



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

# bulletin

Takoma Masonic Center  
115 Carroll Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012

Volume XCVIII • Number 8  
October 2023

Meets Second Tuesday of each month except July and August (no meeting),  
and December, (second Sunday)

## DELI - BINGO Night

Samuel Gompers - Benjamin  
Franklin Lodge No. 45  
Next Stated Communication on  
Tuesday, October 10th, 2023,  
at 7:30 pm



### The Lodge is bringing back Deli-Bingo-Hawaiian Shirt-Night!

The Lodge will open on the 1st Degree and the Lodge will quickly dispatch its business and close so the Brethren can retire to the refectory for a fun Bingo tournament.

The dinner before the meeting will feature a delicious deli spread.

Please reserve the date and notify the Secretary of plans to enjoy the fellowship of your brethren by attending.

6:30 - 7:15 pm: Dinner at the refectory.

7:30 - 8:00 pm: Lodge opens on the 1st Degree.

8:00 pm Retire to the refectory - Bingo.

Dress Code by Dispensation of the Grand Master: relaxing our usual Dress Code for our October, Stated Communication to wear colorful Hawaiian Shirts, casual slacks and colorful socks.

Please RSVP in response to your eVite or the Secretary@sgbf45.org so that a sandwich will be purchased for you.

Compliments of  
**SAMUEL GOMPERS-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN  
LODGE NO. 45, F.A.A.M.**



Your father or uncle  
may have been a Mason

Your grandfather probably was a Mason

*To learn more about Masonry:*  
**We meet the second Tuesday night  
at Takoma Masonic Center**

Raymond Horn, *Worshipful Master*, [wm@sgbf45.org](mailto:wm@sgbf45.org)  
Robert Greenwald, *Senior Warden*  
Jerry Keilsohn, *Junior Warden*

**2B1  ASK1**

# Light From the East

WM Allen Levy 2023



We have arrived at the last three months of the year. It is my experience that these three months are the busiest and go by the quickest.

This is due to many factors.

October starts with that warm, crisp weather that reminds us of early spring. Then suddenly, usually in the last week of the month, the weather turns colder. Which leads to the Halloween holiday. Each of the last three months ends with a holiday. This leads to a level of anticipation that builds from the beginning of the month which makes the time seem to pass much faster.

Case in point, the month of November. Thanksgiving is the holiday that starts the holiday season. That month provides a lot to look forward to for me. I have a tradition of meeting with good friends on the Wednesday night before the holiday to celebrate the start of the holidays.

Then I love to wake up early the next day and watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. After the Parade I like to watch the National Dog Show. Of course, there is the Thanksgiving dinner. With all

these events, the month of November seems to fly by.

Then December, which is a month of both Hanukkah and Christmas, for me is a stressful, busy time. Holiday shopping, planning for New Year's celebrations, and visiting with friends and family. All of this brings a lot of activity with little time to prepare.

Just as these next three months seems to be flying by, so did my year in the East. I have just two more Stated Communications before December's Officer Installations. Other Past Masters have told me the year will go by fast, and now I understand what they meant. This past year I have had the same feeling that I described for the last three months of the year.

Each month has the planning and concerns of the Stated Communication, then as soon as they are finished, it seems that suddenly the next Stated Communication is upon us. This is what leads to the perceived quickness of the passage of time and hopefully, things will slow down for me after these last three months of the year.

*Allen*

## SAMUEL GOMPERS-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LODGE NO. 45, F.A.A.M. LIVING PAST MASTERS

1963	Allen J. Wright, MA, Gold Fidelity Medal	1990	Robert H. Starr, PGM	2014	Adam Forman
1974	Aaron S. Teitel	1994	Joseph N. Snyder	2015	Randy A. Schoch
1974	Donald M. Stein	1995	Burt Levy	2016	Leonard Rubin
1979	Michael J. Rinis	1997	Adam Forman	2017	Michael K. Greenwald, SGS
1979	Burton Penn	2001	Sheldon I. Rappeport, MA DSM, GL-E	2018	Raymond E. Horn
1981	Jules S. Tepper, PGM	2002-2003	Jeffrey Sherman	2019	Robert Greenwald
1981	Joel Shulman	2009	Jonathan M. Binstock	2020	Jerry P. Keilsohn
1983	Julien P. Hofberg	2010	David B. Torchinsky	2021	Burt S. Levy, HPSGD
1984	Edwin S. Nachlas	2011	Joshua L. Rubin	2022	Jerry P. Keilsohn
1989	Sheldon I. Rappeport, MA DSM, GL-E	2012-2013	Erik F. Milman		



