



BISHOP RICHARD ALLEN #11 NEWSLETTER

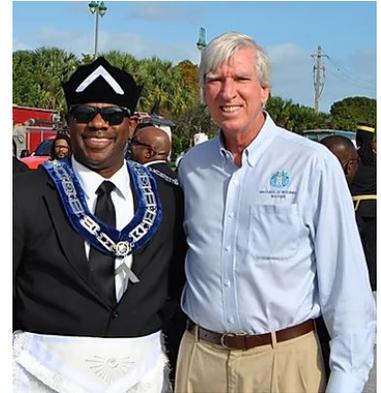


THE BULLION

Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge of Florida | Zone 3 | District 31

Volume 1 Issue 2

April - June 2020



Brethren,

We are living in a world that's seemingly changing by the hour. The World Health Organization declared the Coronavirus outbreak, also known by COVID-19, a worldwide pandemic. Our everyday lives are being disrupted or turned upside down.

We have witnessed declines in the stock market, runs on certain goods and supplies at our supermarkets, and a general sense of panic. We are seeing many communications and events being canceled or postponed.

As a minister, it is clear that God is speaking to us in these last days and we should not ignore these signs of the times.

Matthew 24:15 notes: "*When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand.)*"

I encourage our brothers to contact members and check on their well-being. We should especially look after our elderly brethren and widows to assure they are safe and have enough food and supplies. Now is the time to be a calming voice for our members and to demonstrate Brotherly Love and Relief. Please remain safe, and Follow Reason.

Your Grand Lodge is here for you, your family, and your lodge during these difficult times.

Fraternally,

Brother George L. Lockhart
Worshipful Master





GREETINGS FROM THE WEST



Brethren,

The global pandemic of the coronavirus has gripped the world’s consciousness for the last several weeks with constant reports of mounting deaths and economic woes. Brothers may feel unsettled during these uncertain times but we must remember that God remains in control.

If this great fraternity of masonry means anything, it must be that during this crisis we find safety and security from our fraternal bonds. After all, we took an oath to “contribute to the relief of worthy distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans.” Under the great leadership of Worshipful Master George Lockhart, BRAML11 aims to honor this oath.

We are closely monitoring the various pronouncements of governmental agencies and will act in strict adherence to avoid exacerbating the spread and effects of the virus.

Fraternally,

Brother Grasford W. Smith
Senior Warden



Braml 11 Providing Community Service



GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH



Dear Brothers,

The Installation of Officers for

2020 has come and gone and I now find myself in the honorable position of Junior Warden. “To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment. It is therefore indispensably necessary that you should not only be temperate and discreet in the indulgence of your own inclinations but that you should carefully observe that none of the Craft be suffered to convert the means of refreshment into intemperance and excess.” Whew! The burden is set and I am up to the challenge of 'Keeper of the Beat'.

My Jewel is the The Plumb - admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations, to hold the scale of justice in equal poise, to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty... Look well to the South!”

Such an eloquent way of saying, be fair, everything in moderation, and make sure your likes and dislikes are conducive to your values, beliefs, and the way of life you would like to be known for.

What an honor it is for me to wear the Plumb and I invite you my Brother, to join me in “Looking well to the South!”

Fraternally,

Brother Alan Bottorff
Junior Warden





FROM THE TREASURERS'S DESK



Brothers,

As the coronavirus continues its march around the world, governments have turned to proven public health measures, such as social distancing, to physically disrupt the contagion. Yet, doing so has severed the flow of goods and people, stalled economies, and is in the process of delivering a global recession. Economic contagion is now spreading as fast as the disease itself.

This didn't look plausible even a few weeks ago. As the virus began to spread, politicians, policy makers, and markets, informed by the pattern of historical outbreaks, looked on while the early (and thus more effective and less costly) window for social distancing closed. Now, much further along the disease trajectory, the economic costs are much higher, and predicting the path ahead has become nearly impossible, as multiple dimensions of the crisis are unprecedented and unknowable.

Since I am responsible for all financial transactions, it is imperative I remain consistent and solid in my reporting. Doing so allows for me to receive all money, pay all debts by order of the Worshipful Master with the consent of the lodge and render a report when requested.

Fraternally,
Brother Alex Cox
Treasurer

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Brethren,

As we continue to feel the increased impact of the COVID-19 virus in our communities, please know Braml 11 office will remain open to assist the Brethren of Riviera Beach as the Mayor is taking every precaution to try to keep his staff safe and healthy. Braml 11 staff is very small and if one of us were to get sick, it could shut the office down for weeks.

We will continue with business as usual with one exception. Braml 11 will not be available to serve the community until further notice. I am sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause. However, the health of our office staff and the continued operation of the Braml 11 are my highest priorities. We will continue to operate during normal business hours. We will continue to answer phone calls, emails and fill orders and requests as they are received.

This is uncharted territory for us all, and I appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate this challenging situation and determine how best to continue serving the Brethren of our Grand Jurisdiction.

Fraternally,
Brother Joevin Casimir
Secretary



From the Chaplain

Today the Lord inspired that request within my heart.

