

TRESTLE BOARD

MAR / APR A.L. 2019

MASONIC EDUCATION: WHAT IS GOOD?

“The basic purpose of Freemasonry is to make better men out of good men.” “Masonry is a path to moral goodness.” “Masons are to be good citizens.” “To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry.” We’ve all heard and said these statements. These and others were mentioned in recent Masonic Education discussions of the meaning and purpose of Freemasonry at Olive Branch lodge No. 38. The use of the word “good” prompted one Brother to suggest the lodge devote a meeting to discussion of the meaning of the word itself and prompted me to ponder its meaning myself for several weeks.

Last month we held that discussion. We did not reach a satisfactory conclusion of the meaning of the word “good.” Words like honor, integrity, morality, and righteousness were said by the Brethren to be virtues that described the word “good.” These words are all nearly synonymous with each other. Virtue itself is defined as conformity to a standard of right. So does “good” as it applies to men and Masons mean conformity to a standard of right? That is certainly part of it. Conformity to the morals and values prized by Freemasonry is certainly evidence of a man being a “good” man. But does Freemasonry exist merely to reinforce these

*Making Good
Men Better
Since Time Immemorial*

morals and values in its initiates? Does it exist to teach men what they already know? Is its purpose to increase virtue in already virtuous men? I believe the answer is no.

W. L. Wilmshurst wrote in *The Meaning of Masonry*, “*It is absurd to think that a vast organization like Masonry was ordained merely to teach to grown-up men of the world the symbolical meaning of a few simple builders’ tools, or to impress upon us such elementary virtues as temperance and justice: – the children in every village school are taught such things;*”

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

WORSHIPFUL MASTER



My Brothers,

So far in 2019 we are off to a great start. We have hosted the Grand Master of Masons of Florida for the Consecration and Installation of Officers of the newly consolidated PTF United Lodge No. 154, held our first Family Night of the year, and conducted Master Mason and Entered Apprentice Degrees. Over the next several

months, we will have many more degrees. I invite anyone interested in participating to join us for our Thursday evening practices.

I am very pleased to announce that the Lodge will be participating in the community charity event "Paint Your Heart Out Tampa" this coming April. This event lets organizations, like ours, help those in need by spending a day painting and doing some much-needed upkeep to the recipients' home exteriors. The Paint Your Heart Out Organization vets the recipients and provides the supplies, all we must do is provide the manpower and desire to help in our community. We currently have many Brothers and family members signed up to participate, but we could

SENIOR WARDEN



My Brothers,

We are off to a strong start this year. Each officer, and many Brothers, are focusing on enhancing many aspects of your Lodge. I hope you can join us in these endeavors. I'd like to thank Worshipful Master Billy Scott for his focus on building an excellent team of officers.

To paraphrase a popular quote attributed to Brother Pike: *What*

we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for our Lodge remains and is immortal. When each of our 531 current members contributes a little, we are unstoppable!

The audit of the 2018 finances was completed and presented at the January 22nd meeting. Our finances and accounting practices are in sound shape and all appears well. I would like to thank R.·W.· Joseph Gonzalez for his tremendous work as Treasurer. Few understand the depth of the work he has done and continues to do on behalf of the Lodge, but we should all appreciate it greatly.

always use a few more. If you have interest in taking part in this activity, contact our Charity Committee Chairman Bro. Mike Huster at mhuster1@verizon.net.

I encourage everyone to seek out and find their niche within the Lodge. We have a very large number of members, but it's often the same ten to twenty Brothers carrying the load. If you are interested in teaching, the Lodge can use dedicated instructors. If you want to learn and take part in ritual, start making time to join us for degree practice on Thursday evenings. If you are interested in volunteering opportunities, we have a committee charged with exploring ways our Lodge can give back to our community - more than writing a check. All you must do is seek and find where your heart is directing you.

In closing, I want to thank the craft for having confidence in me to lead our historic Lodge and it is my intention to leave it at least a little better for the future.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Billy D. Scott, III

Worshipful Master



We continue to advance forward with various building projects. Exterior enhancements are underway and so far the trees have been trimmed in front of and beside our building. Cleaning the exterior of the building will begin shortly. A company is being sought to replace the lighting on our eastern facade. Interior projects being explored: painting, cleaning, and enhancing several rooms; replacing the front door magnetic locking system; replacing dilapidated seating; and replacing the sound system.

