



Hamilton Thompson No. 37

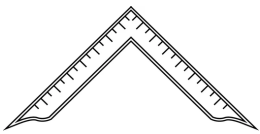
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia

Stated Communication - Third Thursday

Dinner at 6:30p, Lodge at 7:30p

www.ht37.org

February 2025



From the East

Brethren,

January is gone and we are halfway through February. Things are happening in Lodge on a weekly basis and all are welcome to join in some form. Recently there have been degree workshops to include Sundays with breakfast, and evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Area DLC conferences occurred this month along with Masters and Wardens meeting, along with district school.

You can keep up to date with all our Lodge happenings throughout the year by checking in at lodge, our Facebook page, trestle board and website calendar.

February's stated meeting includes special guests from Bethel #52. I might suggest that any dinner donations received that evening go towards their cause. During Lodge we will be bringing members up to date on the DDGM elections for 2026, with some past and present history. Also there has been an idea floating around about Herndon and Olive Branch swapping picks in the rotation for 2027. Either way the Grand Lodge has issued a statement this week requesting that District two "determine how to handle the future of your rotation system, in a manner that is acceptable by all lodges involved". I am confident that achieving this should not be an issue.

As well we have had some petitioners and inquiries coming through Grand Lodge to discuss. If you see a not so familiar face during fellowship or Lodge, introduce yourself and try to discern what brought them to Hamilton-Thompson.

DLC: Starting with the usual discussion of finances and membership, purpose and intent, we then broke into groups and had discussions regarding Leadership, the Masonic Library in Richmond, finishing up with a PowerPoint on Civility. I had an opportunity to speak with the MAHOVA

representatives, youth organizations and Commandery. I also spent some time with the Brothers from **Haymarket Lodge #313** and they insist on joining us for **our Stated meeting in March**. It should be a full house. March typically brings some sort of cultural meal. Hope you can join us.

Degree Work: We currently have an **EA Degree** scheduled for **Thursday February 27th** fellowship at 6, degree at 7pm. Senior Deacon Micheal Heufelder is organizing the cast, and our Junior Warden Tommy Chapman will be conferring the degree. Please show up in support of these Men. They are working very hard to make it memorable. We will also need to set a date for a Fellowcraft degree in the hopefully occurring month of March.

Some new guidelines for the investigative committee have been initiated by RW Gregory Swartz. We will be taking in all negative feedback on this to better our process. Come on out to Lodge to learn more.

The **Masters and Wardens meeting** along with the district school is always on the **first Wednesday of the month** and is held at Olive Branch. Starting at 6pm.

The Grand Master of Virginia will be visiting our District 2 on **Friday evening June 6th**. The location has been set to the Ashburn Fire Hall. Social time begins at 6pm, dinner at 6:30. The Order of the Eastern Star will be catering for us. Cost should come in somewhere around \$40-50 per. Please mark this on your calendar. More details to follow.

Other notable dates and upcoming events:

District Picnic Saturday May 17th at Franklin Park in Purcellville, Hamilton Thompson has agreed to bring Sides and Paper products etc. This year there is a district Corn Hole competition with a buy in and sponsorships available. The money won by the top team will be donated to the charity of that Lodge's choice. Ashburn Sterling #288 is taking charge on this and their Senior Deacon Javier Amaya is in main contact.

Table Lodge is being organized by Ashburn Sterling. The date is **August 12th at River Creek Country Club**. I'm told the cost is \$70 and the proceeds will be going to Loudoun Hunger Relief. **Ken Shelton School** is happening **September 13th** with the hopes that Ashburn Sterling will be hosting.

2024 and 2025 Dues

W Brother J. Goff said it best when he said:

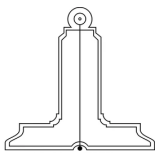
Brothers as we come to the end of the Masonic year, I cannot stress enough how important it is for us, as Masons, to pay our dues on time and meet our obligations to the lodge. These responsibilities are essential for ensuring that our lodge can continue to operate smoothly, support its activities, and

contribute to the community. By staying current with our dues and commitments, we demonstrate our respect for the lodge and the values we all share, helping to keep our brotherhood strong and connected. If you have not paid your dues for the 2024 Masonic year, please reach out to our secretary.

-Same goes for 2025 dues, if you have not yet paid and received your membership card please reach out to our secretary.

Dues can also be paid online via PayPal or your credit card by visiting the lodge web site at <http://www.ht37.org>

Sincerely and fraternally,
Larry R. Brissing
WM



From the West

Pay the craft their wages.

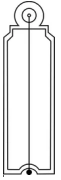
Hopefully, everyone is staying warm and healthy during this period of chillingly cold weather. Many members of the Lodge have been hard at work practicing for the **Entered Apprentices** degree planned for **2/27**. Our Junior Warden, Tommy Chapman, is planning to confer the degree and is hard at work learning his part. Many other brothers have joined practices to prepare. I have confidence in the brethren that the degree will be a memorable experience for the candidate. Moreover, our Senior Deacon, Michael Heufelder, is learning to confer the Fellow Craft degree with the goal of being ready to confer the degree on our **two Entered Apprentices in March**. I know that both Michael and Tommy will do themselves and the craft proud.

