

Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey

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Cell. 973-886-9486
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Grand Lodge Office
100 Barrack Street, Trenton, NJ 08608
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District Deputy Grand Master of the 3rd Masonic District

RW :: Bro. Alex Valdez, DDGM
201-970-8502 alxvdz@gmail.com

District Ritual Instructor of the 3rd Masonic District

RW :: Bro. Mike Nino, DRI
551-497-3310 lmnino65@yahoo.com

District Educational Officer of the 3rd Masonic District

WB :: Heriberto Cruz-Olivieri
646.866.8703 Ecruzolivieri@gmail.com

Lodges of the 3rd Masonic District

AT&T No. 77	2 nd & 4 th Thur
Fulton Friendship No. 102.	1 st & 3 rd Tues
Mosaic No. 194	1 st & 3 rd Thur
Temple No. 173	1 st & 3 rd Wed
Salomon No 306	1 st & 3 rd Fri
DLI	1 st Mon

COMICIONES/COMMITTEES

PLANIFICACION ESTRATEGICA/ STRATEGIC PLANNING

Alberto Hernández, Ludwin Álvarez,
Heriberto Cruz

FINANZAS/ FINANCE

Conrado Lezcano, Rolando Núñez, Jorge L.
Álvarez

INVESTIGACIONES/ INVESTIGATIONS

Ludwin Álvarez, Alberto Hernández,
Heriberto Cruz

DESARROLLO DE LA MEMBRESIA/ MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Ludwin Álvarez, Cristian Reyes, Florentino
Falcon

INSTRUCCIÓN RITUAL/ RITUAL INSTRUCTION

Heriberto Cruz- Olivieri

MEDIOS DE COMUNICACIÓN SOCIAL/ SOCIAL MEDIA

Ludwin Álvarez- Heriberto Cruz

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

FREEMASONRY promotes a way of life that binds like-minded men with the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in order to serve God, Family, Country, Neighbor and Self.



Find out more about us-

*The Grand Lodge
of New Jersey*

www.newjerseygrandlodge.org

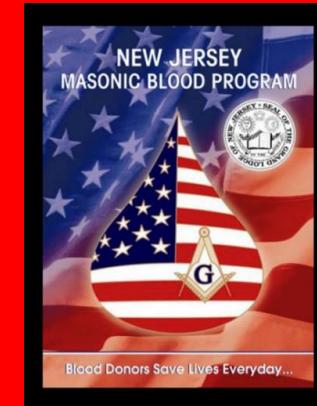
LIVING PAST MASTERS

Alberto Hernandez-2019

Ludwin Alvarez-2020

Heriberto Cruz- 2022-2023

AMERICAN RED CROSS



HONORARY MEMBERS

MW.: Gregory J. Scott, PGM 2019

RW.: J. Eugene Margroff, DGM

RW.: Omar S. Morris, SGW

SALOMON LODGE No. 306,

of Free & Accepted Masons

EST-JANUARY 6th, 2019



May 2024



Regular Meetings 1st and 3rd Friday of every month with the exception of July and August at 7:30pm

Ridgefield Park Masonic Temple

129 Main Street

Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

MENSAJE DEL ESTE

S :F :U :

Mis Hermanos,

“El Mito de la Caverna”

La "Alegoría de la Caverna" de Platón, que se encuentra en el libro VII de "La República", no es solo un pilar fundamental en la historia de la filosofía occidental, sino también un poderoso espejo que refleja los principios esenciales de la masonería. Se que con este análisis no voy a ser capaz de abarcar todas las enseñanzas y debates que este relato nos puede brindar pero si me gustaría usarlo como puerta para futuras discusiones en nuestra logia. Pretendo que sirva de motivación para seguir enfatizando en nuestro compromiso con la verdad, el conocimiento y la ética moral.

Detalles del Mito: (Para los hermanos que nunca lo han escuchado)

Platón imagina a un grupo de personas que han vivido encadenadas en una caverna desde su nacimiento, de modo que solo pueden mirar hacia una pared. Detrás de ellos hay un fuego, y entre el fuego y los prisioneros se encuentra un camino elevado por donde algunos llevan figuras y objetos que proyectan sombras en la pared que los prisioneros pueden ver.

Los prisioneros, al no haber conocido otro entorno, creen que las sombras son la realidad misma, ya que es lo único que han visto. Platón sugiere que la percepción sensorial de estos prisioneros es engañosa y limitada, y que solo ven reflejos de la verdadera forma de las cosas.