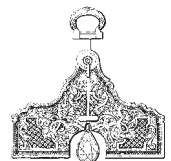
If you have an opinion on any of the aforementioned subjects, the Joint Finance Committee and Property Committee meetings are open to all Lodge members and are typically held on the third Thursday of each month in the Past Master's Room - February 21 & March 21, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Please come talk to me anytime or email me at billyschmidtH25@gmail.com. ANCORA IMPARO.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Billy D. Schmidt

Senior Warden



JUNIOR WARDEN



My Brothers,

This year has started off a busy one. We have had one family night, one class of Entered Apprentices, and have two Master Mason Degrees scheduled in late February/early March. I want to congratulate the Brothers who have received their white leather aprons at our first family night, and to our newly initiated Brothers, and wish them luck in their continued masonic journey. With that said, we are always looking for some Brothers to help instruct and guide our newly initiated Brothers. If anyone is interested in teaching a catechism class, please let myself or any officer know.

We will be having plenty of degrees this coming year, and can always use help with degree work, or support for our Brothers going through the degrees. If anyone is interested or know of any Brothers interested please contact me at bryan.selandH25@gmail.com. We have degree practices on each Thursday, and mandatory degree practice for involved Brothers the Thursday prior to the degree.

We will continue to support our community through charity each month, and have plans for several charity projects to occur throughout the year. The first being Paint Your Heart Out Tampa Bay, which several brothers from our Lodge will join many fellow Tampa residents in painting houses for the underprivileged. This will take place in April. Further charity events will be posted in future Trestle Boards.

Finally Brothers, I hope that each and every one of you have had a great start to 2019, and wish good fortune upon you for the rest of the year. If you have any spare time please come down to the Lodge for a visit, even if it has been awhile. This is your Lodge, and we would not be here if it were not for each and every one of you.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Bryan Seland

Junior Warden



SECRETARY'S DESK



Brothers,

As the year continues to pass by, the office of the Secretary continues to serve the Craft. The processing of dues payments is one duty that seems to continue throughout the year. With Circumscribe working well, it is easy for those of you who have not paid your dues to do so. On your dues notice there is a link to the Circumscribe portal which will allow you to pay your dues online with a credit card.

I get notice from the Grand Lodge that dues have been paid and of course I will issue your dues card as soon as that notification is given to me. If you want to send in your dues payment to the lodge, please include the one copy of the notice with your payment. If you would like to inquire about a perpetual membership, come by the lodge and let's talk about it and how we can get this done. Remember that a perpetual membership, once paid in full, will mean that you never pay dues again to the Lodge. You must however keep current with your dues until it is

paid off. Come by the lodge on a Tuesday night and I will explain the process to you.

The one thing that slows everything down is the lack of knowing where you are. I have dues notices that have been returned to the Lodge because the address is incorrect, or you have moved. If you have not received a dues notice, call the lodge and leave me a voice mail with your current address. Please let me know when you move, and it always helps to have an email address for each brother and a current phone number.

You can always call the Lodge and leave a voice mail, I will get back to you rather quickly. Please leave your name when you call and let me know what I can do to assist you. If you know a Brother who is ill or is having surgery of some sort, we would like to know that as well.

Try to set aside one Tuesday night each month to join us at the lodge. Everyone has conflicts, family, work and a host of other distractions, but you did promise in your Fellow Craft Degree obligation to answer all summonses from the Lodge with business and health permitting. This is your Lodge, support it with your presence, even if only once a month.

