

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

# TRESTLE BOARD

APRIL A.L. 2013

## THE GREATEST LIGHTS IN FLORIDA

Now, here is a bit of an historical mystery for those Brethren who are so inclined... Where did the most beautiful and singular brass tapers which adorn our sacred Lodge Room originate? At first glance, they are inscrutable relics which humbly demand respect, while at the same time beckon the observer to imagine some more earnest distant past, fraught with ritual and ceremony.

Well, the truth is, they are all of that, and more!

Recently, during a restoration project, our Chaplain Joshua Sussman was leading a group of Brothers in a project to restore our tapers to their former glory. As our Brethren polished mightily to remove the decades of tarnish, dirt and funk which covered these immortal candelabras, they discovered the names of three Brother who donated — one each — these amazing heirlooms of our Lodge.

Astonishingly, the three Brothers were Fellow Craft at the time, and a three-time Past Master named Duff Post (1883, 1889 & 1891) made the presentation to the Craft just as the three Fellow Crafts were about to be Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason! According to our Lodge Historian, C. Don Prossor, Duff Post was also the son-in-law of our first Worshipful Master, Joseph Moore.

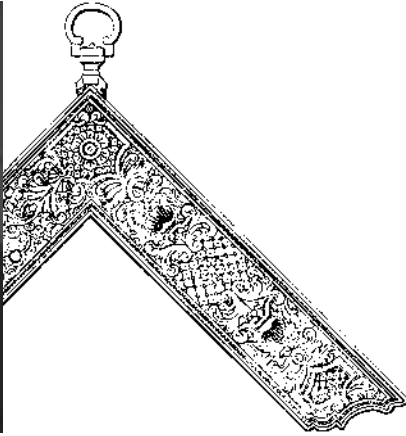
*Continued on page 6*



*Our most beautiful tapers were given to the Lodge on October 11, 1904 by Fellow Crafts Chas. W. Campbell, Watson L. Dorchester, and Charles M. Davis.*

**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



My Brothers,

The year is truly flying by. March was a busy month where we initiated three new Brothers into our Fraternity as well as having Raised two Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. We supported our youth programs during Masonic Youth Month by making donations to each of our local youth programs as well. Many of our Brothers are finding their way back to our Lodge and attending meetings, which is always a welcome view from the East.

I want to thank the officers for their hard work and dedication to the Lodge. Specifically, our Brothers the Junior Warden, Clifford Allen, who has been working hard to keep the kitchen in order and providing excellent meals; our Senior Warden, David Liniger, has been diligent in his focus on the work of the Finance and Property Committee; Jonathan Meadows, who has taken on the tedious task of categorizing and documenting all of the books and journals in the Library; and our Secretary, Tom Newton, who works hard every day to keep the records and paperwork of the Lodge in order and up to date.

Tickets have been printed and are now on sale for this year's Table Lodge. You can purchase one from any officer of the Lodge, or with a credit card online at the Hillsborough Lodge website, [www.hillsborough25.org](http://www.hillsborough25.org). This year, Table Lodge will be held on Tuesday, September 3rd. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to cement your fraternal bond with Brothers from around Districts 22, 23 and beyond.

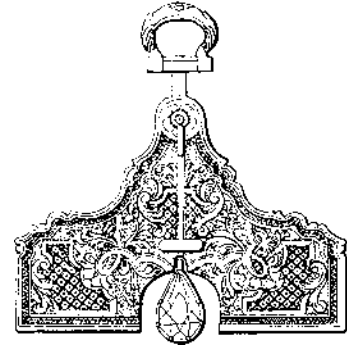
I hope everyone had a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter celebration. I look forward to seeing you at a Lodge meeting in the near future.

Fraternally,

*Steven J. Silvers*

Worshipful Master

## FROM THE WEST



My Brothers,

Greetings Brothers, the Finance and Property Committee has been working on the Hillsborough County Historic Preservation grant application for June. I jumped the gun in my last *Trestle Board* submission by stating that we had an application being reviewed in February; sorry for the confusion. The June grant application will include skylight repair/replacement, stained glass window repair and cleaning, and dining room mural restoration. We are waiting on our neighbors to approve an agreement to start repointing the North wall of our building. Pending approval, the contractor Hobbs Creative Masonry is ready to begin. We have tried several methods of polishing the Lodge entry doors, and seem to have found one that will work. When the doors are sufficiently polished, we will need to do routine maintenance to keep their luster. I welcome any Brother who wishes to volunteer for this duty.

Congratulations to the Brothers who participated in the Scottish Rite ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal, the ceremony was led by our Treasurer and Jr. Past Master Joseph A. Gonzalez as Wise Master, and our Worshipful Master Steven J. Silvers as Guardian of the Temple. They both gave an outstanding performance and represented Hillsborough Lodge well. This ceremony honors the Brothers we have lost in the past year and I encourage all who have never seen it to go next year.

