



Please plan to join us on
September 11, 2003
as we celebrate our
3200th Communication.
Details inside!

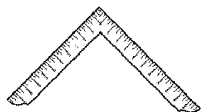
Jerusalem Temple Lodge No. 721
P.O. Box 178
Cornwall, NY 12518

3200th Communication of
Jerusalem Temple Lodge
September 11, 2003

6:30 p.m. Roast Beef Dinner
7:30 p.m. Meeting & Program

IMPORTANT SUMMONS ENCLOSED

From the East



My Brothers,

On Thursday September 11, 2003 it will be my distinct honor to open Jerusalem Temple Lodge #721 for the 3200th time. 3200 Communications spanning over 125 years of service to the community and to our Craft is a cause for celebration and that we will. Please make plans, if at all possible, to attend that evening and join with your Brothers and invited guests as we dine, reflect, and celebrate our accomplishments and our history. The program for the evening will be the History of Jerusalem Temple Lodge from its Charter to the present. Please join us.

We find ourselves in a period of transition as do many Lodges throughout the Nation. Declining numbers, compounded by increased operating costs are having an impact on fraternal organizations everywhere. Additionally, significant change in the lifestyle of our society makes membership more difficult due to the constraints of time and finances. We also appear to have evolved a society where our communities aren't as closely knit as they were in the past and we don't seem to know our neighbors nearly as well. Of course, Freemasonry is a partial solution for that.

On the positive side, we recently Raised two new Brothers during the Grand Master's One Day Class and have received a tremendous boost from V.W. Joe Leo, District AGL, who has chosen to join us and serves as our Senior Warden. The impact he's made on our Lodge is palpable and there's a renewed energy within the Lodge. Several men have expressed interest in learning more about the Lodge and will be visiting us in the near future. My hopes are high for our continued existence.

Toward that end, the lodge has been making some long term plans regarding the possible sale of our building thus eliminating a major source of concern and ongoing expense. In so doing, we will provide the lodge with badly needed funds which will help us continue in our work. A

2003-2004 OFFICERS

Master	W: Wayne J. Flavin (845) 783-0073 Master@TL721.org
Sr. Warden	V: W: Joe Leo (845) 562-6623 SrWarden@JTL721.org
Junior Warden	W: Thomas Serra
Treasurer & Chaplain	R:W: Oscar Meisner Treasurer@JTL721.org
Secretary	R:W: Robert Burwick Secretary@JTL721.org
Senior Deacon	Bro. Thomas Leishman
Sr Master of Ceremony	W: John W. Pryne
Tiler	R:W: Thomas Gill Sr.
Organist	W: Bill Umbach
Trustee	W: John W. Pryne
Trustee	R:W: Thomas Gill Sr.
Trustee	W: Eugene Reynolds

Don't forget to visit our website at
www.JTL721.org

Cornwall Masonic Association

We had quite some wind damage to trees on our lot which had to be cleared. The cedars in front of the Lodge had to be removed due to damage. The railings along Rte 32 were removed and the signs for the Lodge (Jerusalem Temple), Order of Eastern Stars, and the Church sign had to be repaired and reset in concrete due to the wind damage. Other than that, all else is the same.

R:W: Oscar Meisner

On The Trestleboard

Thursday September 11, 2003
3200th Communication of Jerusalem Temple Lodge
Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Thursday September 25, 2003
Summoned Communication to Discuss the Possible Sale
of the Building

Thursday October 9, 2003
Brother Bring a Friend Night and Walk About
Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday October 22, 2003
Visit to Hudson River Lodge No. 309 in Newburgh

Thursday October 23, 2003
No Meeting

Thursday November 13, 2003
Thanksgiving Celebration Dinner and Program
Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Thursday November 27, 2003
Lodge Closed due to Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday December 11, 2003
Christmas Celebration/First Degree (if possible)

Thursday December 25, 2003
Lodge Closed due to Christmas Holiday



lodge, my brothers, isn't a building but a group of brothers with similar goals and interests. We needn't be encumbered by our declining ability to maintain a structure when our real Work is to maintain our spirit of dedication and fraternity with each other.

