

*M.: W.: Neal I. Bidnick
Grand Master of Masons in
The State of New York*

*R.: W.: Joseph R. Leo
District Deputy Grand Master
Orange-Rockland District*



Athelstane Lodge No 839, F & A.M.

Pearl River Masonic Hall
2 South Middletown Road
Pearl River, NY 10965

W.: David L. Richards, Master
E-Mail-Duvidr@aol.com

Issue # 9

May 2008

The Athelstanian

Brethren:

you are cordially and fraternally invited to join us at our next two Stated Communications:

Our 2127th Stated Communication will be held on Tuesday May 6th 2008 at the Pearl River Masonic Lodge. Lodges Dinner at 6:30 PM and Lodge Opens at 7:30. Program for the Evening will be a Wine and Cheese Open House for new potential Brothers

A Summoned Communication will be held on Tuesday, May 20th, 2008. The Program for the Evening will be the Election of Officers for 2008-2009. Dinner at 6:30 PM, Lodge opens at 7:30 PM

at the Naurashank Masonic Temple located in Pearl River, NY. for the transactions of such business as may regularly and constitutionally be brought before it.



From the Master's Chair

Well my Brothers, this is my Final Trestleboard. When you receive this, I will be closing out my year and we will be preparing to hold our elections for the incoming line of Officers. For those who are not aware, this was one of the most rewarding years of my Masonic Career. I am proud of the work that the lodge and our officers did. I only wish that I could stay on. However, I know that the next year under the leadership of Br. Sassone will be a very exciting time. At a Past Master's Meeting, he outlined his vision for the future as well as the officers that will carry and support the vision. Many great things are in store for Athelstane and nothing should hold us back. Please join us as we continue to travel this road of masonry. Our new Master will discover anew that the craft and this fraternity are made up of the finest individuals that you would ever want to associate with. Our only differences are in the length of our cable

tows depending on our lives and different vocations. Several years ago, I made a conscious decision to remove myself from the line due to my cable tow at work. I owe it to W Louis Irizarry II for helping bring me back into line once that cable tow became pliable. It is something that I will be forever grateful for. I owe my wife Sally and daughter Jillian everything for their support during the last two years. In addition, I owe many thanks to the Officers, Brothers and Friends at Athelstane who supported me and counseled me during my Mastership.

If I had any message to give to the incoming Master, it would be to remember that there is quite a bit of gold to be mined in the Lodge. The gold is the Brothers that belong to the Lodge. In our process to make good men better, we need to put their collective energy and talents to work for the good of the Lodge and the Craft. Also, remember your vision and don't stray from your path. Let your legacy be education, brotherhood and the Masonic Charges from our Degrees. In closing, one more thought, enjoy every minute because it goes so very fast. Good Luck and Make Us Proud. To my Brothers, BE WELL!

Important Info:

www.athelstane839.org –web site
Emerg. Lodge # (845) 735-4336
Secretary: R.: W.: Ronald Steiner
18 Buena Vista Road Wesley Hills
Suffern, NY 10901-1730 (845) 354-
4192 NYSMASON@aol.com

A personal message from the Master

There is a quote by the comic Stephen Wright who said: "I intend to live forever, so far, so good." It would be nice to be Master forever, but that is not possible. The time has come time to wish my successor a hearty mazel tov and ask all of you to support him. The election on May 20th and Installation on June 3rd will bring a new Master, a new vision and a new energized Team. Many doors were opened this past year as in the preceding years, but there are many more to open. Many programs and opportunities remain. This is an exciting time to be a Mason and may this wonderful journey continue for you and your families. I will see all of you around Lodge and let's continue to live up to the values listed in each of the Degree Charges instilled within us as moved up in our path to become Master Masons.