Wages be due-

I'd like to recognize all the people who work behind the scenes to keep our Lodge functioning. This month I'd like to recognize Tommy Chapman who did us the favor of replenishing the ice melt at Lodge and Chuck Shotton who helps keep our Trestle Board on track among many other things.

S&F,
Jon Herman
Senior Warden

From the South



From labor to refreshment.

♥ LOVE IS IN THE AIR ♥

Brotherly love that is..... With that being said we would love to see you at lodge . We have a stated on the 20th and a EA degree on the 27th.

We will take care of business and enjoy our youth group visit.

And support your Jr Warden with presenting the EA degree . I'm sure I will need that refreshment after .

George

Gould's History of Freemasonry Throughout the World

Some while ago, I was lucky enough to run across an old friend and an interesting set of books. There was a gentleman I had the good fortune to grow up and go to 13 years of school with, from kindergarten to high school graduation. After leaving town for university, I hadn't seen or heard from him in over 30 years, when he suddenly appeared on social media as the proprietor of a rare book store in Greensboro, NC. And his online auction was offering the six-volume set of "Gould's History of Freemasonry". He graciously set it aside for me and I purchased it to add it to the ever-growing shelves of books on Freemasonry that I have the best of intentions to read cover-to-cover.

If you're unfamiliar with Gould's giant work, he began writing at the turn of the 20th century what would start as a series of pamphlets and ultimately turn into over 3000 pages on the history of Freemasonry, from ancient times to present day ("present day" being 1936 when he finished the last edition). You can find an online version of the set in the US Archives. Here's [a link to volume 1](#).

The set is also full of great illustrations/plates like the one below. I highly recommend this as a good starting point for anyone interested in the history and origins of our craft.

– Chuck Shotton



From a painting by Pfr. C. Sbausle, 1814. Engraved by John Sartain. © The Macey Publishing Company, New York.

The Iron Worker and King Solomon.

"Behold, I have Created the smith that Blows the coals in the fire and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work." *Isaiab' lvi. 16.*

When the temple at Jerusalem was completed, King Solomon gave a feast to the artificers employed in its construction. On unveiling the throne it was found that a smith had usurped the seat of Honour on the right of the King's place, not yet awarded, whereupon the people clamoured and the guard rushed to cut him down. "Hold, let him speak," commanded Solomon. "Thou hast, O King, invited all craftsmen but me, yet how could these builders have raised the temple without the tools I fashioned?" "True, the seat is his of right. All honour to the iron worker." (*Jewish Legend.*)



Masonic Birthdays

Please congratulate the following brothers on their Masonic birthdays for this month:

Jeff Gould
Jason Wolfe
Ed Ziemba

Announcements & Upcoming Events

20	FEB, THU	● 6:30 – 9:30pm	Hamilton Thompson Stated 320 W Main St, Purcellville, VA 20132
3	MAR, MON	● 7 – 10pm	Fraternal Visit to Olive Branch 114 108 Cornwall St NE, Leesburg, VA 20176, USA
6	MAR, THU	● 7 – 9pm	Lodge Practice Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37 320 W Main Street, Purcellville, VA 20132, United Stat
7	MAR, FRI	● 7 – 9pm	Fraternal Visit to Freedom Lodge 118 Freedom Lodge 118, Lovettsville, VA
11	MAR, TUE	● 7:30 – 9:30pm ● 7:30 – 9:30pm	Fraternal Visit to Ashburn-Sterling Lodge No. 288 43881 Waxpool RoadAshburn VA 20147-6917United S Fraternal Visit to Metropolitan Lodge 161 14 Liberty St SW, Leesburg, Virginia 20175
17	MAR, MON	● 7:30 – 9:30pm	Fraternal Visit to Herndon Lodge 264 820 Elden Street in Herndon, Virginia
20	MAR, THU	● 6:30 – 9:30pm	Hamilton Thompson Stated 320 W Main St, Purcellville, VA 20132
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2025 Officers and Living Past Masters

2024 Officers

Worshipful Master	Larry Brissing	lrb5847@gmail.com
Senior Warden	Jon Herman	jherman01@yahoo.com
Junior Warden	Tommy Chapman	gtchapman66@aol.com
Treasurer	Greg Levine	levinegs@gmail.com
Secretary	Jim Cromer	fredoc9905@aol.com
Senior Deacon	Michael Heufelder	
Junior Deacon	Greg Marut	
Senior Steward	Chris Barnes	
Junior Steward	-	
Chaplain	Lloyd Harting	
Marshal	Richard Wilson	
Tiler	George Haas	
LIW	Chris Thompson	
LEO	Jeff Gould	

Living Past Masters

William Rodgers (81)	Joe Ray (12)
Fred Meyer (84, 85)	Don Young (15)
Herb Goodfellow (01, 02)	David Marsh (16)
Paul Bock (05)	Mike Cox (17)
Bob Gardner (06)	Jason Wolfe (18)
Jim Cromer (07)	Ed Ziemba (19,20)
Greg Jay (08)	Larry Brissing (21, 25)
Jamie George (10)	Joshua Goff (22, 24)
Jeff Gould (11,09)	Bill Craig (23)
Chris Thompson (03,04)(13,14)	