



PENNSYLVANIA
MASONS

The District 3 Dispatch



Did You Give Blood?

Eureka West-Shore Lodge No. 302 holds its last blood drive of the year. Thank you Brother Harry Woods and Joyce Woods for over 60 years of dedication to this most needed program.

Newsletter Index

From the Desk of Brother Jeffrey R. Miller, District Deputy Grand Master District 3
From the Desk of Brother Kenneth W. Womack, P.M., Principal, District 3 School of Instruction
Around the District
Be An Active Member!
Masonic Light
George Washington Lodge No. 143
Carlisle Lodge No. 260
Orrstown Lodge No. 262
Eureka West-Shore Lodge No. 302
Cumberland Valley Lodge No. 315
Big Spring Lodge No. 361
Mt. Pisgah Lodge No. 443
Acacia Lodge No. 586
Mount Zion Lodge No. 774
Pennsylvania Lodge of Research
Widows Sons - Marked & Hewn Chapter

2024 Official Visit Schedule

143 – January 12, 2024
361 – February 8, 2024
586 – February 16, 2024
315 – March 7, 2023
774 – March 11, 2024
262 – March 14, 2024
260 – March 19, 2024
302 – April 1, 2024 (Oyster Feed)
443 – April 16, 2024

Notes from the Editor: Please submit your inputs for next month NLT the 26th unless you have pending activities that you want to include.

Event Announcements

November 25, 2024
Election/Open Installation of Officers

December 4, 2024
Grand Lodge Communication, Philadelphia, PA

December 14, 2024
Pennsylvania Lodge of Research

December 16, 2024
Business of the Lodge

From the Desk of Brother Jeffrey R. Miller

District Deputy Grand Master, Third Masonic District



Fraternal Greetings Brethren!

November is a month of giving thanks! We as Freemasons need to remember our departed Brethren and their widows. They supported their spouses as they practiced the Craft. There were many evenings they remained home while their husbands attended Lodge. We as Freemasons should not forget the sacrifice they made. A short phone call from the Lodge would show that we care for them and demonstrate respect for their departed husband, our Brother. Better yet deliver a fruit basket or some flowers to brighten their day.

Saint John's Day next is rapidly approaching. The incoming Worshipful Masters are getting ready to start an exciting year in their lives. Being a Worshipful Master of a Lodge, especially in District 3 is one of the most rewarding experiences in a man's life. Each incoming Worshipful Master has put together his plan for his term and how he is going to execute this plan. When they leave the East, their name will be listed among the Worshipful Masters that have went before them as part of the Lodge history. The Lodge will be better for having them as Worshipful Master!

The Grand Master has given a blanket dispensation to conduct elections in November. Please note that Lodges may do the election in November but are not required to do so. The election can be conducted this year using the voice vote method. In 2025 each Lodge in District Three will be doing the election using the ballot boxes. All Lodges will have an open installation this year. I encourage that the Lodges hold a family event in conjunction with the installation ceremony. Just a reminder that each incoming elected officer must recite their obligation!

Be safe as you travel to your various activities and functions. Have an excellent Thanksgiving! I will see you soon along the Freemasonry trail

Have a great day in Freemasonry!!

Brother Jeffrey R. Miller
District Deputy Grand Master



From the Desk of Brother Kenneth W. Womack, P.M.

Principal, Third Masonic District School of Instruction



We are rapidly moving toward the end of the 2024 Masonic year and all the things that have to be done associated with that. Officers who will be moving to new chairs should be thinking about any new ritual they should learn and getting the appropriate certifications. Plans should be made for electing and installing officers for the 2025 Masonic year. So, November and December will be busy months.

There have been substantial changes to how elections and installations of officers are to be done for Masonic years 2025-2026. Per a December 28, 2023 edict by the Right Worshipful Grand Master, all Blue Lodges must conduct open installation ceremonies to elect officers for Masonic Years 2025 and 2026 “subject to all the rules and protocols as established by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and defined by the Director of the Ritualistic Work and taught by the Schools of Instruction.”

