

PETER M. RASMUSSEN LODGE 916
AF & AM

TRESTLE BOARD
JANUARY – MARCH - 2022

50th ANNIVERSARY



Our Lodge was named Peter M. Rasmussen after the first Grand Master of the American Canadian Grand Lodge. Chartered on 25 March 1972 by the United Grand Lodges Germany, and given the Lodge number 916. Our Lodge is built upon incredible history and deep rooted time honored Masonic customs and tradition.

PMR is known to be the “Most dynamic little Lodge in the ACGL”

IN REMERANCE OF OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY

OUR LODGE WAS CONSECRATED 25 MARCH 1972

PMR 916 is OPEN to recognized MASONS, Family and Friends, and Guest

LODGE HALL GASTTSTATTE ZUR MÜLLEREI
DÜRER STRASSE 10-12 67549 WORMS

A CONSTITUENT LODGE of the
AMERICAN CANADIAN GRAND LODGE AF&AM e.V. (ACGL)
WITHIN THE
UNITED GRAND LODGES OF GERMANY (VGLvD)
Brotherhood of Freemasons

Fraternal Greetings, Brethren:

Fifty years ago today the Charter proclaiming the formal establishment of our Lodge was issued to us by the United Grand Loge of Germany. Today the members of our Lodge can celebrate 50 years of service within the Masonic community.

During the past fifty years our Lodge has been the medium through which hundreds of good men were received into our ancient and honorable fraternity. It has served as a Masonic home-away-from-home for hundreds of Freemasons in all walks of life who found themselves residing in Germany as the result of their normal vocations, or who were temporarily passing through the jurisdiction of the Lodge.

It is almost certainly true the Founding Members of our Lodge could not, at that point in time and considering the particular circumstances, conceive of the Lodge remaining in existence for over fifty years. Hence the occasion of our Lodge Anniversary is a very special one, and takes on greater significance when one considers the constantly changing world and military circumstances which have affected the local membership status in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

It is a privilege and honor for me at this time to extend my congratulations, good wishes, and great respect of all the officers of our lodge and humble congratulation to our honorable Lodge, both past and present. May the blessing of the Grand Architect of the Universe be with our members and families, and our PMR Lodge 916.

Fraternally and sincerely,

Worshipful Master Brother Michael Howson

OFFICERS and RESIDENT BROTHERS of PETER M RASMUSSEN 916

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| WORSHIPFUL MASTER: | MICHAEL A. HOWSON |
| SENIOR WARDEN: | STEFANOS TSACHTIDIS |
| JUNIOR WARDEN: | JEROME LEE AJAYE |
| TREASURER: | RUEDIGER G. GLASER |
| SECRETARY: | ROBERT E. YOUNG |
| CHAPLAIN: | KOMLA C. EZO |
| SENIOR DEACON | JANNIS OLF |
| JUNIOR DEACON: | BRADY A. CAULDER |
| MARSHALL: | VIVIANOS ADANDOGOU |
| SENIOR STEWART: | CHRISTAIN A. KOERK |
| JUNIOR STEWART: | WARD R. WILLIAMSON II |
| TYLER: | STANLEY L. REAMS |
| BROTHER | K. ZANE JOHNSTON |
| BROTHER | RONALD W. STRADLING |
| BROTHER | MICHAEL OSSWALD |
| BROTHER | LUKE MASON |
| BROTHER | KARL RICK |
| BROTHER | BERND DETROY |
| BROTHER | BYRON TOLLIVER |
| BROTHER | CHARSTEN WIENBREYER |
| BROTHER | PETER LOHR |

