

“THE CHALK”

HARMONIA LODGE NO. 138

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS


CHARTERED 1894

DISTRICT 25 - ZONE 7

M.:W.: GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA

131 Years of Masonry in West Palm Beach

February 2025



February 1st, 2025 (Sat.)
Bible & Apron Ceremony
Open to family & friends
Food 9:15am/Ceremony 10am

February 10th, 2025
Stated Communication
Meal 6:15 / Meeting 7:15

February 24th, 2025
Fellow Craft Degree
Called Communication
Meal 6:15 / Degree 7:15



1896 Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard
West Palm Beach, Florida 33409

Telephone (561) 640-9115

E-Mail: Secretary@Harmonia138.com



From the East

Brethren,

Please click the attached link to open my Video Trestle-board message for February so you can hear my message directly from me!

<https://www.harmonia138.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-02-WM-H138.mp4>

Thank you, and may the Great Architect of the Universe bless each of you.

Rudy Romero
Worshipful Master



From the West

Dear Brethren,

I hope this finds each and every one of you in good health and good spirit. Brothers, I have good news. I was officially installed as the New sitting Senior Warden for the 2025 Calendar Year and I am very excited about my new chapter in Freemasonry.

I am pleased to inform you that all the committees have been regularly meeting to discuss and plan for future events. Our current leadership is committed to building the unity and strength of Our Lodge. Your commitment and attendance is the basic foundation to achieve this goal.

On the 27th of January, we had a called communication along with our Harmonia to Family Game Night! What a way to get the Lodge year started! There was an excellent turnout. I would like to acknowledge our Junior Warden and crew for preparing the labor and refreshments. Thank you Brothers.

In closing, I recently came across a video interview where a 20 year old asked a 106 year old man, What is life? He replied Yesterday is History, Tomorrow is A Mystery and Today Is a Gift... Something to think about. Brothers Let us take a moment and reach out to someone and let them know they are not forgotten.

May the Grand Architect Of the Universe continue to guide us.

Erasmio Gonzalez
Senior Warden

From the South



Greetings Brethren!

Hope this finds each and every one of you in good health and spirit. It is hard to believe that January has come and gone, and what a great month it was! We had the 2025 Installation of Harmonia Officers. We had our first stated communication. We had seven brothers who completed their Master Mason proficiency. We celebrated WM Ray Rios' installation as head of Sem-I-No Grotto. Special thank you to Bro. Jorge Sta. Rosa and Bro. Jojo Esguerra. The meal was superb! Special thank you also to the cleaning crew: EA Bro. Max Schemer, EA Bro. Najeeb Hanna and Bro. Serge.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my stewards in helping to provide great meals to all the brothers. To the non Master Mason's who tirelessly help in cleaning the kitchen. I cannot thank you enough!

February is shaping up to be a great month. The kitchen and its crew are very excited to prepare great meals for everyone to enjoy in support of our WM Rudy Romero.

Remember, the lodge is open every Thursday for Lodge of Instruction and our kitchen is always offering something good and delicious on Thursday nights!

May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless us all.

Antonio P. Cruz, Jr.
Junior Warden



Secretary Sez

Office Hours

Monday and Thursday 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Brothers,

I hope you and your family are doing well.

Please regularly check your email for notices and invitations from the Grand Lodge, Masonic District, Appendant Bodies, and from our Lodge for events and activities.

You can also find events and activities in our website at Harmonia138.com. We also have social media accounts where you can check out what's happening.. Our Facebook pages are Harmonia Masonic Lodge No. 138 Free & Accepted Masons, and Harmonia Masonic Lodge No. 138, which is set up as a private group. One of those accounts is a link to Instagram.

If there is a change in your email address, mailing address or contact number, please let me know and I will promptly update it.

Please don't forget your dues if you did not yet send your payment.

Thank you very much. May the GAOTU bless us all wherever we disperse!

