

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

March 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

February 25, 2010

Brethren:

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

2183rd STATED COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 7:30 PM

Officers Dress: Business Attire

Place: Masonic Temple, Pearl River, NY

Business: **Business Meeting.**

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

2184th STATED COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 7:30 PM.

Officers Dress: Tuxedo or Dark Suit with white gloves

Place: Masonic Temple, Pearl River, NY

Business: **Master Mason Degree - To be conferred
Jointly with Warwick Lodge.**

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

On The Cover

Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin, Ireland.

Opened in 1869 as the current home of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.



Happy St. Patrick's Day !!





WORK ON THE TRESTLEBOARD

AWAITING REPORT OF INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Major Frank Letizia Proposed by Bro. William Schroeder 04/2/2008
Mr. Robert E. Lysiak, Jr. Proposed by Bro Howard Whitman 09/15/2008
Mr. Michael B. Seidenfrau Proposed by Bro. Howard Whitman 07/10/2008

AWAITING ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

Mr. Andrew Jersey Proposed by RW Gene Erickson Elected 04/15/08

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 |

AWAITING THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Bro. Eric Mateyka | Passed 01/11/2011 |
| 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

Though he was not a member of our Lodge, I would feel remiss if I failed to mention the untimely and unexpected passing of **R.:W.: Robert E. Morlang, Jr.**, Past DDGM for the Orange and Rockland District, and an Honored and Decent Brother. We should all keep the family in our thoughts and prayers.

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GLAD TIDINGS

W.: Allan P. Oster, D.S.A. is recovering from his hip replacement.

R.:W.: C.F. William Maurer III is recovering from his broken toe.

Speedy recovery to both of you. Hope to see you back at Lodge as soon as your health permits.

THE TLC PROGRAM

The TLC program is flourishing, under the watchful command of **Bro. Colin Okenfull**, under the auspices of our DDGM, **R.:W.: Louis M. Irizarry II**. Athelstane Lodge, as well as several other Lodges in this district have contributed for boxes of Teddy bears for the kids. Negotiations are presently under way with several hospitals and other medical providers to fulfill the object of this effort. We will keep everyone advised on the progress.

THE FUTURE

February 27th George Washington's Birthday celebration at the DeWint House at 2 PM. **Gary Petagine** (Benedict Arnold) and **Sean Grady** (Captured soldier) will provide "The Enemy Within - - Arnold Returns Home", a sequel to "Rendezvous with Treason", which was a smashing success at Athelstane Lodge which they performed on February 15. Admission is FREE.

March 12th ORDMA Annual Dinner Dance, 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM; at Otter Kill Golf and Country Club, Campbell Hall, New York.

April 14 Grand Lecturers Convention at Athelstane.

FROM YE OLD SECRETARY ...

NOBODY ASKED ME ... BUT...

I signed off my last column with a phrase borrowed from another Masonic publication ...

"REMEMBER ... BEING A MASON IS MORE THAN PAYING DUES !"

I'd like to expand on this thought for a few minutes of your time, please. At the present, our Athelstane Lodge has about 200 members; about 130 of whom still live within a reasonable commute to our Lodge. And while we get anywhere from 20 to 30 Brothers out at any given meeting, this is a little more than 20% of our membership ... and statistically, that is not a bad turnout. But for a Lodge as "young" and "active" as we in Athelstane, I think we can be doing better. How? By not being passive ... there are so many ways you can help! Let me remind you of a few.

Our February 15th meeting was a well advertised "Open Meeting"

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(From Ye Olde Secretary, Continued)

... a ladies night and entertainment with a very worthwhile historical docu-drama. If you weren't present you missed a great evening. Next time we have a meeting, plan ahead to attend ... and if you need a ride, let me know. There are Brothers who are willing to go out of their way to get you to Lodge. And you can help in this too.

Earlier this month, over a 3-day weekend, Athelstane Lodge co-sponsored a big **Masonic Safety ID (Child ID) Program** at the Gene Levy Field House at RCC ... we **ID'd** some 250 children and adults and we did a really worthwhile community service. Elsewhere in this issue I am sure there is a "*Thank You!*" and a list of the Brothers from Athelstane and our sister Lodges in ORDMA, as well as our ladies and family members and friends who turned out to support this effort. Nevertheless, going into this big event, our ID Chairman, **R.:W.: BRUCE KLEIN** had no idea what our coverage was going to be.

