



# 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 43 No. 6 • November - December 2020

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

## Worshipful Master Recognition Night

by Stephen B. Jacobson, 33°

An open meeting will be held at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center Monday, November 9, at 7:00 p.m. Please read notice on page 5 that will explain everything.

The Symbolic Degrees of Blue Lodge Masonry are the foundations and cornerstone on which all Appendant bodies, clubs and Masonic organizations are based. In recognition of the outstanding work done by the particular lodges, the Scottish Rite Valley of Tampa, is sponsoring a **Worshipful Master “Recognition Night.”** All sitting Worshipful Masters will be individually recognized. All officers and members of the Worshipful Master’s Lodge will also be recognized.

This will be an open meeting. Bring friends, family and Brothers of your Lodge to support these Worshipful Masters. Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. This recognition will begin at 7:00 p.m.

As usual, our monthly dinner will be served beginning at 5:45 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$10 per person.

**Please allow us to accommodate you, your guests and members of your lodge, by making reservations no later than October 29 by calling Trish at the Scottish Rite office, (813) 886-0578.**

My Brothers, with your help, we will make this a memorable evening for **Your Worshipful Master.** 🐾

## Executive Committee

### OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°  
*Chairman*

Henry A. Echezabal, Jr., 32°  
*Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory*

Carl E. Gilmore, 33°  
*Commander - Council of Kadosh*

Robert D. Davidson, 33°  
*Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix*

William C. Sundquist, 32° KCCH  
*Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection*

Charles R. Jordan, 32° KCCH  
*Prior*

Michael R. Pender, Jr., 33°  
*Treasurer*

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Glen B. Bishop 32°

Douglas W. Dobbs, 32°

Casey A. Fletcher, 33°

Charles D. Walter, 32° KCCH

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## Personal Representative

by Ill.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren: Here we are, quickly approaching the end of another year. As in previous years, we had some pluses and some minuses. We continue to have brothers earning Double Eagle points and either being knighted and receiving their medallions or earning points to receive bars or new ribbons. It takes work to

advance in the program and brothers are stepping up to the challenge. I hope everyone will wear their Double Eagle award with pride. We have continued to impart Masonic knowledge to our members through our monthly Masonic education presentations by very learned brothers. These have been well received and we look forward to that continuing in 2021. From a financial standpoint, through September, we continue to face challenges. Your Scottish Rite is watching every penny that we spend. In 2017 we formed the Scottish Rite Valley of Tampa Charitable Foundation, Inc. to allow our members to make tax deductible donations (please consult your tax advisor) so as to provide some of the funds needed to maintain our two buildings. If you would like more information on the Foundation, please contact the General Secretary. The Foundation was also established to help with the good work of our Almoner's Fund. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Even with this Foundation, we still need to do what we can to increase revenue and decrease expenses where we can. All of the accomplishments were the result of many brethren stepping up and agreeing to do what was necessary for us to be successful.

On the downside, we continue to see losses in membership in the Valley. At the time that I am writing this article we have had 86 brothers enter the Celestial Lodge above. Add to that, we have had 9 brothers dimit and at this point, we have 92 brothers who have not yet paid their 2020 dues. On the plus side of the equation, we have 46 candidates for our Fall Reunion, 3 brothers affiliated with the Valley of Tampa and 19 were reinstated. As you can see, 46 additions to our membership is not enough to counter the losses that we anticipate at year end.

As I have done in the November/December issue of The Bulletin in previous years, I would like to take a look at our membership and where our members are coming from. At this time last year, I reported that Masonic membership in the six Masonic Districts in the jurisdiction of the Valley of Tampa, stood at 8,654 members in the Particular

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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 in the Orient of 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. Due to the significant increase this year, with Brothers requesting financial assistance to pay their dues, the fund is depleting rapidly.

