

# 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

- APRIL 1: STATED COMMUNICATION
- APRIL 3: OPEN BOOKS
- APRIL 6: MASTERS AND WARDENS
- APRIL 12: FAMILY DINNER (TBD)
- APRIL 15: STATED COMMUNICATION
- APRIL 27: SPRING FAMILY PICNIC

# 2024 LODGE OFFICERS

WORSHIPFUL MASTER	JASON B. ESTES	(321) 591-9943
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

# 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



# APRIL 2024 EVENTS

## **APRIL 1: STATED COMMUNICATION**

MASONIC EDUCATION BY BRO. EUGENE FILIPOWICZ

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

## **APRIL 3: OPEN BOOKS**

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

## **APRIL 6: MASTERS AND WARDENS**

HOSTED BY MERRITT ISLAND LODGE, NO. 353

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

## **APRIL 12: VIERA ELEMENTARY CORNERSTONE LAYING & FAMILY DINNER NIGHT**

DETAILS FORTHCOMING

## **APRIL 15: STATED COMMUNICATION**

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

## **APRIL 27: MERRITT ISLAND LODGE SPRING FAMILY PICNIC**

# MAY 2024 EVENTS

## **MAY 1: OPEN BOOKS**

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

## **MAY 4: MASTERS AND WARDENS**

HOSTED BY INDIAN RIVER LODGE, NO. 90

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

## **MAY 6: STATED COMMUNICATION**

MASONIC EDUCATION BY BRO. KYLE GILLIARD

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

## **MAY 10: FAMILY DINNER NIGHT**

DETAILS FORTHCOMING

## **MAY 20: STATED COMMUNICATION**

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

## **MAY 27-29: GRAND COMMUNICATION**

# MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST BROTHERS,

SPRING IS HERE AND WITH THE CHANGE OF SEASON COME A BUSY COUPLE OF MONTHS! WE HAVE SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE LODGE.

WE ARE VERY EXCITED AND PROUD OF CONFERRING THE ENTERED APPRENTICE UPON BROTHER MICHAEL LESTER! THANK YOU TO THE ENTIRE DEGREE TEAM FOR YOUR HARD WORK IN PUTTING ON A GREAT DEGREE!

THAT MEANS WE WILL BE BEGINNING TO PRACTICE THE FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE. WE COULD USE YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT AT THE THURSDAY RITUAL PRACTICE NIGHTS STARTING AT 7P.M. SHARP. CONTACT OUR S.W. FOR MORE DETAILS.

MERRITT ISLAND LODGE IS HOSTING MASTERS AND WARDENS SATURDAY APRIL 6TH AND WE COULD USE SOME HELP WITH BREAKFAST AND SETUP TO WELCOME THE DISTRICT. PLEASE CONTACT OUR J.W. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP OR ATTEND.

THERE WILL BE A CORNER STONE CEREMONY AT THE NEW VIERA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON STADIUM PARKWAY, FRIDAY APRIL 12TH AT 12:15 PM. THIS IS GREAT MOMENT FOR NOT ONLY OUR LODGE BUT THE DISTRICT AS WELL. MOST WORSHIPFUL GLENN B. BISHOP AND HIS ENTOURAGE WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE. DARK SUIT AND TIE IS THE REQUIRED DRESS. LET'S SHOW OUR SUPPORT WITH A GREAT TURNOUT!

LASTLY, WE WILL BE HAVING A FAMILY PICNIC AT A PARK TBD ON SATURDAY APRIL 27TH. THE LODGE WILL BE PROVIDING BURGERS AND DOGS. WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE SIGN UP AND BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES THERE!

WE ARE TRYING TO OFFER AS MANY WAYS AS POSSIBLE TO GET ALL BROTHERS INVOLVED IN SOMETHING THAT MIGHT INTEREST THEM. ANY FURTHER IDEAS WOULD BE WELCOMED.

PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF OUR OFFICERS OR MYSELF WITH QUESTIONS.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND HOPE TO SEE YOU AROUND THE LODGE.

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

# **MESSAGE FROM THE WEST**

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST BRETHREN,

I WOULD LIKE TO START BY THANKING OUR OUTSTANDING DEGREE TEAM FOR THEIR DEDICATION IN PREPARING FOR THE RECENT E.A. DEGREE. FROM OUR STEWARDS UP THROUGH OUR PAST MASTERS WHO DELIVERED THE LECTURE AND CHARGE, IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE SUCCESS THAT IT WAS WITHOUT YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION. THANK YOU!

