

Lodge Officers - 2025	
John "Wally" Jones, Worshipful Master	321-877-9937
Ernie Quick, Senior Warden	321-243-6479
Stephen Butalla, Junior Warden	941-769-0144
Kirk Hall PDDGM, Treasurer	321-537-9047
Ron Barker, PM, Secretary	321-403-5651
Mike Erickson, Senior Deacon	770 289-1625
Tom Hamilton, Junior Deacon	860 690-8797
Alex Barbosa, Senior Steward	321 429-4562
George Swanson, Junior Steward	860 559-7459
Richard Earls PM, Chaplain	757-338-8298
Jamie Hamilton, Marshal	205-447-3996
Sam Woodard, Tyler	no phone

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN - 2025	
Catechism Instructors	Ernie Quick, Richard Earls, Robert Sigman, Dino DeRosa
Charity	Anthony Garofalo, WM
Finance & Budget	Wally Jones, SW
Vigilance	Ernie Quick, JW
Lodge Property	Ernie Quick, JW
Masonic Education	Craig Boettcher, PM
Board of Relief	Anthony Garofalo, WM
Sickness & Distress	Ernie Quick, JW
Petitions	Ernie Quick, JW
Investigations	Wally Jones, SW
Ritual Instructor	Craig Boettcher, PM
Website/social media	Bryan Fox

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JANUARY 2025



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FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

CHARTERED JANUARY 17, A.D. 1894 A.L. 5894
2300 DAIRY ROAD, WEST MELBOURNE, FL

JOHN "WALLY" JONES
WORSHIPFUL MASTER
516-220-7147
Email: thurwulf@gmail.com

Stated Communications
First and Third Mondays
Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30

Lodge mailing address
P.O. BOX 120143
West Melbourne, FL 32912-0143
Lodge Telephone: 321-831-3415
Website: <http://www.melbournelodge143.com>

Lodge Email Address: ml143@melbournelodge143.com
Secretary: Ron Barker, PM 321-403-5651

17th Masonic District
Matthew S. Green D.D.G.M.
Phone. 321-610-8731 d17ddgm2024@gmail.com

Craig R. Boettcher DI-District Instructor
Phone. 321-298-2203
d17districtinstructor2024@gmail.com

Vol. 2024 Issue No. 12
Subscription paid automatically as part of
Annual Membership Dues. Published Monthly by
Melbourne Lodge No. 143, F. & A. M.

TRESTLEBOARD BOOSTERS

Howard Holcomb, Lawrenceville No. 131, GA (4/2024)
John "Wally" Jones, Melbourne No. 143 (12/2025)
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Jerry Mayo, Melbourne No. 143 (3/2025)
Roger McKay, PDDGM, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2027)
John Thorne, Melbourne No. 143 (3/2025)
Dan Wilder, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2033)
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Monserrat Willams, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)
Eddie Smeen, Melbourne No. 143 (5/2024)
James Beckman, Melbourne No. 143 (2/2024)


NOTE: (month/year) Last month to be published
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Lodge News

On Wednesday, December 18th, Brother Anthony Ciraco of Melbourne Lodge was injured in an apartment fire. Bro. Anthony was transported to a burn center in Orlando and has since been released. Anthony has second degree burns to his head, hands and chest, and will be out of work for several weeks. Anthony's apartment is unlivable, and he is staying with a friend in the Melbourne area. Bro. Anthony does not have renters' insurance and could use our assistance.

A Go Fund Me Page has been established at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/anthony-recover-from-his-tragic-loss>



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OPEN BOOKS

NOT ACTIVE FOR JANUARY!

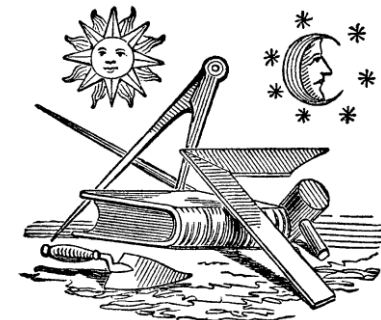
**First Wednesdays 6:00 to 9:00 PM
 Harbor City Lodge No. 318, F. & A. M.**

- Check those letters in the Red Book
- Learn a Lecture
- Learn How to Open & Close Lodge
- Brush up on your Catechisms
- Qualify for Proficiency Cards

ALL MASTER MASONS ARE INVITED

LODGE MEETINGS 17th MASONIC DISTRICT

Melbourne No. 143	1st & 3rd Mondays
Merritt Island No. 353	1st & 3rd Mondays
Canaveral No. 339	2nd & 4th Mondays
Gateway No. 384	2nd & 4th Mondays
Beach No. 354	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Brevard No. 113	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Palm Bay No. 397	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Harbor City No. 318	2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Indian River No. 90	2nd & 4th Thursdays



LODGE CHARITY SCHEDULE

January – Lodge Charity is The Daily Bread.



