

PETER M. RASMUSSEN LODGE 916  
AF & AM  
TRESTLE BOARD

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1 MARCH/APRIL 2018



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

Forty five years (45) ago to this date our Lodge draw near in celebration to the date our Lodge was consecrated 25 March 1972. Today the vision of our founders has not change, the Ritual has not change, the tradition has not change, and the “Ancient Land Mark” of our fraternity has not change. But what has changed as we go through time is our way of thinking as we are affected by society and our generations. Some have not changed in Masonic thinking as you are still govern your generation of the past, but we have now progressed into a dawn of the new millennium to which has witnesses a

resurgences in the popularity of our craft, no doubt provoked by Freemasonry’s exposure in popular culture such as what you read in Masonic Service Association publications and renown Masonic authors, the several exposes on the History and Discover channels, and the National Treasure film and other internet websites. The resurgence you and I experience proves two things. The first is that, despite this resurgence, the model of 1960s Freemasonry is unsustainable in modern times. We no longer raise 10 to 20 brethren a year. Our lodge membership roll numbers experience members drop out. Not because our dues is not affordable, but because perhaps the lack of interest – no program. Not too long ago we initiated one brother (Brother Christian Koerk) into the Fraternity, pass one to Fellow Craft (Brother Stefanos Psachtidis). As I stood in front of our newly initiated and Fellow Craft brother and exemplify the ritual that evening ... I can see them looking for that initial Masonic knowledge, and at the end of a long evening I felt rewarded as I imparted masonry to them. They want the history and the mystery of the ancient, honorable and mystic Craft of Freemasonry. I was caution at the end when each was presented their copy of the Standard Work and Lecture Book that everything taught them that evening was written and came out of that “book”.

As we move forward we do so from a position of strength, a strength born out of brotherhood. I ask that each officer and members of this Lodge as they move forward consider the great brothers of history and study their example. Remember those who gave freely of their time to build up our Craft and honor the memory of those ancient and not so ancient Brothers who sacrificed their lives for Freemasonry. Consider your own thoughts, words, and deeds. Craft yourself into the type of Mason who can humbly stand beside such honorable and venerated Brothers and be a beacon of light and hope to future generations of Masons. The future of our Lodge and August Fraternity is as always

in your keeping. Keep it well and wisely my Brothers.

In a few weeks we will preserve the memories and incidence of our association with Peter M. Rasmussen Lodge 916 on 25 March 2018. A special issue will be release later this month to report events that transpired in celebration of our Lodge 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



**We hear from our  
Members/Contributors**  
*(Communication - the brotherly  
connection - is the key to our  
Lodge success)*

**Brother Brady Calder (Worms):** MW Bro Eddie, RW Bro Bob, and Brethren, It's was truly an amazing night as our Follow Craft degree always exemplify entitlement. It always fills me with great joy to guide a man, a Brother further into the light of our Mystical and Glorious Fraternity. I was only able to get a few photos and have attached the pictures for our records of this wonderful night. Psalm 133: "Behold, how great and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in Unity!"

**Brother Jimmy Hix (Ft. Worth Texas):** I bring fraternal brotherly greetings WM, officers and brethren. Wishing all my Brothers in Worms a blessed 2018. My you have joy, health, and blessings. Will be by to see you

around August September time frame.

**Brother Daniel Moreno (San Antonio, TX):** I bring fraternal and brotherly greetings Worshipful Master, Elected and Appointed Officers and Brethren of our Lodge. I apologize for being late on my membership fees. I had to catch up on private bills from this Christmas madness. It was quite an eye opener to realize that I have been in Masonry for 30 years! I sincerely thank you for sending me the pin and acknowledging my years of service to the Brotherhood where ever dispersed. To this end, Masonry has always been about "Truth, Relief and Brotherly love" our principles tenants. My association with many of my brethren has been filled with many great experiences and memories. I hope that someday I will be able to visit PMR and rekindled old friendships and create new ones. I pray that all of PMR are in good health and are doing well for others in their respective community. I am respectfully remitting my dues for 2018. I am also including a little extra to donate to our Lodge Charity (Widows and Orphans) fund as well. In Fraternal kinship, Your Brother.

