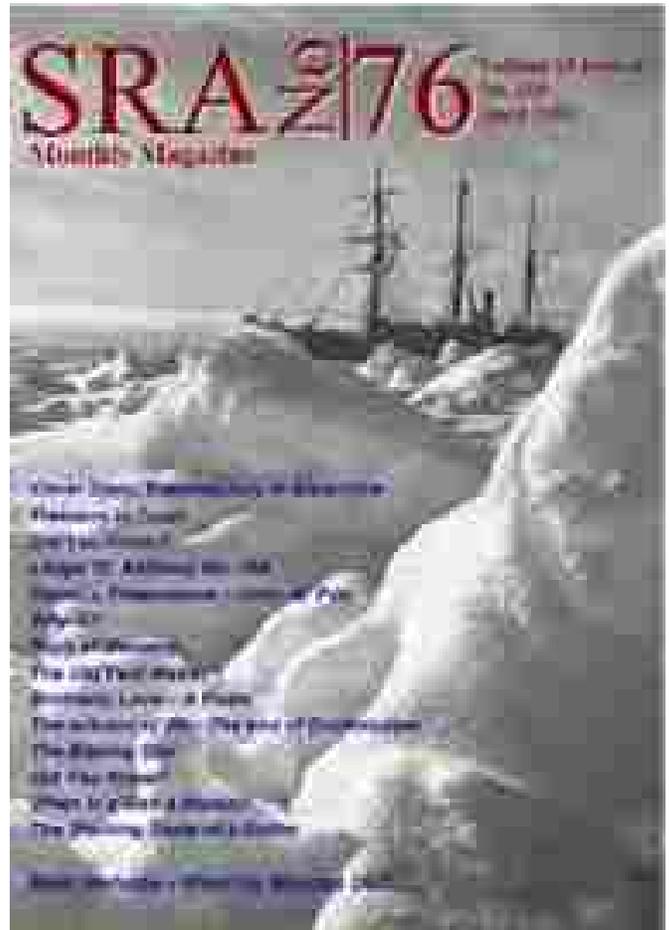


The Moving Day Crew, from Left to Right: Worshipful Master Tim Boyle, David Shaw, Tim Rego, Al Burger, Graham Reeve (kneeling), Will Foltz, Dave Frankel, Frank Rosi, Dann Burzichelli, EA Tak Chan, and Mark Friedrich.

The Scottish-American Masonic Legacy

Originally *Scottish-American Masonic Miscellany*
by Bro. J. Stewart Donaldson, Dis.S.Mem.

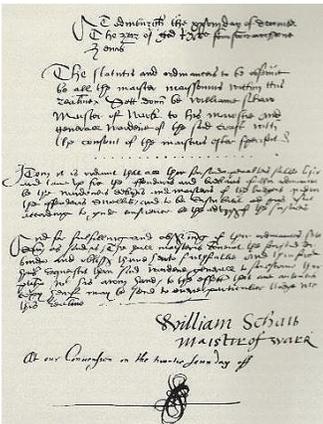
Say what you will, the internet is a marvelous thing. Through its magic I was recently privileged to become acquainted with Brother J. Stewart Donaldson, who hails from across the pond, in Scotland. When I discovered that he published his own monthly online Masonic magazine, *SRA No. 76*, I knew I had met a kindred spirit and began a correspondence. Bro. Donaldson has been a Freemason for nearly 40 years and is an active member and officer in several lodges and in Royal Arch masonry. He maintains various online Masonic resources, including a list of Masonic lectures, which can be found at <http://www.lodge76.co.uk/lectures/index.html>, and the archives of *SRA No. 76*, which are located at http://www.lodge76.co.uk/lectures/past_issues.htm. I highly recommend *SRA No. 76*, and I hope readers of the 18th District Light will take the time to check it out. In our correspondence, Brother Donaldson was kind enough to offer me permission to reprint the following, which originated as a short talk he prepared for a lodge brother who was visiting America and needed to make a brief presentation to his son-in-law's lodge. I hope you will enjoy it as much as I did. — the Editor



