



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

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www.tampascottishrite.org

Masonic Youth Organizations Recognized

The Valley of Tampa honored those Masonic Youth Organizations within our jurisdiction at our September

meeting. We were very pleased to have them along with the Worshipful Masters in attendance that evening.



Pictured above are representatives of the DeMolay Chapters, Squires Manor, Rainbow Assemblies and Job's Daughters Bethel who were recognized at our September Consistory meeting.

Also pictured are Senior Grand Warden III.: Rick Hoover, 33°,
Grand Master of Florida M.:W.: Steven Boring, 33° and III.: Dale I. Goehrig, 33°, SGIG.

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°
Chairman

Brian D. Campbell, 32°
Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory
Richard C. Hollie, Sr., 32° KCCH
Commander - Council of Kadosh

Stephen B. Jacobson, 32° KCCH
Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Dwight N. Ridgeway, 32°
Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection
Norman F. Newcomb, 32° KCCH
Prior

Michael R. Pender, Jr. 32°
Treasurer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Richard G. Hoover, 33°
Lynn C. Raposa, 32° KCCH
Jeffrey M. Pick, 32°
Gary Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH

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Personal Representative

by Ill.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren, Here we are, quickly approaching the end of another year. As in previous years, we had some pluses and some minuses. We continue to have Brothers earning Double Eagle points and either being knighted and receiving their medallions or earning points to receive bars or new ribbons. It takes work to

advance in the program and brothers are stepping up to the challenge. I hope everyone will wear their Double Eagle award with pride. We have continued to impart Masonic knowledge to our members through our monthly Masonic education presentations by very learned brothers. These have been well received and we look forward to that continuing in 2016. From a financial standpoint, through September, we are ahead of our budget in many categories and we look forward to a good final quarter of the year. That being said, we still need to do what we can to increase revenue and decrease expenses where we can. All of the accomplishments were the result of many brethren stepping up and agreeing to do what was necessary for us to be successful.

On the downside, we continue to see losses in membership in the Valley. We all know that Masonic membership throughout the world has been dropping and it is of vital concern to all of us.

Regarding membership in the Valley of Tampa, as of October 12, 2015 there were 9,999 members in the Particular Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Valley of Tampa. Of that number, 2,398 are Tampa Scottish Rite members, or 23.98%. If we had a goal of a penetration rate of 25% that would mean another 102 Scottish Rite members. Think of the positive things that would happen with an additional 102 members in the Valley of Tampa. To obtain that number, we all need to be talking with our Blue Lodge, Shrine, Grotto and York Rite brothers who are not members of the Valley of Tampa. There are currently 66 Blue Lodges that we draw our membership from. That equates to 1.5 new members from each Lodge in 2016 to meet the goal of 25%. When you break it down that way, it doesn't seem to be that big of a hurdle. Brethren, we can't wait until February 2016 to start working on this. We need to start now. Our Spring Reunion will be held April 9 and 16, 2016. Let's talk to our brothers starting now about putting those dates on their calendars. Working together, we can accomplish this and probably exceed our goal.

Many brothers work hard year after year for the benefit of the Valley of Tampa. I am talking of course about our Valley officers, Reunion committees and our various committees. When you attend our Reunions, you see these names listed in our Reunion Book. Four brothers, however, have been elected by their peers to manage the business of the four organizations within the Valley. A special thank

you to Brother Carl Gilmore, 32° KCCH, Commander of the KCCH Organization; Brother William F. Wyllie, 32° KCCH, Commander of the Scottish Rite Guard; Brother Charles Osborne, 32°, Venerable Master of the Knights of St. Andrew; and Brother Ed Street, 32° KCCH, President of the Past Masters Organization. Each of these organizations has contributed greatly to the Valley of Tampa this year. If you are not a member of one of these organizations, I encourage you to get involved with them in 2016.

There is one group of members though, that never seem to get listed anywhere, but nonetheless, are tireless workers on our behalf. I am talking about our Club Presidents; Brother Patrick Palmer, 33°, North Pinellas Club; Brother Charlie Cheshire, 33°, Pinellas Club; Brother James Benjamin, 32°, Sarasota Club; Brother Richard Brown, 32° Sun City Club; Brother Leonard J. A. Smith, 32°, Lake Region Club; Brother Charles Walter, 32°, Nature Coast Club; and Brother Joseph Tarica, 32°, Tampa Club. These brothers work hard in their local area and doing wonderful things to promote the Scottish Rite. We are very fortunate to have four Scottish Rite Clubs in our area. Please check the listing of each Club and where they meet in this issue of *The Bulletin*. I hope that their meeting dates and times will allow you to attend one of our Club meetings. They are great times and afford a wonderful opportunity to meet new brothers and share in fellowship that the Scottish Rite offers.

