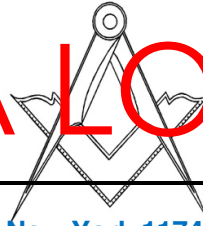


# JEPHTHA LODGE 494



342 New York Avenue, Huntington, New York 11743 ♦ <https://band.us/band/77740271>

## WORSHIPFUL MASTER JOHN A LENTINELLO

Br Richard Gentile, Editor - Assistant Secretary  
[rg.jlnews@iCloud.com](mailto:rg.jlnews@iCloud.com)

Dear Brothers,

The Officers of Jephtha Lodge and I wish you and your families warm, fraternal, holiday greetings - Merry Christmas & Happy Hanukkah!

The Holiday Toy Drive was a success and we have many toys being donated to the Ronald McDonald House and Toys for Tots Charities. For those who attended the Holiday Lights Parade Viewing Party and braving the frigid temperatures, it was a great show and time of enjoyment for all of us who live locally in the Town of Huntington.

Moreover, with the Christmas Season upon us we are reminded at the close of 2024 of everything that occurred both positively and negatively throughout the year. We are also reminded of the fresh start that 2025 provides, a new, clean slate and hope.

Furthermore, we welcome you to the D.D.G.M. visit at the Lodge on December 9, 2024 at 6:30 PM, as well as to our Lodge Fundraiser Event, "Fight the Fire," to be held on Friday December 13, 2024, at 6 PM. We look forward to seeing you at both events.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
W.:M.: John A Lentinello

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Gino Caba  
Christopher J Camilleri  
Jeremiah Campbell  
Arthur M Landman

John B Lentinello  
Patrick Lough  
Brian C Rodriguez  
Joseph C Savaglio

Christopher Tomasino  
Paul A Vermylen III  
Charles J Williams

### DECEMBER RAISINGS TO THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON

William DeBenedetto

Christopher F Fusaro

Robert C Wuestefeld

### WHY THE KITCHEN?

Why are new Brothers (Entered Apprentices) asked to work in the kitchen when they first start their Masonic journey at Jephtha? There are several reasons really, it's not because they're being hazed or used as free labor.

One of the most common ways to bond with our friends is sharing a meal. How many times do you have friends over for a BBQ or dinner at home or even dinner out? Creating the collation meal for a Lodge meeting is a great way to meet and work with new Brothers that are coming up with you. Even practice of the ritual book is discussed, knowledge of how our lodge works, how it's run and why we do what we do is shared while preparing the meal.

Oftentimes, these are men you may not have crossed paths within your lives in the profane world and building

relationships in the kitchen help build trust, teach new skills, learn new cultures, all while working to achieve a common goal - all for your Brothers of the Lodge. Some of my closest friendships in the lodge were made in the kitchen during my first two years at Jephtha. I have fond memories of those years and keep in touch even with those who have moved on to different places in life.

In the end, it doesn't matter if you know how to cook, that's not the point (You will likely learn a thing or two, however.) or even if the meal is catered, there's always some prep for the meeting that needs to be done. We joined for a sense of place, of purpose and accomplishment, of Brotherhood in our lives.

You hear the slogan, "Making Good Men Better," and we think there's a grand achievement that goes with this slogan. I can assure you this is just one of the ways in our journey that adds up to making us better men. "Better" is not bestowed upon us, we learn it. We learn better... by doing.

Br Drew MacCallum

## **FURTHER PROOF SANTA IS A FREEMASON**

### ***The Night Before Christmas, Down At The Lodge***

'Twas the Night before Christmas,  
And down at the lodge  
Not a gavel was stirring,  
And in the hodge podge  
Of aprons and jewels  
And chairs East and West  
You could savour the silence,  
Most gladly divest  
All metal and mineral,  
It mattered not,  
Since Christmas was nigh  
And the coals were still hot  
In the hearth of your home place,  
All Masons abed,  
As visions of trestleboards  
Danced in their head;  
When up on the roof there arose such a clatter  
Our Tyler jumped up to see what was the matter!  
He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,  
Three knocks shook the panels – he wondered "What  
for?"  
He answered the knocking with raps of his own,  
And once the door opened he saw, with a moan  
Of delight, it was Santa, all jolly and red  
Except for one notable feature instead!  
Upon his large finger he wore what we knew  
Was compasses and square on a background of blue!  
"Why Santa!" he shouted and lowered his blade,  
"I see you're a Mason!" the Tyler relayed.  
He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair  
And said, voice near trembling, "Most Worshipful there  
Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!"  
The Master replied, "Let's allow him – but wait!  
You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see  
His apron beneath that red suit. Can it be  
Our visitor hasn't been properly raised?"

Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?"  
"I do beg your pardon," ol' Santa said quick  
As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick  
But a cane with engraving, two balls did appear  
And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!  
Adorned like the Master's, complete with a sign  
Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!  
"Now let this man enter," the Master declared,  
And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all stared,  
For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen  
For many a century – there in between  
The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar  
Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a dollar!  
"It's Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess  
Are actually images brought from the West.  
By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!"  
And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled  
An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East,  
"My friend I have plenty. Tonight we will feast  
On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"  
A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir,  
As presents and promises flew from his sack!  
This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack  
For making this Christmas the best you could glean,  
And soon even Deacons were laughing. They'd seen  
On this very night only happiness reigned!  
This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained  
That only a Mason could be so inclined  
To make all kids happy, make all people find  
A Christmas so special. Yes, Santa was right!  
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!  
Author: Clayton L. Wright

*Reprinted from:*  
<https://freemasoninformation.com/2016/12/a-masonic-christmas-card/#comments>



Artwork by Br Brian Schulbaum

# JEPHTHA LODGE 494



## TRESTLEBOARD

### UPCOMING JEPHTHA EVENTS

- Mon. Dec. 9 6:30 PM **DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER VISIT (DDGM)**, 8 PM, collation will open at 6:30 PM to allow time for delegations.
- Wed. Dec. 11 7 PM **SHEPHERDING**, First Degree, via Zoom
- Fri. Dec. 13 6 PM **FIGHT THE FIRE**, Jephtha Lodge with the assistance of FCNY Engine Co. #50, will host a charitable fundraiser. 100% of the proceeds will be distributed to W.: Greg, our brother in need, and his family. Raffle, 50/50, Silent Auction, Buffet, Drinks, and more. Jephtha Lodge, 342 New York Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743
- Wed. Dec. 18 7 PM **SHEPHERDING**, First Degree, at the Lodge
- Sat. Feb 22 6 PM **JEPHTHA TABLE LODGE**, "Miami Vice" theme. Dinner will be provided, \$50/pp, Brothers only, includes dinner, drinks and glasses. Come dressed in your pastels and let's rock out to a great time. Crocket, Tubbs and Castillo may make an appearance, and we will see what else may be in store.

### UPCOMING SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT EVENTS

- Thr. Dec. 19 6:30 PM **DDGM**, Suffolk Lodge
- 2025**
- Wed. Jan. 8 6:15 PM **SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION** The topic will be the First Degree, all Entered Apprentice are welcome. Smithtown Lodge hosted by V.: W.: Stuart Smith.
- Mon. Jan. 13 **DDGM**, Connetquot Lodge
- Tue. Jan 28 **PAUMANOK LODGE MASONIC TRIVIA NIGHT** will host a Masonic Trivia Night with free dinner and prizes, including brand new ties, gift cards, and raffle giveaways. The Lodge is looking for visiting lodges to play and compete on teams. Anyone care to join WM Lentinello in this Quest for Victory? If so, please let him know. (Paumanok-Port Washington Lodge #855, 5 Pulaski Place, Port Washington, NY 11050)
- Tue. Feb. 4 **DDGM**, Amityville Lodge
- Tue. Feb. 18 **DDGM**, Riverhead Lodge
- Thr. Mar. 13 **DDGM**, Dongan Patent Lodge
- Sat. Mar. 15 2-6 PM **GRAND LECTURERS CONVENTION** (First Degree), Babylon Lodge. Joint convention with Nassau and Suffolk Masonic Districts
- Wed. Mar. 19 **DDGM**, Peconic Lodge
- Wed. Apr. 9 **DDGM**, Babylon Lodge



**Dec. 13 2024 6PM**

**PUTTING OUT THE FIRE!!**

**FATHER, HUSBAND, FRIEND, FIREFIGHTER, BROTHER.** THESE ARE JUST A FEW WORDS THAT DESCRIBE GREG. BORN IN MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, GREG HAS BEEN WORKING TIRELESSLY WITH THE FDNY FOR OVER 22 YEARS, INCLUDING DONATING COUNTLESS DAYS TO THE FDNY 343RIDE SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 2011, HELPING DONATE OVER \$1.5 MILLION TO MANY VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS. HE IS THE TYPE OF GUY THAT GETS ENJOYMENT OUT OF HELPING OTHERS IN ANY CAPACITY BIG OR SMALL. A DEVOTED HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE BARBARA AND A DEDICATED FATHER TO HIS TWO DAUGHTERS SARAH & ANGELINA, GREG SOMEHOW FINDS THE TIME TO HELP OTHERS IN NEED, WHETHER IT BE AT THE FIREHOUSE OR FOR ONE OF HIS MASONIC BROTHERS.

EPHESIANS 6:10 SAYS IN PART: "BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE STRENGTH OF HIS MIGHT." THIS BLESSING IS PRAYED OVER OUR FIREFIGHTERS TODAY, TO KEEP THEM PHYSICALLY SAFE, AND GUARD THEIR HEARTS AND MINDS AS THEY REPORT TO WORK. NOW IS THE TIME TO RETURN THE MANY FAVORS GREG HAS BESTOWED ON US AS HE BATTLES CANCER IN THE PRIME OF HIS LIFE.

342 New York Avenue  
Huntington, NY 11743

To make a donation please scan QR code or go to [www.JephthaEvents.org](http://www.JephthaEvents.org)

For additional information, Please contact Brother Rich Harris (631) 833-1104 or [Harris2dog@verizon.net](mailto:Harris2dog@verizon.net)

Jephtha Lodge #494 & FDNY Engine 50 Present

To The Rescue: Charitable Fundraiser

Raffle 50/50  
Silent Auction  
Buffet  
Drink  
Shirts and more...

100% of the proceeds to be distributed to W.: Greg and his family, Our Brother in need.

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