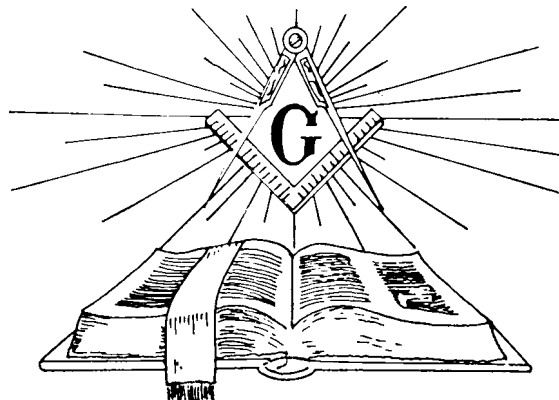
*Your Brother and proud Athelstane Mason;
W.: David L. Richards*



Athelstane Lodge No. 839—Officers 2007-2008

- Worshipful Master** ----- **W.: David L. Richards**
(845) 357-3906 duvidr@aol.com (Sally)
- Senior Warden** ----- **Bro. Thomas Sassone**
(845) 425-2743, tsassone@ms-law.us (Ada)
- Junior Warden** ----- **Bro. Alec Mulgrew**
W (845) 639-4664 amulgrew@ms-law.us (Jennifer)
- Secretary**----- **R.: W.: Ron Steiner** (Joan)
(845) 354-4192, NYSMASON@aol.com
- Treasurer** ----- **R.: W.: Marvin Gess** (Diane)
(845) 357-5366, MG@RossandGess.com)
- Senior Deacon** ----- **Bro. Howard Bleiwas**
H (845) 362-3604, howard.bleiwas.verizon.net (Cynthia)
- Junior Deacon** ----- **Bro. John Gebbia III**
H (914) 414-9440 OR_District.Mason@yahoo.com
- Senior Master of Ceremonies** ----- **Bro. David McKeown**
(845) 558-9237 (Colette)
- Junior Master of Ceremonies** ----- **Bro. Shannon Heithcock**
- Stewards** ----- **SR. Bro. Richie Schwartz, DSA** (Susan)
(845) 354-2161
- Bro. Adam Metlitz**
Bro. Bruce Budofsky
Bro. Ron Pomerance (Marion)
Bro. Antonio Reda
Bro. Howard Whitman

- Chaplain** ----- **W.: Louis M. Irizarry, III**
(Rebecca)
(845) 359-9550 Blaqsheep96@aol.com
W.: Louis M. Irizarry, II (Wanda)
(845) 359-9550 Athelsanian839@yahoo.com
V.: W.: Scott Allan Klein
(845) 359-6787
- Marshal**----- **W.: Nate Metlitz** (Carolyn)
(845) 406-3335
Br. Peter Berkowitz
(845) 353-4123
Br. Ronard Dumas (Pat)
Patandron@aol.com
- Tiler** ----- **V.: W.: Scott Allan Klein**
(845) 359-6787
- Trustees** ----- **Bro. Richie Schwartz** (Susan)
R.: W.: Martin Lindenberg (Irene)
(845) 359-1157
R.: W.: Joel Rosenwasser
(845) 354-9467



Sickness & Distress

Br. Steve Marcus underwent Open Heart/Triple Bypass on April 10th. We continue to pray for his complete and rapid recovery. Br. Ronard Dumas' Mother-In-Law Annie Boyd was called to the Great Architect of The Universe in April. Our prayers went out to Patricia his wife and the entire family.

Glad Tidings

Congratulations and Welcome to our brand new Master Masons Brother Jorge Cupeles and Brother Jason Seebach. Simon Kramer (son of W Harry/Claudia Kramer/grandson of Br. Lawrence/Ronnie Kramer) was elected Jr. Councilor of Demolay (Ethan Allen Chapter). RW Al Mealey reports that being made honorary member of Athelstane still stands out as one of his greatest Masonic achievements. W Dick Fassberg is getting better and sends his regards from FL. Congrats to W Bruce Klein on being nominated to be a Commissioner of Appeals by MW Neil I. Bidnick. Br. Ed Treschante is in Florida and proud of his 50 yrs in Masonry. RW Martin Lindenberg, snow bird has come back to his home nest and we welcome him back as well as the rest of our Florida Brothers. RW Harry Sky recovered in FL and returns to NY. W. Anthony Urbinato sends his warm wishes from Las Vegas.

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Brotherhood Fund Committee and Our Duty Overall

In this my closing Trestleboard, let me personally thank VW Scott A Klein on his work on behalf of the Brotherhood Fund. It is a result of his leadership in this area as well as the generosity of our brothers that make this a successful Program

Livingston Library- Check it Out!

