

JEPHTHA LODGE 494

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

WORSHIPFUL MASTER MICHAEL S CRISPINO, JR

Br Richard Gentile, Editor Officer
rg.jlnews@aol.com

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST



Greetings Brethren,

Happy February!

As Worshipful Master, and as a past officer in other chairs, I had, and still have, many events, practices, degrees and travel to other lodges during this Masonic year. Without an understanding wife, these commitments could not have been fulfilled since she has sacrificed her time to do the things I should have been doing - giving up time with family and friends so I could spend time with my Brothers, and not being able to take my daughter to her various events. To my wife, Miranda,

THANK YOU! To my daughter, thank you for your understanding.

To the lovely partners in our lives, who without their love, understanding and support of us Masons being away enabling us to fulfill our Masonic duties several times a week, a grand THANK YOU! We Masons wish you a very happy and well deserved Valentine's Day. It is an honor for us to call you, our partners.

Brothers, please embrace this day with your significant other, kiss them as you kissed them for the first time. Mine was walking in the rain to Greenwich Village on an unusually warm February evening in 2001. Tell them how much you love them. I did a few months after our first kiss, in May, in front of my mother's tree on Mother's Day. Remind your significant others of these significant moments and embrace them.

I would also like to remind everyone we celebrate Presidents Day this month, and we can call 14 of them Brothers. George Washington was the first Masonic president followed by James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, James Polk, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, James Garfield, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, Warren Harding, Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman and Gerald Ford. Although not a Master Mason, Lyndon Johnson was an Entered Apprentice, and it is rumored Abraham Lincoln was scheduled to be initiated as an Entered Apprentice the Monday after his assassination.

Without mentioning any of the words or penalties of the three obligations taken to become a Master Mason, I would like to discuss what obligation means to us. The foundation of Freemasonry is built after we take our Entered Apprentice obligation, changing our titles from Mister to Brother. A candidate now becomes a member of the oldest, caring and brotherly fraternal organization in existence. He now has a stronger tie to the Masonic Brotherhood. This is even more so when a Brother brings in a friend and he also becomes a Brother. Their relationship has changed for the better and they are bound by stronger ties than ever before.

Although the obligations are mandatory to become a Master Mason in all three degrees, it is taken under free will. These obligations insure we are held to a higher moral standard, where a Brother can form friendships with other Brothers without worrying about being defrauded, wronged or cheated. This bond means a Brother can be trusted to help you if you are in need, as you would help him in doing the same. He is also obligated to care for widows and orphans. This obligation is sworn in front of the assembled brothers of the Lodge and is a promise from us all that we will continue to hold and honor Masonry to the highest standards possible. This is an agreement we made not only to the Craft but also to the Lodge, with our hand on the Greatest Light ever, the Holy Bible, or whatever other Holy Book you believe in if you are a non-Christian. In this way, we respect all religions and beliefs. As you promised in each obligation, which is the goal of every Mason, our path is toward the light so it becomes stronger and brighter each day.

My Dear Brothers, remember the promises you made while taking your obligation and always live life as you promised. Remember, the darker it gets the brighter your light must shine.

We mourn the sudden passing of our dear Brother, Frederick James Meuser, who laid down his Working Tools suddenly on December 18th. At the request of his family, we honored his memory with a Masonic Funeral Service. We send our deepest condolences to his wife, Cathy, his two daughters, Catlin and Christy, and his entire family.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
W.:M.: Michael S Crispino, Jr

IN MEMORIAM

Frederick James Meuser

November 21, 1957 - December 18, 2022

It was with great sadness the Brothers of Jephtha Lodge learned Brother Frederick James Meuser suddenly put down his Working Tools this past December. He was a loyal Brother and a good man who is fondly remembered for the many times he brought ice cream to the Lodge from his wife's shop, Herrell's Ice Cream, on Girard Street in Huntington Village. They closed in June 2021 as they made plans for their retirement.

Rick, as he was fondly known, was an attorney in the music business and he and Br Ron Seifried often ran into each other on the LIRR as they headed into New York City. Ron was always happy to see him as they engaged in animated conversation; he never having a negative word to say about anyone.

