



Mandarin Masonic Lodge No. 343 F.&A.M.

May 2025

## From the East...

Brethren,

As we step into the month of May, I hope this message finds you and your families in good health and high spirits. This is an important time for our Lodge and the wider Masonic community, as we prepare for Grand Communication, which will take place over Memorial Day weekend in Orlando.

Grand Communication is more than just a gathering—it's an opportunity for us to have our voices heard, stay informed, and help shape the future of Freemasonry in our jurisdiction. I strongly encourage all who are able to attend. Your presence and participation are vital.

Please pay close attention to the last few pages of this month's Trestleboard. There, you'll find a summary of the proposed legislation changes that will be up for discussion and vote during Grand Communication. It's essential that we come to our May Stated Meeting ready to have an open and informed dialogue about these proposals. This is your chance to ask questions, share your thoughts, and understand how these changes might impact our craft. You will be represented by the Master and Wardens, and proxies from our Lodge on this matter at Grand Communication.

Let us continue to support one another in Brotherhood, and I look forward to seeing you at Lodge.

Fraternally,

Omar Rivera

Worshipful Master



## **From the South...**

Greetings Brothers,

For the first time this year, we had a calm month, but unlike April showers brings May flowers, May brings Grand Communication. I'm looking forward to going and representing our lodge, meeting new Brothers from across the state and seeing how Grand Communication operates.

May also has a fifth Friday, so if someone is interested in hosting Beefeaters, please let everyone know. Last Beefeaters had a good turn out and I'd love to see that continue. It's always great Fellowship.

-----3TF-----

This months Third Thursday Fellowship will be at Miller's Ale House.

Please let me know if you are able to attend.

Fraternally,

Daniel Breslin

Junior Warden

## **Petitions for the Degrees...**

Taylor D. Silvey

# Calendar

\*Subject to minor changes.

## May 2025

1– Stated Communication  
7– Open Books @ Orange  
Park Lodge  
15-3TF @ Millers Ale House  
21– NEFMA @ Barnett  
26-28 Grand Communication  
@ Rosen Paza, Orlando  
29– Beefeaters (TBD)  
31– Lodge Workday

## June 2025

4– Open Books @ Orange  
Park Lodge  
5– Stated Communication  
19– 3TF (TBD)  
25– NEFMA @ Mandarin  
25-29 Rainbow Grand As-  
sembly @ World Golf Village

