



SCOTTISH RITE **Bulletin**

VALLEY OF TAMPA – ORIENT OF FLORIDA

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
5500 Memorial Highway • Tampa, FL 33634 • (813) 886-0578
Meets 2nd Monday of Each Month

Volume 35 No. 3 • May - June 2012

www.srtampa.org

www.helpforkidspeech.org/sr

Join The Tampa Scottish Rite's Annual **Flag Day Celebration!**

Monday, June 11, 2012

5500 Memorial Hwy. Tampa

5:00 PM Flag Waving

5:30 PM FREE Barbecue Dinner

7:00 PM Patriotic Program

Open to the public • Entertainment by Valerie Gillespie • Florida Blood Services will have a bloodmobile on site to collect donations • Flag folding ceremony by Trinity Commandery No. 16 • Keynote speaker: Rep. Gus Bilirakis • Singing by The Heralds of Harmony • Child ID Program

Info: Scott McAlister, 32° KCCH, (813) 404-7439

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°
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Kenneth A. Warner, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory

Kenneth P. Scott, 32°
Commander - Council of Kadosh

Louis E. Nelsen, 32° KCCH
Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Ronald P. Lupien, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection

Barry D. Hart, 33°
Prior

Richard J. Whalen, Sr., 33°
Treasurer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Casey A. Fletcher, 32°

W. Bruce Steube, III, 33°

William B. Garrett, Jr., 32°

Gerald M. Lee, 32° KCCH

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Personal Representative

by Ill. Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren: Summer is quickly approaching and with it we will see many of our members return north for several months and many of our members will be taking vacations with the family. We wish everyone a safe journey and look forward to seeing you upon your return to Florida.

I am happy to announce that we are bringing back the Lodge Ambassador program within the Valley of Tampa. The goal of this program is to have a Scottish Rite member in every Lodge within the Valley to represent the Scottish Rite at their Blue Lodge meeting. This brother will be charged with the responsibility to see that our Lodges are kept informed of what is going on in the Valley and to encourage member participation in our events. Brother **Stan Rakita, 32° KCCH** is heading up this program and is looking for brothers to serve in this capacity. If you are interested in being a Lodge Ambassador or have a question about the program, please see Brother Rakita at our monthly meetings or you may contact him by email at stanr@tampabay.rr.com.

After serving as the Valley's Trustee to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, for several years, **Ill. Louie King, 33°** informed me that he feels it is time for him to step down from this position. While I did not want to accept his resignation, I have honored his request and want to publicly thank him for his years of service in this position and for all that he has done for the Valley of Tampa. He will still be an integral member in the Valley and as always, his input into our operations will be greatly appreciated. To fill this important job, I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Brother Rick Hoover, 32° KCCH** as our new Foundation Trustee. Brother Hoover is certainly no stranger to the members of the Valley and I know that he will pick up where Ill. Louie left off, so the transition will be seamless.

We have recently received the 2011 membership statistics from the Supreme Council and I am happy to report that the Valley of Tampa has maintained its position as the 5th largest Valley in the Southern Jurisdiction. While we had a net loss in members in 2011, our percentage of loss was second lowest only to the Valley of Guthrie (OK) among the five largest Valleys. Brethren, this ranking is indeed an honor for all of us as members of the Valley of Tampa. But to maintain being in the top 5 Valleys means that we must continue to work for the benefit of the Scottish Rite and to continue talking and encouraging those who are not Scottish Rite Masons to join our ranks. I encourage everyone to be the positive image of the Scottish Rite that you are and to talk about the Rite to your Blue Lodge, York Rite, Shrine and Grotto brothers when you see them. All of the Appendant bodies of Freemasonry have beautiful degrees, do many good things in our communities and provide an atmosphere that every Master Mason is proud of and the Scottish Rite is no different.

Our Spring Reunion will be held May 12 and 19 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Tampa. The complete schedule for the Reunion is available for viewing on the homepage of the Valley's website <www.srtampa.org>. I look forward to seeing you there as we welcome a new class of Masters of

the Royal Secret. Come for both days, one day or any portion that your calendar allows you to attend. You always meet some of the nicest people at the Scottish Rite.

