

TRESTLE BOARD

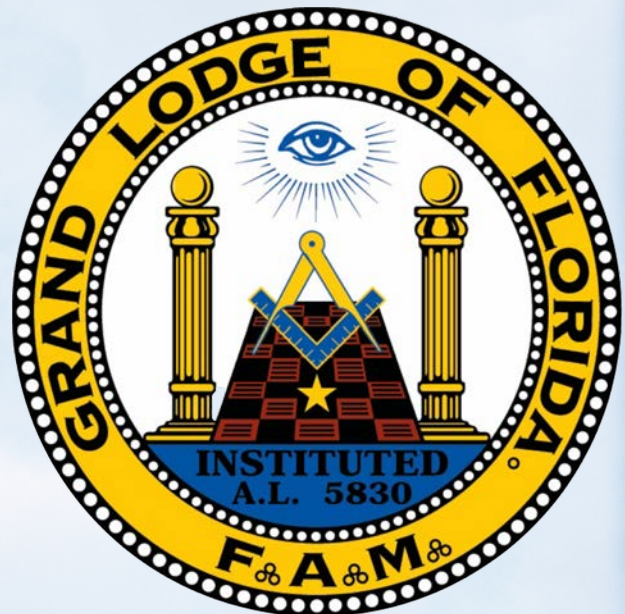
MAY | JUNE A.L. 2021

MASONIC EDUCATION: THE BEGINNING OF OUR GRAND LODGE

It was six years after Florida became a territory of the United States that the first enduring Florida Lodge was established at the young city of Tallahassee. This was Jackson Lodge which was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Alabama, December 18, 1825 with Robert Butler as Master. Next to be chartered were Washington Lodge at Quincy on December 2, 1828 and Harmony Lodge at Marianna on December 8, 1829, both of which were chartered by the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

In 1830, Jackson Lodge No. 23 of Tallahassee, invited Washington Lodge and Harmony Lodge to meet with it in its hall. They convened on July 5, 1830, for the purpose of forming the Grand Lodge of Florida. This convention adopted a resolution to form a Grand Lodge, declared three Lodges to be sufficient for the purpose and appointed a committee to draft a constitution. The Lodges next met on July 9, 1830, adopted its new body of laws, and on the following day elected officers. Immediately after, they were installed—the new Grand Lodge using the Rules and By-Laws of Alabama for the occasion. Under the new Grand Lodge, Jackson Lodge became No. 1, Washington Lodge No. 2 and Harmony Lodge No. 3. These three Lodges had a total membership of 76.

The Grand Lodge met in the hall of Jackson Lodge No. 1, at Tallahassee, from 1830 to 1869, inclusive. Thereafter meeting in Jacksonville in the hall of the local Lodges for 22 years or until 1891, when it was destroyed by fire. This left the Grand Lodge and Local Bodies without a home, but during the succeeding



years, a new four-story Masonic Temple was completed at Bridge and Forsyth Street in Jacksonville, and the Grand Lodge held its first annual Grand Communication in this temple in January, 1893. The local Lodges and the Grand Lodge remained in this building until 1909 when a new 7-story building was erected and dedicated on the corner of Main and Monroe Streets. These offices were occupied until the present Grand Lodge Building, at 220 Ocean Street, on the corner of Ocean and Monroe Streets was completed and dedicated in 1964.

From The Lodge System of Masonic Education, Booklet No. 2 (GL202), Pg. 13-14, Grand Lodge of Florida.

DOWNTOWN TAMPA | SINCE 1850

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

WORSHIPFUL MASTER



My Brothers,

I hope each and everyone of my Brothers are continuing to have good health, and this reaches you at such a time. I know many of us have been experiencing tough, difficult, and stressful times throughout this pandemic, however we continue to thrive and find ways to get through this, and better ourselves as people and as Masons. Now that things are continuing to open up,

and we are allowed to be more social, and hold various functions, I encourage you to visit your lodge. We have been improving the lodge structurally, and cosmetically, and would love to see some of our Brothers for fellowship, that might not have been able to attend during these times.

