



# 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 40 No. 1 • January - February 2017

[www.tampascottishrite.org](http://www.tampascottishrite.org)

**Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry**  
**Valley of Tampa, Orient of Florida**  
**285th Reunion October 29 and November 5, 2016**  
**Memorial Class honoring Ill. Fisher Furman Bickerstaff, 33°**



Officers of the Bodies and Distinguished Brothers, Front Row - Left: C. Donald Prosser, 33° - Director of Work Emeritus;  
S. Gilbert Weisman, 33° - Class Room Assistant; John E. Drewett, 33° - General Secretary;  
Russell B. Glendinning, 33° - Personal Representative; Chester King, 33°, Personal Representative in the Valley of Orlando;  
Ronald S. Kalisz, 33°; Gerald M. Lee, 33° - Class Room Assistant; Louie A. King, 33° (PGM); Gerald M. Lee, 33° - Class Room Assistant

### **Class Members**

Rogelio Alvalle; Gabriel G. Aquino; Richard D. Burton; Logan V. Chamberlain II; Konstantin Chelnokov; Paul A. Cuva;  
Jorge L. Diaz; Rodney M. Fryar; Edwin C. Gardner; Frank A. Grimes; Jeffrey J. Hoffman; Ronald A. Johnson; Jay M. Minier II;  
Hector L. Morales; Steven P. Nelson; Walter T. Ogburn; Maynard B. Pastorius; Roque B. Pastorius; Jason K. Perkins;  
David O. Rivers; Fernando J. Rosado; Leo F. Saito III; Mark D. Siegel; Jeffrey T. Sklet; Ryan M. Thompson; Royce A. Yancey  
Courtesy Candidates from the Valley of Orlando: Cory M. Cooper; Wagner V. Nolasco; Thiago Vinhas

## Executive Committee

### OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°  
*Chairman*

Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH  
*Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory*

Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH  
*Commander - Council of Kadosh*

F. Edward Street, 32° KCCH  
*Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix*

Arthur J. Ahrens, III, 32°  
*Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection*

G. David Walters, III, 33°  
*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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## Master of Kadosh

by Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH

My Brothers, five short years ago, I sat down to have a conversation with a man and Honorable Brother to which I have come to know, respect and admire greatly. At the time, I believe he took a leap of faith when he asked me to accept a position in the Consistory. I was only a Scottish Rite Mason for two years. During that same conversation, he explained in

great detail the responsibility that was to be placed upon my shoulders, and the labor I was expected to perform for several years to come. Well, I accepted, and the rest as they say is history. Brother Coleman Hill, I thank you for your confidence, and the expectation of leadership you set for me.

As with all of Masonry, the Craft has the final say, and I thank all the Brothers of this Valley who have placed their faith in my ability to lead in 2017. There is no greater honor than to be chosen by a majority of your peers, and I am humbled by this experience.

As we begin our labors this year, I should stress that no one man can complete the task of erecting and maintaining an edifice as grand as ours. It will take hard work and patience, Brotherly love, wise council, Faith, Hope and Charity from each and every member of this Valley. I encourage and challenge you to step in, get to know your new Brothers and their families, and give support to all the Officers of the Coordinate Bodies.

The Scottish Rite affords a learning opportunity to each who seek it. By that same token, it also affords the opportunity for each member to contribute to the Valley in his own special way. We all have busy schedules, and increasingly, we may find it harder and harder to dedicate time and effort to our Fraternity. No one knows and understands this better than I. We have a great deal of work to accomplish and goals to achieve, and I am certain they will not be completed in one year. Consistency, progression and continuity within each Officers line is of paramount importance. It is the very foundation our Valley needs to set in motion a 3-5 year plan of positive growth and development. With that, I'm going to ask each of you this year to bring positive change to this Valley, and open communication with all the Officers. Let each of us know what's on your mind, what improvements you'd like to see, and perhaps what commitment level you're prepared to contribute. Let's make this the first of five years that we really impart support in our Valley, and demonstrate the power of unity and a common goal to the whole of our Fraternity.