Fraternally yours,

W.: Marco Sevilleja, PM

Secretary

“In a moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing to do. The worst thing you can do is nothing!”~Bro. Theodore Roosevelt

BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER *By W: Tony Petrides*



Decades of tension and political strife over slavery, westward expansion, and disputed lands lead to the start of the American Civil War in 1861. Our nation was wrought with divisiveness, the North and South, Union and Confederacy, vying for control while the country entered one of its darkest and most formative chapters of development. A once thriving nation, proud of the freedom, industry, and ingenuity of a new world, dissolved into war.

This fragmentation of our unified state presented an alarming struggle in Freemasonry: Brother fighting Brother. Fathers, sons, and fraternal brothers were often in opposition, still connected by the Masonic values of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. How did these values of light and honor in Freemasonry prevail during a time of such darkness? Historical records document countless Masonic acts of compassion, where Masons worked to ease the suffering of fellow brethren through charitable Relief, despite division. Loyalty to the craft prevailed. There are countless examples that Masons provided resources to both Masonic brothers that were allies and also enemies during the conflict.

One of my favorite stories is found in the records of a lodge in Savannah, Georgia. It is a story of how, with the Civil War raging, Confederate soldiers helped a Union Brother complete a Masonic degree. According to an article from the Georgia Masonic Messenger, shortly after the start of the war, Union soldiers captured the beaches on Hilton Head. Before long, the northerners sent a message under the white flag to the Confederate Soldiers. A Union soldier had passed through the Fellowcraft Degree before shipping out, and they wanted to see if a nearby lodge could test and raise him to a Master Mason. Within days, a detail of Confederate cavalry escorted the Fellowcraft Mason and several Master Masons of the North safely through the Confederate Lines and over 30 miles of Confederate defenses to Savannah and the local Masonic lodge. The records note that this Brother was proficient in the Fellowcraft Degree, and he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. After the ritual was complete, the Confederate cavalry returned their Brothers to Hilton Head without incident. Brotherly love and Masonic Fraternal bonds trumped all, even the Civil War! Remember your obligation my Brothers.

ENMI Lodge No. 1973 February

Written by David J. Reilly



Enmi Lodge Meeting and I will remind you, once upon a time in my mind I belonged to a Lodge. I had joined and attended. I did not care about the cost or the distance I needed to travel to get to the Lodge. I entered on the level, parted on the square, and was always treated on the Plumb and as an upright Mason. The fellowship is euphoric, the meetings are knowledgeable and entertaining, and the food really does not come into play except on special meetings. Members do not try to outdo one another, and ego, pettiness and daily cares are left outside. It was a joy to be with like-minded men and men whose values were held high, and we all felt a joy to be there together.

Our speakers are not necessarily members of the Lodge. They are simple men who are knowledgeable and provide the members of Enmi Lodge with thought that may provide reflection. Tonight our visitor was Robert E. Lee. Just as all members and visitors to our lodge, General Lee was treated with respect, and we sat earnestly waiting for him to speak. He began speaking about his two years at West Point. He entered West Point from a recommendation from then Secretary of State John C. Calhoun. He graduated 2nd in his class and graduated with course work in Engineering. He graduated as a Second Lt. in the Corps of Engineers. He was ordered to Tybee, Georgia where he worked on the design of Ft. Pulaski. He would work on the Harbor of St Louis and be advanced in rank to 1st Lt. In 1842, as a Captain in the Union Army, he was transferred to Fort Hamilton in New York. He was married in 1831 and his wife Annie died in 1862. Lee distinguished himself in the Mexican American War (1846–1848). He was one of Winfield Scott's chief aides in the march from Veracruz to Mexico City. During this time he worked for the first time with Ulysses S. Grant in Mexico. During that time in the Army and with his engineering he revamped and made maps of Florida. In 1852, Lee was appointed Superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point.

