

Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin
Lodge No. 45 F.A.M

bulletin

Volume XCIX • Number 6
October 2022

Takoma Masonic Center
115 Carroll Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012
Meets Second Tuesday of each month except July and August (no meeting),
and December, (second Sunday)



**OCTOBER 11TH
STATED
MEETING
CALLED OFF!**



The four spices of Sukkot: these species are lulav (palm branch), hadas (myrtle), arava (willow) and etrog (citron) and they are used to bless the Sukkah or booth in which Sukkot is celebrated. These four plants are mentioned in the third book of the Torah, Leviticus.

L'shanah tovah tikateivu v'teichateimu! "A good year, and may you be inscribed and sealed (for blessing in the Book of Life)." Yes, we have a New Year (5783) and this month follows up with Yom Kippur and Sukkot. See the article in this Bulletin about Putting on your Volunteer Shoes to learn which community service activities the Lodge will be holding in person this year.

The Lodge wants to thank all the Brethren who have sponsored a basket this year. We are receiving a strong response and hope to be able to further expand our impact this year.

Last month, at our September Stated Communication, the Lodge voted to call off this month's, October Stated Communication, but our brethren who are also members of the Scottish Rite will want to attend their Feast of Tishri event on Tuesday, October 11th at the Scottish Rite Temple.

In the Scottish Rite, the celebration of Tishri is to reaffirm our brotherhood of all men in a world of peace. No other occasion of the Scottish Rite more wholly demonstrates the principles and ideals as Brothers as we observe the historic celebration of the dedication of King Solomon's Temple.

If you are NOT a Scottish Rite member, you are missing valuable and pleasant Masonic experiences. There will be only ONE opportunity to receive the 4th through the 32nd Degrees this year – and they will all be conferred in just ONE day on October 29th.

Tickets for the Scottish Rite Feast of Tishri are available on their website. dcsr.org/events if you are interested in becoming a Scottish Rite Mason, call PM. Burt Levy. (202 409-4449).

Sunshine Committee

The information below is the most current that we have received. To give further or more up-to-date information, call **Sunshine Chairman Hal Henig at 301-681-3873.**

Join this worthwhile committee by making a call, writing, or visiting any of the below.

The following Brethren or family members are in
Medical Facilities:

Jerold Coffee

*Brooke Grove Nursing Home
18131 Slade School Rd,
Sandy Spring, MD
Sister - Esther Jacobs
301-910-6562
estherjacobstutor@yahoo.com*

The following Brethren or family members at home:

Jules Tepper, PM, PGM

16440 Keats Terrace
Derwood, MD 20855
(301) 980-7264

***Shirley Gordon, wife of
the late Jerry Gordon***

Riderwood Village
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-273-9882

***Rosalind Pomerantz, wife of
the late Bro. Harry Pomerantz***

1002 Robroy Drive,
Silver Spring, MD 20903
(301) 434-2120

*Daughter - Sharon Strelzer
(203) 650-2006*

Lisa Milman, wife of Erik Milman, PM

*14716 Top Sergeant Lane
Centreville, VA 20121
Contact Eric Milman
(301) 651-8879*

Please check out our Lodge website:

<https://sgbf45.org>

which has been updated for the ensuing year!

Do you know that on our website all of the **Bulletins** over the last year are posted without the Trestleboard for your reference?



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Giving back to your community is one of the most rewarding things you can do. At JSSA, we have many opportunities for you to help your neighbors manage life's consequential moments.

*Brethren, as you know we partner with JSSA
several times a year to help with
Holiday Food Baskets.*

*You may donate directly to JSSA and
specify holiday baskets to support their
food assistance.*

<https://www.jssa.org/get-involved/donate/>

Light From the East

Jerry Keilsohn, W.M. 2022



Once in a while things go better than expected. Last month's Anniversary and Awards Event is now one of the best experiences I have had the privilege of hosting as your Worshipful Master. It is interesting to me that I have finally gotten to the point where the opening and closing ritual is not as stressful as it has sometimes been in the past. In fact I am slightly relaxed about it. And by being so, I think I do a better job with it. More feeling and less just repeating the ancient words. At the same time, I am sad that I will only get a chance to do it a few more times, as my stint in the East is rapidly moving toward the final gavel before I pass it on to your next W.M.

