



Mandarin Masonic Lodge No. 343 F.&A.M.

April 2025

## From the East...

Brethren,

I hope this message finds you well. It is with great pleasure that we welcome our newly raised Master Mason, Brother Eric Finkelstein, into the fold. Brother Eric has shown great dedication to our Craft, and we look forward to seeing him grow and contribute to our Lodge. Please take a moment to extend your congratulations and support as he continues his Masonic journey.

As we move forward, I want to emphasize the importance of Masonic Leadership Training (MLT). These sessions are crucial for strengthening our knowledge and preparing the future leaders of our Lodge. Please review the calendar for upcoming MLT dates and make every effort to attend. A well-informed and engaged Brotherhood is key to the success of our Fraternity.

Speaking of growth, it is inspiring to see our Lodge and Fraternity continue to flourish. The strength of our Brotherhood lies in the commitment and involvement of each member. Whether through mentorship, participation in Lodge activities, or simply reaching out to a Brother in need, we each have a role in ensuring that Freemasonry thrives for generations to come.

Let us continue to labor together in the spirit of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Fraternally,

Omar Rivera

Worshipful Master



## **From the South...**

Greetings Brothers,

Yet another month has blown by. It was a busy March for lodge and personal reasons (I'm currently out of town camping). We had a great time raising our new Brother Eric to Master Mason. Third Thursday Fellowship was a good time at Lanop.

Dinner for our stated meeting will be a pasta bar.

-----3TF for April-----

3TF will be at Bonefish Grill (10950 San Jose Blvd) this month.

I want to pick your brain and see how many people will go to a Brazilian steak house for dinner. I'm thinking on a Saturday, so we're not rushed. I have a few people that will go so far. I just wanted to start putting this out there sooner than later. It will be like a fancy 3TF, but not on Thursday.

Fraternally,

Daniel Breslin

Junior Warden

## **Newly Raised Master Mason...**

Bro. Eric Finkelstein

## **Petitions for the Degrees...**

Taylor D. Silvey

# Calendar

\*Subject to minor changes.

## April 2025

2- Open Books @ Orange  
Park Lodge  
3-DDGM Official Visit @  
Mandarin  
4 and 5– Scottish Rite Spring  
Reunion  
16– District SOI– Hyde Park  
Lodge  
17– MLT 1-5 @ Duval  
17- 3TF @ Bonefish Grill  
23– NEFMA @ OP Lodge  
24– MLT 6-10 @ JW Fargis  
28– MLT 11-15 @ Ribault  
30– District School of Ma-  
sonic Education @ Temple

## May 2025

1– Stated Communication  
7– Open Books @ Orange  
Park Lodge  
15-3TF (TBD)  
21– SOI @ JW Fargis  
26-28 Grand Communication  
@ Orlando