Continued on page 6

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <h2>MORE MASONIC EVENTS</h2> <p>View more Masonic events and updated information on the Lodge website: www.hillsborough25.org, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter, links available on the website.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">   </div> | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. |  MM Degree Night For Brothers who are prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m. | District School of Instruction John Darling Lodge MLT 6 p.m. School 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL |  Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m. | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
|  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. |  Stated Communication Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. | | |  Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m. | | BOARD MTG / PILGRIMAGE DAY Masonic Home of Florida St. Petersburg Mtg 10 a.m. Events 11a.m. |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
|  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. |  FC Degree Night For Brothers who are prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m. | | |  Masonic Education & Catechism <hr/> Finance / Prop. Meeting PM Room 6:30 p.m. | Masters & Wardens Meeting John Darling Lodge • 6:30 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL | Zone 4 School Instruction AASR Temple 8:30 a.m. 5500 Memorial Hwy Tampa, FL |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. |  Stated Communication Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. <hr/> Charity Committee Mtg PM Room 6 p.m. | |  Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m. | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>1</p>  <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p> | <p>2</p>  <p>EA Degree Night For Candidates who are prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.</p> | <p>3</p> <p>District School of Instruction John Darling Lodge MLT 6 p.m. School 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL</p> | <p>4</p>  <p>Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m.</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p>  <p>Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</p> |
| <p>7</p> | <p>8</p> <p>Ceremony Remembrance and Renewal OPEN to ALL AASR Temple 6:00 p.m. 5500 Memorial Hwy Tampa, FL</p> | <p>9</p>  <p>Stated Communication Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p>  <p>Masonic Education & Catechism Officers Meeting PM Room 6:30pm</p> | <p>12</p> <p>MASONIC PARK BOARD MTG Tampa 240 Tampa, FL 7 p.m.</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Paint Your Heart Out Tampa Charity Activity Contact mhuster1@verizon.net for details. DDGM Roast Rough Riders HQ 6:00 p.m.</p> |
| <p>14</p> | <p>15</p>  <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p> | <p>16</p>  <p>MM Degree Night For Brothers who are prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p>  <p>Masonic Education & Catechism Finance / Prop. Meeting PM Room 6:30pm</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> <p>MASONIC HOME BOARD MTG Masonic Home of Florida St. Petersburg 11 a.m.</p> |
| <p>21</p> | <p>22</p>  <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p> | <p>23</p>  <p>Stated Communication Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. Charity Committee Mtg PM Room 6 p.m.</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p>  <p>Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m.</p> | <p>26</p> <p>Masters & Wardens Meeting John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL.</p> | <p>27</p> |
| <p>28</p> | <p>29</p>  <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p> | <p>30</p>  <p>FRIENDS & FAMILY NIGHT! Dinner 6:30 p.m. Awards 7:30 p.m.</p> | <p>Events, Meetings, and Degrees are subject to change. Continuously updated information is available on the Lodge website calendar: www.hillsborough25.org. Facebook events are also updated regularly and are a good way to receive event reminder notifications - just click the 'interested' or 'going' links for any particular event on Facebook.</p> | | | |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March

James H. Giles
Lige Tackett Jr
Jay D. Kaufman
Daniel D. Maclean
Daniel J. Wolfe
Douglas R. MacLean
Benny O. Rivera
Geoffery C. Newton
Nestor D. Santiago
Jeremiah Bustin
Jonathan H. Tennis
Ronald T. Le Claire Jr
Jose E. Coll
Clarence F. Rudolph IV
James F. Mungovan
Ronald R. King Jr.
Patrice Falardeau
Shane T. Moore
David F. Puzzo
Stephen D. Farley
Michael W Smalley
Richard H. Swann Jr
Terry L. Montgomery

Gerry L. GilbertII
Frank A. Frantom
Wayne A. Pickard
Thomas C. Newton
James F. Bustin
Eugene R. D'Amore
John S. Menard
Charles R. Harriman
Robert P. Jackson Jr
Thomas G. Ream
Joseph Antinori Jr
Daniel J. Guggenheim Jr
Malcom G. Campbell
Ricardo D. Muga
Paul R. Lowe Jr
Frederick L. Janke
Charles R. Silliman
Harry B. Forehand Jr
Bruce A. Stritter
Michael V. Penland
Raymond Sheldon Jr
Thomas B. Parsons

