



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 41 No. 4 • July - August 2018

www.tampascottishrite.org

Grand Master M.:W.: John Elias Karroum of the Grand Lodge F&AM of the State of Florida

M.:W.: John Elias Karroum was born in Damascus, Syria. He graduated from College de Peres Lazaristes in 1968. He attended Damascus University Medical School and graduated as a Medical Doctor in 1974. After his military service he moved to Venezuela to be with his family in 1977. He worked as a General Practitioner for two years. In 1979 he moved to the United States to pursue a higher education in Medicine. He became Board Certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology with a Sub-Specialty in Dermatopathology. He practices his specialty and has been the Medical Director of Broward Medical Lab in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, since 1997. He is married to Carol Karroum and they have one daughter “Shelly” and two granddaughters.

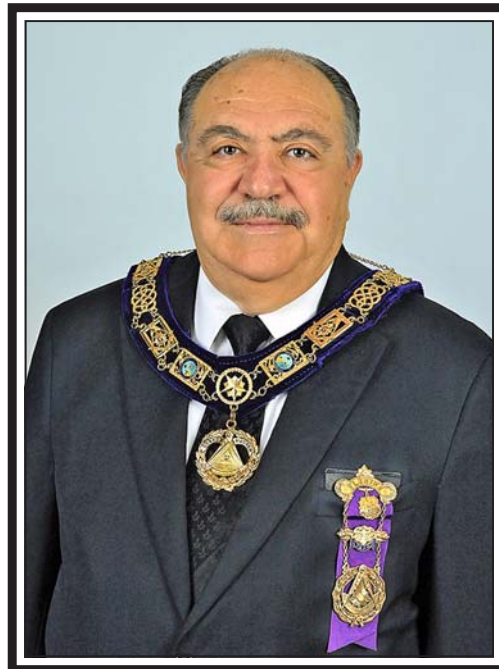
M.:W.: Karroum received the Three Symbolic Degrees of Freemasonry in Zahle Lodge No. 1047, Chartered by The Grand Lodge of Scotland in Zahle, Lebanon, in 1977. He is a life member of his mother Lodge. He is also a member of Arawak Lodge No. 8877 Chartered by

the United Grand Lodge of England, in Freeport, Grand Bahamas. He has the honorary title of Past District Senior Grand Warden of The Grand Lodge of the Bahamas and Turks.

M.:W.: Karroum joined Boynton Lodge No. 236, F. & A.M., in 2001 and served as Junior Steward, Senior Deacon, Senior Warden, and as Worshipful Master in 2006. He served as Secretary of his Lodge from 2007 through 2015. He has served his District in various Committee Chairmanships from 2004 through 2014, and as District Instructor in 2007 and 2008. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master by M.:W.: Jim J. Harris in 2011. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home for five years from 2010 through 2015. He served as Chairman of the

Admissions and Relief Committee for one year and Chairman of the Budget Committee for the Masonic Home for the three years. M.:W.: Karroum was given the Lifetime Appointment of being the Grand

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**Grand Master
M.:W.: John Elias Karroum
of the Grand Lodge F&AM**

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°
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G. David Walters, III, 33°
Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory

L. Edward Villiaume, III, 32° KCCH
Commander - Council of Kadosh

Herbert H. Atwood, 32°
Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Robert LT Phillips, 32°
Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection

W. Allen Sorbie, 32°
Prior

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

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James W. Benjamin, 32°

Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

William C. Sundquist, 32° KCCH

Charles D. Walter, 32° KCCH

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Personal Representative

by Ill.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

I would first like to offer my personal congratulations to M.: W.: Richard G. Hoover, 33° PGM. Our Illustrious brother has completed his term as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida. He worked diligently in the quarries this past year, always keeping the Craft in the forefront.