**Brother Richard Marshall (Macon Georgia):** Worshipful Master, elected and appointed line, Brethren all: Brotherly greetings. I am doing well and although eleven months out of twelve exception that the month of December could have been better, the truth is I had a bad month in December 20017. God has blessed me with good Brothers here and there and things are looking better. My Commander here in Macon is to have our Annual Grand inspection. I am the Standard Bearer and glad to be able to help. I pray that all of you are doing well in God's will and everything that we enjoy. God Bless!

**Brother Stefanos Tsachtidis (Worms):** RW Brother Bob thank you for your kind words. It is my duty/obligation to help as and where I can. After all, our Lodge is now my home. I would also like to add, that I could not do anything without the help of Brother Stanley. Finally, I would like to thank you and our Worshipful Master Brother Eddie, for the opportunity you have given me to offer something through my abilities and what I can

do through them for our Lodge. Was a great afternoon!

**Brother Leland Irvin (Sahuarita, Arizona):** Worshipful Master and Brother Secretary, I bring brotherly greetings to our elected and appointed line and well wishes.

May my check for \$100 cover my annual membership dues and remainder a donation to our lodge charity. I am humble and gratifying to be recognized for serving my community with our Lodge Community Service Awards. Inculcating a sense of individual responsibility to Community and State is indeed masonic in character and deed.

As our 46<sup>th</sup> Lodge anniversary nears, I want to share my personal experience with the late Most Worshipful Brother Peter M. Rasmussen. Back then it was the 1960's I was the Secretary for Mount Moriah in the orient of Pirmasens; during lodge night one evening Brother Pete visited and chose to sit with me at the Secretary's Desk, it was memorable as he was a Masonic legend in his time and an inspirational man and brother.

Thank you for all that you do for our lodge and to the Brotherhood Freemasonry.

**Worshipful Brother Matthew J. Baker (Wispering Pines, North Carolina):** Hello Most Worshipful Brother Eddie. Not sure if the brethren understand that I suffered traumatic brain injury while in the army which unfortunately makes it difficult for me to keep up with things. Thankfully the financial difficulties I was experiencing in the recent past have been mostly resolved, so I no longer have a money problem, but I still have a memory problem.

Again, I'm grateful to you for reaching out to me. Please feel free to contact me anytime by any means. Frankly I'm quite lonely these days and I am always very happy to hear from a brother and through our lodge newsletter! With love and gratitude, Brother Matthew.



## March Birthdays

**Brother James Winston Cox** March 4, 1977  
**Brother William F. Lowell** March 4, 1977  
**Brother Thomas M. Sulton** March 10, 1966

## April Birthdays

**Brother Wilbur D. Beasley** Apr 1, 1935  
**Brother Randy A. Holloway** Apr 14, 1950  
**Brother Karl T. Ward** Apr 29, 1932



## Lodge Calendar

### March

- a. 24 March 46th Anniversary (Consecrated 25 March 1972) (Founders Day and Open House/MM Degree and EA degree) Starting at 1400
- b. Lodge of Instruction

### April

4- Stated

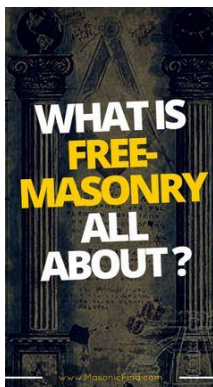
- a. Summons for Election/Annual  
September
  - b. ACGL Annual
  - c. Lodge of Instruction
  - d. Fellow Craft Degree
- 



### Our Community

Our Worshipful Master recognized all our members with the Community Service Award. It was an unexpected recognition as each inculcated a sense of individual responsibility to their community. Volunteering and making time to make a difference is what Mason's do. So by recognition .... "Motivation is the art of getting people to do what you want them to do because they want to do it." "Kindness is more important than wisdom, and the recognition of this is the beginning of wisdom." Thank you for all that you do for you Community.

