



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

# bulletin

Volume XCIX • Number 5  
June 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)



## Join our Lodge “Plus-One” Dinner Party

“Plus-One” means that you can RSVP yourself, **PLUS ONE GUEST** of your choice!  
W. M. Jerry P. Keilsohn has gone deep into his budget to show his appreciation to  
loyal members as we continue to climb out of our two-year pandemic morass.

**Sunday, the Twelfth of June  
Two Thousand and Twenty-Two  
At six thirty o'clock  
in the evening**

***Bus Boys and Poets  
(across the street from Takoma Masonic Center)  
235 Carroll Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20012  
Happy Hour 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 pm  
Toasts and Fellowship to Follow  
RSVP the eVite or [secretary@sgbf45.org](mailto:secretary@sgbf45.org)  
Prior to June 5, 2022  
Please Put ‘Plus One Dinner’ in the Subject Line***



*A stairway  
in the Salt  
Lake City  
Masonic  
Temple  
embodies  
the  
symbolism  
of the  
Second  
Degree.*

## Fellow Craft Degree – June Meeting

Preparations and rehearsals are well underway for our June Meeting. The second step of Masonry, the Fellow Craft Degree, will be conferred at the June Stated Communication, Tuesday June 14, 2022.

The symbolism of the Entered Apprentice degree emphasizes beginnings, spiritual birth, the first steps, youth, and orientation to the Light, which are all consistent with an initiation into the fraternity. The second degree of Fellow Craft symbolizes the methods of developing and progressing in the Craft and, in a sense, the emergence into spiritual manhood and maturity. Come and help our candidates continue their journey in Masonry.

### **WHEN:**

Tuesday June 14th  
Dinner 6:30 pm  
Meeting 7:30 pm

### **WHERE:**

Takoma Masonic Center

Please RSVP for dinner, [secretary@sgbf45.org](mailto:secretary@sgbf45.org)

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

**\*\*\* WARNING \*\*\* The Worshipful Master has relinquished the column this month to a special guest author.**

Hi everybody. I am so excited to be here. This is me:

I am the Samuel Gompers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 Worshipful Master's Traveling Apron. The Worshipful Master said I had to explain what I was before I could share my really exciting news. I am bursting to tell you the news so here goes with the explanation.

I came into being several years ago when Worshipful Master Michael Greenwald realized that when he went to visit other Lodges, he always ended up wearing a plain white one of my kind. In the DC jurisdiction, the brethren wear white aprons for everything. When I go to Grand Lodge even the Grand Master is wearing a white one of my kind. In other places, a white apron often indicates the brother is an Entered Apprentice. Brother Greenwald wanted something that showed he was the Master of the Lodge and a Master Mason. He had me made. He wore me many places, then handed me down to the next Worshipful Master, who handed me down to the next, who gave it to my current guardian. But he gave it to his successor, who then gave it back to him for this year. I get around. I have been to lots of places and worn many times by all of the recent Worshipful Masters. Before I forget, my white kind at Grand Lodge has a companion that is very much decorated that their owners wear when they travel outside of DC.

Finally to my exciting news. The Worshipful Master wore me three times in three days, a few weeks ago. That is a record for me. I usually spend weeks at a time in my traveling case. So boring. I love going places and seeing others of my kind.

The three times in three days were. Monday to Nur Lodge No. 2000. This was interesting. Instead of the normal DC ritual, they do an emulation ritual, but not in English, rather in Turkish. I am not sure if the Worshipful Master was able to follow what was happening, but I had no problems. And instead of the normal blue lodge blue and white leather of my kind, they have these beautiful red and white ones. My cohorts, the jewels would have been excited as they wear red collars as well.

Tuesday was my trip to Kensington – Bethesda Lodge No. 198. I am told that the Worshipful Master has been trying to make this visit happen for a while. This was my first visit to Kensington, but my buddy the Worshipful Masters Past Masters jacket said to tell you, that he and his kind go there every year. Every year, our Lodge uses the parking lot and the large room to stage and distribute the WM D Boker Thanksgiving Baskets. I understand the reason we never have



visited, is because they meet on the same night and time we do. The Worshipful Master called off May's Stated Communication so that we could all attend. The brethren at Kensington made us all feel welcome. As a bonus, we got to see a Maryland version of the Fellow Crafts degree. It is the same as of DC ritual, but also different. The officers wear the traditional blue and white of my kind, but in addition to the Lodge name, they have all the fancy accouterments as well.

Wednesday was my third outing. This time to Grand Lodge for its Semi-Annual Communication. The Grand Lodge offices wear the black morning coats with the tails and plain white of my kind. They look pretty sharp, even if my kind is just boring white. Lots of my kind in white too.

I had an exciting week.

