

THE ATHELSTANIAN



ATHELSTANE LODGE No. 839 FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS INSTITUTED 1902

Naurashank Temple
2 South Middletown Road
Pearl River, NY 10965

Communications 1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Mailing Address: 18 Buena Vista Rd. Suffern, NY 10901

January 2011

M.:W.: Vincent Libone
Grand Master of Masons
in the State of New York

R.:W.: Louis M. Irizarry II
District Deputy Grand Master
for the Orange-Rockland District

December 29, 2010

Brethren:

You are cordially and fraternally invited to attend the following communications:

2178th STATED COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, January 4, 2011 at 7:30 PM

Officers Dress: Business Attire
Place: Masonic Temple, Pearl River, NY
Business: **ROBERT BURNS NIGHT.**

This is an open/public meeting

Time: Dinner at 6:30 PM; Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM

2179th STATED COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 7:30 PM.

Officers Dress: Tuxedo or Dark Business suit
(white gloves will be worn)
Place: Masonic Temple, Pearl River, NY
Business: **Business Meeting and Fellowcraft Degree**

Time: Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; Lodge Opens at 7:30 p.m.

On The Cover

A view to the East in the Renaissance Room on the 6th Floor of Masonic Hall, ,71 West 23rd Street, New York, N.Y.



WORK ON THE TRESTLEBOARD

AWAITING REPORT OF INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Major Frank Letizia Proposed by Bro. William Schroeder 4/2/2008
Mr. Robert E. Lysiak, Jr. Proposed by Bro Howard Whitman 9/15/2008
Mr. Michael B. Seidenfrau Proposed by Bro. Howard Whitman 7/10/2008

AWAITING ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

Mr. Andrew Jersey Proposed by RW Gene Erickson Elected 4/15/08

AWAITING DEGREE OF FELLOWCRAFT

Bro. Anthony Barbato	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Seth Geffen	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Mathew Kerewski	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Joseph Chapley	Initiated 11/28/06
Bro. Seth Lee	Initiated 10/05/10
Bro. Brian Gonzalez	Initiated 10/05/10
Bro. Eric Mateyka	Initiated 11/17/09

AWAITING THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON

Bro. Daniel E. Mateyka Passed 11/16/2010
Bro. Dennis T. P. O'Connor Passed 11/16/2010
Bro. Michael Albert Olmo Passed 11/16/2010
Bro. James T. Shanahan Passed 11/16/2010

SAD TIDINGS

EA Brother **Shlomo Geffen's** father died on December 19 and was buried in Israel. We extend our deepest condolences to the family and pray that all of our members keep the family in their thoughts and prayers.

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(Sad Tidings, Cont.)

Bro. Steve Marcus has had more than his share of health issues. Recently, his mother in law, who had lived with him for many years, passed away at age 97 after a long illness. In addition, **Steve** was in a car accident and injured his knee. If that wasn't enough, he is also suffering from arthritis induced pinched nerves in his lower spine which not only causes excruciating pain but it makes standing and walking almost impossible. On top of all that, during the treatments for his pinched spinal nerves it was discovered that he has spinal scoliosis, which causes his spine to lean to the right side together with bulging discs. He is now facing serious and potentially dangerous spinal surgery hopefully to avoid a possibly crippling outcome. All this on top of twenty prior surgeries. That's enough for any one person. Please keep **Bro. Steve** in your thoughts and prayers for a speedy and complete recovery .

GRATITUDE AND RECOGNITION

Special thanks to **Bro. Steve Carobis** visiting us from Warwick Lodge for his help in the Tree of Life

Millions of thanks - I can't say it enough times - to our wonderful photographers, **Sue** and **Rich Schwartz** for their extraordinary work on the pix from the party and from the Tree of Life.