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### What Does Freemasonry Stand For?

Freemasonry, as we know it to-day, is so complex so many-sided, so varied in its

activities, presents itself in so many different ways, may be viewed from so many different stand-points, that it is well, now and again, to ask the question — "What does Freemasonry really stand for?" and endeavor to find some answer to the question, in order that we may ascertain its position in human society, and properly estimate the influence for good which it has exerted and still exerts in this great and wonderful world in which we live.

I think it may be taken for granted, that Freemasonry does not present itself in exactly the same manner to any two Masons. Each one has probably a slightly different idea of what it is generally, and of what it means especially to him. To one man the outer aspect is the most prominent and the most important, the Lodge and its activities taking the first place in his regard; to another it is the inner meaning of Freemasonry, the spirit that underlies all the outward forms and ceremonies, which appeals most strongly, and which fascinates him most intensely.

To some the Lodge is a haven of rest, whither they may retire for an hour's quiet, from the rush and turmoil of everyday life, and I know of no better place for the proper restoration of body and mind, except perhaps some sacred edifice, than an orderly, well-regulated and harmonious Masonic Lodge. To others Freemasonry affords an opportunity for social intercourse, for the making and strengthening of human friendships, and indeed, no truer friends can be found anywhere, than those which may be obtained by a judicious selection from the members of the Masonic fraternity. To others, again, it is the symbolism of Freemasonry which proves the most attractive. They find in the Masonic ritual and ceremonial ample food for thought and reflection, which prompts them to apply the tenets and principles therein inculcated, to their own betterment and for the uplift of those among whom they live and labor.

But whilst this diversity is apparent to every Mason, there are certain features, certain principles, certain distinguishing characteristics, which are perhaps not evident to all, but which, when pointed out, are acknowledged by all and appeal to all, and it is

to a few of these that your attention is here directed.

Freemasonry stands for many things besides Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, although these must ever occupy an important place in its activities, as the Grand Principles upon which the Order is founded. Indeed, the beneficent work and influence of Freemasonry may now be seen in very many spheres of life and labor, and the Masons have left numerous marks in the world besides those made with mallet and chisel. For it may be truly said, that there is no Society in the universe, except perhaps those that are of a purely religious character, whose influence is as world-wide, and whose ramifications are as extensive, as those of the Society of Freemasons, or whose fundamental principles are as noble, as beautiful, as sublime, as those upon which the Brotherhood of Masons is established.

Amongst other things. Freemasonry stands for Patriotism, the love of one's native land, devotion to its interest and welfare and a determination to spend one's-self in its service if necessary. Those who possess this Masonic virtue to the full are willing to sacrifice all personal interest, to go out and do all that is possible to establish and maintain the rights of their native land, against any other power whatever, whether it be the internal power of corruption in high or low places, or the power of a foreign aggressor. Masonry has ever stood for that kind of patriotism and, we believe, will ever stand for it.

Freemasonry stands for Tolerance for the opinions and views of others, for each one has a perfect inalienable right to form his own opinion, and to hold it tenaciously. It demands mutual respect for each other's feelings, mutual regard for each other's rights, mutual desire for each other's welfare, and mutual regret for each other's misfortunes.

It stands for Equality, for there is probably no more democratic body in the world than the Masonic fraternity, alike in its constitution, laws and government. It draws its members from every rank, and from every honorable occupation in which men engage, while every Installed Master can vote annually for a Grand

Master, and even the youngest Entered Apprentice has a voice in the annual election of a Master for his Own Lodge.

Freemasonry stands for a Self-respecting Manhood, a manhood that rejoices in its freedom, while knowing and accepting willingly the limitations and responsibilities which freedom brings.

It stands for Friendship, for all mankind, no matter what country, language or color, provided only that, upon examination or inquiry, they are found to be good men and true, obedient to the moral law, and observant of the golden rule.

