

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

TRESTLE BOARD

FEBRUARY A.L. 2012


MASONIC SPOTLIGHT: W.: JOSEPH ALMAGUER

Brother Joseph Almaguer was born in Cuba in 1941 and migrated with his family to America in 1944. He grew up in New York City with a strong love of our Country. It was that feeling that motivated him to seek admission to West Point, and in March of 1959, Brother Joseph became a citizen. He entered the United States Military Academy in July of that same year.

Upon graduation from West Point in 1963, he chose to join the ranks of Officers in the U.S. Army. During his career in the service, our Brother served with Airborne, Ranger and Special Forces Infantry units from 1963 to 1970. He is a combat infantry veteran with one and a half years of combat survival.

After leaving the Army, he continued his education and attended New York University School of Dentistry. He graduated in June 1974 with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree and the recipient of the "Charles Hull Award" for outstanding clinical endodontics. After graduation, Brother Joe was asked to join the faculty at NYU and teach dentistry...quite an honor for a new graduate.

In 1975, Brother Joe moved away from the cold North and came to Florida. Since that time, he has practiced General and Cosmetic Dentistry. His love of Dentistry keeps him working albeit only three days a week.

Worshipful Joe has a lovely wife, four children, and seven wonderful grandchildren which he tries not to spoil. He is a third generation Freemason and takes pride in knowing both of his sons and son-in-law are Masons. 



Brother Joseph Almaguer was the Worshipful Master of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 in 1998, and he continues to inspire young Brothers with his regular participation in Lodge.

Degrees on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Stated Communications on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
Masonic Instruction every Thursday
Eastern Star meets on 1st and 3rd Saturdays
DeMolay meets every Monday

FROM THE EAST



Brethren,

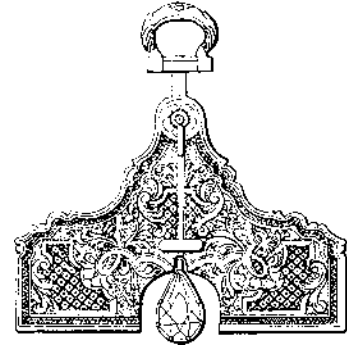
Thank you to all the Brothers, their families and friends who attended the Installation of Officers for 2012. The Installation was a great success and a shining moment for our Lodge.

There are two important changes to our schedule for the month of February. First, we will host a joint picnic and BBQ with John Darling Lodge No. 154 on Saturday, February 4th, at 11 a.m. As many of you may know, Worshipful John Darling was the Master of our Lodge from 1858-1867, 1869-1871, and 1873. Family and friends are welcomed, please come out and support this event. Second, the Lodge meeting scheduled for February 14th has been dispensed and there will be no Lodge meeting. As you all know, it is Valentine's Day, and I encourage all of you to be with those you love most and who have supported you throughout the years.

This month is especially important in Masonry, as it involves the birthday of one of the most famous and inspiring Masons in our history, Brother George Washington. Brother Washington was born on February 11, 1731, according to the then used Julian calendar date; however, as all the colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar, his birth date was moved to February 22, 1732. Brother Washington was born in Westmoreland County, Colony of Virginia. Brother Washington was a General in the Army, and later grew into the occupations of surveyor and planter. He adopted the Anglican/Episcopal religion, and was married to Martha Dandridge Custis Washington. After being home schooled, Brother Washington went on to be the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, the President of Constitutional Convention, and later the 1st President of the United States. He is known as "The Father of His Country," and in recognition of his accomplishments, his face is carved on Mount Rushmore and printed on the one-dollar bill and quarter. He served two terms in office

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FROM THE WEST



My Brothers,

As we begin the 2012 year, the Finance and Property Committee will be continuing it's work in maintaining our Lodge and addressing it's financial needs in order to achieve those goals. Great strides were made during 2011 in this effort and I plan to continue those labors with the help and support of the committee.

Over the past couple weeks I have been reviewing the 2011 financial records of the Lodge and will make my report to the craft shortly. One thing that I have learned thus far is that running this Lodge is complex and requires a substantial budget to keep things running smoothly.

In order to effectively maintain our building and function as a Lodge, we cannot simply rely on income from current dues. In our first committee meeting of this year on January 26th, I will address the issue of a necessary dues increase once again and look forward to bringing a proposal before the craft very soon. We are also pursuing financial support through grants and fundraising promotions at the Lodge. Chairs in the Lodge room are still for sale. Please see Brother Billy Schmidt if you are interested in purchasing one.

I look forward to seeing you soon at a Stated or Called Communication.