Happy New Year to you and your family, and I hope to see you soon at a Scottish Rite event! 🍷



## General Secretary

by Ill.: John E.  
Drewett, 33°

## Delinquent Members

As of this date there are 151 members from the Valley of Tampa who have not paid their 2016 and 2017 dues.

The 2017 dues payments were to be paid no later than December 31, 2016.

If for some reason you are having problems with making the dues payment, please contact the General Secretary for assistance at (813) 886-0578. 🐾

## 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 Dual Member 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.

### Dual Member

Gilbert P. Davis, 32°  
Valley of Harrisburg, PA

## Annual Installation of Officers

On January 9, 2017, we will install the officers who will lead the Valley of Tampa in the New Year. Along with the officers of the four coordinate bodies, we will also install the officers of the Knights of St. Andrew, KCCH Organization, Past Masters Association, Scottish Rite Guard and our Scottish Rite Clubs.

The installation is open to all members, their families and friends and will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Prior to the installation, dinner will be served at 5:45 p.m. (cost is \$10 per person). Mark your calendars to be there and please notify the Scottish Rite Office if you are planning to have dinner with us. 🐾

...continued from Page 5 – Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

through the line and served Tuscan Lodge as its Worshipful Master in 2008. Just as our Master of Kadosh, he is serving Tuscan Lodge as its Treasurer. His service to Freemasonry has continued as he served two years on the Grand Lodge Committee on Work (2013 & 2014) and as Zone Chairman for Masonic Leadership Training in 2011. He is also a Gold Card holder in the Grand Lodge of Florida.

Our new Commander became a Master of the Royal Secret in the Valley of Tampa in November 2006 and was elevated to the Rank and dignity of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour on November 9, 2013. He is also a Dual Member of the Valley of Guthrie in Oklahoma. He has been very active in the Educational programs in the Valley of Tampa and is currently serving as our Director of Work.

Outside of the Valley of Tampa, Brother Fletcher has been published in the Scottish Rite Research Society's publication, *The Plumblin*, the *Florida York Rite Mason* and the *Journal of the Masonic Society*. He writes a monthly article for both the *Egypt Sands* and the *Sahib Reporter*. In addition to his writing, he has received the Knight of the York Cross of Honor in the York Rite, is a IV° frater of the Florida College of the Societas Rosicruciana in *Civitatibus Foederatis*, a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, York Rite College, Red Cross of Constantine, Knight Masons and the Allied Masonic Degrees (Past Sovereign Master).

In his community and profession, Brother Fletcher is the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Florida Humanities Council and served on the Board of Governors of the Florida Institute of CPAs (2011-2015), where he was recognized as the Outstanding CPA in Business and Industry in Florida.

Our Commander's motto is *docendo disco, scribendo cogito*. 🐾

## Scottish Rite Clubs

### Lake Region Scottish Rite Club

March 30, 2017, July 31, 2017

August 30, 2017, October 30, 2017

One hour review and study of an AASR degree.

7:00 p.m. preceded by pizza. Locations to be determined. Save the dates.

### 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

IHOP

30200 US 19 N, Clearwater, 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*

## 2017 Valley Officers

### Tampa Consistory

Master of Kadosh ..... Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH  
 Prior ..... G. David Walters, III, 33°  
 Preceptor ..... W. Allen Sorbie, 32°  
 Chancellor ..... Henry A. Echezabal Jr., 32°  
 Minister of State ..... Charles R. Jordan, 32°  
 Marshal of Ceremonies ..... Weldon C. Harrison, 32°  
 Expert ..... TBD  
 Asst. Expert ..... TBD  
 Capt. of the Guard ..... Fernando J. Rosado, 32°

### Tampa Council of Kadosh

Commander ..... Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH  
 1st Lt. Commander ..... L. Edward Villiaume, III, 32° KCCH  
 2nd Lt. Commander ..... Carl E. Gilmore, 32° KCCH  
 Chancellor ..... Richard S. Cowan, 32° KCCH  
 Orator ..... Stephan Korda, 32°  
 Marshal of Ceremonies ..... Richard A. Vogt, 32°  
 Turcopilier ..... Paul D. Barber, 32°  
 Draper ..... John A. Baldwin, 32°  
 First Deacon ..... John W. Westerman, III, 32°  
 Second Deacon ..... William C. Klinke, 32°  
 Bearer of Beausant ..... Charles D. Walter, 32°  
 Bearer White Standard ..... A. Gary Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH  
 Bearer Black Stand ..... Joseph A. Severino, 32°  
 Lt. of the Guard ..... Gary W. Gordon, 32°

