

JEPHTHA LODGE 494

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

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Saint John the Evangelist (ca. 15 AD-ca. 100 AD), also known as St. John the Apostle, St. John of Patmos, and the Beloved Disciple, is one of the two Holy Saints John of Jerusalem Freemasons acknowledge as their Patron Saint. His Feast Day is December 27th, and his iconography is the eagle, pen and book. He is also known by some as St. John the Presbyter and St. John the Divine, although they might not have been the same man.

For Freemasonry, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist was utilized by many of the early Grand Lodges in England and Scotland as well as individual lodges. The Lodge of Edinburgh was associated with... St. John the Evangelist in St. Giles Cathedral as far back as the 15th century. The Grand Lodge of All England, which was a Masonic body located primarily in the city of York, as well as its predecessor the Ancient Society of Freemasons in the City of York, elected its President and, starting in 1725, its Grand Master on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist. The Ancient Grand Lodge of England also elected its Grand Master on the same day. When the Ancients and the Moderns merged in 1813 to become the United Grand Lodge of England it occurred on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist.

Reprinted from Masonrytoday.com

The placement of the holiday also marks the winter solstice, which is directly opposite Saint John the Baptist's day at the summer solstice in June making a notable completion in the cycle of the solar year. The actual dates are slightly off, but you get the symbolism. But why John the Evangelist, and what about him represents the counterbalance of John the Baptist, the opposite pillar of the point within the circle? For those who forget, the point within the circle is the Masonic symbol that all men are said to endeavor to emulate in their physical and spiritual being. It essentially is the balancing one's desires and passions in the pursuit of knowledge.



Saint John the Baptist, represented as the inverted pyramid, the Alchemical sign for water, representing the spiritual and emotional love. St. John the Evangelist, represented as the pyramid pointing up symbolizing fire that is the drive and will of action. When placed together, they symbolize the perfect balance of darkness and light, life and death, passion and constraint, will and emotion, winter and summer. Together both represent the interlocked star of Solomon, or the Square and Compass.

So, who was John the Evangelist? Known for several things he was most notably as the only disciple of Christ to not forsake Him in the hour of His Passion at the foot of the cross and he was the first to reach

the tomb; when he met the risen Lord at the lake of Tiberius, where he was the first to recognize Him. Also, he is attributed as the writer of the Epistles of John, and the book of Revelation. His feast day is said to have first been mentioned in the Sacramentary of Pope Adrian I near 772 A.D.

The Evangelist is also called the Apostle of Charity, which may be in part, his connection to Freemasonry. Or perhaps it is his unwavering resolve and purity for his love of the divine. The message to take from John the Evangelist is to "Apply thyself, therefore, to purity of heart, and thou shalt be like Saint John, a beloved disciple of Jesus, and shalt be filled with heavenly wisdom." The feast is little remembered today, except in passing by a few lodges that gather together to celebrate it. It was once a high feast day for Freemasonry because of its proximity to the holidays and the presence of lodge members being close to home. It gave them a festival to meet under to punctuate the closing of the year. Meeting like this though is something not so convenient in this modern day as everyone travels abroad for the holiday. I belong to just one such club who is actually meeting the night before the feast, where we will definitely venerate the meeting and its symbolic importance.

So, the days following Christmas, pause for a moment to reflect and remember the feast day of Saint John the Evangelist, that pillar on the opposite side of John the Baptist balancing that circumscribed point within a circle.

Reprinted from <https://freemasoninformation.com/masoniceducation/esoterica/saint-john-the-evangelist/>

Respectfully submitted,
Br. Richard Gentile

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST



My dear Brothers,

Happy belated Diwali, Happy Hanukkah & Merry Christmas!

I sincerely hope you enjoyed Thanksgiving with your family and friends. During the holiday season our brethren embrace charity and display it to the world. Jephtha continues to help our Veterans and our fellow man with our generous donations. In the midst of a pandemic, we were able to make a difference in the world with our Food and Coat Drive by helping the less fortunate. My brothers, this teaches us that even in the darkest night, our Masonic light shines bright. I thank you all for your continuing support and love of our Craft.

December brings even more joyous events as we embark upon year's end. Our stated communication of December 13, 2021, will not be at the lodge this year. Jephtha will join the Masonic Suffolk District Long Island Past Masters Association in Sayville for a Holiday Gala. There is a cost for attending this event so please contact our secretary if you plan on attending as seats are limited.

