

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

May 2015

M.:W.: William J. Thomas
Grand Master of Masons
in the State of New York

R.:W.: Bruce M. Wiegand
District Deputy Grand Master
of the Orange-Rockland District

2273rd STATED COMMUNICATION

Athelstane Lodge No. 839

A SPECIAL EVENING OF MASONIC EDUCATION

Tuesday evening, May 5, 2015

Pearl River Masonic Temple
2 South Middletown Road, Pearl River N.Y.
Dinner and social hour begins at 6:30 PM
Lodge opens promptly at 7:30 PM

Brethren,

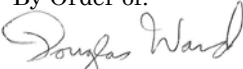
The work on the Trestleboard for this evening will be a double header ... first, there will be a special interactive program conducted by our Master, **W.: DOUGLAS WARD** with Brothers of the Lodge, based on a very significant and relevant lecture entitled, "**BEST MASONIC PRACTICES**".

The second part of the program this evening will be the exchange of the **Questions and Answers** of the Third Degree by **W.: DOUGLAS WARD** and Bro **MICHAEL OLMO**. *This is a mandatory part of the ritual associated with the Third Degree and must be given to newly raised Brothers at their raising or a subsequent meeting.* All Brothers raised in the past year are strongly urged to attend. For all Brothers, a warm and fraternal invitation is extended for you and your Masonic friends to join us.

Please note we will resume the regular starting time for our dinner, social hour and Lodge opening on this evening. Reception and a special *Cinco De Mayo* buffet dinner and social hour begins at 6:30 this evening; Lodge opens at 7:30 sharp. Please join us !

Officers Dress: Business Suit

By Order of:


W.: Douglas Ward
Master



Attest:



R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner
Secretary

2274th STATED COMMUNICATION

Athelstane Lodge No. 839

A SUMMONED COMMUNICATION

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 201 - 2016

ANNUAL MEETING AND REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Tuesday evening, May 19, 2015

Pearl River Masonic Temple
2 South Middletown Road, Pearl River N.Y.
Dinner and social hour begins at **6:00 PM**
Lodge opens promptly at **7:00 PM**

You are hereby **SUMMONED**, and your Masonic friends are extended a most cordial and fraternal invitation to join us at our 2274th Stated Communication. In accordance with the By-Laws of the Lodge this is our **ANNUAL MEETING** at which we will have the **Election of Officers of the Lodge** for the ensuing year and **Presentation of Reports** by the Master, Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees and other Committee Chairmen. **R.:W.: RONALD J. STEINER** will be the election Officer.

Following this meeting, all Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brothers who have sat as Master of a Lodge are warmly and fraternally invited to attend the

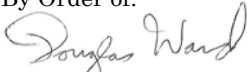
CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION OF THE MASTER ELECT.

W.: DOUGLAS WARD be the Investing Officer. Past Masters please join us !

Join us for our pre-meeting dinner and social hour starting at 6:30 PM followed by this important meeting at 7:30 PM, sharp ! .

Officers Dress: Formal with White Gloves

By Order of:



W: DOUGLAS WARD
Master

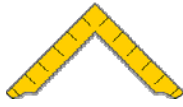


Attest:



R.: W.: RONALD J. STEINER
Secretary

Please visit us at: www.athelstane839.org



FROM THE EAST

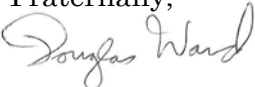
My Brothers,

May the sun be shining brightly on you and your families during these beautiful, warmer spring days. Before we take a look ahead on our busy spring calendar, we take a look back at April.

At our April 7th meeting, we voted on three important items- our annual budget, the new proposed Lodge of Observance within the district, and the affiliation of R.:W.: Eugene Muller. I'm happy to say that all three were overwhelmingly approved, and we congratulate R.:W.: Muller and welcome him to Athelstane. And I would like to extend a hearty thank you to R.:W.: Ron Steiner and R.:W.: Marvin Gess for all the hard work they do in putting our budget together and keeping us on track.

