



6th District Sun

Dedicated to the Promotion of Masonic Principles



VOLUME 58, NO. 5

GOD BLESS AMERICA

NOVEMBER 2009

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

How good and how pleasant is it for Brothers to dwell together. It is indeed my Brothers.

My Brothers, I hope that the new Masters and line officers are prepared for the new Masonic year. For all of you it will be a challenge of strong and decisive leadership to promote your Lodge, encourage the line officers, and improve and maintain the membership. The trestle boards that you have prepared can only be measured by the involvement of the membership. Having programs that reach the hearts and interest of the membership will be a key to your success. During my second term, I will be reaching out to all of you. The leaders of the Lodges are young, enthusiastic, and outstanding. I will continue to report to the Grand Master that this District is working very hard to promote the Craft. The District continues to be fortunate of our current leadership team consisting of the RW Carlos Cruz, RW Bernard Rashes, VW Yves Etienne, and VW Christopher Winniki for their outstanding achievements.

Thankfully, the Craft has not lost its zeal for charity. The economic outlook continues to challenge our charitable giving; however, we must continue to maintain our Brotherhood Fund. I encourage each Brother to give within his means.

I want to remind you all again that you keeping track of our health should be our #1 priority. I encourage all of you to follow-up with your health care professionals on issues the can and will affect your lives. Without good health, Freemasonry suffers.

It is also important to note, that the widows are still with us and we must continue to care for them. This is part of the Grand Master's theme. I am asking the Chairmen of the Widows Program maintain to contact and report on the health condition or otherwise.

Finally, my brothers, I wish to publicly thank the editor W Patrick Kelsey for staying on top of the articles and its timely publication. With your help we all can and will be successful in our Masonic endeavors.

*Sincerely and fraternally,
R. W. Alonza Lloyd*

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND LODGE DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES

The new Masonic year is well on its way and I know all of the Lodges in our beloved 6th Manhattan District are working well and diligently to bring about nothing but another incredible and fruitful Masonic year. Brethren I need you all to start thinking, "Education!" I need all of you, not just those of you honestly interested in taking the education courses but "All" of you in the 6th Manhattan District to, at a minimum, go to the "Registry Office/Lodge Services," located on the 18th Floor of our Masonic Hall and pick up a copy of the Masonic Development Course (MDC) and with your current GLNY ritual book "The Standard Work and Lectures of Ancient Craft Masonry, ed. 2001", we can start our MDC. We will begin again holding the MDC course on November 4, 11, and 18th, reviewing the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd parts, respectively.

(Continued on page 3)

**Support Your
Brotherhood Fund**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS

2009-2010 SIXTH MASONIC DISTRICT RITUAL COMPETITION

The competition will be held at the Grand Lodge Building on Monday, November 30, 2009. Eligible Brothers are in the Metropolitan region (Area 1), who has not yet attained the title of "Worshipful," and has been selected by his District as its official delegate. The ritual is the final section of the Middle Chamber Lecture: "*My Br. w r n w i a pl rpsg th M C of K S T*".... through to "*wherein his soul shall find rest forever, and forevermore.*" (Pg 130 – 132).

The top three Brothers will compete again among themselves in January 2010 to serve as the District's official delegate. The finalist will represent the District at the MAGLA ritual competition on Thursday, April 29, 2010, 7 pm, Grand Lodge, 71 West 23rd Street, 19th floor.

Plaques will be presented to the winners at the 6th District Charity Ball. Please fill out the form, located at nymasons.org/cms/districts/6th-manhattan, and return it to me by November 17, 2009: Yves Etienne, 1213 Avenue Z, #D-33, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

*Sincerely and fraternally,
V. W. Yves Etienne &
V. W. Christopher Winnicki*

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIRMAN

I am very proud to report that the September 2009 meetings of the Board of Directors and District Association were very productive. The Directors' Long Term Planning Committee continued to fulfill its objectives of improving the printing, distribution, and content of the 6th District Sun. September marked the first time that the number of printed copies of the Sun was reduced to reflect the actual needs of the Lodges. More than 250 other brothers had the opportunity to read the Sun electronically on the District's homepage (nymasons.org/cms/districts/6th-manhattan). These changes which have been implemented have an immediate impact on the District's bottom line and on our efforts to go green. In addition, the Editorial staff is taking steps to improve the layout and content of the Sun to keep Brothers better informed as to District and Lodge activities.