Rick was also a very accomplished guitarist and played with the White Fire Band at many of the big clubs on Long Island, a band he began in high school. One of his devoted followers on Facebook remembering Rick said, "Rick and White Fire were electric." Rick has his own discography, and another album was being produced at the time of his passing.

Br Rich Harris describes Rick as "a really good man, faithful to his family, church and Masonry. He was always upbeat, positive and complimentary, and always asked about my family. He loved his motorcycle and often drove it to church in good weather."

Rick and his wife, Cathy, were active members in St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Huntington Station. They had been married for 35 years, raised two daughters, and were expecting their first grandchild this spring.

As is common practice among Masons, the altar in the Lodge Room will be draped in black as we mourn

our Brother.

Rest in Peace dear Brother, you will be missed.

Fraternally yours,
Richard Gentile, Editor

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST



My Brothers,

One of the basic obligations of a Mason is the care of the Widows and Orphans of our Brothers. My job, as Senior Warden, is to make sure we, as a Lodge, are taking care of them. Recently, the Grand Lodge began an effort to reach out to the Widows of Masons and remind them that Masonry has not forgotten them and wishes to honor them. This is a fantastic program!

When the Grand Lodge contacted me, the first thing I did was run our MORI database to find all the Widows of deceased Brothers. There were more than 275⁺ of them listed in our database, and, unfortunately, less than 10 of these records contained any information about their spouses. In order for us, as a Craft, to care for our Widows, we need to know who they are. With the help of Brother Pauly Levy, who had a file of spouses' names, I was able to update 40⁺ deceased Master Masons' records. I will also begin to determine if any of those spouses are still with us, but with their husbands being 100⁺ years of age, they most probably are not. For those few who may still be living, I want to get in touch with them to let them know they are not forgotten.

I have found the same trend exists with our active brothers. Their spouse information has not been kept up to date.

With Valentine's Day around the corner, let's show our love for our spouses by making sure we have at least their names. If they are willing to share their dates of birth, we can add that as well.

Therefore, this February, I would request my Brothers send me an email (wfenty@gmail.com) with your spouse's name, and if she will permit, her date of birth. I will make sure MORI is kept up to date.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Br Bill Fenty III, Senior Warden

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings from the South my Brothers!

I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits as we approach February 2023. One exciting month is already down in 2023. Doesn't time fly when we are having Masonic fun?

We have some great upcoming events, and we hope to see you all. Join us for the St. Patty's Day Party on March 12th, the 3rd degree raising on Saturday, April 29th, and let's not forget the District Deputy Grand Master visit on March 27th. For those of you who have not come down to the lodge in a long while, we cordially

invite you to join us. We want to see you, laugh with you, see how you are doing and catch up at the Lodge. These meetings are our meetings, let's enjoy them in harmony, together.

For the ladies of Jephtha Lodge, we wish you a Happy Saint Valentine's Day.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
John A Lentinello, Junior Warden

GREETINGS FROM THE CORNER DESK



Dear Brothers,

I'd like to offer two quick reminders this month. First, if you are interested in being a part of the book study on *The Path of the Holy Fool* by Lauren Artress (which will take place on Zoom, once a month), please let me know as soon as possible.

Secondly, please remember that you will *not* be receiving a new dues card. When the Grand Lodge traditioned to permanent dues cards several years ago, we stopped giving new (paper) ones each year. If you have lost yours, please contact me and I will have a new one sent to you.

Grace and Peace,
R.:W.: Tim TenClay, Secretary

KNIGHT TEMPLAR'S SWORD



For the past three years, Jephtha Lodge has been busy accepting a small treasure trove of incredible donations for the Jephtha Lodge Museum. Over 100 individual pieces have been cataloged and have slowly been added to the various display areas on the third floor.

The lodge also accepts loans to showcase from private collections from the hundreds of brothers who visit Jephtha Lodge. One such piece is currently on display above the Treasurer's desk in the Northeast corner of the Lodge Room. It is from the collection of W.: Norbert "Dutch" Heuser, Secretary of Wantagh-Morton No. 63 and a member of Jephtha No. 494, a beautiful Knight Templar's

Sword engraved with the name of Brother William W. Young; the origin of this piece is unknown at this time. This ceremonial piece depicts a knight's head on the pommel, just above the white ivory grip.

