

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 48 No. 1 - January-February 2025

Www.tampascottishrite.org



298th Reunion Class—November 9, 2024 Honoring Illustrious Leonard W Lorenzo, 33°

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

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Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory
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Commander - Council of Kadosh
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VALLEY OF TAMPA CONTACTS

Scottish Rite Office (813) 886-0578 adminassistant@tampascottishrite.org Charles C. Osborne, 33° **Personal Representative** rwchuckosborne@gmail.com 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 Richard Alan Vogt. 33° Director of Work - Member Education rick.flyer1@gmail.com dow@srtampa.org TBA Prelate

Brian D. Campbell, 33°
Webmaster
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Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH
Bulletin Editor
glwynn@gmail.com





PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Illustrious Charles C. Osborne, 33°

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Finally, 2025 has arrived, and we can move past the challenges we experienced in 2024, which included the disruption and property destruction caused by two back-to-back hurricanes. Despite these challenges, the Valley of Tampa still came through with several successes.

In 2024, we held two one-day reunions during which we conferred five mandatory degrees. This year, we will return to our two-day reunions, during which we will confer or communicate all 29 degrees. In addition to our two reunions, your Valley also sponsored an open, event honoring the sitting Worshipful Masters in the Valley of Tampa and recognizing the DeMolay Chapters, Rainbow Assemblies, and Job's Daughters Bethels in our area. We were honored to have with us that night Illustrious Richard G. Hoover, 33°, PGM and Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of Florida, M:W: Donald Cowart, 32° KCCH, Grand Master of Florida, and R:: W:: Rick Wendling, 32° KCCH, Junior Grand Warden of Florida. Thank you, Brother Stephen Silvers, 32° KCCH, for organizing this event again this past year. In 2024, we continued the tradition of celebrating the Feast of Kadosh with a wonderful meal, an excellent program, and great fellowship. Our Scottish Rite Clubs have continued to promote the Scottish Rite in their respective areas over the past year. If you are unable to attend our monthly meetings, I encourage you to participate in the Scottish Rite Club in your area. The meeting dates, times, and locations are provided in every issue of our Bulletin. We successfully held two important events: the Feast of Tishri and the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal. Both of these programs are mandatory annual events in the Scottish Rite. Once again, the Degree Team from the Sarasota Scottish Rite Club delivered a moving presentation of the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal.

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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 up dates to

general secretary @tampascott is hrite.org

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As we begin 2025, we extend our congratulations to the Brothers who have been elected to serve the Valley of Tampa this year. Our new leaders include Brother John N. Dragneff, 32°, Master of Kadosh; Brother William C. Klinke, 32° KCCH, Commander of Kadosh; Brother Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH, Wise Master; and Brother Tommy F. Tyner, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master. These four Brothers, along with the other members of the Executive Committee, will work diligently throughout the year to provide strong leadership and innovative ideas to ensure our success. For our programs to thrive, we will need the support of as many members as possible. In 2024, many Brothers dedicated their efforts to benefit the Valley of Tampa. We owe a special thank you to our outgoing leaders: Brother Jeffrey T. Sklet, 32° KCCH; Brother Joseph A. Severino, 32°; Brother Donald W. Cowart, 32° KCCH; and Brother Glen B. Bishop, 32° KCCH. These four Brothers have set a high standard for their successors, and I am confident that they will fulfill their roles exceptionally well.

In conclusion, I encourage you to support your Scottish Rite in 2025. You can do this by attending Consistory meetings, participating in Scottish Rite Club meetings, volunteering your time for necessary projects, and joining us for our Spring and Fall Reunions. Additionally, please encourage your Blue Lodge brothers who are not yet members of the Scottish Rite to take that next step in Freemasonry. As always, your ideas and suggestions are welcomed and appreciated.



Online Petition QR Code



GENERAL SECRETARY

Illustrious Scott McAlister, 33°

We extend a hearty welcome and a warm hand of fellowship to these Masters of the Royal Secret who have joined us by Affiliation and Dual Membership, since our

last publication of our 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 the Scottish Rite in particular.