(Continued on page 2)

MASONRY & ME

Those who have given any study to Freemasonry, and even those who have merely heard the ritual many times, know that Geometry and Astronomy play an important part in our rituals. What we may not know is that a great part of our Symbolism, which requires these sciences for its interpretation, is based upon beliefs that existed long before full development of the sciences.

The Northeast Corner is an example. Its Symbolism was ancient even at the time of the building of King Solomon's Temple. As the Lodge is symbolic of the world as pictured in ancient times, when it was believed to be an oblong square, so our Northeast Corner is symbolic of the northeast corner of the world as anciently mapped where we can study the movements of the sun from season to season. It was the point in the annual course of the sun where it reached the extreme northern limit, marking the summer solstice and the day of the year of greatest light. It is also the longest day of the year, which in Masonry we dedicate to Saint John the Baptist, the prophet of righteousness. Hence, the youngest Entered Apprentice in the Northeast Corner stands near the Worshipful Master, who symbolizes the sun in the east, whence comes the light.

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SIXTH DISTRICT SUN

Published by the Sixth Masonic District Association of Manhattan, Inc. *So that all who read this Publication will reflect the Goodness of our Masonic Purpose*

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PUBLICATION DEADLINESIssue Deadline

June May 1st
September August 1st
November October 1st
January December 1st
March February 1st

Current/Past Issues Are Located At:

www.nymasons.org/cms/districts/6th-manhattan

CALL TO MEETING

You and your Masonic friends are cordially invited to attend the next regular meeting of the Sixth Masonic District of Manhattan, Inc., on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 in the Second Floor East, Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd Streets, New York City.

Dutch Dinner at Outback Steakhouse beginning at 5:45 PM will precede the official meeting. The Board of Directors will meet at 7:00 PM and the Association will meet at 7:30 PM.

The meeting is called for the following purposes:

- To receive the Grand Master's Message from our District Deputy Grand Master
- To hear reports of Committee Chairmen.
- To conduct other business as may regularly and constitutionally be brought before it.

Other District Association Meetings

- Wednesday, January 20, 2010 -
- Wednesday, March 17, 2010 -
- Wednesday, June 16, 2010 -

**6TH DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chairman R. W. Bernard Rashes, DSA
Vice Chairman R. W. David G. Rosenthal
Secretary R. W. William Thomas

OFFICERS

President V. W. Yves Etienne
Secretary W. Sunny Gazahi
Treasurer R. W. James Bonerbo
Comptroller R. W. David Bobrow

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During the summer, several Brothers met to discuss strategies to strengthen the committee structure that forms the basis of the District's activities. At the September meeting, more than twenty brothers met to strategize, brainstorm and carry forward on the efforts identified during the summer. New Lodge Brothers came forward with ideas and volunteered to work on the District's Dinner Dance and journal ads program, baseball game, Table Lodge, and Holiday Party. These Brothers are the future of the District and their efforts will continue the high standards that are set for all District activities.

In closing, I want to thank all of the Brothers who have worked so hard to make all of the District's activities successful. I look forward to continue working with them and all of the new brothers who are enthusiastic in maintaining the success of District activities. I look forward to seeing all of you at the November 18th meeting so that we can continue our efforts to better the District's programs.

Sincerely and fraternally,

R. W. Bernard Rashes, D.S.A.

**GOLDENRULE CLERMONT
MCKINLEY LODGE**

www.geocities.com/grcml486

R. W. Steven A. Rubin
stevenadamrubin@msn.com

The spirit is good in Goldenrule Clermont McKinley Lodge No. 486.

At our September 22, 2009 meeting, we held a Brother-bring-a-Brother/Brother-bring-a-Friend Night. Over sixty (60) men were in attendance, including fifteen (15) guests. All officers from the Lodge contributed to making the Night such a success. The evening started with a tour of Masonic Hall, a presentation in the American Room, followed by a feast prepared by Brothers of the Lodge. Special recognition must be paid to five brothers who were instrumental in making the evening such a success: Bros. Jesus Hernandez and Andrew Turin who planned the evening and Bros. Bill Peist, Sr. and Jr., and Bro. Christopher Francesse who prepared the banquet that followed.

October was education month at Goldenrule. Our October 13th meeting "Masonry, The Basics and Beyond" was a perfect seg-way as we welcomed to the Lodge on October 27, 2009 the Sixth District's very own RW Dan Semel, Grand Lodge Judge Advocate. RW Semel is the Grand Master's Lawyer and an expert on Masonic Law. For those thirsting for Masonic insight and understanding, these two educational programs were not only educational, but entertaining.

