

# THE ATHELSTANIAN



## ATHELSTANE LODGE No. 839 FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS INSTITUTED 1902

Naurashank Temple  
2 South Middletown Road  
Pearl River, NY 10965

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

## February 2012

**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**

February 1, 2012

Brethren:

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

**2203rd STATED COMMUNICATION**

Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 7:30 PM

You and your Masonic friends are cordially and fraternally invited to attend the conferral of the Sublime Degree of Master Mason and presentation of the Hiramic Drama.

Place: Naurashank Temple, Pearl River, NY  
Time: Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m.  
Attire: Officers - Formal with white gloves  
Brethren - Business

**2204th STATED COMMUNICATION**

Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

You and your ladies, family, friends and Masonic Brothers are cordially invited to an open meeting and dinner. Ladies Night - a special presentation on the Daughters of the American Revolution will be given by Marty Erickson, wife of R.:W.: Eugene Erickson.

Place: Naurashank Temple, Pearl River, NY  
Time: Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.  
Attire: Business

**On the Cover**

Statue of George Washington by John Quincy Adams Ward (Bronze, 1882).

Located in front of the Federal Hall National Memorial on Wall Street in New York City, it marks the approximate site where Bro. Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the United States on April 30, 1789. Washington was inaugurated on the balcony of the original building, which was razed in 1812. The current building was opened as the nation's first Customs House in 1842. A section of the original railing and balcony floor are on display in the monument.



## **WORK ON THE TRESTLEBOARD**

### **PETITION FOR AFFILIATION AND DUAL MEMBERSHIP**

W.: Alfred H. Denninger      Petition to be read in Lodge

### **AWAITING REPORT OF INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Roy Rizzotti                      Proposed by R.:W.: Lou Irizarry II  
and R.:W.: Ron Steiner 10/4/2011

### **AWAITING ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE**

### **AWAITING DEGREE OF FELLOWCRAFT**

Bro. Michael Anthony DePaolo	Initiated 10/18/11
Bro. Anthony Barbato	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Seth Geffen	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Brian Gonzalez	Initiated 10/05/10

### **AWAITING THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON**

Bro. Mark Howard Burke	Passed 11/29/11
Bro. Seth Lee	Passed 11/29/11
Bro. Mathew Kerewski	Passed 04/05/11
Bro. Eric Mateyka	Passed 01/11/11
Bro. Daniel E. Mateyka	Passed 11/16/10

Visit us at [www.athelstane839.org](http://www.athelstane839.org)

# THE FUTURE

- Feb. 7th                    Master Mason Degree.  
                                  Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; Lodge opens at 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 10th, 11th,        MASONIC Safety ID Program  
    & 12th                    Rockland Community College, Eugene Levy Field House  
                                  Fri. 3 - 9 pm; Sat. 10 am - 9 pm; Sun 10 am - 6 pm  
                                  Call R.:W.: Bruce Klein to schedule time (845) 642-5559
- Feb. 19th                Annual Grand Lodge George Washington Birthday Celebration  
                                  DeWint House, Tappan  
                                  Luncheon at Old '76 House— 11:30 a.m. \$25.00 per person  
                                  Paid reservations required in advance - contact our Secretary.
- Feb 21st                 Ladies Night!  
                                  Special Presentation: "What is the DAR?"  
                                  Presented by Marty Erickson.  
                                  Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
- Apr. 12th                Grand Lecturer's Convention  
                                  West Point Lodge  
                                  All Officers must attend; all brethren welcome.  
                                  Dinner at 6:00p.m.

## FLORIDA LUNCHEON

The Annual Athelstane Florida Luncheon was held Jan.26 in Boynton Beach, FL. Once again the Great Architect smiled upon us providing a beautiful day with a temp. of 78 degrees. It was most important to R.:W.: **GILES PURVIS** and his wife **MURIEL** who drove over 3 hrs. from the West coast to attend. There were 26 Brothers, Ladies & Guests in Attendance.

In addition to good food, good reminiscing and Brotherhood, well deserved 50 Year Awards were presented to Bro **CHARLES RUBACK**. R.:W.: **HAROLD DRES-DALE** had the pleasure of presenting the 50yr. Apron, pin and 50 Year Award Certificate. Bro. Ruback's wife, daughters and guests were present to celebrate his mile-stone in Masonry.

