

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

bulletin

Volume XCIV • Number 3
March 2019

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

Meets Second Tuesday of Each Month (Except July and August—no meetings;—December—first Tuesday)

Honoring our PAST MASTERS

WM Robert Greenwald, recovered sufficiently from his recent illness to be in good spirits when he opened our annual appreciation lunch for the Past Masters of Samuel Gompers–Benjamin Franklin Lodge #45 on January 27th at the Bethesda Rock Bottom Brewery and Restaurant. Our new Master invited the Past Masters of our Lodge, our new officer line and a few affiliated members for the purpose of introducing the new line and honoring the service of our Past Masters. There was non-stop conversation as we were able to catch up and enjoy the fellowship of shared

See **Past Masters** continued on page 10



We Did Good ... AGAIN!

By Jeff Greenwald

On February 3rd, 13 of us participated in Soup-er Bowl Sunday, along with the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington to provide a delicious breakfast meal at the N Street Village Women’s Shelter in DC. WB Michael Greenwald, PM led the way by organizing the event and we quickly filled up the volunteer spots. This year we were able to block out for the Lodge the first shift of the day to provide all the staff necessary. WB Greenwald also brought Masonic aprons and almost all of the Brethren wore their Masonic hats for the event adding to the feeling of camaraderie.

SW Jerry Keilsohn was one of the major Chefs for a delicious Challah French Toast that was enjoyed by over 30 women at the shelter. He was helped by Adam Tager, PM and his fiancée Ally. JW Burt Levy led the team to prepare the turkey sausage. He was helped by Brother Derek Gould and Candidate Aaron Kramerer, WB Raymond Horn, PM organized the preparation of a fruit bowl extravaganza. He was helped

by Brothers Kevin Stemp and Hal Henig. Brother Alan Karpas and his wife Arlene prepared a tomato-mozzarella dish for use at lunchtime. JD Jeffrey Greenwald helped Alan and Arlene. Brothers Greenwald and Karpas prepared and baked the potatoes which would be used to make a potato-leek soup for the lunchtime meal as well. Once the meals were prepared, we then became the servers and waiters, enjoying the company of the women at the shelter. Of course, clean-up was necessary as well, but everything was done within two hours of starting. We then caravanned to the Daily Dish in Silver Spring for an enjoyable meal of our own to round out the event.

This is the second year in a row that we have participated in this event and we plan to put it on our calendar again for next year and many years to come. The staff from the Federation was grateful that we were very self-sufficient in

See **Doing Good** continued on page 8

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LODGE NO. 45, F.A.A.M.**



Your father or uncle
may have been a Mason

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To learn more about Masonry:
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at Takoma Masonic Center**

Raymond Horn, *Worshipful Master*, wm@sgbf45.org
Robert Greenwald, *Senior Warden*
Jerry Keilsohn, *Junior Warden*

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SK1

Light From the East

By Robert Greenwald, WM

Brethren, we are now two months into the New Year and our outreach programs are progressing thanks to our officers and Brethren who have contributed their time and efforts to ensure our success. For your helpfulness, consideration, and kindness I want to personally thank each and every one for their efforts.

This, my Brethren, is what Masonry is all about. It is the giving of your time and effort, doing the right thing without being asked. Being active in your Lodge. Your greatest satisfaction comes in knowing and seeing your Lodge achieve greater heights in what we do best. It is always better to give a little of your time than nothing

at all. With that said we hope to see more of you joining us in the future.

Your presence is requested to attend our March 12th Stated Communication. It is very important, as we will be conferring the EA degree for five new candidates. I hope you will attend to welcome them into our Lodge and bid them success in their new endeavors. Please note, should you need assistance to attend future meetings let us know so we can help. Contact our lodge Secretary, WB Michael Greenwald (secretary@sgbf45.org) who will help you.



Conference on Masonic Education SAVE THE DATE

How Can Masons Better Educate Themselves?

Education, Ethics, and Empathy as the essence of the Masonic philosophy of life.

Saturday, March 9, 2019

from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (lunch included)

at the Scottish Rite Center (2800 16th Street, NW)

All members of our lodge are invited to attend, including Entered Apprentices.



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Many members of our Lodge are active in the appellate bodies of Freemasonry. Our own SW, Jerry Keilsohn moved up a chair in the Mithras Lodge of Perfection. To help celebrate the 2019 Installation of Officers, on the evening of Saturday, February 2, 2019 our Lodge had a good turnout at the Scottish Rite Temple. From left to right: Illustrious Brother Walter F. Simon, PM, DSM, Candidate Aaron Kamerer, Illustrious Brother Burt S. Levy, PM, WM Robert Greenwald, Illustrious Brother Robert H. Starr, PGM, Bro. Derek Gould, Michael K. Greenwald, PM, and SW Jerry Keilsohn.



Brother Herman Zeitchik recognized at the **State of the Union**

During the State of the Union Tuesday, February 5th, President Donald Trump honored three World War II veterans for their service.

One of those veterans is a member of our Lodge, Sargent Herman Zeichik. Brother Zeichik was raised on July 10, 1951.