If you can find it in your heart to contribute, so that we won't have to turn down a brother, please contact the General Secretary's office by a phone call (813)886-0578 or e-mail me at [generalsecretary@srtampa.org](mailto:generalsecretary@srtampa.org). Or mail your contribution to Tampa Scottish Rite Center:

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

### Delinquent Members

2021 dues statements have been mailed, kicking off our 2021 dues season. As of this date there are 92 members from the Valley of Tampa who have not paid their 2020 dues. The 2020 dues payments were to be paid no later than December 31, 2019. Please remit \$118.00 to the attention of the General Secretary at your earliest convenience.

If for some reason you are having problems with making the dues payment, please contact the General Secretary for assistance at (813) 886-0578. We will work with you in arranging a payment schedule.

### Payments & Contributions

Brethren, to make it easier for you to send in your dues or donation payment, you can go on our website: [www.tampascottishrite.org](http://www.tampascottishrite.org), click onto the link Payments & Contributions. We will receive your payment and send out your 2020 dues card. Thank you for being a loyal member by maintaining your membership. 🐼

## 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

Glen B. Guterman, 32°

## More of a Good Thing

by David A. Glattly, 33°,  
Sovereign Grand Commander, NJ

### We need more Freemasons in the world.

As I watched the evening news over the last number of months, I know I share with my Brothers apprehension and concern about the recent events unfolding on the streets of our nation. But I also know there is a counterpoint to these anxious times. While we do not all think alike or hold fast to the same views, Freemasons are unwavering in our acceptance and respect for one another.

Imagine if many of the men we see on the evening news understood and lived the Brotherly Love that Masonry teaches. There would be far less hate and violence and much more understanding and sharing of cultures. Brotherly Love does not merely equate to words but reflects a true desire to

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Freemasons, I have no  
doubt the world around us  
would be a better place.*

understand your fellow man—to treat him as an equal human being with similar goals of living a life fulfilled.

That leads me to wonder what the world would be like if there were more of us. More men, legions of us, who adhere to the values of Masonry—values

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## Scottish Rite Clubs

### Nature Coast Scottish Rite Club

Brooksville Elk's Lodge 2582  
13383 County Line Road,  
Spring Hill, FL 34609  
Phone: (352) 686-9319

4th Wednesday every month at 6:00 p.m.  
(except November & December )

### North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

IHOP

30200 US Hwy. 19 N.,  
Clearwater, FL 33761

2nd Tuesday every month at 11:30 a.m.

### Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

Denny's Restaurant  
4999 34th St. & 50th Ave., N.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33714

(727) 522-1552 to make reservations  
1st Friday of the Month at 11:00 a.m.

### Sarasota Scottish Rite Club

Sahib Shriners Sahara Room  
(July location TBA)  
600 N. Beneva Road,  
Sarasota, FL 34232

2nd Friday every month at 11:30 a.m.

Scottish Rite Club Building  
240 S. Tuttle Ave.,  
Sarasota, FL 34237

1st Wednesday in Feb., April & Oct. at 6:00 p.m.

### Sun City Center Scottish Rite Club

Freedom Plaza Club  
1010 American Eagle Blvd.,  
Sun City Center, FL 33573

3rd Monday every month at 11:30 a.m.  
(Dark June, July, August & September)

### Tampa Scottish Rite Club

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
5500 Memorial Hwy.,  
Tampa, FL 33634

4th Wednesday every month at 12:00 p.m.

*Support your Scottish Rite Club*

...continued from Page 2 – Personal Representative

Lodges in those Districts. Of that number, 1,905 were Tampa Scottish Rite members, or 22%. As of October 2020, Masonic membership is at 8,171 members with 1,735 being members of the Valley of Tampa or 21%. If we had a goal of a penetration rate of 25% that would mean another 308 Scottish Rite members. Think of the positive things that would happen with an additional 308 members in the Valley of Tampa. To obtain that number, we all need to be talking with our Blue Lodge, Shrine, Grotto and York Rite brothers who are not members of the Valley of Tampa. There are currently 59 Blue Lodges that we draw the majority of our membership from. That equates to 5 new members from each Lodge in 2021 to meet the goal of 25%. When you break it down that way, it doesn't seem to be that big of a hurdle. Brethren, we can't wait until 2021 to start working on this. We need to start now. Our Spring Reunion will be held on April 10 and 17 of 2021. Let's talk to our brothers starting now about putting those dates on their calendars. Working together we can accomplish this and probably exceed our goal. If any brother would like to know the "numbers" for your Particular Lodge or District, please let me know and I will be happy to provide them to you.

