

# HILLSBOROUGH LODGE No. 25 F&AM

## DOWNTOWN TAMPA, FLORIDA

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### 2023 LODGE COMMITTEES

Our Lodge has many ways in which you can become involved. Involvement by all members of the Lodge allows the Lodge to prosper, gives members skin in the game, and enhances the experience for everyone. While becoming a Lodge Officer and eventually Worshipful Master sounds great to many, the time and work necessary to take on such roles often excludes some members from such a track. Committee membership is nearly boundless and offers each member the opportunity to take on various tasks and roles while being much more flexible than being an Officer. Have a project in mind that doesn't necessarily fit into an existing committee? Ask the Worshipful Master if a special ad-hoc committee can be appointed!

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees of the Lodge typically have set required members by our Lodge By-laws or the Florida Digest of Masonic Law. Appointments to these committees are made annually at the beginning of the calendar year by the Worshipful Master.

##### 1. Lodge Finance Committee

- a. Oversees the various finances of the Lodge. This committee typically meets in a joint meeting with the Property Committee. The Senior Warden is the Chairman of this committee.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Brother Michael Wilson, JW
    - 2. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM
    - 3. Worshipful Billy Scott, Treasurer
    - 4. Brother John Bast
    - 5. Brother Jeremy Hall, Financial Planner

##### 2. Lodge Property Committee

- a. Oversees the various property and building projects, maintenance, and other needs. This committee typically meets in a joint meeting with the Finance Committee. The Senior Warden is the Chairman of this committee.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Brother Michael Wilson, JW
    - 2. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM
    - 3. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Treasurer
    - 4. Brother John Bast

- b. Subcommittees
  - i. Subcommittee on Lodge Commercial Property (ad-hoc)
    - 1. Chairman
      - a. Worshipful Billy Schmidt, Secretary
    - 2. Members
      - a. Worshipful Billy Scott, Treasurer
      - b. Brother John Bast

### **3. Lodge Vigilance Committee**

- a. Oversees the various Masonic discipline processes of the Lodge and submits charges for violations of Masonic Law. The Junior Warden is the Chairman of this committee.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Brother Michael Wilson, JW
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers, PDDGM
    - 2. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM
    - 3. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Treasurer

### **4. Lodge Petitions Committee**

- a. Oversees the process of reviewing incoming petitions BEFORE they are received, meeting with prospective petitioners, and completes the Supplemental Form for Petitions.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Worshipful Jody Meguiar
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Brother Horatio Johnson, SD
    - 2. Brother Matthew Wise, JD
    - 3. Brother Mike Huster, Tyler
    - 4. Brother John Bast

### **5. Lodge Investigation Committees**

- a. Assists the Worshipful Master with the charge of investigating petitioners. While not a standing committee, the Senior Deacon serves as Chairman of most Investigating Committees and assists the Worshipful Master in finding Brothers to complete investigations. Investigation Committees are formed as needed for each necessary investigation of petitioners, etc. and are discharged following the conclusion of that specific investigation.
  - i. Investigations Coordinator
    - 1. Brother Horatio Johnson, SD

### **6. Lodge Masonic Education Committee**

- a. Oversees the mandatory Masonic Education requirements set by Grand Lodge as well as overseeing the Lodge's mentor program, Lodge System of Masonic Education, ritual work. etc. The Junior Warden serves as Chairman of this committee.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Brother Michael Wilson, JW
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Treasurer, Lodge Mentor
    - 2. Worshipful Billy Schmidt, Secretary

3. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
  4. Brother Cliff Shanholtzer
- iii. Subcommittee on Lodge Mentorship (required by bylaw section 10.05)
    1. Chairman
      - a. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Lodge Mentor
    2. Members
      - a. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM, PDI
      - b. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers, PDDGM, PDI
      - c. Right Worshipful Steven Jacobson, PDDGM
  - iv. Subcommittee on Lodge Ritual Instruction (ad-hoc)
    1. Chairmen
      - a. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM, PDI
      - b. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Treasurer
    2. Members
      - a. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers, PDDGM, PDI
  - v. Subcommittee on Lodge Catechism Instruction (ad-hoc)
    1. Chairman
      - a. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM, PDI
    2. Members
      - a. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers, PDDGM, PDI
      - b. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Treasurer
      - c. Brother Jack Hughes
      - d. Brother Cliff Shanholtzer
  - vi. Subcommittee on Lodge Education Presentations (Speaker Series)
    1. Chairman
      - a. Brother Cliff Shanholtzer
    2. Members
      - a. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM
      - b. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM

## **7. Lodge Board of Relief**

- a. Oversees the process of incoming requests for Masonic relief. The Worshipful Master is Chairman of this committee and the Senior and Junior Wardens serve as the two other members.
  - i. Chairman
    1. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
  - ii. Members
    1. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
    2. Brother Michael Wilson, JW

## **8. Lodge Charity Committee**

- a. Oversees the Lodge's charity efforts, projects, and donations. The Worshipful Master serves as Chairman of this committee and the Senior and Junior Wardens serve as the two other members.
  - i. Chairman
    1. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
  - ii. Members

1. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
2. Brother Michael Wilson, JW

**9. Lodge Membership Retention Committee (NPD Committee)**

- a. Assists the Lodge Secretary and Worshipful Master in reaching out to Brothers who are delinquent in their dues for the year and are subject to suspension for nonpayment of dues (NPD). This committee exists in our Lodge Bylaws as the "Non-Payment of Dues Committee."
  - i. Chairman
    1. Brother John Bast
  - ii. Members
    1. Brother Michael Huster
    2. Brother Matt Taheri
    3. TBD
    4. TBD

**AD-HOC SUBSTANCE COMMITTEES**

Here are three of the committees we are seeking Brothers to take an active part in. Each of these three are headed by a member of our Lodge who is preferably not an Officer or Past Master. It's hoped Brothers who head these committees: a) desire to eventually join the Officers Line or b) desire to be active but can't commit the time to being an Officer. The aim of these three committees are to enhance the experience for our membership by adding substance to our meetings and activities throughout the year.

**1. Lodge Committee on Education Enrichment**

- a. The aim of this committee is to enhance the education opportunities within our Lodge. The committee can focus on many subjects and projects including detailed information, presentations, or publications of Lodge History, History of Freemasonry, details of specific symbols, etc. The committee may focus on finding guest speakers, arranging detailed presentations, creating small or large publications, etc. The committee may also work on preserving historical items and information about the Lodge and presenting it.
  - i. Chairman
    1. Brother Cliff Shanholtzer
  - ii. Members
    1. Appointed as requested. The WM has delegated authority to the Chairman to appoint members. WM retains the right to alter the membership if necessary.

**2. Lodge Committee on Fellowship**

- a. In the same vein as a "social committee," this committee's aim is to enhance opportunities for fellowship among our members, guests, visitors, families, and/or friends. A wide array of projects can be worked on including creating and hosting events on or off site, enhancing certain existing events with refreshments or programming, researching projects that may enhance fellowship, etc.
  - i. Chairman
    1. TBD
  - ii. Members

1. Appointed as requested. The WM has delegated authority to the Chairman to appoint members. WM retains the right to alter the membership if necessary.

### **3. Lodge Committee on Community Outreach**

- a. The aim of this committee is to enhance the ties we have to our local Downtown community and give back in various ways. Projects may include enhancing donation drives, fundraisers, connecting with community leaders to connect the Lodge to various projects, etc.
  - i. Chairman
    1. Brother Mike Huster
  - ii. Members
    1. Appointed as requested. The WM has delegated authority to the Chairman to appoint members. WM retains the right to alter the membership if necessary.

## **SPECIAL AD-HOC COMMITTEES**

These committees are not described in our bylaws and are therefore not standing committees. However, the Worshipful Master may create committees as he sees fit to organize and carry out various necessary functions.

### **1. Lodge Communication Committee**

- a. Oversees the Lodge's communication efforts and supports their publication. Typically, the webmaster or Trestle Board editor serves as Chairman with other members who typically handle communication efforts as the other committee members.
  - i. Chairman
    1. Worshipful Billy Schmidt
      - a. Trestle Board Editor, Social Media Manager, and Email Update Editor
    2. Handing Trestle Board over to Bro. Suraj Nayee in 2023
  - ii. Members
    1. Brother Ritch Carroll, WM
    2. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
    3. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers, PDDGM, PDI, Chaplain

### **2. Lodge Development Committee**

- a. A planning committee that seeks to combine plans and generate a consistent Five-Year Master Plan that is reviewed and updated annually. Consists of the Worshipful Master as Chairman and the next four officers in the "Officers line" (the Wardens and Deacons).
  - i. Chairman
    1. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
  - ii. Members
    1. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
    2. Brother Michael Wilson, JW
    3. Brother Horatio Johnson, SD
    4. Brother Matthew Wise, JD
    5. Worshipful Billy D. Scott, III, Treasurer

6. Worshipful Master Billy Schmidt. Secretary

**3. Lodge Youth Committee**

- a. Advises the Worshipful Master as to the activities and areas where the Lodge can support our sponsored DeMolay chapter and other local youth groups.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Brother Jerome Meguiar
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Brother John Bast
    - 2. Brother John J. Hillyer

**4. Lodge Curation & Preservation Committee**

- a. This committee is tasked with curation and preservation of the lodges display items and library items of importance.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Worshipful R. J. "Jody" Meguiar
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
    - 2. Worshipful Alex Rodriguez Galano, SW
    - 3. Brother Jerome Meguiar

**5. Lodge MMA Representation Committee**

- a. This committee includes several members who are active with our Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County. This committee is tasked with representing the Lodge at the association meetings when the Worshipful Master or other officers are unable to attend. The committee members are also tasked with reporting any district or area events and activities to the Worshipful Master after each meeting and making a report to the Craft at the next business meeting.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Worshipful Billy Scott, III, Treasurer
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Right Worshipful Thomas Newton, DDGM, PDI
    - 2. Right Worshipful Drew Baldwin, DI, PDDGM
    - 3. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers, PDDGM, PDI

**SPECIAL AD-HOC SIGNATURE EVENT COMMITTEES**

**6. Symposium Committee on Arrangements**

- a. This committee is tasked with coordinating the various needs for the annual signature Southeastern Masonic Education Symposium hosted by the Lodge.
  - i. Chairman
    - 1. Worshipful Billy Schmidt - Administrator
  - ii. Members
    - 1. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
    - 2. Brother Scott Barrish - Travel & Hotel Director
    - 3. Brother Juan Punchy Gonzalez - Audio, Video, & Lighting Director
    - 4. Brother Mike Wilson - Dining Room Refreshment Director
    - 5. TBD - Evening Fellowship Event Director
    - 6. TBD - Speaker Coordination Director
    - 7. TBD - Exhibits & Displays Director

8. TBD - Marketing Director
9. TBD - Credentialing Director
10. TBD - Vendor Relations Director
11. TBD - Guest Services Director
12. Brother Alexander Rodriguez Galano
13. Right Worshipful Steven Silvers
14. Worshipful Billy Scott

**7. Table Lodge Committee on Arrangements**

- a. This committee is tasked with coordinating the various needs for the annual signature Table Lodge event hosted by the Lodge.
  - i. Chairman
    1. Brother Michael Wilson, JW
  - ii. Members
    1. Worshipful Master Ritch Carroll, WM
    2. Worshipful Billy Schmidt
    3. Worshipful Billy D. Scott, III