There is a great Masonic Reading Course available without cost to any Mason.—great for newly raised Brothers. Contact Brother, R.:W.: Tom Savini at: tmsavini@nymasoniclibrary.org



Living Past Masters of Athelstane Lodge No 839

W.: Louis M. Irizarry, III... 2006-2007

W.: Bruce D. Klein ... 2005-2006

W.: Louis M. Irizarry, II... 2003-2005

W.: Harry F. Anderson... 2002-2003

W.: Harry E. Kramer... 2001-2002

R.:W.: Peter J. D. Dedel ... 1999-2001

W.: Harry E. Kramer – TZ...1999-2000

W.: Thomas P. Walden - TZ ...1997-98

R.:W.: C. F. William Maurer III ... 1997-99

R.:W.: Glen L. Weinberg - TZ ...1994-97

R.:W.: Joel Rosenwasser... 1993-95

R.:W.: Mel Birnbaum... 1992, 1995-97

W.: Anthony Urbinato... 1987-88, 1990

W.: George W. Bielski. . . . 1986,1989,1992

V.:W.: Scott Allan Klein – TZ...1984, 1992-94, 1998-99

W.: Richard H. Fassberg ... 1984, 1991

W.: Gerald P. Rickard... 1983

W.: Harold N. Eder - TZ ...1981

W.: Barry Ronner... 1980-82

W.:Eugene Foladare, DSA –TZ... 1979

R.:W.: Marvin R. Gess... 1979

R.:W.: Giles M. Purvis... 1977

W.: Norman J. Greenberg - TZ ...1976

R.:W.: Harold J. Dresdale...1976

W.: David Nenner - TZ ...1975

R.:W.: Martin Lindenberg...1975

W.: Sander A. Lefkowitz - TZ ...1974

W.: Erwin L. Robbins... 1973-74

W.: Leonard J. Plotch - TZ ... 1972

W.: Henry Morris...1972, 1985

R.:W.: Eugene W. Erickson...1971

W.: Charles K. Dunlop – TZ...1969

W.: Allen P. Oster...1969

W.: Henry Chait - TZ ...1967

W.: Morton Baron...1967

W.: Murray Kaplowitz - TZ ...1965

W.: Robert Maidman - TZ ...1958

M.:W.: Neil I. Bidnick ...affl.

R.:W.: Daniel E. Jonas, PDDGM...affl

R.:W.: Harry Sky, affl

R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner...affl

W.: Jay Helfgott, affl

W.: George Liberis, affl.

W.: Nate Metlitz, affl

W.: Alvin M Russell...affl

W.: Arthur S. Vener...affl

M.:W.: Carl J. Fitje...Hon.

R.:W.:Dr. Charles Antzelevitch...Hon

R.:W.: Robert Blanke, PDDGM..Hon

R.:W.:Hon. Benjamin A. Gilman...Hon

R.:W.: Albert E. Mealey...Hon

R.:W.: Norman E. Moon...Hon



Calendar Of Significant Events

Monday, April 28th is ORDMA at Hoffman Lodge. 6:30 PM dinner & 7:30 PM Meeting. Important for candidates running for ORDMA Office

Tuesday, April 29th is a Guild Meeting at the Lodge at 6:30 PM. All Athelstane Members in good standing are invited.

Sunday, May 4th—Radio City Music Hall—DIVAS With Heart Benefit Concert for the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. Performances at 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM

Monday, May 5th—Tuesday, May 6th—Grand Lodge Convention, NY City—227th Annual Communication

Tuesday, May 6th Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM. Program is Wine/Cheese Reception for New and Potential Brothers.

Tuesday, May 13th is Charity & Contributions Committee—6:15 PM—Pearl River Masonic Lodge

Tuesday, May 20th—SUMMONED COMMUNICATION—Dinner at 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM. Program is Annual Election of Officers

Tuesday, June 3rd is Installation of Officers. Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM. OPEN TO PUBLIC.