*"Be not sad, my Brethren, but let us rejoice that these men lived, that we knew them, and that they were one with us in the mystic bond of Freemasonry. Let us celebrate their lives by making the best of their examples."*

— excerpt from the Scottish Rite Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony

Fraternally,

*David S. Liniger*

Senior Warden

## FROM THE SOUTH



Brethren All,

Fraternal Greetings from The South!

I am reminded every Tuesday how important it is to nourish the Brethren of Hillsborough No. 25 whether it be in food, or more importantly with brotherly love and affection. We come to this place to find peace and a trusting ear to lean on, or to reassure a fellow Brother that he is on a trusted path in his walk through life. We must always remember that we have taken obligations to protect the secrets of, and hasten to the relief of, a Brother. We must also remember our appendant youth organizations and contribute to their walk through life — as these are important years of learning — many times the difference between right and wrong.

The Degree work has been ramping up with Brothers stepping up to fill different chairs throughout the remainder of the year, and it is awesome to see Brothers with zeal perform amazing degree work! Please make every effort to attend your Lodge, and get involved.

Our second Family Night of 2013 is Tuesday, April 30, 2013. Diner will start at 6:30 p.m., and I promise a delicious meal for the entire family to enjoy.

Fraternally,

*Clifford M. Allen*

Junior Warden

## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Brothers,

If you haven't paid your dues for 2013, send a check or go to the web site at [www.hillsborough25.org](http://www.hillsborough25.org) and pay them through PayPal. Better yet, come to the lodge, acquaint yourself with the brothers and the Masonic work, and you can pay your dues by check or cash while there. Don't forget that the Masonic Home is your home and the additional \$7.30 goes to keep that home as one of the finest, if not the best, health care facilities in the State of Florida.

If you hear that any of our Brothers who have passed to the Celestial Lodge Above, please contact the Lodge Chaplain, Joshua Sussman, at (813) 735-0909 or inform the Secretary's Office right away so that we can make Masonic Funeral arrangements, if desired by the family, and send out the Widow's Kit. And as always, please remember your Masonic Home in your wills and gifts.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Thomas C. Newton*

Thomas C. Newton, PM, PDI

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[www.hillsborough25.org](http://www.hillsborough25.org)



NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN

Our Junior Warden, Cliff Allen (assisted by his lovely wife Holly), has been doing an excellent job of preparing meals for the Brethren this year!

If any, Brother would like to give Cliff a break by cooking a meal, please don't hesitate to contact Cliff at (813) 952-4423 to make arrangements. Thanks in advance!

| SUNDAY | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY | SATURDAY   |
|--------|---|--|---|--|--------|--|
|        | 1   |  <b>MM</b><br>Called Communication<br>Brothers Michael Gonzales, Joel Ray Markison II, Benjamin James Stephens & Martin Richard Van Buren Jr.<br>Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m. | 3<br><b>District 22 SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION</b><br>John Darling Lodge<br>No. 154 • 7 p.m.<br>4601 N. Habana Ave.<br>Tampa, FL |  4<br>Masonic Education<br>6:30 p.m.    | 5      |  6<br>Chapter 11<br>1 p.m.  |
| 7      |  8<br>Paul Revere Chapter<br>7 p.m.    |  9<br>Stated Communication<br>Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.  | 10  |  11<br>Masonic Education<br>6:30 p.m.   | 12     | <b>HIGH TWELVE LODGE NO. 317</b><br>Lunch at 11 a.m.<br>Meeting at Noon  |
| 14     |  15<br>Paul Revere Chapter<br>7 p.m.  |  <b>MM</b><br>Called Communication<br>Brothers Richard Juna Bonilla, Spencer Myles Greene & Patrick Leroy Henry Jr.<br>Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.                          | 17  |  18                                    | 19     |  20<br>Chapter 11<br>1 p.m.<br><b>PAINT YOUR HEART OUT TAMPA BAY</b> |
| 21     |  22<br>Paul Revere Chapter<br>7 p.m. |  23<br>Stated Communication<br>Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.   | 24  |  25<br>Masonic Education<br>6:30 p.m. | 26     | <b>MASTERS &amp; WARDENS MEETING</b><br>Fellowship Lodge<br>No. 265 • 7 p.m.<br>306 N. Lincoln Ave.<br>Tampa, FL   |
|        | 28  |  29<br>Paul Revere Chapter<br>7 p.m.  |  30<br><b>FAMILY NIGHT!</b>              |  |        |  |

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**MorganStanley SmithBarney**

**Table Lodge**

**Is Coming! Sept. 3rd**

**Don't miss this fun event!**



# MASONIC EDUCATION

## Lifting the Veil, Esoteric Masonic Thought on Initiation - Part 3

by Bro. Bruce Nevin

Symbols and allegories provoke thought. Their interpretation is not always obvious at a conscious level. For example, the plumb teaches us to be upright, and the level teaches us to deal in all matters on the level with our fellows. But can't a stiff rectitude foster disharmony? Don't you have to go along to get along? Do you perhaps fear being thought a stiff necked moralizing pig? Think about that conflict, for we shall return to it presently. And now consider the example before us of Hiram holding to moral principal even to death, and yet all the while acting entirely on the level with his attackers, not supercilious or aloof in his station. He simply restated the conditions for their advancement, which they well knew.

While we are in training, moral principles are stated pre-scriptively, as guidelines that prescribe what we should and should not do. As our inward initiation progresses, those same statements of moral principle become descriptive. Instead of being rules by which we should constrain our behavior, they flow naturally from our inner nature. That true inner nature is within you all along, obscured only by a clutter of conflicting suggestions to your subconscious mind. The transition from rough ashlar to perfect ashlar is accomplished by removing what is unneeded. The seeming conflict between rectitude and acting on the level, those moral principles that are represented emblematically by the plumb and the level, arises out of our fear of what others might think of us. With the progress of our inward initiation, our intuitions of the thoughts and feelings of our fellows ripen, by a winding way, from apprehension to empathy, from conformity to compassion, and rather than governing, they inform.

To an extent this will happen slowly over time if you merely persist in sitting through the ritual. You are well advised, however, to take matters in hand and participate more actively in your own advancement. Memorizing ritual is a first stage. Sub consciousness in a fundamental aspect is a storehouse of memory. To memorize the words, you must open a conversation with your subconscious mind. Make her acquaintance. She works by association. Be alert, and she will offer you associative clues that will help you to remember. Move your body and enact the words in posture and gesture. The words and images of ritual provoke thought and raise questions in your mind. As you learn, think about how to apply those meanings to situations in your daily life. At first you will recognize practical applications only retrospectively as you think back over the events of the day and week. With time and persistence, the principles that you imbibe from Masonic ritual begin to inform your responses. Pay attention. Listen to what comes from within. This is intuition: inner tuition, teaching from within you, from the same teachers who have guided masons from time beyond memory.

As you watch and listen from the sidelines, as you attend lodge of instruction, as you go to rehearsals, even if only to observe and help when needed, as you move through the chairs enacting your part with the others, each part in turn by virtue of such homework, every time the outer initiation comes around the circle it is at a new level of a waxing spiral of growth. Each time, new disclosures open to you, new insight into the significance of the words, and beyond words the significance of the actions, the floor work, the lights, ornaments, jewels, furniture, implements, the officers and their roles-all aspects of the ritual progressively light up with meaning, and shed light each on the others. As that light brightens and spreads within you, all that is not of that light naturally falls away, as shadows, and the light spreads outwardly in all your relations with your fellows, easily, as water flows. This is the progress of your inner initiation, and the true meaning and purpose of the outer. **12**

"Greatest Lights" continued from page 1

Duff Post, son-in-law of Joseph Moore and three-time Past Master, presented our celebrated tapers to the Craft on that auspicious day of October, 11 1904.



Above: W. Duff Post, Past Master 1883, 1889 & 1891. Duff was also the son-in-law of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25's first, original and only Worshipful Master, Joseph Moore.

At Right: The original Lodge minutes describing the night of that MM Degree. Transcripts are available upon request from: [secretary@hillsborough25.com](mailto:secretary@hillsborough25.com)

