



SCOTTISH RITE **Bulletin**

VALLEY OF TAMPA — ORIENT OF FLORIDA

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center

Check the Calendar for Meeting Locations • (813) 886-0578

Meets 2nd Monday of Each Month

Volume 45 No. 5 • September - October 2022

www.tampascottishrite.org

Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida

by Jeff Pick 33°, Trustee, Valley of Tampa

The Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida helps children with learning disabilities by supporting 15 clinics located throughout the entire state of Florida. It depends upon donations made by corporations and individuals, most of whom are members of the Scottish Rite, their families, or friends.

The current annual commitment made to these clinics is \$250,000 with \$100,000 of that earmarked to the 7 clinics run by John Hopkins/All Children's Hospital. The balance goes to the other 8 various clinics. This means we need to raise \$269,500 to cover our commitment to the clinics plus the minimal necessary expenses.

The fiscal year just ended on June 30, 2022. Our Valley of Tampa managed to achieve 101% of our \$85,000 goal. We were able to meet our goal due to some bequests left to the Foundation from our deceased Brothers and families.

I'd like to thank all of those who have given in the past and especially thank you for continuing your support in the future. Our commitment to the children is ongoing. Our pledge as a Valley, and as individual members of the Scottish Rite, is ongoing. Our Valley's goal for this fiscal year, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, is \$85,000. Everyone is encouraged to help in any way possible.

Some ways you can help:

Leave a bequest in your will for either a specific amount or the "remainder" of your estate after all of

your named beneficiaries' bequests have been satisfied. (NOTE: If you do not have a Florida Will or it has been years since it has been updated you are advised to see a qualified advisor for information about Wills).

Ask a corporation to make a donation to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, a 501(c)3 non profit charity. Most large corporations are very generous about helping local charities.

Support the direct mail campaign (if you don't take the free gift, it helps the Foundation).

Log onto: [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to set up The Scottish Rite Foundation of FLORIDA as your chosen charity at Amazon for you and your friends. There is no cost to you and the Foundation will get .5% of the sales price of your purchases. Encourage everyone to do it.

Come along on a Scottish Rite Foundation cruise with your friends, family, and Brothers.

There is a line on your dues bill for an optional donation to the Foundation—add what you can.

Mail a check to the office in Tampa, or present it at a monthly Consistory meeting

Ask your family to request, upon your passing, that donations be made to the SRF in lieu of flowers

If you are a Major Donor, proudly wear your Major Donor lapel pin, everywhere. It may start a discussion which will let you talk about the Foundation.

... continued on page 6

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

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Chairman

Petar Sibinkic, 32°

Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory

Paul D. Barber, 32° KCCH

Commander - Council of Kadosh

Paul A. Ippolito, 32°

Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Joseph A. Monday, 32°

Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection

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James W. Benjamin, 32° KCCH

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by Ill.:. Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

Brethren: It is hard to believe that we are in the third quarter of the year. I would like to thank everyone who has been working on our new building as we begin to see some light at the end of the tunnel. This task is being spearheaded by Brother Chas Jordan, 32° KCCH, who has experience in this area. Please read

his article in this issue of *The Bulletin* to see where we are in the process.

I would also like to direct your attention to Ill.:. Casey Fletcher's article as it pertains to our Fall Reunion. This will be a unique Reunion for our Valley and probably for most Valleys in the Southern Jurisdiction. Please encourage those who are not Scottish Rite Masons to join with us this Fall where they will receive the Degrees in the same manner that Ill.:. Albert Pike, 33° received his in 1855. The Fall Reunion will be held on November 12 and 19.

I would like to thank those brothers who have attended our monthly Valley meetings as we take our Scottish Rite on the road. Your continued support of the Valley is greatly appreciated. Please check the schedule of meeting locations in this issue of *The Bulletin* to see when we will be in your neighborhood.

In closing, brethren, we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events. Please continue your support of our Valley and the Scottish Rite. 🐼



General Secretary

by Scott McAlister, 33°

Brethren, plans are being made now for the Fall Reunion which will be held on in November (see the Director of Work's article on Page 6). There's still time to talk to your Blue Lodge Brothers and have them submit a completed petition, along with a copy of their current Blue Lodge dues card and payment for the The Degree fees are \$357.00, which includes 2023 Scottish Rite dues (some older petitions

have the wrong amount.)

If you haven't already received your 2023 renewal from the Supreme Council, you should soon. Dues remain the same at \$122. If

... continued on page 7

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 Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of Florida.