Jephtha will end 2021 with a blast as we bring back New Year's Eve on December 31, 2021, from 8 PM until midnight, at Jephtha Lodge. All lodges, friends & families of Masons are invited. I hope to see many of you there to ring in the New Year! Health and wellness are all I wish for you and your families. May brotherly love prevail!

See you all again in 2022!

Sincerely and Fraternally Yours,
W.: Jeremiah Campbell

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST



My dear Brothers,

Growing up believing in Santa, and still believing in him, it has come to my realization he is indeed a Freemason. Like all of us he is worthy & well qualified, charitable, and caring of all mankind. Like me, he is overweight, and filled with secrecy who meets in a special place with his brethren, his beloved elves. Santa is the reason for Toys for Tots and delivers his share in vast numbers in a limited amount of time while keeping his identity a mystery and avoiding any type of public display. He shows love for all.

On his yearly route I have concluded he starts from the North Pole in an easterly direction, and that is where we embark on our great Journey in Masonry the moment we become Entered Apprentices, the Northeast Corner of the Lodge.

St. Nicholas, on whom Santa is based, was a wealthy fourth century bishop from Turkey. The legend of Santa coming down the chimney began when St. Nicholas climbed upon the roof of a poor family's home who couldn't afford a wedding for the three daughters. He threw three gold coins down the chimney which landed in their stocking hanging by the fireplace and thus enabling them to get married. What differentiates this from my personal Santa experiences is the girls received gold, I usually received coal!

This event is why St. Nicholas has become the Patron Saint of Children. Every December 6th Saint Nicholas visits children on a white horse and asks how they have behaved the previous year. All children leave a pair of shoes with a carrot and hay for St. Nicholas' horse, and the good children are rewarded with candy and small presents.

These traditions were brought to us by the Dutch settlers. About 150 years later, the poem "The Night Before Christmas," also known as "A Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement Clarke Moore, was written with all the details in which we believe today, including flying reindeer with names, with the newest reindeer, Rudolph, added by Robert L. May in 1939.

In my most humble opinion, Santa Claus is a Freemason, not just because of what is mentioned above, but because of the joy and hope he brings to all the world, especially to his cherished children.

Although Santa is a Christian belief celebrating the greatest gift God has given us, the birth of his Son, Jesus, other important holidays are also celebrated this time of year - Diwali with lights, gifts, and toys; Hanukkah with its lights and gifts celebrating peace; the feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe with singing, dancing and the blessing of roses; Kwanza with art, food and light; and the feast of St. John the Evangelist, one of the two Patron Saints of Freemasonry. We have many traditions in common and what a perfect way to end the year with family and brotherhood, gifts, wonderful food and good cheer.

I especially love the process of choosing the perfect gifts for those I hold dear. Please look at my Facebook page and see the Christmas Village I assisted my daughter in planning, a tradition I love, dedicated to friends & loved ones. (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066981361044>)

I thank all my Brothers at Jephtha Lodge for a wonderful 2021, and I look forward to a fabulous 2022 together. Enjoy a safe and Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

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

FURTHER PROOF SANTA IS A FREEMASON ***The Night Before Christmas, Down At The Lodge***



'Twas the Night before
 Christmas,
 And down at the lodge
 Not a gavel was stirring,
 And in the hodge podge
 Of aprons and jewels
 And chairs East and West
 You could savour the
 silence,
 Most gladly divest
 All metal and mineral,
 It mattered not,
 Since Christmas was nigh
 And the coals were still hot
 In the hearth of your home place,
 All Masons abed,
 As visions of trestleboards
 Danced in their head;
 When up on the roof there arose such a clatter
 Our Tyler jumped up to see what was the
 matter!
 He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,
 Three knocks shook the panels – he wondered
 “What for?”
 He answered the knocking with raps of his own,
 And once the door opened he saw, with a moan
 Of delight, it was Santa, all jolly and red
 Except for one notable feature instead!
 Upon his large finger he wore what we knew
 Was compasses and square on a background of
 blue!
 “Why Santa!” he shouted and lowered his blade,
 “I see you’re a Mason!” the Tyler relayed.
 He looked toward the Master’s most dignified
 chair
 And said, voice near trembling, “Most Worshipful
 there
 Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!”
 The Master replied, “Let’s allow him – but wait!
 You tell me a Gentleman, but I don’t see
 His apron beneath that red suit. Can it be
 Our visitor hasn’t been properly raised?
 Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?”
 “I do beg your pardon,” ol’ Santa said quick

As he pulled up his coat and
 displayed not a stick
 But a cane with engraving,
 two balls did appear
 And oh, what an apron, he
 wore and held dear!
 Adorned like the Master’s,
 complete with a sign
 Of “Lodge Number One, the
 North Pole” on one line!

