



February 2026

From the East

February: A Month of Light, Learning, and Legacy



Brethren, February promises to be a truly inspiring and educational month in our Lodge—one that reminds us why Freemasonry is both timeless in its principles and vibrant in its practice.

We begin the month on February 3rd with our Regular Communication, featuring a very special **Program of the Month: A Ceremony for the Celebration of the Birth of Worshipful Brother George Washington**. Born on February 22, 1732, Brother Washington stands as one of the most distinguished Masons in our Craft and a towering figure in our nation's history. This ceremony is written expressly to honor his life, character, and Masonic legacy. As Washington's Birthday is observed nationally on the third Monday of February, this program offers us an opportunity to reflect not only on his leadership, but on the enduring Masonic virtues he exemplified. Will you join us?

In further recognition of Brother Washington's legacy, I, along with our Lodge Education Officer, Worshipful Brother Jerry Preston, will be traveling to Alexandria, Virginia on February 20th to attend the **George Washington Masonic National Memorial's Birthday Gala**, a fitting tribute held at one of the most significant Masonic landmarks in the world. This experience will further enrich our Lodge's educational efforts and deepen our connection to Masonic history. Did you know that Fellowship Lodge 236 is a member of the Society of Washington Lodges?

Speaking of education, at our both our Feb 3rd Regular and Tuesday, February 17th Special Communication our Lodge Education Officers will continue their dedicated work by diving deeper into the **Entered Apprentice Degree Obligation**, carefully examining its meaning, intent, and application in our daily lives. In addition, they will be exploring many of the words found in the **Ritual Book Dictionary and Glossary**, helping us better understand the language of our Craft and the symbolism embedded within it. See assignments on Page 2 for further information.

I would also like to take a moment to commend **Senior Deacon Tyler Hart** for his outstanding commitment to learning ritual. Brother Hart has been regularly attending **Morning Star Lodge No. 556**, demonstrating the kind of initiative and dedication that strengthens not only his own proficiency, but the Craft as a whole.

To that end, I strongly encourage any Brother who desires to practice and learn ritual in a fun, supportive manner to attend these sessions. They are held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wednesdays of each month—with coffee at 8:00 AM and Lodge at 9:00 AM. It is a relaxed, engaging environment and an excellent opportunity to grow in confidence and skill.

February reminds us that Freemasonry is alive—rooted in history, strengthened through education, and sustained by the active participation of dedicated Brothers. I look forward to seeing many of you as we learn, celebrate, and labor together in the month ahead.

Fraternally and sincerely,

Todd Lamb - WM

Brothers take note that we have a School of Instruction this month that we have been summoned to attend on February 11th - Please See the calendar on the next page

Monthly Stated Communications
every 1st Tuesday, 7:00PM

Monthly Special Lodge Education
Communication every 3rd Tuesday,
7:00PM

7839 Miller Rd., Swartz Creek, MI
48473

If you need a ride to lodge, let us know!

All Visitors Welcome!

"The most important part of any masonic gathering is not the business, but the fellowship. We have meals before each Stated/Special Communication beginning at 6:00 PM. to foster fellowship! Please come and Join us!

From the South



February Meal

Aperitif

Tossed Salad

Main Course

Spaghetti & Meatballs
Texas Toast

Dessert

Fruit tray
Tira masu

This lodge is your lodge, and your friends are welcome—bring them to dinner. Please come out and enjoy the fellowship.

Officers

Worshipful Master

Todd Lamb
(951) 473-7889
TLamb10@Comcast.net

Senior Warden

Mario Zepeda
(810) 877-1331
OmegaZep@Yahoo.com

Junior Warden

Matthew Berry
(810) 938-9314
matt002031@icloud.com

Secretary

Brian Mason
(810) 874-5972
b.mason14u@gmail.com

Treasurer

Don Schoellig
955-4545
donschoe@comcast.net

Senior Deacon

Tyler Hart
(810) 493-4968
teachout1992@gmail.com

Junior Deacon

Jared Whitman
jaredwhitman@gmail.com
Lodge Education Officer

WB Jerry Preston

(810) 348-4777
jpreston11@gmail.com

Sr. Steward

Nic Custer
(810) 919- 4806
ncuster@Umich.ed

Sr. Steward

Roy Mejia
(810) 206-6363
roymejia19@gmail.com

Jr. Steward

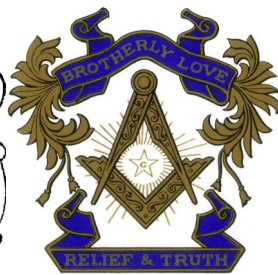
Eugene Herbig
(810) 394-3866
eugeneherbig@hotmail.com

