



# Trestle Board

### Special points of interest:

- Adopt-A-Teacher at Manatee 31
- Mason of the Month
- Realize Bradenton
- President's Day

## Adopt-A-Teacher Program at Manatee 31

Worshipful Master Anthony DiMauro Jr. was joined with R.:W.: District Deputy Grand Master Lou Ortt in presenting Florida Grand Lodge Certificates and a \$500 check to Maria DaCosta (ESOL Teacher at Braden River Middle School), Stephanie Davis (Third Grade Teacher at Sea Breeze Elementary School), and Terri Rohde

(Media Specialist at Lee Middle School).

Also in attendance was Manatee Superintendent of Schools Cynthia Saunders who gave a touching speech during the program, Braden River Middle School Principal Mrs. Kimberlain Zenon-Richardon and Lee Middle School Vice Principal Terrance Marshall. Con-

gratulations to all our teachers and thanks to everyone who came out to support this worthy program.

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The 2021 Adopt-A-Teacher winners accompanied by W.: Anthony DiMauro and R.: W.: Lou Ortt. From left to right: W.: Anthony DiMauro, Maria DaCosta, Terry Rohde, Stephanie Davis, and R.: W.: Lou Ortt.

For full picture go to page 2.

# Trestle Board



From left to right: W.: Anthony DiMauro, Cynthia Saunders, Maria DaCosta, Kimberlain Zenon-Richardon, Terry Rohde, Terrance Marshall, Stephanie Davis, and R.: W.: Lou Ortt



From left to right: W.: Anthony DiMauro, Maria DaCosta, Terry Rohde, Stephanie Davis, and R.: W.: Lou Ortt

# Trestle Board



*Superintendent Cynthia Saunders with W.: Anthony DiMauro and R.: W.: Lou Ort.*



## Trestle Board

### Brother Treasurer Swen Ekstrom Awarded Mason of the Month

*“Congratulations Brother Swen. That is indeed a Honor” — M.: Tommy Turlington*

On February 1st, Brother Swen Ekstrom, our most valued Treasurer, was recognized as the Mason of the Month. He was awarded Mason of the Month for his outstanding work as Treasurer.

Brother Swen was presented with the February Mason of the Month award for his financial acuity to reconcile the Lodge's finances and provide a concise and accurate report on our fiscal health.



### A Tiramisu To Die For



Brother Senior Steward Adam Ainsley and Mrs. Leslie Ainsley presented the lodge with a masonic Tiramisu. In honor of our guests from “Realize Bradenton”, for dessert that evening, we enjoyed this delicious, scrumptious, and beautifully emblemed Tiramisu.

## Trestle Board

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### Lodge Cleanup Another Big Hit

On Saturday, February 6th, the Brothers met to clean the lodge, clean the kitchen, and maintain the landscaping. With as many Brothers in attendance, all chores were done by 10:30 a.m. If you have the time, please attend a lodge clean-up session. Lodge clean-up is on the first Saturday of the month. Special thanks goes to our EA Brothers David Brasgalla, Kevin Oatman, and Don Johnston who attend every lodge clean-up. Thank you Brothers. You are a treasure to the lodge and to masonry.

### Congratulations To Our New Fellowcrafts

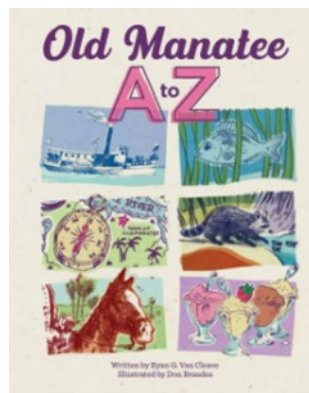
On Saturday, February 20th, Brothers Donald Olmsted Jr. and Jimmie Hamrick Jr. were passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. The Degree Master was Junior Warden Tracey Martin, the lecture was conducted by Brother Michael Cochran, Phoenix Lodge No. 346, and the Charge was delivered by W.: George Vomvoris. Congratulations Brothers on advancing to the Degree of Fellow Craft and Congratulations to the Degree Team for an outstanding degree.



