

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 46 No. 1 • January - February 2023

www.tampascottishrite.org

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
Valley of Tampa, Orient of Florida
295th Reunion November 12, 2022
Memorial Class Honoring
III.: Albert Pike, 33°



Officers of the Bodies and Distinguished Brothers

Front row (I-r): III.: Casey A. Fletcher, 33°, DOW; III.: Gerald M. Lee, 33°, Class Director Chairman; III.: John E. Drewett, 33°; III.: Stephen B. Jacobson, 33°; III.: Charles G. Cumpstone, 33°; III.: Richard G. Hoover, 33°, SGIG; III.: Russell B. Glendinning, 33°, Personal Rep.; III.: Ronald P. Jacobson, 33°; III.: Carl E. Gilmore, 33°; III.: Lynn C. Raposa, 33°; III.: Kenneth A. Warner, 33°.

Class Members

Candidates: Miguel Cabreriza, Ricardo A. Cainas, Daniel K. Geske, Julio Gonzalez, Robert E. Guthrie, Elhart J. Hubenka, Jonathan D. Johnson, Eidel R. Matos Carpio, William C. McAlister, Jared R. Moren, Joseph J. Noto, Eduardo Porra Cancio, Leodelvis Romera, John E. Sanders, Robert L. Tester, Brandon C. Thompson, Victor M. Torres Castillo, Jesus A. Zambrano

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

TBD

Chairman

Weldon C. Harrison, 32°

Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory
John A. Baldwin, 32° KCCH

Commander - Council of Kadosh

Robert J. Davis Jr., 32°

Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix

Frederick R. Wendling, 32° KCCH

Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection

Jeffrey T. Sklet, 32° Prior

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

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Perry D. Batson, 32° James W. Benjamin, 32° KCCH John N. Dragneff, 32° John E. Drewett, 33°

VALLEY OF TAMPA CONTACTS

Scottish Rite Office (813) 886-0578 adminassistant@tampascottishrite.org

TBD

Personal Representative personal representative @ srtampa.org

Scott McAlister, 33°

General Secretary (813) 886-0578 generalsecretary@tampascottishrite.org

Trish Warhul

Administrative Assistant (813) 886-0578 adminassistant@tampascottishrite.org

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

treasurer@srtampa.org

treasurer e strampa.org

Charles D. Walter, 32° KCCH *Almoner*

almoner@srtampa.org

Casey A. Fletcher, 33°

Director of Work – Member Education dow@srtampa.org

Richard Alan Vogt, 32° KCCH *Prelate*

rick.flyer1@gmail.com

Brian D. Campbell, 32° KCCH

Webmaster webmaster@srtampa.org

Gary C. Schweinshaupt, 33° Bulletin Editor

bulletin@srtampa.org



III∴ Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

The Valley of Tampa sends its sincere condolences to the family of Ill.: Russell B. "Rusty" Glendinning, 33° on his untimely passing on Dec. 16, 2022 after a long fight with cancer.

Ill: Rusty is survived by his wife, Renea and his sister, Linda Glendinning.

Ill: Rusty was the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector

General in Florida and the Chairman of the Executive Committee for the Tampa Scottish Rite.

Ill∴ Rusty joined Sarasota Chapter, Order of DeMolay in 1967 at the age of 14. Served as Master Councilor, then at the State Association as State Treasurer in 1971 and Deputy State Master Councilor in 1972.

He petitioned Sarasota Lodge No. 147 in 1973 at the age of 20 and was Raised in 1974. Served as Worshipful Master in 1980. From 1981 to 1987 as Lodge Secretary and then again from 2014 to 2020. In 1984 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 24th District (now the 23rd District) by M:W: James A Wilson. He was appointed to the Masonic Youth Activities Committee in 1981 and served on that committee for 11 years, 2 years as State Chairman. He served one year on the Public Education & Citizenship Committee, the Finance & Accounts Committee for 2 years and on the Jurisprudence Committee for 20 years, 3 of those years as Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

He joined the York Rite Bodies in 1974 and Egypt Shriners in 1976 and later was a Charter Member of Sahib Shriners in 1981. He joined the Scottish Rite in 1980. He became a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1995 and a 33° Scottish Rite Mason in 2001. In 1996 he joined Tampa Scottish Rite Classroom Directors Staff, serving as Chairman from 2001 to 2007, when he was appointed the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Florida. He was serving in that capacity in addition to being the Special Assistant to Ill.: Rick Hoover, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of Florida.

He continued his work with DeMolay both on a local, state and international level. He served Florida DeMolay as a Program Director, Province Governor and as Conclave Director. He was elected to DeMolay's International Supreme Council as an Active Member in 1989 and served for 20+ years as Chairman of the DeMolay Alumni Affairs Committee.