Jr. Steward

Mark Sturtz
(810) 736-8918
marksturtz@hotmail.com

Tiler

Larry Whitman
lwhit4650@gmail.com



February 2026 Birthdays

- James Avery - 02/03
- Carl Davis - 02/07
- Andrew Champine - 02/12
- Bobbie Havener - 02/13
- Byrl Burris - 02/16
- Gary Childs - 02/24
- Randall Cochrane—02/24

March Birthdays

- Edward White 03/02
- Billy Trarop - 03/03
- Carl Ross - 03/04
- Nathan Bellville - 03/11
- Colonel Lake - 03/13
- Rady Walker - 03/15
- James Beal - 3/16
- Scott Wogen - 03/17
- Robert Garceau - 03/20
- Robert Conley - 03/21
- Eugene Cummings - 03/21
- Marcello Johnson - 03/26
- William Pailthorpe - 03/26
- Thomas Wickam - 03/30

Membership Statistics

127 Members

124 Master Masons

3 Entered Apprentices

If it has been sometime since you have attended lodge, We would be honored to see you again! Will you please join us at our next lodge regular?



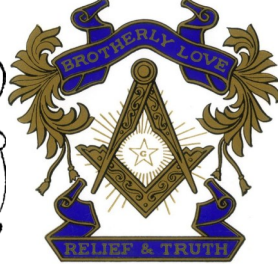
Upcoming Meetings & Events

Who	Date	Time	What
Grand Lodge of MI—Alma Michigan	Saturday, January 31st, 2026	10:00 AM	Grandview Training— Bring a laptop and/ or iPhone/Android
Fellowship 236 Swartz Creek MT	Tuesday, February 3	6:00 PM-Dinner 7:00 PM-Lodge	Stated Regular Communication
Vassar Lodge #153 MT Travel Opportunity!	Saturday, February 7th	7:00 PM-Lodge	MM Degree
Genesee Lodge #174 - Flushing MT Travel Opportunity!	Wednesday, February 11	7:00 PM-Lodge	Summons - School of Instruction Districts 15, 16 & 17
Fellowship 236-Swartz Creek MT	Tuesday, February 17	6:00 PM-Dinner 7:00 PM-Lodge	Lodge Education Special Communication
Swartz Creek Lodge #458 ,Swartz creek MT Travel Opportunity!	Wednesday, February 18	6:00 PM-Dinner 7:00 PM-Lodge	Round Robin - Worshipful Master Night MM Degree
George Washington Masonic National Memorial Travel Opportunity!	Friday, February 19th - Sunday, February 21st	8:00 AM-12: 00 PM 5:00 PM-9:00 PM	GW Symposium Gala reception & Banquet
Fellowship Lodge 236, Swartz Creek MT WM's, Wardens and PM's of Fellowship 236	Wednesday, March 25th	7:00 PM	District 16 BGP & DDI Elections

Lodge Education

Date	Curriculum
February 3rd	1st Degree Oath Discussion on Meaning Discussion: Masonic Dictionary & Glossary letters C & D <u>Assignment: Review 2nd Degree Oath</u> Page 46 & 47 Ritual Book <u>Assignment: Masonic Dictionary & Glossary</u> Words beginning with the letters E, F, G, H, I, J & K Page 134, 135, 136 & 137 + 144 & 145 Ritual Book
February 17th	2nd Degree Oath Discussion on Meaning Discussion: Masonic Dictionary & Glossary letters E, F, G, H, I, J & K Discussion: Alter and VSL <u>Assignment: Start Memorizing 3rd Degree Oath</u> Page 81, Lines 11 to 40 <u>Assignment: Masonic Dictionary & Glossary</u> Words beginning with the letters L, M, N, O, P, Q & R