## Trestle Board

### Realize Bradenton

At our Second Stated meeting on February 15th, Andrea Knies, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, and Jodi Carroll, Special Project Manager, of Realize Bradenton visited Manatee 31 for an informative and spirited presentation on the Riverwalk Expansion and the future of historic Manatee Village. Realize Bradenton engages people to make a positive impact and promote Bradenton.



One project that was shared by Jodi and Andrea was the recent publication of "Old Manatee from A to Z." This primer of Manatee history was a Realize Bradenton project with 26 well researched facts dating back to the 1800's.

Ryan G. Van Cleave, Sarasota author and head of the creative writing program at Ringling College of Art and Design and Don Brandes, illustrator and Ringling college professor brought the project to fruition with sublime text and illustrations. W. Anthony DiMauro was gifted with a copy of this first children's book on Bradenton and its companion coloring book.

Jodi and Andrea also told the Craft and guests about the recent Reflections of Manatee Mineral Springs archeological dig. The findings are just now being revealed by Dr. Uzi Baram, professor of anthropology and the director of New College's Archaeology Lab. The Mineral Springs property had been home to Maroons, former Africans slaves, prior to Josiah Gates coming to the shores of the Manatee. The importance of the archeological findings cannot be underscored as we move closer to Phase 2 of the Riverwalk Expansion.

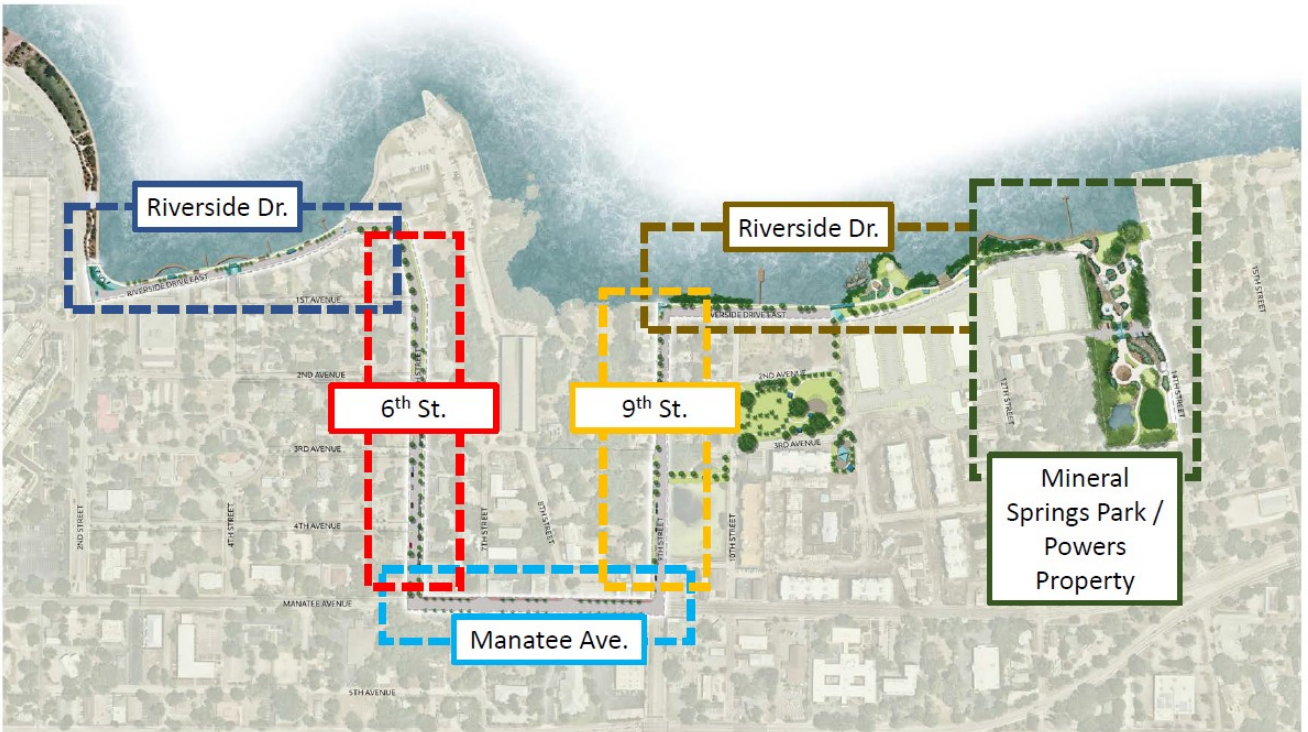
The Riverwalk Expansion is due to start "soon" according to Jodi and Andrea. They talked at length on how community engagement drove the decision-making process and shared the design plans of the architectural firm Kimley Horn. Designated as passive space, the Riverwalk Expansion will include a pier, kayak launch, pavilion, and public art. The project will be completed in phases with the Mineral Spring phase launching the project as soon as this fall.