In addition, the DDGM has approved allowing all Lodges to do the election of Masonic year 2025 officers in November. The intent is to reduce the time visitors and guests must wait for the open installation to begin while the Lodge opens and conducts its business before the December open installation begins. The current ritual book states that an election of officers may be conducted by voice vote if there are no contested officers (page 85). I assume this will be the case for most, if not all, District Three Lodges. The dialog for doing this can be found in the Worshipful Master’s Handbook, 2018-2019 version, on pages 45-47. This form of election can only be used if the office is not contested. Worshipful Masters should contact the SOI if you need a copy of this dialog.

At the SOI on November 25, the SOI will cover the Open Installation for Lodge Officers in detail. We will also cover the closed portion of the Worshipful Master’s Installation Ceremony for those who will need this information. If your Lodge would like to have a principal attend your November rehearsal, please let one of the principals know and we will make every effort to attend. If your Lodge has not done an open election before, I would strongly encourage you to do this.

Worshipful Masters are reminded again that for the remainder of this Masonic year, someone other than the WM should present the opening and closing charges at the stated meeting. Any elected or appointed officer (other than a past master) may do this.

Brethren, I look forward to seeing you at our next SOI on Monday, November 25th.

The schedule for 2025 SOI is below.

**2025 Schedule
District 3 School of Instruction**

School Officers

President, James McElhenie, WM, No. 302

Vice President, John Ridgway, WM, No. 315

Chaplain, William C. Olsen, No 302

Monthly School of Instruction Meetings @ 7:30 p.m.

Date	Work of the Evening	Lodge
Jan 27	Funeral Service/Examination of a Visitor/Balloting	No. 143
Feb 24	Business of the Lodge (50-year pin presentation)	Region 2 Sectional Team
Mar 24	Entered Apprentice/Fellow Craft Mason Degrees	No. 260
Apr 28	Master Mason Degree	No. 262
May 26	Table Lodge/Protocol/Mentoring	No. 361
Aug 25	Master Mason Degree/Low Vale Preparation	Low Vale Team*
Sep 22	Entered Apprentice/Fellow Craft Mason Degrees	No. 315
Oct 27	Election/Installation of Officers	No. 443
Nov 24	Master Mason Degree	No. 586
Dec 22	Business of the Lodge	Incoming Masters

*Mount Zion Lodge No. 774

Mar 22 Regional 2 Sectional School

Sep 17 District 3 Low Vale

Sincerely & fraternally,
Brother Kenneth W. Womack
Principal, District 3 SOI





GRAND LODGE

of PENNSYLVANIA

Dec. 4

Grand Lodge Communication, Philadelphia, PA

Dec. 14

Pennsylvania Lodge of Research

REGIONAL SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION

DATE LOCATION

August 24 - Regional Principals Seminar for
Region Two

OFFICER TRAINING SEMINARS

DATE LOCATION(S)

April 6 Somerset, Irwin

April 13 Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Bloomsburg

Around the District

Be An Active Member!



Third Masonic District School of Instruction

The 3rd Masonic District School of Instruction (SOI) is scheduled to be held on the fourth Monday of each month (with exception to June and July) at 7:30 p.m. at Big Spring Lodge located at 131 Centerville Rd, Newville, PA, 17241.

Our next SOI will be on August 26, 2024. The work of the evening will be about the Master Masons Degree presented by Low vale Team. All Master Masons are welcome to attend and learn more about our rituals and the Masonic craft. Remember to bring your Candidates so they may participate in District 3 Mentoring.



BLOOD + ORGAN
DONOR PROGRAM

The Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Program promotes Masonic blood drives throughout Pennsylvania, heightens awareness and provides educational materials on sharing the gift of life through blood and organ donation. All Pennsylvania Masons are eligible for membership in the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Program. To become a member complete the New Member Form. Dues are not required for membership in the Blood and Organ Donor Program; however, we still have operating expenses. Donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of this vital program.

