

LODGE OFFICERS - 2026

Ernie Quick, Worshipful Master	321 243-6479
Stephen Butalla, Senior Warden	941 769-0144
Jason Rich, Junior Warden	321 586-9158
Kirk Hall PDDGM, Treasurer	321 537-9047
Nathan St. Pierre, PM, Secretary	321 403-5651
Joshua R. Morris, Senior Deacon	321 848-5657
Kyle Rumsey, Junior Deacon	334 714-3426
George Swanson, Senior Steward	860 559-7459
Robert P. McCabe, Junior Steward	321 987-1896
Jamie Hamilton, Chaplain	205 447-3996
Alex Barbosa, Marshal	321 429-4562
Sam Woodard, Tyler	no phone

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN - 2026

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

Tom D. Waldron, P.A.

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MARCH 2026



MELBOURNE LODGE NO. 143 FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

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

ERNIE QUICK

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

321-243-6479

Email: erniequick@ymail.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: Nathan St. Pierre, PM 321 403-5651

17th Masonic District

Craig R. Boettcher D.D.G.M.

Phone. 321-298-2203 d17ddgm2025@gmail.com

Matthew S Green District Instructor

Phone. 321-610-8731

d17ddgm2024@gmail.com

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TRESTLEBOARD BOOSTERS

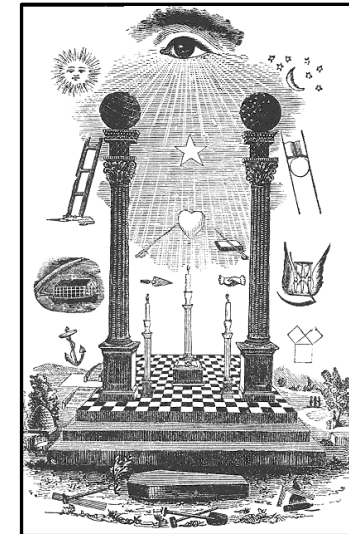
Howard Holcomb, Lawrenceville No. 131, GA (4/2024)
John "Wally" Jones, Melbourne No. 143 (12/2025)
Ken Kelley PM, Melbourne No. 143 (4/2024)
Jerry Mayo, Melbourne No. 143 (3/2025)
Roger McKay, PDDGM, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2027)
John Thorne, Melbourne No. 143 (3/2025)
Dan Wilder, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2023)
Robert Williams, Melbourne No. 143 (4/2027)
Kevin Gholston, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)
Monseratt Willams, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)
Eddie Smeen, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2025)
James Beckman, Melbourne No. 143 (2/2024)

**NOTE: (month/year) Last month to be published
THANK YOU to our Boosters and advertisers.**

Boosters are \$12 and business cards are
\$120 for twelve issues. Please Contact
the Secretary.

UCOMING DEGREE

The Entered Apprentice Degree for Kevin S.
Sonnamaker and Willard "Bill" John
Passmore has been scheduled for March 25th
at 7:00PM



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OPEN BOOKS

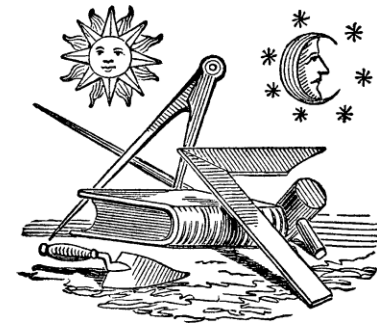
First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM
 Harbor City Lodge No. 318, F. & A. M.

- 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	2nd & 4th Thursdays
Harbor City No. 318	2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Indian River No. 90	2nd & 4th Thursdays

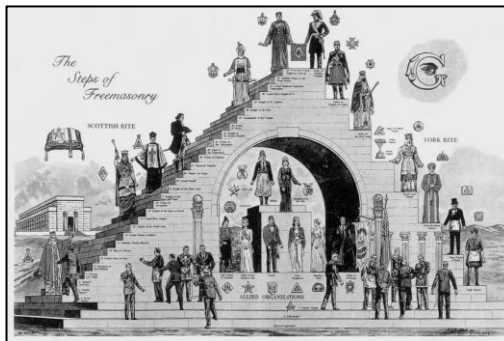


LODGE CHARITY SCHEDULE

Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation

The Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation Inc. was founded in 1995. Last year it provided 143,736 hours of adult daycare, 19,962 senior meals, transported seniors 82,748 miles, and provided 11,032 hours of in-home respite.

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



From the East

Greetings to all my Brothers, family, and friends,

Welcome to March. We will be having a joint Family breakfast and our District 17 Masters and Wardens meeting on Saturday the 7th at 8:00am in our lodge dining hall. The M&W meeting will begin at 9:00 am, so the families can stay on eating and enjoy time together. All will have a chance to meet masons from all over the county. All Master Masons are welcome to attend the meeting.

Our family dinner will be held March 9th at 6:30 PM at Fiesta Aztecs Mexican Restaurant located at 850 N. Wickham Road Melbourne. 1-321-242-5966. We have had several meals there and everyone has a great time, so try and make it and have fun and fellowship.

March 20-21. Azan Shriners Melbourne 1591 W. Eau Gallie Blvd. 1-321-259-5302 are having their Nobility Ball. Cookout style dinner at Oasis lounge, causal dress, Friday 20th at 6 pm. Presentations will be Saturday at 11am in the lounge, light lunch will follow. The Nobility Ball will be Saturday night starting with cocktail hour at 5pm, followed with dinner at 6. Formal attire with Fez and Jewel for Shriners and Formal for all others.

