



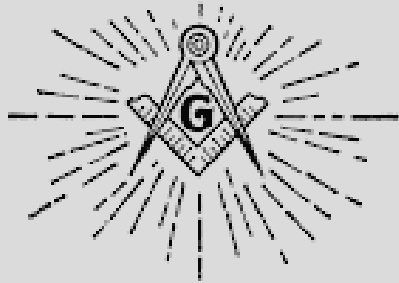
Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin
Lodge No. 45 F.A.A.M

bulletin

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

Volume XCVIII • Number 10
December 2023

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



Samuel Gompers
Benjamin Franklin
Lodge #45, F.A.A.M.
INSTALLATION

OF OUR
2024

OFFICERS

Sunday
December 10th, 2023
Takoma Masonic Center
115 Carroll Street, N.W.
Washington, DC

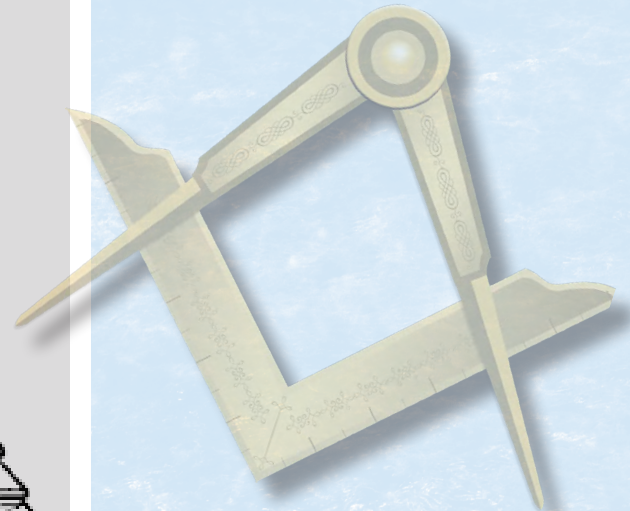
Brethren,

We proudly invite you to join our December Stated Communication and Officer Installation Ceremony as Samuel Gompers – Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 welcomes our new Officer Line for the 2024 Masonic Year.

This year will be our Lodges' 99th Year! Show your support as we prepare to start this significant milestone in Masonry.

As always, once we open, the Lodge will go to recess to welcome family and friends to witness the installation. The Installation begins at 1:00 PM, Reception to follow.

Please RSVP to the forthcoming eVite or our Secretary, secretary@sgbf45.org. Guests welcome.



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
Robert Greenwald, *Senior Warden*
Jerry Keilsohn, *Junior Warden*

2B1  ASK1

Light From the East

WM Allen Levy 2023



I am humbled to have served as Master of this Lodge this past year. It has also been my honor. My time in the East has flown by, as many of our Past Masters have warned me. I hope my Lodge Brothers have had as good a year as I have.

One of our collective accomplishments this year has been the initiation, passing, and raising of our newly made Master Mason Lee Silverman. We all worked very hard on these Degrees and I want to thank you all for your hard work.

I also want to extend a special thank you to Jeffrey Greenwald for all his hard work this year, and every year, on our charity events. These basket programs allow our Masonic values to directly impact and engage with the community. These have included our Passover, Rosh Hashana, and Thanksgiving baskets, and I appreciate all who have participated and helped make these events a success.

One contribution I feel I have made this year is answering the appeals of Brothers in the Lodge concerning the idea of resuming the Lodge's Labor Day Picnics. This is a request I have heard often

these past few years. The difficulty has been the limited resources for planning and producing such an event, plus the conflict it incurs with the Grand Lodge Picnic. As a resolution, I started what I hope becomes an annual tradition of a more modest event on Memorial Day weekend instead of Labor Day, the Master's Cookout, which I believe was a success this year.

Finally, I want to congratulate our newly elected officers for the coming Masonic year and wish them all the best. More especially Brother Aaron Kamerer, our Worshipful Master-elect. Because Brother Kamerer has been looking forward to being Master of the Lodge during its Centennial celebration in 2025, he will be taking on the challenge of serving as Worshipful Master in consecutive years. I implore you, Brothers and Past Masters, to be of assistance to Brother Kamerer in any way you can to help ease the incredible commitment he has made.