Not everyone was happy with the Riverwalk Expansion process and decisions as, no doubt, this most historic area of Manatee County will forever be changed. Despite the unfortunate determination that leaves the Gates-Glazier property landlocked, the evening's presentation made clear the importance of partnerships as this project moves forward.



# Trestle Board

## Realize Bradenton — Maps OfThe Riverwalk Extension



# Trestle Board



*W.: Anthony DiMauro with Andrea Knies (left), Director of Communications and Community Engagement at Realize Bradenton, and Jodi Carroll (right), Special Project Manager.*



## Trestle Board

### In Honor of President's Day

Until 1971, both February 12th and February 22nd were observed as federal holidays to honor the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, respectively. Presidents' Day, one single federal holiday to be observed on the third Monday of February, was proclaimed by President Richard Nixon in 1971 to honor all past presidents.

While the Masonic affiliation of Brother George Washington is well known, thirteen other Presidents have also been Masons. These 14 presidents span the history of the United States from George Washington to Gerald Ford. February and Presidents' Day offers Masons the opportunity to recognize the contributions of these Brothers to our country.

#### **George Washington** 1732-1799

Initiated on November 4, 1752 in Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Fredericksburg, Virginia. Elected Worshipful Master on December 20, 1788. Brother Washington was raised to Master Mason at the age of 20 in 1753. He became Worshipful Master on December 20, 1788, and was inaugurated President of the United States on April 30, 1789, thus becoming the first, and so far the only Brother to be simultaneously President and Master of his Lodge.

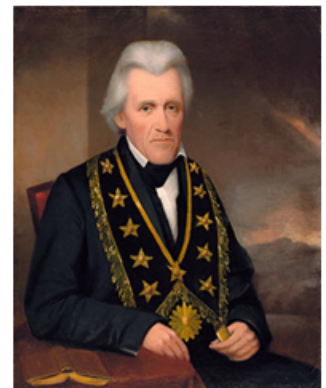


#### **James Monroe** 1758-1831

Initiated on November 9, 1775 in Williamsburg Lodge No. 6, Williamsburg, Virginia at the age of 17 while he studied at the College of William & Mary. Monroe was not yet eighteen, but "lawful age" had not yet been universally fixed at twenty-one.

#### **Andrew Jackson** 1767-1845

(Lodge records lost) The record for Brother Jackson has not been located. He seems to have been a Member of St. Tammany Lodge No. 1, Nashville, Tennessee, as early as 1800. It was the first Lodge in Tennessee, organized in 1789, under a Dispensation from the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. The name was later changed to Harmony Lodge No. 1 on November 1, 1800. Brother Jackson is officially listed as a Member in the Lodge Return to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee for 1805. On December 27, 1813, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was granted its own Constitution. Brother Jackson was the sixth Grand Master of Masons of Tennessee, serving from October 7, 1822 until October 4, 1824.