Masonic Light

A Series In Masonic Education

24 Inch Gauge and Common Gavel



During the first degree, a new Mason is introduced to the first tools of a Mason, the 24 inch gauge and the common gavel. The 24 inch gauge as instrument is often depicted with three sections, each measuring 8 inches and symbolizing the 24 hours of a day. The symbolism of the 24-inch gauge underscores the importance of balance and moderation in a Freemason's life. In Brother Oliver Street's book *Symbolism of the Three Degrees*, published by the Masonic Service Association of the United States in 1924, he wrote of this emblem:

"The Twenty-four Inch Gauge typifies time well spent. It teaches us the value of our time, that time wasted can never be regained, that it is a priceless commodity, that there is a time for all things, a time for labor, a time for rest, a time for amusement, a time for worship, and a time for the relief of distress."

To take the interpretations of the twenty-four-inch gauge literally and split our time entirely between our duty to God, labor, and refreshment, would cause us to exclude much from our life. Instead, the lesson here is for Freemasons to find balance in their Masonic duties, professional responsibilities, and personal life. This can only come through discipline and self-control and builds upon the lessons illustrated by the common gavel.

The common gavel, which has a gable on one end and a flat surface on the other, is used by Stonemasons to break off the rough parts of a stone and shape it. It is a foundational symbol of the Craft, for with the common gavel, a Freemason begins removing his imperfections and prepares to build himself into a man of integrity.

Of the common gavel, Brother Street wrote:

"[The common gavel] is not adapted to giving polish or ornamentation to the stone, and hence it should symbolize only that training of the new Freemason which is designed to give some limited skill and moral training."

To put it simply, the gavel represents self-improvement, ridding yourself of vices and chipping away at your Rough Ashlar on your journey towards light.

Adapted from *The Scottish Rite*, NMJ

<https://scottishritenmj.org/blog/master-mason-working-tools#24-inch-gauge>

George Washington Lodge No. 143

74 South Second Street, Chambersburg, PA 17201

Second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Todd E. Foltz, PM

Website: <http://gw143.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/georgewashingtonlodge143>

Ladies Night: May 11, 2024

Greetings from the East,

At the end of September, we went to Acacia Lodge No. 586 and brought The Traveling Gavel back to George Washington Lodge. But two weeks later, at our October stated meeting, several brethren from Acacia Lodge came and took it back. Congratulations to them and it was nice having a few extra visitors.



November will be a busy month. Our stated meeting is on Friday November 8th and we will have a Veteran related program with a WWII talk. We will be busy, busy, busy, with degree work in November. We will have degree work on Thursday November 14th and Saturday November 16th.

To all of our Veteran brethren, we appreciate your service to our country. We appreciate your service to our Fraternity. And we appreciate you!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Todd E. Foltz, PM, Worshipful Master

Carlisle Lodge No. 260

1236 Holly Pike, Carlisle, PA, 17013

Third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Benjamin D. Bualat

Website: <http://carlisle260.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/St.Johns.260>

Ladies Night: TBD

Brethren,

November, as October was the eighth month of the Roman calendar (octo being the Latin word for eight) so was November (novem being the Latin word for nine) the ninth month. November has become a social time of community suppers, feasts of thanksgiving and general elections. Furthermore, November eleventh is Veteran's Day, an opportunity for the nation to thank its military veterans for their service.

At our November stated meeting, on the ninetieth, by the direction of the Grand Master, we will conduct our election of Lodge officers. The intent of this direction is to limit the amount of time family and friends, who are not Freemasons, must wait prior to gaining access to the lodge room for the Open Installation of Officers in December. The Grand Master has also mandated that all lodges will install their officers in an Open Installation. Ours will take place on December seventeenth.

Additionally, we will recognize our Past Masters during the Stated Meeting on November nineteenth. We look forward to seeing as many of you that can make it to both meetings. As per usual, I implore each of you to call a brother, or two, who has not been attending meetings, and ask them why? If you have not been coming to our meetings, please let us know why so we can make reasonable adjustments to facilitate your attendance.

