

# The Two Way Street

Volume 3

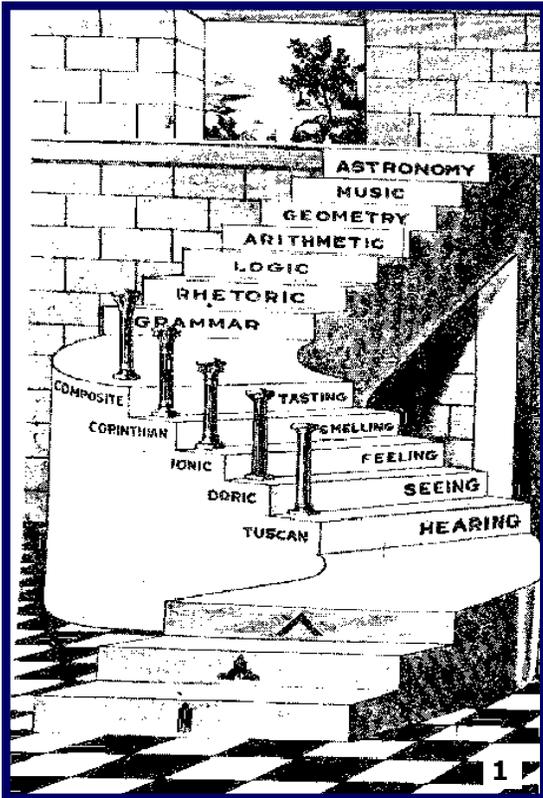
Issue 20

15 Decemberr2019

**An Exchange of Educational Freemasonry  
Within the 42nd Masonic District  
of the Grand Lodge of PA and Beyond**

## The Night Before Christmas, Down At the Lodge

The Midnight Freemason



Twas the Night Before Christmas, and down at the Lodge  
Not a gavel was stirring, and in the hodge-podge

Of aprons and jewel and chairs East and West  
You could savor the silence, most gladly divest

All metal and mineral, it mattered not,  
Since Christmas was nigh and the coals were still hot

In the hearth of your homestead, all Masons abed,  
As visions of trestle boards danced in the head;

When up on the roof arose such a clatter,  
Our Tiler jumped up to see what was the matter!

He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,  
Three knocks shook the panels - he wondered 'What for?'

He answered the knocking with, raps of his own,  
And once the door opened he saw, wit a moan,

Of delight it was Santa, all jolly and red  
Except for one notable feature Instead!

Upon his large finger lie wore what we knew  
Was compass and square on a background of blue!

"Why Santa!" he shouted and lowered his blade  
"I see you're a Mason!" the Tiler relayed.<sup>2</sup>



1 <http://www.masonicart.net/art.html>, accessed 29 August 2017

2 [http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2011/12/night-before-christmas-down-at-lodge\\_08.html](http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2011/12/night-before-christmas-down-at-lodge_08.html), accessed 12 December 2019

He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair  
and said, voice near trembling, 'Most Worshipful there

Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!  
The Master replied, 'Let's allow him - but wait!

You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see  
His Apron beneath that red suit, can it be

Our visitor hasn't properly raised?  
Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?

"I do beg your pardon,' old Santa said quick  
As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick

But a cane with, engraving, two balls did appear  
And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!

Adorned like the Master' complete with a sign  
Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!

"Now let man enter," the Master declared,  
And once in the Lodge room the Brethren all stared,

For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen  
For many a century - there in between,

The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar  
Gleamed two golden reindeer the shone like a dollar!

"It's Donner and Blitzen, who, I must confess  
Are actually images brought from the west

By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!  
And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled

An ear of fine corn and some oil from the east,  
"My friend I have plenty, tonight we will feast

On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"  
A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir,

As presents and promises flew from his sack  
This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack

For making this Christmas the best you could glean,  
And soon even Deacons were laughing, they'd seen

On this very night only happiness reigned!  
This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained

That only a mason could be so inclined  
To make all kids happy, make all people find

A Christmas so special, yes, Santa was right!  
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!<sup>3</sup>

The Midnight Freemason

"I don't know where this came  
from originally. It was  
forwarded to me. I really  
enjoyed it, and thought you  
might enjoy it also.

