



www.RedwoodLodge35.com

# The REDWOOD BUILDER



W.: Matthew Yaffe 2019-2020

**REDWOOD LODGE NO. 35 A.F. & A.M., EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**  
Constituted June 10, 1878

**M.W. Kenneth F. Poyton**  
Grand Master  
**R.W. Michael R. Northup**  
Grand Marshal

**VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION**  
Monday, April 13, 2020

**R.W. Douglas J. Grant**  
District Deputy Grand Master  
**W. Michael R. Barbera**  
Grand Master of Ceremonies



**THE COMMUNICATION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 13, 2020 WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING ON ZOOM DUE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC**  
All are welcome to attend. See Page 3 for details

*Forwarding Service Requested*

Providence, Rhode Island 02909  
331 Broadway  
Mailing Address:



## REGULAR COMMUNICATION

**Second Monday of each Month**  
(except July & August)

Rehearsals - Wednesday Preceding the Communication,  
at 7 p.m.

Read-Through- Second Wednesday Preceding the Communication

## ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

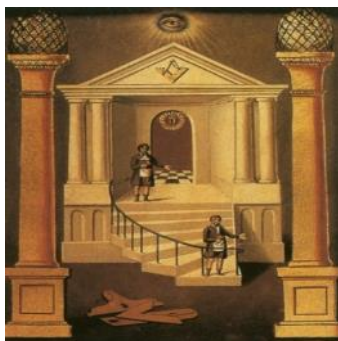
Second Monday in May

**Freemasons' Hall**

222 Taunton Avenue

East Providence, Rhode Island

Dates Subject to Change with Dispensation



## Officers 2019-2020

### Worshipful Master

Matthew Yaffe  
97 Algonquin Road  
Rumford, RI 02916-3503  
C: (508) 904-2784  
mjyaffe@yahoo.com

### Senior Warden

Roy Gessman  
15 Gladridge Drive  
Est Greenwich, RI 02818  
C: 401-529-2528  
rdgessman@verizon.net

### Junior Warden

Ryan Sherry  
194 Phillips Street  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
C: 401-559-4234

### Treasurer

W.: Andrew Sholes  
1375 Warwick Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02888  
O: 401-463-5600  
agsholes@sholeslaw.com

### Secretary

R.: W.: Samuel Miller  
331 Broadway  
Providence, RI 02909  
C: 401-523-5720  
secretary@redwoodlodge35.com

### Master of Ceremonies

M.W. Richard Sokoll  
50 Regal Way  
Cranston, RI 02921  
H: 401-944-3002  
rsokoll@verizon.net

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# The Redwood Builder



## Message from the Master

Fraternal Greetings from the East,

As I write to you for the last time, I would like to thank all of the Past Masters, Officers and members of Redwood Lodge No. 35, as well as family and friends, for all the support that has been provided to me as Master. I am humbled by the opportunity and the trust that you all have given me by allowing me to be your Worshipful Master. It has truly been my greatest honor to serve you in this capacity. We've had such an amazing year and this would not have been possible without your assistance, for which I am eternally grateful. The experience of being a Worshipful Master has helped me grow as a person and I will cherish it for the rest of my life.

I wish the incoming Worshipful Master-elect, my friend and Brother, Roy Gessman and all who labor with him, the best for the coming year. Redwood Lodge has stood strong in years past and will continue to thrive because of the Brethren. I see a very bright future for our lodge. The past few weeks and days, it has been hard to take my eyes off the headlines, as phone alerts and 24-hour news reports give continual updates on the COVID-19 outbreak. I'm sure many of you are feeling the same way. I know you are grappling with how to keep 'business as usual' as the world around us is anything but 'usual.' My heart goes out to those affected by COVID-19 and I wish the best for you, your families, and your neighbors. The officers have been reaching out to all of our brethren to "check-in" and lend an ear, to offer any type of assistance if needed. If you haven't yet received a call, email or letter in the mail please reach out to me so I can update your contact information.

A few days ago, a virtual meeting was held with our Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Council and Worshipful Masters from the Metro District. We discussed many topics with the most important being the future of our respective lodges. A decision was made to suspend all April meetings while we looked at plans for future meetings, which for Redwood includes our Annual Communication. These are unprecedented times and the biggest concern is the safety for our brothers. Although it saddens us to postpone our Master Mason degree, we will carry on and in due time perform the degree when appropriate. Life will always be challenging when you least expect it, it's how you cope with those changes and how you face the challenge that makes us stronger.... and we will be stronger!