SPECIAL - TLC Program

I previously mentioned that our Brother, **Colin Okenfull**, under the auspices of our DD, **R.:W.: Louis Irizarry II**, has brought us a new and exciting program from England, called "TLC" - Teddies Love Children. It started in the UK and is now here in the US. Basically this is a plan to give Teddy Bears to all young children who are admitted to hospitals - At this point Athelstane and other Lodges have each contributed for a box. We are trying to have the Masonic Logo put on the dolls. The program is in its initial stages. We will keep everyone advised on the progress.

THE FUTURE

Saturday, January 1, 2011 - Happy New Year!

**Tuesday, January 4th 2011 ... ROBERT BURNS NITE
AT ATHELSTANE LODGE ... OPEN MEETING WITH DINNER - LADIES NIGHT.** Start the New Year with the Athelstane

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(The Future, Cont.)

Lodge family in a traditional way with lots of good food and fun and *haggis* 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 18 ... FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE.
Dinner at 6:30. Lodge opens at 7:30. Come join us ! Our Athelstane ritual team will make you proud.

Friday, January 21 ... OUR ANNUAL ATHELSTANE LODGE FLORIDA LUNCH at Benvenuto Caterers, Boynton Beach from noon to 3 PM. Contact W. Harold Dresdale to confirm your reservation. 561-278-9507 or Luvsflog@aol.com

Tuesday, February 1st ... FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE.
Dinner at 6:30. Lodge opens at 7:30. Join us as our Athelstane Lodge ritual team shines again.

Friday, February 11 - Sunday February 13 ... MASONIC SAFETY ID AT RCC HOME & GARDEN SHOW ... *please mark this on your upcoming calendar ... we will need all the help we can get to process and ID children at this very popular and heavily trafficked event.*

Tuesday, February 15th ... OPEN MEETING ... DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT ... *"Rendezvous With Treason" ...* an evening you are sure to enjoy. A wonderful opportunity to bring some friends and potential members.

Thursday, April 14, 2011 – ANNUAL GRAND LECTURERS CONVENTION. Athelstane Lodge is the Host Lodge. Please make every effort to be present.

From Ye Old Secretary ...

Our thanks to all of the Athelstane Lodge Brothers for their holiday and New Year greetings ... and we hasten to wish for each of you and those you cherish all the best for the new year 2011.

We are especially impressed and appreciative of the number of Brothers who wrote an additional check for charity and included it in the mail along with their 2011 Athelstane Lodge Dues payment. Happy to report more than 50% of our members have already paid the 2011 dues ... please remember **DUES ARE DUE BY 12/31** each year.

Each year at "holidays time," when most of us tend to need to have our batteries recharged, I seem to get an extra shot of

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(From Ye Old Scribe, continued)

adrenalin (as opposed to my multi shots of insulin each day) when my Brothers and our ladies step up to do such commendable community outreach and service for one of our favorite local charities. I am, of course, talking about our annual Athelstane family "team" effort at the Hospice TREE OF LIFE at the Palisades Center Mall.

After our annual Holiday Party at Casa Mia Manor House, where we all had a grand and delectable night of socializing and dining and charity gift giving ... see our Master's Message ... our band of 12 Brothers, ladies and friends were tested as to how much we could collect and count and deliver to this deserving United Hospice of Rockland fund raising effort.

Suffice to say, the harried pre-Christmas holiday shoppers at the Palisades Mall were induced and seduced to contribute more than \$3,700 during the 76 hours we staffed the Hospice tables in this recession year of 2010. Another record effort by our "team" as we handily beat our record setting pace from last year when we raised more than \$3,200 of the \$90,000 collected for the Hospice Tree of Life promotion. Well done ! And we again received great complements and appreciation from Hospice executives **Amy Stern** and **Lanie Etkind**. I am sure our Master has conveyed the thanks of the Lodge to each of our team members by name, so no need to repeat that, except to say "THANKS TOO !" from me, personally.

