

36th Masonic District

The R.W. Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient & Honorable Fraternity of Free & Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging

November 09, 2008

Chester | George Bartram - Paul Sand | Prospect | Concord | Penn | Lansdowne | Springfield - Hanby

Vol. 1 No. 17

District Calendar

Nov 10	1 MM	Geo. Bartram - Paul Sand Lodge (7:30 pm)
Nov 12	2 EA / 1 MM	Prospect Lodge (7 pm)
Nov 13	School of Instruction	Prospect Lodge (7:30 pm)
Nov 14	District Visitation	Lansdowne Lodge (7:30 pm)
Nov 18	1 FC / 2 EA	Concord Lodge (7 pm)
Nov 18	2 EA	Springfield - Hanby Lodge (7:30 pm)
Nov 19	1 EA	Penn Lodge (7 pm)
Nov 19	1 EA / 1 FC / 1 MM	Lansdowne Lodge (7:30 pm)
Nov 20	School of Instruction	Prospect Lodge (7:30 pm)
Nov 24	3 MM	Concord Lodge (7 pm)
Nov 25	1 FC / 1 MM	Springfield - Hanby Lodge (7:30 pm)

Earn it Again - - - Veterans' Day . . . Giving Like No Others !!

Ninety years ago, the guns fell silent in Europe. World War I – the “war to end all wars” – was over. Almost five million Americans served during that first modern, mechanized war. Our last living link with them, 107-year-old Army veteran [Frank Buckles](#), observes this Veterans Day at his farm in West Virginia.

It is important, on Veterans Day, for all Americans to reflect on the service and sacrifice of our veterans, from Mr. Buckles to the men and women who currently fight for us in Iraq and Afghanistan. Their bravery, their resourcefulness, and their patriotism mark them as our nation’s finest citizens.



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To the Members of the Grand Lodge:



You are hereby requested to attend the December Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to be held at 10:00 o'clock, a.m. on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at the Masonic Temple, 1 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA.

..... By Order of the R.W. Grand Master.

School of Instruction

Brethren you have two more sessions of the District school to get certified for your station for next year. Outside of these scheduled times, you need to contact Bro. Curt Barrett in order to make alternative arrangements. There is no extension as there is no more time after November 20, 2008. I want to thank those who have gotten their work done ahead of time and hope you will continue to do so as you move forward.



Chester Pike DeMolay News

..... Master Councilor Andrew Richards

Chester Pike Chapter recently participated in the Flag Football tournament up at Elizabethtown along with 9 other chapters and we came in 4th. We made it to the playoffs under the lights but got squeaked out by Pilgrim Chapter. We'll get 'em next year!!

We are finishing up a candle fund raiser and are planning a dance for late November or early December for surrounding DeMolays, Jobs Daughters and prospects.

Jerry Richards III, PMC is now stationed in Fort Knox, KY while finishing up his basic training for the Army National Guard. He will be there until Thanksgiving and then go onto Arizona for his AIT training in Military Intelligence. If you would like to drop him a card, which he would truly appreciate, his address is:

Pvt. Jerry Richards
2nd Plt.
Co. B 2-46 INF.
3576 Wilson Rd
Fort Knox, KY 40121-5728

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Lansdowne Lodge No. 711 Blood drive

On Saturday, November 08, 2008, Lansdowne Lodge No. 711 held its first annual Blood Drive. They had 18 registrations with 16 final donations. Thirteen of the donations came from 36th district (Chester Lodge No. 236 (1), George Bartram - Paul Sand Lodge No. 298 (1), Concord Lodge No. 625 (4), Penn Lodge No. 709 (2), and Lansdowne Lodge No. 711 (5). In addition to the support from the 36th, 5 non-masonic affiliated participants contributed.

The officers and members of Lansdowne Lodge wish to thank the District for their support in coming out and helping to make its first blood drive a success. Special thanks to Bro. Tim DeMarco for his guidance in putting it all together.

Pictured to the right are some of the brethren who came out to help. I would like to add my appreciation to all the brethren who helped Lansdowne Lodge and for helping to save a life through their donations.

“There are plenty of teams in every sport that have great players and never win titles. Most of the time, those players aren't willing to sacrifice for the greater good of the team. The funny thing is, in the end, their unwillingness to sacrifice only makes individual goals more difficult to achieve. One thing I believe to the fullest is that if you think and achieve as a team, the individual accolades will take care of themselves. Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.”

