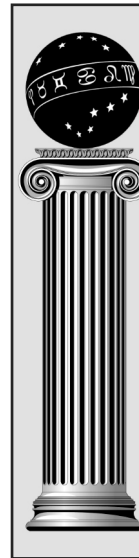


ST. JOHNS LODGE No. ONE

F. & A.M.

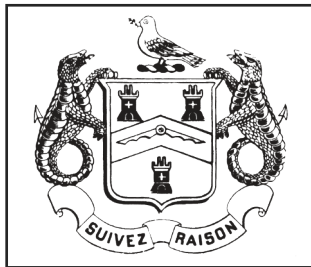
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

CONSTITUTED - 1757



April 2025

3939th
Regular
Communication



R.: W.: Stephan H. Saraidarian
District Deputy Grand Master
Metro District
W.: Jason J. Rainone
Grand Master of Ceremonies
M.: W.: Andre H. Faria
Grand Master
R.: W.: Brandt Evans
Grand Marshal

This Month's Communication: April 16, 2025

Return Service Requested



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

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PROVIDENCE, RI
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, April 2, 2025	Officers Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Wednesday, April 9, 2025 (Special Communication)	St. Johns Lodge #1 P - MM Degree	5:30 PM
Wednesday, April 16, 2025	St. Johns Lodge #1 P - DDGM Visitation	5:30 PM
Saturday, May 3, 2025	Trip to Euclid Lodge #136 (See flyer inside for details)	6:30 AM

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

W.: Jason Shealy, Master

Master's Message

Greetings My Brothers,

I write to you this month with a heavy heart. While those who are in regular attendance at St Johns Lodge 1P will already be aware, I am very sad to report that our **Brother Senior Deacon Scott Alexander** passed away from a short but aggressive illness. His passing has been extremely hard on the Lodge. Scott was a steady and reliable brother in St Johns 1P, a real Mason's Mason. His brief but meaningful contributions to the Craft, both in St Johns and throughout the jurisdiction, were duly honored at his wake and funeral where so many Brothers and family came to pay their last respects. The officers are particularly grief-stricken, owing to the fraternal bonds we built with Scott in our labors serving the lodge these last several years. He was our brother and friend. We will miss him immensely.



As part of processing our grief, we have taken on the responsibility of memorializing him within St Johns 1P. At our March communication, the lodge unanimously voted to make Scott an Honorary Past Master, an honor rarely bestowed by our lodge. We are planning a large celebration of life event for the end of May, which will also be a fundraiser to continue support for his widow. A new award has been created in his honor, which will be presented in June. As with all great brothers before him, Scott's legacy will become inextricably entwined with the St Johns 1P story. His name will not soon be forgotten, and we are grateful we can honor him in this way.

Part of the challenge in the wake of Scott's passing has been rearranging the lodge schedule. We were unable to conduct our Master Mason degree in March as planned. We have now scheduled the degree for a *special communication on Wednesday, April 9th*. We will open at 5:30 PM, have a light meal between the first and second sections, and proceed with the entire degree that evening.

The following week is our April communication on April 16th. We are elated to welcome our **District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: Stephan H. Saraidarian** for his official visitation to our lodge. The program that evening will be a presentation titled "*The Importance of Music in Freemasonry*" presented by **R.:W.: Bro Paul C. Smith** from the *Grand Lodge of New Hampshire*. R.: W.: Paul and I have had lovely conversations about the nature of music in Craft, its role, and the ways in which music shapes our perceptions of Freemasonry. I have no doubt this program will be interesting and informative. We will open lodge at 5:30PM, with dinner, program, and reception of our DDGM to follow. Please make your reservations for dinner soon!

Lastly, take note of the enclosed flyer for our biannual visitation to **Euclid Lodge #136**, which will be on May 3rd. Please reach

out with your reservation as soon as possible. We are very excited for the 40th anniversary of this long-standing tradition, as are our brethren at Euclid!

As is my habit, I will close with some personal thoughts. In these days and weeks following Scott Alexander's death, I find myself grieving more deeply than expected. Moments of numbness and inertia are quickly followed by anger, then sadness, then an inexplicable peace. My wife reminds me that this is a typical path for grief, which is in turn the price we pay for love. I suppose she is right.

