

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

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

Address Service Requested

JANUARY 2024 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: 2024 – \$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

January 4, 2024

Brethren,

What a great end we had to 2023! First, I would like to thank all those who made it to our MAHOVA Christmas party, we had a very good turnout, and there were enough treats for all residents attending the party AND to distribute elsewhere about MAHOVA. Our elections went smoothly, and RW Steve Sanford and Wor. John Edelin have joined our line for 2024. I also want to thank Bro. Jared Richardson and Wor. Keith Lafemina for serving us in 2023, as I enjoyed working with both of them and appreciate their service.

Before the end of December we also had our first official visit of 2024, as 8 members of Metropolitan 11 travelled to Manchester 14 for Possum Night on Wednesday, December 27th. Per tradition, we presented our Manchester brethren with a gift of "dove", and I believe we all enjoyed the festivities. I am hoping this is the first of many official visits this year.

I do need some help from you, my brothers, on several important positions in our lodge. First, I need a Blood Coordinator. Our Blood Coordinator will check with the District Blood Coordinator to find opportunities where we can assist on blood drives, which helps with our acts of community service. I am also in need of a MAHOVA Ambassador, who will work with the District Ambassador to promote MAHOVA and its programs with Metropolitan 11. These are important jobs, so please let me know if you are interested in helping our lodge with these responsibilities.

Dress for our January 2024 stated meeting will be coat and tie for officers and members. Also a reminder, the Rainbow Girls food drive goes through the end of January, so please bring some non-perishable food items to add to their donation box at Varina #272.

Be safe, my brothers, I look forward to seeing you at our January meeting.

Sincerely and Fraternaly

Bro. Ashley Thomas

Worshipful Master

STATED COMMUNICATION – THURSDAY, January 18, 2024– 7:00 P.M.

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

ASSEMBLE: Varina Masonic Temple, 1600 Burning Tree Road, Henrico, Virginia at 5:45 PM

DINNER: 6:00 PM

OPEN LODGE – 7:00 PM

Regular Business

PROGRAM:

Conclude Business

CLOSE LODGE

CALLED COMMUNICATIONS:

None Scheduled at this time

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Thursday, January 18, 2024 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 – Masters and Wardens Association

Manchester Lodge No. 14

6787 Forest Hill Ave, Richmond, VA 23225

Light Dinner at 6:00 PM, Meeting at 7:00 PM

Saturday, January 20, 2024 -- Division Leadership Conference at ACCA Temple from 9:30am to 11:30am.

Saturday, January 27, 2024 – Rainbow Girls installation of officers at Manchester 14, 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Saturday, January 27, 2024 – Rainbow Girls Formal Dinner at Acca Temple, 6:00pm to 9:00pm

PAST MASTER HONOR ROLL – DECEMBER 2023 STATED

Heath W. Mayes, Keith G. LaFemina, Donnie R. Carter, John Q. Sheppard, Christopher E. Loftus

John W. Edelin III, Linwood G. Bennett, Jr., George H. Cooke III, Lambros G. Deligan

Albert A. Dranoff, Steven W. Sanford

ATTENDANCE – DECEMBER 2023 STATED

Past Masters – 11 Members – 8 Visitors – 3 Total – 22

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 – 32

LODGE OF SORROW

Brethren,

The Supreme Architech of the Universe has seen fit to call on of our Brothers from Labor to Rest.

NICK JOHN ANDRE

Born: February 19, 1930

Initiated an Entered Apprentice: April 4, 1960

Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft: July 11, 1960

Raised to Sublime Degree of Master Mason: August 8, 1960

Fifty Year Masonic Veteran: August 8, 2010

Sixty Year Masonic Veteran: August 8, 2020

Died: June 26, 2022

To his family we extend our deepest sympathies.