Affiliations

John M. Donovan, 32° Raymond C. Myers, 32° Stewart A. Plemons, 32°

Dual

Michael J. St. Laurent, 32° KCCH



Happy New Year!

We hope your holidays were enjoyed in the company of family and friends.

As we start the new year, there are 377 Brothers who've not paid their 2025 dues. Dues for 2025 were to have been paid by December 31, 2024. If you've not yet paid your 2025 dues, please remit \$122.00 to the General Secretary at your earliest possible convenience. If for any reason you're having difficulty paying your 2025 dues and need financial assistance, contact us at (813) 886-0578 so that we can work something out.

If you've already paid your 2025 dues, thank you for being a valued member of the Tampa Scottish Rite.



This publication acknowledges authority and yields allegiance to the Supreme Council A&A Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction of which Illustrious Richard G. Hoover, 33° is Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of Florida





Degrees Prior to Consistory

February

23rd Degree Chief of the Tabernacle

May

26th Degree

Prince of Mercy/Scottish Trinitarian

July

13th Degree Royal Lodge of Solomon

August

25th Degree Knight of the Brazen Serpent

November

6th Degree Confidential Secretary

December

7th Degree Provost and Judge

MEMBER EDUCATION & DIRECTOR OF WORK

Illustrious Richard A. Vogt, 33°

I have just recently been appointed to fill the very big shoes of Illustrious Casey Fletcher as the Director of Work/Chairman of Education. You will learn very quickly that I am not the scholar that Casey is, so I will be looking for help for our monthly Masonic Education. If anyone is interested in presenting Masonic Education for the Consistory, please let me know.

I have worked closely with Ill. Casey for the past several months knowing this day was coming. As such, we had a good plan for our Fall Reunion that turned out quite well. We had twelve Brothers that watched the five mandatory degrees being conferred and reports that I have received have been very positive.

We have developed a plan for the Consistory going forward that will allow us to confer all twenty-nine degrees in 2025. That plan includes conferring six degrees prior to our Consistory meetings on various months. The following is my plan for the year:

Our Spring Reunion May 3. Day 1

May 3. Day 1	May 10. Day 2
4 th Degree	19 th Degree
9&10 th Degree	20 th Degree
11 th Degree	28 th Degree
14 th Degree	30 th Degree
15 th Degree	31 st Degree
17 th Degree	32 nd Degree
18 th Degree	_

Our Fall Reunion Oct 18. Day 1

4 th Degree	21 st Degree
5 th Degree	22 nd Degree
8 th Degree	24 th Degree
12 th Degree	27 th Degree
14 th Degree	29 th Degree
16 th Degree	30 th Degree
18 th Degree	32 nd Degree

As you can see this is a very aggressive schedule, and of course, subject to change. We have only conferred the five mandatory degrees in the past couple of years, and the rest of the degrees have been since before COVID. I wanted to put this schedule out as soon as possible so all the degree teams can reconstitute themselves and bring on any new Brothers that want to get involved to be ready for some outstanding reunions in 2025.

Oct 25. Day 2

We need Brothers to step up and help with Wardrobe, Lights, Sound, Stage and Props, and always degree team members. Please get in touch with the chairmen of these committees and/or the Degree Masters to let them know of your interest.

I look forward to serving you as your Director of Work and Chairman of Education.

PRELATE

Illustrious Richard A. Vogt, 33°



Are We Jonah's?

Jonah 1:1-3 "Now the Word of the Lord came to Jonah, the son of Amittai, saying, 'Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.' <u>But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord</u>. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, <u>away from the presence of the Lord</u>."

Jonah hated the Ninevites because they were not "God's chosen people". He thought God was only for the Jews. He had self-righteous indignation for the Ninevites to the point that he ran from the job God had called him to do. He would rather die than share God with anyone not Hebrew.