Freemasonry claims Civil and Religious Liberty for all men. Perhaps in no respect has the Masonic influence been exerted in days gone by to better and nobler purpose, than in the age-long struggle for liberty and freedom in the world. The Masons were ever champions of the oppressed individual, people and nation, and for centuries past every movement which has had for its object the emancipation of mankind from every form of tyranny, whether civil or religious, has received encouragement and support from the members of the Masonic fraternity. The consistent Mason will never be found engaged in plots or conspiracies against any government based upon the Masonic principles of liberty and equal rights. But (declares Albert Pike, the great American Freemason), "with tongue and pen, with all our open and secret influence, with the purse, and if need be, with our personal service, we will strive to advance the cause of human progress, labor to enfranchise human thought, to give freedom to the human conscience, and equal rights to the people everywhere. Wherever a nation struggles to be free from an intolerable tyranny of either body or soul, wherever the human mind asserts its independence, and people demand their inalienable rights, there shall go, not only our warmest sympathies, but also our personal help."

Again, Freemasonry stands for a true 'Brotherhood. This is one of the words which to-day is on everybody's lips. There is a

universal craving, a deep-seated urgent longing for a real, genuine Brotherhood of Peoples, which shall promote and establish good-will, peace and harmony in this sorely troubled world. Now Freemasonry stands for Brotherhood, both within and without the Order. But what do we mean by Brotherhood, and what does it involve? It means putting on one side the primary thought of self, and ceasing to struggle exclusively for our own individual interest and welfare—recognizing that others have rights as well as ourselves. It means that we acknowledge it as a duty to others, to act upon the square in all our dealings with them, never to take advantage of their ignorance to our own profit, but to deal with them in as honest and straightforward a manner, as we would wish others in similar circumstances to deal with us, ever remembering that we are all members of one family, that we are children of one common father. Brotherhood means that we must be just, but must temper justice with mercy, that we must be merciful, but must supplement mercy with justice. Brotherhood involves taking the Masonic Principles, inculcated and nourished in the quiet, serene atmosphere of the Lodge, out into the busy world, right into the turmoil of the daily life of humanity, and promptly and intelligently applying them to the uplift of the needy, the oppressed and the downcast, by assisting the weary to carry their heavy burdens, by raising those who have been beaten down in the battle of life, by bringing hope to those who have lost what little hope they once had, and by directing some rays of warm and cheery sunshine upon all who sit in the darkness. True Brotherhood is all this, and it is more, infinitely more, for when Brotherhood and Charity encompass the earth, then indeed will the true spirit of Freemasonry prevail, and humanity be well on its way to ultimate perfection.

Freemasonry stands for Systematic Benevolence. Benevolence may not be a natural feeling of the human heart. By nature man is more prone to be selfish than generous, more inclined to get for himself than to give to others, more ready to claim help from others than to sacrifice himself on their behalf. But from our very first

introduction into Freemasonry, the duty, the necessity, the praiseworthiness of systematic giving is so constantly impressed upon us, that at length Benevolence and Charity have come to be considered the distinguishing characteristics of a Freemason's heart. Although the Order is not, strictly speaking, a Benevolent Society, yet Benevolence is really the very breath of its nostrils, while Freemasonry and Charity are almost synonymous terms. There are no institutions anywhere, which can put into the shade those established by the Masonic fraternity, and supported by the Brethren with a generosity which knows no bounds save those of prudence. Nor is the benevolence of the Brethren by any means confined to what are designated "the Masonic Charities," but recognizing the duty of helping all who are in want and distress, the Masons' charity breaks down every barrier of nation, language, color or creed, and flows in a generous stream even to the very ends of the earth.

