

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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JUNE 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

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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Lodge News

Congratulations to Craig Boettcher
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OPEN BOOKS

NOT MEETING IN JUNE

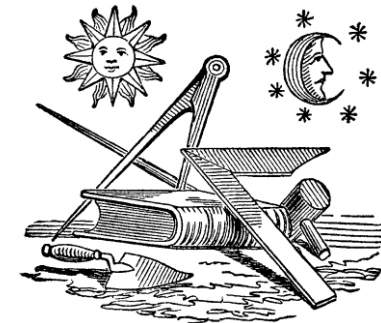
First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM
Harbor City Lodge No. 318, F. & A. M.

- 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

May – 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

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today."

-Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Brethren,

The opening quote comes from one of our famous Masonic Brothers. I would like to believe that it was a key to his successful leadership of our country through dire economic issues and through a devastating world war.

How often must he have had serious doubts about the consequences of many of his decisions, but pressed on knowing any decision was better than none. So should we learn to subdue our doubts, in our Masonic endeavors. Lest we become frozen in a sea of inaction.

May was a busy month at the lodge. Our four new Fellow Crafts are making great progress with their studies and will stand proficient June 2nd. One new Entered Apprentice is making good progress with his studies. We accepted the petitions from two new candidates and one new affiliate.

Additionally, our Dinner and a Movie raffle is still in progress and the winners will be drawn at the June 16th Stated Communication. There will be five drawings for dinner for two at the Estampa Gaucha Brazilian Steakhouse and two movie tickets for any movie playing at the Oaks Theater. I encourage you to buy a ticket and actively endeavor to sell them to your friends and acquaintances. Our raffles support our monthly charity activities.

From the West

Greetings to all our Brothers, family and friends.

Welcome to the month of June. At the end of this month, this year will be half over. Time flies! One of the earliest recorded instances of this idea can be found in the works of the ancient Roman poet Virgil, who wrote in his epic poems "Georics" (29 BCE) the famous line "tempus fugit", which translates to "time flies" or "time flees". This may suggest that we should start preparing for Thanksgiving.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of Florida held their 196th annual Grand Communication on May 26th through May 28th. Our very own Craig Boettcher P.R.H.D.I. was installed as District 17s R.W.D.G.M. Also, Matt Green P.D.D.G.M. was installed as District 17s R.H.D.I. Thank you both for all you have done to improve masonry in our district. I am sure we will have many changes that will improve our District for years to come.

We have three Fellow Craft standing their proficiency on Monday June 1st, and their Master Mason degree will be on June 14th. I encourage all Brothers to come to our practices and take part in the ceremony.

Our Lodge will not have any regular meetings after the first Monday in June until the first Monday meeting in September.

Happy Vacations to All! See you in September

Ernie Quick
Senior Warden

From the South

Brothers,

It is hard to believe we have already made it to the month of June. This past month we had the Grand Communications which is always a great experience; if you haven't had the chance to attend please consider going next year! I would also like to congratulate R.:W.: Craig Boettcher on his appointment to DDGM of the 17th Masonic District, as well as thank him for the appointment to the Chairman of the Let Your Pennies Make Good Sense Committee. It is an honor and privilege to serve the district in this capacity.

As we transition to the summer months, we are continuing to bring the highest quality refreshments for the Stated Communications in June:

Monday, June 2nd: Gourmet Hotdogs

- Fancy chili dog: All beef dog, homemade chili, cheese, green onion, Za'atar spice, pretzel bun
- Frito pie chili dog: All beef dog, homemade chili, cheese, onion, ranch, Fritos, potato bun
- Regular chili dog: All beef dog, homemade chili, cheese, onion, potato bun
- Plain ol' dog: All beef dog, mustard, onion, ketchup, relish, potato bun
- Potato salad: Homemade with hard-boiled, eggs, mayo, mustard, pickles, smoked paprika, green onion, sumac
- Esquites: Mexican street corn: mayo, cotija cheese, lime, cilantro, jalapeño

(continued page 5)

June 2025

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <u>Stated Communication Dinner 6:30PM Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u>	3	4	5 <u>Grounds Committee 6:30pm</u>	6	7 <u>Masters & Wardens Breakfast 8:00AM Meeting 9am – 10AM Canaveral Lodge</u>
8	9 <u>Dinner Skewers Grill 144 5th Ave. Indialantic 6:30 PM</u>	10	11 <u>Ritual Practice at Melbourne Lodge 6:30PM</u>	12	13	14 <u>Master Mason Degree 6:30 PM</u>
15	16 <u>Stated Communication Dinner 6:30PM Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u>	17	18 <u>Ritual Practice at Melbourne Lodge 6:30PM</u>	19	20	21 <u>Lodge Workday 8:00 AM</u>
21	22	23	24 <u>Ritual Practice at Melbourne Lodge 6:30PM</u>	25	26	27
28	29	30				

From the East (continued)

Our May Family Night was held at Ciao's Italian Restaurant; attendees found a lot to like on the menu. The June Family Night will be held at Skewers Mediterranean Grill, 144 5th Ave Indialantic, June 9th at 6:30 PM.

We continue to hold our Wednesday degree practices and monthly open books participation. We are currently preparing for a Master Mason Degree. 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

Masonic Esoterica

Brethren, let us reflect upon a profound observation regarding our earthly home. The ancient wisdom, echoed through the ages, often personified the very ground beneath our feet as a benevolent mother. Unlike the tempestuous waters that "deluge him with rain, oppress him with hail, and drown him with inundations," or the "air [that] rushes in storms, prepares the tempest, and lights up the volcano," the Earth alone is portrayed as "ever kind and indulgent" (Macoy 1867, 36) Indeed, the mention of the volcano, a potent manifestation of Fire, completes the classical quartet alongside Air and Water, all of which are presented as less

Masonic Esoterica (continued)

consistently benevolent than our steadfast Earth.

This perspective, rooted in the classical understanding of the elements, highlights the Earth's unwavering support. Though constantly tilled and transformed, it consistently yields, providing not only necessities but also the very "luxuries" of life. It spreads our path with flowers and our table with plenty, even supplying the antidote where poison might grow. This generous spirit, returning "with interest, every good committed to her care," speaks to a fundamental principle of reciprocity within nature (Macoy 1867, 37).

The lecture culminates in a poignant biblical allusion, reminding us that when we are called to pass through the "dark valley of the shadow of Death," (Psalm 23:4) the Earth "once more receives him, and piously covers his remains within her bosom" (Macoy, 1867, p. 37). This timeless truth, resonating from Psalm 23, underscores our intrinsic connection to the soil from which we came and to which we must inevitably return.

Such reflections on the Earth's enduring kindness and its final embrace serve as a powerful admonition. They invite us to contemplate our place in the grand design, fostering humility, gratitude, and a deeper appreciation for the constant, silent support of the ground we tread. Let us carry this lesson into our daily lives, striving to emulate the Earth's steadfast generosity and quiet strength.

Macoy, Robert. 1867.
Respectfully

From the South (continued)

Monday, June 16th

- Greek lemon garlic chicken:
- Mediterranean roasted potatoes
- Greek vegetable salad
- Flatbread
- Tzatziki
- Hummus

Below I list some important dates scheduled for the month of June:

- **Trip to FC degree at Sebastian Lodge:** Tuesday, June 10th at 6:30pm
- **Master Mason Degree:** Saturday, June 14th, 2025 at 6:30pm
- **Grounds Committee:** Thursday, June 19th, 2025 at 6:30pm

I look forward to seeing you all there!

Fraternally,

Stephen D. Butalla, J:W:

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.