“Now let this man enter,” the Master declared,
 And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all
 stared,

For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen
 For many a century – there in between
 The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar
 Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a
 dollar!

“It’s Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess
 Are actually images brought from the West
 By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the
 world!”

And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled
 An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East,
 “My friend I have plenty. Tonight we will feast
 On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!”
 A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a
 stir,

As presents and promises flew from his sack!
 This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack
 For making this Christmas the best you could
 glean,

And soon even Deacons were laughing. They’d
 seen

On this very night only happiness reigned!
 This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained
 That only a Mason could be so inclined
 To make all kids happy, make all people find
 A Christmas so special. Yes, Santa was right!
 Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

Author: Clayton L. Wright

Reprinted from:

<https://freemasoninformation.com/2016/12/a-masonic-christmas-card/#comments>

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH



My Brothers, I bring you holiday greetings as we head into the end of 2021. I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanza and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Jephtha Lodge has been getting out to the district of late. In November we attended the District Deputy Grand Master's visit to the Babylon lodge where Jephtha made an impressive showing with 8 brothers. It was a wonderful event and the hospitality of W. Chano Rivera, the Wardens and Brothers of Babylon Lodge #793 was warm and inviting.

The Brothers of Jephtha lodge also made a strong showing at the Installation of the officers of Truth Triangle #31. Lead by W. Jeremiah Campbell, many of the line officers were present for what truly was an inspired evening as the Truth Triangles installed their Beloved Queen, Lilyonna Morales, for her second term. The young ladies of the Truth Triangle #31 presented an exceptional ceremony with outstanding floor and ritual work. We also had present two of Jephtha Lodge's very own DeMolays, Tristan Schulbaum and Dillon Sloop. It was a great evening and I encourage our brothers to continue showing strong support for our Masonic Youth. They are our future.

In December, Jephtha Lodge will be supporting the Long Island Past Masters Association Holiday Gala on December 13th. This association has long been a supporting body for Suffolk Masons, and our new District Deputy, R. W. Jeffrey G. Santorello, made a special request to support this event. Jephtha will answer that call.

We will end the year with a bang with Jephtha Lodge's New Year's Eve Party. Details are being planned as of this writing.

2021 has been a trying year. Continued pandemic concerns, a changing economy, apprehension and uncertainty have weighed heavily upon everyone. Jephtha Lodge has continued to do what it always does, be a beacon light in the darkness. As we begin the holiday season and see the festive decorations and lights, we should remember those less fortunate than ourselves. Remember our duty to contribute to helping all members of our community. To support this endeavor, the Benevolence Committee will continue to collect coats, nonperishable foods and toys through the Holiday Party on November 27th. If you have not yet contributed by then, please bring a donation to the party.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Br. Bill Fenty III

GREETINGS FROM THE CORNER DESK

It is that time again; the time you have all been waiting for, dues time.



If you have not yet received your dues notice, you will be soon. Jephtha's dues are among the lowest on Long Island, but they are an essential part of our budget. Please pay them by the end of the year, if at all possible. (If you are in a situation of financial hardship, *let me or one of our officers know*. No one at Jephtha wants dues to create a problem for you or your family. Your presence and participation at lodge is more important, and if you need help keeping your dues up to date, we would like to see what we can do.)

As you know, we have tried our best to move away from cash usage at the lodge; this policy remains consistent for our dues collections. We prefer *not* to receive *any* dues payments in cash. The best option

is to pay through PayPal at: www.jephtha.com/dues, you can also pay by check sent directly to the lodge PO Box: Jephtha Lodge, No 494 F. & A. M. PO Box 20243 Huntington Station, NY 11746.

If you believe your dues notice was incorrect, please contact me directly at: jephthasecretary@gmail.com

I would also like to offer my annual reminders that:

- 1) You will *not* be getting a new dues card. The Grand Lodge moved to permanent dues cards several years ago. If you have lost yours and need a new one, please let me know.
- 2) If you have changed address, phone number, or email, please let me know so that I can keep our database as up to date as possible.

Thanks!

