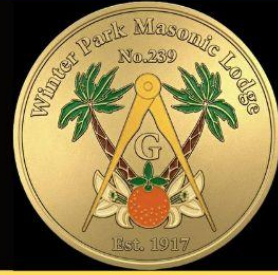




# Winter Park Lodge No. 239



## April 2026

The Trestle Board is your monthly newsletter brought to you by the Brothers of Winter Park Lodge No. 239. Stated Communications are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month. Refreshment at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. 1495 Grand Road, Winter Park, Florida 32789. Phone 407-679-6800 for more information.

My Brothers,

March was truly a month dedicated to our Masonic Youth and left a meaningful mark on the progress of our Lodge this year. We were pleased to confer a successful Entered Apprentice Degree and to welcome the Rainbow Girls of Hope Assembly No. 82, who joined us in fellowship and treated the brethren to delicious Venezuelan arepas. Moments like these remind us that the strength of our fraternity is found not only in our ritual work, but also in the bonds we build through shared experiences and fellowship.

Another encouraging sign of our Lodge's activity is that the Traveling Cup continues to reside with Winter Park Lodge No. 239. This reflects the dedication of our brethren who travel, support neighboring lodges, and proudly represent our Lodge throughout the district.

April brings continued work in the quarries. On **April 9**, we will confer an **Entered Apprentice Degree**, followed by a **Fellowcraft Degree on April 21**. I encourage all brethren who can attend and support our candidates and degree teams. Each degree we confer strengthens our Lodge and helps shape the future of our Craft.

On **April 18**, we will host a morning **Open House at 9:00 AM**, designed especially for our Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, and newly raised Master Masons who wish to deepen their understanding of Masonry. These discussions often provide valuable insight into the meaning and purpose behind our traditions and offer an opportunity for learning and mentorship among brethren.

Immediately following the Open House, at **11:00 AM**, we will host our **Spring Fellowship Cookout**. This gathering is open not only to our Lodge and families, but to the entire **16th Masonic District**, along with our extended Masonic family including the Order of the Eastern Star, DeMolay, and Rainbow Girls. The Lodge will provide burgers, hot dogs, and drinks, and brethren are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert to share as we enjoy fellowship together.

To help us plan accordingly, please **RSVP with the Secretary no later than April 10**.

The work continues, our fellowship grows, and the bonds between us are strengthened with every meeting, degree, and gathering. I look forward to seeing each of you throughout the month as we continue to labor together in harmony.

Fraternally and Sincerely,  
**Juan Carrero**  
Worshipful Master  
Winter Park Lodge No. 239



### Inside this issue

Page 2—Senior Warden

Page 3—Junior Warden

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Page 7—Building Committee

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Page 9-10—Celebrations

Page 11—Charity of the Quarter

Page 12—District Information

Page 13—Lodge Calendar

Page 14— Past Masters

Page 15— Food Drive

Page 16— Masonic Education

Page 17— Photos

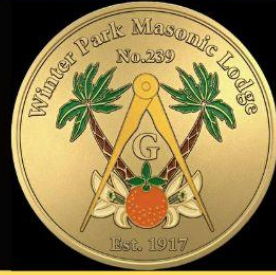
Page 18—New GL Member Portal

Page 19—Event Flyers



# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
Page 2

Brethren,

I hope this month's trestle board article finds you well. The first quarter of the year is already over and as many things as we've already done there's so much more to come

Whether you enjoy witnessing the beauty of Masonic ritual, diving into thought-provoking discussions, or simply having fun with your brothers, this month offers something for everyone.

We kick things off with an **Enter Apprentice Degree on April 9th**, a meaningful evening where we'll support our brothers as they take another step in their Masonic journey. Also, we have a **Fellow Craft degree coming up on April 21st** so make sure to come and support the EA's moving forward and the Degree teams.

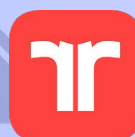
For those seeking light through education, **Open Books on April 25th** offers the perfect chance to deepen your knowledge of Masonic ritual and get those questions answered. With so many opportunities from different respects, there's no shortage of ways to be involved.

