



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 39 No. 5 • September - October 2016

www.tampascottishrite.org

Worshipful Master Recognition Night

by Stephen B. Jacobson, 33°

An open meeting will be held at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center Monday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m.

The Symbolic Degrees of Blue Lodge Masonry are the foundations and cornerstone on which all Appendant bodies, clubs and Masonic organizations are based. In recognition of the outstanding work done by the particular lodges, the Scottish Rite Valley of Tampa, is sponsoring a **Worshipful Master “Recognition Night.”** All sitting Worshipful Masters will be individually recognized. All officers and members of the Worshipful Master’s Lodge will also be recognized.

This will be an open meeting. Bring friends, family and Brothers of your Lodge to support these Worshipful Masters. Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. This recognition will begin at 7:00 p.m.

As usual, our monthly dinner will be served beginning at 5:45 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$10 per person.

Please allow us to accommodate you, your guests and members of your lodge, by making reservations no later than September 2 by calling Trish at the Scottish Rite office, (813) 886-0578.

My Brothers, with your help, we will make this a memorable evening for **Your Worshipful Master.** 🐾

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°
Chairman

Norman F. Newcomb, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory

Benjamin J. Raposa, 32° KCCH
Commander - Council of Kadosh

James W. Ford, PGM, 33°
Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Leonard J. A. Smith, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection

Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH
Prior

Michael R. Pender, Jr., 32° KCCH
Treasurer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

James W. Benjamin, 32°

Lynn C. Raposa, 32° KCCH

William C. Sundquist, 32°

A. Gary Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH

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Personal Representative

by Ill.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren: As we enter the final sixty+ days of our national, state and local election cycles, I am sure that those of us who use social media are being blasted with comments for and against this candidate or that candidate, some you may agree with and others you do not.

Brethren, I feel that it is vital that we as Masons be very careful as to what we post and remember that we are Freemasons 24/7. This is not to limit anyone's right to free speech, but rather reminds me of a phrase that I like to use, "*Think Twice Before Posting Once.*" Remember, we do not discuss politics in Lodge and with the advent of social media, you may believe that the Lodge is never closed.

I believe this thinking also goes beyond the discussion of politics. Most of us have references to our Masonic membership on our Facebook pages, whether it be pictures, likes or posts that we share from another Facebook page. This is the same as having a bumper sticker, decal or license plate on your car and going someplace where you may not want to be seen by friends or family. We are advertising our membership and pride in our fraternity for the world to see. So, the items that you share or the comments that you post will be seen by others right along with your Masonic postings that you share with your friends.

While we are free to post our feelings in social media, I encourage you to think about how what you post will be interpreted by others, both within and without the fraternity. When you post something, you are the only person who knows how you want your post to be taken by those who will read it so you will want to be sure to use the right words. Once you post it, it is there forever and everyone will be able to interpret it the way they read it, which may not be the way you intended it to be interpreted.

If you are still reading this, I would like to remind you of our Fall Reunion to be held October 29 and November 5 in memory of Ill.: Fisher Bickerstaff, 33°. The Reunion schedule is in this issue of *The Bulletin*. Please look it over and make plans to be at any part or all of the Reunion as your calendar permits. Also, don't forget to talk with your Blue Lodge brethren who are not members of the Scottish Rite about becoming a member of this Class. I am sure they will thank you for it at the conclusion of the Reunion.

We are looking forward to those of you who have been away for the summer rejoining us on the 2nd Monday of the month at our Consistory meetings. We try to make sure everyone enjoys themselves when they are here and also that the evening is beneficial to them with our continuing Masonic Education programs. 🇺🇸



General Secretary

by Ill.: John E.
Drewett, 33°

The S.G.I.G. is coming

Our Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Illustrious Dale I. Goehrig, 33° will be making his official visit

to the Valley of Tampa on Monday, October 10, 2016. This will be an "open meeting," so please invite your lady, family and friends to attend. Inspector Goehrig will be happy to accept any donations for the Scottish Rite Foundation. Let's show our support for our S.G.I.G. by seeing how many members we can turn out from each Scottish Rite Club.