It was exciting to see and hear from so many of our brethren who have been Masonic Anniversaries of 50 years and more. It was great to see that all of them are doing so well and hearing them speak about what #45 was like so many years ago was a nice history lesson.

It was nice to see such a large crowd of Brethren sitting in the Lodge Hall. We have not had that large a group in quite some time. Times have changed. I can only wonder what being Master of a lodge with over a thousand members was like.

By the time everybody reads this we will have started a new Jewish year, 5783.

A new year. New things to look forward to too. The last few years have been something else. I do not think any of us, three years ago, would have thought

we would have had a global pandemic, nor the changes it would bring to our lives.

Ever since I was a little kid, my favorite part of the Holidays has always been the sound of the Shofar. A rather unique sound.

Our Lodge opening ritual, reminds me of being in shul for Yom Kippur. Stand up, sit down. Stand up again. Do it again if we need to offer a special devotion to the Great Architect of the Universe to honor a recently deceased brother. I finally figured out how to cut down on that by lumping the end of the opening with the need to stand again for the Pledge.

On a lighter note, the new Jewish year means the football season has started.

And a closing thought: Many of us watched Queen Elizabeth II's funeral. When the Yeoman signaled the changing of the guard during the period she was lying in state at Parliament's Westminster Hall, he rapped three times on the floor just as we do in our ritual.

I used this quote at the end of the September Stated, but though it fit here too as we start a new year:

"I believe that - young or old, we have as much to look forward to with confidence and hope as we have to look back on with pride." - Queen Elizabeth II

Jerry

Awards & Anniversary Night

HONORING MASONIC YEARS OF SERVICE

2022 HONOREES

75 Years – Abraham Genderson
70 Years – Peter Frank
65 Years – Joel Shulman, PM, J Luis Frenk
60 Years – Leslie Silverstone

55 Years – RWB Sheldon Rappeport, PM
50 Years – Michael Rinis, PM
45 Years – Lewis Gertz
40 Years – Paul Cohen, Scott Marks

2021 HONOREES

35 Years – Ronald Fishbein, Steven Rosner, Nathan Lewis, Steven Rosner, Joseph Snyder, PM
30 Years – Jonathan Binstock, PM, Kenneth Cohen, Adam Forman, PM, M. Bruce Lustig, David Sadugor, David Torchinsky, PM, Jay Torchinsky

20 Years – Michael Cohn
15 Years – Jeffrey Greenwald, Steven Riemer
10 Years – Kevin Stemp
5 Years – Jacobo Garibay

Fidelity Medal

By vote of the Lodge on June 14, 2022
 Brother Peter H. Frank
 Was awarded the Silver Fidelity Medal

2022 Merit Award

Lodge recognition for faithful and meritorious service to the Lodge over an extended period of time on June 14, 2022
 Brother Jeffrey Greenwald
 Was awarded the 2022 Merit Award



WM Jerry Keilsohn, and 50 Year Bro. Michael Rinis, PM



45 Year Bro. Lewis Gertz



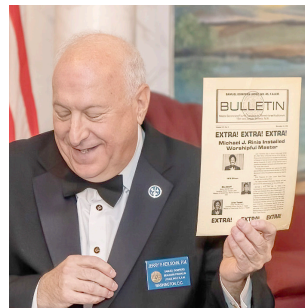
WM Jerry Keilsohn, and 55 Year RWB Sheldon I. Rappeport, PM, DSM, MA



WM Jerry Keilsohn, 20 Year Bro. Jeffrey Greenwald, 2022 Merit Awardee



Burt Levy, PM and Bro. Jeffrey Greenwald, 2022 Merit Awardee



WM Jerry Keilsohn holds a 1978 Lodge Bulletin featuring WB Michael Rinis' election.



