**STEWARDSHIP SPEECH**

**FOR**

**PATRICK ROSENE**

**Steward Ship**

**WM Patrick Rosene**

**250W Main st**

**Babylon, NY**

December 10, 2018 at 8pm

Most Worshipful Grand Master Walter C. King, District Deputy Grand Master Mathew Perry, Past and Present Grand Lodge officers, Past and Present Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brethren... Good evening. Let us be humble and pay respect to the great architect of the universe by first invoking the aid of deity. DDGM Perry Please raise the lodge for Chaplain to render us a prayer.

Each year that we live brings us the opportunity to learn, grow, and reflect on our challenges, accomplishments, and lessons received as we prepare to face the future. This past year, 2018, was an interesting and very productive year. We were able to acknowledge and capitalize on where we left off last year, and that provided a platform that prepared us to dive into the future. As we take a look back, I must say that acknowledgement is in order. We had set the bar higher for our lodge, and that’s what we did... as a team... as brothers... as a group inspired and ready to make a difference in spite of the odds we may have faced, we succeeded. Thank you for electing me for a second term as your worshipful master. While the last year was trying, it has only encouraged me to find greater strength and more determination as we work together, dedicated to a positive impact on our community . This year, I have goals and vision for all of us and for this lodge. While there are some brothers who may not rise to the challenges of change as readily, everyone present has declared their intention to participate through support and encouragement. To those of you who are up for new directions, we are proud to have your strength with us. I touch those bases as an acknowledgement of all of us, the **whole.** Mostimportant is to do good while keeping the harmony of this brotherhood strong.

We are all called on for a reason, and I believe my mandate is to improve financial stability of this lodge. When I began my first year as Worshipful Master, there was $198 in the bank. That was was entirely unacceptable. My mission was and is to broaden our horizons by traveling to other districts, raising our profile, finalizing our 501(c)(3) status, finding the path to financial viability, and being a “forward thinker.”

The **GOOD** news is that last year we ended in a positive note with $3000 in the bank after all expenses. While encouraging, we needed improvement. As a team, we had to grow our assets so our brothers face fewer burdens from fixed expenses. It’s our priority to lighten the load of assisting the Grand Lodge with their initiatives as we reach out to our community. With Toys for Tots, we had selected Vicardi Houses and Hope House. J.W. Zahran and I, with the assistance of the S.W. Hudson, got a minivan and driver to drop off toys to the houses and that was wonderful. The **GIFT** is in the **GIVING**. Seeing kids regularly faced with everyday personal struggles have excitement in their eyes about their toys was **EVERYTHING**. I will never forget that. I pray that we, as brothers, continue to reach out to those who are less fortunate. Let’s pledge to go beyond “charity of convenience” and step out of our comfort zones. There are people out here who are in bad shape. Our participation **MATTERS**.

As 2018 began, we attended the Midyear session, supported the Grand Master Ball, and purchased one table. Thank you, brothers, for traveling to mid-year.  We started to have a clearer vision of where we’re heading and momentum picked up. We finally received our approved status to operate as a 501(c)(3) company, Light Seeker Foundation. I want to Thank GJW Jean Appollon for supporting us in achieving our goal. We’re now eligible to receive benefits that accompany the formation of a charitable entity. This is a **WIN/WIN** for our lodge and our community Thank you, brothers. We all know importance of this step.

Increasing our bottom line is still priority. We had a fundraiser in March called Denims and Heels with an award going to the best looking heels. The turnout was great and the event was a success. Our patrons were ecstatic and we all had lots of fun. The award went out to Bro. McLaurin’s daughter. The evening was produced with just a handful of brothers participating. Can you imagine if we had 100% participation? We would have doubled the success... the fun... the donations. It was so successful that people are asking when we will have the next one... **OPPORTUNITY IS KNOCKING!**!. We invite you to participate for the next event. Thank you, RW George Jackson, SW Tyrone Hudson, JW Ibrahim Zahran and RW Robert Lee, for your contributions and efforts.

We then attended the Grand Master Testimonial in the Marriott Hotel White Plains.... another wonderful event. The Lodge supported it in great numbers. We were able to network and meet new brothers.  I used this opportunity to talk to people and gain knowledge in every aspect of masonry with an added goal of self improvement. I think of our mission and how I want to move our group to a more “inclusive” setting. I contacted the Amityville Lodge and spoke with Bro. Ed. We met several times but haven’t yet come to an agreement. In the back of my mind, I thought to move the lodge home where we were chartered, in Babylon. I feel we’d be able to increase our brand and have more community visibility. Personally, I believe every lodge should meet in their own chartered area. I understand every situation is different. SW Bro. Hudson and I spoke. He said he knows someone from Babylon Lodge and will contact them regarding the possibility of us meeting there. After the initial meeting, we were well received and felt we are part of one big family. They rolled out the blue carpet for Huntington Lodge. As Leader, I understand some decisions may not be popular with members for whatever reason but in the long run, this is the right direction to benefit Huntington Lodge. To the Brothers of Hollywood Lodge, thank you for allowing us to meet in your building for years. To WM Gomez, thank you for our many conversations regarding this opportunity. We were able to clear up confusion. To the Brothers of Babylon Lodge, thank you for receiving us with open arms. We are very excited to meet here. You made this place feel like home.

