

# ***"THE CHALK"***

***HARMONIA LODGE NO. 138***

***FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS***

***CHARTERED 1894***

***DISTRICT 25 - ZONE 7***

***M.:W.: GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA***

***126 Years of Masonry in West Palm Beach***

**April 2020**

**All Masonic Meetings,  
Activities, Events and  
Functions are cancelled  
until further notice by  
order of M.:W.: John W.  
Westerman due to the  
COVID-19 Crisis.**

**Stay Safe Brothers!**

**1896 Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard  
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## *From the East*

Greetings Brethren,

We are now headed for April and the temperature is getting warmer. First and foremost, I hope and pray that you are all staying well and taking care of your family and loved ones during this COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic and unprecedented challenging times. Wash your hands frequently and wear protective gloves and mask to keep you and your family safe. Under Directive No.3, effective immediately, Most Worshipful Grand Master orders that all the particular Lodges of the State of Florida suspend all Stated and Called Communications, Masonic meetings and events until further notice and signed by M.:W.: John W. Westerman, III Grand Master. The Grand Master ask that all Brothers and their families should be the priority and to use common sense and be safe.

Congratulations to our Brother Erasmo Gonzalez for being Mason of the Month for March 2020. Some of us are still working toward improving our Lodge property while we wait for further instruction and so, thanks to the Brothers that stepped-up and continue to make our Harmonia Lodge No. 138 property beautiful again.

In closing, please continue to care for yourself and family during this crisis. Follow all protocols, stay safe and healthy. Also, check on needy Brothers to be sure they are ok and not in need. Masonry is not just a Fraternity of good men; it's a way of life.

May the Grand Architect of the Universe grant all the Brothers, Families, and Friends all the blessings now and forever.

Ray Rios  
Worshipful Master  
Make It Happen!



## *From the West*

Greetings Brethren,

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak and by direct order of Most Worshipful John W. Westerman, all Masonic meetings, events and activities are cancelled until at least May 4th. It may be extended even further depending on what is happening in the world at that time. As of today, we do not know if the 2020 Grand Lodge communication will still take place or be cancelled. We will forward information as soon as we are informed.

If you have the ability, please check on your Brothers and stay in touch. A phone call, email or text will go a long way in these stressful times. Let us all commit to caring for one another and showing our Brotherly Love. If any Brothers are in need of ANYTHING as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, please reach out to the officers or the Secretary in the Lodge Office and we will make sure you get what you need.

Hang in there. Stay safe, continue to follow all protocols, and see you on the backside of this outbreak.

Miss you all Brothers and miss our fellowship in Lodge!

Fraternally,

Brian Price, Senior Warden

# *From the South*



Greetings Brethren!

As you all know because of this dreaded Coronavirus pandemic, the Grand Lodge decided to suspend all Masonic activities until May 5, which means we did not meet last Monday and will not be meeting on April 13 and 27 as well as the Fellow Craft degree scheduled for April 9. I strongly urge the Brothers and their families to stay home if possible to battle this virus. Our health and well-being are more important than anything else.

While this is going on, I wish to thank WM Ray Rios, WM Rob Gibbons and brother JC Rogers for their dedicated effort in painting the lodge property. When we all come back to the Lodge, please acknowledge these fine Brothers.

Together we can overcome this pandemic and we will all get through it.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless us always!

Fraternally,

Sotelo Cruz, Junior Warden



## *Secretary Sez*

### *Office Hours*

Monday 1st & 3rd, 9 AM – 12 Noon

Monday 2nd & 4th, 1 PM- 9:00 PM (Meetings)

Wednesdays 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Thursdays 1:00–8:30 PM (Lodge of Instruction)

Brethren,

While the Lodge has been closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak, we have continued to do some much needed maintenance. Special Thanks to W.:M.: Ray Rios, W.: Rob Gibbons PM and J.C. Rogers for painting the outdoor exterior hallways. Assistance and labor from our members is a big savings in maintenance to our building, as well as a chance to fellowship and take pride in our Lodge. In case you were not aware, the Building Mailbox has been broken into three times and we are in the middle of replacing it. We have ordered an upgraded high end commercial multiunit mailbox for us and our tenants that will also have a gate affixed to it which will make breaking into it difficult. We also added upgraded lighting in the front parking lot, had an additional security cameras added to view the mailbox and front lots, and we have had landscaping done around the building. Removal of bushes by the building has made the area safer. We also trimmed trees and removed foliage and shrubs that are not native to Florida. Worshipful Ray has instructed the cleaning crew to deep clean and wipe down the Lodge using Clorox and Lysol. The floors have been mopped and the tables and furniture wiped down. Even with all of this good work, there is still much to do.

Next projects to be done:

- Elevator needs to be cleaned.
- Painting the interior of the Lodge.
- Monthly Periodic Yard pickup, and leaves swept.
- Shelving installed in store room.

