

# ***"THE CHALK"***

***HARMONIA LODGE NO. 138***

***FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS***

***CHARTERED 1894***

***DISTRICT 25 - ZONE 7***

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

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

## **April 2021**

**April 12th, 2021**

**Stated Communication**

**Meal 6:15 / Meeting 7:15**

**April 15th, 2021**

**Master Mason Degree  
Called Communication**

**6:30 p.m. Degree start**

**April 26th, 2021**

**Stated Communication**

**Meal 6:15 / Meeting 7:15**

**1896 Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard**

**West Palm Beach, Florida 33409**

**Telephone (561) 640-9115**

**E-Mail: [Secretary@Harmonia138.com](mailto:Secretary@Harmonia138.com)**





## *From the East*

Greetings Brethren,

Brethren, we are now in April and the temperature is getting warmer. Having said that please start turning your attention to preparing for the upcoming Hurricane season. If you need help, please don't hesitate to ask a Brother for assistance. I hope and pray that everyone can get their COVID19 vaccine, whether from Pfizer- Biontech, Moderna, or the newest one-shot vaccine from Johnson & Johnson. All age 18 or older are now eligible to receive the vaccine. Please go and try to get your Vaccine as soon as you can to prevent this terrible virus that can kill you and your love ones. Also, continue to take precautions by wearing a mask, washing your hands and use hand sanitizer.

Congratulations to the six gentlemen who were balloted on at our last meeting by the Craft to receive the three Symbolic Degrees of Freemasonry. Happy Birthday to all the Brothers and family members for the month of April.

In closing, remember 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.

Make It Happen!  
Ray Rios,  
Worshipful Master



## *From the West*

Greetings Brethren!

Hope this message finds you all safe and well. First and foremost, I would like to congratulate and wish our Brother, HPM Lou Babbit, best wishes and happiness on his retirement. In the short time that I have known Brother Lou, he not only demonstrated his reliability and competency as our Lodge Secretary but also a true Brother. I'm sure I can say that he's taught us all a lot. Brother Lou, we will miss you on Thursdays but I'm sure we will see you in our Lodge meetings. Again, congratulations and I wish you all the best in your retirement.

After sanitizing the Lodge and suspending meetings due to COVID for a month, we had our first meeting again last March 22nd. During that meeting, we balloted on 6 petitioners for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry, so an Entered Apprentice degree is in the works. But before we do that, we will have a Master Mason degree on April 15, so your attendance and support will be greatly appreciated.

In closing, let us continue to practice social distancing, wearing a mask, washing hands and other precautionary measures to combat this disease. Normalcy doesn't seem to be too far anymore but I still urge everyone to stay safe and if eligible, take the vaccine. If there are Brothers who need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Lodge.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless us always!

Fraternally,  
Sotelo Cruz  
Senior Warden

# *From the South*



Greetings Brethren!

April has arrived and with that, the beauty of Spring is upon us! High pollen count aside, may we all learn from nature and use this time to “start again.” Try a new hobby or learn a new skill. Start a new project. Out with the old, and in with the new!

We have our much-anticipated Master Mason Degree on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. This is the first one of the year and we haven't had one in over a year. I hope to see a lot of Brothers there to support our newly raised Brother. The Degree Team is and has been working hard and it is apparent in the quality of the work. If you feel so inclined to help on ANY Degree in ANY way, please contact the Lodge and we will be sure to accommodate.

Lastly, a very special thanks for our beloved Secretary, Worshipful Lou Babbitt, HPM. Words simply cannot express how much you and all your hard work and dedication to our Lodge and the Craft has meant to us all! Best wishes on your retirement!

May the GAOTU bless each of you and keep you safe!

Fraternally,  
Justin Shiver  
Junior Warden



## *Secretary Sez*

### *Office Hours*

Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Fridays 10:00am - 12:30pm

Brethren,

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Brother Lou Babbitt HPM on his recent retirement from the Lodge Secretary position. Lou has been a rock for our Lodge, as well as a Mentor, friend and Brother of the highest caliber. Congratulations, best wishes, and all the best from the Brothers of Harmonia!

Additionally, I am currently working on the 2021 dues cards. If you haven't paid your 2021 dues, or if you have paid but haven't received your dues card, please contact me. If any Brothers are facing challenges or need assistance from the Lodge, please contact myself or the Worshipful Master ASAP. We are here to help my Brothers, you need only to reach out and ask.

Stay Safe and be well.

W.: Rob Gibbons, Secretary Pro-Tem

## *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*)

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### 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)

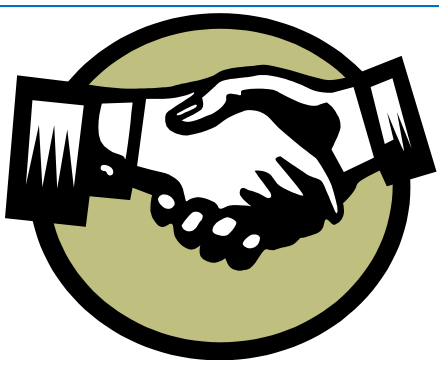
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## **Harmonia Lodge Library**

*HPM Dave J. Reilly, Librarian*

FYI. Did you know that there is a library at the Harmonia Lodge? This library is a free loan and you are welcome to check these books out as well as some DVD’s. This extensive Library is open to all members. Additionally, we are always growing our collection, so if you have books lying around of Masonic interest or biographies of Masons that you would like to donate, your donation would be welcomed. There is a check out system with a notebook in the Lodge office to record all information on materials checked out. Please utilize this amazing Masonic resource!