In this issue of *The Bulletin*, you will find a listing of our members who have been elected or appointed to serve the Grand Lodge of Florida and the Three Grand York Rite Bodies this year. We are pleased to have Brother James Mason, 32° who is serving as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Florida together with Ill.: Carl E. Gilmore, 33° serving again as Grand Treasurer and Brother L. Edward Villiaume III, 32° KCCH having been re-elected to serve as Grand Recorder of the three Grand York Rite Bodies.

I wish to extend my thanks to Ill.: Gerald M. Lee, 33° for another successful Flag Day Celebration in the month of June. We were honored to have Brother and Lt. Colonel Stuart B. Cate as our keynote speaker, who spoke about the American flag and what it means to so many people.

Brethren, I ask that you please look at your Scottish Rite dues card. If it says that it expired in 2017, would you assist your Valley by paying your 2018 dues? Your number of years of Scottish Rite membership is important to the Valley and to the Scottish Rite. If you find that you are in a position of not being able to write that check, please contact the General Secretary. We will do everything possible to assist you so that you may continue your membership in the Scottish Rite.

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*. 🐾

Follow our Twitter page!

The Valley of Tampa Scottish Rite is now on Twitter, if you are a Twitter member, you can follow us @RiteTampa. Or you can go to <https://twitter.com/RiteTampa> and open as a Web page. 🐾

This publication acknowledges authority and yields allegiance to the Supreme Council A&A Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction of which Ill.: Richard G. Hoover, 33° is the Deputy of the Supreme Council in Florida.



General Secretary

by Ill.:. John E.
Drewett, 33°

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center

The Masonic Center is available for rental. We offer you a perfect environment for your special event. The Scottish Rite

Masonic Center has multiple rooms available for rent. The Scottish Rite Masonic Center sits on beautiful grounds, has ample parking, a handicap accessible building, and is centrally located.

All catering is done onsite through L&L Events.

The Banquet Hall is 5,800 square feet with 16-foot ceilings. It can accommodate up to 400 people in a banquet set-up (tables only) or 380 with room for a dance floor. We have forty 72-inch round banquet tables that are included with the rental, as well as 400 banquet chairs.

Linens are available in the catering packages and can be upgraded at a minimal cost. We also have cocktail tables and 8-foot banquet tables.

The Auditorium has built-in seating for 700, also has an orchestra pit which could accommodate additional seating for up to 100 based on preferred set up. The Auditorium is great for large ceremonies, productions, trainings or business presenta-

tions, just to name a few. Spotlights, full sound, front and rear projection visual options.

For more detailed information as well as pricing, please contact Ill.:. John E. Drewett, 33° at the Scottish Rite Office (813) 886-0578 or email Brother Drewett at: generalsecretary@srtampa.org 🐾

From The General Secretary

We extend a hearty welcome and a warm hand of fellowship to this Master of the Royal Secret who has joined us by 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

William G. Cranker, 32°

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 <http://tampascottishrite.org>, click on **Publications**, then **Tampa eNews** then sign up under Tampa eNews. 🐾

...continued from Page 1 – M.:.W.:. John Elias Karroum

Representative to The Grand Lodge of Scotland for The Grand Lodge of Florida in 2016.

M.:.W.:. Karroum was elected to the Office of Junior Grand Warden on May 25, 2015, at the 186th Annual Grand Communication then Senior Grand Warden on May 30, 2016, and Deputy Grand Master on May 29, 2017. He was elected Grand Master at the 189th Annual Grand Communication and then installed as Grand Master of Masons of Florida on May 30, 2018.

M.:.W.:. Karroum is a 32° KCCH Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Lake Worth, Lake Worth, Florida, and continues to be an active supporter of

the Scottish Rite. He is also a proud member of the Palm Beach York Rite Bodies; Mahi Shriners, AAONMS; and is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. He is a Gold level Perpetual Member of Boynton Lodge No. 236, F. & A.M., and Apalachicola Lodge No. 76, F. & A.M.