Happy Holidays, my Brothers,
Tim TenClay, Secretary

GREETINGS FROM THE HISTORIAN

On November 19, 2021, prior to the installation of the Truth Triangle No. 31 officers, the Jephtha Masonic Museum was the beneficiary of an impressive Masonic artifact - a set of five brilliant blue mugs and pitcher adorned with Masonic symbols and platinum banding, manufactured by Thomas Maddock & Sons of Trenton, New Jersey, and date to the early 20th century. They were donated by W.: Dutch Heuser, Past Master and current Secretary of Wantagh-Morton Lodge No. 63. This impressive collection is only a small part of several donations our dedicated Brother has bestowed on our fast-growing museum.



Thomas Maddock (1818-1899) was born in Burslem (Staffordshire, England) into a family of potters. He and his family came to New York City in 1847 where he established a china decorating shop, the first of its kind in the United States. He gained prominence as the designer of a White House dinner service for President Franklin Pierce.

Maddock also improved the old fashioned, early nineteenth century plumbing method of connecting lead pipe to a toilet by inventing a brass coupling replacement. His 1880 invention allowed the plumbing to be directly connected to the toilet, an innovation that was used for many years well into the 20th century. When "water closets" started making their way into homes, he formed a partnership in Trenton with his sons Charles, Archibald and Harry that produced another of his inventions, vitrified glass surface pottery toilets, then called "sanitary ware." Originally named Thomas Maddock and Sons, his sons renamed it Thomas Maddock's Sons Co. after their father's death in 1899. At one time Trenton led the nation in the production of sanitary ware. The company suffered hard times in the 1920s and was forced to sell to American Standard in 1929.

W.: Ron Seifried, DSA
Jephtha Lodge Historian

CONGRATULATIONS TO BR. THOMAS WAINWRIGHT

On Saturday, November 6, 2021, Br. Thomas Wainwright of Jephtha Lodge was inducted into the Legion of Honor by DeMolay International at a special ceremony held at the Grand Lodge in New York City hosted by the Knickerbocker Chapter, Order of DeMolay. Three men were granted this honor while others received Honorary Legion of Honor, Cross of Honor, and Chevalier. Each of these is a distinguished award granted to an individual only after unanimous vote by DeMolay International at their Annual Meeting.

DeMolay International defines Br. Wainwright's honor as follows: "The Legion of Honor is the highest honor conferred by DeMolay International. It may be conferred upon a Senior DeMolay who has attained the age of twenty-five years for outstanding leadership in some field of endeavor, or for success in fraternal life, including adult service to the order. No one may apply for this distinction, and a nominee... must have no knowledge of the recommendation... ."

Br. Wainwright was nominated for this award based on his exemplary and dedicated service to the Masonic Youth of Suffolk County, his long Masonic service as a Past Master of Alcyone Lodge, a member of Jephtha Lodge, as well as a past Patron of Adah Chapter, Order of Eastern Star. He is a Senior DeMolay who began his journey at the Walt Whitman Chapter which met at Huntington before moving to Nissequogue DeMolay in Smithtown. He previously received Past Master Councilor Meritorious ranking, the degree of Chevalier and served a term as Deputy Region Master Councilor of Suffolk under the former State Master Councilor William Sardone. He is a dedicated family man who has worked throughout his life to ensure Masonic values are paramount in the hearts and minds of his family. He has never sought nor desired the spotlight which makes this honor even more noteworthy.

His red cords and medallion were bestowed upon him during the ceremony by his daughters, Jennifer and Deborah, both of whom are active advisors and alumni of local Masonic Youth organizations, including Truth Triangle #31 which meets at Jephtha Lodge. Assisting in the knighting ceremony were his two grandsons, Tristan and Dillon, who are an active DeMolay and a DeMolay Squire, respectively. Tristan also served as Herald during the degree, announcing the start of the presentation. Witnessing the ceremony were his son-in-law, Brother Brian Schulbaum of Jephtha Lodge, and his granddaughter, Truth Triangle member Cadence. Br. Wainwright was blessed to have his family witness his induction and participate in the conferring of his Legion of Honor, the highest honor of DeMolay International.

