

## 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

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## JANUARY 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

17<sup>th</sup> 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

### Vol. 2026 Issue No. 1

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

## TRESTLEBOARD BOOSTERS

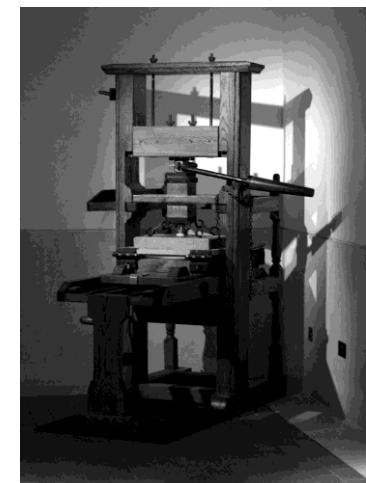
Howard Holcomb, Lawrenceville No. 131, GA (4/2024)  
John "Wally" Jones, Melbourne No. 143 (12/2025)  
Ken Kelley PM, Melbourne No. 143 (4/2024)  
Jerry Mayo, Melbourne No. 143 (3/2025)  
Roger McKay, PDDGM, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2027)  
John Thorne, Melbourne No. 143 (3/2025)  
Dan Wilder, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2033)  
Robert Williams, Melbourne No. 143 (4/2024)  
Kevin Gholston, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)  
Monserrat Williams, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)  
Eddie Smeen, Melbourne No. 143 (5/202)  
James Beckman, Melbourne No. 143 (2/2024)

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## LODGE CHARITY SCHEDULE

### Brevard Association for the Advancement of the Blind

The Brevard Association for the Advancement of the Blind (BAAB) is committed to empowering individuals who are visually impaired, blind, and legally blind to achieve independence and lead fulfilling lives. Established

This organization provides comprehensive support and resources tailored to meet the unique needs of our community.

## TRESTLEBOARD ADVERTISERS



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## OPEN BOOKS

**First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM**  
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- Learn a Lecture
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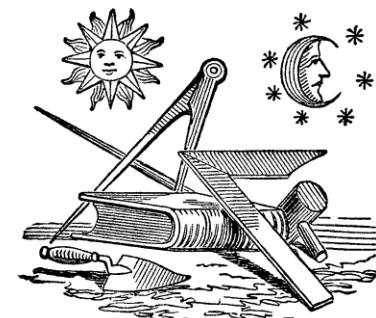
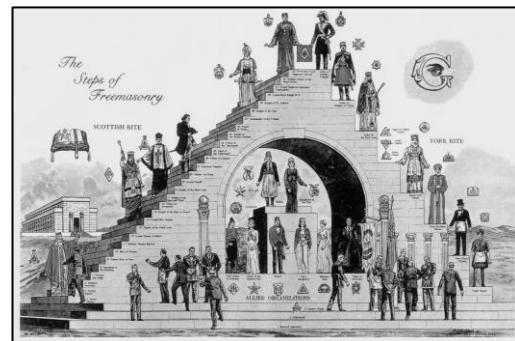
**ALL MASTER MASONS ARE INVITED**