Many brothers work hard year after year for the benefit of the Valley of Tampa. I am talking of course about our Valley officers, Reunion committees and our various committees. When you attend our Reunions, you see these names listed in our Reunion Book. Four brothers, however, have been elected by their peers to manage the business of the four organizations within the Valley. A special thank you to Brother Kenny Carolan, 32° KCCH, Commander of the KCCH Organization; Brother Bryan Seland, 32°, Commander of the Scottish Rite Guard; Brother Richard Tokarz, 32°, Venerable Master of the Knights of St. Andrew; and Ill.°. Gary Cavanaugh, 33°, President of the Past Masters Organization. Each of these organizations has contributed greatly to the Valley of Tampa this year. If you are not a member of one of these organizations, I encourage you to get involved with them in 2021.

There is another group of members though, that never seem to get listed anywhere, but nonetheless,

## Deadline for Jan./Feb. Bulletin

December 4 - Contributor deadline  
December 13 - Office contributor deadline  
December 15 - Transmit print file to our printer



are tireless workers on our behalf. I am talking about our Club Presidents; Brother Wayne Forman, 32°, North Pinellas Club; Brother David Vincent, 32°, Pinellas Club; Brother James McKiney, 32°, Sarasota Club; Brother Tom Robinson, 32°, Sun City Club; Brother Charles Walter, 32° KCCH, Nature Coast Club and Brother Steve Silvers, 32° KCCH, Tampa Club. These brothers work hard in their local area and doing wonderful things to promote the Scottish Rite. We are very fortunate to have six Scottish Rite Clubs in our area. Please check the listing of each Club and where they meet in this issue of The Bulletin. I hope that their meeting dates and times will allow you to attend one of our Club meetings. They are great times and afford a wonderful opportunity to meet new brothers and share in fellowship that the Scottish Rite offers.

Brethren, this is the time of the year that we not only give thanks for everything that we have, but we also celebrate various religious holidays. Whatever your faith, I encourage you to celebrate the appropriate holiday with family and friends and be thankful for everything that we as human beings have been afforded throughout our lives. 🍷

...continued from Page 3 – David A. Glattly, 33°,  
Sovereign Grand Commander, NJ

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we carry deep in our hearts, try to uphold every day, and share with other good men in our Craft. If there were more Freemasons, I have no doubt the world around us would be a better place.

Forty-five years ago, I first knocked on the inner door of my lodge. I learned then that I first became a Mason in my heart. Through the Entered Apprentice degree, I was brought to light in my new Masonic world. The journey through subsequent degrees taught me that Masonry stands for Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. These are the values we internalize. This is what becomes part of our very souls. As a Mason, this is the life we live.

Yes, we need more Freemasons in the world.

Joining the Scottish Rite advanced the Masonic teachings in my life exponentially. My heart opened to more Masonic enlightenment. I became part of a culture of camaraderie with men of similar brotherly attitudes and feelings. That was deeply fulfilling. Scottish Rite became my Masonic spiritual home—

the place where I chose to deeply connect and involve my family, too.

Just envision a world where more men across the globe lived up to our core values. *Reverence for God* and respect for all religious beliefs would be energized anew. *Justice* for all regardless of race, color, or creed would be a way of life. *Integrity* would lead us to a life of clear conscience and that

*Just envision a world  
where more men  
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to our core values.*

of role models to our fellow man. *Toleration* of the full mixture of people in our world, regardless of beliefs and lifestyles, would be the peaceful norm. *Service to Humanity* would thrive, creating a better life for all. *Devotion to Country* and love of the flag would surely flourish.

