

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. 3 • May - June 2018

www.tampascottishrite.org

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

Monday, June 11, 2018 5500 Memorial Hwy. Tampa

6:00 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, beverages and dessert. The cost is \$10 per person as at our regular monthly meetings. Reservations are required for the meal.

>7:00 p.m. Patriotic Program

Keynote Speaker: Lt. Colonel Stuart B. Cate

• Open to the public

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Executive Committee

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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°

Brethren: As we enter the month of May, the boys of summer are back on the diamond and all is right with the world. 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 thank everyone who attended our 4th Annual Feast of Kadosh in March. It was a great evening of fellowship along with a wonderful meal and a very informative presentation by Brother Casey Fletcher, 32° KCCH. We were very happy to have with us our own Ill∴ Rick Hoover, 33°, Deputy in the Orient of Florida and our Grand Master along with his wife Bobby. Our Commander of the Council, Brother Ed Villiaume, III, 32° KCCH did a superb job of keeping the evening running smoothly. The Feast of Kadosh is a special event in the Scottish Rite as we celebrate the founding of the original Knight Templars and one that I feel everyone would enjoy. We are in the planning stages for our 2019 Feast and when the date is set, we will let everyone know.

At our April meeting we held the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal to honor those Knights who have departed this life in the past year. This is a very moving ceremony and one that every member of the Scottish Rite should witness. My thanks to the following brothers who took part in this ceremony: Joseph A. Gonzalez, 32° KCCH, Steven J. Silvers, 32°, Walter Schoepf, 32° KCCH, Ill.: Ronald P. Lupien, 33°, Ill.: John E. Drewett, 33°, Gregory L. Wynn, 32°, Scott McAlister, 32° KCCH, William C. Sundquist, 32° KCCH, Fernando J. Rosado, 32°, Billy D. Schmidt, 32°, Brian D. Campbell, 32° KCCH and Robert D. Davidson, 32° KCCH.

You should receive this issue of *The Bulletin* before the end of April and I would encourage you to attend any or all of our Spring Reunion on May 5th and 6th. This Reunion is in memory of Ill: Jack H. Jones, 33° G∴C∴ Our Illustrious Brother was loved by everyone who met him and worked around the clock for Freemasonry. What a fitting tribute it would be in his memory to see a large turnout of our members attend this Reunion. Remember, Reunions are not only for the purpose of making new friends but also to see old friends.

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

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In closing, even though summer is here, the activity at your Scottish Rite in 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*.



General Secretary

by Ill∴ John E. Drewett, 33°

Brother to Brother Program

The Valley of Tampa has a program to assist those brothers who for various reasons are unable to pay their Scottish Rite dues,

and face being suspended for non-payment of dues. The last thing that the Scottish Rite wants to do is to suspend a member because they fell on hard economic times and can't pay their dues. Most of the time the member is too proud to ask for assistance from a fellow member. The contributions from brothers who are willing to help have dwindled down. This program is voluntary, but I would encourage you to contribute if you are able to do so, and help a needy brother from being suspended.

When a request is received by my office, the facts are checked out and if it is determined that the brother is unable to pay his dues, the Secretary will pay his dues.

If you are agreeable to assisting the Valley and the Scottish Rite in this program, please contact the General Secretary's office by a phone call (813)886-0578 or email me at generalsecretary@srtampa.org. Or mail your contribution in to:

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center. 5500 Memorial Highway
Tampa, FL 33634-7336
Attn: Brother to Brother Program

From The General Secretary

We extend a hearty welcome and a warm hand of fellowship to these Masters 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

Gary H. Osborne, 32° Tommy F. Tyner, 32°

Allegiance to The Supreme Council

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Tampa, Orient of Florida acknowledge and yield allegiance to the SUPREME COUNCIL (Mother Council of the World) of Inspectors General, Knights of House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose See is at the Grand Orient of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, now sitting at Washington, D.C., of which

Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°

is the Sovereign Grand Commander, and

Ill. John E. Moyers, 33°

is the Grand Secretary General, and

Ill. Richard G. Hoover, 33°

is Deputy of the Supreme Council in Florida and

Ill. Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

is the Personal Representative of the Deputy in the Valley of Tampa.

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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

Deadline for July/August Bulletin

June 4 - Contributor deadline

June 13 - Office contributor deadline

June 15 - Transmit print file to our printer

2018 Flag Day Program

Tampa Scottish Rite will present our Annual Flag Day Program on the evening of our Monday, June 11 (yes, Flag Day is actually on Thursday, June 14) in lieu of our Regular Tyled Meeting.

A meal will be served in the dining room 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.

Our keynote speaker for the evening is Lt. Colonel Stuart B. Cate. His military background is extensive and he is currently stationed at MacDill Air Force Base. He is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn. Lt. Colonel Cate has been awarded the Bronze Star with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (3 Stars) and the Iraq Campaign Medal (2 Stars) along with other awards and decorations recognizing his service to the Air Force. Lt. Colonel Cate is also Brother Cate as he is a member of Creasy Proctor Lodge No. 679, Fayetteville, NC.

