

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. 2 - MARCH - APRIL 2025

WWW.TAMPASCOTTISHRITE.ORG

Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal

During our upcoming meeting on Monday, April 14, 2025, at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center, those who have passed away between our 2024 Annual Ceremony of Remembrance and April 2025, will be honored. Please join Wise Master Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH and the Tampa Chapter of Rose Croix in this beautiful and moving tribute to our departed brethren.

This Ceremony, which was formerly called Maundy Thursday, is obligatory to all members of the Chapter of Rose Croix. The Ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. and in addition to the families of our fallen brothers, Masons and non-Masons are invited to attend this open meeting.



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Robert J. Leonard, Sr., 32°

Joseph A. Monday, 32° KCCH

Rick Wendling, 32° KCCH

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Bulletin Editor

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**PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE**

Illustrious Charles C. Osborne, 33°

Our March 10th meeting will be under the direction of the Council of Kadosh and our Masonic Education that night will be on the Feast of Kadosh. This meeting will be open to our friends and family and we will be handing out the Double Eagle Awards. This would be an ideal time to invite Brothers that you think would be an asset to the Valley of Tampa.

This year we will resume on our 2-day Festivals beginning with our Spring Festival honoring Ill. Russell B. Glendinning 33° to be held on May 3rd and 10th. Our Fall Reunion honoring Ill. Richard J. Whalen, Sr. 33° will be on October 18th and 25th. It's never too early to start talking with your Lodge Brothers about joining the Scottish Rite. I would like to have a big class for our Spring Reunion to honor Ill. Glendinning.

Our April 14th meeting will be under the direction of the Chapter of Rose Croix. That night we will have the Annual Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal where we will celebrate both the beginning and end of life. This obligatory observance is open to one and all as we honor the members of the Valley that who have left our midst in the past year. If you have never attended this ceremony, I encourage you to attend this year. The wisdom of this ceremony is some of the best teaching that the Scottish Rite has for members and non-members alike.

This year our Director of Work has set a goal to confer all 29 degrees. This will require a commitment on all our members of the Valley of Tampa. We need Brothers that are willing and able to participate by taking a part in a Degree, helping with the Credentials & Registration Committee, Stage & Floor Properties Committee, Sound & Light Committee, or the Wardrobe & Make-Up Committee.

I want to thank each and everyone of you for what you are doing to promote our great Fraternity. I know that each of us have other obligations in our daily lives, but I sincerely believe that Freemasonry is always with you each and every day. As always, your ideas and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.

**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



Online Petition
QR Code

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

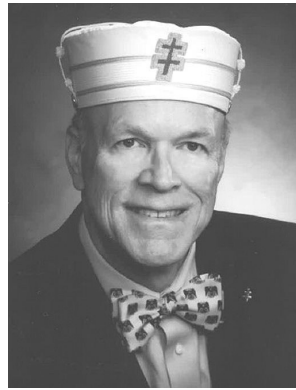
Lake Wales Masonic Lodge No. 242

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.



GENERAL SECRETARY

Illustrious Scott McAlister, 33°

If you are a new member (i.e., having gone through a Reunion in the past couple of years) and haven't received your patent, we have it in the office. Please contact us and let us know how you'd like to receive it. You can stop by the office during our business hours to pick it up, come to a monthly meeting (please call ahead so that we have it ready to present to you), or we can mail it to you. If mailed it will be folded.

We frequently receive complaints that a Brother hasn't received a dues card. The Valley of Tampa doesn't issue dues cards. If a Brother is current in his dues, the card is included with his annual renewal notice sent by the Supreme Council. If a Brother is in arrears in his dues, the Supreme Council sends the card to our office and upon payment we will mail him his card. If you feel that you lost your card and would like a replacement, we will order you one from the Supreme Council for which there's a fee of five (\$5.00) dollars.



Brothers Walter W. Botkin III, 32°, and Denis G. Monefeldt, 32°, receiving their patents from Illustrious Richard G. Hoover 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General (SGIG) for the Orient of Florida, and Brother John N. Dragneff, 32°, Master of Kadosh.