# Once Again, we showed up to support JSSA



*The Orh Kodesh Crew, Alan Gordon, PGM, WM Allen Levy and Jessica, Jerry Keilsohn, PM, Aaron Kamerer, Derek Gould.*

Lots of hands made for easy work. For our first volunteer event - Rosh Hashanah Basket distribution on September 10th we helped make JSSA's volunteer event happen. Once again, we helped to finalize the contents of over 500 baskets for distribution to the needy of the metropolitan DC. One group of us met at the JSSA Montrose offices in Rockville and another group at Congregation Ohr Kodesh in Silver Spring in the wee hours of the morning.

Copied below is the message sent to the Lodge from the new JSSA Volunteer Coordinator, Taylor McCarley.

Dear volunteers,

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your hard work and dedication in delivering the Rosh Hashanah holiday baskets. Your commitment to the community and making this holiday season special for others is greatly appreciated. Please express my heartfelt gratitude to your amazing volunteers!

As we welcome the Jewish New Year, let us also welcome new beginnings, blessings, and opportunities. May this year be filled with health, happiness, and prosperity for you and your loved ones.

Wishing you all a joyous Rosh Hashanah! I look forward to working with you all next holiday season.



Have a Sweet & Happy New Year



jssa

JSSA's Holocaust Survivor and Aging in Place Programs wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu

Lizel Judy Samantha Denise Urvine Dana  
 Polina Erik John Babe Tony Miriam  
 Shaboy Leslie Alina Anastasia Sophia Rita

Recognizing our shared humanity, JSSA empowers individuals and families to enhance well-being at every age and stage of life.

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The Elsie & Marvin Dekelbaum Building  
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 Rockville, MD 20852



The Crew at JSSA Rockville, Jeff Greenwald, David Torchinsky, PM, his daughter Rina, Jonathan Binstock, PM and Margo Bullman, Staci Newman, and Staci's daughter, Reina Rothman, Alan Karpas and Arlene, Lee Silverman, and JSSA Volunteer Coordinator Taylor McCarley



The Orh Kodesh Crew, Allen Gordon, PGM, WM Allen Levy and Jessica, Jerry Keilsohn, PM, Aaron Kamerer, Derek Gould

## Happy Birthday

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

Jonathan M. Binstock .....2  
 Samuel Barr.....3  
 Seymour I. Lubitz .....3  
 Alan L. Gordon..... 8

Harold Grainger .....8  
 William A. Stein.....8  
 Alan Friedman ..... 10  
 Stephen A. Silver..... 12

Harold A. Reznick..... 19  
 Jerry Rosenthal ..... 20  
 Allen J. Wright ..... 25  
 Kevin G. Willson ..... 29

# Tall Ship Providence Late Summer *Meet-Up* Tour

**Tiler Hal Henig, Meet-Up Chairman**

On Sunday, August 27, Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge had our August Monthly Meet-Up at the Tall Ship Providence Tour located at the Senator John Warner Naval Memorial Museum. Our Tour began at noon and lasted for 90 minutes. The Tall Ship Providence docked at the Naval Museum along the Potomac River, is a replica of the original ship Providence built in 1768, as the Cargo Ship Katy. The main Actor on the tour portrayed Captain John Paul Jones and he replied to the British request to surrender by stating "I have not yet begun to fight." John Paul Jones captured several British Warships.

Captain John Paul Jones assigned jobs to the Eleven Brethren and Guests who participated in the Tall Ship Tour. Tiler Hal Henig was the Navigation Officer, and his job was reading the compass and using the sextant for measurements. Hal's wife Lisa was a Midshipman, and her job was to yell to the men on top of the sails. Bob Greenwald, PM was the Gunnery Officer, and his wife Roberta was a Carpenter. Secretary Raymond Horn, PM was designated the Ship's Cook. Our WM Allen Levy was the Common Able-Bodied sailor in charge of rigging the sails and steering the ship. Allen Levy's Wife Jessica was also an Able Bodied Sailor on the Providence. Brother Charlie Meyers was a First Mate,

and his wife Dawn was a Commander, probably John Paul Jones Executive Officer. Sharon Zitomer's job description was a Midshipman and Stuart Zitomer was also a Carpenter.

