

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

# TRESTLE BOARD

NOVEMBER A.L. 2014

## FRIEND TO FRIEND MEMORIAL GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Civil War has very often been referred to as being “brother against brother,” and in truth there are many stories of biological brothers serving against each other, one for the United States and one for the Confederate States.

Confederate Brigadier General Lewis Addison Armistead was born in New Bern, N.C. and was a member of Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge No. 22. Major Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, a Union officer, was born in Norristown, PA., and was a member of Charity Lodge No. 190 of that town. The two shared a friendship that had gone back for many years until politics of the time caused them to go separate ways.



*The Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial is a Battlefield monument located in the Gettysburg National Cemetery, dedicated August 21, 1993, by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania.*

During war, time passes rapidly amidst the powder and smoke of battle, and it would be twenty-seven months before they would meet again. It happened on the bloody battlefield of Gettysburg, July 3, 1863, when Pickett's Charge took place. General Armistead's brigade formed the second rank of the attacking division. It was at Cemetery Ridge that he was mortally wounded; coincidentally, Hancock also sustained serious wounds, which would keep him hospitalized for a considerable length of time.

*Continued on page 7*

**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



Greeting Brothers,

Thank you for all of your support and hard work this year, I am very thankful. Thanksgiving is a time to recognize how great our lives are, because of our associations with others and the many blessings we often take for granted. I have had the honor and privilege of being accepted into this Fraternity, gone through the line to the East, and met many wonderful Brothers in Lodge and our Fraternity at large. The Brothers I have met while going through the chairs have inspired me to become a better man, and strive to do more for my fellow Brother and all humanity.

My personal role model at Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 is W.: Shorty Powell. He was a kind soul, very genuine on all occasions, and a faithful servant of God. He would tell me stories when I was the Junior Steward about how the Lodge was filled to the rafters, Balcony, Lodge room, and Brothers standing on the sidelines for Degrees. I think the biggest crowd I have ever witnessed at our Lodge is approximately 150. We have the most members of any Lodge in the State of Florida, and the nicest Lodge room (in my opinion), but our attendance is on par with much smaller Lodges. We meet often, and I understand that it's difficult attending with realities of dual income families, work requirements, and a tough economy. I firmly believe that the lessons we teach are being implemented in the community, the Brothers who do not attend Lodge are making a difference in their community, thus improving the world.

I know I will not be able to attend Lodge very often next year. Two days or more a week for seven years has been difficult for my family, but I am quite certain I will miss the tremendous fellowship our Lodge has provided me.

If there is any way possible you can attend election night, Tuesday, December 9th, I implore you to attend. I would love to look out from the East, and catch the view Shorty did when he was Master of our Lodge.

*Continued on page 6*

## FROM THE WEST



Brethren All,

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable All Hallows Eve and that your witching hours were full of frightfully good times. We are have entered our Florida fall season; the nights show signs of becoming cooler, and the humidity from the Sunshine State has loosened its grip. Fall is the time where our Mother Earth begins the transition into her months of slumber and dying time, as we await the return of her daughter Persephone in the spring.

Although fall is considered the dying season of nature, life at Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 is quite the opposite. We have many new brothers whom we have received Entered Apprentices, Passed, and Raised Master Masons. We owe this influx of new Brothers to our core membership, and the amount of friendship and Brotherly love we have and express toward one another.

Our Lodge building is looking better and better with each passing week. We have many great tasks in front of us to keep the Lodge and membership growing in a positive manner. Make a point to attend two upcoming events: the Past Masters Degree and Elections. Your Lodge needs you! We have many great Brothers who are in the need of your hard work and participation. It would be awesome to see our Lodge full of Brothers.

Sincerely & Respectfully,

Senior Warden

## FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings My Brothers,

As we approach the end of the Masonic year, I ponder the journey that all Masons travel both young and old, and came across this poem which illustrates our working tools and the perfection we as Masons strive to attain. Its fitting title is I am Ready for My Last Degree.

"An old man lay sick in the Masonic State Home  
His face was as white as the White Sea foam.  
His eyes were dim; his hair was gray.  
His back was bent with the toils of the way.  
He unflatteringly spoke, and I heard him say,  
I'm ready for my last degree.

