

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

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

Address Service Requested

**MAY 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

April 26, 2024

Brethren,

The brethren and guests that attended our April stated meeting were treated to hamburgers and hotdogs cooked on our new grill, which was obtained by Wor. Robert Cook and utilized by him and his kitchen crew. I received many compliments on the dinner, and as always appreciate the work put in by our cook, our Stewards, and many other volunteers. After dinner we were treated to a presentation focusing on patriotism by our Rainbow Girls Assembly #10, and they also answered questions from our brethren. I hope all of you are as proud of these young ladies as I am.

Also at our April stated meeting we voted on the application of RW Damon Riddell for affiliation with Metropolitan 11, and the good news is his application was approved! Not only is RW Damon our newest member, he has also volunteered to be our Assistant Secretary (along with RW Tom Wadkins), so Brother Hank will begin teaching RW Damon our secretary position immediately. Be sure to give Damon a Metropolitan 11 welcome when you get the chance, and thank you Damon for offering to serve.

Our May stated meeting will be our Law Enforcement Appreciation Night on Thursday, May 16th. I hope you will be able to join us as we thank the “sheep dogs” that protect us. Dress for officers and members will be lodge shirts or open collared shirts.

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

Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
Bro. Ashley Thomas  
Worshipful Master

IF YOUR NEED A LODGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION, PLEASE CONTACT EITHER HANK PAYNE OR ASHLEY THOMAS AND ONE WILL BE SENT TO YOU.

## FROM YOUR SECRETARY

We are approaching the 5th month of the year and there are several who haven't paid their 2024 dues as well as some who still owe for 2023. Let this be a friendly reminder to take care of your obligations to the craft. Also, keep in mind this will be my **last year as Secretary** for Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 and someone will need to step up and assume the mantle.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Brother Hank Payne, Secretary

**STATED COMMUNICATION – THURSDAY, May 16, 2024– 7:00 P.M.  
LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION NIGHT**

***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: LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION NIGHT**

Conclude Business

**CLOSE LODGE**

**CALLED COMMUNICATIONS:**  
None Scheduled at this time

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Saturday, May 4, 2024 – Community Breakfast at Washington and Henry Lodge 344  
Partnering with the Rainbow Girls 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Tuesday, May 14, 2024 - Rainbow #10 meeting at Varina #272 starting at 7:30pm

Thursday, May 16, 2024 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication

## LODGE OF SORROW

Brethren,

Since our last Stated Communication, the Supreme Architect of the Universe has seen fit to call one of our Brothers Home to the Celestial Lodge Above:

### **BURNLEY MANALCUS WILLIAMS, JR.**

Born: April 10, 1947  
Initiated and Entered Apprentice: April 29, 1994  
Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft: June 21, 1994  
Raised to the Sublime Degree of  
Master Mason: July 26, 1994  
Died: November 25, 2023

**To his family we extend our deepest condolences.**

From Allen Watts:

For most of you, I was able to connect with, thank you all for agreeing to help with this Mother's Day Diaper Drive. For those I couldn't connect with, please let me know if you will be able to blast this flyer out to your members and collect donations internally, we would love your participation. We didn't list all lodges in the area as public drop-off spots as some lodges don't have that ability/access. However, we are encouraging ALL LODGES to donate. We are collecting all sizes of children's diapers, pullups, and wipes. These will be pooled together over at Manchester 14 on Saturday morning 5/11, the day before Mother's Day. We will then deliver to Little Hands VA (<https://littlehandsva.org/>) the following week, which is nearby on southside. We have supplied the public drop-boxes as a courtesy, and though I would like them back, no lodge is under any type of responsibility to pay for it if stolen. I figure if they need diapers bad enough to steal them, then they truly need them. Our only ask, beyond promoting, collecting the donations and securing them indoors on a regular basis when the bins fill up, is that one member of your lodge drop the collected donations of at 6787 Forest Hill Ave between 9am and 11am on Saturday 5/11.