On November 10, 2009 Goldenrule Clermont McKinley Lodge will be hosting an

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**2009**

Nov. 9	DDGM Visitation Maimonides-Marshall
Dec. 7	DDGM Visitation Shakespeare
Dec. 7	Masonic Blood Drive
Dec. 12	Holiday Party
2010	
Jan. 27	Fellowship Night Allied, Shakespeare, and Boyer (at Shakespeare)
Jan. 29	Florida Breakfast
Mar. 9	Grand Lecturer's Convention
Mar. 10	Masonic Blood Drive
Mar. 14	Masonic Interfaith Service and Breakfast
Apr. 17	District Charity Ball
Apr. 30	George Washington Re-enactment
May 3 & 4	Annual Communication
June 25, 26, 27	Saint John's Weekend
May. 10	Masonic Blood Drive

Is your event or activity listed?

Submit it to the Editor

and help publicize your Lodge.

evening for our Lodge and guests, as we honor our Masonic and War Veterans. A special evening is planned that will conclude on the 19th floor with a banquet as we celebrate our history, our service to our country with brotherhood and fellowship. All are invited to attend.

MAIMONIDES-MARSHALL LODGE

www.mastermason.com/mml739

W. Sunny Gazahi

mrgazahi@yahoo.com

Facebook Group: Free Masons Maimonides Marshall Lodge No. 739

With only two months remaining in the year, Maimonides Marshall Lodge has scheduled four very interesting meetings. On November 9th, RW Alonza Lloyd, District Deputy Grand Master and RW Carlos Cruz, Grand Director of Ceremonies will grace the Lodge for their annual visit. On that night, several very special Masonic Veterans will be honored for longevity in the Masonic fraternity. On November 23rd the Lodge will confer the Entered Apprentice degree with the ritual led by W Sunny Gazahi in the East. The Lodge will open early at 6 PM for the December 14th meeting. After we close all Brothers are invited to attend the annual Brotherhood Dinner that gives them a great opportunity for socialization and Brotherhood. We close the year with a Summoned Communication on December 28th for the un-affiliation of Brothers whose dues are in arrears.

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Brethren I know financially times are tough and the price tags on the "24 Inch Gauge Masonic Resource Guide", and "The New York Book of Masonic Law" and other such tools are a bit expensive but those factors should not deter you from attending the upcoming "Road to the East Course" and other such Masonic educational courses because there will be brethren present who will have these books and I am sure they will be most willing to share, me included. I charge the Worshipful Masters with gathering for me, names, phone numbers and email addresses and even snail mail addresses of Brethren in their Lodges who want and are willing and eager to attend the educational courses.

Brethren you have an incredible and reachable DDGM, R.W.: Alonza F. Lloyd, Sr., two incredibly gifted AGLs V.W.: Christopher Winnicki and V.W.: Yves Etienne and myself at your disposal and we want to hear from you as to your needs. My cell is (917) 225-9694 and my home number is (973)-320-2733, or email me, but don't hesitate, call me or e-mail me but get to me. My true motto apart from the U.S.M.C. motto I use which is "Semper Fi" meaning "Always Faithful" is, "You can be somewhere else, doing something else, with someone else, but instead you are here tonight putting forth your efforts with your brethren." Love you all my Brothers.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
R.W.: Carlos A. Cruz
dfcon1775@aol.com

ALLIED LODGE
www.alliedLodge1170.org

W.: Glenroy Aska
g2aaska@aol.com

Facebook Group: *Allied Lodge No. 1170, F. & A. M.*

Allied Lodge began our Year on September 21, 2009. We reflected on three brothers who passed on to the Celestial home during our summer vacation. They were W Earl Shakes, W Smith Wiggins and Brother Fitzroy Terry.

We also have a Bus trip planned for Saturday November 28, 2009. The chair of this event is my Senior Warden: Bro. Hans Momplaisir- hansmomplaisir@aol.com and 917-498-5911. This involves a day filled with activity and shopping.

We intend on continuing our tradition of contributions to various organizations. You can call, text or e-mail me for any information.

.....
"Self-trust is the first secret of success, the belief that if you are here the authorities of the universe put you here, and for cause, or with some task strictly appointed you in your constitution, and so long as you work at that you are successful."

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet & philosopher

.....
"Labour to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience."

