

TRESTLE BOARD



MERRITT ISLAND LODGE, No. 353

Free and Accepted Masons
Chartered April 28, 1966

STATED COMMUNICATION: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month
Supper starts at 6:30 P.M. and meeting begins at 7:30 P.M.

RITUAL PRACTICE: Every Thursday of the Month
Fellowship and Receipt of Petitions at 6:30 P.M. Practice
begins at 7:00 P.M.



Upcoming Events

- SEPTEMBER 2: STATED COMMUNICATION
- SEPTEMBER 3: OPEN BOOKS
- SEPTEMBER 5: FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE
- SEPTEMBER 7: MASTERS AND WARDENS
- SEPTEMBER 16: STATED COMMUNICATION



2024 LODGE OFFICERS

WORSHIPFUL MASTER	JASON B. ESTES	(321) 514-0911
SENIOR WARDEN	GEORGE GASPARD	(407) 615-0732
JUNIOR WARDEN	AUSTIN COWART	(321) 271-6219
TREASURER	ZACHARY WALTERS	(904) 891-6120
SECRETARY	W.: KELLY CORRIDAN	(321) 385-7679
CHAPLAIN	JAMES ZUHLKE	(321) 537-7210
SENIOR DEACON	EUGENE FILIPOWICZ	(321) 720-4258
JUNIOR DEACON	CHRIS LUSSIER	(727) 403-1337
SENIOR STEWARD	Kyle Gilliard	(321) 223-2934
JUNIOR STEWARD	TBD	
TYLER	R.:W.: THOMAS KRUSE	(321) 544-8440
MARSHALL	W.: JAMES HAWKINS	(732) 239-7271
MUSICIAN	JIM HOUGH	(321) 750-3520

2024 COMMITTEES

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS: GEORGE GASPARD, AUSTIN COWART

BOARD OF RELIEF: W.: M.: JASON ESTES, JAMES ZUHLKE

CHARITY: W.: M.: JASON ESTES, JAMES ZUHLKE

COMMUNICATIONS: GEORGE GASPARD, JOHN CROSSER

FINANCE: GEORGE GASPARD, W.: JAMES CRAVENS

INVESTIGATION: W.: M.: JASON ESTES, AS NEEDED

LODGE PROPERTY: AUSTIN COWART, ALLEN COWART

MASONIC EDUCATION: W.: JAMES HAWKINS, EUGENE FILIPOWICZ

MEMBER WELL-BEING: JIM ZUHLKE, W.: JAMES HAWKINS

PETITIONS: AUSTIN COWART, R.: W.: TOM KRUSE

VIGILANCE: AUSTIN COWART, W.: JAMES HAWKINS

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: GEORGE GASPARD, AS NEEDED

PAST MASTERS

1966 LOUIS H. SCOTT	1998 ROBERT L. DUFF
1967 DOUGLAS McLAIN	1999 DANIEL E. FITCH
1968 E.L. "LANK" GREEN (1)	2000 FRANKLIN L. GLENN
1969 HARRY A. HENDRY (1)	2001 BARRY R. SCHAFFER
1970 ALFRED N. KEE	2002 SABATO "SAM" DANIELE
1971 JESSIE L. ENGLISH	2003 RAYMOND C. ASHMAN
1972 CLINTON E. DUNN	2004 MICHAEL J. MCAFEE
1973 BERYL E. CLEMENTS	2005 PATRICK KELLY CORRIDAN
1974 J. LAMAR RICHARDSON	2006 JOHN F. MILLHOUSE
1975 ULMER CLELAND	2007 JAMES "JIM" STRICKLAND
1976 PERRY M. ROGERS	2008 EUGENE C. "GENE" CRAWFORD
1977 VERNON G. HITCHCOCK	2009 STEVEN B. WALDEN (1,3,4)
1978 JOHN C. ALEXANDER	2010 THOMAS R. KRUSE (1, 2)
1979 BORIS Y. SKORO	2011 JAMES E. "JIMMY" HAWKINS
1980 A. ARNOLD WAGNER	2012 MICHAEL L. ELLIOTT (1,2,4)
1981 WILSON R. TIMMONS	2013 JOHN MICHAEL BAUERNFEIND
1982 WILLIAM A. CLAUS	2014 ALVIN "CHIP" GIPSON
1983 CYRIL J. CHUPINA	2015 JOHN E. WINCHESTER, III
1984 JEFFREY F. WHITE (1)	2016 MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
1985 VIRGIL P. BROWN	2017 JAMES K. CHARLAND
1986 CARL GOFF (1)	2018 MICHAEL J. OVENS
1987 WILLIAM JOE QUERRY	2019 EIRIK HOLBERT
1988 LLOYD C. BLACKWOOD (1)	2020 DONALD B. VARGAS
1989 JAMES D. RATCLIFFE	2021 DUSTIN A. CELESTIN
1990 JOHN C. SMITH (1, 2)	2022 RICHARD J. CRAVENS
1991 WILLIAM G. ELLIS (1,2,3)	2023 MICHAEL B. KELLY
1992 WILLIAM L. SCHROEDER	
1993 WILLIAM R. STOCKMAN	
1994 MICHAEL D. HAWORTH	
1995 RICHARD A. WOLFE (1,4)	
1996 THOMAS W. STEWART	
1997 PAUL D. AMOS	