## Trestle Board

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### In Honor of President's Day

**James K. Polk**  
1795-1849

Initiated on June 5, 1820, Columbia Lodge No. 31, Columbia, Tennessee. Brother Polk assisted in the Cornerstone Laying of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., May 1, 1847.

**James Buchanan**  
1791-1868

Initiated on December 11, 1816 in Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Brother Buchanan became Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 43 1822-1823; and in 1824 was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the Counties of Lancaster, Lebanon and York.

**Andrew Johnson**  
1808-1875

Initiated on May 5, 1851 in Greenville Lodge No. 119, Greenville, Tennessee.

**James A. Garfield**  
1831-1881

Initiated on November 19, 1861 in Magnolia Lodge No. 20, Columbus, Ohio and raised on November 22, 1864 in Columbus Lodge No. 30. Joined Garrettsville Lodge No. 246, Garrettsville, Ohio in 1866 and was its Chaplain for the years 1868-69. Charter Member of Pentalpha Lodge No. 23, Washington, D.C.

**William McKinley**  
1843-1901

Initiated on May 1, 1865 in Hiram Lodge No. 21, Winchester, Virginia. Joined Canton Lodge No. 60, Canton, Ohio in 1867. Charter member of Eagle, later William McKinley, Lodge No. 431, also in Canton.



## Trestle Board

### In Honor of President's Day

#### **Theodore Roosevelt** 1858-1919

Initiated on January 2, 1901, Matinecock Lodge No. 806, Oyster Bay, New York. Brother and President Roosevelt visited the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (in its present home, the Masonic Temple at One North Broad Street) on November 5, 1902, for the Celebration of the Sesqui-Centennial of Brother George Washington's Initiation into Freemasonry. Governor of New York, 1899-1901. Brother and President Roosevelt issued an Executive Order, dated October 17, 1901 changing the name of the "Executive Mansion" to the "White House".



#### **William H. Taft** 1857-1930

Initiated on February 18, 1909. Brother Taft was made a "Mason at Sight" within the Body of Kilwinning Lodge No. 356, Cincinnati, Ohio, by Grand Master Charles S. Hoskinson. His father and two brothers were also Members of this Lodge. Brother and President Taft addressed the Brethren, saying, "I am glad to be here, and to be a Mason. It does me good to feel the thrill that comes from recognizing on all hands the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man." Brother and President Taft visited the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on the occasion of a Special Communication held in the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, on March 12, 1912.



#### **Warren G. Harding** 1865-1923

Initiated on June 28, 1901, Marion Lodge No. 70, Marion, Ohio. Because of some personal antagonism, Brother Harding's advancement was hindered until 1920, by which time he had been nominated for President. Friends persuaded the opposition to withdraw the objection, and on August 27, 1920, nineteen years after his Initiation, Brother Harding achieved the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, in Marion Lodge. At his request, Brother Harding took the Oath of Office of President of the United States upon the same Bible as was used by Brother George Washington for the same purpose on April 30, 1789, the Altar Bible of St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York City.



#### Sources:

Wikipedia contributors. "List of presidents of the United States who were Freemasons." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 20 Jan. 2021. Web. 28 Feb. 2021.

*Masonic American Presidents*. 24 Mar. 2019, [www.mn-masons.org/home/what-is-freemasonry/masonic-facts-history/famous-masons/masonic-american-presidents/](http://www.mn-masons.org/home/what-is-freemasonry/masonic-facts-history/famous-masons/masonic-american-presidents/)

"Masonic Presidents." *Victory Lodge #1160*, [victorylodge.org/about/masonic-presidents/](http://victorylodge.org/about/masonic-presidents/)



