

THE TRESTLEBOARD

a Beech Grove Lodge #694 publication

Spring 2025



Letter from the Editor

Brethren,

Spring 2025 brings with it a renewed sense of purpose and momentum for our lodge. As nature begins to bloom, so too does our opportunity to grow stronger as a brotherhood and more connected as a lodge.

This season is an ideal time to focus inward—on the relationships we build within our walls and the positive impact we have on those around us. Whether it's through lodge dinners, family-friendly events, or simple acts of service, each effort reinforces the foundation of our fraternity and reminds us why we meet upon the level and part upon the square.

As we look ahead, I encourage each of you to find meaningful ways to stay engaged. Whether it's by mentoring a new brother, supporting an event behind the scenes, or simply reaching out with a phone call or kind word. Every contribution matters, and the strength of our lodge rests in the shared efforts of its members.

As your Senior Steward, I remain committed to ensuring our Trestle Board reflects the energy and excellence of Lodge #694. With thoughtful design and meaningful content, my goal is to help it serve not only as a source of information but as a true reflection of our shared values and progress.

Let us carry the spirit of brotherhood into all we do this season. May our actions be guided by light, our words by truth, and our path by the principles that make Freemasonry such a timeless and worthy pursuit.

Fraternally,

Brother Brandon Dougherty, SS
Masonic Lodge #694



From the Secretary

Brethren,

I hope you are all enjoying the warmer weather, Spring brings a fresh start for a new year.

We have some projects that are still in the works for the Lodge building.

Dues that were due December 31st have almost been wrapped up. Thank you, Brothers that purchased the Masonic License plates or entered the Endowment Program, Our Grand Lodge Assessment was \$6,151.75 with our credits for Plates and Endowment we only had to pay \$5,097.30. This is one of two big bills each year, the other is our insurance which went up again it was \$5,191.73.

Our membership is getting older entering 50 Years and more. We need to reach out and get some new members for our line and leadership roles, as I write this, we have only three members waiting for more Masonic knowledge.

If you haven't been to the Lodge in a while join us for a meal, a cup of hot coffee and some conversation.

Remember you don't have to work your way into your own Lodge.

**Harry P.M.
Secretary**



From the East

To the Past Masters,
Current Officers, and all
the Fine Brothers at Beech Grove Lodge,
As we are in summer, and
with September Stated Meetings
coming soon, please stay sharp.

We will be having two
Fellow Craft Degrees in September,
along with the Fall Festival and Car Show.

As summer goes on,
enjoy the great weather.
We have a little work to
do at the Lodge, so any
help will be appreciated.

I hope everyone has
a great summer, and we look
forward to a great fall
at the Lodge.

Maybe we could have
a summer pitch-in dinner,
or a Lodge field trip to
go bowling, visit the
Masonic Home, or explore
any other ideas.

In closing, remember to
stay sharp, have fun, and
enjoy the journey of life.

Sincerely,
WM James Wheatley



From the South

Greetings Brothers,

It has been a whirl wind of a year so far serving you as Junior Warden. This group of Masons really like to eat!!! I once asked Past Master Bob Amick back when I was 21 what the letter "G" represented. He didn't hesitate to tell me that it stood for Grub....among other things.

I'm so thankful to Mrs. Junior Warden (Jami) for all of her guidance and patience with me in the kitchen this year. She has been so very helpful in assisting me in deciding which meals to serve everyone. No one seems to be leaving hungry for sure! We have averaged 16 members for every meal so far this year.

There was a great turnout for the Masters and Wardens Knife and Fork Degree on March 8th. It was so nice to meet so many other Masons from other lodges and break out the good china and silverware for the event.

I'm looking forward to having new members join our wonderful lodge this year and watching them on their Masonic journey in life. We have a fantastic group of individuals that are there to assist with knowledge and experience to help our Brothers grow and obtain further light in Masonry.

If you haven't been to lodge in a while, please consider stopping by and taking delight in the Junior Warden's home style cooking among other things and enjoy some good fellowship.

We meet most Thursdays for a practice or degree at 7:00 p.m. Dinner is always at 6:15 p.m. on the dot as I loudly and proudly ring the food "Come and Get It" triangle. I'll keep the food warm and hope to see you soon Brothers.

Warmest Regards,
Junior Warden Scott Sivells



Work on the Lodge Building

**The fence back up and the
cameras are in the works**

Beech Grove Lodge #694

2025 Officers

W.M. James T. Wheatley P.M.