God calls all of us to do some work. Do we listen to His voice, or do we run as fast and as hard as we can away from what God is calling us to do? We know what is right and what is wrong; we know when we shouldn't do something because it is foolish or possibly dangerous, but we do it anyway. We do what we want because we want it, not really thinking about the consequences to us or others. How often in our lives have we made decisions that seemed a good idea at that time but down the road turned out disastrous? If we think on those times, did we hear that still, small voice urging us to go a different direction, but we ignored it. That's what we do because we are all self-centered to some degree. That was Jonah's problem as well.

God wants what is best for us. When He calls us to some action, it is to bring a blessing to others, but, even more, it is to bless us. How much joy do WE get when we help others. That is what God wants for all of us, to live in joy and the peace that surpasses all understanding. We just finished a terrible time with two hurricanes; and, we had the opportunity to go out and help each other to put our lives back together. How did that make you feel-as the helper or the one helped?

God pursued Jonah on his sea journey, then into the fish, and finally all the way to Ninevah. Why? Because He wanted to bless the Ninevites after they heard His message from Jonah and repented of their evil ways; and He wanted to bless Jonah by having him be a part of God's great plan. We are all children of God and as such we are all ministers for God throughout the world. That ministry may be your workplace, your family, your lodge or your group of friends. Be faithful to God's calling on your life and enjoy the full blessings, joy, and peace that comes from a gracious and faithful God.

This is my last article as Prelate as I am taking over as Director of Work. It has been my honor to serve all of you as your Prelate. **May God Bless You and Keep You.**

We are approaching the 2025 JROTC/ROTC Award Season.

If you want to be a presenter, please contact me and let me know what schools in your area that you would like to make a presentation. The presentation season starts in late February and extends to the end of May. Thank you in advance for your participation and interest.

Bob Kershner ROTC/JROTC Coordinator EMAIL: k3rshner@gmail.com CELL: 813-478-4715



John N. Dragneff, 32°
Master of Kadosh
Tampa Consistory

R::W:: John Dragneff was born and raised in Tampa, Florida and graduated from H. B. Plant High School. In April of 1982, he married his high school sweetheart, Rachael Cohalla Dragneff. In 1982, he started working in corporate security and was with various companies over the years. In 1986, John started his own business, Tampa Alarm Company. John attended Tampa College, earning a Degree in Criminal Justice, later pursuing a Degree in Business Administration at Florida Metropolitan University. In 1993 he started with the Pasco Hernando Community College Law Enforcement Academy and finally realized his life-long dream of following in his forefathers' footsteps, joining the Pasco County Sheriff's office in 1994.

He was quickly promoted to Detective, working in gang intelligence and narcotics. He was the liaison detective with the Tampa Bay Area Gang Intelligence Task Force (MAGTAF). During his 14-year career, John served on the Hostage Rescue Team as a hostage negotiator, worked in patrol as a Field Training Officer, and in Community Policing/Street Crimes as a Supervisor. His career ended prematurely when he suffered a debilitating injury forcing retirement.

John joined the US Navy Reserves in 1999, serving as a Gunner's Mate Second Class, assigned to Assault Craft Unit 1 out of Coronado, California, where he served as a Lead Petty Officer for the Unit, Training Officer, and Unit Career Counselor. After retirement, John & his wife went back into entrepreneurship starting their own business in the oversized trucking industry. He now enjoys retirement on his cattle ranch with his grandchildren.

His Masonic career started at Trilby Masonic Lodge No. 141 when he was initiated on January 1, 2005, Passed January 29, 2005, and Raised February 12, 2005. He served as WM in 2009 & 2016, selected as District Deputy in 2019, and served as an Appointed Grand Lodge Officer in 2021. He also served as Zone Chairman for Membership Development and on the Jurisprudence Committee. He is also a member of the following allied and appendant bodies: Royal Order of Scotland, Maxwell Clan, Egypt Temple Shrine, Zenda Grotto, Founding Monarch of Zara Grotto, Masters & Wardens – Dist. 14, York Rite Plant City Chapter No. 16 Royal Arch Masons, Tyler Council No. 4 Royal & Select Masters, Plant City Commandry No. 6 Knights Templar, and Order of the Eastern Star Crescent Chapter.