This will be a very auspicious occasion, as the SGIG will be presenting the Valley of Tampa with the Valley Membership Achievement Project (VMAP) Award for the year of 2015.

Feast of Tishri Celebration

It can be said that symbolic Masonry is not a religion, but as all Scottish Rite Masons are fully aware, religious standards of conduct form the firm foundation upon which the proud superstructure of Masonry is constructed. Many of our various degrees reflect a variety of religious concepts.

That which unifies us in the concept that under the influence of divine guidance we are free to make our own choice so long as we endeavor to live exemplary lives, with special emphasis on our duty to our family, to our fellowmen, to our community, to our country and to the religion which we claim as our own, thus we make our contribution to the building of a better and happier world for all humankind.

Tishri, being near the beginning of the New Year and at the end of harvest, is a time for counting our blessings and being grateful that we have been blessed, thus it is not unlike our American celebration of Thanksgiving which also comes at the end of harvest season.

The Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Tampa will celebrate Tishri on Monday, October 10, 2016.

Dinner will be served to all in attendance beginning at 5:45 p.m. in the Banquet Hall with the program to follow at 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge Room. 🍷

From The General Secretary

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

Reinstatement

Ronald L. McMillan, 32°

Good for You

Congratulations to Brother Robert J. "Jody" Meguiar, 32°, on being named DeMolay International's 2016 Executive Officer of the Year. 🍷

Do you shop on Amazon?

Here is an easy way for the Scottish Rite Foundation to receive money from you for shopping on Amazon. So pass the word to everyone who would like to support the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida.

- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com
- By selecting the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. 🍷

Scottish Rite Clubs

Lake Region Scottish Rite Club

November 17, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
Dinner at Perkins, 6005 Cypress Gardens Blvd.,
Winter Haven, FL 33884

Lake Region Scottish Rite Education Sessions

All sessions begin at 6:30 p.m.

Sebring Lodge No. 249

September 29, 2016

Nature Coast Scottish Rite Club

Last Friday at 6:00 p.m.
VFW Post No. 10209, Spring Hill, FL
Phone: (352) 686-9319

North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

2nd Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.
Reservations preferred, phone (727) 460-1824
Tiffany's Family Restaurant
35000 US 19, N., Palm Harbor, FL 34684

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

Fall Reunion Schedule

Saturday, October 29, 2016

- 6:30 a.m. Class Registration - Lobby
- 7:00 a.m. Class Assembly - Lodge Room
Opening Ceremony
Open Lodge of Perfection
- 7:50 a.m. 4° - Secret Master - Conferred
- 8:35 a.m. Member/Class Education
- 9:05 a.m. 5° - Perfect Master - Conferred
- 9:50 p.m. BREAK
- 10:05 a.m. 6° - Confidential Secretary - Conferred
- 10:30 a.m. 7° - Provost Judge - Communicated
- 10:37 a.m. 8° Intendant of the
Building - Communicated
- 10:44 a.m. 9° & 10° Elu of the Nine and
Fifteen - Communicated
- 10:51 a.m. 11° Elu of the Twelve - Communicated
- 10:58 a.m. 12° - Master Architect - Conferred
- 11:23 a.m. 13° - Royal Lodge of
Solomon - Communicated
- 11:30 a.m. Class Photo then LUNCH
- 12:30 p.m. 14° - Perfect Elu - Conferred
- 1:50 p.m. Close Lodge of Perfection in Lodge Room
Open Chapter of Rose Croix
- 2:02 p.m. 15° - Knight of the East, Sword or
Eagle - Communicated
- 2:09 p.m. BREAK (until 16th Degree is ready)
- 2:24 p.m. 16° - Prince of Jerusalem - Conferred
- 3:54 p.m. BREAK
- 4:09 p.m. 17° - Knight of the East and West
Conferred
- 4:54 p.m. BREAK
- 5:09 p.m. 18° - Knight Rose Croix - Conferred
- 6:39 p.m. Close Chapter - announcements
- 6:54 p.m. Scheduled end time