## Trestle Board

### In Honor of President's Day

#### Franklin D. Roosevelt 1882-1945

Initiated on October 11, 1911, Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City. Brother Roosevelt participated in the Raising of his son Elliott (1910-1990) on February 17, 1933, in Architect's Lodge No. 519, also in New York City. He was present, but did not participate in the Degrees when two other sons, James (1907-1991) and Franklin D., Jr. (1914-1988) became Members of their brother Elliott's Lodge, on November 7, 1935. Brother and President Roosevelt was made the first Honorary Grand Master of the Order of DeMolay on April 13, 1934 at the White House. Brother Roosevelt was a cousin of former president and Master Mason, Theodore Roosevelt. Governor of New York, 1929-1933.



#### Harry S. Truman 1884-1972

Initiated on February 9, 1909, Belton Lodge No. 450, Belton, Missouri. In 1911, several Members of Belton Lodge separated to establish Grandview Lodge No. 618, Grandview, Missouri, and Brother Truman served as its first Worshipful Master. At the Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, September 24-25, 1940, Brother Truman was elected, by a landslide, the ninety-seventh Grand Master of Masons of Missouri, and served until October 1, 1941. Brother and President Truman was made a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, and Honorary Member, Supreme Council on October 19, 1945 at the Supreme Council A.A.S.R. Southern Jurisdiction Headquarters in Washington D.C., upon which occasion he served as Exemplar (Representative) for his Class. He was also elected an Honorary Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. On May 18, 1959, Brother and Former President Truman was presented with a fifty-year award, the only U.S. President to reach that golden anniversary in Freemasonry.



#### Gerald Ford 1913-2006

Initiated on September 30, 1949, Malta Lodge No. 465, Grand Rapids, Michigan, along with his half-brothers Thomas Gardner Ford (1918-1995), Richard Addison Ford (1924-) and James Francis Ford (1927-). The Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees were Conferred by Columbia Lodge No. 3, Washington, D.C., on April 20 and May 18, 1951, as a courtesy to Malta Lodge. Brother Ford was made a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, and Honorary Member, Supreme Council A.A.S.R. Northern Jurisdiction at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, on September 26, 1962, for which he served as Exemplar (Representative) for his Class. Brother and President Ford was unanimously elected an Active Member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay and its Honorary Grand Master, at its Annual Session held at Orlando, Florida, April 6-9, 1975; Brother Ford held this post until January 1977, at which time he became a Past Honorary Grand Master, receiving his Collar and Jewel on October 24, 1978 in Topeka, Kansas, from the Hon. Thomas C. Raum, Jr., Grand Master, Order of DeMolay.



## Trestle Board

# March 2021

Birthdays in blue

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Robert Hammer William Hensley  1st Stated Meeting	<b>2</b> David Davis	<b>3</b> Alessio Ruggiero Jerome Tomasso  Degree Practice 6p.m.	<b>4</b> Kenneth Reese	<b>5</b> John Edward Harry Pierce	<b>6</b> Lodge Cleanup 8:00 a.m.
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Ron Baber  FC & PM Dinner	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Degree Practice 6p.m.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 2nd Stated Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Degree Practice 6p.m.	<b>18</b> Francis Shoemaker	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> John Neri  FC Degree 9:00 a.m.
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Jonathan Mitchell  Degree Practice	<b>23</b> Steven Hodgkinson	<b>24</b> Degree Practice 6p.m.	<b>25</b> John Breese John Palmer  MMA Meeting 6p.m.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Ernest Calande	<b>29</b> Robert Bengtsson Michael Orsini  Panning Meeting 6p.m.	<b>30</b> James Fletcher	<b>31</b> Degree Practice 6p.m.			

