

# 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. 5 - SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2025

[WWW.TAMPASCOTTISHRITE.ORG](http://WWW.TAMPASCOTTISHRITE.ORG)



## **Worshipful Master and Masonic Youth Recognition Night**



An open meeting will be held at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa, Florida, on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

The Symbolic Degrees of Blue Lodge Masonry are the foundations and cornerstone on which all Appendant bodies, clubs, and Masonic organizations are based. In recognition of the outstanding work done by our Blue Lodges, the Valley of Tampa is sponsoring a Worshipful Master Recognition Night. Every current Worshipful Masters will be individually recognized.

Additionally, we will recognize the achievements of the various Masonic Youth Groups. Since this is an OPEN MEETING, we encourage you to bring your friends, family, and Brothers of your Lodge to support these Worshipful Masters and our Masonic Youth. Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. If you or your Lady were members of the Order of DeMolay, the International Order of Rainbow Girls, or Job's Daughters International, you are encouraged to wear any regalia from those organizations to the meeting.

As usual, our monthly dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the price is \$12.00. Please allow us to accommodate you, your guests, and members of your Lodge by making reservations by noon on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> by calling Trish at the Scottish Rite office, (813) 866-0578.

**We look forward to seeing everyone that can attend this special program,  
you do not want to miss it!**

# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

Charles Cullen Osborne, 33°  
*Chairman*

John N. Dragneff, 32°  
*Master of Kadosh - Tampa Consistory*  
William C. Klinke, 32° KCCH  
*Commander - Council of Kadosh*  
Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH  
*Wise Master - Chapter of Rose Croix*  
Tommy F. Tyner, 32° KCCH  
*Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection*  
James F. Charrette, 32°

*Prior*

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

## **MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

Robert J. Lambert, 32° KCCH  
Robert J. Leonard, Sr., 32°  
Joseph A. Monday, 32° KCCH  
Rick Wendling, 32° KCCH

## **VALLEY OF TAMPA CONTACTS**

Scottish Rite Office  
(813) 886-0578  
adminassistant@tampascottishrite.org  
Charles C. Osborne, 33°  
Personal Representative  
rwcuckosborne@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  
Steven J. Silvers, 32° KCCH  
Prelate  
mrsteve1@verizon.net  
Brian D. Campbell, 33°  
Webmaster  
contact@tampascottishrite.org  
Gregory L. Wynn, 32° KCCH  
Bulletin Editor  
glwynn@gmail.com



# **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Illustrious Charles C. Osborne, 33°

My Brothers,

It is hard to believe that we are already two-thirds of the way through 2025, but we are positioned for a strong finish to the year.

I've noticed that our attendance continues to grow each month. It's encouraging to see our sidelines beginning to fill up again, but we still have a way to go before we reach our pre-COVID numbers. Let's keep the momentum going! If you know of a Brother who hasn't attended our meetings recently, please consider giving him a call to let him know he's been missed. This might be the catalyst that motivates him to join us for our next meeting.

On Monday, September 8th, we will be recognizing our Worshipful Masters and our Masonic Youth Groups. Since this is an open meeting, I encourage you to invite your Lodge Brothers to attend that night and show support for their Worshipful Master. Additionally, this is a great opportunity to introduce your non-Scottish Rite Brothers to our Valley, and hopefully encourage them to join us for the Fall Reunion.

Our Fall Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th, and Saturday, October 25th, this year. We will be honoring Ill. Richard J. Whalen, Sr., 33°. Additionally, I believe our Director of Work is planning to confer twelve (12) degrees over these two days.

The Valley of Tampa will once again host the Honors Ceremonies for the Orient of Florida. The 33rd Degree Ceremony will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 8th, and is exclusively for 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Masons. The KCCH Investiture will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the same day and is open to the public. Both the 33rd Degree Ceremony and the Investiture will occur at the Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center. Additionally, the Honors Banquet is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

In closing, I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events, especially the Fall Reunion. Please continue to support your Blue Lodge, the Valley of Tampa, and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.





## GENERAL SECRETARY

Illustrious Scott McAlister, 33°

Renewal notices for 2026 have been mailed by the Supreme Council. To those who've already mailed your payments, Thank You! Please remit \$122.00 to the attention of the General Secretary at your earliest convenience. If you are having financial difficulty with making your payment, please contact the General Secretary for assistance at (813) 886-0578. We will work with you to arrange payment. Thank you for being a valued member by maintaining your membership.

