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WORSHIPFUL MASTER JOHN A LENTINELLO

Br Richard Gentile, Editor - Assistant Secretary rg.jlnews@iCloud.com

GREETINGS FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER

My Brothers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and enjoying the warm, summer weather with your families and loved ones. As the summer winds down, I would like to take this time to remind you that your officers - WM, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and Assistant Secretaries have been hard at work planning for all the events in the Masonic year ahead. We look forward to formally welcoming you all back at our first Stated Communication on September 9, 2024.

Moreover, since our successful Installation of Officers on June 10, 2024, we held a successful *Brother Bring A Friend Night* on June 24, 2024, where 4 potential candidates who already have petitions submitted, attended. Furthermore, we received 5 new petitions and 1 affiliated Brother petition. One other Brother affiliated petition is in the works as well. The night was a success based upon the dedication of all of our Brothers in making Jephtha a true Masonic family, and by embracing and captivating the positive spirit at the event. We are the jewel of the Suffolk Masonic District for a reason. Do you know of a potential candidate interested in joining the Craft? Have no fear, as we will host a second *Brother Bring A Friend Night* on November 25, 2024.

Our annual *Jephtha Lodge Fishing Trip* on July 12, 2024, was a success with over 30 Brothers and family members attending, including two Brothers from visiting lodges who attended because they wished their home lodge was as good as ours.

Our annual Long Island Ducks Family Night Baseball Game on Saturday July 20, 2024, was a success. Those in attendance were treated to some thrilling Ducks baseball, a 7-3 Long Island Ducks win and postgame fireworks. Over 30 brothers from Jephtha and their family members attended and we shared the night with our Brothers from The Lodge of Antiquity #11 in Brentwood. They also had 30 Brothers and their respective family members pack Section 211 on a beautiful night of Masonic friendship, camaraderie, laughs and, most importantly, fun had by all.

Missed out on these two great events... have no fear! *The Fourth Annual Suffolk Masonic District School Bus Demolition Derby and Car Racetrack Night* is fast approaching on Saturday August 24th and I look forward to seeing you all there. This has always been a unique and exciting event at the racetrack packed with engines, live racing, and the interaction among all lodges in Suffolk County.



Get there early to watch qualifiers, take in the roar of the engines, take your photographs with the Suffolk Masonic District Demolition Bus before the derby, and grab some food, drinks and memorabilia. This truly is an exciting event you do not want to miss. The race starts at 6:30 PM with opening ceremonies and we encourage those attending to get there early, between 5-6 PM, for parking and photographs. Moreover, Saturday October 5, 2024, at 6:30 PM will be our Halloween and Adult Costume Party and Dinner Dance at the Lodge.

Now, back to business - are you a Brother that lives out-of-state who cannot attend meetings in person at Jephtha Lodge? Fear not! Monday, August 26, 2024, at 7 PM EDT, we will be hosting a virtual meeting themed *Brother Bring A Drink!* This evening will be held on Zoom, and a joke style opening/closing will be offered. Since this meeting will be held entirely on Zoom, we will not be performing any ritual, similar to the Zoom meetings in place during 2020. We are excited about this event and seeing some of our out-of-state Brothers on Zoom, including discussions on what Jephtha Lodge can do for you, and catching up with the current year's officers who will be in attendance. This should be a fun evening of Masonic warmth and Brotherhood only Jephtha can provide. I know I will be on with my tasty beverage in hand. I look forward to seeing familiar out-of-town faces again and some new ones as well. In order to properly plan for this event, however, we will need to ensure that all information we have on file in the New York State Masonic MORI database is accurate. As such, all email addresses in MORI will be used for Zoom for invitation purposes. Thus, if you are currently not receiving correspondence from the Lodge or are unsure if your email address or mailing address we have on file is accurate, please contact any of our Brother Wardens, William Friedman, Drew MacCallum, our Treasurer, W∴ William P. Fenty III, our Secretary, R∴W∴ Timothy TenClay, or me as W∴M∴, and we will be happy to update your records.