Near the end of the film *Forrest Gump*, Forrest walks with his beloved Jenny for a time. They soon come upon her childhood home, a place where she experienced significant trauma as a child. Jenny makes her way up the driveway, standing before the dilapidated structure. In an instant, she is overwhelmed by her traumatic experiences in an outpouring of rage, anger, fear, sorrow, and hurt, her lifetime of suppressed raw emotion laid bare. For all the good it does, she channels her rage into throwing rocks at the home, finally collapsing to the ground in exhaustion.

I have thought of this scene often these last few weeks. I consider the ways in which we all experience loss and grief during our time on Earth, how there is no one way to process these experiences. For my part, I have sought comfort with my friends and family, certainly amongst my Masonic brethren. I've gone for walks, played my drums more aggressively than usual, and when the weather has allowed it, begun tending to my yard and flower beds in anticipation of spring. I've been honest with myself and others about my sadness and grief. There are days when these things help, but there are just as many days where no amount of walking or drumming or gardening makes a difference. As Forrest says, sometimes, I guess there just aren't enough rocks.

I miss my friend.

Continue to be well, my brothers, and I look forward to seeing you out and about.

W.: Charles Jason Shealy

Charles Jason Shealy
Master, St Johns No 1 Providence



St. Johns is looking for an Assistant Secretary to train with Brother Secretary to one day take over. Must be serious about the commitment. Contact Worshipful Master, Brother Secretary, or Brother Senior Warden if Interested.

Ballot on Petition to Join by Degree

Alex I. Bulbulian
204 Grand Avenue
Cranston, RI, 02905

Lodge & District Events

Wednesday 04/02/25	Officers Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Monday 04/07/25	Grand Master's Visitation	7:30 PM
	St. Johns #1 (Mother Lodge)	
Tuesday 04/08/25	Overseas Lodge #40	7:00 PM
	DDGM Visitation (Metro District)	
Wednesday 04/09/25	St. Johns #1 P - MM Degree	5:30 PM
	(Special Communication)	
Saturday 04/12/25	Gaspee Chapter DeMolay	2:00 PM
Saturday 04/12/25	DeMolay/Rainbow	7:00 PM
	Progressive Dinner	
Sunday 04/13/25	Grand Master's Testimonial Dinner	6:00 PM
	Wyndham Newport Hotel	
Wednesday 04/16/25	St. Johns #1 P - DDGM Visit	5:30 PM
Monday 04/21/25	Rising Sun #30	7:00 PM
Saturday 04/26/25	Gaspee Chapter DeMolay	2:00 PM
Monday 04/28/25	Jenks Lodge No. 24	7:00 PM
Saturday 05/03/25	Travel to Euclid Lodge #136	7:00 AM

April 9th Special Communication

5:30 PM: St. Johns will open to confer the **Master Mason Degree**, have a light meal between the first and second sections, and then proceed with the entire degree in one evening.

Get Well Wishes

Lino Martin

976 Long View Drive, North Attleboro, MA 02760

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. Jason Shealy** 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

In Memoriam

Brother Scott Christopher Alexander

St. Johns Lodge #1 Providence

Born, April 26, 1969

Entered Apprentice degree October 18, 2017

Fellowcraft degree February 13, 2018

Master Mason degree April 11, 2018

Signed the By Laws May 16, 2018

Departed March 6, 2025

55 years



April's Program

The Importance of Music in Masonry

By R.W. Bro. Paul C. Smith

The Importance of Music in Masonry explores the ties of music to our craft, as a liberal art and science. Music is an intimate part of our human nature and we'll explore why it should be an important part of every Masonic gathering.

R.W. Bro. Paul C. Smith was raised a Master Mason in November 2004 in Rockingham Lodge no. 76 in Candia, New Hampshire. He served as Master in 2009 and 2010. He was the founding Master of General Court Lodge no. 1784 in 2007, a special lodge for members and staff of the New Hampshire General Court. He was the founding Master of Phoenix Lodge no. 105, a Traditional Observance lodge in 2012. He served as Master of Anniversary Lodge of Research in 2014. He served the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire as Grand Steward, District Education Officer, District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Deputy Grand Education Officer and Grand Education Officer and was elected a Permanent Member in 2023. An active member of the York Rite, Paul served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Grand Master of Cryptic Masons, and Grand Commander of Knights Templar in New Hampshire. He currently serves as Northeast Regional Deputy General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International.

Please Note: No bills larger than \$50 when paying for dinner. Thank you.

April 16th Monthly Communication

5:30 PM: St. Johns open to transact such business as shall regularly come before it.