## **2025 OFFICERS**

### **Worshipful Master**

Omar Rivera  
(904) 864-9440

### **Senior Warden**

Bob Davidson

### **Junior Warden**

Daniel Breslin

### **Treasurer**

Don Carter, PM

### **Secretary**

Lou Govreau, PM

### **Marshall**

Jan Lindahl, PM

### **Chaplain**

Jack Krumbein

### **Senior Deacon**

Carl Mankinen

### **Junior Deacon**

Mitchel "Shane" Weaver

### **Senior Steward**

Travis Reynolds

### **Junior Steward**

Larry Mason

### **Tyler**

Bobby Bethel

## **2025 COMMITTEES**

### **Finance**

Bob Davidson, SW  
Larry Rogers, PM  
Travis Reynolds, SS

### **Vigilance**

Daniel Breslin, JW  
Jack Krumbein, Chaplain  
Travis Reynolds, SS

### **Petitions**

Lou Govreau, PM, Sec  
Shane Weaver, JD  
Bobby Bethel, Tyler

### **Masonic Education**

Todd Connor, PM  
Lou Govreau, PM, Sec  
Chairman- Ed Mann, PM

### **Board of Relief**

Omar Rivera, WM  
Bob Davidson, SW  
Daniel Breslin, JW

### **Charity**

Todd Connor, PM  
Don Carter, PM, Treas  
Larry Mason, JS

### **Lodge Property**

Bob Davidson, SW  
Daniel Breslin, JW  
Carl M, SD

### **Community Relations**

Jeff Starke , PM  
John Young, PM  
Larry Mason, JS

# PAST MASTERS

1962 <i>C. P. Munger</i>	1983 <i>J. R. Knight Jr.</i>	2004 Charles Higgins
1963 <i>C. E. Futch</i>	1984 John Porter Hufman	2005 James C. Ruoff
1964 <i>W. H. Ange</i>	1985 Richard Gale Hornbrook	2006 David M. L. Randall
1965 <i>Walter Wilson Powell</i>	1986 <i>Richard Faye Mauro</i>	2007 William E. Avera III
1966 <i>M. D. Bish</i>	1987 Donald Wyman Carter	2008 George S. Blum
1967 <i>Billy Collier</i>	1988 <i>Joseph J. Frederickson</i>	2009 <i>Eddie E. Bides</i>
1968 <i>T. "Ira" Higginbotham</i>	1989 Christopher C. Ramsayer	2010 Nate Vargo
1969 <i>C. J. Bowden</i>	1990 Anthony "George" Colson	2011 Larry M. Rogers
1970 <i>R. L. Flynn</i>	<b>1991 Henry B. Tucker</b>	2012 Mike Minter
1971 C. R. Bell (PDDGM)	1992 <i>Elva Ray "Pete" Copeland</i>	2013 Larry M. Rogers
1972 John Ammond Peoples Jr.	1993 Walter Manfred Pace	2014 George Sarkees III
1973 <i>Earl Davis Waldrep Sr.</i>	1994 <i>Lenwood Earl Bucks</i>	2015 Angelo Echevarria
1974 <i>Donald E. Bush</i>	1995 <i>Gerald Dean Pugh</i>	2016 Jeff Starke (PDDGM)
1975 <i>Earl Herndon (PDDGM)</i>	1996 Earnest Jackson Strange	<b>2017 David J. Gilpin</b>
1976 <i>M. C. Cassidy</i>	1997 Jimmy J. Pace	2018/2019 Todd Connor
1977 <i>Nicholas Manos</i>	1998 <i>Siegfried Rohrbacher</i>	2020 Lou Govreau
1978 <i>Cecil Lenard Platt</i>	1999 Randy Carter	2021 John Young
1979 <i>Cedric Frank Thompson</i>	2000 <i>Paul Johnston</i>	2022 Jeff Starke (PDDGM)
1980 <i>G. Grayson</i>	2001 John Downes	2023 Edward Mann
1981 <i>T. Thompson</i>	2002 Charles Benham	2024 Jan Lindahl
1982 <i>Jerry Johnson</i>	2003 Larry M. Rogers	



**RESOLUTION TO ADD CLARIFICATIONS, OPEN INSTALLATION, BALLOTING WORDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR MORE THAN 5 E.A.'S TO THE MERGED FLOORWORK PROCEDURES BOOK**

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Craft voted to approve a Resolution that created a merged Floorwork Procedures Book consisting of both the CIPHER and Floorwork in a single booklet, which would include corrections to irregularities, grammar, and punctuation; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 legislation was proposed to add the Open Installation Ceremony to the merged Floorwork Procedures Book, but was not voted on by the Craft due to Grand Lodge's cancellation, though unanimously approved by Jurisprudence and the Grand Master at the time; and

WHEREAS, the original merged Floorwork Procedures Book did not include merging of words for balloting or explanations for how to handle more than 5 Entered Apprentice Candidates at a time in accordance with the Digest of the Masonic Law, Regulations 37.01 and the 2012 Ruling and Decision; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the merged Floorwork Procedures Book, Brothers have been using it extensively and finding instructions that are unclear, leading to many questions and misinterpretations that conflict with either the "Forms and Ceremonies" or how the Ritual has consistently been taught by the Committee on Work.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the "Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures – Combined Ritual CIPHER and Floorwork Booklet" be updated per the copy submitted with this legislation to the Jurisprudence Committee, which has no changes to any CIPHER or words, but only adds clarifications for Ritual that was vague, unclear, or inconsistent with our "Forms and Ceremonies" or the consistent teachings of the Committee on Work, and also includes the Open Installation Ceremony, wording for balloting, and procedures for more than 5 candidates in the Entered Apprentice Degree.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee on Work will make these same updates to the Spanish version of the "Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures – Combined Ritual CIPHER and Floorwork Booklet".