M.:.W.:. Karroum loves to read history, mostly ancient, and he enjoys spending time with his family. He enjoys traveling, mostly to Europe and ancient cities. He enjoys listening to music and has a vast collection of all types of music. He has a passion for hand woven Persian rugs of which he is also a collector.

CONGRATULATIONS M.:.W.:. JOHN KARROUM, GRAND MASTER OF FLORIDA 🐾

Scottish Rite Clubs

Lake Region Scottish Rite Club

Red Elephant Pizza & Grill,
5216 S Florida Ave., Lakeland, FL
3rd Thursday of the Month at 6:30 p.m.
April, May, June, September & November

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

Grand Lodge Appointments

The Valley of Tampa is proud of the following Brothers who have been elected or appointed to serve the Grand Lodge of Florida this year:

Grand Lodge Officers

John W. Westerman, III,
32° KCCH Deputy Grand Master
Robert J. Lambert, 32° Grand Marshal
William C. Klinke, 32° Grand Historian

District Deputies and Instructors

Joseph A. Monday, 32° DDGM, 14th District
Matthew B. Winters, 32° DDGM, 18th District
Anthony A. DeAngelo, 32° DDGM, 19th District
Tomas Izquierdo, 32° DDGM, 20th District
Douglas W. Dobbs, 32° DDGM, 23rd District
Fernando J. Rosado, 32° DI, 14th District
Thomas R. Quay, 32° DI, 18th District
Steven R. Fortier, 32° DI, 19th District
Jack W. Hampton, Jr, 32° DI, 20th District
Gary W. Gordon, 32° DI, 21st District

Committeemen

Corporate Board

J. Dick Martinez, 32°

Child ID

Stephen D. Edson, 32°

Committee on Work

Michael H. Goldman, 32°
A. Gary Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH

Endowment & Investment Committee

David W. Jones, 32°
Matthew B. Winters, 32°

Finance & Accounts Committee

Michael R. Pender, Jr., 32° KCCH

Fraternal Administrative Endowment Committee

Fernando J. Rosado, 32°

General Services Panel

Kenneth A. Carolan, 32° KCCH
Frederick R. Wendling, Jr., 32°
Thomas R. Quay, 32°

Grand Master's Charity

Fredrick R. Wendling, Jr, 32°

Grand Master's Coordinating Committee

Kenneth A. Carolan, 32° KCCH

Deadline for Sept./October Bulletin

August 6 - Contributor deadline
August 15 - Office contributor deadline
August 17 - Transmit print file to our printer

Insurance Committee

David A. Henderson, 32°
Charles C. Osborne, 32° KCCH
Barry D. Hart, 33°

Masonic Jurisprudence Committee

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°
Ronald C. Mincey, Jr., 32°
Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH
John F. Wermann, 32° KCCH

LYPMGC, MH-100, Wills & Gifts Committee

John F. Wermann, 32° KCCH, Chairman
Todd A. Meschelle, 32°

Masonic Education Committee

Felix Gordillo, Jr., 32°
Steven J. Silvers, 32°

Masonic Home Board of Trustees

R. James Rocha, 33°
Justin W. Franke, 32°

Masonic Leadership Training Committee

W. Allen Sorbie, 32°

Membership Development Committee

Charles R. Jordan, 32°
Arthur J. Ahrens III, 32° KCCH

Panel of Attorneys

Jon B. Coats, Jr., 32°
Bruce Marger, 33°

Penal Affairs Committee

Jon B. Coats, Jr., 32°
Michael T. Rhoades, 32°
Gregory L. Wynn, 32°

Perpetual Membership Committee

Gregory A. Fisher, 32° KCCH

Properties Committee

Reed G. Rue, 32°

Public Education & Citizenship Committee

William J. Doolin, 32°
Albert W. Dahlberg, 32°

Public Relations & Publicity Committee

Mark P. Brewer, 32°

Technology Committee

Glen B. Bishop, 32°

Youth Activities Committee

Robert J. Meguiar, 32° KCCH, Chairman
Andrew S. Gluchov, 32°
H. Michael McCool, 32°

