

**METROPOLITAN LODGE NO. 11, A.F.&A.M.**

Henry C. Payne, Secretary  
4013 Old Creek Rd  
Chesterfield, VA 23832-8387

Address Service Requested

**APRIL 2023 BULLETIN**

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!**



Metropolitan  
Lodge No. 11  
A. F. & A. M.  
Chartered December 11, 1860



Meets in the Varina Masonic Temple, 1600 Burning Tree Road, Henrico, Virginia 23231  
on the Third Thursday of each month

**ANNUAL DUES: 2023 – \$165.00**

**MAIL REMITTANCES TO SECRETARY**

**Brother Henry C. Payne, 4013 Old Creek Rd, Chesterfield, VA 23832-8387**

Any case of Illness or Distress of any member that may come to your attention should be promptly reported to the Junior Warden, Secretary or other Officer of the Lodge.

Number Eleven Class – Meets with Varina Lodge No. 272 class on each Monday at 7:00 PM  
at the Varina Masonic Temple, 1600 Burning Tree Road, Henrico, Virginia 23231

R. Lewis Gibbs Masonic Class – **(Dark in December)** Saturday Mornings – Tuckahoe Masonic Temple  
5500 Bethlehem Road, Richmond, Virginia 23230

## FROM THE EAST

April 11, 2023

Brethren,

I hope you all had an enjoyable and meaningful Easter weekend. Spring is here, and I for one appreciate the extra hours of daylight.

I would like to thank Worshipful Chris Loftus for his fine program on the origin and usage of “So Mote it Be” at our March stated meeting, it was informative and interesting. I would also like to thank Worshipful Bob Pagani and Right Worshipful Steve Sanford for volunteering at the blood drive on March 23rd. Our lodge received credit for 64 donations, well done brothers!

For our April 20th stated meeting, we will be having a Joint Communication with Sandston #216 at their lodge which is located at 40-A Williamsburg Road in Sandston. Dinner is at 6:15pm and will be catered by April Burton, who is the daughter of RW Jim Burton. Dinner will be \$15 per person, and anybody that will be attending needs to let me know by this Friday, April 14th so the caterer will have an accurate head count. Worship Jimmy Creech of Temple #9 will be presenting his program on the flag which is not to be missed. I know Worshipful Ronnie Boatwright will have a warm welcome for our lodge, so come out and spend an evening with our Sandston brethren.

I hope to see you all at our April stated meeting, and until then, remember that every human being has a claim upon your kind offices; do good unto all; recommend it more especially to the household of the faithful.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Ashley Thomas

**STATED COMMUNICATION – THURSDAY, April 20, 2023– 7:00 P.M.**

**OFFICERS, MEMBERS & GUESTS:** Business Attire (Coat and Tie)

**ASSEMBLE:** Sandston Lodge No. 216, 40-A Williamsburg Rd, Sandson, Virginia at 5:45 PM

**DINNER: 6:00 PM**

**OPEN LODGE – 7:00 PM**

Regular Business

**PROGRAM: Flag Presentation by Worshipful Jimmy Creech**

Conclude Business

**CLOSE LODGE**

**CALLED COMMUNICATIONS:**

None Scheduled at this time

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Thursday, April 20, 2023 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication

Saturday, April 22, 2023 – Masters and Wardens Association  
Tuckahoe Masonic Temple, 5500 Bethlehem Road  
Breakfast at 08:00 AM Meeting at 08:45 AM

Saturday, April 22, 2023 – Cornerstone Laying Ceremony at Campbell Lodge No. 316 in  
Altavista, Virginia - Stationed Officers attending should bring  
their Jewel and Apron.

Saturday, April 29, 2023 – One Day Conferral

**PAST MASTER HONOR ROLL – MARCH 2023 STATED**

Keith G. LaFemina, Donnie R. Carter, Claude A. “Buddy” Bass, Robert E. Pagani  
John Q. Sheppard, V. Stuart Cook (PGM), J. Thomas Wadkins III, Christopher E. Loftus  
W. Martin Myers, John W. Edelin III, George H. Cooke III, Robert E. Cook, Lambros G. Deligan  
Albert A. Dranoff, Lothar A. Bernhard, Steven W. Sanford

**ATTENDANCE – MARCH 2023 STATED**

Past Masters – 16 Members – 13 Visitors – 1 Total – 30

**Yearly Averages:**

2005 – 76, 2006 – 77, 2007 – 74, 2008 – 72, 2009 – 69, 2010 – 60, 2011 – 61, 2012 – 49  
2013 – 48, 2014 – 47, 2015 – 53, 2016 – 49, 2017 – 46, 2018 – 47, 2019 – 38, 2020 – 37  
2021 – 33, 2022 – 34, 2023 – 32

**LODGE OF SORROW**

Brethren,

Since our last State Communication, The Supreme Architect of the Universe has seen fit to take one of our Brothers from our Midst:

**THEODORE IRVING MALBONE**

Born: May 1, 1936

Initiated and Entered Apprentice: February 7, 1973

Passed to the Degree of  
Fellowcraft: March 6, 1973

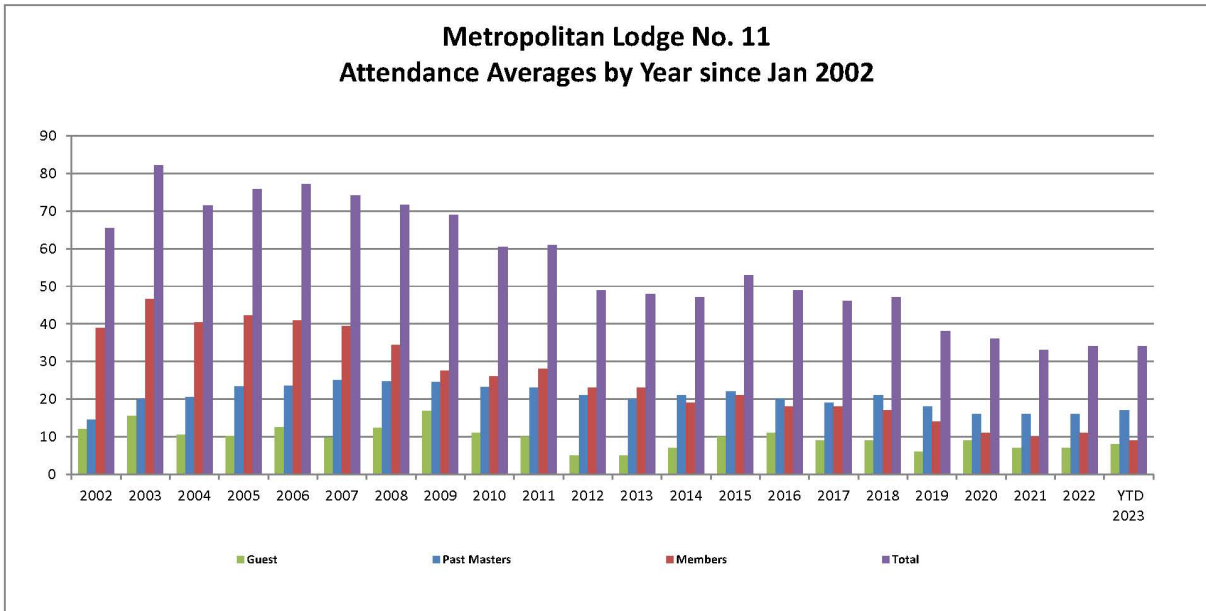
Raised to the Sublime Degree of  
Master Mason: April 19, 1973

Worshipful Master: 1978 and 1985 Lewis Ginter No. 317

Died: February 24, 2023

To his family we offer our deepest sympathies.

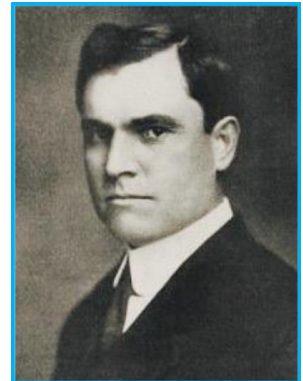
Page 4  
Attendance Chart



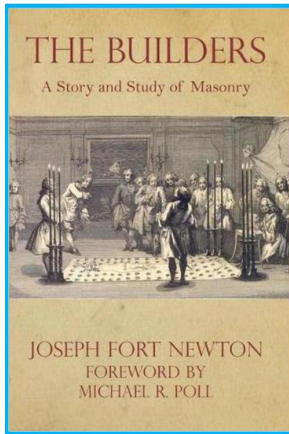
**“Joseph Fort Newton”**

Born in Decatur, Texas, the son of a Baptist minister turned attorney. He attended Southern Baptist Seminary, and Harvard University. Br. Newton held the honorary degrees of Doctor of Hebrew Literature (Coe College, 1912), Doctor of Divinity (Tufts University, 1919), Doctor of Humane Letters (Hobart and William Smith Colleges, 1926), and Doctor of Laws (Temple University, 1929).

Newton was ordained a Baptist minister in 1895. He held Baptist pastorates in Texas, and led non-sectarian and Universalist congregations in Illinois and Iowa. While in Iowa, he taught English literature at the extension campus of the University of Iowa in Cedar Rapids.



Dr. Newton was raised on May 28, 1902 in Friendship Lodge No. 7, Dixon, Illinois, later affiliating with Mt. Hermon Lodge No. 263, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He also served as Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Iowa from 1911 to 1913 and Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. While living in Philadelphia he was a member of Lodge No. 51.



Br. Newton authored over 30 books. At the behest of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, Br. Joseph wrote the monumental work 'The Builders: A Story and Study of Freemasonry', published in 1914, and translated into six different languages. The Builders is still regarded as one of the best books on the topic. The Builders has been called "an outstanding classic in Masonic literature offering the early history of Freemasonry."

At the invitation of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, Br. Newton entered the ministry of the Episcopal Church in September 1925. He was ordained as a priest in 1926. In 1939, Newton was ranked among the top 5 Protestant Clergyman in the United States.

