

Scottish RITE Bulletin

VALLEY OF TAMPA - ORIENT OF FLORIDA

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center Memorial Highway • Tampa FL 33634 • (813) 88

5500 Memorial Highway • Tampa, FL 33634 • (813) 886-0578 Meets 2nd Monday of Each Month

Volume 44 No. 4 • July - August 2021

www.tampascottishrite.org

Grand Master M∴W∴ Jeffrey S. Foster of the Grand Lodge F&AM of the State of Florida

M∴W∴ Jeffrey S. Foster joined the United States Navy after graduating from high school in 1981. He spent 20 years in Naval Aviation and

retired in January 2002 as a Chief Petty Officer. He graduated "Cum Laude" from Jones College in 2001, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Information Systems. After retiring from the United States Navy, he went to work for Watson Realty Corp as their Network Manager until 2010. In 2010 he went to work for Florida State College at Jacksonville and is currently employed as Director of Technology Support. M∴W∴ Foster married Lady Hollyn on February 4, 1984, and they have one son, Cory, who was born on January 8, 1989.

M∴W∴ Foster received the Three Symbolic Degrees of

Freemasonry in Orange Park Lodge No. 267 in 2004. Orange Park Lodge had placed first in the State Ritual Degree Competition and were invited by M: W: John R. Givens to confer the Third Degree at the Annual Chitlin Degree held in

Chipley, Florida. M : W : Foster was the candidate at that Degree.

M∴W∴ Foster served his Lodge as Chaplain,

Junior Steward, Senior Steward, Junior Deacon, Junior Warden, Senior Warden and was elected Worshipful Master in 2010. In 2008, Lady Hollyn was elected as a Perpetual Friend of the Lodge for her hard work planning and preparing meals during M∴W∴ Forster's term as Junior Warden. In 2012, he was elected Secretary of his Lodge and served this position for 6 years.

M : W : Foster served the Fraternity on several different committees from 2011 through 2017. M : W : Danny R. Griffith appointed him as District Deputy Grand Master in 2013. M : W : Steven P. Boring appointed him as Junior Grand



Grand Master
M∴W∴ Jeffrey S. Foster
of the Grand Lodge F&AM of Florida

Deacon in 2015.

M∴W∴ Foster was elected to the station of Junior Grand Warden on May 31, 2018; Senior Grand Warden on May 30, 2019; Deputy Grand ... continued on page 2 Page 2 July - August 2021

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Russell B. Glendinning, 33° Chairman

Chairman
Charles R. Jordan, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory
Richard A. Vogt, 32° KCCH
Commander - Council of Kadosh
Kenneth A. Carolan, 32° KCCH
Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix
Douglas W. Dobbs, 32°

Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection Petar Sibinkic, 32°

Prior

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

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

John Wermann, 32° KCCH A. Gary Cavanaugh, 33° Glen Bishop 32° John N. Dragneff, 32°

VALLEY OF TAMPA CONTACTS

Scottish Rite Office (813) 886-0578 info@srtampa.org

Russell B. Glendinning, 33° Personal Representative (941) 356-7209 personal representative @srtampa.org

Scott McAlister, 32° KCCH General Secretary (813) 886-0578 generalsecretary@tampascottishrite.org

Trish Warhul

Administrative Assistant (813) 886-0578 info@srtampa.org

Michael R. Pender, Jr., 33°

Treasurer

treasurer@srtampa.org

Charles D. Walter, 32° KCCH

Almoner almoner@srtampa.org

Casey A. Fletcher, 33° Director of Work – Member Educ

Director of Work – Member Education dow@srtampa.org

A. Gary Cavanaugh, 33°

Prelate

drhydro02@comcast.net

Brian D. Campbell, 32° KCCH

Webmaster

webmaster@srtampa.org

Gary C. Schweinshaupt, 32° KCCH *Bulletin Editor*

bulletin@srtampa.org



Personal Representative

by Ill.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren: As I write this article, I want to thank Ill∴ Jerry Lee, 33° who put together a fantastic Flag Day program at our June meeting. I would also like to thank the National Sojourners, Heroes of '76, for their presentation on the History of Military Flags. Their program was very informative, and I am sure that we all learned something about

our flag that we did not know.