As Masons in the state of Florida, we have an important time approaching us fast. We have our annual Grand Lodge Communication, held at the end of May in Orlando, Florida. Myself and the other principal officers will be attending, and casting our vote for the lodge and its best interests. Those interests include each and everyone of you. At our first stated communication in May, we will be going over the resolutions being presented at the Grand Lodge Communication, and would like to have your input,

on how we should vote as a lodge. Please attend if you can, so everyone's opinion can be heard. Anyone interested in attending Grand Lodge Communications, please contact the Secretary for further information.

Hillsborough Lodge has been quite active these first few months, with multiple degrees being conferred. We recently had a class passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, and have several more degrees planned for the near future. Check our lodge calendar, as it is updated regularly. If you would like to assist, please contact an officer, and we can get you involved. We will continue to need the assistance of Brothers for various roles throughout the lodge, to keep the lodge running like "a well-oiled machine".

In closing, I would like to thank all of the Brothers that have assisted us with running the lodge. We could not have a successful year without you. If any Brother needs anything, whether it be fellowship or assistance, please don't hesitate to call. As Masons, that is one of our most treasured honors. Take care, and stay healthy.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Bryan Seland

Worshipful Master
bryan.selandH25@gmail.com



SENIOR WARDEN



My Brothers,

I hope you are mitigating your risk to COVID-19 exposure, and remaining safe and healthy.

The Lodge officers have been working to maintain the high quality of ritual conveyed to our new members, and to provide meaningful opportunities for education for all of our membership. Unfortunately, a lack of sideliners detracts from the positive experience.

We continue to work on the beautification and maintenance of the building, often welcoming other operative craftsmen into our doors to perform necessary improvements. This becomes an interesting juxtaposition for our gentle Craft, working with others to perform the physical improvements as the Lodge officers work to impart the social and spiritual improvements we all hope to attain.

In this spirit, the principal officers are working on the development of a multi-year plan to focus on membership retention, recruitment and restoration – so that we can truly live up to our Masonic charges and be a source of light

within the Downtown Tampa community. I hope that you will participate in our survey, the results of which will be presented to the Craft at our stated meeting on June 22nd.

The survey may be accessed here:
<https://bit.ly/3e2yiid>

This data, collected directly from our dedicated members, will guide & direct the operations of our Lodge in the coming weeks, months and years. We want you to know how vital it is that your voice be heard, so that our Lodge may truly be representative of its members & their interests.

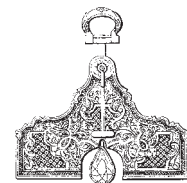
We invite you to visit as often as your cable tow will allow. We need your participation; we need instructors, degree teams, lecturers, and handymen. There are many opportunities – we just need you. Always remember, this is YOUR Lodge. We have a strong and rich history, one in which you should continue to take pride.

It's a great time to be a Mason at Hillsborough Lodge. I remain...

Sincerely & Fraternally Yours,

R. J. "Jody" Mequiar

Senior Warden
jodyH25@fldemolay.com



JUNIOR WARDEN



My Brothers,

This year is progressing quickly and we're almost half way through. How time flies! We've Initiated, Passed and Raised quite a few Brothers already this year and put on some really great degrees. If you've not been lately, you should come down for one. They are wonderful to watch and even better to participate in. For me, personally, it gives me great joy to see the progression of our brothers and assisting them with their experience in the craft.

We've also put on some really great speaker series meetings. RW Drew Baldwin's instruction on balloting was attended by Most Worshipful Westerman, P.G.M. where he presented Drew some well-deserved service awards was a great night! We also had our second DDGM visit for the year. At the second stated in April was RW Don Cowart's presentation on his vision for Florida Freemasonry. For May's second stated, Brother Matt Taheri will present on "Alas, my brother" which is sure to be interesting. The June second stated will be a town hall discussion as referenced in the Senior Warden's column. We are working hard to provide you with a valuable and worthwhile lodge experience.