(1) PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER (2) PAST DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR
(3) PAST GRAND LODGE OFFICER (4) GRAND REPRESENTATIVE



SEPTEMBER 2024 EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2: STATED COMMUNICATION

MASONIC EDUCATION BY BRO. GEORGE GASPARD

SUPPER BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M., MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 4: OPEN BOOKS

HOSTED BY HARBOR CITY LODGE, NO. 318 FROM 6:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 5: CALLED COMMUNICATION

FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE

DEGREE BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 7:00PM

SEPTEMBER 7: MASTERS AND WARDENS

HOSTED BY CANAVERAL LODGE, NO. 339

BREAKFAST STARTS AT 8:00A.M., MEETING STARTS AT 9:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 16: STATED COMMUNICATION

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER MATTHEW S. GREEN'S OFFICIAL VISIT

SUPPER BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M., MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 P.M.

OCTOBER 2024 EVENTS

OCTOBER 2: OPEN BOOKS

HOSTED BY HARBOR CITY LODGE, NO. 318 FROM 6:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 5: MASTERS AND WARDENS

HOSTED BY BEACH LODGE, NO. 354

BREAKFAST STARTS AT 8:00A.M., MEETING STARTS AT 9:00 A.M.

OCTOBER 7: STATED COMMUNICATION

MASONIC EDUCATION BY BRO. EUGENE FILIPOWICZ

SUPPER BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M., MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 P.M.

OCTOBER 21: STATED COMMUNICATION

SUPPER BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M., MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 P.M.

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST BRETHREN,

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER ARE UPON US AND COOLER WEATHER IS, HOPEFULLY, CLOSE AT HAND. I HOPE YOU ARE ALL DOING WELL! THE CORNERSTONE LAYING AT VIERA MIDDLE SCHOOL WAS A GREAT SUCCESS AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE THAT WERE IN ATTENDANCE. I CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO SHOW THE COMMUNITY WHAT OUR FRATERNITY IS ALL ABOUT!

WE HAVE A COUPLE OF EVENTS COMING UP THAT WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN US FOR IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

FIRST, ON SEPTEMBER 5TH, WE WILL BE CONFERRING THE FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE FOR NOT ONLY OUR BROTHER MICHAEL LESTER, BUT WE WILL ALSO BE DOING COURTESY WORK FOR TWO BROTHERS FROM BEACH LODGE. LET'S SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR THESE BROTHERS AS THEY CONTINUE THEIR MASONIC JOURNEY!

SECOND, ON SEPTEMBER 16TH, WE WILL WELCOME OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, R.: W.: MATTHEW S. GREEN, ACCCOMPANIED BY OUR DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR, R.: H.: CRAIG BOETCHER; THEIR TRAVELING PARTY OF COMMITTEEMEN; AND ENTOURAGE FOR HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO OUR BEAUTIFUL LODGE. WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE THE SEATS FILLED IN THE LODGE AS A SHOW OF SUPPORT ON THIS SPECIAL NIGHT.

WELL, THAT'S ALL FROM THE EAST FOR THE TIME BEING. AS USUAL, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE FREE TO CONTACT MYSELF OR ANY OF THE OFFICERS! I TRULY HOPE TO SEE YOU AT EITHER OF THESE EVENTS AND AROUND THE LODGE!

