

In April of 2007, Milltown Lodge No. 294, Free and Accepted Masons, will be 50 years old. Our Lodge Members, now totaling over 150, look back with much pride to those years. As we enter our third quarter century, it is fitting to recall significant items, mainly in our early history, which have led us to the present.

The first “official” meeting to consider organizing a Masonic Lodge in Milltown was held at the home of H Bruce Bronson on Riva Avenue, sometime prior to 1957. Those present were: Edmund Davis, P.M.; H Bruce Bronson; Robert M Emig P.M.; Jerome E Emig, P.M. and Henry B. Bronson. Following the initial meeting, on January 5 1957, Brothers Edmund Davis; John Junker; Robert Emig; Alfred E Pritchard; H Bruce Bronson; Christian Jensen and Jerome Emig, petitioned Most Worshipful J. Herman Buehrer for a dispensation to form a new lodge in Milltown, to be known as Milltown Lodge.

On February 2, 1957, The designed officers met in Palestine Lodge No 111, Located then in New Brunswick, and satisfactorily exemplified the ritualistic work before R.W. Norman H Smith, District Deputy, and the Lodges in the 12th Masonic District.

On Tuesday, May 7, 1957, in Redmen Hall Lodge Room on the main Street, the coveted Dispensation was presented By R.W. August C Ullrich, Deputy Grand Master, authorizing us to work as Milltown Lodge, U. D. The Dispensation was signed on April 19, 1957, By Most Worshipful Raymond H Jensen, Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey.

Our first officers were:

Edmund M. Davis, P.M.	Worshipful Master
Christian Jensen	Senior Warden
H. Bruce Bronson	Junior Warden
Alfred E. Pritchard, P.M.	Treasurer
Jerome W. Emig, P.M.	Secretary
P. Lester Dayton	Chaplain
Robert E. Emig, P.M.	Senior Deacon
Charles E. Goodwin	Junior Deacon
John J. Holsten	Sr. Master of Ceremonies
Carlton W. Kuhlthau	Jr. Master of Ceremonies
Herman H. Newlin	Sr. Steward
George M. Andres	Jr. Steward
Fred C. Weller, Jr.	Marshal
Edward C. Beecher	Tyler
Raymond A. Fisher	Historian

The first regular communication of Milltown Lodge, U.D. was held in Redmen Hall Lodge Room on May 21, 1957. At that meeting a motion was passed to request \$7.50 dues to help defray expenses until a proper warrant was granted. Worshipful Master Davis also asked the members who had offered to donate Masonic furnishing for the lodge to do so that time.

On September 17, 1957, at the 10th regular communication of Milltown Lodge U. D., Our first 5 candidates received the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, namely Brothers James Mowery, Jr., Warren Kuhlthau, Charles Butler, John Christ and James Stolz.

The 26th and final communication of Milltown Lodge, U.D. was held on May 6, 1958.

Milltown Lodge No.294, Free and Accepted Masons, was constituted on May 17, 1958. A most impressive ceremony was conducted in the Masonic Temple in Plainfield by the Most Worshipful August C. Ullrich, Grand Master of Mason of the State of New Jersey, and his grand Staff.