Yes, we need more Freemasons in the world.

I am moved to see how many citizens across our great land have stepped forward to offer relief to those struggling during our current health crisis. Many of our lodges and Masonic organizations have stepped up as well to provide food, supplies, and service to our Masonic families, first line health care workers, and the general public. It is a privilege to bear witness to Masonry in action.

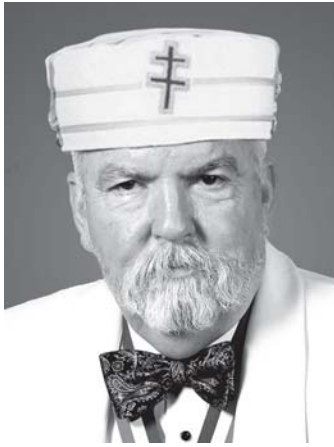
Our Supreme Council Grand Almoner's Fund continues to support our brethren, their families, and Masonic widows in need. During these trying times, the call has been great, and we have responded. Your generosity is why we can help in this time of trouble, and I extend my deepest gratitude to you.

In the end, there is hope. Around the world, men continue to join our great fraternity every week of every year—men who answer the call of the traveling man.

Together, we stay true to our values and live a life of which we can be proud. Together, we uphold teachings of Freemasonry and Scottish Rite.

And yes, we can never have enough Freemasons in the world.

*Source: Reprinted by permission from Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction "The Northern Light" Magazine, August 2020. 🍷*



## Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 33°

Ancient Greek philosophers understood freedom in an external sense, as in the difference between a free man and a slave. Very little of their writings addressed freedom as an

internal condition, as in freedom of choice, thought or conscience. Their writings focused in large part on the nature of society or the necessity and application of public virtue in its functioning.

In Book III of the *Nicomachean Ethics*, Aristotle does speak of freedom as “the voluntary.” Blame or praise can be attached, he asserts, only to those actions that are free and voluntary. We can be held to account for actions (or inactions) that do not occur under compulsion and only those that transpire with relevant knowledge about circumstances.

Philosophers during the Stoic period (*circa* 100 BCE-200 CE) began to develop a notion of freedom in an internal sense, including Cicero, Seneca, Epictetus (a slave), Plutarch and a religious leader, Paul. This internal sense of freedom was further expanded by Augustine of Hippo (354-430 CE) and later by Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274).

The concept of internal freedom, as it might be considered today, became more prominent during the Enlightenment Era (broadly, 1685-1815; different countries had “their own” era).

To some of this period’s philosophers and writers, “freedom” became the self-mastery of individual thought, action and emotion. They built upon and developed the ideas of Aristotle, the Stoics, Aquinas and others to argue that freedom is *a choice* and independent of external circumstances.

Enter Freemasonry. The phrase “...to learn to subdue my passion...” introduces the concept of internal freedom and choice. For example, circumstances don’t demand anger; anger is a choice. Internally, we are *free* to be angry or to not be angry.

Our ancient brethren encourage self-mastery of emotions and the exercise of reason throughout our ritual work. Freemasonry inculcates freedom in an internal sense.

Several years before his passing, the late Jim Tresner, 33° GC, wrote a simple statement to gauge our internal freedom. Do we say: “that is just what I believe, that is just the way I am, that is just how I was raised?”

Illustrious Tresner suggested that these statements are not choices; they are an abandonment of self-mastery, personal development, the use of reason and inquiry, indeed, the search for “further light.” These statements signal, in his view, that we have become slaves of either our passions or of our circumstances, or both.

Freemasonry professes the freedom for all people in an external sense. Hidden in plain sight are its assertions and teachings that we should be free in an internal sense, in our hearts and minds.

Achieving and maintaining internal freedom, as with external freedom, is hard work. It is among the things we came here to do.

