



*Constituted 1912*

*Pitman, N.J.*

***December 2021***

*Regular Communications Second Tuesdays (Except July & August)*

*21st Masonic District* 🏴 *Grand Lodge of New Jersey*

**[www.pitmanmasons.org](http://www.pitmanmasons.org)**

Pitman Lodge #197  
Free and Accepted Masons  
PO Box 385 Pitman NJ [08071](http://08071)  
[pitmanmasons@gmail.com](mailto:pitmanmasons@gmail.com) [www.pitmanmasons.org](http://www.pitmanmasons.org)



An email list of current members is being compiled. All those on the list will receive an electronic version of this newsletter. If you are happy with that and wish to be taken off paper mailings, please email us at [pitmanmasons@gmail.com](mailto:pitmanmasons@gmail.com) and make your request known. You will be saving the lodge money by doing so.

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#### District Lodge Meetings

Mantua: Second Thursday of the month.  
Pennsgrove-Excelsior: First Wednesday of the month.  
Clarksboro: First Monday of the month.  
Williamstown: First and third Tuesday of the month.  
Woodstown: The first Tuesday of the month.  
Pitman: The second Tuesday of the month  
No DLI for December

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The Beehive – An excerpt from Freemasons for Dummies by WB Brother Christopher Hodapp:

Bees never quit... As a result, bees have long been a symbol of hard work and teamwork. The beehive is especially fascinating, because the honeycomb is a perfect geometric structure. One bee can do nothing; working together, they can achieve a great deal. Men are much the same.

Brethren,

This analogy is true, especially when applied to Masonry and the brethren of Pitman Lodge #197. Over the last two years your brothers toiled in the quarry in amazing efforts to transform our lodge into a better place for us all.

Evidence of their labor abounds. From the work outside, the improvements cannot go unnoticed. Initially, the relocating of the trailer, then the grading of the drive, the planting of new grass, spreading of stone, and finally, the fresh asphalt that facilitates the unencumbered access to our social hall for all, especially our disabled brethren. Now there are two designated parking spots for them.

The worker bees did not stop there, they diligently labored to declutter the social hall and finish the area to welcome our guests. Although the kitchen is not yet approved for use, we are in the process of installing a range hood and ventilation system. Hopefully, we will be able to resume our monthly breakfasts again. Unfortunately, the ping pong table seen little use, but, hopefully, an interest may be sparked as we begin to reoccupy our social hall.

We now have building wide internet access with a 70" monitor in the lodge room and a 65" monitor in the social hall. This allows programs to be presented to our brethren. I am pleased to inform you that these monitors were acquired at no cost to the lodge. We also raised over \$1700 for a security system, but we have yet to act upon that endeavor. I will spearhead the efforts to secure our lodge during the upcoming months.

Both, the trailer and the storage room were decluttered and organized. Shelves were installed so now one can find what one may be looking for. We still need to redo the roof of the trailer. It is not leaking as of yet, but an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

It should be everyone's goal to leave a place in a better position than it was found. I believe the brethren of Pitman Lodge have accomplished that goal. I leave you with my heartfelt thanks to those that actively participated in the transformation and my word that I will continue to serve the Lodge. I remain your humble servant.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Vincent L. Baehr

Attest: Michael Paris, Secretary

**Pitman Lodge 2021 Officers**

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WM . Vincent L. Baehr ..... (856) 456-2175  
SW .. Brian M. Kane ..... (856) 419-0626  
JW ... Keith M. Lypka ..... (856) 742-0151  
Tres . Robert B. Schaefer ..... (856) 582-5687  
Sec... Michael J. Paris, PM ..... (856) 881-6312  
SD .... Michael J. Paris Jr. .... (856) 236-7598  
JD..... Jason M. Rickert ..... (856) 381-6035  
SMC . Jason Hoffman.....(856) 889-4048  
JMC. ....  
SS .... James Baehr.....(609) 636-2260  
JS .... Eli Berkowitz.....(609) 605-5456  
Chp .. Gerald Montgomery ..... (856) 359-6212  
MAR Weislaw J. Puchalski ..... (347) 678-1638  
TLR .. Michael T. Lowe ..... (856) 589-6612

**Lodge Trustees**

RW Joseph A. DiNovi  
WB Keith S. Sanders  
RW Kenneth W. Thomas

**Building Trustees**

Keith Lypka  
Robert Schaefer  
Jason Rickert

**Grand Lodge Officers**

Grandmaster of the State of New Jersey

MW **Robert V. Monacelli**  
100 Barrack Street  
Trenton NJ 08608  
609-239-3937

District Deputy Grand master

RW **Richard G. Norbuts**  
856-498-3539  
Par4217@aol.com

District Ritual Instructor

RW **John Stephenson**  
856-364-4472  
termite265@comcast.net

**Around the District**

December is the month for the Feasts of Saint Johns and installations.

