

Bulletin
September,
2023

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

Chartered
February,
1846

➤ Trestleboard ◀

Friday, September 1st, 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 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.

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."

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. (cont.)

➤ From the East ◀

Brethren,

A huge thank you to all who attended our August Stated! I was humbled to have so many long-time no-seers in our Lodge and enjoying the fellowship of our ice cream social. We had the added post-Lodge pleasure of enjoying Bro. Tommy Ripke's performance a block away at Lima Twist, where he was a guest DJ for the evening and showed us just how talented he is with his music craft.

In September, I plan to discuss ways that we fund our Lodge activities, business, and fellowship going forward. You are all very familiar with, I'm sure, W.B. Treasurer's most common phrase when giving his report that "we have money; we need more." I intend to address this financial stressor and set our Lodge on a path towards growth and operational efficiency for all our Officers and Brethren by use of the Gowans fund. After consultation with Bro. Paul Elliott - our financial adviser, Bros. Senior Warden and Junior Warden, Bro. Heath - for the Trustees' perspective, and Worshipful Bros. Secretary and Treasurer, I believe that we are provisioned to utilize the fund in a manner that would allow the Lodge to budget each year with a percentage of the annualized interest the fund earns without touching the principal amount, ensuring that the Gowans Fund continues to grow, we have an anticipated operational budget for planning each year, and a process exists that reduces the current barriers in planning and operating the Lodge.

The language governing the use of the Gowans Fund is: "This fund was established because of a bequeath to St. John's Lodge No. 11 from Marvin and Vernell Gowans. The interest of this fund may be used for general Lodge operations and donations. These include, but may not be limited to, special events to promote fellowship and camaraderie for the benefit of the Lodge members (e.g., Family Appreciation, Ladies' Appreciation, etc.), entertainment at Lodge or special events, donations to organizations (e.g., Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls, Masonic Service Association, etc.), Grand Lodge dues and assessments, Lodge officer salaries, and Masonic paraphernalia (e.g., aprons, degree items, etc.). Lodge approval is required to transfer funds from this fund to the checking account. As stated previously, only the interest of this fund will be used - the principle of this fund will not be used without modification to these by-laws. These funds will not be used for events that occur on a regular basis, such as Lodge Brothers breakfasts or any other event that occurs on a regularly scheduled basis."

My proposal to the Lodge is this: starting in September of each year, the Trustees issue a report to the Financial Committee and the Pillar officers that includes the average percentage of interest earned on the Gowans fund from September of the previous year to August 31st of the current year. The Financial Committee will then supply the maximum operational budget to the Pillar officers by reducing the percentage in the Trustees' ... (cont.)

➤ Trestleboard ⇐

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS SEPTEMBER

Anand A. Trivedi, PM 14 yrs
Akanni Oyegbola 9 yrs

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Theodore Arthur Sept 6th
Ryan Martin Sept 6th
David Bibo, Jr Sept 10th
D.W. Stephenson, PM Sept 11th
George Ellis Sept 17th
A. Reid Howard, Jr. Sept 20th
Brian Burgess Sept 24th

“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. ⇐

...report by 2%, creating a buffer of financial growth. For example, if the average interest earned on the Gowans Fund during a period is 6%, then the maximum operational budget would be 4% of the total balance in the account as of August 31st of the current year, and the remaining 2% earned would then be reinvested into the account.

Using the maximum operational budget supplied by the Financial Committee, the incumbent Worshipful Master will then craft their proposed budget for the following year by clearly identifying all line items that utilize Gowans funds vs general funds. The follow-through in this process is to utilize our current procedures, in that the incumbent Worshipful Master will then supply the proposed budget to the Financial Committee for review and approval before submitting it to the Lodge for voting. Once approved by both the Financial Committee and the Brethren of the Lodge, the Trustees can move money from the appropriate accounts into our checking account at the start of the following year. This approach guarantees financial stability with our operations, growth through investment in our craft, and transparency to the Brethren.

It is vitally important that we have an many of you in Lodge in September as possible to discuss the above proposal. We need to define the boundaries on what we consider acceptable expenses for use of the Gowans Fund and codify this process. I'm vested in making this proposal work for our Lodge, and encourage anyone with input, who may not be able to attend, to reach out with suggested modifications, improvements, or thoughts.

I look forward to seeing you all September 1st.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

WB James M. Hall
Worshipful Master

➤ From the West ⇐

Brethren,

As scripture proclaims, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

My Brothers, it was such a joy to greet you, your wives, partners, and family members at our August Stated Communication. I enjoyed the pizza and ice cream along with the Brotherhood and Fellowship. There is a deep personal value in the opportunity to meet the people who are important in your life, and an honor for you to share some time for us to connect. A reminder, we will have an additional “family and friends event” during our September Stated Communication (9/1), as we host our first Masonic Movie Bingo Night, featuring the movie “National Treasure.” We will have food, popcorn, and PRIZES as we follow Nicholas Cage (as Benjamin Franklin Gates) on his treasure adventure, interlaced with some real history stories.

