

Birmingham Masonic News

PILLARS OF PATRONAGE

Subscriptions are renewed December 1st

BIRMINGHAM 44

BIRMINGHAM LODGE NO. 44 F&AM
37357 WOODWARD AVE
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304-5003

STAMP

PAGE 1

TRESTLE BOARD

BIRMINGHAM LODGE #44

PLEASE
RENEW YOUR
PILLARS OF PATRONAGE

In Loving Memory of Layson White Voorhees

Please send your check for \$30.00 payable to Birmingham #44 Lodge marked "Pillars of Patronage". This is an opportunity to make a contribution "In Honor Of" or "In Loving Memory of". Please let us know how you would like your name to appear. These subscriptions help to offset the cost of mailing the monthly Trestle Board. If you wish to make a larger donation, the Birmingham Masonic Temple Endowment Fund would welcome your contribution



WM JACK PALMER TURNED THE BIG FIVE-OH!!!
SO WE SANG TO THE OLD FELLA AND GAVE HIM A CAKE

See our website where you can check the calendar of upcoming events, read past trestle boards, and make online payments

www.birmingham44.net

The Secretary's Pen

Brethren — As March Madness grips us all (at least the basketball fans of MSU and UM), we look forward to another busy month at Birmingham #44. As always, we can use all of your help in helping these fine gentlemen through their Masonic journeys. If you remember when you were brought to Light, you will remember how important it was to you to see a lot of Brothers looking back at you. And you also know how many hands it takes to properly Raise a Brother, so we can always use help on the Fellowcraft Team.

We recently sent five Brothers to Farmington #151 to help them with a MM Degree. They greatly appreciated the gesture and have already reciprocated with one of our Degrees. It not only helps to pay it forward, but it is a great expression of Brotherly Love and Friendship!

We still have a few outliers on dues, so please get your dues in as soon as possible, if you have not done so already.

Stay tuned to your email for any upcoming events.

Fraternally,
Steve Skrzycki, PM, Secretary
secretary@birmingham44.com

MONTHLY CALENDAR — All Lodge Events at 7:30 unless otherwise stated

MARCH 2019	
MARCH 5	— TEMPLE BOARD
MARCH 7	— BUSINESS MEETING (REGULAR)
MARCH 14	— FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE
MARCH 21	— FELLOWSHIP NIGHT — AMBASSADOR CIGARS
MARCH 28	— MASTER MASON DEGREE AND DINNER—6:30 PM
APRIL 2019	
APRIL 2	— TEMPLE BOARD
APRIL 4	— BUSINESS MEETING (REGULAR)
APRIL 11	— FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE
APRIL 18	— FELLOWSHIP NIGHT
APRIL 25	— MASTER MASON DEGREE AND DINNER—6:30 PM

2019 CALENDAR

Awards Night — TBD
 June 27 — Burger Night—7 pm
 Corn Roast — TBD
 Nov 7 — Annual Election of Officers
 Dec 3 — Annual Meeting for Temple Board
 Dec 7 — Kids Christmas Party
 Dec 14 — 2020 Installation of Officers

See www.birmingham44.net/calendar for schedule thru June

NOTE TO BRETHREN of #44:
 This Lodge is yours — if you have an idea for an event, please recommend it to the WM or bring it up in open Lodge. We love volunteers!



Greetings from the East — March 2019



Brethren;

I hope this finds everybody warm and healthy. I think the groundhog may have been a little confused when he predicted an end to winter. I guess everyone is allowed to a mistake once in a while.

As our new year is still in its infancy, I have had 2 separate instances where brothers came together to help one another. The first dealt with our lodge and the second with the passing of a brother from another lodge.

Our lodge is very lucky not only to be growing at a very nice rate but also with a lot of young men becoming involved with both the temple board as well as the officers line. There is one slight problem with a young of-ficers line, many Brothers in the line have young kids. Those kids get vacations from school and many fami-lies spend time together during those breaks from the school year. This was the case in February. We were missing most of our officers for one reason or another. We had brothers in Florida with their families, Brothers on a cruise and some had changes in their spouses work schedules. All in all we needed help in a bad way to hold our Fellowcraft Degree for 3 very worthy Brothers. Our secretary put out the notice to the surrounding lodges regarding our situation and asked if any brothers had the time to help. I was very happy to arrive at lodge at 6:45 to find 8 Brothers waiting to see how they could help. With the help that came from other neighboring lodges we were able to have a very successful Degree.