Once again, thank you for this year, and have a wonderful holiday season.

Allen

November Stated Communication - Third Degree and Lodge Elections

Our November Stated Communication featured both elections and the Master Masons Degree.

Congratulations to Bro. Lee Silverman who was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason and to all of the officers who were elected and will be installed at our December Stated Communication.

The cast executed a wonderful Third Degree, raising three new Master Masons. We were honored to have the degree concluded with an outstanding Lecture from the Grand Lecturer, Chip Mahaney.

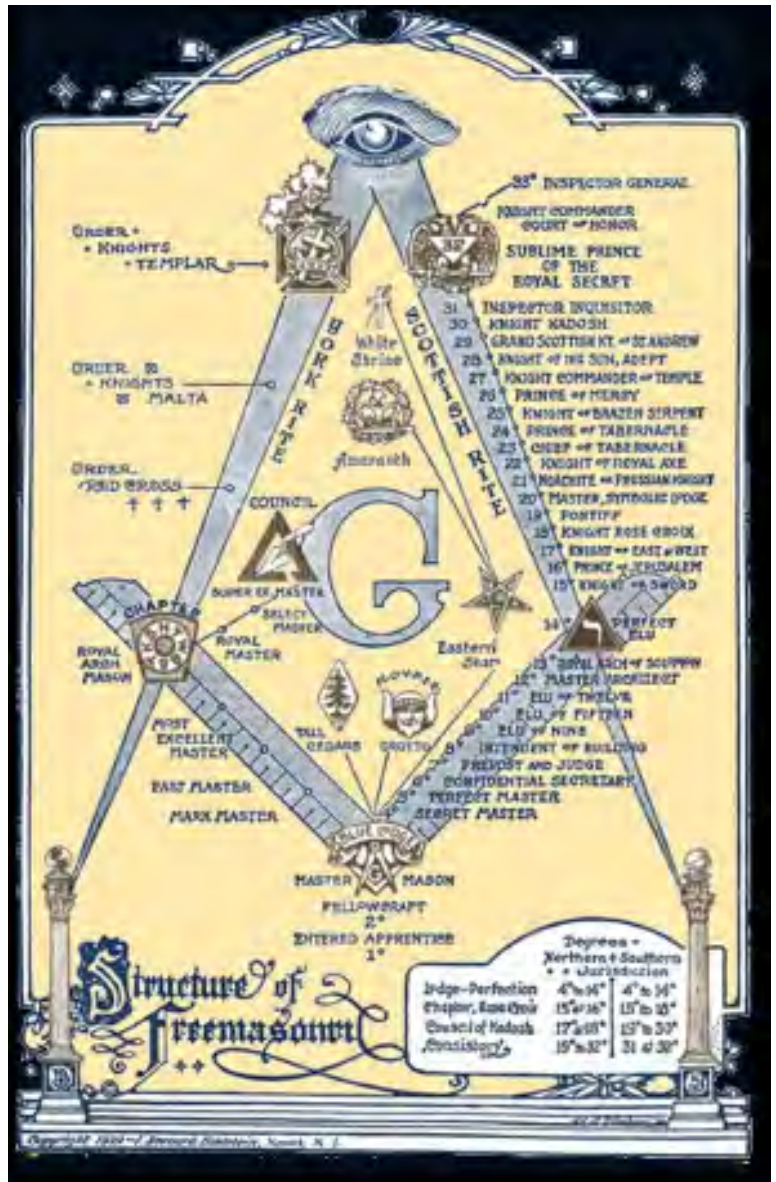
The three Master Mason Candidates were: Lee Silverman – SG-BF #45; Keith Mayo as a courtesy for Cincinnatus Lodge # 76; and Cyril Wande as a courtesy for District Grand Lodge of Sierra Leone and the Gambia..