Tuesday, June 17th is Year-End Meeting—View on The Hudson in Piermont, NY is tentative location

HAVE A FANTASTIC SUMMER

Athelstane Lodge No. 839 Pride Items

Order now your Athelstane shirts, please e-mail or call W.: Louis M. Irizarry, II; for price info call (845) 359-9550 or e-mail Athelstane839@Yahoo.com . We are presently taking orders for the 7th Order of Shirts. Colors available; Navy, Black, White, and Royal Blue. No pockets, sorry! Name embroidered \$5.00 extra.

**Athelstane Lodge No. 839
F & A.M.**

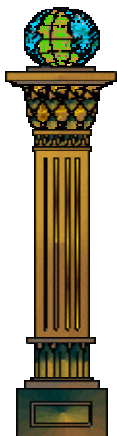


Pearl River, New York

Shirt prices ranged from
\$38.00 for S,M,L,XL
\$40.00 for 2XL
\$42.00 for 3XL
\$44.00 for 4XL
For Name embroidered on right chest add \$5.00



Brothers in Waiting for Degrees



Entered Apprentice Degree
Mr. Andrew M. Jersey

Fellowcraft Degree
Bro. Joseph Chapley
Bro. Roy Richard Powell

Master Mason Degree
Bro. Frank Sparaco
Bro. Christopher Considine



Petitions Awaiting Investigation and Ballot

Mr. James T. Shanahan
Mr. Frank Joseph Letizia, Jr.



**PLEASE LET THE WORSHIPFUL
MASTER OR SECRETARY KNOW OF
ANY POTENTIAL BROTHERS WHO
WISH A PETITION.**

**In addition, please let the Worshipful Mas-
ter know of any Brother or Masonic Family
who are in need of assistance. We want to be
there for each those who need us.**



Child
Identification
Program

**Looking for volunteers
and new CHIP sites!**

If you have an idea and can
assist, please contact
Bro. John Gebbia @
Athelstane_Mason@yahoo.com

**Please don't for-
get your dues for
2008. Thank you to
all those who have
paid accordingly.**





Br. John S. Gebbia III, right, thanks Athelstane Brother RW. Ben Gilman for the huge influence the former congressman had on his life.

Simon Kramer, son W Harry Kramer and Claudia receives his Councilor on Sunday, April 6, 2008 for Ethan Allen Chapter of DEMOLAY. He is also the Grandson of Br. Lawrence and Ronnie Kramer



April 13th, 14 Athelstane Brothers and Ladies took part in the United Hospice Walk/Run at Rockland Lake in Congers, NY. This annual benefit event brings out many runners, walkers and strollers for a great cause.



On April 1, 2008, we raised Br. Jorge Cupeles and Br. Jason Seebach to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The Third Degree was performed with the assistance of both W Louis Irizarry III as Senior Deacon and W Louis Irizarry II as Chaplain. Both W Irizarrys also worked on the Team led by RW Joel Rosenwasser and RW Ronald Steiner. In fact, the entire evening was made successful by a great performance by all the Brothers that appeared that evening. These two new Brothers were raised by Athelstane Spirit—a Brotherly connection that will carry them for the rest of their lives. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

Dear David,

Many thanks for all your interest and concern during these last months. I'm happy to report that chemo treatments are going well and I hope to be beyond that experience in June. It has been a pleasure to re-connect, thanks to your efforts. I congratulate you on your fine year as Master and hope it was as pleasurable as mine was a long time ago.

I have been living in Florida for 12 years and have attended a few lodges here. How proud I am to be a part of Athelstane Lodge these last 40 years and to be associated with the finest group of gentlemen and brothers!

Fraternally,
Dick Fassberg

For May 2008 *ATHELSTANIAN*

FROM THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG ...

Good to hear from Brother **Bob Carmen**. Bob sends his fraternal greetings to all of his Athelstane Brothers. Bob wants all to know he follows Athelstane Lodge's activities and growth via the *ATHELSTANIAN* with great interest and pride!

Happy to report that our Brother **Steve Marcus** is home again after a long battle and post-operative scare following six hour, six vessel cardiac by-pass surgery. Steve almost bled out from a perforated ulcer while still in ICU, but thankfully he has responded well after taking six pints of blood. A lot of "sixes" here, but three times six is "chi" and let's hope that means a long and healthy life for Steve and his family.

