

TRESTLE BOARD

Ancient Craft Lodge No. 551

850 Horace Brown Drive Madison Heights MI 48071

Lee Karadimas Worshipful Master

From the East

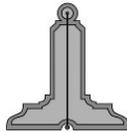


As your Worshipful Master, I want to express the pride and gratitude I have for the amazing spirit in our Lodge. This spirit is built on Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, which binds us together and guides our actions. Outside the Lodge, people face challenges. Within the Lodge, there is a sanctuary of shared purpose and support. The shared journey of making good men better is significant.

Worshipful Master Lee Karadimas

From the West

Hello Brothers! I hope everyone had a wonderful 4th and is enjoying their break!



Several officers are busy practicing step-up for our upcoming year, to improve ourselves in masonry. I truly appreciate your dedication! We are all very excited to see what is in store for 2026.

We still have a few events planned over summer break. The 19th of July is the Highway Cleanup, then later in the day, we have the Whisky tasting at the Detroit City Distillery. Then, in August, we have the Sunset Dinner Cruise on The Detroit Princess (see Details Below), as well as the Corn Roast on August 10th. Hopefully we will see you there!

On the Level

Lucas Roberts, Senior Warden in the West

From the South



Greetings from the South! Very much looking forward to seeing many of our brothers who plan on gathering together to feast and drink with brotherly merriment and

camaraderie during the summer while the Lodge is dark. We have many events being planned and organized by individual brothers that will provide an avenue for those rendezvous! Hoping you all are having a wonderful summer break from formal Lodge rituals, while thriving on and living our Masonic tenants of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

By the Plumb,
Bro. Mark Gerhard Junior Warden

From Our Chaplin



Brothers, In today's article I want to bring to light the masonic values. Freemasonry's core principles of integrity, friendship, respect, and charity are a way of life. Members practice these values in the lodge and in daily life. They are called to be compassionate and offer support to those in need. Bonds within the lodge are strong, built on shared principles and mutual respect. Members support each other to stive for the best. And now may the blessing of heaven rest upon us and all regular masons, may brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us!

Chaplain Michael P. Karadimas PM

From the Secretary



Help – we've lost track of some of our Brethren. If you can provide an address for any of the following Brothers please let me know. AND, if any of you have changed your Address, Phone, **or eMail**, let me know so I can update our records. Contact me at eMail **Lbull46@yahoo.com** or call/txt at **(248) 797-4518**.

Fred Eanshaw, Richard Lowery, Thomas Noman, Charles Oviat, Robert Finzel, Eugene Zimmerman, John Boone, William Davis, Stephen Couchman, John Davis, John Allan, John Beaver, Jack Phillips, Howard Tyler, Paul Richter, Carl Vinz

LODGE OFFICERS 2025

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

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LUCAS ROBERTS
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JUNIOR WARDEN

MARK GERHARD
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SECRETARY

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TREASURER

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CHAPLIN

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SENIOR DEACON

PHIL ZOTT
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JUNIOR DEACON

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Ray Doyscher PM 248-545-7443
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Roy Prince PM 248-280-4515

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Larry Bullock PM 248-797-4518
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LODGE WEB PAGE

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TRESTLE BOARD EDITOR

Bill Berklich 248-404-4816
berklich@aol.com

LODGE CALENDAR

August – September 2025

**Lodge Regular Communication Meetings on the First
Wednesday 7PM unless otherwise noted**

- 10 AUG CORN ROAST - 12 TO 5 AT THE TEMPLE
16 AUG DETROIT PRINCESS SUNSET DINNER CRUISE
3 SEPT REGULAR COMMUNICATION MEETING EA
PROFICIENCY
10 SEPT STEP UP AND EA PRACTICE
17 SEPT FELLOW CRAFT
20 SEPT MM DEGREE **WATCH THE CALENDAR FOR TIME**
24 SEPT VISITATION NIGHT BROTHERHOOD LODGE 468
1 OCT REGULAR COMMUNICATION MEETING AND STEP UP

AUGUST – the Lodge is Dark

We reconvene for Regular Meetings 3 September 7PM

Be sure to check the Website NAC551.com for changes, updates, and additions to our Calendar



SUNSET DINNER CRUISE

Date: 16 August 2025 Boarding at 6PM

Ticket are individually purchased through
<https://detroitprincess.com>

Go to “Cruise Schedule” and select “Sunset
Dinner Cruise” on 16 August or call (313) 631-2628

This is a PUBLIC cruise so don't wait to buy tickets.

MOMENTS WITH OUR LODGE HISTORIAN THE ACACIA TREE



The Freemason Fraternity uses the Acacia tree as a symbol of immortality. It was once a plant of old Palestine and is now growing all over Africa. It is a hard wood and can grow to over one hundred feet tall.