Cast: First Section –

WM: Allen Levy, PM
SM: Derek Gould
JW: Jeff Greenwald
SD: Ryan Simon
JD: George Perez, PM
SS: Sheldon Rappaport, PM
JS: Burt Levy, PM
MC: Robert Greenwald, PM
Tiler: Hal Henig
Music: Robert Starr, PGM

Cast: Second Section

WM/KS: Sheldon Rappaport, PM
SW: Derek Gould
JW: Jerry Keilsohn, PM
SD: Ryan Simon
Sec: Chip Mahaney, GL
Ruffians: Jerry Keilsohn, PM; Allen Levy, PM;
Josh Rubin, PM
Fellowcrafts: Burt Levy, PM,
Michael Greenwald, PM
JD/SFM: George Perez, PM
Lecture: Chip Mahaney, GL
Charge: Sheldon Rappaport, PM
Tiler: Hal Henig



Samuel Gompers – Benjamin Franklin Lodge No.45 elected its next line of officers for the ensuing Masonic year.

Elections Results:

The following Brethren were elected as officers for the 2024 Masonic Year:

WM: Aaron Kamerer
SW: Derek Gould
JW: Jeff Greenwald
SD: Ryan Simon
JD: Jerry Keilsohn, PM
Treasurer: Robert Starr, PM, PGM
Secretary: Raymond Horn, PM
Trustee (2026): Julien Hofberg, PM



Great Mamma Lucia Italian *Meet-Up*

Tiler Hal Henig, Meet-Up Chairman

On Monday Evening, October 30, Samuel Gompers- Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45 had its Monthly Meet-Up at Mamma Lucia Italian Restaurant located in Olney, Maryland. During prior Meet-Ups, Mamma Lucia has been a popular restaurant for both our Lodge Members and Guests during the last few years. I started having Meet-Ups again after the pandemic, in October 2022.

Twenty-one Brethren and Guests participated in the Monday Evening Social Event at Mamma Lucia. The Brethren that attended were Tiler Hal Henig, Meet-Up Chairman, WM Allen Levy, Raymond Horn, PM, SD Jeff Greenwald, Alan Gordon, PGM, Jerry Keilsohn, PM, Dave Torchinsky, PM, Brother Alan Karpas, Brother Chester Katz, and Brother Lee Silverman. Our guests were Lisa Henig, Iris Gordon, Arlene Karpas, Linda Katz, Laura Torchinsky, Dara Greenwald (Jeff Greenwald’s Daughter), David Horn (Raymond Horn’s Son), and Sharon Zitomer with son Stuart, and Daughter Renie.

This great attendance was tied with the July Meet-Up at Parkway Deli, which also had 21 Lodge Members and Guests. The food was delicious, and we had a great waiter who served us and took photos of the Brethren and Guests having a good time. The restaurant manager provided me with pleasant hospitality, while I was standing inside in front of the restaurant greeting the Brethren and guests.

Happy Birthday

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

Irwin B Pescov 16	Burton S. Levy 25	Julius Rudden 31
Jay Stearman..... 23	Lewis A Gertz..... 22	

2023 William D. Boker, Thanksgiving Basket Program

This year, under the always stellar planning and guidance of our SD Jeffrey Greenwald, the Lodge was able to build and deliver over 160 baskets and pre-made meals during the morning of November 19th. Starting at 7:00 AM, the lodge with the help of M & M Appliances Box Truck, picked up the groceries at the Kensington Safeway and delivered them to the Brethren and Families in the Kensington Masonic Lodge parking lot. Each basket contained a Turkey or Turkey breast, (Kosher if requested), 3lb bag of apples, a bag of carrots, celery, 3lbs of yellow onions, 5lbs of white potatoes, cranberry sauce, canned yams, vegetable bouillon, stuffing, a loaf of bread and pumpkin bread from the Sunflower Bakery.

The baskets were quickly assembled and drivers for JSSA, Bnai Tzedek Sisterhood, and The Eagle School in Washington D.C. picked them up for distribution to the needy families of their organizations. Once all the baskets were picked up, pre-made meals from Costco were picked up and staged for another set of drivers who delivered the meals.