The following dates are for the district:

Dec. 1: Pennsgrove	Dec. 7: Woodstown
Dec. 6: Clarksboro	Dec. 9: Mantua
Dec. 14: Pitman	Dec. 21: Williamstown

### Living Past Masters

Wigglesworth, Kenneth	1961#	Henry, Frederick B.	2000#
Sharp, Jay H.	1971#	Anderson, Allen S.	2003
Lang, Harry E	1975	Fuscia Jr., Russel E.	2005#
Davis, Alan A.	1976#	DiNovi, Joseph A.	2007
Thomas, Kenneth W	1978	Thomas, Kenneth W.	2008
KIER, James R.	1981	Thomas, Kenneth W.	2009
Morris, Donald G.	1981#	Sanders, Keith S.	2011
Coblentz, William W.	1982	Nesbit, Robert Scott	2012
DiNovi, Joseph A.	1984	Fuscia Jr., Russel E.	2013
Schubert, Joseph E.	1984#	Polonsky, Arthur A.	2015
Cooper, Danny L.	1989	Marek, Peter A.	2016
Stowman, Robert A.	1990	Paris, Michael	2017
Leap, Wayne E.	1991	Thomas, Kenneth W.	2018
Eckenroth, Richard L.	1993	Thomas, Kenneth W.	2019
Marker, David W.	1994	Baehr, Vincent L.	2020
Dillon, Douglas F.	1997#	Baehr, Vincent L.	2021
Stranger Jr., Hiram	1998		
DiNovi, Joseph A.	1999		
Bradley, Theodore K.	2000		

### Practice !!

Brethren, we have a practice every Sunday at 7PM. There we go over ritual work and hone our skills for any upcoming degree work or DLI's. Please make an effort to attend.

Please check with the officers for the holiday practice schedule.

### Lodge Events

**December 14, 2021 Feasts of Saints John.**

**Dinner at 6:30 PM**

**Lodge opens at 7:30 with a short business meeting.**

**Lodge opens to public after business portion is done for the installation of new officers.**

**Please bring relatives, friends, etc. to join in the festive occasion.**

**Mission Statement of the Grand Lodge**  
**Of New Jersey**

**Freemasonry promotes a way of life that binds like-minded men with the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in order to serve God, Family, Country, Neighbor and Self.**  
***www.newjerseygrandlodge.org***

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**Masonic Birthdays in December**

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Allen S. Anderson	12/12/1998	23
Ralph E. Owen	12/02/1960	61
Gordon K. Stark	12/12/1998	23

“To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy of the benevolent design of a Masonic institution; and it is most fervently to be wished, that the conduct of every member of the fraternity, as well as those publications, that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.” – *George Washington*

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“It has not been my fortune to know very much of Freemasonry, but I have had the great fortune to know many Freemasons and have been able in that way to judge the tree by its fruit. I know of your high ideals. I have seen that you hold your meetings in the presence of the open Bible, and I know that men who observe that formality have high sentiments of citizenship, of worth, and character. That is the strength of our Commonwealth and nation.” – *Calvin Coolidge*

## Dues for 2022

At our September meeting we voted a passed a motion to raise the dues to \$150 for the coming year. This increase was due to the increase in costs to run the lodge and serve the members. Grand Lodge assessment this year is going up to \$66.50.

The new dues structure is still a deficit budget. Out of approximately 200 dues paying members we have 30 who are behind at least 1 year. This further impacts our budget.

We are trying to hold down costs. Many other lodges charge \$180 to \$200 per year. In an effort to make it easier on you to pay your dues you can now use Paypal and charge it to your credit card. Just followthelink on the webpage:

[www.pitmanmasons.org](http://www.pitmanmasons.org)

Or

Use the QR code below on your mobile device.



\_In the past year we have made many improvements in the lodge. We have two large screen TV's that we use for presentations and degree work. We are in the final phase of completing the kitchen and expansion project.

As always our officers are working to improve the experience of being a Mason. We need your help and support in making it so.

Pitman Masonic Lodge #197 F. & A. M.  
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Return Service Requested



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BELLMAWR, NJ

Pitman Lodge Hall Rentals: members of Pitman Lodge \$250.00 donation — Non-members with masonic affiliation  
\$300.00 donation — Non-members no affiliation \$350.00 donation