We Scots like to think that we gave the world everything, the telephone, the television, tar macadam that covers the roads, penicillin, pneumatic tyres, ship building, banking, economics, science, mathematics, physics, chemistry, geology, engineering, medicine, jurisprudence, exploring, architecture and of course the greatest poet the world has ever seen. The list goes on and on, Scotland has produced more men of letters, more men of learning and more men of science than any other nation on earth, and in just about every discipline known to man a Scot was at the forefront, and what is probably more remarkable is, that almost all of these world leaders were freemasons, and Scottish Freemasons at that. The American navy was founded by a Scottish Freemason, and when the President's house was to be built in Washing-

ton, it was a group of stonemasons from the Journeymen’s Lodge in Edinburgh that built it, the building known today as the White House. Not only did we Scots give the World every modern invention in the 18th and 19th Century, we gave Freemasonry to the World!

I hail from Scotland, the home of Freemasonry. Scotland, where the oldest records of Masonry in the World exist, we have documents that date back before America was discovered, records older than the Magna Carta. The Schaw statutes which was a document governing the masons in Scotland under the reign of James V date from 1598, a copy of which is written in the minute book of the oldest Lodge in the World, Lodge Mother Kilwinning and is numbered 0 (zero).



The Schaw Statutes

The oldest minute of a Masonic meeting is from a Lodge in Scotland, the oldest minute of the Royal Arch degrees is in Scotland, the first non-operative mason to be admitted into a Lodge was a Scot. The first mason known in America hailed from Aberdeen in Scotland and was a member of the Lodge of Aberdeen.

Why even, the Grand Lodge of England, the oldest Grand Lodge in the World had its first constitutions written in 1717 by James Anderson a Mason from Aberdeen, in Scotland.

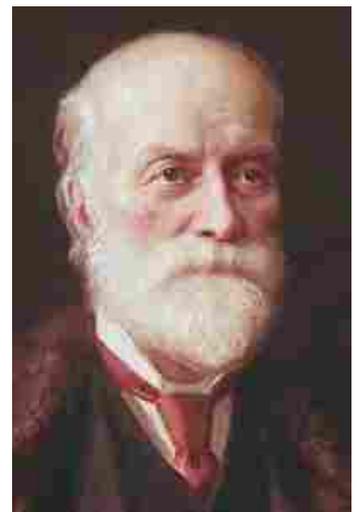
The Grand Master of the state of New York who was at the head of 70,000 masons and laid the foundation stone of the Statute of Liberty was Scottish, and would later join a Scottish Lodge just outside Glasgow.

When you cross the vast plains of America, and move from time zone to time zone, give a thought for Sandford Fleming who when he lived in Canada was responsible for dividing the World into 24 time zones, and yes he was a Scottish Freemason.

George Washington was a member of the Fredericksburg Lodge No.4, one of the most famous Masonic lodges in America, and no Brethren I am not going to tell you he was Scottish, but his Lodge was! It received its charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1758

You may not have come across the name Bazil Gordon, he was reputed to be the first American millionaire, he was also a member of Lodge Fredericksburg, he came not far from the area in Scotland that Brother John Paul Jones, the founder of the American Navy was born, another Scottish Mason.

This just might surprise you, the first black man to win the world heavyweight championship in boxing was Jack Johnson, he beat



Sandford Fleming

Tommy Burns in 1908. Did you know that in 1911 he visited Scotland and was initiated into Freemasonry in Lodge Forfar and Kincardine No.225?

John Witherspoon, one of the signers of the United States Declaration of Independence [Ed. **Note: for New Jersey**], was a clergyman from Edinburgh and a Scottish Freemason. It is worth noting that of the 56 men who signed the document, 21 were of Scottish ancestry.

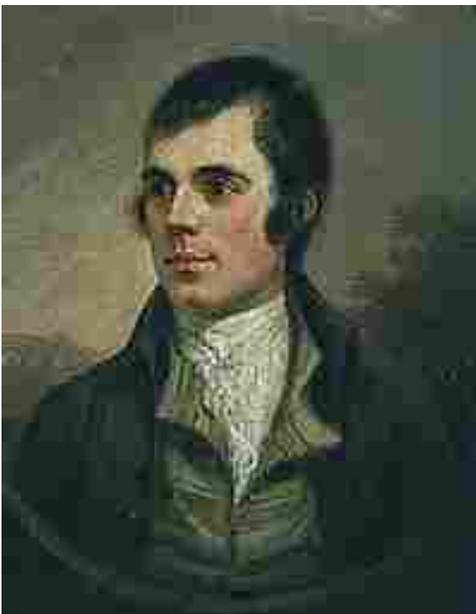
Brethren, I could go on and on about Scottish Freemasons who changed the World, and those who helped shaped your great country, the Scots who pioneered the great wilderness, who forged your constitution, who fought alongside Americans in the name of Freedom and Liberty, like the Scotsman called John McGregor who played his bagpipes at the Alamo and perished with Brother James Bowie, a mason of Scots descent.

