



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. 3 • May - June 2017

www.tampascottishrite.org

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

Monday, June 12, 2017

5500 Memorial Hwy. Tampa

6:00 PM Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, beverages
and dessert. The cost is \$10 per person as like
at our regular monthly meetings.

7:00 PM Patriotic Program

- Open to the public

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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Personal Representative

by Ill.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren: As we enter the month of May, the boys of summer are back on the diamond and many of our members have left for the north. Others are preparing for vacations, cleaning the grill at home and getting the swimming pool ready for a hot summer. We want to remind those who will be travelling, that we will miss you

at our meetings. I hope that you have a safe journey home and we will be happy to meet you when you return with open arms.

I would like to take this opportunity to single out one of our members, Brother **Jeff Pick, 32° KCCH**. For the past couple of years, Brother Pick has been the Valley's representative on the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, Inc.'s Board of Trustees. Since that time, Jeff has spent many hours thinking of ways to increase the funds that we have available to donate to the Foundation. He was instrumental in organizing the first and subsequent Foundation cruises for the past three years that have been very successful in raising funds for the Foundation. This year, he presented a program where our members can earn additional Double Eagle points for their contributions to the Foundation and we have recently implemented several new Double Eagle bars that our members can wear.

I would like to thank each of you who made a donation to the Foundation when you paid your 2017 Scottish Rite dues. There are other ways for us to contribute and I would encourage you to contact Ill.: John Drewett, 33°, General Secretary to obtain more information on the Foundation and the work that it does for children in Florida with language disorders.

In closing, even though summer is here, the activity at your Scottish Rite is ongoing. We welcome all of our members to attend either the monthly Consistory meeting on the second Monday of each month or attend one of our Scottish Rite Club meetings throughout the Valley. Their meeting locations, times and dates can be found in this issue of the *Bulletin*. 🐾

Check your Dues Card!

Brothers if you have not attended a Scottish Rite meeting or activity lately, please take this moment to verify that your dues card is current. Make payment online at www.tampascottishrite.org or by calling the office at (813) 886-0578. We accept Visa, Discover and Master Card. Purchases at the Valley Emblem Shop may be paid with credit or debit cards also. 🐾



General Secretary

by Ill. : John E. Drewett, 33°

Celebrating The Craft

What are you doing on Saturday, May 20, 2017?

Celebrating the Craft is a “Webathon” similar to a charitable telethon

but broadcasted over the internet. It will feature talent from across the Southern Jurisdiction and will be hosted by Illustrious Brother Norm Crosby, with the assistance of Rusty Garrett and Gil Schlerier.

We will be having a “watch party” at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center. There will be a Mexican Buffet starting at 6:00 p.m. The primary emphasis this year will be on the clinics. Fifty

percent of your contribution will be used in our Orient to help with the Scottish Rite Clinics for Childhood Language Disorders. Make sure that you designate our Orient when you do make a gift. The other 50% will go to support the House of the Temple.

The show is entertaining, educational and enlightening! This year they will feature several live segments with children who have benefited Scottish Rite Clinics as well as their parents and speech therapists.

The Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite is hoping to make this the largest fundraising event ever. They need our help to do that! No gift is too small or too large. Whether you contribute \$5 or \$5,000, your help is critical.

Please note that your family and friends are invited. Come out and share some great food, fellowship and support a good cause. Call the office to make your reservations (813) 886-0578. 🍷



Open Letter

by M. : W. : Louie King,
Past Grand Master
of Florida

Brothers of Tampa Scottish Rite I am writing this open letter to you, because I know it's very difficult for you

to attend all the meetings in Tampa, which is no fault of yours as there are different reasons for not attending.

I want to Re-Connect you with our very own Scottish Rite Charity, which is the Children Language Disorders and the Clinics in Florida. We treat all children from all walks of life, with insurance and without insurance. The specialists in our clinics provide medical assistance in development from hearing loss, development in speech therapy and development in social skills for autism kids, these are the basic needs in language development.

The Foundation's growing concern for the Valley of Tampa is maintaining the great care of our Clinics and providing for the children of today who are our citizens of tomorrow. By overcoming these major obstacles in their lives today gives them the opportunity to be brought from silence, loneliness and despair.