I've come to the end of that level of time  
That leads us all on to that Grand Lodge sublime.  
From whose sacred form none ever returns.  
More light in Masonry there I shall learn  
By an altar where light ever more burns  
I'm ready for my last degree.

With the Apprentice's gauge I divided my time  
And this I have found amidst life's great turmoil:  
Time for work, for worship and rest from my toil  
My wages are due with refreshment and joy-  
I'm ready for my last degree.

Each day from life's quarries I've hewn out a stone,  
With the gavel I've shaped them each one alone  
And shipped them alone beyond that bright strand  
To build me a house in that bright better land.  
A spiritual house not made by hands-  
I'm ready for my last degree.

I've squared each stone by the virtue square  
And plumbed them all true as I shipped them there.  
With the compass, I've measured my Designs  
And kept in the due bounds with His points and His lines.

*Continued on page 7*

## SECRETARY'S DESK



My Brothers,

This is the time of the year that things get a little crazy in the secretary's office. There are Brothers out there that have not paid 2014 dues, and now realize that they will be suspended unless they do so. I encourage you to not only pay your 2014 dues, but your 2015 dues as well. The Lodge needs your support to continue to function. With elections in the month of December, the incoming officers need to prepare a budget for 2015, and we need to know how many members we have. Membership continues to decline, but the expenses of the Lodge continue and we have to pay our bills. I do want to remind the Brethren that if you plan on attending Lodge for elections, you MUST have a current dues card to be eligible to vote. You must also have your dues card with you, ready to present to the Tyler. So, make sure that you are up to date.

Our R.:W.: DDGM Joseph Gonzalez, has made his official visit to the Lodge, and finds that all is in order. While there he delivered a portion of the Grand Masters address. It is indeed an honor to have another of our Brothers elevated to the DDGM position, and R.:W.: Gonzalez joins the ranks of many who have served the Grand Lodge in that position. The Grand Masters official visit to the 22nd and 23rd Districts will be December 6th at the Scottish Rite. Make your plans to attend.

We have had a sudden influx of petitions for Degrees, and we are processing those petitions as quickly as Masonic Law will allow. Brother Billy Schmidt, our Senior Deacon, needs your assistance to get the investigations done. If you can assist him, please let him know or contact the Lodge and we will pass your information on to him.

The Toys for Tots Campaign is underway. Once again, our Brother Chris DiStefano is heading up this donation drive. Bring an unwrapped toy to the Lodge so that we can assist the Marine's in their effort to make Christmas a memorable time for those less fortunate.

*Continued on page 6*

# NOVEMBER

# A.L. 2014

# ELECTION NIGHT

# CELESTIAL LODGE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						 <b>Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</b>
2	 <b>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</b>	 <b>Past Masters Degree Night</b> For Candidates & Brothers prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.	<b>District 22 School of Instruction</b> Port Tampa Lodge • 7 p.m. 4712 Commerce Tampa, FL	 <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	7	<b>HIGH TWELVE LODGE NO. 317</b> Lunch at 11 a.m. Meeting at Noon
9	 <b>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</b>	 <b>Stated Communication</b> Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.	12	 <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	14	 <b>Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</b> Official Inspection
16	 <b>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</b>	 <b>Degree Night</b> For Candidates & Brothers prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.	19	 <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	21	<b>Masters &amp; Wardens Meeting</b> Fellowship Lodge No. 265 • 7 p.m. 306 N. Lincoln Avenue Tampa, FL
23	 <b>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</b>	 <b>Stated Communication</b> Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.	26	 <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b> Lodge Closed	28	29
30						

