

March 2021

Volume 21, Issue



The Trestleboard

Message from the East

My Brothers,

I hope this month finds you in good health.

February found us facing the elephant in the room.

Due to a member of one of the groups that rents our building testing positive for Covid, we were forced to postpone the scheduled Entered Apprentice degree until the first meeting in March.

The Lodge building, including the Lodge Room, has had EVERY surfaced professionally sanitized.

The Lodge is our home, where we meet and congregate. We must go above and beyond the suggestions. To keep our Brothers and their families safe, you must wear a mask at all times while in the Lodge building, except while actively eating or drinking something, or speaking from a direction away from other Brothers' faces, maintain social distancing, and feel safe in our Lodge. AND ABOVE ALL, IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL, PLEASE STAY HOME!

Our Grand Master has decreed that masks are to be worn in Lodge buildings, at practices, and at meetings. This is the policy going forth.

Peace and Harmony Prevailing,
Scott Schwartzberg, Worshipful Master

Message from the West

Brethren,

It has been nice to see everyone for a full January of meetings and practice. I hope to see more Brothers attending now that vaccines seem more available with the lodge thoroughly cleaned and prepared to welcome you all back. Our Worshipful Master has planned a nice amount of events and your support is necessary for success. Speaking of support, please remember to bring non perishable food items for our food drive for the Palm Beach County Food Bank! There is a box in the foyer and your donations are gratefully appreciated. Come meet the several interested candidates too who are an interesting group of men.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Steve Otto, Sr. Warden

Boynton Lodge No. 236

2701 Quantum Blvd

Boynton Beach, FL 33426

[Visit Our Website](#)

www.boyntonlodge236.com

Regular Communication

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30pm.

Except November and December when it shall be the 2nd and 3rd Thursday.

Dinner Served at 6:30pm

RSVP to Eugenio Rosado

Dress Code

Officers & Brothers are required to dress in coat and tie. Officers dress in white tuxedo for degrees and official visitations

Meeting Schedule

- **March 11:** Called Communication-EA Degree—7:30pm
- **March 25:** Stated Communication-7:30pm

District Deputy

R.W. Rex Bradford

Phone : (561) 289-9529

District Instructor

R.H. Roy D. Strohacker

Phone : (561) 329-2261

Committees

FINANCE

Steve Otto

W.: Brad Partridge

W.: Robert Mandell

W.: Mark Bogert

R.:W.: Michael Gambarotti

Marty Kaye

Eugenio Rosado

VIGILANCE

Eugenio Rosado

Brad Partridge

Ross Cooper

PETITIONS

W.:M.: Jason Fisher

Anthony Kresty

John Reeve

Ross Cooper

MASONIC EDUCATION

Scott Schwartzberg

W.: Brent Ferns, Sr.

W.: Brian Work

BOARD OF RELIEF

Scott Schwartzberg

Stephen Otto

Eugenio Rosado

Marty Kaye

CHARITY

W.: Brent Ferns, Sr.

Steve Otto

Marty Kaye

LODGE PROPERTY

Stephen Otto

W.: Stamatis Stamatopoulos

Alan Cohen

Message from the Secretary

My Brothers,

Thank you to those who have paid their 2021 dues. For those of you who have not yet remitted your 2021 dues, please send them in as soon as you can. For those of you who made arrangements for your 2020 dues, these are in serious arrears cannot be ignored. If you are having any issues paying your dues, please contact me. We can only help if we know what is going on with you.

On a lighter note, one of our goals this year to get brothers in different roles, from lectures, to catechism instructors, to mentors. This endeavor can only be accomplished with your help. I have heard brothers say that they are not interested in proficiency cards because they don't need to prove what they know. I am here to say that the cards don't just tell us what you know, but it helps to show how educated our Lodge is. There have been a number of us that have gone to open books this year, in the hopes of educating (and refreshing) ourselves of our rituals and ask that you join us. An educated mason is a dedicated mason.