Coming out of darkness, brothers were excited meeting in our new building. We returned to working hard towards our goals. We started planning the 10th year anniversary ball that was held at our new building. We wanted this event to be a success with “all hands on deck.” We marketed this throughout the district and had Worshipful Masters, Worthy Matrons, brothers and various districts supporting our Anniversary Dance. Huntington Lodge gave out three awards. The first award for Community Service went out to Carl lanziere of American Legal Reform. Second Community Service award was presented to Gary Jacob of Long Island Back Story. Not only were they recognized by CNN, Lisa Ling did a story on them regarding the Corrupt Judicial system on Long Island. The Third award went out to RW George Jackson for his dedicated service to Huntington Lodge No.124. Thank you to the Grand Lodge officers for Attending DGM Greg Smith Jr., GJW Jean Appollon and G.T. Norman Gipson. To the brothers of Doric Lodge, thank you for the major support... you showed up in great numbers. Bro. Lloyd Eason of Doric Lodge and RW Charles Jenkins of Trinity Lodge could not make the dance but they donated $90 each for support. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Brothers, I pray that you are happy with the work I did. I traveled near and far for us in order to extend our presence and learn from our brothers. (**\*\*\* Please note this speech is quite long and I would not list all of these noted in parentheses if you have a 5 minute time limit....I would not detail the following:I supported the Grand Lodge, attending the midyear session, Grand Master’s Testimonial, Grand Lodge Devine Service, District Devine Service, Grand Lodge Session in Rochester, Hollywood Lodge, Trinity Lodge, Doric Lodge, George Washington Carver, David W. Parker Lodge, Adelphic Union Lodge-Manhattan, Cornerstone Lodge-Manhattan, Hiram Lodge-Brooklyn NY, Babylon Lodge, Tappan Zee Lodge- Spring Valley NY, African 459 Lodge-Brooklyn NY and the African Day Parade. This parade of Master Mason was a beautiful sight and one of the largest parade**).... and to **ALL** of my brothers of Huntington Lodge, thank you for allowing me to serve you. Each one of you touches me in a positive way. I’ve grown as a brother and a better Mason thanks to you. To Bro. Ameen Murry the newly raised brother, thank you for staying the course. Thank you WM Nabar Colbert, RW Aubrey Moore and Doric Lodge Study Class team for having wonderful and strict study class. Our brothers came out of the class very sharp. Thank you to RW Jackson, DDGM Sheppard, DDGM Perry and RW Henderson, for whispering wise counsel to me. To all Brothers, I’m glad we share vision and that brotherly love prevails for the betterment of the lodge.

To my Worshipful Master class, words can’t describe my appreciation. DDGM Sheppard said this is the best class he has seen since he’s been in masonry. We have a special vibe...we encourage one another, joke around, travel together and we take our leadership role seriously while supporting the Grand lodge initiatives. The 4th District is strong thanks to President Richard Providence’s focus on the district.

To the New incoming Worshipful Master, you and I have spoken several times and I’ll be there to support you. I mentioned that anybody can call themselves a leader but a **TRUE** leader is judged by his own actions. He does not lead by emotion. He listens to wise counsel and comes to his own conclusion that is right for the lodge. Sometimes the right decision is not popular. I will assist you all the way. After all expenses, we have a profit of $7590. I took his mission as far as possible; my goal is for you to do better than me in every aspect.

My recommendation is to make these brothers honorees of Huntington Lodge No. 124: WM Darrell Wilkerson, WM Dave Barron, WM Nabar Colbert, WM Rob Gomez, WM Lentz Lefevre, WM Rick Reyes, WM Les Moore, RW Aubrey Moore, GJW Jean Appollon, RW Jason Robinson and RW Luther McCoy.

In Conclusion, thank you again for giving me this opportunity and for enhancing my life. I hope you are satisfied with our work and the state of the lodge as of today. I pray next year will be a stronger, more fruitful year for the incoming administration.

**“Transitions are not always easy, most of the time they are painful. But transitions are also necessary they are vital and inevitable. God works and moves in seasons so don’t allow comfort, fear, and the familiar hold you back. While in transition, accept it, embrace the risk and move forward in spite of it all. Don’t become content living in yesterday’s victory rather than having to fight for one today.” Author unknown.**

Fraternally Yours,

WM Patrick Rosene

Huntington Lodge No. 124