2014 DECEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS!

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Robert E. Adams<br>David W. Arndt<br>Joel H. Baez<br>James G. Bennett<br>Bruce K. Bowers<br>Lawrence T. Bryan<br>Karl Degiacomi<br>Errol L. Duren<br>John H. Erb, III<br>Franklin R. Florence, Sr.<br>Matthew D. Feck<br>Jimmy C. Fischer<br>Roy D. Hagan<br>Jerry M. Handy<br>Robert G. Harz<br>Dale L. Hatchell<br>Donald J. Hawald<br>Thomas Hebert<br>John J. Hillyer, III<br>Everett I. Hodsdon<br>John D. Hooker<br>Thomas W. Kaenrath<br>Ronald G. Kiepke<br>John S. Laing<br>Aaron H. Lewis | Lowell L. Logerwell<br>Jimmy C. Mills<br>Fernando B. Muniz<br>Anthony M. Noto<br>John D. Oldja<br>Rafael L. Pizano<br>Norman M. Rusch<br>Matthew R. Setzer<br>Brian L. Shrader<br>Cyril Silver<br>Ronald Spencer<br>William T. Staunko<br>Hugh C. Sullivan Jr.<br>Richard W. Taylor<br>Robert L. Thomas Phillips<br>L. Robert Then<br>Charles H. Trexler, III<br>James G. Vanderloop<br>Joseph G. Wamsley<br>Weldon L. Weber Jr.<br>Donald R. Valverde<br>Samuel R. Whitaker<br>Robert N. Young<br>Denny R. Young<br>John S. Zacheis |
|---|--|

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If you hear of a Brother who has passed to that Celestial Lodge Above, please inform the Lodge Secretary so the Lodge can give proper condolence and assistance to his Widow.

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## O.E.S. CHAPTER II



Tampa Chapter No. 11 welcomes our newest member, R.:H.: Thomas C. Newton, Secretary of Hillsborough Lodge. R.:H.: Newton was initiated October 4, 2014.

We know he will be a wonderful addition to our Eastern Star family.

If you need a ride, please contact the Secretary and we will make the necessary arrangements to get you to a meeting. And don't forget, we have a working elevator.

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

*"From the East" continued from page 2*

I know Shorty will be watching our election night, as I am certain he has watched all year. I hope we have made him proud, and continue to do our best as Brothers.

If you have any suggestions for improving our Lodge, please email me at davidliniger@gmail.com, or call me on my cell at (813) 368-0766. It's your Lodge Brothers and it runs off of your dues. On November 4th, our Junior Past Master, W.: Steven J. Silvers, will be presiding in the East for the Past Master's Degree. He was an excellent Master and is an excellent ritualist. I hope to see you at a Lodge meeting soon, and hope to hear any suggestions for the future.

Love you Brothers.

Peace,

*David S. Liniger*

Worshipful Master

## 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, Executive Office of DeMolay*  
813-835-1793

*"From the Secretary's Desk" continued from page 3*

Past Masters night will be November 4th, make your plans to attend what is usually a fun night, as some of the old Past Masters try to remember what to say and when. W.: Steve Silvers will be sitting in the East.

Dues notices have been sent out, so send in your 2015 dues as soon as possible, or pay online, so we can get your 2015 dues card out to you.

Come to Lodge and renew old acquaintances and make new ones as well. If you haven't been to Lodge in some time, come down and see what you're missing. Remember that the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays are Degree nights and the 2nd and 4th are business meetings. Dinner is at 6:30 and Lodge opens at 7:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Thomas C. Newton*

Secretary, PM, PDI

## FRIEND TO FRIEND

*continued from page 1*

Hancock had an aide with him, Captain Henry Harrison Bingham, during the formidable battle that became known as marking the "High Tide of the Confederacy." After Hancock had been carried from the field, it was Bingham and some other Union officers who heard the cries for help from Armistead's lips as he lay there.

Bingham recognized the distress cry of a Freemason as would have his superior, Winfield Hancock, and such a cry must be acknowledged. It mattered not if the wounded man wore Blue or Grey, he was a Brother Mason, and Bingham answered the seriously injured Armistead, who talked to Bingham of his close relationship with Hancock. He asked Bingham to relay a message to Hancock, his old friend and Brother. He gave his personal effects, which included a pocket watch, to the captain. Bingham had promised to get them to Hancock, extending Armistead what help and assistance he could, until the General was taken from the field. He would die two days later at a hospital on the George Spangler farm site, comforted by the fact that his personal effects would go to his fraternal Brother to be returned to his family.

This story has been historically verified and stands as a testament to the depth of the Masonic bonds between members even in wartime. Thus was born the "Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial," which was finally dedicated in 1993. The life-sized statue done by sculptor Ron Tunison of Cairo, N.Y. (also a Mason), depicts Bingham bending over a reclining Armistead, Bingham's arm around the general's shoulder, his other hand touching Armistead's, as he receives the request from the General, who fears Union soldiers will take his personal effects if they remain with him. The two sculpted figures portrayed atop a large granite base are a poignant testimony to the fraternal love shared by those who belong to those groups where bonds make them Brothers. The Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania sponsored the statue. 

