



ST. JOHNS LODGE No. ONE

F. & A.M.

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

CONSTITUTED - 1757



September 2023

3922nd
Regular
Communication



R.: W.: Eric E. Grist
District Deputy Grand Master
Metro District

W.: John W. Kent III
Grand Master of Ceremonies

M.: W.: Douglas J. Grant
Grand Master

R.: W.: Michael R. Barbera
Grand Marshal

This Month's Communication: September 20, 2023

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St. Johns Lodge No. 1 Providence
F & A.M.
P.O. BOX 8397
WARWICK, R.I. 02888-0397

St. Johns Lodge meets the third Wednesday of every month, except July and August,
at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 2115 Broad Street, Cranston, Rhode Island.
Telephone: 401-223-7041



Secretary's mailing Address: P.O. Box 8397 Warwick, R.I. 02888-0397
Telephone: 401-323-8955 Email: secretary1prov@gmail.com

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Officers Rehearsal

7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Officers Rehearsal

7:00 PM

Monday, September 18, 2023

GM's Visitation – Rising Sun (Metro District)

7:30 PM

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

St. Johns #1 P Communication

6:00 PM

Attest: M.: W.: Wyman P. Hallstrom, Jr., Secretary

W.: Joseph J. Bernier, Master

Master's Message

Greetings My Brothers,

How quickly the days of August are passing by which is a clear indication that we will be returning to St. Johns No. 1 Providence in just a few weeks to continue our work in the Craft. While I am truly looking forward to our time together in Lodge, it does unfortunately mean that summer is coming to an end.

Speaking of summer, the St Johns 1P picnic was held on Sunday, 8/6 and we hosted a total of 160 brothers, family members and guests. In typical St Johns 1P manner, the picnic was well planned and the execution of the event was perfect. And, once again, we were blessed with perfect weather. My sincere thanks to the Officers and Picnic Committee members whose commitment made for such a pleasurable and enjoyable day. You did not overlook or miss one detail! I was also delighted that the majority of our 2023-2024 candidate class attended the picnic. Their interest in SJ1P and the Craft is palpable and you could sense their excitement. I know that they appreciated getting to know us as well as getting to know each other. It will truly be an honor to confer the degrees of Freemasonry on this cohort and I fully intend to meet their expectations!



Over this past month the Officers and I continued meeting to review, discuss and refine plans for the upcoming year. As mentioned previously, one of our summer endeavors was participating in a book discussion using *Observing the Craft* by **Brother Andrew Hammer**. For me personally, it has been a very rewarding exercise. It has opened dialogue and helped us define ideas in our pursuit of excellence and providing experience. As the capstone to our book discussion, the Officers are holding a Zoom session with Bro. Hammer to share some thoughts and to ask some very pointed questions. As a note, Bro. Hammer will be our guest speaker for the April 2024 communication which is also our official visitation from **R:W.: DDGM Eric Grist**. The combination of these two events will make for a wonderful evening. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

For our September meeting on 9/20, our guest speaker will be **R:W.: Brother Nicholas Ives** who is currently the *Grand Junior Steward* and *Grand Lodge Officer* for District 4 in the state of Connecticut. He is also a member of the *Committee for Masonic Education* in Connecticut and has been chairman since 2017. I've invited R:W.: Nick to come and speak with us about the establishment of **Ouroboros Lodge No. 151**. Ouroboros Lodge is an observant lodge and R:W.: Nick was its charter Master. He will share with us the story and reasons why Ouroboros No. 151 was founded and what is done differently in this observant lodge. Come learn about Masonic observance and to consider what/how we might want to (re)introduce at SJ1P as we pursue excellence. I expect that the presentation by R:W.: Nick will be thought provoking and I have been looking forward to it for months.

At our September meeting we will also be selling SJ1P hats and polos shirts. These were so popular last year that we sold out. So, we recently placed another order but in different colors. This year the polos are navy with the SJ1P crest and the hats are khaki with the crest. For those at the picnic, Bro. **Senior Deacon Bill Gouge** was modeling the new polo. Currently, we have a variety of sizes available but quantities are limited. If you would like a polo or hat (or one of each), please get them while you can. The cost is \$20 each.