The second instance was for the passing of a Brother. The brother was a Honorary member of Birmingham #44 as well as holding many different stations in his lodge and Grand Lodge. He had requested a Mason-ic ceremony prior to his passing and at the time of his passing the word went out. I went to support a Broth-er who had laid down his working tools for the last time. As I pulled up I was happy to see a full parking lot. Walking in I was amazed to see 50 to 60 Masons who answered the call to be a part of our Brother's Mason-ic Service. There were Brothers from many different lodges as well as from Grand Lodge.

Masonry encourages us to help in our community and to help a Brother when they are in need. Help can come in many forms from assisting another lodge when they are short on staff, to honoring a Brother whom you may not have even known to fulfill his last request.

Fraternally,
Jack Palmer, WM



While the occasion admonishes us to consider the uncertainty of human life and the unremittable certainty of death, with equal urgency it graciously invites us to regard death as the open door, through which man passes from his labors on earth to the nobler service of life in the world to come

Warren David Shifferd
Gerald R. Steinard, PM

Raised: September 23, 1947
Raised: October 9, 1967

Deceased: January 1, 2019
Deceased: February 12, 2019

And when at last their weary feet shall have reached the end of their toilsome journey and from their nerveless grasp shall forever drop the working tools of life, may it be their lot to hear from Him who sitteth there as Judge Supreme the welcome words, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the Joy of thy Lord."



Brethren:

Most Worshipful Grand Master David Hill has approved a pin and certificate for all Masons who are also veterans in honor of our favorite Masonic son and veteran, George Washington.

At Birmingham #44 we would like to honor our veterans, as well. If you are a veteran and a member of Birmingham Lodge #44, please contact me by email and give me your name and branch of service in which you proudly served our country, and I will order you this Grand Lodge award. We will determine at a later date how to present these awards.

secretary@birmingham44.com



THE CHAPLAIN'S MEANDERING PATH

HISTORY AND THE MEANING OF ITS NUMBERS

It is most interesting how we take for granted a history which should always be foremost in our minds and consciences. We seem to forget or find it menial at times to avail ourselves of the history and the meaning of its numbers. That was never more clear than just the other night when giving instruction to three of our newest Entered Apprentices. It was mentioned in casual conversation when introducing these new E. A.s to a couple of visiting Brethren from Pontiac # 21, that Birmingham # 44 was a product of Pontiac # 21 over 170 years ago. Both the Brethren from # 21 and our newly made Brethren of Birmingham surprisingly asked, "how so"? It was explained that all of those years ago, the Masons living in the city of Birmingham were getting tired and aggravated riding via horseback through the "WILD" territory to get to Pontiac. Not only was the weather quite challenging at times, but sometimes the Native Americans objected to these trespassers of their territory galloping through their hunting grounds! It was due to these and a few other factors that some of the Masons of Birmingham petitioned the Grand Lodge of Michigan for a Charter to open a new Lodge in the city of Birmingham. Grand Lodge refused because it felt the Charter would create dual membership and confusion. The Brethren from Birmingham did not give up, promised to demit their Pontiac membership and after a few more requests the Charter was granted. Thus, Birmingham # 44 was born! To make a long story somewhat shorter, in the interim that these requests were fielded by Grand Lodge, 22 other Lodges were granted Charters. Zion Lodge # 1 now at 500 Temple St. in Detroit to Britannia # 601 in Farmington and all those in between are part of that Masonic trail creating our Masonic history. That's a lot of numbers and a lot of History!

I guess the moral of the story is that we should never take for granted any of our Landmarks or images as the newer and some of the older Brethren are not aware of the Masonic History so imbedded in our past. There are so many wonderful stories, meanings and anecdotes that make the study of Masonry in Michigan a great hobby and pastime. Add that thought to our entire country and the rest of the world, you have a full time pursuit! Eureka takes on additional meaning and importance in everyday life as a Mason.

Here's hoping that you will exclaim Eureka and join us at our next meeting to search, share and savor the great Fraternity we are all a part of!

Best wishes and please join us on the Level,
Robert C. Hall, P. M., Chaplain



FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

THURSDAY MARCH 21
7:30 PM

Ambassador Cigars And Spirits

3614 ROCHESTER ROAD
TROY

FOOD, DRINK, CIGARS
50/50 RAFFLE FOR A BOX OF CIGARS

DRAWINGS AT 10 PM
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

RAFFLE—\$15/TICKET OR \$40/3