April

Thomas F. Granahan
Henry B. Smith Jr
Billy D. Schmidt
David A. Odell II
Jonathan W. Meadows
Christopher E. Fortner
Christopher Di Stefano
Joseph A. Gonzalez
Scott P. Davis
Julio A. Soto
Juan C. Gonzalez
Michael T. Concaugh
Kurt H. Beste
David R. Kazar
Anthony E. Scaglione
John J. Faircloth Jr
Wayne G. Simmons
Dale E. Chastek
Chester E. Rider
James P. Young III
Richard A. Zach Jr
Michael J. Shaheen
Steven R. Carter

Gerald K. Personius
Bradley K. Buethe
Robert L. Cochran
Jorge H. Noda
Barry M. Glenn
Ronald B. Samson
John R. Lorenz
Albert Perotti Jr
Clyde R. Curtis Jr
William T. Williams
Brian E. O'Hair
Roger C. Dixon
Alberto M. Meyer
Gary K. Esteppe
Melvin J. Segal
Jerry A. Mitchell
Jarret M. Bonar
Thomas E. Johnson Jr
Dennis Field
Charles L. Morgan
Sidney M. Schuster
Frederick H. Sattes Jr
Eugene M. Posey

"Secretary Desk" continued from page 3...

Come down, meet your officers, and enjoy the fellowship that you had when you went through the degrees. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays are degree nights, and the 2nd and 4th are business meetings. Join us for dinner at 6:30 p.m. and meet those men who are looking to join this great fraternity and meet some Brothers that you have never met before or renew old acquaintances.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Thomas C. Newton

Secretary, PDI, PM



PAINT YOUR HEART OUT TAMPA

Members of the Lodge will be painting a home on April 13th, 2019. Pre-registration is required. If you have interest in taking part in this activity, contact our Charity Committee Chairman Bro. Mike Huster at mhuster1@verizon.net.




MM Degree February 19th, 2019: Congratulations to our four Brothers who were Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason: Brothers Chaisson, Hewitt, Rios, and Valles!



EA Degree February 5th, 2019: Congratulations to our newest Entered Apprentices, Brother Wilson and Brother Lezcano!

"What is Good" continued from page 1...

or to enforce such simple principles of morals as brotherly love, which every church and every religion teaches; or as relief, which is practised quite as much by non-Masons as by us; or of truth, which every infant learns upon its mother's knee. There is surely, too, no need for us to join a secret society to be taught that the volume of the Sacred Law is a fountain of truth and instruction; or to go through the great and elaborate ceremony of the third degree merely to learn that we have each to die. The Craft whose work we are taught to honour with the name of a "science," a "royal art," has surely some larger end in view than merely inculcating the practice of social virtues common to all the world and by no means the monopoly of Freemasons." What is that larger "end" Wilmshurst speaks of? What is the "science" and the "art?" Volumes have been written on the subject. I have read many. I have learned much and forgotten much. Often I have thought the "end" was close to my grasp only to learn something new that showed me I had much farther to go. Will I find the "end?" I don't know. I think in my heart I already have, even if I can't fully comprehend it or put it into words. My journey continues.

But arriving at the larger end, if even possible, is also not what defines "good" in Freemasonry. "Good" in Freemasonry is a journey of self-discovery. It is the willingness to look beyond conformity to a standard of right. It is being prepared in your heart. It is curiosity born of a humility and love that makes a man seek to become more than a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. It is study and meditation and prayer. It is seeing differently. It is opening your mind and heart and soul to the divine spark living in you and everyone around you. It is taking up the lifetime journey to learn and face the truth about yourself and to surrender to the divine love within you. It is building your soul—"the immortal part which survives the death of the body" and "bears the nearest affinity to that supreme intelligence which pervades and animates all nature and can never, no never, die"—filling it with love of God and love of your fellow man. If you travel on this journey, virtue will follow. 

Brian L. Pettice, 33° is a Past Master of Anchor Lodge No. 980 and plural member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 38 in Danville, IL. Published in *The Midnight Freemasons*, January 2019, www.midnightfreemasons.org.

GET INVOLVED!

Your Lodge needs active members! What interested you in our Fraternity? A little involvement from each member can go a very long way.