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





MEMBER EDUCATION & DIRECTOR OF WORK

Illustrious Richard A. Vogt, 33°

THE LODGE OF PERFECTION

The 4th through the 14th Degrees comprise the “Lodge of Perfection.” They are known as the “Ineffable Degrees” because their, “Purpose is the investigation and contemplation of the ineffable Name of Deity.” Ineffable comes from the Latin meaning, that which should not be spoken. This was a Jewish belief because our language is incapable of describing our God. In the 14th Degree lecture, Pike tells us, “The Deity is thus not an object of knowledge, but of faith; not to be approached by the understanding, but by the moral sense; not to be conceived, but to be felt.”

The ineffable degrees are built upon the legend of Hiram Abiff as found in the 3rd, or Master Mason Degree, of the symbolic lodge. This legend forms the Masonic tradition from which our Lodge of Perfection Degrees emanate. It is tradition, not necessarily factual history. We are more concerned with the opportunities for symbolic instruction than with historical accuracy. Hiram appears in 1 Kings, where we are told he finished all of his work and returned to his own country. Our Hiram Legend tells his story differently; this is done to teach us lessons, symbolically. Pike tells us, “Whatever Hiram really was, he is a type ... perhaps humanity in its highest phase; an exemplar of what man may and should become.”

The death of the Master is mourned for an appropriate time and then the work is continued on the Temple with Hiram’s responsibilities assigned to various others. The search for the assassins is also begun, all of whom being captured and caused to suffer their due rewards. The legend dealing with Solomon and the Temple are then merged with an even older legend dealing with Enoch, one of the earliest patriarchs. It is discovered that Solomon’s Temple is being built near the ruins of an earlier temple built by Enoch where a secret vault is discovered.

The legend of the Ineffable Degrees ends in triumph and disaster: the Temple is completed, the sacred Name of Deity is discovered, and the Perfect Elus are created. However, Solomon parts ways with the Lord, beginning to sacrifice to other gods and the majority of the people follow him into apostasy. Only the Perfect Elu’s maintain the true faith and continue to teach with scrupulous purity the knowledge of the true God. As punishment from God, Israel is conquered by Nebuchadnezzar and taken away in captivity and the Temple is destroyed. The legend is then continued in the Rose Croix degrees with the rebuilding of the Second Temple.

The religious lessons of the Ineffable Degrees culminate in the realization that the ineffable name of Deity is a symbol of the ineffable, or indescribable, nature of God. The virtues of man are the qualities of God imperfectly demonstrated. Our reason is not His reason, but merely a mirror on the illimitable mind that creates, preserves, and changes the universe. We travel on the path to perfection, to further light, with humility because He has seen fit to show us that path and guide us by the surest route, manifested in the lives and teachings of the great philosophers, teachers, and prophets of the world.



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



PRELATE

Illustrious Richard A. Vogt, 33°

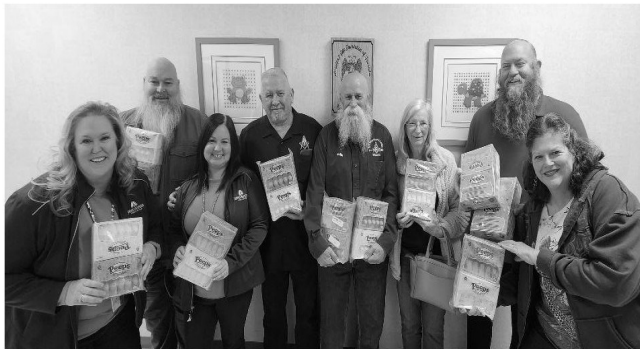
“Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, ‘Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.’ Then the Philistine said, ‘This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.’ On hearing the Philistine’s words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.” 1 Samuel 17:8-11

We all know the story of David and Goliath. It comes from 1 Samuel 17. The Philistines and the Israelites have been at war seemingly forever. On this particular day, the two armies face each other across the valley of Elah. Out steps the Philistine champion, Goliath of Gath, whose height was over nine feet tall. He wore a bronze helmet, and his bronze coat of armor weighed 125 pounds. He carried a javelin with a spearhead weighing 15 pounds. The Israelites were amazed and in great fear! Who wouldn’t be?