FOUNDER MEMBERS

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| EDWARD D. MARTIN † | WILLIAM D. DEBUSK |
| GERALD R. DODD † | WILLIAM E. SMITH, JR. |
| JOHN O. LOFTON † | NATHAN FRANK † |
| EARL C. HICKS | EDWARD B.W. RIPPY † |
| RICHARD E. NIELSON † | DAVID J. LUNSFORD |
| JOHN W. PETERIE | WILLIAM R. WRIGHT † |
| DOUGLAS H. SOWARDS | JOHN T. SIKORSKY |
| LOUIS M. SANTELLI | BILLY J. FLETCHER |
| RICHARD A. SIMMONS | ERNEST W. RAABE † |
| DEMERY M. AUSTIN | ROBERT L. WALKER † |
| JOSEPH C. REVES † | ISADORE DORTCH † |
| JOHN E. JUSTICE † | JULIAN W. EASLEY † |
| JOHN C. CASBEER | CHARLES E. CHESTNUT |
| WILLIAM M. HERNDERSON | WALTER A. IRISH |
| WILLIAM L. MAGNUS | CALBIN H. GARNER |
| BILLY M. H. JACKSON | LELAND D. HOMES |
| BURTON T. POOLE † | MORTON S. LINDNER |
| JAY P. HOCHSTAIN** | THOMAS H. LOCKETT |

CHARTER MEMBERS

HARRY J. RAMIREZ, JR
ARTHUR L. YORK
CLARENCE B. PATE, JR.
CHARLES E. CAPE
MICHAEL R. WILKIE
JOHN W. SANDERFER, JR.
LARRY L. SELLARS
TOMMIE R. PRUITT

† DECEASED

** PRESENTLY A MEMBER OF PMR

HONORARY MEMBERS

VALENTIN SCHMITT †
HERMANN HEHLENBECK †
BERT ANDERSON †
DUNCAN CURRIE †
WILLIAM DENNEY †
HANS FRICK †
BILLY C. HAYES †
CHARLES HUMMEL
ARTHUR KILE
WILLIAM LANHAM †
JULIUS LUTZ †
JESS MINTON
JOHN MITCHEL †
OWEN QUELL
ARTHUR POWELL
DONALD RUTHERFORD
GERHARD SEVERIN
WILLIAM SMITH †
DAN TAYLOR †
HUGO THOMAS †
MARLON WESTENBURG †
REI HOLD RISSEL †
Nate JOHNSON

PAST MASTERS

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1972-1973 | W.BRO. EDWARD D. MARTIN † |
| 1973-1974 | W.BRO. GERALD R. DODD |
| 1974-1975 | VW.BRO. JOHN O. LOFTON † |
| 1975-1976 | W.BRO. PETE ADCOX |
| 1976-1977 | W.BRO. RAYMOND HANSON |
| 1977-1978 | W.BRO. WOODY HARWELL † |
| 1978-1980 | W.BRO. WILLIAM BESTPITCH |
| 1980-1981 | W.BRO. CHARLIE CAPE † |
| 1981-1982 | W.BRO. TED O. MARKS † |
| 1982-1983 | W.BRO. DON WILCOX |
| 1983-1984 | W.BRO. CHARLES L. HUNSUCKER † |
| 1984-1985 | W.BRO. HENRY COLEMAN † |
| 1985-1986 | W.BRO. ADAM KOVALSKI |
| 1986-1988 | W.BRO. ROBERT E. YOUNG, JR. |
| 1988-1989 | W.BRO. RICHARD A. BROWN |
| 1989-1990 | W.BRO. MANFRED DIEFENBACH |
| 1990-1992 | VW.BRO. WARD R. WILLIAMSON, II |
| 1992-1993 | VW.BRO. GABOR E. ECSODI † |
| 1993-1994 | W.BRO. ANDREW SMITH † |
| 1994-1995 | W.BRO. GERALD BURROUGHS † |
| 1995-1996 | W.BRO. K. ZANE JOHNSTON |
| 1996-2001 | W.BRO. TERRY L. ORMAND |
| 2001-2002 | W.BRO. RICHARD E. PARKS |
| 2002-2005 | W.BRO. ROBERT E. YOUNG, JR. |
| 2005-2006 | W.BRO. MATTHEW J. BAKER |
| 2006-2008 | W.BRO. KEVIN WADE CURRAN |
| 2008-2010 | W.BRO. ROBERT E. YOUNG, JR. |
| 2010-2011 | W.BRO. RONALD W. STRADLING |
| 2011-2017 | W.BRO. KOMLA C. EZO |
| 2017-2018 | MW.BRO. EDDIE M. GUEVARA |
| 2018-2020 | W.BRO. STANLEY L. REAMS |
| 2020-2022 | W.BRO. MICHAEL A. HOWSON |

† DECEASED



The Trestle Board is our official newsletter promoting the projects, events, and members of Peter M. Rasmussen Lodge 916 AF & AM. It is circulated to all members and the ACGL.

CALENDER BIRTHDAYS

MONTH OF JANAUARY

Richard P. Marshall January 18, 1943
 Bruce L. Hood January 19, 1942
 John M. Reeve January 21, 1940
 Charsten Wienbreyer January 22, 1959
 Robert E. Young January 26, 1944

MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Charles A. Hart February 2, 1942
 Stanley L. Reams February 12, 1939
 Michael Osswald February 29, 1956

MONTH OF MARCH

Byron M. Tolliver March 1, 1960
 James Winston Cox March 4, 1977
 William F. Lowell March 5, 1950
 Thomas Mike Sulton March 10, 1966

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

The Officers and Members join with me in extending Greetings on your Masonic Birthday.
 Date Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason

MONTH OF JANUARY

Bruce J. Hood January 28, 1965
 John F. Cooper January 25, 1977
 Nigel R. Furson January 24, 1984
 Richard A. Brown January 9, 1985
 Dewey W. Morse January 22, 1985
 Charles H. Beard January 12, 1993
 Thomas M. Sulton January 4, 2012

MONTH OF FEBRUARY

JW Hall February 20, 1968
 Richard E. Emmart February 14, 1977
 Daniel M. Morrow February 5, 1990
 Frank P. Bajus February 16, 1999

MONTH OF MARCH

Jerry M. Burns March 31, 1976
 Robert E. Young March 26, 1980
 Alfred A. White March 15, 1983
 Jimmy A. McGrath March 20, 1985
 Manfred Diefenbach March 23, 1988
 Koffitse V. Adandogou March 21, 2007
 Stefanos Tsachtidis March 24, 2018

MASONIC EDUCATION

A FOCUS ON FREEMASONRY

by Herbert A. Ronin, Past Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska and Chairman Emeritus of the Executive Commission of M.S.A.

This Short Talk Bulletin has been adapted from a paper, "A Sketch of Freemasonry", which Most Worshipful Brother Ronin prepared for the Scottish Rite several years ago.

Through the years in our American society, Freemasonry has stood head and shoulders above the some 700 other fraternal organizations. Its more than three million members today evidence its impressive size and stature. It has been a powerful instrumentality for good because of its great teachings of morality. The kindred fellowship of good men seeking great goals in living has merited the splendid reputation which Masonry possesses. Our members can be justifiably proud of our American heritage which in a large measure is the work product of members of the Craft.

The imprint of Freemasonry was indelibly engrossed in the birth certificate of our Nation, the Declaration of Independence. This bold document was authored by Thomas Jefferson, and was adopted by the Continental Congress, which was predominantly Protestant, and whose leaders were members of our Craft. Fifty years after its adoption and shortly before his death, Thomas Jefferson penned these prophetic words concerning his crowning masterpiece: "May it be to the world what I believe it will be to some parts sooner, to others later. but Finally to all, the signal of arousing men to burst their chains under which ignorance and superstition had persuaded them to find themselves and to assume the blessings and security of government."

The message of Jefferson made inference to those democratic ideas which are the heart and philosophy of our government. Among them are these words which should be not only familiar but thoroughly understood by all Americans: "All men are created equal--they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights--among them are life, liberty and pursuit of happiness--to secure those rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. "

Later those rights were preserved in the Bill of Rights which was added to the Constitution of the United States, which is the greatest document of modern history. William Gladstone, one of England's greatest statesmen, attended to the truth of this statement in these eloquent words: "The American Constitution is the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man."

The rights of free men are inalienable because they are given by Almighty God and not by man. The purpose of our government is to protect these rights which insure the dignity of man. These constitutional guarantees make it mandatory that our government be one by law and not by man. In 1776 men were governed by the personal rule of kings and emperors, and the declaration of the rights of free men was revolutionary. It is apparent to us today that these rights are in accordance with Masonic doctrine, which is interwoven into the fabric of the governmental