La alegoría continúa con la liberación de uno de los prisioneros. Este prisionero es forzado a volverse y mirar hacia el fuego, lo que le causa dolor debido al brillo intenso. Gradualmente, se le guía fuera de la caverna, donde inicialmente la luz del sol lo ciega. Sin embargo, con el tiempo, sus ojos se ajustan y

empieza a ver y comprender la realidad más allá de la caverna y las sombras; percibe el mundo real y reconoce que lo que había visto antes eran solo reflejos distorsionados.

Finalmente, el prisionero liberado siente la responsabilidad de regresar a la caverna y liberar a sus antiguos compañeros. No obstante, al volver a entrar en la oscuridad de la caverna, sus ojos, ahora acostumbrados a la luz, no pueden ver en la penumbra, lo que hace que los otros prisioneros desconfíen de él y se rehusan a ser liberados, prefiriendo creer en la realidad ilusoria de las sombras que conocen.

La Caverna Masónica

Los prisioneros que desde su nacimiento han estado encadenados de manera que sólo pueden mirar hacia una pared, representan a las personas atrapadas en la ignorancia y las ilusiones. Hermanos independientemente del desarrollo de este mensaje les invito a pensar sobre esta ignorancia y como se representa en nuestro mundo actual.

La luz del fuego que ilumina la caverna y proyecta sombras en la pared a la que los prisioneros están enfrentados es una representación imperfecta de la luz verdadera del sol, que simboliza el conocimiento supremo en el mundo inteligible. En este punto los invito a que miremos dentro de nuestra institución y nuestro comportamiento. ¿Como masones estamos en constante búsqueda de la luz verdadera? ¿O solo recreamos y repetimos una idea de este conocimiento que nos han transmitido?

La liberación de uno de los prisioneros y su subsiguiente viaje fuera de la caverna implica un doloroso reajuste: la luz del sol es abrumadora y, al principio, el prisionero liberado es incapaz de ver nada. Gradualmente, sin embargo, sus ojos se ajustan, lo que simboliza el difícil proceso de educación y la transición del mundo sensible al mundo de las formas. Como masones debemos

entender que no siempre la búsqueda de la luz y la perfección va a ser fácil. De hecho no debería ser así, el trabajo en nuestra piedra bruta siempre va a venir acompañado de sudor y esfuerzo.

Una vez iluminado, el prisionero en la alegoría de Platón tiene la responsabilidad de regresar a la caverna y compartir su recién descubierto conocimiento con aquellos que aún están atrapados en la oscuridad. Este acto de retorno no es solo un acto de valentía, sino un paralelo directo con el compromiso masónico de mejorar a la sociedad. El masón iluminado se enfrenta a la obligación de ser un faro de sabiduría y guía ética, trabajando incansablemente para levantar a sus hermanos y a la comunidad en general hacia una mayor luz.

Por otro lado, como institución no solo nos deberíamos enfocar en el perfeccionamiento del hombre sino también en la búsqueda de una sociedad más justa. Aunque estas dos cosas van relacionadas de la mano. No podemos tener una sociedad más justa y libre si como hombres no crecemos física e intelectualmente. ¿Pero es nuestra responsabilidad una sociedad más justa?

Podemos ver que como en nuestra institución también Platón en "La República", está preocupado por la pregunta de la justicia y cómo se puede lograr una sociedad justa. Y esta alegoría de la caverna presenta un marco que nos invita a meditar sobre la relación entre el conocimiento y la libertad, y la responsabilidad ética de los educandos hacia los no educados.

La llamada del Maestro!

Mis hermanos, use la "Alegoría de la Caverna" de Platón no sólo como una simple parábola filosófica; mi intención es hacer una exhortación vibrante y eterna a todos los masones a vivir de acuerdo con los más altos ideales de la fraternidad. Quiero que sirva como llamado a cuestionar, a explorar y a no conformarnos con las sombras de la realidad, sino a buscar incansablemente la verdad en su forma más pura. No quiero que sea un llamado a solo alcanzar

la iluminación personal, sino a comprometernos activamente en la elevación de nuestra comunidad, guiando a otros fuera de la oscuridad de la ignorancia hacia la radiante luz del conocimiento y la comprensión. Esta alegoría sigue siendo profundamente relevante en el mundo moderno, donde las cuestiones de ilusión y realidad son mediadas por la tecnología y los medios de comunicación masivos. Es nuestra responsabilidad examinar críticamente las 'sombras' de la verdad ofrecidas por las representaciones mediáticas y buscar una comprensión más profunda y fundamentada de la realidad.

