

JEPHTHA LODGE 494

Huntington, New York 11743 ♦ 631.351.8361 ♦ <http://www.jephtha.com>

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST



My Dear Brothers,

September kicked off the new Masonic year overflowing with brotherly love. Jephtha's first stated communication welcomed brothers from all districts to congratulate W.: John B. Lentinello on receiving the Dedicated Service Award. My brothers, DSA is considered the highest achievement in Masonry, and we are proud to have another DSA Jephtha Brother among us. Special thanks to R.: W.: Kevin McCauley for reading the Proclamation of the DSA Award and W.: Jack

Dowling, DSA for presenting the DSA apron to W.: John B. Lentinello. In addition to our brothers, their partners were also present to celebrate this prestigious achievement with W.: John B. Lentinello.

The celebrations continued as Jephtha Lodge hosted a Master Mason Degree party at Piccola Bussola Restaurant on September 18th, 2021, for the 16 Master Masons raised in November 2020. The COVID pandemic prevented the usual schedule of having a party immediately following the Third Degree. The celebration was organized by Br. Steve Schenker and consisted of delicious food and a live band. We were pleased to see the partners of our newly raised brothers attending. The evening was filled with love and family, and it showed to all present what Masonry is and what it represents.

On the evening of September 27, 2021, eight Brothers were passed to the Fellowcraft Degree: Br. Richard Arthur, Br. Syed Asad MD, Br. Richard Gentile, Br. Douglas Henningsen, Br. Gunnar Herbert, Br. William Rivas, Br. Brian Schulbaum and Br. Stephen Vogel. Congratulations to all the new Jephtha Fellowcraft Brothers for a job well done and to all the Brothers who worked so diligently to create a beautiful and meaningful evening.

In the continuation of involving family during our Masonic year, partners will be welcome to our collations on the first meeting of every month. Jephtha Lodge meets on the second and fourth Monday of every month, excluding holidays, and collation usually begins at 7 PM ET. Please inform your partners to mark the second Monday on their calendars as a day to come down and meet our brethren. I believe it's extremely important to let our families know who we are and what we are a part of.

I look forward to creating more wonderful memories for all our Brothers and our families.

Happy Columbus Day to all. Please be well and take care.

Sincerely & Fraternally Yours,
W.: Jeremiah Campbell

No love, no friendship, can cross the path of our destiny without leaving some mark on it forever.
François Mauriac (1885-1970), French writer, Nobel Prize in Literature (1952)

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST



My Dear Brothers,

I am both humbled and honored after attending the DSA award given to our Brother, W.: John B Lentinello, for all he has done for Masonry and mankind. He shows what being a Mason is truly about by being the best possible human being a person can be.

This reminds me of the how the building of King Solomon's beautiful Temple to God was built - in Reverent Silence, in which the operative Masons had the material cut and measured outside the worksite, a remarkable testimony to the engineering and construction skills of the ancients. *(And the house, when it was building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building. I Kings 6:7)*



We speculative Masons always apply this same philosophy when building our Temples for the betterment of ourselves and mankind. Our off-site measuring and cutting of materials can be the hours of studying and practicing required to hold a successful degree for our Brethren. Nothing is said on how this is accomplished, no bragging, no "See what I did!", just materials being cut and measured off-site. There is nothing more beautiful than one day having nothing and, without knowing it, a beautiful Temple in Silence is constructed. So it has always been with W.: Lentinello while taking care of his beloved veterans

Fall is approaching and it's time to move away from summer pleasures and welcome fall. On October 2nd we will have Jephtha's visit to the Renaissance Faire. My brothers, this is definitely a fun time since we get to spend the weekend with our Brethren and their families, and dress in medieval costumes while visiting shops and seeing amazing shows. it's a reasonably priced way of enjoying the Middle ages.

Our Monthly Stated communication is October 11th, and on October 23rd we have our Traditional Cemetery cleanup. What better way to segue into Halloween than with a cemetery cleanup!

We will be meeting again on October 25th with special guest visitors from the Masonic Medical Research Institute; we will learn about their research and the hope they bring to mankind.

We will have our Octoberfest at the Lodge on October 30th to which our partners are invited. This is always a fun time where we can once again show our wives the brotherhood we have with each other and our partners forming a bond and a sisterhood themselves.

Halloween and trick or treat, what can be more fun for a child then receiving bags filled with candy, wearing costumes and trying to scare you? Please enjoy this day, and if your children try to scare you, act like they did!

In the spirit of Halloween, I wish all the Brotherly ghosts of Jephtha Lodge, (you know the ones I always see) a great Halloween. Even though they are my Brothers, and I could not ask for any better spirits to visit me, I still get terrified.

Always remember, no matter the length of your cable tow, what you give to Masonry is always silently building that Temple from within.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Michael S. Crispino, Jr, Senior Warden

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH



My Brothers, another year of masonry is in full swing. I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to our Brothers who have helped make our collations in September a huge success. Without our hard working core of Stewards, we would not be able to create the great meals we all enjoy. Our Brothers put in many hours of hard work to make these evenings the success they are.

