

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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FEBRUARY 2025



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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

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

Congratulations to:

- Joshua Richard Morris,
- Robert Peter McCabe,
- Robert Kyle Rumsey.

Our three new Entered Apprentices initiated on January 27th. We look forward to their increasing participation in our Lodge and welcome them into Masonry.



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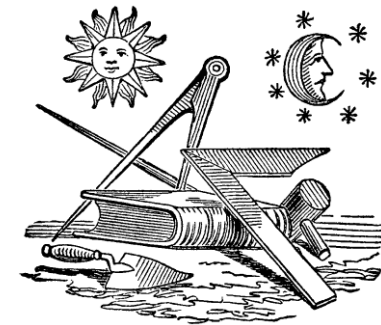
First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM
Harbor City Lodge No. 318, F. & A. M.

- 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

February – Children’s Hunger Project



From the East

2025 is starting out well. We had our first officers' meeting with agreement on multiple initiatives for the coming year.

Our traditional family-oriented activities, 2nd Monday family dinners, second Saturday Lodge breakfast, will continue. We will endeavor to supplement them with periodic adventures such as attending the annual Melbourne Ren-Faire, possibly an occasional bowling night and perhaps an occasional movie night at the lodge. We are open to proposals from our Brethren, and especially proposals that include some ideas for implementation.

In January, we started the year by initiating three new candidates into the first degree. All are enthusiastic and personable. It will be a pleasure to work with them on their path to Master Mason.

At our first February Stated Communication we will hear a presentation from Bro. Matt Cordoves, regarding the importance of DeMolay to Freemasonry and activities to bring DeMolay back to District 17.

We will continue to hold our Wednesday degree practices and Monthly District Open Books participation. 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. Wear your Masonic ring or shirt and be always ready to answer any questions from potential brothers.

Fraternally, Wally Jones,
Worshipful Master

From the West

Greetings to all my Brothers, family, and friends and wishing you a very happy Valentines Day. I hope everyone has a great time.

I would like to thank our J.W. Steven Butalla and his Lady Miranda, for a great dinner and look forward to their next adventurous presentation.

We had a great Entered Apprentice degree on January 27th and would like to thank everyone who helped with their initiation. Also, a warm welcome to our new Brothers and families. Please come out and join us for dinner every first and third Monday's when we meet and have fellowship with more of our brothers over dinner. We are all always here to help you with any questions or concerns.

Our Brother Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart was one of our famous Masons. He was born January 27, 1756, died December 5, 1791. He wrote eight compositions for masonry including our Free Masons funeral music. Both his father and grandfather were Free Masons, and this would have qualified Wolfgangus to wear our current Lewis Jewel, the guide for qualifying to wear the jewel varies throughout America.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe month.

Your Brother Ernie Quick
Senior Warden

From the South

My Brothers,

I'd like to first thank the entire kitchen crew—Miranda, W.: George, and Nancy—for the incredible effort they have devoted to seeing this endeavor a success. Without their help, this undertaking would not be possible. To ensure that we can achieve our goal of providing you the highest quality meals at a reasonable price (such as the "Marry Me" Chicken with cavatappi pasta and lemon-garlic green beans, or the Shepherd's Pie with buttered cabbage), we will be returning the suggested donation price to \$10. Additionally, in our goal to better serve the Craft, I kindly ask that you all RSVP via the link sent by text or email. This is purely for estimating attendance; if for some reason you can't make it, don't worry—it's better that we slightly overestimate than underestimate.

Continuing our effort to provide you with the highest quality dinners, please see the carefully curated menus for our Stated Communications in February below:

February 3, 2025

- Chicken piccata
- Spaghetti Alio e Olio
- Tuscan broccoli

February 17, 2025

- Smash Burgers
- French Fries Animal Style

(continued on page 5)

February 2025

Melbourne Lodge No. 143, F. & A.M.
Lodge Charity is The Children's Hunger Project

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <u>Masters & Wardens</u> <u>8am – 10am</u> <u>Gateway 384</u>
2	3 <u>Stated</u> <u>Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge Louie Opens</u> <u>7:30PM</u>	4	5 <u>Open Books</u> <u>Harbor City Lodge</u> <u>6:00 to 9:00PM</u>	6	7	8 <u>Lodge Breakfast</u> <u>8:00 AM – 10:00AM</u>
9	10 <u>Fellowship Dinner</u> <u>6:30 PM</u> <u>Cantina Louie</u> <u>2400 Dairy Rd.</u> <u>West Melbourne</u>	11	12 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	13	14	15
16	17 <u>Stated</u> <u>Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u>	18	19 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	27	28	

Masonic Thought

What Induced You?

The catechetical answer “That I might travel, work and receive Master’s wages” represents a profound meditation on divine purpose and human interconnection. The early Grand Lodge understanding of this relationship emerges through several layers. The operative Mason’s privilege to travel and earn wages transforms into something far deeper when viewed through “reciprocal love and friendship.” These aren’t merely economic freedoms — they represent opportunities to fulfill “the noblest part of the work of God.”

When we examine the phrase “thereby being better enabled to support myself and family,” it takes on new meaning in light of our assertion that “dependance is one of the strongest bands of society.” The Master Mason’s wages enable not just personal sustenance, but participation in this divinely ordained system of mutual support.

The obligation to assist “worthy distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans” perfectly exemplifies our understanding that mankind was made “dependent on each other for protection and security.” This isn’t merely charitable impulse — it’s fulfilling the Creator’s design for “social and active life.”

By joining these teachings, we see that the Master Mason’s journey isn’t about achieving independence, but rather about assuming one’s proper place in the divine architecture of mutual dependence and reciprocal duty.

Nathan St. Pierre, PM

Masonic Thought

Ritual

Rituals are important because they can invoke a pathway to experiences that transcend ordinary reality. In Masonry, our rituals use allegory and symbols to provide participants a means of self-reflection that encourages personal growth. They also build camaraderie between Lodge members by reminding us of our shared values and moral obligations.

In degree work, as well as in our stated communication meetings, we invoke the presence of deity, (the Grand Architect), in a room with an altar, on which lies a book of sacred text. These rituals are performed in a chamber representative of Solomon’s Temple.

In the time of Solomon, temple guards were present to allow entrance only to those that who were ceremonially clean. Should we not, therefore, enter the Lodge in “due form” and be on guard that our behavior is humbly consistent with the setting in which we are present?

A teacher of mine often advised his students, that when entering a place of ritual, it is appropriate to leave one’s personal worries, concerns, and undesired behaviors at the door; assuring us that upon leaving, they would be there waiting for us, should we care to repossess them.

While we are fortunate to be members of a well-ordered Lodge, we should always be on guard to ensure that our demeanor is appropriate to the setting.

Brother Jamie Hamilton

From the South (continued)

Our first Grounds and Kitchen committee meetings were a success! We achieved many of the organizational goals I laid out earlier this year, and have several projects that we will be completing in the kitchen as well as to the lodge building and the surrounding grounds. The February committee meetings will be on the following dates/times:

- Kitchen: Feb. 4, 2025 at 6:30pm
- Grounds: Feb. 11, 2025 at 6:30pm

These meetings are open to the Craft, and I urge any brother that has feedback, ideas, or questions to stop by. Your assistance and support are vital to fulfilling our mission of enhancing the beauty of our lodge, and, ultimately, creating the best fraternal experience for the brethren.

Fraternally,

Stephen D. Butalla, J.:W.:

