

TRESTLE BOARD

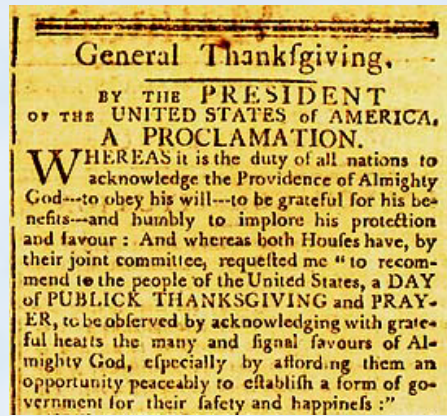
NOV | DEC A.L. 2020

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: A THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

Written by George Washington in 1789, this was the first official Presidential Proclamation made in the United States. Shortly after the Thanksgiving Proclamation was written, it was lost for 130 years. It was probably misplaced when the US Capitol moved from New York to Washington, D.C. It now resides in the Library of Congress. And it reads:

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to *“recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:”*

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the



course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been able to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all,

Continued on page 6

DOWNTOWN, TAMPA | SINCE 1850

Visit our Online Calendar at hillsborough25.org for upcoming events.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER



My Brothers,

The year 2020 is nearly over. With a new year we will hopefully be able to sense a renewed hope for good things to come. This year has certainly tested many of us and our society as a whole. If you require any assistance at all, please don't ever hesitate to reach out to your lodge or any Brother.

This will be the last time I write you as the Worshipful Master of this lodge. While the year has been abbreviated and challenging in many ways, it was nonetheless a humbling honor to preside over our fine organization. I look forward to continuing my service to our lodge and Fraternity for years to come.

We have endured the pandemic and safely held nine degrees this year, as of this writing. We have two more expected in the next two months. This is a far cry from the up to twenty degrees we may normally hold in a year. We found ways to safely proceed with catechism instruction and degree work and have been able to work on advancing the up to twenty candidates we had in our queue.

I'd like to thank everyone who has participated in degree teams this year, along with the six Brothers who took on instructing classes. Without their hard work, the twenty men who petitioned and desired to go through our degrees

SENIOR WARDEN



Greetings My Brothers,

As this year winds down, I want to thank all of you that have come down and assisted the lodge in these trying times. It has been difficult, but we have come together as we always do. The lodge has continued to be active over the last few months with EA,

FC, and MM degrees to get caught up from earlier in the year, and will continue to have degrees until the end of the year. If any Brother wants to participate and learn ritual work for degrees, we meet every Thursday at 6:30 pm to practice any parts that may be needed.

The lodge has been running smoothly with minor AC issues in the Secretary's office being resolved. We will try to have a work party to make some finishing touches to the prep room and Tyler's room. Please contact me if you are interested in assisting.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the officers and committee members who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to make the lodge run smoothly. Brother Meguiar the meals have been fantastic, and Worshipful Scott,

would be indefinitely stalled. Also, thank you to all of the members who took an active role, in some way, this year. I'm proud of the work performed by our education enrichment, fellowship, community outreach, and membership retention committees, namely their chairmen.

Unfortunately, we had to miss more than just some meetings and degrees this year. We also had to cancel our signature Table Lodge event. I came into the year with big plans for our 20th Table Lodge, and the pandemic slashed those hopes. It just wouldn't be prudent given the size restrictions of our dining room. I'm tremendously disappointed, but I look forward to next year's event.

We also succeeded in bringing home the Column Under Construction Award for most attendance at District School three times so far this year. We also brought home the Traveling Gavel this year, after a visit to Universal Lodge. Thank you to all the members who step up to learn and participate.

I look forward to seeing everyone sometime soon. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Billy D. Schmidt

Worshipful Master

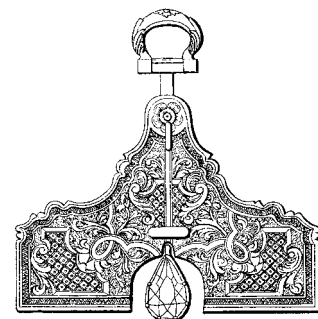


you have done a fantastic job adjusting and bringing the lodge up to date financially. Right Honorable Newton, we would be lost without your hard work in the Secretary's office. All committee members, thank you for your work and helping to take some of the load off the principal officers. Finally, thank you Worshipful Schmidt for guiding our lodge through these difficult times and for all of the work you provide the craft. Elections will take place on Tuesday December 8th. Please come down and perform your due diligence, vote, and give your support to next years officers. Everyone have a safe and wonderful Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Bryan Seland

Senior Warden



JUNIOR WARDEN



Brethren,

It is hard to believe that 2020 is nearing its close. It has been such a tumultuous year, full of social isolation, distancing, politicized unrest, fear of exposure, changed and updated guidelines, cancelled events and (most importantly) recovery. Together, our Brothers navigated through the mandated quarantine and spent the latter months resuming fraternal operations and catering to those

delayed for reasons beyond any of our control.