## **2025 OFFICERS**

### **Worshipful Master**

Omar Rivera  
(904) 864-9440

### **Senior Warden**

Bob Davidson

### **Junior Warden**

Daniel Breslin

### **Treasurer**

Don Carter, PM

### **Secretary**

Lou Govreau, PM

### **Marshall**

Jan Lindahl, PM

### **Chaplain**

Jack Krumbein

### **Senior Deacon**

Carl Mankinen

### **Junior Deacon**

Mitchel "Shane" Weaver

### **Senior Steward**

Travis Reynolds

### **Junior Steward**

Larry Mason

### **Tyler**

Bobby Bethel

## **2025 COMMITTEES**

### **Finance**

Bob Davidson, SW  
Larry Rogers, PM  
Travis Reynolds, SS

### **Vigilance**

Daniel Breslin, JW  
Jack Krumbein, Chaplain  
Travis Reynolds, SS

### **Petitions**

Lou Govreau, PM, Sec  
Shane Weaver, JD  
Bobby Bethel, Tyler

### **Masonic Education**

Todd Connor, PM  
Lou Govreau, PM, Sec  
Chairman- Ed Mann, PM

### **Board of Relief**

Omar Rivera, WM  
Bob Davidson, SW  
Daniel Breslin, JW

### **Charity**

Todd Connor, PM  
Don Carter, PM, Treas  
Larry Mason, JS

### **Lodge Property**

Bob Davidson, SW  
Daniel Breslin, JW  
Carl M, SD

### **Community Relations**

Jeff Starke, PM  
John Young, PM  
Larry Mason, JS

# PAST MASTERS

|                                    |                                      |                             |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1962 <i>C. P. Munger</i>           | 1983 <i>J. R. Knight Jr.</i>         | 2004 Charles Higgins        |
| 1963 <i>C. E. Futch</i>            | 1984 John Porter Hufman              | 2005 James C. Ruoff         |
| 1964 <i>W. H. Ange</i>             | 1985 Richard Gale Hornbrook          | 2006 David M. L. Randall    |
| 1965 <i>Walter Wilson Powell</i>   | 1986 <i>Richard Faye Mauro</i>       | 2007 William E. Avera III   |
| 1966 <i>M. D. Bish</i>             | 1987 Donald Wyman Carter             | 2008 George S. Blum         |
| 1967 <i>Billy Collier</i>          | 1988 <i>Joseph J. Frederickson</i>   | 2009 <i>Eddie E. Bides</i>  |
| 1968 <i>T. "Ira" Higginbotham</i>  | 1989 Christopher C. Ramsayer         | 2010 Nate Vargo             |
| 1969 <i>C. J. Bowden</i>           | 1990 Anthony "George" Colson         | 2011 Larry M. Rogers        |
| 1970 <i>R. L. Flynn</i>            | <b>1991 Henry B. Tucker</b>          | 2012 Mike Minter            |
| 1971 C. R. Bell (PDDGM)            | 1992 <i>Elva Ray "Pete" Copeland</i> | 2013 Larry M. Rogers        |
| 1972 John Ammond Peoples Jr.       | 1993 Walter Manfred Pace             | 2014 George Sarkees III     |
| 1973 <i>Earl Davis Waldrep Sr.</i> | 1994 <i>Lenwood Earl Bucks</i>       | 2015 Angelo Echevarria      |
| 1974 <i>Donald E. Bush</i>         | 1995 <i>Gerald Dean Pugh</i>         | 2016 Jeff Starke (PDDGM)    |
| 1975 <i>Earl Herndon (PDDGM)</i>   | 1996 Earnest Jackson Strange         | <b>2017 David J. Gilpin</b> |
| 1976 <i>M. C. Cassidy</i>          | 1997 Jimmy J. Pace                   | 2018/2019 Todd Connor       |
| 1977 <i>Nicholas Manos</i>         | 1998 <i>Siegfried Rohrbacher</i>     | 2020 Lou Govreau            |
| 1978 <i>Cecil Lenard Platt</i>     | 1999 Randy Carter                    | 2021 John Young             |
| 1979 <i>Cedric Frank Thompson</i>  | 2000 <i>Paul Johnston</i>            | 2022 Jeff Starke (PDDGM)    |
| 1980 <i>G. Grayson</i>             | 2001 John Downes                     | 2023 Edward Mann            |
| 1981 <i>T. Thompson</i>            | 2002 Charles Benham                  | 2024 Jan Lindahl            |
| 1982 <i>Jerry Johnson</i>          | 2003 Larry M. Rogers                 |                             |



**RESOLUTION TO ADD CLARIFICATIONS, OPEN INSTALLATION, BALLOTING WORDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR MORE THAN 5 E.A.'S TO THE MERGED FLOORWORK PROCEDURES BOOK**

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Craft voted to approve a Resolution that created a merged Floorwork Procedures Book consisting of both the Cipher and Floorwork in a single booklet, which would include corrections to irregularities, grammar, and punctuation; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 legislation was proposed to add the Open Installation Ceremony to the merged Floorwork Procedures Book, but was not voted on by the Craft due to Grand Lodge's cancellation, though unanimously approved by Jurisprudence and the Grand Master at the time; and

WHEREAS, the original merged Floorwork Procedures Book did not include merging of words for balloting or explanations for how to handle more than 5 Entered Apprentice Candidates at a time in accordance with the Digest of the Masonic Law, Regulations 37.01 and the 2012 Ruling and Decision; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the merged Floorwork Procedures Book, Brothers have been using it extensively and finding instructions that are unclear, leading to many questions and misinterpretations that conflict with either the "Forms and Ceremonies" or how the Ritual has consistently been taught by the Committee on Work.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the "Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures – Combined Ritual Cipher and Floorwork Booklet" be updated per the copy submitted with this legislation to the Jurisprudence Committee, which has no changes to any Cipher or words, but only adds clarifications for Ritual that was vague, unclear, or inconsistent with our "Forms and Ceremonies" or the consistent teachings of the Committee on Work, and also includes the Open Installation Ceremony, wording for balloting, and procedures for more than 5 candidates in the Entered Apprentice Degree.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee on Work will make these same updates to the Spanish version of the "Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures – Combined Ritual Cipher and Floorwork Booklet".