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

BIRTHDAYS

Gino Caba	Arthur M. Landman	Brian C. Rodriguez	Paul A. Vermynen
Christopher Camilleri	John B. Lentinello	Matthew P. Romanoff	Charles J. Williams
Jeremiah Campbell	Thomas E. McDevitt	Joseph C. Savaglio	
Jonathan Z. Ginsberg	Jarred Muraco	Christopher Tomasino	
Wendell M. Hannaford	Dominick F. Porcella	Eduardo Vera	

RAISINGS

Christopher F. Fusaro
Peter D. McParland
Robert Wuestefeld

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



DECEMBER 2021

Friday	December 3	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle
Sunday	December 5	2:00 PM	 Knights of Antiquity DeMolay Public Installation of Officers , Riverhead Masonic Temple, 1246 Roanoke Avenue, Riverhead, NY 11901
Monday	December 13	7:00 PM	Long Island Past Masters Dinner Land's End Hotel, 70 Brown's River Road, Sayville, NY 11782 This gathering is not a Stated Communication.
Friday	December 17	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle
Monday	December 20	7:00 PM	Officer' and Trustees' Meeting Fellow Craft Degree Discussion
Monday	December 27		No Meeting , the Lodge will be dark
Friday	December 31	8 PM-12 PM	 New Year's Eve Party Celebrate the year's end with Jephtha.

TRUTH TRIANGLE

On Friday, November 19th, Truth Triangle #31 held its semi-annual Public Installation of Officers. Beloved Queen Lilyonna, a third-generation Truth Triangle member, began her second term leading the chapter. We were honored to have five members of the Knights Templar present, some from as far away as Westchester, to perform an honor guard during the installing ceremonies.

The members and supervisors would like to extend a very special "Thank You!" to the many Brothers from



Jephtha who attended the installation. Having you present to witness our ladies' hard work was truly special, and we count ourselves blessed to be a part of the Jephtha Lodge family.

For this term, Lilyonna has chosen to continue raising funds for *Hope For Youth* and has planned an exciting agenda of meetings and fun events covering the next six months. Invitations will soon be extended for our upcoming events and fundraising efforts. We look forward to sharing with you all in continued, fraternal companionship!

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

W. O. M.

Wives & Women of Masons

Worshipful Master Jeremiah Campbell and Anita Campbell have invited Wives and Women of Masons to join the Masons at their collations on the second Monday of the month, 7:00 PM at Jephtha Lodge #494:

January 10, 2022
February 14, 2022

March 14, 2022
April 11, 2022

May 9, 2022

Worshipful Master Jeremiah Campbell and Anita Campbell have also invited Wives and Women of Masons to attend the following events at Jephtha Lodge:

December 31, 2021: **New Year's Eve Party** (Fundraiser), 8 PM-12 AM

Join us as we relive a gone but not forgotten Jephtha tradition of celebrating the closing year while bringing in a new year full of promise with family and friends! Children welcome, a babysitter will be on the premises. (50/50 raffle) Ticket prices TBD.

February 19, 2022: **Mardi Gras Party** (Fundraiser), Time TBD

Wear your Green, Gold and Purple best! Children welcome, tickets include all you can eat buffet and non-alcoholic drinks, beer and wine, cash bar available. (50/50 raffle) Ticket prices TBD

March 13, 2022: **St. Patrick's Day Celebration** (Fundraiser), Time TBD

Let's get GREEN!!! Party with Jephtha as we watch the Town of Huntington's St. Patrick's Day Parade from the street or from the windows of the lodge! Children encouraged to attend. Ticket prices include all you can eat food and non-alcoholic drinks, wine and beer, cash bar available. (50/50 raffle)

April 23, 2022: **Cemetery Cleanup** (Jephtha Outreach), 10 AM-12 PM

Fort Golgotha and the Old Burial Ground, 228 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743

Yard work/cleanup, dress accordingly, OK to bring your own gardening tools; children that can help are encouraged to attend and will receive signed volunteer hours. Let us know at least 3 days in advance so they can receive their certificates.

April 30, 2022: **Third Degree Dinner**, Location and prices TBD

Times and Ticket Prices to be determined (TBD) if not mentioned, and the location is at the lodge unless otherwise mentioned. **Please contact Anita Campbell if you have any questions, 516.805.6194.**

MASONIC MOMENT

The Great Secret of Freemasonry

Recently I called at the home of a friend and found his wife reading a Masonic Paper. Since she and her

people had long been a bitter anti-Masonic family, I asked her the reason for her change in reading material. She replied she had discovered the grand secret of Masonry; and related to me (*the original writer*) as follows:

"Soon after you were here last, I learned to my mortification, my husband had become a Mason. I felt it was because of you and I need not say how I felt toward either of you. I at once decided that my domestic happiness had come to an end. Sometime later a circumstance occurred that for the first time gave me reason to doubt his integrity. Late on one of the coldest nights last winter my husband came in and asked, "Margaret, can you do without your blanket shawl?" I answered yes and he asked me to get it, also a bed comforter. I handed them to him and he left the house to join a friend who was waiting for him with a very large basket. My husband returned shortly with no explanation, either then or later for his actions. I decided to watch for my shawl, for if I once caught sight of it I could unravel this whole mystery. Soon afterward a female whisked past me on the street wearing my shawl.