### Tampa Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master ..... F. Edward Street, 32° KCCH  
 Senior Warden ..... Herbert H. Atwood, 32°  
 Junior Warden ..... Steven J. Silvers, 32°  
 Orator ..... Robert D. Davidson, 32° KCCH  
 Master of Ceremoies ..... Kenneth A. Carolan, 32°  
 Expert ..... Paul A. Ippolito, 32°  
 Asst. Expert ..... Robert J. Davis, Jr., 32°  
 Standard Bearer ..... Donald W. Cowart, 32°  
 Guardian of the Temple ..... Gregory L. Wynn, 32°

### Tampa Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master ..... Arthur J. Ahrens, III, 32°  
 Senior Warden ..... Robert L. T. Phillips, 32°  
 Junior Warden ..... Charles C. Osborne, 32°  
 Orator ..... William C. Sundquist, 32°  
 Master of Ceremonies ..... David L. Douglas, 32°  
 Expert ..... Rodney W. Kohler, 32°  
 Asst. Expert ..... Richard R. Whitmyer, 32°  
 Captain of the Host ..... Douglas W. Dobbs, 32°

### For the Four Coordinate Bodies

General Secretary ..... Ill. : John E. Drewett, 33°  
 Treasurer ..... Michael R. Pender, Jr., 32° KCCH  
 Almoner ..... Ill. : Coleman L. Hill, 33°  
 Prelate ..... Ill. : Louis H. Ortt, 33°  
 Tiler ..... Andres Morin, 32° KCCH  
 Associate Tiler ..... Stephen C. Murphy, 32°

## Deadline for March/April Bulletin

February 6 - Contributor deadline

February 15 - Office contributor deadline

February 17 - Transmit print file to our printer

## January & February Good for You

The following Brothers recently received the following awards:

### Perpetual Members

Mark L. Mason, 32° Justin C. Sparks, 32°

### Twenty-five Year Certificates & Lapel Pins

Frederick E. Charles, 32° Frank M. Dyer III, 32° KCCH  
Bruce E. Fagaly, 32° Donald T. Harriott, 33°  
Ronald A. Herring, 33° Mark S. Parmenter, 32°  
Edward B. Smith, 32°

### Millionaire Certificates & Lapel Pins

David Lopez, 32° North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club  
Lynn C. Raposa, 32° KCCH Pinellas Scottish Rite Club  
Bryan M. Seland, 32° Sun City Scottish Rite Club  
Richard A. Vogt, 32° John W. Westerman III, 32°

### Billionaire Certificate & Lapel Pin

Carl E. Gilmore, 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.

### January 9, 2017:

Executive Committee Meeting  
Dinner and Open Meeting  
Annual Installation of Officers  
House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Roasted Chicken,  
Yellow Rice & Black Beans, Cup Cakes,  
Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

### February 13, 2017:

Executive Committee Meeting  
Dinner and Closed Meeting  
Program by David Walters 33°  
House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Meat Loaf, Mashed  
Potatoes & Green Beans, Pudding Cups,  
Coffee, Tea, Lemonade 🍷

## Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH Master of Kadosh



Brother Joseph A. Gonzalez will serve as the Valley of Tampa's Master of Kadosh in 2017. A Tampa native, Joseph graduated from Jesuit High School in 1991 and from FSU in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing. He is the owner and operator of Lucid Logo, LLC, a full service marketing and consulting company in Tampa and the operating partner of Circumscribe, LLC, a software development company. After eight years of dating his best friend and partner, he and Desiree were married in 1999. They are the proud parents of a son and daughter, ages 15 and 12 respectively.