Merry Christmas!  
Bro. Todd E. Creason 33<sup>0</sup>

The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge Of The Most Ancient And  
Honorable Fraternity Of Free And Accepted Masons Of Pennsylvania



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42nd Masonic District

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To the Members of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Masonic District,

As this year comes to a close, please allow me a few minutes to share some thoughts and reflections with you. First I am very grateful to the special group of brothers who have served with distinction in the east of their lodges this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside each of you and you have my most heartfelt thanks for a job well done. I'm sure that each of you will continue to serve your lodges, just in a different manner now.

This past year has had some really special occurrences in our district. We snuck the RWGM into the April meeting for Zeredetha-White Rose lodge 451 to make a special presentation to the current WM who was due to receive his 50-year service award. This doesn't happen very often, and we all had a fantastic evening of Freemasonry in York. This event was barely completed when we had a visit from 2 current Grand Masters in Fawn Grove. The GM of MD and PA both shared the stage with a very distinguished young man from the DeMolay who made a great presentation prior to the meeting.

Speaking of very distinguished young people, we had 2 phenomenal young ladies from our district complete their terms as Miss Job's Daughters and Miss Jr. Jobie in April. Both Miss Heaton and Miss Smeltzer served with distinction and had very successful terms representing the Job's Daughters of PA. In keeping with our tradition, these 2 ladies had just finished their service when the younger Miss Molly Heaton from Bethel 12 in Gettysburg was crowned as the current Miss Jr. Jobie for this current year. We have some incredibly strong members of the youth programs in our district and they, and I are grateful to the members of our district for their unending support of all of the youth programs.

In May I was very fortunate to have been asked by RWGM Herritt to provide a tour of the

battlefields in Gettysburg and Sharpsburg to a very special visitor. I had the privilege to be the tour guide for the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, the Illustrious Brother David Glattly and his wife Lady Monica. I spent several days with Brother Glattly, GM Herritt and their wives, along with Brother Michael Russell, VP of Charities for the NMJ touring the battlefields and sharing my headful of useless knowledge. We had a very special dinner together at the Grand Masters home one night, then we all joined the GM in a personal visit to Big Spring Lodge the next evening. Trust me when I say, this was a once in a lifetime experience for a Mason from Gettysburg, and I will cherish these memories forever.

Very soon after this visit, we all gathered together to participate in the Memorial Day Parade in Gettysburg. Once again, we had the privilege of the company of Grand Master Herritt and Lady Sally for these events. I need to make a special note of thanks here, Brother Barry Williams, WM of Friendship Lodge 663 came to my rescue for this event. The top on my wifes convertible wouldn't go down that morning, and he bailed me out by providing a Mercedes Convertible for the GM to ride in for the parade. Great Job Brother Barry! I remain very grateful to all those who joined in that event and helped us make a great public appearance. I had extended an invitation to all who joined us for the parade to my home and farm for a cookout afterwards. I was thrilled that about 75 brethren and family members accepted this invitation. We had a very enjoyable and relaxing afternoon enjoying the fantastic food that had been prepared by Brother Tres, from Good Samaritan 336. We enjoyed great food by the pond, then got to visit with my horses. Susan and I really enjoyed opening our home for all to enjoy a great afternoon of fellowship. Thanks to all who attended.

During the summer break, I travelled to Milwaukee Wisconsin for an extremely special event. This was an invitation that no Mason ever expects to receive. We were travelling there for me to receive the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Susan and I were also joined by Brother Steve Phippen from Red Lion Lodge 649 who was also receiving the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree, along with his lady Bonnie. We all had a very enjoyable few days together in Milwaukee which was culminated by Steve and I receiving the degree on that Tuesday. It was during the conferral of the degree when I realized I was in for an extremely special treat. I had been selected by the Sovereign Grand Commander, Brother David Glattly to personally receive my 33<sup>rd</sup> ring from him during the ceremony. I was brought up on the stage and personally invested with my ring by Brother Glattly, talk about a once in a lifetime experience!!!! As if receiving that unexpected degree wasn't already an unforgettable experience, Brother Glattly's gesture certainly made it even more special and unforgettable. Trust me when I say that this will be a memory I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Also during our summer break, I had the opportunity to visit with the Grand Master of Ohio who