To the craft. Today is a time like none other. We stand amidst a challenge, a fight even. There is a common enemy whose entrance is hidden. He comes and goes as he pleases no matter the age or degree. He baffles the wise and perplexes the skilled. His voice is never heard yet his name is spoken everyday.

But as he lives he is destined to perish. For our Lord, even my Lord God has sanctioned that “the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” 2 Peter 3:10-11.

There is an end for all things but today need not be ours. Therefore, triple down on your love towards your loved ones. Repent of your selfish doings and pray to the Great Archtech of the Universe with supplication. Recommit yourselves to the Lord and be not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. As Paul said, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” Romans 1:16.

Now may the grace of God and the sweet communion of the Holy Ghost, rest, rule and abide with us henceforth now and forevermore.

Amen, Amen, Amen. Be ye blessed.

Fraternally,

Brother Joel Simmons
Chaplain





**ADIRA'S
TREASURERS**

Masonic Items for sale



1617 Silver Beach Road
SRiviera Beach, FL 33404 (561.846.1932)



BRAML #11 Supports Community Fashion Show



Supporting Distressed Brother Rod Hicks's Brother Funeral





COMMENTARY

HOW IMPORTANT IS VOTING TO MASONRY?

EDITORIAL By Brother Charles Rawls

Conventions are in full swing. As Super November draws near, the usual round of political rhetoric from candidates is blasts all over mediums. Voters begin to wear out and are usually just ready for Election Day to be over with. However monotonous we fall in line with the political fever. Fact is it is vital we remember to exercise our right and responsibility to vote.

I feel Black males do not show up to vote because there are afraid the vote will not count. Sad. One of the most important traditions in Prince Hall Freemasonry is the secret ballot, specifically when it comes to voting candidates into the lodge. We show up at lodge meetings in force! Brothers will show to vote because they have watched the candidate in action and have had interactions and a bond has been created. Very similar to when public offices candidates 'stoop.' Another reason is they vote for a friend or against an enemy. Thankfully this is rare.

Candidates, who petition for membership, must be elected by a unanimous ballot by the members present voting. The Master of the Lodge will give instructions to the brethren of "white balls elect and black balls (or cubes) reject". This is where the term "black ball" originated and has become a part of the American lexicon. The ballot itself obtains a legal status within the lodge. When all have voted, the ballot box is presented to the Wardens for inspection and then to the Worshipful Master who declares "Yea of Nay." When sitting in lodge, Masonic etiquette dictates that all of those present must ballot.

It is considered discourteous when a brother does not vote because he will skew the ballot and become the weak link in a strong chain. One of the goals of Freemasonry is harmony amongst the brethren, thus by not voting a member can cause harm. Same as voting against a candidate "because I do not know him." Either is offensive and is in direct conflict with the Master's order.

Black Male Voters Are Set To Have Their Say



Secret Ballot Box





Action Planning Meeting

On Dec 10, the WM George L. Lockhart outlined his calendar year at an Action Planning Meeting.

He described the programs he was implementing and defined Committee Chairmen to guide those programs.

- Fundraising campaign initiated by the Junior Warden
- Spreadsheet embedded with brothers occupation
- Work to have District 31 combine to initiate candidates together
- District 31 Boys Night Out (bowling, basketball, etc.)

These programs will not succeed if brothers do not participate.

If we remember that every activity at BRAML needs to support this Mission, then all the other issues we have will take care of themselves.

**** January Events ****

- Trustee Meeting
- Roundtable Discussion
- Stated Meeting
- 3rd Degree
- 2nd Degree
- 1st Degree
- Trestle Board - Lodge of Instruction

ATTENTION ALL BROTHERS

The monthly calendar will longer appear here as activities may change before the Trestleboard can be delivered to you. Go to the lodge website for dates and times.

<http://www.braml11.org>

2020 BRAML#11 Lodge Committee Chairmen

Audit	Alex Cox, Treasurer
By-laws / AMC	George Lockhart WM
Candidates	Aaron Lockhart, JD
Proficiency	Dennis Neal, SD
Distressed MM	Jason Roman, JW
Education	Paul Emilcar, Marshal
Finance Committee	Alex Cox, Treasurer
Fund Raising	Jason Roman, JW
Sisters	James Patterson, PSW
Trestleboard Editor	Alan Bottorff, Senior Steward
Web-master	Aaron Lockhart, JD
Photographer	Jason Roman, JW

MEETING PLACE

Bishop Richard Allen Lodge #11

Stated Meeting: The first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm, except July and August.

Dinner at 6:00pm.

For further information call (561) 377-6037 or visit www.braml11.org

2019- 2020 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master	George L. Lockhart
Senior Warden	Grasford Smith
Junior Warden	Jason Roman
Senior Deacon	Dennis Neal
Junior Deacon	Aaron Lockhart
Senior Steward	Alan Bottorff
Junior Steward	David Dulcio
Marshal	Paul Emilcar
Chaplain	Joel Simmons
Tyler	Brian Fitzpatrick
Treasurer	Alex Cox
Secretary	Joevin Casimir

Bishop Richard Allen Lodge #11
Presents

Brotherhood Smoker

Tuesday 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.