Office Relocation

Due to our vacating the Masonic Center, it is necessary to move our Administrative Office to another location. We have secured space in a nice building that will serve as our office and storage facility. The office is at George Road Business Park, 4515 George Road, Suite 370 in Tampa. Scott and Trish are in the office during normal business hours (Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) 🐾

295th Fall Reunion Schedule

Saturday, November 12, 2022

7:30 a.m. Registration
 8:30 a.m. Introduction to Scottish Rite Masonry
 Presentation of Lodge of Perfection Degrees
 Presentation of Chapter of Rose Croix Degrees
 Summary for the day
 3:30 p.m. Estimated end time

Saturday, November 19, 2022

7:30 a.m. Registration
 8:30 a.m. Presentation of Council of Kadosh Degrees
 Presentation of Consistory Degrees
 Next Steps in the Scottish Rite
 Consecration of new members
 Announcements and Closing Remarks
 3:30 p.m. Estimated end time

Breaks will be scheduled throughout each day.
 Lunch served around noon. 🐾

The Feast of Tishri

The Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Tampa will celebrate the Feast of Tishri on Monday, October 10, 2022. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:45 p.m. with the Program to follow. Location is the Sarasota Scottish Rite building, 240 S. Tuttle Ave., Sarasota, FL.

The Book of Leviticus tells us that the Feast of Tishri (also known as the Feast of the Tabernacle and/or The Feast of Succoth) was started when God commanded Moses that "... in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye shall have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord seven days." Thus it was originally a harvest or gathering festival, and a time to give thanks.

This feast was still held in the time of King Solomon to the extent that he timed the dedication of the Temple to coincide with it. As Scottish Rite Masons, it is considered an obligatory observance under the Statutes of the Supreme Council, as a sharing of our fraternal spirit, and a reaffirmation of our dedication to the principles of the Scottish Rite. 🐾

Meeting Locations and Schedules for 2022-23

John Darling Lodge No. 154

4601 N. Habana Ave.,
 Tampa, FL 33614.

Meeting dates: Sept. 12, 2022
 Dec. 12, 2022 Jan. 9, 2023
 April 10, 2023 May 8, 2023
 Sept. 11, 2023 Oct. 9, 2023
 Nov. 13, 2023.

Clearwater Lodge No. 127

705 S. Hercules Ave.,
 Clearwater, FL 33764.

Meeting dates: June 12, 2023

DeSoto Lodge No. 105

10801 DeSoto Rd.,
 Riverview, FL 33578.

Meeting dates: Aug. 14, 2023

Nitram Lodge No. 188

4275 78th Street N.,
 St. Petersburg, FL 33709.

Meeting dates: Nov. 14, 2022

Springs Lodge No. 378

5030 S. Memorial Dr.,
 Homosassa, FL 33447.

Meeting dates: Feb. 13, 2023

Lake Wales Lodge No. 242

660 S. 9th St.,
 Lake Wales, FL 33853.

Meeting dates: March 13, 2023

Sarasota Scottish Rite Building

240 S. Tuttle Ave.,
 Sarasota, FL 34237

Meeting dates: Oct. 10, 2022 July 11, 2023 🐾

Scottish Rite Clubs

Nature Coast Scottish Rite Club

VFW Post 10209
14737 Edward R. Noll Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34609
Phone: (352) 678-1019
4th Friday 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

Village Inn
215 N. Dale Mabry Hwy.,
Tampa, FL 33609
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

Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida Fund-raising Cruise

Illustrious Richard G. Hoover 33°, S.G.I.G. of the Supreme Council in the Orient of Florida & First Lady Bobby Hoover invite you to join them for a fun-filled fund-raising cruise from March 27 to April 1, 2023!

The cruise will be a round-trip on the Royal Caribbean – Brilliance of the Seas, with stops in Cozumel, Mexico and Grand Cayman.



Book by Sept. 23 and get \$50 OBC

Call or Email:

Jen Jackson of All Vista Travel

(408) 250-5826

Jen@AllVistaTravel.com

Category	Price* (per person)
Oceanview Balcony	\$576.00
Ocean view	\$397.00
Inside	\$357.00

Call for pricing for other categories or single occupancy pricing

Fully refundable deposit of \$200 deposit due at time of booking to hold cabin assignment and pricing

Final payment due: 12/27/22

Book early to get best cabin location and dining options.