And, lest we forget, special thanks to our own **RW Bruce Klein** and **W Ron Pomerance** for making the dinner party arrangements at Casa Mia Manor House in Blauvelt, to **Vilma** and her staff for their good food and good service, to **Susan Schwartz** for her time and patience and incredible photography skills (see this issue of the *Athelstanean*) and to **Bro Richie Schwartz**, DSA for obtaining the flowers and his generous help whenever asked ... and even when not asked !!! Those of you who were unable to be with us missed a grand night to remember!

CONGRATULATIONS to **ANASTASIA**, lovely wife of our own Bro **GLENN ZEMANEK**. She was all smiles at our holiday party for several reasons ... she celebrated **Glenn's** safe return from active military duty and her becoming a US Citizen !!! Continued good fortune **Anastasia and Brother Glenn**.

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(From Ye Old Scribe, continued)

SORRY to learn that Bro **STEVEN MARCUS** is still suffering great pain and possible surgery again. Our thoughts and prayers are with you **Bro Steve**. **W.: AL OSTER** facing hip replacement in January. Our thoughts and prayers are with you **AL**.

We heard from **SANDRA JOY** and **SANDY WEINBERG** ... both ladies were unable to accept our invitation to be guests of the Lodge at our Holiday party. We had hoped to see **BERTHA OSBORNE**, but she was "under the weather". We did see Bro **DAVID BLOCK** while we were rushing to get on line at the Post Office. **Bro. David** was in town for a few days visiting family for the holidays. And we had a nice note from **Bro. STANLEY DRESCHER** who attached a newspaper article detailing his effort to get the name of his adopted home "FLAGLER BEACH,FL" inscribed on the local water tower.

R.: **W.: HARRY SKY** called from Israel. **Harry** misses his Athelstane Lodge Brothers. Also spoke to Bro. **NORMAN GOLDBERG** now living back in Rockland at his home in Congers...and **EDIE** and **EUGENE FOLADARE** ... doing well at home in NJ.

And before we sign off ... **Joan** and I are looking forward to seeing our Athelstane Brothers and their ladies in Florida at our annual luncheon on January 21st. Please contact our **R.:W.: HAROLD DRESDALE** to confirm reservations. Athelstane Brothers are guests of the Lodge. Your guests are \$35 each ... payable by check in advance **PLEASE** to Athelstane Lodge. Mail to **Harold Dresdale**, 840 N W 21st Way, Delray Beach, FL, 33445.

Our boundless good wishes to you all for a healthy and happy and fulfilling New Year.

Hope to see you at Athelstane Lodge.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Ron Steiner

PS: It is always timely and appropriate to send a charitable contribution to the Lodge, or the Masonic Brotherhood Fund, or to your favorite charity via the Lodge Secretary, 18 Buena Vista Road, Wesley Hills, Suffern, NY 10901-1730 or to our Masonic Brotherhood Fund Chairman, Richie Schwartz:

19 Buena Vista Road, Wesley Hills, Suffern, NY 10901-1730.

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MASONIC SAFETY ID PROGRAM

THIS WILL BE A REALLY BIG EVENT AND WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO SIGN UP NOW ...

Sponsored by Athelstane Lodge No 839, F & AM; O-RDMA
and the Metropolitan Regional Masonic Safety ID Committee.

ROCKLAND HOME & GARDEN SHOW

Rockland Community College, Eugene Levy Field House

DATES AND SHOW HOURS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11th 3 PM to 9 PM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12th 10 AM to 9 PM
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13th 10 AM to 6 PM

Please contact the undersigned for scheduling of convenient hours.
Volunteers are needed for data collection, height and weight measures, data input, escorting and traffic flow.

Please let us know how you can help and hours most convenient:

Contact RON STEINER

845 - 354 - 4192

NYSMASON@AOL.COM

SPECIAL INVITATION

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

You and your Masonic Brethren, family and guests are cordially and fraternally invited to attend the annual Masonic celebration of the Birthday of our much beloved Brother and outstanding hero and patriot of the American Revolution, the first President of the United States of America, his Excellency George Washington, which will take place this year on Sunday, February 27, 2011 at the George Washington Headquarters National Historic site in Tappan, NY, The DeWint House.

