

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

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

Address Service Requested

JUNE 2021 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: 2021 – \$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

Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Blood Drive Number – 2795

## FROM THE EAST

May 31, 2021

Greetings Brethren,

Our next Stated Meeting will be on Thursday, June 17th, 2021 (3rd Thursday), at The Varina Lodge Building, 1600 Burning Tree Road. Brethren are requested to assemble at 5:45 PM in the dining hall of same, for a delicious meal of Salisbury Steak, mashed potatoes, lima beans and apple cobbler for dessert, served by our caterer. A head count would be appreciated a week before the meeting for the caterer, at: ghcooke3@aol.com or 804-829-5426, leave message if no answer.

Our May Stated Meeting was well attended. Our caterer ran a bit late finding our new location, but got us served with a good meal in plenty of time before lodge. We had Worshipful John Wayne Shippley of Varina Lodge #272, give us a brief talk on our new location, followed by Most Worshipful V. Stuart Cook, PGM, who presented our program for the evening of Law Enforcement Night. A good number of the Law Enforcement Community was present and recognized .

Our Program for this month will be presented by Right Worshipful Donald Traser, who will speak to us about "The Holy Saints John."

Most of the Covid 19 restrictions have been lifted, so make plans to attend your Lodge.

I look forward to meeting and greeting you there!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

George H. Cooke, III  
Worshipful Master

**STATED COMMUNICATION – THURSDAY, June 17, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.**

**“THE HOLY SAINTS JOHN NIGHT”**

***DRESS FOR OFFICERS, MEMBERS & GUESTS:***  
Lodge Polo Shirts or collared shirt and slacks, Business Casual

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

**DINNER:** 6:00 PM (Salisbury Steak, mashed potatoes, lima beans and apple cobbler for dessert- please contact Worshipful George Cooke at [ghcooke3@aol.com](mailto:ghcooke3@aol.com) to let him know you are planning to eat so he can give our caterer a count)

**OPEN LODGE – 7:00 PM**

Regular Business

Program: Presentation by Right Worshipful Don Traser on "The Holy Saints John"

**CLOSE LODGE**

**CALLED COMMUNICATIONS:**

None Scheduled at this time

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Thursday, June 17, 2021 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication

## **LODGE OF SORROW**

The Supreme Architect of the Universe has seen fit to call one of our Brothers from our midst:

### **HAROLD GRANT COOPER**

**Born:** July 29, 1942

**Initiated an Entered Apprentice:** September 10, 1967

**Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft:** September 26, 1967

**Raised to the Sublime Degree of  
Master Mason:** November 9, 1967

**Fifty Year Masonic Veteran:** November 9, 2017

**Died:** May 24, 2021

To his family, we extend our most sincere sympathies and condolences.

## PAST MASTER HONOR ROLL – MAY 2021 STATED

Heath W. Mayes, George H. Cooke III, D. R. Carter, Claude A. Bass, Jr.  
Robert E. Pagani, Wayne E. Fitchett, Barrye L. Absher, V. Stuart Cook (PGM)  
J. Thomas Wadkins III, Christopher E. Loftus, Robert E. Cook, Lambros G. Deligan  
Lothar A. Bernhard

## ATTENDANCE – MAY 2021 STATED

Past Masters – 13    Members – 13    Visitors – 9    Total – 35

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 – 34

## FROM YOUR SECRETARY

Brethren, things are starting to look better. COVID protocols are starting to relax, and we are able to get out more. Support your Lodge with your attendance and if you haven't taken care of your dues, please get it taken care of as soon as you are able to do so.

Fraternally,  
Hank Payne, Secretary

## OUR VISITORS FROM HAY MARKET LODGE NO. 313



## “Son of Virginia, Father of Texas”

Born 1793 in Wythe County, VA. 1798 the family moved to MO.

1815, Stephen Fuller Austin became a member of Louisiana Lodge No. 109, MO.

By age 27, he had: moved 300 families to TX, served 3 terms in MO Legislature, served as director of the Bank of St. Louis, served as federal circuit court judge, and as a New Orleans newspaper editor.