January Birthdays

Member Name	Masonic Birthday	Years
Andrews, David Watkins	January 26, 1994	30
Boswell, Norman Horace, Jr	January 29, 1965	59
Bullington, Walter Bruce	January 25, 2018	6
Cadavid, Carlos Alberto	January 22, 2015	9
Halages, John George	January 26, 1956	68
Irons, Steven Douglas	January 15, 2003	21
LaRochelle, Scott Lee	January 20, 1989	35
McCulloch, Robert Max	January 25, 2018	6
Olphin, Walter Linwood, Jr	January 11, 1951	73
Stinnett, Robert Wayne	January 15, 2003	21
Tibbs, James Edward	January 25, 1984	40
Trimble, Bradley Alan	January 20, 1993	31
Tuckwiller, Benjamin Rhea	January 24, 2013	11
	Total Years	410

“Brother Poinsett”

Joel Roberts Poinsett was an American physician and diplomat. He was the first U.S. agent in South America, a member of the South Carolina legislature and the United States House of Representatives, the first United States Minister to Mexico, a Unionist leader in South Carolina during the Nullification Crisis, Secretary of War under Marti Van Buren, and a co-founder of the National Institute for the Promotion of Science and the Useful Arts (later became the Smithsonian Institute).

Brother Joel Roberts Poinsett was a Past Master of Recovery Lodge No. 31, Greenville, SC, and Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Charleston, SC.

In 1825 President and Br. James Monroe (Williamsburg Lodge No. 6) appointed Poinsett as the first U.S. ambassador to Mexico. Poinsett urged independence from Europe under America's Monroe Doctrine. He introduced the plant into the US in 1828, and thus the name “poinsettia”.

While in Mexico he had established one or two lodges of Free-Masons, and though none but prominent patriots and republicans became members of these societies they were charged with being a secret means for the reestablishment of Spanish authority.

In 1837 President Martin Van Buren named Poinsett secretary of war. He set out to improve the nation's paltry army of eight thousand poorly trained soldiers. He raised standards and sent officers to Europe for instruction. In 1838 Congress enlarged the army to 12,577 men.

Leaving office in 1841, Poinsett spent his last decade on his Greenville District farm and his wife's Santee plantation near Georgetown. In retirement, he promoted education, economic development, and weaning of southern life from slavery.

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 2024

C. Ashley Thomas	(C) 380-0621	(E) ashtomasjr@gmail.com	Worshipful Master
		5958 Dugout Ter, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-4570	
Steven W. Sanford, PDDGM	(C) (703) 923-6653	(E) swsanford52@gmail.com	Senior Warden
		508 Candidate Road, Richmond, VA 23223-5548	
John W. Edelin, III, PM	(C) (804) 627-2363	(E)jedelin.2@comcast.net	Junior Warden
		500 Cadidate Rd, #14, Richmond, VA 23223	
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			Secretary Emeritus
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	Bass, Jr., Claude A. PDDGM	1999	Jason D. Clemmer	2019
Olphin, Jr., Walter L.	1970	Pagani, Robert E.	2000	Linwood G. Bennett, Jr.	2020-2021
Kontopanos, John A., Jr.	1971	Fitchett, Wayne E.	2002		
Plotkin, Leonard	1972	Sheppard, John Q. PDDGM	2003		
McLaughlin, Billy B. PDDGM	1975	Absher, Barrye L. PDDGM	2005		
Hiner, Henry L.	1978	Jones, Douglas V., PGM	2007	Bernhard, Lothar Arthur	(#19)
Whitlock, K. Wayne	1981	Sykes, C. Thomas, PDDGM	2008	Carter, Daulton L.	(#317)
Sarbaugh, Charles S. PDDGM	1985	Cook, V. Stuart, PGM	2009	Dranoff, Albert Abe PDDGM	(#53)
Dixon, Johnnie L. PDDGM	1986 & 1996	Wadkins, III, J. Thomas, PDDGM	2010-2011	Hart, John H. PDDGM	(#302)
Mayes, Heath W.	1986	Loftus, Christopher E.	2012	Holmes, Ray W.	(#317)
Bennett, Jr., George L.	1991	W. Martin Myers	2013	Kidd, Richard C., PDDGM	(#9)
Childrey, William E.	1992	John W. Edelin, III	2014	LaRochelle, Omer E. Jr., PDDGM	(#244)
Deligan, Lambros G. PDDGM	1992	Wade V. Evans, III	2015-2016	Malbone, Theodore Irving	(#317)
Cooke, III, George H.	1993 & 2021	Robert E. Cook	2017 & 2022	Martin, Frederick Garrison III, PGM	(#344)
LaFemina, Keith G.	1995	Rick C. Kidd, PDDGM	2018	Rose, Daniel Lee PDDGM	(#161)
Carter, Donnie R., PDDGM	1996			Sanford, Steven Weldon PDDGM	(#4)
				Taylor, Robert Wright	(#317)

AFFILIATE PAST MASTERS