At our April 21st meeting, we held a very well-attended Third Degree where we raised our newest Brother, Roy Rizzotti. This was our fourth Third Degree since last April, an accomplishment of which we as a Lodge should be extremely proud. Congratulations to Br. Rizzotti and welcome to the Fraternity. And many thanks to the entire Degree team, especially Brother Earnest Hudson from Joseph Warren-Gothic Lodge for coming in all the way from the city to be with us and for delivering an unforgettable Historical Lecture to cap off the evening.

And now, we look ahead. At our May 5th meeting, we will have a brief lecture on "Masonic Best Practices" and Br. Mike Olmo and I will do the Questions and Answers for the Third Degree. In honor of Cinco de Mayo, we will have a fun and specially themed dinner at 6:30. Our May 19th meeting will be our Election meeting and our Installation of Officers is set for our June 2nd meeting. And if you haven't done so, please mark your calendars for our annual year-end Awards Dinner which will be held at La Terrazza on June 16th. I hope you'll plan to join us for these special evenings, my Brothers. See you soon.

Fraternally,

W.: Douglas Ward



WORK ON THE TRESTLEBOARD

AWAITING DEGREE OF FELLOWCRAFT

Bro. Daniel Edwin Badillo; Initiated 02/05/13
Bro. Mihail Bajdechi; Initiated 03/20/12
Bro. Pablo Sandoval; Initiated 10/16/12
Bro. James Thomas Tribble; Initiated 11/05/13

AWAITING THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON

Bro. Salvatore Luppino; Passed 03/11/14
Bro. Mark A. Persaud; Passed 03/04/14



Free and Accepted Masons

FROM 'YE OLD SCRIBE ...

Glad to report that both Joan and 'Ye Old Scribe are getting along and we are in a much better condition thanks to finding the right medications and physical therapy to alleviate the pain of sciatica . Again, we want to thank all of you who have come to our assistance the past months as well as all who have called and written to express your concern for our well being. This is what we mean by what Masonry is all about and we are deeply grateful to our Athelstane family !

SAD TIDINGS ...

Glad to report that there were no reports of sad tidings at our last communication.

GLAD TIDINGS ...

A warm fraternal welcome to our newly raised Brother **ROY RIZZOTTI** who was raised at our last communication. Welcome to the Athelstane family to Brother Roy and our newly affiliated Brother, **RW EUGENE MULLER** from Fulton Friendship Lodge in New Jersey who was elected to dual membership in Athelstane Lodge and signed our Constitution and By-Laws at our last communication. We look forward to your active participation Roy and Eugene ! Our Third Degree Night was an outstanding success in every aspect. There were 29 Athelstane Brothers present plus three visiting Brethren ... we enjoyed a warm social hour and a satisfying buffet dinner, and then a masterful degree of Master Mason highlighted by the Historical Lecture delivered by Bro **EARNEST HUDSON** (Senior Warden of Joseph Warren-Gothic Lodge, Seventh Manhattan District) This was the most eloquent and passionate delivery of this important lecture I have heard in my 60 years in the craft and was greatly appreciated and well received by all the Brothers present. And cudos to all who participated in the degree and drama ! **WELL DONE MY BROTHERS !!!**

Our April 2nd Summoned Communication for the adoption of our Budget for this year went very smoothly. Ye Old Scribe presented the Budget which was drafted by our Finance and Budget Committee, your Secretary ,our Treasurer **RW MARVIN GESS**, our Master W.: **DOUGLAS WARD** and Sr Warden Bro **DENNIS O'CONNOR**. The Budget had been reviewed and unanimously endorsed by the Past Masters at a dinner meeting earlier this month which was attended by 19 devoted Past Masters and Brothers of the Lodge, plus our Sr Warden Bro **DENNIS O'CONNOR**. After several incitefull questions from the floor and detailed answers, the Budget for 2015 was unanimously adopted by the Lodge.

Brother **MIKE PETERS**, Orange-Rockland District Veterans and Military Outreach Committee Chairman and caterer *extrodinaire* for special Athelstane occasions, was honored as the **ORDMA MASON OF THE YEAR** and guest of honor at the April 11th Annual ORDMA Spring Dinner. Through the years Mike Peters has been the sparkplug for local Masonic efforts in support of our military past and present and was a deserving recipient of this recognition. We had a nice delegation of Athelstane gals and guys headed by our genial Master W.: **DOUG WARD** and his lovely wife **TRACY**.

