



VALLEY OF TAMPA - ORIENT OF FLORIDA

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center 5500 Memorial Highway • Tampa, FL 33634-7336 • 813.886.0578 Meets 2nd Monday of Each Month

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Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Valley of Tampa, Orient of Florida 271st Reunion – November 1 & 8, 2008 Ashley T Lanier, 33° - Memorial Class



Officers of the Bodies and Distinguished Brothers Front Row – Left: Kenneth D Balsley, 33°; Stephen D Piner, 33°; C Donald Prosser, 33° - Director of Work; George F Crotinger, 33°; Paul N Bardua, 33° - General Secretary; Russell B Glendinning, 33° - Personal Representative; Richard G Hoover, 32° KCCH - Master of Kadosh; Raul A Reyes, 32° KCCH – Wise Master; Thede Tooma, 33°; Richard J Whalen, Sr, 33° - Treasurer; John M Bankhead, Jr, 33°; M Dean Lovett, 33° - Prelate; Second Row – Left: Thomas W Vann, 33°; Edmond L Bidoul, Jr, 33°: Second Row – Right: Vernon T Clark, Jr, 33°; Third Row – Left: Louis H Ortt, 33° - Chairman, Class Room Director; Third Row – Right: Richard S Agster, 33°; David A Blate, 33°; Top Row – Left: W Bruce Steube III, 33° - Class Director Emeritus; Robert G Kirkpatrick, 33°; Top Row – Right: Kenneth R James II, 33°; David A Eschrich, 33°; James E Bradford, 33°

CLASS MEMBERS

R Randy Aldridge; William F Balkwill; Maged B Barsoum; James W Benjamin; Mark A Bose; Robert D Bunn; John H Chaney; Patrick W Clifton; John H Collins; Juan A de la Rosa; Nathaniel D DiDomenico; Wayne K Ekren; Michael W Fletcher; John S Frost; Tripoli J Galasso; Joseph A Gonzalez; Nathan A Grund; James G Harden; Maston L Harry; James F Jeffries; Randy S Laursen; David S Liniger; William J Merritt; Todd A Meschelle; Ronald J Perrault; Timothy S Pierce; Earl C Ray; Dwight N Ridgeway; Lewis C Sasser, Jr; James F Spivak; Jeffery S Thompson; Matthew B Winters

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°, Chairman Scott McAlister, 32° KCCH, Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory David Lopez 32° KCCH, Commander - Council of Kadosh Gerald M. Lee, 32° KCCH, Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix William L. Burris, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection Gerald E. Goacher, 32° KCCH, Prior Richard J. Whalen, Sr., 33°, Treasurer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE John E. Drewett, 32° KCCH Carl E. Gilmore, 32° David A. May, 32° KCCH Louis H. Ortt, 33°

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General Secretary Paul N. Bardua, 33°

The Inspector-Inquisitor, aspiring to become a Master of the Royal Secret, is conducted into the Consistory Chamber. The Marshal of Ceremonies escorts him across the auditorium, stations him in front of the Minister of State, and steps back.

The Minister of State, rising, speaks, "In the

Ninth Degree you vowed to do your utmost to extricate ignorance. It was a promise that you would lose no opportunity, nor fail when you could make opportunities to diffuse light. To teach, you must first learn: To be a soldier of the light, you must get light first for yourself." He then asks the aspirant, "Are you willing to qualify yourself to teach, and then to endeavor to make those around you and near you wiser and better, as you can find or make the opportunity?"

Each of us, and every Master of the Royal Secret in the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, answered this question in the affirmative.

This, then, is the cornerstone, the foundation, of the Scottish Rite. It is because of our commitment to diffuse light that we are interested in the teachings of Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

The core of a truth is often found at the center of its teaching. Examine, for instance, the very center of your Masonic Bible. The center is Psalms 118, a very significant number. There are 594 chapters preceding it and there are 594 chapters following it. The immediately preceding Psalm, the 117^{th} , is the shortest verse in the Bible, and the immediately following Psalm, the 119^{th} , is the longest verse in the Bible. Now, add the number of preceding chapters and the number of following chapters together, which is 594 + 594 = 1188. Psalm 118, verse 8.

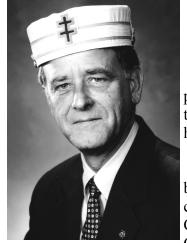
You have now discovered the center of the Bible, the center of God's will, and the central nature of your own being. The 118.8th Psalm reads, "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." The answer to the question, "In whom do you trust", must be known to each Candidate before he is permitted to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree.