The Worshipful Master said I was not allowed to complain, but I have a small gripe. I have gone to lots of Lodge meetings, but I never get to go to a SG-BF#45 Lodge meeting. Why? Because the Worshipful Master always wears the Worshipful Master's Apron as it has the square on it for his office. It and I have never met.

And before I go, I have a piece of trivia for you about my kind. I am always worn around the waist. In some jurisdictions that means the jacket is on top of me. In DC I am worn over the jacket. This gives rise to every brother, wearing my kind, when they stand up, to performing the Picard Maneuver. For those of you that are confused, I will explain. On Star Trek: The Next Generation, Captain Jean-Luc Picard developed the habit of tugging his uniform shirt down to straighten it out every time he went from a seated to a standing position. Fans, cast, and crew refer to it as the Picard Maneuver.

The Master says he always closes his column with a quote. I have one about me from the ritual. When a new Entered Apprentice is given his white leather one of me, usually made of lambskin, he is told "I trust you will wear it with pleasure to yourself and honor to the fraternity".



*Mithras Lodge of Perfection*  
**Jerry P. Keilsohn, 32°, KCCH**  
**2022 Venerable Master**

Our Worshipful Master represents SG-BF, #45 as he assumes leadership of the Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection. His red cap signifies that he has earned the title of 'Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.' Jerry thus brings pride to our Lodge – not to mention the joy of your writer who had the honor of introducing him to Scottish Rite Masonry.

The 4th through 14th degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite are called Ineffable Degrees because their principal purpose is the investigation and contemplation of the ineffable name of Deity. In the Orient of the District of Columbia, these degrees are conferred by the Mithras Lodge of Perfection

For those who have not yet availed themselves of membership in the Scottish Rite, I can personally promise you that receiving the 4th thru the 32nd Degrees and then attending the interesting and remarkable programs offered by the 'Rite' are the very best Masonic experiences you can find anywhere. You must be a Master Mason (3rd Degree) to petition for membership. All your Degrees will be presented to you in the beautiful Scottish Rite auditorium. You will

be comfortably seated and will enjoy the meaningful and educational drama of each one. You will not be required to memorize anything.

The Degrees of the Rite are normally offered twice each year during its Spring and Fall 'Reunions.' This year, as we all recover from the covid restrictions, you will have only one opportunity to petition for the degrees. The 2022 Fall Reunion will take place on Saturday, October 29th. If you are in that class, you will receive all of the degrees on that day, and at the conclusion you will be a 32nd Degree Mason and a Master of the Royal Secret. The cost for these Degrees includes your 32nd Degree Cap, your ring, and your elegant patent – but most importantly you will have experienced a life event that you will cherish forever.

It would be a huge honor to me if you would allow me to be the 'first line signer' on your petition to receive the Scottish Rite Degrees.

Email, text, or phone me for more information - (burt753@rcn.com).

# Thanks for the Memories

By Jeff Greenwald

On Thursday, May 19th, several members and guests were witness to an amazing display of musical comedy as part of a fund-raiser event for WAMU radio, the public radio station of Washington, DC. Of course, we started the night off with food, meeting for dinner at Matchbox Restaurant in Silver Spring.

WM Jerry Keilson and his wife Leah, Secretary Raymond Horn, PM and his wife Aileen, David Torchinsky, PM and his wife Laura along with Brother Oshinsky, JD Jeff Greenwald, and Tiler Hal Henig enjoyed a hearty meal and pleasant company. Then we took a short stroll to the AFI Silver Theatre to see "The Big Broadcast of 1938".

This movie brought us back through memory lane with stars such as W.C. Fields, Dorothy Lamour, Martha Raye, and an impossibly young Bob Hope. The premise of the film was a race between 2 luxury liners across the Atlantic. In the end, the SS Gigantic narrowly beat the SS Colossal in bumbling merriment that proved hilarious and entertaining. You could not watch the scene of W.C. Fields on a golf course without cracking up.

Many of you who routinely listen to WAMU on Sundays nights know that 'The Big Broadcast', hosted by Murray Horowitz is that radio station's longest-



Ready for the show:  
Tiler Hal Henig,  
WM Jerry and Leah  
Keilson, Raymond  
and Aileen Horn,  
Chuck Oshinsky,  
David and Laura  
Torchinsky

running program and features many of the old radio broadcasts of the 30's, 40's, and 50's, such as Gunsmoke, The Lone Ranger, and Dragnet. I would encourage those of you who have never listened to sit back and enjoy, just like you might enjoy a present-day podcast.

## EASTERN STAR INSTALLATION

On May 7, 2022, Beverly J. Gurner was elected and installed as Worthy Grand Matron and Robert H. Starr, PGM was elected and installed as Worthy Grand Patron of The Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star of the District of Columbia. A reception was held following the installation which took place at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel in Falls Church, VA.