"The good for nothing huzzy," I thought; and excitedly started in pursuit. I followed closely from street to street and into the fourth story of a bindery. As she sat down to work, I immediately set about locating her residence to get a clue to my husband's perfidy. On arriving at her home, I saw that I was not mistaken for I found my comforter there.

"The who secret flashed on my mind at once, as clearly as if it had been written with a sunbeam from heaven. There I found a widowed mother in the last stages of consumption, and three children dependent upon the scanty pittance earned by the elder sister, whom I had followed. I learned from the dying woman a lesson, that in all my philosophy I had never dreamed of—such a tale of sorrow as I had never before listened to—and when she had related the deed of charity that had been the cause of all my unhappiness, I felt there was not room in my bosom to appreciate the disinterested benevolence of my husband. She said, "I do not know how we should have lived, but for the kindness of two persons who came here late one night, and left a basket filled with provisions, some bedclothes, a shawl and five dollars. They just opened the door and set in the basket, saying, "Accept this and ask no questions," and left before I had time to inquire their names. I do not know who they were, and I have some doubts from where these things came. But I never forget in earnest prayers to Him, Who opened His hand and filleth the poor with bread, to ask, if these were men, He will keep them and theirs from the sorrows and afflictions with which I am visited. I left the house a better woman than when I entered it."

"But the grand secret of Masonry," said I, "I thought you were to tell me what it is." She replied, "It is this—to do good and not tell of it."

Mindoro Lodge No. 157 F & AM, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro, Philippines
Reprinted from: masonictravels.com

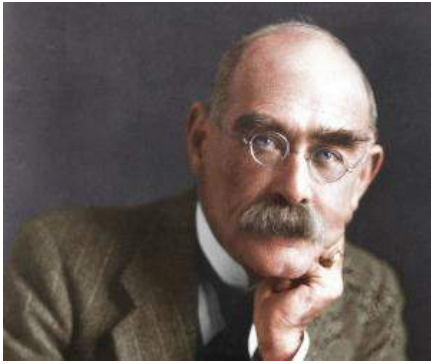
Respectfully submitted,
Br. Richard Gentile

FAMOUS DECEMBER MASON

Joseph Rudyard Kipling

December 30, 1865, Malabar Hill, Bombay, British India - January 18, 1936, Fitzrovia, London, England
Nobel Prize in Literature, 1907
Buried in Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey, London, England

Rudyard Kipling, as he was known, was the son of John Lockwood Kipling and Alice MacDonald, one of four vivacious sisters. "Dullness and Mrs. Kipling cannot exist in the same room," said Lord Dufferin. His father was a sculptor and pottery designer, principal and professor of architectural sculpture at the Sir



Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy School of Art in Bombay. John and Alice loved Rudyard Lake (Staffordshire, England) where they courted and thus named their first child Rudyard.

Kipling was born in India and spoke Hindi before English thanks to his ayah (nanny) and considered himself an Anglo-Indian. When he was 5 and his sister 3, the children were sent to England to live with a couple that boarded children of British nationals living abroad. He was not happy with this family and recalled his stay with horror, cruelty and neglect. He and his sister did spend the Christmas holidays with a maternal aunt and her husband which they found "a paradise which I

verily believe saved me."

Realizing he would not get a scholarship to continue his studies at Oxford University and his parents didn't have the means to send him, he sailed for Bombay in 1882 at sixteen and a half years old where his father obtained a job for him as assistant editor of the local newspaper, *Civil and Military Gazette*, in Lahore. (His father was principal of the May College of Art and curator of the Lahore Museum.) Later, he worked for *The Pioneer* in Allahabad. At the newspaper, Kipling contributed short stories, and the paper became his "mistress and true love." His output of stories continued at a frenetic pace.

