



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

In Memory of Joseph M. Briggs, Sr — from Steven R. Briggs
 In Honor of Robert E. Meshew, PM — from E B. and Jean Ray
 In Memory of PM's Tom, George, and Tom Jr Paterson and Jim Grant— from Gerald Quinn, PM
 In Loving Memory of A. Ray Swartz, PM — from Walter J and Ruby A. Thome
 In Memory of Robbie Kilpatrick, PM — from Dave, Ray, and Donna Husk
 In Memory of my Grandfather and Member Gordon Percy Deneau — from WM Matt Wilde
 In Loving Memory of John H. Milroy, PM

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



AAAAHHH! It's a giant spider!! No — it's just the new Wi-Fi router for the Lodge. (Funds generously donated to purchase by WM Baranowski and Bro. Pat Connelly)

We're trying a new format. The printer allows us to use 11X20" sheets for the same price as 11X17". I'm playing with the design, and it will continue to evolve. This is in the print format. This is page 4; page 1 is to the right; page 2 below left; page 3 below right.

STAMP



Greetings from the East — February 2018



Brethren:

When you read this we will have entered into our second month of 2018. The early anxiety of the new assignments of the officer line have worn off to a great degree and we have settled in to take care of the business at hand.

During January the officer line conferred our first Degree of 2018 — a Fellowcraft Degree. We then held our first fellowship evening of the year in Berkley at Hartfield Lanes for an evening of Bowling and friendship. It was well attended and was a hit with many of our members. I was amazed at the bowling proficiency of many of our Brothers! The second Degree of the month was to be a Master Mason; however, unfortunately, this had to be cancelled on short notice and is being rescheduled due to the passing of the Brother to be Raised's sister-in-law. Our sincerest condolences go out to our Brother and his family on their loss.

To those who have accepted assignments on the various committees this year, I want you to know that your efforts are appreciated by those who realize the importance of your tasks and the extra time and effort required. In this vein I will include the sitting board members of the Temple Board who have been diligently working to improve the home of Birmingham #44. I would like to point out to all of our members of Birmingham #44 that they are also a member of the Temple Board and are welcome to attend any Temple Board meeting. Board meetings are currently held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30.

Congratulations to our Junior Deacon, Bro. Christopher Dargin and his wife Jenn on the birth of their son, Wyatt Christopher Dargin. Mother and son are both healthy and doing well.

In closing our February Masonic schedule looks to be full with our "Regular, two Degrees and another fellowship night. Please join us.

Fraternally Yours;
 Thomas C. Baranowski, WM

"Keep your heart free from hate; your mind from worry. Live simply; expect little; give much; fill your heart with love; scatter sunshine. Forget self. Think of others; and do as you would be done by." J.E. Robinson, South Australian Craftsman

The Secretary's Pen

Brothers — Please get In your dues for 2018 if you haven't done so already. We have to pay Grand Lodge our yearly per capita very soon, regardless if everyone is paid up or not. This year it's over \$4500. Of our very reasonable dues — \$127.50 — \$44.50 per member goes to the Grand Lodge of Michigan. I have talked to Brothers from other states and there are some Masonic Lodges in the USA that charge \$600-800 per year for dues! Based on this, Birmingham #44 is quite the bargain! As stated before, one can send in a check made out to "Birmingham Lodge #44" and sent to the address above, pay on our website: www.birmingham44.net,



or pay on the Grand Lodge of Michigan's website — www.grandlodgemi.org

We still haven't decided where our fellowship night will be on the 8th, but stay tuned to your email and I will announce it — likely on Monday the 5th.