In the scriptures it is known as "Shittah" and was used to make the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 40:20). It will survive floods, drought, and other severe soil

conditions. In fact, it will grow back when it is dug up even if only a small root is left behind

To a Master-Mason-Initiate, the acacia represents a perfect symbol of the immortality of the soul which all Freemasons respect.

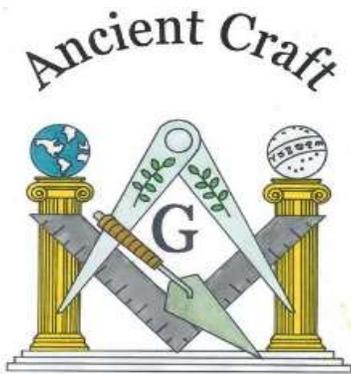
Respectfully
Raymond W. Doyscher Jr. PM

*"Always forgive your enemies;
nothing annoys them so much."* –
Bro. Oscar Wilde, (1854-1900),
Apollo University Lodge No. 357,
Oxford, UK



In 1911, the cornerstone was laid for the Detroit Masonic Temple. The Detroit Temple is the largest Masonic Temple in the world. Watch for an upcoming tour.

NEW LODGE LOGO



Lodge 551

We are happy to announce the creation of a new logo for our Lodge. This new logo was the result of a collaboration between members of last year's Lodges 550 and 551, as well as input from both new and 'seasoned' masons. The new logo includes the first three steps of masonry, two pillars representing strength and beauty, working tools of our craft, and acacia branches represent immortality and resurrection. Over the next six months our Lodge will be incorporating this new logo into our daily business including new altar and pedestal cloths, banners, stationery, pins, clothing and into whatever else our Worshipful Master and Lodge sees fit.

Brother Jim McPherson



LODGE EVENTS

TABLE LODGE 2025



Well – you missed it! Table Lodge 2025 was a smashing success!

We started the evening with a social hour chatting with brothers



from several other lodges then opened the Lodge in the EA Degree. Festivities began with a scrumptious dinner provided by Julian Brothers. This year we



included a "Missing Mason" table to recognize and honor those Masons that have passed. At the close of our dining experience, we celebrated the 250th Birthday of the US Army complete with WB former



CWO Glenn Dickerson using his saber to cut the cake. As tradition would have it, the first piece was provided by the oldest Soldier present, WB former Spec 4 Larry Galloway to the youngest Soldier present, Brother former CWO Andy Grant.

From there the gavel was passed by our Worshipful Master Lee Karadimas to our MC WB Larry

Galaway and the Table Lodge festivities began. With toast and song we celebrated Mason's in the 20th Century including discourses on President Harry Truman and Red Skelton. As we closed our evening, commemorative items were collected, hands were shaken, and



farewells were said. Table Lodge 2025 was an outstanding traditional Masonic experience and a night to remember.

Until next Year,
Table Lodge Dinner Team

DETROIT CITY DISTILLERY

July saw some of our brethren touring Detroit City Distillery. Brewing at the site goes as far back as the 1930's when Goebel Brewing Company built a massive brewery to compete with Stroh's Brewery, Detroit's largest



brewery at the time. The breweries were located across the street from one another. Stroh's acquired

Goebel's in 1960s and the building was converted to a factory to produce Stroh's ice cream.

We had the opportunity to learn about the art and science of the distilling process from grain to glass. And we sampled their new and aging whiskeys under development in the rick house.



On completing the tour and whiskey sampling, some of us adjourned to Sinbad's for a late lunch and conversation with the



sights and sounds of the Detroit River providing the backdrop. With great food, and good company, our band of travelers enjoyed a bit of rest. We even met a brother from Detroit Lodge 2! All in all it was a great afternoon spent amongst good friends.



LODGE PROJECTS

BIKES FOR BOOKS

You have to love a project that keeps on giving. Our Bikes for Books does just that by supporting reading in the early



years which will pay dividends for decades to come. But, while doing great works is almost always great fun it is a special moment when thanks are received.

And we received a sweet "Thank You" note from one of our bicycle recipients saying "Lodge 551, Thank you for my new bike."



We tend to think of Bikes for Books as just another project, however, this project is a life-changing event for the students.

ADOPT-A HIGHWAY



At 8 o'clock on a Saturday morning under beautiful sunny skies, our brothers started the annual



highway clean up. Under our Sr. Steward Lucas' direction, everyone



met at the Burger King at Hoover and 11 Mile, bags and gloves in hand. We set off on the hike along our stretch of 11 Mile Road picking up trash and helping to beautify the area. Three hours and many bags of trash later our team called it a



day. And yes, we did find some odd things. A great time was had by the whole clean-up crew. Maybe we'll see you there next year.