Areas where you can get involved:

Education - work on bringing guest speakers, on short education programs for meetings, larger events, and more.

Charity - work on small and large hands on projects, donation drives, and fundraisers.

Fellowship - work on enhancing fellowship at our existing events and activities as well as planning for stand alone opportunities.

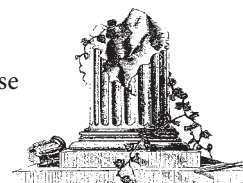
Organist / Music - can you play? Music truly enhances our Degrees and events.

Ritual - are you interested in degree work? Attend a Thursday practice and dig in!

Catechism Instruction - nothing is more rewarding than helping guide new Brothers.

And much more. Contact the Worshipful Master for details.

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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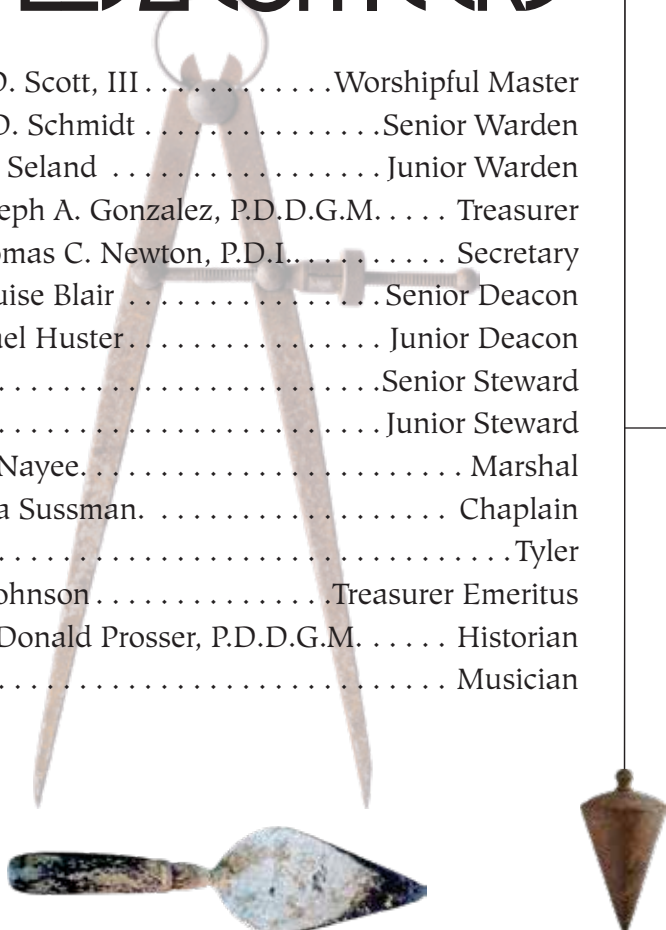
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 web: www.hillsborough25.org

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2019 LODGE OFFICERS

- W.: Billy D. Scott, III Worshipful Master
- Bro. Billy D. Schmidt Senior Warden
- Bro. Bryan Seland Junior Warden
- R.:W.: Joseph A. Gonzalez, P.D.D.G.M. Treasurer
- R.:H.: Thomas C. Newton, P.D.I. Secretary
- Bro. Marquise Blair Senior Deacon
- Bro. Michael Huster Junior Deacon
- TBD Senior Steward
- TBD Junior Steward
- Bro. Saraj Nayee. Marshal
- Bro. Joshua Sussman. Chaplain
- TBD..... Tyler
- W.: Tom Johnson Treasurer Emeritus
- R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser, P.D.D.G.M. Historian
- TBD Musician



Follow Hillsborough Lodge News and Announcements



Go to www.hillsborough25.org and follow the links!



MASONIC HOME OF FLORIDA
Caring for Masonic Families For Over 100 Years

Situated along the shores of St. Petersburg's Coffee Pot Bayou, the Masonic Home is considered one of the premier retirement facilities in the State of Florida. The Home offers comprehensive healthcare services designed to fit your needs.

- Florida Masons and those from other states are welcome to apply
- Qualified members of the Order of the Eastern Star (OES) are eligible to apply
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- Both private pay and life care plans are available
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