My Brothers here is how you can help with your charity, by sending a donation of \$100 dollars you will become a Millionaire donor, when you have donated up to \$1,000 dollars you will be designated a Billionaire and so recognized with this great honor. My Brothers this is the only donation we will ask you for in the year 2017. With your donation, the children will have secured treatment in their development needs.

The Scottish Rite Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Corporation, which will allow you to list this charitable donation on your tax returns.

A donation from you today will be greatly appreciated, this you may do by sending a check payable to the Scottish Rite Foundation, 5500 Memorial Hwy., Tampa, FL 33634-7336 or by calling the office and giving them your credit card information. 🍷

Scottish Rite Clubs

Lake Region Scottish Rite Club

July 31, 2017, August 30, 2017 and 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.
Sahib Shrine
(July location TBA)
600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL

1st Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
February, April & October
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) 368-3878
Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL

Support your Scottish Rite Club

2017 Flag Day Program

Tampa Scottish Rite will present our Annual Flag Day Program on the evening of our Monday, June 12 (yes, Flag Day is actually on Wednesday, June 14) in lieu of our Regular Tyled Meeting.

A meal will be served in the dining room at 6:00p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, beverages and dessert. The cost is \$10 per person as like at our regular monthly meetings.

At 7:00 p.m. we will have the National Sojourners present a tribute to the United States Flag together with Ill. : Patrick Palmer, 33° and Ill. : Jerry Lee, 33° presenting patriotic presentations.

This program is open to all, family and friends and we encourage you to invite Blue Lodge members, your neighbors and all who may wish to celebrate our flag.

Reservations are required for the meal. 🍴

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.

May 8, 2017:

Dinner and Closed Meeting
Program by Brother Joseph Gonzalez 32° KCCH,
House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Chicken Teriyaki,
Fried Rice, Egg Rolls, Brownies, Coffee, Tea,
Lemonade

June 12, 2017:

Annual Flag Day Program starts at 7:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips,
beverages and dessert. The cost is \$10 per person
as like at our regular monthly meetings. 🍴

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 🍴

Deadline for July/August Bulletin

June 5 - Contributor deadline
June 14 - Office contributor deadline
June 16 - Transmit print file to our printer

May & June Good for You


The following recently received the following awards:

Scottish Rite

Master Craftsman, Symbolic Grade

David A. Hobbs, 32°

Millionaire Certificates & Lapel Pins

John M. Bankhead, 33° Richard C. Brooks, 32°
 William C. Cobb, 32° KCCH
 Donald W. Cowart, 32° Robert W. Flanders, 32°
 Ronald S. Kalisz, 33°
 Norman F. Newcomb, 32° KCCH
 Paul J. Noller, 32° Charles C. Osborne, 32°
 Jeffrey M. Pick, 32° KCCH Derl B. Smith, 32°
 Leonard J. A. Smith, 32° KCCH
 W. Allen Sorbie, 32° Dennis J. Thompson, 32°
 Richard J. Tokarz, 32° Richard a. Vogt, 32°
 High Twelve Lodge No. 317
 Sun City Center Scottish Rite Club 

Origin of the Feast of Kadosh

The Feast of Kadosh commemorates the founding of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon on January 18, 1119. We know this group as the Knights Templar.

The Templars were prominent in the Christian community in the 12th and 13th centuries and among the most wealthy and powerful of the western military orders. Officially endorsed by the Roman Catholic Church around 1129, the Order grew rapidly in membership and power.

After the First Crusade recaptured Jerusalem in 1099, many Christians made pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Bandits and marauding highwaymen preyed upon these pilgrims as they attempted to make their journey.

In 1119, the French knight Hugues de Payens proposed creating a monastic order for the protection of these pilgrims to King Baldwin II of Jerusalem. King Baldwin agreed and provided the Templars a headquarters in a wing of the royal palace at the Temple Mount.

In addition to providing military security, the Templars established financial networks across the whole of Christendom.


Having acquired large tracts of land, both in Europe and the Middle East; they managed farms and vineyards; they constructed churches and castles; and engaged in manufacturing and trade, both import and export; they had their own fleet of ships; and at one point owned the entire island of Cyprus. The Knights Templar arguably qualify as the world's first multinational corporation.

