

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

# TRESTLE BOARD

MAY 7.L. 2015

## ORIGIN OF MEMORIAL DAY IN THE UNITED STATES

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, an organization of Union veterans, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Major Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies. After speeches, the children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson



*Continued on page 7*     *Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.*

**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



Brothers All,

The first quarter of the year has flown by, and as many have alluded, my year is going by faster than any year I have ever traveled through before. The Officers of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 and Brother Kenneth Skillman have been working diligently on multiple building issues, and his finance committee has been wisely investing our money with Brother Jeremy Hall. We have also been busy making Masons. We've received 10 Entered Apprentices, Passed 6 to Fellow Craft, and Raised 10 to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, with 13 additional candidates to be received as Entered Apprentices.

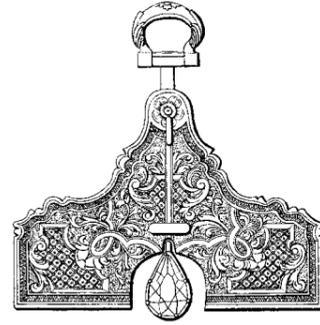
We need more instructors to continue building the future of our great Lodge and Fraternity. If you are silver card certified and willing to teach a class, please email me at cliff.allen@mail.com. Also, I am looking for Brothers who are willing to serve the Lodge and community. If you're interested, please email me and the Lodge will find service opportunities for you. As we begin the second quarter of the year, I will review my progress and reassess my goals. Any successes thus far is not solely because of me, but certainly due to the labor of the Officers and Craft of Hillsborough Lodge. I thank you all for your efforts, as the Lodge is progressing because of you. I look forward to three more successful quarters.

Fraternally,

*Clifford M. Allen*

Worshipful Master

## FROM THE WEST



Greetings, My Brothers!

May in an exciting month during the Masonic calendar because it is the month that we hold the Annual Grand Communication. This year is the 186th year the event has been held, and we will again be at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando May 25th, 26th & 27th. There is always lots of camaraderie and interesting conversation, exhibits, the election of new Grand Lodge Officers and the installation of our very own W.: Steven J. Silvers as the new District Instructor of the 22nd Masonic District. If you are able to come over for the day, or even just for a few hours, I encourage you to do so.

The work of the Property and Finance Committees continues in full stride, and our investments continue to earn a modest, but respectable rate of return. The committee is fully supportive of the Treasurer and other elected Officers and volunteers as we work through the changes that are occurring in the Secretary's Office. A big thanks goes to R.: H.: Tom Newton for his many years of tireless service, and another thanks to W.: Steve Silvers for stepping up to handle things during the transition period.

On the property side of things, R.: W.: Joe Gonzalez has continued to be instrumental in his negotiations with out tenants regarding the proper repair and weather sealing of the windows in our retail rental spaces. In fact, our newest tenant, Fusion Bowl, has agreed to pay the full amount of the repair for their unit. Great work, Joe! We also have a few more projects in the mix for this year, and I will be providing updates on those next month.

*"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

Sincerely & Fraternally

*Kenneth R. Skillman*

Senior Warden

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

## FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings Brothers,

The 186th Annual Grand Communication will be held on May 25th, 26th, and 27th at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando. I encourage you to review the proposed legislation that will be discussed and voted upon at the upcoming Annual Communication. Share your thoughts with the Officers of Hillsborough Lodge because the proposed legislation will impact the future of our fraternity.

Our first Family Night was held on March 31st. We had a big crowd and it was a tremendous night. Thank you to everyone who attended. Congratulations again to all of the Brothers who received their apron at Family Night. I commend you for your hard work and dedication. Our next Family Night will be on June 30th so please mark that date on your calendar.

If you attend a Masonic event, please take a moment to log your attendance on our website. Otherwise, our Lodge may not receive the Masonic Education points from your attendance. Simply go to [www.hillsborough25.org](http://www.hillsborough25.org), find "Brothers" in the top navigation bar and then click on the "My Masonic Attendance" link. When you arrive on the Attendance Submission Page, enter the event that you've attended, complete the information, and submit it.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

*Drew Badwin*

Junior Warden



**FAMILY NIGHT!**

Tuesday, June 30, 2015  
Dinner 6:30 p.m.  
Lodge Presentations at 7:30 p.m.