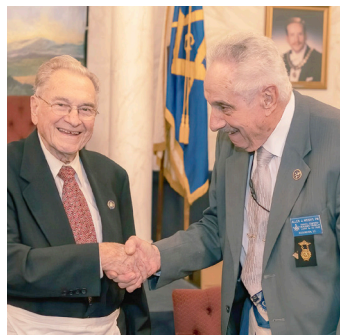
WM Jerry Keilsohn, and 30 Year Bro. Jonathan Binstock, PM



WM Jerry Keilsohn, and 20 Year Bro. Michael Cohn



WM Jerry Keilsohn, and 5 Year Bro. Jacobo Garibay



Bro. Peter H. Frank, Lodge Silver Fidelity Medal Holder and Grand Lodge Gold Fidelity Medal Holder WB Allen Wright



70 Year Bro. Peter H. Frank, Lodge Silver Fidelity Medal Holder, and RWB Christopher K. Mahaney

Awards & Anniversary Night

HONORING MASONIC YEARS OF SERVICE

SAMUEL GOMPERS – BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LODGE, #45



2022 Merit Award Recipient

JEFFREY R. GREENWALD

When contemplating whether we have a Brother eligible for our prestigious Merit Award, the nominating committee takes into consideration the various criteria that might make one Mason more deserving than another. Once we listed such virtues and weighed them against our current membership, the one Brother for whom we checked the most boxes was obvious to us from the start.

Brother Jeffrey Greenwald is an active member of our Lodge. He progressed through the Officer Line, learning and performing the ritual requirements of each chair admirably. He did all of this while also serving at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center specializing in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. The responsibilities and demands of his career did not deter his devotion to his Masonic obligations. As he rose through the chairs, he faithfully attended Officers' meetings and contributed his ideas and efforts toward making us a better Masonic Lodge.

Early in his Masonic career, he remarked that the Lodge could do much more toward its charitable endeavors. When told that we needed a few good Brothers to step up and organize our efforts, Jeff volunteered. When he took over the responsibility for our annual Thanksgiving Baskets program, his organizational abilities were immediately evident when we saw how he streamlined the tasks of procuring the groceries and then sorting and packaging them into individual boxes (baskets); and getting them delivered to so many deserving families. Jeff also strengthened our relationship with JSSA and got us involved in their activities as well – so we are now a key part of their Rosh Hashanah basket deliveries and other projects.

The traditional reward for progressing through the Officer chairs is one's ascension into the Oriental East as Worshipful Master of the Lodge. However – when Jeff's opportunity to take that esteemed position came at the same time as his planned retirement year, he realized that all the adjustments that he would be making at that time would mean that he wouldn't be able to give his full-time and attention to serving us as Worshipful Master. So – faced with the possibility of not being the excellent leader that he preferred to be, he let us know that he would rather not progress to the East. Even so, he recognized that the Officer Line would be lacking strength – and he again volunteered to sit in as our Jr. Deacon.

Brethren of Samuel Gompers – Benjamin Franklin Lodge, #45 can be proud that our Merit Award holder is well deserving of that honor.

Respectfully Submitted

Burt Levy, PM

Awards Committee Member

County Fair Meet-Up

Hal Henig, Tiler

'Meet-Up' Chairman

On Sunday August 14, I we had our Monthly Meet-Up at the Montgomery County Fair in Gaithersburg, Maryland. It was open to members and their guests. The Brethren that attended were myself as the Meet-Up Chairman, Burt Levy, PM, and Dave Torchinsky, PM. Our guests were my wife Lisa Henig, Laura Torchinsky, Sharon Zitomer, Stuart Zitomer, and Renie Zitomer. RWB Alan Gordon, PGM and his family also attended the County Fair. However, RWB Alan entered the Fair Grounds earlier in the morning, while the rest of us entered after 12 noon. We saw various farm animals, such as horses, goats, sheep, rabbits, and chickens. Our group visited various vendors throughout the Fair Grounds. We encountered a vendor that sold Marlboro candy/gum cigarettes and bubble gum cigars. We were surprised the one of the vendors would offer them at a family event. Some of the older folks remember buying them, in our preteen years. I purchased one cigar gum for a dollar as a souvenir. Many of us had a delicious grilled cheese lunch. Also, Lisa and I saw a presentation of three draft horses trotting at an outdoor arena each with one rider.