This year's program will feature a living history play, **The Enemy within: Arnold Returns Home**, featuring Gary Petagine (Benedict Arnold) and Sean Grady (Captured Soldier) who are featured in their much acclaimed production of **RENDEZVOUS WITH TREASON ...** the events leading up to the infamous Benedict Arnold - Major Andre collaboration to surrender the plans for West Point. A standing room only gathering at the Carriage House Museum last year tremendously enjoyed that production.

(Over)

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In this year's production, after committing treason against the American cause, Benedict Arnold is made a Brigadier General in the British Army. In this performance Arnold has invaded New London, Connecticut (his home state). He debates with a captured American Continental soldier as a massacre unfolds at nearby Fort Griswold. Don't miss this event.

Dutch Treat Buffet Luncheon sponsored by Knickerbocker Chapter #13, National Sojourners, Inc. at:

The Old '76 House Restaurant,
110 Main Street Tappan, NY
Starting at 11:30 AM
Sunday, February 27, 2011

Special pricing of only \$25 per person including tax and gratuity for the "Champaign/Mimosa Brunch/Luncheon payable at the door."

Program at the Carriage House Museum,
DeWint House National Historic Site in Tappan
2:00 PM Sharp !

Hosted by the Grand Lodge Committee,
George Washington Historic Site at Tappan, NY
and the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Home

For further information contact:

Program details: - RW Norman Moon: 570-296-6339 or [nor-manm33@verizon.net](mailto:normanm33@verizon.net).

DeWint House information: RW Harold Jones : 845-359 - 1359 or hbjones3@juno.com

Luncheon information: RW Ronald J. Steiner, NY Grand Lodge Communications 845 - 354 - 4192 or nysmason@aol.com

The featured producers, writers and players :

Gary Petagine (Benedict Arnold)

A teacher for over 30 years, Gary has been a master teacher for the Living History Education Foundation for 8 years. He is a Colonial/Revolutionary War re-enactor with the 5th New York and has portrayed Patrick Henry, Gen. Richard Montgomery, and Sam Adams. Gary co-founded **A Living History: The Revolutionary War** at Carmel High School and has been featured in Putnam-Westchester County's Journal News.

Sean Grady (Captured Soldier)

A teacher for over ten years in Westchester County, Sean's "Living History" approach to teaching has been highlighted in The New York Teacher Magazine and other regional publications. He has been a master teacher for Living History Foundation for 8 years. He and Gary created **Flight of the Dark Eagle**- a course that allows teachers to walk in the footsteps of Andre and Arnold as their plot of treason unfolded in the Hudson Valley. He has performed over 50 theatrical productions across New York State.

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Athelstane Holiday Party 2010



L - R: Fellowcraft Brother Michael Olmo and his wife; Ms. Joan Silver; Bea Oster and W.: Al Oster, D.S.A.



Right: L - R: R.:W.: Arthur Fisch, Masonic Medical Research Laboratory; Ms. Lanie Etkind, United Hospice of Rockland; W.: Ronald V. Pomerance; Ms. Jill Warner, Jawonio; R.:W.: Melvin J. Birnbaum, Shriners Transportation Unit.



Right: L - R: Carolyn Metlitz, Sally Richards, Wanda Irizarry, and Rhonda Klein.

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Athelstane Holiday Party 2010



Above: L - R: R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner, R.:W.: Federico Larinnaga, R.:W.: Bruce D. Klein, R.:W.: Louis M. Irizarry II, W.: Ronald V. Pomerance; R.:W.: Marvin Gess, Bro. Howard Whitman, and W.: Allan P. Oster, D.S.A.



Bro. Richard Schwartz, D.S.A.



Bro. Glenn Zemanek

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Athelstane Holiday Party 2010



Above: L - R: R:W: Eugene Erickson and his wife, Mardy; R:W: Marvin Gess and his wife, Diane.

Right: W: David Richards and W: Nate Metlitz



Left: Marion Pomerantz, Fellowcraft Bro. Dennis O'Connor and his wife.