“In June, we mark 75 years since the start of what General Dwight D. Eisenhower called the Great Crusade – the Allied liberation of Europe in World War II. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, 15,000 young American men jumped from the sky, and 60,000 more stormed in from the sea, to save our civi-

lization from tyranny,” Trump said. “Here with us tonight are three of those heroes: Private First Class Joseph Reilly, Staff Sergeant Irving Locker, and Sargent Herman Zeitchik. Gentlemen, we salute you.”

Thank you to WB David Torchinsky for bringing this to our attention. The White House released the formal portrait of Brother Zeichik pictured below.



Feb 5, 2019; Washington, DC, USA; Veterans Herman Zeitchik, left, waves and Irving Locker, right, gives a thumbs up sign as they are recognized by President Donald Trump during his State of the Union address from the House chamber of the United States Capitol in Washington. (Photo: Jasper Colt, Jasper Colt-USA TODAY)



Brother Herman Zeitchik's formal portrait provided by the White House

Delivering **ANNIVERSARY AWARDS**

This past month, WB Michael Greenwald and WB Burt Levy made their annual trip to Florida to present Masonic Service Awards to the Brothers in our jurisdiction who cannot travel. This year they had the honor of delivering five awards. They visited our Brother David Applestein and presented him his 70 year service award!!! They also treated David and his friend Pat to lunch.



Brother Max Deckelbaum receiving his 55 year Service Award.





Chinese New Year's Parade 2019

On Sunday, February 10, the annual Chinese New Year Parade was held in Washington DC Chinatown. According to the Chinese New Year lunar calendar this was the year of the pig.

Various Chinese American Organizations participated and marched in this parade, including Chinese American Veterans that served in the United States Armed Forces. In addition, the Almas Shriners rode a vintage fire engine during this parade. Mayor Muriel Bowser gave a speech celebrating the contributions Chinese Americans made enriching the DC Metropolitan Area. Other members of the city delegation joined the parade.

These year's parade as usual featured Almas Temple Klown Krew including our own Weird Wally, PM and Jonathan Binstock, PM. One of our Kena Nobles, Dr. I.M. Clueless, trekked all the way from Winchester, VA to Klown around with our local Shriners. Meet up Chairman Bro. Hal Henig organized our Lodge's annual observation



First Meet-Up for the New Year Mamma Lucia

On Monday, January 27, Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge had its first monthly Meet-Up for 2019. Our lodge held its January Meet-Up at Mamma Lucia Italian Restaurant in Olney, Maryland. The weather was moderately cold that evening, which is appropriate for January.

The Brethren and guests had a nice warm meal at Mama Lucia. We had a late start that evening. The turnout for this Meet-Up was good and I was happy that nine men came and enjoyed the dinner offered by this restaurant. Brethren in attendance were Hal Henig, Meet-Up Chairman, Dave Torchinsky, PM, Allen Friedman, PM, SW Jerry Keilsohn, SD Jeff Greenwald, JD Sonny Garibay, Brother Dick Sincoff. Invited Guests were Stuart Zitomer and Dave Zemel



who is a friend of Dave Torchinsky.

Everybody enjoyed a large meal consisting of pizza, ziti, eggplant parmesan, and other pastas. Attached is a photo of the Brethren having a good time and enjoying each other's fellowship at the restaurant. With nine men attending, this Meet-Up had a higher attendance than our more recent monthly lodge dinner events. If you have not been attending our monthly meet ups, make a plan to attend our future Monday Evening Meet-Ups. A great time is had by all attendees! Stay tuned for our Monthly Meet-Ups.

Grand Lodge Special Dinner Event to Benefit Those Impacted by the Shutdown



Volunteers for the Special Dinner included Adam Tager, PM and Michael Greenwald, PM

Our Grand Master, MW Charbel Fahed, has highlighted empathy as a key principle for the Grand Jurisdiction. We can all do our part by identifying ways to support our brothers, especially those, for example, who have been impacted by the government shutdown.

A special fraternal dinner was held at the DC Scottish Rite building, sponsored by MESH, to benefit those impacted by the shutdown. The event was held Thursday January 31.

Valentine's Dance

This year's Valentines Event was again a memorable evening which was enjoyed by all who attended.



Michael Greenwald, PM and his wife, Kathy



Bro. Hal Henig and his wife, Lisa



Walter Simon, PM and his significant other, Bonnie



Jules Tepper, PGM and his wife, Pat



Bro. Howard Politzer and his wife Marilyn

Please check out our Lodge's website: <https://sgbf45.org> which has been updated for the ensuing year!

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What is the N Street Village?

While this was the second year that the Lodge volunteered to help the N Street Village, most of us may not be familiar with the important mission that it has. One of the leaders of this organization addressed the volunteers to explain.

“We help women achieve stability and make meaningful gains in their housing, income, employment, mental health, physical health, and addiction recovery. Every day at least one woman comes to N Street Village for the first time, and I know that – but for a few circumstances of fortune and timing – ‘she’ could be me.”

N Street Village serves nearly

2,000 homeless and low-income women each year.