Some of you have already been contacted as we are in the process of making summer wellness calls to our Brethren. To do so, we are using the contact information in our system. If you do not hear from us, then it is likely your information may need updating.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W∴M∴ John A Lentinello

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Syed Asad		
Daniel Bernzweig		
Craig m Cohen		
Frankel J Enelus		
Bill Fenty III		

Michael Fufidio Jr			
Randolph Ivans			
Alfred Q Kuntz			
Paul J Levy			
Malcolm C Macleod			

Frank P Marinaro III
Brian E O'Donoghue
Robert J Wedderburn
Robert V Williamson

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Victor Ascencio
Scott D Bloomfield
Geoffrey M Cohen
Raymond J Dowling
Ralph L Duke IV

Michael T Forster
John Hurioglu
Cooper J Macco
Timothy L Mason
Christopher Schenker

Herbert F Schumann Christopher Tilley Stephen Vogel

THERE ARE NO RAISINGS TO THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON IN JULY AND AUGUST.

SHAQUILLE O'NEAL

A Legacy Beyond Basketball, From Freemasonry to Charity

Written by Rough Ashlar with research assistance from ChatGPT

Shaquille O'Neal, also known as Shaq, is one of the most recognizable names in the world of basketball. His towering stature and impressive skills on the court have earned him numerous accolades and a place in the Basketball Hall of Fame. However, Shaq's impact on society extends beyond basketball, with his involvement in Freemasonry and charitable activities.

Shaquille O'Neal's basketball career is an illustrious one. He started his professional career in 1992 when he was drafted by the Orlando Magic, and went on to play for several teams, including the Los Angeles Lakers, Miami Heat, Phoenix Sun and Boston Celtics. Over the course of his 19-year career, Shaq won four NBA championships, was named the NBA Finals MVP three times, and was selected to 15 All-Star Teams. His contributions to the game of basketball have been recognized with numerous awards and accolades, and he is widely regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all time.

However, Shaq's impact on society goes beyond his accomplishments on the basketball court. He has been a patron and supporter of youth programs and the Boys and Girls Club of America for many years. Through his charitable endeavors, Shaq has provided upliftment to the poor and disadvantaged in society. One of his most significant charitable efforts was helping homeowners affected by the 2008 housing crisis keep their homes by buying their mortgages and offering better terms. His philanthropic work has earned him widespread admiration and respect, and he has been recognized with several awards for his charitable contributions.

In addition to his philanthropic efforts, Shaq is also a member of the Freemasons. He was initiated at the Widow's Son Lodge No. 28, PHA in Boston, MA. Freemasonry is a fraternal organization that has been in existence for hundreds of years. It is based on the principles of Brotherhood, Charity and Truth, and members of the organization are known for their philanthropic efforts and dedication to improving society.

As a member of Freemasons, Shaq has continued his dedication to charitable works. He has been actively involved in raising funds and awareness for various charitable causes, including the Masonic Youth Child Identification Program, which provides child identification kits to parents and guardians. Shaq has also worked with the Shriner's Hospitals for Children, which provide medical care to children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate.

In conclusion, Shaquille is much more than just a basketball player. His impact on society extends beyond his achievements on the court and includes his involvement in Freemasonry and charitable activities. Shaq's dedication to philanthropic causes has earned him widespread respect and admiration, his commitment to improving society has left a lasting impact. He is a true inspiration to many, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

Reprinted from Liberty Lodge No. 95 A.F. & A.M.'s website, Bedford, Virginia

Addenda: Shaquille Rashaun O'Neal was born on March 6, 1972, in Newark, NJ, and credits the Boys and Girls Clubs of America for keeping him off the streets and a safe place to play. He is a two time gold medalist - the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta (team competition) and the 1994 FIBA World Cup in Toronto (team competition). Today, Shaquille O'Neal works as a sport analyst on the television program, *Inside the NBA*.