Please visit us at: www.athelstane839.org

From Ye Old Scribe (Cont.)

THIS IS SPECIAL ... EXTRA SPECIAL !

For many years our Bro **ROBERT (BOB) CARMEN** was our Athelstane Lodge Historian. As many may recall, during his active membership, Bro Bob collected the signature of a number of US Presidents and famous Americans in his Masonic Bible. Bob later presented this Bible to Grand Lodge and it is a cherished addition in the collection of the Chancellor Livingston Masonic Library and Museum. This month at Grand Lodge there is a special exhibit of famous Bibles on view in Masonic Hall in NYC in which Bro Bob's Bible is prominently featured ! What a wonderful recognition for this important collection and donation by Bro Bob !!!

FROM THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG, COMPUTER AND PHONE CALLS ...

This just in from **EDNA NIXON**, wife of **BRO SAM NIXON** who is recovering from a recent leg amputation. Sam is now in a rehab facility, wearing a prosthesis after a recent leg amputation. Sam is now able to walk and is exceeding expectations on his return to full mobility. Keep up the good work Sam !!!

We had a great conversation with Bro **TOM COLAVITO**, now living in Maine, and we were happy to forward his Masonic 10 Year Service award pin which will be presented to him at an Awards Nite Ceremony in his Father-in-law's Lodge in Bangor Maine this month. His Father-in-law is scheduled to receive his 50 Year Award at that meeting. Heartiest congratulations Brothers !

We had a nice call from Bro **CHARLIE SIEFORT**, from Alabama youall (one word). Charlie and Lois are doing well; appreciates reading the **ATHELSTANIAN** and send best wishes to all his Lodge Brothers.

We were pleased to hear from **SANDY JOY**, one of our cherished surviving spouses. Sandy advises she spends a lot of time babysitting her pride and joy ... her young Grandson. While Sandy regrets she can not attend our Closing Dinner, she sends her warm regards to all.

W: **HARRY KRAMER** back at full speed ... good thing for an accountant during tax season. Harry had a recent fall which required multiple stitches in his working arm. And all the Kramers are doing well ... son **SIMON** a freshman in Rutgers and active as a NJ State DeMolay officer, daughter **NAOMI** getting straight "A"s in her Senior year in HS and better half **CLAUDIA** keeping control of everything.

And of course Bro **RICHIE SHWARTZ** is active as always and has been busy this spring with the volunteers cleaning up the trail markers in the Harri-man, Bear Mountain and Appalachian hiking trails in our area. Which leads up this ...

Please visit us at: www.athelstane839.org

From Ye Old Scribe (Cont.)

QUESTION ... GOT AN HOUR ?

This is a provocative question and if the answer is yes, there are **volunteer opportunities** at Rockland's **MEALS ON WHEELS**. If you are interested, please contact our own Athelstane Lodge Brother **JIM BURTON** at (845) 826 - 4494

WORTH REPEATING ...

From this month's *Short Talk Bulletin*, a publication of the Masonic Service Association of North America, in an essay titled "*Gold in Them Thar Words*:",

"Why is so much of Freemasonry hidden? Why is so much knowledge veiled in allegory, concealed in symbols, and hidden among all the words in our ritual? The answer is an elemental Masonic truth: The hidden beauties and the "secrets" (read that as knowledge and understanding) of Freemasonry are, in fact, reserved for those who are willing to diligently search for meaning in all those allegories, symbols and words..... Understanding Freemasonry is truly a thing of the individual, and the correct interpretation of Masonic ritual so far as an individual Brother is concerned, is the one he finds...." M.: W.: VERN S. WERTZ, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oregon.

AND A GLANCE AHEAD ...

Two important Lodge meetings this month ... PLEASE READ THE MEETING NOTICE ... THE ATHELSTANIAN carefully. Both of these meeting really deserve your attendance and participation. Hope to see you !!!