We recognize that those we serve face a variety of challenges, and some individuals may face numerous obstacles simultaneously. Some of the most common challenges for the women of N Street Village include: health or mental health problems, substance abuse or addiction, a history of trauma, a lack of educational and vocational opportunities, job loss or eviction, domestic violence, a criminal background or other barriers to employment, or functional illiteracy. And sometimes the biggest challenge for a woman arriving at our front door is the

loss of her own sense of dignity, self-worth, and hope.

- 1 in 2 have no income when they arrive
- 57% are 50 years or older
- 64% self-reported having a disability including physical, mental, developmental, addition or a combination
- 8% self-reported living with HIV/AIDS
- 80% are African American

N Street Village serves nearly 2,000 homeless and low-income women each year. We are the largest provider of housing and services for women in D.C. experiencing homelessness.



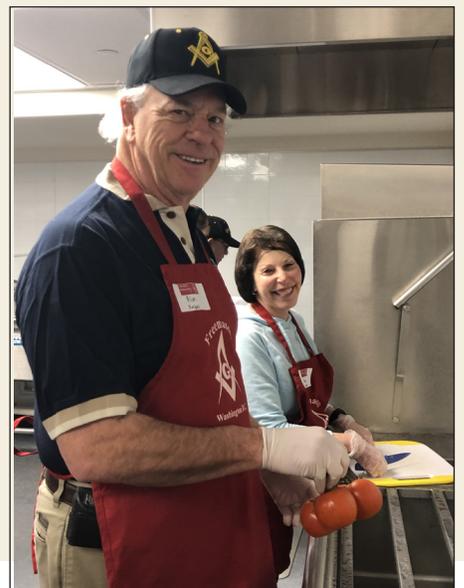
The Crew: Bro. Jeff Greenwald, Raymond Horn, PM, Brother Alan Karpas and his wife Arlene, JW Jerry Keilsohn, Michael Greenwald, PM, JW Burt Levy, Candidate Aaron Kramerer, Brother Derek Gould, Adam Tager, PM and his fiancée Ally. Not pictured, Bro. Hal Henig.

Doing Good *continued from page 1*

performing our duties, enabling the breakfast to be served on time and allowing them to get a head start with the lunch preparations.

Our next Volunteer event will be on April 7th as we participate again with the Jewish Foundation on Good Deeds Day. Similar to last year, we will have a booth at the JCC of Greater Washington in Rockville to create bags of clothing and toiletries for Veterans at the DC Veterans Hospital. Hope to see many of you participate.





Past Masters *continued from page 1*

experiences. The lunch concluded with a discussion about service to the Lodge for the upcoming Masonic year. Attending the Lunch were: WM Robert Greenwald, SW Jerry Keilsohn, Burt Levy, PM, Allen

Wright, PM, David Torchinsky, PM, Erik Milman, PM, Raymond Horn, PM, Jerry Gordon, PM, Sheldon Rappeport, PM, Walter Simon, PM, Jerome Bauman, PM, Michael Greenwald, JD Jacobo Garibay,

Roman Volsky, PGM, Burton Penn, PM, Robert Starr, PGM, Adam Foreman, PM, SD Jeff Greenwald, JS Alan Levy, Bro Hal Henig.



By-Law Change TO BE VOTED ON AT MARCH STATED

Currently Section 1 A. reads

SECTION 1 - STATED COMMUNICATIONS

A. The Stated Communication of this Lodge shall be held on the Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., during the months of September through June, except in December, when the stated communication shall be held on the Second Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

Change "June" to read "July."

Section 1 A. will then read:

SECTION 1 - STATED COMMUNICATIONS

A. The Stated Communication of this Lodge shall be held on the Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., during the months of September through July, except in December, when the stated communication shall be held on the Second Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

Rationale: Occasionally, our September Stated Communication will fall on a religious holiday requiring us to call off the Stated. That would violate the Grand Lodge Code by not meeting at least once during the quarter. Under these circumstances, we could meet in July and thus meet during that quarter. If not needed, the Lodge could vote to call off the July Stated. Our rent is paid for both July and August so we wouldn't be expending any additional to hold a July meeting.

Proposed by Robert H. Starr, PGM and Sheldon I. Rappeport, GL-E

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2019 Proxies

For the Worshipful Master..... Michael K. Greenwald, PM
For the Senior Warden..... Derek Gould
For the Junior Warden..... Allen Levy

Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge Bulletin



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Calendar for Masonic Year 2019 – 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 Robert Greenwald about all events (see page 2)

Date	Event	Open to
March	12 Stated Communication— Entered Apprentice’s Degree, Lodge	Masons Only
	19 Grand Lodge Conference on Masonic Education—10 am-2 pm, Scottish Rite, Lunch will be served	Masons only, including EA
	25 Meet-Up—TBD location—7:30 pm	Masons & Potential Masons

Date	Event	Open to
April	7 Good Deeds Day, Rockville JCC	Everyone
	9 Stated Communication—Lodge opens 7:30 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm	Masons Only
	14 Passover Baskets—JSSA	Everyone
	21 VA Hospital Visitation—9:15 am	Everyone
	22 Meet-Up—TBD location—7:30 pm	Masons & Potential Masons