



Norsemen Lodge No. 878



Trestle Board 2026-2027
Lodge Plan & Calendar

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Worshipful Master

A year of Unity, Fellowship, and Growth
Norsemen – Stronger Together

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This Year's Focus

This year, our Lodge is guided by four key priorities:

- Strengthening brotherhood and active engagement
- Developing future leaders through participation and mentorship
- Enhancing the value of membership through meaningful experiences
- Building a sustainable and consistent lodge culture

Calendar at a glance

Norsemen's Lodge Culture: We aim to foster a lodge culture rooted in respect, brotherhood, participation, and growth. Every brother is encouraged to engage, contribute, and take ownership of the lodge experience, both within and beyond our meetings.



Date	Event Type	Title
Thu, Sep 3	—	No meeting - Pre Labor Day Weekend /family time
Thu, Sep 17	Stated	Opening Night & Master's Vision
Thu, Sep 24	Social	Welcome Back Dinner at Schnitzel Haus
Thu, Oct 1	Stated	Education
Sat, Oct 3	Trip (Open)	Norsemen's Renaissance Day
Thu, Oct 15	Festive	Norsemen Oktoberfest
Thu, Nov 5	Stated	DDGM Visit
Thu, Nov 19	Festive OR Degree	Feast of the Great Harvest or an MM Degree
Thu, Dec 3	Stated	Holiday Reflection Night
Thu, Dec 17	—	No Meeting - In observance of the holiday season
Thu, Jan 7	Stated	Education Night
Thu, Jan 21	Social (virtual)	Out-of-State Brothers Virtual Game Night
Thu, Feb 4	Stated	Education Night - Special Guest Speaker
Sun, Feb 14	Social	Norsemen Super Bowl Party
Sat, Feb 20	Social	Family Dinner – night moved from Thu, Feb 18
Thu, Mar 4	Education	Special Leadership Practice Night
Thu, Mar 18	Social	Brotherhood Night
Thu, Apr 1	Stated	Stated Communication & Education
Thu, Apr 15	—	No Meeting - In preparation for our trip (see below)
Sat/Sun Apr 17-18	Trip / Education	Grand Lodge Visit (PA or DC)
Sat, May 1	Festive (Open)	Lodge Anniversary Celebration / Viking Degree
Thu, May 6	Stated	Election Night
Thu, May 20	Stated (Open)	Public Installation of Officers
Thu, Jun 3	Stated	Setting Personal Goals for next Masonic year
Thu, Jun 12	Social / St. John's Kickoff Party	Norsemen's BBQ and End-of-Year Celebration

* Degrees will be scheduled as Special Communications based on candidate readiness and lodge needs. Dates will be announced in advance

The detailed calendar is on Page 5

Lodge Committees & Engagement



Additional Lodge Social Events

Date	Event Type	Title	Purpose	Outcome
July-August	Social Event	Norsemen Fishing Trip	Brothers & Family Summer bonding	Summer bonding time
Saturday, Dec 12	Social Event	Norsemen Yule Celebration at Cebu Rest.	Traditional holiday gathering	Family engagement; strengthen bonds
Saturday, Feb 20	Social Event	Norsemen Winter Social Dinner in Bay Ridge	Family-friendly dinner	Strengthen personal connections
Sunday, May 16	Social Event	Norwegian Day Parade (Bay Ridge)	Public representation - fill application by April 2, 2027	Visibility; community presence
Monday, May 31	Social Event - District Event	Memorial Day Parade	Public representation	Visibility; community presence
Friday-Sunday, Jun 25-27, 2027	GL State Event	St. John's Weekend (Utica)	Representation; statewide connection	Sale Merch Table

Leadership Development Line

This lodge is committed to developing future leaders through active participation, mentorship, and gradual responsibility

Committees We will start using *WhatsApp* sub-groups instead of *Signal* for committee communications to improve efficiency