Please mark **YOUR** calendar now ...our **Annual Athelstane Lodge Awards Night and season closing dinner** will be held this year on Tuesday evening, June 16 at La Terrazza Restaurant in New City . We will ask for paid reservations next month. In the meantime, please save the date on your calendar. We expect a big turnout for another great gathering of our Athelstane family Hope you will be with us.

DUES REMINDER ...

We still have about a dozen Brothers who are delinquent in payment of the Dues for this year ... Past Due notices were sent last month. Not having paid your 2015 dues, you are in financial arrears to your Lodge. Please help us avoid costly and time consuming follow ups and mail you check. If you have any questions or concerns or if there are financial problems, please call me (845) 354 - 4192.

From Ye Old Scribe (Cont.)

AND PLEASE REMEMBER ...

**THERE IS MORE TO BEING A BROTHER OF ATHELSTANE LODGE
THAN SIMPLY PAYING DUES. KEEP IN TOUCH !!!**

We are family. Even if your cable tow is such that you cannot attend Lodge, please keep in touch. We are concerned.

Ron

R.: W.: Ronald J. Steiner, Secretary
18 Buena Vista Road
Wesley Hills
Suffern, NY 10901-1730

NYSMASON@aol.com
ATHELSTANE839@AOL.COM
(845) 354 - 4192



UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, TUESDAY MAY 4-5, 2015.....234TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, MASONIC HALL, NYC

TUESDAY, MAY 4TH... 2273RD STATED COMMUNICATION of ATHELSTANE LODGE. A double header ... two special programs of Masonic Ritual and Education Practices. See meeting notice.

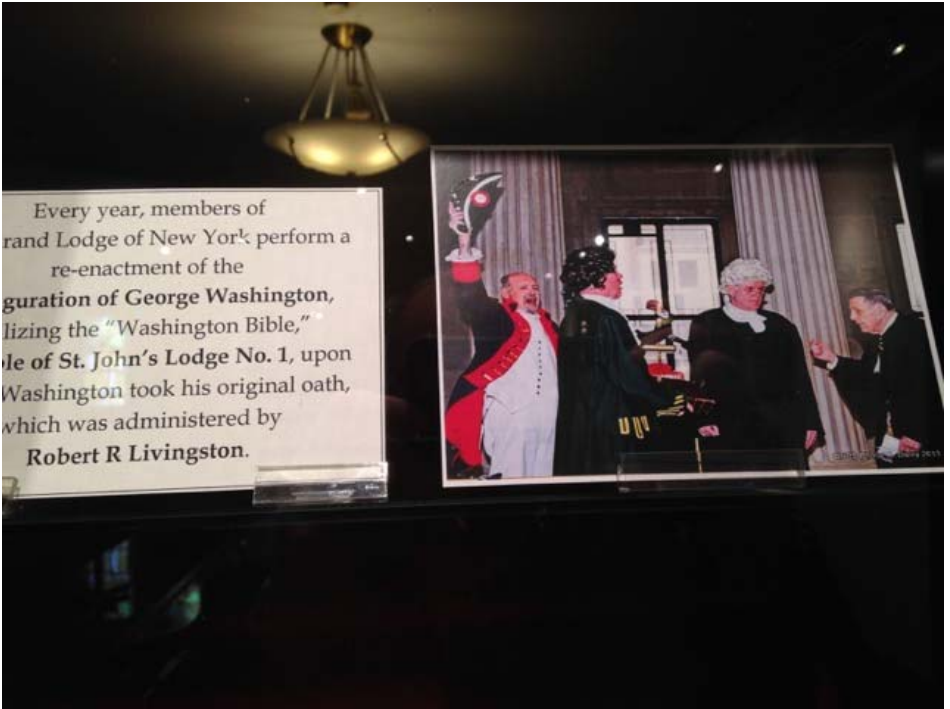
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015... 2274TH STATED COMMUNICATION - A SUMMONED COMMUNICATION ... ANNUAL MEETING, Reports of Master and other Elected Officers and Committee Chairmen., Election of Offices for the ensuing year. Also, following the closing of Lodge there will be the **CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE FOR THE MASTER-ELECT.** All Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brothers who have sat as a Master of a Lodge *and are in possession of the secrets of the chair* are cordially and fraternally invited to attend.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015 ...PUBLIC INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS. An open meeting and traditionally a well attended event.. Our Ladies, family and friends are warmly invited to attend. A great opportunity to invite prospective members to see our Lodge and learn more about Masonry.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015... OUR YEAR END DINNER AND AWARDS NIGHT. Plan now to join us for a great evening and the highlight of our Spring social calendar. This is traditionally a well attended night of fine food and fellowship and well deserved recognition for our 50 Year Award (and up) honorees. Subsidized dinner costs only \$55 a couple for Athelstane Lodge Brothers. Advance paid reservations required for this event. Please send your check to our Secretary, RW Ron Steiner , 18 Buena Vista Road, Suffern, NY 10901-1739.

