

Lodge Officers - 2025

John "Wally" Jones, Worshipful Master	321-877-9937
Ernie Quick, Senior Warden	321-243-6479
Stephen Butalla, Junior Warden	941-769-0144
Kirk Hall PDDGM, Treasurer	321-537-9047
Ron Barker, PM, Secretary	321-403-5651
Mike Erickson, Senior Deacon	770 289-1625
Tom Hamilton, Junior Deacon	860 690-8797
Alex Barbosa, Senior Steward	321 429-4562
George Swanson, Junior Steward	860 559-7459
Richard Earls PM, Chaplain	757-338-8298
Jamie Hamilton, Marshal	205-447-3996
Sam Woodard, Tyler	no phone

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN - 2025

Catechism Instructors	Jonathan Pitt, Dana Ferrel, Ernie Quick, Nathan St. Pierre
Charity	Wally Jones, WM
Finance & Budget	Ernie Quick, SW
Vigilance	Stephen Butalla, JW
Lodge Property	Ernie Quick, JW
Masonic Education	Craig Boettcher, PM
Board of Relief	Wally Jones, WM
Sickness & Distress	Ernie Quick, JW
Petitions	Stephen Butalla, JW
Investigations	Ernie Quick, SW
Ritual Instructor	Craig Boettcher, PM
Website/social media	Bryan Fox

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JULY / AUGUST 2025



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CHARTERED JANUARY 17, A.D. 1894 A.L. 5894
2300 DAIRY ROAD, WEST MELBOURNE, FL

JOHN "WALLY" JONES WORSHIPFUL MASTER

516-220-7147

Email: thurwulf@gmail.com

Stated Communications

First and Third Mondays

Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30

Lodge mailing address.

P.O. BOX 120143

West Melbourne, FL 32912-0143

Lodge Telephone: 321-831-3415

Website: <http://www.melbournelodge143.com>

Lodge Email Address: ml143@melbournelodge143.com

Secretary: Ron Barker, PM 321-403-5651

17th Masonic District

Matthew S. Green D.D.G.M.

Phone. 321-610-8731 d17ddgm2024@gmail.com

Craig R. Boettcher DI-District Instructor

Phone. 321-298-2203

d17districtinstructor2024@gmail.com

Vol. 2025 Issues No. 7 and 8

Subscription paid automatically as part of
Annual Membership Dues. Published Monthly by
Melbourne Lodge No. 143, F. & A. M.

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James Beckman, Melbourne No. 143 (2/2024)

NOTE: (month/year) Last month to be published

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\$120 for twelve issues. Please Contact
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LODGE NEWS

W.: Ted Woodbury, Past Master of Melbourne Lodge 1995 and Palm Bay Lodge 2003, passed away peacefully on June 30, 2025, at the Masonic Home of Florida in St. Petersburg.

Ted was a Fifty-Eight-Year Mason and longtime member of both Melbourne Lodge No. 143 and Palm Bay Lodge No. 397. Ted was very active in both Lodges until his health declined, and he moved to the Masonic Home.

Ted was born in Boston, Massachusetts on March 31, 1935, and moved to Brevard County in the 1960s. Ted owned and operated Tedco Electronics in Melbourne for over four decades.

There will be a Memorial Service at Azan Shrine Center at a later date. Please keep Ted and his family in your thoughts and prayers

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Robert Peter McCabe, Joshua Richard
Morris, and Robert Kyle Rumsey

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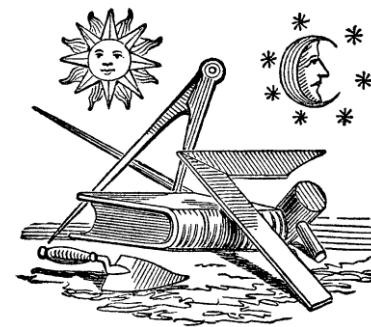
First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM
Harbor City Lodge No. 318, F. & A. M.

- Check those letters in the Red Book
- Learn a Lecture
- Learn How to Open & Close Lodge
- Brush up on your Catechisms
- Qualify for Proficiency Cards

ALL MASTER MASONS ARE INVITED

LODGE MEETINGS 17th MASONIC DISTRICT

Melbourne No. 143	1st & 3rd Mondays
Merritt Island No. 353	1st & 3rd Mondays
Canaveral No. 339	2nd & 4th Mondays
Gateway No. 384	2nd & 4th Mondays
Beach No. 354	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Brevard No. 113	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Palm Bay No. 397	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Harbor City No. 318	2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Indian River No. 90	2nd & 4th Thursdays



LODGE CHARITY SCHEDULE

July – Brevard Alzheimer Foundation

Our organization is fully focused on serving both the client and the caregiver and is involved through the care process...from early detection to care after detection and everything in between.