Download the Flyer for the Diaper Drive by clicking on this link:

[Diaper Drive](#)

**PAST MASTER HONOR ROLL – April 2024 STATED**

Heath W. Mayes, Donnie R. Carter, Claude A. “Buddy” Bass, Robert E. Pagani  
 John Q. Sheppard, V. Stuart Cook (PGM), Christopher E. Loftus, John W. Edelin III  
 Linwood G. Bennett, Jr., George H. Cooke III, Robert E. Cook,  
 C. Ashley Thomas, Jr., Lambros G. Deligan, Albert A. Dranoff, Lothar A. Bernhard  
 Steven W. Sanford

**ATTENDANCE – April 2024 STATED**

Past Masters – 16 Members – 7 Visitors – 3 Total – 26

**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, – 2024 – 29

**Metropolitan Lodge No. 11  
 Masonic Birthdays for May 2024**

Member Name	Masonic Birthday	Years
Bennett, George Lee, Jr	5/23/1987	37
Burnett, James Christian	5/22/2003	21
Carter, Daulton Lloyd	5/15/1969	55
Daou, Salim Toufit	5/12/2004	20
Dranoff, Albert Abe	5/8/1972	52
Ellsworth, Lee Shamburger	5/29/1980	44
Hattan, Jacob Homer, Jr	5/27/1981	43
Lang, Graham Hudnall	5/31/2006	18
Lindenfeld, Daniel James	5/27/2010	14
Luck, Alton Green, Jr	5/31/1977	47
Martin, David Leon	5/31/1977	47
Martin, Frederick Garrison, III	5/14/1962	62
Myer, Stuart Carlton, Jr	5/12/1978	46
Norman, Roger Wayne	5/31/1978	46
Palmer, Richard Lee, Sr	5/27/1981	43
Payne, Henry Calvin	5/20/2002	22
Skelton, James Clarence	5/1/1955	69
Thornburg, Billy Ray	5/22/1975	49
<b>Total Masonic Years</b>		<b>735</b>

### **“The State of Israel - and 3 Freemasons”**

During World War I, Britain's war effort was hindered by their ineffective manufacturing of explosives.

Britain's situation suddenly changed when a chemist made a breakthrough in synthesizing the needed solvent 'acetone' by using a bacterial fermentation process.

The chemist, whose Jewish family had immigrated from Russia, was Dr. Chaim Weizmann, born November 27, 1874.

In gratitude for Dr. Chaim Weizmann's efforts, Britain's Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour issued the Balfour Declaration in 1917, establishing a homeland for the Jews in their traditional location in the Middle East.

Balfour addressed a Jewish gathering, February 7, 1918:

"My personal hope is that the Jews will make good in Palestine and eventually found a Jewish state. It is up to them now; we have given them their great opportunity."

Also, during World War I, an obscure British lieutenant serving in Cairo, T.E. Lawrence, was sent off to assess if undisciplined Arab tribes were capable of helping to fight Ottoman Turks.

Instead of simply reporting back, T.E. Lawrence took it upon himself to persuade Arabs to fight the Turks in exchange for promises of land, laying the groundwork for future land disputes after the Ottoman Empire fell.

The United States was enthusiastic in its support of Israel, as Democrat President Woodrow Wilson wrote to Rabbi Stephen A. Wise, 1918:

"I think all Americans will be deeply moved by the report that...the Weizmann commission has been able to lay the foundation of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem."

Rabbi Stephen A. Wise described Woodrow Wilson: "He is one of the great presidents of American history."

Justice Louis Brandeis, who was nominated by Woodrow Wilson to the U.S. Supreme Court, told Reform Rabbis in April 1915:

"The undying longing of Jews for Palestine is a fact of deepest significance; that it is a manifestation in the struggle for existence by an ancient people which has established its right to live, a people whose three thousand years of civilization has produced a faith, culture and individuality which enable it to contribute largely in the future, as it has in the past."

Felix Frankfurter, who was later nominated to the U.S. Supreme Court by Br. Franklin D. Roosevelt (Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City), received a letter from King Feisal Husseini of Syria and Iraq, March 3, 1919:

"We feel that the Arabs and Jews are cousins in having suffered similar oppressions at the hands of powers stronger than themselves..."

We Arabs, especially the educated among us look with the deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement...We will wish the Jews a most hearty welcome home...

