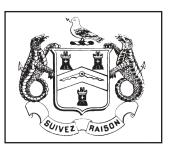


# ST. JOHNS LODGE NO. ONE

F. & A.M.
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
CONSTITUTED - 1757

September 2023

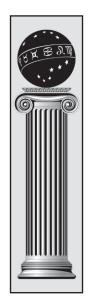
3922<sup>nd</sup>
Regular
Communication



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

Return Service Requested



St. Johns Lodge No. 1 Providence F & A.M. PO. BOX 8397

NON PROFIT PROVIDENCE, RI PAID PRID PERMIT NO. 2898



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, 2023Officers Rehearsal7:00 PMWednesday, September 13, 2023Officers Rehearsal7:00 PMMonday, September 18, 2023GM's Visitation – Rising Sun (Metro District)7:30 PMWednesday, September 20, 2023St. Johns #1 P Communication6:00 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	<b>Grand Master's Visitation</b>	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 Assembly7:00 PM	
	<b>Installation</b> (Scottish Rite)	
Monday 09/25/23	Jenks Lodge No. 24	7:30 PM
Saturday 09/30/23	<b>DeMolay-Gaspee Chapter</b>	7:00 PM
	<b>Installation</b> (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

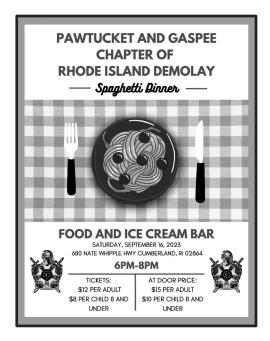
Call: Brother Senior Steward @ 401-861-1757

 $or\ email: \textbf{sj1prov@gmail.com}$ 

No later than Sunday, September 17th for reservations.

Any Brother with special dietary needs beyond the listed menu,

please mention it in your message.



# 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. 30	October 16, 2023
Logia Libertad	November 3 2023
Redwood No. 35	January 8, 2024
Jenks No. 24	March 25, 2024
Overseas No. 40	April 9, 2024
St. Johns No. 1 Providence	April 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

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

Timothy L. Culhane

Edward D. Bertrand

William J. Del uca

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 Paul R Moran 1985 1990 **David Lancaster** 1991 James Wishart Robert B. Ellston 1992-93 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 ^ Duncan C. Watson 1989 Bryan W. Cooper ^ 1989 1990 Steven Skaling<sup>^</sup> 1992 Thomas F. Gregory ^ 1993 Louis Falaquera William M. Troberman ^ 1993 1996 Eugene Thibeault 1999 Frank DiMascio ^ 2000 Eugene Thibeault James F. Desmarais 2004-05 2007 Philip R. Hartnett 2008 Robert Boehm 2010 Gary Moe Dennis Sullivan 2011-12

(#) 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

2015

2016

2017

 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