

## MANATEE LODGE NUMBER 31, F.&A.M.



Manatee Lodge No. 31 was chartered January 9, 1853 to meet at Manatee in Manatee County.

The three Line Officers at chartering were:

Franklin Branch — Worshipful Master  
Joseph A. Braden — Senior Warden  
Robert Gamble, Jr. — Junior Warden

The chartering Grand Lodge Officers were:

Samuel Barron Stephens — Grand Master  
Charles A. M. Mitchell — Deputy Grand Master  
Samuel Boardman — Grand Senior Warden  
Edward R. Ives (Act.) — Grand Junior Warden  
John B. Taylor — Grand Secretary

The Proceedings of 1859 give us the following record of the officers and members of Manatee Lodge No. 31.

E. Glazier, W.M.	J. L. McLean, J.D.
G. H. Wyatt, S.W.	L. P. Johnson, Tyler
H. Peterson, J.W.	James Cunliffe
Josiah Gates, Treasurer	Robert Gamble
W. H. Wyatt, Secretary	Rev. F. Branch
C. Peterson, S.D.	

Manatee Lodge is the only Florida Lodge to have used No. 31.

Manatee Lodge No. 31 was named for the "Old City of Manatee". Lodge now meets in Bradenton, Manatee County.

Brother Francis I. Wheaton was the regularly elected Grand Junior Warden for 1852. Inasmuch as he was not present for the 1853 Annual Session, Bro. Edward Rutledge Ives, Lake City's Columbia Lodge No. 27, filled the station of Grand Junior Warden and signed this charter for that officer.