¡El mundo nos necesita más que nunca, seamos causantes de la evolución no participes de la degradación!

Al Nivel,

VM :: _Ludwin Alvarez, PVM

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

S :F :U :

My Brothers,

“The Myth of the Cave”.

Plato's “Allegory of the Cave”, found in book VII of “The Republic”, is not only a fundamental pillar in the history of Western philosophy, but also a powerful mirror that reflects the essential principles of Freemasonry. I know that with this analysis I will not be able to cover all the teachings and debates that this story can give us but I would like to use it as a door for future discussions in our lodge. I intend it to serve as motivation to continue to emphasize our commitment to truth, knowledge and moral ethics.

Details of the Myth: (For those brethren who have never heard it)

Plato imagines a group of people who have lived chained in a cave since birth, so that they can only

face one wall. Behind them is a fire, and between the fire and the prisoners is a raised path along which some carry figures and objects that cast shadows on the wall that the prisoners can see. The prisoners, having known no other environment, believe that the shadows are reality itself, since that is all they have seen. Plato suggests that the sensory perception of these prisoners is deceptive and limited, and that they see only reflections of the true form of things.

The allegory continues with the release of one of the prisoners. This prisoner is forced to turn and look into the fire, which causes him pain due to the intense brightness. Gradually, he is led out of the cavern, where initially the sunlight blinds him. Eventually, however, his eyes adjust and he begins to see and understand the reality beyond the cavern and the shadows; he perceives the real world and recognizes that what he had seen before were only distorted reflections.

Finally, the freed prisoner feels the responsibility to return to the cavern and free his former companions. However, upon re-entering the darkness of the cavern, his eyes, now accustomed to light, cannot see in the gloom, which makes the other prisoners distrust him and refuse to be released, preferring to believe in the illusory reality of the shadows they know.

The Masonic Cavern

The prisoners who from birth have been chained so that they can only look at a wall, represent people trapped in ignorance and illusions. Brothers, independently of the development of this message, I invite you to think about this ignorance and how it is represented in our world today.

The light of the fire that illuminates the cave and casts shadows on the wall that the prisoners are facing is an imperfect representation of the true light of the sun, which symbolizes the supreme knowledge in the intelligible world. At this point I invite you to look within our institution and our

behavior. As Masons are we in constant search of the true light? Or do we just recreate and repeat an idea of this knowledge that has been handed down to us?

The release of one of the prisoners and his subsequent journey out of the cave involves a painful readjustment: the sunlight is overwhelming and, at first, the freed prisoner is unable to see anything. Gradually, however, his eyes adjust, symbolizing the difficult process of education and the transition from the sensible world to the world of forms. As Masons we must understand that the search for light and perfection is not always going to be easy. In fact it should not be, the work on our rough stone will always be accompanied by sweat and toil.

Once enlightened, the prisoner in Plato's allegory has the responsibility to return to the cave and share his newfound knowledge with those still trapped in darkness. This act of return is not only an act of bravery, but a direct parallel to the Masonic commitment to the betterment of society. The enlightened Mason faces the obligation to be a beacon of wisdom and ethical guidance, working tirelessly to lift his brethren and the community at large into a greater light.

On the other hand, as an institution we should not only focus on the betterment of man but also on the pursuit of a more just society. Although these two things go hand in hand. We cannot have a more just and free society if as men we do not grow physically and intellectually. But is a more just society our responsibility?

We can see that as in our institution also Plato in "The Republic", is concerned about the question of justice and how a just society can be achieved. And this allegory of the cave presents a framework that invites us to meditate on the relationship between knowledge and freedom, and the ethical responsibility of the educated towards the uneducated.

The Call of the Master!

My brethren, use Plato's "Allegory of the Cave" not only as a simple philosophical parable; I intend it as a vibrant and timeless exhortation to all Masons to live according to the highest ideals of the fraternity. I want it to serve as a call to question, to explore, and not to settle for the shadows of reality, but to tirelessly seek truth in its purest form. I do not want it to be a call to just achieve personal enlightenment, but to actively engage in uplifting our community, leading others out of the darkness of ignorance into the radiant light of knowledge and understanding. This allegory remains deeply relevant in the modern world, where questions of illusion and reality are mediated by technology and mass media. It is our responsibility to critically examine the 'shadows' of truth offered by media representations and seek a deeper and more grounded understanding of reality.

The world needs us more than ever, let us be the cause of evolution, not the cause of degradation!

