



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 42 No. 3 • May - June 2019

www.tampascottishrite.org



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

Monday, June 10, 2019

5500 Memorial Hwy. Tampa

5:45 p.m. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, and Cupcakes. The cost is \$10 per person as at our regular monthly meetings. Reservations are required for the meal.

7:00 p.m. Patriotic Program

The Heroes of 76 will be presenting a program on the history of the Military Flags of the United States

• Open to the public

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°
Chairman

W. Allen Sorbie, 32°
Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory

Richard S. Cowan, 32° KCCH
Commander - Council of Kadosh

Steven J. Silvers, 32°
Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Charles C. Osborne, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection

Henry A. Echezabal, Jr., 32°
Prior

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

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Douglas W. Dobbs, 32°

Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

Charles R. Jordan 32°

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 5th 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 Oscar Patterson, Jr., 32°. We were very happy to have with us our own Ill.: Rick Hoover, 33°, Deputy in the Orient of Florida along with his wife Bobby. We were also very pleased to have R.: W.: John Westermann, III, 32° KCCH, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida and his wife Sudy. Our Commander of the Council, Brother Richard Cowan, 32° KCCH and 1st Lt. Commander, Ill.: Carl Gilmore, 33° 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 2020 Feast, which will be on March 21, 2020.

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 those brothers who participated in this fitting tribute to the Knights of the Rose Croix who we miss seeing at our Scottish Rite functions.

Our Spring Reunion will be held on May 18 and 19 (Saturday and Sunday.) You will find the hours of Labor in this issue of *The Bulletin*. I would encourage you to attend any or all of the Reunion. This Reunion is in memory of Ill.: Marion Dean Lovett, 33°. For many years our Illustrious Brother was a fixture in the Valley of Tampa. He could always be seen at our monthly meetings where he served as Prelate from 2003 to 2010 and was always available for wise counsel and advice. At our Reunions he was found serving on the Reunion Tyler's Committee or behind the microphone in the Auditorium providing

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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°

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 e-mail me a generalsecretary@srtampa.org. Or mail your contribution in to Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

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

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. You may 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. 🐾

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

Jeffrey R. Snyder, 32°

May and June Good for You

The following recently received the following awards:

Perpetual Member Certificate

David E. Edwards, 32° KCCH

Twenty-five Year Certificates & Lapel Pins

Edward L. Jordan, 33°

Billionaire Certificate

John W. Westerman III, 32° KCCH

Millionaire Certificates

Donald W. Cowart, 32° Richard J. Tokarz, 32° KCCH
Richard A. Richman, 32° Kenneth A. Warner, 33°
Jeffrey R. Smith, 32° Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

Tampa Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation Certificate

Richard S. Cowan, 32° KCCH

Supreme Council Charitable Foundation

James D. Teske, 32° William M. Martin, 32° 🐾

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 🐾

2019 Flag Day Program

Tampa Scottish Rite will present our Annual Flag Day Program on the evening of Monday, June 10 in lieu of our Regular Tyled Meeting.

A meal will be served in the dining room at 5:45 p.m. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Baked Beans and Cupcakes. The cost is \$10 per person as like at our regular monthly meetings.

We are happy to have the Heroes of 76 presenting a program on the history of the Military Flags of the United States. The Heroes of 76 are an appendant body of the National Sojourners and membership is open to all Master Masons who are veterans of the Armed Forces.

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. 🍷

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vocals during our degrees. 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

In this issue of *The Bulletin* we are happy to recognize those members of the Valley of Tampa who are currently serving their Particular Lodge as Worshipful Master. Those who have been the Worshipful Master of their Lodge know the work and dedication to serve in the Chair for one year. Worshipful Sirs, on behalf of the Valley of Tampa, congratulations and thank you for your continued service to the Craft.

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*. 🍷

Good for You

The Valley of Tampa congratulates the following members of the Valley for their dedication to their Blue Lodge by serving as Worshipful Master in 2019.

- Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH
Tuscan Lodge No. 6
- James R. Clouser, 32°
Star Lodge No. 78
- Royce A. Yancey, 32°
Olin S. Wright Lodge No. 79
- Matthew A. Vaughan, 32°
Lakeland Lodge No. 91
- Michael M. Thiran, 32°
Tarpon Lodge No. 112
- Ramon Hernandez-Ron, 32°
Sarasota Lodge No. 147
- Ronald C. Mincey, Jr., 32°
Fort Meade Lodge No. 160
- John D. Vogt, 32°
A. W. Windhorst Lodge No. 185
- Anthony L. Pickren, 32°
Corinthian Lodge No. 191
- William C. Sundquist, 32° KCCH
Nitram Lodge No. 188
- Bermon E. Pritt, Jr., 32°
Sebring Lodge No. 249
- Marcus D. Lanfier, 32°
Placid Lodge No. 282
- Thomas J. Gavagan, 32°
Palma Ceia Lodge No. 290
- Jerry A. Haywood, 32°
Community Lodge No. 292
- Adam S. Kendall, 32°
Venice Lodge No. 301
- Marvin C. Gray, Jr., 32°
Kathleen Lodge No. 338
- Thomas H. Davie, 32°
Phoenix Lodge No. 346
- Louis I. Thomas, 32°
Pinellas Daylight Lodge No. 385
- Robert D. Davidson, II, 32° KCCH
Memorial Lodge No. 918 🍷



Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 32° KCCH

The seven liberal arts and sciences are discussed twice in Masonic ritual. First, the lecture of the Fellow Craft Degree introduces them and provides a brief

description. The introduction is important. That part of the lecture identifies the steps a Mason must climb in the journey from ignorance to enlightenment.

The 30th Degree, Knight of Kadosh, returns to the topic in its “mystic ladder lecture.” The lecture first identifies seven virtues or qualities integral to a Mason’s character before turning to further discussion of the seven arts and sciences. Their explanation of the quadrivium (arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy) is a bit more allegorical than the Fellow Craft lecture.

The mystical origin of the seven liberal arts and sciences appears to be Martianus Capella (360-420 CE,) a Latin writer. His singular work was *De nuptiis Philologiae et Mercurii*, “On the Marriage of Mercury and Philology.” It is also sometimes referred to as “On the Seven Disciplines.”

Capella’s writing was influenced by the philosophical views of Plato (circa 428-347 BCE), and those of the neoplatonist Plotinus (204-270 CE.) So, it can be expected to be erudite, symbolic, metaphorical and mystical.

Here is Capella’s mythical story. Mercury sought to wed the maiden Philologia. Mercury was the god of eloquence, messages, communication (including divination) and travelers, among other things. He served as the guide of souls to the afterlife. Philologia had been made immortal by the gods and was protected by the Muses, the Cardinal Virtues and the Graces.

At the wedding feast, among the gifts were seven maid-servants for the bride. Each represented one of the arts or sciences: grammar, rhetoric, logic, arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music (or harmony.) (The order of the presentation of the gifts is different than that used in Masonic ritual.) As each maid-servant enters the hall, she explains in detail the principles of her art.

Notably, two other “arts” were present at the feast, Architecture and Medicine. But because they dealt with physical or “earthly” matters, they were made “to keep silent in the company of the deities.”

The maid-servants’ explanations of the arts soon became the foundation for the education of the Roman elite. The study of the seven arts and sciences became a staple or standard formula during the fifth century and continued, in some form, well into the Renaissance period of the twelfth century.

Capella’s story and myth were highly symbolic. Mercury is said to represent “the intelligent” or the pursuit of knowledge. Philologia represented language, wisdom or virtue. Their wedding, as the title of the work hints, is an allegorical union of the pursuit of the knowledge and the attainment of wisdom and enlightenment. The arts themselves alluded to the intellectual, the mind or the spiritual, in contrast to those sciences that seem to provide merely vocational training.

