

## 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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## APRIL 2025



## MELBOURNE LODGE NO. 143 FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

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](mailto: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](mailto:ml143@melbournelodge143.com)

Secretary: Ron Barker, PM 321-403-5651

17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

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

Phone. 321-610-8731 [d17ddgm2024@gmail.com](mailto:d17ddgm2024@gmail.com)

Craig R. Boettcher DI-District Instructor

Phone. 321-298-2203

[d17districtinstructor2024@gmail.com](mailto:d17districtinstructor2024@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 (5/2033)  
Robert Williams, Melbourne No. 143 (4/2027)  
Kevin Gholston, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)  
Montserrat Williams, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)  
Eddie Smeen, Melbourne No. 143 (5/202)  
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  
the Secretary.

## Lodge News

### Fellowcraft Degree

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

April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Refreshments will be provided.



## TRESTLEBOARD ADVERTISERS



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## TRESTLEBOARD ADVERTISERS



## LODGE CHARITY SCHEDULE

**March – Genesis House**



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## OPEN BOOKS

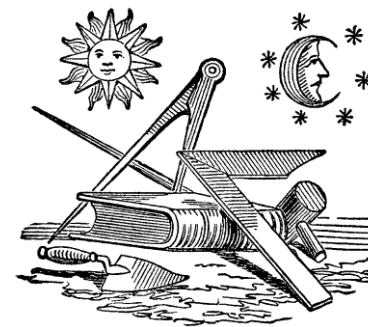
**First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM**  
**Harbor City Lodge No. 318, F. & A. M.**

- 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 |



### From the East

*Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.* – Benjamin Franklin

Brethren,

I chose the opening quote because it comes from one of my favorite historical personages and a Masonic Brother. I feel it is one of the keys to the Masonic harmony, we are so often reminded of.

March was an enjoyable month at the lodge. Once again members of our degree team and two of our newest Entered Apprentices traveled to observe an EA degree ceremony at another Lodge. The group represented our lodge outstandingly, and the Lodge invited two of our members to participate in the degree.

We enjoyed another visit and presentation regarding efforts to reenergize DeMolay in District 17. Additionally, R ∴ W ∴ Roger McCay, gave presentation for a worthy charity, that we will donate to in April.

Our March Family Night was held at Crystal's Hibachi and Grill, an Asian buffet restaurant, that we should try again. The April Family Night will be held at Fiesta Azteca Mexican Restaurant, at 850 N. Wickham Road, at 6:00 PM.

We continue to hold our Wednesday degree practices and monthly open books participation. All brothers are welcome, whether they intend to participate in the degrees or not.

### From the West

Greeting to all my brothers, family, and friends.

Welcome to the beginning of the second quarter of 2025. April 20th is Easter, and this is a time to get together with friends, have a cookout, and maybe look for easter eggs but be safe and have fun.

We would like to invite more brothers to join us for our educational degree practice and studies on the last three Wednesdays of each month. You are welcome to join or sit back and watch and maybe learn a new part.

Now, you might ask, how can I help to improve our lodge. Any ideas just could be the one that could help our lodge become a better all-round place for everyone. So how do we do this?

Maybe a suggestion box. This form of possible improvements was first introduced by D.W. Voorhees, a Senator from Indiana in 1890. It is said however, that the British Navy was using it in 1770. Additionally, there are many companies who have used suggestion boxes. Google has a long list of companies using this method to receive ideas to improve the workplace.

This is a great time to travel with our brothers. In the past two months several of us have traveled to visit all nine Lodges in our district. On March 13th two of our own E.A.s with four brothers from Melbourne Lodge attended an EA degree at St. Cloud Lodge no.221. It was a great evening for all.

In closing I would like to invite you to join us for a meeting and a wonderful dinner. Have a great month and have fun.

Your Brother Ernie Quick Senior Warden

### From the South

Brothers,

Over the past few months we have built tremendous momentum: we hosted one of the most well-attended, productive, and successful lodge workdays to date, and have delivered delicious, well-received dinners. This month of April will be no exception—we will continue to elevate our efforts both in beautifying the lodge and providing the highest quality refreshments. With respect to the latter, I present the menus for the upcoming Stated Communications below:

Monday, April 7th

- Gourmet Philly Cheesesteaks
  - Thin sliced ribeye, provolone or homemade cheese whiz sauce (or both!), peppers and onions
- Loaded Tater Tots (bacon, cheese sauce, green onions, and homemade spicy aioli or ranch)

Monday, April 21st

- Homemade Pierogies
- Pan fried dumplings with the classic potato, onion, and cheese filling, served with sour cream
- Braised Kielbasa Sausage and Sauerkraut
- Mizeria (Polish Cucumber Salad)

