

PETER M. RASMUSSEN LODGE 916 AF & AM TRESTTLE BOARD

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2 DECEMBER 2017



From the East
MW Brother Eddie M. Guevara (PGM/PM)
Master

Christmas and Holiday Seasons Greetings!

To my Brothers, families
and friends ...



Holiday Greetings to you and those you love! This is always a time of great personal excitement and the anticipation of fun, happiness and joy we always have during this season of the year. We have many fond memories from many wonderful gatherings in past years and now we look forward to sharing with you the delights of the coming holidays. I am happy to have this opportunity to communicate with you and wish you and yours many good times in the days and weeks ahead while in the Lodge and newsletter.



It is always fitting and proper that we pause to reflect on our personal good fortune and to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for our many blessings. We cherish our freedoms; and you manifested relief in your community. We are grateful for the privilege of free assembly and the right to practice our craft, and the many blessings of family life and love.



Because this holiday period is also a season marked with the wonderful tradition of sharing and gift giving, I would hope that you might consider a special year end charity donation in your community, or and even our and affiliated Lodge so that together we may continue to share with those we serve and those less fortunate in our communities.



May all of you according to your faith and traditions enjoy these holidays.



On behalf of our elected and appointed line and ladies. Christa and I wish to extend our warmest wishes to you and all of those you cherish for all the joys of the season. We also send our most heartfelt good wishes for the New Year 2018 ... may everything that you wish for you be fulfilled. May we all share a year of good health, a year of growth and personal achievement and may 2018 be a year of peace on earth and good will toward all mankind.



Please join me in welcoming our newest members into our Lodge and to our Brotherhood of Freemasonry.

Brother Stefanos Tsachtidis was born in Greece. He was Initiated Entered Apprentice 1 November 2017 by Most Worshipful Brother Eddie M. Guevara. The degree team exemplified our time honored ritual are Worshipful Brother Paul Ezo (IPM) as Senior Warden, Brother Lee Ajaye the Junior Warden, Brother Stanley Reams as Senior Deacon, Brother Brady Caulder as Master of Ceremony, Right Worshipful Brother Bob Young the Secretary and as Chaplain, and Worshipful Brother Peter Lohr the Senior Deacon. Worshipful Master eloquently exemplified the Apron Lecture, Working Tools, he also from memory eloquently educated the importance of this degree to all in attendance our time honored tradition rituals of the 2nd and 3rd Section Lecture and the Entered Apprentice Charge. Enhancing our lodge of instruction made possible by Brother Lee our Junior Warden by adding a projector and automation capability.





*Brother Stefanos interest into becoming a Mason is known only to himself. As a candidate his curiosity was no doubt satisfied as he attended our Lodge Installation of Officers, where our time honored rituals, ancient charges and regulations, elected and appointed officers duties and responsibilities and charge was eloquently lectured in a style and manner found nowhere in our ACGL; PMR 916 celebration of Freemasonry 300 Years, where the history, nature and principles eloquently lectured and explained; and Lodge of Sorrow, where he observed a somber and beautiful occasion. He observed an emotional experience by those in attendance. **2B1 asked 1: Brother Stanley Reams was his recommender.***

Students of Freemasonry have long known that the second and third degree evolved from the first one. That makes the Entered Apprentice degree the foundation of ancient craft Masonry and, in some respects, it most important degree.

“Whence came you and **whither are your traveling?**” Our symbolic way of expressing this is “Whither are you traveling?”, but what we are really asking is, “Do you have the courage to seek out the unknown toward which Freemasonry points?” Freemasonry is a journey, and when a man stands for the first time at its gate, the West Gate, he cannot know where that journey will lead. We present him with the tools and implements to use along the way, but we do not tell him how to use them. He must figure that out for himself. He is surrounded by “friends and brothers” at the beginning of the journey, but there will be a time when he will be lone, and when he must discover the way forward without any guidance, except for the guidance

of the Supreme Architect of the Universe. He learns that the road ahead will not always be smooth. It will sometimes be a “rough and rugged” road, one filled with dangers, real and imaginary. But dangers nonetheless. Only courage will cause him to begin the journey, and only courage will cause him to pursue the journey’s end, even when assailed by forces stronger than he is, which may, in the end prove fatal.