Steve Skrzycki, PM
 Secretary — (248) 647-4229
secretary@birmingham44.com

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

FEBRUARY 2018
 FEBRUARY 1 — BUSINESS MEETING
 FEBRUARY 6 — TEMPLE BOARD
 FEBRUARY 8 — FELLOWSHIP NIGHT — PLACE TBD
 FEBRUARY 15 — ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE
 FEBRUARY 22 — MASTER MASON DEGREE AND DINNER—6:30PM

MARCH 2018
 MARCH 1 — BUSINESS MEETING
 MARCH 6 — TEMPLE BOARD
 MARCH 8 — FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE
 MARCH 15 — FELLOWSHIP NIGHT — PLACE TBD
 MARCH 22 — MASTER MASON DEGREE AND DINNER—6:30PM
 MARCH 29 — DARK (MAUNDY THURSDAY)

2018 CALENDAR
 Awards Night — TBD
 Burger Night — TBD
 Pancake Breakfast — TBD
 75th Annual Visitation w/Speed Lodge — in Guelph
 Corn Roast — TBD
 Nov 1 — Annual Election of Officers
 Dec 4 — Annual Meeting for Temple Board
 Dec — Kids Christmas Party
 Dec 8 — 2019 Installation of Officers

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!
All Lodge events start at 7:30, unless noted



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

Ralph E. Beseg	Raised: April 29, 1954	Deceased: December 8, 2007*
Clarence S. Elliot	Raised: January 29, 1959	Deceased: February 25, 2012*
Penley Newman Scratch	Raised: February 23, 1959	Deceased: December 5, 2015*

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."

* We are not always notified when a Brother passes on, so some we have had to discover online or by other investigations. These Brother's passing were reported by Grand Lodge.

MASON OF THE YEAR AWARD

THE CHAPLAIN'S MEANDERING PATH

LOOKING FOR AN INDICATOR

It seems that the more sophisticated our society gets, the more necessary indicators are in demand! Can't run this, can't test that and just don't know where to begin. If it's done right, and there is proper follow through, we MUST have indicators or everything is lost. There might be at least one exception to this standard of today. We can still tell a good man when we see him!

Is he reliable in most every facet of human interaction? Does he care about others and extend himself almost to the point of ignoring his own welfare? Is he creative in his thinking and inquisitive into methods of bettering those around him? Does he creatively seek methods and means to improve most situations? Does he truly care for others and actively seek measures to improve their situation as well as his own? Does he truly care for and provide for his own family and relatives? Is he fundamentally structured in his thinking and reasonable in his conclusions? Does he willingly attempt to please others and maintain an atmosphere of stability and pleasantry? Good questions and indicators or criteria for a good man, don't you think? It sounds as though if a person of this nature exists or is among us, he would almost have the aura of a super hero or a messianic being. Well, maybe not quite that much of an exaggeration but relatively close! The whole point is that if you stop for a minute you can almost identify that type of person sitting in our Lodge room. He would be a person that doesn't demand much of others but patiently asks and suggests ways of accomplishing certain objectives. He would be a man with a smile on his face engendered by the smile in his heart. He would be the Brother who could empathize with your difficulties while offering solutions to your concerns. He in effect would be the Brother you would want by your side in good times or in bad.

We are so fortunate in having Brethren like that in our own Lodge! They stand beside us, offer their hand with a smile at each and every meeting or event. And this month, it is my pleasure to mention a Brother who so exemplifies that aura or personification. He is our own Mason of the Year, our Senior Warden and Brother Jack Palmer.

Please take a moment to congratulate Brother Jack on his preferment as Mason of the Year. He truly deserves it and epitomizes what our fraternity stands for!

Until we see YOU at our next meeting or gathering, God bless each and every one of you and your loved ones. May each of you fully realize how fortunate we are in our endeavors as Masons.

Robert C. Hall, P. M., Chaplain



MASONIC TRIVIA

The word "Worshipful" is used when addressing the Master of the Lodge. "Worship" is derived from the Old English "worchyppe" or "worchyp" meaning "greatly respected." In the Wycliffe Bible, "Honor thy father and thy mother" appears as "Worchyp thy fadir and thy modir." Grand Masters are called "Most Worshipful" meaning "Most greatly respected" (except in Pennsylvania where the Grand Master is "Right Worshipful" as are Past Grand Masters both there and in Texas). ("One Hundred One Questions about Freemasonry" Masonic Service Association, 1955.)