Our April Communication will be held in a virtual setting to ensure safety protocols. The meeting will be carried out with the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden Bro. Secretary and Treasurer. This meeting will have no other business other than paying bills, with the minutes being sent to Grand Lodge. On this topic I would like to invite ALL brothers who would like to participate in a "Redwood Reunion" meeting through the app "Zoom". This will be an informal time to catch up with brothers. It's free, easy to navigate by computer or cell phone and we can all communicate in an open forum. We will plan to have this meeting on Monday April 20th at 7:30p EST. Reservations should be sent to [Rdgessman@verizon.net](mailto:Rdgessman@verizon.net) by April 18th for an official invite. In closing, I wish you all to be safe, wash your hands, limit social interactions, and stay up-to-date on the latest news. If you, or anybody you know is in need of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any officer. We stand together and we will get through this. Be well brethren!

Kind Fraternal Regards,  
Matt Yaffe  
Worshipful Master

If you hear a voice within you say "you cannot paint," then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced. -Vincent Van Gogh

## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

If anyone is aware of any brethren who are sick, injured, or require any services during this crisis, please advise me at [SMiller64@aol.com](mailto:SMiller64@aol.com) or call me at 401-523-5720.

Please note that the Lodge bills for 2020 have been sent out. If you have not received your invoice, or if you are experiencing problems paying your dues and assessments, please contact me at [SMiller64@aol.com](mailto:SMiller64@aol.com) or 401-523-5720. All correspondence will be kept confidential.

Applications for the Redwood Scholarship, which is open to children and grandchildren of members in good standing of Redwood Lodge, are now available. Only those students graduating High School and commencing their post high school education in 2020 are eligible. Applications are available by contacting me at [SMiller64@aol.com](mailto:SMiller64@aol.com) or 401-523-5720. Applications must be submitted by June 1, 2020.

Applications for the Grand Lodge Scholarship are available through the Lodge (401-435-4650). They must be completed with 100% accuracy and MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M. ON **June 15, 2020. (NOTE NEW DATE)**

### Redwood Communications 2019-2020

*Monday May 11, 2020-Annual Communication*

### METRO DISTRICT

### Annual Communications 2019-2020

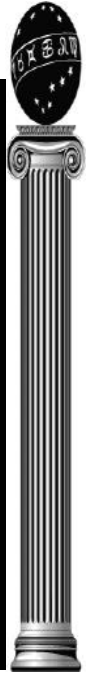
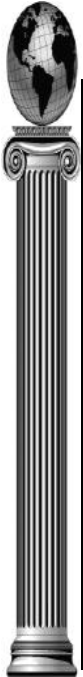
*Redwood No. 35- May 13, 2020  
Rising Sun No. 30- May 22, 2020  
St. Johns 1P- June 22, 2020*



# The Redwood Builder



## 1,422 Regular Communication – Monday, April 13, 2020



The April Communication will be a virtual meeting in accord with an Order from the Most Worshipful Grand Master:

ALL MASONIC TEMPLES ARE CLOSED IN-PERSON MEETINGS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AND CONCORDANT BODIES IN THIS JURISDICTION ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL THE END OF APRIL, 2020.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS UTILIZING ZOOM

**The Redwood Lodge  
April Communication  
April 13, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.  
SEE THE ZOOM LINK BELOW**

“Redwood Reunion”  
Zoom Meeting  
Is scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.  
(RSVP rdgessman@verizon.net by April 18, 2020)

(The Zoom application can be downloaded to your computer or I-pad or phone)

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

May we never again take for granted:  
A handshake with a stranger  
Full shelves in the store  
Conversations with neighbors  
Friday night out in a crowded theater  
The taste of communion  
A routine checkup  
The rush for school in the morning  
Coffee with a friend  
The stadium roaring  
A boring Tuesday  
Each Deep Breath  
Life itself.  
When this Ends...  
May we find we have become more like the people we wanted to be -  
We hoped to be...  
Were called to be...  
And may we stay that way...  
Better for each other, because of the worst.

— Laura Kelly Fannucci

Redwood Lodge will holding a virtual meeting in April. We will not be traveling to Consolidated Lodge for their Festive Board on April 7, 2020., which has been cancelled.

