UNIVERSITY LODGE 141
TRESTLEBOARD
SEPTEMBER 2026

FROM THE EAST

Brethren, reawaken! There is light again in the East.

I hope you all have had a relaxing and productive summer. While we were on hiatus, we still managed to accomplish some things: hosting a Table Lodge for America's 250th, holding a Fellowcraft degree for Brothers Dustin Wooldridge, Kai Viau, and Kokou Tighankpa, and finally obtaining the long-promised pool table.

My time as steward of this chair is winding down, and I am acutely attuned to the challenges that lay ahead. As most of you are aware, our Senior Warden has had to step back from his duties and we have lost or will soon be losing brethren that were essential parts of our Lodge. The demands of maintaining our organization and the building which houses it accumulate like an erratic but continuously running clock while the energy and manpower to accommodate those demands seems to ebb more than it flows. I am deeply thankful to those brethren who have offered their counsel to me and, more importantly, dedicated their time and energy toward this Lodge.

Our Stated Meeting will be this Friday evening, September 11th. Dinner will be smoked chicken and pork sandwiches, sundry sides and a berry crumble for dessert. Our meeting will coincide with the 25th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. We will set aside some time for recollection and reflection upon this seminal event that still reverberates today. I hope to see many of you there.

Fraternally,

WM John Bryan

University Lodge 141 Stated Meeting

<u>Friday</u>, September 11, 2026

Doors open at 6:00pm
Dinner served at 6:30pm
Lodge starts at 7:30pm

Per our By-Laws, when the first Monday of the month is a holiday, then our Stated Meeting is held on the following Friday. Since September 7th is Labor Day, our meeting will be held on Friday, September 11th.

The Building Association is pleased to announce that our pool table has arrived! Come test your geometry skills and rack em!!

Brethren Raised in September

Donald Spreine	1964
William Crockett	1969
Steve Ellis	1982
Walter Buscher	1984
Peter Anderson	1988
Steven Anderson	1988
Robert Riley	1990
Richard Kovak	1992
Richard Pedersen	1994
Rhys Nunnelee	2014
Benjamin Stagner	2014
Bryan Baldwin	2014
Nana Gyesie	2016

Mariners Night!

RODMAN BERTLEY MILLER
Born: August 8, 1924
Raised: July 21, 1952
Died: April 29, 2026

Thanks to all those who came out to the Table Lodge on July 3rd! A great time was had by all.

Congrats to Kai Viau, Kokou Tighankpa and Dustin Wooldridge who received their Fellowcraft degree on July 25th!

Geometry: The Language of the Great Architect

From the earliest days of the Craft, Freemasonry has looked to geometry for more than the principles needed to build a sound structure. The square, compass, plumb, and gauge remind us that the same principles of order, balance, and proportion can also guide the building of a good life.

One of the best-known examples is the **47th Problem of Euclid**, or the Pythagorean theorem. In his 1723 *Constitutions of the Free-Masons*, James Anderson called it "the foundation of all Masonry." The simple 3-4-5 triangle allowed stonemasons to establish a perfect right angle. For Freemasons, it became a lasting symbol of order and the mathematical harmony found throughout creation.

The **Golden Ratio**, approximately 1.618, provides another fascinating example. Found in patterns throughout nature and reflected in architecture and the pentagram, it has long been associated with proportion and harmony. Its presence in Masonic symbolism—including the pentagram at Freemasons' Hall in London—offers another reminder of the Craft's fascination with the geometry of creation.

Centuries ago, mathematicians such as **Johannes Kepler** observed geometric patterns in everything from honeycombs to the arrangement of seeds in fruit. To the Mason, such examples invite a deeper reflection: perhaps the order we discover in nature is itself a reflection of the Great Architect's design.

*The Fibonacci spiral illustrates the Phi Ratio. When you divide any Fibonacci number by the number immediately before it, the result gets closer to **Phi** (approx. 1.618).*

In Freemasonry, geometry is not simply something we use to build. It is something we contemplate. The structures of nature, the buildings we construct, and the character we strive to develop all remind us that a life well built requires proportion, balance, and a firm foundation.

A pentagram is central on a 1927 art deco panel at Freemasons' Hall in London.

Answering the Call: Masonic Relief After 9/11

September 11, 2001, is remembered as one of the darkest days in American history. In the aftermath, families, communities, and entire cities faced an enormous need for assistance. Among those who responded were **Freemasons**.

The Masonic response to September 11 offers a meaningful example of one of the fraternity's oldest principles: **Relief of those in distress.** The Masonic Service Association of North America, which coordinates charitable and disaster-relief efforts among Masonic organizations, records **$982,200 in relief for New York following the attacks and another $337,200 for Virginia**.

The Grand Lodge of New York also established a World Trade Center Relief Fund, which received contributions from Masons and Grand Lodges beyond New York. Brothers across the country recognized that although the tragedy had occurred thousands of miles away for some, the obligation to help those in need extended far beyond jurisdictional boundaries. This response was about more than money. It was an expression of fraternity.

