

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

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

Address Service Requested

SEPTEMBER 2022 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: 2022 – \$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

August 29, 2022

Brethren,

Our August Stated was Senior Warden's Night and Brother Ashley did a great job presiding in the East. August's meeting also saw record attendance for the second month in a row and we all enjoyed a family style cook-out with everyone pitching in. Please accept my thanks for all the side dishes and desserts and a big thanks to Brother Mark Segal who brought the grill and cooked all the burgers and dogs. And a special thanks to all of the Family Members who attended - you really made this a "Family Affair" and many of the wives commented that they really enjoyed getting together again with some dear old friends.

September is Junior Warden's Night and brother Jared will be presiding in the East. We will also have a presentation by Brother Gene Wells, a member of Meridian Lodge and a member of the Commonwealth Researchers of the Paranormal. Brother Gene has devoted the past seven years to the study of paranormal activities and other unexplained phenomenon.

I look forward to our next gathering; a time of fellowship, a good meal and an educational presentation.

May God continue to abundantly bless us all.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Robert E. Cook
Worshipful Master

STATED COMMUNICATION – THURSDAY, September 15, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

OFFICERS DRESS, MEMBERS & GUESTS: Please wear Lodge Polo Shirts

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: Brother Gene Wells, Meridian Lodge No. 284

Conclude Business

CLOSE LODGE

CALLED COMMUNICATIONS:

None Scheduled at this time

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Thursday, September 15, 2022 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication

Saturday, September 17, 2022 – Masters and Wardens Association meeting at the
Tuckahoe Masonic Temple, located at 5500 Bethlehem Road
Henrico, VA 23226, Breakfast at 8:00 AM Meeting at 8:45 AM
(Senior Deacons' class will exemplify the FC Degree)

Thursday, October 20, 2022 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication - **Past Masters Night**

PAST MASTER HONOR ROLL – AUGUST 2022 STATED

Heath W. Mayes, Donnie R. Carter, Claude A. "Buddy" Bass Jr., Robert E. Pagani, Wayne E. Fitchett
John Q. Shepard, J. Thomas Wadkins III, Christopher E. Loftus, John W. Edelin III, Robert E. Cook
Linwood G. Bennett Jr., George H. Cooke III, Lambros G. Deligan, Albert A. Dranoff, Daulton L. Carter
Lothar A. Bernhard, Steven W. Sanford, John H. Hart