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. Congratulations Brothers on your work and dedication to Freemasonry in general and to our Grand Lodge and Grand York Rite Bodies in particular.

Brethren, I ask that you please look at your Scottish Rite dues card. If it says that it expired in 2020, would you assist your Valley by paying your 2021 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*.

...continued from Page 1 − M∴W∴ Jeffrey S. Foster

Master on May 28, 2020; and installed Most Worshipful Grand Master on June 2, 2021.

M : W :Foster is a 32° Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Jacksonville; a member of the Jacksonville York Rite Bodies; Morocco Shriners; Ozz Grotto and the Allied Masonic Degrees. M : W :Foster is a Perpetual Member of Orand Park Lodge No. 267.

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.

July - August 2021 Page 3

III.∴ John E. Drewett, 33° Named General Secretary Emeritus

At our June Consistory meeting, it was announced that Ill.: John E. Drewett, 33° has been elected General Secretary Emeritus in the Valley of Tampa. Ill.: Drewett was appointed General Secretary in 2011 and served faithfully in that position until May 31, 2021.

Brother Drewett began his Masonic journey when he joined Malta Chapter, Order of DeMolay in Binghamton, New York and upon majority received the Three Degrees of Freemasonry in Saint Mark's Philetus Lodge No. 1002, Binghamton, New York. Upon moving to Florida, he became a member of Tampa Bay Lodge No. 252 and served as Worshipful Master in 1995. He served as District Deputy Grand Master in 2000 and Grand Pursuivant in 2017.

He became a member of the Valley of Tampa in November 1989 and served as Master of Kadosh in 2005 and Degree Master of the Fourth Degree from 2006-2015. He was invested with the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1999 and coroneted a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary in 2009.

Donald W.
Cowart, 32°
KCCH
Junior Grand
Warden,
Grand Lodge
of Florida

The Valley of Tampa congratulates Brother Donald W.

Cowart, 32° KCCH upon his election to serve the Grand Lodge of Florida this year as Junior Grand Warden. Brother Don became a Master of the Royal Secret in 1985 and is currently serving as Orator in the Chapter of Rose Croix.

Our new Junior Grand Warden received the Three Degrees of Freemasonry in Temple Terrace

Lodge No. 330, where he was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in 1978. He served Brandon Lodge No. 114 as Worshipful Master in 2013. He continued his service to his Lodge by serving as Secretary from 2015 - 2019. He has earned his White, Green, Silver and Blue Proficiency cards from the Grand Lodge as well as successfully completing the Master Mason I, II, & III program, LOC Courses I, II & III.

He was appointed by M∴W∴ Steve Boring to serve as District Deputy Grand Master of the (old) 23rd Masonic District. In 2017 he served the Grand Lodge as Senior Grand Steward for M∴W∴ Rick Hoover and as Grand Marshal in 2019 for M∴W∴ John Westerman. In addition, he has served as a member of the Corporate Board for the Grand Lodge of Florida, the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee, Membership Development Committee and the Grand Master's Charity Committee.

Brother Cowart has been an active member of the Valley and has just been appointed to the Valley's Investment Committee. For his service to the Craft, he was invested with the rank and dignity of a Knight Commander Court of Honour in 2019.

...continued from Page 6 - Member Education

foster unity and cohesion.

Throughout history, silence and secrecy have served as a qualification for initiation into religious, political and fraternal societies. Secrecy is a process of learning, whence an Initiate learned one "secret" before examining the next. Furthermore, secrecy fosters cohesion, unity and a mutual trust among members.

The 4th Degree, Secret Master, will be conferred at the Fall Reunion. Its final instruction is to "remain in silence." Good advice.

The Fall Reunion is scheduled for October 16 and 23. Degrees scheduled during year are:

- 13th Degree, Royal Arch of Solomon July 12 8th Degree, Intendent of the Building - August 9
- 25th Degree, Knight of the Brazen Serpent September 13
 - 7th Degree, Provost and Judge December 13 🏶

Page 4 July - August 2021

Scottish Rite Clubs

Nature Coast Scottish Rite Club

Brooksville Elk's Lodge 2582 13383 County Line Road, Spring Hill, FL 34609 Phone: (352) 678-1019 4th Wednesday every month at 6:00 p.m.

