

# LODGE BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2023

[www.AW22.ORG](http://www.AW22.ORG)

# MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren—

Sir Isaac Newton's famous quote, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants" and a paraphrase of the Receiving in the East lecture, "the Architect's plans, being improved by experience and time, have produced works which are the admiration of every age" are swirling around my head at the moment. The collective knowledge we share today is not our own, but is loaned to us from our predecessors. And in the Masonic emblem of the beehive we are reminded that if we do not contribute to that collective knowledge, we will be deemed "a useless member of society". Pretty tough words for a society of friends and brothers!

That is why Past Masters Night is such a wonderful tradition we perpetuate every October. It is a night to recognize those who have added to that collective knowledge so that future generations can stand on their shoulders. Forgive me for indulging in the often derided notion that the universe revolves around 101 Callahan Drive, but I am not sure I can name another Lodge with such an exquisite cadre of Past Masters. I am extremely proud and honored to soon be in their ranks.

Obviously George Washington stands tallest, but Most Worshipful Charles Callahan is a bit *en vogue* with the current generation at the moment. I am sure it is partly due to his seminal role in laying the cornerstone of our home one hundred years ago, but I also think he is popular today because of how we remember him. He was a dedicated Mason, leader in Alexandria, and left a sizeable impact on succeeding generations (see the nine story building he built on the street named after him).

I ask the question to you, are you contributing to the cause of mankind like the men we honor in October?

My answer is I am trying. Will it amount to the impact Washington made? Or even Callahan? Probably not, but I hope future generations look back and deem us as *useful* members of society. Hopefully our efforts this year have pushed the Lodge to contribute a little bit of interest on the loan our forefathers gave us so that future generations can stand on our shoulders.

As I said last month, the sprint to the end of the year is upon us. The schedule this month is jam packed with events to honor past generations and impact future ones. Come join us!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
David G. Bella  
Worshipful Master  
Master@AW22.org  
228-282-0906





## OCTOBER 2023

*October 5th*

19:30 Fraternal Visit  
Cherrydale-Columbia Lodge  
No. 42

*October 7th & 8th*

MAHOVA Day &  
GL Day of Thanksgiving

*October 12th*

18:30 Dinner

19:30 Stated Communication:  
Past Masters Night

*October 13th\**

18:00 Friends & Family  
Date Night

*October 14th\**

09:30 House of the Temple  
Private Tour  
14:00 EA Degree  
18:00 Grand Master's Official  
Visit to District 1A

