

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
1967 DOUGLAS MCLAIN
1968 E.L. "LANK" GREEN (1)
1969 HARRY A. HENDRY (1)
1970 ALFRED N. KEE
1971 JESSIE L. ENGLISH
1972 CLINTON E. DUNN
1973 BERYL E. CLEMENTS
1974 J. LAMAR RICHARDSON
1975 ULMER CLELAND
1976 PERRY M. ROGERS
1977 VERNON G. HITCHCOCK
1978 JOHN C. ALEXANDER
1979 BORIS Y. SKORO
1980 A. ARNOLD WAGNER
1981 WILSON R. TIMMONS
1982 WILLIAM A. CLAUS
1983 CYRIL J. CHUPINA
1984 JEFFREY F. WHITE (1)
1985 VIRGIL P. BROWN
1986 CARL GOFF (1)
1987 WILLIAM JOE QUERRY
1988 LLOYD C. BLACKWOOD (1)
1989 JAMES D. RATCLIFFE
1990 JOHN C. SMITH (1, 2)
1991 WILLIAM G. ELLIS (1,2,3)
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

1998 ROBERT L. DUFF
1999 DANIEL E. FITCH
2000 FRANKLIN L. GLENN
2001 BARRY R. SCHAFFER
2002 SABATO "SAM" DANIELE
2003 RAYMOND C. ASHMAN
2004 MICHAEL J. MCAFEE
2005 PATRICK KELLY CORRIDAN
2006 JOHN F. MILLHOUSE
2007 JAMES "JIM" STRICKLAND
2008 EUGENE C. "GENE" CRAWFORD
2009 STEVEN B. WALDEN (1,3,4)
2010 THOMAS R. KRUSE (1, 2)
2011 JAMES E. "JIMMY" HAWKINS
2012 MICHAEL L. ELLIOTT (1,2,4)
2013 JOHN MICHAEL BAUERNFEIND
2014 ALVIN "CHIP" GIPSON
2015 JOHN E. WINCHESTER, III
2016 MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
2017 JAMES K. CHARLAND
2018 MICHAEL J. OVENS
2019 EIRIK HOLBERT
2020 DONALD B. VARGAS
2021 DUSTIN A. CELESTIN
2022 RICHARD J. CRAVENS
2023 MICHAEL B. KELLY



(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

\$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.



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.