Freemasonry exemplifies the Dignity of Labor. The whole of our ritual and ceremonial has always been, and still is, referred to and spoken of as "work." The duties of the Master and his officers, which are carried out in the regular routine of a Lodge, are as truly their "work," as "squaring stones" and building churches was the work of the Masons of long ago. We are proud to acknowledge our descent from the operative masons of centuries past, who beautified and adorned the world with many stately and superb edifices, and we still retain the outward and visible sign of our connection with them, in the apron which we wear. For although we decorate and adorn it with ribbons and emblems, almost out of all recognition, we would ever remember that its foundation and basis is the leather apron of the worker, the badge of the man who does things. Labor is honorable in all men, and the aprons we wear as Masons are the outward symbol and expression of our faith in work, and our participation therein, for without work there would be no progress, all arts and crafts would stand still and die. The world would then be no place for living folk, for an idle world would be a dead world.

Freemasonry stands for a Simple Religious Faith. We have but one dogma, a belief in God, but this is so firmly established as the principal foundation stone of the Brotherhood, that no one can ever be admitted a member of PMR Lodge 916, without a full and free acceptance thereof. In all references to the Deity, God is reverently spoken of as the Great Architect of the Universe, the creating and preserving power of all things in heaven and earth, the omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent father of all mankind. Upon this foundation stone we construct a simple religious faith, viz., the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the Immortality of the Soul, — simple but all-sufficient. If any member of the Order honestly acknowledges his faith in a Supreme Being, whose law is his guide, and to whom he looks up for inspiration and guidance in all times of difficulty, danger and doubt, and strives honestly to live by his faith, we care not what the other articles of his creed may be, for we believe that when summoned from this sublunary abode, he will be received into the all-perfect, glorious and celestial Lodge above, for he will, by his life, have made of earth the porch-way entrance into heaven.

Freemasonry stands for a "Bright Outlook on Life. If looked at aright, the Masonic allegory of the Master's death is an incentive to keep a bright outlook in all the checkered experiences of life. In all our changing circumstances, whatever inspires hope and courage, and enables us to face all the problems of life with a quiet mind and an enduring fortitude, should be welcomed with gratitude and thankfulness. And the Master Mason's degree, properly viewed will, I think, be a means of lessening the anxieties of life, and inspiring us with an abundant hope. We see, in our beautiful Masonic Allegory, the Master smitten, the Builder slain, the work arrested, and the emblems of mortality in evidence. But at the close there is the sprig of acacia, the emblem of immortality, and a promise of final reunion. In the gloom there is grief and distress, but afterwards there come joy and exultation. Now Freemasonry stands for a bright outlook. It teaches that in men there is something that cannot die, that this

"something" is akin to the divine, that it can be given the rule of a man during his earthly pilgrimage, and that it is the purpose of Freemasonry to discover and to crown this divine element in human life. Call it by what name you please, it is the life of the Great Architect of the Universe in the soul of man, lived in the bounds of time and space, and under human conditions. Of all this the sprig of acacia is the symbol. Should not these thoughts, deeply rooted in the mind, enable us to keep life's horizon bright?

And lastly, but by no means of least importance, Freemasonry stands for the exercise of Faith, Hope and Charity, the three cardinal virtues in the Freemasons' creed. These are the principal rounds of that ladder in Craft Masonry consist of seven steps, ascending as follows: Temperance - Fortitude - Prudence - Justice - Faith - Hope - and Charity. In every step represents an active virtue, which links earth to heaven, and which, though invisible, is a reality to the true Mason. Indeed, no man can be a true Mason without the exercise of these virtues in his daily life, for having Faith in God and His promises, he has the Faith which banishes doubt. He has also Faith in himself. Faith in his fellow-man. Faith in the boundless possibilities for a regenerate humanity, Faith in the ultimate happiness of all mankind, Faith in the enjoyment of perfect bliss throughout an endless life. With this Faith in his soul, the consistent Mason has hope. Hope for that in which he has Faith, Hope for himself. Hope for his fellows, Hope for all mankind—Hope for the present, Hope for the future — a Hope so firmly rooted in his soul, that it is steadfast, immovable, enduring to the end. And Charity, that perfection of all virtues, the choicest, rarest of all the jewels which adorn the life of a perfect Mason, that too Freemasonry stands for, although each Brother well knows the difficulty of its full attainment in this world of conflict, error, sin and tears. To bring help to a suffering humanity, to relieve the distressed stricken in body or mind, to shelter those whom a censorious world has cast out, and to throw a veil over the faults and failings of all weak and over-tempted souls—that is the Charity placed before us in a Freemasons' Lodge.