**St. John's Day is on June 27th** and will be here before you know it. Make sure to plan on attending to witness the newly installed Grand Junior Warden as we "assist" him on his journey to the Grand East. As in the past, we have again teamed up with the Second Harvest food bank to help provide meals to feed hungry kids in central Florida, we are selling the **newly created St. John's Day coins for \$20**. You do not just have to buy a coin to support this worthy cause, but it would be cooler if you did! This is a charitable aspect that Worshipful Chris Chag added to St. John's Day and we need to continue to support this.

Look well to the West, my brothers—April is shaping up to be another incredible month, and I look forward to sharing it with you all.

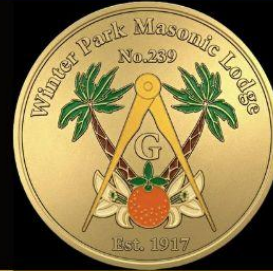
Fraternally,

**Bro. Marc M. Spittler**  
**Senior Warden**





# Winter Park Lodge No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
Page 3

Greetings from the South, My Brothers,

From the South, where refreshment renews our strength, I offer greetings as spring begins to unfold around us.

April has a way of reminding us why these moments matter. The days grow longer, the air grows lighter, and there is a natural invitation to slow down just enough to gather together. While providing meals is the charge of the Junior Warden, the true work of the South has always been fellowship. Food simply gives us reason to sit, stay, and remember that our labor—and our lives—are shared.

This month, I'll continue doing my best to bring variety, comfort, and something worth arriving early for. More important than what's on the menu, though, is who's seated at the table. Some of the best moments in Lodge don't happen during ritual, but over a meal and an unhurried conversation, and I hope we continue to make room for those moments.

Families and guests are always welcome when circumstances permit. A shared table filled with familiar voices and easy laughter strengthens bonds in ways no agenda ever could.

**A reminder to the Brethren:**

Open Books is held every **fourth Saturday of the month** (unless otherwise noted), followed by the **District School of Instruction**. Breakfast is cooked **to order beginning at 8:00 AM**, followed by lunch with the School of Instruction. The menu includes eggs, bacon, sausage, hashbrowns, and pancakes made from scratch. Come hungry—and stay for the light of instruction that follows.

As we move into the heart of spring, I'll leave you with words from our Brother Robert Burns, written for his Lodge at Tarbolton, which capture well the spirit of fellowship we share:

*“May Freedom, Harmony, and Love  
Unite you in the Grand Design,  
Beneath th' Omniscience of Above,  
The glorious Architect Divine;  
That you may keep th' Unerring Line,  
Still guided by the plummet's law,  
Till Order bright completely shine,  
And all her human sons agree.”*

I look forward to seeing you soon—around the table and in the Lodge.

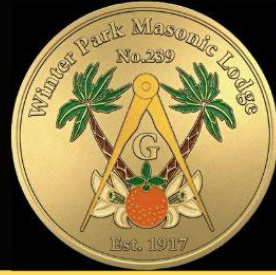
**Fraternally,**  
**Eric Hudson LeGrow**  
**Junior Warden**





# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
Page 4

My Brothers,

I want to thank the Brothers of Winter Park Masonic Lodge No. 239 for electing me as Treasurer for a fourth year. It is an honor and privilege to serve the Craft. I look forward to another great year and continuing to serve. If we have not met, I will make every effort to meet you.

The goals for the month of April is:

1. Finalize the 2025 990 Tax Filing.
2. Provide the 2025 990 Tax Return confirmation to the Grand Lodge.
3. Begin working on our annual filing with the Department of Agriculture.
4. Continue working on the next steps of finding a financial institution to help manage our two investments accounts.

If you have any questions associated with the lodge financials, please contact me at [treasurer@winterparklodge.org](mailto:treasurer@winterparklodge.org).

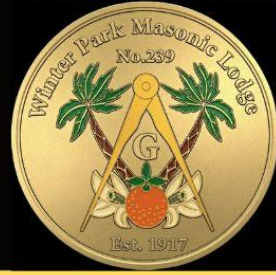
**Fraternaly,**  
**Greg Seavers, PM**  
**Treasurer**  
**(407) 375-6243**





# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
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We've made it through the first quarter of 2026. Spring is in the air, the birds are singing. Spring is the time of renewal. It's also the time when I remind you that if you have not yet paid your 2026 Dues, now is the time. According to my records, we still have just over 40 Brothers who are not yet current. If you are one of those Brothers and need assistance paying your dues, please reach out to the Worshipful Master or myself before the delinquency notices are mailed out in June.