We need your help Brothers! If you can help with any of these tasks, please contact the Lodge office or reach out to your officers to let them know you are available. Please make some time to help your Lodge. Lastly, our NPD vote is coming! Pay your dues so you aren't in jeopardy of being dropped.

Remember Your Obligation Brothers!

David J. Reilly, Secretary

**“Believe... and you're halfway there”**

**~M.:W.: Harry S. Truman, PGM**



# Lodge Officers for 2020

W.: M.: Ray Rios 561-578-3281	<a href="mailto:rayrios@comcast.net">rayrios@comcast.net</a>
SW Brian Price 561-644-7620	<a href="mailto:bigdog5841@yahoo.com">bigdog5841@yahoo.com</a>
JW Sotelo Cruz 561-601-1219	<a href="mailto:scruez380sl@yahoo.com">scruez380sl@yahoo.com</a>
SD Justin Shiver 561-346-6329	<a href="mailto:justin@justinshiverhypnotherapy.com">justin@justinshiverhypnotherapy.com</a>
JD Mark Higgs 561-671-9194	<a href="mailto:tactsarge@hotmail.com">tactsarge@hotmail.com</a>
SS Fred Waymire 561-722-2251	<a href="mailto:fwfixit@bellsouth.net">fwfixit@bellsouth.net</a>
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Marshall W.: Marco Sevilleja 561-346-7688	<a href="mailto:mfmsevilleja@yahoo.com">mfmsevilleja@yahoo.com</a>
Musician Abner Pedraza 561-502-9843	<a href="mailto:abnerpedraza@yahoo.com">abnerpedraza@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary W.: David J. Reilly 561-615-7408	<a href="mailto:reillyharmonia@gmail.com">reillyharmonia@gmail.com</a>
Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson 561-632-7278	<a href="mailto:joshelmintz1@gmail.com">joshelmintz1@gmail.com</a>
Trestleboard W.: Tony Petrides 561-762-7234	<a href="mailto:meat11ball@aol.com">meat11ball@aol.com</a>



M.:W.: GRAND MASTER  
John W. Westerman

M.:W.: GRAND SECRETARY  
Richard E. Lynn, PGM

DISTRICT DEPUTY  
GRAND MASTER  
25th MASONIC DISTRICT  
R.: W.: George H. Winterling  
[gw@jll340.com](mailto:gw@jll340.com)  
561-762-5800

DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR  
R.: H.: Roy Strohacker  
[rdstrohacker@bellsouth.net](mailto:rdstrohacker@bellsouth.net)  
561-329-2261



## *Palm Beach York Rite Bodies*

*Meets at Harmonia Lodge No. 138 F&AM*

*Chapter No. 24 Royal Arch Masons*

*Zabud Council No. 17 Royal and Select Masters*

*Palm Beach Commandry No. 18 Knights Templar*



# Grand Lodge 2020 Update



In response to the COVID-19 Virus and to support the Executive Order from Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, MW Grand Master John W. Westerman has cancelled all Masonic meetings, events and activities through at least May 4th. As of now there is no information as to whether the upcoming 2020 Grand Lodge Communication will be held or cancelled. As soon as we hear any information, we will pass it on to the Craft. The Grand Lodge is scheduled to take place in Orlando at the Rosen Centre from Sunday, May 24th through Wednesday, May 27th.

## *Instructive Tongue*

“.....well at one time Freemasons were looked upon as leaders in the community. They were perceived as good men with a mission. That mission was to help bring a better quality of life into our homes, our communities, our states, and our nation. Today’s great challenge for the Masonic Fraternity is how to return to a “sense of purpose.” How do Masons regain our rightful place as role models in the community? How do we reach out in community involvement? How do we demonstrate one of the greatest slogans of our country, that *In unity there is strength!*”

In my judgment there is nothing Freemasons could do that would be more important than undertaking the role of unity builder by being seen in our communities, by doing community outreach, and by showing by example what it means to be part of a family, not only our own family, but the family of our town, the family of our state, and the family of our nation. Without fully realizing it, Masons used to do these things. But like the rest of our country our “sense of purpose” has eroded. We have to begin strengthening our lodges because that is where Masonic activity will always take place.”

*~(Excerpt from an address by Richard E. Fletcher, PGM of Vermont)*

## *Harmonia Lodge Degree Status*



### Usual Course

Edven Rishlin

### Awaiting EA

Joseph Puleo

### Awaiting FC

Mitchel Garcia Afon, James Rogers,  
Emilio Olan

### Awaiting MM

Hikmet Sir



Last night I knelt where Hiram knelt and took an obligation  
Today I'm closer to my God, and I'm a Master Mason.

Tho' heretofore my fellow man seemed like the other,  
Today I search each one apart, I'm looking for my Brother.