Beverly J. Gurner,  
WGM and  
Robert H. Starr,  
WGP



## PROBATE, HOW TO AVOID IT

Probate is the process of proving the validity of a will and supervising the administration of an estate usually in the probate court. State law governs the proceedings in the probate court, so the process can vary from state to state. Supervising the administration of an estate can result in additional expense, unwanted publicity, and delays in the distribution of estate assets for a year or longer, which is why planning to avoid the probate process may be beneficial. There are several ways in which assets may transfer on death directly from the decedent/owner to others without probate. The following are some of the more common ways.

**Create a living trust.** A revocable living trust is a separate legal entity that can be set up to hold assets. You can transfer most assets to a living trust while you're alive and have complete access to and control of those assets during your lifetime. You can also direct who is to receive assets held in trust upon your death. The use of trusts involves a complex web of tax rules and regulations, and usually involves upfront costs and ongoing administrative fees. You should consider the counsel of an experienced estate planning professional before implementing a trust strategy.

**Name a beneficiary.** Many types of contracts allow you, as the account owner, to designate a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive the assets directly upon your death, avoiding probate. Examples include life insurance, annuities, and retirement accounts such as IRAs and 401(k)s.

**Make accounts payable on death.** Certain other types of accounts, such as bank accounts and brokerage accounts, also allow you to designate a beneficiary to inherit the account at your death without going through probate.

**Own real estate jointly or create a life estate.** Owning property jointly, as joint tenants with rights of survivorship, is another way to transfer property at death while avoiding probate. When one joint owner dies, property ownership automatically transfers to the surviving joint owner. You can also create a life estate in the property. In this case, you transfer ownership of the property to others, often called remainder beneficiaries, while you retain a life estate in the property. This means you have the right to use and control the property during your lifetime. Upon your death, complete ownership of the property passes to the remainder beneficiaries.

[Source: Navy Federal Investment Services | David Hammond | May 2022 ++]

### Happy Birthday

The following Brethren observe their birthdays on the **June, July** and **August** dates shown. Be sure to wish them well on that day.

**June:**

- David Marc Davis ..... 4
- Steven D. Foreman .... 12
- Abraham Genderson... 12
- Michael K. Greenwald 16
- Kevin C. Stemp ..... 18
- Kenneth L. Cohen..... 19
- William .G. Applestein 23
- Daniel L. Sieger III .... 26
- Larry A.Bram ..... 27
- Barton M. Shapiro ..... 29

**July:**

- Steven E. Rosner ..... 3
- Richard A. Trencher .... 3
- Derek R. Gould ..... 6
- David B. Torchinsky .... 11
- Donald M. Stein ..... 12
- Joseph N. Snyder ..... 19
- Max E. Dekelbaum..... 21
- Peter H. Frank ..... 21
- Michael A. Cohn ..... 22
- Steven R. Riemer ..... 23

- MichaelBen Canaan ... 27
- Aaron A. Kameron ..... 29
- David L. Kahn ..... 29
- August:**
- Jeffrey Nadel ..... 4
- William A. Keilsohn .... 5
- Burton Penn ..... 5
- J. Luis Frenk ..... 10
- Howard G. Politzer ..... 10

- Yoel M.Gittleson ..... 13
- Donald L. Malloreay .... 14
- Joshua L. Rubin..... 18
- Adam L. Forman ..... 19
- Leonard S. Rubin ..... 22
- Julien P. Hofberg ..... 25
- Jacob L. Dekelbaum .. 28
- Edward I. Weinstein ... 30

# Visitation to Kensington Masonic Hall

On the night of the usual Stated Communication, the Lodge mixed things up by going to visit Kensington – Bethesda Lodge #198 at a very familiar location. Most Lodge members know this location as our pickup point for the William Boker Thanksgiving Basket Program. A large contingent of our brethren attended to show our appreciation for their hospitality to our Basket Program. The program that night was a Fellow Craft Degree which was preceded by a Maryland proficiency test. Something, many D.C. Masons may not have seen before.



*Attending the visitation:*

**WM Jerry Keilsohn, Secretary Raymond Horn, PM, SW Allen Levy, PM, Robert Greenwald, PM, Allen Wright, PM, Tiler Hal Henig, Bro. Chuck Oshinsky, MD Lodge #170, Bro. Charlie Meyers, Bro. Chester Katz, RWB Michael Greenwald, SGS**



From the Secretary of Lodge 198: Many items to proclaim from last night's stated communication! First, Congratulations for Bros. Ethan Green and Kevin Zhang to being passed to FC Degree! Second, Congratulations to Bro. Ethan Gomez to conferring his first FC degree sitting in the East! (He certified last week) Also, the degree team performed well! Third, Congratulations to Bros. Arison Adriamalala and Henry Arango for receiving the Fellow and Pillar of the Craft certificates. *(Not Pictured)* Fourth, We had the pleasure to host the brethren from Samuel Gumpers-Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 45 from DC. We have a long history of brotherly love that has lasted more than 40 years. Happy to have them back!