And now. Brethren, I have enumerated some of the things for which Freemasonry has stood, and still stands, and I am sure we shall all agree that they are worth living for, and worth working for, with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength.

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## The Officers and Members join with me in extending Greetings on your Masonic Birthday (March and April)

### March 2018

**11 Years**

Brother Vivianos Adandogous Mar 21, 2007



Brother Manfred Diefendbach Mar 23, 1988

**33 Years**

Brother Jimmy A. McGrath Mar 20, 1985

**35 Years**

Brother Alfred A. White Mar 15, 1983

**42 Years**

Brother Jerry M. Burn Mar 31, 1976

### April 2018

**1 Year**

Brother Brady Caulder Apr 5, 2017

Brother Luke Mason Apr 5, 2017

**4 Years**

Brother Jerome L. Ajaye Apr 2, 2014

**33 Years**

Brother John A. Seek Apr 23, 1985



Brother Richard P. Marshall Apr 21, 1978

**48 Years**

Brother Wilbur D. Beasley April 7, 1970

**52 Years**

Lowell J. Mills Jr. Feb 15, 1966

Membership in Freemasonry is not about joining a fraternity; it is not about being in good standing because one's dues are paid; and it is not about how long one has been such a member. Membership is the living proof that a Mason exhibits each day to this family, his lodge, his community, and his world, that he is a Mason. The marks of membership are easy to see. They are what really makes a man a Mason.

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## On the Lighter Side Masonic Humor

There is a lodge located in the backwoods of a small southern town where the brethren are faithful Masons, but lack knowledge of receiving brothers from other jurisdictions. During one of the meetings, the JD (Junior Deacon) informed the WM (Worshipful Master) that there was an alarm at the door, whereupon the WM replied "Attend the alarm



and report your findings".

The JD opened the door and saw, to his amazement, a brother, impeccably dressed with an elaborate apron and jewels about his chest.

The Tyler, being somewhat slow to answer for the visiting brother, the visitor stated, "My name is John Smith, Past Grand Master, who humbly requests an audience with the WM."

The JD, upon hearing these words from the visiting brother and the elaborate apron and jewels upon his chest, immediately closed the door, returned to his post and informed the WM: "Worshipful Master, The Grand Architect of the Universe is at the door!!!"

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## ***We Labored***

We started 2018 with a Fellow Craft degree on our Brother Stefanos Tsachtidis. He was obligated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree by our Worshipful Master, Most Worshipful Brother Eddie M. Guevara on 3 January 2018. Visiting this evening are three Fellow Craft from our sister Lodge Tempel der Bruderliebe' (TdB) Lodge 135. 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 Working Tools, he also from memory eloquently educated the importance of this degree to all in attendance

our time honored tradition rituals of the Middle Chamber the Fellow Craft Charge. Enhancing our lodge of instruction made possible by Brother Lee our Junior Warden by adding a projector and automation capability.



**On 9 February 2018** we initiated Brother Christian Kock as the newest member of our Lodge and Brotherhood Freemasonry. The degree team performed magnificently their part to the Fellow Craft ritual. The degree team where: WM MW Brother Eddie Guevara; Brother Stanley Reams as Senior Warden; Brother Luke Mason as Junior Warden; Brother Brady Caulder as Master of Ceremonies/Marshal; VW Brother Ward Williamson as Senior Deacon. Brother Christian was obligated Entered Apprentice by our Worshipful Master.

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 Second and Third section lectures, 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.

The degree team was designed as a lodge of instruction for our new officers and to promote masonic professionalism. Brother Lee Ajaye the Junior Warden and Worshipful Brother Peter Lohr the Senior Deacon also assisted in mentorship.