I do remember the musings of W.: Rich Harris, when reflecting on his days as Junior Warden, that his fondest memories were of the brotherly bonds he forged in that kitchen. While I appreciated the sentiment at the time, I don't think I truly understood it until now when it has been my turn to serve in the kitchen. The past few events we have hosted have brought me closer to this great group of brothers and have taught me the value of working hand in hand, brother to brother, to achieve many great things.

The kitchen will be a happening place in October for our Stated Communication on October 11th and our Special Communication on October 25th (see menus below). We end the month with our Oktoberfest on October 30th where the usual German fare will be served... Beer.



I look forward to seeing you all in October.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Br. Bill Fenty III, Junior Warden

GREETINGS FROM THE CORNER DESK



Dear Brothers,

As we embark on a new Masonic season, I'd like to take a few moments to offer a couple of quick reminders. Some of this will be "old news" to many of you; but Jephtha is an active and ever-growing lodge, and it is often better to hear something repeated than to never hear it at all:

- Please remember, whenever possible, we prefer *not* to use cash. Jephtha is a busy lodge with a broad range of activities, this is one of the many ways we try to limit our liability and ensure that everything is accounted for accurately. Almost everything at Jephtha can be paid for online, by check, or by credit card. (If you'd like to pay for the bar or collation by credit card or check, that *is* possible; just find me before or after a regular meeting.)
- Don't forget the Grand Lodge of New York *no longer provides yearly dues cards*. As of a few years ago, all Master Masons have been issued permanent cards. If you lost yours or need a replacement, please let me know. (If you are an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft, you will receive your card after your third degree.)
- We currently have 76 individuals listed as having not paid their 2021 dues. If you are uncertain if you are among those 76, or if you find yourself in a financially precarious position, please talk to me or one of your officers and we will figure something out! (As a side note, 2022 dues notices will go out in late November or early December. If you are an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft, this does *not* apply to you; you will only be responsible for annual dues after you are raised to Master Mason).
- You may have noticed the Ritual Book has gone through a number of iterations over the past decade. If you are interested in a current copy of the ritual, let me know; they are \$30.
- If you have changed address, email, or phone numbers over the past few years, please let me know your updated information so that I can update the database. It is essential that we keep everything up-to date – especially email addresses. Summons and official communications are almost all sent digitally now. If you want to check what information we have, please contact me or catch me before or after a regular meeting.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with questions or updates by email (teejtc@gmail.com) or phone/text/WhatsApp (516-710-2406).

Grace and peace,
Tim TenClay, Secretary

THE DESCENDANT LODGES OF JEPHTHA NO. 494



Despite Long Island Freemasonry tracing its roots to Huntington Lodge No. 26 A. & Y.M. (1796-1818), there are no direct connections to it with Jephtha No. 494 F. & A.M. The challenges of traveling to a lodge in the late 18th and early 19th centuries through local, rural terrain prevented many of the 30 known brothers from attending lodge meetings. By 1806 all meetings ceased at Long Island's first Masonic lodge, Huntington Lodge No. 26, and its charter was finally surrendered to the Grand Lodge of New York in 1818.

Forty-one years after Huntington Lodge No. 26 disbanded, seven charter members of Jephtha Lodge started laying the foundation for a new Huntington lodge in late 1859. Most were members of lodges meeting in New York City, including Joppa Lodge No. 201, Charter Oak Lodge No. 249 and Lexington Lodge No. 310. Only Charles Albert Floyd, Jephtha's first Secretary, was from a Long Island lodge, Suffolk No. 401 in Port Jefferson. He was the son of John Floyd, a member from Huntington's original Lodge No.

26 and a charter member of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 (1796).

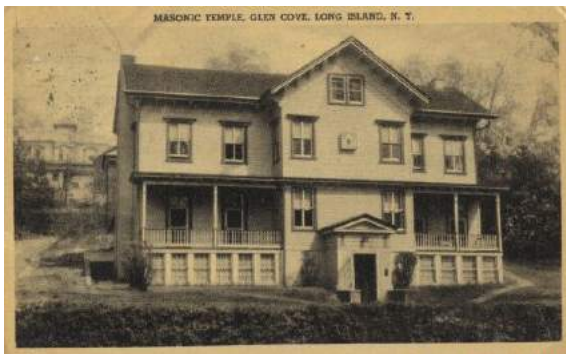
In the mid-19th century, the geographical area comprising the present Nassau County was under the jurisdiction of Morton Lodge No. 63 in Hempstead, and the area of what is now western Suffolk County was under the jurisdiction of Jephtha No. 494 in Huntington. Because of these jurisdictional restrictions, any proposed, new Masonic lodges seeking dispensation had to petition the closest lodge for permission to form in a nearby town or to accept applications for membership.

Travel to and from a lodge was accomplished either by foot or using horses. In the *History of Long Island* by Peter Ross (1902), travel was depicted as follows: "Two members who lived on the north side of the Island, perhaps twenty miles from Hempstead, reached the Lodge by what is called the ride and tie method. That is, they both started together early in the morning, one riding the single horse on the farm, and the other walking. The rider proceeded to a place agreed upon where he tied the horse and took up his journey on foot. When the first walker reached the horse, he mounted and after passing his walking companion tied the horse again at another place of agreement. So, the journey was made to the Lodge, and the return on the following day was a repetition of the same."

It would not be until the 1860's, when Freemasonry was regaining popularity among men, that lodges started popping up on Long Island. The decades of the prolonged anti-Masonic period a few years earlier took its toll on the fraternity, with all lodges on Long Island shutting down for more than twenty years. In 1865, the American Civil War was ending and many returning veterans desired continuing fellowship in their hometowns. Freemasonry was the perfect organization for this post-war era.

In the following decades, brothers from Jephtha Lodge in Huntington set out to form three lodges in distant townships, becoming charter members of lodges that still meet today.

Glen Cove No. 580



The former home of Glen Cove No. 580 founder Edgar E. Duryea. The lodge purchased the home in 1909 and met there from 1913 until 1973.

At the January 9, 1865, Stated Communication, Jephtha brothers Edgar E. Duryea, Stephen B. Craft and James E. Benham and several other brothers from different lodges, formally requested a dispensation to form a lodge in Glen Cove. A series of jurisdictional objections from Morton Lodge No. 63 in Hempstead delayed Glen Cove No. 580 from obtaining its charter until March 1866.

Duryea was the founder of the successful Glen Cove Starch Factory where many of the Glen Cove charter members were employed, and he was a member of the famous Civil War Duryea Zouaves. After Edgar Duryea's death in 1900, the Glen Cove Lodge continued to meet at his home.

Alcyone Lodge No. 695

In 1867, there were approximately twenty master masons residing in the villages of Northport and Commack, most of whom hailed from Jephtha No. 494 in Huntington. Desirous of forming a lodge in Northport, the brothers organized a masonic club and began the preliminary work of organizing a lodge. The brothers wrote the bylaws, set a \$25 initiation fee and \$3 annual dues. Officers for the proposed lodge were selected and several rehearsal meetings were held for the brothers to perfect the ritual and assure proficiency in the standard of the work, requirements for new masonic lodges.

When the brothers were confident that all the necessary requirements were in place, they proceeded to the next stage of creating a lodge. Brother William H. Sammis, past Junior and Senior Warden of Jephtha, was able to persuade the Huntington lodge to grant its consent on September 28, 1868. Originally called Northport Lodge, the petition sent to the Grand Lodge included 21 master masons, 17 of whom were members of Jephtha, including Jephtha's charter member, Jesse Carll.

Later renamed Alcyone Lodge No. 695, the new Northport masons first met under dispensation on March 5, 1869, on the north side of Main Street in a building later occupied by the Long Island Express Company. Brother William H. Sammis, having sat in both Warden chairs at Jephtha, was qualified and appointed the first Master of Alcyone. The charter for Alcyone was granted on June 23, 1869.



Jesse Carll, charter member of Jephtha No. 494 and Alcyone No. 695.

On October 22, 1869, a delegation of brethren from Jephtha entered the new lodge under the leadership of W.: William H. King, Past Master, and presented Alcyone with a set of officers' jewels as a token of affection and good wishes for the future. These jewels are still in use today by the officers of Alcyone Lodge.

Matinecock No. 806

In 1888, several master masons from Jephtha No. 494 and Glen Cove No. 580 residing in Oyster Bay, met to possibly secure a jurisdictional dispensation to form a lodge in Oyster Bay. Jephtha Lodge approved the new lodge without a dissenting vote, but Glen Cove Lodge gave the Oyster Bay brothers a difficult time. Glen Cove inserted a conditional clause in their dispensation that "the petitioners show their proficiency in the three degrees" that was required to be presented all in one day in Glen Cove. On July 24, 1889, the proficiency was examined and approved, but a series of further delays caused by Glen Cove Lodge prevented Matinecock Lodge No. 806 from receiving its charter until 1892.



The Matinecock lodge room in the Fleet Building, 1892. The second meeting space for the Oyster Bay lodge, one of the columns created by three charter members including Bro. Sidney B. Walters can be seen on the left.

Nineteen of the forty-two charter members of Matinecock were from Jephtha, including Matinecock's first Treasurer, Seth Surdam, and Brother Amos M. Knapp, a druggist at Snouder's Corner Drug Store and confidential messenger for Governor, and later President, Theodore Roosevelt when he resided in Oyster Bay. Snouder's had the only telephone in Oyster Bay Village, and Brother Knapp was designated to be the trusted individual called to the phone whenever a message came in for Roosevelt which he brought to Roosevelt at Sagamore Hill.

The lodge room was originally very sparse at its first meetings in Oyster Bay. The Altar Bible, the same used for the Masonic degrees of Brother Theodore Roosevelt, was donated by W.: J. K. Oakley and Jephtha Brother William Jones Youngs. The new columns were made, decorated, and presented to of Jephtha, Abraham Fain of Glen Cove No. 580 and William H. Hubbs of Alcyone No. 695.

