

October – December 2025

Vol 19 – Issue 4

# TRESTLE BOARD

## Ancient Craft Lodge No. 551

850 Horace Brown Drive Madison Heights MI 48071

Lee Karadimas Worshipful Master



## Thank you to all our Veterans

May God bless you and your families

### DUES ARE DUE!!!

You can pay our Secretary, Larry Bullock, or jump online to Grand View and pay directly. **Don't wait – Don't be Late! Pay now! Avoid a call.** –WB Larry Bullock



### From the South

Greetings from the South! So much joy in returning to the light of Masonry after a very short summer break with our Lodge being dark! Many of us were able to meet casually during the summer for the corn roast and step-up practice, while additionally being able to join each other in brotherly camaraderie for a few well-planned summer Masonic excursions! Looking forward to planning some amazing refreshments for our upcoming Wednesday nights together!



By the Plumb,  
Bro. Mark Gerhard  
Junior Warden

### From The Secretary

**Brethren, we are in the process of collecting dues, if for some reason you cannot pay, contact me to discuss your needs.**



Also, 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**

### Michigan Masonic Child ID Program

For over a decade, Michigan Masons have been dedicated to aiding parents and law enforcement in securing peace of mind in the face of the tragic possibility of a missing child through the Michigan Child ID Program. Throughout the state, Masonic Lodges annually distribute thousands of identification kits to parents at community and school events, made possible through the generous volunteerism of the Masons.

In partnership with the National Child Identification Program, the Michigan Masons offer free ID kits that have safeguarded over 30 million children across the United States. This program stands out for its effectiveness, employing decentralized fingerprinting and comprehensive, descriptive information in one accessible kit.

Join us at the Royal Oak Fire Department Open House on 11 October 11:00am.



**Bluegrass Night 25 OCTOBER at 7:00pm.** Come on down and bring a friend. \$5 at the door. **See details on Pg 6**

**Join us at Churchill's in Birmingham on 8 NOVEMBER at 7:0pm** for Whiskey and Cigar Night.. **See details on Pg 6**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our Worshipful Master Lee Karadimas

## Lodge Officers 2025

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

LEE KARADIMAS  
586-994-0308

SENIOR WARDEN

LUCAS ROBERTS  
586-563-7944

JUNIOR WARDEN

MARK GERHARD  
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TREASURER

JAMES MCPHERSON PM  
248-878-0657

SECRETARY

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PHIL ZOTT  
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JUNIOR DEACON

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LES BLEIL  
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ROY PRINCE PM  
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TILER

MARK EVANS PM  
734-635-6090

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Ray Doyscher PM 248-545-7443

John Harper PM 734-915-2143

Roy Prince PM 248-280-4515

### LODGE SECRETARY

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### LODGE WEB PAGE

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### TRESTLE BOARD EDITOR

Bill Berklich 248-404-4816  
[berklich@aol.com](mailto:berklich@aol.com)



## LODGE CALENDAR

October – December 2025



### Lodge Regular Communication Meetings on the First Wednesday at 7PM

1 OCT	REGULAR COMMUNICATION MEETING <u>STEP-UP NIGHT</u>
8 OCT	FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE PRACTICE
11 OCT	CHILD ID PROJECT - ROYAL OAK FIRE DEPT
13 OCT	<b>CONGRATULATIONS 250<sup>TH</sup> US NAVY BIRTHDAY</b>
15 OCT	FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE
22 OCT	LODGE OF INSTRUCTION AND STEP UP NIGHT
25 OCT	BLUEGRASS NIGHT AT THE TEMPLE 7PM \$5/PERSON
29 OCT	LADIES NIGHT CLAWSON STEAKHOUSE
5 NOV	REGULAR COMMUNICATION MEETING, FC PROFICIENCY AND 2026 OFFICER ELECTIONS
8 NOV	WHISKEY AND CIGAR NIGHT – CHURCHILL'S 7PM
10 NOV	<b>CONGRATULATIONS 250<sup>TH</sup> US MARINE CORP BIRTHDAY</b>
11 NOV	<b>THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VETERANS</b>
12 NOV	MM DEGREE PRACTICE AND INSTALLATION PRACTICE
19 NOV	MM DEGREE
26 NOV	LODGE IS DARK
27 NOV	<b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b>
3 DEC	REGULAR COMMUNICATION MEETING
6 DEC	OPEN INSTALLATION OF 2026 OFFICERS
10 DEC	ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE
17 DEC	DECEMBER OFFICERS' MEETING/BUDGET
24 DEC	LODGE IS DARK
25 DEC	<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b> TO ALL AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT
31 DEC	LODGE IS DARK
1 JAN	<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> MAY IT BE SAFE AND PROSPEROUS
7 JAN	REGULAR COMMUNICATION MEETING

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First**, thanks to all our Veterans. Your service is the bulwark of Democracy.

**Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the US Marine Corps** and their sister service the **US Navy**. Gentlemen - May you always have fair winds and following seas.