Also, I hope to see you at our monthly education nights where we will be tackling the Master Mason exams, and Lodge Officer Training Course exams. Stay tuned for the schedule of events.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
RW Michael Gambarotti, Secretary

Chaplain's Chat

"Give the right hand of affection and fellowship to whom it justly belongs; let their color and complexion be what it will, let their nation be what it may, for they are your brethren, and it is your indispensable duty so to do". — Prince Hall

Brethren,

Freemasons meet on the level. However, before moving to the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Florida, I never sat in Lodge with a man of African descent. Now, I came from a very rural area with a very low level of diversity, but there are still many jurisdiction where only thinly veiled racism still exists. Florida Brethren should be proud of the steps our Grand Lodge has taken toward recognition of Prince Hall Masonry, and we as Brothers of Boynton Lodge No. 236, should be proud of the diversity in our membership. I know I am.

Since being welcome to our Lodge, I have been lucky enough to sit at a table in our fellowship hall where Christians, Jews, Buddhists, and those of other religious beliefs have sat in amity. I have enjoyed observing companionship with Haitians, Cubans, Brazilians, and those from many other places.

This month we recognize the 246th anniversary of the historic Raising of the first ever Master Mason of African descent, when Prince Hall received the final degree of Freemasonry at Irish Constitution Military Lodge No 411 on March 6th, 1775. We should be proud of how far our Fraternity has come in not only increasing diversity in our Lodges, but also in affecting inclusiveness outside of the Lodge. However, there is still much work to be done. As is evidenced by the quote at the beginning of this article, Prince Hall's goal was not to start a separate Masonic organization. What he sought was to be an equal, to be met on the level.

I encourage us all to remember that Freemasons consider the inner qualities, not the race, religion, or political beliefs of others. As Prince Hall reminds us, it is our indispensable duty so to do.

Brent M. Ferns, Sr., PM
Chaplain

Lodge Officers

WM: Scott Schwartzberg

(561) 414-5023

SW: Stephen Otto

(215) 850-8082

JW: Eugenio Rosado

(856) 655-5155

Tres.: Marty Kaye

(561) 352-8325

Sec: RW Mike Gambarotti

(561) 267-8577

boyntonlodge236secretary@gmail.com

Chap.: W.: Brent Ferns, Sr.

(989) 254-3090

SD: Anthony Kresty

(561) 702-5833

JD: Steven Rappaport

(954) 348-1707

SS: John Reeve

(561) 777-5896

JS: Giuseppe Castagna

(561) 332-6320

Tyler: Gordon Oreskovich

(561) 350-5920

Marshal:

W.: Steve Stamatopoulos

(561) 301-7925

Historian:

RW Richard Philpott

(561) 350-5920

Brick Program

Our brick program is alive and well. If you would like to purchase a brick, please remember:

- The Square and Compasses (Gold Bricks) are available for the cost of \$100.00 each.
- The Letter G (Blue Bricks) are available for the cost of \$200.00 to Past Masters of Boynton Lodge ONLY. These bricks are restricted to name, WM Date & DDGM date.
- No business advertisements are allowed on any brick.

Please make a check payable to Boynton Lodge No 236 and send it to the Lodge address along with



the inscription you desire. If you have any questions you may call, W.: Ross Cooper at: (561) 702-0859

Birthdays

Luis Novaton
Warnell Phillips
Edwin Glass
Richard Brown
Phillip Knowles
Paul Jean
William Pierre
Victor Karroum

Joseph Edouard
Thomas Sawicz
Kevin Sweeney
Robert Landis
Bill Winchester
Robert Kenny
John Reeve



Investigations

Daniel Friedman

Amit Patel

Awaiting Degrees

E.A.: Angel Abrego

David Felker

F.C.: Carlos Perdomo

Ryan Fernandez

Robert Sayih Barry Arfa

Kelvin Tolentino

Erwin Gondesen

James St. Juste

M.M.: JC Villar

Upcoming Events

March 11: EA Degree-7pm

March 20: Open Books—9am-12-pm
Harmonia Lodge No. 138

March 25: Stated Communication

Boosters

R.:W.: Michael Gambarotti

Raymond O'Connell