I pray the Great Architect continues to provide you with good gifts and graces.

God Bless – Benjamin D. Bualat, WM

Orrstown Lodge No. 262

3442 Orrstown Rd. Orrstown PA 17244

Thursday, on or before, the full moon at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Carl F. Calder, PS

Website: <https://orrstown262.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OrrstownLodgeNo262>

Ladies Night: April 27, 2024



Greetings from the East,

On October 17th, Orrstown Lodge met for the first time in a decade on the Thursday, on or before, the full moon. This is a tradition that Orrstown is proud of. This month's first Moon Lodge meeting was made extra special because it happened to fall on the full moon, but not just any full moon, a Super moon. Known as the Hunter's Moon or the Travel Moon (we prefer that one), it is also the 3rd of four consecutive Super moons this year and will appear as the largest in the night sky.

This month's program was given by Brother David McKibben, PM #260. Brother McKibben discussed the Order of the Eastern Star. Several ladies were in attendance for the program which was held prior to the start of the stated meeting. The ladies were then entertained in the fellowship hall with games, activities, and snacks while the stated meeting was held.

Although there will be no extra meeting in November, it will still be a busy month. At the stated meeting on November 14th, we will be holding our election of officers, celebrating 25-year members, and honoring our Veterans that served this great country. A Thanksgiving meal will be served at 6:30 PM prior to the meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

Please come visit Orrstown Lodge and enjoy the fellowship of your Brothers.

Brother Carl F. Calder, PS
Worshipful Master,
Orrstown Lodge No. 262

Eureka West-Shore Lodge No. 302

910 South Market Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

First Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Robert E. McCaleb III

Website: <https://eureka302.org/>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/EurekaWestShoreLodge302>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EurekaWestShoreLodge302>

Ladies Night: September 28, 2024

Greetings from the East,

On October 7, 2024 we had a not so great fellowship meal cooked by me the Worshipful Master, I won't quit my day job, consisting of Oktoberfest sheet pan brats with roasted vegetables. The meal looked great going into the oven but not so much coming out. Desert was the best part, cheesecake and pumpkin pie, it was a great turnout, either way. The stated meeting was a usual meeting, attendance was unusually low, but we had three visitors, two coming from overseas. There was no extra meeting.



October 8, 2024 was our last blood drive for the year. It was a good turnout, we celebrated over 60 years of Brother Harry Woods running the organ and blood donor program for Eureka West-Shore lodge. Brother Woods has made the tough decision to step down from running the program, but not stepping away. I'm certain we will continue to see Brother Woods at all the future blood drives. Congratulations and THANK YOU, Brother Harry Woods and Joyce Woods for over 60 years of dedication to this most needed program. Congratulations Brother Barry Sheaffer for taking over, you have BIG shoes to fill.



Sincerely & fraternally,
Robert E. McCaleb III
Worshipful Master

Cumberland Valley Lodge No. 315

41 Stewart Place, Shippensburg PA 17257

First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Todd W. West

Website: <http://lodge315.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Cumberland-Valley-Masonic-Lodge-No-315-1386129258366656>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1486480571653567>

Ladies Night: August 17, 2024

Greetings from the East,

A Stated Meeting of Cumberland Valley Lodge No. 315, Free and Accepted Masons, will take place at the Masonic Temple, located at 41 Stewart Place, Shippensburg, PA, on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. Prior to the meeting, a Fellowship meal will be served in the Social Hall at 6:30 p.m. This year's dinner will be the annual Memorial Dinner in honor of Brother J. Sheldon VanSyoc. The evening's programs will feature a Veteran's Recognition, a Past Master's Recognition, and the Election of Officers for the 2025 Masonic Year.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Brother Todd W. West
Worshipful Master

Big Spring Lodge No. 361

131 Centerville Road, Newville, PA 17241

Second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Phillip S. Hayslett

Website: <http://bigspringlodgeno361.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bigspring361>

