

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

October 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

September 28, 2011

Brethren:

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

2193rd STATED COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at 7:30 PM

Business: Fellowcraft Degree
Place: Naurashank Temple, Pearl River, NY
Time: Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; Degree Begins at 7:30 p.m.
Attire: Officers - Formal; Brethren—Business

2194th STATED COMMUNICATION

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

Business: Entered Apprentice Degree
Place: Naurashank Temple, Pearl River, NY
Time: Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; Degree Begins at 7:30 p.m.
Attire: Officers - Formal; Brethren—Business



WHY DO MASONS STAND WHEN THEY PRAY?

(a) The Hebrews, from whom we derived our basic legends, stood to pray.

(b) While the candidate is made to kneel, once he is initiated, he is told that a standing mason represents “a just and upright man”

(from: MASONIC LIGHT; March, 1950, p. 181; no author specified)
(retrieved from the Livingston Library on 7/6/11 by Bro. Rabbi Eli Mallon)



WORK ON THE TRESTLEBOARD

AWAITING REPORT OF INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Jason Willard Hoffman	Proposed by R.:W.: Ron Steiner 02/01/11
Major Frank Letizia	Proposed by Bro. William Schroeder 04/2/08
Mr. Robert E. Lysiak, Jr.	Proposed by W.: Howard Whitman 09/15/08
Mr. Michael B. Seidenfrau	Proposed by W.: Howard Whitman 07/10/08
Mr. Brian Anthony Scherer	Proposed by R.:W.: Ron Steiner 03/02/11

AWAITING BALLOT FOR INITIATION AND ADVANCMENT

Mr. Mark Howard Burke	Proposed by W.: Arthur Vener 06/28/11
Mr. Michael Anthony DePaolo	Proposed by R.:W.: Ron Steiner 03/02/11

AWAITING ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

Mr. Andrew Jersey	Elected 04/15/08
-------------------	------------------

AWAITING DEGREE OF FELLOWCRAFT

Bro. Anthony Barbato	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Seth Geffen	Initiated 10/19/10
Bro. Seth Lee	Initiated 10/05/10
Bro. Brian Gonzalez	Initiated 10/05/10
Bro. Joseph Chapley	Initiated 11/28/06

AWAITING THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON

Bro. Mathew Kerewski	Passed 04/05/11
Bro. Eric Mateyka	Passed 01/11/11
Bro. Daniel E. Mateyka	Passed 11/16/10

AWAITING BALLOT FOR AFFILIATION and DUAL MEMBERSHIP

Bro. David Kamchi	Proposed by W.: Jay Helfgott 07/01/11
-------------------	---------------------------------------

THE FUTURE

- Oct. 4th Fellowcraft Degree.
W.: Ron Pomerance will sit in the East.
- Oct. 18th Entered Apprentice Degree.
Bro. Doug ward will sit in the East.
- Nov. 1st Summoned Communication for vote on amendments to Lodge
By-Laws and Special Reception and Open Dinner for the Annual
Presentation of Charity Checks to Community Organizations.
- Nov. 15th Guest Speaker - R.:W.: Richard Friedman, PJGW and
Current Chairman of Custodians of the Work.
Topic: "Why did you leave the West ...?"
Program begins at 8:00 pm sharp!
- Dec. 6th Homecoming and Official visit of R:W.: Louis M. Irizarry II,
District Deputy Grand Master of the Orange-Rockland District.
- Dec. 17th United Hospice of Rockland Tree of Life
Palisades Mall
10:00 to Closing
- Dec. 20th Annual Athelstane Lodge Gala Holiday Party
Casa Mia Manor House in Orangeburg.
\$60.00 per couple for Athelstane brothers, payable in
Advance; send your checks to R.:W.: Ron Steiner.
-

Pssst ... spread the word ... mark your calendar now ... don't miss this one!

A VERY SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER ...

R.:W.: RICHARD FRIEDMAN ...

Past Jr. Grand Warden and the current
Chairman of the **CUSTODIANS OF THE WORK.**

Brother Richard is one of the most dynamic and interesting speakers in our
NY Grand Jurisdiction today. This will be a night you will not want to miss !!!

TUESDAY ... NOVEMBER 15, 2011
ATHELSTANE LODGE ... PEARL RIVER MASONIC TEMPLE
2 South Middletown Road, PEARL RIVER, NY

Reception and Dinner at 6:00 PM
LODGE OPENS AT 7:30 PM
Program begins at 8:00 PM SHARP !

ALL BRETHREN AND MASONIC GUESTS ARE CORDIALLY AND FRATERNALLY INVITED TO ATTEND. Business attire. Aprons and Jewels please.

