



May Newsletter 2025

Pyramid Lodge #238

District Nineteen, Louisiana Jurisdiction

## From the Worshipful Master's Corner

### WM Reflections

The month of May has been a productive month for Pyramid Lodge as we established an official schedule for degree work with current/future petitioners. And thanks to JW Souffrant's business expertise, we've also brought innovative ideas to the desk of our District Officers in regards to creating a more efficient way to report to the IRS.

We are successfully refining the foundation we proudly stand on to ensure continuous progression for years to come!

As we prepare for the 2025 Grand Session in the month of June, please keep those who are traveling in your prayers for safety.

### Wellness Tip

Sleep cannot satisfy all forms of exhaustion. Here are other forms of rest you may be missing:

- spending alone time without technology
- participating in artistic activities
- giving yourself permission to say 'no'
- exploring a new environment
- reflecting on the positives in your life
- prayer

Fraternally,

WM Eric Martin

## **From the Senior Warden's Corner**

*No Report*

## **From the Junior Warden's Corner**

*No Report*

Fraternally,

JW Lawrence Souffrant



### **Welcome New Members!**

N/A



### **Upcoming Events & Important Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location / Time</b>
June 9	Business Meeting	Zoom – 7:30 PM CST
June 12-15	Grand Lodge Session	Baton Rouge, LA
June 28	Louisiana Monthly Masonic Training	Zoom – 9:00 AM CST
June 29	St. John The Baptist Day	Zoom
July 26	First/Second Degree Work	Huntsville, AL – 8:00 AM CST



### **Member Spotlight:**

#### **Interview with Bro. Bobby C. Choate**

*Brotherhood in Action, Tradition in Motion*

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#### **1. What inspired you to become a Mason, and how has your journey through the Craft evolved since you joined?**

My inspiration to become a Mason began when I was a young child attending my grandfather's funeral. At the time, I didn't understand what I was witnessing—all I saw were men dressed in black and white, conducting a ceremony unlike anything I'd seen before. When I asked my grandmother what was happening, she explained that my grandfather was a Mason, and this was a Masonic funeral. That moment left a lasting impression on me.

Years later, while serving in the military, I was given the opportunity to join the fraternity. My journey through the Craft has been transformative. I've progressed from an Entered Apprentice to a Sublime Prince Mason, and each degree has revealed deeper layers of Masonic wisdom. The lessons have shaped my character, instilling discipline, empathy, and a strong commitment to community. Masonry has introduced me to lifelong Brothers—some I've known for over 35 years. That bond is truly a blessing.

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## **2. How do you interpret the core values of Freemasonry—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—in your daily life?**

I strive to live each day guided by the values of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. These principles help shape a man into a better person, a better citizen, and a more faithful Brother.

**Brotherly Love** means showing kindness, respect, and empathy to others, regardless of our differences. It's about taking care of one another.

**Relief** is more than financial charity—it's about being present. It might be as simple as calling or visiting a friend or neighbor, or offering support when someone is in need. As the scripture says, “To whom much is given, much will be required” (Luke 12:48).

**Truth** is the foundation of who I am. Honesty and integrity are non-negotiable. As we say, “*My word is my bond.*”

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## **3. Can you share a memorable moment or lesson from your Masonic experience that had a lasting impact on you?**

One of the most impactful moments I experienced happened while I was returning from leave during my military service. I had stopped at a gas station somewhere in Georgia. After arriving home in North Carolina, I realized my wallet was missing. I called the gas station but had no luck.

That Monday at work, I received a phone call asking for Sergeant Choate. When I confirmed my identity, the caller said, “Brother Choate, I found your wallet.” He introduced himself as a Military Policeman stationed at Fort Gordon—and also a Mason. He told me that everything was still in the wallet: my military ID, driver’s license, and even my cash.

I offered to reimburse him and asked for his address, but he declined, saying simply, “No need—just one Brother helping another.” That moment reminded me of the real meaning of Brotherly Love in action.

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## **4. What role do you think Freemasonry should play in today’s society, and how can lodges stay relevant for future generations?**

Freemasonry should continue to be a pillar of community service, leadership, and moral development. In today’s increasingly divided world, people are searching for unity, purpose,

and guidance. Freemasonry—one of the oldest charitable and fraternal organizations—has a timeless message that is more needed now than ever.

To remain relevant, lodges must focus on engaging and retaining younger members. That means offering a clear path to self-improvement and fostering meaningful Brotherhood. Embracing technology is also essential—using social media, websites, and virtual education tools to reach members where they are. Above all, lodges must remain active and visible within the communities they serve.

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## **5. How do you contribute to mentoring new members and preserving the tradition of the lodge?**

As a newer member of Pyramid Lodge #238, I haven't yet had the opportunity to work closely with new members. However, I fully understand the importance of mentorship in our Craft.

Every new Brother enters Masonry in search of knowledge, and it's our duty to guide them. A good mentor should be knowledgeable, supportive, trustworthy, and genuinely committed to helping a brother grow in understanding and character. I look forward to fulfilling that role and doing my part to preserve the values and traditions that define our great fraternity.

### **Education Corner / Masonic Light / Feature Article**

*"Honor, Remember, and Reflect."*

Memorial Day, observed on the last Monday of May, honors the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Its origins trace back to the aftermath of the Civil War, a conflict that claimed more American lives than any other, prompting the creation of national cemeteries.

This Memorial Day, we pause to reflect on the profound sacrifices made by the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. Their courage and devotion remind us that the freedoms we enjoy come at a great cost. May we honor their legacy with gratitude, humility, and a renewed commitment to uphold the values they fought to protect.

"Gone, but Never Forgotten"

PM Bryant

### **Sick and Distressed:**

N/A

### **Member Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Name      Birthday      Anniversary**

**None**

**Name    Birthday    Anniversary**

**Congratulations:**

Brother Willoughby recently got engaged on April 25<sup>th</sup>, and he is expecting a baby boy October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations, 2025 Seniors!

Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have brought you to this incredible milestone. As you close one chapter and step boldly into the next, know that your achievements are just the beginning of all the greatness ahead. We are proud of you and excited to see where your journey takes you.

Well done and best wishes for a bright future!

**Community Service: *No Report***

**May Awareness:**

**Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

**Jewish American Heritage Month**

**National Clean Air Month**

**No Mow May**

**ALS Awareness Month**

**Healthy Vision Month**

**Mental Health Awareness Month:**

Mental Health Awareness Month is important because it helps break the stigma surrounding mental illness, encouraging open conversations and understanding. It promotes education and access to resources so individuals can recognize symptoms and seek help early. By raising awareness, it supports the well-being of individuals, families, and communities as a whole.

In the photo below, PM Hosie J. Stephens III fraternity hosted a program on Men's Mental Health Awareness.



### **Quote of the Month:**

"Honor lies not in the title, but in the service rendered through it." – Anonymous Brother

### **Closing Words**

Attending Grand Session in June, whether in person or virtually, is vital for staying connected, informed, and inspired within our organization. It offers a unique opportunity to celebrate achievements, engage in meaningful dialogue, and strengthen our shared mission. Your presence ensures your voice is heard and helps build unity across our community.

As we welcome the summer months, remember to prioritize safety. Practice water safety around pools or beaches, and never leave children unattended. Enjoy the season responsibly and stay mindful of your well-being.

WM Eric Martin

### **Stay Connected**

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District Nineteen Website:

<https://district-19.github.io/Lodge-Website/>

Grand Lodge website:

<https://mwphglla.org/>