With our participation in the Grand Lodge Marketing Reimbursement Program, in a very short time, we've developed 50 prospects for membership. Most of these will not become members, but even a small percentage is significant. It is important that when someone desires to join our Lodge, we do not rush them to membership. Not every man is a fit for our Fraternity. Also, not every man that is fit to be a member of our Fraternity is a good fit for our Lodge. It is important to make sure that a petitioner is not only going to make a good Mason but will also be a happy and productive member of our Lodge.

We will be holding our first Open House later this month on the 18th. This will be a good opportunity for us to exemplify the qualities we expect in prospective members of our Lodge. If you join us that day, please make every effort to introduce yourself to any of the guests you see. This goes for any time you are at the Lodge. We should always offer a warm greeting to any guest, whether they are a visiting Brother or a prospective member. When we are outside the Lodge, we need to remember that the ring, hat, t-shirt, or sticker on our car identifies us to the world as a Mason. What impression are we making on those that no nothing about our Fraternity or only what they see represented on television or in movies? Do our actions and our language bring honor or discredit to our Fraternity? Something to consider.

Finally, my Brothers, as was mentioned at our last meeting in March, the annual Grand Communication is coming up soon on Memorial Day weekend. I will be submitting the pre-registration form to Grand Lodge after our second stated communication this month since they need it before the 30th. If you would like to pre-register, **please email me** and include your full name, member number, and if you are a Perpetual member no later than our second meeting this month. I would suggest picking up your registration packet on Sunday to avoid the crowds trying to register Monday morning. Make sure you have your 2026 Dues card on you when you go to pick up your registration packet. You will be required to show it before receiving your packet.



**Fraternally,**  
**John Halter, PM**  
**Secretary**



# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



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Pay your dues here

<https://winterparklodge.org/pay-your-dues/>

Has your contact information changed? New address? New phone?  
Email [secretary@winterparklodge.org](mailto:secretary@winterparklodge.org) so we can keep your records up to date

## Attentive Ears & Instructive Tongues

### Petitions Received

### Entered Apprentice

Robert Patton  
James McCord  
Aaron Thude  
Nicholas Oliveira  
Davide M Bisso  
Garrett D Marlowe

### Fellow Craft

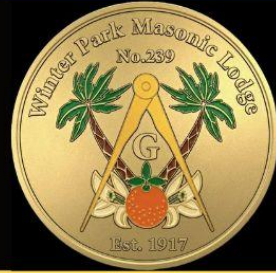
### Master Mason

Hector Diaz II  
Ellison Riley



# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
Page 7

My Brothers,



I am honored to be appointed for the second year as the Chairman of the Lodge Property Committee.

If you have been inside the lodge lobby, you may have noticed the newly installed water fountain. The water fountain is a standard filtered fountain as well as a bottle filling station. I want to sincerely thank W. M. Juan Carrero and Bro. Gabor Andrasi for volunteering their time to install the water fountain. By this selfless action, these Brothers saved us over \$1,800. Thanks my Brothers!

As you may have noticed, the brightness in the parking lot at night when you exit the lodge. We have had the LED lights replaced on the two light poles. Along with that effort, we had a new photocell installed that will turn the lights on and off automatically. This was a safety issue we had to take care of. You now may need to wear your sunglasses.

In March, we finalized the usage agreement with the Scottish Rite.

I would like to continue to thank all Brothers and Appended bodies for utilizing the Building Committee e-mail for requesting the lodge for use, as well as bringing any facility issues to our attention. This helps with documenting any request and supports what we put onto the lodge calendar. I continue to request all Brothers and Appended Bodies to use the email address and not request lodge usage via phone call or text. Reminder that for Building Usage requests, the Building Committee respectfully requests a 30-45 days advance notice.

The address for the building committee is [building239@winterparklodge.org](mailto:building239@winterparklodge.org)

We have completed the lodge calendar for 2026 and is updated accordingly on the lodge website calendar. If you have any requests for dates, please contact me via the above e-mail address.

We have several goals for the month of April.