GREGORY L. WYNN, 32° KCCH WISE MASTER CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

R∴W∴ Gregory Wynn was born on March 21, 1963, at Schilling Air Force Base in Salina, Kansas. R∴W∴ Wynn has lived in Hillsborough County since 1965. He is a 1981 graduate of Brandon Senior High School and graduated from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology. There he joined the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, and

serves on the Alumni Advisory Board to their Chapter at the University of Tampa.

During his high school and early college years, R::W:: Wynn worked in retail sales. He worked up from a part-timer to store manager of a Discount Auto Parts store. His strong service orientation and desire to contribute to the well being of others prompted him to investigate a career in law enforcement. In 1987, he became a Deputy Sheriff with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. In 1990, he was assigned as a School Resource Officer and routinely promoted safety by challenging high school students to always wear their seatbelts. Following a campaign with near perfect compliance by student drivers, he allowed them to shave his head with the slogan, "Buckle Up, because you never know when you're going to have a close shave." He received several commendations and awards, most notably a national award as School Resource Officer of the Year (1999). Additionally, he made several school safety presentations at crime prevention conferences nationwide and also volunteered for Camp Anytown, a youth leadership camp sponsored by the NCCJ. He was promoted to Corporal in 2004. In 2007, he began supervising traffic enforcement deputies: DUI officers, Traffic Crash Investigators, and Motormen. R::W:: Gregory Wynn retired from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office in 2017.

It was at the Brandon Assembly of God picnic in 1979, that R:W: Wynn was introduced to Theresa Ann Custer. They began socializing at church youth group functions, dating occasionally, then more frequently, and were married on April 20, 1985. They have two sons: Carlton born in 1988; Matthew born in 1991. R:W: Wynn and Lady Theresa's family has added two wonderful daughters-in-law and three beautiful grandchildren.

R∴W∴ Gregory Wynn was Initiated an Entered Apprentice, Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in February 2007, at DeSoto Lodge No. 105 F&AM in Riverview, FL. He served as its Worshipful Master in 2011. He was appointed District Instructor in 2013 and 2014. In May of 2016, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the (old) 23rd Masonic District by M:W: Stanley L. Hudson. He was appointed Grand Tyler in 2019. In 2020, he was appointed Grand Representative to The Grand Lodge of Scotland. R::W:: Wynn has served on the Penal Affairs Panel for several years, being the Vice Chairman in 2017 and State Chairman in 2019, 2020, and 2021. He was also the State Chairman for Child ID in 2022 and 2023. R∴W∴ Wynn is a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Tampa and was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on November 9, 2019.

SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

NORTH PINELLAS

IHOP

40489 US 19N

Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Phone: (727) 403-6511

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

PINELLAS PARK

Masonic Home of Florida

3201 1st St. NE

St. Petersburg, FL 33704

Phone: (727)243-7355

2nd Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

SARASOTA

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.

TAMPA

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

Lake Wales Masonic Lodge No. 242

660 S. 9th St.

Lake Wales, FL 33853

Phone: (863) 528-6191

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

SCOTTISH RITE GUARD

Commander	Douglas W. Dobbs, 32° KCCH
Lt Commander	Robert J. Leonard, 32°
Secretary	Kenneth A. Warner, 33°
Chaplain	Edwin J. Gefken, 32°
Supply Sergeant	John Fleming, 32°
SR Color Sergeant	Denis Monefeldt, 32°
JR Color Sergeant	Walter "Wade" Botkin III, 32°