Finally brethren, if you have not been with us recently, please mark your calendar for the 2nd Monday of each month. We would love to have you with us and share in the brotherhood that the Scottish Rite offers its members. 🐼



General Secretary

by Ill. John E.
Drewett, 33°

Scottish Rite Flag Day Celebration

One of our annual events which is extremely popular in the community is our Flag Day celebration. This year it will be held on

Monday June 11, 2012 starting at 5:00 p.m. It will feature flag waving along Memorial Highway, a performance by the Heralds of Harmony Men's Chorus, entertainment by Valerie Gillespie and The Florida Blood Services will have a Bloodmobile on site to collect donations. A flag folding ceremony by Trinity Commandery No. 16. Our keynote speaker will be Honorable Gus Bilirakis, United States Congressman. The Masonic Child ID program will have a table set up to ID children. All of this for free! So invite your family, neighbors and friends to come out to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and spend an enjoyable evening with us.

Scottish Rite Reunion

Time is running out for you to ask that Master Mason to join the College of Freemasonry: The Reunion will be Saturday, May 12 and Saturday, May 19. The fees for the Scottish Rite Reunion are a total of \$300, which includes \$65 for dues and a beautiful Morals and Dogma textbook. If you need a petition, please call the office at (813) 886-0578. As of press time we only have received 15 petitions. So get out there and look in your Blue Lodges and the York Rite bodies for candidates.

Scottish Rite Volunteer Honored

Volunteer Judy Bright was recently honored for her service to the Scottish Rite. Judy logged in 108 hours moving and filing all of the inactive files which included, deceased, suspended and the ones who demitted. She

first had to carry the files from the vault on the first floor to the third floor, where she filed them away. She did this in less than desirable conditions: First of all there was no elevator, there was no air conditioning, the lighting was poor, it was also very dusty and dirty up on the third floor.



Ms. Judy Bright receives an Award of Appreciation from Ill. John E. Drewett, 33°, General Secretary for volunteering 100+ hours on a special project for the Valley of Tampa.

Scottish Rite Fundraiser

The Scottish Rite is selling cookbooks for \$20. There are 417 recipes from all of the Valleys located in the Orient of Florida.

All of the proceeds will go to the Scottish Rite Foundation to help the children. If you would like to support the children please call the General Secretary's office to order one at (813) 889-0578. 🐼

From The General Secretary

We extend a hearty welcome and a warm hand of fellowship to a Master of the Royal Secret who has joined us by Affiliation and Reinstatement since publication of our last bulletin. Scottish Rite Freemasonry welcomes all its members and visitors within its portal—visit us as often as time permits, we guarantee good fellowship, new friends and an opportunity to work with us for the benefit of Freemasonry and Scottish Rite in particular.

Affiliation

Ernest W. Bowsher, 32°
Phillip Mehlman, 32°

Dennis L. Bryant, 32°
Scott M. Shimer, 32°

Reinstatement

Champ N. Barber, 32°

William F. Getty, 32°

Scottish Rite Clubs

Lake Region Scottish Rite Club

3rd Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
in April, May, September and November.
(dark June, July and August)
Lakeland Lodge No. 91
505 N Mass. Avenue, Lakeland, FL

North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

2nd Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.
Reservations preferred, phone (727) 460-1824
Kally-K's Steakery Fishery
1600 Main Street, Dunedin, FL

Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

1st Friday, 11:00 a.m.
Perkins Family Restaurant
8841 Park Blvd., N, Largo, FL
Information & Reservations (727) 577-5923

Sarasota Scottish Rite Club

2nd Friday, 11:30 a.m. in odd numbered months
(dark July)
Sahib Shrine
600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL
or
1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. 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 a.m.
(dark June, July, August and September)
Freedom Plaza Club
Sun City Center, FL

Support your Scottish Rite Club

Deadline for July/August Bulletin

June 4 - Contributor deadline
June 13 - Office contributor deadline
June 15 - Transmit print file to our printer

Good for You

The following Brothers recently received certificates and lapel pins:

Twenty-five Year Certificates & Lapel Pins

Norris C. Baxter Jr., 32°
Joseph E. Fara Sr., 32°
George P. Hall Jr., 32°

Billionaire Certificate & Lapel Pin

Christopher H. Schlenker, 32°

Millionaire Certificate & Lapel Pin

Ronald P. Lupien, 32° KCCH
Jeffrey M. Pick, 32°
Sun City Center Scottish Rite Club