structure of the nations. The hopeful expression of Jefferson that the entire world might be free and possess the security of government to these ends is far from being realized, and undoubtedly he would be grievously alarmed with the formidable and ominous dangers to these sacred rights and purposes of our government. There is a real and vital need of Masons today to be vigilant and alert to safeguard these precious rights from those who seek to circumvent and undermine as well as those who seek to overthrow our form and purpose of government. The average American desires wholesome things in his life. He believes in virtue and the qualities of honesty and decency. He has innate within him the desire to express, to give and to share his time, talent and substance for assisting those individuals who are truly in need. In recent years it has become fashionable for too many persons to shirk opportunities and tasks for the assistance to unfortunate persons and the general improvement of our society. There too frequently evolves the decision to let the government take care of these problems, or we find excuses to close our eyes and pretend that things are not as bad as they are. Moral and mental laziness have emerged from the course of inaction toward these problems in our communities and even in our immediate families. This ineptness has seriously affected the personal moral responsibility of the individual. These conditions were apparent to the late Brother Peter Marshall (Old Monkland St. James Lodge No. 177, S.C.) when he made this significant statement, "Let us stand for something lest we fall for anything!"

We need directive purpose in our striving and endeavors for successful living. We need to be both sensitive and responsive to the needs of others. We need the vision and then to strive to attain great goals in living. The doctrines and brotherhood of Masonry furnish guidance, inspiration and assurance for those who conscientiously seek its truths and live in accordance with its precepts. The organized and unified effort and work of the members of our Craft produced wonderful accomplishments in its benevolences and charities, which would be utterly impossible if left to individual effort and action. The strong bonds of brotherhood are strengthened and become meaningful in this good work.

The appeal and call of Freemasonry has ever been in its effective techniques of building character. Masonic law requires that only those of good moral character and possessing an unqualified belief in a Supreme Being may be admitted to membership. Contrary to most other organizations, membership cannot be directly solicited and new members are motivated to petition for Masonry by the excellent reputation our Fraternity and its members enjoy. This is a fine compliment to Masonry and is one of those attributes which make it unique.

What we believe in and work for, determines in a large measure who and what we are. The lives of truly great men attest to this fact. Likewise, Masonry opens new horizons for those who will give it "the attentive ear, the instructive tongue, and the faithful breast," and who are sensitive for the needs of others and willing to work as a cog in a mighty organization whose designs are honorable and far reaching. We need, however, to strength that which we have. Our teachings must first be significant in the lives of our members before we can discern good effects which would naturally emerge from them. The purpose of this sketch of Freemasonry is not to analyze comparative strength and weakness of our Fraternity, but to bring into sharper focus its need, and the force which Masonry has to offer in the lives of its faithful members.

It is a matter of common knowledge how Operative Masonry existed for many centuries and that great cathedrals were constructed by these craftsmen. The magnificent structures erected by them before the time of modern machinery testify to the skill and devotion of our ancient craftsmen to their assigned tasks. From this gradually emerged the beautiful symbolism of Speculative Masonry which became formally organized in the early part of the 18th Century. It has been aptly said that while Operative Masons built great temples for the worshipers, Speculative Masonry seeks to build worshipers for the Temples. Anyone who is even superficially informed as to the work and doctrines of Masonry knows that it cannot be classified as a religion or as a substitute for one. Masonry does engender Brotherly Love and Adoration to God, which should induce its members to become better members of the church of their choice. The Blue Lodges of Ancient Craft Masonry have three splendid and impressive degrees. The thrust of the Entered Apprentice Degree is the teaching of great moral principles by beautiful ceremonies and lectures. These include the four great cardinal virtues of temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice, together with the beloved golden tenets of Masonry--Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. The Fellowcraft Degree emphasizes the importance of the acquisition of knowledge, and that with it comes greater duties and responsibilities. The great degree of all Masonry is the sublime degree of a Master Mason. This degree reveals the Doctrine of the Immortality of the Soul in a very impressive manner and also charges that it is incumbent upon all Masons to continually pursue further light as we travel symbolically in our pilgrimage in life from the West to the glorious East.

