

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 Free and Accepted Masons

St. Augustine, FL

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



March, 2024



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 MONTH

Fraternal Order of Eagles

K9 Partners for Patriots

FROM THE EAST

I want to extend a huge thank you to all of the Ashlar Lodge Number 98 Brothers who helped at the Widows/ Sweethearts Banquet on February 10th. I have received a lot of emails and communications saying how much they enjoyed the laughs, music, and fellowship. To hear these ladies speak of how much they look forward to it every year is extremely heartwarming. And a hearty “thank you” to the Saint Augustine Shrine Club members for hosting and preparing the meals that everyone got to enjoy.

In the month of March, we will have some members of the Bridigan Foundation (one of our charities of the month) come and share what they do when the children of the world suffer through no fault of their own. When any child must be in a strange place surrounded by people they don't know, these gentle people give them solace and comfort until a known family member has arrived to take over the care that they so desperately need. They will be at Ashlar lodge on March 21st, 2024 to explain their roles and how their foundation works. I hope many of you will be able to attend and hear what they will speak about.

In closing I want to say thank you to all of the Brothers in our great fraternity who participate in similar capacities. Those who give comfort to those in strife and fearfulness represent true Freemasonry.

Fraternally yours,
Terrell Jones, W.M.

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 OES	5	6 RAIN-BOW 7:00 PM	7 STAT-ED COMM 6:30 PM	8	9
10	11	12 Shrine Club 7:00 pm	13 District Instruction Melrose No. 89 6:30 pm	14	15	16
17	18	19 York Rite Chapter/Council 6:30 pm	20 RAIN-BOW 7:00 PM	21 STAT-ED COMM 6:30 PM	22 Fried Chicken, Shrine Club	23 Open Books Pine-land No. 86 9-noon
24/31 Easter Sunday, March 31	25	26 YORK RITE COM-MANDERY 6:30 PM	27 District Assn. Hastings No. 183 6:30 p.m.	28 Lodge Instruc-tion TBD	29	30

From the West – George Maultsby S.W.

Sweetheart's Luncheon

Our Valentine party known as The Sweetheart's Luncheon was a success again this year. Ashlar's first such celebration was held at the Shrine Club on, **Feb. 29, 1976**. The following are quotes from the Feb. and March Minutes that year. **WM: W.H. Jones, Jr.**

Bro Carl Magnan gave a report on the upcoming Widows Luncheon to be held on 29 Feb 76, at the Shrine Club House. Bro Magnan asked all members able to help in this worthwhile affair to contact him. **Stated Meeting Feb. 5th, 1976.**

Bro Magnon gave a report on the upcoming Luncheon for widows of deceased masons, scheduled for 29 Feb 76. So far he has had contact with 56 widows of whom 52, are fairly certain to attend. Importance of the program was stressed, and all members reminded of their masonic obligations to assist as best they could in this worthwhile endeavor. **Stated Meeting, Feb. 19th, 1976**

Bro Carl Magnon gave a report on the Widows of Deceased Masons Luncheon of 29Feb 76. Thirty-four widows were actually in attendance and the entire affair was extremely well received by the widows and Bro Magnon thanked all who contributed to the success enjoyed in this undertaking. The W;M; directed a specific letter of appreciation be furnished to Mr. Tony Nobile, who directed the Entertainment and Mrs. Liz Magnon and Mrs. Betty Wilson, who contributed their expertise in preparation of the menu, serving and overall assistance. **Stated Meeting, Mar. 4th, 1976.**

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS YEAR'S PARTY A SUCCESS!

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OES	2	3 RAIN-BOW 7 pm	4 STATED COMM 6:30 PM	5	6
7	8	9	10 District Inst. Ashlar No. 98 6:30 pm	11	12	13 Open Books Pine-land 86 9-noon
14	15 OES	16 YORK RITE CHAPTER/ COUNCIL 6:30 PM	17 RAIN-BOW 7 pm	18 STATED COMM 6:30 PM	19	20
21	22	23 YORK RITE COMMANDERY 6:30 PM	24 District Association Bunnell 200 6:30 pm	25 LODGE INSTRUCTION TBD	26 Fried Chicken Shrine Club	27
28	29	30				

From the South
Mark Williams, Junior Warden

Greetings Brethren. This month I would like to talk to you about being a servant. In today's world view being a servant is to take up a menial, or lowly position, to be ruled over and exploited. They are less than us who are educated and hold positions of fame and prominence. As we are taught in our rituals, and in other moral institutions, to be a servant is the most rewarding position to be in. We can assist the needy, encourage the struggling, and praise those who have succeeded in their labors.

