



The Star & the Square

American Military/Public University

Dr. Wallace E. Boston, Ancient Order of the Craft



February 2026 AD (6026 AL) · Volume 3, Issue 4

Members,

February gives us a chance to settle into the year and focus on consistency. The pace of life tends to pick up after the holidays, and many of you are balancing school, work, military service, and family commitments. Through all of it, this chapter continues to be a place where connection, support, and shared purpose matter.

This month, we are looking ahead to opportunities that strengthen our understanding of Masonry and OES while building stronger ties within the AMU/APU community. Our goal remains the same: to provide meaningful engagement that supports personal growth and reinforces the values we share.

I encourage each of you to stay connected and involved where you can. Even small moments of participation help strengthen the chapter as a whole. When we support one another and remain united in purpose, we create something lasting and worthwhile.

Thank you for the time, effort, and dedication you continue to give. I look forward to working alongside you throughout February and into the months ahead.

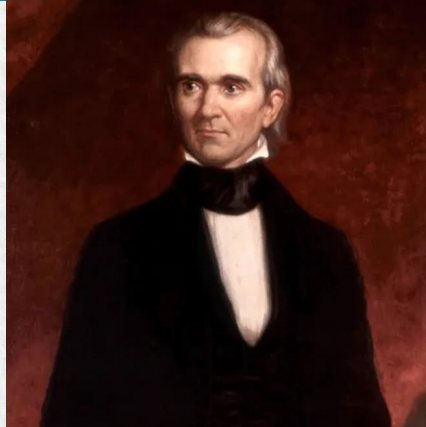
Fraternally,
Dustin Perkins
Worshipful Master
Chapter President



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James K. Polk: A President and a Mason
By: Tommy Hendler, P.P.

James Knox Polk, the 11th President of the United States, holds a unique place in American history as both a decisive leader and a committed Freemason. His life reflects the strong connection between early American leadership and the principles of the Craft.

Polk was initiated into Freemasonry in 1820 at Columbia Lodge No. 31 in Columbia, Tennessee. He later became a Master Mason and remained active in the fraternity throughout his life. Like many Masons of his era, Polk viewed Freemasonry as a means of personal growth, moral discipline, and service to others.

Before assuming the presidency, Polk served as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and later as Governor of Tennessee. His Masonic values of duty, integrity, and perseverance were evident in his public service. As President from 1845 to 1849, Polk oversaw one of the most consequential periods of territorial expansion in U.S. history, including the annexation of Texas, the Oregon Territory settlement, and the conclusion of the Mexican-American War. True to his word, he fulfilled the goals he set for his single term and declined to seek reelection.

Polk maintained strong ties to Freemasonry even while in public office. During his presidency, he participated in Masonic events when possible and remained respected by the fraternity. His Masonic affiliation was widely known and accepted, reflecting a time when Freemasonry was deeply woven into civic life.

James K. Polk's legacy reminds us that Freemasonry has long attracted men committed to leadership, accountability, and service. His life stands as an example of how Masonic principles can guide both personal conduct and public responsibility.



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Meet Your Chapter Leadership

Elected Officers



Dustin Perkins, P.P.

dustin.perkins3@mycampus.apus.edu

Worshipful Master
(President)

Donell Lewis
donell.lewis@mycampus.apus.edu
Senior Warden
(Vice President)

Lindy Pape, P.P.
lindypape@yahoo.com
Junior Warden
(Treasurer)

Devon Renfro
Secretary

Appointed Officers

Harrison Greene, P.P.
Deacon

Tommy Hendler, P.P.
Chapter Operations Officer

Chapter Advisors

Bill Speer

Barry Denton

*P.P. - Past President

Need Chapter Assistance? Contact Tommy Hendler at
Thomas.Hendler@mycampus.apus.edu.



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Congratulations to our January President's and Dean's List President's List

Joshua Tayag
Juan Vasquez

Dean's List

Felipe	Cervantes	Robert	Lyons
Michael	Garrison	Dustin	Perkins
Justin	Guinan	Anthony	Von Gersdorff
Marc	Lewis	Shawnly	Ward

Membership Certificates Available!

We're proud to have you as a valued member of the AMU/APU Dr. Wallace E. Boston, Ancient Order of the Craft Chapter. As a token of our appreciation and a symbol of your place in this community of brothers and sisters, we'd love to send you an official membership certificate you can print and display with pride!