Our greatest priority is to stay safe and healthy and get through this current national crisis. At this time, it is not clear how this will affect upcoming Masonic events. I will do my best to keep everyone informed. If anyone has questions, concerns or needs, please contact me at SMiller64@aol.com or 401-523-5720. In the interim, our Master and Senior Warden are utilizing the Zoom Application to maintain contact with our Lodge Brothers. Please join us on April 20 at 7:30 P.M. and make your reservation with the Senior Warden

Please stay safe and healthy my brothers

### ZOOM VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION— MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020 - 7PM

Copy this URL to your browser - <https://zoom.us/j/642820922>

Meeting ID: 642 820 922

### The Members of Redwood Lodge Wish All of You a Very Happy Birthday!

*We apologize for any mistakes in Birthday dates and welcome corrections*

#### April Birthdays

Donald H. Dwares	April 1
Andrew H. Port	April 2
Edmond A. Loiselle, Jr.	April 5
Matthew J. Wymann	April 5
Joel K. Gerstenblatt	April 6
Richard C. Kumins	April 7
Steven E. Schiffman	April 8
Norman J. Bolotow	April 10
Michael F. Mroz	April 11
Marvin H. Homonoff	April 14
Bruce A. Gordon	April 15
Howard D. Zisseron	April 16
Chad A. Rosen	April 17
James P. Galkin	April 21
Bernard Wasserman	April 21
Gerald C. Finkelman	April 24
Larry Kahn	April 29

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS!**

### Redwood Masonic Anniversaries

*By date you were Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason*

#### April Masonic Anniversaries

Bryan T. Martin	3 year
Wilson Perez, Sr.	3 year
Matthew J. Wymann	3 year
Aaron Pacheco	4 years
Ryan A. Sherry	4 years
Clark T. Mason	6 years
Benjamin M. Sholes	6 years
Samuel S. Sholes	6 years
Luis Carcamo	8 years
LaQuincy L. Gilmore	8 years
Robert T. Goff	8 years
Joshua R. Kaufman	8 years
Alvaro Reina	8 years
Michael J. Rogovin	8 years
Robert J. Stahl	8 years
Nathan J. Campagna	0 years
Richard A. Cohen	19 years
Michael F. Mroz	19 years
Micah T. Ross	23 years
Gary C. Berard	28 years
Edmond A. Loiselle, Jr.	45 years
Samuel L. Braunstein	46 years
Richard B. Feinstein	46 years
Stephen D. Kasden	9 years
Edward M. Gordon	51 years
Lawrence D. Kortick	51 years
Andrew H. Port	51 years
Edward I. Grossman	55 years
Justin J. Strauss	61 years
Irwin Kaplan	62 years
David E. Penn	63 years
Arthur S. Robbins	64 years
Matthew D. Shuster	64 years
Irwin J. Chase	70 years

Congratulations Brothers!



March 26, 2020

Good Afternoon my Brothers,

I hope you are all feeling well and being careful during this most uncertain of times. This is certainly turning the way we do business upside down. At work, I now have employees working from home and trying to keep staff at the office down to as few as possible. Other than losing a bit of freedom and being with my brothers, the most disappointing part of this whole thing is that I am now classified as an elderly person which I wholeheartedly reject.

As we all know, the number of confirmed cases is increasing and both Local and Federal Government is clamping down. The State of Rhode Island is doing quite well which is encouraging to hear. Rhode Island Masons are doing their part to make sure we do not add to the number of confirmed cases and I applaud and thank every one of you for that.

I am encouraged that lodges are keeping in touch with their members and widows to make sure they are all ok.

**Unfortunately I must continue my order that all Masonic Temples be closed and in-person meetings of subordinate lodges and concordant bodies in this jurisdiction be suspended until the end of April.** This includes my Testimonial which Brother Rapson has been working very hard on.

I have been meeting with the Grand Council and just last night, I held a virtual district meeting with the Masters and Secretaries of your lodges. By Thursday night, I will have held virtual meetings with every district to discuss any concerns they may have. I must say, this is a very efficient way of meeting and despite not physically being with my brothers, this is the next best thing.

Without getting into too much detail, let me take this time to let you know what we have been discussing:

1. The manner in which a lodge meeting can be held.
2. Masonic Services
3. The AED grant program
4. Upcoming Annuals
5. The Grand Lodge Office will remain open by appointment only. Call 401-435-4650 to set-up an appointment.
6. The Robert J. Allen Medical Center will remain open by appointment, only by calling (401) 451-0184 until further notice.
7. The Scottish Rite Office may remain open at their discretion.

Once again my brothers, thank you for your continued cooperation and I look forward to the time when we can be together once again.