(Dark during November & December) North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club

IHOP

30200 US Hwy. 19 N., Clearwater, FL 33761 Phone: (727) 937-2649 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) 475-9188 to make reservations 1st Friday of the Month at 10:00 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. & Nov. at 6:00 p.m.

Sun City Center Scottish Rite Club

Freedom Plaza Club 1010 American Eagle Blvd., Sun City Center, FL 33573 Phone: (813) 758-2787 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 Phone: (813) 368-3878 4th Wednesday every month at 12:00 p.m.

Tri-County Scottish Rite Club

Lake Wales Masonic Lodge No. 242 660 S. 9th St., Lake Wales, FL 33853 Phone: (863) 528-6191

4th Thursday Jan. Mar., May, July, Sept. Nov. at 7:00 p.m. 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

| • | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Robert J. Lambert, 32° | Deputy Grand Master |
| Glen Bishop, 32° | Senior Grand Warden |
| Donald W. Cowart, 32° KCC | H. Junior Grand Warden |
| John N. Dragneff, 32° | Grand Standard Bearer |
| Jack W. Hampton, Jr., 32° | Jr. Grand Deacon |
| Anthony A. DeAngelo, 32° | Grand Historian |

District Deputies and Instructors

| Scott T. Mitchell, 32° | DDGM, 14th District |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| James Charrette, 32° | DDGM, 18th District |
| Thomas C. Newton, 32° | DDGM, 19th District |
| David S. Wenzel, 32° | DDGM, 20th District |
| Conrad P. Dreadin, 32° | DDGM, 21st District |
| Jeffrey Pick, 32° KCCH | DDGM,23rd District |
| Creg E. Bell, Sr., 32° | DI, 14th District |
| Frederick Wendling, Jr., 32° | DI, 18th District |
| John A. Baldwin, 32° | DI, 19th District |
| Douglas Dobbs, 32° | DI, 23rd District |
| | |

Committeemen

Arrangements Committee

Anthony L. Pickren, 32°

Committee on Work

A. Gary Cavanaugh, 33°, Chairman Gary W. Gordon, 32° William C. Sundquist, 32° KCCH

Endowment & Investment Committee

Barry D. Hart, 33° David W. Jones, 32°

Fraternal Administrative Endowment Committee

Robert W. Taylor Sr., 32°

General Services Panel

Thomas R. Quay, 32° Frederick R. Wendling, Jr., 32°

Grand Master's Charity

Perry D. Batson, 32°

Deadline for Sept./Oct. Bulletin

August 2 - Contributor deadline

August 11 - Office contributor deadline

August 13 - Transmit print file to our printer

July - August 2021 Page 5

Insurance Committee

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

Masonic Jurisprudence Committee

Russell B. Glendinning, 33°, Vice Chairman John E. Drewett, 33° Larry S. Lee, 32° Ronald C. Mincey, Jr., 32°

LYPMGC, MH-100, Wills & Gifts Committee

Todd A. Meschelle, 32° Anthony L. Pickren, 32°

Masonic Education Committee

Felix Gordillo Jr. 32° Joseph A. Severino, 32° Steven J. Silvers, 32° KCCH

Masonic Home Board of Trustees

Michael R. Pender, Jr., 33° R. James Rocha, 33°

Masonic Leadership Training Committee

Roger W. Smith, Jr., 32° W. Allen Sorbie, 32° KCCH

Membership Development Committee

Christopher G. Burns, 32°
John N. Dragneff, 32°
Anthony L. Pickren, 32°
Scott Wren, 32°

Panel of Attorneys

John A. Baldwin, 32° Jon B. Coats, Jr., 32° Bruce Marger, 33°

Penal Affairs Committee

Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH - Chairman Perry D. Batson, 32° John K. Bush, 32° Harry M. Lowell, 32° Frederick Wendling, Jr., 32°

