

Bulletin
May,
2023

ST. JOHN'S LODGE No.11
Free And Accepted Masons
Oldest Continually Operating Unmerged Lodge in DC

Chartered
February,
1846

➤ Trestleboard ⇐

Friday, May 5th, 2023

6:30

LODGE FELLOWSHIP/MEAL

Family, Friends, Candidates
and Prospects Welcome

7:30

STATED COMMUNICATION

GOING FORWARD
ALL LODGE EVENTS
WILL BE HELD AT:

Almas Shrine Temple
1315 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20005

ALMAS SHRINE PARKING

Garage parking is available onsite at the Temple, and it's only \$3 for the entire evening.

The entrance to the garage can be found on 13th St, just south of the DCFD Engine 16 Fire Station.

To access the Lodge elevator lobby through the garage, continue down to level P3. Look for the reserved parking spaces for Almas Shrine.

The door to enter the building is just to the right of the reserved spaces—press the button on the callbox next to the door for admittance.

AILING BRETHREN

Please keep all our brethren in prayer for good health, good spirits and the continued manifold blessings of the Great Architect of the Universe.

"Be not slow to visit the sick: for that shall make thee to be beloved." (cont.)

➤ Stated Communication ⇐

Important Note: Change of Location

Please note that our Lodge has relocated, and moving forward all meetings will be held at the Almas Shrine Temple. Please reference the Trestleboard section of the Bulletin for address and parking details.

➤ From the East ⇐

Brethren,

A bit of good news to start. Our Lodge has elected to bestow an honorary membership on Most Worshipful Brother Alan L. Gordon, P.G.M., and grant reaffiliation to Brother Thomas Zekoski. Please join me in welcoming them (back) to our ranks. I very much look forward to having both in attendance.

Next, a bit of business. As many know, we are in the Non-Payment of Dues (N.P.D.) season, and many Brethren have indicated that they have occasionally struggled with paying dues. As a reminder to everyone, we have several relief options should you find yourself in hardship. At any time, you should feel free to reach out to any of the Pillar Officers or W.B. Secretary if you need support in navigating a relief request.

Also many of you are aware, as of late, several decisions that have come from the Most Worshipful Grand Master (M.W.G.M.). Without context, these may seem arbitrary, petty, or unnecessary, but I can assure you that, in each of these instances, issuing a decision was the absolute last resort. The M.W.G.M., in every example, attempted to whisper good counsel, engage with the Brethren, plead his case, and was repeatedly met with pushback and/or ridicule. Behavior such as this is completely un-Masonic. The M.W.G.M., by code, has every right to immediately suspend a Brother for these actions, yet he found humility and tried to work through the resistance to find common ground, only to be disrespected again.

I know that for many of us, we are still dealing with the trauma caused by the frustration of feeling helpless to prevent the events of last year from crumbling the foundation of our jurisdiction, but lashing out in response is not the way to solve our problems. We are taught, as Masons, to learn to subdue our passions, and this is a life-long process that will require challenges that push you to your limits. I implore each of you to remember the teachings of the Craft and always approach a new test with the knowledge that you are a Master Mason and therefore know how to conduct yourself as such.

(cont.)

➤ **Trestleboard** ◀

(continued)

Brothers Please Remember, if any member knows of another Brother who is Sick or Confined, please inform Worshipful Master **James 'Jamie' M. Hall** at 443-844-1804, Senior Warden **Michael T. Arce** at 240-821-4530, or Junior Warden **Stephen M. Motroni** at 916-847-2707.

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

MAY

Bro Michael Thomas Arce 8 yrs
 Bro A. Reid Howard, Jr 41 yrs
 MWB Jeffrey D. Russell, PGM 24 yrs

“On behalf of the officers and brothers of St John’s Lodge No. 11, I would like to thank you for your Fraternal service and wish you many more years of Fellowship and Fraternity.”

- James “Jamie” M. Hall, WM

STATED COMMUNICATIONS

7:30 PM First Friday (Except July)

Almas Shrine Temple
 1315 K Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20005

Lodge Social Media
www.stjohnslodgedc.org
facebook.com/stjohns11dc

Grand Lodge Web Site
www.dcgrandlodge.org



➤ **From the East, cont.** ◀

I am a big proponent of transparency, and I applaud the M.W.G.M. for having an open-door policy. So, taking his cue, if at any point, you feel that you need more context to any decision coming from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, myself, or anything happening in our jurisdiction, know that I am here to talk.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

WB James M. Hall
 Worshipful Master

➤ **From the West** ◀

Brethren,

Please accept my regrets for not attending our April Stated Communication. I was fortunate to enjoy the company of my two children who, as fate would have it, were both on Spring Break during the week leading up to the Easter Holiday.

I look forward to seeing you, business and health permitting, at our May Stated Communication!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Bro. Michael Arce
 Senior Warden

➤ **From the South** ◀

Brethren,

We have concluded another successful Stated Communication, and the turnout was stronger than I had anticipated. I personally want to thank all the brothers who attended. With the close of April, we are a third of the way through another year. I, for one, am very excited for the remainder of Worshipful Brother Hall’s year. I know he has a lot of exciting plans for all of us. That being said, I implore you all to attend the lodge.