Ladies Night: April 6, 2024



Greetings from the East,

A Stated Meeting of Big Spring Lodge, No. 361, Free and Accepted Masons, will be held at the Masonic Temple, 131 Centerville Road, Newville, Pennsylvania, 17241, on Thursday evening, November 14, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

Fraternal Greetings,
Brother Phillip S. Hayslett
Worshipful Master

Mt. Pisgah Lodge No. 443

Third Floor, Truist Bank, Greencastle, PA 17225

Third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother Robert E Brindle, PM

Website: <https://mtpisgah443.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Pisgah-Lodge-No-443-668433266645074>

Ladies Night: TBD

Greetings from the East,

A Stated Meeting of Mt. Pisgah Lodge No. 443, Free and Accepted Masons, held a meeting at the Masonic Temple located on the Third Floor of the Truist Bank, Greencastle, PA 17225, on Thursday evening, November 21, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Brother Robert E Brindle, PM
Worshipful Master

Acacia Lodge No. 586

33 West Main St, Waynesboro, PA 17268

Third Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother William W. Wepking, PM

Website: <http://acacia586.org/>

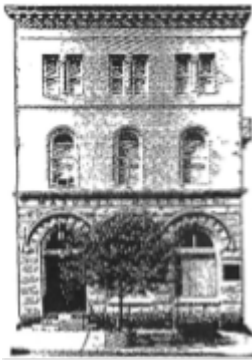
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/acacia586/>

Ladies Night: September 14, 2024

Fraternal Greetings,

A Stated Meeting of Acacia Lodge 586, Free and Accepted Masons will be held at the Masonic Temple at 33 West Main St, Waynesboro, PA 17268, on Friday, November 15, 2024 at 7:30 P.M. We hope to see you there.

Fraternal Greetings,
Brother William W. Wepking, PM
Worshipful Master





**Acacia Lodge No. 586
Free and Accepted Masons
33 W. Main St, Waynesboro, PA
17268**

It is my honor and privilege to invite you and your lady to Acacia's

Annual Ladies Night Banquet

Please Join us:

Saturday November 23, 2024

Cocktail hour at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 7:00 PM

at Waynesboro Country Club

11000 Country Club Rd, Waynesboro, PA 17268

Menu:

Charcuterie w/ dried fruit, cheese, and crackers

Spinach and artichoke dip w/ crackers and crostini

Choice of: Filet w/ demi & Crabcake duo (tartar and lemon)

Roasted sweet potato medallions

Bacon maple Brussel sprouts

Or

Roasted vegetable platter

Chef's selection of starch

Ginger carrot coulis

Chocolate peanut butter explosion cake w/ Chantilly cream and chocolate spider sauce

Cost: \$50.00 per person

RSVP with Choice of Meal **by November 15th** to:

Brother Joshua Brown PM, Secretary

(240) 217-0767 or secy0586@pagrandlodge.org

**William W. Wepking, PM, Worshipful Master
Acacia Lodge #586**

Acacia 586



LODGE FOOD DRIVE

We can show our community one of the tenets of Freemasonry by selflessly giving our time, effort, and compassion for others in both spirit and action.

8am @ Save-A-Lot Waynesboro



Spread the
Word



Feed our
Community



Non-Perishable
Food

NOVEMBER 2ND

Mount Zion Lodge No. 774

311 N Second St, McConnellsburg , PA 17233

Second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Worshipful Master: Brother John A. Daniels, PM

Ladies Night: April 10, 2024

From the Secretaries desk,

At the stated meeting held on October 14th, Mt. Zion Lodge No. 774 presented Brother Michael L. Glenn, PM with his PM jewel. The Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees were conferred on Mt. Zion's newest member, Brother David Byers.

At our November meeting on November 11, 2024, we will be serving firehouse burgers before the meeting starting @6:30pm. A stated meeting will begin at 7:30 PM, where we will recognize the service of our veterans, and will hold our nominations and elections of 2025 officers.