Citation to Accompany the Award
of

"The Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 Fidelity Medal"

To

Peter Frank

Whereas Brother Peter Frank served as President of the Fellowcraft Club for Samuel Gompers Lodge No. 45, now Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia in the year 1963; and

Whereas his leadership within the Lodge has dutifully persisted for 70 years since his raising as a Master Mason on July 22, 1952; and

Whereas his attendance at Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge meetings during this entire period of time has been highly regular; and

Whereas his service as a long-time supporter of the Lodge Bulletin, Committee Member and Leader of the Fellowcraft Club contributed significantly to the Social Intercourse and Fellowship of our Lodge; and

Whereas over the past 70 years these and other devoted services to Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge performed by Brother Peter Frank have been both manifold and extensive; and

Whereas in compliance with the regulations of The Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia a committee of Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge, appointed by Worshipful Master Jerry P. Keilsohn after careful consideration, duly and unanimously selected the one member of the Lodge most deserving of this award and that the Lodge voted to affirm the selection made by the aforementioned committee; and

Therefore, be it resolved that on September 13, 2022, under the direction of its Worshipful Master the Brethren of Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge do hereby confer upon its Brother Peter Frank the Fidelity Medal, to have, hold and cherish and proudly display so long as he shall live and they do so with immense gratitude for his 70 years of impeccable service and leadership of Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge.

Jerry P. Keilsohn, PM
Worshipful Master

Raymond E. Horn, PM
Secretary



Hal Henig, Meet-Up Chairman, Burt Levy, PM, and Dave Torchinsky, PM. Our guests were my wife Lisa Henig, Laura Torchinsky, Sharon Zitomer, Stuart Zitomer, and Renie Zitomer. RWB Alan Gordon, PGM (not pictured).

Put on Your Volunteer Shoes...

by Jeffrey Greenwald

...and pants and shirt! The fall volunteer season has started once again. Our first event was the Rosh Hashanah Basket Program, sponsored by JSSA. Even through the pandemic, we have continued to provide this valuable service for the needy members of our community. As in previous years, we helped out at JSSA on Montrose Road in Rockville and Ohr Kodesh congregation in Chevy Chase on Sunday, September 25th. We completed the baskets by adding fresh challah and honey cake, then we helped to bring the baskets to the cars of other volunteers in the community for distribution. We also helped to distribute the baskets at the Revitz House, next to JSSA.

Our next event will take place on Sunday, October 9th when we construct Sukkahs at three group homes in Silver Spring. This is something that we did prior to the pandemic, but we have been on a two year hiatus because of the Pandemic. It will be a joy to see the smiles on the faces of the disabled residents of these homes once again. On Sunday, October 23rd, we will then de-construct the Sukkahs to get them ready for the following year.

Our last event of the fall will, of course, be our major event ... the Annual William Boker Thanksgiving Basket Program. Similar to last year, the event will be a combination of creating baskets with frozen turkeys to be distributed on Sunday, November 20th as well as providing fresh Thanksgiving meals to needy members of the community on the day prior to Thanksgiving. More information will be provided in upcoming bulletins as well as e-mails. Looking forward, as usual, to have many members of the lodge participate in this activity. If you are unable to participate in person, you could always help out by providing a monetary donation to the lodge as the funding of this event is just as important as the volunteer work.



Volunteers who helped at Congregation Ohr Kodesh: Bro. Thomas Ebilane, Bro. Chuck Oshinsky and his father, and WM Jerry Keilsohn



Volunteers who helped at the Rockville JSSA office: Bro. Larry Chamlier, JD Jeffrey Greenwald, David Torchinsky, PM, Hal Henig, Tiler, Burt Levy, PM, Raymond Horn, PM and his son David



David Horn, Hal Henig, Tyler, David Torchinsky, PM in action



Burt Levy, PM with the last of the baskets

Volunteer/Continued on Page 8



BBQ

by Hal Henig

On Monday, June 27, Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45 held its Monthly Meet-Up at the Mission BBQ, The American Way, Restaurant in Rockville, Maryland. This is the second time that our lodge held a Meet-Up at that restaurant. Last year during the same month was the first time our lodge held a Meet-Up at Mission BBQ.