*Source: The Civil War, by Martha M. Blotz, August 29, 2012.*

### **Pictured Right:**

*Worshipful Master David S. Liniger presents a Fifty Five Year Service Award to Brother John Bankhead, member of Hillsborough Lodge, and Illustrious 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Valley of Tampa, Southern Jurisdiction.*

## FROM THE SOUTH

*continued from page 3*

My blueprints are folded-I've answer His signs  
I'm ready for my last degree.

A few moments later the old man was dead  
And I fancy I could see his soul as it fled  
Upward and onward to that Great Door  
Where he gave his alarm, and a voice did implore  
The old man made answer with these words once more:  
I'm ready for my last degree.

That night in a Lodge free from strife and from storm  
He took his last Degree-his last in Due Form  
So may I live as to build day by day  
A spiritual house in that land far away  
So when I meet my Grand Master I can say,  
I'm ready for my last degree."

Take time this holiday season to impart upon the ones you know and love just how much they mean to you. May your Thanksgiving be spent with family, friends and Brothers.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

*Kenneth R. Skillman*

Junior Warden





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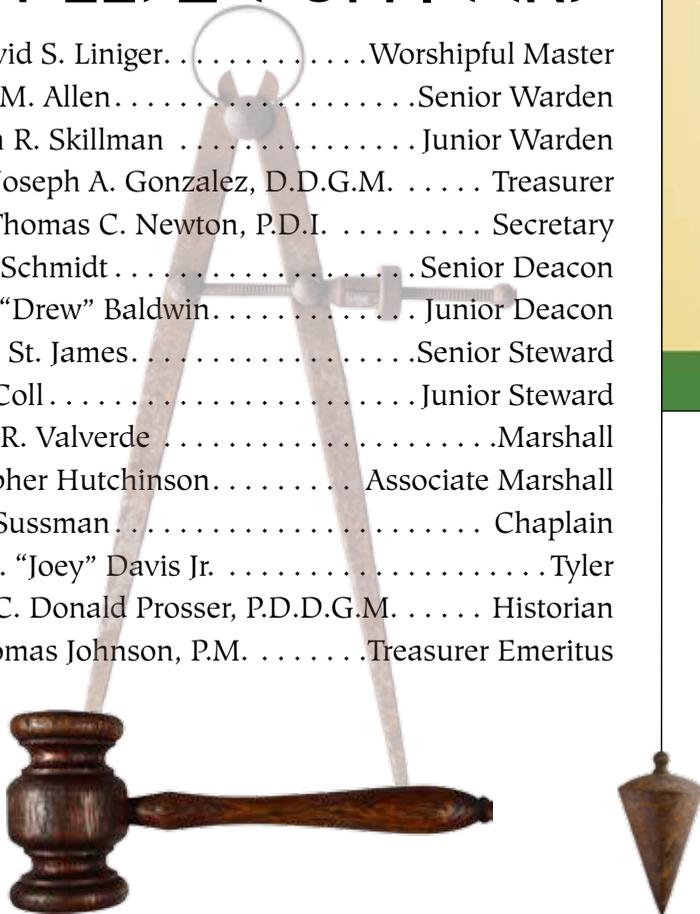
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## Address Service Requested

## 2014 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: David S. Liniger. . . . . Worshipful Master  
 Clifford M. Allen. . . . . Senior Warden  
 Kenneth R. Skillman . . . . . Junior Warden  
 R.:W.: Joseph A. Gonzalez, D.D.G.M. . . . . Treasurer  
 R.:H.: Thomas C. Newton, P.D.I. . . . . Secretary  
 Billy D. Schmidt . . . . . Senior Deacon  
 John A. "Drew" Baldwin. . . . . Junior Deacon  
 Michael St. James. . . . . Senior Steward  
 Jose E. Coll. . . . . Junior Steward  
 Donald R. Valverde . . . . . Marshall  
 Christopher Hutchinson. . . . . Associate Marshall  
 Joshua Sussman. . . . . Chaplain  
 Robert J. "Joey" Davis Jr. . . . . Tyler  
 R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser, P.D.D.G.M. . . . . Historian  
 W.: Thomas Johnson, P.M. . . . . Treasurer Emeritus



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