Respectfully submitted, Br Richard Gentile

Thr. Mar. 13

Wed. Mar. 19

Wed. Apr. 9

LODGE 494

TRESTLEBOARD

LIDCOMING JEDHTHA EVENTS

UPCOMING JEPHTHA EVENTS				
	Mon. Aug. 12 8 PM	EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING		
	Mon. Aug. 19 8 PM	OFFICERS MEETING, with Lodge	opening/closing practice. Planning for Zoom Brother	
	J	Bring a Drink Night.		
	Sat. Aug. 24 6:30 PM	RIVERHEAD RACEWAY DEMOL	ITION DERBY, Suffolk Masonic District tents and	
	J		e Indian to the left of the entrance. \$35/ticket purchased	
		at the event.	· '	
	Mon. Aug. 26 7 PM	BROTHER BRING A DRINK		
	EDT	An evening of fun, catching up, goo	d tidings, and plenty of laughs. This gathering will be	
			Brothers who cannot make it to the lodge.	
	Mon. Sep. 9 7 PM	STATED COMMUNICATION AND V		
	•	Collation at 7 PM, \$20, Meeting to follow promptly at 8 PM, Dinner TBD		
	Mon. Sep. 23 7 PM			
	•	Collation at 7 PM, cost \$20, Meeting promptly at 8 PM, Dinner TBD		
	Sat. Oct. 5 6:30 PM			
		dancing, costumes, themed drinks and many laughs. \$40 pp, \$75 per couple. Please RSVP		
		and pay in advance so the proper amount of food can be ordered. The event will be at our		
		lodge and end at 10:30 PM.		
	Mon. Oct. 7 7 PM	OFFICERS MEETING, First Degree practice to follow		
	Mon. Oct. 14 7 PM	STATED COMMUNICATION, Italian collation at 7 PM, \$20, Meeting at 8 PM		
	Wed. Oct. 16 8 PM	FIRST DEGREE PRACTICE		
	Mon. Oct. 21 8 PM	FIRST DEGREE PRACTICE AND FINAL DRESS REHEARSAL		
	Mon. Oct. 28 7 PM	FIRST DEGREE, collation at 7 PM, \$20, hero sandwiches, 8 PM Meeting		
	Mon. Nov 11 7 PM	STATED COMMUNICATION, 7 PM collation, 8 PM meeting		
	Mon. Nov. 25 7 PM	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
	Nov. 30 or Dec. 1 TBD	HUNTINGTON TOWN PARADE OF	LIGHTS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL - the Lodge will be	
		open to view the parade in style, cupcakes and cookies will be available.		
	Mon. Dec. 9 6:30 PM	M District Deputy Grand Master Visit (DDGM), 8 PM, collation will open at 6:30 PM to allow		
		time for delegations.		
	UPCOMING SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT EVENTS			
	Sun. Sep. 8 12-5 PM	M LOBSTERFEST at Cathedral Pines Park, Dongan Patent Lodge, RSVP, tickets required.		
	•	Contact Br Steven Purrington, 631.487.5103, or by email, sdpurrington@gmail.com, \$40		
		adults, \$10 children under 12.		
	Sat. Sep. 14 2-6 PM			
		online, \$40 at the door, https://suffolkmasons.com/event/2nd-annual-tri-lodge-pig-roast/		
	Thr. Oct. 10	DDGM, Star of the East		
	Thr. Oct. 17	DDGM, Wamponamon Lodge		
	Mon. Oct. 21	SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT GOLF OUTING, 11 AM-8 PM, West Saville Golf Course		
	Tue. Oct. 22	DDGM, Alycone Lodge		
	Thr. Nov. 14	DDGM, The Lodge of Antiquity		
	Thr. Nov. 21	DDGM, Potunk Lodge	KEEP THIS PAGE	
	Mon. Dec. 2	DDGM, Old Town Lodge		
	Thr. Dec. 19	DDGM, Suffolk Lodge	FOR FUTURE REFERENCE	
	Wed. Jan. 8	DDGM , Smithtown Lodge	This page is intentionally the last page so you can	
	Mon. Jan. 13	DDGM, Connetquot Lodge	put it on your bulletin board or refrigerator door and	
	Tue. Feb. 4	DDGM , Amityville Lodge	always be current with the latest activities at our	
	Tue. Feb. 18	DDGM, Riverhead Lodge	Lodge and in our Masonic district.	

September.

DDGM, Dongan Patent Lodge

DDGM, Peconic Lodge

DDGM, Babylon Lodge

The next, updated trestleboard will be in