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

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Last publish date – 2/2025



From the East	From the West	From the South
<p>Greetings to all my Brothers and friends.</p> <p>I am both humbled and honored to be elected your Worshipful Master for 2026. Thank you for your confidence.</p> <p>Congratulations to all our 2026 officers, I assure you that we all will do our very best to serve our craft to the best of our abilities. We would like to get all Brothers more involved in all aspects of Lodge activities.</p> <p>My passion is for the values of our fraternity: morality, honor, truth, trust, charity, integrity, and Brotherly love. I am also interested in improving communications, better scheduling of all events, so they do not conflict with other Lodges in the district, family picnicks with games for all, potluck dinners in our Lodge, a Spring event like May Day and many more. Let's put our heads together to come up with more great ideas.</p> <p>My motto for the year is to guard the West Gate.</p> <p>Great nations and fraternities have risen and fallen due to the actions of their leadership. The results of this year depend on the decisions we make, and the amount of support received from you, the Craft.</p> <p>We Are Freemasons! Some parts of what we do today will carry on for generations to come, small or large, good or bad. So, give us your support and help, so that we all improve together.</p> <p>(continued page 5)</p>	<p>My Brothers,</p> <p>I hope you all had a great Christmas and a happy New Years. I'm truly honored to serve you as the Senior Warden this Masonic Year. I'm looking forward to our year ahead together—we have a lot to accomplish but I'm confident that we will be able to continue to improve our lodge, and more importantly, ourselves as Masons.</p> <p>I have several goals during my term as Senior Warden, perhaps the most paramount of which is establishing a widows' program. As you will all recall, supporting our late brothers' widows is requisite, not optional. Twice a year we will hand-deliver flowers to the bereaved wives of brothers who have passed from this temporal world to that perfect existence. Brothers, it is incumbent upon us to fulfill this duty, and I implore all who can to help deliver flowers throughout the year. I believe this gesture—small as it is—will truly make a difference.</p> <p>As a fraternity, brotherhood and camaraderie are fundamental to our organization. As such, we will start holding brotherhood events throughout the year. Our first event will be a trip to Executive Cigar Lounge at 843 E New Haven Ave, Melbourne, FL. This social event will occur on Saturday, January 24th, 2026, at 4pm. Whether you smoke pipes or cigars—or nothing at all—it is guaranteed to be a great time filled with fellowship and great conversation.</p> <p>I'm looking forward to serving the W:M: and Craft as your S:W:. My brothers, we have an excellent year ahead of us!</p> <p>Fraternally, S:W: Stephen D. Butalla</p>	<p>Brethren,</p> <p>Thank you for accepting me for the position of Junior Warden. I look forward to this year and will do my best to ensure the dinners are tasty and the building is repaired as needed.</p> <p>We have upgraded several filters in the lodge from MERV 1 to MERV 13 and will replace the remaining filters with the same rating as soon as possible. This will ensure the air is clean and free of particles, removing viruses and bacteria as well.</p> <p>Some things take time, and this year, we will start an informal ledger to record items that need repair. This will help us document the need for future repairs or replacement of items as the budget allows.</p> <p>Thank you to Stephen Butalla for completing so many projects and preparing for my tenure as JW. I will pick up some of the ideas or projects where 2025 left off and potentially get approval this year to complete those. I look forward to working with everyone and will try to be flexible to ensure we can have a few lodge workdays as successful as Stephens.</p> <p>Concerning dinner prep, while a preliminary menu for the year has been constructed, new ideas or requests are always welcome. For dinner nights, there will be a box with pens and scraps of paper to write ideas or requests we can bring up to everyone at the next dinner, or if time permits, before the end of the current dinner. An example is if someone wants to see a different beverage or type of dessert, we can conduct a quick, informal "Does everyone think this is good?"</p>

# January 2026

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

Lodge Charity is Brevard Association for the Advancement of the Blind

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 <u>Stated Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30 PM</u> <u>Lodge 7:30 PM</u>	6	7 <u>Open Books Harbor</u> <u>City Lodge</u> <u>6:00 to 9:00 PM</u>	8	9	10 <u>Lodge Breakfast</u> <u>8:00 AM</u>
11	12	13	14 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	15	16	17
18	19 <u>Stated Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge 7:30 PM</u>	20	21 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	22 <u>South Brevard</u> <u>Scottish Rite Club</u> <u>Dinner 6:30 PM</u> <u>Lodge 7:30 PM</u>	23	24
25 <u>Robert Burn's Day</u>	26	27	28 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	29	30	31

### From the East (continued)

There are two Stated Communications: the 5th and the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will have a founders day meeting on the 19th to commemorate the day Melbourne Lodge received its Charter, 132 years ago,

We will have plenty of ties on hand for everyone to wear they may not be 132 years old, maybe from the 1960s, but it will show our support.

New officers training (if needed) on the 14th.

Our Lodge Breakfast is scheduled on the 10th at 8:00am. Please, come out and enjoy P.M. Richard Earls wonderful cooking.

The 2026 Installation of Officers was a great success. A fantastic meal was Catered by Skewers Mediterranean Café with a chocolate sheet cake emblazoned with our Lodge Challenge Coin on top. The coin was designed by our very own Stephen Butalla.

Your Brother,  
W.: M.: Ernie Quick



### From the West (continued)

The Menu:

Drinks will generally be coffee and unsweet tea/sweetened tea

Deserts will change

January 5th

- Fresh-made Chicken Alfredo
- Garlic bread
- Steamed Broccoli

January 19th

- Meat loaf
- Colcannon (mashed potatoes and cabbage)
- Tasty dinner roll

Sincerely,

J.:W.: Jason Rich



### Brothers of Note

Albert Mackey was born in Charleston in 1807. He was a physician, journalist and educator. He attended College of South Carolina (later to become University of South Carolina) in 1832, graduated from the medical department and was appointed in 1838 as demonstrator of anatomy.

In 1844, he devoted himself to writing on a variety of subjects including languages, the Middle Ages, and Freemasonry. This led to his investigation of abstruse symbolism, Cabalistic, and Talmudic research.

His writings on Freemasonry his were prodigious and include:

- A Lexicon of Freemasonry
- Tame True Mystic Tie
- The Ahiman Rezon of South Carolina
- Principles of Masonic Law
- Textbook of Masonic Jurisprudence
- History of Freemasonry in South Carolina
- Manual of the Lodge
- Encyclopedia of Freemasonry
- Masonic Parliamentary Law

