

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 Free and Accepted Masons

St. Augustine, FL

Chartered January 18, A.D. 1888, A.L. 5888

904-826-4086



December, 2019



STATED COMMUNICATIONS

Masonic Temple
4 Martin Luther King Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL
1ST & 3RD Thursdays
Meal – 6:30 p.m.
Stated Communication — 7:30 p.m.

DEGREE WORK AND PRACTICE
2ND & 4TH Thursdays

CHARITY OF THE QUARTER
TBA

FROM THE EAST

My Brethren All:

As 2019 comes to a close, so does my honor of sitting in the East as your Worshipful Master. I am truly thankful for the privilege.

Thank you to all my officers, you are all amazing. There are none better in Freemasonry. Ashlar Lodge is in firm safe hands for years to come.

Just remember not to rush, that seat in the East isn't going anywhere. It will be there when you are ready. Enjoy the Chairs as your go through them and learn the lessons each chair has for you.. The journey through the chairs is a personal experience; allow it to change you.

To the Most Worshipfuls, Right Worshipfuls, Past Masters, and Brethren all who were so quick and steadfast with advice anytime it was needed, I sin-

cerely thank you. You are all invaluable to me.

Thank you., W.: Bo Bozard for always giving me the “real” answer and W.: Charlie Metcalf for always being there to hold a plumb line on me.

During the maelstrom of life, Freemasonry has been the anchor in some pretty rough seas. And Ashlar is always a safe harbor. So Thank You Ashlar Lodge for accepting a terrified “dread head” who sometimes smelled lie low tide into the fold. . . You have truly made him a much better man so far.

Bro. Kenny, I would wish you luck, but you won't need it. You've got a great line behind you and plenty of us waiting for anything you need. Remember, when in doubt, call Bro. David. Or just wait, he'll be calling you, anyway.

Sincerely & Fraternally

W.: Matt

SECRETARY'S DESK

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 is reviewing its bulk mail permit. It is no longer cost effective to mail our Trestleboard using this permit.

If you have the capability of receiving our Trestleboard as an attachment to an email message and are receiving a copy via US mail, PLEASE NOTIFY THE LODGE SECRETARY AND INFORM HIM THAT HE MAY REMOVE YOU FROM THE SNAIL MAIL LIST.

December 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 OES	3	4 RAIN-BOW 7 PM	5 STAT-ED COMM. 6:30 PM	6	7
8	9	10 SHRINE CLUB 7 PM	11 DIST. ISTRUCT. CABUL NO. 116	12 LODGE PRACTICE Installation officers	13	14
15	16 OES DARK	17 York Rite Chapter/ Council 6:30 pm	18 RAIN-BOW 7:00 Dist Associa- tion Lake 72	19 ASH-LAR DARK	20	21
22	23	24 CHRIST- MAS EVE	25 CHRIST- MAS DAY	26	27 INSTAL- LATION OF OFFICERS 6:00 PM	28
29	30	31				

EXTRACTED FROM Digest of Masonic Law, Chapt. 24 COMMITTEES 10.01 Committees of the Lodge. There shall be the following standing Committees: Finance, Vigilance, Petitions, Masonic Education, Board of Relief, Charity, and Lodge Property. (2010)

10.02 Finance Committee.-The Finance Committee shall consist of the Senior Warden and up to six (6) members, including a Past Master of the Lodge, appointed by the Master, whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon all matters relating or appertaining to the financial concerns of the Lodge, which may be placed in their hands by the Lodge or any member thereof, or other person. They shall also examine carefully and fully, and report upon in writing within thirty (30) days after the close of the Masonic year, all the books, accounts, records, and vouchers of the Treasurer and Secretary, or cause all of the same to be done by some competent person recommended by the Committee and approved by the Lodge.

10.03 Vigilance Committee.-The Committee on Vigilance shall be composed of the Junior Warden and two (2) members of the Lodge appointed by the Master, whose duty it is to exercise a watchful superintendence over the moral conduct of the Craft at all times, except during working hours of the Lodge; to correct all irregularities, so far as they can in keeping with the dignity, nature, and principles of the Fraternity, and to report, by charges, or otherwise, all matters necessary and proper for the vindication of Masonic Law and virtue.

10.04 Petitions Committee.-The Petitions Committee shall be composed of not less than three nor more than seven members, whose duty it shall be to cause each applicant for the Degrees before his petition has been received by the Lodge, to appear personally before the Committee to be interviewed and give such information as may be requested. The Committee shall make its report to the Worshipful Master, after which the petition shall take its usual course.