Please R.S.V.P. No later than March 6, 2026, to: Theresa Godard
2442 Appalachian Dr. Melbourne, Fl
32935

Cost is \$20.00 for Friday...and \$80.00 for Saturday.

(continued page 6)

From the West

My Brothers,

March is upon us, and as we enter the third Masonic month of the year, I would like to define a roadmap for our upcoming brotherhood events. Following the great success of our previous cigar night, we will be hosting another gathering at Executive Cigar Lounge (located at 843 E New Haven Ave, Melbourne, FL) on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 4pm. I look forward to seeing you all there for another evening of great fellowship and excellent conversation.

There has also been strong interest expressed in a fishing outing—both inshore and offshore. We are currently exploring options for either a deep-sea fishing charter in April or a more casual day of pier-fishing. More details will be announced at the upcoming Stated Communications.

Important Dates — March 2026

Officers' Meeting

Thursday, March 12th, 2026, at 6pm

- Degree Practice
- Wednesday, March 4th, 2026: Open Books at Harbor City Lodge at 6pm
- Wednesday, March 11th, 2026: EA practice at Melbourne Lodge at 6pm
- Wednesday, March 18th, 2026: EA practice at Melbourne Lodge at 6pm

Entered Apprentice Degree

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026: EA Degree at Melbourne Lodge at 7pm

(Additional degree practice may be scheduled as we approach the degree date.)

From the South

Brethren,

March is the month of renewal and refreshment, brought on by the end of winter and the beginning of spring. We have just completed our first lodge workday, and I thank all who came out and worked hard to beautify and refresh the lodge. We have started a donation fund for a commercial freezer. W. Bro. Ron Barker, thank you for kicking off with the first donation. Please direct donations to our Secretary, W. Bro. Nathan Saint Pierre; anything helps and would be much appreciated. With a commercial freezer, we will be able to buy the most premium food items when they are on sale, which allows us, on a low budget, to offer quality vittles.

The Tylers room now has fresh ceiling tiles and peppermint fluff mints for your visual enjoyment and refreshment.

Hopefully, everyone is doing well, and this month brings renewal and festive glee.

Since St. Patrick's Day is approaching, our dinner menu has an Irish theme:

March 2, 2026

Side salad

Shepherd's pie (Beef)

Monkey bread

March 16, 2026

Corned Beef & Buttered Cabbage

Mashed Potatoes

A tasty dessert

Your Brother,

J.:W.: Jason Rich

March 2026

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <u>Stated Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30 PM</u> <u>Lodge 7:30 PM</u>	3	4 <u>Open Books</u> <u>Harbor City Lodge</u> <u>6:00 to 9:00 PM</u>	5	6	7 <u>Masters and Wardens</u> <u>Melbourne</u> <u>Lodge No.143</u> <u>Breakfast 8:00 AM</u> <u>Meeting 9:00 AM</u>
8	9 <u>Fiesta Azteca</u> <u>850 N. Wickham Road</u> <u>Melbourne</u>	10 <u>Widows Program</u> <u>6pm</u>	11 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	12	13	14 <u>Harbor City Lodge</u> <u>St. Patrick Day Parade</u> <u>Lodge Breakfast</u> <u>8:00 AM</u>
15	16 <u>Stated Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge 7:30 PM</u>	17	18 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <u>EA Degree</u> <u>7:00 PM</u>	26	27	28
29	30	31				

From the East (continued)

We currently have three Brothers studying their Fellowcraft Proficiency and should be ready sometime early April. We have two new petitioners to receive their E.A. degree on March 25th at 7pm. Refreshments will be served. I hope we will have a great turnout to support our new Mason Members, and Make them feel welcome, and glad to be part of Melbourne Lodge.

Your Brother,
W.:M.: Ernie Quick

From the West

Finally, I am pleased to share an update on the development of our Widows Program. I've scheduled a committee meeting on **Tuesday, March 10th, at 6pm** to discuss our next steps. Our goal is to deliver our first floral arrangements in April.

Thank you all for your continued commitment to the Craft. I look forward to a productive and fraternal month ahead.

Fraternally,

S.:W.: Stephen D. Butalla

From the Editor

Do you have something you would like to share with the Trestleboard? If so, please send an email to the editor at mailjbh@gmail.com.



Speculative Masonry

Initiatic Emphasis: The Lodge's Sacred Duty

At the heart of classical Masonic culture lies what scholar Shawn Eyer calls "initiatic emphasis," the principle that the lodge exists, first and foremost, for the Masonic development of its candidates and members. As Eyer writes, "initiation is seen as a lifelong activity, just as we typically think of the Perfect Ashlar as a state toward which a Freemason strives all of his life."

This means that every decision we make as a lodge (from the atmosphere we cultivate to the quality of our ritual) must be measured against one question: does this serve the initiatic journey of our brethren? Historical records confirm that the earliest lodges took this duty seriously, strictly forbidding casual behavior during their labors to protect the solemnity of the work.

Speculative Masonry

The tiled lodge, properly observed, represents the Temple of Solomon. When we allow that atmosphere to become coarse or distracted, we silently communicate to our newest brothers that the Craft is something less than it truly is. Every man who knocks at the West Gate deserves our very best.

This is the second installment of our three-part series on lodge culture. In Part 3, we will explore Traditional Basis: how grounding our practices in the established landmarks and ancient usages of the Craft gives our lodge culture its integrity and enduring strength.

P.: M.: Nathan St. Pierre



J.:W.: Jason Rich receiving award