While in India, Kipling became a Freemason. *After the paper had been put to bed in the sultry Indian midnight, he would find his way into the old walled city to sense the mystic atmosphere of that colourful land and its ancient people, and to exercise a talent for absorbing background and for storing in his memory impression and incidents which provided material for a half-century of literary production. In the bazaars, from all sorts of conditions of natives, from police officers, and from service people, he gathered copy that was to be the basis of many poems and stories. His biographer says that one of the channels by which he penetrated the underworld was Freemasonry - he was fascinated by the mysterious bond that over-came class rules. Freemasonry was a cult that transcended caste and sects. It was the only ground in a caste ridden country on which adherents of different religions could meet on the level. In his twenty-first year he began to produce the verse and stories that were to make him famous, and which attracted attention from the outset.*

In "Something of Myself," Kipling writes: In 1885, I was made a Freemason by dispensation (being underage) in the Lodge of Hope and Perseverance 782 EC because the Lodge hoped for a good Secretary. They did not get him, but I helped, and got Father to advise me in decorating the bare walls of the Masonic Hall with hangings after the prescription of King Solomon's Temple. Here I met Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, members of the Araya and Brahmo Samaj, a Jewish Tyler, who was a priest and butcher to his little community in the city. So, yet another world was opened to me which I needed. We get a little more detail in a letter Kipling wrote in the London Times, dated March 28, 1935: In reply to your letter, I was Secretary for some years of the Lodge of Hope and Perseverance No. 782, English Constitution which included Brethren of at least four different creeds. I was entered by a member of the Brahmo Samaj (a Hindu), passed by a Mohammedan, and raised by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew. We met, of course, on the level and the only difference that anyone would notice was that at our banquets some of the Brethren, who were debarred by caste rules from eating food not ceremoniously prepared, sat over empty plates. I had the good fortune to be able to arrange a series of informal lectures by Brethren of various faiths, on baptismal ceremonies of their religions.

There seems to have been some quality deep within his nature to which Freemasonry appealed. The idea of a secret bond, of a sense of community, and of high principles among men sworn to a common purpose, fitted his concept of a social order...

We find the reflection of Kipling's Masonic interest in three areas of his writing. There are wholly Masonic poems, of which "The Mother Lodge" and "Banquet Night" are largely familiar to Masons; there are the overtly Masonic-based stories such as "The Man Who Would Be King," "Kim," and those relating to the Lodge of Faith and Works, No. 5837, English Constitution, such as "In the Interests of the Brethren," "The Janeites," etc.; and there are the numerous Masonic allusions which colour many of his poems and stories...

Kipling seems ever-ready to insert, often in an incidental manner, Masonic allusions suggested by the ritual, terminology and symbols with which he was so intimately acquainted, and which had become embedded in his mind. The interested reader, who is persistent, will find more of such, often when least expected.

Reprinted in part from freemasons-freemasonry.com/kipling.htm#1

In 1889 Kipling had a dispute with *The Pioneer* and returned to England via the United States with stops in Rangoon, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan. During his journeys in the United States, he met Mark Twain and was deeply impressed. Mark Twain's advice to Kipling as an author was "get your facts first and then you can distort 'em as much as you please." He lived in London where he met the American writer and publishing agent, Wolcott Balestier, and in 1882 Kipling married Balestier's sister, Carrie Balestier. They honeymooned in the United States and Japan, finally settling in Dummerston, Vermont at 707 Kipling Road, 3 miles north of Brattleboro. The house still stands today (named Naulakha, a National Historical Landmark), inspired by Mughal architecture. During his time in Vermont, he wrote *The Jungle Books* ("The Day's Work," "Captains Courageous"), a great deal of poetry (a volume entitled *The Seven Seas*), *Barrack-Room Ballads* which contained his poems "Mandalay" and "Gunga Din."

In 1896 Kipling, his wife and two daughters left Vermont for England. Anti-British sentiment in the United States and being threatened by his drunk brother-in-law caused their departure. They settled on the Devon Coast and a little time afterwards their son was born. Kipling had become a famous writer and he was finally, financially secure. During the winters he and his family would sail to South Africa and stay in a house on the Cecil Rhode estate.

In 1902 Kipling bought Bateman's House in rural Burwash (East Sussex, England) where he lived until his death in 1936. During his time at Bateman's House, his daughter Josephine died of pneumonia, and in her memory, he wrote *Just So Stories for Little Children*. In 1901 he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature, the first English-language recipient, and the youngest to ever do so at 42 years of age. The prize citation read, "In consideration of the power of observation, originality of imagination, virility of ideas and remarkable talent for narration which characterize the creations of this world-famous author." In 1915 his son, John, was killed in World War I for which he wrote the poem, "My Boy Jack." (There is some question if this poem is in honor of his son, or someone else, since John was never called Jack by his family.) His body was not positively identified until 1992; he is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Haisnes, France.