All brothers are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Fraternal Greeting,
John A. Daniels, PM
Worshipful Master

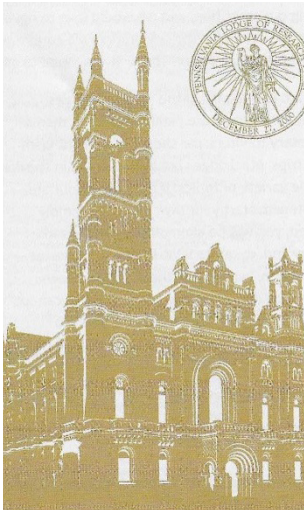
Pennsylvania Lodge of Research

Semi-Annual Meetings at Various Locations

Worshipful Master: Brother Richard F. Muth

<https://palodgeofresearch.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/92580616988>



Greetings from the East,

The Pennsylvania Lodge of Research is a unique occurrence in the history of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as this is the first Lodge constituted within our Jurisdiction solely for the purpose of Masonic study. The Pennsylvania Lodge of Research holds only two Stated Meetings each year, with Special Meetings to be held at the discretion of the Worshipful Master. Meetings are held at various Masonic sites throughout the Commonwealth. No Craft Degrees are conferred. The elected Worshipful Master does not receive “the Word of the Chair,” nor does he become a voting member of the Grand Lodge.

A stated meeting of the Pennsylvania Lodge of Research is to be held on Saturday, December 14, 2024, at the Valley of Harrisburg, 2701 North 3rd Street Harrisburg, PA 17110, beginning at 10:00 AM. The speakers are

Brothers George Haynes and Bob Burt.

Membership is open to all Master Masons who are members of Lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. To become a member of the Pennsylvania Lodge of Research please use this link to download a petition. The joining fee is \$75, and dues are \$25 per year. Both fee and dues (a total of \$100) must accompany the completed petition.

Questions regarding membership can be emailed to: Lodge.of.Research@pagrandlodge.org. Completed petitions should be sent along with the membership fee to the Secretary, at:

Bro. Michael L Moran, Secretary
Attn: Lodge of Research
c/o The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, F. & A.M.
1 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Tentative Meeting Dates
June 15, 2024
December 14, 2024

Sincerely and fraternally,
Christopher D. Rodkey, WM
Pennsylvania Lodge of Research

Widows Sons - Marked & Hewn Chapter

Second Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

President: Brother Rich "Meat" Kline, PM

Website: <https://pawsmra.org/pawsmra-chapters/marked-hewn/>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WidowsSonsPA>

Grand Master's Ride: August 1 - 4, 2024

Greetings from the Widows Sons,



Even though the summer has ended, and riding season is winding down, the Widows Sons is not dormant. With many charity rides planned by many of the state chapters and our annual fall gathering held in October, we are still very busy spreading Freemasonry through the motorcycling community.

The Marked & Hewn chapter held its annual drawing in conjunction with the Blue Knights Chambersburg chapter on October 12th, and was a great success raising money for our Christmas gifts for children.

If you ride a street legal motorcycle, have an MC endorsement on your license, and are a Master Mason, you can be a part of the Widows Sons. Please visit our state website at <https://pawsmra.org/>

Sincerely and fraternally,
Rich "Meat" Kline, PM
President, Marked & Hewn Chapter



Cocoa & Canvas



Paint Event

Saturday, January 11, 2025

\$30.00/Ticket

2:00pm - 4:00pm

**Eureka-West Shore Masonic Lodge
910 S. Market St, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**



**Includes:
Hot Cocoa, snacks, paint
supplies & step-by-step
instructions**

For Tickets Contact:

Ozembfundraising@gmail.com

**Proceeds benefit the Daughters of the Nile
Ozemb Temple No. 52 Ways & Means Fund.
In the event of cancellation, we will reschedule
the event as soon as possible.**



PENNSYLVANIA
MASONS

Copyright 2024 - 3rd Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
Brother Jeffrey R. Miller, District Deputy Grand Master

Editor: Brother Carl F. Calder, PS
ccalder@pagrandlodge.org