



Trestleboard



25349 AIRPORT RD, PUNTA GORDA, FL

SUMMER 2026

PUNTA GORDA LODGE NO. 115 - CHARTERED JANUARY 21, 1890

NEWS FROM THE QUARRIES

From the East

Growth, fellowship, community service, and a record-setting first half of 2026

As we conclude the second quarter of 2026, I am proud to report that our Lodge continues to grow and thrive.

Our new **Gilchrist Masonic Center** sign has been completed, and the dedication ceremony was a tremendous success. It was well attended by our members, friends, and the local community, marking another milestone in the history of our Lodge.

Membership continues to exceed expectations. We have welcomed **19 new members** in just the first half of the year, putting us on pace for a record-breaking year. At present, we have **four Entered Apprentices** and **four Fellowcrafts** diligently working on their catechisms with the guidance of their dedicated coaches.

Gilchrist High 12 Club is off to an outstanding start. We have already held our first social event and have grown to **18 members**. One of the highlights of the year was our **Fellowcraft Kilt Degree**, with our Senior Deacon, Brother Jeremy, presiding in the East for the first time. The degree was exceptionally well attended, and I extend a special thank you to my close friend, **Don Hussey**, whose bagpipe music added a memorable and traditional Scottish touch to the evening.

Our York Rite bodies have begun meeting at the Lodge, with additional appendant bodies expected to follow in the coming months. Community involvement continues to be a priority. Our participation with the **American Legion** during the Red, White & Blue Drone Show was a great success, with several thousand people attending. I would also like to recognize Brother **Diego Barcelo** of Cypress Lodge for his outstanding craftsmanship in restoring our Lodge altar. His work has enhanced one of the most important symbols within our Lodge.

Our Fourth of July community food event was another tremendous success. The turnout was excellent, and the food was enjoyed by all. My sincere thanks go to our **Junior Warden, Brother Adam Walter**, and every Brother and volunteer who gave their time and effort to make the event such a success.

I am also pleased to announce that this fall we will be chartering a **National Sojourners Chapter** here at the Gilchrist Masonic Center. This exciting addition is being made possible through the support of **Most Worshipful Brad Barco** and our own **Brother Jim Jones**. We look forward to welcoming even more military-affiliated Masons into our Lodge family.

As Worshipful Master, I am deeply grateful for the hard work, dedication, and brotherly spirit each of you brings to our Lodge. None of these accomplishments would have been possible without your commitment to Freemasonry and to one another. I look forward to an even stronger second half of the year as we continue to build upon our successes.

Fraternally,

W:. M.: Noah A. Parry,
KSA Worshipful Master

From the West

Brethren,

I want to share an update on where we stand financially and how the West is working to ensure our lodge remains strong, sustainable, and well-positioned for the future.

At our next stated meeting, I will be presenting a comprehensive mid-year financial report. Transparency is key to a healthy lodge, and this presentation will give every brother a clear view of our current financial standing, operating costs, and where we need to focus our efforts for the remainder of the year.

To ensure we meet our budgeted goals, we are actively launching several new fundraising initiatives:

Community Partnerships: We have been working directly with local organizations to establish strategic partnerships. These collaborations provide dedicated spaces and host locations for events that will significantly increase lodge revenue.

Exploring New Revenue Streams: Beyond traditional events, we are actively exploring alternative revenue sources and funding models to create additional, long-term financial stability.

Budget Optimization: I am in continuous communication with our Treasurer to monitor expenses, refine our allocations, and ensure we remain fiscally responsible while fulfilling our lodge's mission.

Our goal is simple: to make our lodge fully viable, self-sustaining, and financially resilient for years to come. As these new initiatives progress, I promise to keep the Craft fully informed every step of the way.

Your ideas, energy, and participation are crucial to making these fundraising efforts a success. If you'd like to get involved with our upcoming projects or have suggestions for new funding opportunities, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our lodge.

Fraternally,

W.: Mark Odell
Senior Warden

From the South

Brethren,

As we close out another successful quarter, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many accomplishments of Punta Gorda Lodge No. 115 and thank each Brother who has contributed his time, talent, and dedication to our Lodge.