In 1855, Lee was promoted to second-in-command of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Texas. He told of his wanting to be in the Cavalry and this allowed him his wish to be in a combat command. The mission was to protect settlers from attacks by the Apache and the Comanche. While serving in the Military, Lee remained far from the political side and aloof of the issues on slavery.

Lee argued that slavery was bad for white people, claiming that he found slavery bothersome and time-consuming as an everyday institution to run. He believed Emancipation would sooner come from Christian impulse among slave masters before "storms and tempests of fiery controversy."

He told a little of Harpers Ferry and that when John Brown did not surrender on the October Morning Lee attacked. After three minutes of fighting those that were alive surrendered. Lee believed that Brown was a Madman and had achieved temporary success through confusion and chaos.

Robert E Lee had taken an Oath to the Union and to serve the United States. He was asked while leaving Texas by a lieutenant if he intended to fight for the Confederacy or the Union, to which Lee replied, "I shall never bear arms against the Union, but it may be necessary for me to carry a musket in the defense of my native state, Virginia, in which case I shall not prove recreant to my duty". It was not until Virginia ratified session that Robert E. Lee wrote a resignation to the US War Department. He was sound in his belief that he could not take up arms against his Virginia. In Washington that day, On May 24, 1861, presidential advisor Francis P. Blair offered Lee a role as major general to command the defense of the national capital. He replied:

Mr. Blair, "I look upon secession as anarchy. If I owned the four million of slaves in the South, I would sacrifice them all to the Union; but how can I draw my sword upon Virginia, my native state?"

On or near the outbreak of the war, April 12, 1861, Lee was appointed a Major General by the Virginia Governor. and by the outbreak was named one of the five Generals for the Confederacy. He did not get into the several battles of the War between the States. Some brothers asked about specifics, and he answered, but it was evident that General Lee was a southern gentleman, loved by his soldiers and was endeared with the nickname "Granny". He did mention the soldiers never referred to him directly, but he knew the nickname. Lee was religious, and it was noted throughout his talk that he prayed even in camp. Lee was a private person. And his greeting to Command and soldiers alike were always followed with I hope you are well. His war horse was named Traveler and when asked why he named him traveler, Lee responded that the horse walked at a fast gate and was always willing to go down the road. Throughout the war years we know Lee was known to be within bullet range of battles. After Gettysburg, Shelby Foote would write that Gettysburg was the price the South paid for having Robert E Lee. Soon after the Battle of Gettysburg, Lee surrendered to Grant on April 9, 1865, at the Battle of Appomattox Court House. In time after, Lee would say, "So far from engaging in a war to perpetuate slavery, I am rejoiced that slavery is abolished. I believe it will be of great for the interests of the South"

Notes from: Wikipedia

Gettysburg by Newt Gingrich



Lodge Officers for 2025

W.: M.: Rudy Romero 703-307-6261	romero12191@gmail.com
SW Erasmo Gonzalez 954-488-0693	erasmooflox@gmail.com
JW Antonio P. Cruz Jr. 561-671-0043	antoniopcruzjr@gmail.com
SD Angel Pabon 561-722-2618	nidnoyalp@gmail.com
JD Roldo "Rocko" Sylne 561-234-7467	rockodagreat@gmail.com
SS Renier Colina 561-310-9500	renier.colina@gmail.com
JS Lee Sylne 561-260-3187	lsylne04@gmail.com
Tyler Anthony Chambers 561-856-8883	anthonybchambers7@gmail.com
Chaplain J.C. Rogers 561-324-9564	jacro48@gmail.com
Marshall Marc Denzau 561-229-7257	marc.denzau@yahoo.com
Musician Michael Koppo 914-755-9610	mgkoppo@gmail.com
Secretary W.: Marco Sevilleja 561-346-7688	secretary@harmonia138.com
Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson 561-632-7278	joshelmintz1@gmail.com
Historian David Reilly HPM 561-615-7408	reillydj@att.net
Trestleboard W.: Tony Petrides 561-762-7234	meat11ball@aol.com