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

## SECRETARY'S DESK



My Brothers,

Effective April 1st, I have taken over as the Secretary *Pro Tem* for Hillsborough Lodge. This change came about as R.: H.: Tom Newton stepped down to retire from the Secretary position. I would like to thank R.: H.: Newton for his dedication to our Lodge, not only for having served the Lodge as Secretary for the past 5 years, but for his dedication to Masonry for more than 40 years as a Brother. In taking over this responsibility, I promise to do my best in caring for our records and daily maintenance of the membership and Lodge business that comes through your Secretary's office.

My Brothers, there are a great many of you who have not yet paid your 2015 dues. If you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. If you have not received your dues notice, please contact the secretary's office so that we can get your current contact information. You may either reach me through email at [hills25@verizon.net](mailto:hills25@verizon.net), or by phone at the Lodge (813)229-2305. When leaving a message, please be sure to leave your name and telephone number so that I can return your call.

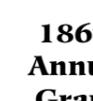
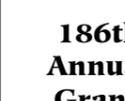
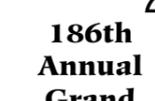
The Annual Grand Communication of Florida is quickly approaching Brothers. If you'd like to pre-register to attend Grand Lodge, please contact me and I will take care of it.

Remember, our success as a Fraternity and as a Lodge depends on your membership AND your involvement in Lodge meetings and activities. I hope that you will check your cable tow and make an effort to find your way back to Hillsborough Lodge. I hope to see you soon.

Fraternally,

*Steven J. Silvers*

Secretary Pro Tem, PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>MORE MASONIC EVENTS</b></p> <p>View more Masonic events and updated information on the Lodge web site: <a href="http://www.hillsborough25.org">www.hillsborough25.org</a>, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter, links available on the web site.</p> 					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
 <b>Paul Revere Chapter</b> 7 p.m.	 <b>EA Degree Night</b> For Candidates & Brothers prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.	 <b>District 22 EA School of Instruction</b> John Darling Lodge • 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL	 <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.		 <b>HIGH TWELVE LODGE</b> Meeting at Noon	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
 <b>Paul Revere Chapter</b> 7 p.m.	 <b>Stated Communication *Special Election</b> Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.		 <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	 <b>Masters &amp; Wardens Meeting</b> John Darling Lodge No. 154 7 p.m. Tampa, FL.	 <b>Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</b> <b>D.D.G.M. Roast</b> Zendah Grotto 6pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
 <b>Paul Revere Chapter</b> 7 p.m.	 <b>MM Degree Night</b> For Candidates & Brothers prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.		 <b>Masonic Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	 <b>Finance &amp; Property</b> PM Room 6:30pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	 <b>186th Annual Grand Lodge</b> Rosen Plaza 9700 International Dr. Orlando, FL 32819	 <b>186th Annual Grand Lodge</b> No Lodge Meeting	 <b>186th Annual Grand Lodge</b> Installation of Grand Lodge Officers 10:30 am	 <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.		

My Brother, as notification was given at the previous Stated Communication of Tuesday, April 14, 2015, the Grand Lodge of Florida has granted a Dispensation to Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 to hold a Special Election for the purpose of electing a new Secretary. Please note:

**Notice of Special Election  
Hillsborough Lodge No. 25  
Tuesday, May 12, 2015  
7:15 p.m.**

Make the necessary plans to attend this very important Communication, and participate to elect a new Secretary of the Lodge.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS!**

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Andrew W. Smith         | Jesse V. Dominguez    |
| Barry E. Williams       | John M. Totten Jr.    |
| Benjamin J. Stephens    | Joseph A. Almaguer    |
| Billy Mills             | Joseph J. Wessel      |
| Charles D. Williams Jr. | Juan A. Martinez      |
| Chip S. Whitworth       | Kendall N. Orcutt     |
| Daniel A Alvarez Sr     | Kenneth M. Seitz      |
| Dennis D. Kolpin        | Kenneth N. Shepherd   |
| Donald W. Conner        | Martin A. Brown       |
| Ernest R. Cervis        | Martin R. Jr Briggs   |
| Evaristo Palaez III     | Michael G. Inman      |
| Frank V. Selph          | Michael H. Noell      |
| George A. Wincey        | Michael R Despres     |
| Gregory M. Komar        | Michel A Ortabello IV |
| Harry W. Cumber         | Morris L. Brill Jr.   |
| Howard F. Bryan         | Olen K. Marks         |
| Ira Zichlin             | Peter L. Cavalli      |
| J. Scott Taylor         | Randall L. Bertrand   |
| Jack E. Lorenzo         | Randolph U. Pattillo  |
| Jaime Solano            | Richard G Reinhard`   |
| James W. Warren IV      | Robert D. Campbell    |
| Jason D. Montes         | Steven J. Silvers     |
| Jeremy Walker           |                       |