Living Past Masters	
John Arnould	1986 - Fellowship 490, 2012 Fellowship 490
Andrew Borromey	1999 - Davison 236
Austin Conquest	2023,2024, 2025- Fellowship 236
Norman (Pete) Crane	2000- Fellowship 490
Jefrey Downing	2019-Fellowship 236
Andy Freeman	2018 - Fellowship 236
Philip Gean	1992, 2013– Fellowship 490, 2020,2021-Fellowship 236
Franklin Lamp	1983-Davison 236
Dave Martin	2002, 2008, 2009 - Davison 236
Don Millikan	2001, 2011—Davison 236
Ralph Murphy	1995, 1999—Fellowship 490
Dave Norris	1996, Fellowship 490
Jerry Preston	1995, Golden Rule 159
Lynn Ross	1984 Fellowship 490, 2017-Fellowship 236
Ronald Simmons	2003—Davison 236
Travis Schlosser	2022-Fellowship 236
Roger Wills	2003 Davison 236
Dustin Woodliff	2011,2015, 2016— Davison 236

Standing Committee Chairman Roster			
Committee	Chair	Phone #	Email
Masonic Home	Jared Whitman		jaredwhitman@gmail.com
Delinquent Dues	Mario Zepeda	810) 877-1331	OmegaZep@Yahoo.com
Property	Don Schoellig	(810) 955-4545	donschoe@comcast.net
Budget	Todd Lamb	(951) 473-7889	TLamb10@Comcast.net
Charity	Mario Zepeda	810) 877-1331	OmegaZep@Yahoo.com
Trustee	Jerry Preston	(810) 348-4777	jlpreston11@gmail.com
Sick & Visitation	Austin Conquest	(248) 245-5603	alconque48@gmail.com
Save the Flags	David Norris	(810) 730-2902	norrispi@gmail.com
Widows & Orphans	Tyler Hart	(810) 493-4968	teachout1992@gmail.com

Would You Have Knocked?

From time to time, it is useful to pause and reflect on the value of our Craft - not only in symbolic terms, but in practical ones as well. Consider this simple question: *If it had cost you \$2,588.00 to join Freemasonry, would you have done so?*

That figure is not hypothetical, on November 4th, 1752, a young George Washington petitioned to become a Freemason. His initiation fee was recorded as **two pounds and three shillings⁽¹⁾**, a significant sum for the era. When adjusted for inflation and economic context, that amount equates to **approximately \$2,588.00 in today's dollars**.

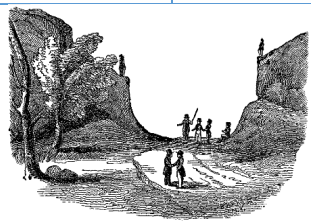
Washington believed the answer was yes. He saw enough value in the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth to invest materially in his Masonic future. He recognized that the Lodge was not merely a place to meet, but a school of character, discipline, fellowship, and service—one that would shape his life and leadership.

Today, our circumstances are far different. Once raised, a Master Mason remains in good standing in Fellowship Lodge with **annual dues of just \$125.00**. That modest sum supports the lights of the Lodge, our charitable efforts, our building, our ritual work, and the quiet but essential operations that allow Masonry to thrive in our community. When viewed honestly, it is a small price to sustain an institution that gives so much in return.

This is not said in reproach, but in candor and brotherly affection. Our Lodge depends on the faithful payment of dues to meet its obligations and continue its work. If you are a Brother who has not yet come current, I respectfully and fraternally ask that you please do so at your earliest opportunity. If circumstances make this difficult, reach out - we are, after all, Brothers.

Freemasonry has always required an investment. Compared to those who came before us, ours is modest indeed.

(1) Source: <https://gwmemorial.org/pages/george-washington-the-mason>



Brothers please take note in 2026, Fellowship Lodge 236 will not be going dark this year and will operate during the months of July and August!