*October 16th*

19:00 Esoteric Corner

*October 19th*

19:30 FC Degree

*October 24th*

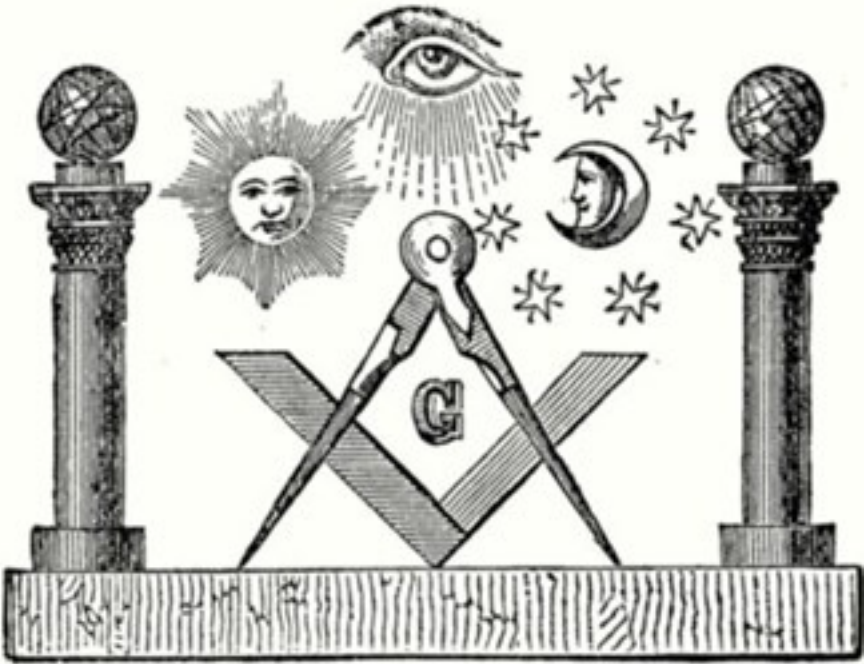
19:30 Masters & Wardens  
Association

*October 26th*

19:30 MM Degree

*\*see page 5 for details*

- ∴ Catechism Schools are every Thursday night at 18:30 and Saturday morning at 10:00 unless otherwise noted. Officer Ritual Schools are every Thursday night at 19:30 unless otherwise noted. All Masons are welcome.*
- ∴ To follow the Master's personal Masonic schedule, please view the [Master@AW22.org](mailto:Master@AW22.org) shared [Google Calendar](#).*



# BILL OF FARE

OCTOBER 12TH, 2023

FALAFEL INC.

FALAFEL BALLS

PITA & HUMMUS

PALI SALAD, TABOULI, RED CABBAGE

*Suggested Donation: \$10*

Please RSVP to [Reservations@AW22.org](mailto:Reservations@AW22.org)

# OCTOBER 14 & 15 DETAILS

October 13th-15th will be a very busy run for us. Please refer to page 3 for a schedule at a glance and please familiarize yourself with the details below:

## 18:00 OCTOBER 14TH: FRIENDS & FAMILY NIGHT DINNER

Theismann's Restaurant at 1800 Diagonal Rd. in Alexandria has developed into a home away from home and a second meeting place for our Lodge. Why not share one of our favorite parts of Masonry with our friends and family? Come join the Masons of AW22 and William L. Elkins Lodge for a casual dinner with the option to go out on King Street afterwards. Spouses, widows, friends, and prospects welcome. The Lodge is purchasing a group dinner, so **RSVPs must be submitted to [Master@AW22.org](mailto:Master@AW22.org) by 6PM October 6th, no exceptions.**