Fraternally and respectfully submitted by the Committee on Work,

- R. : W. : Ryan W. Kilmartin, Vice Chairman
- R. : W. : Donald R. Goolsby, State Chairman
- R. : W. : Ronald A. "Jolly" Harris, Zone 1A Chairman
- R. : W. : Mark C. Dragon, Zone 1B Chairman
- R. : W. : Jason E. "JJ" Johnson, Zone 2A Chairman
- R. : W. : Jackie D. Arrington, Zone 2B/3B Chairman
- R. : W. : Charles M. "Scooter" Barr, Zone 3A Chairman
- R. : W. : Thomas W. Aiken, Zone 3C Chairman
- R. : W. : G. Raymond Vance, Zone 4A Chairman
- R. : W. : John A. "Drew" Baldwin, Zone 4B Chairman
- R. : W. : Eric J. Romano, Zone 5A Chairman
- R. : W. : Larry E. Kent, Zone 5B Chairman
- R. : W. : Barry D. Hart, Zone 6 Chairman
- R. : W. : Gerald I. Strohacker, Zone 7A Chairman
- R. : W. : Sergio J. Perez, Zone 7B Chairman
- R. : W. : L. Miguel Rivera, Spanish Speaking Member

**(Jurisprudence recommends rejection)**

**RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION AND THE DIGEST OF THE MASONIC  
LAW OF FLORIDA TO PERMIT THE GRAND MASTER TO AUTHORIZE  
ADDITIONAL PLACEMENT OF A DUPLICATE COPY OF THE  
FORMS AND CEREMONIES IN A DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, during the 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication of The Grand Lodge of Florida in 1993, the Craft adopted by written ballot a Resolution to place a duplicate copy of the Forms and Ceremonies in each District, pursuant to, and conditioned upon, a satisfactory contract and agreement between The Grand Lodge of Florida and the District requesting the copy and that the requesting District would be required to pay the cost incurred in the reproduction and provide a safe to house the “Books”; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the placement of these copies was to facilitate and provide the maximum opportunity, with the least inconvenience and travel, for the majority of the Lodges and the Craft to have access and availability to the official written “Work” in order to improve their proficiency; and

WHEREAS, several Districts have requested an additional duplicate copy of the “Forms and Ceremonies” be placed in their respective Districts because of the distance and travel of a much larger area; and

WHEREAS, during the 180<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication of The Grand Lodge of Florida in 2009, the Craft adopted by written ballot a Resolution to place a duplicate copy of the Forms and Ceremonies in each District, pursuant to the previously adopted Resolution at the 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the appropriate changes be made to the “Constitution” and “Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida” to permit the Grand Master to authorize those duplicate copies be produced by The Grand Lodge of Florida and be distributed to the requesting Districts. The receiving Districts will be required to follow the procedures for opening the safes containing the duplicate copies of the “Work” as delineated in Chapter 38.04 of the “Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida”. The duplicate copy of the “Forms and Ceremonies” retained at The Grand Lodge of Florida in Jacksonville shall be used as the “Master” for producing the duplicate copies.

**Article XV, Section 2 of the Constitution be amended to read:**

There shall be one (1) original and up to ~~thirty-five (35)~~ **forty (40)** duplicate copies of the Forms and Ceremonies described herein. There shall also be one Spanish Translation and ~~three (3)~~ **ten (10)** duplicate copies of the Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. There shall also be one (1) digitized copy of the original and Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. (2025)

**Regulation 38.04 (b) amended to read:**

There shall be one (1) original and up to ~~thirty-five (35)~~ **forty (40)** duplicate copies of the Forms and Ceremonies described herein. There shall also be one Spanish Translation and ~~three (3)~~ **ten (10)** duplicate copies of the Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. There shall also be one (1) digitized copy of the original and Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. (2025)

Respectfully submitted

M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Chairman of the Sub-Committee on the Masonic Digest  
M.:W.: Jorge L. Aladro, P.G.M., Member of the Sub-Committee on the Masonic Digest

**(Jurisprudence recommends adoption)**