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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# MASONIC EDUCATION: RITE OF DESTITUTION

Nothing in Freemasonry is more beautiful in form or more eloquent in meaning than the First Degree. Its simplicity and dignity, its blend of solemnity and surprise, as well as its beauty of moral truth, mark it as a little masterpiece. Nowhere may one hope to find nobler appeal to the native nobilities of as man. What we get out of Freemasonry, as of anything else depends upon our capacity, and our own response to its appeal; but it is hard to see how ant man can receive the First Degree and pass out of the Lodge room quite the same man as when he entered it.

What memories come back to us when we think of the time when we took our first step in Freemasonry. We had been lead, perhaps, by the sly remarks of friends to expect some kind of horseplay, or the riding of a goat; but how different it was in reality. Instead of mere play-acting we discovered, by contrast, a ritual of religious faith and moral law, an allegory of life and a parable of those truths which lie at the foundations of manhood. Surely no man can ever forget that hour when, vaguely or clearly, the profound meaning of Freemasonry began slowly to unfold before his mind.

The whole meaning of initiation, of course, is an analogy of the birth, awakening and growth of the soul; its discovery of the purpose of life and the nature of the world in which it is to be lived. The Lodge is the world as it was thought to be in the olden times, with its square surface and canopy of sky, its dark North and its radiant East; its center an Altar of obligation and prayer. The initiation, by the same token, is our advent from the darkness of prenatal gloom into the light of moral truth and spiritual faith, out of lonely isolation into a network of fellowships and relationships, out of a merely physical into a human and moral order. The cable tow, by which we may be detained or removed should we be unworthy or unwilling to advance, is like the cord which joins a child to its mother at birth. Nor is it removed until, by the act of assuming the obligations and fellowships of the moral life, a new, unseen tie is spun and woven in the heart, uniting us, henceforth, by an invisible bond, to the service of our race in its moral effort to build a world of Fraternal good will.

Such is the system of moral philosophy set forth in symbols in which the initiate is introduced, and in this light each emblem, each incident, should be interpreted. Thus Freemasonry gives a man at a time when it is most needed, if he be young, a noble, wise, time-tried principle by which to read the meaning of the world and his duty in it. No man may hope to see it all at once, or once for all, and it is open to question whether any man lives long enough to think it through - for, like all simple things, it is deep and wonderful. In the actuality of the symbolism a man in the First Degree of Freemasonry, as in the last, accepts the human situation, enters a new environment, with a new body of motive and experience. In short, he assumes his real vocation in the world and vows to live by the highest

standard of values. Like every other incident of initiation it is in the light of Freemasonry that we must interpret the Rite of Destitution. At first sight it may seem to some that the lesson is marred by the limitations and qualifications which follow; but that is only seeming. Freemasons are under all the obligations of humanity, the most primary of which is to succor their fellow man in desperate plight. As Mohammed long ago said, the end of the world has come when man will not help man. But we are under special obligations to our Brethren of the Craft, as much by the prompting of our hearts as by the vows we have taken. Such a principle, so far from being narrow and selfish, has the endorsement of the Apostle Paul in his exhortations to the earl Christian community. As the Epistle to the Ephesians reads: "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." It is only another way of saying that "Charity begins at home," and for Freemasons, the home is the Lodge.

So, then, the destitute to which this Rite refers, and whose distress the initiate is under vows to relieve, are a definite and specific class. They are not to be confused with those who are poverty-stricken by deads of criminal tendencies or inherent laziness. That is another problem, the solution of which Masons will have their share and do their part. It is a very dark problem, too, which asks for both patience and wisdom. No, the needy which this Rite requires that we aid are "All Poor and Distressed, Worthy Masons, their Widows and Orphans;" that is, those destitute through no fault of their own, but as the result of their untoward circumstances. They are those who, through accident, disease or disaster, have become unable, however willing and eager, to meet their obligations. Such are deserving of charity in its true Masonic sense, not only in the form of financial relief, but also in the form of companionship, sympathy and love. If we are bidden to be on our guard against impostors, who would use Masonry for their own ends, where there is real need, our duty is limited only by our ability to help, without injury to those nearest to us.