Saturday, November 5, 2016

- 7:00 a.m. Open Council of Kadosh, elect officers
and club-committee remarks
- 7:35 a.m. 19° - Grand Pontiff - Communicated
- 7:42 a.m. 20° - Master of Symbolic Lodge -
Communicated
- 7:49 a.m. 21° - Noahchite or Prussian Knight -
Conferred
- 8:34 a.m. BREAK
- 8:49 a.m. 22° - Knight Royal Axe/Prince of
Libanus - Conferred

Deadline for Nov./Dec. Bulletin

- October 3 - Contributor deadline
- October 12 - Office contributor deadline
- October 14 - Transmit print file to our printer

9:39 a.m. 23° - Chief of the Tabernacle - Communicated
 9:46 a.m. 24° - Prince of Tabernacle - Communicated
 9:53 a.m. 25° - Knight of the Brazen Serpent - Communicated
 10:00 a.m. 26° - Prince of Mercy/Scot' Trinitarian - Communicated
 10:07 a.m. 27° Knight of Sun, Prince Adept - Communicated
 10:14 a.m. Member/Class Education
 10:59 a.m. LUNCH
 11:44 a.m. 28° Knight Commander of Temple - Conferred
 12:44 p.m. BREAK
 1:10 p.m. 29° - Scottish Knight of St. Andrew - Conferred
 1:29 p.m. BREAK
 1:44 p.m. 30° - Knight Kadosh - Conferred
 3:04 p.m. Close Council; open Consistory
 3:16 p.m. 31° Inspector-Inquisitor - Communicated
 3:23 p.m. 32° - Master of the Royal Secret Conferred
 4:53 p.m. Consecration of Class and Closing Ceremony - in auditorium
 5:23 p.m. Closing business, remarks & announcements - in auditorium
 5:38 p.m. Scheduled end time 🐾

September and October Good for You

The following Brothers recently received the following awards:

Fifty-Year Certificates, Cap Pins or Lapel Pins

Eugene P. Blicht, 32° William W. Hooper, 33°
 Daniel Shaw, 32° Marvin W. Shumate, 32°

Twenty-five Year Certificates & Lapel Pins

James D. Baldwin, 32° Douglas T. Baska, 32°
 Anthony J. Borrell Jr., 32° William R. Cerillo, 32°
 John L. Cornett, 32° Harry W. Cumber, 32°
 William W. Dasher Sr., 32° Richard M. Derk, 32°
 Albert J. Doley, 32° Julian D. Durrance, 32° KCCH
 Enoch J. Eddy, 32° Donald Eleton, 32°
 Thomas C. Gajentan, 32° William B. Garrett Sr., 32° KCCH

John A. Guest, 32° Sanford J. Hall, 32°
 Colonel B. Hamlin, 32° Benjamin J. Holland, 32°

Millionaire Certificates & Lapel Pins

Michael Bilirakis, 33° Richard S. Cowan, 32° KCCH
 Donald W. Cowart, 32° R. Joseph Davis Jr., 32°
 Mark A. DeStefano, 32° Robert W. Flanders, 32°
 Donald T. Harriott, 33° Ronald A. Herring, 33°
 Jack H. Jones, 33° Ronald A. Kalisz, 33°
 Giles A. Light Jr., 32° Norman F. Newcomb, 32° KCCH
 Pinellas Scottish Rite Club Carl A. Savickas, 32°
 Gary C. Schweinhaupt, 32° KCCH Petar Sibinkic, 32°
 Michael C. Sperato, 32° Joseph Tarica, 32°
 Dennis J. Thompson, 32° Richard J. Tokarz, 32°
 Kenneth A. Warner, 32° KCCH

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.