January 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2 STATED COMM. 6:30 PM	3	4
5	6 OES	7	8 DIST ASSN HASTINGS 183 6:30 PM	9	10	11
12	13	14 SHRINE CLUB 7 PM	15 RAIN-BOW Open Books Pineland 6-9	16 STAT-ED COMM 6:30 PM	17	18
19	20 OES	21 York Rite Chapter/Council 6:30 pm	22 District Assn. Pine-land 6:30 pm	23 LODGE INSTRUCT. 6:00 PM	24 Fried Chicken Shrine Club 5-7 pm	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Committees, continued:

10.05 Committee on Masonic Education.-The Committee on Masonic Education shall be composed of not fewer than five members of knowledge, dedication, and tact, of which at least one shall be a Past Master and Chairman appointed by the Worshipful Master, who shall be responsible for reporting to the Master on the Candidate's progress through the Three Symbolic Degrees and Masonic Education Program as prescribed by Regulations 37.12 and 37.18.

10.06 Board of Relief.-The Worshipful Master and Wardens shall constitute the Board of Relief and jointly shall draw upon the Charity Fund, from time to time, as urgent fraternal necessity and propriety may require. . . The Board must be scrupulously careful that no worthy cry of distress reaches their ears in vain and no deserving needy hands seek their aid without response, if within their power to grant without causing material injury to the Lodge.

10.07 Investigation Committees.-Upon the Lodge receiving a petition for the Degrees, or for affiliation, or for reinstatement, or for dual membership, or for plural membership, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a Committee of three members of the Lodge to inquire into the character and standing of the petitioner.

10.08 Committee on Charity.-The Committee on Charity shall, under the direction of the Worshipful Master arrange: . . . That the Lodge contribute to one or more community charity or charitable endeavors on a regular and frequent basis. 5. To advise with the Board of Relief in regard to fraternal need and assistance.

10.09 Committee on Lodge Property.-The Committee on Lodge Property shall be composed of not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) members appointed by the Worshipful Master whose duties it shall be to:

10.10 Neglect of Committee Duty.-If a Committee or any member thereof neglect to perform the required duties, the Worshipful Master may discharge him or them and make a new appointment.

LODGE OFFICERS 2019

Worshipful Master

Matthew Sweeney 904-806-0571

Senior Warden

Kenneth Schaffner 386-864-9162

Junior Warden

James Carrick 904-501-4348

Secretary

David Pierucci 904-460-9477

Treasurer

Oscar Patterson III 904-955-9175

Chaplain

William Roberts 904-825-1594

FRATERNAL NOTICES AND DATES

O.E.S. Chapter #12.....1st & 3rd Mondays

Rainbow Assembly #42.....1st & 3rd Wednesdays

York Rite Bodies.....3rd & 4th Tuesdays

OTHER 11th MASONIC DISTRICT LODGES

Palatka No. 34

Palatka—2nd & 4th Mondays

Lake No. 72

Crescent City—1st & 3rd Mondays

Pineland No. 86

Peniel—1st & 3rd Thursdays

Melrose No 89

Keystone Heights—2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Middleburg No. 107

Middleburg—1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Cabul No. 116

Green Cove Springs—2nd & 4th Thursdays

Hastings No. 183

Hastings—2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Bunnell No. 200

Bunnell—1st and 3rd Tuesdays

The Night Before Christmas, Down At the Lodge (From The Midnight Mason)

'Twas the Night before Christmas, and down at the Lodge
Not a gavel was stirring, and in the hodge-podge

Of aprons and jewels and chairs East and West
you could savor the silence, most gladly divest

All metal and mineral, it mattered not,
since Christmas was nigh and the coals were still hot

In the hearth of your homestead, all Masons abed,
as visions of trestle boards danced in their head;

When up on the roof there arose such a clatter,
Our Tiler jumped up to see what was the matter!

He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,
three knocks shook the panels - he wondered 'What for?'

He answered the knocking with, raps of his own,
and once the door opened he saw, with a moan

Of delight it was Santa, all jolly and red
Except for one notable feature Instead!

Upon his large finger lie wore what we knew
was compass and square on a background of blue!

'Why Santa!' he shouted and lowered his blade
'I see you're a Mason!' the Tiler relayed.

He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair
and said, voice near trembling, 'Most Worshipful there
Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!'

The Master replied, 'Let's allow him - but wait!'

You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see
His Apron beneath that red suit, can it be

Our visitor hasn't been properly raised?
Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?

'I do beg your pardon,' old' Santa said quick
As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick

But a cane with, engraving, two balls did appear
and oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!

Adorned like the Master' complete with a sign
Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!
"Now let man enter," the Master declared,
and once in the Lodge room the Brethren all stared,

For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen
for many a century - there in between

The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar
gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a dollar!

"It's Donner and Blitzen, who, I must confess
Are actually images brought from the West

By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!"
And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled

An ear of fine corn and some oil from the east,
"My friend I have plenty, tonight we will feast

On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"
A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir,

As presents and promises flew from his sack
This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack

For making this Christmas the best you could glean,
And soon even Deacons were laughing, they'd seen

On this very night only happiness reigned!
This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained

That only a Mason could be so inclined
to make all kids happy, make all people find

A Christmas so special, yes, Santa was right!

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!