--- Michael Jordan



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I visited Chester Lodge No. 236 on Thursday evening and witnessed a most moving Memorial Service for all those Brethren in their lodge who passed to the Lodge Eternal over the past year. Prior to the service, Bro. Paul Micun, PM, WM read the following poem which I want to share with you due to its very moving message. Thank you Bro. Micun for bringing this poem to my attention and thank you for a wonderful meeting on Thursday.

I'm Ready For My Last Degree (A Poem)

(From the Scottish Rite Reporter, Vol. XXXVII, March 2007)

An old man lay sick in the Masonic State Home
His face was as white as the White Sea foam
His eyes were dim, his hair was gray
His back was bent with the toils of the way
He unflatteringly spoke, and I heard him say:
"I'm ready for my last degree."

I've come to the end of that level of time
That leads us all to the Grand Lodge sublime
From whose sacred form none ever returns
More light in Masonry there I shall learn
By an altar where light ever more burns.
"I'm ready for my last degree."

With the apprentice's gauge I divided my time
And this I have found amidst life's great turmoil
Time for work, for worship and rest for my toil
My wages are due in corn, wine and oil.
"I'm ready for my last degree."

Each day from life's quarries I've hewn out a stone
With the gavel I've shaped them each one alone
And shipped them alone beyond that bright strand
To build me a house in that bright, better land
A spiritual house not made by hands.
"I'm ready for my last degree."

I've squared each stone by the virtue square
And plumbed them all true as I shipped them there
With the compass, I've measured the Master's
Designs
And kept in due bounds with his points and his lines
My blueprints are folded — I've answered his signs.
"I'm ready for my last degree."

A few moments later the old man was dead
And I fancy I could see his soul as it fled
Upward and onward to that great door
Where he gave his alarm with these words once
more:
"I'm ready for my last degree."

That night in a lodge free from strife and storm
He took his last degree — his last in due form
So may I live as to build day by day
A spiritual house in that land far away
So when I meet my Grand Master I can say:
"I'm ready for my last degree."



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Veteran's Day Tribute

When America had an urgent need,
These brave ones raised a hand;
No hesitation held them back;
They were proud to take a stand.

They left their friends and family;
They gave up normal life;
To serve their country and their God,
They plowed into the strife.

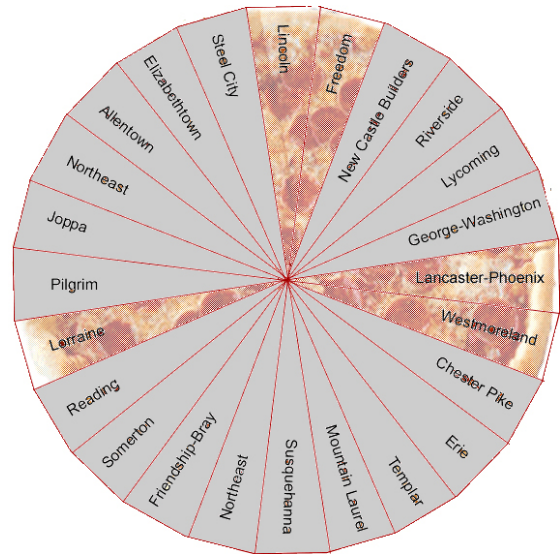
They fought for freedom and for peace
On strange and foreign shores;
Some lost new friends; some lost their lives
In long and brutal wars.

Other veterans answered a call
To support the ones who fought;
Their country had requirements for
The essential skills they brought.

We salute each and every one of them,
The noble and the brave,
The ones still with us here today,
And those who rest in a grave.

So here's to our country's heroes;
They're a cut above the rest;
Let's give the honor that is due
To our country's very best.

By Joanna Fuchs



At Convention 2008, "Dad" Thomas R. Labagh, Executive Officer of Pennsylvania DeMolay, issued a challenge to every chapter in the commonwealth to raise \$120 dollars (one cent per mile) in support of Victor Frederick, and the Hiram Riders, Ride to Fight Dyslexia that benefits the 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Learning Centers. "Dad" Labagh stated that if every chapter in Pennsylvania DeMolay gives \$120 then he will throw a Pizza Party at Convention 2009 for everyone from Pennsylvania DeMolay, paid for by himself!

To keep track of this promotion, and to remind "Dad" Labagh of how close he is to setting out a load of money for pizza, PA DeMolay has set up the State Charity Pizza Tracker.

Whenever a Chapter presents their donation to the cause their slice of the pizza will be revealed. A whole Pizza = Pizza Party!

Let's help Chester Pike buy their piece of the pie. I am asking for donations from the Lodges of the 36th Masonic District as capable. If you will announce it during your upcoming meetings and ask for donations, let's see if we can help our young men win a pizza party.