S.W. Roy F. Mills PM

J.W. Scott C. Sivells

Treasurer Kevin R. Upshaw PM

Secretary W.B. Harry A. Morris,

S.D. Robert E. Mullen

J.D. David A. Polson,

Tyler W. Douglas Sausville PM

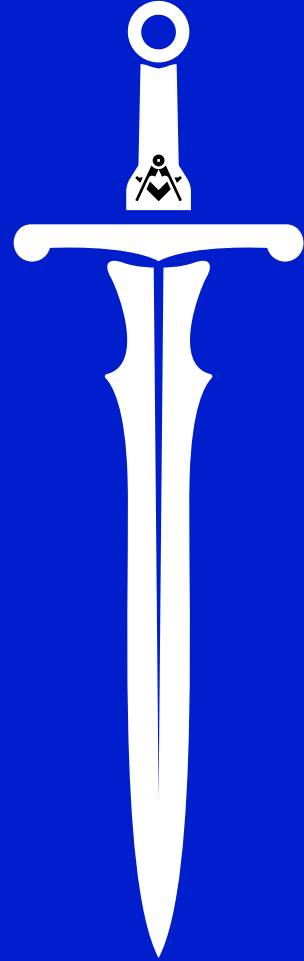
Chaplain Roger A. Newman PM

S.S. Brandon T. Dougherty,

J.S. Junior L. Anderson

Trustees: W.B. John M. Taylor PM,

Kevin R. Upshaw PM & David P. Irwin



Masonic Milestones



Travis L. Cross P.M. Master - Mason of the Year



Robert Kelly - 75 Year Award



Robert D. West 50 Year Award

Masonic Milestones



Stephen A Nohlechek 25 Year Award



**David A Polson
Rookie Award**



Devon R. Matkins Master Mason Certificate



**Junior Anderson
Mason of the Year**

Central Indiana Freemasons Association



Birthdays

March

David A. Holman March 6th

Kenneth R. Matkins March 18th

David E. Lusk March 21st

Gerald R. Wright² March 21st

Dennis E. Breedlove March 24th

James H. Lloyd March 25th

Robert L. VanHook March 25th

Dennis D. Wilson March 30th

April

John Sheldon Crook, JR., PM April 2nd

David L. Windle April 4th

Ashton Lee Anderson April 4th

Edward L. Bell April 16th

Richard D. Johnson April 17th

John Louis Kemp, JR. April 17th

David L. Dinkins April 23rd

Roger A. Newman P.M. April 4th

John R. Shaw April 4th

May

Brett R. Davis May 5th

Adrieen White May 5th

Robert E. Williams May 5th

Roy Franklin Mills, PM May 5th

William J. Chamberlain, VII May 5th

Tyler P. Upshaw May 5th

Gary W. Politan May 5th

Robert D. West May 19th

Nicholas L. Fisher May 23rd

Russell A. Terrell May 26th

James H. Ragon May 27th

William O. Hoffman May 28th

June

Scott A. Kramer June 3rd

Paul Records June 7th

Gregory A. Chiles P.M. June 10th

Larry L. Kolthoff June 14th

Timothy J.D. Nichols P.M. June 17th

Andrew D. Earle June 18th

Jesse A. Donica June 20th

Michael G. Pote June 27th

Anthony J. Adams June 28th

Past Masters of Beech Grove Lodge #694

1913 – Thomas N. Boicourt *	1951 – Adolph V. Whitlock *	1990 – Alan L. Meese*
1914 – Merrill N. Johnson *	1952 – E. Byron Cox *	1991 – Alan P. Blakeburn
1915 – Frank Stuck *	1953 – Clifford H. Fleetwood *	1992 – Robert D. Amick *
1916 – Claude Thompson *	1954 – William H. Abbett *	1993 – William D. Nichols *
1917 – Frank Stuck *	1955 – James E. Love *	1994 – Brian L Penley
1918 – Elmer Finchum *	1956 – John W. Gilliland Jr. *	1995 – Frank J. Wilson
1919 – Jacob G. Banta *	1957 – Richard B. Deane *	1996 – William D. Nichols *
1920 – H. Lee Clark *	1958 – Robert H. Stone *	1997 – Harold L. Clark Jr. *
1921 – Henry W. Wehmeier *	1959 – Benjamin L. Fuchs *	1998 – William David Nichols II
1922 – Charles D. Howell *	1960 – Eddie E. Burton *	1999 – William David Nichols II
1923 – Torrence A. Winner *	1961 – Raymond B. Jennings *	2000 – Robert S. Whiteis
1923 – Walter H. Mills *	1962 – Carl M. Upshaw *	2001 – John R. Blocher*
1924 – Roy Truex *	1963 – Herbert L. Vandergrift *	2002 – Paul D. Schlangen *
1925 – William O. McCrae *	1964 – Gerald L. Reid *	2003 – Ronald L. Schlangen *
1926 – H. Fredric Bronson *	1965 – George C. Weidman*	2004 – Robert R. Blackburn *
1927 – Francis L. Byrne *	1966 – Fred Byrum *	2005 – Roger A. Newman
1928 – Otho R. Lacey *	1967 – Earl D. Howser *	2006 – William David Nichols II
1929 – Frank D. Marquett *	1968 – Clayton Cantrell *	2007 – Stephen A. Nohlecek
1930 – Salathiel T. Sutherland *	1969 – Marion L. O'Dell *	2008 – Harry Allen Morris
1931 – Edward E. Myers *	1970 – Carroll I. Polsley *	2009 – Joseph Robert Leo Benek
1932 – Earl H. McCormick *	1971 – Harold L. Clark Jr. *	2010 – Timothy James Dene Nichols
1933 – Raymond L. Neer *	1972 – John R. Hicks	2011 – John Sheldon Crook Jr.