Captain John Paul Jones regaled us with stories of his exploits. We viewed the Captain's Quarters, the guns on the deck, the sails, and the crew's quarters below the ship's deck. The crew manned the ship slept and ate their meals below the ship's deck. The 44 sailors and junior officers slept below the deck since the ship was only 74 feet long and short of space. Live animals and the crews' food were also below the deck. After the ship tour ended, the Brethren and Guests watched a video on the history of the US Navy.

Attached are several photos including one of the 11 Brethren and Guests posing for a seated photo taken by Actor Cabin Boy. After the tour, seven of us had lunch outside at Chadwick's, located not far from the Tall Ship Museum.

The Brethren and Guests that participated in the Tall Ship Providence Tour had a great time and the weather was nice and sunny, and no rain. This ship tour was a Great Success.



*Capt. John Paul Jones*



# Tall Ship Providence Late Summer Meet-Up Tour



Robert Greenwald, PM and Roberta



Charlie and Dawn Meyer



The Captains Compass



Hal and Lisa Henig, Robert Greenwald, PM and Roberta, Charlie and Dawn Meyer, Raymond Horn, PM, WM Allen Levy and Jessica, Sharon and Stuart Zitomer.

## Continuing our Partnership with Makom

We put up the Sukkahs for Makom, formerly known as the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes. This year as Yom Kippur started on Sunday, we went to two of the homes and quickly set them up. Fortunately, the homes have purchased easy-to-assemble kits.

Then of course we followed up our construction project by heading over to the Parkway Deli for a late lunch, allowing us to prepare for our fast. Of course, we will be taking them down and probably several others on Columbus Day, October 9th, when the holiday is over.



David Torchinsky, PM

Rina Torchinsky



Raymond Horn, PM



David Horn



Jeff Greenwald



What we do best. David Torchinsky, PM, Jeff Greenwald, Jerry Keilsohn, David Horn, Raymond Horn, PM



# LODGE MEMORIAL SERVICE

The program during our September Stated Communication was our Lodge Memorial Service. This Memorial Service honored the memory of the Brethren who have passed to the Celestial Lodge during the 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 Masonic Years.

For each of the Brethren below who were honored, our Master of Ceremonies, WM Allen Levy read the dates of their birth, initiation, passing to the Degree of Fellowcraft, raising to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, and passing to the celestial lodge.

One at a time, if a family member was present, they were invited to come and Light a candle for the Brother who had passed. If no guest was present, WB Burt Levy lit a candle. At the end of the night, there was a full candelabra for our past members.

For many of our Brethren, their family and other Brethren attested to their engagement in Masonry and the impact they had on our Lodge and Fellowship. This was the first Memorial Service since Covid and the passing of WB Walter Simon who served as the Master of Ceremony for many years.



*WB David Torchinsky, Bro. Howard Polizer, his wife and David's Sister, Marilyn Politzer and WB Burt Levy. David is speaking about his father, Bro. Irving Torchinsky and his family's extensive engagement with our Lodge.*

Joseph B. Spund  
Sol Aleskow  
Maurice Joseph Curcio  
Irving L. Torchinsky  
Gerald Tolpin  
Morris Gevinson, PM  
Ralph P. Silverman  
Solomon A. Danzig  
William S. Orlove  
Stanley Feder, PM  
Victor A. Obadia  
Charles H. Marcus  
Norman G. Schikevitz  
Harry I. Pomerantz  
Leonard B. Heller  
Harvey Horwitz  
Jack J. Klawans  
Jeffrey Rothman  
Morton Allen Davis

Stuart L. Werner  
Donald S. Jacobs, PM  
Jerold Jay Samet, PGM  
Jerrold Gordon, PM  
Herman Zeitchik  
Raymond Friedman, PM  
Walter Franklin Simon, PM  
David Applestein  
Norman G. Dekelbaum  
Jerome Morris Bauman, PM  
John Raymond Garrison, PM  
Maurice Saul Berger  
Yale J. Wiesberg  
Daniel L. Sieger III  
Leonard S. Rubin, PM  
Scott Andrew Marks  
Edward Hinkle  
Abraham Genderson