M.:W.: GRAND MASTER
Donald W. Cowart

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

DISTRICT DEPUTY
GRAND MASTER
25th MASONIC DISTRICT
R.: W.: Ramon M. Voils
rvoils@comcast.net
561-797-5133

DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR
R.: H.: Roy D. Strohacker
rdstrohacker@bellsouth.net
561-329-2261



Valley of Lake Worth Scottish Rite

Meets at Harmonia Lodge No. 138
4th Wednesday of each month
6:30 E-Board & 7:30 Consistory meeting



Palm Beach York Rite Bodies

Meets at Harmonia Lodge No. 138
1st & 3rd Mondays of each month

Chap. #24 Royal Arch, Zabud Council #17 Royal and
Select Masters, P.B. Commandry #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

Bykota Lodge: 421 Jennings Ave., Greenacres
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

244 N. Congress Ave., Boynton Beach
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

Harmonia Lodge Degree Status



Petitioners

Kim Smith



Usual Course

Rodrigo Diaz Cabal

Dual Membership

none

Awaiting EA

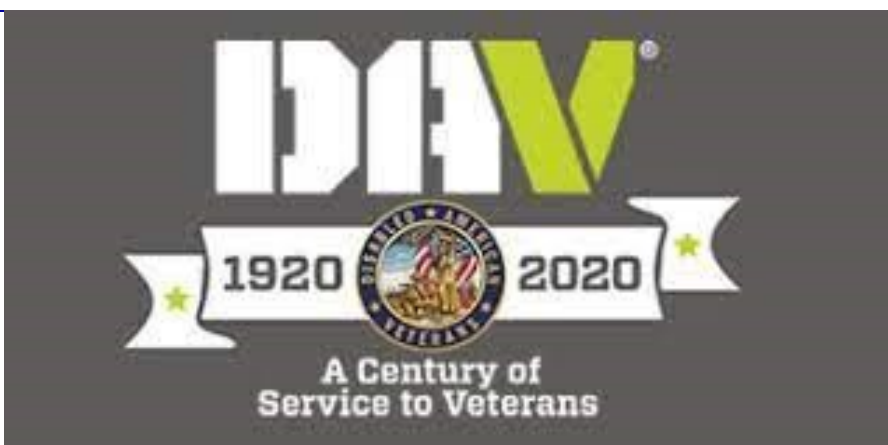
Clarence Hilario, Jason Orr

Awaiting FC

Nageeb Hanna, Max Schemer, Leonardo Anillo

Awaiting MM

none



Charity for the Month

Disabled American Vets/DAV Chap#42

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



2025 Lodge Committees

Finance

SW Erasmo Gonzalez (Chairman), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson,
Secretary W.: Marco Sevilleja, Bro. Serge D'Haiti

Vigilance

JW Antonio P. Cruz, Jr. (Chairman), Chap. J.C. Rogers,
W.: Frank Rocanello

Petitions

Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson, Mar. Marc Denzau, SD Angel Pabon,
JD Rocko Syllne, Chap. J.C. Rogers, JS Lee Sylne

Masonic Education

W.: Ray Rios (Chair), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson (MM Degree),
W.: Sotelo Cruz (FC Degree), W.: Tony Petrides (EA Degree)

Board of Relief

W.:M.: Rudy Romero (Chairman), SW Erasmo Gonzalez,
JW Antonio P. Cruz, Jr.