Participating this year: Jeffrey Greenwald, Dara Greenwald, RWB Michael Greenwald, PM, Jerry Keilsohn, PM, William Keilsohn, Raymond Horn, PM, Aaron Kammerer, Derek Gould, Derek's mother Emily, brother Alan, Sister Eva, and her friend, David Torchinsky, PM, Shira Torchinsky, Staci Newman and her daughter, Allan Karpas, Arlene Karpas, Jonathon Binstock, PM, and Margo, Hal Henig, Lee Silverman, and Burt Levy, PM. JSSA's Volunteer coordinator, Taylor McCarley also participated.



2023 William D. Boker, Thanksgiving Basket Program



2023 William D. Boker, Thanksgiving Basket Program





By Jerry Keilsohn

There are many stories about our brethren during the Civil War, although they were wearing different color uniforms, not taking up arms against each other.

One of the more famous encounters is memorialized by a large bronze and stone memorial at the Gettysburg, PA Cemetery called the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial.

The Friend-to-Friend Masonic Memorial was originally commissioned by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and was finished and dedicated as a memorial to the Freemasons of the Union and the Confederacy in the National Cemetery Annex on August 21, 1993.

Many years ago, one of the younger Keilsohn's Delaware Lodge brothers suggested visiting the memorial. So on a rainy and cold Veteran's Day, both Brother Keilsohns set off on a field trip to visit Gettysburg.



Bro. William Keilsohn in front of the Friend-to-Friend Memorial

The Friend-to-Friend Monument depicts Brother Confederate Brigadier General Lewis A. Armistead, wounded after crossing the wall during the climax of Pickett's Charge on July 3, 1863, being attended to by Brother Union Captain Henry H. Bingham.

The story that goes with the encounter between Brethren Armistead and Bingham is best described by the bronze plaque on the memorial.



After visiting the memorial and taking the expected pictures. The Keilsohn's then walked around the rest of the cemetery which is the final resting place of so many soldiers and veterans.

Next, the Keilsohn's headed to the Gettysburg Battlefield visitor's center to learn more about the bloodiest battle of the Civil War. And to dry out some. The visitor's center and museum walk the visitor through the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg. The museum then ends with a section about President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address at the dedication of the cemetery several months after the battle.

Some trivia about the Gettysburg Address. President Lincoln was not the keynote speaker for the dedication of the Gettysburg Cemetery. Hon. Edward Everett delivered a two-hour oration before President Lincoln's short remarks. The 271 words (ten sentences) of his Gettysburg Address took him only a few minutes to deliver.

Something to think about. Maybe Lincoln was wrong? At about the middle of his address "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, ...". Lincoln's Gettysburg address is his most famous oration. Many argue that it is one of the most important in the history of the United States.



This Plaque dedicated to our namesake, Samuel Gompers is located in Washington D.C. on G Street between 12th and 13th Streets.

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		



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Worshipful Master Allen R. Levy, 703-470-4945
Senior Warden Derek Gould, 240-938-6285
Junior Warden Aaron Kamerer, 202-510-5181
SecretaryRaymond Horn, secretary@srgb45.org, 443-253-0605
6109 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817
TreasurerRobert H. Starr, PGM, 301-460-3088
ChaplainBurt S. Levy, PM, JGD Hon., 202 409-4449
Master-of-CeremoniesRobert J. Greenwald, PM, 703-624-9085
Senior DeaconJeffrey R. Greenwald, 301-869-1915
Junior DeaconRyan 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
HistorianJoshua L. Rubin, 240-277-5355
TilerHal Henig, 301-681-3873
Immediate PMJerry 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 AssociationBurt S. Levy, PM

2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

AuditingKevin 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 InstructorsBurt 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 MasterCharles Oshinsky
For the Senior WardenRyan Simon
For the Junior WardenSteven Dekelbaum



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



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

Date		Event	Open to
January	9	Stated Communication, 7:30 PM	Masons only
	22	Meet-up 6:30 PM	Family and Friends

Date		Event	Open to
February	13	Stated Communication, 7:30 PM	Masons only
	26	Meet-up 6:30 PM	Family and Friends