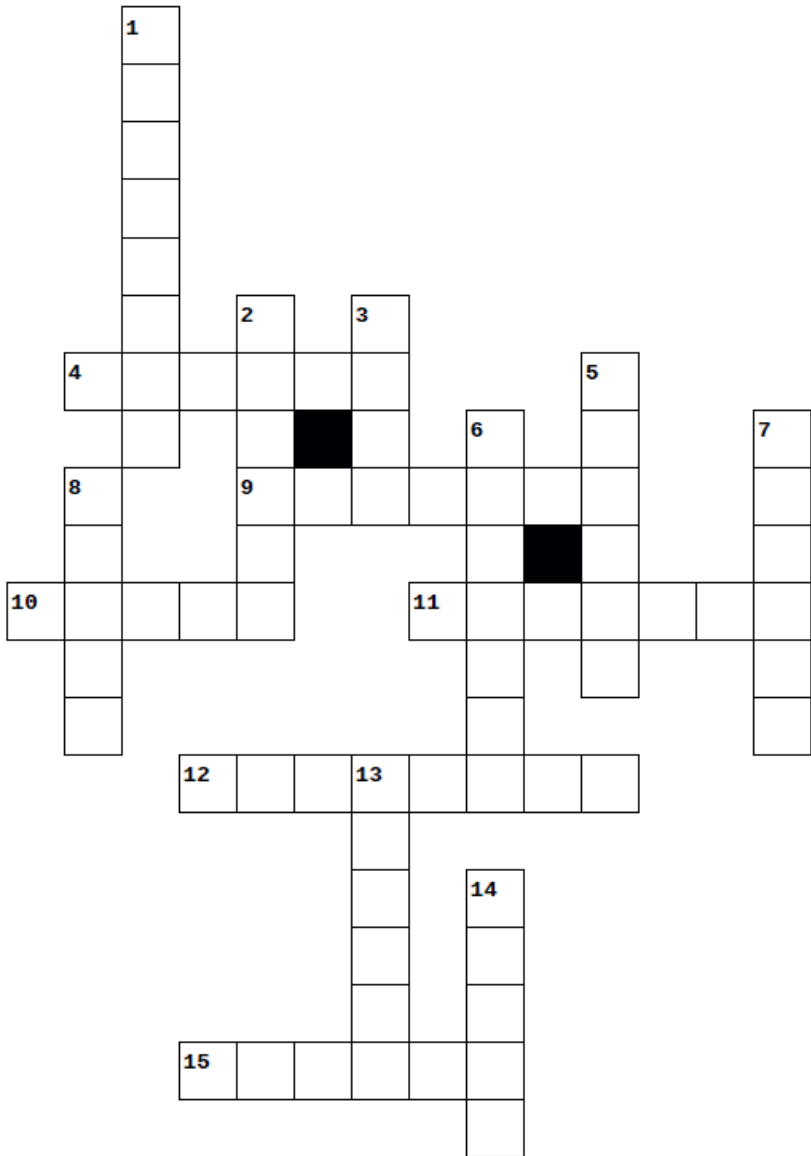
## OCTOBER 15TH: A DAY OF MASONRY

- ∴ 09:30 AW22 is getting a behind the scenes tour of the House of the Temple, 1733 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

*RSVPs for the House of the Temple tour are appreciated.*

- ∴ 14:00 Entered Apprentice Degree in the Lodge Room.
- ∴ 18:00 Most Worshipful Donald Ellis Strehle, Grand Master of Virginia will conduct his Official Visit to his home District at the Alexandria Scottish Rite. Tickets are limited, but the Lodge has purchased a table. Spouses, widows, friends, and prospects welcome.

# AW22 PAST MASTERS



# AW22 PAST MASTERS

## DOWN

1. Most common AW22 PM last name
2. Will be sitting in the East at PM Night 2023
3. First Past Master of Alexandria 39
5. Master in 2006, synonym of small
6. Master in 1800
7. "Newest" Past Master
8. Master in 1976, also a British imperial unit of mass
13. Master in 2000
14. Default Holy Book in Virginia Freemasonry, Master in 1999

## ACROSS

4. Master in 1992, DDGM in 2000
9. First AW22 Grand Master
10. "Oldest" Living Past Master, also a Grand Master
11. Master from 1900-1902
12. His nickname is a four legged amphibian
15. Winner of the John Blair Medal in 1976, Master in 1959

*\*Visit the Past Master section of AW22.org for help*

# ALBUM OF THE MONTH

COME ON IN  
R.L. BURNSIDE, 1998



*Mississippi is the soul of the Country, and its music is the foundation of modern music. With its modern twist, Come on In, connects the soul of our music to modern listeners.*

*∴ David*

It is futile to attempt to trace the origins of blues music back to a definitive point of inception. This is in part due to historical neglect – there were no scribes inhabiting the field houses and “juke joints” of Black, Southern laborers around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, and if the powers-that-were-at-the-time considered the music and culture of these communities at all, their thoughts would have doubtlessly turned to schemes designed to suppress and contain, rather than to chronicle and preserve. The blues’ true origins are further obscured by the genre’s disparate compositional DNA – a heterogeneous mixture of African tribal rhythms, Southern spirituals, Moorish instrumentation, and the inextricable agony of the African-American slaves and their sharecropping descendants who formed the genre as an expression of the injustice of their tortured, often-transitory lives.

Structurally, most blues songs are not complex. More often than not, they are looping eight- or twelve-bar I-IV-V progressions, often accompanied by repetitive AAAB-schemed lyrics which would evolve to include not only the aforementioned sorrows of its progenitors, but also throaty assertions of virility and excess, historical accounts in the vain of oral tradition, and ballads of mythical heroes and villains alike. Over time, the blues became its own language, with constant allusions and homages interwoven into its genetic-makeup. And so, while the blues may be limited in the breadth of its structure, its depth is boundless to aficionados who can speak this language; whose native tongue is rest-



# ALBUM OF THE MONTH

*COME ON IN*

*R.L. BURNSIDE, 1998*

lessness and whose weariness is abated only by the sensory extravagance that came to be celebrated in the genre; who've got their mojo working and a mojo hand; who've got a big boss man and were born under a bad sign; who shot down little Delia and spent last night in the pines — those who boogie chillen, as it were. It is a language that mellows and matures alongside both the listener and the performer, in light of the experiences we pick up along the road like so many rocks inside a traveler's shoe.