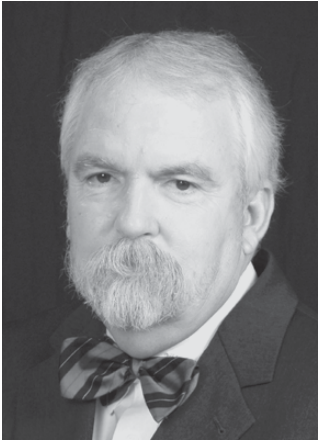
During the mid-12th century, the tide turned in the Crusades. The Muslim world became more united and factions arose among the Christians. The Templars became at odds with the two other Christian military orders, the Teutonic Knights and Hospitalliers.

In 1305, Pope Clement V summoned Templar Grand Master, Jacques DeMolay, and the Hospitallier Grand Master, Fulk de Villaret, seemingly to discuss the merger of the two Orders. DeMolay and Pope Clement also discussed criminal allegations that had been against the Templars. Pope Clement subsequently consulted King Philip IV of France. King Philip charged the Templars with heresy.

On Friday, October 13, 1307, King Philip ordered the simultaneous arrest of DeMolay and scores of Templars. The Templars were charged with all manners of heresy, denying Christ, engaging in indecent behavior and worshiping idols. Many of the accused confessed under torture.

After King Philip threatened military action against the papacy, Pope Clement issued a number of proclamations disbanding and condemning the Order in 1312. Grand Master DeMolay and Geoffroi de Charney, Preceptor of Normandy, ultimately retracted their confessions and were burned at the stake as heretics on March 18, 1314.

The Scottish Rite Feast of Kadosh commemorates the founding of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon, and celebrates the rich and storied lessons of chivalry, virtue, manners and moral conduct that Knights Templar have provided to Freemasonry. 



Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

The Feast of Kadosh is a day set aside by the statutes of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite to commemorate and reflect upon a major theme of the Rite and in Freemasonry—

that of Knighthood. Our Valley's annual feast on March 11th was pleased to host Illustrious Robert G. Davis, 33°, G.:C.: who spoke on the topic of the Templar, Rose Croix, and Kadosh traditions in Freemasonry. This column condenses and shares some of Brother Davis's thoughts (with apologies to him.)

Our Rite has multiple degrees on the topic of Knighthood: Knight of the East (15th), Knight of the Rose Croix (18th), Prussian Knight (21st), Knight Commander of the Temple (28th), Scottish Knight of Saint Andrew (29th) and Knight Kadosh (30th). Elsewhere in Freemasonry we find the Knights of Malta and Knights Templar in York Rite masonry and there is an appendant body styled Knights Mason. Each of these degrees and bodies has their origin, history and context. Most familiar, historically, is the Knights Templar founded in 1119 and disbanded in 1312.

Why does Freemasonry give such attention to Knighthood? "Why would an organization that was legislated out of existence in 1312 CE have any significance today?" Is it expected that we shall be called upon to "don armor and go forth to smite" ruffraff in the world? Do we need to dust off our horsemanship skills? Brother Davis posited that "the sight of Scottish Rite Brethren sitting astride very large horses and swinging at the enemy with broadswords would surely be far more comic than heroic."

Freemasonry, Davis noted, focuses our attention not upon the medieval knight as a warrior, but rather upon both his character and conduct—because the need and importance of his example still survives.

The honor of a Knight was sacred. He devoted himself to the protection of the helpless and inno-

cent. He exemplified moral conduct and demonstrated the best of virtue in mankind.

To illustrate the importance of knighthood in today's world, Brother Davis reflected, "Is a damsel any less in distress because she is suffering from a crippling disease rather than being locked up in a high tower by a cruel Baron?"

"Is the innocent child less deserving of help because he cannot read, or hear, or speak rather than being the legitimate heir to the throne, kidnapped by the usurper?"

"Are the poor more comfortable because they live on the streets of an American city rather than as serfs in medieval Europe?"

"Is it less worthy to assist the sick by research done in Masonic hospitals today than to found a hospital in 1000 A.D.?"

"Is it less contemptible to betray a friend, to cheat in order to gain financially, to use religion for political advantage, to make promises lightly and break them without thought, to fight in a court of law for something you believe to be wrong? Is it less contemptible to do these things today than it was a thousand years ago?"