Services for Ill.: Rusty were held in Sarasota, FL on Dec. 22 and memorials were performed at Sarasota Lodge No. 147 and Sahib Shriners. A Masonic Funeral Service was held in Sarasota.

Requiescat In Pace Frater

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.

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General Secretary

by Scott McAlister, 33°

Delinquent Members 2023 dues statements have been mailed by the Supreme Council, kicking off our 2023 dues season. As of this date, there are 671 members from the Valley of Tampa who

have an arrears balance. The 2023 dues payments were to be paid no later than December 31, 2022. Please remit \$122.00 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, click on the link Payments & Contributions.

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 and Dual membership, 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.

Affilliation

Robert A. Bowen Jr., 32° Rodger D. King Sr., 32°

Meeting Locations and Schedules for 2023

There will be a change in the meeting places for the upcoming year.

The March/April Bulletin will have the complete schedule for 2023.

John Darling Lodge No. 154

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

Meeting dates: Jan. 9, 2023

Feb. 13, 2023

Clearwater Lodge No. 127

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

Meeting dates: March 13, 2023

Annual Installation of Officers

On January 9, 2023 at John Darling Lodge No. 154, 4601 N. Habana Ave., Tampa, we will install the officers who will lead the Valley of Tampa into the new year. Along with the officers of the four coordinate bodies, we will also install the officers of the Knights of St. Andrew, Knight Commander Court of Honour Organization, Past Masters Organization, Scottish Rite Guard, and our Scottish Rite Clubs.

My Brothers please note that when you accept your elective or appointed position, you take the Oath to attend monthly meetings and any Scottish Rite activities. You are to call the Office prior to monthly meetings to be excused due to work or health problems. You will be required to wear a white jacket, black trousers, black shoes, black socks, black bow tie and Scottish Rite Cap. Be sure you have your 2023 Scottish Rite Dues Card. If you have not paid, call the Office at (813) 886-0578 to arrange paying.

The installation is open to all members, their families and friends. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:45 p.m. with the Installation to begin at 7:00 p.m.

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.

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

2023 Valley Officers

Tampa Consistory

Master of Kadosh	
Prior	Jeffrey T. Sklet, 32°
Preceptor	John N. Dragneff, 32°
Chancellor	James F. Charrette, 32°
Minister of State	John K. Bush, 32°
Marshal of Ceremonies	Perry D. Batson, 32°
Expert	Charles A. Wolbert, III, 32°
Asst. Expert	. Richard R. Whitmyer, 32° KCCH
Capt. of the Guard	Kenneth E. Ammons, 32°

Tampa Council of Kadosh

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Commander	John A. Baldwin, 32° KCCH
1st Lt. Commander	William C. Klinke, 32° KCCH
2nd Lt. Commander	Joseph A. Severino, 32°
Chancellor	Gary W. Gordon, 32°
Orator	Richard N. Leger, 32°
Marshal of Ceremonies	V. Kirk Hinote, 32°
Turcopilier	Jack W. Hampton, Jr., 32° KCCH
Draper	Roy A. Chattelle, 32°
	Richard D. Burton, Jr., 32°
Second Deacon	Glenn H. Guterman, 32°
Bearer of Beausant	John H. Eaton, 32°
Bearer White Standard	Michael R. W. Cochran, 32°
Bearer Black Standard	John D. Vogt, 32°
Lt. of the Guard	Ernesto Hernandez-San Martin, 32°
	Commander

Tampa Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Robert J. Davis, Jr., 32°
Senior Warden	Donald W. Cowart, 32° KCCH
Junior Warden	Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH
Orator	Michael E. Manning, 32°
Master of Ceremonies	Gary R. Roane, 32°
Expert	Rusty B. Valle, 32°
Asst. Expert	Jamal J. Redfurn, 32°
Standard Bearer	Billy D. Scott III, 32°
Guardian of the Temple	Reginald J. Guier, 32°

Tampa Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Frederick R. Wendling, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden	Glen B. Bishop, 32° KCCH
Junior Warden	Tommy F. Tyner, 32° KCCH
Orator	Charles R. Bailey, 32°
Master of Ceremonies	James R. Mc Kiney, 32°
Expert	William R. Hughes, 32°
Asst. Expert	James M. Bahm, 32°
Captain of the Host	Nicholas Ferrario, 32°

Deadline for March/April Bulletin

February 6 - Contributor deadline

February 15 - Office contributor deadline

February 17 - Transmit print file to our printer

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For the Four Coordinate Bodies

General Secretary	Ill: Scott McAlister, 33°
Treasurer	Ill: Michael R. Pender, Jr., 33°
Almoner	Charles D. Walter, 32° KCCH
Prelate	Richard A. Vogt, 32°, KCCH
Tiler	Andres Morin, 32° KCCH

Chase Harrison, 32° Master of Kadosh

Brother Weldon
"Chase" Harrison will
serve as the Valley of
Tampa's Master of
Kadosh in 2023. A native
Texan, the United States
Air Force brought
Brother Harrison to



Tampa in 1995 where he served as Weapons of Mass Destruction and Ballistic Missile Intelligence Analyst at the United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) located at Macdill AFB.