This depth fostered the development of a litany of offshoots from the blues style: Chicago Blues, Memphis Blues, Delta Blues, New Orleans Blues, British Blues, et al., each possessing unique elements distinguishing them from the last.

Historically, Hills Country Blues is among the oldest subgenres in blues music. Echoing out of the hills and hollers of Northeast Mississippi in a primal oomph — a “deep down hypnotic boogie,” as it may be heard called there — is this percussion- and rhythm-obsessed hypnotic spell, unlike most other blues subgenres in that rather than making itself distinct via additional qualifiers to the blues formula, Hills Country Blues distills that formula down to its most basic elements. A driving beat propels a one-chord slaughterhouse of sound designed to keep the whiskey flowing and the party going for the laborers who chopped what little cotton was to be found in the Hills region of Mississippi, bound on one side by the River but otherwise poorly suited for agriculture. The nearby Delta region would be its own hotbed of creativity in early blues lore, and is often cited as the original style of blues music, but there is a case to be made (based most prominently on its reductivist style) that Hills Blues may in fact have predated the Delta variety. Regardless, scholars agree in unison that it was northern Mississippi where the genre as a whole congealed into what is agreed to be blues music.

“They [can] call them Chicago Blues, but ninety percent of the people playin' blues got their home in Mississippi,” said Hills Blues guitarist and vocalist R.L. Burnside, reflecting on his time in Chicago during his early twenties. Burnside is the perfect symbol of Hills Blues, and of the genre as a whole. Throughout his entire 60-year career, Burnside never deviated from the core stylings of Hills Blues — he stayed with one-chord song structures, driving rhythm and percussion, and traditional blues subjects. However, with each progressive artistic effort, that sim-

# ALBUM OF THE MONTH

*COME ON IN*  
*R.L. BURNSIDE, 1998*

plistic structure is subverted, inverted, elasticized, pulverized, deified, crucified, and otherwise contorted into epistemological meditations on what the meaning of the genre truly is.

These experimentations are reflective of the depth of experience incurred by Burnside as he progressed through his life and career, which was not always as a musician. Through the majority of his life, Burnside supported his wife and thirteen children as an agricultural laborer, a bounty hunter, and a bootlegger (a career that ended with him serving six-months in the penitentiary for murder). Each of these experiences shaped the color and texture of his music, which bore the same smile lines and battlescars as its creator on their mutual journey through life. Like branches grafted onto a live oak, these experiences worked their way into Burnside's voice, guitar playing, and songwriting. As he progressed through his life, Burnside began layering conventions of funk, disco, electronic, and hip hop in his songs, while inveterately maintaining the structure of Hills Country Blues. One of his essential works comes from near the end of his life – *Come On In*, released just six years before his death. In this album, you can hear Burnside's nostalgic allegiance to the blues of his Mississippi childhood fused with an open-minded exploration of what that genre truly is. Burnside's comfortability in "playing with his food" is something that can only be achieved in Burnside's then-seventy-two years of familiarity with his craft, and is a one-of-a-kind experience to behold as a listener.

## HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAY

- Bro. Frederic Ackerson, October 20, 72 years
- Bro. Craig Martin Arndt, October 28, 13 years
- Bro. Peter Gabor Bernad, October 6, 15 years
- Rt. Wor. Paul Martin Bessel, October 28, 36 years
- Rt. Wor. Michael Paul Bible, October 7, 28 years
- Bro. Robert Ryan Brooks, October 19, 27 years
- Bro. William Harvey Clore, October 4, 27 years

*Continued on page 11*

# HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAY

Bro. Geoffrey Kyle Alban Dunaway, October 27, 30 years

Bro. Thomas Clifton Etter, October 30, 39 years

Bro. Lewis Buchanan Gorley, October 22, 22 years

Bro. Kurt Allen Gustafson, October 25, 28 years

Bro. Jay Steven Hambacher, October 11, 30 years

Bro. Jace Christen Harrill, October 19, 4 years

Wor. Philip John Hays, October 18, 30 years

Bro. George Blaine Huff, October 21, 29 years

Bro. Louis Kobus, October 19, 27 years

Bro. Jonathan Perry Kruger, October 19, 27 years

Bro. Edward Eric Lamb, October 24, 32 years

Bro. Kurt Lee Langenwalter, October 15, 16 years

Bro. Romulo Paredes Maliksi, October 7, 28 years

Bro. Raymond Buford McClure, October 19, 27 years

Bro. Ryan Joseph McCombie, October 19, 27 years

Bro. Donald Ray Newman, October 29, 50 years

Bro. Sean Phillip O'Shea, October 3, 3 years

Bro. Michael Nicholas Pocalyko, October 19, 41 years

Rt. Wor. Philip Niemann Rhodes, October 18, 29 years

Bro. Elmer Michael Smith, October 16, 45 years

Bro. Iliya Antonio Stanoev, October 27, 3 years

Bro. Christopher Gared Sterbling, October 3, 3 years

Bro. Richard Lance Stubblefield, October 14, 13 years

Mt. Wor. Claire Victor Tusch, October 11, 34 years

Bro. Theodore Vagias, October 14, 13 years

## 2023 LODGE OFFICERS

Wor. David Gabriel Bella.....	Worshipful Master
<i>Mobile: 228-282-0906 Email: Master@AW22.org</i>	
Bro. Nelo Allen Hamilton, Jr.....	Senior Warden
Bro. Phillip Adam Smartt.....	Junior Warden
Wor. Michael Lee Bailey, PM.....	Treasurer
Wor. Daniel Elias Froggett, PM.....	Secretary
<i>Phone: 703-549-9234 Email: Secretary@AW22.org 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria, Va. 22301</i>	
Rt. Wor. Granville Clayton "Jack" Canard, Jr., PDDGM.....	Secretary Emeritus
Bro. Jonathan Joseph Siudmak.....	Senior Deacon
Bro. Ronald Earl Craft, Jr.....	Junior Deacon
Wor. Denislav Valeriev Dantev, PM.....	Chaplain
Bro. Christopher Gared Sterbling.....	Senior Steward
Bro. Jakob Aonghus Zilinski.....	Junior Steward
Bro. James Henry Ferguson.....	Marshal
Wor. Pablo Alejandro Rocha, PM.....	Tiler

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rt. Wor. Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM.....	2023
Bro. Jeffrey W. C. Conn.....	2024
Wor. James Berkely Stone, PM.....	2025
Wor. Jesse T. McMahan, V, PM.....	2026
Wor. Nikola N. Nikolav, PM.....	2027

## LIVING PAST MASTERS ON THE ROLLS

1975	Donald M. Robey, PGM	2005	Jesse T. McMahan, V
1976	James B. Stone	2006	Thomas G. Little
1991	Earl C. Million	2007	Robert G. Watkins, PDDGM
1992	Granville C. Canard, JR, PDDGM	2009	Heber C. Willis, III
1995	George D. Seghers, PDDGM	2011	John P. Olson
1996,18	Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM	2012	Michael L. Bailey
1997	Walter L. Margeson, II	2013	Joshua D. Adler
1998	Philip J. Hays	2014	Robert T. Weston
1999,17	Michael P. Bible, PDDGM	2016	Stephen J. Pezzetti
2000	Terry L. Gigure	2019	Nikola N. Nikolov
2001	Brent N. Campbell	2020	Daniel E. Froggett
2002	Daniel M. Clark, PDDGM	2021	Michael T. Huff
2003	James M. Stevenson	2022	Denislav V. Dantev
2004	Frank S. Skwirut		