6:15 PM: Dinner

7:15 PM: Resume

7:30 PM: Receive the DDGM

Call: Brother Senior Steward @ 401-861-1757

or email: sj1prov@gmail.com

No later than **Friday, April 11th** for reservations.

Any Brother with special dietary needs beyond the listed menu, please mention it in your message.

In Memoriam

Brother Steven Kirk Whitehead

St. Johns Lodge #1 Providence

Born, November 1, 1957

Entered Apprentice degree February 21, 1979

Fellowcraft degree April 18, 1979

Master Mason degree May 16, 1979

Signed the By Laws June 20, 1979

Departed November 29, 2024

67 years

St Johns Lodge Number One Providence ~ Officers 2024-2025

Master: W.: Jason Shealy
Senior Warden: Robert Larrabee Junior Warden: William C. Gouge
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: W.: Joshua A. Irizarry Junior Deacon: John P. Gauthier
Senior Steward: Octavio Gomez Junior Steward: Sean C. Paley



Marshal: W.: Scott E. Miller
Sentinel: Alan Vukas
Tiler: Karapet Emdjian Associate Tiler: Thomas J. Kumes
Master of Ceremonies R.: W.: Timothy L. Culhane

Lodge Reporter: W.: Timothy L. Culhane
Finance Committee: W.: Edward D. Bertrand (2026), W.: Scott E. Miller (2025), Edward O. Quinn (2027)

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
2023	Joseph J. Bernier
Unity Lodge No. 34	
1969	George W. Haworth
Barney Merry Lodge No. 29	
1978	William E. Whetstone
1990	David Lancaster
1992-93	Robert B. Ellston
1997-98	William E. Whetstone
2000	Ronald P. Reed
Thomas Smith Webb No.43	
1966	Bogos W. Pelgian ^
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 ^
1995	Joseph Costa
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

(*) Corinthian Lodge No. 27
 (^) Orpheus Lodge No. 36



Honorary Past Masters of St. Johns Lodge Number One Providence

2025	Scott C. Alexander *	*deceased
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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
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

2016-2017	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
2023-2024	Douglas J. Grant

St. Johns Distinguished Service Medal

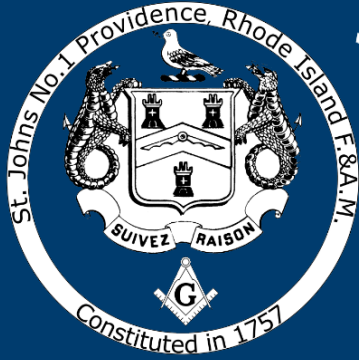
1967 W.:	Kinglsey L. Bennett*
1968	Kenneth W. Fawthrop*
1970 W.:	Harold W. Thatcher*
1971 W.:	Rufus C. Fuller, Jr.*
1971 W.:	J. Harold Robertson*

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



St Johns No. 1 Providence

Biennial Visitation to Euclid Lodge #136



Celebrating 40 Years of Fraternal Bonds

St. Johns Lodge No.1 Providence will travel to Euclid Lodge #136, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, to visit our brethren there and enjoy a day of Masonic brotherhood and fellowship.

Saturday, May 03, 2025

Gather at the Scottish Rite Cathedral: 6:30AM | Departure: 7:00 AM | Return: 10:00 PM
Coffee, donuts, finger sandwiches, and other food will be provided for the bus ride.

Reservations are required and due by Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Cost: \$50 per person, which is all inclusive for the day's travel and activities.
Food, drinks, and cigars will be provided.

Please email, call, or text Brother JW Bill Gouge to RSVP or with questions:

juniorwardensj1p@gmail.com | cell - (401) 499-3402

Your reservation is confirmed when payment is received.

Payment may be mailed to: **Bill Gouge - 43 Pine Tree Ln., West Greenwich, RI 02817**
You may also bring payment to the stated communication on April 16, 2025.

Space is limited! RSVP today!

We have room for 40 brothers on the bus. Reservations are first come, first served.

Dress Code

Collared polo, khaki pants, and dress shoes are suitable for the entire day. Wear your SJ1P polo with pride!

We have dispensation to open Lodge in polos and khakis. No suit and tie required.

ACTIVITIES

We will enjoy a day of leisure at Euclid lodge. Bring your favorite camp chair!

Please prepare your stories and memories of this 40 year tradition. There will be ample opportunity to reminisce!