was travelling through Gettysburg with a trip from his Grand Lodge. GM Raines had reached out to me to invite me to join his party for a banquet the evening they arrived in Gettysburg. This event was attended by about 100 brethren and their families who were travelling with MWGM Raines. I was very surprised that our GM Herritt was available the day that the GM of Ohio was stopping in Gettysburg and our GM and Lady Sally were able to join us to welcome this group to Gettysburg. I shared some of my useless knowledge on the Civil War with the visiting brethren and provided them with a tour of the Friend to Friend the next day, prior to them departing for DC and continuing their trip. I also had the chance to witness the constitution of a new lodge that will meet at the Grand Lodge in Philadelphia. Opes Magnum Lodge 815 is a new Traditional Observance Lodge and I was proud to attend their event constituting a new lodge.

As September arrived I started my Fall visits to each lodge. We also hosted the 42<sup>nd</sup> District Picnic at the John Rudy Park again this year. Many thanks to all who continue to make this a successful event each year. A special thanks to Angie Chapel who tirelessly coordinates everything needed for this picnic each year, thanks Angie!

Susan and I attended a joint Ladies night with Riverside Lodge 503 and Red Lion Lodge 649. This event was held at the John Wright in Wrightsville, PA. The event was a huge success and I congratulate and thank the respective WM's who had the idea of co-hosting such an event. Nicely done my brothers.

I was invited by the brethren at Friendship Lodge 663 to join them for their first annual shooting competition. This was held at a Sportsmans club in Dallastown. Let me tell you that these guys came prepared. There are some real marksmen at this lodge. We had a very enjoyable morning together and the rumor is that this event may be opened to the entire district next year, so stay tuned. I have attended numerous Lodge Anniversary event throughout the state this year, but none of them were as special as the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Zeredetha-White Rose Lodge 451. This is another event that the RWGM and Lady Sally attended this year with us. This was a great night of freemasonry for the members of this lodge. To top this event off, WM Don Peiffer presented two very special gifts to The Grand Master and myself. As a special thanks for the manner in which he received his 50-year Service Award earlier this year, he had 2 bobble heads made that were personalized. He gave both of us bobble heads that looked just like us complete with tuxedos and regalia! I can assure you all that the GM and myself were very touched by the effort it took to have these made and the creativity it showed to even come up with the idea. I will cherish my bobble head for years to come!



Thanks Brother Don and the members of Zeredetha-White Rose Lodge 451 for this special evening.

**My Brethren there exists the need for the Masons of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Masonic District to aid one of our own members. Brother Frank Wyatt, Secretary of Friendship Lodge 663 needs our help. Brother Frank has battled cancer bravely for a while now. He has received much needed support from the Scottish Rite Almoner and from all of the lodges in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Masonic District. This assistance has been used to pay for the copays he had to participate in different cancer trials. I'm happy to report that the results of these treatments have been positive thus far. There still exists the need for financial support for Brother Frank. As you can all imagine, he and his family have spent all their time and resources battling this horrible disease. His income has greatly suffered because of his challenges. There will be a benefit for him on January 18, 2020 from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Stewartstown Fire Hall located at 82 N. Main St Stewartstown, PA. This will be a BYOB event with food and entertainment being provided. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and available from William Sprenkle, PM 663 at cell (443) 463-8767. The flyer for this event will be included in The Two-Way Street. I sincerely hope that a great deal of the masons from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Masonic District will purchase a ticket to assist this very worthy brother. Susan and I will be attending the event and I encourage all to buy a ticket, whether or not you're actually able to attend. One thing our fraternity has always done is take care of our own. Brethren here is a great opportunity for us to make a difference for one of our own members, please take the chance to provide this much needed support for Brother Frank.**

In closing I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to the distinguished brethren who are finishing their year of service in the east. I have enjoyed travelling the district and serving alongside each of you. I thank you immensely for your dedication and service to our beloved fraternity. To the newly elected Master's and officers, I likewise eagerly look forward to serving with you going forward. Please remember that I am always available to you if questions or situations arise. We are in this together, please don't ever hesitate to reach out to me when you need assistance.