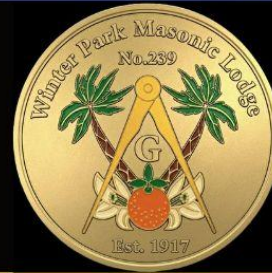
- o Finalize our agreement with Action Church.
- o Finalize drafting the updates to our agreement with LOS. This is formality and to ensure that the agreements stay up to date.
- o Begin additional repairs on our Lodge Air Conditioning.

If you have any questions or would like to support these goals, please reach out to me.

If you have any questions associated with the lodge building, please contact me at [building239@winterparklodge.org](mailto:building239@winterparklodge.org).

In the event of an emergency, please call or text my cell phone at (407) 375-6243.

**Fraternally,**  
**Greg Seavers, PM**  
**Chairman, Building Committee**  
**(407) 375-6243**



## Your 2026 Officers

**Worshipful Master:** Juan Carrero (Mariana)  
321.444.0667 [juancarrero123@gmail.com](mailto:juancarrero123@gmail.com)

**Junior Deacon:** Brandon Fornea (Kim)  
[brandonfornea@gmail.com](mailto:brandonfornea@gmail.com)

**Senior Warden:** Marc Spittler (Erin)  
407.803.3286 [fenian117@gmail.com](mailto:fenian117@gmail.com)

**Chaplain:** Raymond Brunkow (Tracy)  
404-734-1219

**Junior Warden:** Eric LeGrow (Patricia)  
954.683.2582 [ericlegrow@hotmail.com](mailto:ericlegrow@hotmail.com)

**Musician:** Mike Seeley (Nancie)  
407.461.1770 [mike102400@aol.com](mailto:mike102400@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Greg Seavers, PM (Victoria)  
407.375.6243 [treasurer@winterparklodge.org](mailto:treasurer@winterparklodge.org)

**Senior Steward:** Tyler Mitchell  
561.240.253 [tyler.mitchell1224@gmail.com](mailto:tyler.mitchell1224@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** John Halter, PM (Dawn)  
321.345.0331 [secretary@winterparklodge.org](mailto:secretary@winterparklodge.org)

**Junior Steward:** Gabor Andrasi (Yasemin)  
678.983.1805 [gabor.andrasi@icloud.com](mailto:gabor.andrasi@icloud.com)

**Senior Deacon:** Joshua Williams (Valinda)  
[joshuawilliams3152@yahoo.com](mailto:joshuawilliams3152@yahoo.com)

**Marshall:** Randall Safier, PM (Sara)  
586.943.0605 [rmsafier@live.com](mailto:rmsafier@live.com)

**Tyler:** Brian Smith (Diane)  
321.229.8553 [aggie74@mpinet.net](mailto:aggie74@mpinet.net)





# Winter Park Lodge No. 239



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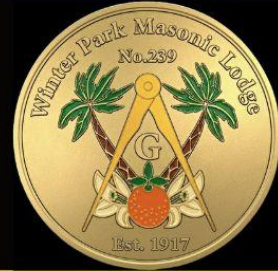
## March Celebrations

### Masonic Anniversaries

Brother	Years
Richard Osterhout	36
Jeffrey Wroblewski	35
William MacGuire II	34
Christopher Hoff	31
Alex Baez	28
Angel Lopez	28
Phillip Sloniger	28
James Murphy	27
John Clary	23
Ian Ielfield	23
Kenneth Gregory	19
Stuart Orgaz	18
John Dollar	14
Gregory Gill	14
Michal Kolakowski	7
Jessie Melmer	7
Preston Weis	7
Tyler Mitchell	4



# Winter Park Lodge No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
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## March Celebrations

### March Birthdays

Brother	Date
Antonio Izzo	1
David Schuster	1
David Corn	4
Kevin Fender	4
Shawn Dowling	5
Philip Bloom	6
William Thomas PGM	8
Spencer Munjone	9
Ellison Riley, Jr.	10
John Kemp Jr	11
Jason Carpione	14
Arthur Presser	18
Calix Ancion	19
Stephen Hicks	19
Norman Hitchcock	19
Daniel Cook	23
George Petrie	24
Gabor Andrasi	26
Daniel Mazurek	26
Samuel Johnson Jr	28



# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



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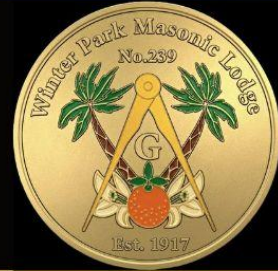


In 2010 R:W:. H. Glen Avery challenged each of us to contribute to the building fund each year on our birthday. This gift was to represent one dollar for each year of the birthday you are celebrating. Every dollar of your gift will be put into the building fund for use in managing our facilities and helping us to keep it in the pristine condition we have all come to appreciate. You can make your donation by check or credit card. Please see the Secretary or Treasurer for more information.