Masons should frequently ask themselves the question that was once posed to them: “Whither are you traveling?” It will take courage to ask it, for it is easier to drift through life without answering the question than it is to accept its challenge. But in the end, the journey’s ends, it will be worth it. **“The Road Not Taken”** say it all:

**“I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.”**

Patron Saints of Freemasonry St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist



“There is in every regular and well governed Lodge, a certain point within a circle, embroidered by two parallel perpendicular lines. . . .”



June 24th, Freemasons celebrate the Feast of St. John Baptist, and **27th December** Saint John the Evangelist. A curious thing for a non-sectarian group to do. Freemasonry historically acknowledges St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist as its patron saints, reveres their memory, points to their exemplary lives in its ritualistic work, and dedicates its Lodges to them.

In 1740, Chevalier Andrew Michael Ramsey, a Scottish expatriate living in France, as Orator of the Grand Lodge of France, first suggested what morphed into the Templar theory of the formation of Freemasons. "During the time of the holy wars in Palestine, several principal lords and citizens associated themselves together, and entered into a vow to re-establish the temples of the Christians in the Holy Land; and engaged themselves by an oath to employ their talents and their fortune in restoring architecture to its primitive institution. They adopted several ancient signs and symbolic words drawn from religion by which they might distinguish themselves from the infidels and recognize each other in the midst of the Saracens. They communicated these signs and words only to those who had solemnly sworn, often at the foot of the altar, never to reveal them. This was not an oath of execration but a bond uniting men of all nations into the same confraternity. Sometime after our order was united with the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. Hence our lodges are, in all Christian countries, called Lodges of St. John."

Ramsey largely invented his tale out of whole

cloth, and there is nothing to suggest that his account was anything more than a fairy tale.

In what is called the Old York Lecture from about 1770 in England has the following as part of its EA catechism:

"Q. To whom were the lodges dedicated during the Mosaic dispensation?"

A. To Moses, the chosen of God, and Solomon, the son of David."

"Q. And under what name were the Masons known during that period?"

"A. Under the name of Dionysiacs, Geometricians, or Masters in Israel."

"Q. But as Solomon was a Jew, and died long before the promulgation of Christianity, to whom were they dedicated under the Christian dispensation?"

"A. From Solomon the patronage of Masonry passed to St. John the Baptist."

"Q. And under what name were they known after the promulgation of Christianity?" —

"A. Under the name of Essenes, Architects, or Freemasons."

"Q. Why were the lodges dedicated to St. John the Baptist?"

"A. Because he was the forerunner of our Saviour, and by preaching repentance and humiliation, drew the first parallel of the Gospel."

"Q. Had St. John the Baptist any equal?"

"A. He had; St. John the Evangelist."

"Q. Why was he said to be the equal of the Baptist?"

"A. Because he finished by his learning what the other began by his zeal, and thus drew a second line parallel to the former; ever since which time Freemason's lodges in all Christian

countries, have been dedicated to the one, or the other, or both of these worthy and worshipful men."



Brethren at one point we/you have assembled around PMR 916 altar and affiliated Lodge altar at the closing of the lodge and joined hands in a symbolic representation of the "chain of sincere affection". It is a powerful symbol that when we leave the lodge, and "return to our respective places of residence", as the ritual says, that we will shortly return to the world where Freemasonry will be practiced by our individual efforts. The chain is not broken, even though we drop hands with a brother, because the chain that binds us together can never be broken, until death brings about the final separation. But we are remained upon living the lodge that we have a duty to perform. May the symbol of the chain remain a powerful and important one in 2018!