I hope to see you again real soon!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Bro. Michael Arce
Senior Warden

Brethren,

In the heart of Freemasonry lies a simple yet profound truth: attending Lodge matters. It's more than a routine; it's a commitment to our principles and shared growth. When we gather, we strengthen the bonds that unite us, ignite the flame of tradition, and deepen our understanding of our Craft.

Each meeting is a chance to reinforce our dedication, share knowledge, and renew our fraternal ties. Your presence is more than attendance – it's an affirmation of our enduring journey.

I hope to see you all in Lodge.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

WB Stephen M. Motroni, PM
Junior Warden



From the Secretary's Desk

Greetings Brethren,

Please recall that member dues are due on the 1st of October each year without notice. Do reach out to me or the Master if you have difficulties. Below is the dues structure for the ensuing Masonic year.

<u>DATE RAISED</u>	<u>2023 DUES</u>
Raised In or After 2010	\$149.50
Raised Before 2010	\$ 64.50

Please log on to **Grandview** (<https://dc.gvsoftware.com>) and make sure your contact info is correct. Specifically, your home address and email address.

There, you will also see your current dues balance. This will reflect your dues for the ensuing year. Some of you are going into this year with a positive balance and some with a negative balance. To that end, your dues owed will be reflected in Grandview. I will be reaching out to you if you owe more than the amount listed above.

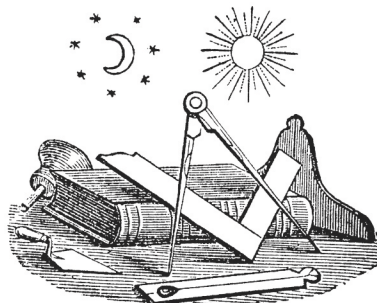
If you are sending dues by check, you can mail your check or money order to the following address:

St. John's Lodge No. 11
% Brother Secretary
1317 Kennedy Street, NW
Washington, DC, 20011

You can now pay at the **St. John's Lodge webpage** (<http://store.stjohnslodgedc.org>). Please add the appropriate item to your cart. Be aware that there is a small convenience fee attached to paying online.

Please take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly,
Fraternally,

Anand A. Trivedi P.M.
Secretary



Brothers,

As September arrives, we find ourselves at the threshold of autumn, a season of change and transformation. Just as the leaves transition into vibrant hues, we, too, can use this time to reflect on our own personal growth and evolution.

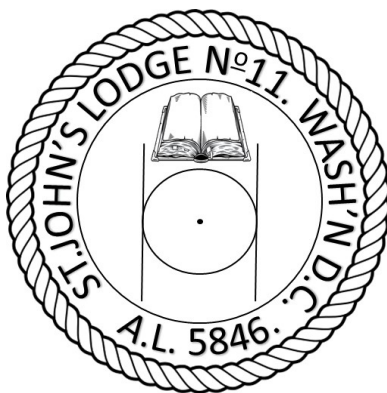
As the days become shorter and the nights longer, let us take the time to illuminate our minds with new insights and perspectives. Engage in meaningful conversations with your fellow brethren, explore new areas of learning, and deepen your understanding of our Masonic principles.

This September let us renew our commitment to personal growth and enlightenment. Let us embrace the changes that come our way with open hearts and open minds and let us continue to work together in unity and brotherhood to create a better world for ourselves and for future generations.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Bro. Benjamin Watts

Chaplin



WORSHIPFUL MASTER

James 'Jamie' M. Hall g7accord@gmail.com 443.844.1804

SENIOR WARDEN

Michael T. Arce PM michael.arce@me.com 240-821-4530

SECRETARY

Anand A. Trivedi, PM anand@stjohnslodgec.org 202.253.0528

SENIOR DEACON

Tommy Ripke tommyripke@yahoo.com 202.468.2883

SENIOR STEWARD

Michael J. Lampart mlampart@me.com 703.586.8969

MARSHALL

Wesley Yurgaites yurgaiteswm@gmail.com 202.706.1355

TILER

Sam Chin, PM sam.w.chin@gmail.com 240.604.6364

JUNIOR WARDEN

Stephen M. Motroni PM smotroni@gmail.com 916.847.2707

TREASURER

Karl F. Gruel, Jr. PM gruel215@yahoo.com 301.570.0108

JUNIOR DEACON

David de Hosson david.dehosson@gmail.com 703.732.1163

JUNIOR STEWARD

Kerry P. Patin kerrypatin@gmail.com 225-505-6075

CHAPLIN

Benjamin J. Watts benwatts@outlook.com 703-919-8302

↔ Trustees ↔

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



↔ 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
MWB Alan L. Gordon, PGM

↔ Living Past Masters ↔

Franchot E. White	1978
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

* indicates Master at another lodge

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