Committee	Purpose / Responsibilities
Outreach & Retention Committee	• Check in on absent brothers • Welcome new and visiting brothers • Support engagement and inclusion • Coordinate outreach and public-facing presence (parades, inquiries)
Education & Mentorship Committee	• Organize education talks (in-lodge + Zoom) • Prepare and support candidates (EA, FC, MM) • Coordinate guest speakers • Oversee mentorship pairing and follow-up • Liaise with district Staff Officer (for MDC)
Investigation Committee	• Investigate candidates and prepare formal reports • Ensure fairness and objectivity • Maintain confidentiality and standards • Note: Members should not investigate close acquaintances (conflict of interest)
Social & Events Committee	• Plan and execute all lodge social events (Oktoberfest, Harvest Feast, BBQ, dinners) • Coordinate venues, catering, and logistics • Design engaging experiences (games, themes, flow) • Work with other committees when needed • Coordinate birthday recognitions • Viking Degree
Communications & Media Committee	• Design posters and promotional materials • Manage announcements (social media) • Take photos/videos at events • Promote events consistently and clearly
Sales & Merch Committee	• Manage all merchandise (inventory, sales, tracking) • Organize sales tables and raffles at events • Coordinate ticket tracking and payments with Treasurer • Ensure smooth event-day operations (who stands where, setup)

Continuous Programs (Throughout the Year)

Program	Description
Norsemen Masonic Education Series (Zoom)	Sessions focused on symbolism, discussion, and growth
Candidate Proficiency Sessions (Zoom)	Weekly/bi-weekly support for EA, FC, and MM candidates
Degree Work (Special Communications)	Degrees scheduled separately based on readiness
Leadership & Ritual Development	Ongoing officer and ritual preparation

New Award for newly Norsemen Brothers (EAs/FCs/MMs)

Norsemen's Path of Light Award	A lodge-based recognition encouraging EA, FC, and new MM brothers to actively participate in lodge life through achievable milestones and engagement
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Norsemen Lodge No. 878

Trestle Board 2026–2027

Lodge Plan & Calendar – Detailed Overview



Family and professional commitments always come first. Lodge participation is encouraged, not burdensome.