One of the highlights of the quarter was the unveiling of our beautiful new sign at the Gilchrist Masonic Center. This special occasion was made even more meaningful by the proclamation presented by the Mayor of Punta Gorda recognizing the dedication of our Masonic Center. Following the ceremony, we were honored to host a community lunch, welcoming friends, neighbors, and local leaders to celebrate this milestone with us. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the values of Freemasonry and strengthen our ties within the community.

Our Brothers also played an important role in the First Annual Harbor Drone Show, volunteering their time while selling Lodge merchandise to help raise funds for Punta Gorda Lodge No. 115. The event was a tremendous success and demonstrated what can be accomplished when our members come together with a common purpose.

Working alongside our friends at American Legion Post 103, we were proud to help host a memorable Fourth of July celebration commemorating America's 250th Anniversary. This event not only honored our nation's rich history but also provided another successful opportunity to raise funds in support of our Lodge while strengthening our partnership with fellow community organizations.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the Brothers who have volunteered countless hours improving our building and the grounds surrounding the Gilchrist Masonic Center. Your hard work and dedication have made a noticeable difference, and your efforts ensure that our Lodge remains a place we can all take pride in.

As we look ahead to the third quarter, I am excited about the opportunities before us. Together, we will continue expanding our community outreach, supporting worthy causes, strengthening our Brotherhood, and building upon the momentum we have created. With the continued support and participation of our Brethren, I have no doubt that our best days are still ahead.

Thank you, Brothers, for your commitment to our Craft and to Punta Gorda Lodge No. 115.

Fraternally,

Brother Adam Walter
Junior Warden

From the Secretary

Brethren,

As we move into the second half of our lodge year, I am proud to report that our lodge continues to experience incredible momentum and steady growth. Our focused effort to expand our membership is bearing genuine fruit, and much of that success comes down to the environment we have cultivated together.

Over the past several months, our lodge activities have been vibrant, engaging, and well-attended. This energy has directly led to new petitions and multiple advancements, but the real secret to our growth isn't just a marketing plan - it's the genuine fraternal bonds we build within these walls. When a guest or prospective candidate walks through our doors, they immediately witness true fellowship in action.

Beyond our lodge room, our brethren have been actively making their presence felt in the local community. By volunteering, leading local initiatives, and building long-lasting relationships outside the lodge, you are exemplifying the core tenets of Freemasonry in daily life. This visibility is showing the community what Masonry stands for, proving that our light isn't kept under a bushel, and inspiring good men to seek us out.

Important Reminders & Upcoming Events

Annual Dues: A friendly but urgent reminder for members who have not yet paid their annual dues to please fulfill your obligation and submit your payment immediately. Official dues notices and letters have already gone out. Keeping your dues current ensures our lodge remains financially sound and capable of supporting our programs. If you need assistance or have questions regarding your account, please reach out to me directly.

Official Visit of the District Deputy Grand Master: Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 20th. We will be hosting our District Deputy Grand Master for his official visit. This is a key event for our lodge, and we want to show a strong turnout to support our District Deputy and represent our lodge with pride. Please make every effort to attend.

Thank you all for your continued dedication, active participation, and commitment to the Craft. Let us keep this positive momentum going as we strengthen our brotherhood and deepen our impact in the community.

Fraternally,

W.: Jonas Seda
Secretary

From the Treasurer

Brethren,

Behind the scenes of our lodge, numbers tell a story - one of stewardship, strategy, and shared responsibility. As your Treasurer, I wanted to step away from the usual line-item readouts to give you a clear, straightforward look at where our finances stand and where we are heading.

Over the past few weeks, I've been working side-by-side with our professional accountant to close out and finalize our financial records from 2025. With those books locked in, our focus has shifted entirely to our roadmap for the rest of this year.

Here is what is currently on the workbench:

Finance Committee Strategy: I am preparing a comprehensive report for the Finance Committee. This breakdown will outline our exact budgetary landscape and present a clear, proactive strategy to ensure we finish the year in the black.

Outstanding Dues: To be frank, we are still running a bit short on collected member dues. Every unpaid dues card directly impacts our day-to-day operations. If you haven't yet submitted your payment for this year, please take a moment to clear your account. Your timely contribution keeps our lights on and our momentum going.

Collaborative Revenue: I'm genuinely excited to align our financial planning with Brother Senior Warden Marco Odell's incoming fundraising efforts. Bringing fresh revenue streams into the lodge alongside traditional dues will give us the breathing room we need to build a stronger financial cushion.