Engraved with the original owner's name and lily work on the blade, the knuckle guard shows a knight's head centered between two triangles and other ornate engravings. The ornate gold-plated sheath indicates the sword belonged to a Knight Templar Commander.



The Knights Templar is the final order joined in the York Rite. Unlike other Masonic bodies which only require a belief in a Supreme Being



regardless of religion, membership in the Knights Templar is open only to Christian Masons who have completed their Royal Arch and Cryptic Degrees.

Sincerely and Fraternally.

W.: Ron J Seifried DSA, Historian

BIRTHDAYS

Michael Carey
Adrian Ciocci
Frank Corso
Per U Dobler
Charles H Fisher

Richard B Gentile
Mitchel S Goodkin
John N Lowe
Xavier F Marinaro
Cory H Morris

Scott L Myers
John J Prodromakis
Derek G Rhodes
Christopher Sikes
James R Thompson

RAISED TO THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON IN FEBRUARY

Daniel Bernzweig
Michael R Denkovich

Eric M Freeman
Timothy L Mason

Michael J Rittenhouse
Nick Vorrias

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



February 2023

February	3	Friday	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle, Guest Craft Event, Jephtha Lodge
February	9	Thursday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	District Deputy Visit, Dongan Patent Lodge
February	12	Sunday		Traditional Birthday of Abraham Lincoln
February	13	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Stated Communication; Education - Mathematics and Music; Beethoven. Jephtha Lodge
February	14	Tuesday	♥ ♥ ♥	Valentine's Day
February	17	Friday	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle, Open Meeting, Jephtha Lodge

February 18	Saturday	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Mardi Gras Party, Co-Hosted by Jephtha, Guiding Light Lodges, and Kismet Shrine; American Legion Post, 66 Veterans Blvd, Massapequa, NY 11758; \$25/person, \$40/ Couple; RSVP Required: KismetShrine2023@gmail.com
February 20	Monday		President's Day (National Holiday)
February 21	Tuesday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	District Deputy Visit, Amityville Lodge
February 22	Wednesday		Traditional Birthday of George Washington
February 23	Thursday	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Officers' Meeting
February 27	Monday	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Past Masters' Entered Apprentice Degree, Jephtha Lodge
March 2	Thursday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	District Deputy Visit, Potunk Lodge
March 3	Friday	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle, Closed Meeting and Swap Night, Jephtha Lodge
March 5	Sunday	8:30 AM	76th Metro Region Dedication Service and Breakfast, Marina del Rey, 1 Marina Drive, Throggs, Neck (Bronx), NY
March 6	Monday		Purim begins at sundown
March 8	Wednesday		International Women's Day
March 12	Sunday		Daylight Saving Time begins



St. Patrick's Day Party at Jephtha Lodge

Sunday, March 12th at 12:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE!

March 13	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Stated Communication; Education -
March 17	Friday		Traditional St. Patrick's Day
March 20	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Officers' Meeting - Practice for District Deputy Visit, Jephtha Lodge
March 20	Monday		Spring begins
March 22	Wednesday		First day of Ramadan begins at sundown
March 25	Saturday	2:00 PM - 6 PM	Grand Lecturers' Convention (Fellowcraft Degree) at Alcyone Lodge N ^o . 695. Fellowcraft and Master Masons only. RSVP for free dinner at 5 PM: https://suffolkmasons.com/event/2023-grand-lecturers-convention/
March 27	Monday	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	District Deputy Visit, Jephtha Lodge
March 31	Friday	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle, Closed Meeting & Elections, Jephtha Lodge
April 1	Saturday		Deadline for The Jephtha Scholarship Applications
April 6	Thursday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	District Deputy Visit, Suffolk Lodge
April 10	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Stated Communication, Reading of Incoming Officers, Jephtha Lodge
April 17	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Officers' Meeting; Education - Order in the Lodge, Jephtha Lodge
April 21	Friday	7:30 PM	Truth Triangle, Public Installation of Officers, Jephtha Lodge

April	24	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Special Communication, Lodge of Instruction, Step up Night, Jephtha Lodge
April	29	Saturday	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Sublime Degree of Master Mason conferred, evening dinner, Jephtha Lodge
May	8	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Summoned Communication, Officers' Election; Education - Responsibilities of Each Officer's Chair, Jephtha Lodge
May	15	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Officers' Meeting, Jephtha Lodge
May	22	Monday	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Special Communication, Table Lodge, Jephtha Lodge
June	12	Monday	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Public Installation of Officers, Jephtha Lodge
June	19	Monday	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Brother Bring a Friend Night, Jephtha Lodge

ALL OFFICERS' ARTICLES AND FEATURE ARTICLES FOR THE JEPHTHA NEWSLETTER ARE DUE THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.