He asserted that the world needs men who profess: "I will do what is right because it is right. I will not do that which I believe to be wrong, even though it is convenient, advantageous or popular."

As Freemasons, we are both instructed and obligated to be such men. "We are the figurative descendants of two historical roots relating to chivalry... One root is [the] virtue that directed the knight 'to honor, to serve and do nothing to displease ladies and maidens...' This is the stuff [that] created the concept that men were capable of being noble; that nobility in manhood is an acquired trait." The other root of chivalry is spiritual and religious, illustrated, for example, by both the religiosity and tolerance of a Knight of the Rose Croix.

Why does Freemasonry care about and focus on knighthood? The phrase, *nobility in manhood is an acquired trait*, is a clue. We can learn to be noble, but we must work at it and make it habit.

How do we acquire or develop nobility of character? To whom do we look for instruction and example? Do we look to "multi-million dollar athletes, or the spoiled and extravagant pop culture stars, or the computer-generated video game characters...?" Freemasonry looks to the "essential arche-

types of manhood,” to the Knight of the East, of Rose Croix, of Prussia and St. Andrew, to Constance and DeMolay. “It is the Knights of old that show us what it looks like to live by principle.”

Our job is not to go “into the world to slay dragons, but to inspire” ourselves to live “a life as men of social honor and respect..., to become the most gallant and virtuous of men.”

Brother Davis completed his presentation with the challenge for us to “battle heroically” to demonstrate honor, character, virtue, justice; indeed, to emulate all the admirable and requisite qualities of knighthood.

Concluding his presentation, Brother Davis shared the oath of a Knight of King Arthur’s Round Table:

I will develop my life for the greater good. I will place character above riches, and concern for others above personal wealth, I will never boast, but cherish humility instead. I will speak the truth at all times, and forever keep my word. I will defend those who cannot defend themselves. I will honor and respect women.... I will uphold justice by being fair to all. I will be faithful in love and loyal in friendship. I will abhor scandals and gossip—neither partake nor delight in them. I will be generous to the poor and to those who need help. I will forgive when asked, that my own mistakes will be forgiven. I will live my life with courtesy and honor from this day forward.

A tall order this is, indeed. Yet, it is what we came here to do.

Reserve your calendar for these special degree conferrals: July 10, conferral of the 13th Degree at our monthly meeting; and August 14, conferral of the 8th Degree. 🐾

Help!

Seeking a Degree Master and/or Assistant Degree Master for the 30th Degree. This degree is one of the most magnificent and munificent degrees, and it is one of the mandatory Scottish Rite Degrees as well. After so many years as the Degree Master, Ill. Jim Rocha, 33^o is seeking someone to replace the washed up old guy that is doing it now! If you have an interest, please call the office NOW! He says, “If I can be trained, so can you!” 🐾

Prelate

by Ill.: Lou Ortt, 33^o

1 Corinthians 3:10-11
“According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid, that foundation is in God.”



That spiritual temple, that house not made with hands, we are always working on and which we are continuously improving.

While these verses refer to our faith in the Supreme Architect of the Universe they also apply to each one of us as we progress through our Masonic career. We begin laying our foundation in our Blue Lodge and set our corner stone. From there, with the help of our brothers, we progress slowly building upon that foundation. The size and shape of our Masonic temple is left for each one of us to decide, but not without help. Look again at the verse. "I laid the foundation and someone else is building upon it". This is a reminder that our work is part of something bigger. We don't have to get everything perfect, all we need to do is the best we can, then pass the trowel to those who follow. We build layers on to our foundations through our degrees, or contacts, our community service and our spiritual lives. Our building never stops, just like our learning never stops. This, in my mind, was the Supreme Architect's plan. It is up to each one of us to keep progress going in the right direction.

As a reminder, you can place additional blocks on your foundation by attending your Scottish Rite meeting on the second Monday of each month. 🐾

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

Non-Profit
Organization
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Manasota, FL

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May - June 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



Robert W. Hooper, 32°
March 17, 2017

Olen K. Marks Sr., 32°
February 27, 2017

Roger L. Stanford, 32°
March 15, 2107

Arden P. Hubbs II, 32°
April 1, 2017

Richard I. Puls, 32°
February 25, 2017

Roy C. Tillett, 32°
March 9, 2017