## Charity of the Quarter

The Charity of the Quarter at Winter Park No. 239 will be International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, Hope #82 - Rainbow Assembly Brethren, we all know that the future of our Masonic family resides in our youth. At Hope Assembly #82, our girls are learning that service to others is the brightest color in the spectrum of life. I invite you to join their cause with a donation today. Help us ensure that the light of Hope continues to shine brightly in their Assembly. Your support is the greatest example we can give them of what true fraternity looks like.





## Important News from the Proud 16th Masonic District

### Open Books and District School of Instruction

Led by R.:H.: Billy Triplett  
Books open from 8 am-12 pm  
School of Instruction 12:30 pm-2 pm  
**Saturday, April 25 at Winter Park No. 239**



#### Scottish Rite Valley of Orlando

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is commonly known as the Scottish Rite. It is one of several groups that are part of the worldwide fraternity known as Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite is the largest and most widely practiced Masonic Rite in the world and employs a Lodge system. It is our mission to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country. The Scottish Rite Valley of Orlando meets every 4th Friday at the Winter Park Masonic Center. For more information, please contact Ill. Keith Albright, General Secretary at 407-657-4550.



#### Order of the Eastern Star Pioneer Chapter 99

The members of the Order of the Eastern Star are dedicated women and men who sincerely reflect the spirit of fraternal love and the desire to work together for good. It gives them the opportunity to give a part of their time to many projects that benefit mankind. Our lessons are scriptural, our purposes are beneficent, and our teachings are moral. OES Pioneer Chapter is looking for new members from the Masonic community. Masons & their wives, daughters, mothers, widows and sisters all qualify. For more information, please call Beth Perrell, Secretary at 407-592-7487. Pioneer Chapter meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of every month at 7:30pm at Winter Park Lodge building.



#### Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America

LOS Kismet Court #86 meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm with dinner starting at 6pm. If you are interested in getting more information on LOS Kismet Court No. 86, please visit:

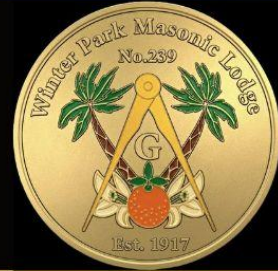
<https://www.facebook.com/KismetCourt86/>

For more information contact our recorder, Kim Kilmartin, at [kismetrecorder@gmail.com](mailto:kismetrecorder@gmail.com). Ladies do not have to be related to a Mason to join. Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America raises money for the Shriner's Hospital for Children and Special Projects for the hospitals.



# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



April 2026 Trestle Board  
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## April 2026

SUN 29	MON 30	TUE 31	WED Apr 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT
						<b>Masters and Wardens</b> <b>Oviedo Lodge #243</b> <b>8 AM Breakfast</b> <b>9 AM Meeting</b> <b>Memorial Lodge Follow</b> <b>2-4 PM - CPR for Youth</b> <b>Winter Park 239</b>
5	6	<b>6 PM - Lodge Officer Meeting</b>  <b>7 PM - Ritual Practice</b>	8	<b>6 PM Entered Apprentice Dinner</b>  <b>7 PM - Entered Apprentice Degree</b>	10	<b>Scottish Rite Spring Reunion</b>
<b>Scottish Rite Spring Reunion</b>	13	<b>7:30 PM - Stated Communication</b>	<b>6 PM Philosophy Book Club</b>	16	<b>7 PM - Game Night</b>	<b>7 AM - Open House</b> <b>8 AM Spring Cookout</b>
19	20	<b>6:30 - Fellow Craft Dinner</b> <b>7:30 - Fellow Craft Degree</b>	22	23	24	<b>8 AM - Open Books</b> <b>12:30 PM - District School of Instruction</b>
26	27	<b>7:30 PM - Stated Communication</b>	29	30	May 1	2