Don't forget to make dinner reservations no later than noon the Thursday before the monthly meeting so that we can let the caterer know how many meals to prepare. You can call the office or e-mail our Administrative Assistant:

Trish Warhul:

[adminassistant@tampascottishrite.org](mailto:adminassistant@tampascottishrite.org)

### 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](mailto:generalsecretary@tampascottishrite.org)



## 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

4th 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.

The Fall Reunion will be held on two Saturdays in October (the 18th and 25th) and will be named in memory of Illustrious Richard J. Whalen, Sr., 33°. Please discuss the College of Freemasonry with your Blue Lodge Brethren who aren't members of the Scottish Rite. Get out there and "shake the bushes".

Online Petition QR Code  
\$4.77 Additional Fee  
By Supreme Council



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





## 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

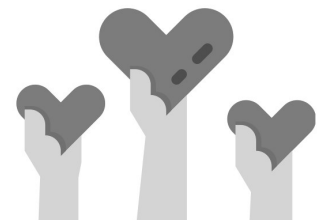
- All donations made through the Florida Sabal Palm Program for the benefit of the Florida Scottish Rite Foundation are 100% tax-deductible as allowed by law.
- **For \$50.00**, a Florida Sabal Palm can be purchased in Honor of a distinguished individual that you admire and wish to recognize, in memory 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





## PRELATE

Steven Silvers, 32° KCCH

### Archangels, Atonement, and the Light We Seek

As the leaves begin to turn and the air carries the first whispers of the Fall season, we as Scottish Rite Masons find ourselves in a season rich with spiritual significance. September and October are months when both the Christian and Jewish calendars invite us to pause, reflect, and realign ourselves with the divine purpose that supports our Masonic journey.

#### The Feast of the Archangels: Guardians of Divine Order

On September 29th, many Christians celebrate the Feast of the Archangels - Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. These celestial beings are more than mythic figures; they are symbols of divine justice, healing, and revelation. Michael, the protector and warrior, reminds us of our duty to defend truth. Gabriel, the messenger, calls us to speak with clarity and compassion. Raphael, the healer, urges us to mend what is broken within ourselves and in the world.

In the Scottish Rite, particularly within the Chapter of Rose Croix, we speak often of the balance between justice and mercy, strength and beauty. The Archangels embody these virtues. As Prelate, I see their presence not as doctrine, but as symbols that inspire our moral compasses and illuminate our path towards wisdom.

#### High Holy Days: Atonement and Renewal

In the Jewish tradition, this season is marked by the High Holy Days - Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is a time of reflection and hope. Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is a solemn call to repentance, forgiveness, and spiritual renewal.

Though Freemasonry is not a religion, it is deeply spiritual. The Scottish Rite teaches us to examine our actions, seek reconciliation, and strive toward the perfection of character and spirituality. The themes of the High Holy Days resonate with our own rituals of purification and moral elevation. We, too, are called to weigh our deeds and renew our commitment to the Great Architect of the Universe.

#### The Masonic Parallel: Light in Darkness

In our degrees, especially those of the Knight Rose Croix (18°), we explore the triumph of light over darkness, of virtue over vice. This mirrors the spiritual arc of both the Celestial feast and the Jewish high holy days. Whether through the trumpet of Gabriel or the shofar of Rosh Hashanah, we are summoned to awaken - to rise from spiritual slumber and pursue the Light.

Let us, as Brothers, embrace this season not merely as a calendar shift, but as a sacred opportunity. Let us reflect on the angels who guard our conscience, the rituals that cleanse our soul, and the eternal truths that bind us together as Scottish Rite Masons.

May the blessings of this season guide your steps, renew your spirit, and deepen your commitment to the sublime teachings of our Rite and to the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

### The Feast of Tishri

Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, the Valley of Tampa Scottish Rite Bodies will have an open meeting during which Ill. Gil Weisman, 33° will deliver a presentation about the Feast of Tishri.

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 the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord seven days."

It was initially a harvest or gathering festival and a time to give thanks. This feast, still observed during the time of King Solomon and to coincide with it, he timed the dedication of the Temple. As Scottish Rite Masons, we consider it obligatory observance under the Statutes of the Supreme Council —sharing of our fraternal spirit and a reaffirmation of our dedication to the principles of the Scottish Rite.



## CONSISTORY OF VALLEY OF TAMPA SCOTTISH RITE

Enjoy a delightful Christmas feast, festive decorations, and heartwarming company.

