

# TRESTLE BOARD



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**MEMORIAL DAY**  
REMEMBER & HONOR



## 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

- MAY 1: OPEN BOOKS
- MAY 4: MASTERS AND WARDENS
- MAY 6: STATED COMMUNICATION
- MAY 20: STATED COMMUNICATION
- MAY 27-29: GRAND LODGE

# 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



# MAY 2024 EVENTS

## **MAY 1: OPEN BOOKS**

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

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

## **MAY 20: STATED COMMUNICATION**

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

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

# JUNE 2024 EVENTS

## **JUNE 1: MASTERS AND WARDENS**

HOSTED BY PALM BAY LODGE, NO. 397

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

## **JUNE 3: STATED COMMUNICATION**

MASONIC EDUCATION BY W.: P. KELLY CORRIDAN

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

## **JUNE 5: OPEN BOOKS**

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

## **JUNE 17: STATED COMMUNICATION**

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

## **JUNE 22: SAINT JOHN'S DAY FESTIVE BOARD**

HOSTED AT WHISK & GRIND FROM 6:00-8:00PM

# MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST BRETHREN,

GRAND LODGE MONTH HAS ARRIVED AND YOUR LEADERSHIP WOULD LIKE TO KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE LEGISLATION AND WHO YOU WOULD LIKE TO REPRESENT OUR STATE AS THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO DINNER ON SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024, AT 7:00PM TO CELEBRATE GRAND LODGE WITH YOUR MERRITT ISLAND BROTHERS. THE LOCATION IS YET TO BE DETERMINED, BUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING, PLEASE CONTACT MYSELF OR ONE OF YOUR OFFICERS SO WE CAN MAKE A RESERVATION. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO REPRESENTING OUR GREAT LODGE ON THIS EXCITING WEEK AND HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

I READ THIS QUOTE FROM MASONRY TODAY AND I FOUND IT COMPLETELY APPROPRIATE FOR THE TIMES WE LIVE IN.

"KNOWLEDGE IN FREEMASONRY AND IN GENERAL IS THE SAME. THROUGH STUDY IT IS BROKEN DOWN INTO ITS PARTS, PULLED APART, DISSECTED, AND PUT BACK TOGETHER; STILL, IT IS KNOWLEDGE. WHETHER WE CHOOSE TO BASK IN THE LIGHT OR STUDY HOW IT FUNCTIONS, IT IS STILL MEANT TO BE USED FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ALL WHO SEE IT AND ARE TOUCHED BY IT. WHEN IT IS BLOCKED OR FILTERED, IT CAUSES DARKNESS, OR IGNORANCE, TO SPREAD. WHEN IT REACHES THOSE WHO CHOSE TO DWELL IN 'DARKNESS' OR WHO ONLY SEE THE FILTERED LIGHT IT BRINGS HATE, INJUSTICE AND SORROW."

WE, AS FREEMASONS, HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE LIGHT, OR KNOWLEDGE SHINES FORTH. AT TIMES, THE LIGHT COMES THROUGH THE METAPHORIC PRISMS AND WE ONLY SEE A PART OF THE LIGHT. IT IS UP TO US AS FREEMASONS TO FIND ALL THE PIECES OF THE LIGHT AND PUT IT BACK TOGETHER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THE LIGHT OR CAN ONLY SEE THAT ONE PART OF THE SPECTRUM THAT COMES THROUGH THE PRISM OF OUR OWN BIAS."

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,

APRIL HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL MONTH FOR OUR DISTRICT AND LODGE! APRIL 12TH SAW THE THUNDERING 17TH MASONIC DISTRICT HOST M:. W:. GLEN B. BISHOP, GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF FLORIDA, AND HIS PARTY, FOR THE CORNERSTONE-LAYING AT VIERA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. WHAT A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE TO SEE SO MANY MASONS COME TOGETHER IN SUPPORT OF THE EDUCATION OF OUR FUTURE! I AM ESPECIALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR NEXT CORNERSTONE LAYING AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL!