I am proud to be Scottish, and I am extremely proud to be a Scottish Freemason and descended from such a Masonic pedigree as those I have mentioned above, and I am delighted to have been given this opportunity to tell you just a little about where I come from and some of the Scottish Masons who went on and changed the world. And, of all of these Masonic Scottish Brethren, there is one that we Scots hold in the highest esteem, one that advocated the sentiment that we ma-



A Memorial Plaque at the Alamo for some of the Heroes who died there, including John McGregor

sons hold most dear, and should all try to practise as often as we can, Brotherly Love. For this Brother, expressed it like no other before or since:



Brother Robert Burns

*Then let us pray that come it may,
As come it may for all that,
That sense and worth, o'er all the earth,
Shall bear the gree and all that.
For all that, an all that,
It's coming yet for all that,
That man to man, the world o'er
Shall brothers be for all that.*

Brother Robert Burns the most famous Scottish Freemason of all time got it right, and if everyone in the world lived by his sentiments and our Masonic principles, what a great place this fragile planet would be! 

Finding Craftsmanship in the Craft

by WB Martin Bogardus, Collingswood-Cloud Lodge No. 101

Without craftsmanship, inspiration is a mere reed shaken in the wind.
— Bro. Johannes Brahm (1833–1897)

Our Fraternity faces many challenges today, among them an aging infrastructure that has bequeathed to us older furnishings in need of repair or restoration. We have an abundance of lodge paraphernalia in need of care and refurbishment – or perhaps repurposing? However you view it, there is a pressing need for lodges to assess and focus upon an aspect of Freemasonry that lacks for want of attention, namely, **craftsmanship**.

What is craftsmanship? Craftsmanship is the skill of the artisan, the quality of design and work shown in something made by hand; it is, in a word, artistry, but artistry differentiated from the painter or the sculptor. The craftsman shows his skill in the manual manipulation of the medium or material with which he works, be it wood, stone, metal, or something more exotic. He seeks to perfect his mastery over it, whether the project be functional or decorative, simple or elaborate, limited only by the craftsman's imagination.

Craftsmanship has shaped and defined our Fraternity from its inception, influenced and informed over centuries by ever changing schools of architecture and design.

Sacred history informs us that, when Solomon, King of Israel, began the great work of building a temple worthy of housing the Ark of the Covenant, he proclaimed:

Send me now therefore a man cunning to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and that can skill to grave with the cunning men that are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father did provide. (King James Bible, 2 Chronicles 2:7)

And King Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre. He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to King Solomon, and wrought all his work. (King James Bible, 1 Kings 7:13-14)

From such auspicious beginnings has craftsmanship grown and prospered, transforming over the centuries what began as operative guilds of stonemasons into what we today practice as the grand speculative order of Freemasonry, in which the concept of craftsmanship, both operative and esoteric, has ever remained central.



The Seal of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey adorns the top of a brass scroll case crafted by the author

Three quarters of a century ago, it was far more common for brothers to craft items for both utilitarian and aesthetic purposes in their lodges. Maintaining both the lodge furnishings and the temples themselves was commonplace. Today, with ever-decreasing membership and increased demands upon every Brother's time, it has become a genuine challenge to find and fulfill the need for craftsmen and craftsmanship among the Craft (pun intended).

With a little imagination – and craftsmanship – breathing new life into objects that others may feel have outlived their usefulness is a surmountable challenge. This author has delighted in restoring and reinventing Masonic items, usually in wood and metal, for many years. As a case in point, let me share with you my most recent project.