TOPIC : " *Why did you leave the West ... ?*"

Visit us at www.athelstane839.org

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS OF ATHELSTANE LODGE

The following Amendments to the By-Laws of Athelstane Lodge were properly presented to the Lodge and signed by ten (10) members of the Lodge. They were read at the last meeting of the Lodge on June 7, 2011 and will be published twice before the Lodge is Summoned to vote on these proposed changes:

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE SUBMITTED TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF ATHELSTANE LODGE NO. 839 F. & A.M.

RESOLVED that THE BY-LAWS OF ATHELSTANE LODGE NO. 839 F. & A.M. BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE VI. Section 1.

The fee for admittance of a new member to this Lodge by initiation shall be **one hundred and seventy five (\$175.00) dollars**, which shall include his petition fee, all of which shall be paid before initiation to the degree of Entered Apprentice.

(The present admittance fee is \$150.00)

ARTICLE VI. Section 2.

The fee of admission of a new member to this Lodge by affiliation shall be **fifty (\$50.00) dollars**, all of which shall be paid before consummating membership by signing the By-Laws.

(The present admission fee for affiliation is \$25.00)

ARTICLE VI. Section 3.

Each member shall pay into the Lodge as dues **ninety-five (\$95.00) dollars** plus the current per capita charge of Grand Lodge annually, payable in advance on or before the 31st day of December each year.

(The present annual fee is \$75.00)

ARTICLE VI. Section 5.

Any member of the Lodge who has been a Master Mason for twenty-five (25) consecutive years, shall become a Life Member of Athelstane Masonic Lodge and shall thereafter pay **twenty five (\$25.00) dollars** plus the current per capita charge of Grand Lodge annually, payable in advance on or before the 31st day of December each year. All Life Members of Athelstane Masonic Lodge as of 12/31/2011 shall continue to pay only the current per capita charge of the Grand Lodge, annually on or before the 31st day of December.

(Currently Life Members only pay the per capita charge of the Grand Lodge).

FROM DE OLD SCRIBE ...

Nobody asked me ... but ...

Last week's Apron Presentation Ceremonies and dinner honoring our two long time hard working Athelstane Lodge Brothers, **R.:W.: FEDERICO LARRINAGA**, Grand Chaplain and **R.:W.: HARRY ANDERSON**, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Washington (State), was one of the nicest such gatherings we have had in years. The warmth and camaraderie of the evening ... the lovely surroundings and fine food ... and the richly deserved accolades ... all contributed to a "night to remember." Kudos to all of the presenters and felicitors who were concise and "right on" in their remarks. If you weren't there, you missed a lovely evening.

SAD TIDINGS ...

We were sorry to learn of the passing of **MARY ELLEN BLANKE**, wife of our honorary Athelstane Lodge Brother, **R.:W.: BOB BLANKE** after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Our heartfelt condolences on behalf of the entire Athelstane family to our good Brother Bob. Cards and letters of of your concern can be sent to Bob Blanke and family at 27 Pine Lane, New City, NY 10956-6534

Also saddened to learn of the turn for the worse of our cherished friend and Brother **R.:W.: HARRY SKY**, now in hospice care in Florida.

BEA OSTER, wife of **W.: AL OSTER**, missed the September 20th dinner because of a recurrence of medical problems. We all wish Bea a speedy and complete return to good health.

"**MARTY**" **ERICKSON**, wife of our good Brother **R.:W.: GENE ERICKSON**, also missed the affair because of dental surgery. Hope you are feeling chipper again. And under the category of **GLAD TIDINGS ...** Happy Birthday #80 to Brother Gene ... and many more ... in good health. !!!

TRAVELING ...

W.: ARTHUR VENER and **RONNIE ...** in Atlanta. **Bro. PAUL TENDLER** and **SANDY** in North Carolina. Safe travels all.

This week in History in Tappan ... a reminder ...

From September 28 to October 7th 1780 General George Washington, commander of the gallant army of colonists during the Revolutionary War returned to Tappan NY where he stayed at the DeWint House. While here he oversaw the military trail of Major John Andre, a British Major who was involved with Benedict Arnold in a plot to surrender West Point to the British. And it was in the DeWint House that Washington signed the execution warrant for the subsequent hanging of Andre.

(From Ye Olde Scribe ... , Continued)

This Sunday, the Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York MW Vincent Libone returns to the DeWint House for our Annual Grand Master's Day at this National Historic Site, owned and operated by the Masons of New York since 1932. Join us for these ceremonies at the DeWint House in Tappan starting at 2:00 PM.

During the Military Court Marshal of Major John Andre, he was held prisoner in the Old '76 House in Tappan, now a popular restaurant on Main Street in the old hamlet. Join the Grand Master for lunch in the same Old '76 House, starting at 11:30 AM. Prepaid reservations required. Send check in advance for \$25 per person and mail to: Ron Steiner, 18 Buena Vista Road, Suffern, NY 10901.