WE HAVE BEGUN PRACTICING OUR F.C. DEGREE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN ANTICIPATION OF CONFERRING THE F.C. DEGREE, ON BRO. LESTER, ON A DATE TBD IN EARLY JULY. PRACTICES REMAIN EVERY THURSDAY FROM 7PM UNTIL WE FINISH AND RETIRE FOR REFRESHMENT TOGETHER.

THE SPRING PICNIC WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS! I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR BROTHER JUNIOR WARDEN FOR HIS TIRELESS WORK ON THE PICNIC, AND ALSO TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT TO SUPPORT THE EVENT AND HAVE A GREAT TIME. IT WAS GREAT SEEING SO MANY BROTHERS COME TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES FOR A FUN DAY OF FELLOWSHIP!

THE MONTH OF MAY WILL SEE YOUR LEADERSHIP ATTENDING THE GRAND COMMUNICATION IN ORLANDO TO REPRESENT OUR LODGE'S INTERESTS. WE WELCOME ALL INPUT AS TO THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND IN DECIDING WHO WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE REPRESENT US AS THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN. ALSO, PLEASE LET THE W:. M:., JUNIOR WARDEN, OR MYSELF KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US FOR A LODGE DINNER ON SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024, AT 7:00PM. THE LOCATION IS TBD DUE TO UNKNOWN NUMBER OF BROTHERS JOINING AT THE MOMENT, BUT YOU KNOW OUR W:. M:. WON'T LEAD US ASTRAY WITH HIS RESTAURANT PICK!

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,

GREETINGS BROTHERS! AS THE SPRING AND SUMMER MONTHS APPROACH, I HOPE TO CONTINUE TO SEE MORE BROTHERS AT OUR MEETINGS.

WE JUST HOSTED OUR SPRING PICNIC AND I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED SPENDING A GREAT SATURDAY WITH ALL! I GREATLY APPRECIATE THOSE WHO HELPED AND THOSE WHO BROUGHT DELICIOUS SIDE ITEMS FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.

WE WILL CONTINUE PRACTICE FOR OUR UPCOMING FELLOW CRAFT DEGREE AND I ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO COME OUT ON THURSDAYS FOR SOME FELLOWSHIP!

I AM ALSO LOOKING AT DATES FOR A MID-YEAR SPRING CLEANING OF THE LODGE AND PROPERTY. I WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR A STRONG SHOWING TO HELP! I WILL PROVIDE MORE DETAILS IN LODGE AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. ALSO, PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYE ON YOUR TEAMREACH FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

AS ALWAYS, I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR MEETINGS AND SEEING EVERYONE!

YOUR JUNIOR WARDEN,

AUSTIN COWART

# **SICKNESS AND DISTRESS**

W.: M.: ESTES' BROTHER STEPHAN,  
BRO. BOB COCKRILL,  
W.: CORRIDAN'S WIFE,  
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 currently pending.



## Merritt Island Lodge Spring 2024 Picnic



# AZAN SHRINES

# MOONSHINE

# TASTING

Saturday, May 11, 2024 - 5 to 10 PM

\$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)

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

Proceeds benefit Azan Shriners  
Not a charitable contribution



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.



# *Merritt Island Lodge, No. 353*

Join the Brothers of Merritt Island Lodge in celebrating a Festive Board in commemoration of Saint John the Baptist's Feast Day.

*When:* Saturday, June 22, 2024,  
From 6:00-8:00 PM.

*Where:* Whisk & Grind  
370 N. Courtenay Pkwy.  
Merritt Island, Fl 32952

Tickets are available for \$45.00 per person and are REQUIRED for admission. Please contact W.: Mike Kelly or W.: Jim Cravens for tickets.

# 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 WILLIAMS HAWKINS	JEFFREY WHITE
JAMES EDWARD HAWKINS	RALPH WILKIE
ERIK HOLBERT	RICHARD WOLFE
EDWARD HOPPER	JEFFREY WOLFE
JAMES HOUGH JR	JOHN ZHULKE
OLIVER IRLAM	

# BIRTHDAYS

ROBERT CARUSO  
CLIFFORD MILLER  
OVIE BLANTON  
ROBERT CRAWFORD  
PHILLIP COHEN

DONALD FEESER  
DARYLL GIANNAKOS  
DENNIS MILLER  
KEITH MCGREGOR