# Lodge Officers for 2021

W.: M.: Ray Rios 561-578-3281	<a href="mailto:rayrios@comcast.net">rayrios@comcast.net</a>
SW Sotelo Cruz 561-601-1219	<a href="mailto:scruz380sl@yahoo.com">scruz380sl@yahoo.com</a>
JW Justin Shiver 561-346-6329	<a href="mailto:justin@justinshiverhypnotherapy.com">justin@justinshiverhypnotherapy.com</a>
SD Jorge Sta Rosa 561-385-9433	<a href="mailto:praning125@aol.com">praning125@aol.com</a>
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JS David Jones 561-379-5197	<a href="mailto:davllen.j.23@gmail.com">davllen.j.23@gmail.com</a>
Tyler Clifford Kraft 207-310-0031	<a href="mailto:ckraft2@yahoo.com">ckraft2@yahoo.com</a>
Chaplain Tanju T.J. Comert 561-809-5115	<a href="mailto:tcomert@bellsouth.net">tcomert@bellsouth.net</a>
Marshall W.: Edmundo Rodas 561-687-4465	<a href="mailto:jigsrodas@aol.com">jigsrodas@aol.com</a>
Musician Abner Pedraza 561-502-9843	<a href="mailto:abnerpedraza@yahoo.com">abnerpedraza@yahoo.com</a>
Secty. ProTem W.: Rob Gibbons 561-248-4429	<a href="mailto:rgibbonspm245@gmail.com">rgibbonspm245@gmail.com</a>
Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson 561-632-7278	<a href="mailto:joshelmintz1@gmail.com">joshelmintz1@gmail.com</a>
Historian David Reilly 561-615-7408	<a href="mailto:reillydj@att.net">reillydj@att.net</a>
Trestleboard W.: Tony Petrides 561-762-7234	<a href="mailto:meat11ball@aol.com">meat11ball@aol.com</a>



M.:W.: GRAND MASTER  
Thomas L. Turlington, Jr.

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

DISTRICT DEPUTY  
GRAND MASTER  
25th MASONIC DISTRICT

R.: W.: Rex Bradford  
[elviejorex@aol.com](mailto:elviejorex@aol.com)  
561-289-9529

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*



# *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 Degree Status*



### Due Course

Gensly Pierre



### Awaiting EA

Joseph Puleo, David Odreman, Troy Maddox,  
Antonio Cruz Jr., Rodolfo Rudy Romero,  
Julio Acosta, Edvens Rislin

### Awaiting FC

None

### Awaiting MM

James Rogers



## Charity for the Month

### *Disabled American Vets/DAV Chap#42*

*The Box of Fraternal Relief is located in  
Lodgeroom. Please donate what you can.*



# 2021 Lodge Committees

## Finance

SW Sotelo Cruz (Chairman), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson,  
W.: Tony Petrides, Sec. Lou Babbit HPM, Bro. Peter Petrosky,  
Ed Griffin HPM

## Vigilance

JW Justin Shiver (Chairman), W.: Rob Gibbons Sr.,  
JD Fred Waymire, W.: Marco Sevilleja

## Petitions

Sec. Lou Babbit HPM (Chairman), David Reilly HPM,  
Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson, W.: Tony Petrides, JW Justin Shiver

## Masonic Education

SW Sotelo Cruz (Chairman), David Reilly HPM,  
W.: Rob Gibbons Sr., Mike Hart HPM, W.: Tony Petrides

## Board of Relief

W.:M.: Ray Rios (Chairman), SW Sotelo Cruz, JW Justin Shiver

## Charity

SW Sotelo Cruz (Chairman), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson,  
Sec. Lou Babbit HPM

## Lodge Property

JW Justin Shiver (Chairman), Bro. Scott McGary,  
Sec. Lou Babbit HPM, W.: Rob Gibbons Sr.

## Lodge Mentoring

W.: Rob Gibbons Sr. (Chairman), W.: Edmund Rodas,  
W.: Marco Sevilleja

## Community, Civic Improvement & Social Activities

JW Justin Shiver (Chairman), SD Jorge StaRosa,  
JD Fred Waymire, Marshall W.: Edmund Rodas

## Investigations

Sec. Lou Babbit HPM (Chairman), Brothers of the Lodge as  
Appointed (Master Masons ONLY)

## Communications, Trestleboard and Website

Greg Tammany (Chair), Sec. Lou Babbit HPM, W.: Tony Petrides

## Visitors

Jim Kirby HPM (Chair), Bro. Greg Tammany, Bro. Tom Taylor,  
Mike Hart HPM, David Reilly HPM, 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!