~ George Washington's Rules of Civility

Not a member of the 6th Manhattan District Association? For lifetime membership contact W.: Sunny Gazahi
mrgazahi@yahoo.com

SHAKESPEARE LODGE NO. 750

www.shakespeare750.com

W.: Gilbert Ferrer

master@shakespeare750.com

Facebook Group: *Shakespeare Lodge No. 750 F. & A. M.*

The Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-Third and Last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., the Mother Council of the World, opened its 104th Biennial Session in Washington, D.C., over the weekend of October 3-4.

At the Biennial Session, the Supreme Council accorded the honors of Grand Cross, Inspector General Honorary, and Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. This year's recipients include five-time Past Master of Shakespeare Lodge No 750 and Past Editor of the Sixth District Sun, RW Sheldon B. Richman. RW Brother Richman was elected from the Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia, one of 42 Orients in the Southern Jurisdiction. Brother Richman had received prior appointments as RW, first from New York, and then Virginia, Grand Lodges.

As a native son, both Shakespeare Lodge and the Sixth Manhattan Masonic District take great pride in the Southern Scottish Rite's recognition of Brother Richman's labors to improve Freemasonry. Hearty salutations are extended by both groups to RW Sheldon B. Richman on his selection as a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

All honormen in the Orient of Virginia will participate in investiture ceremonies at the end of October in the Valley of Richmond.

~ R.W.: Daniel Semel

STATE & DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS

Address Change? Please contact your Secretary with any address change information.

To subscribe to the 6th Manhattan District's online email list send an email to 6md-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. The list is not available except to Brothers in our District.

To subscribe to a list serve used for distribution of messages of interest to GLNY send an email to Atho11781-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

To subscribe to NETNEWS (a free monthly online newsletter published by the Grand Lodge) visit <http://nymasons.org/cms/nynetnews>.

Are you receiving the *Empire State Mason* quarterly magazine? If not, contact ESM circulations at (800) 362-7664.

(Continued from page 1)

In some primitive religions the northeast corner was the seat of Deity and became a symbol of sanctity and virtue. In Operative Freemasonry the first stone was laid in the Northeast Corner, and thereon was erected a temple or other edifice, sturdy and of beauty. The youngest Entered Apprentice should use the Lessons and the Teachings of the Northeast Corner whereon to erect his Temple, temporal and spiritual, sturdy and of beauty. He represents the Corner Stone and stands symbolically midway between darkness in the North and light in the East whence healing revealing rays fall upon the life of man. It is his part to decide whether he will move backward toward darkness or forward toward the light. Whether to receive his working tools as a son of Light, himself a living stone to be polished.

HELP WANTED

Masonic Hall Tour Guides

Bro. Jose Camacho at (212) 337-6602

Blood Drive Donor Program Liaisons

W Patrick Kelsey at (718) 689-0620

MSAT Program Liaisons

Tim McMullin at (888)-694-0511

Holiday Party Liaisons

VW Yves Etienne at (718) 368-4551

Livingston Library Volunteers

RW Tom Savini at (212) 337-6620 or
RW Charles Haskin at (315) 798-4832



SIXTH MASONIC DISTRICT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

This is a reminder! I have not heard from you. Once again, the Sixth Manhattan District is planning and sponsoring its annual District Children's Holiday Party. It will be held in the Second Floor Collation Rooms on Saturday, Dec. 12, 2009 (10 am - 2 pm).

Our children and grand children have a grand time each year as they celebrate the Christmas, Chanukah, and Kwanzaa holiday season. It has been reported that Santa Claus will stop by on its travels from the North Pole to entertain the kids and give each of them a nice present. Of course, one of the important parts of the program is the Child ID, where the children are fingerprinted. Refreshments will be served to all.

In order to prepare for this event, we need to know how many children will be present. Therefore, please call or write to me and let me know the names and ages of the children attending. It is very important that we have their names and ages (you can obtain the form at nymasons.org/cms/districts/6th-manhattan). My address is: 1213 Avenue Z, Apt. D-33, Brooklyn, NY 11235. I can be reached during the day at (718) 368-4551 or E-mail: ysekb@yahoo.com. Come on down with your little ones and let's celebrate the holidays together.

*Sincerely and fraternally,
V. W. Yves Etienne*

TOTTON ESSAY CONTEST ACCOUNCEMENT

The Fifth Manhattan Masonic District Association Endowment Fund, Inc. has sponsored for over 45 years and has given this committee the privilege to conduct the Frank M. Totton Essay Contest. This year's topic has been chosen to be: "How can we preserve our natural resources?"

The contest is open to any high school senior who is the child or grandchild of a Master Mason or a member of their extended family and who anticipates entering an accredited college in the Fall of 2010. Registration forms can be located at nymasons.org/cms/districts/6th-manhattan. Deadline is January 10, 2010.