We continually have interested men attending our fellowship dinners, because they see that our doors are open, our members are active and our calendar is full. At this point in history, perhaps more than ever before, we need to embrace this opportunity; outsiders seek our fraternity because the new generations are looking to belong.

Our Lodge continues to be a pillar of Masonic example.

As we continue the steps to societal recovery, I remind you that humans thrive on emotional interconnectivity, and the unforeseen events of 2020 have left us devoid of these connections. Especially as we approach the holiday season, I encourage you to make and maintain contact with your fellow man: Lodge Brothers, those who are shut-in or homebound, fellow seekers at your church or temple, your neighbors, family and friends. For those who are not (yet) Masons, invite them to attend one of our fellowship dinners. For those who are Masons, offer to drive or carpool.

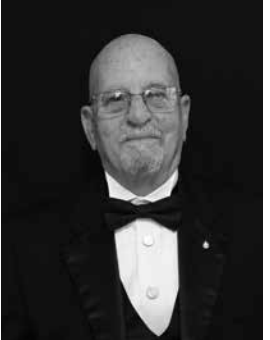
Our Lodge has adequate space to socially distance, and these social interactions will help to accelerate the healing process for emotional wounds we all have incurred.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

R. J. "Jody" Mequiar

Junior Warden

SECRETARY'S DESK



Greetings Brothers,

As we approach the end of another year, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Craft for the trust they have reposed in me to serve as secretary of this great lodge. I will be moving on to other masonic duties this next year so I will be vacating to the office of Secretary as of the date of installation when set by the incoming Worshipful

Master.

We still have members who have not paid their 2020 dues and I will be sending out the 2021 dues notices very shortly, and I will be sending out the summons to those that have not paid for 2020. I have been changing the mailing addresses for those that have notified us that they have moved, but if we don't hear from you, we can't fix your address if it is wrong. You can pay online if you still owe dues for 2020 and the instructions for doing that thru circumscribe are in this Trestle Board (page 6). This makes paying your dues simple and can be done with a credit card. If you want to pay directly to the lodge, you have to send a check or money order.

REMEMBER, dues for 2021 will be \$5.00 higher than 2020 and this is due to the per capita increase that was adopted at Grand Lodge in 2018. Please wait for the new dues notice to get to you before paying those 2021 dues.

If you have a problem with your dues payment which may or may not be a result of the COVID -19 pandemic, you need to let us know. We can work things out for you. If you know a brother that needs help paying his dues, let us know as well. Send an email to the lodge or call and leave us a voice mail. The number is 813-229-2305 and the email secretary@hillsborough25.org. If we do not know, we can't help.

Election of Officers for 2021 will be December 8th. Dinner is at 6:30 as it is for each meeting night, and the meeting will begin at 7:15. Nominations for all elected offices are due to the secretary before the opening of lodge on November 10th.










Meeting are held on Tuesday nights with dinner at 6:30 and stated or called communications beginning at 7:15.

Again, it has been my pleasure to serve this lodge for the past several years as Secretary and I urge you to support those who will serve in this office in the future.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Thomas C. Newton

Secretary

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	 <p>No Degree or Meeting Election Day Go Vote! Lodge Closed</p>	<p>District School of Instruction John Darling Lodge MLT 6 p.m. School 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL</p>	 <p>Masonic Education & Catechism Lodge Open 6:30 p.m.</p>	6	7
8	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>Stated Communication Business Meeting, Balloting, Votes, etc. <i>Lodge Officer Nominations Due BEFORE Meeting.</i> Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p>	11	 <p>Masonic Education & Catechism Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Finance/Prop Meeting PM Room 6:30 p.m. Degree Practice Lodge Room 7:00 p.m.</p>	 <p>Master Mason Outdoor Degree Organized by the Master Mason Assoc. of Hillsborough County Held at the Masonic Park & Youth Camp Dinner 5:30 p.m. Degree 7:00 p.m.</p>	14
15	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>EA Degree Night For Candidates who are prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:30 p.m.</p>	18	 <p>Masonic Education & Catechism Lodge Open 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>MASTER MASON ASSOCIATION MEETING John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL.</p>	 <p>Grand Master's Official Visit to Districts 19/20 Attendance Limited RSVP Required Tampa Scottish Rite 5 pm Registration</p>
22	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>Stated Communication Limited Business Speakers Series Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. Fellowship After Mtg</p>	25	 <p>Happy Thanksgiving! Lodge closed on this evening.</p>	27	28
29	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 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>				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		 <p>1</p> <p>FC Degree Night</p> <p>For Brothers who are prepared.</p> <p>Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>District School of Instruction</p> <p>John Darling Lodge</p> <p>MLT 6 p.m. School 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL</p>	 <p>3</p> <p>Masonic Education & Catechism</p> <p>Lodge Open 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Officers Meeting WM Office 6:30 pm</p> <p>Degree Practice Lodge Room 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p>	 <p>7</p> <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>8</p> <p>Stated Communication</p> <p>Business Meeting LODGE OFFICER ELECTION NIGHT</p> <p>Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p>	 <p>10</p> <p>Masonic Education & Catechism</p> <p>Lodge Open 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>MASONIC PARK BOARD MEETING</p> <p>Tampa Lodge No. 240 Tampa, FL 7 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	 <p>14</p> <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>15</p> <p>Holiday Party & Awards Night Friends & Family Welcome</p> <p>Dinner 6:30 p.m. Program 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	 <p>17</p> <p>Masonic Education & Catechism</p> <p>Lodge Open 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Finance/Prop Meeting PM Room 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Degree Practice Lodge Room 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>MASTER MASON ASSOCIATION MEETING</p> <p>John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>ZONE SCHOOL / OPEN BOOKS</p> <p>Scottish Rite Tampa, FL 9 a.m.</p>
<p>20</p>	 <p>21</p> <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>22</p> <p>Possible Degree Night</p> <p>None ready at time of publication. Check the website calendar for updates.</p>	<p>23</p>	 <p>24</p> <p>Masonic Education & Catechism</p> <p>Lodge Open 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	 <p>28</p> <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November