With the chiefs of your movement, especially with Dr. Weizmann, we...continue to have the closest relations. He has been a great helper of our cause, and I hope the Arabs may soon be in a position to make the Jews some return for their kindness...

Our two movements complete one another. The Jewish movement is national and not imperialist. Our movement is national and not imperialist, and there is room in Syria for us both...

People...less responsible than our leaders...have been trying to exploit the local difficulties that must necessarily arise in Palestine...to make capital out of what they call our differences."

Felix Frankfurter replied:

"ROYAL HIGHNESS: Allow me...to acknowledge your recent letter with deep appreciation. Those of us who come from the United States have already been gratified by the friendly relations...between you and the Zionist leaders, particularly Dr. Weizmann..."

We knew that the aspirations of the Arab and the Jewish peoples were parallel, that each aspired to re-establish its nationality in its own homeland, each making its own distinctive contribution to civilization, each seeking its own peaceful mode of life...

The Arabs and Jews are neighbors in territory; we cannot but live side by side as friends."

After World War I, Britain abruptly changed its policy against a Jewish homeland with its White Paper of 1922, instigated, ironically, by anti-Zionist Jews.

Chiam Weizmann referred to these individuals, including Claude Montefiore, Lord Br. Reading, Edwin Montagu and Lucien Wolf, in his autobiography, Trial and Error (1949):

"Their secular representative, the secretary of the Conjoint Committee, was Mr. Lucien Wolf...in whom the opposition to Zionism was a mixture of principle and of personal idiosyncrasy...

He resented the rise of what he called 'foreign Jews' in England, looked upon the Foreign Office as his patrimony - he was of an old Anglo-Jewish family - and put me down as a poacher...

Zionism was in his view a purely East European movement...beneath the notice of respectable British Jews. It was...impossible for him to understand that English non-Jews did not look upon his anti-Zionism as the hallmark of a superior loyalty.

It was never borne in on him that men like Balfour, Churchill, Lloyd George, were deeply religious, and believed in the Bible, that to them the return of the Jewish people to Palestine was a reality, so that we Zionists represented to them a great tradition for which they had enormous respect...

I remember Prime Minister Lloyd George saying to me, a few days before the issuance of the Balfour Declaration:

'I know that with the issuance of this Declaration I shall please one group of Jews and displease another. I have decided to please your group because you stand for a great idea.'



During World War II, millions of Jews were killed in Europe by the National Socialist Workers Party.

Democrat President & Br. Franklin Roosevelt, who coined the name 'United Nations', explained that the goal of the new organization included protecting Jews, March 24, 1944:

"The United Nations are fighting to make a world in which tyranny and aggression cannot exist...



In one of the blackest crimes of all history - begun by the Nazis...the wholesale systematic murder of the Jews of Europe goes on unabated... Hundreds of thousands of Jews...are now threatened with annihilation as Hitler's forces descend...

The United Nations have made it clear that they will pursue the guilty... All who knowingly take part in the deportation of Jews to their death...are equally guilty with the executioner."

On November 11, 1942, President & Br. Franklin Roosevelt complimented the Jewish Theological Seminary of America:

"A victory of the United Nations is to be a world of enduring peace...founded on renewed loyalty to the spiritual values..."

In cooperation with Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant scholars...it will in time, I trust, become an increasingly powerful instrument for enlightening men of all faiths."

Near the end of World War II, February of 1945, President & Br. Franklin D. Roosevelt met at the Yalta Conference with British Prime Minister & Br. Winston Churchill (Studholme Lodge No. 1591, Surrey, UK, 1901) and Soviet leader Josef Stalin.

Br. Roosevelt, being in a feeble condition just two months before his death, capitulated to Stalin's demand that millions of Eastern Europeans be dominated by the totalitarian Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

On his way home from the Yalta Conference, in declining health, Br. Franklin Roosevelt met with the founder of Saudi Arabia, King Abdul Aziz ibn Saud on the USS Quincy in the Suez Canal, February 14, 1945.

The Saudi King slaughtered a goat on deck for the meal, then attempted to convince Roosevelt to abandon his plans of supporting the Jewish homeland.

As oil had been discovered by Standard Oil Company in Saudi Arabia a few years earlier, and an Arabian American Oil Company 'Aramco' had recently been formed, the Saudi King wanted from Br. Roosevelt an oil-for-security agreement.