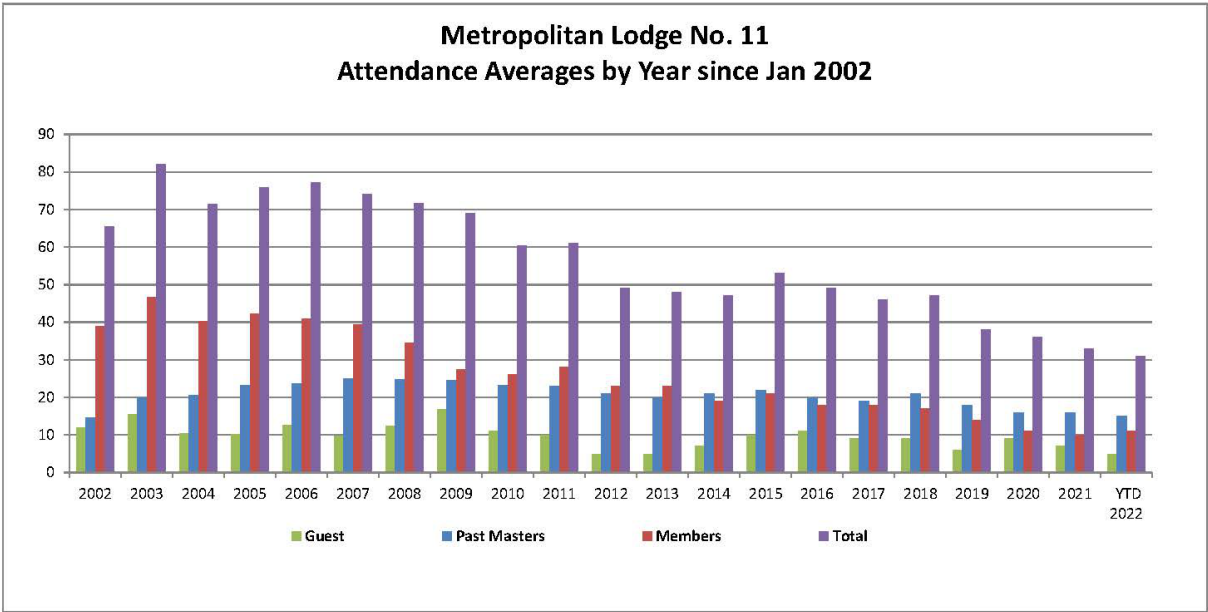
ATTENDANCE – AUGUST 2022 STATED

Past Masters – 18 Members – 13 Visitors – 7 Total – 38
Family Members – 16

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 – 31

Attendance Chart



“First Freemason Resident in America”

Born in Newtyle, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, the eldest surviving son of Liliias Skene née Gillespie and Alexander Skene, a merchant. In 1659 he was admitted as a burgess in Aberdeen. A Quaker, he left Scotland when his business failed and settled in West New Jersey

Br. John Skene was the first known Freemason to live in the "New World". He was a member of Aberdeen Lodge #1 in Scotland. His name appears as the 27th listed in one of the oldest written records of Freemasons, the Mark Book of Aberdeen Lodge#1 (1670), as "Merchand and Meason". Records being vague of the membership to protect trade secrets, Br. Skene's name is the first that can be traced to the new world. John Forbes, another Freemason from Aberdeen Lodge #1, moved to Plainfield, New Jersey in 1684 only to go back to Scotland the following year. Several other Masons from Aberdeen Lodge #1 moved to West Jersey during the same period but most shortly moved back to Scotland.

The passage for many of these Masons was secured by Harrie Elphingson (Master of Aberdeen Lodge #1 at the time of the Mark Book of 1670) as booking agent and under the patronage of the Earl of Perth, himself a Freemason. Skene moved to the Province of West Jersey in 1682.



According to The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America (NSCDA), Skene purchased a 300 arce property in 1674 (though there is no evidence that he came to Jersey before 1682) that he named Peachfield. It was in the Second Tenth of the Province, an area that would become Northampton Township, Burlington County, New Jersey (Nov. 6th, 1688) and then Westampton Township, New Jersey (March 6, 1850) near Burlington, New Jersey.

Br. Skene was a member of the West Jersey General Free Assembly representing the Second Tenth in 1683, and was chosen by the Assembly to serve as a member of the West New Jersey Provincial Council, members at the time being able to serve in both houses.

In October 1684 he was appointed by Governor Edward Byllynge as deputy governor, ousting Thomas Olive, the Assembly Speaker, who had been chosen by the lower house to serve concurrently as both speaker and governor; Byllynge considered this an illegal usurpation of his power.

Skene remained deputy governor until Byllynge's death in January 1687; he was continued in office by Byllynge's successor Daniel Coxe, and succeeded by Gov. Andrew Hamilton upon his death in 1690.



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 2022

Robert E. Cook, PM,	(C) 703-258-9135	(E) robertecook66@gmail.com	Worshipful Master
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		5958 Dugout Ter, Mechanicsville, VA 23111-4570	
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		9030 Brigadier Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116	
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Henry C. Payne	(C) 229-1967	(E) hcp.93@verizon.net.	Secretary
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		14746 Boyce's Cove Dr, Midlothian, VA 23112-2255	
Randal L. Clouse	(C) 370-6527	(E) RClouse1216@gmail.com.	Junior Deacon
		2758 Maple Grove Ln, East Powhatan. VA 23139-5043	
Robert E. Pagani, PM	(C) 512-2808	(E) 1fisherbob@gmail.com	Chaplain
George H. Cooke, III, PM	(H) 829-5426	(E) ghcooke3@aol.com	Marshal
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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	AFFILIATE PAST MASTERS	
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	Malbone, Theodore Irving	(#317)
Childrey, William E.	1992	Wade V. Evans, III	2015-2016	Martin, Frederick Garrison III, PGM	(#344)
Deligan, Lambros G. PDDGM	1992	Robert E. Cook	2017	Rose, Daniel Lee PDDGM	(#161)
Cooke, III, George H.	1993 & 2021	Rick C. Kidd, PDDGM	2018	Sanford, Steven Weldon PDDGM	(#4)
LaFemina, Keith G.	1995			Taylor, Robert Wright	(#317)