HOSPICE TREE OF LIFE



Above: L - R: Joan Steiner, Bro. Duncan Lee, Bro. Richard Butts, and R.:W.: Mel Birnbaum.

Left: R.:W.: Mel Birnbaum



Right: Fellowcraft Bro. Dennis O'Connor watches Bro. Richard Butts show how it's done.



HOSPICE TREE OF LIFE



Above, L - R: Bro. Duncan Lee,
R.: W.: Mel Birnbaum, W.: Ron
Pomerance, Bro. Doug Ward, and
Fellowcraft Bro. Seth Lee.



Above: Bro. Richie Schwartz, D.S.A.

Right: Bro. Mal Blotner, D.S.A.



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HOSPICE TREE OF LIFE



Above, L - R: R.W.: Mel Birbaum and R.W.: Ron Steiner.



Above: Joan Steiner

At Left: Bro. Doug Ward



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FROM THE EAST

Happy New Year!

Welcome, My Brothers, into 2011. I sincerely hope that each one of you, together with your families and all your loved ones had the Happiest and Merriest of Holiday Seasons filled with Good Health, Good Joy, Peace, Happiness, Contentment and Fulfillment of your desires. My wish for each and every one of us is for Good Health, Happiness, Peace and Prosperity in the coming New Year.

Our Lodge also had a Good and Fulfilling Holiday Season

The Holiday Party, held on Tuesday December 21 at Casa Mia Manor House was a smashing success and we are thrilled to have had the opportunity to present such an event. We had the Honor to have **Brother Glenn Zemanek**, on leave from his most recent deployment and awaiting his next deployment as our Honorary Flag Bearer during the Pledge of Allegiance. We also had the Honor and Privilege and Satisfaction to present charitable donations to several of our regular and favorite charities: **Jill Warner**, Jawonio CEO accepted \$1,000 for Jawonio; **Lanie Etkind**, Hospice Director of Development accepted \$1,000 for Hospice; Our own **W Mel Birnbaum** accepted \$1,000 for Shriners Transportation Unit, and **RW Arthur Fisch**, Secretary and Member of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Medical Research Facility accepted \$5,000 for the Masonic Medical Research Facility. It was very gratifying both from a personal standpoint and as a member of **Athelstane Lodge** to have made those contributions to such worthy causes. But in the final analysis, isn't that what Masonry is all about??

Sue Schwartz, photographer extraordinaire took pictures which appear in this Trestleboard. Thanks a million **Sue**.

The very next day, and as **Athelstane** has done for the past several years, a number of our members volunteered their time and efforts to staff the Hospice Tree of Life display at the Palisades Mall on Wednesday, December 22. I cannot begin to express my personal pleasure and Honor - and I am sure of the entire Lodge and also of Hospice for having the opportunity to work with Hospice at the Tree of Life and with such outstanding and dedicated volunteers and I sincerely extend my personal gratitude to those who worked there so

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(From the East, continued)

diligently from 1 PM to closing. Of course there was (in no particular order), the "MC", **RW Ron Steiner** and his lovely wife, **Joan**. Also working diligently was **W Mel Birnbaum**, **Mal Blotner, DSA**, **Bro. Richie Schwartz, DSA**, **Bro. Richie Butts**, **Bro Duncan Lee** and his son, **EA Bro, Seth Lee**, **FC Bro. Mike Olmo**, **FC Bro. Dennis O'Connor**, **Bro. Doug Ward** and **Bro. Steve Carobis** ("that great guy from Warwick Lodge"), and, of course, last but certainly not least, **Me** -

As result of those superb efforts **we collected \$3,674.71 for Hospice**, easily beating the \$3,200 which we collected last year. GO TEAM!!!