In his autobiography (1946), River of Years, he credited Freemasonry for much of his success, where he mastered the Art of Rhetoric.

On January 24 of 1950, Br. Newton's mortal existence ended, but he bequeathed to humanity a Masonic legacy that will never die. Thousands of books have been written on the Craft, but Br. Newton's works represent the pinnacle of vision, poetry, and prose. He was a true Masonic scholar, advocate, and literary legend.

*"It has always been in my heart to use Masonry as a wand of blessing and never as a weapon of battle. It is intended to make men friends, to bring men of all types of temperament, antecedents, and training together, to defend their Brotherhood and make them builders of a purer world."*

-- Br. Joseph Fort Newton.

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This article was compiled edited and written, by Wor. Br. Martin Myers, drawing upon numerous source materials, a list of source is available upon request.

**OFFICERS FOR 2023**

C. Ashley Thomas	(C) 380-0621	(E) ashthomasjr@gmail.com	Worshipful Master
		5958 Dugout Ter, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-4570	
W. S. Jared Richardson	(C) 840-9523	(E) wsjr1@hotmail.com	Senior Warden
		9030 Brigadier Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116	
Keith G. Femina, PM	(C) 559-1719	(E) keith.lafemina@arc3gases.com	Junior Warden
		8540 Meadowsweet Dr, Mechanicsville, VA 23116-2828	
John G. Koedel, III	(C) 338-1158	(E) jgkoedel@yahoo.com	Treasurer
		2444 Gold Leaf Cir, Henrico, VA 23233	
Henry C. Payne	(C) 229-1967	(E) hcp.93@verizon.net	Secretary
		4013 Old Creek Rd, Chesterfield, VA 23832-8387	
Charles S. Sarbaugh, PDDGM (H)	276-9677	(E) cssarbaugh@cs.com	Secretary Emeritus
		1330 Traway Dr, North Chesterfield, VA 23835-5559	
Randal L. Clouse	(C) 370-6527	(E) RClouse1216@gmail.com	Senior Deacon
		2758 Maple Grove Ln, East Powhatan. VA 23139-5043	
John J. Reid, II	(C) (703) 472-9794	(E) JohnReidOnline@gmail.com	Junior Deacon
		2742 Spinnaker Ct, Henrico, VA 23233-349	
Robert E. Pagani, PM	(C) 512-2808	(E) 1fisherbob@gmail.com	Chaplain
Dieter T. Henss	(C) 502-1918	(E) dhenss@email.com	Marshal
Richard C. Wadkins	(C) 540-335-1142	(E) rhwadkins@gmail.com	Senior Steward
Michael L. Bryant	(C) 370-7910	(E) campbryant@hotmail.com	Junior Steward
James F. Hardee, PM	(C) 640-8953	(E) varinajim53@gmail.com	Tiler

**LIVING PAST MASTERS**

Brown, Platon A.	1968	Carter, Donnie R., PDDGM	1996	Jason D. Clemmer	2019
Hines, Elbert Richard	1968	Bass, Jr., Claude A. PDDGM	1999	Linwood G. Bennett, Jr.	2020-2021
Olphin, Jr., Walter L.	1970	Pagani, Robert E.	2000		
Kontopanos, John A., Jr.	1971	Fitchett, Wayne E.	2002	<b>AFFILIATE PAST MASTERS</b>	
Plotkin, Leonard	1972	Sheppard, John Q. PDDGM	2003		
McLaughlin, Billy B. PDDGM	1975	Absher, Barrye L. PDDGM	2005	Bernhard, Lothar Arthur	(#19)
Hiner, Henry L.	1978	Jones, Douglas V., PGM	2007	Carter, Daulton L.	(#317)
Whitlock, K. Wayne	1981	Sykes, C. Thomas, PDDGM	2008	Dranoff, Albert Abe PDDGM	(#53)
Olphin, III, Walter L.	1984	Cook, V. Stuart, PGM	2009	Hart, John H. PDDGM	(#302)
Sarbaugh, Charles S. PDDGM	1985	Wadkins, III, J. Thomas, PDDGM	2010-2011	Holmes, Ray W.	(#317)
Dixon, Johnnie L. PDDGM	1986 & 1996	Loftus, Christopher E.	2012	Kidd, Richard C., PDDGM	(#9)
Mayes, Heath W.	1986	W. Martin Myers	2013	LaRochelle, Omer E. Jr., PDDGM	(#244)
Bennett, Jr., George L.	1991	John W. Edelin, III	2014	Martin, Frederick Garrison III, PGM	(#344)
Childrey, William E.	1992	Wade V. Evans, III	2015-2016	Rose, Daniel Lee PDDGM	(#161)
Deligan, Lambros G. PDDGM	1992	Robert E. Cook	2017 & 2022	Sanford, Steven Weldon PDDGM	(#4)
Cooke, III, George H.	1993 & 2021	Rick C. Kidd, PDDGM	2018	Taylor, Robert Wright	(#317)
LaFemina, Keith G.	1995				