Charity

SW Erasmo Gonzalez (Chairman), Treas. W.: Joshua Johnson,
Sec. W.: Marco Sevilleja, Chap. J.C. Rogers, Mar. Marc Denzau

Lodge Property

JW Antonio P. Cruz, Jr. (Chairman), W.: Ray Rios,
SD Angel Pabon, Bro. Jason Barroncini, Bro. Keith Holding

Lodge Mentoring

Chap. J.C. Rogers (Chairman), SD Angel Pabon,
SS Renier Colina, Bro. Serge D'Haiti

Community, Civic Improvement & Social Activities

JW Antonio P. Cruz, Jr. (Chairman), SD Angel Pabon,
SS Renier Colina, JS Lee Sylne, Musician Michael Koppy,
Tyler Anthony Chambers, Bro. Serge D'Haiti,
Bro. Jojo Esguerra, Bro. Eugene Sison

Investigations

Secretary W.: Marco Sevilleja (Chairman), SW Erasmo Gonzalez,
W.: Sotelo Cruz, JD Rocko Syllne, SS Renier Colina,
JS Lee Sylne, W.: Val De Vuyst

Communications, Trestleboard and Website

W.: Tony Petrides (Co-Chair), Bro. Luis Gonzalez (Co-Chair),
Bro. Zachary Beavers (Co-Chair), Sec. W.: Marco Sevilleja,
Bro. Greg Tammany, Bro. Paulo Tavares,
David Reilly HPM, Bro. Eugene Sison

Orientation - Kirby's Corner

David Reilly HPM (Chairman), James Kirby HPM,
W.: Tony Petrides, W.: Frank Rocanello, R.:W.: Bill Sheff

Awards

W.: Ray Rios (Chair), W.: Tony Petrides, SW Erasmo Gonzalez

Visitors

SD Angel Pabon, JD Rocko Syllne, Chap. J.C. Rogers

Past and Honorary Masters from Harmonia Lodge



* indicates deceased

Wor. Nelson E. Cowles – 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896 *

Wor. John H Hill- 1898 *

Wor. Louis P. Lane- 1900, 1901 *

Wor. George W. Brown – 1905, 1906 *

Wor. George R. Lyman- 1911*

R.W. Max Sirkin- 1913, 1914, DDGM 1921*

Wor. J.A. Bowrey- 1916*

R.W. R.J. Kishpaugh- 1918, DDGM 1920 *

Wor. Fred M. Brannan- 1921, 1922*

Wor. Albert Johnstad- 1924*

Wor. Marion E. Gruber- 1926*

Wor. Thomas A. Whitaker- 1928*

R.W. Joseph Borman- 1930, DDGM 1936*

R.W. Leroy J. Shellburg- 1932, DDGM 1953*

Wor. George H. Rines Jr.- 1934*

Wor. J. Fred Wood- 1936*

Wor. John B Cook- 1938*

Wor. Wilfred E. Froehlich- 1940*

Wor. George M. Warren- 1942*

R.W. R. Keith McEwen- 1944, DDGM 1962*

Wor. Dennis F. Bell- 1946*

Wor. Walter Oldford- 1948*

Wor. Roland J. Martin- 1950*

Wor. Walter E. Sansbury- Elected for 1952, passed away before he could assume office.*