At our next attendance at the Fellow Craft and Ladder lectures, the wedding of Mercury and Philologia may come to mind—that union of learning and becoming wiser and that depiction of a ladder that is climbed to travail from ignorance to wisdom.

Mythically, the seven liberal arts and sciences were gifts to and from the gods. Our ancient brethren included them twice in our ritual, perhaps, as gifts to us.

The 30th Degree, Knight of Kadosh, is conferred at every Reunion. The Spring Reunion is May 18 and 19. The Fall Reunion will be October 26 and 27.

Degrees scheduled during the year and not conferred at Reunions are:

Prince of Mercy, the 26th Degree on May 13 (followed by an education program at the meeting on the religious degrees)

Royal Arch of Solomon, the 13th Degree on July 8.
Intendent of the Building, the 8th Degree on August 12. 🐼

Prelate



by A. Gary
Cavanaugh, 32° KCCH

Trusting God in the Midst of Trouble

“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”

Jeremiah 29:13 (KJV)



The cross stands as the final symbol that no evil exists that God cannot turn into a blessing. This is the power of the God. It is a mystery to the world how God would show forth his Glory on a cross. For had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory.

God is working on the things we suffer to bring light out of darkness, joy out of pain, life out of death. This is the great mystery of God, to transform the cross you bear into an object of Glory.

We must offer all of our suffering to the transforming power of God. A man was born blind. The disciples ask Jesus who did sin, the man, or his parents?

Many times when in the midst of trouble we may ask, why this sickness, why pain, why loneliness, why should I bear a cross? Jesus offers a very different perspective on the question of suffering, and that is, what will God do with my sickness?

What will he do with my pain to show forth his Redeeming Power? How will God bring good out of the evil I have suffered? How will God bring joy out of pain?

Let us, through the power of faith, trust God to work it out. The strategy in crisis is not ours; it is God. In every way, 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.

God is working through our circumstance to perform his word in bringing you out of whatever crisis you face. The desire of God for your life is always peace and the gift of grace.

Joseph is 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.

No circumstance is beyond the power of God. "There is no pain that heaven cannot feel, no sickness that Jesus cannot heal." Nothing can stop the will of God for your life. When I am in the midst of trouble, I will trust in His power to keep me because He loves me. 🙏

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 7:00 p.m. and cost is \$10 unless otherwise noted. Visit the Valley of Tampa Website for the latest information on meetings and events.

May 13, 2019:

Executive Committee Meeting

Dinner and Closed Meeting

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

June 10, 2019:

Annual Flag Day Program starts at 7:00 p.m.

Dinner at 5:45 p.m.,

Burgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Cupcakes, Coffee, Tea and Lemonade. 🙏

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

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May - June 2019

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



Frederick R. Baltés, 32°
March 10, 2019

Robert P. Kaniss, 32°
February 15, 2019

Pat H. Murphy, 32°
March 19, 2019

Malcolm E. Beard, 32°
January 3, 2019

Lloyd D. Lance, 32°
January 12, 2019

Thomas R. O'Berry Sr., 32°
February 16, 2019

Miguel Cuervo, 32°
December 29, 2018

Eugene A. Leonard, 32°
March 5, 2019

Walter K. Seman, 32°
January 5, 2019

George O. Dunlap Jr., 32°
March 13, 2019

Frank M. Love, 32°
February 7, 2019

Robert Skalitzky, 32°
March 8, 2019

Paul B. Gifford, 32°
January 31, 2019

John R. Manning, 32°
January 25, 2019

Lawrence H. Wheeler, 32°
January 29, 2019

Donald D. Gnage, 32°
March 4, 2019

Monte L. Mc Clain, 32°
December 3, 2018

Olin S. Wright Jr., 32°
August 9, 2018

Vernon R. Jones, 32°
February 24, 2019

Alestius T. Miller, 32°
December 17, 2018