Fellowship did not end with the formation of these three, new lodges. Jephtha has continued to participate in numerous degrees, District Deputy meetings, fundraisers, picnics, anniversary celebrations and funerals with its Masonic heirs for the last 150 years, a lasting, unwavering relationship that continues to this very day. Jephtha is proud to be part of the rich history of Freemasonry on Long Island and its part in helping spread Masonic fraternity to other towns.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Ron Seifried DSA, Jephtha Historian

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Anthony P. Colonna	Charles F. Hudak	James E. Redford	Jason L. Van Loan
Michael S. Crispino, Jr	Warren M. Melnick	Ernest Savaglio	Nick Vorrias
John T. Dowling	Mikel Nazarowitz	Stephen Schenker	
Michael A. Foresto	William T. Perks	Ronald J. Seifried	

OCTOBER RAISINGS

Walter L. Benning	William K. Friedman	James E. Redford	Robert J. Wedderburn
Per U. Dobler	John B. Lentinello	Derek G. Rhodes	
Charles H. Fisher	Luke J. Loporto	James M. Visalli	
Michael A. Foresto	Malcolm C. MacLeod	Robert D. Wedderburn	

KEEPING IN TOUCH



BAND (Jephtha): <https://band.us/band/77740271>



FACEBOOK: Jephtha Lodge No. 494



INSTAGRAM: Jephtha 494



MASONS OF JEPHTHA #494: <https://www.jephtha.com>



OUR LODGE PAGE (Jephtha): <https://494-ny.ourlodgepage.com>

WIKIPEDIA

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jephtha_Masonic_Lodge_No._494



GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK: nymasons.org/site



OCTOBER 2021

Friday	October 1	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle: Business Meeting, Convention Preparation
Saturday	October 2	9:30 AM	Jephtha goes to the Renaissance Faire, Tuxedo Park, NY
Monday	October 4	7:00 PM	Mandatory class for newly passed Fellowcrafts

Chartered January 25, 1860

October 2021

Wednesday	October 6	8:00 PM	Huntington Town Hall Pub Crawl with a stop at Jephtha Lodge. The building will be open to the public.
Monday	October 11	7:00 PM	Stated Communication: Collation; Octoberfest Budget; Masonic Education by Tim TenClay, <i>Origins of Jephtha</i>
Friday	October 15	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle: Fall Celebration
Monday	October 18	7:00 PM	Officers' Meeting: Entered Apprentice Degree Rehearsal
Saturday	October 23	9:00 AM	Old Burial Ground cleanup, Huntington Village
Monday	October 25	7:00 PM	Special Communication: Collation; Masonic Medical Research Institute Presentation
Saturday	October 30	TBA	Oktoberfest
Friday	November 5	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle: Founders Joint Masonic Youth Event (DeMolay, Triangle and Rainbow)

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Tristan Schulbaum, son of Jephtha Lodge Br. Brian Schulbaum, on winning Rookie of the Year at the 2021 Mid-Atlantic Tournament of Champions (MATOC) ritual competition, which took place in Gettysburg, PA on Saturday, September 11, 2021. Tristan is a member of Knights of Antiquity DeMolay which meets in Riverhead, NY.

This is a very significant win for Tristan and for New York DeMolay, as it marks only the 11th individual from New York to win a top honor at this competition in its thirty-eight year history, and the second New York member to win in this category (with the prior win occurring in 1998). Tristan also achieved the second highest score ever recorded in the Rookie of the Year competition at MATOC, scoring 982.5 points out of 1000, which correlates to only two-and-a-half word errors and one floorwork misstep over the course of four pages of memorized work.

This honor is made even more impressive by the fact that Tristan is 12 years old and has been a member of New York DeMolay for less than 10 months. This was his first major ritual competition, though I am certain it will not be his last. After seeing the tremendous and inspiring ritual performances by other young men from around the East Coast and experiencing the inclusive brotherhood of Chapters from across many states, Tristan has expressed a strong desire to continue working to bring pride and attention to the work of our young men of New York DeMolay.

Respectfully submitted,
Br. Brian Schulbaum

TRUTH TRIANGLE

Truth Triangle #31 of the Organization of Triangles, Inc. of NY has been meeting at the Huntington Masonic Temple since our founding in 1927. As the second-oldest active chapter in our Organization, we have been continuing our mission of *Building a Finer American Womanhood* for over 90 years through our three lessons of duty - to God, to ourselves, and to others.

The Organization of Triangles, Inc. of NY is a Masonic Youth Organization which teaches young women, aged 10 to 21, to be confident public speakers, wise leaders, responsible citizens, caring friends, and positive, self-assured individuals. We instruct the young women in relevant skills which will make them better students, better professionals, and assets to their communities through structured meetings, fun events, charity work, and cooperative event planning. Membership is open to any young woman who can

be vouched for by a Master Mason or member of a concordant body, and who believes in any Supreme Being. (We are a non-denominational organization.) Our meetings utilize a ritual based on that of the Order of Eastern Star, who were our original sponsors.

The head elected and installed office for our chapters is the Beloved Queen, and each young woman in this position serves a term of six months. For this term, she crafts a calendar of events for the chapter and selects a charity on which to focus fundraising efforts. For the current term, which runs from April 2021 to November 2021, our Beloved Queen Lilyonna has selected *Hope For Youth* as her term charity. *Hope For Youth* is a wonderful organization which, in the words of their own Mission Statement, "provides stable, nurturing, residential care, foster care, preventative and outpatient programs which educate, motivate and empower individuals to become self-sufficient and achieve their full potential." More information on *Hope for Youth* and our fundraiser can be found at www.hfynt.org and <https://www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/truth-triangle-31-ootny>.