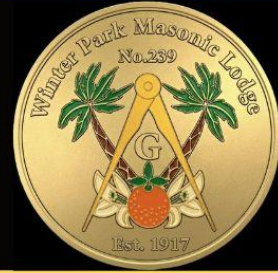
Lodge Social - After every Stated Meeting at Gator's Dockside on Red Bug Lake Rd

Cigars & Conversation on the Lodge Patio Prior to our Regular Meetings



# Winter Park Lodge

## No. 239



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### Winter Park Past Masters

- 1916 - Benjamin W. Stone\* (UD)
- 1917 - Benjamin W. Stone\*
- 1918 - Homer S. Hope\*
- 1919 - J. Otis Hale\*
- 1920 - Walter H. Schultz\*
- 1921 - Frank J. Lindergreen\*
- 1922 - Raymond W. Green\*
- 1923 - William G. Hoffman\*
- 1924 - James E. Harper\*
- 1925 - Adolphus A. Wesson\*
- 1926 - H. Earl Cole\*
- 1927 - J.A. Podmore\*
- 1928 - George C. Dolive\*
- 1929 - Warren M. Ingram\*
- 1930 - Willis J. Johnson\*
- 1931 - Willis J. Johnson\*
- 1932 - Milton A. Perch\*
- 1933 - Forrest B. Stone\*
- 1934 - J.C. Russell\*
- 1935 - Guy F. Colado\*
- 1936 - Milton A. Perch\*
- 1937 - Webber B. Haines\*
- 1938 - Eziel D. Cook\*
- 1939 - Huland W. McCord\*
- 1940 - William A. Gilbert\*
- 1941 - John G. Graylee\*
- 1942 - Carroll L. Ward\*
- 1943 - Lloyd H. King\*
- 1944 - R.W. Fred L. Tuck\*
- 1945 - J. Rex Holiday\*
- 1946 - Willis J. Johnson\*
- 1947 - Chester O. Cornwall\*
- 1948 - B. Roy Sloniger\*
- 1949 - George C. Russell\*
- 1950 - M.:W.: George L. Myers, PGM\*
- 1951 - James T. Pegrarn\*
- 1952 - Charles O. Kummer\*
- 1953 - Roscoe E. Sloniger\*
- 1954 - Robert F. McCord\*
- 1955 - Thomas W. Tope\*
- 1956 - James M. Rhiner\*
- 1957 - R.:W.: Morris D. Parker\*
- 1958 - Robert F. Edwards\*
- 1959 - Dallas L. Bishop\*
- 1960 - Albert L. Mashburn\*
- 1961 - Charles W. Hostetler\*
- 1962 - M.:W.: Harvey Eddy, PGM\*
- 1963 - R.:W.: Eugene B. Taylor\*
- 1964 - Walter J. Boyer\*
- 1965 - Donald A. Nyholm\*
- 1966 - Eugene R. Simpson\*
- 1967 - Julius Blum\*
- 1968 - Deane W. Hammond\*
- 1969 - R.:W.: Robert D. Fiedler\*
- 1970 - R.:W.: H. Glen Avery Jr. \*