The Saudi King followed up with a letter to Br. Roosevelt, who wrote back, April 5, 1945, promising not to recognize a Jewish State. One week later, Br. Roosevelt was dead.

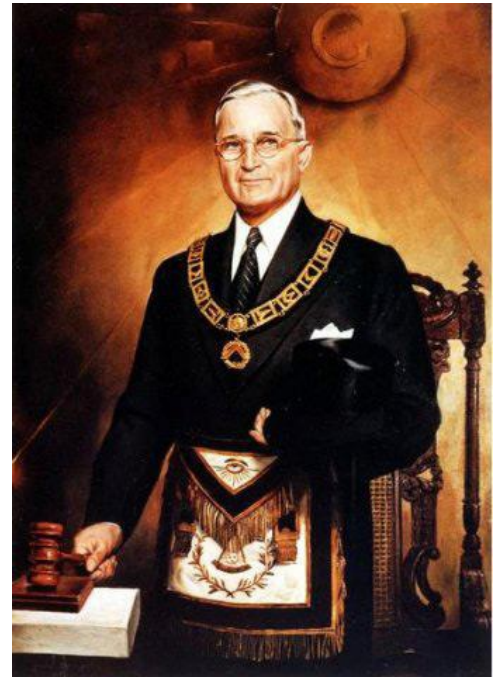


The next President, M.: W.: Br. Harry S Truman (Belton Lodge No. 450, Belton, Missouri), immediately proceeded with plans to recognize the Israel as a nation.

The United Nations Charter was signed June 26, 1945, by 51 member nations.

The United Nations, which had a goal of guaranteeing security for the Jews, made one of its first acts the recognition of the State of Israel in 1948.

The negotiator of the Middle East Armistice Agreement was Ralph Bunche (International F&A.M. Masons and O.E.S. Inc.) the African American diplomat who received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts.



On November 29, 1948, Democrat President & M.: W.: Br. Harry S Truman wrote to Dr. Chaim Weizmann, the first President of Israel:

"I remember well our conversations about the Negeb... I agree fully with your estimate of the importance of the area to Israel, and I deplore any attempt to take it away from Israel.

I had thought that my position would have been clear to all the world, particularly in the light of the specific wording of the Democratic Party platform."

The 1948 Democrat Party Platform stated:

"President Truman, by granting immediate recognition to Israel, led the world in extending friendship and welcome to a people who have long sought and justly deserve freedom and independence.

We pledge full recognition to the State of Israel. We affirm our pride that the United States under the leadership of President Truman played a leading role in the adoption of the resolution of November 29, 1947, by the United Nations General Assembly for the creation of a Jewish State.

We approve the claims of the State of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations resolution of November 29th and consider that modifications thereof should be made only if fully acceptable to the State of Israel.

We look forward to the admission of the State of Israel to the United Nations and its full participation in the international community of nations.

We pledge appropriate aid to the State of Israel in developing its economy and resources. We favor the revision of the arms embargo to accord to the State of Israel the right of self-defense."

President & M.: W.: Br. Truman concluded his letter to Israel's President Dr. Chaim Weizmann, November 29, 1948:

"I have interpreted my re-election as a mandate...to carry out...the plank on Israel... In closing, I want to tell you how happy and impressed I have been at the remarkable progress made by the new State of Israel."

Dr. Chaim Weizmann had stated:

"I think that the God of Israel is with us."

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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. Wor. Bro. Myers has been providing these articles since March 2017.

Formatted for printing, emailing and the website by Right Worshipful Tom Wadkins

## OFFICERS FOR 2024

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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		
Whitlock, K. Wayne	1981	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		
Bennett, Jr., George L.	1991	John W. Edelin, III	2014		
Childrey, William E.	1992	Wade V. Evans, III	2015-2016		
Deligan, Lambros G. PDDGM	1992	Robert E. Cook	2017 & 2022		
Cooke, III, George H.	1993 & 2021	Rick C. Kidd, PDDGM	2018		
LaFemina, Keith G.	1995				
Carter, Donnie R., PDDGM	1996				

## 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)