For those who would like to learn more about the Organization of Triangles, Inc. of NY, please visit www.ootny.org, or reach out to our chapter's Junior Deputy, Mrs. Schulbaum, directly at debschulbaum@gmail.com. Truth Triangle's next Public Installation of Officers is scheduled for November 19th at 7:30PM. All are invited to attend. Thank you to all our Brothers, Sisters, and friends for your continued support of our young women.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Schulbaum, Deputy Director
Truth Triangle # 31

MASONIC MOMENT

THE RUG OF APPRECIATION

As a young man Sarkis H. Nahigian fled Armenia to escape persecution and arrived in the United States in 1890. He worked hard and became a successful businessman in Chicago and a devoted Mason. In 1948 he presented a priceless Oriental rug, 46½ feet long and 29½ feet wide, to the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. In presenting the gift he said: "I came to America believing in miracles. I say these words with gratitude, faith and pride. Gratitude to the generations of hard-working and God-fearing men and women who came to this new country to make a home for freedom. Faith, in that the democracy they built will never die. Pride, in that my chance has come to show my appreciation for being an American. And believe me when I say there is no finer title, no higher position than to be a citizen of the United States."

"Here we have freedom of thought, freedom of the press, and freedom of speech. One does not appreciate what these freedoms mean until one recalls what it was to be deprived of them. Now, again, in humble spirit, it gives me great pleasure to donate to our beloved George Washington Masonic Memorial Building, the largest Persian Royal Meshed carpet I have ever known. I donate this carpet in grateful appreciation of all the unlimited privileges and friendships and support I have enjoyed in this blessed United States of America, and not among the least of these is my privilege of being a Mason." Reprinted from *mastermason.com*

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The Royal Persian Meshed Rug was made in Meshed, Persia, for the royal family, and therefore bears the city's name. Twelve people spent 27 years weaving it, and it was finished in 1625. Its loom size was 30' by 50', has 300 hand tied knots to the square inch, which calculates to a total of 64,800,000 knots. It is the largest one piece Persian rug in the world and weighs 600 pounds. Respectfully Submitted, Br. Richard Gentile

FAMOUS OCTOBER MASON

FRANZ LISZT

October 22, 1811, Doborján, Kingdom of Hungary (Austrian Empire) - July 31, 1886, Weimar, Germany

My piano is to me what a ship is to the sailor, what a steed is to the Arab. It is the intimate personal depository of everything that stirred wildly in my brain during the most impassioned days of my youth. It was there that all my wishes, all my dreams, all my joys, and all my sorrows lay.

Music is the heart of life. She speaks love; without it, there is no possible good and with it everything is beautiful.

Although Franz Liszt was born in Hungary, he is generally known by the German form of his name, Franz Liszt. He was born Liszt Ferenc in Doborján and today is known by its German name, Raiding. (Doborján was known by its Hungarian name from 900 until 1920/1921.) At the end of World War I, western Hungary was given to Austria by the treaties of St. Germain and Trianon. Raiding is a small, Austrian, market town (population 865 as of 2018) where Liszt's birthplace museum is located, Liszthaus Raiding.

German was the principal language of Doborján and was the language spoken at home even though his father, Ádám Liszt, was Hungarian. French was the second language which he learned at home from his parents and became his principal language when he moved to Paris as a teenager. He also learned Italian and Latin and knew some English. He struggled with Hungarian throughout his life and only seriously began studying it in his sixties (after 1870).

* * *

Franz Liszt was the only child of Ádám Liszt and Anna Liszt (née Lager); his father was musically inclined playing the piano, violin, cello and guitar. Franz showed an early interest in music at age six, by age seven his father was giving him piano lessons, and by age eight he was composing elementary compositions. By nine he was giving concerts and a group of wealthy patrons sent him to Vienna to study. After his father's death in 1827, List gave up concertizing and moved to Paris with his mother where he earned his living giving piano lessons. He fell in love with one of his pupils, but her father didn't think Liszt suitable enough and Liszt fell into a deep depression with religious doubts. He considered joining a religious order but one of his friends convinced him otherwise.

Because of his poor general education, Liszt began reading voraciously and met many of the authors and artists of his day: Heinrich Heine, Victor Hugo, Alphonse de Lamartine, George Sand, Hector Berlioz, Alexander Borodin, Ludwig van Beethoven, Ole Bull, Frédéric Chopin, Mikhail Glinka, Edvard Grieg, Camille Saint-Saëns, Franz Schubert, Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, and Richard Wagner. After attending a concert by the great violinist Niccolò Paganini in 1832, Liszt decided he wanted to become as great a virtuoso on the piano as Paganini was on the violin. A year later he made a piano transcription of Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique* to popularize Berlioz's work and to improve Berlioz's poor finances. This began the development of Liszt's poetic and romantic side.

In 1833 Liszt began a relationship with the Countess Marie d'Agoult and his creative output exploded. By 1835 the countess left her husband and joined Liszt in Geneva where their daughter, Blandine, was born. He began teaching at the Geneva Conservatory and wrote articles on piano technique and essays for the *Revue et gazette musicale*. During the next four years Liszt and the countess were very happy welcoming a daughter, Cosmia, and a son, Daniel. In the autumn of 1839 their relationship became strained, she moved back to Paris with the children, and he began touring. For the next few years Liszt would visit the countess and his children during the summer, but by 1844 the couple finally separated. For the next eight years Liszt gave concerts which began his most brilliant period as a concert pianist, receiving many honors.