As we continue our endeavor to beautify the lodge, we will continue our monthly Kitchen and Grounds Committee meetings in April, the dates of which are listed below:

(continued on page 5)

# April 2025

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

Lodge Charity is Genesis House

| Sunday | Monday                                                                                           | Tuesday                                           | Wednesday                                                                   | Thursday                                                                  | Friday | Saturday                                                                                                                                   |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        |                                                                                                  | 1<br><u>Kitchen Committee</u><br><u>6:30 p.m.</u> | 2<br><u>Open Books</u><br><u>Harbor City Lodge</u><br><u>6:00 to 9:00PM</u> | 3                                                                         | 4      | 5<br><u>Masters &amp; Wardens</u><br><u>8am – 10am</u><br><u>Melbourne Lodge</u><br><br><u>Lodge Breakfast</u><br><u>8:00 AM – 11:00AM</u> |
| 6      | 7<br><u>Stated</u><br><u>Communication</u><br><u>Dinner 6:30PM</u><br><u>Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u>  | 8<br><u>Grounds Committee</u><br><u>6:30 p.m.</u> | 9<br><u>Ritual Practice at</u><br><u>Melbourne Lodge</u><br><u>6:30PM</u>   | 10                                                                        | 11     | 12<br><u>Fellowcraft Degree</u><br><u>Degree at 9:00</u><br><u>Refreshment</u><br><u>Provided</u>                                          |
| 13     | 14<br><u>Dinner</u><br><u>Fiesta Azteca</u><br><u>Wickham Rd.</u><br><u>6:30</u>                 | 15                                                | 16<br><u>Ritual Practice at</u><br><u>Melbourne Lodge</u><br><u>6:30PM</u>  | 17                                                                        | 18     | 19                                                                                                                                         |
| 20     | 21<br><u>Stated</u><br><u>Communication</u><br><u>Dinner 6:30PM</u><br><u>Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u> | 22                                                | 23<br><u>Ritual Practice at</u><br><u>Melbourne Lodge</u><br><u>6:30PM</u>  | 24<br><u>South Brevard</u><br><u>Scottish Rite Club</u><br><u>6:30 PM</u> | 25     | 26                                                                                                                                         |
| 27     | 28                                                                                               | 29                                                | 30<br><u>Ritual Practice at</u><br><u>Melbourne Lodge</u><br><u>6:30PM</u>  |                                                                           |        |                                                                                                                                            |

### From the East (continued)

We received one new petition in March.

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

### Masonic Thought

The following was taken from *An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences* 1921 edition.

#### Saint John the Baptist

One of the patrons of Freemasonry, and at one time, indeed, the only one, the name of St. John the Evangelist having been introduced subsequent to the sixteenth century. His festival occurs on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June and is very generally celebrated by the Masonic fraternity.

Fredrick Dalcho wrote "the stern integrity of St. John the Baptist, which induced him to forego every minor consideration in discharging the obligations he owed to God; the unshaken firmness with which he met martyrdom rather than betray his duty to his Master; his stead reproof of vice, and continued preaching of repentance as a virtue, make him the fit patron of the Masonic Institution.

It is worthy of note that the Grand Lodge of England was revived on St. John's the Baptist

### Masonic Thought (continued)

day in 1717 and that the annual feast was kept on that day until 1725.

Scottish Lodges kept the festival of St. John the Baptist until 1737 when their Grand Lodge changed the time of the annual election to Saint Andrew's Day (the patron saint of Scotland).

The charter of Cologne says: "We celebrate, annually, the memory of St. John, the forerunner of Christ, and the patron of our community. The Knights Hospitalers also dedicated their Order to him; and the ancient expression of our ritual, which speaks of a Lodge of the Holy St. John's of Jerusalem probably refers to the same saint.

Brother Jamie Hamilton

### Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Ted Woodbury



### From the South (continued)

- Kitchen Committee: Tuesday, April 1st, 2025 at 6:30pm
- Grounds Committee: Tuesday, April 8th, 2025 at 6:30pm

These meetings are open to the Craft, and I encourage all brothers to attend. During these meetings we discuss updates on our many ongoing projects, plan for upcoming projects, and brainstorm additional ways to improve our lodge. Finally, I would like to highlight our next lodge workday, which will be Saturday, June 21st, 2025 at 8am.

Fraternally,

Stephen D. Butalla

### District 17 News

17th Masonic District  
The Thundering 17  
Representing Florida's Space Coast

District 17 has a new website:

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

Get online and keep up to date  
with important events in your  
district.