For your planning purposes, we will be conducting the Entered Apprentice degree on October 18th. The Officers have been working hard and are focused on delivering an impressive degree. Please mark your calendars and plan to come out to support the Officers and our candidates. Our goal is to provide the "wow" and you play an important part in that too.

As a reminder, an RSVP for dinner at our monthly meetings is required. At times, we were able to accurately guess the number of dinner guests but at other times, we missed the mark. This guesswork makes planning unnecessarily difficult for the Stewards and it is frustrating and potentially very wasteful. Please make your reservation by the due date each month - we will be honoring meals **ONLY** for those with reservations.

Enjoy these remaining weeks of August and I'm excited to see you soon at St. Johns No. 1 Providence on September 20th!

Fraternally,

W: Joseph J. Bernier

Joseph J. Bernier
Worshipful Master



Get Well Wishes

Peter McConaghy 401-641-5660
81 Norton Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

Lino Martin
976 Long View Drive, North Attleboro, MA 02760

Darryl Triggs 401-632-6817
31 Remington Farm Drive, Coventry, RI 02816

Let us remember all sick or shut in Brothers who could use a call, card or visit. Please report all such brothers to the Master W.: Joseph J. Bernier or any of the following **Sick and Distressed Committee** members; Walter Kelly, Kenneth Phillips, Karapet Emdjian or contact Bob O'Brien at bob.obrien@gmail.com or 401-487-4750

If you know of a brother who is ill, recuperating, house bound or we just haven't seen in a while, please contact someone on the **Sick and Distressed Committee**.

One of the most important functions of our service work is attention to our sick and shut-ins. No matter how diligent and efficient a Master and his officers may be, these few men cannot accomplish what a well organized Visitation Committee might be able to do. Calls on the sick and distressed should be made as often as possible. It is also important to recognize that some shut-ins feel cut off and disconnected from others. Bringing information about other brethren, lodge or district activities and various local or fraternal information may serve to reconnect our brethren to their lodges and fraternities.

Illness is not the only way to become distressed and we are here for our Brothers, widows and orphans. We care and are here to assist if we can.



September's Guest Speaker

The Observant Lodge

RWB Nicholas H. Ives, Ed. D., Grand Junior Steward
Grand Lodge of Connecticut A.F. & A.M.

Brother Ives will discuss why Ouroboros Lodge was started, and he will walk us through everything they do differently. It is important to note that all brothers of Ouroboros Lodge remain active members of their mother lodges - this is just a different experience that all enjoy. Each decision made was careful and deliberate. He will talk about how they arrived at some key decisions that shape lodge life.

Brother Ives was raised in Meridian Lodge No. 77 in 2009, served as Worshipful Master there in 2013, was a district deputy for district 4 in 2016-2017 and is now the Grand Junior Steward and the Grand Lodge officer for District 4.

Has been a member of the Committee for Masonic Education in Connecticut since 2013 and has been chairman since 2017, a past chairman of the archives committee and a member of legal matters committee and am currently the Vice Chairman of the Blue Wave Membership project which is our membership program here in CT.

He was the charter master of Ouroboros Lodge No. 151 and served as the president of the Green Dragon Masonic Club, the predecessor to the lodge being formed and the leader of the Library Masonic discussion group, where it all started and chartered on October 17th 2020, right in the middle of the Pandemic.

Lodge & District Events

Saturday 09/02/23	Logia Libertad UD	7:00 PM
Wednesday 09/06/23	Officers Rehearsal	7:00 PM
Saturday 09/09/23	Gaspee Chapter DeMolay	2:00 PM
Monday 09/11/23	Redwood Lodge #35	7:00 PM
Tuesday 09/12/23	Overseas Lodge #40	6:30 PM
Wednesday 09/13/23	Officers Rehearsal	7:00 PM
Wednesday 09/13/23	Rising Sun #30	7:00 PM
Monday 09/18/23	Grand Master's Visitation	7:30 PM
	Rising Sun #30	
Wednesday 09/20/23	St Johns #1 Providence	6:00 PM
Saturday 09/23/23	Gaspee Chapter DeMolay	2:00 PM
Saturday 09/23/23	Rainbow-Warwick Assembly	7:00 PM
	Installation (Scottish Rite)	
Monday 09/25/23	Jenks Lodge No. 24	7:30 PM
Saturday 09/30/23	DeMolay-Gaspee Chapter	7:00 PM
	Installation (Scottish Rite)	
Monday 10/04/23	Redwood Lodge #35	7:00 PM
Saturday 10/07/23	Logia Libertad UD	7:00 PM