We still are holding our weekly Discord fellowship discussions every Thursday night at 8:00 PM. I hope that many of you who are unable to attend Lodge can find the time to join our fellowship at these sessions instead. Even the Brethren who have moved away are welcome to attend. If you have not joined yet and wish to, please reach out to me and I will grant you access. All Brothers are welcome!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

WB Stephen M. Motroni, PM
 Junior Warden

From the Secretary's Desk

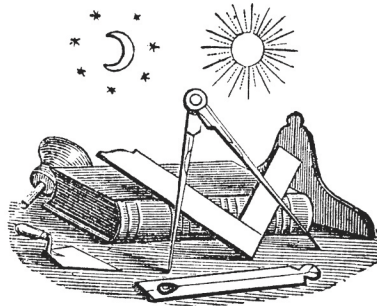
Greetings Brethren,

As a reminder, I will not be in Lodge in May. I hope all of you have a great two months and, in June, I'll get back to pestering you about keeping Grandview up to date and before you know it, your 2024 dues.

Please take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

Fraternally,

Anand A. Trivedi P.M.
Secretary



➤ The Chaplin's Corner ◀

Brothers,

As we reflect on the natural beauty around us, we are reminded of the responsibility that we must protect and preserve it. By practicing sustainability and taking steps to reduce our impact on the environment, we can work toward creating a more sustainable future for ourselves and those around us.

In Masonry, we are called to be builders, and that includes building a better world. By working together toward a common goal, we can make a positive impact in our communities and in the world around us.

I encourage each of you to reflect on how you can be a better steward of the earth and to take action toward creating a more sustainable future. Together, we can make a difference and create a better world for all.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Bro. Benjamin Watts
Chaplin



WORSHIPFUL MASTER

James 'Jamie' M. Hall 1025 First St SE, Unit 1116, Washington, DC 20003
g7accord@gmail.com 443.844.1804

SENIOR WARDEN

Michael T. Arce 7413 Farnum St, Springfield, VA 22151
michael.arce@me.com 240-821-4530

SECRETARY

Anand A. Trivedi, PM 1317 Kennedy St NW, Washington, DC 20011
anand@stjohnslodgedc.org 202.253.0528

SENIOR DEACON

Tommy Ripke 1504 N Potomac St, Arlington, VA 22205
tommyripke@yahoo.com 202.468.2883

SENIOR STEWARD

Michael J. Lampart 3104 Trenholm Dr, Oakton, VA 22124
mlampart@me.com 703.586.8969

MARSHALL

Wesley Yurgaites 6100A Essex House Sq, Alexandria, VA 22310
yurgaiteswm@gmail.com 202.706.1355

TILER

Sam Chin, PM 7008 Rhythm Rock Way, Columbia, MD 21044
sam.w.chin@gmail.com 240.604.6364

JUNIOR WARDEN

Stephen M. Motroni 7801 Claggett Landing Rd, Upper Marlboro, MD, 20774 smotroni@gmail.com 916.847.2707

TREASURER

Karl F. Gruel, Jr. PM 4616 Morningwood Dr, Olney, MD 20832
gruel215@yahoo.com 301.570.0108

JUNIOR DEACON

David de Hosson 10428 Breckinridge Ln, Fairfax, VA 22030
david.dehossong@gmail.com 703.732.1163

JUNIOR STEWARD

Kerry P. Patin 2000 S. Eads St, Arlington, VA 22202
kerrypatin@gmail.com 225.505.6075

CHAPLIN

Benjamin J. Watts 11906 Fallen Holly Ct, Great Falls, VA 22006
benwatts@outlook.com 703.919.8302

➤ Trustees ➤

D. Scott Heath (2023)
Jason Lee (2024)
Tommy Ripke (2025)



➤ Living Past Masters ➤

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Franchot E. White | 1978 |
| John C. Regner | 1985** |
| Nelson L. Fink | 1986 - 1987 |
| Charles W. Riley | 1988 |
| Karl F. Gruel, Jr. | 1994 - 1995 |
| Chip K. Mahaney, RWB (Hon.) | 1995*, 2005*, 2015* |
| Akram R. Elias, PGM (Hon.) | 1999*, 2001*, 2003 - 2004* |
| Teko Foly, PGM (Hon.) | 2002 - 2003*, 2014* |
| Robert E. Johnson | 2002, 2004*, 2008- 2010 |
| Joseph Crociata, PGM (Hon.) | 2003*, 2015*, 2016* |
| David Han, RWB (Hon.) | 2005*, 2010* |
| Jeffery D. Russell, PGM (Hon.) | 2006*, 2013* |
| Michael D Nicholas, PGM (Hon.) | 2009*, 2010*, 2020* |
| Michael J. Gambale Jr. | 2011 |
| Justin T. Russell | 2012 |
| Geoffrey Newman | 2012 - 2014*, 2019-2020* |
| Harry Trapp, Jr. | 2013 |
| Anand A. Trivedi | 2014 |
| D.W. Stephenson | 2015 |
| James Parkhurst | 2017 |
| Sam Chin | 2018 |
| Sean Parkhurst | 2019 |
| Jason Lee | 2020, 2021 |
| Stephen M. Motroni | 2022 |

➤ Honorary Members ➤

MWB Teko Foly, PGM
MWB Joseph S. Crociata, PGM
MWB Akram R. Elias, PGM
RWB Christopher K. Mahaney, PM
RWB David Han, PM
MWB Michael D. Nicholas, PGM
MWB Jeffrey D. Russell, PGM

* indicates Master at another lodge

** indicates made Honorary PM of St. John's No. 11