** Prices as of May 29, 2022, are per person, double occupancy, and do not include taxes and government fees in the amount of \$109.91 per person. Although government fees can change, the cruise fare cannot increase once a deposit is made. Lock in these prices now to ensure that you get the best available pricing. 🐼*

Deadline for Nov./Dec. Bulletin

October 3 - Contributor deadline

October 12 - Office contributor deadline

October 14 - Transmit print file to our printer



August Update - Building Project

by Chas Jordan, 32 KCCH,
Project Manager

We continue to make progress on the new facility! As we have vacated our current facility, the new 25,000 square foot facility has begun design and is

nearing completion of its schematic design phase. This phase is when the design professional and the owner develop the formalized concept of what the building should look like. The next phase will be to begin construction level design drawings for use in constructing the new facility.

The new building will be a three story, two floor complex: the offices, banquet hall, kitchen and associated areas on the first floor; and the lodge, board room, auditorium and associated areas on the second. The building is intended to be roughly 12,500 square

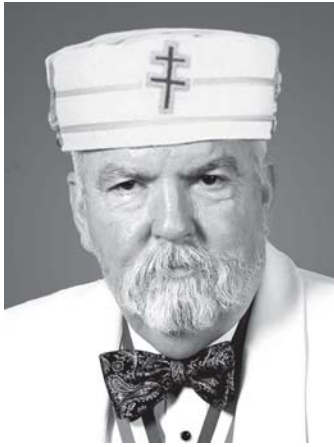
feet on each floor. The design currently incorporates Masonic elements into it such as a 3, 5, and 7-step frontage stair entry, 33 windows into the lodge room and other aspects to highlight the Masonic nature of the building. We intend for all brothers to be able to tell a Masonic story just by walking a fellow Mason up to the front of the building.

Currently the project is awaiting the finalization of the re-zoning process to begin demolition and preparation of the property for new construction. The next step in that process is a public meeting to discuss the potential rezoning with the community. This is currently set for September 19, 2022 at the Robert W Saunders Sr. Public Library on 1505 N Nebraska Ave in Tampa. It is set for 6:00 p.m., but is subject to change. Scottish Rite Masons are requested to attend to show support for the rezoning and the redevelopment of the property.

It is our hope to continue to move forward with the building design over the next few months and prep for construction in 2023. If you have any questions, or would like to offer any suggests, feel free to reach out to me at chasjordan@hotmail.com 🐼



Initial Rendering of new Facility by WJ Architects – Schematic Design (subject to change)



Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 33°

The Fall Reunion is scheduled for November 12 and 19. The location is still to be determined. The format of the Reunion will differ from our usual theatrical confer-

ral of certain degrees and communication of others.

The Reunion will take the form of an education presentation. Commencing with the usual history and explanations about the Scottish Rite, the first day will review each of the Degrees of the Lodge of Perfection and the Chapter of Rose Croix. The second day will review the Council and Consistory Degrees and will conclude with a summary of basic lessons and a discussion of our roles and duties as Scottish Rite Masons.

The presentation will be aided by, and modeled upon, an approved Supreme Council syllabus developed for use when in-person reunions were inadvisable due to public health concerns.

Although passwords and other esoteric matters will be omitted, the format will qualify candidates as 32nd Degree Masons. All obligations will be administered by our Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Most Worshipful Richard Hoover 33°.

The candidates will be receiving the Degrees in the same manner as did Albert Pike. Albert Mackey communicated the Degrees to Pike, explained their respective lessons and obligated Pike as a Master of the Royal Secret. The theatrical mode of instruction now used did not then exist and commenced after Pike's death. So, this format is a return to an earlier tradition.

This Reunion format affords a valuable educational opportunity to existing members of the Valley. The presentation will journey through all 29 Degrees in sequence, exploring each's plot, lessons, and symbols, and the relationship with preceding and succeeding degrees. Members are encouraged to attend with pen and paper in hand. Bringing "Bridge to Light" to follow along is recommended. 🐼

...continued from Page 1 – Scottish Rite Foundation

Speaking of recognition, donors who are Scottish Rite members can earn some Double Eagle points each year for making a donation to the SRF. Members AND NON MEMBERS can also gain Major Donor recognition for reaching different levels of total lifetime giving to the Foundation. Recognition includes (for members) double eagle bars, (for members & non members, the following) different lapel pins depending upon level reached, and a nameplate on the Major Donor plaques in the lobby. Again, there are different plaques depending upon level of lifetime donations. Recognition starts at only \$1,000 in cumulative life-time donations.

This is our Foundation, yours and mine. When we joined the Scottish Rite we joined a marvelous organization with benefits including wonderful fellowship and great Masonic education, but we also inherited a responsibility to support our foundation to the best of our ability.

Please note: our foundation is the Scottish Rite Foundation of FLORIDA. There are many other Scottish Rite Foundations, but as members in FLORIDA, we want to help the kids in FLORIDA.