Plus, there will be:

- VISITS FROM SANTA
- EXCITING AUCTION
- RAFFLES
- MUSIC & DANCING
- FUN **\$75**

Seats are limited, so book early to secure your spot at the table!

**TEXT OR EMAIL:**

**352.206.2002**

**CHRISTMASDINNERVTSR@GMAIL.COM**

Join Us for a Festive

## Christmas Dinner Fundraiser

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12**

**VALLEY OF TAMPA SCOTTISH RITE**

**5500 MEMORIAL BLVD, TAMPA, FL**

**6:00PM**

*Proceeds to benefit the  
Scottish Rite Foundation!*





## MEMBER EDUCATION & DIRECTOR OF WORK

Illustrious Richard A. Vogt, 33°

I want to start off by congratulating all those Brothers who were selected to receive the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree and those selected for Knight Commander Court of Honor investiture.

Well Done, My Brothers!

These Brothers have achieved this recognition due to their outstanding, and continuing, service to the Scottish Rite and the Valley of Tampa in particular. I remind you all of this because we have begun having full reunions again twice a year, as well as Masonic Education at each of our Consistory meetings. The Reunions in particular require a great many Brothers to participate in the Degrees, sound and lighting, wardrobe, and stage and prop setup and takedown. Masonic Education each month requires knowledgeable Brothers to share that knowledge with their fellow Brethren. As the Fall Reunion is approaching, I have already had a couple of Degree Masters tell me they can't be ready for lack of participation in the Degree. I had to cancel three degrees in the Spring for the same reason. It might sound like I am venting, but I am not. I am pleading for your help. I have two or three Degrees now in need of a Degree Master. And at least six Degrees that need cast members. Remember when you sat in the chairs as a new candidate, and you saw a multitude of Brothers give forth of their time so you could enjoy the Degrees and become a Master of the Royal Secret. Please think about paying it forward.

We have been going through the various bodies of the Consistory and now we end with a look at the Consistory Degrees themselves. The Consistory Degrees are the 31<sup>st</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup>. They are very different from any of the previous Degrees with the 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree being a culmination and recap of all that went before. But before we get there, we have the 31<sup>st</sup> Degree-Inspector Inquisitor. You have met the Inquisitors in a previous Degree, but these Inquisitors are actually the gods of Ancient Egypt. They will decide if the candidate is morally qualified to be received into the eternal light. This Degree reveals the dynamic relationship that has existed for centuries between human law as a means of obtaining justice and the divine justice as an ideal. We are required in this Degree to judge ourselves in the light of this knowledge and lessons we learned in all of the preceding Degrees. Immortality requires more than an outward appearance of piety. It requires the moral rectitude of a Masonic heart—Do you remember where you were first made a Mason?

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree is the culmination of all the Scottish Rite Degrees. It takes us through a review of the Lodge of Perfection, the Chapter of Rose Croix, and the Council of Kadosh. We learn the very ancient roots of Masonic Truth. The Royal Secret is divulged and explained and becomes the capstone of Scottish Rite instruction. From this fundamental truth is derived human wisdom and the virtue of right conduct. That wisdom and right conduct that will enable your entrance into Eternal Light.

## OUR NEXT REUNION IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 & 25, 2025

### Proposed Fall Reunion Schedule

4 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Secret Master	21 <sup>st</sup> Degree-Noachite or Prussian Knight
5 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Perfect Master	24 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Prince of the Tabernacle
12 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Master Architect	27 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Knight of the Sun
14 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Perfect Elu	28 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Knight Com. of the Temple
18 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Knight Rose Croix	29 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Scottish Knight of St Andrew
	30 <sup>th</sup> Degree-Knight Kadosh
	32 <sup>nd</sup> Degree-Master of the Royal Secret

Tampa Scottish Rite Office  
5500 Memorial Highway  
Tampa, FL 33634

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Scottish Rite Bulletin  
Volume 48 No. 5  
September—October 2025

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

---

David M. Brischler Sr., 32°  
04/16/25 age 86  
Hudson, FL

Jackie C. Bryant, 33°  
07/06/24 age 97  
Sarasota, FL

Donald C. Cornett, 32°  
03/18/25 age 77  
Valrico, FL

William F. Getty, 32°  
06/11/25 age 67  
Auburndale, FL

David J. Rasmus, 32°  
06/17/25 age 86  
Wesley Chapel, FL