Finally, thank you to all the County Lodges that were represented and Bro. Brad Andrukitis for joining us last evening.



On Sunday, April 10th W.B. Allen Wright, and I travelled to King David Memorial Gardens in Falls Church, VA to show our respect and to support P.M. Jerry Gordon's widow, Shirley, and her family at the unveiling of his grave marker. The unveiling is a mourning ritual which serves a very specific function in the healing process of the bereaved. It is not simply a perfunctory ritual, but rather-like the funeral, Shiva, Shloshim and Kaddish, the unveiling provides mourners with the opportunity for emotional and psychological healing. It was accompanied by a dignified service during which W.B. Wright recited the *El Malei Rachamim* – the prayer of Mercy for the soul of the departed and the request that he be granted a perfect rest.

Following the service, we were invited to the beautiful home of Brother Alan Karpas and his wife Arlene (Shirley's Niece and Nephew) for a luncheon in Jerry's honor.

**By Burt Levy, P.M.**

"It was his dream to become a Mason  
Though he wasn't sure quite why.  
So, he made an application,  
Then waited months for a reply.

No committee came to pay a call  
To meet him and his wife,  
No invitation to Mason's Hall;  
Nor offer of Advice.

Finally, a postcard in the mail,  
Said "Come Monday night at six,  
And Bring us twenty dollars,  
If you want to see our tricks."

He made the solitary journey,  
And entered by the door,  
But not one hand was offered,  
As he slowly crossed the floor.

They fed him beans and hot dogs,  
And a piece of apple pie,  
Then led him to a little room,  
With no explanations why.

The work was done with care and skill,  
No one could argue that.  
But, the candidate was forgotten,  
As they patted themselves on the back.

He came to the lodge hall two more  
times, and was raised to the third  
degree, that was the last they saw him.  
What could the trouble be?

They scratched their heads and  
wondered, as again they cried and moaned.  
"Our time has all been wasted!  
"We should have stayed at home."

It seems to me that they've missed the  
point, but they need to understand.  
It's not just how well you do the work,  
it's how you treat the man.

Because you can only be a Mason,  
When you're a Mason in your heart;  
And along with his jacket seams,  
They had burst his dream apart.

So, if you get an application,  
Please, call on that man at once  
Invite him and his family,  
To tour your hall and share some lunch.

Answer all his questions,  
Let him share your pride.  
A Mason's work, is honest work;  
That's not a secret to hide.

And when it's time to present him,  
With the gift of a degree,  
Remember, genuine friendship is,  
The true gift of Masonry.

Pick him up and take him home,  
Isn't he worth the trip?  
No candidate should come alone.  
Please, don't ignore this tip.

All should rush to greet him,  
As he enters by your door.  
Extend your hand in friendship,  
That's what a Mason's grip is for.

And remember your obligation,  
As you lead him to the gate.  
It's up to you to guide him through,  
Not to hurt or humiliate.

Now armed with proper instruction,  
Masonry's door will open wide,  
Thanks to you, his best example,  
Of what a Mason should be inside.

And ... thank him sincerely for coming,  
Invite him back to his new home.  
For a Brother will not be a brother,  
If he feels unwelcome and alone"

*Posted on one of the Masonic Facebook Pages,  
Submitted by Robert H. Starr, PGM*

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For the Senior Warden .....Aaron Kamerer  
For the Junior Warden .....Ryan Simon

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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 2022—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 Jerry Keilsohn about all events (see page 2)

Date		Event	Open to
June	10-11	Universal Brotherhood Celebration	
	12	Membership Plus One Dinner - Bus Boys and Poets, 6:30 pm	Members and Guest
	14	Stated Communication - Flag Day -Fellow Crafts Degree, 7:30 pm	Masons Only
	27	Meetup, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Masons and Candidates

Date		Event	Open to
July		Dark	

Date		Event	Open to
August		Dark	

Date		Event	Open to
September	13	Stated Communication - Anniversary Night and Possibly Grand Visitation	Masons Only

Date		Event	Open to
October	11	Stated Communication - Wardens Night	Masons Only

Date		Event	Open to
November	8	Stated Communication - Elections and Master Mason Degree	Masons Only

Date		Event	Open to
December	11	Stated Communication - Installation of Officers	Open to Family and Friends