September 20nd Monthly Communication

6:00 PM:	St. Johns open to transact such business as shall regularly come before it.
6:45 PM:	Dinner
	A limited number of fish meals available with reservation.
7:30 PM:	Guest Speaker

Call: Brother Senior Steward @ **401-861-1757**
 or email: sj1prov@gmail.com

No later than **Sunday, September 17th** for reservations.
 Any Brother with special dietary needs beyond the listed menu,
 please mention it in your message.

PAWTUCKET AND GASPEE CHAPTER OF RHODE ISLAND DEMOLAY

— *Spaghetti Dinner* —



FOOD AND ICE CREAM BAR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
 680 NATE WHIPPLE HWY CUMBERLAND, RI 02864

6PM-8PM



TICKETS:
 \$12 PER ADULT
 \$8 PER CHILD 8 AND
 UNDER

AT DOOR PRICE:
 \$15 PER ADULT
 \$10 PER CHILD 8 AND
 UNDER



Ballot on Petition to Join by Degrees

Julius Cavira
 Mineral Spring Ave., Pawtucket, RI

Joseph Puleo
 Grace St., Cranston, RI

GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISITATIONS

September 18, 2023	Metro District
	Rising Sun No. 30
November 4, 2023	Northern District
	Friendship Lodge No. 7
December 5, 2023	East Bay District
	St Pauls Lodge No. 14
January 22, 2024	Mother Lodge
	Jenks Lodge No. 24
March 7, 2024	Southern District
	Mt Vernon Lodge No. 4
April 19, 2024	Central District
	Manchester Lodge No. 12
April 5, 2024 ...	Testimonial Dinner

METRO DISTRICT MEETINGS

ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS

Rising Sun No.30	May 24, 2024
Overseas No. 40	November 11, 2023
Jenks No. 24	January 6, 2024
Redwood No. 35	May 13, 2024
St. Johns No. 1 Providence	June 24, 2024
Logia Libertad UD	TBD

VISITATIONS

* Rising Sun No. 30October 16, 2023
Logia LibertadNovember 3 2023
Redwood No. 35January 8, 2024
Jenks No. 24March 25, 2024
Overseas No. 40April 9, 2024
St. Johns No. 1 ProvidenceApril 17, 2024
	* Officer Forum

St Johns Lodge Number One Providence ~ Officers 2022-2023

Master: W.: Joseph J. Bernier
Senior Warden: Jason Shealy **Junior Warden: Robert Larrabee**
Treasurer: R.: W.: Ronald P. Reed **Secretary: M.: W.: Wyman P. Hallstrom, Jr.** email: secretary1prov@gmail.com
Chaplain: W.: Robert J. O'Brien **Associate Chaplain: Peter A. Healey**



Senior Deacon: William C. Gouge **Junior Deacon: Scott C. Alexander**
Senior Steward: Jeffrey Parker **Junior Steward: Octavio Gomez**



Marshal: W.: John B. Paliotta
Sentinel: Sean C. Paley
Tiler: Karapet Emdjian **Associate Tiler: Thomas J. Kumes**
Master of Ceremonies W.: Timothy L. Culhane **Associate M.C.: R.: W.: Kenneth B. Phillips**

Musical Director: W.: Larry Thienel
Lodge Reporter: W.: Timothy L. Culhane
Finance Committee: W.: Edward D. Bertrand (2026), W.: Scott E. Miller (2025), Edward O. Quinn (2024)