Having a Meet-Up at Mission BBQ was to honor the Men and Women that serve in the Military or are First Responders. The restaurant goes out of its way

to honor our First Responders, such as Police Officers and Fire Fighters that keep our community safe. The week before the July 4 Holiday was a good time for this Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Meet-Up to have this experience.

Eight Brethren and guests attended the Mission BBQ Meet-Up. Brethren in attendance and the attached photo were as follows: Tiler and Meet-Up Chairman Hal Henig, Secretary Raymond Horn, PM, JW Derek Gould, SD Aaron Kamerer, JD Jeff Greenwald, Dave Torchinsky,

PM. Ray Horn, PM's son David Horn attended as our Guest. We were photographed below the American Flag that was hung from the ceiling. Jonathan Binstock, PM came later to the restaurant and unfortunately was not present when this photo was taken.

Hopefully, the Brethren enjoyed their Independence Day weekend and some of us attended various Masons Events held in Washington DC on July 4.

JSSA would like to thank the following area synagogues and community friends who contribute and volunteer from their hearts:

Еврейское Агентство благодарно местным синагогам и волонтерам, которые собрали средства и доставили Вам подарки к празднику:

Adat Shalom	Beth Ami	Beth El	Norman's Farm Market
B'nai Israel	Giant Food	Olam Tikvah	Kehilat Shalom
Ohr Kodesh Congregation	Washington Hebrew Congregation		
Tilereth Israel	Kol Shalom	Butler's Orchard	

Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Masonic Lodge #45

JSSA wishes you

L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu

Еврейское Агентство желает Вам Счастливого Нового Года!

We hope this package of Rosh Hashanah food will add to your holiday enjoyment.

May you be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life

Пусть Ваши имена будут вписаны в Книгу Жизни

Volunteer/Continued from Page 7

Hope everyone has a wonderful volunteer season! For those who are able to participate in these community service activities please contact Bro. Jeffrey Greenwald.

SAMUEL GOMPERS-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LODGE NO. 45, F.A.A.M.	
LIVING PAST MASTERS	
1963	Allen J. Wright, MA, Gold Fidelity Medal
1974	Aaron S. Teitel
	Donald M. Stein
1979	Michael J. Rinis
	Burton Penn
1981	Jules S. Teppar, PGM
	Joel Shulman
1983	Julien P. Hofberg
1984	Edwin S. Nachlas
1989, 2001	Sheldon I. Rapoport, MA DSM, MA, DSM, GLE GL-E
1990	Robert H. Starr, PGM
1994	Joseph N. Snyder
1995, 2021	Burt Levy
1997	Adam Forman
2002	Jeffrey Sherman
2003	Robert Husemann
2009	Jonathan M. Binstock
2010	David B. Torchinsky
2011	Joshua L. Rubin
2012-2013	Erik F. Milman
2014	Adam Forman
2015	Randy A. Schoch
2016	Leonard Rubin
2017	Michael K. Greenwald, SGS
2018	Raymond E. Horn
2019	Robert Greenwald
2020	Jerry P. Keilsohn

Happy Birthday

The following Brethren observe their birthdays on the **OCTOBER** dates shown. Be sure to wish them well on that day.

Jonathan M. Binstock2	William A. Stein.....8	Stephen A. Silver12	Jerry Rosenthal..... 20
Samuel Barr..... 3	Yale J. Wiesberg8	Seymour Irwin Lubitz13	Allen J. Wright25
Harold Grainger8	Alan Friedman10	Harold A. Reznick19	Kevin G. Willson29

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Worshipful Master Jerry P. Keilsohn, wm@sgbf45.org, 301-570-0446
Senior Warden Allen R. Levy, sw@sgbf45.org, 703-470-4945
Junior Warden Derek Gould, jw@sgbf45.org, 240-938-6285
Secretary Raymond Horn, secretary@sgbf45.org, 443-253-0605
6109 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817
Treasurer Robert H. Starr, PGM, treasurer@sgbf45.org, 301-460-3088
Chaplain Burt S. Levy, PM, chaplain@sgbf45.org, 202 409-4449
Master-of-Ceremonies ... Robert J. Greenwald, PM, mc@sgbf45.org, 703-624-9085
Senior Deacon Aaron Kamerer, sd@sgbf45.org, 202-510-5181
Junior Deacon Jeffrey R. Greenwald, jd@sgbf45.org, 301-869-1915
Senior Steward Ryan A. Simon, ss@sgbf45.org, 240-475-3935