## Trestle Board

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### List of the 2021 Officers of Manatee Lodge No. 31

Anthony DiMauro Jr.	Worshipful Master	941-448-6919
Tracey Martin	Senior Warden	941-561-4845
Brian Miller	Junior Warden	941-304-7650
Allen Donahue PM	Secretary	727-599-6895
Swen Ekstrom	Treasurer	
Chuck Knapp	Senior Deacon	815-693-8364
Brad Ranney	Junior Deacon	941-737-7851
Adam Ainslie	Senior Steward	941-730-6162
Salim Andraos	Junior Steward	407-350-1231
George Vomvoris PM	Chaplain	941-524-8333
Mike McCullough PM	Marshall	941-812-5540
RW Ron Baber	Tyler	941-748-7938

### Committees

Finance Committee	SW Tracey Martin	941-561-4845
Petitions/Candidate Committee	JW Brian Miller	941-304-7650
Board of Relief	WM, SW, JW	
Vigilance Committee	JW Brian Miller	941-304-7650
Masonic Education Committee	W.: Mike McCullough	941-812-5540
Committee on Charity	JD Brad Ranney	941-737-7851
Lodge Property Committee	SW Tracey Martin	941-561-4845
Events/Sales Committee	SD Chuck Knapp	815-693-8364
Scholarship Committee	JS Salim Andraos	407-350-1231

### Florida Grand Lodge Officers

M.:W.: Thomas L. Turlington, Jr.	Grand Master
R.:W.: Lou Ortt	DDGM
R.:H.: Barry Hart	District Instructor



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## Trestle Board

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### **Current Petitions / Student Status**

#### PETITIONS

Affiliation:

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Membership:

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E.A.'s :

**Michael Sheflin, Charles Johnston, David Brasgalla, Kevin Oatman, Eidel Matos**

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F.C.'s:

**Donald Olmsted, Jimmie Hamrick, John Jones**

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MM's PREPARING PROFICIENCY:

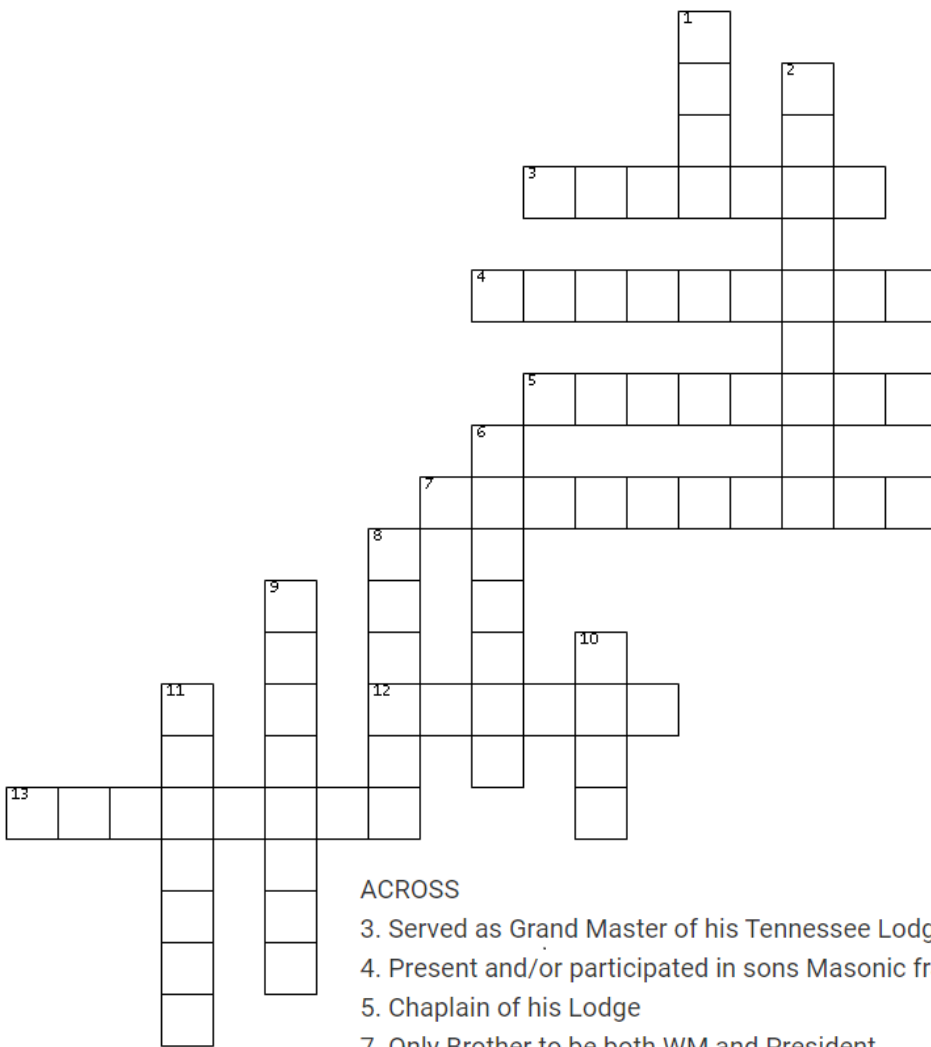
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**Adam Ainsley, Salim Andraos, Brian Wingate, Benjamin Sleight, Craig Richter**