Perpetual Certificates

Philip L. Eubank, 32°
Gordon L. Finch Jr., 32°

Appreciation Certificates for the Spring Horse Show

March 6 thru March 10, 2012

Herbert H. Atwood, 32°
Joyce & Kenneth D. Balsley, 33°
Joyce & Don C. Hawley, 32° KCCH
Dorothy & James W. Long Sr., 33°
Ronald P. Lupien, 32° KCCH
Andres L. Morin, 32°
Joseph P. Wells, 32°



Almoner

by Coleman L. Hill, 32°
KCCH

Brothers, as you are aware, the purpose of the Almoner's Fund is to assist with local charity needs. However, the number of requests for assistance has increased. As a result, we find

ourselves more and more addressing the needs of individual families.

Two years ago, we received a request from a family within our Valley whose situation could only be described as desperate. The father had lost his job as a

grant and proposal writer for the Department of Health. The mother was unemployed and suffered from Sticklers Syndrome—an incurable eye disease that ultimately leads to inevitable blindness. She had voluntarily ceased the treatment she needed to delay her own blindness, in order to allow treatment for her two, teenaged daughters who were similarly affected. The home the family had leased was determined to have Chinese drywall, a sinkhole had opened next to the house, the owner of the home was taking their lease money—but not paying the bank—the home was in foreclosure, and the family had received an eviction notice. With nowhere to go and no hope in sight, they appealed to the Scottish Rite. We were able to offer some assistance, and the family has now relocated. The father is reemployed, and he has created a registered, nonprofit organization to provide medical treatment for uninsured, needy patients – especially children. We recently learned that a \$3 million grant is in the works, thus providing for the immediate needs of the family and in a broader sense for the community at large.

Over the Christmas holidays, in partnership with Wheels for Success, Masters and Wardens, and through the efforts of individual Brothers, we were able to provide a serviceable vehicle for the widow of an adoptive family who had adopted four children, one of whom had been brutally tortured for seven consecutive days by his biological parents. When the child was released from intensive care, parental rights were terminated, and the child was adopted. A brother in the judiciary brought this case to our attention and we were assisted by another member of the judiciary in meeting the needs of this family. The legal requirements for this assistance were provided free of charge by a member of our bodies.

Smaller requests (electrical bills, water bills, and rent, etc.) for one-time assistance continue to arrive. We have met these requests thus far. However, our efforts to meet needs that require larger resources have made it necessary for us to collaborate with other community agencies. One such need has come to our attention.

The father of a local family age 23, has been determined to have extensive polyps within his colon, a condition known as FAP, and is battling Stage 4 rectal cancer, which has metastasized, to his lungs. His six-year-old son has the same FAP and has hundreds of precancerous polyps, associated with his condition.

His condition, though treatable, will require a colostomy, the complete removal of his colon: the use of a colonoscopy bag for the remainder of his life, and a best estimate of death prior to the age of 35. The surgery is scheduled for May and ten days of hospitalization are anticipated at the Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, where the surgery is being performed. Several agencies are involved in collaborating to meet the needs of this family. The father is unemployed due to his physical condition, and various medical expenses for his son include family airfare to Cincinnati, hotel fare, assistance with surgical expenses, and ongoing expenses related to his condition, which are not covered by insurance. There is some assistance available through insurance, but the family will owe tens of thousands of dollars with no known resources to meet these expenses. The insurance company requires a payment of \$2,000 per day and the hospital allows only one parent to stay at the hospital. The Mongolian Grill (Lakeland), churches, and other organizations are involved with trying to assist this family. We, through our Almoner's fund, have been

... Continued on page 6

Gerald M. Lee, 32° KCCH Commander

Brothers, at our last KCCH meeting on February 13, the members present voted to support the Valley of Tampa Masonic Center Building Fund. I would urge you to please consider making a donation to the Building Fund.

On May 14, at our regular Scottish Rite meeting night, our Scottish Rite photographer will be present to take pictures for a nominal fee of \$35.00, your picture will be placed on the wall in the Lodge room. The new KCCH members and some of our regular KCCH members, who have not yet had the opportunity to have their pictures taken, can do so at this time. Please wear a dark suit and tie. I encourage all KCCH members to attend our next organization's meeting on May 14.