Fraternally,

Steven Silvers

Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH



Brothers,

Thank you for all the support and kind words of encouragement as I have started to get my feet under me as Junior Warden. The kitchen can be tricky, but with the help of W. McLaughlin, Brother Schmidt, and Brother Silvers, the transition has been substantially easier. Thank you W. Johnson and Brother Sussman, I appreciate your suggestions and they will be implemented in the near future. I have placed a note pad in the dinning room for any requests or suggestions that any Brother may have. In addition, if any Brother would like to prepare a meal during the course of the year, please write the date in the note pad, and I will put it on my calendar.

When the Lodge closes early on nights which we have a degree or business meeting, I will be serving light refreshments immediately after Lodge in the dinning room, any interested Brother can hang out for fellowship or discuss any comments or questions from the meeting they may have. I will be happy to stay after Lodge as long as the Craft desires. If any Brother is interested in having a class for the Master Mason I, II, and III, please write your name on the note pad and when the level of interest warrants we will schedule a class after Lodge on Tuesday or Thursday. Thanks again for all the support Brothers, and I look forward to any suggestions.

*"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us;
what we have done for others and the world
remains and is immortal."
— Albert Pike*

Fraternally,

David Liniger

Junior Warden

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Brethren,

With each New Year, we all have changes that need to be made, or we are forced to make in our lives. Brothers move to new locations within the area or move out of the area or even out of state. We fill out the form with the Post Office to have our mail forwarded, but that is only good for a short period of time. Your Trestle Board is sent out under a bulk mail account and that is one of the items that almost never gets forwarded. We need your current address for several reasons. We need to keep you informed of activities at the lodge, and we need to know where to send your dues notice. If you move or intend to move, take the time to inform the lodge of your new address, and if you have an e-mail account, include that as well with a phone number. We all forget things, and if we need to get in touch with you, e-mail and phone may be the only way we can do that.

If you have not paid your 2012 dues, they are due. You can go on line and pay them through the web site at www.hillsborough25.org and make your payment through PayPal. It is secure and the money will be credited to the lodge. Please, when you pay your dues, don't forget to include the \$7.30 to the Masonic Home of Florida.

Have questions, contact the lodge by phone at (813) 229-2305 or e-mail us at hills25@verizon.net. The secretary's office is there to assist you in any way possible. If you have been suspended for Non Payment of Dues, we want you back. Contact the lodge so that we can get you started on the road to being a member in good standing again. If you need to transfer your membership to another lodge which is out of the area, let us know so that we can get the paperwork to you to get that done.

Continued on page 7

FEBRUARY

A.L. 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 7 p.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL	2  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	3	4  Chapter 11 1 p.m. BBQ LUNCH John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 11 a.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL
5	6  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	7  Dana Scott Kinney, Michael Angel Ortabello IV, Scott Matthew Sandoval & Richard Alfred Zach Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	8 SECRETARY & TREASURER SEMINAR Masonic Home 11 a.m. 3201 1st Street NE St. Pete, FL	9  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	10	11
12 MASONIC HOME BOARD MEETING 11 a.m. 3201 1st Street NE St. Pete, FL	13  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	14	15	16  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	17	18  Chapter 11 1 p.m. MASONIC LEADERSHIP TRAINING Masonic Home St. Pete, FL
19	20  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	21  Celebration of W George Washington's birthday. Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	22	23  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	24 MASTERS & WARDENS MEETING Fellowship Lodge No. 265 • 7 p.m. 306 N. Lincoln Ave. Tampa, FL	25
26	27  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	28  Edward William Collins, Jose Edgardo Coll, Brian David Maddox & Travis Alan Van Buren Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	29			

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Hillsborough Lodge No 25 F. & A.M. had the pleasure and honor of conferring an Entered Apprentice Degree on January 17, 2012, for Mr. Jesse James Knafla, a long standing member of the Paul Revere Chapter of DeMolay. To commemorate this evening, all of the officer chairs were occupied by Brothers who have been recognized and distinguished as member of the Legion of Honor: Brother John Hillyer, IV, LOH (Junior Deacon), Brother Jerry Meguiar, LOH (Marshall), Brother Jody Meguiar, LOH (Senior Steward), R·W·: Sam Pesola, LOH (Senior Deacon), Brother Bill Cobb, LOH and Personal Representative to the Executive Office (Junior Steward), R·W·: C. Don Prosser, LOH (Senior Warden), R·H·: Tom Newton, LOH (Presiding Master), R·W·: Stephen Jacobson, LOH (Junior Warden), and W·: Willie Jones, LOH (Chaplain, Lecture, and Charge).