Thanks to all of the members of our district for their dedication to our gentle craft. Without all of your support, none of us could be successful. I am very thankful for the opportunity to serve you as your District Deputy Grand Master. I look forward to continuing this service together next year. I hope everyone has a safe and blessed holiday season.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,



Darrin D. Catts, DDGM



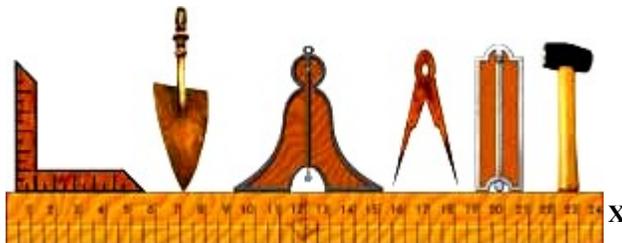
# *Blue Lodge Star Named Red Lion Lodge No. 649*

"Brethren, we should not allow the cold winds to blow on a worthy Brother's soul till he is so HONORED." e d p



**2019 Blue Lodge Star Recipient**

*The 13th Red Lion "Blue Lodge Star", Brother Michael J. Keener, Secretary, PM was presented this honor by Bro. Richard C. Jacobs, Jr, Worshipful Master, PM and Bro. Edward D. Potter, Originator, PM on the 5th of December. Congratulation, Bro. Mike Keener!*



**The concept of the Blue Lodge Stars** came about in 2015 as an effort to shine light on those Brethren who continually give their time, talents and contributes to the needs of other members and the Lodge. The Blue Star initiative is but one part of a three pronged effort to enlighten the Brethren. The other parts that were and still are The “Master Builders program” and the active promotion of the “Lewis Jewel” for those that qualify.

Most Masonic Lodges are a multi-generational and to find one slipper to fit all is close to impossible. The above mentioned three pronged approach allows opportunities for all Craft Brothers to receive Masonic recognition; whether he is newly raised, member of many years or a Masonic legacy.



The Blue Star criterion is as follows:

- 1) Must be a Master Mason for at least 10 years of Red Lion Lodge.
- 2) This honor is not to be given posthumously.
- 3) This honor is not met to supplement recognition of other appendant Masonic bodies.
- 4) Nor is it to be given to a Worshipful Master just for completing his year.
- 5) It is to be given to any “Blue” Lodge Brother who continuously gives freely of his time, talents and contributes to the needs of Brothers and the Lodge.
- 6) Candidate (s) will be selected by a committee made up of the recipients of the award and the outgoing Worshipful Master. The committee will meet in June for the purpose of selection of an additional Blue Lodge Star (s) \*\*



\*\* During the early years of this recognition more than a single candidate may receive this award. ***Brethren, we should not allow the cold winds to blow on a worthy Brother's soul till he is so HONORED.*** And likewise in future years there could be no nominations.



# Hebron Lodge #465

## New Entered Apprentice Mason



Grandfather . . . . . Father . . . . . Son

Front Row (L-R): MM Bro. Andrew LaMarche (Corinthian Lodge # 93 Townson, MD), EA Bro. Robert Allen Shaffer Jr. [Hebron Lodge #465] and his son Shawn Shaffer [Hebron Lodge # 465]

Back rows (L-R): Joseph Yontz, Jr., Creedin Yost, Brian Fuentes, John Weldon PM, Ben Jacobs, Ron Chronister, Garrett Pendergrass, Mike Hieber, and John Curran PM.

Keeping this all in the family - Congratulations!