Richard Allen
Joel Baez
James Bennett Jr
Marquise Blair
Bruce Bowers
Lawrence Bryan
Karl Degiacomi
John Erb III
Jimmy Fischer
Jerry Handy
Robert Harz
Dale Hatchell
Thomas Hebert
John Hillyer III
Everett Hodsdon
John Hooker
John Laing
Jimmy Mills
Fernando Muniz

Anthony Noto
Rafael Pizano
Michael Rogers
Ernest Seal Jr
Matthew Setzer
Brian Shrader
Cyril Silver
Ronald Spencer
William Staunko
Hugh Sullivan Jr
Richard Taylor
Luis Then
Charles Trexler III
Donald Valverde
Joseph Wamsley
Samuel Whitaker
Dennis Young
John Zacheis

December

Donald Anderson
Zachary Armocida
Nicolas Awad
Ryan Bastek
Miles Beamguard
Johnny Butler Jr
Oliver Davis III
Richard Davis
Terry Delisle
George Edenfield
Kenneth Gibson
Gary Graham
Jeremy Hall
Dwight Hamborsky Jr
Walter Ireland
Charles Kane
Jerry King Jr
Joseph Lange

David Liniger
Donald Marsee
Kevin McLaughlin
David Montgomery
Ilian Papasov
Robert Provencher
Steven Rhodes
Benjamin Risinger Jr
Christopher Roberts
Scott Sandoval
Samuel Schiavone
Noah Schmiedecke
Bryan Seland
Marwam Taouil
William Taylor
Harold Wagoner
William R. Williams III
Jay Wolfington

"A Thanksgiving Proclamation" continued from page 1...

whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.



First Time Circumscribe Log In Instructions

- Open your internet browser
- Navigate to: <https://glfl.circumscribe.net>
- Enter your initial Username:
"FL" + "Your Grand Lodge Number" + "@changeyouremail.info"
(**example: FL1234567@changeyouremail.info**)
- Enter your temporary Password:
"FL" + "Your Grand Lodge #" (**example: FL1234567**)
- You will be immediately prompted to change both your username and password
- Your NEW username can be any email address that you frequently use, or have regular access to.
- Your NEW password must contain at least eight characters and one number. You must enter it twice.
- Upon successfully entering both, you will be required to logout, and then log back in with your new credentials.
- Once you have logged back in, select 'Profile' from the menu items on the left side of the screen. Review your profile and make any appropriate changes, or contact the Lodge Secretary if you require other changes.
- Finally, upload a current picture for your new permanent ID card. Please avoid hats, sunglasses, other individuals or animals in the picture.
- Select 'Save Profile' to complete the process.

Please note, if you or the Lodge Secretary have already added your personal email address to the system, you will need to log in using that email address and your known password or use the "forgot password" feature. If you aren't sure which email address you used, or if one is already in the system, email the Lodge Secretary at secretary@hillsborough25.org and he can verify the email address.