Upcoming Events (Cont.)

SUNDAY, SEPT 20 - SUNDAY SEPT 27th - 4th ANNUAL NY SHRINERS CIRCUS ... and sponsored by our local Brothers who are members of the KLOWN KLUB and of course the Brothers involved with the Shrine Hospital Transport Unit. The Shriners Circus will be at Tappan Masonic Park. Our Lodge will have six (6) free tickets available ... first come - first served. Contact our Secretary, Ron Steiner (845) 354 - 4192.



Above:

A display pertaining to the Washington Bible located at The Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library located at Grand Lodge, 71 W. 23rd Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10010-4171 .

**The following is an excerpt from Chapter XXII of
Our Stations and Places, by Henry G. Meacham,
Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge F&AM
of the State of New York, 1926-1953**

The “In-Between”

... here I desire to stress the fact that, while the importance of educating Masonically the newly made Masons and our Junior Officers cannot be over-stated, yet at the same time we give too little thought to the “in-between” - the man in your Lodge and mine who was raised last year, maybe, or the year before that—ten, twenty, years ago. We do too little to impress upon him that the task of real masonry is more than the mere passing and raising of candidates.

Who, if not he, is going to be the inspiration for the newly-mades and Officers to be trained Masons, each in his job? Who, if not he, is going to be the pool from which flows the edification of the new Craftsman and Steward, no matter what his place in line, alike? Remember that we are all Master Masons, and that the implication is that every one of us is skilled in all the technic of the Art, in the theory of our Lodge set-up a kind of faculty, whose job it is to instruct these other two groups, and because they are Masters of the Art, to inspire to the highest efficiency, the one in his office, and the other on the side-lines.

Thus it comes about that each Mason must ask of himself, “What am I doing to build the Stewards into efficient Masters of Ceremony, men who will have proper conception of their duty, who will know that they must preserve the proper atmosphere in the preparation room? And likewise, as these men in turn become Deacons, and the Deacons become Wardens—what am I doing to develop in them, year by year, a deep sense of responsibility in their Various Offices?”

And by the same token each “In-Between” must ask himself about the newly-raised man. . . . all of our members will be of little practical value to the organization unless each, side-liners and all, shows an active interest in these new men as Brother Masons, seeking to build them into something more than a mere dues-paying name on the roster. We have too little conception of the latent possibilities in those about us. A bit of encouragement, a helping hand—these will give the new member a tremendous boost and aid him to be an asset to the Lodge instead of a liability