# ORDER OF DEMOLAY

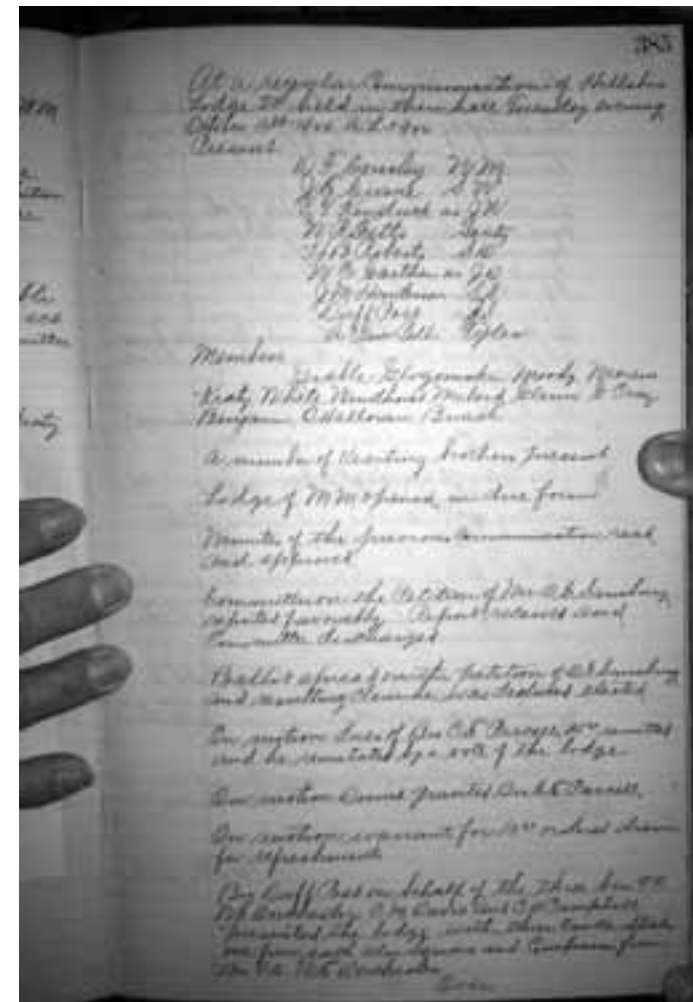
## Paul Revere Chapter



## 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



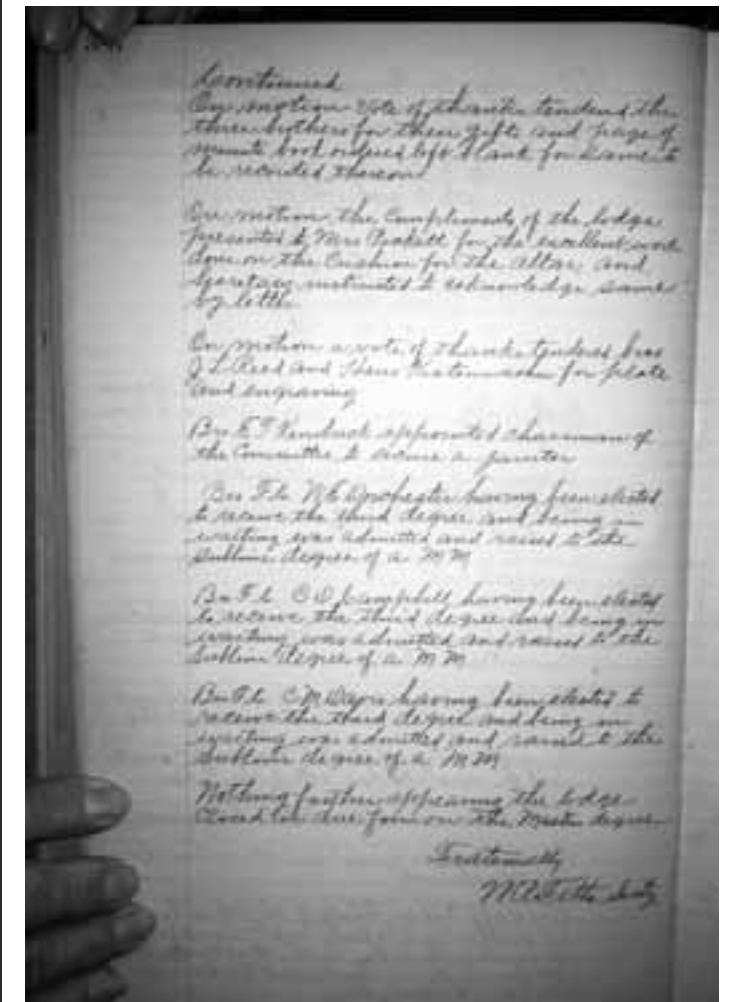
# ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



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

For more information about Tampa Chapter No. 11 or the Order of the Eastern Star, please contact:

Sandra Johnson, PM, Secretary  
P.O. Box 9046 • Tampa, FL 33674-9046  
(813) 500-3460





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## 2013 LODGE OFFICERS

- W.: Steven J. Silvers. . . . . Worshipful Master
- David S. Liniger . . . . . Senior Warden
- Clifford M. Allen . . . . . Junior Warden
- W.: Joseph A. Gonzalez. . . . . Treasurer
- R.:H.: Thomas C. Newton . . . . . Secretary
- Kenneth R. Skillman . . . . . Senior Deacon
- Billy D. Schmidt . . . . . Junior Deacon
- John A. "Drew" Baldwin. . . . . Senior Steward
- Michael St. James. . . . . Junior Steward
- Christopher Hutchinson. . . . . Marshall
- Joshua Sussman . . . . . Chaplain
- Jonathan Meadows . . . . . Tyler
- R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser . . . . . Historian
- Len Whalen . . . . . Chaplain Emeritus
- W.: Thomas Johnson . . . . . Treasurer Emeritus



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