He concertized two or three times a week, giving over 1,000 concerts during this eight year period. He became so famous that by the time he was in his mid-forties he had earned enough money to not have to work for the rest of his life. (His fame would continue to follow him long into retirement.) All of the money he earned after 1857 he gave to charity: generously funding the Beethoven statue (Bonn), founder and financial supporter of the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music (Budapest), the building fund of Cologne Cathedral, the establishment of a Gymnasium (Dortmund), construction of the Leopold Church (Pest), as well as private donations to hospitals, schools and charitable organizations, such as the Leipzig Musicians Pensions Fund, and numerous concerts to raise money for the thousands of homeless after the Great Fire of Hamburg (1842).

Liszt pandemonium swept across all of Europe - Liszt was handsome, 6' 1" tall, and created hysteria among his audiences, especially among women who fought over his silk handkerchiefs and velvet gloves which they tore into shreds as souvenirs. He also had a mesmerizing personality and stage presence. Many of those who attended his concerts affirmed that his playing brought the audiences to a level of mystical ecstasy.



In 1841 Liszt was admitted to the Zur Einigkeit Lodge in Frankfurt am Main. He was passed to the second degree and became Worshipful Master of the Zur Eintracht Lodge in Berlin. In 1845 he became an honorary member of the Modestia cum Libertate in Zürich, and in 1870 of the lodge in Pest (Hungary).

In 1847 while giving a concert in Kiev, he met the Polish Princess Carolyne zu Sayn-Wittgenstein who became the most important person in his life for the next 40 years, convincing him to concentrate on composition and to abandon his concert career. He gave his last concerts in the Balkans, Turkey and Russia and at 35 retired at the height of his career preserving his untarnished legend. He settled in Weimar at the invitation of Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna of Russia, was appointed Kappelmeister Extraordinaire there and spent much time composing during the next 12 years which fixed his reputation as a composer. Liszt also championed the works of Wagner and their friendship lasted until Wagner's death. Wagner also married Liszt's daughter, Cosima, 24 years his junior. (After Wagner's death in 1883, Cosima single handedly directed the Bayreuth Festival, which showcased Wagner's works, for the next 30 years.) While in Weimar, Liszt and Princess Carolyne lived together intending to marry on Liszt's 50th birthday. Although an annulment was initially granted by the Catholic Church, the day before the wedding a letter arrived at the Vatican from the Tsar of Russia and the Pope overturned the annulment.

In 1859 Liszt's 20 year old son, Daniel, died and in 1862 his daughter, Blandine. Liszt took up an idea he had had earlier in life and withdrew from society and entered the Madonna del Rosario monastery outside of Rome. In 1857 he had already joined the Third Order of Saint Francis. (The first order, friars; second order, nuns; third order, men and women (many married) who do not wear a religious habit, take vows or live in a community. They commit themselves to live the Gospel according to the example of St. Francis.) In 1865 he received the tonsure from Cardinal Hohenlohe in his private chapel at the Vatican and received the four minor orders of porter, lector, exorcist and acolyte. After this ordination he was called Abbé Liszt.

In his new life as an abbot, Liszt rarely conducted. He did compose religious music, the Hungarian Coronation Ceremony for Franz Joseph and Elisabeth of Bavaria (Missa Coronationalis) and gave master classes in Weimar and Budapest at the Hungarian Music Academy (today the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music). From 1869 on he made regular visits between Rome, Weimar and Budapest, traveling at least 4,000 miles a year which was extraordinary given his advanced age and the rigors of the road and rail in the 1870's.

Only July 2, 1881, Liszt fell down the stairs at his hotel in Weimar and was immobilized for the next 8

weeks from which he never recovered. Several diseases manifested themselves during his convalescence, with pneumonia as the official cause of death on July 31, 1886. He is buried in the municipal cemetery of Bayreuth as per his daughter Cosima's wishes. He had wanted to be buried in Hungary.

* * *

Liszt was one of the most important performers and composers of the Romantic era and is best known for his virtuoso piano compositions which are among the most challenging to play. A partial list of his better known works are: *Années de Pèlerinage*; *Consolations*; *Études de Concert*; *Funérailles* *Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses*; *Grandes Études de Paganini*; *Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses*; *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 6* in D-Flat Major; *Impromptu "Nocturne"*; *Libesträume*; *Liebeslied*; *Schwanengesang*; *Piano Concerto No. 1* in E-Flat Major, and his many piano transcriptions of other famous composers, many his contemporaries: Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Gounod, Handel, Mendelssohn, Rossini, Schubert, Tchaikovsky and Wagner.

* * *

...Liszt was in many ways the most famous virtuoso pianist and composer of his day. To study almost any of his compositions requires substantial skill, impeccable technique, and stamina. Many of his piano compositions are a fine demonstration of Liszt's facility as a pianist and to have heard him play must have been mesmerizing. Some claim that Liszt's hands were not in the realms of Rachmaninov's but could easily stretch a tenth (C to the E an octave above), others say they were larger.