And to all of our Brothers of the Jewish faith, your family and loved ones ... Happy and Healthy New Year 5772. May it be a year of peace. *SHALOM!* L' Shanah Tovah.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER ...

There are still a few Brothers in arrears in payment of the 2011 Athelstane Lodge Dues.

In accordance with the By-Laws of our Lodge, the names of these Brothers who are delinquent in payment of their obligations to the Lodge for the current year, will be read in Lodge and a motion will be made to drop these Brothers for non-payment of Dues. Please help us to avoid this unpleasant and unnecessary action. The Lodge values the membership of each and every Brother and we never want to lose any Brother because of financial reasons. If you do not have a current 2011 Dues Card, please send your payment now, or contact the Secretary.

Four requests have already been mailed this year. The next step is a certified letter, which is a costly mailing. PLEASE help us avoid this. Thanks for your cooperation!

All the best !

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 nvsmason@aol.com Athelstane839@aol.com

Visit us at www.athelstane839.org

IN MEMORIUM

R.:W.: Harry Sky

It is with a profound sense of loss that Athelstane Lodge No 839 (Pearl River, NY) records the passing today of our esteemed and cherished Brother, **Right Worshipful Harry Sky**. Harry had waged a long and courageous battle with lymphoma. He was 86 years old and a proud Mason for 51 years. He had returned to his home in Florida a few months ago after a final visit to Israel.

R.:W.: Harry Sky served for many years as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Israel near the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. He also served Grand Lodge as a District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Manhattan District. Throughout his long and distinguished Masonic career he also served as the Commander General of the Masonic War Veterans of the State of New York, a member of Knickerbocker Chapter No 13, National Sojourners, Inc., and a member of the Heroes of '76, and a member of the George Washington Headquarters National Historic Site at Tappan, the DeWint House. He was a member of Munn Lodge 203 and Cornerstone Lodge No 178 in the Second Manhattan District in addition to his more recent active membership in Athelstane Lodge in the Orange-Rockland District.

R.:W.: Harry Sky affiliated with Athelstane Lodge in 2005 and while he split his time between living in Israel and Rockland County, when he was here in the US he was always active in the craft. He enjoyed his Masonic friendships and associations; particularly his visits to West Point Lodge where he often shared stories with the Brothers and USMA cadets of his days in the British Army and his participation in the Irgun, the underground military organization that fought for the independence and creation of the State of Israel.

Harry Sky was born June 1, 1925 in Jerusalem. As a young man he was a professional boxer and at one time was undefeated heavyweight champion of that country. He was one of three brothers and the family name was Poplovsky. When they came to the US, each took a portion of the original family name ... Harry took the last three letters and he became (legally) Harry Sky. For many years he was a very successful and prominent home builder and contractor in Rockland County.

R.:W.: Harry Sky was initiated February 2, 1960

Passed March 29, 1960

Raised June 21, 1960

He laid down the working tools of life on Thursday, September 29, 2011



May he rest in eternal peace and may his memory be a blessing for all who loved him and those who knew him as a friend and as a Brother.

Funeral arrangements are as follows:

Services will be held on Monday, October 3, 2011. **please call Funeral Home for time.**

Rubin's Funeral Home, 7340 Boynton

Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL (561) 853 - 3000

Brothers residing in South Florida are requested to attend.

Our condolences to Harry's family and loved ones.

APRON PRESENTATIONS

Right (L - R): R.:W.: Bruce Weigand and R.:W.: Federico Larrinaga.



Above (L - R): R.:W.: Ronald J. Steiner, R.:W.: Federico Larrinaga; R.:W.: Louis M. Irrizary II; and R.:W.: Bruce Weigand.

Left: Marie Larrinaga, better half of R.:W.: Federico.



Above (L - R): R;.W;. Bruce D. Klein; R;.W;. C.F. William Maurer III; R;.W;. Harry Anderson; and R;.W;. Ronald J. Steiner.



Above (L - R): R;.W;. C.F. William Maurer III and R;.W;. Harry Anderson.



Left (L - R): R;.W;. Har-ry Anderson and Family.

WHEN WAS THE BIBLE MADE ONE OF THE GREAT LIGHTS IN MASONRY?

In 1760, by the Grand Lodge of England, on motion of William Preston. Since then it has been displayed in the Lodges of England and most other countries, but the practice has never been universal. Prior to 1760, so far as history records, the Bible was used only in obligating candidates, as some public officials are now inducted into office, and as jurors and witnesses are sworn [in] in some states.

(from THE WISCONSIN FREEMASON; April, 1950, p. 11 (no author specified)
(retrieved from the Livingston Library, NY, on 7/6/11 by Bro. Rabbi Eli Mallon)



FROM THE SOUTH

My Brothers,

As we move into the fall months and get ready to begin our degree work that is on the Trestleboard, the below caught my eye from our Grand Lodge's website. I hope I'll be seeing you at Lodge very soon.