TRUTH TRIANGLE



On Friday, January 6th, the ladies of Truth Triangle welcomed three new Sisters to our chapter at our term Initiation! While the large number of initiates in this class is by itself a hugely significant achievement for our chapter, this night was additionally historic as we also welcomed the first new member to be initiated into Meridian Triangle in over five years! Meridian Triangle is currently rebuilding after moving to Riverhead officially in 2022. Truth's Beloved Queen Sophia is a member of Meridian, having been first initiated to that chapter and later affiliated to Truth when membership there waned to dangerously low

levels after the tragic passing of Mrs. Fortunato, their long-serving and beloved Junior Deputy. It was, therefore, an emotional and long-awaited evening for Sophia, and an honor for her to perform this ceremony at our Chapter. Two members of Truth stepped up to affiliate with Meridian as well, bringing their total membership count up to quorum and therefore ensuring they can begin holding regular business meetings. We look forward to watching Truth's newest members grow and enjoy membership, and to watching Meridian Triangle become a thriving and active chapter for the East End.

Thank you to W.:M.: Mike Crispino for attending this event and witnessing the fine work of our members in this most sacred of ceremonies. We hope that our ritual work, floorwork, and ceremony proved to be both impressive and inspiring. We also thank the members of Sunrise Triangle who jumped in at the last minute to fill roles on the floor, and all the guests who graced our sidelines. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about The Organization of Triangles, Inc. of New York, or any of our local Masonic Youth Organizations, please do not hesitate to reach out to Br Brian Schulbaum who can provide contact information.

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

MASONIC MOMENTS VIA TODAY'S OPERATIVE MASONS

SEE HOW STONEMASONS KEEP ENGLAND'S OLDEST CATHEDRALS STANDING TALL

Reprinted from National Geographic ([www. nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)), September 29, 2022

by Rachel Rowe



Workers Examine the east end gable cross atop Salisbury Cathedral, one of the last cathedrals in England with a devoted stonemasonry team. Photograph by Ben Birchall, PA Images/Getty Images (See photo on left.)

From chiseling perfect spheres to dealing with nesting falcons, a stonemason's work is far from one dimensional.

When the work of a stonemason goes unnoticed, it's a noteworthy accomplishment. Such is the paradoxical

calling of stonemasonry, a fading craft that was not only essential in the rise of global architecture, but also one that remains crucial to the preservation of countless sacred and iconic sites.

Over the centuries, even the most solid stone crumbles. England is home to innumerable historic sites always in need of assessment and maintenance, from the Neolithic Stonehenge to Roman-era sites like the *thermae* of Bath, which date to the first century A.D.



Deeply entwined with the history of Christianity, Britain has 42 grand cathedrals, only 10 of which still have stonemasonry yards. The skilled stonemasons who work there stand between these celebrated and important sites and the persistent erosion of time.

Soaring to 404 feet, Salisbury's spire is the tallest in the United Kingdom and has been since the 16th century. Photograph by Gavin Hellier, Robert Harding/Getty Images (See photo on left.)

"There is so much heritage. We must look after it," says Joe O'Connell, an apprentice stonemason at Salisbury Cathedral. "Stonemasonry is a dying art, so I feel a lot of responsibility to learn and pass that on."

The work takes a long time to learn and is largely left unrecognized. But as it became clear in the aftermath of the fire that destroyed Paris' Notre Dame in 2019, restoration work is crucial to protecting our most celebrated cultural icons.

Most stonemasonry methods have not changed in more than 800 years, though contemporary problems like acid rain compound age-old challenges like water damage. Stonemasons still work with a hammer and chisel and still learn centuries-old practices, like how to prepare rough stone from the quarry, and use

mortar with lime.