After retiring from the Air Force as a Master Sergeant, he continued his service to his new home town as a Tampa police officer. He held positions in patrol and in the aviation unit. Upon retirement from TPD in 2016 he started a new career as a commercial pilot. Chase graduated, Magna Cum Laude, with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace with a concentration in flight operations, from Everglades University.

Our Master of Kadosh received the Three Degrees of Freemasonry in Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 and was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 1, 2011. Brother Harrison joined the Scottish Rite, Spring Reunion 2015, to continue his search within Masonry. Brother Harrison serves on the degree team for the 18th Degree "Rose Croix" as Guardian of the Temple. He joined the Consistory line 2017, also serves on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Park and Youth Camp in South Hillsborough County.

Drew Baldwin, 32° KCCH Commander of the Council

Brother John A.

"Drew" Baldwin, 32°

KCCH was elected to serve as the Commander of the Council of Kadosh for the Valley of Tampa for the year 2023.

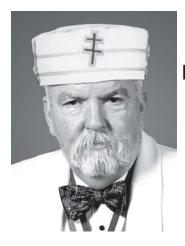


Brother Baldwin was born in Nashville, Tennessee. He moved to Tampa in 1989 after living in Nashville and Oklahoma City. He graduated from Bloomingdale High School, earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Central Florida, and earned a Juris Doctor Degree from Stetson University College of Law. The day after taking the Florida Bar Exam in July 2003, he started working for The Solomon Law Group, P.A. in Tampa where he continues to work today as a Partner of the firm, specializing in business and real estate litigation. Brother Baldwin has been appointed to serve on several prestigious Florida Bar Committees and he is a guest speaker at legal seminars and educational programs.

In late 2010, Brother Baldwin petitioned Hillsborough Lodge No. 25. He was initiated an Entered Apprentice in January 2011, passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft in June 2011, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on July 5, 2011. He immediately joined Hillsborough Lodge's officers line in January 2012, beginning at the very bottom as the Tyler. He worked his way up the lodge officers line and served as the Worshipful Master in 2017. He has also served as the Lodge Secretary and has earned the Lodge's "Mason of the Year" Award. Brother Baldwin is also a Plural Member of Brandon Lodge No. 114.

In 2019, Brother Baldwin served as the District Deputy Grand Master for the 19th District. In 2020 and 2021, Brother Baldwin served two terms as the District Instructor for the 19th District. He is the Grand Representative of the United Grand Lodge of England. He has served in various Zone Chairman and District Chairman positions.

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Member Education & Director of Work

by Casey A. Fletcher, 33°

"Men of action need to find space in their busy lives for philosophy." Such is an assertion of James Hankins (1955-) in his recent book *Virtue Politics—Soul Craft and*

Statecraft in Renaissance Italy.

Generally, "Renaissance" refers to the period 1400-1500 and is associated with Florence. Florence was fraught with civil strife and discord, political turmoil, and armed conflict. An examination of the reasons and the search for remedies for Florence's plight gave rise to what is sometimes called the "humanist" period. Such sages as Petrarch (1304-74), Leonardo Bruni (1370-1444), and others reflected back to the ancient republic of Rome, lamenting its demise and that Florence had not become the heir to its one-time greatness.

What happened?

The humanists asserted Rome—and Florence—lost virtue. Leaders (secular and religious) were corrupt and self-interested. They were no longer "well-educated men ... possessed of practical wisdom and informed by the study of ancient literature and moral philosophy." Worse, the moral character of the citizenry had followed suit.

The humanists agreed on the basic means to rebuild the "...depleted reserves of good character, true piety, and practical wisdom." They agreed a revival of classical antiquity and the study of the humanities was essential.

They drew heavily on the wisdom and writings of names familiar to readers of this column: Plato (circa 427-347 BCE), Aristotle (384-322 BCE), and Cicero (106-43 BCE). The point was not merely to read their "old books in school. It meant absorbing the moral and intellectual information human beings needed to live successfully in civilized societies." Their remedy also espoused a vigorous education originally developed by Martianus Capella (360-482 CE) of seven disciplines now known as the liberal arts and sciences.

The humanists also addressed the relative merits and demerits of different forms of government. But they agreed, "...constitutional form was far less important than the character of rulers" and citizens.

Alas, the humanists recognized that not every leader, nor every citizen, had the time, inclination, ability or energy to sit down to read all the classics or to immerse themselves in a curriculum of the seven liberal arts and sciences. Their suggestion?

Associate with people who do!