Thanks to **RONNIE FASSBERG**, wife of W.: **RICHARD FASSBERG** for being the official Luncheon Photographer. The committee would like to thank the Lodge for their support and to R.:W.: **RON STEINER** for his help in making the Luncheon a success.

And of course thanks to those who attended the luncheon:

Fred & Wilma Melamed  
Sandy Weinberg  
Charles & Mrs. Ruback & 5 Guests  
Joe Halfon  
Alvin & Janet Russell  
Jack & Barbara Greene  
Richard & Ronnie Fassberg

Giles & Muriel Purvis  
Bernard Goldberger & guest  
Hank Morris & Guest  
Irene Lindenberg  
Allan Eisenkraft  
Hal Dresdale

**FLORIDA LUNCHEON, *Continued.***



Seated L - R: Janet Russell, Alvin Russell and Harold Dresdale.  
Standing L - R: Muriel Purvis, Giles Purvis, Bernie Goldberger, and Al Sarfati



Seated L - R: Richard Fassberg, Joe Halfon, and Alan Eisenkraft.  
Standing L - R: Jack and Barbara Greene



Seated L - R: Hank Morris, Claire Freed and Irene Lindenberg.  
Standing L - R: Sandy Weinberg, Wilma Melamud, and Fred Melamud.

**FLORIDA LUNCHEON, *Continued.***



L - R: Harold Dresdale and Giles Purvis



L - R: Jack and Barbara Greene



L - R: Harold Dresdale presents Charles Ruback with his 50 year certificate.

**FLORIDA LUNCHEON, Continued.**



Charles Ruback surrounded by Family and Friends.



**MASONIC SAFETY ID PROGRAM**

One of our major community service outreach programs each year is the very popular Masonic Safety ID Program ... not just a Child ID ... which we help provide each year at the Rockland Home and Garden Show.

***FRIDAY, SATURDAY and SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 10th, 11th & 12th***

***25TH ANNUAL ROCKLAND HOME AND GARDEN SHOW  
EUGENE LEVY FIELD HOUSE  
Rockland Community College  
(Gene Levy was a Past Master of Athelstane Lodge)***

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS !!!**

**Please call R.:W. BRUCE KLEIN to volunteer - schedule  
hours at your convenience. (cell) 845-642-5559**

Visit us at [www.athelstane839.org](http://www.athelstane839.org)

## FROM DE OLD SCRIBE ...

TIDINGS ...

GLEANED FROM THE INTERNET, MAIL AND PHONE CALLS ...

Sorry to report that Brother **HOWARD BLEIWAS** is still hospitalized in Northern Westchester Hospital in Mt. Kisco with a spinal infection after a series of surgeries to correct various spinal difficulties. A call of good cheer to Howard would be most welcome: (917) 690 - 5278 Please keep Howard and his family in your thoughts and prayers for a complete recovery and a speedy return to his family.

Brother **PAUL TENDLER**, now a resident of Lake Worth, Florida, battling a recurrence of serious kidney problems and in need of our thoughts and prayers for a speedy and complete return to good health.

Brother **PHIL NELSON** battling a leaking heart valve causing aerial fibrillations in and out of the hospital and undergoing treatment with a new medication to hopefully alleviate the necessity of surgery. Please keep Phil in our thoughts and prayers for a return to a full and active life. Phil is a "regular" volunteer at our Hospice Tree of Life and Child ID events.

Brother **STEVEN MARCUS** is relentless in his battle to stand and walk pain free. Please keep Steven and his family in your thoughts and prayers for a return to good health.

Glad to see R.:W.: **BRUCE KLEIN** up and about after his recent hip replacement surgery and emergency gall bladder surgery.

Glad to see all the smiling faces in the pictures taken by **RONNIE FASSBERG**, wife of W.: **RICHARD FASSBERG**, at our January 20th Florida luncheon. Everyone looked so happy and relaxed. Special "THANKS AGAIN !!!" to R.:W.: **HAROLD DRESDALE** for all of his hard work in coordinating another successful Athelstane Florida reunion. See the article and pictures elsewhere in this issue of the *Athelstanian*.