Fraternally yours,

*Kenneth F. Peyton*



# The Redwood Builder



## 2019-2020 Line of Officers

Senior Deacon: Wilson Perez, Sr.  
 Junior Deacon: Cory Meyette  
 Senior Steward: Andrew Brown  
 Junior Steward: Open  
 Sentinel: Open  
 Marshal: Yaakov Rosenbaum  
 Chaplain: Robert Stahl  
 Tyler: W.: Michael Rogovin  
 Electricians: Nathan Rosenbaum



## Redwood Lodge Committee Chairs

Redwood Committee: R.W. Mark Freedman  
 Investigations/Prep: M.W. Richard Sokoll  
 Finance Committee: W. Andrew Sholes  
 Scholarship Committee: R.W. Samuel Miller  
 Photographer: W.: Javier R. Alfonzo  
 Meals and Table Lodge: Stewards  
 Public Relations: W. Robert Goff  
 Lodge Reporter: W. Michael Ponte  
 Prince Hall Liaison: R.W. Mark Freedman  
 The Builder: R.W. Samuel Miller

## PAST MASTERS Redwood Lodge No. 35 A.F. & A.M.

#Noot, Meyer	1878-79	*Coppen, Charles B	1926	Gessman, Norman C	1971	Alfonzo, Javier	2017
*Hartman, Leopold	1880	*Mason, Williams H	1927	*->Bomes, Robert A	1972	Michael Rogovin	2018
#Parker, Melvin	1881	*Mowry, Walter H	1928	*Gordon, Stephen A	1973		
*Spitz, John H.	1882	*Wyman, Frederick W	1929	*Maldavir, Melvyn S.	1974		
*Green, Henry	1883	*Beacham, Harold	1930	*Silverman, Edward	1975		
#Dawson, Thomas B.	1884	*Brier, Charles	1931	Beranbaum, Stephen R	1976		
#Mullen, William H.	1885	*Whittaker, William B	1932	Kortick, Lawrence D	1977		
*Green, William H.	1886	*Taylor, Earl W	1933	*Jenkin, James	1978		
*Mosely, William H.	1887	*Lee, Howard S	1934	*Aron, Donald	1979		
*Burlingame, Alvertus S.	1888	*Garst, Arthur H	1935	R.W. Bromberg, Howard M	1980		
*Clark, James W.	1889	*Baacke, Henry	1936	Kirshenbaum, Allen M	1981		
*Boas, Herman	1890	*Rosen, Harry R	1937	*R.W. Aron, Edward	1982		
*Boulester, James E.	1891	*Hartley, Richard H	1938	Sholes, Andrew G	1983		
*Lincoln, Eugene B.	1892	*Gardner, Joseph J	1939	*M.W. Wasserman, Arnold	1984		
*Southey, Charles R.	1893	*Davis, Harrie S	1940	*Keating, Joseph	1985	Chaplain Emeritus	
*Hahn, Jerome J.	1894	*M.W. Abedon, Bernard	1941	R.W. Freedman, Mark H	1986	*R.W. Judah Rosen-2012	
*Lincoln, Edwin B.	1895	*MacKay, Alexander M	1942	->Krasner, Edward S	1987		
*Butler, Charles L.	1896	*Rosen, Albert L	1943	Chaika, Eric A	1988	Honorary Past Master	
*Pierce, Charles E.	1897	*Entwistle, James H	1944	*Myrow, Allan J	1989	*R.W. Judah Rosen-2004	
*Morton, Marcus W.	1898-99	*Ress, Joseph W	1945	*Goodman, Joseph	1990		
*Stanton, James W.	1900	*Perrin, Howard S	1946	#Charleson, James A	1991	Affiliated Past Master	
*Perkins, Herbert R.	1901	*R.W. Novogroski, Arthur	1947	Gaffin, Michael M	1992	*W. Avraham A. Reis	
*Bowen, Thomas A.	1902	*Cook, Walter R	1948	M.W. Sokoll, Richard	1993		
*Saunders, Harry L.	1903	*Strauss, Walter H	1949	->Fishbein, Richard J	1994	Honorary Members:	
*Albro, Seth M.	1904	*Licht, Frank	1950	R.W. Lewis, Donovan J	1995	*M.W. Alton T. Curti	
*Lasell, Clarence K.	1905	*Hendel, Maurice W	1951	Chaika, Eric A	1996	* ^W. Jacob DeHaan	
*Smith, Alfred	1906	*Hill, Henry M	1952	*Crisafulli, Frederick	1997	* ^W. Albert Lavine	
*Cutler, Harry	1907	*Goodman, Max W	1953	R.W. Elmekawy, Mekawy	1998	^W. Stanley DeHaan	
*Boas, Bernard	1908	*R.W. Cohen, Gerald P	1954	R.W. Freedman, Mark H	1999	*W. Gary Rachins	
*Payson, Stephen R.	1909	*Michaelson, Julius	1955	R.W. Miller, Samuel A	2000	*^W. John Haidenmenos	
*Hawes, James A.	1910	*Kumins, Albert	1956	Hodges, James	2001	*^W. Elmer Yeaw	
*Hoffman, Felix V.	1911	*Rubenstein, Louis Barach	1957	->Richardson, Simon J	2002	^M.W. Paul Cardoza	
*Pierce, Benjamin F.	1912	*Bromberg, Morris H	1958	R.W. Miller, Samuel A	2003	^M.W. John Lopez	
#Moir, George	1913	*Arnold, Siegfried	1958	R.W. Kaufman, Gary S	2004	*^W. James Warner	
*Butler, Charles L. Jr.	1914	*Mushnick, Frederick	1959	Ross, Micah T	2005		
*Taylor, Arthur J.	1915	*Millman, Benjamin	1960	Kaplan, Andrew	2006	*Deceased #Demitted	
*Lincoln, Samuel E.	1916	*Mandell, Leonard C	1961	R.W. Freedman, Mark H	2007	^Honorary >Dropped	
*Baldwin, Henry F.	1917	*Haft, LeRoy	1962	R.W. Miller, Samuel A	2008		
*Harley, William F.	1918	*>R.W. Brill, Marvin A	1963	R.W. Bartlett, Harley W	2009		
*Locke, Edward J.	1919	*Rothman, Robert H	1964	Ponte, Michael	2010		
*Kelley, J. William	1920	*M.W. Bromberg, Malcolm	1965	Catanzaro, Kevin J.	2011		
*Misch, Walter P.	1921	*Schwartz, Abraham	1966	Catanzaro, Kevin J.	2012		
*Mason, Earl H	1922	*Rottenberg, Louis	1967	Ponte, Michael	2013		
*Brand, William C H	1923	*Miller, Meyer S	1968	Saunders, Jeffrey	2014		
*Taylor, Burton RRR	1924	*Malinou, Martin S	1969	Cipriano, Dennis	2015		
*R.W. Edwards, Ralph H	1925	*Dressler, Abbott W	1970	Goff, Robert	2016		