We have several Brothers and the Great Lights in Masonry to look to as examples of how we should act toward all mankind, especially a Brother Mason. When you are in Lodge or in the dining hall seek out the new, visiting, or other Brother who might look like they need someone to talk to. By serving in this manner we strengthen the bonds of Masonry, and receive the blessings to ourselves and having that feeling of accomplishment of doing good by having filled the needs of others.

I look forward to seeing you in Lodge, and remember I am here to serve you. Don't miss out on the chance and blessings that come from serving others. If you know of a Brother that can't make it to Lodge, extend your hand to bring back to to our fellowship.

The Future

When we look around us or just turn on the television, we find enough division, defeat, and disaster to discourage any man. Overwhelmed by current, pressing problems, who even want to read history, much less consider the future? Life seems to have become an ongoing struggle to stay above the ever rising waters of change and turmoil. The chaos has led us to turn inward rather than outward, but this is short-sighted. The future not only lies before us, it is immediately upon us.

We cannot stop the inevitable movement forward, but we can lay a solid foundation today and plan for what comes tomorrow. We must be concerned about the future because that is where we will spend the rest of our lives. It is the only world our children and grandchildren will ever know. It is ours to make or destroy.

We as Freemasons must confront the inevitability of change while maintaining our core beliefs and principles. What is right and moral today, will be right and moral tomorrow. We must sharpen our vision and our skills. We must seek out new concepts and technologies, and adapt them to our use. They should not control us, but we them. Technology is progressing at quantum speed leaving man seemingly behind. And barring a universal holocaust, cannot be stopped. Consider the story written by Mary Shelly about a baron and doctor named Frankenstein who took body parts to make a new creature. Today it is common to replace kidneys, livers, even hearts. What lies on the horizon, replacing a brain or creating a virtual man?

As Freemasons we should be the guides into this “brave new world.” We provide sound moral instruction as well as the wisdom and history of our Craft as a foundation for the future. Since its creation as a speculative art more than 500 years ago, Freemasonry has led men through the gate and along the straight path.

Change can be traumatic when you are unprepared for it. But review how Freemasonry brought order, hope, and real accomplishment out of the American Revolution thus contributing directly to the creation of the greatest nation the world has ever known. In our founding fathers—Franklin, Revere, Washington—the principles of the Craft were tested and were not found wanting. The Truths of Freemasonry provided the message which still rings across the world today: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.”

Just as Freemasonry served our Nation well in 1776-1783, it remains the touchstone of truth for those who seek wisdom. We have only to look to the past and apply what we find there to the future and know that the core of Masonic doctrine will carry the message of into the future through our good example, conduct, and high accomplishments.

“Progress,” wrote George Santayana, “far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness. When change is absolute there remains no being to improve and no direction is set for possible improvement: and when experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. **Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.**”

As Freemasons we achieve our goals by following the prime tenet of our Craft: Know thyself. The Lodge is the “school” of the future as it was of the past. The Craft’s wisdom is our text, and we are all students and teachers. Benjamin Franklin spoke of his self-education as a “Project of Arriving at Moral Perfection.” Guided by Freemasonry, Franklin (and so many others) recognized the basic Truth found in our Fraternity. Virtue lies in the heart and makes it possible to fully develop

dedicated, and leads the sincere Brother to realize the full role of Freemasonry: service to God, Country, and Mankind.

We should, therefore, look forward to a bright and great future for America. A future in which, to draw on the words of John F. Kennedy, we will match our military strength with our moral strength and restraint; our wealth with our wisdom; and our power with our purpose. And leading the way into this future must be Freemasonry. Are we up to the task?

LODGE OFFICERS 2022

Worshipful Master

Terrell Jones **904-669-5249**

Senior Warden

George Maultsby 703-956-0228

Junior Warden

Mark Williams 904-669-9694

Secretary

Russell Sellers 512-801-7831

Treasurer

Oscar Patterson III 904-955-9175

Senior Deacon

Darrell Lindsey 904-814-7158

Junior Deacon

Kevin Stees 803-406-0005

Senior Steward

Chris Lucero 904-226-5007

Junior Steward

Tom Street 301-300-3031

Chaplain

Robert Harry, Jr. 904-806-1255

Marshall

Tom Torretta 602-881-3206

Tyler

James Carrick 904-501-4348

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

FRATERNAL NOTICES AND DATES

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

Mondays

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

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

Tuesdays