At Salisbury Cathedral, travelers can help support this work while getting a behind-the-scenes look at stonemasonry at one of the most important Gothic structures in Europe. From a two-day course on stone carving to tours along the scaffolding to see restorations in progress, visitors can witness this important work up-close.

THE ARTFUL CRAFT OF STONEMASONRY

Some 90 miles southwest of London, Salisbury Cathedral's clerk of works Gary Price is in the drawing office, the center of the cathedral works department. Demonstrating how old cathedral stones are examined, he taps each with a metal dowel, listening for a distinctive dull tone that signifies decay. After assessment, each stone gets a works card detailing its condition and is color-coded by priority.

"There's a fine balance between conservation and replacement. Rather than replacing the stone, we are trying to conserve the heritage. But sometimes you can't, unfortunately," says Price, who first joined Salisbury as an apprentice in 1986. "In a few hundred years, the next generation will conserve the stones we've replaced and replace the stones that we've conserved. So there's always new stone being added into the cathedral."



Because Salisbury Cathedral was built relatively quickly (just four decades), its consistent design is considered a leading example of early English Gothic style. Photograph by Jilian Elliot, Getty Images. (See photo on left.)

So how do stonemasons decide what to fix? First, scaffolding goes up, then the stonemasons climb up for a visual inspection. Then, by tapping a metal rod as Price demonstrated in the drawing office, they make an important determination in situ: if the stone is 60 percent complete, they will try to conserve it without removing it. If

less, they will replace it.

It takes at least six years to become a master mason. In the early 2000s, Cathedral works programs developed a two-year degree course in stonemasonry with specialized modules such as archaeology, carving, and stone selection. This year, 14 masons commenced the nationwide program.

"You have to understand how these buildings were originally built. We need an intimate knowledge of the same skills they used to make sense of what they did," says Pascal Mychalysin, master mason at Gloucester Cathedral. He adds that while artificial intelligence could one day replace artisans like him, that would be "a loss for mankind."

"It is very important to retain these traditional skills. If we disappear, it will be as bad as losing a language. That is what is at stake. This is why we have dedicated ourselves to the Cathedral Workshop Fellowship so these skills can be retained."

THE STONEMASONS OF SALISBURY

The tallest in England, Salisbury's spire can be seen all over the city. Inside, visitors can inspect the stonework of the grand medieval structure, adorned with carvings and elaborate stained glass windows. The cathedral is home to one of four original copies of the Magna Carta, the world's oldest working clock (dating to 1386), and a medieval cloister where the sounds of the organ flow through the arches.

The limestone used in Salisbury comes from Chicksgrove Quarry, 14 miles away and close to where the original stone was excavated to build the cathedral in the 13th century. "We think an 800-year-old building is old, but this stone is much older," says Price, who heads up the Works Yard including the nine stonemasons and a team of stained glass specialists. "It's upper Jurassic limestone and is 150 million years old. Sometimes we find fossils in the stone."

A stonemason's job is far from one dimensional. In addition to his responsibility of purchasing and assessing stone, Price maintains the aviation obstruction light on top of the 404-feet-high cathedral spire. To change the lightbulbs and maintain the spire, he exits a tiny door 30 feet from the top, climbs an exterior ladder, steps over the capstone, and attaches himself to the cross on the summit to make repairs.

Peregrine falcons nest in the spire, and Price is tasked with periodically clearing their mess from the stonework so it doesn't damage the cathedral. Sometimes he finds rings from local racing club's pigeons among the debris—evidence the falcons had themselves a snack.

Apprentice O'Connell blogs about his work at Salisbury. He spent his first six months learning the foundational technique to square off and make a perfect cube from a stone block. That fundamental skill is like "a stonemason's driving license," he jokes.

"I love medieval buildings and I like working with my hands," says O'Connell, who studied medieval history and applied for the stonemasonry apprenticeship during the pandemic. "It's the quietness, the concentration, and it's a practical job."

After mastering the technique to craft a perfect 7-inch cube, he'll turn it into a sphere, another important skill. Eventually, O'Connell plans to carve a birdbath. "You definitely learn from your mistakes. I must have done each side three times," he says. "You see people turn out things in a couple of days here. But before speed comes accuracy."