FRATERNALLY YOURS,
W.: M.: JASON ESTES
(321) 514-0911
JBESTES74@YAHOO.COM

MESSAGE FROM THE WEST

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST BRETHREN,

WOW, AUGUST HAS COME AND GONE IN A FLASH! IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER WONDERFUL MONTH FOR OUR LODGE! BROTHER MICHAEL LESTER STOOD PROFICIENT IN THE ENTERED APPRENTICE CATECHISM ON AUGUST 19TH AND I AM INCREDIBLY PROUD-- HE WELL EXCEEDED "SUITABLE" PROFICIENCY BY BEING ALMOST WORD PERFECT! HE CERTAINLY WORKED HARD TO EARN HIS UPCOMING FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE!

ON THAT TOPIC, WE ARE STILL ACTIVELY PRACTICING OUR F.C. DEGREE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN ANTICIPATION OF CONFERRING THE F.C. DEGREE, ON BRO. LESTER, ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2024. PRACTICES REMAIN EVERY THURSDAY FROM 7PM UNTIL WE FINISH AND RETIRE FOR REFRESHMENT TOGETHER.

WE ALSO HAD THE HONOR OF RECEIVING M:. W:. DONALD COWART, GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF FLORIDA, AND HIS PARTY, AS A DISTRICT, AT THE VIERA MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNERSTONE LAYING ON AUGUST 21ST. IT WAS OUR FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW M:. W:. COWART THE HOSPITALITY THAT WE IN DISTRICT 17 ARE KNOWN FOR AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE DIDN'T DISAPPOINT.

WE HAVE SEVERAL IMPORTANT EVENTS COMING UP:

- **SEPTEMBER 5**: CALLED COMMUNICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PASSING BRO. MICHAEL LESTER AND TWO BROTHERS FROM BEACH LODGE TO THE DEGREE OF FELLOW CRAFT. THE DEGREE WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 7:00 P.M. PLEASE SHOW OUT TO SUPPORT YOUR LODGE AND OUR BROTHERS BEING PASSED.
- **SEPTEMBER 16**: RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER MATTHEW S. GREEN'S FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO OUR LODGE.
- **OCTOBER 5**: GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT-- DINNER AT THE AZAN SHRINE FOLLOWED BY A TYLED MEETING AT HARBOR CITY LODGE. PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED INVITATION.

AS ALWAYS, PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYES ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND YOUR TEAMREACH APP FOR COMMUNICATION OF LODGE EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATIVE CONTENT.

I HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL OUT AT AS MANY EVENTS AS POSSIBLE!!

FRATERNALLY YOURS,
GEORGE C. GASPARD
SENIOR WARDEN

MESSAGE FROM THE SOUTH

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH BROTHERS,

WE HAVE AN EXCITING MONTH OF SEPTEMBER COMING UP WITH OUR FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE, WHICH EVERYONE HAS BEEN WORKING HARD TO PERFECT, ALONG WITH THE VISITS AFOREMENTIONED BY OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER. HOPEFULLY, WE WILL HAVE A GREAT TURNOUT FOR THESE MEETINGS AS THE LATTER QUARTER OF THE YEAR IS HERE AND BROTHERS FIND THEIR WAY BACK TO LODGE.

WHEN THINGS START TO SLOW AND SETTLE DOWN AGAIN, AND THE TEMPERATURE COOLS OFF SLIGHTLY, I WILL KEEP EVERYONE POSTED ON THE PLANNED LODGE CLEANUP DAY.

UNTIL THEN, NOTHING FURTHER IN THE SOUTH.

FRATERNALLY YOURS,

AUSTIN COWART
JUNIOR WARDEN

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

M: W: DONALD COWART AND THE COWART FAMILY,
W: GENE CRAWFORD,
THE FAMILY OF W: JIM STRICKLAND (A MASONIC FUNERAL WILL BE HELD AT
THE LODGE ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024, AT 6:00 PM), AND
ALL THOSE THAT GO UNSPOKEN.

Brethren,

Remember that it is incumbent upon us to keep our sick or distressed brothers and sisters in our thoughts and prayers.

CHARITY

Brethren,

In contemplating that great moral charge of Charity, it is imperative that we remember that it is incumbent upon us to give as liberally as our brother's necessities require and our abilities permit.

PETITIONS & PROGRESS

NONE PENDING AT THIS TIME.