A parting word, do not ever think that your life is not being written in the Book-of-Life, it is being written by you.

The Scottish Rite Creed

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal.

January - February 2009



PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE Ill. Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I sincerely hope that all of you will have a happy and prosperous 2009. All of us at the Scottish Rite are looking forward to working hard to spread the goals and ideals of the Scottish Freemasonry within the Valley and I hope that you will be able to jump in and help us in this endeavor.

I would like to start the New Year by offering congratulations to those who have been elected to serve as the leadership team of the Valley of Tampa in 2009. Of course I am talking about our new Master of Kadosh, Brother Scott McAlister 32°, Commander of Kadosh, Brother David Lopez 32° KCCH, Wise Master, Brother Gerald Lee 32° KCCH, and Venerable Master, Brother William Burris 32° KCCH.

Brethren, I encourage you to come out and support your leaders in the Valley with your participation at our functions and your thoughts and ideas. These four brothers, along with the balance of the Executive Committee, are always willing to listen. Please talk to us.

There are many brothers who worked hard in 2008 for the benefit of the Valley of Tampa. A special thanks go out to our outgoing heads of the Bodies, Gil Wiseman 32°, Raul A. Reyes 32°, KCCH, Ill.: Louie King 33° and Richard Hoover 32°, KCCH. All of our Committee Chairmen and their committees spent many hours this year getting ready for our Reunions, Flag Day, our monthly meetings and our efforts on behalf of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. Brethren, THANK YOU for all that you have done this past year.

We finished 2008 with some challenges that will remain with us in 2009. I see our two biggest challenges being membership and finances. We took in 60 new Masters of the Royal Secret in 2008, which was our goal. We need to increase that number in 2009 and we can only do so with your help. There is a very large percentage of Florida Masons who are not members of the Scottish Rite. Maybe that is because we have never asked them to join us in the College of Freemasonry. Brethren, I ask that when you attend any Masonic function, talk about the Scottish Rite with those brothers who are there. Once a brother Mason hears about the Scottish Rite, he might be ready to ask for a petition and join us. We will not know if we don't ask.

At the December Executive Committee meeting, it was approved for the Valley of Tampa to start accepting credit cards for the payment of the Fees for the Degrees, annual dues and purchases at the Emblem Shop. We know that many of our members, as with society in general, prefer to use a credit or debit card for many purchases of goods and services so that they do not have to carry an excess amount of cash with them. We hope that by providing this service, we will be making it easier for you to enjoy your membership in the Scottish Rite.

Once everything is set up, we will gladly take your VISA, MasterCard or Discover card for these transactions. More information on this will be forthcoming as we get all of the processes in place and we will notify everyone through the web site and via our eNews publication.

Brethren, I hope that you will make a commitment to your Scottish Rite in 2009. Attend those functions that you can, whether it is a Consistory meeting or a meeting of one of our Scottish Rite Clubs that is in your area. Here, you will enjoy the fellowship that goes alone with your Scottish Rite membership.





MONTHLY MEETING DINNER MENUS

January 12, 2009 Green Salad, Beef Stew w/Green Peppers, Onions, & Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans & Fruit Cake

February 9, 2009 Caesar Salad, Baked Chicken w/Cream Sauce, Baked Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli & Coconut Cake

Please note that <u>reservations are required</u> to properly plan the requisite quantity of food.

To make reservations, please call the Tampa Scottish Rite Office at 813.886.0578 by the Friday preceding the regular monthly meeting. You may also log onto the Tampa Scottish Rite website (srtampa.org) and click on "Make your dinner reservations" at the bottom of the Home Page.

2009 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

These brothers have been elected to lead the four Coordinate Bodies of Tampa Scottish Rite for 2009. Congratulations.

Master of Kadosh, Scott McAlister, 32° KCCH Commander, David Lopez, 32° KCCH Wise Master, Gerald M. Lee, 32° KCCH Venerable Master, William L. Burris, 32° KCCH

The following brothers have been elected to lead the Tampa Scottish Rite organizations for 2009.