September 12, 2016:

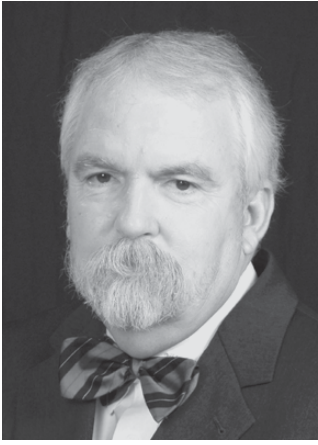
Executive Committee Meeting
 Dinner and Open Meeting
 Worshipful Master and Youth visitation
 House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Chicken Fricassee,
 Vegetable Yellow Rice, Fried Plantains, Cupcakes,
 Coffee, Tea and Lemonade

October 10, 2016:

Executive Committee Meeting
 Dinner and Open Meeting
 The Sovereign Grand Inspector General official visit
 Feast of Tishri Celebration
 (Family Style) House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Beef
 Medallions, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans,
 Chocolate Cake, Coffee, Tea and Lemonade 🐾

Email Addresses

We want you to receive our regular communications, please make sure that the General Secretary's office has your most current email address. Send updates to generalsecretary@srtampa.org 🐾



Director of Work & Member Education

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

“To the Greeks therefore, and not to the Romans, we are indebted for what is great, judicious and distinct in architecture.” This assertion is part of the Fellow Craft

lecture's instruction about the five orders. What should we make of it? Is it really important to know the details and differences of the five kinds of columns?

Two things (at least) come to mind. First, architecture—the building of columns, pilasters and Temples—is a metaphor. A metaphor asserting we're here to build (our) character and improve ourselves so that we can be contributing members of society. We can pick a column, study its structure and details, what it is and how it differs from the others. We can then think symbolically about what we've learned and apply it to our conduct and life. It is doubtful that our ancient brethren really thought it was important to know the literal difference between Doric and Ionic columns—perhaps our task is to examine their distinctions symbolically?

Secondly, what do we make of the contrast between the Greeks and Romans? We are indebted to the Romans for many things. Indeed, the 30th Degree reminds us of their virtue, civic commitment and virtue (ability and character).

Our ancient brethren may be reminding us that the foundation and history of western intellectual thought began with the Greeks. It is remarkable that it is so. Greece is a small country; its economy was nothing special compared to say, the Pharaohs' in Egypt. Other countries had good armies and navies, conducted trade, built equally monolithic structures; Greeks were no more nor less religiously inclined than any other people. Yet it was Greek culture that produced Pythagoras around the 6th century BCE, Parmenides in the 5th and then Plato, Aristotle, and many others thereafter. The Greeks seemed to have "invented" philosophy—the pursuit of wisdom.

We indeed have much to learn from the Romans, but the Greeks seemed to have been the first to make us to think, to encourage us, by example, to

learn, question, examine, contemplate and search for Truth.

Greek and Hellenic thought appears in many places in our ritual—our ancient brethren saw to that. Perhaps this one line of the Fellow Craft lecture indicates that our journey in search of Light and Wisdom begins with, and will call heavily upon, Greek thought and philosophy. We are indeed indebted to Greeks.

Our next Reunion is October 29 and November 5. The 16th Degree, Prince of Jerusalem, returns. It has been at least ten years since it was last conferred. Notably, the 16th through the 18th Degrees will be conferred in succession—an excellent opportunity for comparing and contrasting the lessons of these Degrees. The Reunion schedule appears elsewhere in this Bulletin.

We still have Council Degrees in need of Degree Masters and teams. Brethren interested in degree work or becoming a Degree Master can contact me at dow@srtampa.org. Our hope is to have ritual teams for all 29 Degrees for 2017. 🙏



Almoner

by Coleman L. Hill, 32° KCCH

Brethren, periodically, it is necessary to address you on behalf of the Almoner's Fund. However, there has never been a more important time than this moment.

As many of you are aware, the role of the Almoner's Fund has changed over the past few years. Rather than assisting only the members of the Scottish Rite, we have attempted to meet the needs of all Masons and their families, as well as the needs of the community. The result of this has been a larger awareness of our fraternity, specifically the Scottish Rite, and the various charitable efforts associated with Freemasonry.

The guiding rule for the Almoner Fund has been that the individual or family receiving our charity must acknowledge that it is a single offer of assis-

tance; they must offer credible evidence that they will be self-sustaining henceforward and, if possible, any funds advanced will be repaid. Generally speaking, those needing assistance have been temporarily unemployed due to layoffs, seasonal employment, or health reasons.