This time **Bro Rich Schwartz** was our photographer. I think he's taking lessons from his wife. Thanks **Rich**

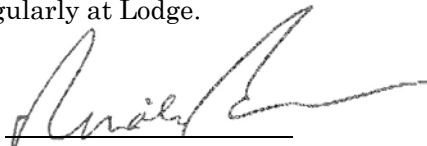
We race into 2011 with excitement and anticipation. For starters January 4 is for **ROBERT BURNS** (Lets Hear it for the Haggis!! - Three cheers - Yea!!, Yea!!, Yea!!), then **RENDEZVOUS WITH TREASON** on February 15. Between the end of January and early February we may confer as many as five more Fellowcraft degrees at which time we may have nine Fellowcrafts at which time we start working on the Master Mason degrees (GASP and RE-GASP!!!).

Looking a little forward, but very important the Grand Lecturers Convention will be held at Athelstane Lodge on Thursday, April 14, 2011. Since this Convention is at our own Lodge, it would be very appropriate and appreciated if we could have an exceptional turnout. Lets all do our best to attend. Please diary and save the date - it is very important

Again, I earnestly reach out to all of you, especially to those Brothers who we have not seen in a while. Come to Lodge. We miss you, we want you here and we need you. Pleae help us make Athelstane Lodge even more of a success than it already is.

Thank you in advance, my Brothers, for your interest and cooperation. We look forward to seeing you regularly at Lodge.

God Bless America!!



Ronald V. Pomerance, Master

Officers 2010-2011

W.: Ronald Pomerance (Marion)	Master
(845) 357-8388 thepommo29@aol.com	
Br. Howard Whitman (Joan)	Sr. Warden
(914) 772-4491 hmwhit@gmail.com	
W.: Allan P. Oster, D.S.A. (Bea)	Jr. Warden
(973) 831-2171 aloster711@yahoo.com	
R.: W.: Marvin Gess (Diane)	Treasurer
(845) 357-5366 mg@rossandgess.com	
R.: W.: Ronald J. Steiner (Joan)	Secretary
(845) 354-4192 nysmason@aol.com	
W.: David Richards (Sally)	Chaplain
(845) 357-3906 duvidr@aol.com	
W.: Alexander Mulgrew (Jennifer)	Chaplain
(845) 639-4664 alec.mulgrew@verizon.net	
Br. Richard M. Butts, Jr. (Eraina)	Sr. Deacon
(845) 356-1238 buttie735@msn.com	
Br. Douglas Ward (Tracy)	Jr. Deacon
(845) 304-9003 douglas.ward@ms.com	
Br. Federico Larrinaga (Marie)	Sr. Master of Ceremonies
(914) 500-5937 federico.larrinaga@use.salvationarmy.org	
Br. David McKeown (Colette)	Jr. Master of Ceremonies
(845) 920-8436 mckeown502@yahoo.com	
Br. Roy Powell (Michelle)	Marshal
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Br. Richard Schwartz (Susan)	Sr. Steward
(845) 354-2161 zjd10901@yahoo.com	
Br. Ronard Dumas (Pat)	Steward
(845) 426-0318 rondum465@aol.com	
V.: W.: Scott Allan Klein	Tiler
(845) 359-6787	

Trustees

R.: W.: Martin Lindenberg R.: W.: Joel Rosenwasser Br. Richard Schwartz D.S.A.

Committee Chairmen

Membership & Investigations, Scholarships: R.: W.: Bruce Klein - (845) 642-5559

Ritual & Degree Work: W.: Louis M. Irizarry III - (845) 661-0002

Masonic Safety ID : W.: Alec Mulgrew - (845) 639-4664

Brotherhood Fund: Bro. Richard Schwartz, D.S.A. - (845) 354-2161

Charity: Bro. Howard Whitman - (914) 772-4491

Entertainment & Collations: W.: Allan P. Oster, D.S.A. - (845) 642-7676

Surviving Spouse: Bro. Federico Larinaga - (914) 500-5957

Florida Luncheon: R.: W.: Harold Dresdale - (561) 278-950

R.: W.: Martin Lindenberg - (561) 274-3995

Telephone Tree: Bro. Dave McKeown - (845) 558-0237

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