Brethren, this is the time of the year that we not only give thanks for everything that we have, but we also celebrate various religious holidays. Whatever your faith, I encourage you to celebrate the appropriate holiday with family and friends and be thankful for everything that we as human beings have been afforded throughout our lives. 🙏

Visit our Facebook page!

The Valley of Tampa Scottish Rite is now on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TampaAASR, or if you are a Facebook member, log on and type "Valley of Tampa Scottish Rite" in the Search box. 🙏



General Secretary

by Ill.: John E. Drewett, 33°

The Scottish Rite has a New Organ

Our Director of Music, Brother Robert Davidson, 32° KCCH has generously donated a theatre pipe organ to

the Scottish Rite. The organ is modeled after the "Mighty Wurlitzer Organs" of the 1920's and silent movie era. The instrument is an electronic version of the Wurlitzer Organs installed in the FOX chain of theatres; Detroit, St. Louis and San Francisco. It is also modeled after George Wright's personal studio organ that he recorded from for many years. The organ was completed on December 9, 1999, and shipped from the factory to the dealer in Long Island, New York. The buyer had it moved to his Manhattan apartment. Brother Davidson is the second owner of this instrument and paid \$65,000 and moved it to his home in Florida in late summer of 2008. The original cost of the organ when built was \$169,000. The sound of the organ is absolutely incredible in the second to none acoustics of our auditorium.

Office volunteer needed

A volunteer for the office is needed to pull, stuff, seal and stamp dues cards. If this job is something that you would be able to do on a consistent basis, please contact the General Secretary. You can reach the office at (813) 886-0578, or email: generalsecretary@srtampa.org 🙏

From The General Secretary

We extend a hearty welcome and a warm hand of fellowship to those Master of the Royal Secret who have joined us as an Affiliation 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

Albert W. Dahlberg, 32°

Scottish Rite Clubs

Lake Region Scottish Rite Education Sessions

All sessions begin at 6:30 p.m.

Tuscan Lodge No. 6

November 19, 2015 - 12th Degree

June 29, 2016

Sebring Lodge No. 249

March 29, 2016 September 29, 2016

Nature Coast Scottish Rite Club

Last Friday at 6:00 p.m.

VFW Post No. 10209, phone (352) 686-9319

Spring Hill, 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. (dark July)

Sahib Shrine

600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL

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

Tampa Scottish Rite Club

4th Wednesday, 12:00 noon

Reservations preferred (813) 888-6385

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center

5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL

Support your Scottish Rite Club

Deadline for Jan./Feb. Bulletin

December 7 - Contributor deadline

December 16 - Office contributor deadline

December 18 - Transmit print file to our printer

Good for You

The following Brothers recently received the following awards:

Fifty Year Certificates & Lapel Pins

Billy D. Deel, 32°

Spruce M. Derden, 32°

Joseph W. Jung, Jr., 32°

William J. C. Northey, 32°

Harold A. Sale, 32°

Twenty-five Year Certificates & Lapel Pins

Matias Milla, 32°

Thomas J. Yarbrough, 32°

Millionaire Certificates & Lapel Pins

Richard G. Hoover, 33°

Paul J. Noller, Jr., 32°

Sovereign Grand Commander

Northern Jurisdiction

by Ill.: John Wm.

McNaughton, 33°

Sisyphus

“The gods had condemned Sisyphus to ceaselessly rolling a rock to the top of a mountain,



whence the stone would fall back of its own weight. They had thought with some reason that there is no more dreadful punishment than futile and hopeless labor.”

– 20th century French author

Most of us remember back to that time in junior and senior high school when we were exposed to a few classes of Greek mythology. One of the cast of characters who, for some inexplicable reason, has

remained firmly lodged in my mind, was the poor fellow named Sisyphus. He was condemned by Zeus, king of the gods, to the depths of Hades for his arrogance and ego. His punishment, as many of us well know, was to roll an enchanted boulder to the top of a steep hill only to watch helplessly as it toppled back down again and again and again; an eternity of useless efforts and unending frustration. What greater torture than to be condemned to repeat meaningless actions, every moment of every day, with absolutely no hope of ending such misery?

As we reflect on this story, we should also think about the unmistakable message our members are sending us. As the Masonic fraternity continues in its attempt to roll the ritual rock up the hill, most of our members are absent. Certainly there are a few members of the craft who have assumed the role of Sisyphus (possibly seeking higher office?) and are willing to devote endless hours to ritual. However, the majority of our members don't attend meetings or degree work—a tragedy of truly mythological proportions.