... continued on page 6

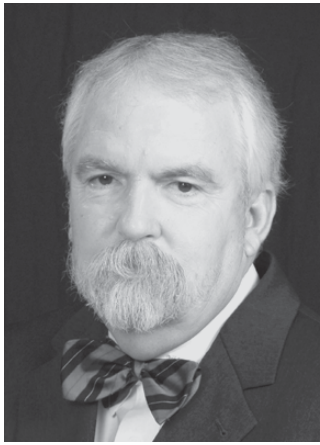
## Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH Commander of the Council



Brother Casey A. Fletcher (also known as The Professor), 32° KCCH was elected to serve the Tampa Council of Kadosh as its Commander for the year 2017. Brother Fletcher was born in Bartow FL. After graduating from high school, Brother Fletcher graduated from FSU with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Since 1983, he has served as Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer for PalletOne, Inc, and its predecessors companies. Casey and his wife, Sylvia, have two sons, one of whom, Casey II, is a member of the Valley of Tampa.

Brother Fletcher received the Three Degrees of Freemasonry in Tuscan Lodge No. 6. He progressed

... continued on page 3



## Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

At our recent Reunion, the 28th Degree, Knight Commander of the Temple, was conferred for the first time in recent memory; it is likely to be conferred again on Octo-

ber 28, 2017. As with all our Degrees, it offers intrigue, ideas, thoughts and lessons. One such lesson concerns decision-making.

Our protagonist is Constance; historically, the grandson of Constantine the Great. This puts the Degree in about the late 4th or early 5th century CE. Constance seeks admission into knighthood. He has undergone arduous training; developed his military and leadership skills. His character and virtue have proven to be unblemished.

For the final of test of his worthiness and commitment, Constance takes an oath and vow to perform a certain duty. Immediately, he is confronted with a dilemma—that of having to choose among this vow and other existing promises and commitments made that were, in and of themselves, as equally compelling as his final vow. He actually has five alternatives. He chooses. His decision is not impulsive; it is thoughtful. Ultimately, he is rewarded and attains knighthood. The Degree seems to have a happy ending—until we realize he actually forsook four of his five commitments. How did Constance decide?

What is remarkable about the lesson of this Degree (how Constance decides) is the contrast between it and the 15th Degree, Knight of the East, of the Sword, or of the Eagle. (This Degree was conferred at the Spring Reunion and is scheduled for April 22, 2017.)

Our protagonist in the 15th Degree is Zerubbabel, placing us in about the 6th century BCE. Zerubbabel likewise takes a solemn oath and vow. Likewise, he is confronted with other duties and obligations. They are basically the same five that confronted Constance. As in the 28th Degree, the alternatives are mutually exclusive. Zerubbabel

chooses much differently than Constance and, ultimately, he *is* rewarded. How did *he* decide?

Here is our dilemma: here are two characters faced with choosing among essentially the same five alternatives; all alternatives are just, reasonable, important and serious; their performance or violation contain consequences. The alternatives are mutually exclusive. Our protagonists choose differently—and Freemasonry regards them both to be heroes!

Our larger dilemma is this: the choices Constance and Zerubbabel faced are present in our lives. Our dilemmas are seldom as dramatic as those presented in the Degrees—but they are real nonetheless. Perhaps our ancient brethren sought, through these two Degrees, to coach us on how to make thoughtful, wise, reasoned and just choices when we are confronted with competing, mutually-exclusive obligations and duties.

How *do* we decide? Freemasonry does not tell us. It does not tell us whether to act out of principle, to consider consequences or by some other means. It just lobs out the question for our reflection.

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Our next Reunion is April 22 and 29, 2017. We still have Council Degrees in need of Degree Masters and teams. Our hope is to have ritual teams for all 29 Degrees for 2017. Brethren interested in Degree work or becoming a Degree Master can contact me at [dow@srtampa.org](mailto:dow@srtampa.org). 🐾

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...continued from Page 5 – Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH

Our Master of Kadosh received the Three Degrees of Freemasonry in Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 and was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on July 3, 2008. Being the person that he is, he immediately earned his Silver Proficiency Card and began instructing. He was appointed Senior Steward of Hillsborough Lodge in 2009 and continue through the line where he served as Worshipful Master in 2012. He continues to serve his Lodge having been elected Treasurer every year since 2013.