Commander Scottish Rite Guard, Robbin I. Tate, 32° Venerable Master Knights of St. Andrew, John F. Wermann, 32° President Past Masters Organization, Stephen B. Jacobson, 32°

Commander KCCH Organization, William B. Garrett, Sr. 32° KCCH

ALLEGIANCE TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Tampa, Orient of Florida acknowledge and yield allegiance to the SUPREME COUNCIL (Mother Council of the World) of Inspectors General, Knights of House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose See is at the Grand Orient of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, now sitting at Washington, D.C., of which

Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33° is the Sovereign Grand Commander, and

Ill. John E. Moyers, 33° is the Grand Secretary General, and

Ill. Robert L. Goldsmith, 33° is the Grand Prior of the Supreme Council and Sovereign Grand

Inspector General in the Orient of Florida, and

III. Russell B. Glendinning, 33° is the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Valley of Tampa.

NOTIFY THE SCOTTISH Rite

Your Blue Lodge, the Shrine, and other Masonic Bodies... tell your loved ones; your wife, daughter, son or any close relative of your affiliation within the Masonic Fraternity.

Yes my Brother, in the event of your death, tell them to notify the Secretary of the above and any other Masonic Body in which you hold membership.

There are a number of cases each year where we are not notified of the death of a Brother, and we send an embarrassing dues notice to his loved ones.



One Nation Indivisible

Boca Ciega Scottish Rite Club

1st Wednesday, 7:00 PM Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291 14020 Marguerite Drive, Madeira Beach, FL

Lake Region Scottish Rite Club

3rd Tuesday, 6:30 PM (dark June, July and August) Winter Haven Lodge No. 186 375 Avenue A SE, Winter Haven, FL

Lakeland Scottish Rite Club

3rd Thursday, 6:00 PM Social Time 6:30 PM Dinner and 7:00 PM Meeting (dark June, July and August) Reservations necessary, phone 863.682.8001 Scottish Rite Club Building New Mulberry Highway, Lakeland, FL

North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

2nd Tuesday, 11:30 AM Reservations preferred, phone 727.460.1824 Kally-K's Steakery Fishery 1600 Main Street, Dunedin, FL

Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

1st Tuesday, 11:00 AM Kissin' Cuzzins 7100 4th Street N., St. Petersburg, FL

Sarasota Scottish Rite Club

2nd Friday, 11:30 AM in odd numbered months (dark July) SAHIB Shrine 600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL

or 1st Wednesday, 6:30 PM in even numbered months (dark December) Scottish Rite Club Building 240 S. Tuttle Avenue, Sarasota, FL

Sun City Center Scottish Rite Club 3rd Monday, 11:30 AM

(dark June, July, August and September) Freedom Plaza Club Sun City Center, FL

Support your Scottish Rite Club!

ART AUCTION

You're invited for an afternoon of fun and fund raising Saturday, February 21st 2009 AT Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center

The Collection will include:

Original Paintings, Lithographs, Serigraphs, Silkscreens, Etchings, Sports Collectibles, Neiman, Erte, Tarkay, Chagall, McKnight, Agam, Wood, Malmon, Wooster-Scott, Delacroix, Fazzano, Hassam, Rockwell, Rembrandt, Lautrec, Lena Liu, Peter Max, Orlando, Wissotsky, Zule, & Radd.

All framed and ready to display on your wall

ART SHOW will be hosted by Atlantic Art

Preview 6:00 PM Auction 7:00 PM Hors d'oeuvres & Beverages \$5.00 Donation Major Credit Cards Accepted

All proceeds go to support the Scottish Rite Clinics

DID YOU KNOW

The following was excerpted from the Masonic Service Association website (http://www.msana.com).

Masonic Awareness in the Lodge (September 2005) -- The Masonic Information Center was given the task of studying and preparing a Masonic Public Awareness Program. The study has been completed and is currently in the final stages of preparation for the publisher. This STB (Short Talk Bulletin) is an extract from that report and is meant to challenge our lodges and members into taking a fresh approach to our Masonic membership.

Our identity as Masons must include work on ourselves both as individuals and as a brotherhood. Our decline in membership over the past 50 years is merely a symptom of the loss of Masonry's relevance to our lives and our communities. We have individually and collectively allowed our lethargy to encrust the jewel of Masonry, which has been bequeathed to *Continued on page 6, column 2*



Master of Kadosh Scott McAlister, 32°

Thank you for the confidence you've placed in me by electing me Master of Kadosh for 2009. It is indeed an honor. I'd like to congratulate Brother Rick Hoover, 32° KCCH, for a successful year as Master of Kadosh for 2008. He left some pretty big

shoes to fill, but I will do my best to fill them.