We know many of you have stayed away due to COVID

SECRETARY'S DESK



My Brothers,

I would like to thank Brother Michael Manning, the Chairman of our Membership Retention Committee. He has been reaching out personally to our members who we still show as delinquent with their 2021 dues. His efforts calling each member help bridge the gap. We often find members who we don't have an email for and their mailing address was never updated.

If those are the case, and you don't attend often, it's pretty easy for members to fall between the cracks and be suspended for non-payment of dues – something that should never need to happen. Remember, you can update your contact information easily within Circumscribe.

If you find that you can not afford your dues at this time, please don't wait. Let us know immediately and we can assist you as necessary. No member is turned away simply because they are unable to pay at any given time. Members are only ever suspended if they failed to pay OR failed to reach out for assistance. Brother: maintain your membership by doing one or the other today please.

With that said, I am happy to see your Lodge Officers diligently working to improve our organization. We have

and I hope this finds you all safe and healthy. With many being now vaccinated and the threat beginning to decrease we hope you consider coming down for a meal and fellowship. We know we must remain diligent and we are still social distancing and doing everything we can to ensure a safe experience.

As always, we are looking for Brothers to instruct our newly initiated EA Brethren and mentor them through their journey to Master Mason. This is one of the most important roles in the lodge and very fulfilling.

Again, I want to thank all the Brothers who have stepped up and volunteered to take a meal on Tuesdays. There have been some really tasty meals put out by our Brothers and I greatly appreciate the outpouring of assistance. There is a signup sheet on the kitchen door for you to put your name in for a Tuesday or please ask me. Many nights are still available.

Feel free to email me with any questions or suggestions on how we can serve you, the craft better. My email is ritch.carrollh25@gmail.com.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Ritch A. Carroll

Junior Warden
ritch.carrollh25@gmail.com



a handful of other active members, but we would love to see YOU. If you haven't be inside your lodge temple in the last year, please come down for an event and say hi! While masks and other precautions still exist within our building, it's understandable that many of you also need to stay home and away from crowds – especially our older members. We wish you all the best and hope we can see you again soon.

I hope every single member of this lodge takes the time to fill out the quick survey our Senior Warden created. What's the one thing that you desire from this organization that would make you active? What's the one thing you'd be willing to attend, if it's offered? What's the one thing that you could do to contribute to your organization? Think about these questions when you answer the question "If you have not been active lately, please indicate why so that we may be aware of any issues we can address." If your suggestion doesn't fit in the survey somehow, feel free to email it to any of us.
















I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

















Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Billy D. Schmidt

Secretary
billy.schmidtH25@gmail.com



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY				
<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>						 <p>OES Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</p>				
2	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	3	4	<p>No Degree or Meeting</p> <p>Lodge Closed</p> <p>Officers & members are traveling to PTF United Lodge for our DDGM's final Official Visit.</p>	5	<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>	6	 <p>Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes</p>	7	8
9	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	10	11	 <p>Stated Communication</p> <p>Business Meeting, Balloting, Votes, etc. Grand Lodge Legislation Overview Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p>	12	13	 <p>Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes</p> <hr/> <p>Degree Rehearsal Lodge Room 7:00 p.m.</p>	14	15	 <p>OES Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</p>
16	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	17	18	 <p>Possible Degree Night</p> <p>None ready at time of publication. Check the website calendar for updates.</p>	19	20	 <p>Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes</p>	21	22	<p>ZONE SCHOOL / OPEN BOOKS</p> <p>Scottish Rite Tampa, FL 9 a.m.</p>
23	 <p>Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	24	25	 <p>Stated Communication</p> <p>Limited Business Brother Matthew Taheri on "Alas, My Brother: A Summary and Allegorical Discussion." Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. Fellowship After Mtg</p>	26	27	 <p>Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes</p>	28	29	<p>MASTER MASON ASSOCIATION MEETING</p> <p>John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL.</p>
 <p>192nd Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida Orlando, FL</p>	 <p>192nd Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida Orlando, FL</p>									