Head stonemason Lee Andrews guides visitors onto scaffolding to get a close-up view of a complex restoration on the eastern side of the cathedral that began in 1987 and is now coming to a close. The eastern part of a church is considered the most sacred, as it traditionally contains the altar (so the congregation can face the direction of the rising sun, a symbol of Christ and the Second Coming) but attention is often focused on the west side of the building, where people enter and are greeted by elaborate designs.

Price cut the first replacement spire stone in 1987 and is now overseeing the end stages of the restoration work on the east end. "Making the cuts in the first spire stone was a really big deal. Prince [now King] Charles came and fixed that stone in 1987 with a silver trowel," he says. "But it was nice that he came and visited and I've met him twice now. That was early on in my career, which I didn't really appreciate until later."

Each mason leaves their mark, a signature carved into stone—usually a play on their initials. Andrews points out a small dragon carving that has been restored on a coping stone (stones installed on the

brickwork as a finishing touch and to deflect water from the building). Now he is working on a similar piece with a ferret design.

"It's a quirky little thing that nobody can see from the ground. But the stonemason knows it's there, and it's about putting your mark on the cathedral. It has to be a Gothic design, but you can add touches."

In fact, the entire cathedral stands as artful evidence of a highly skilled craft—but that often remains unsung. "When we take the scaffolding away, people ask us what we have been doing as they can't see a difference," says Andrews. "But that's how we like it. We like our new work to blend in with the old."

TRAVEL PLANNER

On Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., visitors can see stonemasons at work and ask them questions. For a fee, the cathedral's stonemasonry works yard tour takes visitors from the yard where blocks are selected through the drawing office and also offers a carving demonstration. The cathedral's among the parapets tour offers visitors a chance to get up in the scaffolding on the structure's east side and into the hidden workshop used by masons for centuries.

Visitors can also sponsor a stone at Salisbury which will be carved by the masons, and include the sponsor's initials. The sponsor receives a map giving the exact location of the stone and in some cases can see it being installed in the cathedral.

For more stonemasonry, visit the cathedrals of Canterbury, Exeter, Durham, Worcester, Lincoln, York Minster, and Gloucester.

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Salisbury Cathedral, originally named the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is considered one of the best examples of early English gothic architecture, completed in 38 years ensuring its consistent architectural style, 1220-1258. It has the tallest spire (404 feet) in England which weighs 6,500 tons and is home to peregrine falcons since the mid 1800's, the largest cloister, the largest cathedral close of rolling lawns (area surrounding the cathedral, 80 acres), the oldest working mechanical clock in the world (1386), and owns the best preserved of the 4 surviving original copies of the Magna Carta (1215) which is the only copy on permanent display. Salisbury Cathedral lacks ringing bells, but the medieval clock strikes every 15 minutes with bells. The Cathedral celebrated the 750th anniversary of its consecration in 2008.

Fraternally yours,
Richard Gentile, Editor

FAMOUS MASONIC MUSIC

MASONIC DOXOLOGY

The music for the Masonic Doxology was written during the height of the Jean Calvin's (July 10, 1509, Noyon, France - May 27, 1564, Geneva, Republic of Geneva) preaching in Geneva, the center of the Protestant Reformation in French speaking Switzerland. (Ulrich Zwingli [January 1, 1484, Wildhaus, Switzerland-October 11, 1531, Kappel, Swiss Confederation], was the leader of the Protestant Reformation in German speaking Switzerland, mostly in Zurich.) This movement during the 16th century known as The Reformation, The Protestant Reformation or The European Reformation, was a challenge to the Catholic Church and papal authority. Historically, the Reformation begins with Martin Luther in 1517 with the publication of his *Ninety-Five Theses*.

This melody is known as "Old Hundredth," which refers to Psalm 100, and was part of the Genevan Psalter

(published in 1551). The tune is attributed to Louis Bourgeois (ca. 1510-ca. 1560), a French composer, and was created to be sung as a hymn in the language of the congregation as part of church life as opposed to being sung in Latin by the clergy of the Catholic Church. The tune is without ornamentation as required by the Calvinists.

The lyrics were written by Nahum Tate (1652, Dublin, Ireland-July 30, 1715, London, England) and Nicholas Brady (October 28, 1659, Brandon, Ireland-May 20, 1726, London, England) and is known as the Communion Doxology, which is part of their great work, *New Version of the Psalms of David* (1696). A doxology is a short, Christian hymn of praise to God.