Congratulations to **ESTHER THORNE**, lovely daughter of our good Brother **BILL THORNE**, who was named the recipient of a competitive award that recognizes outstanding scholastic, personal, and community achievement among students of African descent in Rockland County.

And pardon us while we bask in pride after the news that our grandson **MATTHEW STEWART**, daughter of Brother **RONALD** and **SHERRI STEWART**, has been named a Putnam County Youth Volunteer Award recipient.

Good to hear from Brother **DAVID BLOCK** who send greeting from his home in sunny Ruskin, Florida.

Congrats to **JOAN BIRNBAUM**, wife of our good Brother R.:W.: **MEL BIRNBAUM**, on completing her volunteer training and certification program as a Rockland County Long Term Care Ombudsman. In this volunteer role Joanie



***(From Ye Olde Scribe ... , Continued)***

will visit nursing homes and adult homes in the county to help resolve any concerns and complaints of the residents. As an ombudsman Joan will also monitor the quality of care, help protect residents' rights, work to ensure dignified and respectful treatment of residents, and encourage residents to participate in and have a voice in resident councils. Way to go Joan ... the Athelstaine Lodge family is proud of you and all you do as a volunteer in our community!!!

**NOBODY ASKED ME, BUT ...**

Everyone who attended Lodge on January 3rd had a sobering assessment of the complexities of modern war as described by our good Brother **GLENN ZEM-ANEK**. What a way to start the New Year 2012. Brother Glenn is soon off again on Special Forces assignment and we pray that the Great Architect of the Universe continues to keep him safe from harms way. Ditto Brothers **CHRIS DRESCHER**, and the father-son team of **ERIC** and **DAN MATEYKA**.

Our annual Athelstane **ROBERT BURNS NITE** was a huge social and gastronomic success. Everyone who attended had a grand time and those who missed it should certainly plan on attending the next one. The spirits were high and fun was paramount. Even the *haggis* provided by our good Brother **MIKE PE-TERS** of West Point Lodge was a hit with those who partook. Plan now to attend our next Ladies Nite and open meeting on February 21st when we will have a special treat ... after a special "Valentine's Day Dinner to honor our ladies, our own **MARTY ERICKSON**, wife of R.W.: **GENE ERICKSON**, will answer all the questions you ever had about the DAR ... the Daughters of the American Revolution. Should be fun! That is Tuesday, February 21st, Brethren, ladies, friends and guests welcome.

Special thanks to Brother **DENNIS O'CONNOR**, our new Senior Deacon (Congrats and well wishes !). Dennis has been doing a terrific job as our Athelstane Lodge Brotherhood Fund Chairman...and THANKS to all of you who have answered the call and sent in your contributions to the Lodge, to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund and/or to your favorite Masonic charities. ..all to good causes. Never too late to give charity Brothers ... it remains our truly distinguished Masonic cardinal virtue.

And thanks too, to all of you who have sent in your 2012 dues. There are still a significant number who have not sent dues as yet. Please ... postage and expenses for repeat past due notices keeps going up. We need your support. If you have not yet paid your dues for 2012, please send now. *Brothers in need of our assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS TO NOTE....**

Tuesday, February 7th - Third Degree; W.: **HOWARD WHITMAN** will confer the Third Degree. The Athelstane Lodge Degree team will perform the Hiram Drama. Dinner 6:30.

Visit us at [www.athelstaine839.org](http://www.athelstaine839.org)

*(From Ye Olde Scribe ... , Continued)*

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, February 10th, 11th & 12th - Our major community outreach **MASONIC SAFETY ID PROGRAM** at the annual Rockland Home and Garden Show. See announcement ad elsewhere in this *Athelstani*. We need all the help you can give...please call if you can spare a few hours. No prior experience necessary.

PLEASE contact R.:W.: **BRUCE KLEIN** - (845) 642 - 5559.

Tuesday, February 14th - A special invitation to all members of our Athelstane Lodge family has been received to attend the Grand Opening Celebration of the new **JOE RASO HOSPICE RESIDENCE** in New City 3 - 6 PM. Contact Laurie Bandremer at United Hospice of Rockland for further information. (845) 634-4974.