**Wow, there's a lot going on...** Be sure to [sign up for the Child ID project](#) at the Royal Oak Fire Department Open House on 11 October 11:00pm. We could use a few more hands.

**If you care to join Brotherhood Lodge 468** on 11 OCT in Troy for their Festive Board, cost \$55, contact William Jones @ 586-746-8027 [WJones19821@Hotmail.com](mailto:WJones19821@Hotmail.com) by 4 Oct.

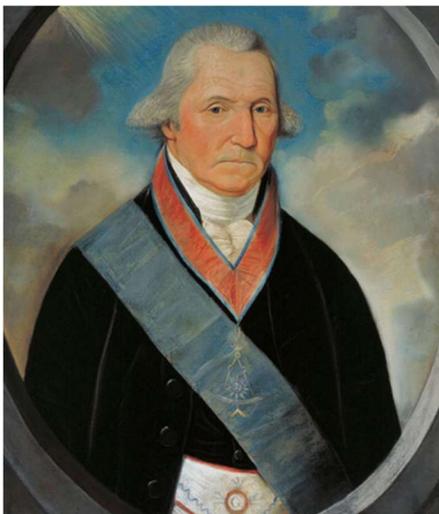
**Also, Hubbard-Winsor Lodge #420** is having a double MM Degree on 20 October in Pigeon. Their first MM degree in 15 years. Dinner at 6:30pm Call Jack Ruby at 586-935-7266 [jackruby586@yahoo.com](mailto:jackruby586@yahoo.com) for details



**Bluegrass Night 25 OCTOBER at 7:00pm.** Come on down and bring a friend. \$5 at the door. **See details on Pg 6**

**AND, Join us at Churchill's in Birmingham on 8 NOVEMBER at 7:00pm** for Whiskey and Cigar Night. Come on down and bring a friend, even if you don't smoke or drink. **See details on Pg 6**

**FROM OUR LODGE  
HISTORIAN  
WASHINGTON'S  
ATTACHMENT TO HIS LODGE**



In 1798, Worshipful Brother George Washington refused to pose for a new official portrait. Shortly there-after when his Masonic Lodge asked for a new painting of him, the request was granted. However, there were three strict requirements insisted upon by Washington. First, he was to be painted wearing a Masonic apron. Secondly, the painting was to be without any artificial enchantments. Finally, he was not going to appear smiling.

The painter was William Joseph Williams noted for his portraits of Washington and John Adams. Washington's portrait now hangs in Washington Lodge #22 in Alexandria, VA.

Respectfully  
Raymond W. Doyscher Jr. PM

**LODGE  
EVENTS**



**SUNSET DINNER CRUISE**

Under beautiful skies our Brothers Jim Mc Pherson and Bill Berklich with wives boarded the Detroit Princess for a Sunset Dinner Cruise.



We all settled in for cocktails before dinner and enjoyed the sights of the Detroit and Windsor skylines. As the sun began to set, we ate a sumptuous dinner of prime rib, chicken, and marinated portabella mushrooms with sides of cheese tortellini, steamed fresh vegetables, roasted potatoes, and Michigan tossed salad.



After dinner, many guests took advantage of the three decks of bands

and DJs for dancing. We, however,



adjourned to the tranquility of the aft deck to enjoy another cocktail under a



fading summer sun and music drifting across the Detroit River to entertain



our nearest southern neighbor.

As the evening ended back at the dock, we said our farewells against a glittering backdrop of a beautiful night on the Detroit River.



## WELL MET AT THE HIGHLAND GAMES

A sunny morning in mid-August provided perfect weather for several of our



Brothers to help out WB Jim McPherson in setting up the Clan



MacPherson Tent at this year's Highland Games, which of course led us to meet quite a few Masons from other lodges like Livonia #152 and Hubbard-Windsor #420.

Later, as the sun rose towards its zenith, we laid hands on sword, spear and shield, and WB Jim led us across



the field with the MacPherson battle cry of "Creag Dubh" ringing out.

What a great time and place to meet new friends and be Scottish for a day - for those of us that aren't.

Brother Bill Berklich

## ANNUAL SUMMER CORN ROAST

Even under a hot August sun our Temple Board provided an



outstandingly successful Corn Roast serving many of our brothers, their families, and friends. The corn was



sweet, and the burgers were HUGE. The hard work and diligence of our Temple Board could be seen in the smiles and laughter all around.

*I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.* – Bro. Winston S. Churchill, Rosemary Lodge 2851 UK

## WORSHIPFUL BROTHER DONATES

WB Raymond Doyscher describes himself as a Junk Man ... as the image of a junk trader who drives



his horse and wagon up and down the city streets pickup items people don't want, or trade, or give to those in need. Ray walks the streets around his home and collects returnable containers and anything he thinks that he might repair and give to someone in need. The money he acquires from the returnables is used to buy the Lodge refreshments. If the money



begins to build, he usually finds a Masonic need to fill, which he has once again.

On September 8th, at our Scottish Rite Oakland Club, WB Ray donated \$200 toward our Lodge's bikes for books project. Thanks Ray for all you do!!