Many of today's Masonic leaders have chosen to hitch our once great fraternal wagon not to a star, but to a ritual stone. However, unlike Sisyphus, Freemasons are still free to choose their fate. Low attendance in so many of our lodges, the consolidation of struggling lodges, and the lack of good men seeking Light in Freemasonry should be wakeup calls to our leaders. In Grand Lodges throughout the

United States, membership and influence continue to decline, and yet, edicts for better ritual performance and behavior control remain the top priorities.

Freemasonry cannot blame a mythological god or goddess for our shortcomings. As Shakespeare so poignantly taught us in yet another high school class, "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in the stars, but in ourselves . . ."

If the fault is in ourselves, then the solution is within us as well. Might the solution of membership issues facing the craft necessitate spending more social time together, more time being concerned about the well-being of each other, and less time on ritual?

Yes, yes, and yes.

Source: Reprinted by permission from Scottish Rite NJ "The Northern Light" Magazine, May 2015. 🐼

Valley of Tampa eNewsletter

We encourage you to sign up for our eNewsletter which will keep you informed of news and events at Tampa Scottish Rite. Please visit <www.tampascottishrite.org>, click on **Publications**, then **Tampa eNews** then sign up under Tampa eNews. 🐼

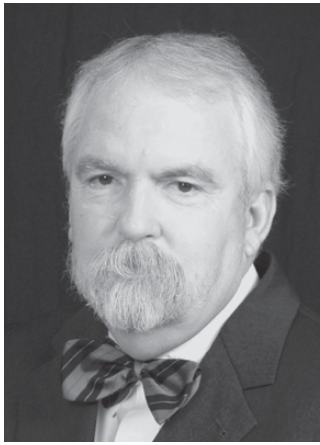
The Valley of Tampa is pleased to announce our 2nd Annual Feast of Kadosh



Saturday, January 23, 2016
at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
5500 Memorial Highway
Tampa, Florida

Guest Speaker will be Ill.:. Brent Morris, 33° GC,
Managing Editor, *The Scottish Rite Journal*.
Special Guests will be M.:W.: Steven P. Boring,
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida
and Ill.:. Dale I. Goehrig, 33°.

Details to follow.



Director of Work & Member Education

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

We welcome our new Brothers from the Fall Reunion. They rightfully are wondering “what next?” It is reasonable question for all of us to

ask. What do we do now?

There are many ways to be involved exoterically. Hosting Reunions is no small task. Volunteers are needed for sound, wardrobe, stage, degree work, and other important activities. The Knights of St. Andrew, the Scottish Rite Guard and our Foundation provide opportunities for involvement. There are many answers to the question “what do we now?”

Other worthy questions can be asked. How do I learn more? What lessons do the degrees teach? How should we apply those lessons to our lives? How should we change as a result of being a Master of the Royal Secret?

Finding answers to these questions requires some self-direction, initiative and reading. *A Bridge to Light* is a good place to start. Our Valley has a splendid library.

Enrolling in the three Master Craftsman programs (recently revised and reorganized) is an invaluable experience. They are means of helping us focus, providing a syllabus and structure for discovering the lessons of our Rite.

Participating in degree work is a useful and intense way of learning and growing. Interested? Send an email with contact information to dow@srtampa.org and a list of Degree Masters and locations will be furnished.

What is next? Help with an activity. Read and study. Join a degree team. And continue learning and growing. That is what we came here to do, right?

Remember, during 2016 we will experiment with conferring three degrees at Consistory meetings, between dinner and the regular meeting. The degrees are the 27th, 8th and 13th in April, July and August, respectively. These degrees are about 30-40

minutes in duration. The first two have not been conferred in over a decade.

Please also remember it is never too early to begin recruiting Master Masons for the Spring Reunion, April 9 and 16.

What is next for you? 🐼

Valley of Tampa History

by Ill. C. Donald Prosser, 33°

To add more interest about our Brothers in the beginning of the 20th Century, did your lodge have any of the officers of the different bodies, during the years from 1920 to 1941? Send me their names and I will make sure they are recognized. If your lodge had any Brothers who received the KCCH or 33° during those years, please send me the information and I can insure they are will be properly recognized during the coming issues.