Viera Middle School Cornerstone Laying August 21, 2024





*The Brothers of
Merritt Island Lodge, No. 353*

CORDIALLY INVITE ALL MASTER
MASONS AND ACCOMPANIED FELLOW
CRAFTS TO ATTEND A

FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5,
2024, AT 7:00 P.M.

247 S. TROPICAL TRAIL
MERRITT ISLAND, FL



**Invitation to the Grand Master's Official Visit to the
Masonic District (s)**

17th



M.W. Donald W. Cowart, Grand Master

Function Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024 **RSVP By Date:** September 7, 2024

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn Cocoa Beach Oceanfront **Phone No.** 321-783-9222

Address: 2080 N Atlantic Avenue; Cocoa Beach 32931 **Website** <https://group.hiltongardeninn.com/6w35d0>

Group Name: District 13 & 17 GMOV **Group Code:** 905

Rate & Cut Off Date: \$219 - September 6, 2024

Registration Time: 5:00 p.m. **Suggested Attire:** *Business Dress*

Dinner Time: 6:00 p.m. **Location:** Azan Shrine; 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd.; Melbourne 32935

Meeting Time: 7:00 p.m. **Location:** Harbor City Lodge No. 318; 1715 Avocado Avenue; Melbourne 32935

Ladies Program Location: Azan Shrine; 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd.; Melbourne 32935

Host District Deputy Grand Master:

R.W.: Matt Green District: 17

Phone No. 321-610-8731 Email: d17ddgm2024@gmail.com

Host District Deputy Grand Master:

R.W.: _____ District: _____

Phone No. _____ Email: _____

Host District Instructor:

R.H.: Craig Boettcher District: 17

Phone No. 321-298-2203 Email: d17districtinstructor2024@gmail.com

Host District Instructor:

R.H.: _____ District: _____

Phone No. _____ Email: _____

R.S.V.P. to: Matt Green

d17ddgm2024@gmail.com

E-Mail Address

Guest Information:

Please include the following information in your RSVP:

- Your Name and Title
- Lodge Name and Number
- Lady's Name (if attending)
- Total number attending



PERPETUAL MEMBERS

PAUL AMOS	JACK JONES
KEITH AMSDEN	JOEL KICKBUSCH
RAYMOND ASHMAN	THOMAS KRUSE
JAMES BLACKWOOD	JULIAN LEWIS III
LLOYD BLACKWOOD	KEITH MCGREGOR
VIRGIL BROWN JR	BENJAMIN MILES
WALTER BRYAN II	JOHN MILLHOUSE
WILLIAM CLAUS	DANIEL NEAD
PHILIP COHEN	EDMUND PERESLUHA II
NICOLAS COLTON SR.	C VIDYA REDDY
RICHARD CRAVENS	ARVIN ROBERSON
EUGENE CRAWFORD	PERRY ROGERS
SABATO DANIELE	OLLIE ROSE
MICHAEL DAVIS	FRANK SENDER
MICHAEL ELLIOTT	RODNEY SMITH
RICHARD ELLIS	JOHN SMITH
WILLIAM ELLIS JR	CLAYTON SOREY
ROBERT EZROW	GREGORY STEPHENS
GLEN FANNIN	JAMES STRICKLAND JR
CLINTON FARLEY	JOHN SULLIVAN
DANIEL FITCH	MICHAEL SWEENEY
DENNIS FITCH	JOHN TOMME SR
GEORGE C. GASPARD	JAMES TRAMMELL
MICHAEL GIBSON	STEVE WALDEN
ROSS GOODFELLOW	BRIAN WELSH
JAMES WILLIAM HAWKINS	JEFFREY WHITE
JAMES EDWARD HAWKINS	RALPH WILKIE
ERIK HOLBERT	RICHARD WOLFE
EDWARD HOPPER	JEFFREY WOLFE
JAMES HOUGH JR	JOHN ZHULKE
OLIVER IRLAM	

BIRTHDAYS

DAVID BARNES, JR.

GENE CRAWFORD, JR.

TYLER LONG

JULIAN LEWIS, III

ROBERT VINSON

NICK COLTON, SR.

MICHAEL SWEENEY

JIM HOUGH, JR

JAMES FRAZIER

MICHAEL ELLIOTT

FRANK SENDER

DAVID MCLAUGHLIN

VIRGIL BROWN

VERNON CHENEY