Where the greater interest is contained is not the fact that Liszt's hands were larger than average but the way his hands were formed. Throughout Franz Liszt's life casts of his hands were made. This offers an invaluable window into the structure of Liszt's hands and provides vital clues to their unusual nature. It is this that is thought to have given Liszt his immense facility on the piano. Looking at the cast currently in the Liszt Museum in Weimar, you can see that Liszt's hands were not, on the surface of it, out of the ordinary. Liszt's fingers were not long, especially in comparison for example, to Chopin's fingers. Liszt's hands have the appearance of being quite slender.

What singles out Liszt's hands is the small amount of connective tissue between the fingers that only begins at the very base of each finger making large spans on the piano easily achievable. It may also account for the astonishing dexterity Liszt displays in his piano music. You can also see in this cast that Liszt's fingers did not have that characteristic pointed appearance that many pianists possess, instead, Liszt's fingers were somewhat blunt-ended.

When you consider this further, it means Liszt's fingertips would have had a large surface area in contact with the piano keys that would be a significant advantage as a pianist. It would probably have given Liszt a great deal of dynamic control that combined with the strength of his fingers, excellent articulatory delivery of every note. Those who were privileged to hear Liszt play commented amongst other things, that his accuracy even at extreme speeds was superb with every note being heard.

Chopin's hands, although quite different in shape to Liszt's also had a flexibility that is not common to many pianists. According to some sources, Chopin's entire body was incredibly flexible. Comments were made during Chopin's lifetime regarding the ability of his hands to 'expand' to encompass huge spans of the piano with little effort. Similar to Liszt, it appears that the physical construction of these pianist's hands is the key not only to their style of compositions but how they were able to play in the way they did.

There also appears to be a certain muscularity in the appearance of Liszt's hands that whilst not entirely unexpected, is not always the case with the hands of other pianists. The natural shape of Liszt's hands together with his life-long belief that he was not a brilliant pianist meant that he would practice four to five hours every day to improve his technique and command of the piano. It is not surprising then that his hands give a gentle impression of strength as well as dexterity.

Today Liszt's music is widely performed, and he is rightly celebrated as a virtuoso pianist and innovative composer whose compositions number around seven-hundred. Like many gifted pianists, Liszt worked throughout his life to extend and enhance his natural facility with the piano. It is also important to recognize the contribution his hand structure made to his ability to reach the dizzy heights that he climbed to.

Pianists across the world aspire to learn and perform Liszt's music, sometimes purely for the display of virtuosity, sometimes for the ingenuity and mastery of musical form; perhaps both. Liszt's work presents a substantial challenge for any pianist if they are aiming to play the way the composer would have and do justice to his music. Liszt's hands were as unique as the man himself.

Maybe we should as pianists, not be too hard on ourselves if we find playing Liszt's compositions a herculean challenge as I suspect not many of us have hands like him, making the task of playing these pieces a touch more difficult. Nevertheless, Liszt has left us with a rich and diverse catalog of beautiful music that we can enjoy even if we do not aspire to be a virtuoso pianist.

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Respectfully submitted,
Br. Richard Gentile

All brothers of Jephtha Lodge are encouraged to contribute articles to Masonic Moments and Famous Mason (the same birth month as the month's publication). Kindly submit articles to the Communications Committee: Br. Bill Fenty III (wfenty@gmail.com) and Br. Richard Gentile (rg.jlnews@aol.com) by the 15th of the month for publication the following month. If you have any questions, kindly contact the two brothers above.

JEPHTHA LODGE 494

OFFICERS

June 2020 - June 2021

Worshipful Master	W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell	Jr. Master of Ceremonies	Br. Bill Friedman
Senior Warden	Br. Michael Crispino Jr	Senior Steward	Br. Frank Como
Junior Warden	Br. William Fenty III	Junior Steward	Br. Frankel Junio
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Secretary	Br. Timothy J. TenClay	Steward	Br. Matthew Tomasino
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ACTIVE JEPHTHA LODGE COMMITTEES AND FUNDS

Ambassador Calling Committee

To attend to elderly Masons and their needs through frequent phone calls and appropriate action.

Br. Michael Crispino Jr, Administrator

Apparel Committee

To maintain, clean and ready all Masonic apparel for immediate use.

Br. Bill Fenty Jr, Chairman; Br. Chuck Brady, W.: Br. Anthony Colonna, Br. Bill Friedman, Br. Luke LoPorto

Artwork Committee

To design and produce distinctive artwork for Jephtha Lodge.

*Br. Chuck Brady, Br. John Hurioglu, Br. Luke Loporto, Br. John Muller, W.: Br. Robert Previto,
W.: Br. Ron Seifried DSA*

Band App Committee

To keep the *Band* app informative and current.

W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, Administrator; W.: Br. Warren Melnick, Co-Administrator

Bar and Libations Committee

To order and stock all drinks and accoutrements and maintain the bar.

Committeemen prepare and serve drinks when appropriate.

Br. Drew MacCallum, Br. Paul Levy, Br. Kenneth J. Siesener

Communications and Newsletter Committee

To ensure Jephtha Lodge communications are correct, timely and promptly disseminated.

To create and publish the monthly *Jephtha Lodge Newsletter*.

Br. William Fenty III, Br. Richard Gentile, Br. Drew MacCallum, W.: Br. Ron Seifried DSA

DJ Entertainment Committee

To organize and provide entertainment at Jephtha Lodge functions.