Our Trestle Board reflects the reality that as a Lodge our numbers have dwindled to the point where running programs has become difficult. Therefore, we have decided that we will continue to increase the level of activity at our Lodge by regularly visiting the Brothers of Hudson River Lodge in Newburgh. We'll continue to hold our regular Communications on the second Thursday of each month but will travel to Hudson River on some of the fourth Wednesdays to participate in their programs and lend what assistance we may. Please watch the trestleboard calendar.

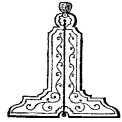
As always, I encourage your attendance at Lodge. Come out and sit with your Brothers for an evening and enjoy the fellowship of old and new friends. Sitting on the sidelines and just enjoying the evening is okay with us so you can relax and enjoy the evening.

Fraternally,
Wayne J. Flavin
Master

The following brothers have recently celebrated Masonic anniversaries. Congratulations to everyone!

Wor.: Francis P Wright	60 years
Wor.: Robert P Ushman	55 years
Bro. Alfred Bucci	50 Years
Bro. William H Emes	50 years
Wor.: John W Pryne	45 years
Wor.: Edward Smith	35 years
Bro. Elwood C Bailey	30 years
Wor.: Eugene Reynolds	20 years
Bro. Arnold Babcock	20 years

From the West



Greetings,

It is a distinct pleasure to address you as Senior Warden of Jerusalem Temple Lodge. Many of you are aware of my love of history and the role that Masonry and its progenitors have played in helping to shape it throughout the ages. What better place to share that interest than here at home and, to that end, I look forward to offering a brief presentation on the history of Jerusalem Temple Lodge on the occasion of our 3200th Communication on September 11, 2003. That's 131 years of Masonry but I promise my talk won't last nearly that long despite what some folks might think! I hope that all of you living in the area will make an effort to attend that evening which will begin with a sumptuous roast beef dinner with all the fixings at 6:30 p.m. If you need a ride or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will make arrangements to get you there!

For those of you who are no longer living in the area, we'd still like to hear from you! One of the things that impresses me most about our lodge is the deep concern that our brothers share for each others' health and welfare. Your brothers are eager to hear how you are faring so please consider writing, calling, or e-mailing me and I will share your news with the brothers of the lodge. This is STILL your lodge and we hope you will make your presence felt.

Changing hats for a moment from Senior Warden to Assistant Grand Lecturer, I would like to thank the brothers of Jerusalem Temple Lodge for hosting several recent district Schools of Instruction as well as the July ORDMA meeting. Your hospitality, and more importantly, your attendance at these district events have done the lodge a great service in reminding the district that we are still a viable lodge willing to carry our share and participate in our beloved Craft.

Taking off all the hats and the gloves now, and

speaking as a brother, I'll lay things on the level; you'll eventually find I don't mince words anyway. It's no secret that the population of our lodge is aging, membership is down, and we have to do something about it. Nobody wants to see any lodge close its doors and Jerusalem Temple still has a lot to offer our community and our members. We need to focus on bringing in not only new Masons but also on affiliating Masons with experience in the Craft to help fill out our line while we work to rebuild. If you know of a brother who fits either bill, please let us know!

Sometimes lodges lose track of what we're supposed to be about; sometimes lodges find themselves so focused on building repairs or buying property or paying the bills that Masonry becomes secondary to becoming a historical society or a civic club. And sometimes when one is getting tired and burned out, one finds Masonry where one least expects it. I did, on a surprise visit as AGL to a lodge I hadn't heard from yet over in Mountainville.

What I found was a well-kept secret, that oft-mentioned band of brothers whose focus was on each other, who enjoyed having a meal together and catching up with old friends, that sense of community and warmth that sometimes eludes us even in the world's largest fraternity. I saw a brother whom I thought I knew in a whole new light who taught me a new definition of what being Master of a lodge is REALLY about and was received by the brethren not as an AGL but as a guest with genuine warmth. To those brothers, I say thank you for counting me in your number. To other brothers reading this who haven't been to a meeting here in awhile, I urge you to do so and renew your place in a true circle of fraternal union. The secret's out now and you can't imagine what you've been missing! I hope to see you on the eleventh. Until then, I remain

Yours in service to the Craft,
V.:W.: Joe Leo
Senior Warden

**Do you want to attend a meeting but need a ride?
Contact the Senior Warden and he'll set it up for you!**