And as I feel his friendly grip, it fills my heart with pride,  
I know that while I'm on the square, that he is by my side.

My words are safe within his breast, as though within my own,  
His hand forever at my back to help me safely home.

Good counsel whispers in my ear and warns of any danger,  
By Square and Compass, Brother now who once called me stranger.

I might have lived a moral life and risen to distinction,  
Without my Brother's helping hand and fellowship of Masons.

But God, who knows how hard it is to resist life's temptations  
Knows why I knelt where Hiram knelt and took that obligation.

.....From the ancient file of Illustrious William Horgis

## FINDING THE TRUE SECRET OF MASONRY

The "True Secret of Freemasonry" is not the handshake, nor the word, nor some rub of the body or even a wink of the eye. It's the friendship you develop by being a part of others' lives. It's sharing our thoughts and ideas on what would make the fraternity and the community we live in a better place for all. It's the feeling of belonging to something bigger than yourself and hoping you can contribute to the whole. It's knowing your friends will support you when things are tough and you will support them in the same way.

(by George A. Ingles, Jr. Grand Master  
of Indiana, 2012, Grand Lodge of Indiana)

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### Words To Live By

"Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort."

(Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
American President and Freemason)

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## ***Area Lodges District #25***

Boca-Delray #171

4093 NW 4th Avenue, Boca Raton  
1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 pm

Boynton #236

2701 Quantum Blvd, Boynton Beach  
2nd and 4th Thursdays, 7:30 pm

Gulfstream #245

Palmwood Lodge: 845 Bradley St., WPB  
1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7:30 pm

Palmwood #303

845 Bradley St., West Palm Beach  
1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 pm

Bykota #333

421 Jennings Ave., Greenacres  
2nd and 4th Mondays, 7:30 pm

Jupiter Light #340

600 S. Loxahatchee Dr., Jupiter  
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

Garden #366

9463 Roan Lane, Palm Beach Gardens  
1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

Lantana #372

Palmwood Lodge: 845 Bradley St., WPB  
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

## ***Harmonia Lodge Dress Code***

For regular stated communications, degree conferrals, and lodge visitations, all Brothers are required to wear a suit or a sport coat and tie.



For regular stated communications, all Officers will wear black trousers, black tie, with black tux coat.



## **Charity for the Month**

**Melaleuca Elementary School**

<http://www.melaleucaelementaryschool.com/>

***The Box of Fraternal Relief is located in the Lodgeroom. Please donate what you can to this worthy cause.***



# 2020 Lodge Committees

## Finance

SW Brian Price (Chairman), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson, W.: Tony Petrides, Lou Babbit HPM, Sec. David Reilly HPM, Bro. Peter Petrosky, Ed Griffin HPM

## Vigilance

JW Sotelo Cruz (Chairman), Bro. Dave Porter, JD Mark Higgs, W.: Marco Sevilleja

## Petitions

Sec. David Reilly HPM(Chairman), Lou Babbit HPM, Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson, Bro. Dave Porter, W.: Tony Petrides, SW Brian Price, JD Justin Shiver

## Masonic Education

Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson (Chairman), Sec. David Reilly HPM, Lou Babbit HPM, Mike Hart HPM, W.: Tony Petrides

## Board of Relief

W.:M.: Ray Rios (Chairman), SW Brian Price, JW Sotelo Cruz

## Charity

SW Brian Brice (Chairman), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson, Lou Babbit HPM, Sec. David Reilly HPM

## Lodge Property

JW Sotelo Cruz (Chairman), Bro. Scott McGary, Lou Babbit HPM, Sec. David Reilly HPM, Bro. Dave Porter

## Lodge Mentoring

W.: Edmund Rodas (Chair), SD Justin Shiver, W.: Marco Sevilleja

## Community, Civic Improvement & Social Activities

JW Sotelo Cruz (Chairman), SD Justin Shiver, JD Mark Higgs

## Investigations

Sec. David Reilly HPM (Chairman), Lou Babbit HPM, Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson, Bro. Dave Porter, W.: Tony Petrides, SW Brian Price, JD Justin Shiver

## Communications, Trestleboard and Website

Greg Tammany(Chair), Sec. David Reilly HPM, W.: Tony Petrides

## Visitors

Jim Kirby HPM (Chair), Bro. Greg Tammany, Mike Hart HPM, Chap. Tanju Comert, Bro. Don Gonzalez, W.: Tony Petrides



### Letters to the Editor (An open forum by Brothers, for Brothers)

We welcome any feedback to improve our Trestle Board! If you have any suggestions or input, a pressing issue, flustering problem, or you are just plain curious about any topic whatsoever, submit your comments in an e-mail to the editor at [Meat11ball@aol.com](mailto:Meat11ball@aol.com). Thanks in advance for your valued input!