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

Reservations are required for the meal.

More on The Feast of Kadosh

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

The Valley of Tampa recently hosted the Annual Feast of Kadosh celebration. The Feast of Kadosh commemorates the founding of the Order of Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon in 1119, commonly known as the Knights Templar. The Order was sanctioned by the Papacy in 1129.

The Templars provided safe passage to the Holy Land, established financial networks across the world, fought in Crusades and engaged in manufacturing and trade. They were a military order, a Christian order. They had ships, real estate and a significant stature in society.

Such stature bred envy and conflict; the Templars became at odds with two other knightly orders, the Teutonic Knights and the Hospitallers *as well as*

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with the Papacy and the King of France. Because of these conflicts, they were arrested in 1307, persecuted, prosecuted and executed.

Freemasonry contains many degrees in which the title of Knight or Sir Knight is conferred. An objective for this year's event was to consider why Freemasonry emphasizes something called "knighthood" and why it matters.

The word "Knight" does not appear in the first three degrees of the Symbolic Lodge, but many references are found in Masonic appendant bodies.

The York Rite system has a degree called "Knight Templar" or "Knight of the Temple." The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine also "knights" its member. Both bodies resemble military orders, but their context is within the first few centuries of the common era, well before the historical Templars. Both call upon the scriptures of the Christian Bible. Because of such reliance, brethren of some monotheistic religions might consider these degrees to be an awkward fit within the Fraternity.

The Grand Council of Knight Masons confers three degrees, all containing the word "Knight" in the name. The setting for each is in the 2nd Temple period during the Babylonian captivity—well before the Templar period and the advent of Christianity.

In the Scottish Rite, there are ten degrees in which a Brother becomes a Knight of something-orthe-other. Recalling the time-period of the Knights Templar, 1119 through 1307 CE, most of these degrees are clearly anachronistic. Not only are they set in the wrong centuries, some are in the wrong millennium. They offer lessons from well before the Christian era and the time of Templars. Perhaps only two or three really depict a military order. None specifically refer to the Crusades.

What was on our ancient brethren's minds in giving us this work and this title of "Knight?" It is fair to conclude that they were not thinking of warfare, military orders, swords or lances when they spoke of Knighthood. If not then an allusion to the historical Templars, what was their motivation?

Perhaps their sense of what it means to be a knight is found in the 30th Degree, Knight of Kadosh. It discusses "manhood" in the Roman sense of the word, *virtu*. *Virtu* was the Roman word to describe a man, not only of character, but a man of ability and skill; a man who improved himself, his

community and society. If this was their point, our ancient brethren bequeathed us a lot of degrees to make it! A Knight is a man of *virtu*.

So, what about religious part? Freemasonry accepts men all monotheistic faiths. Again, the 30th Degree provides instruction, through its name, Knight of Kadosh. Kadosh is a Hebrew word meaning Holy. In Masonry, it refers to a reverence for spiritual matters, humility, piety; attentiveness to matters of the soul. It does not refer to a specific religion or creed.

The term "Knight Templar," when used in Masonic work, might (therefore) refer to a Knight of Kadosh—a *Holy Man*; a man attentive to both earthly and spiritual matters.

By examining the rich history of "knighthood" in our ritual, it may be plausible to consider that the Feast of Kadosh might not really commemorate the founding of the Knights Templar as a historical event, but be a message from our ancient brethren that, as Masons, we are to be men of *virtu*, attentive to our earthly duties; and men likewise mindful of spiritual and religious matters.

We can see their encouragement to be *Knights of Kadosh*—Holy Knights, men of *virtu* and reverence.

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Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

Freemasonry is rich with symbolism. The introductory symbols of the Symbolic Lodge are working tools of the stonemason's guilds. The Master Mason Lecture

broadens the array of symbols beyond such tools to include, for example, an anchor and an ark; they are offered as representations of a well-grounded hope and a well-spent life. King Solomon's Temple itself is utilized as a symbol

In the Scottish Rite, the use of symbols expands and broadens. In the 22nd Degree, Prince of Libanus, for example, a broad range of carpenter's tools is offered as symbols: the plane, saw and axe, et. al.

The Scottish Rite differs from the Symbolic Lodge in offering animals as symbols. Most notable is the eagle, which appears in several degrees. The 25th Degree, Knight of the Brazen Serpent, by its name, offers an interesting "animal" symbol. A bull, lion, dove, phoenix and raven appear on the emblem of the Grand Encampment in the 32nd Degree, although the explanation of their symbolic presence is at best cursory and left to the individual to ponder.