In the Master's Degree we are told to emulate the legendary Master Hiram who was faithful even though his life was imperiled. It would be well for us today to not only emulate his fidelity and courage but his industry, skill, and devotion to his work. Perhaps one of the greatest teachings of Masonry is that the building of human character is likened to that of building a great Temple. If it is important that the best designs, materials and workmanship should be used in the erection of a beautiful Temple, isn't it even more important that greater concern should be employed in the building of our own character temples, which the Apostle Paul to vividly depicts as a "house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. "

What we do not understand, we do not possess. Neither can we impart to others what we do not possess. Superficial exposure to Freemasonry will not suffice to achieve even minimum requirements of a real Mason. To be meaningful it must be more than an intellectual exercise or a passing experience. Ritualism must be supplemented and embellished by explanation, education, personal fellowship before Masonry can become a part of us and its precepts strengthened by performance.

The late Roscoe Pound, formerly Dean of the Harvard Law School and Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, was a great scholar of Masonry as well as of the law. Dean Pound expressed his concept of the meaning of the true acquisition of Freemasonry with these words: "Albert Pike taught that the individual Mason, instead of receiving a predigested

Masonry ladled out to him by another, should make his own Masonry for himself by study and reflection upon the work and symbols. He stood for a Masonry built up within each Mason by himself and for himself on the solid foundation of internal conviction."

The penetrating observation of Dean Pound goes to the very heart of Masonry. It also reminds us of the very first lessons of Masonry, when we were informed that we must first be prepared to be a Mason in our hearts. Most of us fail to see or realize the full measure of the limited time God has given us, because we insist on looking outside instead of within us. The greatest problem of our lives lie within us and are concerning ourselves. As Masons let us be aware that God has built within us meaningful resources for greater living. Freemasonry is a virtual treasure-house of wisdom, strength, and honesty which upholds good over evil, and whose doctrines and teachings have been and are now unchangeable, that gives us vision and purpose, and reassurance in time of sorrow or stress.

This closing prayer seems appropriate to the tasks that lie before us:

"O God, make of us what Thou wilt,
Guide Thou the labors of our hands;
May all our work be surely built,
As Thou the Architect has planned!
But whatso'er Thy power shall make
Of these frail lives, do not forsake
Thy dwelling place. Let Thy Presence rest Forever in the Temple of our breasts."

An extract from the American-Canadian Grand Lodge Masonic Short Talks

Sickness

We wish all the Brethren good health and a safe recovery from any ills they may have.

Relief

Our Lodge gives Charity Donations to

Transatlantic Boy Scouts of America

Worms Germany Childrens Music School – Lucie-Kölsch

Worms Germany Rotes-Kreuz Senior Citizens Home

The DEMOLAY here in Germany

The American-Canadian Grand Lodge Charity Fund

Thank you my Brothers for your donations to Peter M. Rasmussen for it is your donations that make all these donations possible. And should you know of a worthy cause, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Contact Details

Telephone: (0049) 6241-591516 (Lodge Secretary RW Brother Bob) E-Mail Lodge Secretary:
youngroberte@aol.com

NEW PLASTIC DUES CARDS

Dues Cards that you are familiar with are changed from an annual paper Dues Card to a permanent plastic Dues Cards. Issued to you by your lodge as established by the ACGL with implementation commencing in 2022.

Each Dues Card has an ACGL hologram sticker on it for validation purposes. Each card has an assigned random number which authenticates the Brother over a web page. Scanning the QR Code provides information to the Brothers standing. Please sign and secure your Plastic Dues Card. Lost or damaged Cards cost 15 euro or \$20. Our ACGL is modernizing As we go forward.

Peter M Rasmussen Lodge 916 annual dues remain \$75.00 for Non Resident Members living mostly in the USA. Annual Dues Payment is (by Personal Check, Certified Check, or Postal Money Order) payable to PMR 916. And 75.00 euro for those living in Germany.

If you live in the USA and do not have a PLASTIC DUES CARD Please pay your Dues soonest. Make your (personal check, Certified check, or Postal Money Order) payable to PMR 916. Our lodge mailing address remains:

PETER M RASMUSSEN LODGE 916
POSTFACH 1932
67509 WORMS
GERMANY

Worshipful Master, Wardens, Secretary, Brethren All,
The newsletter inspired me to....

a) pay my dues for 2022 _____

b) contribute to the Charity Fund _____

or

contribute to the General Fund _____

My address has changed. Please use the new address given below:

Street _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

Telephone and cell numbers _____

email address _____

We hope you enjoy your Newsletter and we look forward to hearing from you !