Sunday, February 19th - Annual Grand Lodge George Washington Birthday Celebration at the historic DeWint House in Tappan. Luncheon at the Old '76 House at 11:30 AM at \$25 per person. Paid reservations in advance required. Contact the Secretary for more information

Tuesday, February 14th - Ladies Nite - Open Meeting. Dinner at 6:30. **MARTY ERICKSON** will tell us all about the famed DAR.

Saturday, March 31st - 22nd Annual ORDMA Dinner Dance honoring R.:W.: Louis M. Irizarry II, District Deputy Grand Master of the orange-Rockland District and R.:W.: Bruce Wiegand, Grand Director of Ceremonies of the Grand Lodge of The State of New York. Dinner from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Casa Mia Manor House, 577 Route 303, Blauvelt, NY. Cost is \$60.00 per person. Athelstane Lodge is subsidizing the cost for brothers and their significant others—\$30.00 per person.

Thursday, April 12th - Grand Lecturer's Convention at West Point Lodge ... all Officers must attend. All Brethren welcome. Dinner at 6:00 PM

Sunday, April 22nd - The Annual Hospice Walk to Remember. Details will be in the next *Athelstani*.

Hope to see you at Lodge. Please remember ...

***THERE IS MORE TO BEING A MASON THAN SIMPLY PAYING YOUR DUES !***

All the best to you and yours,

Fraternally,

RON STEINER

R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner  
Secretary, Athelstane Lodge No 839 F & AM (Pearl River, NY)

18 Buena Vista Road  
Wesley Hills, Suffern, NY 10901-1730  
(845) 354 - 4192 [nysmason@aol.com](mailto:nysmason@aol.com) [Athelstane839@aol.com](mailto:Athelstane839@aol.com)



***Orange – Rockland District Masonic Association***

***22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dinner Dance***

***Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012***

***6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.***

***The Honorees of this year's Dinner***

***The R. .W. . Louis M. Irizarry II***

***District Deputy Grand Master of the Orange/Rockland District***

***&***

***The R. .W. . Bruce Wiegand***

***Grand Director of Ceremonies of***

***The Grand Lodge of The State of New York***

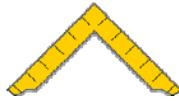
***Casa Mia Manor House***

***577 Route 303***

***Blauvelt, New York 10913***

***Price: \$60.00 per person***

***Athelstane Lodge is subsidizing the cost for brothers  
and their significant others - \$30.00 per person***



## FROM THE EAST

My Brothers:

January was a busy month. On January 3rd we had a special program honoring our military with our own Brother Glenn Zemanek as the guest speaker. This was a very interesting program, and we had participation by a number of our Brothers on their past military experience. On January 16th, we had a Past Masters meeting at La Terrazza which was well attended. On January 17th we had a fun Robert Burns Night with our Ladies and Guests.

We had two practices for the Master Mason Degree, on the 24th, and the 31st, in addition to the Charities Committee meeting on the 31st.

February will be an eventful month, as we are having a Master Mason Degree on Tuesday, February 7th at the Lodge. We expect this to be an exciting evening, and urge you to attend if at all possible. On February 21st, we will be having an Open Lodge with a special presentation by Marty Erickson, and the Ladies of the DAR on the subject of Geneology. We expect an excellent turnout, so please RSVP as soon as possible so that we have enough food for the Collation.

We have 2-3 new potential candidates, so I expect to have at least one EA Degree, and one FC Degree prior to our May elections.

As always, we welcome your participation in the Lodge, and any and all suggestions for programs that would be interesting and entertaining for the Brothers.