Living Past Masters of St. Johns Lodge Number One Providence

St. Johns Lodge No. 1P

1971	Hagop Tikoian
1973	John C. Crompton
1975	Robert D. Coleman
1976	Barry A. Phillips
1979	George M. Hanrahan
1980	Carl E. Croft
1981	Ralph DiScuillo
1982	Anthony Marcello, Jr.
1984	Gregory W. Dexter
1986	Elton D. Ricker, Jr.
1993	Anthony Marcello, Jr.
1994-95	Thomas A. Ashley
2001	Gregory W. Dexter
2002	William E. Whetstone
2006	Gerald T. Plemmons
2007	Russell A. Kawa
2008	Kenneth B. Phillips
2009	Ronald P. Reed
2010	Edward D. Bertrand
2011	Donald L. Williamson, Jr.
2013	Richard F. Lynch
2014	Robert J. O'Brien
2015	Timothy L. Culhane
2016	William J. DeLuca
2017	Edward D. Bertrand

2018	Richard Gonzalez
2019	Mazen M. Alsabe
2020	Scott E. Miller
2021	Joshua A. Irizarry
2022	John B. Paliotta
Unity Lodge No. 34	
1969	George W. Haworth
Barney Merry Lodge No. 29	
1969	M. Lee Reed
1978	William E. Whetstone
1985	Paul R. Moran
1990	David Lancaster
1991	James Wishart
1992-93	Robert B. Ellston
1997-98	William E. Whetstone
2000	Ronald P. Reed
Thomas Smith Webb No.43	
1966	Bogos W. Pelgian ^
1970	Bernard Labush ^
1982	Steven Babigian ^
1984	Steven Babigian ^
1985	Mohamed H. Hussein ^
1986	Dennis C. Smith

1987	Louis Micheli Jr.
1988	Thomas F. Gregory ^
1989	Duncan C. Watson
1989	Bryan W. Cooper ^
1990	Steven Skaling^
1992	Thomas F. Gregory ^
1993	Louis Falaguera
1993	William M. Troberman ^
1996	Eugene Thibeault
1999	Frank DiMascio ^
2000	Eugene Thibeault
2004-05	James F. Desmarais
2007	Philip R. Hartnett
2008	Robert Boehm
2010	Gary Moe
2011-12	Dennis Sullivan

(#) Honorary Past Master
 (*) Corinthian Lodge No. 27
 (^) Orpheus Lodge No. 36

Living Past Grand Masters of St. Johns Lodge Number One Providence

1994-1995	Ralph DiScuillo
2000-2001	Benjamin A. Phillips
2001-2002	Dennis W. Pothier
2002-2003	Robert J. Allen
2004-2005	Bradford L. Barco
2005-2006	Wyman P. Hallstrom, Jr

2007-2008	Steven E. Smith
2008-2009	Richard S. Sokoll
2009-2010	Richard L. Ault, Jr.
2014-2015	Wyman P. Hallstrom, III
2015-2016	Raymond E. Hassell
2017-2017	Stephen T. McGuire

2017-2018	Peter Iacobucci
2018-2019	Glenn S. Carlson
2020-2021	Gary S. Kaufman
2021-2022	Robert B. Ellston
2022-2023	Robert A. Palazzo



St. Johns Distinguished Service Medal

1967 W.:	Kinglsey L. Bennett*
1968	Kenneth W. Fawthrop*
1970 W.:	Harold W. Thatcher*
1971 W.:	Rufus C. Fuller, Jr.*
1971 W.:	J. Harold Robertson*

1975 M.: W.:	Wesley Reuter*
1980 W.:	Ralph W. Wilkins*
1982 W.:	James F. Candelet*
1992 M.: W.:	Arthur R. Cole, Jr.*
1992 W.:	Anthony Marcello, Jr.

1994 M.: W.:	Ralph DiScuillo
1995 R.: W.:	Edward L. Calamar, Jr.*
2000 R.: W.:	Henry V. Aharonian*
2005 W.:	Elton D. Ricker, Jr.
2007 W.:	Gregory W. Dexter

2009 R.: W.:	Russell A. Kawa
2014 R.: W.:	Kenneth B. Phillips
2023 M.: W.:	Wyman P. Hallstrom, Jr.

*deceased