Balancing the ledger takes all of us. My door is always open - if you ever have questions about our budget, need to check your dues balance, or want to discuss our financial outlook, please come see me at our next stated meeting or reach out anytime.

Fraternally,

W.: Steve Rizza
Treasurer

July Celebrations

Happy Birthday, Brothers!

Warm fraternal wishes to our July birthday celebrants

Brother	Birthday
Charles Abraham Brox Jr	July 2
David Louis Ortiz	July 3
Steven Joseph Rizza	July 7
Robert Wayne Denman	July 16
Howard Lee Nuzum III	July 17
Terry Lloyd Hill	July 22
Horst James Gorgas	July 24
Wayne Russell Malz	July 24
Luis Daniel Urrutia	July 27

Masonic Anniversaries - Raised in July

Honoring the anniversary of each Brother's raising

Brother	Raised
Jack Edmond Drage	July 6, 1967
Virgil Thomas Yonts	July 6, 1998
Dustin Henry Feindel	July 11, 2015
David McKinley Mullins	July 17, 2015
Charles Davis Varklet	July 20, 2002
Creed Arthur Nobles	July 28, 1961
Richard William O'Donnell	July 30, 2016

Lodge Activities

Brotherhood in Action: April - July 2026

Part I - lodge milestones and member achievement



DDGM Visit & Restored Altar

On April 17, the Lodge welcomed R:.W.: J.J. Albritton, R:.W.: Tom Haber, and District Committee Men. The evening also featured the unveiling of the beautifully reconditioned altar restored by Dago Barcelo.



Advancement & Recognition

At the June 4 stated meeting, Brothers Hunter Dotson, Will Cheetham, and Jorge Martel returned their Entered Apprentice catechisms. Patents and certificates also recognized Brothers Patrick McLaughlin, Jeremy DeFelicce, and Jerry Woelkers.



Gilchrist Masonic Center Dedication

On May 2, the Lodge marked the dedication of the Gilchrist Masonic Center with a public ceremony and proclamation. Members, community guests, and local leaders gathered to celebrate this important milestone in the Lodge's history.

Lodge Activities

Brotherhood in Action: June - July 2026

Part II - patriotic service, ritual, and community partnership



Flag Day Drone Show

The Lodge invited families to the June 14 Red, White and Blue Drone Show at Laishley Park. Brothers supported the community celebration and its salute to veterans while raising the Lodge's public profile.



Fellow Craft Kilt Degree

The June 18 Kilt Degree brought a Scottish spirit to the Lodge. Brother Jeremy DeFelice sat in the East for the first time, with ritual support from W.: Chris Purdy and W.:M.: Noah Parry.



July 4 Community Partnership

Punta Gorda Lodge No. 115 joined American Legion Post 103 for a Fourth of July celebration honoring America's 250th Anniversary. Brothers and volunteers prepared and served food while strengthening a valued community partnership.