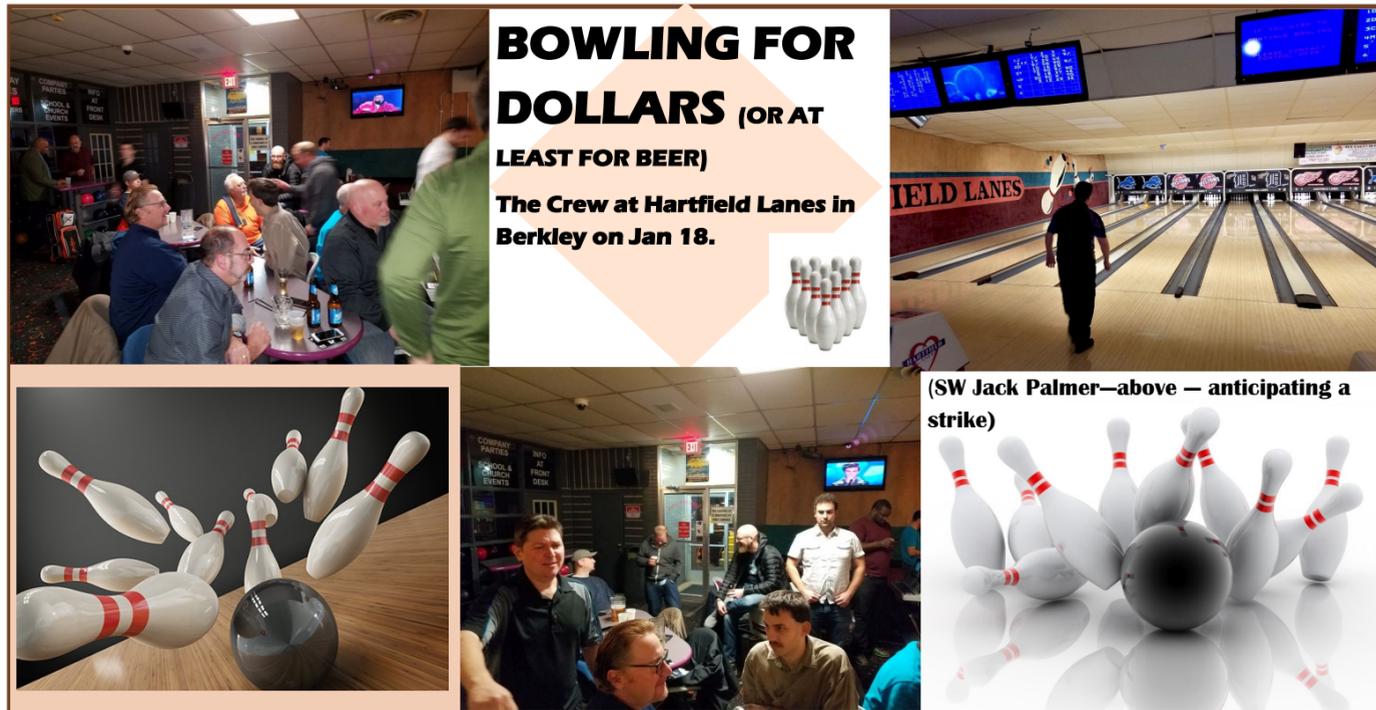
Music written by Brother John Stafford Smith (1750-1836) of Inverness Lodge #4 in London was, at one time, used by an Irish Masonic Orphans' Home as their song. Later it became a popular drinking song for many years known as *To Anacreon in Heaven*. Then, some years later, the music was adopted by Francis Scott Key to which he wrote the words to our National Anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner*. ("The Truth is Stranger than Fiction," by Alphonse Cerza, Masonic Service Association, 1967.)

The oldest known Masonic writing, the *Regius Manuscript* or "Poem of Moral Duties," was discovered to be a Masonic document by a non-Mason, J. O. Halliwell, in 1839. It was written about 1390 and was given the name "Regius" because it was found in the Royal Library of England. It is now a part of the British Museum. Some common Masonic Ritual terms in use today are found in it such as "So Mote It

Be." ("Masonic Trivia and Facts", Allen E. Roberts)

In 1860 in Limerick, Ireland, there was found in a small chapel a stone dated 1517 with the following inscription:

"I will serve to live with love & care Upon the level, by the square."



BOWLING FOR DOLLARS (OR AT LEAST FOR BEER)

The Crew at Hartfield Lanes in Berkley on Jan 18.



(SW Jack Palmer—above — anticipating a strike)