From the East

Brethren,

I humbly accept and sincerely thank all of you for considering me as a candidate and electing me your Worshipful Master of Melbourne Lodge No. 143 for 2025. I am grateful to the elected and appointed officers, and committee members, who have agreed to accept or continue in the variety of positions that are essential to the successful operation of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

Further, I am pleased to have this opportunity to follow in the footsteps of both my Grandfathers, and a long line of Masons in my family, stretching back to the 19th century. Hopefully, I will make them proud.

In 2025, we will continue family-oriented activities, such as our monthly family dinners, and I will be open to proposals for additional family participation activities.

I will encourage inter-lodge fraternal activities, such as visits and participation for degree activities or simply fraternity and the fraternal rivalry of the famous "Travelling Gavel."

It is my intention to maintain the enviable reputation of Melbourne Lodge No. 143, that has been maintained through the efforts of the many esteemed Worshipful Masters that have preceded me.

Thank you again for allowing me the high honor of this opportunity.

Fraternally,
Wally Jones
Worshipful Master

From the West

Brethren,

Greetings to all our Brothers and families. I hope everyone has had a very Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to serve our lodge as Junior Warden for 2024. The entire lodge members and families have helped me so much, without whom I would not have had much success at all, Thank you so much.

For 2025 I have been elected to serve you as your Senior Warden, this will come with more challenging and rewarding undertakings.

Our elected Worshipful Master has agreed to our having a suggestion box for our lodge. I know about everyone has at some point had one for their use, and told how it could help or improve many things, well I think it really can help all of us. So, let's give it a try. Things may not change overnight, but over time. If nothing changes, everything will always remain the same.

The Lodge needs your support, and I thank you for everything you do. Please talk to me at lodge or call or text (321)243-6479 or email (erniequick@ymail.com). I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Your Brother Ernie Quick
Senior Warden

From the South

Brethren,

I must first express my deepest gratitude to the Craft for electing me to this position; without the support and guidance of you, the Brethren of Melbourne Lodge No. 143, I would not be sitting where I am today. Of particular note, I would also like to thank R:H: Craig for our many conversations on Masonry and his help in learning our Ritual, as well as W:M: elect Wally, B: Ernie, and W: Ron (among many, many others), for all of their assistance and feedback. I am looking forward to serving the Brethren in the capacity of Junior Warden and continuing to grow both as a leader and as a Mason. As such, I will ensure that this term will be known as the year of beauty and refreshment.

In terms of beauty: In conjunction with the W:M:, I will be establishing a Grounds Committee that will meet once a month to ensure routine maintenance and upkeep to the lodge building and grounds. As the first order of business, I will continue compiling a list of repairs, upgrades, and beautification projects that we will accomplish over the coming months. Several brothers have already expressed interest in this enterprise—both with their assistance and their ideas—and I'd like to invite every brother to contribute to our shared mission of enhancing the beauty of our lodge.

In terms of refreshment: Together with the help of my girlfriend Miranda, I have assembled detailed menus for all our Stated Communications this year.

January 2025

Melbourne Lodge No. 143, F. & A.M.

Lodge Charity is The Daily Bread.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <u>No Open Books</u> <u>Happy New Year!</u>	2	3	4 <u>No Masters &</u> <u>Wardens</u>
5	<u>Stated</u> <u>Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u>	7	8 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	9	10	11 <u>Lodge Breakfast</u> <u>8:00 AM – 10:00AM</u>
12	13	14	15 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	16	17	18
19	20 <u>Stated</u> <u>Communication</u> <u>Dinner 6:30PM</u> <u>Lodge Opens 7:30PM</u>	21	22 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	23 <u>Brevard County</u> <u>Scottish Rite Club</u> <u>Meeting</u> <u>Dinner 6:30 PM</u> <u>Meeting 7:30 PM</u>	24	25
26	27 <u>EA Degree</u> <u>Lodge Opens 7:00PM</u>	28	29 <u>Ritual Practice at</u> <u>Melbourne Lodge</u> <u>6:30PM</u>	30	31	

Masonic Symbolism

The Masonic Symbolism of Solomon

The following excerpts from the 1921 edition of *An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences*, address the legends surrounding Solomon in Masonic writings and ritual.