Lodge Activities

Fellowship Beyond the Lodge Room

Part III - sharing the wider Masonic experience



152nd Shriners International Imperial Session

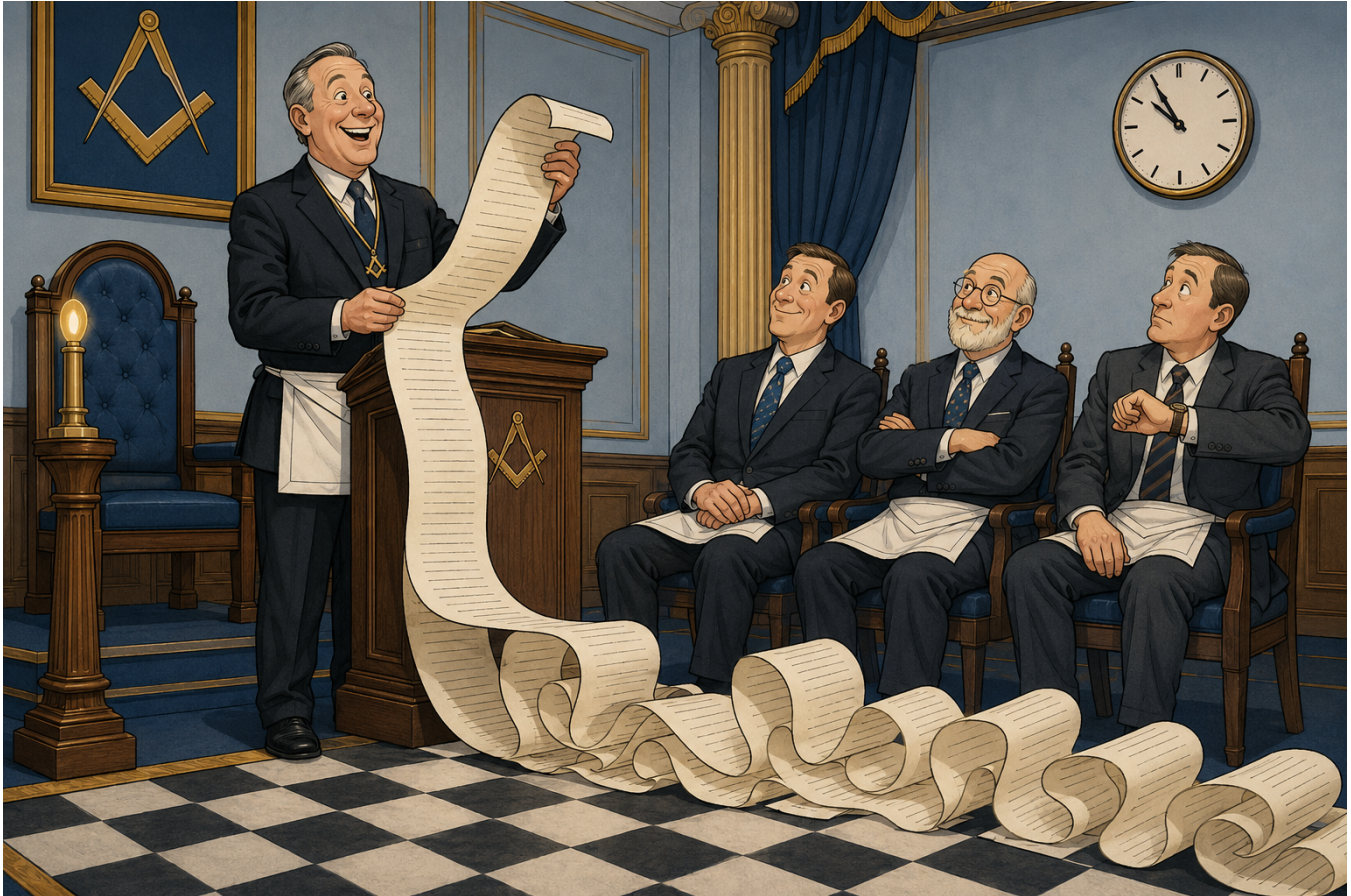
On July 13, Punta Gorda Brothers shared fellowship at Egypt Shriners during the 152nd Shriners International Imperial Session in Tampa. Their visit included the Smoker Event and time with Brothers from across the fraternity.

A Summer of Visible Masonry

From the April DDGM visit and restored altar to the May dedication, June degree work, patriotic service, and July fellowship, the Lodge's public posts reflect a busy quarter. These seven featured activities show members advancing in the Craft, welcoming the community, supporting veterans, and building relationships throughout the Masonic family.

Masonic Humor

Just One Quick Announcement...



"Brethren, I promise this will only take a minute."

Important Summer Reminders

- **Annual dues:** Members with an outstanding balance are asked to submit payment promptly or contact the Secretary with questions.
- **DDGM official visit:** Thursday, August 20. A strong turnout is requested to welcome and support our District Deputy Grand Master.
- **National Sojourners:** A new chapter is expected to charter this fall at the Gilchrist Masonic Center, welcoming military-affiliated Masons.

Lodge Information

Building on a Strong First Half

Nineteen new members. Renewed community partnerships. Growing appendant bodies. A restored altar and a dedicated Masonic Center. The Summer Edition celebrates the Brothers whose time, talent, and fellowship continue to move Punta Gorda Lodge No. 115 forward.

2026 Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Noah A. Parry	941-815-7688
Senior Warden	Marco Odell	941-585-1328
Junior Warden	Adam Walter	941-585-1328
Secretary	W. Jonas Seda	941-373-5950
Treasurer	W. Steve Rizza	941-204-9634

Meetings & Contact

Stated Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursday (one meeting monthly in June, July & August)

25349 Airport Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33950 | 941-681-0010

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