Everyone has been affected by the tough economy, and we are no exception. The budget for 2009, which was approved at our December meeting, is extremely tight. We will have to either increase our dues significantly or dip into our investments (if you haven't purchased your Perpetual Membership, now's the time). The year ahead will be financially challenging, but with the aid of The Great Architect of the Universe, I am optimistic that we will get through it all right.

It's never too early to start looking ahead to our Spring Reunion which will be held the first two Saturdays in May (the 2nd and 9th). Don't wait until the last minute to start "shaking the bushes." Membership is our life's blood and the Blue Lodges are the only source of our members. The Brothers that I see on the sidelines at our monthly meetings are the same ones that are active in their Blue Lodges. Each one of us is an ambassador of the Scottish Rite to our Blue Lodges. When you attend your Blue Lodge, talk up the Scottish Rite. Each one of us knows a Brother who would like to seek still further Light in the College of Freemasonry. It would be great if every Blue Lodge in the Valley of Tampa had at least one candidate for the Reunion. Remember, **THINK MEMBERSHIP!**

GOOD FOR YOU

The following brothers recently received awards or certificates.

Grover Carawan, 32°, received a Perpetual Membership Certificate.

Gary Esteppe, 32° KCCH, Fred Buss 32°, Rick Hoover 32° KCCH, Glenn Banks 32°, Louie King 33°, Branty Meadows 32° KCCH, Bill Garrett 32° KCCH for the North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club, Ken Warner 32°, Ron Lupien 32° KCCH, Don Prosser 33°, Lou Ortt 33°, Tom Robinson 32° for the Sun Center Scottish Rite Club, Lynn Raposa 32°, all received Millionaire Certificate.

Glenn Fletcher, 32° received his English Patent.

Ney F. Delgado-Arias, 32°, Brian O'Hair, 32°, Robbin I. Tate, 32°, & John E. Drewett, 32° KCCH, received their Certificate of Completion in the Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Program.

Fred Buss 32°, Rick Hoover 32° KCCH, Jim Long 33°, Dennis Jewell 32° KCCH, Ron Lupien 32° KCCH, Branty Meadows 32° KCCH, Ed Bidoul 33°, Herb Atwood 32°, Joe Wells 32°, and Don Hawley 32° KCCH, received Certificates of Appreciation for their good work at the Tampa Charity Horse Show.

Members of Sarasota Lodge No. 147 F&AM received a plaque from Director of Work Don Prosser, 33°, recognizing their work and effort in conferring five of the 29 Scottish Rite Degrees. Congratulations to all from Rusty Glendinning, 33°, Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Valley of Tampa



Did you know, continued from page 5

us to pass on to the future. *Our focus on the past* (emphasis added by the eNews editor) has blinded us to the challenges of the present. And it is the present that we must address both as individuals and as a fraternal organization. Our reliance on former brothers' successes has weakened our commitment to achieving our own Masonic identities.

The Square and Compasses, the best known symbol of a Mason, cannot replace the identity of living the life of a Mason, which is itself perpetually in a state of improving ourselves in body, mind and spirit.

For more on this subject you may visit the following page (http://www.msana.com/ masonicawareness.asp) on the Masonic Service Association website.

January - February 2009



DIRECTOR OF WORK Ill. C. Donald Prosser, 33°

To all those dedicated Brethren who worked so diligently in the degrees in 2008, I personally thank you for your dedication to the cause of Scottish Rite and Freemasonry. To all those Brethren who were responsible for obtaining pe-

titions for our Blue Lodge Brethren, to further their Masonic knowledge, and served the purpose of the goal of Freemasonry of making us as Freemasons, better husbands, fathers, workers, employers, and citizens, thank you and God Bless You.

Never in the long history of our great Country had the need to spread the message of Freemasonry, been needed more than now. So I ask each and every Brother to attend your Blue Lodge and "RECRUIT, YES RECRUIT," candidates for your Blue Lodges. Why? Because without Blue Lodge Brothers to become members of the "College of Freemasonry," there would cease to exist any of Freemasonry. So our job to "RECRUIT" New for our Blue Lodges, and then Scottish Freemasonry continues. With each new Brother you are helping not only Freemasonry, but AMERICA.

HISTORY

The year 2009 is the Anniversary of the beginning of the formation of the Valley of Tampa. The very first Body organized was the McLean Chapter of Rose Croix.

The McLean Chapter of Rose Croix was organized on August 7, 1899, and received its Charter on October 20, 1899. The Chapter was named in honor of Ill. William Allen McLean 33°, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida in 1878, 1879, and 1880, the third SGIG in the Orient of Florida.