Date	Event Type	Title	Notes	Purpose	Outcome
Thursday, Sep 3	<i>No Meeting – This is the last week of summer break and right before Labor Day Weekend / Family trips</i>				
Thursday, Sep 17	Stated Communication	Opening Night & Master's Vision	Keynote Presentation / Projector needed	New Masonic year; launch committees (link),	Vision presentation; committee sign-ups via survey; end with drinks & food reception
Thursday, Sep 24	Social Night	Welcome back dinner	Venue at Schnitzel Haus in Bay Ridge	Optional event: Brothers social	Strengthen bonds
Thursday, Oct 1	Stated Communication	Education	Guest Lecture (TBD)	Regular meeting	Lodge business; education
Saturday, Oct 3	Trip / Social	Renaissance Faire Day	https://renfair.com/ny/	Optional Day Trip; open to friends	Fellowship experience; strengthen bonds
Thursday, Oct 15	Festive Board (pending GM's availability) or Master Mason Degree	Norsemen Oktoberfest	Presenting the GM with Norsemen's Thor Hammer - Mjölñir	Flagship lodge event; invite district and GL officers	High engagement; strengthen identity
Thursday, Nov 5	Stated Communication	Stated Communication & Lodge Business	DDGM Visit	Efficient and focused	Reports; voting; lodge updates
Thursday, Nov 19	Festive Board (pending GM's availability) or Master Mason Degree	Feast of the Great Harvest OR MM Degree	Confirmed FC candidates (5)	Advance candidates	uphold ritual excellence & candidate experience
Thursday, Dec 3	Stated Communication	Holiday Reflection Night	Vote on NPD	Shortened meeting	Light business (voting on NPDs). Reflection
Thursday, Dec 17	<i>No Meeting - In observance of the holiday season</i>				
Thursday, Jan 7	Stated Communication	Education Night	Guest Lecture (TBD)	Regular meeting	Lodge business; education
Thursday, Jan 21	Virtual Social Event - Game Night	Game night via Zoom to reconnect out-of-state Norsemen brothers with the lodge		Strengthening brotherhood ties	Include remote brothers; games; updates
Thursday, Feb 4	Stated Communication	Education Night – Guest Speaker	Topic (TBD)	Education	Education-focused engagement
Sunday, Feb 14	Social Event	Norsemen Super Bowl Party	American Legion (TBD) / Better value	Casual gathering	Relaxed fellowship
Thursday, Feb 18	<i>No Meeting – Social Event moved to Saturday Feb 20 Family Dinner – see Additional Lodge Social Events on page 4</i>				
Thursday, Mar 4	Special Night	Leadership Practice Night	Merchandise preparation for Utica (sales table)	Officer training	Leadership development; preparation
Thursday, Mar 18	Social Night	Brotherhood Night	TBD	Casual gathering	Relaxed fellowship
Thursday, Apr 1	Stated Communication	Education	Guest Lecture (TBD)	Regular meeting	Lodge business; education
Thursday, Apr 15	<i>No Meeting – In preparation for Norsemen's Trip (note below)</i>				
Saturday, Apr 17	Trip / Education	A two-day, one-night trip to visit and tour another Grand Lodge (PA or DC), with the destination selected based on Lodge interest		Optional overnight trip	Education; bonding; shared experience
Saturday, May 1	Festive Board	Lodge Anniversary Celebration / Viking Degree	Honorary Membership to M.:W.: Bob Hogan?	Signature lodge event	Celebrate lodge identity and legacy
Thursday, May 6	Stated Communication	Election Night	2027-2028 elections	Official lodge elections	Elections
Thursday, May 20	Stated Communication	Public Installation of Officers	Ceremony	Formal ceremony; invite district and families	Install officers; celebrate leadership
Thursday, Jun 3	Stated Communication	Setting Personal Goals for the following Year	video recap of the year, open time-capsule letters, survey results, awards	Celebrating achievements	Personal growth and encouragement
Thursday, June 12	Social / St. John's Kickoff Party	Norsemen's Fellowship BBQ	Venue - TBD	Outdoor BBQ; family-friendly;	Recognition; gratitude; closure

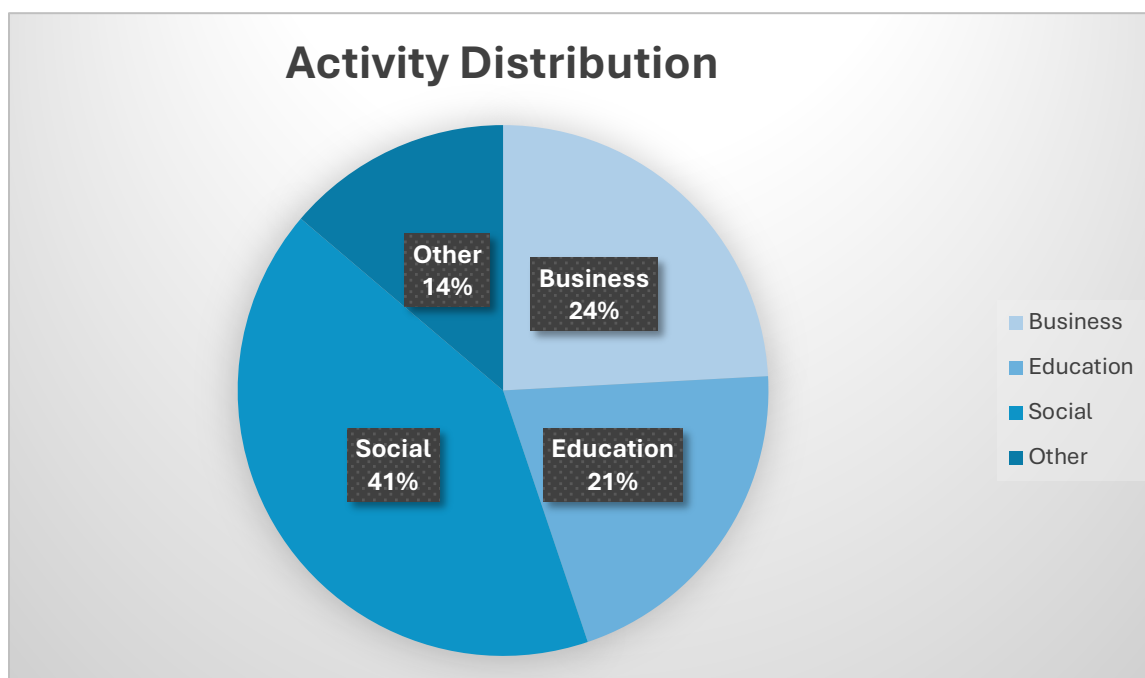
Note: Degrees will be scheduled as Special Communications based on candidate readiness and lodge needs. Dates will be announced in advance