*RW Cary S. Cohn, Chairman
Grand Lodge Committee on Youth*

(Editors Note: you can also visit: www.nymasons.org/cms/node/34) for more information about this Committee)

visit www.nymasons.org

THE LOST SYMBOL By Dan Brown

In The Lost Symbol Freemasons are once again the keepers of a lost secret. In National Treasure it was the limitless treasure supposedly held by the Knights Templar before they were suppressed by King Philip IV in 1307 and disbanded by Pope Gregory in 1312.

Here it is the source of all wisdom of the ancient mysteries. The secrets that were passed down from the ancient mysteries from Greece and Egypt and handed over to the Royal Society in England (Dan Brown's back-story makes an immense leap in time) and still held by Freemasons in America. The key to unlocking the secret has been hidden and the secret knowledge has been held and passed down through the ages by and is in the hands of certain 33° Freemasons headquartered at the House of the Temple in Washington D.C.

Dan Brown tells a good story. If you have read The DaVinci Code, then you are familiar with the general plot and pace of The Lost Symbol. His continuing hero Robert Langdon, an expert in the arcane academic field of the history of symbols and symbolic interpretation, is lured to Washington, D.C. by an old friend who entrusted him with a package (contents unidentified) years before. Once at the Capitol, he finds that nothing is as it seems and he is quickly being sought both by the villain of the story and by the authorities (the CIA no less) for reasons barely intelligible to him.

In the course of the story Langdon is once again aided by an attractive woman (this time a researcher in Noetic Science-you'll have to read the book-who is the sister of his old friend), deciphers an endless series

of symbols and clues to the "Lost Symbol," has a series of narrow escapes, (including one which appears to be the end of Robert Langdon, but which he escapes with the aid of scientific "magic,") confronts the truly diabolical villain, and finally figures out what the Lost Symbol of the story is at the end of the book.

Brown oversimplifies Freemasonry (the 33° is the pinnacle of all Freemasonry with no distinction drawn as to the Scottish Rite.) Also, he totally accepts, for story purposes, the direct links between the ancient mysteries and Freemasonry today (he must have studied Morals & Dogma from cover to cover) Moreover, at the very beginning of the book, he describes a somewhat lurid ritual for the 33° (apparently meant to hook the reader and taken from a 19th century exposure.)

Be that as it may, he is highly respectful of the craft. Other than Langdon, the heroes (or primary victims of the villain) are Freemasons. Near the beginning of the story, he uses the vehicle of a flashback to a lecture on the Harvard campus to respond to a student's negative impressions of the Craft. His response could have been made by a member of the Craft.

The pace of the novel is very fast and very entertaining. If you, like me, seldom read current fiction, you might spend a few hours in the company of Robert Langdon wondering Washington D.C.'s Masonically based landmarks and the House of the Temple. At least you'll know what the fuss is about and will be able to answer questions about the plot points from you non Masonic friend.

~ W. Gil Ferrer

FROM THE EDITOR

Charity and Leadership. Do we know what they are? Do we practice them? As I observe my own morality I feel that we can all practice both a bit more in everything we do.

I see everyday opportunities for us to stretch ourselves and with the multitude of global issues we are having, even giving a little bit of time (not money!, just time) can do a lot of good. It is a bit self-serving, but another blood drive is coming up in December. I beg of you, please take the time and schedule to donate. At the September drive, I was the *only* donor within the entire District!

As for leadership, who do we follow? Who do we want to follow? Or, in this case, who is our Masonic leader that we look to? Is it our Grand Master, our District Deputy, the Worshipful Master, or the 50+ year Masonic veteran? From where I sit, the leader I am closest to is always going to be the Worshipful Master and in him we have all placed our trust. We must let him and him alone work and give us the proper instruction for our labor. As a Past Master, I offer my counsel when asked, but will always let the Worshipful Master work in his own way.

Also, as a Past Master and a leader of men, we must *never* discourage a Brother from getting involved, whether it is visiting Lodges, educational opportunities, Committee work, or the like. A Brother does not require my permission or even an approving nod else I risk discouraging his enthusiasm. What an enthusiastic Brother needs is the guidance and encouragement from his Masonic leader, or whomever he chooses to follow.

Let us all stretch ourselves a bit more as we approach a new year. By the time you read this, it is likely that my daughter will have been born. Each and every day I will strive to teach her these notions of charity and leadership so that other will want to follow her and emulate her. This is the legacy we leave.

~ W Patrick Kelsey