The 18th Degree, Knight Rose Croix, offers the pelican. Both its apron and jewel depict a pelican opening its breast to feed its young—quite an unusual depiction. As explained during the candidate's Investiture, such an action represents the virtue of charity and love, major themes of the 18th Degree. Rex Hutchens in Bridge to Light, posits that the pelican also symbolizes nature and is a reminder that the best works of mankind pale in comparison to the beauties of nature.

The association of the pelican with the virtue of charity is not a Masonic invention. Its origin can be traced back multiple centuries. For example, a pelican piercing its breast to feed can be seen in the painting The Triumph of Divine Love, by Peter Paul Ruben, painted in 1625-6. The painting is on display at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota.

Much thought is given to the symbolism of the square and compasses, level and plumb. Perhaps the animals in our work have something to teach us.



A choirmaster's podium in a 16th century cathedral in Salamanca, Spain.

The Spring Reunion will be held on consecutive days: Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6. The current schedule of degrees is presented on the Valley's website. The Fall Reunion, presently, is scheduled for October 20 and 27. Please solicit candidates for both.

At our May 14 meeting, R∴W∴ Kenneth Carolan, 32° KCCH will present a Masonic educational program. Prior to the meeting at 6:10 p.m., the 26th Degree, Prince of Mercy will be conferred.

May and June Good for You

The following recently received the following awards:

Billionaire Certificate

L. Edward Villiaume III, 32° KCCH

Millionaire Certificates

William C. Cobb, 32° KCCH Derl B. Smith, 32° KCCH Knights of St. Andrew W. Allen Sorbie, 32° Paul J. Noller, 32° May - June 2018 Page 7

Richard J. Tokarz, 32° Robert L. T. Phillips, 32° Richard A. Vogt, 32° KCCH Jeffrey M. J. Pick, 32° KCCH

In Memory of Stephen F. Weatherly, 32° KCCH Annual Ride

Billionaire Certificate

Knights of the Eagle, Widows' Sons Masonic Motorcycle Riders

Millionaire Certificates

R. Eric Bock, 32°
Sahib Motor Corps
Crusaders Masonic Riders Assoc.
Sarasota Scottish Rite Club
Curtis L. Eskew, 32°
Sarasota Scottish Rite Temple Assoc.
Barry D. Hart, 33°
John T. Stafford, 33°
Knights of the Tyre Masonic Riders Assoc.
Rebecca Weatherly

Perpetual Membership

Robert L. T. Phillips, 32°

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 14, 2018:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting
House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Chicken Teriyaki, Fried Rice,
Egg Rolls, Chocolate Cake, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade.

June 11, 2018:

Annual Flag Day Program starts at 7:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Burgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, beverages and dessert.

Prelate

by A. Gary Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH

The Power of the Cross

Luke 9:23 "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (KJV)



The cross stands as the final symbol that no evil exists that God cannot turn into a blessing. This is the power of our God. It is a mystery to the world how God would show forth his Glory on a cross. God is working on the things we suffer to bring light out of darkness, the joy out of pain, and eternal life out of death.

Many times when in the midst of trouble we may ask ourselves, why this sickness, why pain, why this loneliness, why should I bear a cross? What will he do with my pain to show forth his Redeeming Power? How will God bring joy out of pain?

Consider Joseph as an example of how God can use your circumstance to show forth his glory. Joseph was hated and envied by his brothers. They cast him into an empty pit to die. God redeemed the life of Joseph by allowing the Ishmaelites to take him into Egypt as a slave. Potiphar saw that God was with Joseph and the Lord had made him prosper.

From the house of Potiphar, he went into prison because of a false charge on the grounds of rape. In prison, God was with Joseph and showed him mercy, gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. Joseph would use his gift even in prison to the glory of God. Pharaoh made Joseph Lord of his house and ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

The cross is where we wait for the hope that is against all human hope. We have this hope by faith. I can safely trust my life in the hands of God, for he knows what is best for me.

Let us, through the power of faith, trust God to work it out. The strategy in a crisis is not ours; it belongs to God. In all things, we must acknowledge the will of God. If we seek his direction, God will reveal what steps to take, what course of action to follow.

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

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In Memoriam

"Sunset and evening star, and one clear call for me! And may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea, but such a tide as moving seems asleep, too full for sound and foam, when that which drew from out the boundless deep turns again home. Twilight and evening bell, and after that the dark! And may there be no sadness of farewell, when I embark; for tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place the flood may bear me far, I hope to see my Pilot face to face when I have crossed the bar." – Tennyson

Charles H. Burke, 32° December 29, 2017

Charles F. Goldston, 32° April 8, 2018

Amos B. Gruber, 32° March 4, 2018

Frank F. Harmon III, 32° March 5, 2018

Herman L. Harrell, 32° February 18, 2018

Gayle S. Hickman, 32° February 15, 2018

Joseph T. Osborne Sr., 32° March 7, 2018

Marvin H. Schmidt, 32° March 9, 2018 John H. Schooley, 32° March 4, 2018

John E. Thompson, 32° February 14, 2018