

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

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

Address Service Requested

SEPTEMBER 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

September 10, 2023

Brethren,

I am sorry to have missed our last stated meeting, Junior Warden's night, and I thank Worshipful Keith Lafemina for the great job he did in the East. I also appreciate all of those that helped prepare the meal, and with the lodge setup and cleanup.

Our next stated meeting on Thursday, September 21st will be Senior Warden's night. The attire for the evening is lodge polo shirts, or collared shirts. I look forward to once again having Brother Jared Richardson in the east.

Brethren, it has been some time since we have had the pleasure of performing work in a called communication. For those interested in serving the lodge through ritual work, whether by going through the chairs or by taking a role in the degree work, practice is necessary to hone our skills. Some of you may also be interested in standing your catechisms, which also requires some study. If the regular Monday class at Varina 272 is not convenient for you, please contact me and I will be happy to assist either by working with you in person, or helping find a lodge of instruction more convenient to your schedule.

Until then, as they say on one of my favorite podcasts, "take care of yourself, and if you can, someone else too".

Sincerely and Fraternaly
Bro. Ashley Thomas
Worshipful Master

STATED COMMUNICATION – THURSDAY, September 21, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

Senior Warden’s Night

OFFICERS, MEMBERS & GUESTS: 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:

Conclude Business

CLOSE LODGE

CALLED COMMUNICATIONS:

None Scheduled at this time

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Saturday, September 16, 2023 – Masters and Wardens Association, Tuckahoe Masonic Temple
5500 Bethlehem Road - Breakfast at 08:00 AM Meeting at 08:45 AM
Junior Wardens with Exemplify the 1st Section
of the Master Mason Degree

Thursday, September 21, 2023 – Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Stated Communication

Saturday, September 23, 2023 – Masonic Service for Brother Ralph Spring at Sunset
Memorial Park, 2901 W. Hundred Road, Chester, VA 23831

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – Rainbow Assembly #10 meeting at Varina Masonic Temple at 7:30 PM

Saturday, October 7, 2023 – MAHOVA Family Day, Festivities begin at 8:00 am, parade at 11:00 am,
lunch at Noon

Friday, December 15, 2023 – Metropolitan 11 hosts the MAHOVA Christmas party

PAST MASTER HONOR ROLL – AUGUST 2023 STATED

Heath W. Mayes, Keith G. LaFemina, Donnie R. Carter, Claude A. “Buddy” Bass, Jr.
Robert E. Pagani, Christopher E. Loftus, John W. Edelin III, Linwood G. Bennett, Jr.
George H. Cooke III, Robert E. Cook, Lambros G. Deligan, Albert A. Dranoff
Daulton L. Carter, Lothar A. Bernhard, Steven W. Sanford

ATTENDANCE – AUGUST 2023 STATED

Past Masters – 15 Members – 12 Visitors – 3 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:

REEVIS STANCIL ALPHIN

Born:	April 21, 1929
Initiated and Entered Apprentices:	November 2, 1950
Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft:	December 21, 1950
Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason:	December 28, 1950
70 Year Masonic Veteran:	December 28, 2020
Died:	August 13, 2023

To his family we offer our deepest sympathies.

Metropolitan's
Masonic Birthdays
For
September 2023

Member Name	Birthday	Years
Barker, James Oliver	9/28/1993	30
Edelin, John Walter, III	9/12/1979	44
Fitchett, Wayne Evans	9/23/1998	25
Gregory, William Wayne	9/29/1980	43
Grose, Robert Ray, Jr	9/17/2009	14
Jarvis, Larry Leon	9/15/1994	29
Juranis, Anthony M	9/27/1951	72
Koedel, John G, III	9/10/2007	16
Marshall, Gary Wayne	9/30/1992	31
Panebianco, Louis John	9/25/2003	20
Millikin, Robert Thomas, III	9/29/1999	24
Plotkin, Leonard	9/7/1967	56
Pool, John Timothy	9/10/1982	41
Saylor, Raynard Edward	9/29/1980	43
Schrader, Norman Lee	9/30/1991	32
Scott, Maurice Dillard	9/24/1981	42
Senghas, Edmund Robert, Jr	9/29/1999	24
Vanderburg, David Frank	9/17/2009	14
Wadkins, J. Thomas, III	9/15/1994	29
Willson, Charles Proctor	9/16/1978	45
Masonic Years		674

Roof of the World Lodge

The Grand Lodge of Scotland chartered Roof of the World Lodge No. 1094 in Cerro de Pasco, Peru in 1911. Considered the highest Masonic lodge in the world, the group met at an altitude of 14,208 feet above sea level.