As a 501(c)3 non profit charity, the Scottish Rite Foundation is a perfect choice for those individuals over the age of 70 1/2 who are required to make annual disbursements from their individual IRA accounts. It is most definitely a WIN-WIN opportunity for the Foundation and the individual who by law needs to make an annual disbursement.

Please note that 97 cents out of every dollar donated goes directly to the programs at the clinics to help the kids. That means that the Scottish Rite Foundation's total expenses is only 3%. If you'll check with other charities you will see that is a remarkable achievement!

For more information please feel free to contact me at: 2021.ddgm.23@gmail.com Thank you for your consideration of support for your Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. 🐼

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 🐼

Prelate

by Richard A.
Vogt, 32° KCCH

Leviticus 11:44, "For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am Holy."



Wait, what? God wants us to be holy like He is? How can we be like God?

We are just humans and, well, He is God. That is exactly what God wants us to do—be just like Him! I don't mean omniscient or omnipresent; we are only humans. But He does want us to be holy—notice the little h. Holy is the Greek word $\alpha\gamma\iota\omicron\varsigma$ —to be set apart, consecrated to the service of God. Sounds like being a Mason to me.

As Masons, we are called upon to set ourselves apart from the everyday culture. We walk, or try to, a morally straighter path. We are not to be influenced by the fads of the day, but remain true to our cause—which is to be better men. This is why our three pillars are Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. Wisdom guides us to not be like the world, being tossed to and fro by every new idea or thought that is popular today then changes as the whims of people change. It takes Strength to not go along and be part of the crowd. To be your own person in the face of unsurmountable peer pressure takes all the strength we can muster. But when we prevail, Beauty shines brightly before all men; the beauty of righteousness. Not to be lorded over those that haven't found our light, but humble righteousness that says "follow me and I will show you a better way." Colossians 3:12 says "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience." In other words, be a true Mason.

One of the Great Lights in Masonry is the Holy Bible. It is the inestimable gift of God to man, and should be the rule and guide to our faith and practice. Faith without "practice" is no faith at all. If we don't practice what we believe, do we truly believe? To practice what we believe, we must be set apart from the world. The Bible tells us to be "in the world, but not of the world." That means we must be set apart, consecrated to the service of God. If we are to be an example to a falling race, we can't be falling

with them. We must be set apart maintaining higher standards for ourselves and Brothers. If we are just like everyone else, how then can we be an example of what's right and good?

Look inward, my Brothers, and test your faith. Do you truly believe? Are you acting out what it means to be a Mason. I encourage all of you to take a long look at the Closing Charge in the Florida Masonic Monitor. Meditate on the words and let it seep into your very being. "... for your work is with the Lord and your recompense with your God." 🐼

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.

September 12, 2022:

at John Darling Lodge No. 154
4601 N. Habana Ave., Tampa, FL 33614.
Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting

October 10, 2022:

at Sarasota Scottish Rite Building
240 S. Tuttle Ave., Sarasota, FL 34237.
Executive Committee Meeting
Feast of Tishri
Dinner and Closed Meeting 🐼

...continued from Page 2 – General Secretary

you're current in your dues, the Supreme Council will include your dues card with your renewal notice, so take care not to throw it out accidentally.

If you're planning to have dinner at our monthly meetings (see schedule this page for dates and locations,) please remember to make your reservations no later than the Thursday before the meeting. This will help us give the lodges a head count so that they can prepare to have enough food.

As always, if there's anything this office can do for you, please don't hesitate to contact us. 🐼

Tampa Scottish Rite Office
George Road Business Park
4515 George Road, Suite 370
Tampa, FL 33634

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Scottish Rite Bulletin
Volume 45 No. 5
September - October 2022

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



Ronald K. Bart, 32°
06/26/22 age 87
New Port Richey, FL

Frank W. Card Sr., 32°
05/12/22 age 83
Riverview, FL

Kevin J. Sprague, 32°
06/08/22 age 59
Sarasota, FL

Nils P. Bengston, 32°
07/16/22 age 88
St. Petersburg, FL

Leo A. Lorenzo, 32°
12/31/21 age 86
Tampa, FL

Max E. Vance, 32° KCCH
07/24/22 age 83
Brandon, FL

Richard C. Brooks, 32°
07/31/22 age 64
Palm Harbor, FL

Arthur Meier, 32°
03/03/22 age 96
Cumming, GA

Herbert H. Whisenant, 32°
07/11/22 age 86
Brandon, FL

Alvin D. Bryan, 32°
07/26/22 age 73
Winter Haven, FL

Robert H. Price, 32°
06/15/22 age 73
Valrico, FL