- 1971 - Daniel W. Hughes\*
- 1972 - James E. Winne\*
- 1973 - Norman T. Gore
- 1974 - George Ray Sloniger \*
- 1975 - R.:W.: Charles C. Hayes\*
- 1976 - Robert Kowalski\*
- 1977 - Kenneth White\*
- 1978 - R.:W.: Ernesto Fuste\*
- 1979 - Wallace D. Myers\*
- 1980 - David E. Smith\*
- 1981 - Carl P. Kummer
- 1982 - Jesse W. Ridley\*
- 1983 - William A. Boyland, Jr.\*
- 1984 - Anthony J. Decanio\*
- 1985 - G. Keith Gordon
- 1986 - R.:W.: Allen Fiedler
- 1987 - R.:W.: Michael G. Juett
- 1988 - R.:W.: Zeb E. Blanton Jr.
- 1989 - Fred E. Brooks\*
- 1990 - R.:W.: Chester A. King
- 1991 - R.:W.: William B. Erd
- 1992 - Lewis S. Lawson Jr.
- 1993 - Walter R. Becker
- 1994 - Carl J. Moore +++
- 1995 - Jerry W. Spruiel
- 1996 - Phil Bloom
- 1997 - Bobby E. Granthum\*
- 1998 - Hans Weinmann\*
- 1999 - John H. Beatty\*
- 2000 - John T. Scheidt\*
- 2001 - John E. Devlin\*
- 2002 - Warren T. Gillis
- 2003 - Cameron Lovett
- 2004 - Robert W. Jeffrey Sr\*
- 2005 - Rodolfo T. Galvan
- 2006 - Michael A. Costa
- 2007 - Harry V. Eisenberg, M.D.
- 2008 - R.:H.: Alex A. Darwich
- 2009 - R.:H.: Bill Valentino
- 2010 - Mark A. Avery
- 2011 - Christopher P. Chag\*
- 2012 - Allen N. Stearns Jr.
- 2013 - John D. Halter
- 2014 - Jeffrey B. Morgan
- 2015 - Justin S. McDonald
- 2016 - R.:W.: Michael S. Griffin
- 2017 - R.:W.: Jay M. Cebollero
- 2018 - Thomas Swonger
- 2019 - Jonathan O. Cotto
- 2020 - Chet Tokar
- 2021 - Luke Leonard
- 2022 - R.:H.: Billy Triplett
- 2023 - Russell Anderson
- 2024 - Preston Weis
- 2025 - Preston Weis

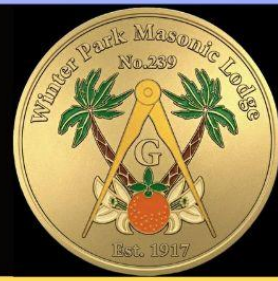
### Affiliated Past Masters

- 2007 - Norman E. Hitchcock - St. Paul's No. 14 Middletown, RI
- 2007-8 - R.:W.: Carlos Lopez - Fenix Lodge No. 8 Venezuela
- 2010-11 - Ewerson Steigleder, ARLJ, Cavaleiros de São João 2903
- 2013 - Bennie Stevens - Venus No. 809, Venus, TX
- 2013 - Stuart Orgaz - Orange No. 36
- 2014-16 - M.:W.: William Thomas, PGM of NY
- 2018 - Randall Safier - Trelum No. 552, Troy, MI
- 2017 - R.:W.: Michael Catello - Mokanna No. 329
- 2017 - Michael Carlo - Warwick Lodge No. 544, Warwick, NY
- 2017, 19 - Jeff Battaglia - Orlando No. 69
- 2018 - Greg Seavers - Oviedo No. 243
- 2019 - Nelson Bonet - Eola No. 207
- 2021 - Jason Streit - Marion Lodge No. 6, Marion, IA

\* Deceased  
+++ Dimitted



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## Chris Chag Memorial Food Drive



We are asking you to join us as we honor our Brother, W.: Chris Chag, by taking a few powerful action steps to help our Central Florida neighbors in need and honor him in the process. You can help your Lodge reach our goal of raising at least \$5000 by donating today.

Thank you for making a great difference for local children, seniors, low income families, and others who are struggling to put enough food on their tables this year.



**DONATE \$10 NOW**

**DONATE ANY AMOUNT**

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## MASONIC EDUCATION

### Restoring the Heart of Our Lodge

**William J Thomas, Past Grand Master of New York, 2014-16**

[wjthomasnyc@gmail.com](mailto:wjthomasnyc@gmail.com)

**Summary:** This editorial calls for a renewed focus on Masonic education and meaningful Lodge experiences. By prioritizing instruction, mentorship, and tradition, we can inspire members to grow personally and strengthen our fraternity for future generations.

As members of the Craft, we must ask ourselves: What is the true purpose of our Lodge? While the common answer is “to raise Master Masons,” our mission goes much deeper. Our Lodge should be a place of education and inspiration, where rituals are not just performed but understood. For example, instead of simply conferring degrees, we can dedicate time during meetings to discuss the symbolism of the square and compass, explore the lessons behind the working tools, and reflect on the meaning of charity and brotherly love. These discussions transform routine gatherings into opportunities for genuine growth and understanding.