The words of the Communion Doxology were slightly changed in the last verse to become the Masonic Doxology:

Be thou, O God, exalted high;
And as Thy glory fills the sky,
So let it be on earth displayed,
Till Thou art here and now obeyed. (Communion Doxology)
Till Thou art here, as there, obeyed. (Masonic Doxology)

The Masonic Doxology is sung by the Brethren during the passing of Entered Apprentices to the Fellowcraft.

Fraternally yours,
Richard Gentile, Editor

WRITING FOR THE JEPHTHA NEWSLETTER

All Brothers of Jephtha Lodge are encouraged to contribute articles to Masonic Moments (generally inspirational), Famous Masons (the same birth month as the month's publication) and Historic Masonic Events or Historic Masonic Publications (the same event month or original publication date as the newsletter's publication date). 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.

FREEMASONS OF JEPHTHA N^o. 494 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Scholarship applications from the Freemasons of Jephtha N^o. 494 are available beginning January 1st and may be obtained from either R.:W.: Tim TenClay, Secretary, jephthasecretary@gmail.com, 516.710.2406, or W.: Robert Previto DSA, Education Committee Chairman, previto62@gmail.com.

The scholarship is for post-high school study and is open to any son, daughter, grandchild, or widow of a Master Mason of Jephtha Lodge N^o. 494 who was a member for at least three consecutive years. An essay with the application is required.

THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 1, 2023.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

I Corinthians 12: 4-7

JEPHTHA LODGE N^o. 494

OFFICERS

June 2022 - June 2023

Worshipful Master	W.: Michael Crispino	Junior Steward	Br Douglas Henningsen
Senior Warden	Br William Fenty III	Steward	Br Richard Gentile
Junior Warden	Br John A. Lentinello	Marshall	Br Per Dobler
Treasurer	Br Robert Gaudioso	Chaplain	W.: Jeremiah Campbell
Secretary	R.: W.: Timothy TenClay	Organist	Br Randolph Ivans
Senior Deacon	Br William Friedman	Tiler	Br Gary Osarczuk
Junior Deacon	Br Drew MacCallum	Inner Sentinel	Br William Fenty Jr
Sr. Master of Ceremonies	Br Frank Como	Ritual Director	W.: Rich Harris
Jr. Master of Ceremonies	Br Franckel Enelus	Historian	W.: Ronald Seifried DSA
Senior Steward	Br Brian Schulbaum	Editor Officer	Br Richard Gentile

TRUSTEES

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

TRUSTEE EMERITUS

Br Stephen Schenker

JUNIOR TRUSTEES

Br Douglas Henningsen Br John Muller
Br Robert Wedderburn

ACTIVE JEPHTHA LODGE COMMITTEES AND FUNDS

APPAREL COMMITTEE

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

*Br William Fenty Jr, Chairman; Br Charles Brady, W.: Anthony Colonna, Br William Fenty Jr,
Br William Friedman, Br Luke LoPorto*

ARTWORK COMMITTEE

To design and produce distinctive artwork for Jephtha Lodge.

*Br Luke LoPorto, Chairman; Br Charles Brady, Br John Hurioglu, Br John Muller,
W.: Robert Previto DSA, W.: Ronald Seifried DSA*

BAR AND LIBATIONS COMMITTEE

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

Committeemen prepare and serve drinks when appropriate.

Br Paul Levy, Chairman; Br Drew MacCallum, Br Gunnar Herbert, Br Kenneth J. Siesener

BROTHERS, WIDOWS AND ORPHANS COMMITTEE

To attend to elderly Masons and their needs through frequent phone calls and appropriate action. To communicate with deceased Brother's widows to ensure their continued well-being, and to offer appropriate relief to Brothers, widows and orphans who are ill or in distress.