Surely it was a good and wise wish, if we think of it, because the things which money cannot cure are the ills of the spirit, the sickness of the heart, and the dreary, dull pain of waiting for those who return no more. There are hungers which gold cannot satisfy, and more blinding bereavements from which it offers no shelter. There are times when a hand laid upon the shoulder, "in a friendly sort of way," is worth more than all the money on earth. Many a young man fails, or makes a bad mistake, for lack of a Brotherly hand which might have held him up, or guided him into a wiser way. The Rite of Destitution!

Source: [www.masonicworld.com/education](http://www.masonicworld.com/education)

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

## 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

*"Memorial Day" continued from page 1...*

declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day. There, a ceremony on May 5, 1866, honored local veterans who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-staff. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or one-time events.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day, and the Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

The crowd attending the first Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was approximately the same size as those that attend today's observance, about 5,000 people. Then, as now, small American flags were placed on each grave — a tradition followed at many national cemeteries today. In recent years, the custom has grown in many families to decorate the graves of all departed loved ones and friends.

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

## O.E.S. CHAPTER II



Tampa Chapter No. 11 wishes a Happy Spring to All.

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

The origins of special services to honor those who die in war can be found in antiquity. The Athenian leader Pericles offered a similar tribute to the fallen heroes of the Peloponnesian War over 24 centuries ago that could be applied today to the 1.1 million Americans who have died in the nation's wars: "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating like commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As Moment of Remembrance founder Carmella LaSpada states: "It's a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day." 

Source: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)



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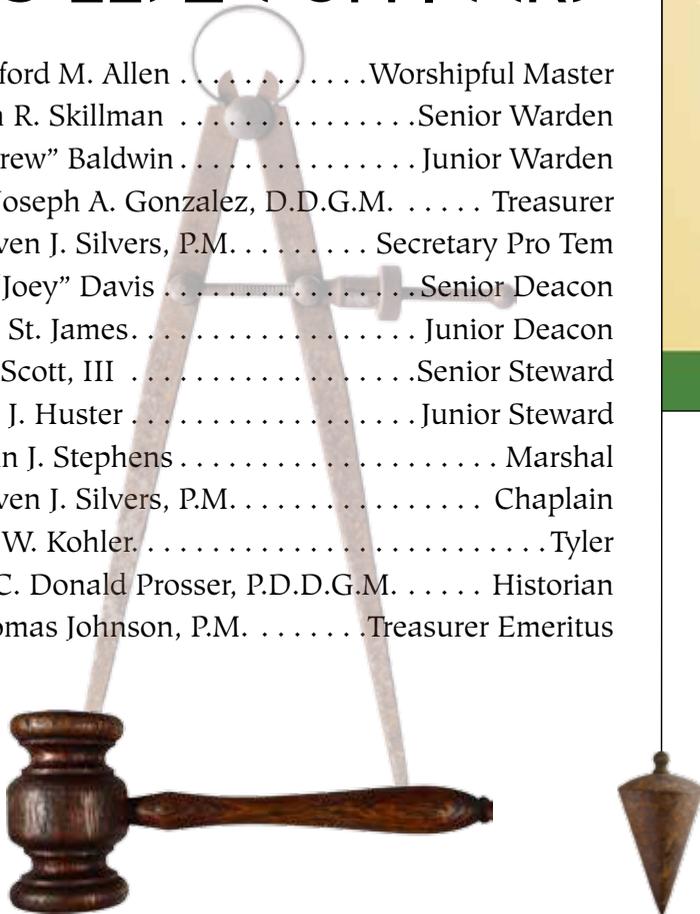
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## 2015 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: Clifford M. Allen . . . . . Worshipful Master  
 Kenneth R. Skillman . . . . . Senior Warden  
 John "Drew" Baldwin . . . . . Junior Warden  
 R.: W.: Joseph A. Gonzalez, D.D.G.M. . . . . Treasurer  
 W.: Steven J. Silvers, P.M. . . . . Secretary Pro Tem  
 Robert "Joey" Davis . . . . . Senior Deacon  
 Michael St. James . . . . . Junior Deacon  
 Billy D. Scott, III . . . . . Senior Steward  
 Michael J. Huster . . . . . Junior Steward  
 Benjamin J. Stephens . . . . . Marshal  
 W.: Steven J. Silvers, P.M. . . . . Chaplain  
 Rodney W. Kohler . . . . . Tyler  
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