We heard from our Honorary **Brother RW Ben Gilman** this week. Ben wanted to thank all of his Brother Masons for the wonderful turnout and tribute to him on the opening and the Masonic Dedication of the Gilman Center for International Education at Orange County Community College last month. Our Athelstane Brother MW **Neal Bidnick** conducted the Masonic ceremonies in his capacity as Grand Master with the assistance of RW **Ed Gilbert**, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand line.

RW **Marty Lindenberg** and Irene have returned from Florida and Marty is looking forward to being with all of his Athelstane Brothers at our next meeting. Welcome home!

We all wish RW **Bill Maurer** much success as he begins a new, part-time career as the docent in charge of the historic Wortendyke Barn in Bergen County, NJ. Add that to his activities as Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee for the historic DeWint House Washington Headquarters in Tappan, and President of Knickerbocker Chapter No 13, National Sojourners, and his assistance with arrangements for the military presence at Grand Lodge ... Bill is a busy guy.

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT,

Well done W Brother **David Richards** as you reach the conclusion of your year as Master of Athelstane Lodge. This has been a year filled with well planned and executed programs to keep our Lodge active, interesting, and growing. As the good mentor for our line of Officers, Dave has done a terrific job in laying out the plans on the Trestleboard and communicating them to our membership.

Well done W Brother **Bruce Klein** as you step down after two years as the President of ORDMA, the Orange-Rockland District Masonic Association. Bruce and his team of Officers did us proud and did themselves proud for all of their accomplishments these past two years. We all extend hearty congratulations as well, on Bruce's upcoming confirmation at Grand Lodge on his appointment as a Grand Lodge Commissioner of Appeals ... a very prestigious position.

(continued)

Well done RW **Joe Leo** and RW **David Blasch** as you conclude your terms as the leadership team in our Masonic District... Joe as District Deputy Grand Master, and David as Grand Director of Ceremonies. You Brothers have set a new high water mark for accomplishments and shown most dynamically how these jobs should be done.

Grand Master **Neal Bidnick** ... WELL DONE in capitol letters. In my 54 years in the craft you have been the most active and successful Grand Master I can remember. You have set our craft on a new course of growth and personal fulfillment ... a new course of education and Masonic development ... and a new, higher level ... a professional level of communications, public relations, community outreach and awareness. It has been a personal pleasure to serve the craft under your leadership and we look forward to welcoming you "home" to Athelstane Lodge.

By the time this reaches most of our Athelstane Lodge membership, our new Grand Lodge Officers will be in place. One of the first items on the agenda for our new Grand Master, MW **Edward Gilbert**, will be his confirmation of appointments of new Grand Lodge Officers. So it should be OK to now publicly congratulate our Athelstane Brother, the new Right Worshipful **Louis Irizarry II**, on his appointment by the Grand Master as our new Grand Lodge Staff Officer for the Orange-Rockland District. We all wish Lou and his family good health, much success and a good journey as he begins this new opportunity to serve our Grand Lodge, our District and our Lodge. Ditto to our new RW **Robert "Bob" Morlang, Jr.** on your appointment as District Deputy Grand Master.

On a personal note, I must mention the passing of my close friend and colleague RW **Walter Gillis** whom some of our Athelstane Brothers will remember. For the last ten years Walter Gillis has been as close as a blood Brother ... or more. We served as Trustees together and Walt was my right hand and confident when we served as PR Chairman at Grand Lodge and then when I was elevated to Communications Umbrella Chair he succeeded me as PR/Publicity Chairman. You may recall Walt was our contact to the Diamond Thistle Degree team ... and he participated. We were often taken as Brothers because we looked so much alike. There were times when we were asked to introduce ourselves at Masonic meetings and he would stand and announce that he was "Ron Steiner, Chairman of Public Relations for Grand Lodge" ... and then I would stand and say, "My name is Walt Gillis and I work with Ron." This has been a sad, sad six weeks for Walt's family and mine. I pray that Walt is at peace. Well done my Brother.

Fraternally,

Ron
Ronald J. Steiner
Secretary