When is a man a Mason?

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellow man.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters, subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself with his fellow man, and with his God; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song — glad to live, but not afraid to die!

Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world.

S & F,

Br. Douglas Ward
Junior Warden



FROM THE WEST

Although the weather was non forgiving the night of the first meeting of our Lodge, we had a good showing of members and their wives. The program of the evening was interesting and quite educational with a presentation given by four of our long time members. It was good to hear that all of the expectations of our Lodge are still being carried out. If you were not able to attend this past meeting and program, by all means try and make the next one.

Fraternally,
W.: Nate Metlitz
Senior Warden



FROM THE EAST

My Brother's:

September has been an exciting month for the Lodge. We had a very interesting and entertaining meeting on September 6th. Our Nostalgia Night was an unqualified success and was extremely interesting for all of the Brothers in attendance. Additionally, our first ever Masonic Man of the Year was our Brother W.: Alec Mulgrew who richly deserved the honor.

We just concluded our Apron Presentation dinner on September 20th at the Pearl River Hilton. R.:W. Harry Anderson and R.:W. Federico Larrinaga were presented with their aprons at a wonderful dinner that was arranged by Brother Anderson. For those of us present, it was a wonderful evening and we hope to have more of these events in the future.

October will be a busy month, as we will have a Fellowcraft Degree on October 4th with W.: Ron Pomerance in the East, and an Entered Apprentice Degree on October 20th, with our Junior Warden, Bro. Doug Ward sitting in the East. It would be wonderful if we had a large turnout of Brothers for these two events.

On November 1st, we are having a Summoneed Communication for the purpose of voting on changes to our By-Laws. Additionally, we will have a presentation of charitable gifts to a number of organizations at the beginning of the collation. On November 15th we will be having a very special event with the guest speaker, R.:W. Richard Friedman. He is a well known and dynamic speaker and the evening will be an exciting one.

Cordially and Fraternaly,
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 bdesq1@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. Richard M. Butts, Jr. (Eraina) (845) 356-1238 buttie735@msn.com	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
Br. Dennis O'Connor (Cristina) (845) 259-9805 nycmic@optonline.net	Marshal
V.: W.: Scott Allan Klein (845) 359-6787	Tiler
Br. Franklyn Gardner (Harriet) (845) 359-3238 hleeagar@verizon.net	Lead Conductor
R.: W.: Harold J. Dresdale (Karen) (561) 278-9507 luvsflog@aol.com	Secretary Emeritus

Trustees

R.: W.: Martin Lindenberg
2009 - 2012

R.: W.: Joel Rosenwasser
2011 - 2014

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

Past Masters

Ronald Pomerance	2010-11	Richard H. Fassberg	1984, 1991	M.: W.: Neil I. Bidnick	affl.
Alexander Mulgrew	2009-10	Gerald P. Rickard	1983	R.: W.: Robert Blanke	affl.
Thomas Sassone	2008-09	Harold N. Eder *	1981	R.: W.: Daniel E. Jonas	affl.
David Richards	2007-08	Barry Ronner	1980-82	R.: W.: Ronald J. Steiner	affl.
Louis M. Irizarry III	2006-07	Eugene Foladare, DSA *	1979	Alvin M. Russell	affl.
R.: W.: Bruce Klein	2005-06	R.: W.: Marvin R. Gess	1979	Stuart Sindell	affl.
R.: W.: Louis M. Irizarry II	2003-05	R.: W.: Giles M. Purvis	1977	Arthur S. Vener	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 Liberti	affl.
R.: W.: Peter J. D. Dedel	1999-01	R.: W.: Martin Lindenberg	1975	Nathan Metlitz	affl.
Harry E. Kramer *	1999-00	Sander A. LeKowitz *	1974	Mc.W.: Carl J. Fitje	Hon.
Thomas P. Walden *	1997-98	Erwin L. Robbins	1972	R.: W.: Charles Antzelevitch	Hon.
R.: W.: C.F. William Maurer III	1997-99	Leonard J. Plotch *	1972, 1985	R.: W.: Hon. Benjamin Gilman	Hon.
R.: W.: Glen L. Weinberg *	1994-97	Henry Morris	1971	R.: W.: Albert E. Mealey	Hon.
R.: W.: Joel Rosenwasser	1993-95	R.: W.: Eugene W. Erickson	1969	R.: W.: Norman E. Moon	Hon.
R.: W.: Mel Birnbaum	1992, 1995-97	Charles K. Dunlop *	1969	* Tappan Zee Lodge No. 1125	
Anthony Urbano	1987-88, 1990	Allan P. Oster, DSA	1967		
George Bielski	1986, 1989, 1992	Henry Chait *	1965		
V.: W.: Scott A. Klein *	1984, 1992-94	Murray Kaplowitz *	1958		
	1998-99	Robert Maitman *			