“From the East” continued from page 2

with no Party affiliation from 1789 to 1797, with his Vice-President John Adams. Brother Washington was a member of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, A.F.&A.M., and passed to the celestial Lodge above on December 14, 1799 in Mount Vernon, Virginia. He led our country with integrity, wisdom, and humility. In fact, he recognized very early on that the continuance of any president beyond a fixed term would be detrimental to the country, and declined any additional terms of office. On Tuesday, February 21st, we will honor Brother Washington's memory at our Stated Communication. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., meeting to commence at 7:15 p.m.

I hope to see you all in Lodge soon.

Fraternally,

Joseph Gonzalez
Worshipful Master



Brother Craig M. Neuman, 48, passed on to join the Great Architect of the Universe in the Celestial Lodge Above on January 10, 2012. Craig was extremely active in the community and well-respected in his profession. He is survived by his wife of 12 years, Collette, their 8-year-old son, Jacob, and many family members.

Rest in Peace, our Brothers in the Celestial Lodge Above...

If you hear of a brother who has passed to that Celestial Lodge above, please inform the Lodge Secretary so he can send out the Widows' Certificate.



ORDER OF DEMOLAY

Paul Revere Chapter



Meets at Hillsborough Lodge every Monday at 7 p.m.

For more information, please contact:

Brother Bill Cobb
Personal Representative to
the Executive Office of DeMolay
813-835-1793

“Secretary's Desk” continued from page 3

Our new officers are committed to making Hillsborough Lodge the best in the state. To do this we need your participation. Make plans to attend lodge and renew old acquaintances' and meet new Master Masons. Have a particular skill, contact the lodge to see if your assistance is needed. Have an idea to improve something, come to lodge and let the officers know what that idea is. Remember that old adage, if your not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem.

Petitions referred to the investigations committee: Robert Joseph Davis Jr., Rodney Wayne Kohler for the three symbolic degrees.

Bother Robert L. Thomas Phillips has been elected to Plural membership.

Elected to receive the Three Symbolic Degrees in Masonry, Messer Rafael Pizano.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas C. Newton

Thomas C. Newton, PM, PDI

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



Meets at Hillsborough Lodge 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 1 p.m.

*There is something in a simple Hug
that always warms the heart.
It welcomes us home and makes it easier to part.
A Hug's a way to share the joy
and sad times we go through.
Or just a way for friends to say
they like you "cause you're you."*

We greatly enjoyed Hillsborough Lodge's installation of officers and wish for them a happy, successful, prosperous year. We enjoyed serving the dinner after the installation and stand ready to help W·: Gonzalez in any way we can.

This term is winding down, and Brother Terry and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your love and support during the year. It has been a privilege and honor to serve as your Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. We feel blessed to have sisters and brothers who like to be with each other and strive for the betterment of our Chapter and Order.

At our January 21st meeting we initiated Patricia J. Brewer. We welcome her into our circle and know she will be an asset.

We have worked hard to contact our older members who have not been able to attend chapter. Our secretary, Sister Sandra Johnson, found that four of our sisters, Doris Waggoner, Myl-dred Trail, Mildred Bignell, and Elsie Bradford, had passed away between 2006-2010. We honored them with a special memorial. It is difficult if there are no family members or the family does not know to contact us when there is a death.

This month we will honor Brother Terry McLaughlin on February 4th. Elections will be on February 18th, and our installation of the 2012-2013 officers will be on February 25th.

Remember to “Trust and Obey God”
and “Love One Another.”

Claudine Rogers, P.M., Worthy Matron • 813-393-7490
Terry McLaughlin, P.G.P., Worthy Patron • 727-412-4053



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2012 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: Joseph GonzalezWorshipful Master
 Steven SilversSenior Warden
 David LinigerJunior Warden
 R.:W.: Stephen Jacobson. Treasurer
 R.:H.: Tom Newton Secretary
 Joshua SussmanSenior Deacon
 Cliff AllenJunior Deacon
 Ken SkillmanSenior Steward
 Billy SchmidtJunior Steward
 Michael St. James.Marshall
 Kermit HinesChaplain
 Drew Baldwin.Tyler
 R.:W.: C. Don Prosser Historian
 W.: William Powell Organist Emeritus
 Len WhalenChaplain Emeritus
 W.: Thomas JohnsonTreasurer Emeritus



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 President

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**Remember Your Masonic
 Charities in the New Year...**



**The Good Work Never Stops,
 So Please Give Generously!**