Grand York Rite Appointments

We congratulate the members of the Valley of Tampa for their active participation in the Three York Rite Bodies in Florida. The following brothers have been elected or appointed to serve these Grand Bodies for the next year:

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons

Arthur J. Ahrens, III, 32° KCCH.....Grand Scribe
David R. Meade, 32° KCCH Grand Organist

District Deputies and Instructors

John Wermann, 32° KCCH..... DDGHP, 2nd District
John E. Drewett, 33° DDGHP, 3rd District
Royce A. Yancey, 32° DDGHP 4th District
Todd A. Meschelle, 32° DI, 2nd District
Charles R. Jordan, 32° DI, 3rd District
John B. Ellis, 32° KCCH DI, 4th District

Grand Council Royal & Select Masters

W. Allen Sorbie, 32° Gr. Capt. Of the Guard
David R. Meade, 32° KCCH Grand Organist

District Deputy Grand Masters

Robert C. St. John, Jr., 32° DDGM, 3rd District

Grand Commandery KT

James T. Mason, 32° Grand Commander
John F. Wermann, 32° KCCH..... Grand Sword Bearer
Robert L.T. Phillips 32° Aide De Camp

District Deputies and Instructors

Todd A. Meschelle, 32° DDGC, 2nd District
Arthur J. Ahrens, III, 32° KCCH DI, 2nd District
Kenneth A. Carolan, 32° KCCH..... DI, 3rd District

For the Three Grand Bodies

L. Edward Villiaume III, 32° KCCH ... Grand Recorder
Carl E. Gilmore, 33° Grand Treasurer

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. 🇺🇸



Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

The 13th Degree, Royal of Arch of Solomon, presents an intellectual challenge. The first eleven degrees deal with the Hiramic Legend. The Legend is

introduced in the Symbolic Lodge and continues through the 11th where all “loose ends” are wrapped, excepting two.

The central theme of the 12th Degree is “Wisdom.” Little reference is made to the Temple or the Legend; the degree seems to suggest that the Light we seek is properly described as Wisdom. The 12th Degree may be a turning point in our narrative; indeed the turn occurs in the 13th degree.

The setting of the 13th Degree departs Masonic storytelling and re-directs our thinking. Heretofore, the degrees have been somewhat chronological, each building upon the previous and setting up the next degree. Yet the 13th Degree backs up, perhaps a millennium or two, to the time of Enoch the Patriarch. What's going on here?

The degree will be conferred July 9 at 6:10 p.m. before our Consistory meeting. Here is a primer (read also the chapter in *Bridge to Light*).

The degree has at least five distinct sections, each with its own message.

Once the Chapter is open, there is a symbolic journey into vaults said to have been constructed by Enoch. The central allegory offered might be the motion or the movement of the scene—whatever we are looking and searching for can be found only by digging deep; if not in a vault, perhaps then deep within our minds and consciences.

The second distinct section of the degree is an explanation of the nine names of Deity found in the Hebrew Scriptures. This section may be intended to be instructional. However, each of the names has an explanation and context. Perhaps this explanation admonishes us that the idea of Deity is not simple; the very idea of a Supreme Being has many implications and our searching should not stop simply

because we may have potentially grasped one of the nine ideas or interpretations.

A third major section of the degree seems to be a random civics lesson about the importance of a written Constitution. It is clearly anachronistic. There were no constitutions in the time of Enoch—or Solomon. What is the message from our ancient brethren? Perhaps they were encouraging us to think about what happens outside the Lodge room?

The fourth section of the degree challenges casual thinking about the Word—what it may be and what it may mean. This oration is worth attending the degree. It may be a caution against slothfulness or intellectual laziness in interpreting Masonic ritual.