1934 – Jesse R. Paugh *	1973 – Marvin D. Bowers *	2012 – John Michael Taylor
1935 – Herbert Jenkinson *	1974 – Frank D. Nolton *	2013 – George M. Marlow*
1936 – Louis D. Neer *	1975 – Donald K. Huber*	2014 – John R. Freeland
1937 – Stanley A. Short *	1976 – Robert D. Conger *	2015 - Glenn W. Schmidt
1938 – Roy T. McCandles *	1977 – Joseph A. Barnes *	2016–Roy F. Mills
1939 – Earl B. Monce *	1978 – Henry J. Chiles*	2017–Kevin R. Upshaw
1940 – Paul R. Lingle *	1979 – Arnold W. Gaskill	2018–Kevin R. Upshaw
1941 – Orla L. Easton *	1980 – Purdy A. Hickok *	2019–Kevin R. Upshaw
1942 – Francis E. Deane *	1981 – James H. Vaden	2020–Kevin R. Upshaw
1943 – William E. Herold *	1982 – Ronald R. Pea *	2021–Travis L. Cross
1944 – Jesse J. Crane *	1983 – Robert D. Amick *	2022–James T. Wheatley
1945 – Edward C. Hamilton *	1984 – W. Douglas Sausville	2023–James T. Wheatley
1946 – John C. Simmons *	1985 – Alan L. Meese*	2024–James T. Wheatley
1947 – Robert L. Frame *	1986 – Joseph K. Hedges	
1948 – Alonzo C. Stratton *	1987 – Steven J. Hillman	
1949 – Thomas O. Mears *	1988 – Aubrey E. Ward *	
1950 – Carl E. Rudolph *	1989 – Donald A. Hilts *	

* - Deceased



Passed to that Celestial Lodge Above...

Jimmy Harmon Linn 01/22/2021

Robert R. Blackburn P.M. 12/27/2023

Robert D. Conger P.M. 07/14/2024

Edmund E. Watkins 09/03/2024

Glenn H. Booth 9/21/2024

Harlan R. Finlet 11/23/2024

John R. Blocher P.M. 01/23/2025

Delano O. Crew 02/04/2025/

Kenneth Ray Matkins June 25, 2025

In the sacred tradition of Freemasonry, the passing of a brother into the celestial lodge above is a moment of deep reverence and reflection. While we mourn his absence in our earthly lodge, we also honor the legacy he leaves behind—a legacy woven through fellowship, service, and quiet strength. His contributions, though no longer spoken aloud, continue to echo in the hearts of his brethren. They remind us that the bonds of brotherhood are not bound by time, but endure beyond the veil of mortality.

Now welcomed into the eternal lodge of light, his labors are laid to rest in the hands of the Great Architect of the Universe. His journey, though concluded here, becomes part of a far greater design—his life a thread in the infinite tapestry of the Craft.



Closing Prayer

Most Worshipful Grand Architect of the Universe,

As we close this Quarter and gather our thoughts at the threshold of Spring, we offer our sincere gratitude for the blessings You have graciously placed upon Beech Grove Lodge #694. In this season of renewal, we are reminded of the opportunity to grow—not only in knowledge and fellowship, but in character and purpose.

We thank You for the steady hands and thoughtful hearts that have labored in unity to uphold the values of our Craft. May the bonds of brotherhood we've strengthened here continue to inspire acts of kindness, compassion, and service both within our lodge and beyond its walls. Guide our steps, O Great Architect, that we may continue to build wisely upon the foundation of truth. Instill in us the courage to lead with humility, to speak with integrity, and to serve with generosity. May our words be measured, our actions upright, and our intentions rooted in love and justice.

Bless our officers with clarity and commitment, our brethren with peace and purpose, and our lodge with enduring harmony. May we be mindful of the light within us and diligent in reflecting that light into the world, that others may see in us the beauty and strength of the Masonic path.

As we depart from this meeting and enter the days ahead, may Your wisdom guide our choices, Your strength uphold our efforts, and Your light forever dwell within our hearts.

So mote it be.