MOVING FORWARD, WE HAVE BEGUN PRACTICING OUR F.C. DEGREE. PRACTICES REMAIN EVERY THURSDAY FROM 7PM UNTIL WE FINISH AND RETIRE FOR REFRESHMENT TOGETHER. ALL OFFICERS WILL MOVE UP ONE SEAT FOR THIS DEGREE WITH THE STEWARD ROLES BEING FILLED BY OUR JPM, W.: KELLY, AND OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER, W.: ESTES. W.: JIM CRAVENS HAS, AGAIN, GENEROUSLY OFFERED TO PROVIDE US WITH A CAPTIVATING LECTURE, AND W.: CHRIS DAVIS HAS VERY GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO DELIVER THE CHARGE. WE ARE SO FORTUNATE TO HAVE THE SUPPORT OF SUCH TALENTED BROTHERS!

APRIL 12TH WILL SEE THE THUNDERING 17TH MASONIC DISTRICT HOSTING M.: W.: GLEN B. BISHOP, GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF FLORIDA, AND HIS GRAND LINE, FOR THE CORNERSTONE-LAYING AT VIERA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (8300 STADIUM PARKWAY, VIERA). THE CEREMONY COMMENCES AT 12:15, BUT ALL BROTHERS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 12:00PM. DRESS IS DARK/BLACK SUITS AND TIES. IF YOU HAVE A GRAND MASTER'S TIE-- PLEASE WEAR THAT IN SUPPORT OF M.: W.: BISHOP.

FINALLY, WE HAVE SCHEDULED THE MERRITT ISLAND LODGE SPRING FAMILY PICNIC FOR APRIL 27, 2024 FROM 11:00AM TO 3:00PM. THE LOCATION IS TBD. THE EVENT IS OPEN TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS, AND WE HOPE TO SEE A GREAT TURNOUT! THERE WILL BE ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS AND KIDS ALIKE TO ENJOY! THERE MAY EVEN BE A CORN HOLE COMPETITION!

AS ALWAYS, PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYES ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, MERRITT ISLAND LODGE NO. 353 F&AM, AND YOUR TEAMREACH APP FOR COMMUNICATION OF LODGE EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATIVE CONTENT.

FRATERNALLY YOURS,

GEORGE C. GASPARD  
SENIOR WARDEN  
GGASPARD353@GMAIL.COM

# **MESSAGE FROM THE SOUTH**

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH BROTHERS,

BROTHERS, WE HAD A GREAT MONTH OF MARCH IN THE LODGE WITH OUR NEWLY INITIATED ENTERED APPRENTICE. CONGRATULATIONS TO BROTHER LESTER ON BEGINNING HIS MASONIC JOURNEY!

MERRITT ISLAND LODGE WILL BE HOSTING THE 17TH MASONIC DISTRICT MASTERS AND WARDENS ASSOCIATION'S APRIL MEETING ON SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024. BREAKFAST WILL BEGIN AT 08:00AM AND THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 09:00AM. I WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR ANY BROTHERS WHO ARE WILLING TO JOIN ME IN THE PREPARATION OF THE LODGE AND THE BREAKFAST AS WE HOST MASTERS AND BROTHERS FROM ACROSS THE DISTRICT. PLEASE REACH OUT IF YOU ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO LEND A HAND (WE WILL NEED TO START COOKING BY ABOUT 06:00AM)!

THE MERRITT ISLAND LODGE SPRING PICNIC IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024, FROM 11:00AM UNTIL 3:00PM. WE ARE STILL SEARCHING FOR A VENUE, BUT WILL ANNOUNCE THE VENUE WELL IN ADVANCE VIA MESSAGE ON TEAMREACH AND VIA E-MAIL BLAST. THE LODGE WILL BE PROVIDING HOT DOGS AND HAMBURGERS WITH BROTHERS (AND THEIR FAMILIES) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIDES AND DESSERTS. A SIGNUP SHEET WILL BE POSTED ON THE KITCHEN COUNTER FOR BROTHERS TO SIGN UP TO ATTEND, ADVISE HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY ANTICIPATE WILL BE COMING WITH THEM, AND TO ADVISE WHAT DISH/DISHES THEY WILL BE CONTRIBUTING. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS A BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGE EVENT-- DRINKS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS EVENT AND THE MEMORIES THAT WE WILL MAKE TOGETHER!

FURTHERMORE, AS DISCUSSED IN LODGE LAST MEETING, STEAK NIGHT IS POSTPONED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. SHOULD ANYONE HAVE ANY IDEAS AS TO HOW TO REVITALIZE THE STEAK NIGHT PROGRAM, OR EVEN REPLACE IT WITH A NEW IDEA, PLEASE CONTACT ME.