On the square,

WM :: _Ludwin Alvarez, PM

MASTER'S INSTRUCTIONS OF EVENTS

Dear Brothers:

You and your Masonic friends as cordially and fraternally invited to attend the Stated Communication of Salomon Lodge No. 306, F.&A.M., to be held on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month with the exception of July and August at 129 Main Street; Ridgefield Park, N.J. 07660 at 7:30 pm.

Attire: Black Suit, White Shirt, Black Tie, Dark Shoes.

Mayo/May:

3rd Regular Stated Communication- Suit and Tie@7:30pm

6th DLI/ Instrucción del Distrito-Suit and Tie@7:30pm

10th Mosaic Beef Steak Dinner @ 6pm

15th Temple OV @ Temple

16th FC Degree @ Mosaic -7:30 Gavel Wraps

17th Regular Stated Communication- Suit and Tie@7:30pm

19th 21st ARC Walk @ Olsen Park, Bogota@ 9am

25th Salomon Beef Steak Fundraiser @ 7:30pm

27th Memorial Day Parade @ Fulton Friendship@ 8am

D.L.I./ Ritual Instruction

The 3rd District Lodge of Instruction is held on the 1st Monday of each month at **7:00 pm**. A minimum of 7 Officers must attend. Suit and Tie unless informed otherwise.

Profano

Mr/Sr. Marco Aurelio Zaldívar

Mr/Sr. Ryan Vazquez Blanco

Mr/Sr. Julio Cesar Reyes

Awaiting Degree/En espera para el Grado de Aprendiz

Mr. Carlos Alex Arturo Vega Pena*

Entered Apprentice Mason/ Aprendiz Masón:

Bro. Daniel A. Menéndez

Fellow Craft Mason / Compañero Mason

Bro. Álvaro Aparicio

Bro. Mikel Morales

Bro. John Salguero

MM Exam / Examen de Maestro Mason

Bro. Washington E. Andrade
Bro. Joel Foot Mayze

2024 OFICIALES/OFFICERS

W.Bro. Ludwin Alvarez - Worshipful Master
Cell. 973.563.1707
Mr.ludwinalvarez@gmail.com

Bro. Cristian Reyes Senior Warden
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cristianreyes1215@gmail.com

Bro. Florentino F. Falcon Junior Warden
Cell.305.898.3024
falcon_piedra@hotmail.com

W.Bro. Alberto Hernandez Treasurer
Cell.347.392.6497
jcginc@yahoo.com

W.Bro. Heriberto Cruz Secretary
Cell. 646.866.8703
ecruzolivieri@gmail.com
Salomon.no.306@gmail.com

Appointed Officers

Bro. Jovian Hernández
Bro. Rodolfo Zanetti
Bro. Gabriel Cisneros
DBro. Nelson A. Jaquez
DBro. Conrado Lezcano
Bro. Alberto C. Hernández
Bro. Rolando Núñez

Bro. Jorge L. Álvarez
RW. Bro. Angelo Aponte
Bro. Washington Rodriguez

Sr. Deacon
Jr. Deacon
Sr. MC
Jr. MC
Sr. Steward
Jr. Steward
Historian
Musician
Chaplain
Marshall
Tyler



Salomon.no.306



Salomon.no.306



MAY BIRTHDAYS

15th Bro.: Renato Carvalho
15th Bro.: Nelson A. Jaquez
25th Bro.: Rolando Nunez



Grand Lodge Education Committee

Coming Soon!!

The Grand Lodge Education Committee is in the process of creating some new and improved sessions for all levels of our membership. Here are a few of the programs currently in development to include leadership, management, and business skills necessary to lead our Fraternity:

Grand Chaplain Education Program - Provides an overview of the duties and suggested options for Grand Chaplains to perform their duties in their Districts. Provides documentation for them to manage their year. This is scheduled for January 19.

DDGM Education Program - Provides an overview of the duties and suggested options for District Deputies to perform their duties in their Districts. Provides documentation for them to manage their year.

DRI Education Program - Provides an overview of the duties and suggested options for District Ritual Instructors to perform their duties in their Districts. Provides documentation for them to manage their year.

DEO Education Program - Provides an overview of the suggested options for District Education Officers to perform their duties in their Districts. Provides documentation for them to manage their year.

Worshipful Master & Warden's Program - Provides an overview of the essential obligations of a Worshipful Master and Warden. Provides suggestions of issues to consider in the preparation, management, and leadership of a Lodge year.

Secretaries and Treasurers' Program - Provides an overview of the essential obligations of a Secretary and a Treasurer. Provides suggestions of issues to consider in the preparation and management of a Lodge year.