Visiting this evening and first time visitors the Master and Junior Warden of Alt Heidelberg/Fidelitas Lodge 821, and the Junior Deacon of George Washington Lodge 810a;

and RW Brother Larry Painter from Light of the Three Stars, Lodge 936. Each respectfully brought fraternal and brotherly greetings from their respective lodge.



**26 February** we had a join Lodge with Mount Moriah Two Bridge Nahe Lodge 823 (Nahe Lodge 824 use to be in Kronweiler/Nahe and Two Bridge Lodge 877 use to be in Zweibrücken join under Lodge 823). This event was marked by Worshipful Masters Brother Erik Pecraux and WM PMR and brethren from both lodges join to pass to Fellow Craft Brother John Roy Stage. Both Lodge took on the East, South and West stations and appointed officers took their appropriated places. The ritual was exemplify magnificently by two lodges in the same District making a difference in Brotherhood. The Middle Chamber lecture was marked as legendary and very educational. All in attendance were amazed and awe as never been equal by any other lodges under the ACGL.

The Most Worshipful and Master Eddie Guevara gave the degree team all the credit for executing a wonderful degree for Brother John. Brother John was delighted, proud and honored to have had the best Fellow Craft degree given to him by all in attendance.

The evening found all in the collation room for dinner and a night to remember for ages.

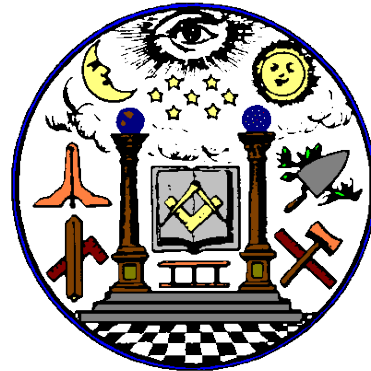


The evening was also mark by the visit of Very Worshipful Brother Wolfgang Koch. This evening he acted as the Senior Deacon on the Fellow Craft degree team. His visit was significant marking his first visit was when Peter M. Rasmussen Lodge was consecrated 25 March 1972. His picture with PGM Eddie Guevara in front of MW Brother Pete to mark this special and memorable occasion.



Rasmussen Lodge 916. E-mail:  
eddiemguevara@gmail.com

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## Masonic Education

The ritual is, as has often been observed, fundamental to Freemasonry, and it gives form to our proceedings. We like to think of it as one of the landmarks, but it does change, though only slowly. Let me remind you of how far back in Masonry we can trace certain words and episodes.

We begin with the familiar phrase So mote it be, which sometimes baffles new Masons. That is because it is extremely old, and includes an obsolete form of the verb. Actually these very words are found in the earliest extant copy of the Old Charges of the operative masons, the Regius Poem, which was written in England about the year 1390. Almost as old, it turns out, is Masonic emphasis on the seven liberal sciences, and on the building of King Solomon's Temple; both are essential parts of the Cooke Manuscript, which goes back to about 1410. Indeed they continued to be a regular part of the standard versions of the Old Charges that served to govern the Craft for the next three hundred years.

There is a marvelous collection of early ritual documents covering the years 1696-1730, called The Early Masonic Catechisms. In this work we find that the phrases "hele and conceal" and "Five points of fellowship" both occur in the Edinburgh Register House Manuscript of 1696. "The square, the compass, and the Bible" are mentioned together in the Dumfries Manuscript No. 4, of about 1710. A London newspaper of 1723

2B1  ASK1

If you have an interest (weather you are in the USA or overseas) in joining the Freemasons and would like more information, please feel free to contact any one of our lodge officers, or the Freemason who give you this newsletter; he will be delighted to arrange a meeting, answer your questions and for someone to contact you for a no obligation, informal chat or email. Or Eddie Guevara, Past Grand Master of Masons, AGL, and the current Master of Peter M.

published what purported to be an exposure of the Masonic ceremonies, and there we find the five orders of architecture duly listed. The well-known trio "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth," comes from another exposure, a pamphlet printed in London in 1724.