Fraternally and respectfully submitted by the Committee on Work,

- R. : W. : Ryan W. Kilmartin, Vice Chairman
- R. : W. : Donald R. Goolsby, State Chairman
- R. : W. : Ronald A. "Jolly" Harris, Zone 1A Chairman
- R. : W. : Mark C. Dragon, Zone 1B Chairman
- R. : W. : Jason E. "JJ" Johnson, Zone 2A Chairman
- R. : W. : Jackie D. Arrington, Zone 2B/3B Chairman
- R. : W. : Charles M. "Scooter" Barr, Zone 3A Chairman
- R. : W. : Thomas W. Aiken, Zone 3C Chairman
- R. : W. : G. Raymond Vance, Zone 4A Chairman
- R. : W. : John A. "Drew" Baldwin, Zone 4B Chairman
- R. : W. : Eric J. Romano, Zone 5A Chairman
- R. : W. : Larry E. Kent, Zone 5B Chairman
- R. : W. : Barry D. Hart, Zone 6 Chairman
- R. : W. : Gerald I. Strohacker, Zone 7A Chairman
- R. : W. : Sergio J. Perez, Zone 7B Chairman
- R. : W. : L. Miguel Rivera, Spanish Speaking Member

**(Jurisprudence recommends rejection)**

**RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION AND THE DIGEST OF THE MASONIC  
LAW OF FLORIDA TO PERMIT THE GRAND MASTER TO AUTHORIZE  
ADDITIONAL PLACEMENT OF A DUPLICATE COPY OF THE  
FORMS AND CEREMONIES IN A DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, during the 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication of The Grand Lodge of Florida in 1993, the Craft adopted by written ballot a Resolution to place a duplicate copy of the Forms and Ceremonies in each District, pursuant to, and conditioned upon, a satisfactory contract and agreement between The Grand Lodge of Florida and the District requesting the copy and that the requesting District would be required to pay the cost incurred in the reproduction and provide a safe to house the “Books”; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the placement of these copies was to facilitate and provide the maximum opportunity, with the least inconvenience and travel, for the majority of the Lodges and the Craft to have access and availability to the official written “Work” in order to improve their proficiency; and

WHEREAS, several Districts have requested an additional duplicate copy of the “Forms and Ceremonies” be placed in their respective Districts because of the distance and travel of a much larger area; and

WHEREAS, during the 180<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication of The Grand Lodge of Florida in 2009, the Craft adopted by written ballot a Resolution to place a duplicate copy of the Forms and Ceremonies in each District, pursuant to the previously adopted Resolution at the 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the appropriate changes be made to the “Constitution” and “Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida” to permit the Grand Master to authorize those duplicate copies be produced by The Grand Lodge of Florida and be distributed to the requesting Districts. The receiving Districts will be required to follow the procedures for opening the safes containing the duplicate copies of the “Work” as delineated in Chapter 38.04 of the “Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida”. The duplicate copy of the “Forms and Ceremonies” retained at The Grand Lodge of Florida in Jacksonville shall be used as the “Master” for producing the duplicate copies.

**Article XV, Section 2 of the Constitution be amended to read:**

There shall be one (1) original and up to ~~thirty-five (35)~~ **forty (40)** duplicate copies of the Forms and Ceremonies described herein. There shall also be one Spanish Translation and ~~three (3)~~ **ten (10)** duplicate copies of the Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. There shall also be one (1) digitized copy of the original and Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. (2025)

**Regulation 38.04 (b) amended to read:**

There shall be one (1) original and up to ~~thirty-five (35)~~ **forty (40)** duplicate copies of the Forms and Ceremonies described herein. There shall also be one Spanish Translation and ~~three (3)~~ **ten (10)** duplicate copies of the Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. There shall also be one (1) digitized copy of the original and Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. (2025)

Respectfully submitted

M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Chairman of the Sub-Committee on the Masonic Digest  
M.:W.: Jorge L. Aladro, P.G.M., Member of the Sub-Committee on the Masonic Digest

**(Jurisprudence recommends adoption)**