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2022 REPRESENTATIVES

Masonic Foundation JGS Michael Greenwald, PM, mgreenwald@sgbf45.org, 301-272-0168
Masonic & Eastern Star Home Raymond Horn, rhorn@sgbf45.org, 443-253-0605
St. John's Mite Association chaplain@sgbf45.org

2022 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Auditing Kevin Stemp, kstemp@sgbf45.org
Ambassador to Amicable-St. John's Lodge #25 Jonathan Binstock, PM, jbinstock@sgbf45.org, 301-442-4812
Bulletin Committee Raymond Horn, PM, rhorn@sgbf45.org, 443-253-0605
Technology and Communications Aaron Kamerer, sd@sgbf45.org, 202-510-5181
Derek R. Gould, dgould@sgbf45.org, 240-938-6285
Business Manager Open
By-Laws Robert H. Starr, PGM, rhstarr@sgbf45.org, 301-460-3088
Education and Degree Committee GL-E Sheldon I. Rapoport, PM, DSM, MA, srapoport@sgbf45.org, 301-598-8379
Catechism Instructors Burt S. Levy, PM, chaplain@sgbf45.org, 202 409-4449
Allen J. Wright, PM, MA, awright@sgbf45.org, 301-989-8945
Relief W.M., S.W., J.W.
Funeral, Visitations, Widow Care Allen J. Wright, PM, MA, awright@sgbf45.org, 301-989-8945
Burt S. Levy, PM, chaplain@sgbf45.org, 202 409-4449
Centennial Planning Aaron Kamerer, jd@sgbf45.org, 202-510-5181
Refreshment J.S., S.S.
Sunshine and Monthly Meet-Up Chairman Hal Henig, hhenig@sgbf45.org, 301-681-3873
Volunteer Activities/Community Outreach, William D. Boker Memorial Thanksgiving Baskets Jeffrey Greenwald, jd@sgbf45.org, 301-869-1915
David B. Torchinsky, PM, dtorchinsky@sgbf45.org, 301-933-1955
Engleberg-Korman Charitable Foundation Sec. Treas JGS Michael K. Greenwald, PM
JD Jeffrey Greenwald
Michael J. Rinis, PM, mrinis@sgbf45.org, 301-384-8244

2022 PROXIES

For the Worshipful Master Robert Greenwald
For the Senior Warden Aaron Kamerer
For the Junior Warden Ryan Simon

Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 F.A.A.M.
 Secretary
 6109 Lone Oak Drive
 Bethesda, MD 20817



Calendar for Masonic Year 2022—Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45

For the most up-to-date information, please check the Trestleboard or www.sgbf45.org. If anyone is interested in any of these events and wishes to obtain more information, please contact WM Jerry Keilsohn about all events (see page 2)

Date		Event	Open to
October	9	Construction of JFGH Sukkahs, Silver Spring, MD	Open to Family and Friends
	11	Stated Communication Called Off	No Meeting
	11	DC Scottish Rite, Feast of Tishri, 7:00 pm	Scottish Rite Masons
	23	Deconstruction of JFGH Sukkahs, Silver Spring, MD	Open to Family and Friends
	24	Meetup, 7:00 pm	Masons and Guests

Date		Event	Open to
November	8	Stated Communication – Elections, 7:30 pm	Masons Only
	19	William Boker Thanksgiving Basket Program, Basket Making, 6:00 pm Safeway Kensington, MD	Masons, Family, Friends
	20	Basket Distribution, Kensington Masonic Center, 8:00 am	Masons, Family, Friends
	21	Meetup, 7:00 pm	Masons and Guests
	23	Distribution of hot meals, meet at 12:00 pm	Masons, Family, Friends

Date		Event	Open to
December	11	Stated Communication, Installation of new Officers	Masons Family and Friends