Fraternally,

W.: Howard Whitman

## Officers 2011-2012

W.: Howard Whitman (Joan) ..... (914) 772-4491 hmwhit@gmail.com	Master
W.: Nathan Metlitz (Carolyn) ..... (570) 409-6623 acm783@aol.com	Sr. Warden
Br. Douglas Ward (Tracy) ..... (845) 304-9003 douglas.ward@ms.com	Jr. Warden
R.:W.: Marvin Gess (Diane) ..... (845) 357-5366 mg@rossandgess.com	Treasurer
W.: David Richards (Sally) ..... (845) 357-3906 duvidr@aol.com	Asst. Treasurer
R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner (Joan) ..... (845) 354-4192 nysmason@aol.com	Secretary
R.: W.: Bruce D. Klein (Rhonda) ..... (845) 426-5856 bdkesq1@aol.com	Asst. Secretary
W.: Ronald Pomerance (Marion) ..... (845) 357-8388 thepommo29@aol.com	Chaplain
W.: Alexander Mulgrew (Jennifer) ..... (914) 643-2957 alec.mulgrew@verizon.net	Chaplain
Br. Dennis O'Connor (Cristina) ..... (845) 259-9805 nycmic@optonline.net	Sr. Deacon
R.:W.: Federico Larrinaga (Marie) ..... (845) 634-5082 federico.larrinaga@use.salvationarmy.org	Jr. Deacon
W.: Allan P. Oster, DSA (Bea) ..... (973) 831-2171 aloster711@yahoo.com	Sr. Master of Ceremony
Br. Richard Schwartz, DSA (Susan) ..... (845) 354-2161 zjd10901@yahoo.com	Jr. Master of Ceremony
Br. Ronard Dumas (Pat) ..... (845) 426-0318 rondum46@aol.com	Steward
Br. Michael Olmo (Natalie) ..... (845) 405-3663 m_olmo@yahoo.com	Steward
V.:W.: Scott Allan Klein ..... (845) 359-6787	Tiler
Br. Franklyn Gardner (Harriet) ..... (845) 359-3238 hleegar@verizon.net	Lead Conductor
R.:W.: Harold J. Dresdale (Karen) ..... (561) 278-9507 luvsflog@aol.com	Secretary Emeritus

## Trustees

W.: Alexander Mulgrew  
2011 - 2012

R.:W.: Joel Rosenwasser  
2011 - 2014

Br. Richard Schwartz D.S.A.  
2010 - 2013

## Past Masters

Ronald Pomerance	2010-11 Richard H. Fasberg	1984, 1991 M.:W.: Neil I. Bidnick	affl.
Alexander Mulgrew	2009-10 Gerald P. Rickard	1983 R.:W.: Daniel E. Jonas	affl.
Thomas Sassone	2008-09 Harold N. Eder *	1981 R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner	affl.
David Richards	2007-08 Barry Ronner	1980-82 Alvin M. Russell	affl.
Louis M. Irizarry III	2006-07 Eugene Foladare, DSA *	1979 Stuart Sindell	affl.
R.:W.: Bruce Klein	2005-06 R.:W.: Marvin R. Gess	1979 Arthur S. Vener	affl.
R.:W.: Louis M. Irizarry II	2003-05 R.:W.: Giles M. Purvis	1977 Harry Sky	affl.
R.:W.: Harry F. Anderson	2002-03 Norman J. Greenberg *	1976 Jay Hellgott	affl.
Harry E. Kramer	2001-02 R.:W.: Harold J. Dresdale	1976 George Liberis	affl.
R.:W.: Peter J. D. Dedel	1999-01 R.:W.: Martin Lindenberg	1975 Nathan Metlitz	affl.
Harry E. Kramer *	1999-00 Sander A. Letkowitz *	1974 M.:W.: Carl J. Fijtje	Hon.
Thomas P. Walden *	1997-98 Erwin L. Robbins	1973-74 R.:W.: Charles Antzelevitch	Hon.
R.:W.: C.F. William Maurer III	1997-99 Leonard J. Plotch *	1972 R.:W.: Hon. Benjamin Gilman	Hon.
R.:W.: Glen L. Weinberg *	1994-97 Henry Morris	1972, 1985 R.:W.: Albert E. Mealey	Hon.
R.:W.: Joel Rosenwasser	1993-95 R.:W.: Eugene W. Erickson	1971 R.:W.: Norman E. Moon	Hon.
R.:W.: Mel Birnbaum	1992, 1995-97 Charles K. Dunlop *	1969 R.:W.: Robert Blanke	Hon.
Anthony Urbinato	1987-88, 1990 Allan P. Oster, DSA	1969 * Tappan Zee Lodge No. 1125	
George Bielski	1986, 1989, 1992 Henry Chait *		
V.:W.: Scott A. Klein *	1984, 1992-94 Murray Kaplowitz *		
	1998-99 Robert Maitman *		
		1958	