In a real sense, Freemasonry provides just that association. Our ritual associates us with the great philosophers of many ages, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Plutarch, Petrarch, Seneca, Burke, Epictetus, and other classical sages. Their teachings were passed down to us from our ancient brethren (who did read their works) and are found within Masonic ritual.

Masonry is philosophy. So, in our busy lives, we make time for philosophy by attending the Symbolic Degrees and Scottish Rite Reunions. Our attendance is our means for developing a character of virtue and achieving moral excellence.

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.

January 9, 2023:

at John Darling Lodge No. 154 4601 N. Habana Ave., Tampa, FL 33614 Dinner and Open Meeting Annual Installation of Officers

February 13, 2023:

at Springs Lodge No. 378
5030 S. Memorial Dr., Homosassa, FL 33447
Executive Committee Meeting
Dinner and Closed Meeting

Prelate

by Richard A. Vogt, 32° KCCH

Oh, the over-whelming, awe-inspiring Love of God!

As you read this, we will have just completed two of the most important holidays in our country. We gave Thanks



for all of the Blessings we have received this past year during our Thanksgiving season; and then, we remembered our Creator during the Hannukah/ Christmas season. And what we should have remembered during these two seasons was, and is, the over-whelming Love of God. The Blessings we gave thanks for came from God and the gift of the Hannukah/Christmas time is a gift from God. The Lord is the creator and sustainer of life. From Him come all blessings and wisdom. Psalm 24 says, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for He founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters." (NIV)

In the beginning God created man, and because of His great love for us, He created woman so that we would not be alone. From there we received families and then communities because we were meant to live and love together. Masonry is a natural extension of community. Brotherly love is our trademark. Love is the greatest gift of all from our Creator. And He loves us so much that He gave us each other that we may know that depth of love. We need only to accept His free gift, and then, pay it forward.

All of God's creation, all that He does, is done out of love. You may, probably will, go through tough times in your life. Things happen in this broken, sinful world. But, remind yourself of Job, who had everything taken from him-his family, his wealth, and his health. Yet he praised God for what he did have. Job is, maybe, and extreme example. However, his story was placed in the Bible for a purpose-and that purpose is to remind us that God will never leave us or forsake us. He allows us to go through anguish for a reason. Maybe there is a lesson He needs to teach you or maybe you are

drifting away and He is calling you back. Whatever the reason, we should always praise God for what He is doing in our lives and seek to learn the lessons He has for us. Isn't it awe-inspiring to know that we have a God that loves us so much that He takes the time to teach us what we need to know and to call us back when we begin to stray.

The over-whelming, awe-inspiring Love of God is such that all who believe in Him will not perish but have ever-lasting life! Amen!

...continued from Page 5 – John A.Baldwin, 32° KCCH

Brother Baldwin became a Master of the Royal Secret in the Valley of Tampa on November 10, 2012 as part of the Ill. C. Frederick Kleinknecht, Jr., 33° Memorial Class. He immediately joined the Council of Kadosh Officers line in January 2013, beginning, again, at the very bottom of the line as the Lieutenant of the Guard. Brother Baldwin currently serves as the Degree Master for both the 18th and 29th Degrees and is an active participant in both of those degrees. He also serves as the Preceptor for the 32th Degree and he is the Director of Ritual for the Valley of Tampa's Past Masters Organization.

Brother Baldwin is a Past President of the Hillsborough County Master Mason Association. He is a proud Life Member of the King Solomon Honorary Chapter of DeMolay International and he has been a member of the Egypt Shriners for over 11 years.

In recognition of his commitment to the Scottish Rite and to Freemasonry, Brother Baldwin was invested with the Rank and Dignity of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 2021.

Brother Baldwin currently serves as the Zone 4 Chairman for the Committee on Work and as a member of the Panel of Attorneys for the Grand Lodge of Florida. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his wife of over 20 years, Kathleen, and their two Boston Terriers, Stanley and Holly. He also enjoys spending time with family and friends, watching sports, and attending Lightning and Rays games.

Tampa Scottish Rite Office George Road Business Park 4515 George Road, Suite 370 Tampa, FL 33634 Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage Paid Permit #1 Manasota, FL

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Scottish Rite Bulletin Volume 46 No. 1 January - February 2023

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

Dennis E. Ahrens, 32° 11/19/22 age 73 Tampa, FL

James L. Blake Jr., 32° 09/28/22 age 82 Winter Haven, FL

Lester H. Colegrove, 32° 10/20/22 age 87 Myakka City, FL Harry W. Cumber, 32° 10/17/22 age 88 Seffner, FL

Charles G. Cumpstone Jr., 33° 11/25/22 age 82 Palm Harbor, FL

Russell B. Glendinning, 33° 12/16/22 age 70 Sarasota, FL Stephen C. Murphy, 32° 12/14/22 age 68 Port Charlotte, FL

David A. Osting, 32° 05/08/22 age 77 Badin, NC