Masonic Scroll Case for the Ancient Charges

A circa 1940's cylindrical brass drill bit case reminded me of the leathern scroll cases of old, and I imagined it encasing a scroll bearing the Ancient Charges, such as I had seen unrolled and read at a number of Masonic officer installations. Reasoning that it needed to be appropriately decorated with Masonic symbols, I had, by chance, the perfect bit of Masonic detritus on hand. I had come into possession of a broken New Jersey Masonic officer's collar, circa 1920s, that was perfect for being repurposed to the task.



I selected appropriate medallions from the chain, but needed to bend them to fit the shape of the brass cylinder. The drill bit case was itself too thin to bend the medallions around it without damaging it, so I selected a piece of steel pipe of the same diameter and secured it in a vice. Using an old adjustable steel band, I gradually tightened it around the pipe while gently hammering the medallions into shape with a brass hammer, until they perfectly fit the contour of the pipe and my brass cylinder. After carefully measuring locations, I affixed each medallion to the case with adhesive, and covered the ends of the cylinder with medallions bearing the seal of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. The finishing touch was shaping an old Marshal's jewel to fit the shape of the brass cylinder and secure it in place.

In selecting the specific medallions, I chose the square and compasses, with the beehive as a symbol of industry, and the Holy Bible – the volume of sacred law to guide our faith and practice – to adorn the front, above and below the Marshal's jewel. On the opposite side I chose the letter "G" – representing both God and Geometry – the gavel – the potent symbol of the Worshipful Master's authority — and finally, the jewels of the Senior and Junior Wardens.

In such a way, articles otherwise destined for the trash bin were turned into a durable symbol of Masonry which, I hope, will be used to enhance the reading of the Ancient Charges at my lodge's officer installations for many years to come. 

2019 DLI/GLI Schedule

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

Wednesday

Lodge/Location

January 23

(4th Wednesday)

Audubon-Parkside No. 218

(@ Audubon Temple)

February 13

Collingswood-Cloud No. 101

(@ Audubon Temple)

March 13

Laurel No. 237

(@ Laurel Temple)

April 10

Lazarus No. 303

(@ Haddonfield Temple)

May 8

Mozart No. 121

(@ Audubon Temple)

Tues., June 11

(joint GLI w/19th)

Merchantville No. 119

(@ Merchantville Temple)

September 11

Rising Sun No. 15

(@ Haddonfield Temple)

October 9

USS New Jersey No. 62

(@ Merchantville Temple)

November 13

Qualification Teams

(Location TBD)

2019 18th District Masonic Village Visits

SUNDAY

LODGE



January 6	Mozart
January 13	Merchantville
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
December 8	USS New Jersey
December 22	Audubon-Parkside & Lazarus

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?

June Calendar

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 LL Masonic Home	3 Hi 12 LZ	4 MZ Crusade Commandery	5 RS-LZ Joint Education Banquet RS	6 OES #140	7 RS Happy Hr LL OES #201	8 LZ Cigar & BBQ Social
9 MV Ma-sonic Home	10 MZ Golf Tourney Van Hook Council	11 18th/19th Joint GLI @MV	12 No M&W or DLI this month	13	14 MV	15
16  MZ Masonic Home	17 Hi 12 AP US	18	19	20	21 LL MV	22 18th District Bingo Night
23 RS Masonic Home	24	25 CC EA° LB	26	27 Zerubbabel	28 Scottish Rite Dinner	29
30 CC Masonic Home	JULY 1	2	3	4 District March in Haddonfield Parade	5	6

MASONIC VILLAGE VISITATIONS

- Sunday, June 2 — Laurel
- Sunday, June 9 — Merchantville
- Sunday, June 16 — Mozart
- Sunday, June 23 — Rising Sun
- Sunday, June 30 — Collingswood-Cloud



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

LL = Laurel
LZ = Lazarus
MV = Merchantville

MZ = Mozart
RS = Rising Sun
US = USSNJ

This Month's 18th District Events

The following pages are intended to promote Masonic events and are offered as a courtesy by the 18th District Light to the event sponsors. The 18th District Light is not responsible for the accuracy of the information, cancellations, nor for accepting reservations. For information or reservations for an event, please follow the instructions given in the event flyer.

TRAVELING

ROMAN GODDESS JUNO



IT'S WHAT WE DO