The way I saw it, we really should have had more support from our own Brothers ... even if just for a couple of hours anytime during the three days of the event, and it is only courtesy to call ahead and let the Chairman know you are coming. And the same can be said of any social function, or even a Lodge meeting. It is the right thing to do ... and it is a nice thing to do.

We can't leave it to the other guy ... Masonry begins with you!

This week there was a **Masonic Funeral** for our immediate past District Deputy Grand Master, **R.:W.: ROBERT E. MORLANG, JR.** Those who knew the dedication of this Brother can attest to the respect he earned. There was a large turnout of Brothers from throughout the area... a really impressive turnout, and Athelstane had a significant number of Brothers in attendance, but the way I saw it, we should really have had more of our own Brothers present.

We can't leave it to the other guy to attend a Masonic Funeral for a Brother ... this is a prime responsibility we all have as Brother Masons. Not being critical ... just a reminder.

There was also a **Masonic Blood Bank** in our District this month. Thanks **BRO. RICHIE SCHWARTZ, D.S.A.** and thanks **JOAN STEINER** for driving up to Warwick and contributing a pint of life. OK, not everyone can donate blood, but you can help in other ways ... in other significant ways.

As an example, you can send a tax deductible donation to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund or contribute to one of the deserving charities our Lodge supports.

You can call the Master and tell him you can be at the next meeting and assist in the degree work. Or you can call ahead and volunteer to help with the meal set-up for our pre-meeting dinner...or the cleanup before we go home.

Or you can call a Brother you haven't seen or heard from in a while

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(From Ye Olde Secretary, Continued)

and find out how he is doing. And you can send a card or give a call to a Brother on our "Sickness and Distressed" list.

The point of all this my Brother is simply this....

YOU can help because.... "Being a Mason is more than just paying dues!"

I hope you agree.

Elsewhere in this Trestleboard there are pictures of smiling faces of Brethren and Ladies attending our annual Florida luncheon. Why shouldn't they be smiling ??? Think back to the snow and ice of late January in Rockland County and we were very happy and lucky to be in Florida to break bread with our Athelstane family. Thanks again to our good Brother **R.:W.: HAL DRESDALE** for his work in making this such an enjoyable event.

Our **BRO. GLENN ZEMANEK (WO4)** has been redeployed on active military duty and is again headed overseas. We pray that the Great Architect of the Universe continues to watch over Glenn and our other members in the Military ... and their families ... that they be kept safe from harms way ... that their mission to assure peace is successful and they are able to return to their family and loved ones quickly ... and in good health.

Please keep those letters and notes and e-mail correspondence coming. Those who do not have their 2011 Dues card, please remit. Those who have sent their dues and their charitable contributions ... thanks!

Hope to see you at our next Lodge meeting March 1st and at our Lodge activities in the future.

REMEMBER ... BEING A MASON IS MORE THAN JUST PAYING YOUR DUES

Fraternally, *Ron Steiner*

R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner, Secretary, Athelstane Lodge No 839 F & AM
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Athelstane839@aol.com

THE FLORIDA LUNCHEON



L - R: M.:W.: Neal I. Bidnick, Joan Steiner, and Joyce Bidnick



L - R: Barbara and Bro. Jack Greene



L - R: Irene and R.:W.: Marty Lindenberg

“LUNCHEON”



L - R: R.:W.: Ron and Joan Steiner, and Sandy and Bro. Paul Tendler



L - R: Bro. Joe and Rhoda Halfon



L - R: R.:W.: Harold Dresdale and W.: Harold Eder

“LUNCHEON”



L - R: W.: Hank Morris and Bro. Allan Eisenkraft



L - R: Bro. Charles Ruback and Bro. Joe Feld



L - R: Sharri and R.W.: Oscar Peskoff, and Joan and R.W.: Ron Steiner

RENDEVOUS WITH TREASON



Front L - R: W.: Alec Mulgrew, Bro. Howard Whitman, D.S.A., Bro. John Gebbia, “Major John Andre” (Sean Grady), R.:W.: Lou Irizarry II, W.: Ron Pomerance, “General Benedict Arnold” (Gary Pettagine), and R.:W.: Marvin Gess.