In the past we have paid back rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, and, in one extreme instance, the cremation of the child. Due to your generous contributions, we have been able to maintain a fairly stable balance of between \$5,000 and \$7,000.

The past several months, however, have strained our resources beyond any situation within recent memory. In addition to anticipated monthly donations, we have had two brothers who have experienced devastating losses. In one case, the brother and his wife went to a Masonic meeting. When they returned, their entire residence had burned to the ground. Furniture, clothing, items associated with more than 60 years of memories—irreplaceable and irrevocably gone. They were left with clothes they wore, the car they drove, and (ironically) the Masonic apron appropriate to the event they had just attended.

Brethren we have dispensed more than \$5,000 in the last 60 days; additionally, we committed ourselves to a further \$2,000. In simple terms, we are not only broke; we are in debt as a result of our efforts to meet the charitable needs of those who desperately need our help.

As I have previously indicated, charity is a cardinal part of nearly every obligation we have sworn to uphold as a condition of our membership the various Masonic bodies to which we belong. Our present situation offers perhaps the most dramatic test of our commitment to those obligations. I appeal to you, not just as the Almoner, but as a Brother and as one who has previously received assistance from our fraternity, see how deeply you can reach to assist those in need.

Those of us who work with charitable organizations are frequently in contact with each other. At this time, most charities, which I am aware, are hurting. Many are seeking charitable labor in the lieu of contributions; this is an awareness of how tight money is these days. However, there is no substitute for monetary contributions and no substitute for monetary needs.

Be generous, Brethren. When the time comes to be judged by the Great Architect, you will not be

judged on the quality of your ritual, you will not be judged on your regular attendance, you will not be judged by the times you have signed as top line on a petition. All of these and more will be secondary to your efforts on behalf of your fellow man. Think about it... Can you, will you help your fellow man? Only you can answer that question. Only the Great Architect can judge the appropriateness of your response.

So mote it be. 🐼

Prelate



by Ill.: Lou Ortt, 33^c

As a young man John Chrysostom wanted to be a desert monk, but due to physical problems this was not possible. He then decided to give his whole life to God in the city. He eventually became archbishop of Constantinople, but he always insisted on a life of simplicity. After his death he was given the Greek surname "Chrysostomos", meaning "Golden Mouth" because of his eloquence with words. He reminds us often that the words of truth have power to convict and transform.



On October 29 and November 5 our Scottish Rite will hold our Fall Reunion. Our members participating in our ritual will be demonstrating their Chrysostomos and passing on to those in attendance the words of truth which will guide and lead us all in the right direction. These words are not only from factual data, but are also parables, that is, stories which declare mysteries of ancient times which reflect the thoughts of our forefathers.

By attending these ceremonies we can personally share in these events by listening to the Golden Mouths of our ritualists and, hearing these stories, we can come to recognize their meaning in our daily lives.

Lord, we are preparing to do your work. Help us to build a strong foundation that will stand the test of time and let us live our lives so that all know we are upstanding men and Masons. Let us all partake of the feast of knowledge. Let us all receive the riches of goodness. Amen. 🐼

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

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September - October 2016

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



George L. Brown Jr., 32°
January 23, 2016

Gary T. Hader, 32°
April 22, 2016

William S. Peel, 32°
July 26, 2016

Bernard L. Cate, 32°
March 16, 2016

Robert J. Haynes, 32° KCCH
May 22, 2016

Chester O. Rickert, 32°
July 16, 2016

Ernest R. Cervis, 32°
August 1, 2016

Baxter C. Holland, 32°
July 19, 2016

Samuel P. Shaver, 32°
June 14, 2016

Harold R. Clark, 32°
July 5, 2016

Alexander M. Kimbrough III, 32°
February 17, 2016

Wallis H. Sturtevant Jr., 32°
May 22, 2016

Robert H. Coleman, 32°
June 12, 2016

Clyde Lonicker, 33°
July 18, 2016

Edwin E. Westerback, 32°
March 9, 2016

Michael V. Crews, 32°
June 21, 2016

Richard L. Mac Clinchy, 32°
June 30, 2016