Our goal is to keep families together for as long as possible.

From the East

"You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else."

-Brother Melvin Jones

Brethren,

The opening quote comes from one of our more notable Masonic Brothers. Brother Melvin Jones is the founder of Lions Club International and a +50-year Mason. He embodied the charitable spirit that permeates Free Masonry and its many appendant bodies and is recognized internationally for his lifelong achievements.

June was a busy month at the lodge. Our three prepared Fellow Crafts and one prepared Entered Apprentice demonstrated their proficiency at the June 2nd Stated Communication. The proficient Fellow Crafts were raised at a Called Communication on June 14th.

Our dinner and a movie raffle winners were drawn at the June 16th Stated Communication. Our June Family Dinner Night was held at Skewer's Mediterranean Restaurant was well attended. We enjoyed a typically great dinner and great fellowship. The July Family Night will be held at Intracoastal Brewing Company, 652 West Eau Gallie Blvd. in Melbourne, July 14th at 6:30 PM.

Our July Charity is South Brevard Women's Center. It serves local needs and has a 4-star 96% rating.

Our Lodge will be dark from July 21st and will resume Stated Communications September 15th.

(continued page 6)

From the West

Greetings to all our Brothers, family, and friends.

Welcome to July. This summer has started with some very hot weather. It is Hurricane season, which means we should start preparing by making a check list of food and supplies. Start now, do not wait until the rush is on. July is also the beginning of the second half of 2025. TIME FLIES! We also have only a few holidays until Thanksgiving and Christmas. Happy Shopping.

The first half of 2025 has given us many great events. We have had a dozen homemade specialty meals, several family dinners, and on June 14th we raised three Brothers to Master Masons. It was agreed by many to be the best Degree they had seen. This could only happen with the help of so many Brothers spending hours of their time practicing. We practice every Wednesday at 6 p.m. except the first Wednesday which is open books at Harbor City Lodge. Everyone is welcome to join us at both events where we learn, practice, and have great fellowship.

Our only meeting in July will be on Monday the 7th. It will be Hawaiian shirt night both for dinner and our meeting. Brother Steven Butalla and his wonderful crew are going to serve a delicious Hawaiian dinner. Please join us and have a fun evening. We will be dark from July 8th until September.

Although our lodge will be dark for August, here are a few things you might enjoy. Vacation and travel, also August 2nd there will be a Masters and Wardens breakfast at 8AM followed by a meeting at 9AM at Brevard Lodge No113. All Master Masons are welcome.

(continued page 6)

From the South

Brothers,

As many of you know, Miranda and I went to our great nation's capital and the surrounding area at the end of June. This included the requisite visits to the many monuments honoring our veterans and the great leaders of our country, the U.S. Capitol, Library of Congress, Supreme Court, and White House, as well as a day in Alexandria to sightsee and receive a tour of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (GWMNM). I then returned on the following day for a unique and unforgettable experience.

The brothers of Charles W. Moore Lodge AF&AM, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, received a dispensation from their Grand Master to hold their last stated meeting of their Masonic year in the North Lodge Room of the GWMNM. This meeting was a truly national representation of brothers: there were masons from Massachusetts, Virginia, Hawaii, North Carolina, and Florida in attendance. This stated meeting was finished with a lecture on the oldest Masonic Education speech delivered in lodge, courtesy of W.: Shawn Eyer, Director of Communications for the GWMNM. It was an incredible lecture that gave great insight into what our Masonic forebears of the early 1700s *actually* considered the Lodge and how we should endeavor to create that ideal, the role of Freemasonry, and what being a Mason *truly* means. This beautiful evening was capped off by a tour of the Alexandria-Washington (AW) No. 22 Lodge Room.