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KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW	
Venerable Master	Randy Chancey, 32°
Senior Warden	Luis Moran, 32°
Junior Warden	Ken Ammons, 32°
Secretary—Treasurer	Jeff Agan, 32°
Senior Deacon	Robert Leonard, 32°
Junior Deacon	Rusty Valle, 32°
Senior Steward	Ernesto San Martin, 32°
Junior Steward	Michael Acosta, 32°
Marshall	Michael E. Manning, 32°
Chaplain	James McKiney, 32°
Sentinel	Denis G. Monefeldt, 32°

VALLEY OFFICERS 2025

TAMPA CONSISTORY

Master of Kadosh	John N. Dragneff, 32°
Prior	James F. Charrette, 32°
Preceptor	Rick Wendling, 32° KCCH
Chancellor	Perry D. Batson, 32° KCCH
Minister of State	Richard R. Whitmyer, 32° KCCH
Marshal of Ceremonies.	Kenneth E. Ammons, 32°
Expert	Robert L. Lambert, 32° KCCH
Asst. Expert	Michael J. St Laurent, 32° KCCH
Capt. of the Guard	Douglas W. Dobbs, 32° KCCH

TAMPA COUNCIL OF KADOSH

ike, 32° KCCH
. Gordon, 32°
rk Hinote, 32°
Jr., 32° KCCH
Chattelle, 32°
uterman, 32°
H. Eaton, 32°
n D. Vogt, 32°
n Martin, 32°
Phearson, 32°
Vingo, Jr., 32°
Chancey, 32°
1. Acosta, 32°
Donovan, 32°
֡

TAMPA CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

Wise Master	Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden	Michael E. Manning, 32°
Junior Warden	Gary R. Roane, 32°
Orator	Rusty B. Valle, 32°
Master of Ceremonies	Jamal J. Redfurn, 32°
Expert	Billy D. Scott III, 32°
Asst. Expert	Reginald J. Guier, 32° KCCH
Standard Bearer	Anthony L. Sauls, 32°
Guardian of the Temple	Richard A. Kratochvil, 32°

TAMPA LODGE OF PERFECTION

Venerable Master	Tommy F. Tyner, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden	Charles R. Bailey, 32° KCCH
Junior Warden	James R. Mc Kiney, 32°
Orator	Michael S. Griffin, 32° KCCH
Master of Ceremonies	Jeffrey W. Agan, 32°
Expert	TBA
Asst. Expert	TBA
Captain of the Host	TBA

FOR THE FOUR COORDINATE BODIES

General Secretary	Illustrious Scott McAlister, 33°
Treasurer	Illustrious Michael R. Pender, Jr., 33°
Almoner	Ronald L. McMillan, 32° KCCH
Prelate	TBA
Tiler	Paul J. Corso, 32°

Tampa Scottish Rite Office 5500 Memorial Highway Tampa, FL 33634

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Scottish Rite Bulletin

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Organization

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Manasota, FL

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

Philip P. Bethea, 32°
07/30/24 age 82
Sun City Center, FL

Stuart D. Dinkelo Sr., 32° 11/10/24 age 76 Horner, WV

Donald T. Harriott, 33° 11/17/24 age 92 Seminole, FL

Thomas V. Hart, 32° 07/29/24 age 69 Venice, FL

Roger E. Kidd, 32° 02/13/24 age 84 Millfield, OH Wiley E. Koon, 32° 05/06/24 age 95 Winter Haven, FL

Robert J. McManus 32° 04/17/24 age 79 Lakeland, FL

Richard Miller, 32° KCCH 09/20/24 age 95 Sebring, FL

Lewis K. Molnar, 33° 08/23/24 age 84 Tampa, FL

Charles L. Morris, 32° 11/11/24 age 75 Mulberry, FL Derl B. Smith, 32° KCCH 05/30/24 age 91 Sarasota, FL

Richard J. Tokarz, 32° 08/30/24 age 75 Venice, FL

Charles H. Trexler III, 32° 10/24/24 age 91 Largo, FL

Wynn W. Wilson, 32° 11/15/24 age 93 Hudson, FL

Paul E. Yates, 32° 07/12/24 age 81 Winter Haven, FL