Perpetual Membership Committee

Gregory A. Fisher, 32° KCCH

Properties Committee

Reed G. Rue, 32°

Public Education & Citizenship Committee

William J. Doolin, 32°

Public Relations & Publicity Committee

Mark P. Brewer, 32°

Returns & Credentials Committee

Allan J. Graulich, 32°, Chairman

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

Jeffrey T. Sklet, 32° ... Excellent Grand Master 2nd Veil

District Deputies and Instructors

| Todd A. Meschelle, 32° | DDGHP, 2nd District |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Richard Vogt, 32° KCCH | DDGHP, 4th District |
| Gary R. Roane, 32° | |

Grand Council Royal & Select Masters

W. Allen Sorbie, 32° KCCH Grand Master

District Deputy Grand Masters

Grand Commandery KT

Chas Jordan, 32° KCCH Eminent Grand Warder

District Deputies and Instructors

| James Blum, 33° | DDGC, 3rd | District |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Charles Bailley, 32° | DI, 3rd | District |

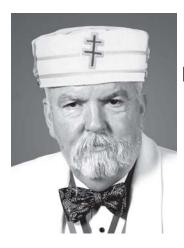
For the Three Grand Bodies

| Richard A. Brooks, 32° | Grand Secretary/Recorder |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Robert C. St. John, 32° | Grand Treasurer |

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@tampascottishrite.org

Page 6 July - August 2021



Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 33°

Secrecy and Silence

Secrecy — the habit of concealing knowledge and practicing silence — has served organizations, ancient and modern, as

(i) a means of preparation for entry into a group, (ii) a tool of self-preservation, (iii) a learning process, and (iv) a method of fostering unity and cohesion.

Preparation. Initiates into the school of Pythagoras prepared "to preserve for five years the 'Pythagorean silence'...before becoming a full member and being permitted to study under Pythagoras." Until the Initiate demonstrated his ability to maintain secrecy, he studied with the "exoterici, or outer students." Upon exhibiting the virtues of secrecy and silence, he was allowed to study with the "esoterici, or inner members, who were entitled to the secret wisdom of the Master himself."

Preservation. Societies, whether fraternal, religious or political, have utilized secrecy for selfpreservation. Karen Armstrong, in Islam—A Short History, describes the origins of Sufi mysticism. During the Abbasid dynasty (circa 750- 935 CE), esoteric movements commenced, including the mystic tradition Sufism. (The 25th Degree, Knight of Brazen Serpent, is based on Sufi concepts.) Sufi mysticism is characterized by more complex interpretations of the Quran than found in literal interpretations of Islamic jurisprudence. "These ideas were kept secret from the masses because the adepts believed that they could easily be misunderstood by those of meaner intelligence, and that they made sense only in a context of prayer and contemplation. Secrecy was a self-protective device."

Learning. Returning to Pythagoras, secrecy was a process or journey. Only upon mastering mathematics, geometry and arithmetic could the Initiate advance to philosophy and religion. These advanced topics were "secret" simply because the Initiate was unprepared; it made little sense to consider the symbolism of a geometrical shape until geometry itself was understood.

As W.L. Wilmshurst wrote in The Meaning of Masonry, "There has always existed an external, elementary, popular doctrine which has served for the instruction of the masses who are insufficiently prepared for deeper teaching; and concurrently therewith there has been an interior, advanced doctrine, a more secret knowledge, which has been reserved for riper minds and into which only proficient and properly prepared candidates, who voluntarily sought to participate in it, were initiated."

Unity. Secrecy creates a bond within a group. It supplies an ethic of reputation, a contract of promise-keeping. It does not matter that a "secret" is readily known. It is the conduct of confidentiality and privacy that matters to members. In the practice of the Eleusinian Mysteries, a religious practice of Athens, circa sixth century BCE, "What happened inside the cult hall was kept secret to provide participants with experience of the sacred" and to

... continued on page 3

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.

July 12, 2021:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting
Education Program - 13th Degree, Royal Arch of
Solomon will be conferred.
Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Baked Ziti, Vegetable
Blend, Ice Cream, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade.

August 9, 2021:

Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting
Education Program - 8th Degree, Intendent of the
Building will be conferred.
House Salad, Southwest Chicken Burritos, Sweet
Corn Salsa / Pico de Gallo Salsa, Tortilla Chips
Assorted Cakes, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade.