AS ALWAYS, I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE AT THE NEXT MEETING!

YOUR JUNIOR WARDEN,

AUSTIN COWART

# **SICKNESS AND DISTRESS**

W.: M.: ESTES' BROTHER STEPHAN,  
BRO. BOB COCKRILL,  
THE FAMILY OF W.: RAYMOND "JAKE" ASHMAN,  
THE FAMILY OF BRO. DON NEAD\*, 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.*

*\*Services for Bro. Don Nead will be held on April 6, 2024 at 5:00PM at Sands Space History Center, 100 Spaceport Way, Bld. 90328, Cape Canaveral*

# **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**

Bro. Michael Edward Lester was initiated on March 14, 2024. Join us in welcoming him as he begins his Masonic journey.

# **MASTERS AND WARDENS**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024**

**BREAKFAST AT 08:00**

**MEETING AT 09:00**

**Merritt Island Lodge,**

**No. 353, F&AM**

**247 S. Tropical Trail,**

**Merritt Island, Fl**

AZAN SHRINES

MOONSHINE  
TASTING

Saturday, May 11, 2024 - 5 to 10 PM



Azan Shrine Center  
1591 W. Eau Gallie Blvd.  
Melbourne, FL, 329435

Proceeds benefit Azan Shriners  
Not a charitable contribution

\$45 per person, RSVP required  
Danny Monk 321-431-5004 or  
Azan Office 321-259-5302

Chef Shawn McGregor will  
be creating delicious food  
to be paired with a variety  
of moonshine.

Music provided by Justin Mason  
and Blue Night (Click link below)



For Tickets - Eventbrite QR Code or save  
by calling Azan Shriners 321-259-5302  
(No Fees) or send a check or stop by  
The Shrine for \$45.00 each ticket. Ticket  
sales cutoff is May 3rd 2024.



# PERPETUAL MEMBERS

PAUL AMOS  
KEITH AMSDEN  
RAYMOND ASHMAN  
JAMES BLACKWOOD  
LLOYD BLACKWOOD  
VIRGIL BROWN JR  
WALTER BRYAN II  
WILLIAM CLAUS  
PHILIP COHEN  
NICOLAS COLTON SR.  
RICHARD CRAVENS  
EUGENE CRAWFORD  
SABATO DANIELE  
MICHAEL DAVIS  
MICHAEL ELLIOTT  
RICHARD ELLIS  
WILLIAM ELLIS JR  
ROBERT EZROW  
GLEN FANNIN  
CLINTON FARLEY  
DANIEL FITCH  
DENNIS FITCH  
GEORGE C. GASPARD  
MICHAEL GIBSON  
ROSS GOODFELLOW  
JAMES WILLIAMS HAWKINS  
JAMES EDWARD HAWKINS  
ERIK HOLBERT  
EDWARD HOPPER  
JAMES HOUGH JR  
OLIVER IRLAM

JACK JONES  
JOEL KICKBUSCH  
THOMAS KRUSE  
JULIAN LEWIS III  
KEITH MCGREGOR  
BENJAMIN MILES  
JOHN MILLHOUSE  
DANIEL NEAD  
EDMUND PERESLUHA II  
C VIDYA REDDY  
ARVIN ROBERSON  
PERRY ROGERS  
OLLIE ROSE  
FRANK SENDER  
RODNEY SMITH  
JOHN SMITH  
CLAYTON SOREY  
GREGORY STEPHENS  
JAMES STRICKLAND JR  
JOHN SULLIVAN  
MICHAEL SWEENEY  
JOHN TOMME SR  
JAMES TRAMMELL  
STEVE WALDEN  
BRIAN WELSH  
JEFFREY WHITE  
RALPH WILKIE  
RICHARD WOLFE  
JEFFREY WOLFE  
JOHN ZHULKE

# BIRTHDAYS

ERNEST ANDERSON  
JOHN BAUERNFEIND  
ROBERT BECKER  
LLOYD BLACKWOOD  
NEIL BOYD  
JOSEPH BRATSCH  
THOMAS BROOKS  
JACKIE CABE  
DAVID COEN JR.  
EUGENE CRAWFORD  
ANDREW DUGAN

EUGENE FILIPOWICZ  
ZACHARY FODOR  
GORDON GINGRAS  
OLIVER IRLAM  
WILLIAM QUERRY  
MAYNARD ROBINSON  
BARRY SHAFFER  
EDWARD SPRAKER  
RICHARD STEEVES  
WILLIAM STOCKMAN, JR.