Masonry teaches that we have an obligation to assist those who are in distress and to offer relief when we are able. In the aftermath of September 11, that principle became more than something discussed in a lodge room. It became an opportunity for Masons to put their obligations into practice.

The events of that day also remind us of another important Masonic ideal: **service to others without expectation of reward.**

The first responders who ran toward danger demonstrated that ideal through extraordinary courage. The Masons who contributed to relief efforts demonstrated it through generosity and compassion. Each, in his own way, answered the needs of others.

Twenty-five years later, we remember those who were lost and those whose lives were forever changed. But we can also remember what followed—the countless acts of courage, generosity, and service that helped people begin to rebuild. For Freemasons, the lesson is especially fitting.

When our fellow man is in distress, we do not ask whether he is near us. We ask how we can help.

That is not merely history. **That is Masonry.**

University Lodge No. 141, like the institution that is its namesake, holds up the ideals of lifetime learning, self-improvement and service, both for the benefit of its members and the community at large. Nothing less than excellence in ritual is acceptable and jovial fellowship will be its counterbalance.

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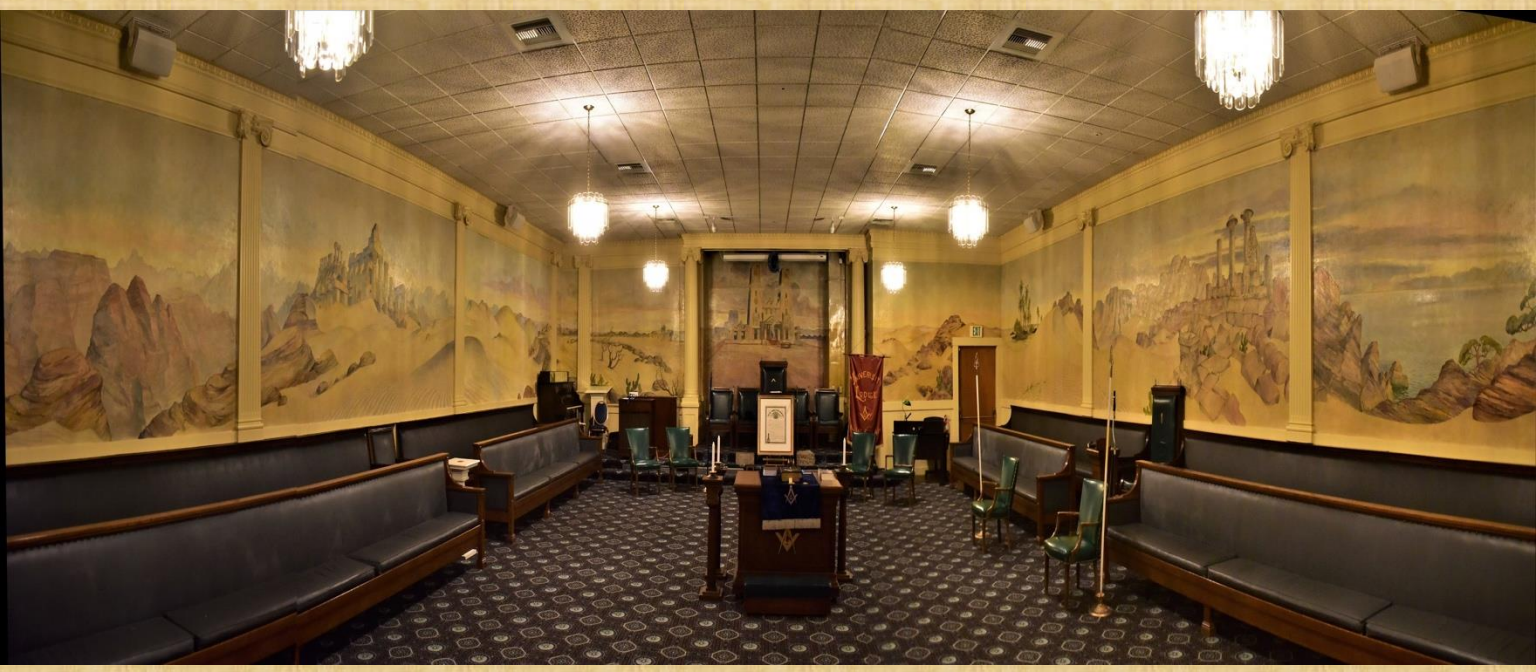

2026 Officers

Worshipful Master John Bryan

Senior Warden	Adam Alsobrook	Junior Deacon	Daniel Shapiro
Junior Warden	Scott Bohart	Chaplain	WB KC Gates
Secretary	WB Matt Livingston	Marshal	Matthew Peck
Treasurer	WB Ren Hamil	Tyler	WB Evan Lobenstein
Senior Deacon	WB Bryan Baldwin	Musician	Jason Frazier