If you haven't received yours yet, don't worry — we've got you covered. Simply email our Chapter Operations Officer, Tommy Hendler, at Thomas.Hendler@mycampus.apus.edu, and he'll make sure your certificate is sent out right away.

Thank you for being part of our growing and committed chapter family!

**Need Chapter Assistance? Contact Tommy Hendler at
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Chapter Standards Report

Chapter Points

1 November 2025 - 31 October 2026

Earned: 0 of needed 130 (Submitted Quarterly)

Current Status



Remaining Chapter Budget

Spend prior to 1 December

\$1250

Click below to learn more about the:
[Chapter Standards Program](#)

CHAPTER STANDINGS



BRONZE

40

POINTS

Demonstrates a notable standard of chapter involvement



SILVER

70

POINTS

Demonstrates a very high standard of chapter involvement



GOLD

100

POINTS

Demonstrates excellence in chapter involvement



PLATINUM

130

POINTS

Demonstrates an elite level of chapter involvement

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Launching Our Chapter Engagement Challenge!

Brethren and Sisters,

We will be implementing a points system to encourage engagement within the group. These points will be totaled up by month on a leaderboard, and the top three with the most points at the end of the year will earn special recognition!

There are various ways to earn points, including posting in the group, participating in community service, and contributing to the monthly newsletter. A full list of how to earn points is linked below.

If you have posts you'd like to create or community service you'd like to organize, now is the time to give it some thought!

Happy Engaging!

Dustin Perkins, WM
AOOTC

Engagement Point Program



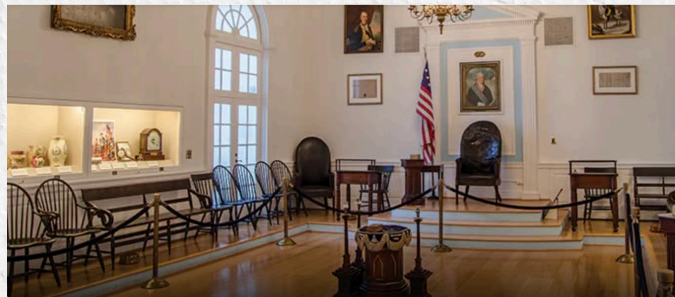
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Stay Connected: Join Our Chapter Facebook Group!



AMU/APU Dr. Wallace E. Boston, Ancient Order of the Craft

Private group · 161 members

Are you looking for an easy way to stay up to date with everything happening in the AMU/APU Dr. Wallace E. Boston, Ancient Order of the Craft Chapter? Our official Facebook Group is the heart of our chapter's communication and community—and we'd love to have you there!

[Join us here:](#)

This private group is where we share updates, event announcements, meeting reminders, member highlights, service opportunities, and important chapter news. It's also a space where Brothers and Sisters build fellowship, ask questions, and support one another throughout our academic and Masonic and OES journeys.

Why join the Facebook Group?

- Be the first to hear about chapter activities
- Stay informed without cluttering your inbox
- Engage with members across the country
- Celebrate the achievements of your fellow members
- Find reminders and resources tailored just for our MM & OES family

Whether you're looking to be more involved or just want to stay in the loop, joining our Facebook Group is one of the best ways to stay connected and make the most of your chapter membership.

We look forward to seeing you in the group!

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Honoring Our Past Presidents

As we look to the future of the Dr. Wallace E. Boston, Ancient Order of the Craft Chapter, it is only fitting that we pause to honor those who helped lay the foundation on which we continue to build. Our Past Presidents are more than names in a roster—they are the torchbearers of leadership, vision, and service who have faithfully guided this Chapter through times of growth, learning, and fellowship.

Each Past President, whether a Master Mason or a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, has carried the responsibility of leadership with dignity and purpose. They have upheld the shared values of our Craft—Brotherly and Sisterly Love, Relief, and Truth—while shaping the culture and direction of this Chapter. Their commitment has not only preserved our traditions but has also strengthened the bonds of our Masonic and Eastern Star family.

We honor them not only with words, but with deep appreciation for their time, sacrifices, and unwavering dedication to the mission of this Chapter. Their leadership continues to inspire us to serve, grow, and lead with the same integrity and passion.

To our Past Presidents—thank you for your guidance, your mentorship, and your steadfast devotion to our community. May your example encourage us all to continue the great work you began.

Past Presidents List