If you are planning on joining us for dinner, please call Trish at the Masonic Center to make your reservations. Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. for a \$9.00 donation.

Behold how good it is for brethren to dwell in unity. 🐼



Director of Work

by Ill. C. Donald Prosser, 33°

Brethren, our 277th Reunion is fast approaching and you still have adequate time to approach your Brothers in your own Blue Lodge and any other non-Scottish Rite Brother to enlist him in the College of

Freemasonry. The Lessons we receive in the Reunions as a Freemason, should never grow old and should continue to guide us as Freemasonry taught us that simple lesson, Freemasonry's purpose is to take good men and make them better men. I again request that all Scottish Rite Brethren plan to attend this Reunion scheduled for May 12, and May 19. We will again be adding another Degree to be conferred, that has not been seen in 10 years. If you are sponsoring a candidate, you should be in attendance both days, especially when he is consecrated. If you are a member of the cast of one of the degrees to be conferred, I request that you plan to arrive at least *One Hour* before your degree is scheduled to be conferred. If any Brother would like to assist during the Reunion, we always could use assistance during the changing of floor props and material from one degree to the next degree. To all Degree Teams, and Reunion Committee members, I wish to thank you ahead of time, as you have always done a magnificent job. I am looking forward to another Reunion that will inspire and educate all Brothers about Freemasonry. 🦁

"Oh Wonderful Masons!"

by Ill. C. Donald Prosser, 33°

Hours & Wages: most masons were journeymen who moved from site to site as required. Their work week consisted on 5 1/2 - 6 days a week with hours of sun up to sun down. His pay depended on his particular skills and output. Their marks on the stonework is still visible to this day. Their wages sometimes included accommodations, food or clothing, with the Master Masons also receiving a fur lined robe. Master masons pay was on a level with educated lawyers and physicians, and a select few were selected by Kings as Head Masons of all construction.

The Lodge: normally was a temporary shelter at the building sites, here the workers could work, eat and rest until called by the Wardens to return from refreshment to labor. During the 14th century there was a huge labor shortage due the series of famines and plagues, and possibly this caused these men to form and organize into groups, and adopting charges and constitutions. Two famous documents from this period are, the Regius Manuscript of 1390, and the Cooke manuscript of 1410.

These regulations and charges established certain practices, and gave guidance on manners, morals and religious duties. They were read aloud to masons before they took an oath to obey them and guard each other's secrets, such oaths were first recorded in 1370 at the Convention held at YORK. Medieval masons were generally just wage earners who during this time period formed "guilds," but due to their moving from work location to work location as required by the progress of the structure or structures. The exceptions were in cities where large amounts of structures were being erected and a large number of masons became residents, such as London, where there was a Masons' Company in the mid 14th century (to be continued in the next issue.)

Source: "Oh Wonderful Masons!" (*Seeking the Medieval Stonemasons in a Modern Lodge.*) This is the second excerpt. Printed by the West Kent 2015 Masonic Samaritan Fund Festival, by W. Bro. Clive Moore LGR. 🦁

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requested to assist. We have offered to assist with airfare with an amount not less than \$1,000. This will severely handicap our resources at a time when community needs, especially those of our brothers, are increasing in both amount and frequency. We are soliciting your assistance for this worthy cause, so that we may continue our efforts to assist our brothers in particular and our community in general. No one likes to see a child die especially when we can assist. Please be generous for this worthy cause. Checks to assist the young man in question should be made payable to the Tampa Scottish Rite Almoner's Fund. For specific contributions for the young man in question, list on the Memo Line of your check "Cincinnati Trip." Checks may be mailed to the Tampa Scottish Rite, 5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL 33634. 🦁

Good For You

We apologize for not listing in last month's issue, the following members of the Valley of Tampa who are serving their Particular Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2012:

Miguel A. Araya	Dade City Lodge No. 48
Ronald E. Stanley	Trilby Lodge No. 141
W. Cliff McDuffie	Zephyr Lodge No. 198
Raul O. Pinto	Universal Lodge No. 178
Frank F. Harmon	Temple Terrace Lodge No. 330
Andrew P. Kip	Lakeland Lodge No. 91
Henry J. Lamb	Corinthian Lodge No. 191
Lewis C. Sasser	Haines City Lodge No. 219
William J. Doolin	Kathleen Lodge No. 338