Activity Overview & Engagement Breakdown

The Trestle Board reflects a balanced distribution of lodge activities across four key areas:

- Business
- Education
- Social
- Other (events like parades, Yule dinner, etc.)



Membership Value Statement

Brothers will find value in this lodge through meaningful fellowship, quality education, leadership opportunities, and active participation in both lodge and community life.

This year's plan reflects a balanced and intentional approach to lodge life. A strong emphasis on fellowship and engagement is complemented by meaningful education and well-structured lodge business. In addition to regular meetings, the calendar includes community presence and special events, creating a complete and dynamic experience for every brother, both in and beyond the lodge.



2026-2027 List of Elected and Appointed Line Officers

Grand Master

M.:W.: Robert L. Hogan, Jr.

Deputy Grand Master

R.:W.: E. Oscar Alleyne

District Deputy Grand Master – Third Kings District

R.:W.: James E. Reichman

LODGE OFFICERS 2026 – 2027

W.: Amer Abu-Houran	Master
W.: Jason Cohen	Senior Warden
Bro.: Joseph Battista	Junior Warden
R.:W.: Antonio Giannattasio	Treasurer
R.:W.: Ronald Shepard	Secretary

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Bro.: Kelmy Rodriquez	Senior Deacon
R.:W.: Paul Maravel	Junior Deacon
W.: Michael Bistreich	Chaplain
Bro.: Brian Madden	Marshal
Bro.: Walter Curella	Organist
Bro.: Ethan Weinberger	Tiler
Bro.: Nikolas Radosavliev	Senior Master of Ceremonies
V.:W.: Mark Amerise	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro.: Norman DeJesus	Senior Steward
Bro.: Stefano Marcheselli	Junior Steward

TRUSTEES

R.: W.: Thomas A. Stanten	2024-2027
W.: Joseph Posa	2025-2028
R.: W.: James E. Reichman	2026-2029

Important Note

Before the public installation of officers on June 4, 2026 (current Masonic year), a brief Zoom session will be held, or a detailed email will be sent to review the responsibilities of each officer position. Each prospective officer will have the opportunity to understand the role and confirm their willingness to serve. This reflects a “know before you go” approach. *(This was done on May 30, 2026, at 11:27 AM via email)*

Opening Night & Vision Sharing of the Year



Main Survey - Early August 2026:

- Vibe check and general feedback
- Interest in serving on committees and participating in degrees

Mid-August Communication

A short video message from the new Master will be shared with all lodge members, inviting them to attend Norsemen's first meeting of the Masonic year, where the Master's vision and Trestle Board will be presented.

Opening Night Agenda – September 17, 2026

1. Open on the First Degree of Masonry
2. Welcome every brother to the lodge
3. Present the theme of the year, along with the key focus areas and committees' launch
4. Share the results and key insights from the August survey
5. Address by the Worshipful Master
6. Activity: Time Capsule letters for personal and lodge goals (to be opened on May 6, 2027).
7. Close and proceed to a short reception with drinks and light refreshments

Long-Term Vision

This plan is designed to contribute to the long-term strength, continuity, and sustainability of the lodge.

Feedback and Remarks