When we hear this story, or any story of wars and battles, we, as men, get all pumped up. We love good battles. We love to overcome. We understand the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. But what stops us from overcoming, or even going to battle? Our Goliaths! Dismayed and terrified. There it is—fear. Fear is the most debilitating emotion to man’s masculinity. It robs us of what we feel it means to be a man. The Israelites encountered their giant and it scared them to death.

Every man has a Goliath. Every man faces a giant at some point during their life. But every man must contend with those giants if he is going to press on and experience a life-transforming relationship with God. Your giant could be intellectual doubt. You want to believe in God and Faith and Mercy and Forgiveness. But what about all the evil around us? The wars, the famine, the crimes we see or hear about every day. How can there be a God with all of this surrounding us daily? You have unanswered questions and nagging doubts about God and the Bible. You are not alone. Your giant could be fear, pride, lust, or anger. Everyone is afraid of something. As for pride, we want to be in total control of ourselves and our lives. Maybe you battle with lust which causes you deep shame because you want to be faithful to your wife or partner. And we all deal with anger, probably on a daily basis. What are we to do? Be like David!

David looked at Goliath, not through human eyes, but with God’s eyes. Fear was turned into faith through God’s strength. David “declared that the battle belonged to the Lord.” David ran toward Goliath instead of shrinking away as the other Israelites did. David pursued God’s plan for his life. David kept his focus on God. We should want to be men like David—running toward our Goliaths. Always keeping our focus on God and letting God’s strength, not our own, win the battle for us.



On 15 January 2025, A. W. Windhorst Lodge No. 185 F&A.M. visited All Children's Specialty Care of Brandon, Florida. This is a John Hopkins Hospital and Scottish Rite Foundation Charitable Assistance Program. They donated over one hundred seventy nine (179) boxes of Easter candy for the kids. It is a goal of A. W. Windhorst Lodge No. 185 F &A.M. to help where and when we can. It is an honor and privilege to be a Scottish Rite Mason, serving with our brothers and our ladies, providing for kids in need.



TOMMY F. TYNER, 32° KCCH
VENERABLE MASTER
LODGE OF PERFECTION

Having the honor as serving as Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection, I feel it is my duty to inform the brethren of my history. Like many in my family I was born in Georgia, in my case, Savannah. My father passed at an early age and my family moved to Tampa. I adjusted to all Florida had to offer, the beaches, food, sports, girls, etc. and etc. My older brothers were already established, and I took various jobs after High School. I worked some construction jobs and then took the St. Petersburg Fire Department's examination. I was told that I aced it, and over the next twenty-three (23) years, I saw the other side of life. I achieved the rank of Lieutenant and attended St. Petersburg Junior College and received my Associates Degree in Education, History, and Literature. Literature was my forte, because as you might imagine, spending many hours in a Fire Station waiting for the bell, you learn to enjoy reading, and I did. I still do enjoy reading about Masonry or some other good book. Reading Sherlock Holmes is where I picked up the art of observation and I don't miss much. At SPJC, I obtained a Paramedic Degree and worked three (3) more years before retirement. Following retirement, I worked as a Probation Officer, Drug Counselor, and finally just being a Neighborly Senior Citizen.

In my personal life, I married an angel, and have three (3) beautiful daughters. They teach at the University of South Florida. Somewhere along the way, I began to read about Masonry, and I was hooked. Many of my family had been Masons and I felt it was my duty. I joined Citrus Lodge in 2008, and the Scottish Rite in 2010. I transferred to Springs Lodge and in 2015 was Worshipful Master.

In 2017, I was appointed District Deputy Grand Master by Most Worshipful Richard G. Hoover. I obtained all the proficiency card that I could, including my Gold and Brown cards. I currently serve as Lodge Instructor and Chaplin at Nature Coast Lodge.