(continued page 6)

July 2025

Melbourne Lodge No. 143, F. & A.M.
Lodge Charity is Brevard Alzheimer Foundation

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <u>Open Books</u> <u>Harbor City Lodge</u> <u>6:00 to 9:00PM</u>	3	4	5 <u>Masters & Wardens</u> <u>9am – 10am</u> <u>Harbor City No. 318</u>
6	7 <u>Stated</u> <u>Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge Opens 7:30</u> <u>PM</u>	8	9 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	10	11	12
13	14 <u>Dinner</u> <u>Cantina Louie</u> <u>2400 Dairy Road</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	15	16 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	17	18	19
20	21 <u>Fellowcraft Degree</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> <u>Refreshments</u>	22	23 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	24 <u>South Brevard</u> <u>Scottish Rite Club</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	25	26
27	28	29	30 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	31		

August 2025

Melbourne Lodge No. 143, F. & A.M.

Lodge Reopens September 15

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <u>Masters & Wardens</u> <u>9am – 10am</u> <u>Brevard No. 113</u>
3	4	5	6 <u>Open Books</u> <u>Harbor City Lodge</u> <u>6:00 to 9:00PM</u>	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	28	29	30

From the East (continued)

We will continue to hold our Wednesday degree practices. We are considering an Entered Apprentice and a Fellow Craft degree, during the Summer break.. All brothers are welcome, whether they intend to participate in the degrees or not. There is a wealth of Masonic knowledge at all our Wednesday practices.

As always one of our core duties is to encourage the growth of the craft through recruitment of good men, who will benefit and grow from association with our fraternity. When out and about wear some Masonic emblem and always take time to answer any questions from potential brothers.

Fraternally,
W.: M.: Wally Jones

From the West (continued)

All Master Masons are welcome. Palm Bay lodge No397 will host a dinner for all Masons widows every third Thursday. During August it will be the 21st and is open to friends, relatives, and any other guest. Location for this month has not been set yet. Please call 740-704-3720 for details.

Have a great summer and a fun vacation. Be safe and I will see you in September.

Ernie Quick
Senior Warden



From the South (continued)

is a particular lodge rich with history: our first president, George Washington, was the Charter Master, and many famous masons have been members, including the Marquis de La Fayette. If you haven't been to the GWMNM, I urge you to visit as soon as possible, preferably on a day when a lodge meeting is scheduled!

In terms of refreshments for the month of July, I will provide the menu for our only Stated this month:

Monday, July 7th: Luau & Hawaiian Shirt Night

- **Hawaiian Sweet & Sour Pork Spareribs:** A Hawaiian comfort food classic!
- **Spam Musubi:** A savory serving of egg, rice, and spam.
- **Hawaiian-Style Stir-Fried Vegetables**
- **Hawaiian Mac Salad:** One of the most popular sides in the iconic Hawaiian plate lunch.
- **Hawaiian Rolls**

Brothers, please remember to wear your Hawaiian shirt to our Stated-on July 7th!

After a productive Grounds Committee Meeting on Thursday, June 19th, and the subsequent Lodge Workday on Saturday, June 21st, our Lodge Building is looking better than ever! We had an excellent turn out and accomplished a great deal of work; while I am limited in space to present these achievements, I will list some of the highlights below:

- Cataloging our library. The catalog is accessible online; see: bit.ly/46l45HO.
- Filling the holes in the columns of the portico.
- Spraying the roof of the portico with an exterior wash and mold-inhibitor.

From the South (continued)

- Thorough cleaning of the floors, including sweeping, mopping, and vacuuming the building.
- Cleaning and organizing the cabinets and drawers in the kitchen.
- Cleaning and organizing both fridges.
- Removing scuff marks from all of the walls.

I would like to personally thank everyone who made it out to the work day and devoted half of their Saturday to beautifying the lodge: B.: Robert McCabe, B.: Joshua Morris, B.: Jay Rich, W.: Nathan St. Pierre, and W.: George Swanson and his wife Nancy, as well as a special thank you to W.: Ron Barker and W.: Mike Hampton for the preparations made and insight provided to ensuring this work day was a success. Your continuing support of our mission to beautify the lodge is one that I and all of our Brothers and Visitors greatly appreciate!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Hawaiian Shirt Night and Luau on July 7th, and for those who can't make it, I look forward to returning to lodge on Monday, September 15th for our first Stated after being dark over the summer. Finally, for those brothers who will be vacationing this summer, please have safe travels!

Fraternally,

Stephen D. Butalla, J.:W.:

District 17 News

**17th Masonic District
new website:**

<https://thunderingdistrict.wixsite.com/seventeen>