Solomon had scarcely ascended the throne of Israel, when he prepared to carry into execution the pious designs of his predecessor. For this purpose, however, he found it necessary to seek the assistance of Hiram, King of Tyre, the ancient friend and ally of his father.. The Tyrian and Sidonians, the subjects of Hiram, had long been distinguished for their great architectural skill; and, in fact, many of them, as the members of a mystic operative society, the fraternity of Dionysian artificers, had long monopolized the profession of building in Asia Minor. The Jews, on the contrary, were rather more eminent for their military valor than for their knowledge of the arts of peace, and hence King Solomon at once conceived the necessity of invoking the aid of these foreign architects, if he expected to complete the edifice in a reasonable time or with the splendor and magnificence appropriate to the sacred object for which it was intended.

Our traditions inform us that when the Temple was completed, Solomon assembled all the heads of the tribes, the elders and chiefs of Israel to bring the ark up out of Zion, where King David had deposited it in a tabernacle until a more fitting place should have been built for its reception. This duty was performed by the Levites who placed the ark in the center of the holies of holies.

Masonic History

Albert Mackey

Albert Mackey was born in Charleston in 1807. He was a physician, journalist and educator. He attended College of South Carolina. He was a charter member of the board of trustees of South Carolina College in 1832, graduated from the medical department and was appointed in 1838 as demonstrator of anatomy.

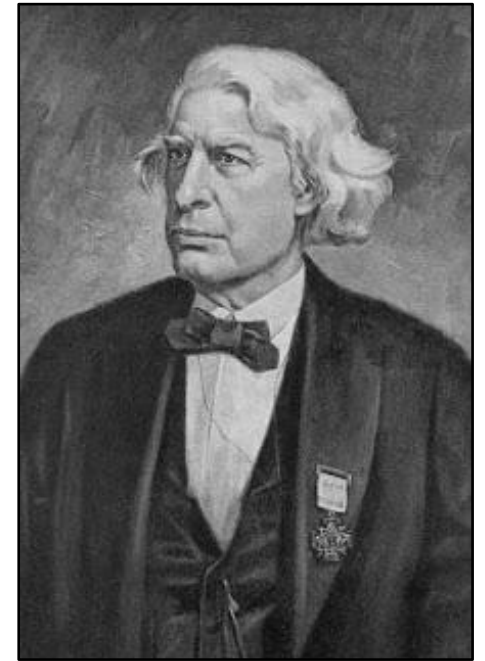
In 1844, he devoted himself to writing on a variety of subjects including languages, the Middle Ages, and Freemasonry. This led to his investigation of abstruse symbolism, Cabalistic, and Talmudic research.

Regarding his writing on Freemasonry his contributions were prodigious and include: *A Lexicon of Freemasonry; Tame True Mystic Tie; The Ahiman Rezon of South Carolina; Principles of Masonic Law; and The History of Freemasonry in South Carolina*, and the *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences*.

Albert Mackey was raised to Master Mason in St. Andrews Lodge in 1841. Shortly thereafter he affiliated with Solomon Lodge where he served as Worshipful Master in 1843. He served as Grand Lecture and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. He also served as Secretary General of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States.

He ran for United States Senate in South Carolina in 1868 but was defeated. He moved to Washington, D.C. in 1870 and died in Virginia the following year.

Albert Mackey



From the South (continued)

We spent many late nights brainstorming dishes that will deliver an array of robust flavors while being crafted from nutritious and clean ingredients. We are looking forward to the honor of serving you all this year.

I humbly ask the Craft for support to enact this vision. Together we will continue improving our lodge in the hope of providing a beautiful place to congregate and share meals together. While only God is perfect—and our earthly endeavors to enact any semblance thereof are asymptotic—we will continue striving for excellence and make this the best year yet in our storied history.

Fraternally,
J.:W.: Stephen D. Butalla