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The 25th Degree, Knight of the Brazen Serpent, will be conferred on our December 14 meeting at 6:10 p.m. Brother Robert N. Kershner will present a program at the meeting. 🦂

## November Monthly Meeting

We are again this year, continuing our Worshipful Master and Masonic Youth Appreciation Program at our November meeting. At this meeting we will be honoring our Masonic Youth Groups and the sitting Worshipful Masters of the 59 Lodges within the Valley of Tampa. We encourage you to attend and show your support for our youth groups and our hard-working Worshipful Masters.

As in the past, we ask that if you or your lady were members of the Order of DeMolay, Rainbow or Job’s Daughters you are encouraged to wear any regalia from those organizations to this meeting.

It is also the Official Visit of Ill. : Richard G. Hoover, 33° and Deputy in the Orient of Florida. Please make your plans to be with us on November 9 as we receive Ill. : Hoover. 🦂

## Prelate



by A. Gary  
Cavanaugh, 33°



### A Time to be Thankful

*For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.*

1 Timothy 4:4-5 (NIV)

As we begin to enter into the festive season, we will soon have Thanksgiving upon us and that time for family gatherings and for each of us to be thankful for all that we have been granted. This is especially true for 2020. It has been a very trying year for my family and I would imagine for each of you also.

Most of us think of Thanksgiving as just an American holiday with historical origins and glut-tonous implications. But before we even get to this day, we are constantly bombarded with Black Friday looming. Unlike most who are drawn into so many sale ads that they are more eager for the post-Thanksgiving shopping than Thanksgiving itself, I am not. But today's culture fuels this fire by inundating us with ads of who's got the best prices on what? Ooooooh and with a sale like that, who doesn't need ALL the clothes and a new TV? Thanksgiving itself almost gets lost in our "more, more, more" culture.

But honestly, if we allowed it to, Thanksgiving could put a significant spotlight on a wonderful and crucial part of Christian life. With all of the festivities and the time off from school, it's a great time for adults and children alike to consider what God meant to communicate to us about thanksgiving.

When we wait a long time for a blessing or answer to prayer, it's easy to feel thankful, but it's also easy to cling too tightly to our blessing. Consider Hannah; how she, showed us that true, deep gratitude always dedicates the credit to God. When her prayers for a child are finally answered, she is faithful in dedicating her son, Samuel, to God. While we may not always have to give our blessings away, we should be ready to do with them

whatever God asks of us, no matter how long we may have waited.

So in what has been a very trying, difficult and certainly stressful year, consider slowing down the holiday rush, and on this Thanksgiving Day share with your family and friends gathered together, a biblical Thanksgiving for all that God has provided to you, your family and friends. 🙏

## 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. Be sure to make your dinner reservations Thursday prior to the Monday Meeting. Visit the Valley of Tampa Website for the latest information on meetings and events.

### November 9, 2020:

Executive Committee Meeting

Dinner and Open Meeting

Official Visit Ill.: Richard G. Hoover, 33°, Deputy  
in the Orient of Florida

Worshipful Masters and Youth Recognition Night

House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Roasted Turkey,

Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce,

Apple Pie, Coffee, Tea, lemonade.

### December 14, 2020:

Executive Committee Meeting

Dinner and Closed Meeting

Education Program: Knight of the Brazen Serpent,  
the 25th Degree will be conferred

House Salad, Dinner Rolls

Chefs Choice. 🙏

## 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@strtampa.org](mailto:generalsecretary@strtampa.org) 🙏

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

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Volume 43 No. 6  
November - December 2020

### 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 M. Bankhead Jr., 33°  
09/16/20 age 91  
Tampa, FL

Thomas C. Little, 32°  
08/20/20 age 68  
Clearwater, FL

David E. Walker, 32°  
08/05/20 age 73  
Lakeland, FL

James M. Bryant, 32°  
07/28/20 age 90  
Tampa, FL

Leonard W. Lorenzo, 33°  
08/16/20 age 78  
Tampa,FL