Elections for the year of 1916 were held on January 3, 1916 with the following results; Consistory: Master of Kadosh, George P. Sullivan 33°; Council of Kadosh - Commander, Wilmot Fitts 33°; Chapter Rose Croix - Wise Master, E. J. Keefe 32° KCCH; Lodge of Perfection - Venerable Master, Franklin Heinrich 32°. Installation Ceremonies were held on January 31, 1916 with Ill. Olin S. Wright 33° Deputy Installing Officer. Immediately following the Installation a motion was and passed, changing all meetings to be held on Monday nights. This change was to take effect on March 6, 1916. The Spring Convocation was held on April 25 and concluded on April 28, 1916. The Class of 42 new Masters of the Royal Secret was consecrated by Ill. Olin S. Wright 33° Deputy. The Fall Convocation began on October 17, 1916 and concluded on October 19, 1916, with the Consecration by Ill. Olin S. Wright 33° Deputy. The Fall Convocation had the opportunity of beginning the Lodge of Perfection Degrees 4°-14°, for 29 Brothers On October 17. On October 18, 1916 35 Brothers received the 15°-18° Chapter of Rose Croix Degrees. On October 19, 1916 35 Brothers received the 19°-30° Council of Kadosh Degrees. On October 20, 1916, 35 Brothers concluded the 31°-32° Consistory Degrees being consecrated Ill. Olin S. Wright 33° Deputy.

Can you imagine the interest all those candidates and Brethren must of felt to sit through those long hours, or the time it took for the Degree Teams to

prepare to present the lessons that these new Brothers were taught, adding to their knowledge of the life of a Freemason. 🐾

Dues Notices have been mailed

You all should have received your 2016 Dues Renewal notice. You can, of course, detach the notice, write your check, add a postage stamp and mail it in the enclosed envelope today. Or, an easier way is to go to www.scottishrite.org and use your credit card which is a quicker way with no checks, stamps or mailbox trips. We would also be happy to see you and process your payment when you are at our next meeting. If your dues statement is in error or if there are special circumstances we should know about, please contact the Valley of Tampa at (813) 886-0578. 🐾

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 time is 5:45 p.m. and regular meetings at 7:30 p.m. and cost is \$10 unless otherwise noted. Visit the Valley of Tampa Website for the latest information on meetings and events.

November 9, 2015:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting
Scott McAlister 32° KCCH, on Pythagoras
House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Roasted Turkey & Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Apple Pie, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

December 14, 2015:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting
David Walters 33°, on the 20th Degree, Master of the Symbolic Lodge
House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable Blend, Warm Bread Pudding with Caramel Sauce, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade 🐾

Prelate

by Ill.: Lou Ortt, 33°



“Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!” Psalm 106:1

This is a wonderful time of year. It is a time we set apart to be with family and friends, if not in person, in spirit. As we think about all the celebrations, events and activities coming up we tend to be pulled in many directions, often even to the point where we find it hard to remember to say, “Thank you.”

Wherever you are, whatever you are doing, whatever your state during this holiday season I hope you are thinking about the blessings you have received. Thankfulness is one of those things that never runs out. God has provided us with an ever-present abundance of those blessings so we never have to worry about running out: so should our thankfulness be for those blessings. The more thankfulness we share, the more we receive and the more there will be for others. In the world created by the Supreme Architect there is plenty for all, plenty for us and plenty to share. So, as we go through this holiday season, let us all be very mindful of the blessings we have received and remember those less fortunate than we are. With this direction I am confident all will have a happy and joyful season. 🐾



Masons in the Community

Brother Mike Pender 32° KCCH was recently re-elected Treasurer of the Florida Humanities Council. Brother Casey Fletcher 32° KCCH was elected to be Vice-Chairman. The Florida Humanities Council promotes the study of Florida history, the liberal arts and the humanities. 🐾

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

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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



John E. Allen, 32°
September 4, 2015

Robert M. Johnson, 32° KCCH
August 31, 2015

James L. Rowe, 32°
July 27, 2015

Walter P. Blevins, 32°
August 16, 2015

Charles W. Inman, 32°
August 25, 2015

Roy A. Sharpless, Jr., 32°
August 20, 2015

John H. Bucklin, 32°
September 1, 2015

Edgar H. Kampe, 32°
July 15, 2015

Kenneth M. Shipley, 32°
August 16, 2015

Charles R. Burton, 32°
July 2, 2015

Thomas J. Kelley, 32°
September 24, 2015

Bob W. Stanley, 32°
August 24, 2015

George H. Dodenhoff, 32°
August 6, 2015

Neil G. Merrill, 32°
August 18, 2015

Charles D. Stidman, 32°
April 2, 2015

Richard C. Edwards, 32°
September 9, 2015

Gerald J. Moses, 32°
June 8, 2015

Gerald F. Whitley, 32°
July 20, 2015

Walter L. Friedlein, 32°
August 13, 2015

William F. Quigley, 32°
August 28, 2015

William D. Wilson, 32°
April 17, 2015

Dennis E. Jewell, 32° KCCH
March 12, 2015

Martti J. Rahi, 32°
August 5, 2015

William H. Winslow, 32°
July 23, 2015