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## 2023 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master ..... Allen R. Levy, 703-470-4945  
Senior Warden ..... Derek Gould, 240-938-6285  
Junior Warden ..... Aaron Kamerer, 202-510-5181  
Secretary ..... Raymond Horn, [secretary@srgb45.org](mailto:secretary@srgb45.org), 443-253-0605  
6109 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817  
Treasurer ..... Robert H. Starr, PGM, 301-460-3088  
Chaplain ..... Burt S. Levy, PM, JGD Hon., 202 409-4449  
Master-of-Ceremonies ..... Robert J. Greenwald, PM, 703-624-9085  
Senior Deacon ..... Jeffrey R. Greenwald, 301-869-1915  
Junior Deacon ..... Ryan A. Simon, 240-475-3935  
Senior Steward ..... Steven E. Dekelbaum, 301-367-3488  
Trustees ..... Julien P. Holberg, PM (2023), 301-774-2868  
GL-E Sheldon I. Rappeport, PM, DSM, MA, (2024), ..... 301-598-8379  
Jeffrey Greenwald, (2025), 301-869-1915

Fidelity Medal Recipient..... Peter H. Frank  
Historian ..... Joshua L. Rubin, 240-277-5355  
Tiler ..... Hal Henig, 301-681-3873  
Immediate PM ..... Jerry P. Keilsohn, ..... 301-570-0446

## 2023 REPRESENTATIVES

Masonic Foundation..... JGS Michael Greenwald, PM, 301-272-0168  
Masonic & Eastern Star Home ..... Raymond Horn, 443-253-0605  
St. John's Mite Association ..... Burt S. Levy, PM

## 2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Auditing ..... Kevin Stemp  
Ambassador to Amicable-St. John's Lodge #25 ..... Jonathan Binstock, PM  
301-442-4812  
Baskets ..... Jeffrey Greenwald, 301-869-1915  
David B. Torchinsky, PM, 301-933-1955  
Bulletin Committee ..... Raymond Horn, PM, 443-253-0605  
Business Manager ..... Open  
By-Laws ..... Robert H. Starr, PGM, 301-460-3088  
Catechism Instructors ..... Burt S. Levy, PM, 202 409-4449  
Allen J. Wright, PM, MA, 301-989-8945  
Centennial Planning ..... Aaron Kamerer, 202-510-5181  
Education and Degree Committee ..... GL-E Sheldon I. Rappeport, PM, DSM, MA  
301-598-8379  
Engleberg-Korman Charitable Foundation: ..... Michael Greenwald, PM  
Michael J. Rinis, PM, 301-384-8244  
Jeffrey R. Greenwald  
Funeral, Visitations, Widow Care ..... Allen J. Wright, PM, MA, 301-989-8945  
Burt S. Levy, PM, 202 409-4449  
Investment Committee..... Trustees, Treas. Robert H. Starr, PGM  
Refreshment. .... J.S., S.S.  
Relief ..... W.M., S.W., J.W.  
Sunshine and Monthly Meet-Up Chairman ..... Hal Henig, 301-681-3873  
Technology and Communications ..... Aaron Kamerer, 202-510-5181  
Derek R. Gould, 240-938-6285  
Volunteer Activities/Community Outreach ..... Jeffrey Greenwald

## 2023 PROXIES

For the Worshipful Master ..... Charles Oshinsky  
For the Senior Warden ..... Ryan Simon  
For the Junior Warden ..... Steven Dekelbaum



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




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**Calendar for Masonic Year 2023—Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45**

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

Date		Event	Open to
October	10	Stated Communication, Bingo-Deli Night, open, 7:30 pm	Masons Only
	23	Meet-up, 6:30 pm	Masons and Prospective Masons

Date		Event	Open to
November	14	Stated Communication, Master Mason Degree, Elections, 7:30 pm	Masons Only
	19	William D. Boker Memorial Thanksgiving Basket Program 8:00 am	Masons and prospective Masons
	27	Meet-up, 6:30 pm	Masons and Prospective Masons

Date		Event	Open to
December	3	Past Masters Degree, 1:30 pm	Open only to Past Masters, TMC
	10	Stated Communication, Installation, 1:00 pm	Family and Friends