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Please take our Lodge Survey! More info on page 6.</i></p>		 1 192nd Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida Orlando, FL	 2 192nd Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida Orlando, FL	 3 Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes	4	 5 OES Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.
6	 7 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 8 Stated Communication Business Meeting, Balloting, Votes, etc. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.	9	 10 Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes Degree Rehearsal Lodge Room 7:00 p.m.	11	MASONIC PARK BOARD MEETING Tampa Lodge No. 240 Tampa, FL 7 p.m.
13	 14 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 15 Possible Degree Night None ready at time of publication. Check the website calendar for updates.	16	 17 Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes	18	 19 OES Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.
20	 21 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 22 Stated Communication Limited Business Speakers Series Town Hall Discussion: the Future of H25, with data from our Lodge Survey. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. Fellowship After Mtg	23	 24 Masonic Education Lodge Open 6:30 p.m. Ritual Practice & Catechism Classes	25	MASTER MASON ASSOCIATION MEETING John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL.
27	 28 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 29 Friends & Family Night Dinner 6:30 p.m. Program 7:30 p.m.	30			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May

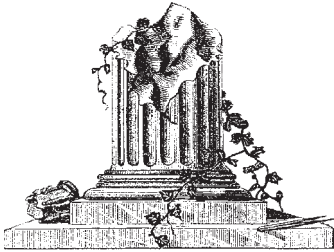
Thomas Allyn
Joseph Almaguer
Daniel Alvarez Sr.
Morris Brill Jr.
Martin Brown
Robert Campbell
Peter Cavalli
Carl Chaisson
Dennis Chapman
Donald Conner
Harry Cumber
Alex Huffstutler
Jack Hughes
Michael Inman
Lawrence Johnson
Gregory Komar
Larry Lee
Jack Lorenzo
Juan Martinez
Billy Mills
Jason Montes

Suraj Nayee
Michael Noell
Kendall Orcutt
Evaristo Palaez III
Randolph Pattillo
Anthony Pullara
Richard Reinhardt
Kenneth Shepherd
Steven Silvers
Andrew Smith
Benjamin Stephens
John Taylor
Timothy Thompson
Ivan Torres-Exposito
John Totten Jr.
James Warren IV
Joseph Wessel
Barry Williams
Phillip Wynands
Jack Zichlin

June

Drew Baldwin
Scott Barrish
Kenneth Baylor
Marvin Campbell
Angelo Canevari
Kevin Chaplin II
Joseph Citro
Donald Dempsey
Richard Derby Jr.
Stanley Derryberry
Michael Gabryszewski
Chase Harrison
John Hatcher Jr.
Christopher Hewitt
Donald Leggett Jr.
Edward Mahon Jr.
Ilir Malaj
Robert Martin
Michael Mattiza

Joseph Melchiorre Jr.
John Moose
Albert Netterfield
Michael Nunnery
Charles Owen III
Shailesh Patel
Marko Popovich III
Thomas Popovich
Donald Rhodes
Damien Rodriguez
Brian Rumble
Johnny Sandot
Theodore Savering Jr.
Billy D. Scott III
Thomas Shaver
Carlos Silva
Lawrence Sizeler
Charles Urbinek
Jeffrey Zelesnikar



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.

PLEASE TAKE OUR SURVEY!

Please take a few minutes, right now, and complete our Lodge Survey. You can either type in the link below OR use this QR code to the right! To use the QR code, simply open the camera app on any smartphone and aim the camera at this QR code. A link should appear on the screen, just click it and start the short survey!



The link will also be shared in our email updates and on our social media pages.

The survey may be accessed here:
<https://bit.ly/3e2yiid>

The results of the survey will be discussed during a Town Hall discussion at the lodge on June 22nd.

DDGM OFFICIAL VISIT



March 23, 2021: Thank you to our our Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master Steven Fortier for a great official visit last night! Congratulations to our Senior Deacon, Brother Alexander Rodriguez Galano, on receiving his certificate of completion for the Masonic Leadership Training (MLT) program. A thank you also goes out to the district committeemen who provided great brief but informative presentations.

FRIENDS & FAMILY NIGHT



March 30, 2021: Thank you to everyone who came out on March 30th to our first Friends & Family Night of the year! Congratulations to the following Brothers on their awards and certificates:

- Right Worshipful Jacobson's 55 year service award.
- Brothers Porsche and Manning for completing their Masonic Leadership Training course.
- Brothers Huffstutler, Papisov, Harris, Porsche, David, Wilkerson, Lynch, Issaev, Gibson, Wilson, and Korabi on receiving their Certificate of Membership.

RECENT DEGREES



March 16th, 2021: Congratulations to Brothers Torres-Exposito, Louis, and Wynands in being Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 16th! We would like to thank the degree team for a great degree, the Egypt Shriners Past Masters Unit for assistance in the second section, Right Worshipful McAlister for the lecture, and Worshipful Perry for the charge. Pictured is everyone who was able to stay until the end.



April 6, 2021: Congratulations to Brothers Davis and Wilson on being passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft April 6th! Thanks go out to the degree team for stepping up and exemplifying good work, to Right Honorable Manne for the lecture, and to Right Worshipful Silvers for the charge. Pictured is everyone who could stay until the end.

SPEAKERS SERIES

Be sure to check out our monthly Masonic Education Speakers Series! It's held on the second Stated Communication of each month (fourth Tuesday) with dinner at 6:30 pm and the meeting at 7:15 pm. The Worshipful Master attempts to hold any and all 'business' until our first Stated each month in an attempt to focus on the presentations. We also invite everyone to join us after the meeting nearby for fellowship.

Upcoming Speakers / Presentations

May 25th: Brother Matthew Taheri on "Alas, My Brother: A Summary and Allegorical Discussion."

June 22nd: Town Hall Discussion: the Future of H25, with data from our Lodge Survey.

TIME TO LOG INTO CIRCUMSCRIBE!

What can you do within the Circumscribe online membership system? The two most important things you can do are: 1) easily pay your annual dues via debit or credit card and, 2) check your profile and ensure your contact information is correct. Make sure we have a valid mailing address, phone number, and e-mail for you. The system also allows you to complete the Master Mason I, II, and III exams online and record attendance at certain events and activities so the lodge earns credit towards awards. If nothing else, we encourage you to use the system for dues payments and checking your contact information! **Log in now at <https://glfl.circumscribe.net>.**

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.

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

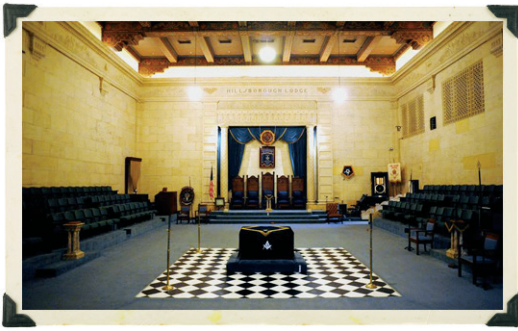
Property & Finance

Chairman:
Bro. Jody Meguiar, SW
jodyH25@fldemolay.com

Vigilance

Chairman:
Bro. Ritch Carroll, JW
ritch.carrollh25@gmail.com

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



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 e-mail: secretary@hillsborough25.org
 web: www.hillsborough25.org

Please take our Lodge Survey! More info inside on page 6.

Address Service Requested

2021 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: Bryan M. Seland Worshipful Master
 Bro. R.J. "Jody" Meguiar Senior Warden
 Bro. Ritch A. Carroll Junior Warden
 W.: Billy D. Scott, III, P.M. Treasurer
 W.: Billy D. Schmidt, P.M. Secretary
 W.: Alexander Rodriguez Galano, P.M. Senior Deacon
 Bro. Kenneth B. Gibson Junior Deacon
 Bro. Lerone D. Wilson Senior Steward
 Bro. Matthew J. Taheri Junior Steward
 Bro. Jack J. Hughes. Marshal
 R.:W.: Steven J. Silvers, P.D.D.G.M. Chaplain
 Bro. Michael J. Huster. Tyler
 W.: Tom Johnson, P.M. Treasurer Emeritus
 Bro. Joshua Sussman Chaplain Emeritus
 R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser, P.D.D.G.M. Historian
 TBD Musician



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