In recent years, the drive to increase membership has sometimes led to shortcuts. Rituals may be rushed, and candidates are often told to read about symbols in the Monitor, rather than having those symbols explained in person. Imagine if, at each meeting, we took a few minutes to talk about the significance of the apron or the pillars—members would leave with a deeper appreciation for our traditions. When candidates are not required to invest time or effort, the experience loses its meaning.

Masonry is fundamentally about self-improvement. Members are encouraged to reflect on their actions, strive to be better than they were yesterday, and show kindness to those with differing views. For instance, Lodges can host workshops on leadership, invite speakers to discuss Masonic philosophy, or organize charity events that put values into practice. These activities not only strengthen our bonds but also reinforce the principles we hold dear.

Younger Masons are seeking the authentic experience their fathers and grandfathers enjoyed. They are willing to invest time and resources if the Lodge offers real value. A memorable initiation, ongoing mentorship, and opportunities for learning will help them feel connected and motivated to stay involved. For example, pairing new members with experienced mentors or organizing study sessions on Masonic history can make a lasting impact.

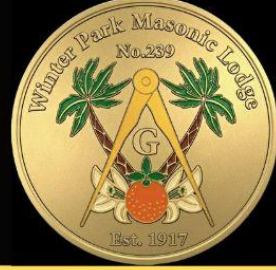
Freemasonry is unique and should maintain its traditions. The Grand Lodge provides the administrative framework, but it is up to each Lodge to deliver meaningful education and experiences. Let's commit to restoring regular instruction—such as study sessions, open discussions, and mentorship programs—so every member can truly benefit from the Craft.

**Bill Thomas, PGM GLNY 2014-16**

**407-927-8400**



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## LODGE HAPPENINGS



A Picture of the Craft from 2-24. A Great Night for Fellowship



Br. Andrasi receiving his certificate for Mason of the Month for April

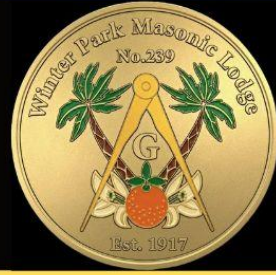


The Ladies of Hope #82 - Rainbow Assembly (along with the Junior Warden) treating us with some Venezuelan arepas with the different stuffings as the main Course



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## New Member Portal – Master Mason Exams!

Great news! Since Circumscribe is no longer an active system, we have implemented a new Member Portal to take Master Mason Exams I, II, III and view your personal member profile! LINK TO MEMBER PORTAL: [Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons](https://members.gflmason.org)

(members.gflmason.org) (click CTRL on your keyboard as you click the link above and it will direct you to the member portal)

### FIRST TIME USERS

Click on Request a New Account and enter your information in the designated fields and click submit.

Your email will be used as your username/account when signing into the Member Portal. Make sure the information you are typing in the fields matches your Masonic Record or the request will be denied and you will have to request a new account again.

Member Portal password requirements: Password length must be 8+ characters, use at least 1 upper, 1 lower, 1 digit and 1 special character (!@#\$%^\*)

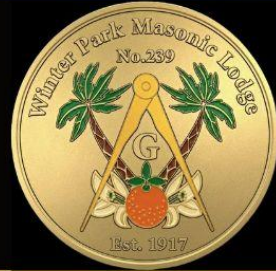
\*Please note that the new account requests have to be approved and are checked multiple times a day. If you have any issues, comments, questions, concerns please direct them to Maegan [maegan.dover@gflmason.org](mailto:maegan.dover@gflmason.org)

PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST MORE THAN ONE ACCOUNT



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## Masonic Home *of Florida*

### Corky's Cupboard Wish List *(New items only, please)*

Cologne or body spray (men & women)  
Tissues (Large and Small Boxes)  
Non-Alcohol Mouth Wash  
Hair Spray  
Ladies Long Feminine Pads (Poise)  
Lipstick (Reds, Pink, Neutral)  
Face Powder  
Blush (Pinks, Neutrals)  
Electric Razors  
Nutter Butter Cookies  
Fig Newton Cookies  
Greeting Cards (no Blanks or Christmas)  
Postage stamps  
Cash donations  
Gift Cards to: Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Target etc.

Send donations to: The Masonic Home of Florida  
3201 1<sup>st</sup> St. N.E. St. Petersburg, FL 33704

Rev:07/17/24