*Br William Fenty III, Chairman; Br Drew MacCallum, Br Thomas Montefusco,
Br Gary Osarczuk, Br Christopher Tomasino*

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, Chairman; Br Richard Gentile, Br Drew MacCallum, W.: Ronald Seifried DSA

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.: Robert Previto DSA, Chairman; Br. Syed Asad, W.: Daniel Bernzweig, W.: Jeremiah Campbell, W.: Anthony Colonna, W.: Michael Crispino Jr, Br Mitchel Goodkin, W.: Richard Harris, Br John A Lentinello, W.: John B Lentinello DSA, R.: W.: Timothy TenClay

EVENTS COMMITTEE

To assist in special events: ordering supplies, cooking, setting up and clean up. organizing and providing entertainment.

Br John A. Lentinello, Chairman; Br Geoffrey Cohen, W.: Gregory Gatto, W.: Richard Harris

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Br Robert Gaudio, Chairman; W.: Michael Crispino Jr, Br William Fenty III, Br William Friedman, W.: Richard Harris, W.: John B. Lentinello DSA, W.: Ronald Seifried DSA, Br Eric Vencivenga

HISTORIANS AND ARCHIVISTS COMMITTEE

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

W.: Ronald Seifried DSA, Chairman; Br Paul A. Vermeylen III, W.: Robert C. Wuestefeld DSA

INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

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

Br Gary Osarczuk, Chairman; Br Frank Como, Br William Fenty Jr, W.: Richard Harris, W.: John B. Lentinello DSA, W.: Warren Melnick, Br John Muller

JEPHTHA BENEVOLENCE FUND

To generate funds to support Jephtha Brothers in need.

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

MASONIC BROTHERHOOD FUND

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

To Be Assigned

MASONIC LAST RITES COMMITTEE

To attend and perform funeral services for a Brother who has laid down his working tools.

W.: Robert Previto, Chairman; W.: Michael Crispino Jr, Br William Fenty Jr, Br William Friedman, Br John A Lentinello, Br Drew MacCallum, Br Gary Osarczuk

NORTHSTAR AND SHEPHERDING COMMITTEE

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

Br William Friedman, Chairman; W.: Jeremiah Campbell, Br John A Lentinello, W.: John A Lentinello DSA, Br Luke LoPorto, Br Drew MacCallum, Br Brian Schulbaum, R.: W.: Timothy TenClay, Br Christopher Tomasino

PAST MASTER LIAISON COMMITTEE

To assist the present Worshipful Master as needed.

W.: Jeremiah Campbell, Chairman

PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE

To photograph Jephtha Lodge events.

Br Drew MacCallum, Chairman

RITUAL COMMITTEE

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

Br William Friedman and W.: Richard Harris, Chairmen; W.: Jeremiah Campbell, W.: Anthony Colonna, W.: Michael Crispino Jr., Br William Fenty Jr, Br William Fenty III, Br John A. Lentinello, Br Luke LoPorto, Br John Muller, W.: Robert Previto DSA

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

To keep all Jephtha Lodge's websites (Band, Facebook, Instagram, Masons of Jephtha, MORI, and Our Lodge Page) active, informative, up-to-date, and provide technical support as needed.

W.: Jeremiah Campbell, Chairman; Br Drew McCallum, W.: Warren Melnick, W.: Ronald Seifried DSA

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

To keep *Home* app, *Nest* app and *InVid Elevate* app up to date, functioning properly, and all security cameras at peak performance.

W.: Warren Melnick, Chairman; W.: Jeremiah Campbell, W.: Anthony Colonna, Br Drew McCallum, W.: Ronald Seifried DSA, Br John Muller, Br Walter Willems

TRAVEL COMMITTEE

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

W.: Warren Melnick, Chairman; W.: John B. Lentinello DSA, W.: Robert Previto DSA

TRUTH TRIANGLE AND DEMOLAY LIAISON COMMITTEE

To coordinate Truth Triangle and DeMolay with Jephtha Lodge news and events.

Br Brian Schulbaum, Chairman

VETERANS AFFAIRS LIAISON COMMITTEE

To organize Veterans Affairs with Jephtha Lodge information and activities.

W.: John B Lentinello DSA, Chairman

ACTIVE JEPHTHA LODGE APPOINTMENTS

LADY OF JEPHTHA LODGE

Sr Nancy Dowling

Wife of W.: John "Jack" Dowling DSA

MOTHER OF JEPHTHA LODGE

Sr Marion Harris

Wife of the late W.: Rodney Harris

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 Valentine's Day