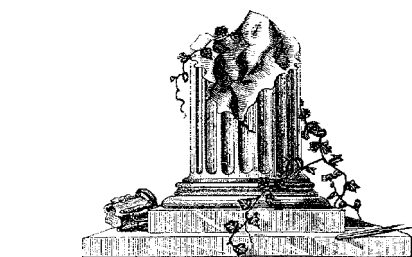
PAUL REVERE CHAPTER

November 19, 1920 was a revolutionary day for Florida (and Tampa) Freemasonry. On that date, Paul Revere Chapter received authorization from the Grand Council of DeMolay to begin working towards a Charter. "PRC" as it is affectionately known, was the first DeMolay Chapter in the State of Florida, originally sponsored by the Tampa Scottish Rite Bodies in the building next door. Hillsborough Lodge assumed the sponsorship in 1957 under the direction and leadership of Worshipful Master Gerald Smith. Having been a DeMolay in my youth, I will join several of our Brethren in an annual observance to honor the memory of DeMolay's Founder, Ill. Frank Sherman Land, 33°, on November 8 – the anniversary of his passing to the Celestial Lodge above (he passed in 1959).

PRC has recently undergone a period of reorganization, where the focus was re-centered on the development of our youth members. Our Master Councilor, Christian Meguiar, earned the Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award for a stellar term of office during the quarantine. He is now serving a second term, and is balancing a schedule of in-person and virtual activities to keep the Chapter members engaged. In 2020, PRC has initiated seven new Brothers and attained positive growth for the year – one of only three Chapters in Florida thus far to earn this distinction.

Submitted by: Brother R.J. "Jody" Meguiar, Executive Officer for Florida DeMolay

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD



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.

RECENT DEGREES



September 2nd, 2020: Congratulations to Brothers David, Harris, Hughes, Mills, and Porsche on being Passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft September 2nd! A huge thank you to Brother Seland and the entire degree team for their hard work studying the ritual and practicing - very good work. Special thanks to Right Honorable Manne for a great lecture, Right Honorable Newton for the charge, and to everyone who made it out to support these Brothers.



October 6th, 2020: Congratulations to Brothers David, Harris, Korabi, and Porsche on being Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason October 6th! Thank you to the entire degree team for their hard work studying the ritual and practicing. Special thanks to Right Honorable Manne for a great lecture, Right Honorable Newton for the charge, and to everyone who made it out to support these Brothers.



October 20th, 2020: Congratulations to Brothers Hughes and Mills on being Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on October 20th! A special thank you goes out to Illustrious Sir Dean DiLeo and all of the members of Egypt Shriners who came out to support these men being Raised. Also, thank you to the degree team for a fantastic degree, the Egypt Shriners Past Masters Unit for assisting in the second section, Right Worshipful Rocha for an amazing lecture, and Right Honorable Newton for the charge. And, of course, thank you to everyone who was able and willing to attend.

DDGM VISIT



August 25th, 2020: Thank you to Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master Steven Fortier and his committeemen for a great first visit! It was great to see so many Brothers in attendance. We look forward to a great year ahead.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES



September 4th, 2020: Thank you to all of our members who pitched in donations to our School Supply Drive this year! In addition to our typical supply donations, we gathered monetary donations along with some budgeted funds. We were able to purchase 270 new headphones and dozens of power strips for the schools new classroom devices. From the School, B.T. Washington Elementary on Twitter: "Thank you @Hillsborough25 for your generous donation of headphones for every student! Our Hornets will be able to hear audio books and enjoy engaging videos on their computers! We appreciate you all! #WeRfamily"

Huge thanks to our Community Outreach Chairman Brother Mike Huster for his outstanding work on this project. Special thanks also go out to Brother Carl Chaisson and his company for their donation and helping secure the purchase of the items.

COMMITTEES

Education Enrichment

Chairman:
Bro. Matthew Taheri
matthew.taheri@gmail.com

Fellowship

Chairman:
Bro. Suraj Nayee
surajnayee@gmail.com

Community Outreach

Chairman:
Bro. Mike Huster
mhuster1@verizon.net

Property & Finance

Chairman:
Bro. Bryan Seland, SW
bryan.selandH25@gmail.com

Vigilance

Chairman:
Bro. Jody Meguiar, JW
jmeguiar@fldemolay.com

For other committee contact information, contact the Worshipful Master at billy.schmidtH25@gmail.com



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web: www.hillsborough25.org

Address Service Requested

2020 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: Billy D. SchmidtWorshipful Master
Bro. Bryan M. SelandSenior Warden
Bro. R.J. "Jody" MeguiarJunior Warden
W.: Billy D. Scott, III, P.M. Treasurer
R.:H.: Thomas C. Newton, P.D.I. Secretary
Bro. Michael T. DeiningerSenior Deacon
Bro. Ritch A. CarrollJunior Deacon
Bro. Kenneth B. GibsonSenior Steward
Bro. Samuel L. SheppardJunior Steward
W.: Alexander Rodriquez Galano Marshal
R.:W.: Steven J. Silvers, P.D.D.G.M. Chaplain
Bro. Lerone D. Wilson Tyler
W.: Tom Johnson, P.M. Treasurer Emeritus
R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser, P.D.D.G.M. Historian
TBD Musician



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