Eddie M. Guevara (PGM)
Michael Osswald
Jerome L. Ajaye
Robert E. Young
Ruediger Georg Glaser
Peter Lohr
Brady Caulder

Stanley Reams
Ward R. Williamson II
Komla C. Ezo
Vivianos Adandogous
Luke Mason
Larry J. Boyd
Frak Q. Cook Jr
Richard P. Marshall
Bruce J. Hood
John M. Reeve
Charles A. Hart
James Winston Cox
William F. Lowell
Thomas M. Sulton
Wilbur D. Beasley
Randy A. Holloway
Karl T. Ward
James D. Leigh
Billy C. Vaughn
Clifford E. Cannon
Richard A. Brown
Joseph Goldberg
John A. Seek
Manfred Diefendbach
Andrejs Bedelis
Felix I. Flores
Lowell J. Mills Jr.
Walter E. Coffing
Frank P. Bajus
Dewey W. Morse
Jimmy A. Mcgrath
Wayne C. Toberman
Mark E. Matthews
Terry L. Ormand
Daniel M. Morrow
Deward B. Rice Jr.
Loyal J. Johnson
Thomas R. Wright
Thomas F. Kiefer
Michael Banda
Matthew J. Baker
Thomas E. Tierney
Gerald R. Dodd
Founder Member
Lawrence C. Young
Pedro M. Barrios
Troy Barton
Jerry M. Burns
Billy Joe Staffiles
Ronald W. Stradling
Billy D. Neal
John E. Ralston
Leland E. Irvin

Jimmy D. Hix
Anthony D. Crump
Daniel Moreno
Arthur J. E. Beard
Oscar H. Currin
Nigel R. Fursdon
Stephen S. Slyfield
JW Hall
John C. Cooper
Darry C. Johnson
Alfred A. White
Richard R. Emmart
Jay P. Hochstaine
Founder Member
Angel L. Robles
Stefanos Psachtidis

Honorary members:

BILLY C. HAYES (PGM)
CHARLES HUMMEL
ARTHUR KILE (PGM)
JULIUS LUTZ
JESS MINTON (PGM)
OWEN QUELL (PGM)
ARTHUR POWELL (PGM)
DONALD RUTHERFORD
GERHARD SEVERIN (PGM)
DAN TAYLOR
NATE JOHNSON
BERND DETROY
HAROLD FARBER

Masonic New Year's Resolution

To make a difference!
To make a good man better!
To improve Lodge masonic education!
To improve involvement and communication!



To help us evaluate our Lodge Newsletter take a few moments to answer the following questions.

1. How important is our Trestle Board newsletter?

- Very Important
- Important
- Somewhat Important
- Not Important

2. How satisfied are you with the layout of the newsletter?

- Very Useful
- Useful
- Somewhat Useful
- Not Useful

3. How useful is the information in the newsletter?

- Very Useful
- Useful
- Somewhat Useful
- Not Useful

4. How would you rate the content of the newsletter?

- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Poor

5. How would you rate the format of the newsletter?

- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory

○ Poor

6. How could we improve the newsletter?

Your input is important. Please email your answers to the WM at E-mail:
eddiemguevara@gmail.com.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and help us to continuously improve our newsletter.

Dear Brethren all,

As your membership (Dues Card) end 31 December 2017, I would like to request you to renew your membership.

For our members in the USA or elsewhere around the World (Non-Residence) your membership fee for 2018 remain the same as last year at \$75.00.

Please make your Check Payable to PMR 916, and mail Peter M. Rasmussen Lodge 916 Postfach 1932 67509 Worms Germany

Thank you Brothers ("Early Birds") for renewing your membership early.

If you have questions about your membership, please contact RW Brother Bob Young our Secretary or Worshipful Master. I look forward hearing from you and to mail you Dues Card in a timely fashion.

Our members are the visible embodiment of our commitment to our Lodge. Your membership means a great deal to us as we continue into the New Year.

Sincerely and fraternally,

**Brother Bob Young
Secretary**



The Trestle Board is the official bimonthly Newsletter promoting the projects, events, and members of Peter M. Rasmussen Lodge 916 AF & AM. It is circulated to all members and AGL. Publication bimonthly are Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep and November.