Br. Geoff Cohen

Education Committee

To hold education classes in the Masonic Degrees, prepare and deliver educational lectures and Masonic moments at stated communications, review and recommend academic scholarships, and provide reasonable assistance in Masonic education or research to the Lodge and its Brothers, or mandates under the Grand Lodge Constitution.

*W.: Br. Robert Previto, Chairman; W.: Br. Dan Bernzweig, W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, W.: Br. Anthony Colonna,
Br. Michael Crispino, Br. Tom Ferrentino, Br. Mitch Goodkin, W.: Br. Rich Harris, Br. John A Lentinello,
W.: Br. John B Lentinello DSA, Br. Tim TenClay*

Finance and Audit Committee

To verify all finances and audits are up-to-date, correct, and certified according to standard accounting procedures.

*W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, Br. Robert Gaudioso, W.: Br. Richard Harris, Br. Anthony S. Kalabacas,
Br. John A Lentinello, W.: Br. John B. Lentinello DSA, W.: Br. Ron Seifried DSA*

Historians and Archivists Committee:

To research, verify, record and archive all Jephtha Lodge history.

W.: Br. Ron Seifried DSA, Br. Paul A. Vermynen III, W.: Br. Robert C. Wuestefeld

Home App and Nest App Committee

To keep *Home* app and *Nest* app up to date and functioning properly.

W.: Br. Warren Melnick, Administrator; W.: Br. Anthony Colonna, W.: Br. Ron Seifried DSA

Investigations Committee:

To receive, record, and investigate submissions from prospective applicants, interview applicants, and report committee findings to the membership.

Br. Frank Como, Br. William Fenty Jr, Br. William Fenty III, W.: Br. Richard Harris, W.: Br. John B. Lentinello DSA, Br. John Muller, W.: Br. Warren Melnick, Br. Mikel Nazarowitz, Br. Gary Osarczuk, Br. Charles J. Williams

InVid Elevate App and Security Cameras Committee

To keep *InVid Elevate* app up-to-date and all security cameras at peak performance.

Br. John Muller, Administrator; Br. Walter Willems

Jephtha Benevolence Fund

To generate funds to support Jephtha Brothers in need.

Br. Luke LoPorto, Chairman; W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, W.: Br. Anthony Colonna, Br. Bill Fenty III, Br. Bill Friedman, W.: Br. Rich Harris

Liaison to Widows Committee

To communicate with deceased Brother's widows to ensure their continued well-being, and share any challenges with the Widows, Sickness and Relief Committee.

Br. Tom Montefusco

Masonic Brotherhood Fund

To raise funds in cooperation with the Grand Lodge of New York to support brothers in need.

Br. Chaz Hudak

NorthStar and Shepherding Committee

To prepare Jephtha Lodge Brothers for their degrees in conformance with the Grand Lodge of New York guidelines.

W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, Br. William Fenty III, Br. Anthony Kalabacus, Br. John A Lentinello, Br. Luke LoPorto, Br. Timothy TenClay, Br. Chris Tomasino

Our Lodge Page Committee

To edit and supply *Our Lodge Page* content for completeness and timeliness.

W.: Br. Warren Melnick, Administrator; W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, Co-Administrator

Past Master Liaison Committee

To assist the present Worshipful Master as needed.

W.: Br. Anthony Colonna

Photographer Committee

To photograph Jephtha Lodge events.

Br. Drew MacCallum

Ritual Committee

To ensure all ritual is properly executed and performed in conformance with the Grand Lodge of New York guidelines.

W.: Br. Jeremiah Campbell, Br. Michael Crispino Jr., Br. William Fenty III, W.: Br. Rich Harris, Br. Anthony S. Kalabacas, Br. John A. Lentinello, Br. Luke LoPorto, Br. John Muller, W.: Br. Robert Previto

Travel Committee

To arrange and oversee the safe execution of all Jephtha Lodge travel.

W.: Br. Warren Melnick, W.: Br. Robert Previto

Truth Triangle Liaison Committee

To coordinate Truth Triangle with Jephtha Lodge news and events.

W.: Br. Anthony Colonna, W.: Br. Rich Harris

Veterans Affairs Liaison Committee

To organize Veterans Affairs with Jephtha Lodge information and activities.

W.: Br. John B Lentinello DSA

Website and Tech Support Committee

To oversee the Jephtha Lodge website, provide tech support as needed, and keep the website up-to-date and running smoothly.

W.: Br. Warren Melnick, Administrator; Br. Drew MacCallum, W.: Br. Ron Seifried DSA

Widows, Sickness and Relief Committee

To remain mindful of and offer appropriate relief to Jephtha Lodge widows, Brothers and their families who are ill or in distress.

Br. Michael Crispino Jr

***ALL BROTHERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN AT LEAST ONE COMMITTEE
FOR THE SMOOTH AND EFFICIENT RUNNING OF JEPHTHA LODGE.***

KINDLY MAKE YOUR REQUEST KNOWN TO

**TIM TENCLAY, SECRETARY
JEPHTHASECRETARY@GMAIL.COM
516.710.2406**

YOUR NAME WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE PROPER CHAIRMAN.