All records previous to January, 1903 were lost in a fire, as were the records of the other three bodies of the Valley of Tampa.

The first recorded candidates for the Chapter of Rose Croix in 1903 were Herman Glogowski, Master of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 eight times and Mayor of the City of Tampa four times; and D. F. Conoley Master of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 in 1904.

PRELATE

Ill. M. Dean Lovett, 33°

OVER THE RAINBOW

Judy Garland made this song famous.... "Somewhere

over the Rainbow Blue Birds Fly." It has been called "Judy's Song Forever."

Rainbows have been a mystery to me since I was a little boy. Now that I am older I can understand more of what I thought a mystery—

Genesis 9: (8-17) has given me insight into rainbows and into life. The rainbow appeared after the flood, which was horrible and brought death to the earth. The rainbow was the sign of a new beginning; new life, new joy, a new covenant with God. Sometimes floods can cleanse us.

Every time I see a rainbow, I am filled with wonder and I thank God.... as each rainbow reminds me of God's promise. In spite of the floods of hardship and loss, we see that God values us and offers us life.

> Standing in God's Covenant, I can face challenges with hope.

HELP WANTED

An editor, and an assistant editor, for the Scottish Rite Bulletin. One person, better would be two people to collaborate, on putting the bulletin together every two months. If you have a knack for getting the news of the Valley of Tampa from the various sources (office, officers, committee chairmen, etc.) and placing it into the bulletin you're looking at, we have a job for you. Candidates should be able to use computer skills such as email, Microsoft Publisher (Word in a pinch) and convert to a PDF file. Use of graphics software is a plus. Adobe software and knowledge is even better. And QuarkXPress is even better (if you have Quark, you're probably a professional print shop). Send an email to bulletin@srtampa.org and copy the office.



Attend your Blue Lodge

Scottish Rite Masonic Center 5500 Memorial Highway Tampa, Florida 33634-7336 Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage Paid Permit #1 Manasota, FL

Address correction requested

Scottish Rite Bulletin

Volume No. 32, Issue No. 1 January - February 2009

IN MEMORIAM

"Sunset and evening star, and one clear call for me! And may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea, but such a tide as moving seems asleep, too full for sound and foam, when that which drew from out the boundless deep turns again home. Twilight and evening bell, and after that the dark! And may there be no sadness of farewell, when I embark; for tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place the flood may bear me far, I hope to see my Pilot face to face when I have crossed the bar. - Tennyson



Wayne A Andrews, 32°	Robert H Farley, 32°	Mathew A Obinger, 32°	James D Story, 32°
March 11, 2008	September 28, 2008	February 22, 2008	November 13, 2008
Gordon J Arnott, 32°	Owen E Gall, 32° KCCH	Freeman A Phillips, 32°	Virgil S. Tatom, 32°
March 8, 2008	November 14, 2008	June 5, 2008	November 27, 2008
Ralph Best, 32°	Wolfgang H Haese, 32°	Howell A Phillips, 32°	Homer Todd, Jr, 32°
November 22, 2008	July 11, 2008	October 31, 2008	October 21, 2008
Hampton Booze, 32°	John L Hall, 32°	Lee D Ramsey, 32°	Wandell Vickers, 32°
August 29, 2008	August 11, 2008	July 25, 2008	September 21, 2008
John H Brostek, 32°	Charles M Harvey, 32°	Paul J Rasor, 32°	John W Watson, 32°
February 8, 2008	November 7, 2008	February 29, 2008	February 3, 2008
Robert T Burnham, 32°	William Higginbotham,	David A Roe, 32°	Isaac E Whisnant, 32°
November 8, 2008	32°	August 10, 2008	October 13, 2008
Danny L. Busbee, 32°	June 3, 2008	Nelson Rosecrans, 32°	Anthony J. Whitaker 32°
October 18, 2008	George B Kahmar, 32°	June 26, 2008	November 10, 2008
Gordon W Campbell, 32°	September 16, 2008	Allen T. Scott, 32°	Peyton T Wilson, 32°
November 9, 2008	Michael G Koulianos, 32°	May 18, 2008	October 14, 2008
Eugene R Edwards, 32° June 17, 2008	October 27, 2008 Frederick B Kresge, 32° March 11, 2008	James J Sileo, 32° September 30, 2008	Joseph R Wynn, 32° November 5, 2008