The following brethren are serving their respective Appendant or Allied Body in the following positions of leadership:

Robert C. St. John, Jr. 32° Eminent Commander
Tampa Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8 K.T.
 Harmon Van Horn, 32° Eminent Commander
Plant City Commandery No. 6 K.T.
 Robert Phillips, 32° Illustrious Master
Tyler Chapter No. 4 R&SM
 Jim Gillett, 32° High Priest
Sarasota Chapter No. 35 RAM
 Albert Thurman, 32° High Priest
Manatee River Chapter No. 18 RAM
 Earl Dennis, 32° Illustrious Master
Venice Council No. 41 R&SM
 George Hernandez, 32° Eminent Commander
Trinity Commandery No. 16 K.T.
 Casey Fletcher, 32°, High Priest
Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22 RAM
 Casey Fletcher, 32°, Illustrious Master
Knowles G. Oglesby Council No. 42 R&SM
 Carl E. Gilmore, 32° KCCH, Illustrious Master
Clearwater Council No. 34, R&SM
 Lou Thomas, 32°, Commander
Springtime Commandery No. 40 K.T.
 L. Edward Villiaume, III, 32°, High Priest
St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31 RAM
 Anthony Griffon, 32°, Illustrious Master
St. Petersburg Council No. 14 R&SM
 Anthony Griffon, 32°, Commander
Sunshine Commandery No. 20 K.T.

Congratulations to Ill.:. Patrick C. Palmer, 33° on receiving a Scottish Rite Certificate of Honor from Ill.:. Ronald Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction. 🐼

Prelate Emeritus

by Ill. M. Dean Lovett, 33°

“My Plans Today”

“The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone. I always do what pleases him.”

John 8:29



Each day is a gift from God, today is God's glory. Often when we make plans, we are not willing to yield them. Plans set in concrete can become idols in our life. Matthew 6:33 offers us a different way of planning to God's purpose...

“Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Today when we pray, we can ask God to help us with guidance in our planning. Also, if we invite God to interrupt at any moment, we will be surprised by what God does in our life.

“Today is a gift from God.” 🐼

Coming Masonic Events

Please note ALL Scottish Rite Masons may attend the Executive Committee Meetings. The Executive Committee Meetings start at 4:30 p.m., dinner is 6:00 p.m. and regular meetings at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Visit the Valley of Tampa Website for the latest information on meetings and events.

Monday, May 14, 2012:

Executive Committee Meeting

Dinner and Regular Meeting

Menu: Linguini di amore with grilled chicken, green beans almonidine, Caesar salad, warm garlic bread and cake.

May 12, 2012:

Spring Reunion - Day 1

May 19, 2012:

Spring Reunion - Day 2

Monday, June 11, 2012:

Annual Flag Day Ceremony and Program
 BBQ Dinner. 🐼

Scottish Rite Masonic Center
5500 Memorial Highway
Tampa, Florida 33634-7336

Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit #1
Manasota, FL

Scottish Rite Bulletin
Volume No. 35, Issue No. 3
May - June 2012

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



Paul N. Andress, 32°
March 6, 2012

Robert R. Cribb, 32°
February 17, 2012

Thurman E. Kinder, 32°
October 2, 2011

John R. Barr, 32°
March 6, 2012

Charles V. Downie, 32° KCCH
March 29, 2012

Charles E. A. Manley, 32°
March 19, 2012

Edmond L. Bidoul, Jr., 33°
February 15, 2012

Orval R. Estep, Jr., 32°
March 4, 2012

William H. McCarthy, 32°
March 13, 2012

Jose R. Caldevilla, 32°
February 27, 2012

Jimmy C. Geiger, 32°
February 29, 2012

Timothy I. Miller, 32°
November 6, 2011

Carl S. Casto, 32°
February 12, 2012

Roland A. Goehring, 32°
February 28, 2012

Norman F. Nelson, 32°
March 24, 2012

George R. Clary, 32°
February 29, 2012

Gus S. Gross, 32°
September 4, 2011

Miles R. Sawyer, 32°
March 4, 2012

Robert L. Connor, 32°
March 20, 2012

Harold R. Haffner Jr., 32°
February 9, 2012