The final section of the degree is a discussion of the three great pillars, Wisdom, Strength and Harmony (instead of Beauty.) This explanation links us back to the Hiramic Legend and may remind us of the second section of the Master's degree.

The Royal Arch of Solomon challenges us to think, to examine the lessons offered so far in our work and to chart a proper course of our future learning. Your attendance is earnestly solicited on July 9 at 6:10 p.m. before our Consistory meeting.

At our July 9 meeting, your writer will present a Masonic educational program. Before our August 13 meeting, the 8th Degree, Intendant of the Building, will be conferred. Illustrious Carl Gilmore, 33rd Degree will present a program at that meeting.

Our Fall Reunion is October 20 and 27. Please solicit Candidates. 🐾

July & August Good for You

The following recently received the following awards:

Millionaire Certificates

Donald W. Cowart, 32°

Giles Light, 32°

Charles C. Osborne, 32° KCCH

Tom Tyner, 32°

Rick Wendling, 32°

Prelate



by A. Gary
Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH



Created for a Purpose

Isaiah 43:7 *"Even everyone that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him" KJV*

What on earth are you here for? Isn't that really life's great question? All of our dreams, plans, goals, desires, pursuits—everything we long for or acquire, even our relationships—all that we are is in pursuit of the answer to the one question that really matters. What are we all about?

God created us. The Bible tells us in Genesis the account of creation. We were formed in His image and placed in His world and given charge over His created things. Man tended the garden alone and God provided a partner for him. And mankind grew exponentially until now there are seven billion of us, and nearly all still in search of the answer to end all answers. Why?

The Bible tells us the answer in Isaiah 43. We were created for God's glory. It pleased Him to create us, and we are a reflection of Him. Because we were created for God's glory, we are also to live for God's glory. We are here to know Him and to please Him and to praise Him. The God who made us is also the God that gives our lives meaning.

The greatest thing we can do in life is to know God... to surrender to God and to understand that sin displeases God, but that He gives us a way through Christ to restore our relationship with Him and to spend eternity in Heaven with Him. Did you ever think that Heaven is only Heaven because God is there? Our eternity is to be spent in His presence. But it will not be boring! How could it be when God is eternally vast and glorious and loving and kind and knowable? A billion years on we will not fully know God, and we will continually discover and understand more about Him but never know Him in every way that we can know Him.

We are created for a purpose: To know God and to make God known. We exist to please God

through a relationship with Him as we reflect Him in our hearts, minds and actions by living for Him daily. Are you doing your part in God's plan? 🐾

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.

July 9, 2018:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Open Meeting
Presentation of the 13th Degree, Royal of Arch of Solomon (at 6:10 p.m.)
Patents of Membership and 14th Degree Pyramids being presented to the members of the Spring Class.
Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Baked Ziti, Vegetable Blend, Ice Cream, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

August 13, 2018:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting
Presentation of the 8th Degree, Intendant of the Building (at 6:10 p.m.)
House Salad, Shepherd's pie, Sweet Corn, Assorted Cakes, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade 🐾

Do you shop on Amazon?

Here is an easy way for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida to receive money from you for shopping on Amazon. To assist the Foundation here are the simple steps to follow:

- Log onto smile.amazon.com
- Select the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida as the charity that you wish to support.

For every purchase you make at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of the items you purchase to our Foundation. It costs you nothing to participate in this program. 🐾

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

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Organization
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Manasota, FL

Scottish Rite Bulletin

Volume 41 No. 4

July - August 2018

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 A. Brown, 32°
March 26, 2018

Wilbur B. Holmes, 32°
May 4, 2018

Gregory S. Pankonie, 32°
June 3, 2018

George G. Dickson Jr., 32°
May 2, 2018

Clarence J. Keel Jr., 32° KCCH
April 4, 2018

Jack G. Stabler, 32°
April 11, 2018

Herman T. Hart, 32°
May 20, 2018

Terry D. Mc Laughlin, 32° KCCH
May 11, 2018