1822, he met with officials in Mexico City.

By 1827, Americans living in Mexico City had introduced the York Rite of Freemasonry as a alternative to the established European-style Scottish Rite.

1828, Br. Austin called a meeting of Freemasons to petition the GL in Mexico City for a lodge charter, the petition was sent, but no response. The ruling factions were afraid the liberal elements in TX might try to gain their independence.

October 25, 1828 the Mexican government outlawed Freemasonry, aware of the political philosophies of American Freemasons. In 1829, Br. Austin called another meeting, where it was decided that it was “impolitic and imprudent, at this time, to form Masonic lodges in Texas.”

1833, while visiting Mexico City, Br. Austin was thrown into prison by Santa Anna. Released December 1834. September 1835, General Cos crossed the Rio Grande, Br. Austin put out a general call to arms. The revolution had begun.

Br. Austin went to New Orleans to urge the US to support the TX cause. Returning to TX in 1836 he ran for President of the TX Republic but was defeated by Br. Sam Houston, he accepted the post of Secretary of State but, following a brief illness, died on December 16, 1836, at the age of 43.

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

## OFFICERS FOR 2021

George H. Cooke, III, PM (H) 829-5426	(E) ghcooke3@aol.com	Worshipful Master
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C. Ashley Thomas (C) 644-4521	(E) ashtomasjr@gmail.com	Junior Warden
5958 Dugout Ter, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-4570		
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14746 Boyce's Cove Dr, Midlothian, VA 23112-2255		
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Linwood G. Bennett	(H) 839-6776 (E) lbennett93@comcast.net	Marshal
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Michael L. Bryant	(C) 370-7910 (E) campbryant@hotmail.com	Junior Steward
James F. Hardee, PM	(C) 640-2953 (E) varinajim53@gmail.com	Tiler

## **LIVING PAST MASTERS**

Brown, Platon A.	1968	LaFemina, Keith G.	1995
Hines, Elbert Richard	1968	Carter, Donnie R., PDDGM	1996
Olphin, Jr., Walter L.	1970	Bass, Jr., Claude A. PDDGM	1999
Kontopanos, John A., Jr.	1971	Pagani, Robert E.	2000
Plotkin, Leonard	1972	Fitchett, Wayne E.	2002
Graham, George Tiffany	1974	Sheppard, John Q. PDDGM	2003
McLaughlin, Billy B. PDDGM	1975	Absher, Barrye L. PDDGM	2005
Hiner, Henry L.	1978	Jones, Douglas V., GM	2007
Whitlock, K. Wayne	1981	Sykes, C. Thomas, PDDGM	2008
Olphin, III, Walter L.	1984	Cook, V. Stuart PGM	2009
Sarbaugh, Charles S. PDDGM	1985	Wadkins, III, J. Thomas, PDDGM	2010-2011
Dixon, Johnnie L. PDDGM	1986 & 1996	Loftus, Christopher E.	2012
Mayes, Heath W.	1986	W. Martin Myers	2013
Evans, Jr., Wade V. PDDGM	1989	John W. Edelin, III	2014
Bennett, Jr., George L.	1991	Wade V. Evans, III	2015-2016
Childrey, William E.	1992	Robert E. Cook	2017
Deligan, Lambros G. PDDGM	1992	Rick C. Kidd, PDDGM	2018
Cooke, III, George H.	1993	Jason D. Clemmer	2019
		Linwood G. Bennett, Jr.	2020-2021

## **AFFILIATE PAST MASTERS**

Bernhard, Lothar Arthur	(#19)
Carter, Daulton L.	(#317)
Dranoff, Albert Abe PDDGM	(#53)
Hart, John H. PDDGM	(#302)
Holmes, Ray W.	(#317)
Kidd, Richard C., PDDGM	(#9)
LaRochelle, Omer E. Jr., PDDGM	(#244)
Malbone, Theodore Irving	(#317)
Martin, Frederick Garrison III, PGM	(#344)
Rose, Daniel Lee PDDGM	(#161)
Sanford, Steven Weldon PDDGM	(#4)
Taylor, Robert Wright	(#317)