## PAST MASTERS Roosevelt Lodge No. 42 A.F. & A.M.

*M.W. Scott, Wilber A	1921-23	*Rouslin, Benjamin	1943	R.W. Sciaraffa, Charles C	1963	*Elman, Arnold	1983
*Green, William	1923	*Blackman, Edward	1944	*Davis, Phillip	1964	*R.W. Wolff, Jacob G	1984
*Docherty, Edgar M	1924	*Emers, Lester D	1945	*Ostrach, Harry	1965	*Bernstein, Joel	1985
*Gregory, Ralph	1925	*Docherty, Bruce M	1946	Finkelman, Gerald C	1966	*LaRose, Harry E	1986
*Vicario, Raphael	1926	*Bloomberg, Harry A	1947	*Cleinman, Samuel	1967	*Smith, Ronald J	1987
*Friedlander, Israel	1927	*Matzner, William I	1948	*MacDonald, David A Jr	1968	Kahn, Larry	1988
*Pusateri, Augustus	1928	*Goldman, Harry I	1949	*Chaika, William Y	1969	*Davis, Alvin Jr	1989-90
*Brown, Charles	1929	*Jagoliner, Harry D	1950	*Limer, Harry	1970	*Smith, Ronald J	1991
*Workman, Samuel H	1930	*Deutch, Edward	1951	*Ludovici, Peter	1971	*Limer, Harry	1992-93
*Berberian, Arthur S	1931	*Bloomberg, Sheldon O	1952	*Tomasso, George	1972	Budz, Roger F	1994-95
*Garr, Samuel	1932	*Weiner, Benjamin	1953	*Lamorte, Donato	1973	Rossi, Dean M	1995
*Blackman, Abraham	1933	*R.W. Wolff, Jacob G	1954	#Pulner, Edward R	1974		
*Marsella, Augustus	1934	*Klein, Robert A	1955	*Soren, Robert	1975		
*Silverman, Charles L	1935	*Pagano, Nicholas	1956	Tomasso, Steven	1976		
*Greenstein, Jacob	1937	*Fellner, William	1957	Petrarca, Carmine	1977		
*Roitman, Aaron	1938	*Ostrach, Morris L	1958	Miller, Howard	1978		
*Selonek, Leslie M	1939	*Goldberg, Bernard S	1959	*Sugerman, Everett	1979		
*D'Antuono, Francis	1940	*Silverstein, Al	1960	*Iarocci, Michael	1980		
*Savasta, Stellerio	1941	*Pagano, David	1961	#DeBlois, Donald R	1981		
*Bolotow, Charles	1942	#Dickens, Joseph	1962	Davis, Alvin Jr	1982		