July - August 2021 Page 7

Prelate

by A. Gary Cavanaugh, 33°



Three Patriotic Lessons for July 4th

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all man-



kind; from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth – he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do."

Psalm 33: 12-15 NIV

Patriotism has become passé these days. After all, it's been 239 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, so naturally, enthusiasm for July 4 celebrations has waned. And in recent years progressive educators have focused on America's flagrant flaws (slavery, greed, war, etc.) and pretty much ignored our nation's accomplishments.

No wonder when Rolling Stone magazine polled its readers on the question, "Is there anything that would motivate you to die for your country?" 40% said no. Most youth are ignorant of America's unique spiritual heritage and have little concept of what our nation was intended to be. We've slipped a long way from the founding father's willingness to pledge their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor for freedom to the cavalier spirit that permeates so many in this age.

In recent years some Christian leaders have contributed to the anti-patriotic spirit by preaching that any kind of patriotic expression in a church service is inappropriate. They argue that since we worship God alone, it's idolatry to pay honor to the nation. And since God loves people of every tongue, tribe, and nation, it's blasphemous to picture God in heaven waving an American flag.

I think we would do well this Fourth of July weekend to study the above scripture closely.

On this July 4th weekend, Christians living in the United States of America would do well to underscore three principles from this passage. All cultures are not spiritually equal. Some nations honor the Lord and some don't. God chose to destroy Sodom and spare Nineveh based on each city's reaction to his authority.

Any nation that honors the Lord is promised his blessing. Since, "The Lord sees all mankind," he promises to bless every nation that will honor him as their God.

It's appropriate for the nation God blesses to give thanks. The Bible says every good and perfect gift comes from God. America is not a perfect gift, but it is a really good gift. The Christians I know are not so shallow as to imagine God waving an American flag; however, we do know a good gift when we see it. It's not idolatry to give thanks for the blessings of our nation any more than it's idolatrous to give God thanks for the blessings of our families on Mother's Day. We can be unashamedly patriotic and unapologetically Christian at the same time.

No nation in the world has been more blessed than the United States of America. Anyone who has traveled to other continents is aware that we are uniquely blessed with incredible resources, breathtaking scenery, unprecedented freedom, and international influence. We have also been blessed with an outstanding governmental system that has served us well for over 200 years.

Why have we been so blessed? Are we more intelligent? More industrious? More deserving? No. We are blessed because God was honored in the founding of our country and he has kept his promise. The fact that this country was founded on Judeo-Christian principles is so evident in early documents and inscriptions on historic buildings and monuments that it can't be denied.

Saluting the flag, standing at attention during the national anthem, singing, "God bless America," and voting faithfully are not the most patriotic things you can do for this country. We help America most by living a Godly life. For the "Lord loves righteousness and justice." (Psalm 33:5)

Some who sneer at nationalistic pride do so because they are convinced the only solution to global problems is a one-world government. They belittle patriotism because their hope is in the United Nations more than the United States. But the Bible predicts that any attempt to govern without God is doomed to fail.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage Paid Permit #1 Manasota, FL

Scottish Rite Bulletin Volume 44 No. 4 July - August 2021

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

William Earl Blevins, 32° 2/9/21 age 88

Tampa, FL

William John Castagna, 32°

12/18/2020 Belleair, FL

Bruce Boyd Crawford, 32°

7/27/2020

Framingham, MA

Millard Calvin Eatman, Sr., 32°

4/3/2020

St. Petersburg, FL

James Lester Golden, 32° 2/22/2021

Apollo Beach, FL

William Magee Hunt, 32°

3/15/2007 Lake Mary, FL

David Wayne Huston, 32°

6/29/2019

Apollo Beach, FL

Herman Judah Navon, 32°

6/4/2020

Sun City Center, FL

Tom Watson Padgett, 32°

4/18/2021

Warner Robins, GA

Edward Leroy Park, 32°

10/14/2020 Martinsburg, PA Frank Andrew Pelusio, 32°

7/28/2020 Kill Buck, NY

Elmer Edward Schroeder, 32°

4/7/2021 Jupiter, FL

May Harold Thomas, 32°

3/26/2007 Irving, TX