Anderson's Book of Constitutions of 1723 mentions the toast to "The King and the Craft." It also refers to God as the Great Architect of the Universe (a phrase first used by John Calvin), and alludes in passing to Hiram Abif (a name which comes from 2 Chronicles 4:16, in Coverdale's Bible of 1535).

The most popular of the early exposures was Samuel Prichard's *Masonry Dissected*, first published in 1730. And there we find such familiar phrases as "Neither naked nor cloathed, bare-foot nor shod," "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty," "Square, Level, and Plumb-Rule," and "a Sprig of Cassia at the Head of his Grave."

The earliest version of the Charge to the Newly Initiated Candidate, the one with the words "Antient, as having subsisted from Times immemorial," that outlines our duty "to God, our Neighbours, and Ourselves," appears in William Smith's *Pocket Companion* (Dublin, 1735).

The story of Ephraimites at the passage of the River Jordan turns up in a French exposure of 1747. Whether it had been borrowed from English sources is not clear; at any rate, it soon appears in printed English rituals.

The next great landmark in the evolution of our ceremonies is the advent of the three great expounders of the ritual, who were the first ones to provide more substantial lectures. Wellins Calcott lived from 1726 until after 1779; in his book *A Candid Disquisition* (1769), he speaks of Pythagoras and the Egyptian philosophers, who concealed their principles under the cover of hieroglyphics.

William Hutchinson (1732-1814), in his *Spirit of Masonry* (1775), offers a series of Moral Observations on the Instruments of Masonry. They interpret the significance of the working tools. "The Level should advise us that...we

are all descended from the same common stock, partake of the like nature, have. ...the same hope. ...; and though distinctions necessarily make a subordination among mankind, yet eminence of station should not make us forget that we are men, nor cause us to treat our brethren, because placed on the lowest spoke of the wheel of fortune, with contempt; because a time will come, and the wisest of men know not how soon, when all distinctions, except in goodness, will cease, and when death—that grand leveler of all human greatness—will bring us to a level at the last." Once again, beyond any question our present wording is derived from this text.

And the great William Preston (1742-1818), in his *Illustrations of Masonry* (2nd edition, 1775), offers a familiar prayer: "Vouchsafe thine aid, Almighty Father and supreme Governor of the world, to this our present convention; and grant that this candidate for Masonry may dedicate and devote his life to thy service, and become a true and faithful brother among us. Endue him with a competence of thy divine wisdom, that, by the secrets of this Art, he may be better enabled to unfold the mysteries of godliness, to the honor of thy holy name. Amen." Virtually all of our present wording, we now see, is derived from Britain.

Even on the basis of the evidence presented here, we can see that the Masonic ritual is part of our precious heritage from the past. It has stood the test of time, no doubt because it expresses eternal verities. It is still meaningful to the brethren of today!

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**Senior Stewart**  
**Brother Stanley Reams**

**Junior Stewart**  
**Very Worshipful Brother Ward Williamson**  
**(PM)**

**Tyler**  
**Brother Luke Mason**

**Brotherly greetings from Worms,**

**A special issue will be release to report on our 46<sup>th</sup> Lodge Anniversary after the 25<sup>th</sup> of March.**

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

**Your Elected and Appointed Officers**

**Worshipful Master**  
**MW Brother Eddie M. Guevara (PGM)**

**Senior Warden**  
**Worshipful Brother Michael (PM)**

**Junior Warden**  
**Brother Jerome L. Ajaye**

**Treasurer**  
**Brother Ruediger G. Glaser**

**Secretary**  
**RW Brother Robert "Bob" Young (PM)**

**Chaplin**  
**Worshipful Brother Komla C. Ezo (PM)**

**Senior Deacon**  
**Worshipful Brother Peter Lohr (PM)**

**Junior Deacon**  
**Brother Brady A. Caulder**

**Marshal**  
**Worshipful Brother Vivianos Adandogou**  
**(PM)**



**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 ACGL. Publication bimonthly are Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep and November.**