R.W. Carrol E. Watkins- 1952, DDGM 1960*

Wor. Curtis C. Knight- 1954*

Wor. M.V. Thomason- 1956*

Wor. Alfred R. Peebles- 1958*

Wor. Herman A. Neal- 1960*

Wor. Winston H. Taylor- 1962*

Wor. James W. Short- 1964*

Wor. A.D. McIntosh- 1966*

Wor. Edmond A Tower- 1968*

Wor. Robert L. Ford- 1970*

R.W. Jack C. Miller- 1972, 1973, DDGM 1987

Wor. Louis Baronovich- 1975*

Wor. William N. McKinney- 1977*

R.W. Jonathan C. Munro- 1979, DDGM 1997*

Wor. Raymond E. Welsch- 1981

Wor. Freeman M. Taylor- 1983

Wor. Robert H. Packwood- 1985

Wor. Clyde Dickens J.R.- 1987

Wor. Colin M Cameron- 1989, 1994

Wor. Dean T. McClure- 1991

Wor. Stanley W. Meeds- 1993*

Wor. Herbert R. Briggs- 1996

Wor. Christopher J. Spring- 1998, 2000

Wor. Stephen E. Henwood- 2001*

R.W. Malcolm A. Rhinehart- 2004, DDGM 2006

Wor. Frank A. Rocanello- 2006

Wor. Joseph G. Walsh- 2008

Wor. William O'Sullivan- 2010

Wor. Val De Vuyst- 2013

Wor. Anthony "Tony" Petrides- 2015

Wor. Ricky Espiritu- 2017

Wor. Edmund Rodas- 2019

Wor. Sotelo Cruz- 2022

Wor. TK Krumenacker- 2024

Wor. J.F. Lamond- 1897 *

Wor. Reynold Cothran- 1899 *

Wor. Andrew Nilson- 1902, 1903, 1904, 1909, 1910 *

R.W. Thomas Watson- 1907, 1908, DDGM 1911*

Wor. Henry W. Lewis- 1912 *

R.W. L. Trevette Lockwood-1915,DDGM 1933,1935*

R.W. Elwin W. Bunker- 1917, DDGM 1918*

Wor. Robert S. Clark- 1919*

Wor. A.S. Andersen- 1923*

Wor. George S. Whitting- 1925*

Wor. Charles M. Gruber- 1927*

Wor. Robert W. Greer- 1929*

Wor. Herbert B. Wentzell- 1931*

Wor. Henry F. Lilienthal- 1933*

Wor. Hal G. Young- 1935*

R.W. J. D. Lenderman- 1937, DDGM 1939*

Wor. Paul C. Brown- 1939*

Wor. Wm. E. Tanner- 1941*

R.W. Claude L. Fendley- 1943, DDGM 1954*

Wor. Raymond G Jewell- 1945*

Wor. John R. Wells- 1947*

Wor. Richard H. Mathews- 1949*

Wor. J. Louie Carter- 1951*

Wor. Theodore F. Kohl- 1953*

Wor. Kent Taylor- 1955*

Wor. Aubrey A. Burse- 1957*

Wor. James L Waugh- 1959*

Wor. R. Frank Rogers- 1961*

R.W. Robert E. Cox- 1963, DDGM 1965*

Wor. William C. Spencer- 1965*

Wor. Ernest R. Bass J.R.- 1967

Wor. F. Paul Taylor- 1969*

R.W. Lowery L. Jackson- 1971, DDGM 1973*

Wor. James L. Snelgrove- 1974

Wor. Ralph O. Cabaniss- 1976*

R.W. Franklin R. Coursey- 1978, DDGM 1984

Wor. Roy R Laws- 1980

Wor. Lyle E. Mason- 1982*

Wor. Richard J.L. Packwood- 1984

Wor. James F Irvin- 1986

Wor. Thomas W. Kyle- 1988*

Wor. Michael F McCarthy J.R.- 1990

Wor. Clarence P. Graham- 1992*

Wor. Van W. High- 1995*

Wor. Arthur M. Bennett- 1997

R.W. John G. Allen- 1999, 2011, DDGM 2003*

Wor. Scott J. Wheeler- 2002

Wor. Mark D. Eitel- 2005

Wor. John B. DaGrosa S.R.- 2007

Wor. Paul L. Moss- 2009

Wor. Joshua G. Johnson- 2012

Wor. Lawrence Doiron- 2014

Wor. James "Charley" Hogwood- 2016

Wor. Marco Sevilleja- 2018

Wor. Ray Rios- 2020-2021

Wor. Justin Shiver- 2023

HONORARY Past Masters

Edward L. Hosford- 1960*

Philip P. Rosenshein- 1994*

Edgar D. Mitchell- 2007* (6th Man on the moon.)

David Reilly- 2015

Lou Babbit- 2016*

William "Bill" Sheff- 2022

Daniel B. Laub- 1965*

James H. Kirby JR.- 1999

Michael Hart- 2015

Edward Griffin- 2015

Robert C. Gibbons- 2021