In response to John's death, Kipling became active in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission responsible for garden-like war graves throughout the world where British Empire troops are buried. Kipling's main contributions to the commission are literary: "Their Name Liveth for Evermore" on Stones of Remembrance in the large war cemeteries, and "Known Unto God" for gravestones of unidentified servicemen. He also chose the inscription "The Glorious Dead" on the cenotaph in Whitehall, London. He wrote a history of the Irish Guards, his son's regiment, and it is one of the finest examples of regimental history (1923).

Kipling died in 1936, and after his wife's death in 1939, their home, Bateman's House, was bequeathed to the National Trust. Today it is a museum dedicated to the author. (His only surviving child, a daughter,

died in 1976.)

Kipling's greatest works:

The Jungle Book (1894)

Kim (1901)

Many short stories, including: "The Man Who Would Be King" (1888)

His poems, especially: "Mandalay" (1890), "Gunga Din" (1890), "The Gods of the Copybook Headings" (1919), "The White Man's Burden," (1899), "If___" (1910)

Kipling's well known quotes:

Oh East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet

Our England is a garden ...

He travels fastest who travels alone.

Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind.

Everyone is more or less mad on one point.

One of the hardest things to realize, especially for a young man, is that our forefathers were living men who really knew something.

Respectfully submitted,

Br. Richard Gentile

All brothers of Jephtha Lodge are encouraged to contribute articles to Masonic Moments, Famous Mason (the same birth month as the month's publication) and Historic Masonic Publications. 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. Frank Como
Senior Warden	Br. Michael Crispino Jr	Senior Steward	Br. Frankel Junio
Junior Warden	Br. William Fenty III	Junior Steward	Br. Paul J. Levy
Treasurer	Br. Robert Gaudioso	Steward	Br. Matthew Tomasino
Secretary	Br. Timothy J. TenClay	Marshall	Br. Drew MacCallum
Assistant to Secretary	Br. Harry R. Burger	Assistant Marshall	Br. William Fenty Jr
Chaplain	W.: Br. Anthony Colonna	Tiler	Br. Gary Osarczuk
Senior Deacon	Br. John A. Lentinello	Organist	Br. Randolph Ivans
Junior Deacon:	Br. Bill Friedman	Ritual Director	W.: Br. Rich Harris
Sr. Master of Ceremonies	Br. Luke LoPorto		

TRUSTEES

W.: Ronald J. Seifried, DSA, Chairman	
W.: Br. Daniel Bernzweig	Br. Stephen Schenker
Br. John Hurioglo	Br. Walter Willems

JUNIOR TRUSTEES

W.: Br. Anthony Colonna.	Br. John Muller
Br. Robert Wedderburn	

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, W.: Br. Ron Seifried 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 Gaudio, 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. Vermeylen III, W.: Br. Robert C. Wuestefeld DSA

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

Photography 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.

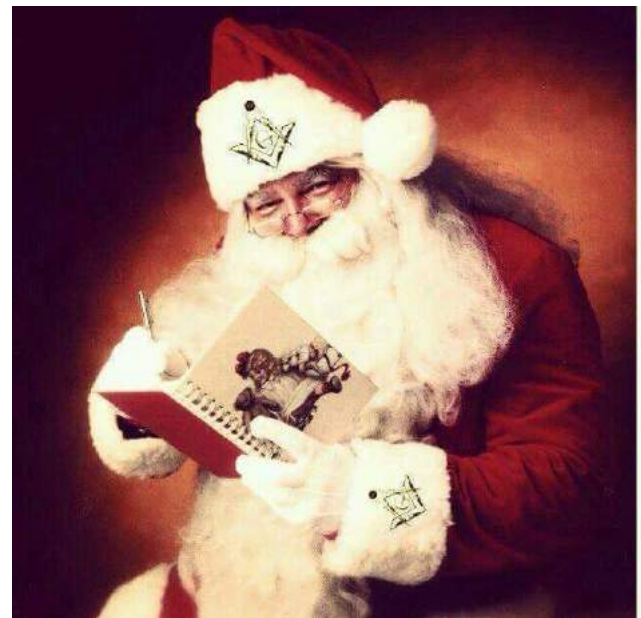
Br. Michael Crispino Jr

***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.



Happy Holidays to all my Brothers and their Families