ANCIENT CRAFT LODGE 551 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP



Yes, we do have an Endowed Scholarship at Oakland Community College for the Police and Fire Academy. This was started in 2006 with \$10,000 and at some point an addition of \$560 was made so it currently stands at \$10560. Our Endowment has continually provided scholarships for those in need and attending the OCC Police or Fire Academies. Oakland Community College has the responsibility to administer our endowment and to award the Scholarships annually. This past year, 6 people have received

Scholarships of \$500. Below is one of many thank you letters.

Dear Friends:

I would like to sincerely thank you for the opportunity of awarding me this scholarship. Winning this scholarship not only surprised me but also gave me continued hope that I am in the correct path of my life.

This scholarship will help me continue my education at Oakland Community College. I will continue my education by becoming an EMT and then a Paramedic. The past 8 months have been some of the hardest in my educational career and this is a big motivator to keep doing my best.

Being a 31-year-old single dad is a hard job to tackle on top of being in school. Everything that I pursue in life is for my daughter. Creating a better future for us both is something I strive for.

This scholarship is going to help towards that future and for that, I am truly thankful. Thank you for picking me and letting me continue my future endeavors.

Thank you,
Keighan McGlynn

We really do have an impact and make a difference in people's lives almost daily! What a great organization to be a part of.

CLAWSON INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE



The 4th of July saw our Past Master Roy Prince joining Trelum Lodge 552 at the Independence Day Parade in



Clawson. While the day was hot and sunny Roy managed to make it and

enjoyed some grand moments on Independence Day with our brothers.

"I have a tip that can take five strokes off anyone's golf game: it's called an eraser."

– Bro. Arnold Palmer, Golf Legend,
Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275 F.&
A.M., Latrobe, PA, USA

NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

Sir Alexander Flemming, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, James Pa Puga, William Davis, Victor Koponen, Dallas Meeks, Gerald Brown Jr., Gregory Fast, Thomas Norman, Larry Gibson, Edward Stogdill, William Becker, Dan Headapohl, James Puckett, James Barnhart, Franklin Clark, Loren Wolfe, Arthur Bethell, Robert Finzel, Harold Maeder, Richard Sanders, Donald Burton, John Sedlak, Frank Brafford, James Cumby, Thomas Huckelberry, Paul Richter, Larry Toussaint, Kenneth Kurth, James Hudgens, Ronald Wright

SEPTEMBER

John J. "Black Jack" Pershing, Richard Gatling, Paul Burton, Gary Delk, Donald McCoy, Aric Piercey, Robert Zacharias, Robert Greenwood, Edwin Speckhardt, Stephen Mirch, Ernest Kniffen, Raymond Doyscher, Thomas Fifield, Basmel Makadsi, Kevin Johnson, Jack McBride, Robert Bishop, Roger Holman, Ioan Ursu, Bennett Burton, Robert Price, Zygmunt Saluk, James, McPherson, Spencer Noble, Keith Taylor, Robert Kittle, Kenneth Robins, Gary Dombrow, Lowell Moore, Ronald Sexton, Terry Troutt, Richard Wandoff, Gary Karolski, Willie, Thompson, Larry Cagle, Clementine Osterlund, Dean Barr

Meet Upon the Level



Depart Upon the Square

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on-site service professionals
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Financial Information
Resource Management

ACROSS OUR LODGE IN PHOTOS



MASONS AROUND THE LODGE



Shaun McCaw
 Raised: 6/11/25
 First car: 99 Mercury Tracer
 Fav Food: A good steak
 Fav Restaurant: Osaka
 Fave Movie: Karate Kid

Fav TV Show: Game of Thrones
 Fav Book: The Way of the Superior Man
 Hobbies: Martial Arts and Reading
 Family: 2 sons 2 daughters
 Masonic influence: My Grandfather



Brad Klem
 Raised: 5/14/25
 HS Grad: Brother Rice, '86
 First Car: '77 Olds Cutlass Supreme

Fav Food: Prime Rib
 Favorite Restaurant: Gaucho's
 Fav Movie: Midnight Run
 Fav Book: Christine (S. King)
 Fav Music: New Wave/'80s
 Hobbies: Reading, TKD
 Family: Wife and 2 kids
 Masonic Influence: T. Roosevelt, Mozart



Mike Karadimas
PM
 Raised: 5/19/18
 HS Grad: Warren 1997
 First Car: 69 Plymouth Station Wagon

Fav Food: Steak
 Fav Book: Bible
 Favorite Vacation: Florida
 Family: Married to Christine, 1 son Paul
 Fav Masonic Role: Running degrees as the Master
 Masonic Influence: God and my Brothers in the lodge



SUNSET DINNER CRUISE

Ancient Craft Brethren, bring your wife, girlfriends, whoever for a wonderful evening of dinner, music and dancing aboard the Detroit Princess

Date: 16 August 2025 Boarding at 6PM