His service to the Craft did not end there, as he has served the Grand Lodge of Florida as Chairman of the Grand Master's Charity Committee (2010), Chairman of the Masonic Youth Coins (2011), Zone Chairman of Masonic Leadership Training (2012)

and as a member of the Sub-Committee for Foreign Relations each year since 2013. He served as M.: W.: James Ford's District Deputy Grand Master in the 22nd Masonic District

Our new Master of Kadosh became a Master of the Royal Secret on November 8, 2008. In 2011, Ill.: Coleman Hill, 33° appointed him as the Captain of the Guard in the Consistory where he progressed through the chairs to being elected to serve the Consistory as Master of Kadosh in 2016. For his efforts on behalf of the Scottish Rite, his Blue Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Florida, Brother Gonzalez was invested with the Rank and Dignity of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour on November 7, 2015.

In his spare time, Brother Joseph spends time as a member of Egypt Shrine. He received the Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor in 2015. 🐾

## Feast of Kadosh

Our Third Annual Feast of Kadosh will be Saturday, March 11, 2017 at the Masonic Center. This event is open to the public so family and friends are invited. Deadline for reservations is Friday, March 1, 2017. Tickets are \$40.00 per person. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. Your choice of entrees are either Flat Iron Steak or Chicken Piccata. Dress for the Feast is a suit and tie for the gentlemen and a nice dress for the ladies. Scottish Rite members should wear their Scottish Rite cap.

We are pleased and honored to have Ill.: Robert Davis, 33° GC as our featured speaker for this event. Brother Davis recently retired as the General Secretary of the Valley of Guthrie in Oklahoma and is a very well known speaker on Freemasonry. We are also pleased that our SGIG and his wife and the Grand Master of Masons in Florida and his wife will be joining us. 🐾

## Degrees to be Conferred

Degrees to be conferred at monthly meetings, save the dates:

July 10, 2017,

13th Degree, Royal Arch of Solomon.

August 14, 2017

8th Degree, Intendant of the Building. 🐾

## Prelate

by Ill.: Lou Ortt, 33°



As we begin the New Year we are faced with many challenges and uncertainties. We strive to do our best in all that comes our way, but we realize we need help.

During the formation of this country Benjamin Franklin expressed his belief that one person couldn't do the most difficult things alone, but a group of people, with the help of God, could do anything. Echoing this thought is the New Year's Prayer of Peter Marshall, Chaplain of the United States Senate 1947-1949. I am including a slightly modernized version of that prayer here.

"May we who are pilgrims, conscious of life's varying scenes, learn by faith, our Father, to cling to You.

We know that You will be in the future as You have been in the past.

We know that You will lead us on through all the tomorrows as You have led us through the yesterdays.

We know that You will not let us go, even when we, in willful neglect and indulgence, try to wander from Your ways.

As we set our faces toward the New Year, we know full well that it will bring many changes. The old must give place to the new. Time does not stand still, nor the world cease from its turning. Will You give us the courage and fortitude of mature men and women that will enable us to stand upon our faith, as the spirit of the living Lord shall give us strength. In Your strong name we pray. Amen."

Your Scottish Rite wishes you and your families a blessed, healthy and prosperous New Year. 🐾

## 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](mailto:generalsecretary@srtampa.org) 🐾

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5500 Memorial Highway  
Tampa, Florida 33634-7336

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## Scottish Rite Bulletin

Volume 40 No. 1

January - February 2017

### 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



Duane A. Avard Sr., 32°  
October 22, 2016

Dale D. Goodson, 32° KCCH  
November 29, 2016

Roy M. Olsen, 32°  
October 16, 2016

William A. Brito, 32°  
September 15, 2016

Norbert N. Imhof, 32°  
November 12, 2016

William T. Walker, 32°  
November 4, 2016

Joseph D. Coster, 33°  
November 30, 2016

Donald E. Jordan Sr., 32°  
November 24, 2016

Alvis D. West, 32°  
October 14, 2016

Maynard Davies, 32°  
November 4, 2016