**1) IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO SEND IN YOUR LODGE EVENT FLYERS TO POST INTO THE TWO WAY STREET!**

**2) LIKEWISE, WITH THE NEW MASONIC YEAR PLEASE SEND IN A PHOTO OF YOUR NEWLY ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICES - 2020**

**LET'S HAVE 100% PARTICIPATION!**



### *School of Instruction Schedule for 2020:*

- 1-6-20 New GM Programs and Salesforce familiarization training by Regional IT Specialist Brother Rick Rice
- 2-3-20 Importance of Mentoring new members and officers
- 3-2-20 Sectional school degree team rehearsal with Brother Paul Sutcliff, Regional Instructor
- 4-6-20 #503 Examination of a visitor and funeral service
- 6-1-20 #649 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- 9-7-20 Labor Day
- 10-5-20 #663 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree
- 11-2-20 #266 Open Installation
- 12-7-20 #336 Closed Installation

**WHAT IS MASONIC EDUCATION?    Mentoring    Degree Ritual    Master Builders Award    Officers Line  
Master Craftsman Award    School of Instruction    Degree Proficiency    Master Pillar Award  
Academy of Masonic Knowledge    Pennsylvania Lodge of Research    Century Club Award  
Quarterly Communications    Online Education System    District Deputy Grand Master Award    & MORE!**

**BRETHREN TAKE NOTE: THE VIEWS, OPINIONS OR THOUGHTS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER, OR BLOGS AND PODCASTS CITED ARE THOSE OF THE/THEIR AUTHOR (S) AND DO NOT IN ANY WAY REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF ANY GRAND LODGE, THEIR SUBORDINATE LODGES, OFFICERS, MEMBERS OR EMPLOYEES.**

# Educational Resources:

## Up Coming Events



### **Red Lion Lodge's Annual Table Lodge 12/20/2019**

Red Lion Lodge, 23 West High Street, Red Lion, PA 17356

### **Annual Grand Communication Installation of New RWGM 12/27/2019**

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, 1201 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

***Details refer to November 2019 The Pennsylvania Freemason***



**Thomas Gamon, IV**  
**RWGM, Elect**



1201 Market Street, (guest entrance at 1200 Filbert Street)



### **Secretary and Treasurer Training Carlisle Masonic Center 1/11/2020 TBA**

236 Holly Pike Carlisle, PA 17013



### **Stand Up, Stand Strong & Stand Together Friendship Lodge 1/18/2020**

Stewartstown Fire Hall, 82 N. Main Street, Stewartstown, PA 17356 **FLYER**

***Details refer to DDGM article page 6 R in bold print.***



### **Oyster Night 2020 Shrewsbury Lodge #423 2/11/2020 FLYER**

79 East Forrest Ave., Shrewsbury, PA 17361



### **Grand Masters' Leadership Seminar Freemasons Cultural Center 3/07/2020 TBA**

Masonic Village, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



### **Sectional School of Instruction Carlisle Masonic Center 03/14/2020 TBA**

236 Holly Pike Carlisle, PA 17013



### **Academy of Masonic Knowledge Freemasons Cultural Center 3/21/2020 TBA**

Masonic Village, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



### **Officer Training Workshop Freemasons Cultural Center 3/28/2020 TBA**

Masonic Village, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

(Warden Seminar)

# Educational Resources:

## Up Coming Events.



**150<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Hebron Lodge No. 465 3/28/2020 FLYER**

Homewood of Plumcreek, 425 Westminster Ave., Hanover, PA 17311

### *Distinguished Guest*



*Thomas Gamon, IV  
RWGM-Elect*

*Brother Thomas Gammon IV,  
Right Worshipful Grand Master Elect of  
Pennsylvania*

And His Grand Officers



**The Blessing of the Cars! Shrewsbury Lodge #423 & The YMCA 5/30/20 FLYER**

100 Constitution Ave., Shrewsbury, PA 17361



**June Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge 6/06/2020 TBA**

, Erie, PA



**Pennsylvania Lodge of Research 6/20/2020 TBA**

The Valley of Harrisburg, AASR, 2701 N. 3rd Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110



**Autumn Day Masonic Village at Elizabethtown 9/26/20 TBA**

Masonic Village , One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



**Academy of Masonic Knowledge Freemasons Cultural Center 10/17/20 TBA**

Masonic Village, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



**December Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge 12/02/2020 TBA**

Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107



**Pennsylvania Lodge of Research 12/05/2020 TBA**

Masonic Temple, 220 Market Street, Sunbury, PA 17801