WB Jim McPherson PM

## NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

**Leonidas Karadimas WM #551, Oscar Wilde, Franz List,** Ronald Majeska, Jack Phillips, James Novak, Bruce Hundley, Derrick Ode, Thomas Sidener, John Rammelsburg, Eugene Bruner, Timothy Eason, Louis Dughi, Zijad Hujdurovic, Marco Grossi, Bryan Soubliere, Frank Hirt, Jason Ceaser, Mark Pienta, Jonathon Ellis, Jered Knapik, Francis Walker, James Niks, Kenneth Hooks, James Vollmar, John Davis, John Beedle-Gee, Les Bliel, Vanderbeck Gac, Henry Torgl, William Eason, George McKenzie, Richard Vinson

NOVEMBER  
**Samuel Clemens, Edward VII,**  
 Harold Hubbard, Robert Crotty, Darin  
 Hamel, Dale Fritts, Richard Profant,  
 William Medlin, Freddie Messe PM,  
 Benjamin McGuire, Paul Collins, Mark  
 Evans PM, Mark Stiles PM, Ray Moore,  
 Shawn Shaman, William Walke, Ralph  
 Haynes, Pete Kulla, Jean Raad, Randy  
 Symchych

DECEMBER  
**John Molson, George C. Marshall**  
**Jr.,** Earl Anderson, James Roy,  
 Antone Ansara, Joseph Gafa, Nicholas

Haramija, Kirk Trail,  
 Stanley Belevender,  
 Donald Novak, Gregory  
 Turner, Wayne Cagle,  
 Joshua Tyrrell, Clay  
 Farley, David Smith,  
 Harry Croyle, George  
 Roy, Gerald Christie,  
 Gerald Clark, William  
 Grant, Eugene Hefner,  
 Timothy Henderson,  
 Allen Pollard, Michael  
 Puckett, Bert Dunford



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**ACROSS OUR LODGE IN PHOTOS**



## MASONS AROUND THE LODGE



### Lucas Roberts

Raised: 2022  
HS Grad: East Detroit '06  
Fav Food: Periogi  
First car: '99 Dodge  
Intrepid

Fav Vacation: Cadillac Property  
Fav Music: Metal, Rock, Funk, Jam  
Fav Band: Tool, Grateful Dead  
Fav Movie: Star Wars: A New Hope  
Fav Masonic role: Sr. Deacon  
Masonic influence: My Uncle



### John Harper PM

Raised: 5/28/2021  
HS Grad: Monroe High  
Class of '83  
Fav Band: Led Zeppelin  
First car: Pontiac Catalina

Fav Food: Smoked Brisket  
Fav Vacation: South America  
Fav Music: Southern & Old School Rock  
Family: Single, with four children.  
Favorite Masonic role: Senior Deacon  
Masonic influence: Grand Father



### Roy Prince PM

Raised: 3/19/2007  
HS Grad: Irondequoit HS  
(NY) Class of '78  
Fav Band: Boston  
First Car: '72 Mercury

Marquis  
Fav Food: Pad Ped Chicken Hot  
Fav Movie: National Treasure  
Hobbies: Amateur Radio, Geocaching,  
Family: Wife, 2 Sons  
Masonic Influence: 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Mason

## FOOTNOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I'd like to make a special acknowledgement to my predecessor Worshipful Brother Ray Doyscher Past Master and Editor and Chief of the #551 Trestle Board for many years. His service to the Lodge has taken many forms over the years and in each role, he has built a strong and enduring foundation for those that follow (like me!). As the editor of the Ancient Craft Trestle Board, Ray has put forth much time and effort to give us the best possible experience in Lodge communications. From the bottom of my heart, Thanks Ray, I hope to do as well as you.

Fraternally – Brother Bill Berklich

## BLUEGRASS NIGHT 25 OCTOBER 7PM \$5

Come on down for some foot stompin', hand clappin' music by our very own Don House.

**When:** Saturday, 25 October 2025 7:00pm

**Where:** The Temple – 850 Horace Brown Drive, Madison Hgts MI

How Much: \$5/person at the Door.



## WHISKEY AND CIGAR NIGHT 8 NOVEMBER 7PM @ CHURCHILL'S BIRMINGHAM

Join us for an unforgettable night of Whiskey and Cigars on **8 NOVEMBER** at Churchill's in Birmingham at 7:00pm. Come on down and bring a friend. Even if you don't smoke or drink whiskey or drink at all come share a few hours of friendship and fellowship. We may even raise a glass to the Navy and Marines' 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**RSVP by 1 NOVEMBER to Bill Berklich at [Berklich@aol.com](mailto:Berklich@aol.com) or call/txt 248-404-5816** so we can get a head count for the tables. This is a public space so seating is limited.

**When:** 8 November 2025 at 7PM

**Where:** Churchill's in Birmingham

Must be 21 or older and you're on your own for all purchases.



**Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
**United States Marine Corps**  
**November 10, 1775 – November 10 2025**

Sponsored and paid for by the US Marines of Ancient Craft No. 551