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# Trestle Board

## Puzzle of the Month



### ACROSS

3. Served as Grand Master of his Tennessee Lodge
4. Present and/or participated in sons Masonic fraternal membership
5. Chaplain of his Lodge
7. Only Brother to be both WM and President
12. Became Mason prior to "lawful age"
13. WM and Deputy District Grand Master

### DOWN

1. Layed cornerstone of the Smithsonian Museum
2. Celebrated the Sesqui-Centennial of Brother G. Washington's Initiation into Freemasonry
6. Took Presidential oath upon the same Bible as Brother G. Washington
8. WM and GM
9. Canton, OH Lodge named for this President
10. Initiated along with his 3 half-brothers
11. 17th US President

## Trestle Board

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### Living Past Masters

1965	<b>John G. Collins</b>	2003	<b>Theodore R. Simpkins</b>
1967	<b>Wallace R. Davis</b>	2005	<b>Richard A. Cooper</b>
1968	<b>Glen E. Boeschen</b>	2006	<b>John E. Hokanson</b>
1973	<b>James P. Sellers</b>	2007	<b>Charles A. Keeler</b>
1976	<b>George V. Benjamin</b>	2008	<b>Robert Coverdale</b>
1978	<b>John G. Breese</b>	2009	<b>Albert Thurman</b>
1983	<b>Riley M. Hardy</b>	2010	<b>Brian Johnsen</b>
1984	<b>Dozer K. Walker</b>	2011	<b>Earl Dennis</b>
1989	<b>Gary E. Carter</b>	2012	<b>Mike Grimes</b>
1990	<b>George J. Vomvoris</b>	2013	<b>Les Ruggiero</b>
1994	<b>Marc B. Gilner</b>	2014	<b>Joe Fenton</b>
1996	<b>Ronald E. Baber</b>	2015	<b>John Steiner</b>
1998	<b>Earl T. Hasenflu</b>	2016	<b>Douglas Dobbs</b>
2000	<b>Charles M. Reibold</b>	2017	<b>Kyle Bachman</b>
2001	<b>Elwood H. Williams</b>	2019	<b>Mike McCullough</b>
2002	<b>Joseph S. Rowland</b>	2020	<b>Allan Donahue</b>



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## Trestle Board

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### **Amazon Shopping to Support Your Lodge**

Brethren,

Our lodge has been partnered with Amazon for some time now. By shopping on their site via the link below, you generate income to the lodge at no additional cost to you. If you plan on doing your shopping online this year please try and use the link below to help support your lodge!

<https://amzn.to/2HFQnjS>

To make it even easier we've added a "Shop Now" button on the [Manatee Lodge Facebook Page](#), that will direct you straight to Amazon using the Affiliate Link!

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## **LOOKING FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

If any Brother is interested in becoming the Assistant Secretary, please contact  
W.: Anthony DiMauro.