Within the Scottish Rite I jumped in head first. Not only did I join the Valley of Tampa, but also both the Valley of Ocala and the Valley of Orlando. I have perfect attendance in Tampa for at least the past three (3) years; I am the Secretary for the Knights Commander Court of Honor and help with the 23rd, 24th, and 25th Degrees. In Ocala, I help with the 18th, 30th, and 32nd Degrees, and only miss Ocala when it conflicts with Tampa. In Orlando, I sit on the sidelines and have a good time. I am a member of the Acacia Guild, National Sojourners, District Deputy Association, Royal Order of Scotland, and the Chaplin of the Ocala Grotto. I was honored to become a member of KCCH and as Venerable Master will give it my utmost effort.



WILLIAM C. KLINKE, 32° KCCH
COMMANDER
COUNCIL OF KADOSH

R.:W.: William Klinke was born in 1942 in Illinois. He moved to South Florida at a young age. He graduated High School and enlisted in the Navy in 1961. He served at various duty posts around the world with the Navy. He was a Navy diver in Viet Nam and returned in 1966. He joined the Army in 1970 and attended Officers' Training School. After completion of Officers' Training School and Vincennes University he was appointed a Warrant Officer.

R.:W.: Klinke joined Freemasonry at Acacia Lodge in Stuart, Florida in 1983. He also joined the Scottish Rite Valley of Lake Worth in 1983. While a member of the Grotto M.O.V.P.E.R. he served as Monarch in 2010. He transferred to Lake Alfred Lodge and held all Lodge offices, becoming Worshipful Master in 2008 and again in 2021 by appointment of Most Worshipful Tommy Turlington. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master by Most Worshipful Jim J Harris in 2009. In 2013, he was appointed Grand Historian by Most Worshipful Danny Griffin; he held this position until 2021 when he became Grand Historian Emeritus.



Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, U.S.A., Inc.

The value of this philanthropy has long been apparent. Thousands of youngsters across the state of Florida have been helped significantly. With the good work of dedicated clinicians and parents, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, Inc. 501(c)(3), has achieved successes that could only be imagined a few years back. Children who might have remained educationally behind for a lifetime can now talk, read, and lead productive lives.

FLORIDA SABAL PALM PROGRAM

- All donations made through the Florida Sabal Palm Program for the benefit of the Florida Scottish Rite Foundation are 100% tax-deductible as allowed by law.
- For **\$50.00**, a Florida Sabal Palm can be purchased in Honor of a distinguished individual that you admire and wish to recognize, in memory of a deceased brother, friend or family member or in the name of another organization.
- For each Florida Sabal Palm you purchase, you will receive a beautiful certificate signed by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General.
- With the purchase of your first Florida Sabal Palm you will receive a special lapel pin that can be worn at any time. You can purchase as many Florida Sabal Palms as you'd like. In increments of five (5) you will receive a fob to attach to your lapel. When you have purchased enough to qualify for your next fob, you will be required to turn in your current fob to receive your new one.



Helping school-age children who have difficulty learning to read



Helping children who have difficulty speaking or understanding the spoken word



Tampa Scottish Rite Office
5500 Memorial Highway
Tampa, FL 33634

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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March—April 2025

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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

Carlos R. Adams, 32°
10/30/24 age 82
Land O’Lakes, FL

Marlin C. Lang, 32°
09/27/24 age 92
Seminole, FL

David M. Schneck, 32°
06/07/24 age 92
Allentown, PA

Dell F. Beck, 32°
05/10/24 age 84
Spring Hill, FL

Gerald M. Lee, 33°
02/06/25 age 74
Holiday, FL

William E. Smoak, 32°
01/14/25 age 78
Pinellas Park, FL

Glen H. Carlin, 32°
11/29/19 age 94
Elizabeth City, NC

Gary W. Leis, 32°
01/01/24 age 83
Auburndale, FL

James W. Townsend, 32°
03/26/24 age 70
Clearwater, FL

William W. Dasher, 32°
12/30/24 age 90
Lake Placid, FL

Ralph J. Lupton Jr., 32°
01/30/25 age 87
Temple Terrace, FL

Louis A. King, 33°
12/19/24 age 84
Zephyrhills, FL

Charles E. Schlosser, 32°
12/13/23 age 93
Brunswick, OH