In 1914 the lodge requested a special dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland permitting them to hold a regular lodge meeting at the summit of Mt. Meiggs in the Peruvian Andes at an altitude of 17,575 feet. The dispensation was granted and on August 29, 1914, twenty-six Master Masons held according to some the highest regular meeting of its kind in the history of Freemasonry. This photograph commemorates that 1914 meeting at the summit of Mt. Meiggs in Peru.



Because of its geographical location "Roof of the World "Lodge has always contained a membership of diverse nationalities.

Almost from the beginning there has been repeated agitation for a transfer of jurisdiction. To this end Communications were addressed to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the subject was discussed at regular Communications time and again over a period of years. Finally in September 1919, it was "unanimously voted to petition the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Massachusetts to take such necessary steps whereby our present charter under the Grand Lodge of Scotland may be cancelled and a new charter be granted to us under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts." The petition was prepared accordingly. In the end, the project was dismissed due to the considerable expense involved in the purchase of new aprons, jewels, and other necessary regalia.



In 1929 the Lodge was moved from Cerro de Pasco to La Oroya, where a suitable hall for the purpose had been built in the Inca Club. The last meeting in Cerro de Pasco and the first in La Oroya were both held in April. The meetings have since been held in La Oroya, at an altitude of 12,270 feet.

The depression of the 1930's was felt in Peru. There came repeated calls to the Lodge for financial aid to needy Brethren and their families. At the meeting of May 1932, during prolonged discussion consideration was given to the matter of back dues; many members were in arrears for two years and some four years, five years and longer. Several months later, because of the fluctuating value of the Peruvian Sol was stipulated that henceforth annual dues must be paid in U.S. currency.

It is worth mentioning that in compliance with the rules of the Scottish jurisdiction:

"Roof of the World Lodge does not drop members for non-payment of dues. Though nothing is heard from a member for years, and though his whereabouts may be unknown, his name continues on the roll. Should he then wish to be restored to active participation, this he may secure by the payment of dues for the years just past."

Life membership may be granted, upon the payment of a specified fee, to those who no longer live in Peru. Of these Presently On roll fifty-two are life members, most of whom are scattered far and wide over the globe.

On that occasion there were present certain Visiting Officers and Brethren from Sister Lodges on the coast of Peru, with whom there has always been close Masonic intercourse.

By 1937 the financial outlook was much brighter and the minutes report: "The Right Worshipful Master suggested that having a Scotchman as Treasurer might well be one of the principal reasons for success financially."

A special Communication was held in December 1937, for the purpose of assisting a number of Peruvian Masons in forming a new Lodge in La Oroya. This was Andina, No. 27, holden under the Grand Lodge of Peru. For the occasion the Grand Master of Peru was in attendance. The new Andina meeting hall was dedicated in 1939 and since that time the two groups have co-operated closely in various fraternal and social activities.

Remarkable enthusiasm and activity became evident in 1947, with frequent meetings and a constant reception of new members. Social events, which had suffered neglect during the Second World War, took on a revived interest. A picnic was held on Sunday, May 18. A special train was run to Malpaso for the occasion and some two hundred persons were present.

American executives and engineers employed by the various mines and construction camps in Peru made up most of the membership. The closest competitor in the U.S. is Corinthian Lodge No. 35 at Leadville, Colorado elevation about 10,200 feet.

The Roof of the World lodge last met in the early 1990s, in San Isidro, Lima, Peru.

Postscript: Sadly, the Lodge became dormant in 1993.

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) ashtomasjr@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
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			8540 Meadowsweet Dr, Mechanicsville, VA 23116-2828
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			2444 Gold Leaf Cir, Henrico, VA 23233
Henry C. Payne	(C) 229-1967	(E) hcp.93@verizon.net.	Secretary
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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	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	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				