## **BE A MENTOR**

Please contact Junior Warden Brian Miller at 941-304-7650 to become a mentor  
or a catechism instructor. All degrees available.

## **THE MASON MOBILE**

Many brother want to come to lodge meetings but are unable to drive themselves. If you are willing to drive a Brother, please email [andraos@gmail.com](mailto:andraos@gmail.com)  
with your name, zip code, and phone number.

## **TRESTLE BOARD SPONSORS**

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## Manatee Lodge No. 31 F&AM

Address:

402 15th St. E.

Bradenton, FL 34208

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 9304

Bradenton FL, 34206

### Faith Hope Charity

As Masons, we know one basic tenet of Freemasonry is to make "better men out of good men." Better fathers, better husbands, better Brothers, better sons. We strive for personal improvement in order to build a better world. At Manatee No. 31 we are building better men in order to build a better community. We can draw inspiration from Masons who came before us. As the first Masonic Lodge in Manatee County, we are tasked with making our community, Manatee County, a better place.

[www.manateelodge31.org](http://www.manateelodge31.org)

INTERESTED IN FUN AND FROLIC IN A FAMILY SETTING?

# JOIN SAMOOR GROTTO WHERE THE WHOLE FAMILY PARTICIPATES!



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WHEN DO WE MEET?  
Third Thursday of the Month @ 7pm  
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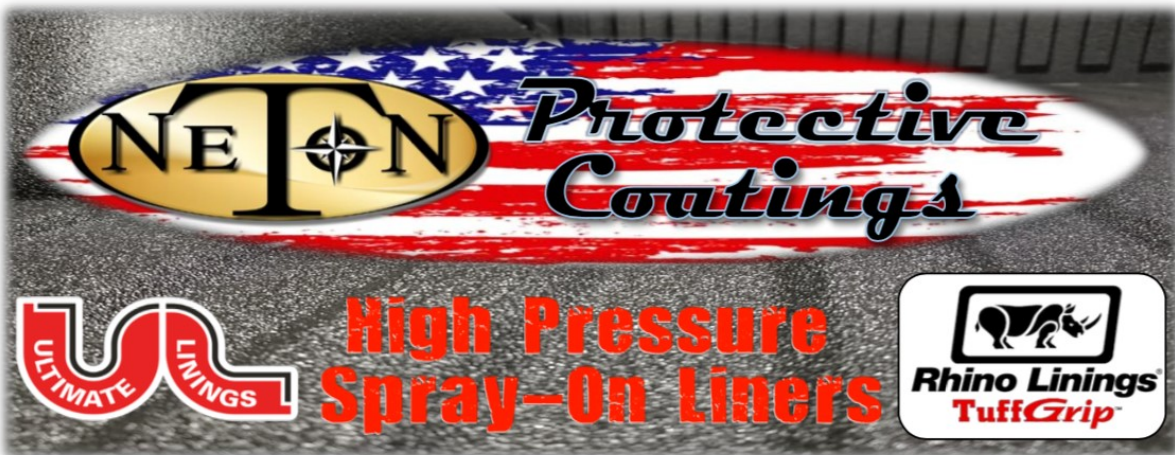
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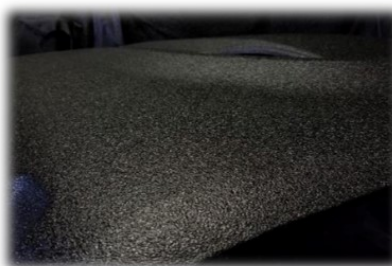
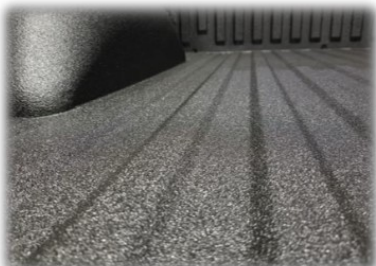
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