Rear L - R: W.: Harry Anderson, Bro. Richie Schwartz, R.:W.: Bruce Klein. R.:W.: Ron Steiner, R.:W.: Joel Rosenwasser.

FROM THE EAST

The weather has not been our friend so far this year. We were forced to race through a fellowcraft degree at a special meeting held because of military commitments on January 11 and got out just as the storm hit. Our Master Mason degree plans were derailed by another snow and ice storm on February 1. I waited until the last minute before making a decision on postponement because not only were the members looking forward to it but the new brothers were also looking forward and I hated to disappoint all of them, particularly respecting two military members on re-deployment orders but the weather and road conditions were just too treacherous to risk possible accident and injury. For the same reason we had to postpone a Fellowcraft degree. Now we have to catch up and hold those postponed meetings and degrees.

(From The East, Continued.)



On the bright side, **RENDEZVOUS WITH TREASON** on February 15 was fabulous, fantastic, incredible. There aren't enough accolades for those two school teachers from Westchester, **Sean Grady** (Major John Andre, the British Spy) and **Gary Pettagine** (Major General Benedict Arnold -the American Traitor). We had a great turnout. If you weren't here you missed a good one .

We also had a great turnout at th MSID program which we held at RCC on February 11, 12 and 13, chaired and supervised by **RW Bruce Klein**, who did his usual fabulous job. I hate to take up all the space but I am compelled to mention and salute those who attended, brothers, friends, family members (in no particular order) : **RW Bill Plank**, **RW Bruce Klein** and daughter **Danielle**, **Bro. Richie Schwartz**, **Bro. Steve Carobis** (Warwick Lodge) and wife **Deirdre**, **W Luke Gordon** (Warwick), **W Dave Richards**, **Bro. Dave Goldstein** and **Bro. Oleg Boldgkev** (Arcadia Lodge, 7th Manhattan), **RW Ron Steiner** and wife **Joan.**, **Bro Michael Adler** (William Joseph Warren Gothic Lodge, 7th Manhattan), **W Harry Kramer** and sons **Simon** (DeMolay) and Simon's friend **William Munoz** (DeMolay), **RW Louis Irizarry II**, **W Harry Anderson**, **Bro. Edward Keer** (Westchester) and friend, **Nina Johnson**, **W Jay Helfgott**, **Bro. Oscar Alleyne** and **Bro. Adolf Radeljic** (Walkill Lodge), **Sandra Joy**, **W.:Mel** and **Joan Birnbaum**, **FC Bro. Dennis O'Connor**, **Bro. Mark Hansen** (West Point), **RWFederico Larrinaga**, **Bro. Ramands Fanning**, **FC Bro. Mike Olmo**, **W Jon Pufahl** (Arcadia Lodge), and finally, last but certainly not least, Yours Truly and Lovely Wife, **Marion**. Thanks to all. We processed nearly 250 children and adults. This stupendous event could not have been so successful without all of your help. Everyone should consider themselves as having accomplished an outstanding and blessed activity.

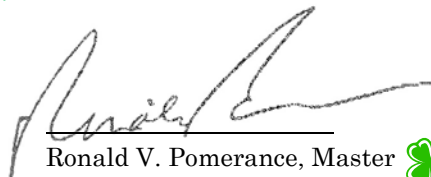
Now, on to business - Our first catch-up date is March 15, when we will conduct a joint meeting with Warwick Lodge and will confer Master Mason degrees on brothers in waiting from Warwick and Athelstane at Athelstane. This will be a good one. Don't miss it. Then on April 5 we will confer Fellowcraft Degrees. Also on Thursday April 14, April is the Grand Lecturers Convention hosted by Athelstane. 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. Please 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.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day !!!

God Bless America!!



Ronald V. Pomerance, Master



Officers 2010-2011

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
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| V.: W.: Scott Allan Klein | Tiler |
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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 Larrinaga - (914) 500-5957

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

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

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