Officers 2014 - 2015

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| W.: Douglas Ward (Tracy) (845) 304-9003 douglas.ward@ms.com | Master |
| Br. Dennis O'Connor (914) 620-7375 nycmic@optonline.net | Sr. Warden |
| W.: Howard Whitman (Joan) (914) 772-4491 hmwhit@gmail.com | Jr. Warden |
| R.: W.: Marvin Gess (Diane) (845) 357-5366 mg@rossandgess.com | Treasurer |
| R.: 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, D.S.A. (Marion) (845) 357-8388 thepommo29@aol.com | Chaplain |
| W.: Alexander Mulgrew (Jennifer) (914) 643-2957 alec.mulgrew@verizon.net | Chaplain |
| Br. Seth Lee (845) 425-2445 stank1@optonline.net | Sr. Deacon |
| Br. Michael Olmo (Natalie) (845) 825-7637 athelstane0839oes371@yahoo.com | Jr. Deacon |
| Br. Marc Jean Baptiste (845) 300-7988 marcajb@yahoo.com | Sr. Master of Ceremony |
| Br. Michael DePaolo (845) 821-3327 mic456@gmail.com | Jr. Master of Ceremony |
| Br. Hubert Urruttia (Nina) (914) 719-5726 Hubert.urruttia@gmail.com | Steward |
| Br. Alain Santiago (Lisette) (945) 476-4446 asantiago9410@gmail.com | Steward |
| Br. James Burton (845) 826-4494 jburton@mowrockland.org | Steward |
| Br. Thomas Damiani (845) 492-1474 tdamiani839@gmail.com | Steward |
| Br. Jonathan Kaufman (845) 494-2101 jknyfdemt@aol.com | Marshal |
| W.: Nathan Metlitz (Carolyn) (570) 409-6623 acm783@aol.com | Marshal |
| R.: W.: Scott Allan Klein (845) 359-6787 | Tiler |
| R.: W.: Harold J. Dresdale (Karen) (561) 278-9507 luvsflog@aol.com | Secretary Emeritus |

Trustees

W.: Alexander Mulgrew
2012 - 2015

Br. Richard Schwartz , D.S.A.
2013 - 2016

R.: W.: Bruce D. Klein
2014 - 2017

Past Masters

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Howard Whitman | 2011-13 Gerald P. Rickard | 1983 Alfred Deninger | affl. |
| Ronald Pomerance, DSA | 2010-11 Harold N. Eder * | 1981 Jay Helgott | affl. |
| Alexander Mulgrew | 2009-10 Barry Ronner | 1980-82 R.: W.: Daniel E. Jonas | affl. |
| Thomas Sassone | 2008-09 Eugene Foldare, DSA * | 1979 Benjamin Kotzker | affl. |
| R.: W.: David Richards | 2007-08 R.: W.: Marvin R. Gess | 1979 George Liberis | affl. |
| Louis M. Irizarry III | 2006-07 R.: W.: Giles M. Purvis | 1977 Nathan Metlitz | affl. |
| R.: W.: Bruce Klein | 2005-06 Norman J. Greenberg * | 1976 Alvin M. Russell | affl. |
| R.: W.: Louis M. Irizarry II | 2003-05 R.: W.: Harold J. Dresdale | 1976 Stuart Sindell | affl. |
| R.: W.: Harry F. Anderson | 2002-03 Sander A. Lefkowitz * | 1974 R.: W.: Ronald J. Steiner | affl. |
| Harry E. Kramer | 2001-02 Erwin L. Robbins | 1973-74 Arthur S. Vener | affl. |
| R.: W.: Peter J. D. Dedel | 1999-01 Leonard J. Plotch * | 1972 M.: W.: Carl J. Fitje | Hon. |
| Harry E. Kramer * | 1999-00 Henry Morris | 1972 R.: W.: Charles Antzelevitch | Hon. |
| Thomas P. Walden * | 1997-98 R.: W.: Eugene W. Erickson | 1971 R.: W.: Robert Blanke | Hon. |
| R.: W.: C.F. William Maurer III | 1997-99 Charles K. Dunlop * | 1969 R.: W.: Hon. Benjamin Gilman | Hon. |
| R.: W.: Joel Rosenwasser | 1993-95 Allan P. Oster, DSA | 1969 V.: W.: Mark Hanson | Hon. |
| R.: W.: Mel Birnbaum | 1992, 1995-97 Henry Chait * | 1967 R.: W.: Albert E. Mealey | Hon. |
| Anthony Uribinato | 1987-88, 1990 Murray Kaplowitz * | 1965 R.: W.: Norman E. Moon | Hon. |
| George Bielski | 1986, 1989, 1992 Robert Maidman * | 1958 | |
| R.: W.: Scott A. Klein * | 1984, 1992-94 Irwin W. Clements | affl. * | * Tappan Zee Lodge No. 1125 |
| | 1998-99 | | |