Much more to come soon! Watch for more on social media, our Grand Lodge website, and via our Email distribution lists.

Take the Society of King Solomon Online Course

This free-of-charge, prestigious educational program, will be open to all Master Masons in good standing in our Grand Jurisdiction and will cover a wide variety of educational material that will give the seeker a solid foundation and the appropriate tools to pursue his own path of enlightenment.



3rd District Group
A texting site has been created on

GroupMe.
To join, go to:
https://app.groupme.com/join_group/66067104/u2nkaebC



Deputy Grand Master's
NIGHTINGALE
BEEFSTEAK
\$60/person

Enjoy a night with
Right Worshipful Margroff for some
great food, 50/50 & great
conversation!!! **BYOB. 05/11/2024**

Social @ 5:30pm, dinner @ 6:30pm!! Contact Bro. Eric Mattson @
(347)584-6919 for info!

Sunday, May 19, 2024
Olsen Park / Bogota Recreation Center
Parking in Bogota Swim Club Lot at 452 Feller Place

RAIN OR SHINE!

Registration begins at 9:30 am
Walk begins at 10:30 am

Training the Mentor Workshop
Creating Excitement in Freemasonry

Dear Brother: The New Jersey Masonic Mentoring Committee is bringing Mentorship Training to your area. This program is designed to provide you with the tools not only to be an effective Mentor but to inspire and invigorate all the Brethren in your Lodge.

Every attendee will receive all materials available to conduct a successful Lodge Mentoring program. To register for this exciting workshop please RSVP via the QR code or email: RW Jonathan Dershowitz at jadershny@gmail.com (Include your full name, lodge name & Number, District Number, email, and cell phone)

Event details:
Location: Boiling Spring Lodge No. 152
169 Park Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070

Date: Saturday, May 18, 2024

Times: 8:00am – Check-in
9:00am – Workshop Begins
3:30pm – Closing
Light Breakfast & Lunch will be provided.

Registration Fee: There is no registration fee to the participants, nor to their Lodge.
Attire: Casual
What to Bring: Please bring an empty USB memory stick.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact either of the following:
RW Jonathan Dershowitz at jadershny@gmail.com
WB Bro Heriberto (Eddie) Cruz at Ecruzolvier@gmail.com - Se Habla en Español.
See you soon!!!

The Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey offers these scholarships to students interested in pursuing higher education.

For complete details about each scholarship's eligibility requirements, or for an application, visit www.njmasonic.org or www.newjerseygrandlodge.org. Completed applications must be postmarked by May 30, 2024.

Scholarship	Amount	Description
Chairman of the Board Scholarship	\$10,000	For Graduating High School Seniors in Any Major - 3 Available GPA: 3.0 or higher Must be relative of NJ Mason*
Culver DeMolay Scholarship	\$4,000	For Graduating NJ High School Seniors in Any Major - 3 Available GPA: 3.0 or higher Active DeMolay preferred
Bark-Townley Scholarship	\$4,000	For Graduating High School Seniors in Any Major - 3 Available GPA: B or 3.0 Must be relative of NJ Mason*
William Mayer Memorial Scholarship	\$4,000	For High School Graduates 2 Available GPA: C+ or 2.5** For NJ Masons & their relatives (or applicants) Sponsored by the Grand Lodge of NJ

*Eligible for 4 years
**Eligible for 2 years

The applicant must be the child step-child grandchild or step-grandchild of a living or deceased Master Mason or Past Master of a Lodge of the Grand Lodge of NJ. *One interview per family.

Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey | 902 Jacksonville Road | Burlington, NJ 08816-3896 | (609) 239-3830

TEAM OMAR
WITNESS TO THE
STEAK, STICKS & SPIRITS

SAT JULY 13TH 2PM – 7PM

TRIPLE-S 2024
DANISH HOME OF EDISON
855 NEW DURHAM ROAD, EDISON N.J. 08817

STEAK DINNER - 3 PREMIUM CIGARS - OPEN BAR

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/triples24>

ADVANCE TICKETS \$100.00

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 1st

NO RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED AT DOORS

CHECK PAYABLE TO:
TEAM MORRIS NJ GRAND STAFF
MEMS TRIPLE-S
JONATHAN DERSHOWITZ
31 MERCER STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10009
ZELLE PAYMENT: TEAMSTAFF2024NJR@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
JONATHAN DERSHOWITZ @ (917) 508-7520 / WMCERSHOWITZ@gmail.com

Hiram & Solomon CIGARS

MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY